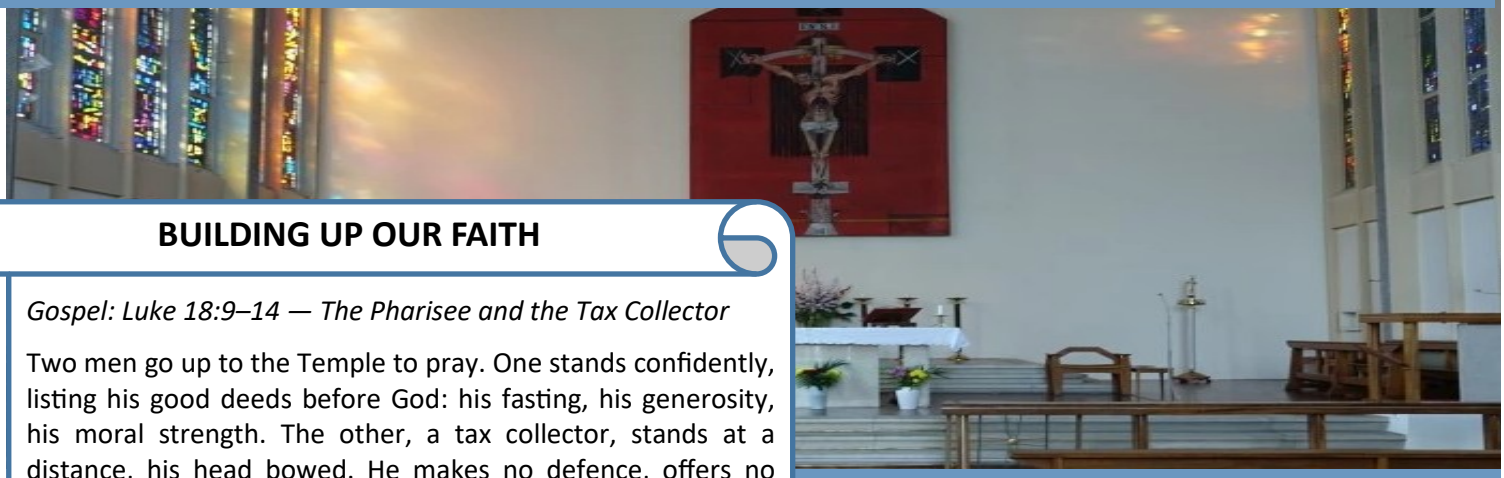
ST. AIDAN OF LINDISFARNE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTMINSTER

PARISH NEWSLETTER

26th October 2025



BUILDING UP OUR FAITH

Gospel: Luke 18:9–14 — The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Two men go up to the Temple to pray. One stands confidently, listing his good deeds before God: his fasting, his generosity, his moral strength. The other, a tax collector, stands at a distance, his head bowed. He makes no defence, offers no excuses, and says only, *"God, be merciful to me, a sinner."*

We might imagine what lies behind that prayer. The tax collector knows the weight of what he's done — how his work has hurt others, how people have suffered under the burden of the taxes he collected. His humility is not vague self-loathing; it's the painful honesty of a man who finally sees the truth about himself and about God.

The Pharisee's mistake is not that he prays or does good things, but that he believes those things make him righteous. His gaze never leaves himself — even in prayer, he remains the centre of attention. The tax collector, on the other hand, takes the gaze off himself and turns it toward God. His humility opens the way for grace to enter.

We see something of this humility in the countless parishioners who quietly build others up — those who prepare all the flower arrangements, tidy the church, check in on the sick, or offer a kind word without seeking notice. Their lives are not about drawing attention to what they do, but about letting God's love work through them.

This is the heart of Christian humility: it's never about what *we* do for God, but what *God does for us*. The Pharisee goes home full of himself; the tax collector goes home filled with mercy. True humility doesn't shrink us — it frees us, because it makes room for God to act. Deacon Tito

Youth Concert: Thank you to everyone who supported our young people by buying tickets and attending the youth concert that took place last Sunday. We managed to raise a total of £5,347.50.



Father Ugo Ikwuka, Provincial superior of the Spiritans UK will be visiting St Aidan's on the weekend of the 8th,9th November. He will preside all Masses and is looking forward to meet and speak to the parishioners.



