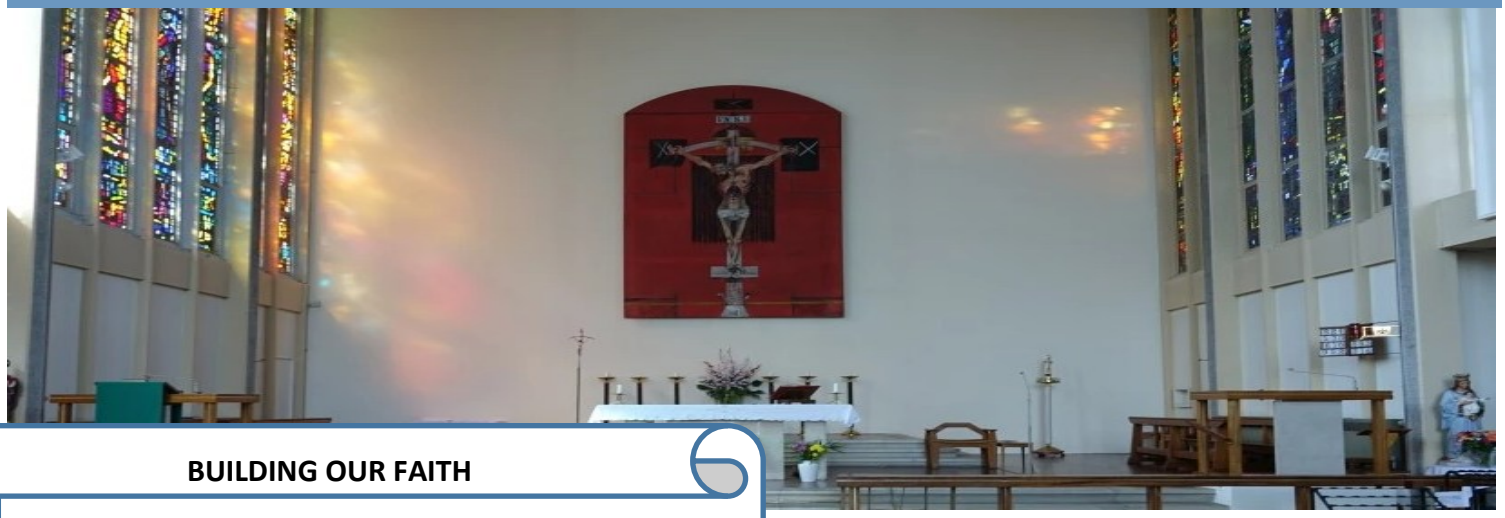
ST. AIDAN OF LINDISFARNE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTMINSTER

PARISH NEWSLETTER

11th January 2026



BUILDING OUR FAITH

If you are on social media, you will know how birthday wishes appear almost without effort. A reminder pops up and messages begin to arrive. The same can happen for wedding anniversaries or other milestones. Yet there is one anniversary that is rarely noticed or celebrated: the anniversary of our baptism. I have never seen anyone wished a "happy baptism day".

Today's feast, the Baptism of the Lord, gives us the chance to pause and think about that. It is a quiet feast, largely untouched by the commercialism that surrounds many Christian celebrations, and that is a gift. It allows us to reflect more deeply, not only on Jesus' baptism, but on our own.

Jesus did not enter the waters of the Jordan because he needed repentance. He entered them to stand fully with us. In doing so, he revealed who he is and what God is like. Isaiah reminds us that Jesus himself is God's covenant, the light that opens blind eyes and brings healing. In him, we see clearly the love of God at work in the world. When the voice from heaven calls Jesus "the beloved", we hear that it is love, not power or fear, that heals what is broken.

St Paul tells us that anyone who does what is right is acceptable to God. To walk in the way of Christ, the Prince of Peace, is to discover peace even when the world around us feels unsettled. We know how easy it is, listening to the news, to feel that hope is slipping away. The Baptism of the Lord speaks directly into that fear. It reminds us that God has not abandoned the world. He has entered it, and his name is Jesus.

In our own baptism, we are not just touched by water; we are immersed into Christ. The Spirit sends us to carry his light, to help others find their way to him. And over each of us, God still says: *This is my child, the beloved*. That is something worth remembering, and worth living from, every day.

Deacon Tito



New Archbishop of Westminster: Richard Moth has been appointed, by Pope Leo XIV, as our new Archbishop and will be officially installed at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 14th February 2026.

Fr. Patrick Away: Fr Patrick will be taking his annual leave for the month of January. He will be going home to ghana. Let us keep him in our prayers.

