# 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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**27 AUGUST 2023 – 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A**

**THIS SUNDAY’S MASS READINGS**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

**First Reading:** A reading from the prophet Isaiah: 22:19-23

**Responsorial Psalm:** Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

**Second Reading**: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans: 11:33-36

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew: 16:13-20

**Communion Antiphon:** The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

**THIS WEEK’S MASSES**

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| **Date** | **Mass** | **Time** | **Intention** |
| Sun 27 Aug | **21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** | 6pm (Sat) | Pro Populo | |
| 9am | Holy Souls | |
| 11am | Paddy O'Shea, RIP | |
| Mon 28 Aug | St Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church | 10am | Mary Brophy, well-being | |
| Tues 29 Aug | The Passion of St John the Baptist | 10am | Mark Stanley, RIP | |
| Wed 30 Aug | Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line and Margaret Ward, martyrs | 10am | Ann O’Neil, RIP | |
| Thurs 31 Aug | St Aidan, Bishop, and saints of Lindisfarne | **No Mass** |  | |
| Fri 1 Sept | Weekday | 10am | Holy Souls | |
| Sat 2 Sept | The Blessed Virgin Mary | 10.30am | Priest’s intention | |
| Sun 3 Sept | **22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** | 6pm (Sat)  9am | Ann Brennan & her family, well-being  Pro Populo | |
| 11am | Barbara & Desmond McCarthy, RIP | |

* Weekday Masses are preceded by Morning Prayer (at 9.40am). Tuesday’s Mass is followed by Holy Hour; Friday’s Mass, by the rosary. There are devotions to Our Lady every Saturday morning at 10am.
* Confessions: on Saturdays, directly after 10.30am Mass and from 5.30pm to 5.45pm**.** Also on request.

**11AM OR 10.45AM SUNDAY MASS?** Feedback from parishioners since Sunday Mass times changed a few months ago suggests that a time earlier than 11am might be more welcome. As 10.30am would be too early for our organist, an option is 10.45am instead. Let Fr Julian or Deacon Philip know which you prefer: 11am or 10.45am?

**THEY WHO SING PRAY TWICE** Do consider joining our choir (rehearsal every Thursday 6.30-7.30pm). Our voices are God’s gift to make music for the Lord. When we sing sacred music at Mass we connect to a tradition of worship that stretches back to King David: “*Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving, acclaim him with music*.” (Ps 95:2). Hymns for today (Sunday): **entrance: ??? offertory ??? communion ??? recessional ???**

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION** The collection for August 20 amounted to £?? of which £?? was gift-aided. Thank you for your generosity. Please note that you can once again make your offering using your credit/debit card with the contactless payment machines – both are now working again. Do consider setting up a monthly standing order as an alternative because it saves you and us time and effort – details from Deacon Philip

**NEXT WEEKEND’S READERS, BIDDING PRAYERS WRITER & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS** Readers: Saturday 6pm Geraldine O’Sullivan, Sunday: 9am Adrian Forward, 11am UCM (Patsy). Bidding Prayers writer: Adrian Forward. Eucharistic Ministers: Saturday 6pm Anne & Janet, Sunday 9am Richard & Gill, 11am Pat & Marion.

**HEALING MASS** It will be celebrated on Saturday September 9 by Father Roy at 2:30pm followed by an exquisite afternoon tea in the hall. Everyone welcome - just turn up and leave the rest to us. Need a lift? Let us know. If you are able to help and/or donate towards the cost, contact Gill on 020 8651 4076 or email [g.tomei@btopenworld.com](mailto:g.tomei@btopenworld.com)

**PRAY FOR THE SICK AND NEEDY** Michael Skinner,David Wallace, Pedrinha Ramos, Ann Brennan, Rob Adams, Veronica Moor, Pat Taylor, Albert Khayyat, Michael & Linda Watson, Judy Freegard, Margaret Bolton, Jean-Claude Anthony, Maureen Coffey, Patrick Acholonu, Christopher Onyeachom, Maria Baretto, Irena Dziewulak, Joan Hammett, Elida Scasso, Alice Barclay, Jacqueline Wheatley, Gloria Forzani, Maria Fernandes, Mike Goodwin, Jonathan Raki, Peg Casey, Sybil Fernandes and Vivian Okehie.

**MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING** Help raise funds for this amazing charity in the hall on September 22, 10am-12noon. There will be a raffle and a cake stall - so please help with donations. Come and share a lovely get-together with refreshments, cake and a chance to meet friends. We raised an incredible £1,000 last year with on-line donations. Parishioners can click on this link and donate accordingly: <http://www.justgiving.com/cm23000068>

**UCM MASS** It’s next Sunday (the 3rd) at 11am with the usual refreshments afterwards. All are most welcome.

**FITNESS CLASS** It’s for parishioners and friends in the church hall every Monday at 10:45-11:45am - we start on September 4. Bring your mat and some water and, if you have hand weights and a stretch band, all the better. Any age, all abilities are welcome. Details: phone 020 8651 4076 or email [g.tomei@btopenworld.com](mailto:g.tomei@btopenworld.com)

**CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES** This course begins in mid September and leads to an internationally-recognised qualification providing an understanding of the Catholic faith. For more deteails see the parish noticeboard (pamphlets are also available), email aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs or visit ccrs@rcaos.org.uk

**THE VINE FOOD BANK** Most needed are: jam, rice - dried in packets, washing powder/pods, milk, rice pudding, tinned fruit, tinned veg, tinned tomatoes, juice (cordial), desert of any kind that has a shelf life, crackers/savoury biscuits, soup, washing-up liquid/cleaning products, baby wipes. Many thanks to you all for your support and help.

**SAD NEWS!** Selsdon Centre for the Retired is threatened with closure. Croydon Council are cutting off all funding which is likely to sound the death knell for the Centre early next year. In addition the Council have significantly increased their rent for the Centre’s premises next door to Sainsbury’s. Selsdon Centre currently offers a wide range of help including bereavement support, health advice and transport provision through the minibus service. Such help is a vital lifeline not just to those using the service but also to families who are often under considerable pressure as they care for elderly relatives. Write to the Council and your MP asking them to take whatever action they can to ensure the long-term survival of this valuable community resource.

**GOING INTO HOSPITAL?** Hospital chaplains do not have automatic access to patients’ details including their religion. So if you are going into hospital it’s up to you to contact them or us (Fr Julian/Deacon Philip) direct so that visits and Holy Communion can be arranged. The Croydon University Hospital chaplaincy is on 020 8401 3105.

**CONFESSION & MOBILE PHONES** Mobiles can, apparently, ‘listen in’ to conversations around them. In order to maintain the sanctity of Confession, the bishops of England and Wales require people entering the confessional box to make sure their phones are completely switched off.

**THE MARRIAGE TRIBUNAL** Volunteers are needed to help tribunal judges collect evidence for cases and conduct interviews of applicants looking to have their marriages annulled. Out-of-pocket expenses would be reimbursed. Suitable candidates would be serving or retired teachers, police officers, lawyers/solicitors and similar professionals. A training day is planned for September 29. Email [mabelasante@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mabelasante@rcaos.org.uk) for more information.

**ALPHA COURSE** Running for 11 weeks, it starts on September 12, 7-9pm at St John the Baptist in Purley; a fun, non-pressurised, free introduction to Christianity and to a better understanding of Jesus. Its’s designed for regular Mass goers and those searching for answers to life’s big questions. Details: email [noelbrownsell@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:noelbrownsell@blueyonder.co.uk)

**COMPUTER CLUB** Would you like to learn how to use the internet, MS Office, Zoom, emails and social media platforms such as Facebook? If so head for St John’s church in Upper Selsdon Road, on September 20, 10am – noon for free fortnightly sessions. Laptops will be provided or bring your own laptop, tablet or phone. More details: 07504 721294 or visit [www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk)

**BOOKING THE HALL** Bookings for our hall are being handled by Gill Tomei: phone 020 8651 4076 or email [g.tomei@btopenworld.com](mailto:g.tomei@btopenworld.com). Gill can check availability and also advise on charges and the required deposit.

**OUR SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS** Gill Tomei T: 07787 824 592 E: [selsdonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:selsdonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk) and Richard Mills T:07956 531 540 E:selsdonsg3@safeguarrcaos.org.uk