The church is open Tues and Thu 9am-3pm
Sat 10:00am to 8:00pm, Sun for Masses.
Parish Priest: Fr. Patrick Adusei Poku CSSp. patrickadusei-poku@rcdow.org.uk
Fr. Patrick: 07766254987 Fr. Brendan: 07501345091
Assistant Priest: Fr. Brendan Aroh CSSp. brendanaroh@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest: Fr. Christian Egemonye CSSp. christianegemo-nye@rcdow.org.uk
Deacon: Rev. Tito Pereira titopereira@rcdow.org.uk Tito: 07977599110
Parish Office: Opening times Tue and Thu 10am to 3pm
actoneast@rcdow.org.uk 020 8743 5732

MASS TIMES

Monday: No Mass (Church Closed)
Fr. Patrick at Immigration Centre
Tuesday - Friday: 10am
Saturday: 6.30pm
Sunday: 10am, 1pm (Ge'ez Rite)
Holy Days of Obligation: 10am, 7pm

Welcome to everyone joining us for Mass today.

We would like every parishioner to register with us so please pick up a form from the back of the church. You can also pick up a standing order form, if you'd like to gift aid any donations you give. If you are new, please introduce yourself to one of the priests.

Thank you for coming!

FOR DONATIONS & PAYMENTS
WRCDT Acton East
Account No. 41095277
Sort Code: 40-05-20
Reference: Surname and First Initial

If you are a UK taxpayer, please Gift Aid your donation. The government will top up your gift by 25 percent, meaning a £20 offering becomes £25, at no cost to you.

To Gift Aid your bank transfer donations, please send an email to giftaid@rcdow.org.uk with the following information: Your parish name, your title, first name and surname, your address and postcode, the date of your gift, or start date of Standing Order and the amount. Please add the line: 'Please Gift Aid my donations'. The Diocese Gift Aid office will add your declaration immediately, on behalf of your parish, and email you a confirmation.
Standing Order: If you would like to make a regular (monthly/quarterly/annual) donation to your

SPIRITAN NEWS

GAP YEAR VOLUNTEERING WITH 'JUST YOUTH' Are you 18 to 25 and wish to support young people in their holistic growth, discover and develop their talents through Chaplaincy and other outreach programs? Please contact Just Youth on www.justyouth.co.uk and apply.

Lay Spiritans: Any parishioner who is interested in becoming a lay Spiritan, please contact Fr Patrick or the Parish Office.

CURRENT NEWS & NOTICES

First Holy Communion 2026: The next class for children is on **Sunday 9th November** after mass in the hall. The class finishes at 12pm.

Confirmation 2026: Application Forms and attendance forms are now available from the back of the church. **All candidates must attend the next youth meeting which is on Tuesday 4th November at OLOL.**

Baptism Preparation Course: If you wish to have your child baptised please go to the Parish Office to register. The next course for parents who wish to have their children baptised will take place in February 2026..

Be Part of Our New Parish Choir: Do you love to sing or play an instrument—or simply enjoy the joy of music? We're launching a brand-new parish. It is not too late to join — please pick up a form from the back of the church, fill it in and return to the parish office.

Church Cleaners urgently needed: please consider serving the church by joining a faithful group of cleaners on Thursday after morning mass.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: The first training session for both **old and new** Eucharistic Ministers will take place **on Wednesday 5th November at 7pm** in the Church. All must attend as there are new procedures.

'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.' I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted. Luke 19:13b-14



Kids' Corner

CURRENT NEWS & NOTICES

Training Course for New Lectors / Readers: The first training session for Lectors/Readers will take place **on Sunday 9th November at 11am, immediately after Mass.**

Parish Youths: The next youth meeting is on Tuesday 4th November at 7pm at OLOL.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA): The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) prepares adults for Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. It's open to unbaptised adults, those baptised in other Christian traditions, and Catholics who wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation or the Eucharist. We have weekly sessions every Thursday 7:15–8:30pm in Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall (Oldham Terrace).

Last Sunday Second collection: Thank you for celebrating World Mission. We have raised £247.52.

Sackcloth and Ashes

There have now been over **ten and a half million abortions** in Great Britain since the Abortion Act was passed 58 years ago, on 27th October 1967. On Monday 27th October please go to Mass, say an extra Rosary and give up some food for the day. Share this with your friends on Facebook

NOVEMBER— MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS





During the month of November we will be praying for your deceased relatives and loved ones. Please pick up a 'November List of All Souls' envelope from the back of the church. Inside the envelope is a form where you can list all the names of the deceased that you want to pray for. Please put the list, and your donation, back into the envelope and place it in the 'November All Souls Box' on the altar during November.