THANK YOU

We are very grateful for your very generous Christmas Offerings!

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. christianegemonye@rcdow.org.ukw
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
Parish Administrator: Paola Turner

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

Dear Friend in Christ,

Welcome to St. Aidan's Church! Whether you are visiting for the first time, returning after some time away, or simply seeking a quiet moment with God, we are truly blessed by your presence. This is a sacred space where hearts are lifted, prayers are heard, and lives are renewed by the grace and love of our Lord.

Here in this house of prayer, we invite you to take time to reflect, to find peace in silence, and to open your heart to God, who knows you, loves you, and walks with you always. Whatever burdens you carry or joys you celebrate, know that you are not alone—God is with you, and we are here to walk with you in faith and fellowship.

Our community gathers regularly to celebrate the Holy Mass. You are most welcome to join us at any of our services

Each Mass is a moment to encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament, and to be strengthened as members of His Body.

If you have any questions or would like to speak with a priest or member of our parish team, please do not hesitate to reach out. May you find here a home of prayer, comfort and belonging.

With every blessing, From **Parish Priest: Fr. Patrick Adusei Poku CSSp**

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 em ail 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 parish, you can download a Standing Order form from parish.rcdow.org.uk/actoneast/wp-content/uploads/sites/168/2022/07/ACTNE20.pdf

CURRENT NEWS & NOTICES

First Holy Communion 2026: The next class for children is on **Sunday 18th January** after mass in the hall. The class finishes at 12pm.

Confirmation 2026: The next date for Confirmation Classes is on the 13h January at 7pm in the Church Hall at our Lady of Lourdes (please be there by 6:55. **Baptism Preparation Course 2026:** The course will take place on Mondays 19th, 26th Jan and 2nd Feb 2026. If you would like your child baptised please come to the office to fill in an application form.

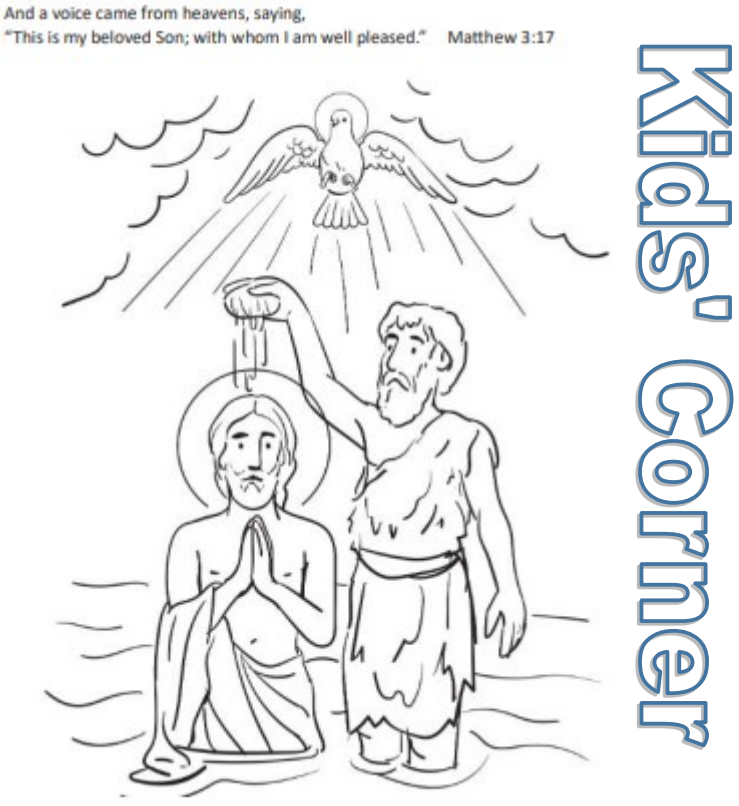
Parish Choir: We will soon start rehearsal. If you would like to be part of the choir and haven't filled in the form yet please do let the parish office know.

Parish council: We have started a consultation for a Parish council and we are hoping to finish it early next year.



R.I.P. Dorothy Zerafa (1936-2025)

Dorothy will be missed by all her family and friends. A parishioner of Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Lourdes and then St Aidan's. Dorothy's funeral will be on Thursday the 15th of January 2026 at St Aidan's at the 10am mass..



