#  St Columba’s Church, Selsdon

37 Queenhill Road, Selsdon, South Croydon, CR2 8DW Parish website: [www.stcolumbaschurchselsdon.uk](http://www.stcolumbaschurchselsdon.uk)

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Deacon: Rev Philip Pond, T: 020 8651 4653 E: philippond@rcaos.org.uk

**9 MARCH 2025 – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR C**

**TODAY'S MASS READINGS**

**Entrance Antiphon:** When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

**First Reading:** Deuteronomy 26:4-10

**Responsorial Psalm:** Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

**Second Reading** Romans: 10:8-13

**Gospel Acclamation:** Glory and praise to you, O Christ. One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. Glory and praise to you,

**Gospel:** Luke: 4:1-13

**Communion Antiphon:** One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

**THIS WEEK’S MASSES**

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| **Date** | **Mass** | **Time** | **Intention** |
| Sun 9 Mar | **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT** | 6pm (Sat) | Patrick O`Donoghue, RIP |
| 9am | Mary Johnson, RIP |
| 11am | Pro Populo |
| Mon 10 Mar | Lenten Weekday | 10am | Marie Christine Hendow |
| Tues 11 Mar | Lenten Weekday | 10am | Laurence & Elizabeth Walsh, RIP |
| Wed 12 Mar | Lenten Weekday | 10am | Jack & Helene Hurley |
| Thurs 13 Mar | Lenten Weekday  | 10am | Sean Kealy |
| Fri 14 Mar  | Lenten Weekday *CAFOD Fast Day* | 10am | Kevin Taylor – speedy recovery |
| Sat 15 Mar | Lenten Weekday | 10.30am | Priest’s Intention |
| Sun 16 Mar | **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT** | 6pm (Sat) | Bill Hickey |
| 9am | Pro Populo |
| 11am | Fedele Lucia, RIP |

* Weekday Masses are preceded by Morning Prayer at 9.40am
* **There will be no Exposition & Benediction after Tuesday`s Mass.**
* Friday`s Mass is followed by the Rosary.
* Stations of the Cross on Friday at 7.30pm
* There are devotions to Our Lady on Saturday morning at 10am.
* Confessions: on Saturday after the 10.30am Mass and from 5.30-5.45pm.

**MONEY MATTERS** 1/2 March: basket £539.48 (Gift Aid £225), card machines £275.50 (Gift Aid £97.50). Clergy Support Fund: £4. Standing orders for February: £2,237.67 (Gift Aid £2,160.67). Thank you for your generosity.

**EAT LESS** Friday (the 14th) is CAFOD Fast Day. Please collect your envelopes after today`s Masses and return in the second collection next Sunday. Next weekend we shall welcome a speaker from CAFOD at all Masses to explain the importance of the work of this Catholic organisation which raises funds for those in need around the world.

**GOING INTO HOSPITAL?** If you or a family member are admitted to Croydon University Hospital, let Fr Julian or Deacon Philip know so that the Catholic chaplaincy can ensure you are visited and receive Holy Communion and the Sacrament of the Sick. In an emergency telephone the CUH switchboard (020 8401 3000) and ask for the on-call Catholic chaplain to be paged, giving the name of the person to be visited and their ward.

**SOMETHING DIFFERENT FOR LENT** Come along to St John the Baptist parish hall, Dale Rd, Purley, on Wednesday evenings starting 12 March at 7pm to watch a series of beautiful films while learning how St Francis of Assisi, Catherine of Siena and Michelangelo shaped the Church and changed the world. Details: email annejspragg@gmail.com

**NEXT WEEKEND’S READERS, BIDDING PRAYERS WRITER & EUCHARISTIC MINISTER** Readers: Saturday 6pm Ken Sunday 9am Adrian, 11am Sybille. Bidding Prayers: Martin. Eucharistic minister 9am Mass: Teresa.

**LENT GROUPS: LAST CHANCE TO BOOK** Among the many outsize characters in Scripture, David is one of the most compelling and controversial; a writer of psalms still sung today, the king who established Jerusalem and the monarchy, the man who defeated giants and the one from whom the messianic line proceeds. David is described as ‘a man after God’s heart’ and yet he was also someone capable of the most appalling behaviour. How can we square the circle of his character and make sense of how God used someone so gifted but also flawed? That is the theme of a house-group Lent course starting on Monday (the 10th). Contact Deacon Philip for details and to book.

