#  St Columba’s Church, Selsdon

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

Parish Priest: Fr Julian Shurgold, T: 020 8657 3747 E: selsdon@rcaos.org.uk

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

**23 FEBRUARY 2025 – SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C**

**TODAY'S MASS READINGS**

**Entrance Antiphon:** O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

**First Reading:** I Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

**Second Reading:** I Corinthians: 15:45-49

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia. A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Alleluia.

**Gospel:** Luke: 6:27-38

**Communion Antiphon:** I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

**THIS WEEK’S MASSES** The second collection is for the Clergy Support Fund

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| **Date** | **Mass** | **Time** | **Intention** |
| Sun 23 Feb | **SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**  | 6pm (Sat) | Geoff Turner, RIP |
| 9am | Pro Populo |
| 11am | Andre & Robert MacDonald, RIP |
| Mon 24 Feb | Weekday | 10am | November Deceased List |
| Tues 25 Feb | St. Ethelbert, King | 10am | Anthony Lawrence, RIP |
| Wed 26 Feb | Weekday | 10am | Holy Souls |
| Thurs 27 Feb | Weekday | **No Mass** |  |
| Fri 28 Feb  | Weekday | 10am | Fabian Carrasco, RIP |
| Sat 1 Mar | St. David, Bishop, Patron of Wales | 10.30am | Priest`s Intention |
| Sun 2 Mar | EIGHTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR*Day for the Unemployed* | 6pm (Sat) | Alfred & Josephine Dickey, RIP |
| 9am | Pro Populo |
| 11am | Czeslaw Lawicki |

* Weekday Masses are preceded by Morning Prayer at 9.40am
* Tuesday`s Mass is followed by Exposition & Benediction until 11.00am.
* Friday`s Mass is followed by the Rosary.
* There are devotions to Our Lady on Saturday morning at 10.00am.
* Confessions: on Saturday after the 10.30am Mass and from 5.30-5.45pm.

**MONEY MATTERS** 18 Feb: Basket £102 (£91 Gift Aid), Clergy Support Fund £4 (£4 Gift Aid). Thank you.

The second collection is for the Clergy Support Fund which enables the archdiocese to care for clergy in their retirement, old age, and at times of ill-health, after their lifetime of service to Christ, his Church and his people. Donations ensure a dignified retirement for all of our priests.

**MASS AT CROYDON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL** It is celebrated every Wednesday in the hospital chapel at 12 noon.

**GOING INTO HOSPITAL?** If you or a family member are being admitted, let Fr. Julian or Deacon Philip know so that the Catholic Chaplaincy will ensure that you are visited and receive Holy Communion and the Sacrament of the Sick. In an emergency please telephone the Hospital switchboard (020-8401-3000) and ask for the ‘on-call’ Catholic Chaplain to be ‘paged’ (called), giving the name of the person to be visited and the ward which they are in.

**HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF OUR ARCHDIOCESE** That’s the invitation and challenge in a consultation booklet being made available by our Archbishop to all parishioners – and that means you. It follows a pastoral letter from Archbishop 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 *Called to Bear Fruit* on the parish website. Copies of the consultation booklet can be collected from the porch.

**A MAN AFTER GOD’S HEART** 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 memorably 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 March 10. Use this link to choose a day of the week and venue in Selsdon that suit you best: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdThgb0AjDnWfhqBhcjHh7YiFxDlohXWukWAWfu-xRI3B5BQw/viewform?usp=sharing> Alternatively phone Deacon Philip for details and to book.

**MAJOR MARRIAGE PROBLEMS?** Do you feel alone? Are you constantly frustrated or angry with your spouse? Have you stopped talking to each other? Retrouvaille may be for you. Its programme has helped hundreds of couples through difficult times in their marriages. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about Retrouvaille or to register for the next online programme running from February 27 – March 2 call 07887 296 983 or email info@retrouvaille.org.uk

**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: 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

**HCPT GROUP 14 QUIZ NIGHT** Saturday 1st March 19:00 (bar open at 18:30) at St John the Baptist. Tickets £15 - includes delicious platters of food and are available from Jane by emailing group14@hcpt.org.uk. Individuals or teams welcome (max 8). HCPT (Hosanna House and Children's Pilgrimage Trust) takes over 1000 children to Lourdes each Easter with volunteer helpers. Group 14 take children from the Croydon area to give them a once in a lifetime experience.

**FOR THE BEREAVED** *Grief In Loss: Hope In Christ* is a weekend for those who have been bereaved. This 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

**FAN THE FLAME OF HOPE** CYMFed Flame is the largest Catholic youth event in the UK. It’s aimed at young people in school year 9 up to university age and takes place on March 15 from 11am-6pm in Wembley Arena. A block booking by our Archdiocese means tickets cost £29 each but you need to book now. For more information visit https://cymfed.org.uk/flame/

**LEARN ABOUT THE BIBLE** Interested in learning more about the Bible and reflecting on Scriptural themes? Why not join a virtual Bible study group which meets online every Friday evening at 7.30pm? Once a month, on the second Friday, the group also meet in person at the SDC House at 38 Ryefield Rd, Upper Norwood, SE19 3QU. The focus for 2025 is the Jubilee Year. To join online visit the website pwa.zoom.us/wc and enter the Zoom ID 4454292726.

**FOOD BANK** Collections will recommence.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. Thank you for your support.

**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, Mike Goodwin, 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 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.

**A JUBILEE YEAR?** 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>

**JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND** It includes Knock, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick and Ballintubber Abbey. Dates are April 6-10; price, £799pps. More details: 01268 762 278 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

**CHURCH OPEN: IT`S OFFICIAL!** On Thursday, 13 February the work was completed in the church; the church was cleaned by a professional company; the Blessed Sacrament returned to the tabernacle and Mass was celebrated at the usual time of 10.00am. Normal service has been resumed. Now the redecoration begins. This is bound to be disruptive at times but it is essential and will not be so obstructive as the more recent work. Hopefully, by Easter we`ll be in a church in which the ceilings have been renewed and insulated, and with redecoration complete.