On Friday 28th November at 7pm there will be a special All Souls Mass to offer up all the names in the November All Souls Box. Photos of your deceased relatives and loved ones. We would like you to bring photos of your loved ones who have died and place them in front of the altar throughout the month of November as we continue to remember and pray for them. We will place their photos around the altar because we know that in every celebration of the Eucharist, heaven and earth are united. The living and the dead are made one. All are bound together in the Spirit of Christ.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding is the responsibility of every member of the parish. If you are concerned that a child or vulnerable adult has been harmed or is at risk of harm, please dial 999. Otherwise, contact our Parish Safeguarding Liaison Claire Sheedy: actoneastsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

SACRAMENTS AT OUR PARISH

Baptism: Please go to the parish office to fill in the paperwork. You will need to attend the Baptism Preparation Course.

Marriage: Couples are required to give 6 months notice of marriage before the wedding and to fill out the necessary paperwork and attend a marriage course. Please call the office to set up a meeting with the priest to start the paperwork.

RCIA: (Rite of Christian Initiations of Adults) Would you like to become a Catholic? You can pick up a registration form from the back of the church.

Nursery & Reception Application Forms for admission in **September 2026** are currently available from the School website at www.st-vincents.ealing.sch.uk/admissions . The online applications may be submitted until the deadline of **15th January 2026**. For more information, please contact admissions@stvps.co.uk .

Open Days – St Vincent's Primary School will be hosting Open Days for prospective parents on Tuesday 4th November at 9.30am and Saturday 8th November at 2pm. For registration forms, please visit www.st-vincents.ealing.sch.uk/school-visits.

Gunnersbury Catholic School
Sixth Form Open Evening
TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2025
5.00pm – 7.00pm
To attend please register on our website
www.gunnersbury.com

St Michael's Catholic Grammar School, North Finchley - 'Into the Sixth' Open Evening - Thursday 6 November 6-8pm

The Sixth Form at St Michael's is a place where the pursuit of academic excellence and academic curiosity are at the heart of all we do. The school was recently named the second best state school in the country, and the best in London, in the 2025 Daily Telegraph Best Schools Guide. We look forward to welcoming you to our Open Evening when you will have the opportunity to listen to subject specific talks and a talk by the Headteacher, Mr Stimpson. You can register to attend via this link 'Into the Sixth' Open Evening Registration but are also welcome to turn up on the night. The evening will start promptly at 6pm. Teachers and current students will be available and happy to discuss subject content and life in the sixth form.

MASS & LITURGICAL ACTIVITIES

26th October 2025 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14, 16-19 **2nd Reading:** 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 **Gospel:** Luke 18:9-14

Sat 25th October		
Mass of Sunday 6.30pm	Donal Maloney	R.I.P.
Sunday 26th October	**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**	
10am	For the people of the Parish	Special Intention
1pm	Ge'ez Rite	
Mon 27th October	**NO MASS**	
Tues 28th October	**SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE, Apostles**	
10am		
Wed 29th October	**Blessed Martyrs of Douai**	
10am	All those who volunteer in our parish	Thanksgiving
Thurs 30th October		
10am	For all our sick parishioners	Good Health Intentions
Friday 31st October		
10am	For all the children of our parish	Special Intentions
Sat 1st November	**ALL SAINTS**	
Mass of Sunday 6.30pm	For the people of the Parish	Special Intentions
Sunday 2nd November	**ALL SAINTS**	
10am	Bridie Breheny	R.I.P.
1pm	Ge'ez Rite	

The Angelus: This will be lead by a reader before the start of every Mass.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 30 minutes before every Mass.

Confessions:
Weekdays 9.15am-9.45am
Saturdays 5.30pm-6.15pm

Legion of Mary: Every Friday after 10am Mass in the Sacristy.

Mass Intentions: We will soon have new Mass Intention envelopes at the back of the church that you can use for all your Mass intention requests. (£10 per intention). All intentions are published in the newsletter.
Please book early in advance and provide an alternative date to secure your intention.

Celebrations: Please let us know if you are celebrating a special anniversary or birthday so we can pray for you as a community and you can receive a blessing.

Home Visits: If you know someone in the parish, who would like a visit from a priest, please contact the parish office.

Any items for the newsletter need to be received by the office by Thursday 12pm of that week.