**FIRE IN THE CHURCH** We hope it will never happen but common sense dictates that we take sensible precautions to ensure that if a fire does break out in St Columba’s we are properly prepared, So this is advance notice that a meeting will take place on May 10 to discuss how we would handle it. Watch this space for further details.

**LALEHAM LEA SCHOOL** Open week is March 10-14. To book places at the school or a tour ring 020 8660 3351.

**BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE** A one-day marriage-enrichment course aimed at couples with average-to-good marriages who would like to make them better. There is no charge and no group sharing. Couples have the opportunity individually to explore their relationship and levels of communication, which is the key to relationship. It starts at 9.30am on March 15 in East Sheen. More details: email mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

**FOR THE BEREAVED** *Grief In Loss: Hope In Christ* is a weekend for those who have been bereaved. The weekend, from March 21-23, will take place away from the pressures of day-to-day life and can help one begin to come to terms with bereavement. It is a time for quiet, prayer, talking and acceptance. Due to the special nature of this weekend retreat, held at Aylesford Priory in Kent, places are limited and subject to a telephone call to determine if it is right for you – 01622 717 272 or email reception@thefriars.org.uk

**FOOD BANK** Most urgent needs are: soup, tinned meats (meals), pasta sauce, tinned fruit, tinned veg, pasta, tuna, porridge/oats and other cereals, toilet rolls, bleach and washing-up liquid. Place items in the boxes in the porch.

**TELEPHONE CALLS** If you leave a message with a phone number on the parish office answerphone it is vital to speak clearly, slowly and distinctly. Too many numbers are gabbled. Then it becomes impossible to return the call.

**LET’S TALK ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OUR ARCHDIOCESE** A parish meeting will take place at 7.30pm on April 2 to discuss the challenge in a consultation booklet made available by our Archbishop to all parishioners – and that means you. It follows a pastoral letter from Abp John circulated at St Columba’s just before the church closed for building work. That pastoral letter was about the latest phase of *Called to Bear Fruit*, an initiative he launched in 2023. You can read more about it on the parish website. Copies of the consultation booklet can be collected at church.

**BECOME A BEFRIENDER** By volunteering with Selsdon Contact you can play a vital role in providing companionship and support to those most in need: those facing loneliness and social isolation, the elderly, people with disabilities,. No prior experience is necessary; just a kind heart and a willingness to listen. To learn more ring 020 8651 4944 or email info@selsdoncontact.org.uk.

**CELEBRATION!** That’s going to be the theme of a get-together for the whole diocese of Southwark taking place at The Friars, Aylesford, on June 7. And you are invited. Specifically it will celebrate the 2025 Jubilee Year and two important anniversaries. One marks 60 years of Southwark being an archdiocese; the other, 175 years of Southwark being a diocese. Make a date in your diary now for a visit to Aylesford, bring a picnic and join the celebration.

**PRAY FOR THE SICK AND NEEDY** Rob Adams, Jean-Claude Anthony, Alice Barclay, Maria Baretto, Rene Barrett, John Belli, Maureen Coffey, Joan D`Souza, Vera de Souza, Una Dunne, Eoin Egan, Bernardo Fernandes, Judy Freegard, Tony Melvin, Veronica Moor, Jill & Jim O`Donnell, Roselyn Ping, Pedrinha Ramos, Elida Scasso and Sean Walsh. Also pray for family and friends of parishioners: Isobel Barbour, Margaret Bolton, Ann Brennan, Michael Medhurst, Christopher Onyeachom, Jonathan Raki, Kathleen Sampson, Michael Skinner, Pat Taylor, David Wallace and Linda & Michael Watson.

**SAFEGUARDING** Our four Parish Safeguarding Reps are: Gill Tomei email: selsdonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk Richard Mills E: selsdonsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk Clare Morgado E: selsdonsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk and Patsy McFarlane E: selsdonsg4@safeguardrcaos.org.uk You can also contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator on 020 7261 1606. If you need help, information or advice concerning possible safeguarding issues involving children or vulnerable adults, contact any of the above. Your concerns will be dealt with discreetly and efficiently. For more information about Safeguarding please see the posters in the porch and church hall.