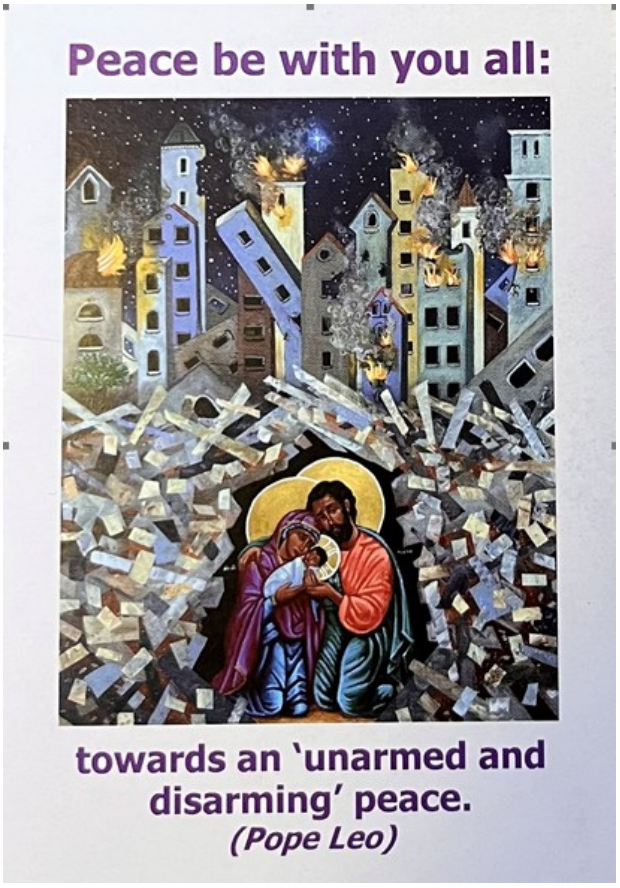
CURRENT NEWS & NOTICES

Tea and Coffee after Mass: There is going to be tea and coffee at the back of the church after all weekend masses. Do come along as this is a lovely way to meet other parishioners.



Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Join our pilgrimage to Lourdes travelling overnight by luxury coach from 9 to 14 February 2026.
It is always a beautiful and deeply spiritual experience soaking in the Spirit of Jesus as we travel to honour Our Blessed Mother. Leaving Slough and Ealing Broadway on 9 Feb 2026 and departing Lourdes on 13 February for a visit to the Shrine of the Miraculous Medal in Rue de Bac, Paris on 14 February morning and arriving in London later on 14 February 2026 Full board, exciting festival devotional program, experience the Blessed Sacrament Procession of the Sick, the Candlelight Marian Rosary Procession and the International Mass on the Feast Day followed by Stations, Confessions and Adoration with Hour of Mercy. Travel, full board and program cost £590. Call Milie on 07957594646 for more info.



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 .

JOB OPPORTUNITY: School cleaner. Salary: £16,287 - £16,513 20 hours per week / All Year round The closing date for applications is **20th January** at **9am.** Application form can be downloaded from the school website. Completed application should be sent to recruitment@wiseman.ealing.sch.uk

Prayer for peace

Almighty God,

We thank you for your gift of peace.
Your peace is 'unarmed and disarming' not victory or defeat,
But fraternity and dialogue.
The fruit of justice and forgiveness.

Open our eyes to see the world -
Not from the viewpoint of the mighty but from that of the widow, the orphan, the stranger, the wounded child, the exile and the fugitive.

We pray for change to come—a new era, the dawn of your kingdom of justice and peace.

Disarm our hearts, Lord, that we may have peace in ourselves and bring that gift to others.
Amen.

MASS & LITURGICAL ACTIVITIES

11th January 2026 The Baptism of the Lord Year A

1st Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 **2nd Reading:** Acts 10:34-38 **Gospel:** Matthew 3:13-17

Sat 10th January		
Mass of Sunday 6.30pm	For the young people in our parish	Special Intentions
Sunday 11th January	**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**	
10am	Patrick Gallen Daniel Yohannes Amuche Chukwudolue	R.I.P. Anniversary R.I.P. Special Intention
1pm	Ge'ez Rite	
Mon 12th January	**NO MASS**	
Tues 13th January		
10:00 am	Dorothy Zerafa	R.I.P.
Wed 14th January		
10:00 am	For the young people of the parish	Special Intentions
Thurs 15th January		
10:00 pm	Funeral Mass for Dorothy Zerafa	R.I.P.
Friday 16th January		
10am	Funeral Mass for Kathleen Cawley	R.I.P.
Sat 17th January		
Mass of Sunday 6.30pm	For the young people in our parish	Special Intentions
Sunday 18th January	**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	
10am	For the people of the parish	Special Intentions
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: Mass Intention envelopes are at the back of the church. You can use them 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.