#  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

**19 JANUARY 2025 – SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C**

**TODAY'S MASS READINGS (DON’T FORGET: THE CHURCH IS CLOSED TILL LATE FEBRUARY)**

**Entrance Antiphon:** All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

**First Reading:** Isaiah: 62:1-5

**Responsorial Psalm:** Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.

**Second Reading:** Corinthians 12:4-11

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! God called us through the gospel, so that we may obtain the glory of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia.

**Gospel:** John: 2:1-11

**Communion Antiphon:** You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

**MASS AT ST COLUMBA’S**

There will be Mass in the hall on Tuesday (the 21st) at 10am.

**CHURCH CLOSURE**

It is now confirmed that the church will be closed for the next month or so because of building work. See the parish website for news of developments or you can telephone the parish office. In the intervening period please attend Mass at any parish you wish – they all have websites and telephone numbers for you to check Mass times.

**MASS INTENTIONS WHILE CHURCH IS CLOSED**

During the period of church closure, Mass will not be celebrated at St Columba’s apart from on Tuesdays – see above. If you have made a donation towards a Mass intention then there are two options: *either* the donation can be refunded (please contact the parish office) *or* the intention will be offered after the church reopens on a first-come-first-served basis. Remember: you can check developments on the parish website.

**MONEY MATTERS**

January 11-12: basket £491.21 (Gift Aid £246), card machines £287 (Gift Aid £145). The crib collection amounted to £259.03. Omitted last week: 4-5 January card machines £240 (Gift Aid £160). Thank you for your generosity.



 **OUR PARISH WEBSITE** To access it, scan this image with the QR scanner on your smartphone. (Download one free of charge from the Google Play Store – on Android phones – or the Apple App Store – on Apple phones.) Once it’s downloaded, open the reader then scan this QR code with it. Our parish website will then automatically open on your phone giving you access to everything on the website: news about the building work, contact details, rotas, the newsletter, details of forthcoming events, everything on the website. Easy! Try it…

**A JUBILEE YEAR: WHAT’S THAT?**

This year, 2025, has been designated a Jubilee Year for the Catholic Church across the whole world. You can make a good start finding out what that means by visiting this website: <https://cafod.org.uk/news/events/a-year-of-hope-an-introduction-to-the-jubilee-year>

**TIME TO PRAY FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** Yesterday (Saturday) marked the start of the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The disunity between Christians is a scandal given Jesus’s prayer “that they may all be one”. Between January 18-25 we are all called to make a special effort in this area. You can do your bit by attending the unity service today (Sunday) at 3pm at Forestdale Primary School in Pixton Way, Selsdon, CR0 9JE. See you there? Hope so…

**EASYFUNDRAISING RAISES £326 FOR ST C’S**

Buying something online? Anything? If so you can help St Columba’s at no cost to yourself. Just visit [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/) and register (which is quick and easy). Then shop online wherever and whenever you choose – there are more than 4,000 retailers to choose from including all the big-name High Street stores. Each time you then buy anything online (after clicking on the easy fundraising link), a donation is made to St Columba’s. The total we have received so far is £326.90. That’s money for free. Can’t be bad. Do join.

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING & MODERN SLAVERY**

A seminar on this shocking issue will be held at St Mary’s RC Church, 70 Wellesley Road, Croydon, CR0 2AR on 29 January from 6.30-8.30pm. The evening will focus on the work of the Santa Marta Group and how the Church is working to combat these crimes and support victims. All welcome.

**FOOD BANK WHILE CHURCH IS CLOSED?**

It is not be possible to donate items to the Food Bank via the boxes in the porch until the church reopens. So please store any donations at home for the time being.

**WORD ON FIRE**

Join Bp Robert Barron and thousands of Catholics from across the UK for a Bible conference, *Evangelisation & Culture: The Bible* at the Excel Centre in East London on February 21-22. Other speakers include N.T. Wright and Professor Tracey Rowland. More information: wordonfire.org/the-bible-event.

**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.

**GOING INTO HOSPITAL?**

If you or a family member are being admitted, let Fr Julian or Deacon Philip know so that, while in hospital, you are visited and receive Holy Communion and the Sacrament of the Sick.

**BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE**

This is 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. These BABM days start at 9.30am and finish by 4.30pm. Dates and venues for 2025 are: January 25, Welling; February 1, Broadstairs; March 15, East Sheen; April 12, West Croydon; June 28, Kingston-upon-Thames; July 5, Dulwich; September 13, Amigo Hall, Southwark; and October 4, Catford. More details – T: 07983 524 727 or E: mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

**PRAY FOR THE SICK AND NEEDY**

Rob Adams, Jean-Claude Anthony, Alice Barclay, Maria Baretto, Rene Barrett, John Belli, Florinda & Simon Cardoso, Maureen Coffey, Joan D`Souza, Vera de Souza, Una Dunne, Irena Dziewulak, Eoin Egan, Bernardo, Manuel & Maria Fernandes, Judy Freegard, Joan Hammett, Prema Meeweller, Tony Melvin, Veronica Moor, Jill & Jim O`Donnell, Roselyn Ping, Pedrinha Ramos, Elida Scasso, Sean Walsh and Jacqueline Wheatley. Also pray for family and friends of parishioners: Isobel Barbour, Margaret Bolton, Ann Brennan, Mike Goodwin, Michael Medhurst, Christopher Onyeachom, Jonathan Raki, Kathleen Sampson, Michael Skinner, Pat Taylor, David Wallace, Linda & Michael Watson and Magdalene Wong.

**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 issue 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.