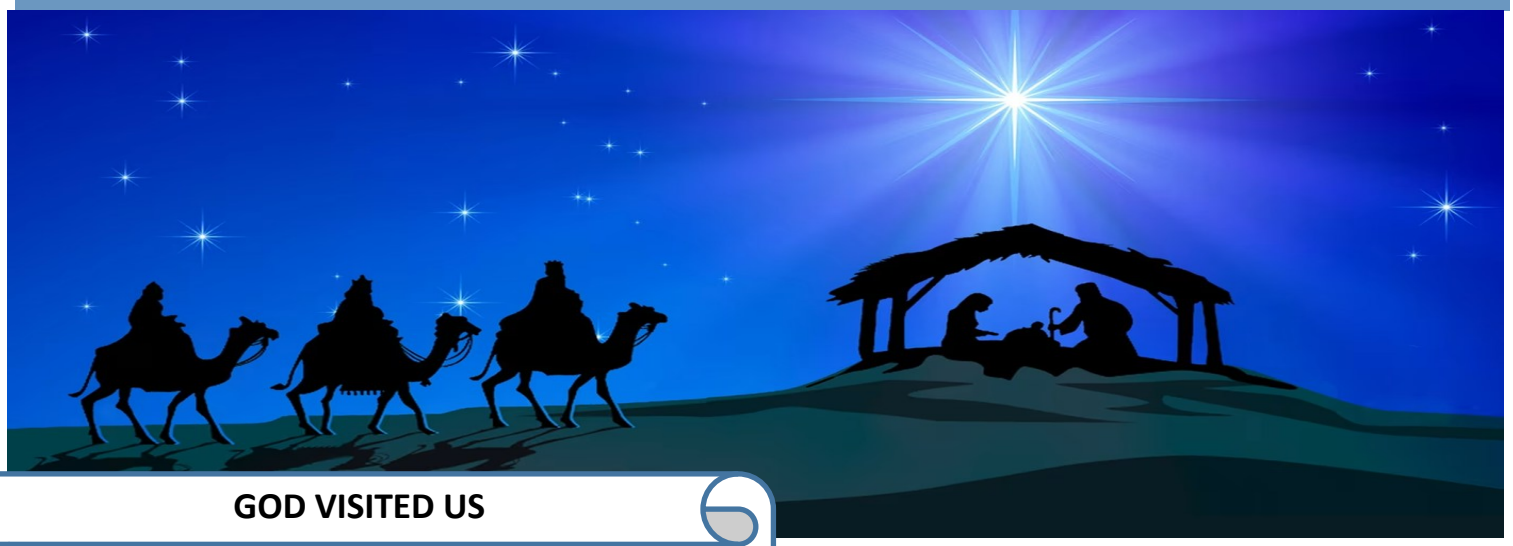
ST. AIDAN OF LINDISFARNE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTMINSTER

PARISH NEWSLETTER

4th January 2026



GOD VISITED US

At this point in the season Christmas can easily slip into the background. Decorations begin to come down, schools and work restart, and life returns to its usual rhythm. Yet the Church invites us to pause again with the heart of the mystery: the Word became flesh and lived among us. The Incarnation is not only a story from the past. It is God's way of being with us here and now.

The Incarnation matters because it shows us what God is really like. In Jesus Christ we meet a God who draws close, who accepts ordinary life, and who is not afraid of our questions, our pain, or our weakness. He was born into a family, learned a trade, and experienced both joy and sorrow. When our lives feel messy, or when we think we should be "better" before coming to God, Christmas gently reminds us that God has already stepped into our humanity and is happy to be close to us.

It also tells us who we are. Since the Son of God has taken on our human nature, every person has a dignity that no one can remove. The unborn child, the elderly person who feels forgotten, the neighbor who irritates us, the refugee, the friend who struggles with faith, all are loved by the God who has worn our flesh. Catholic teaching about the value of every human life flows from this truth.

Because the Word became flesh, God now meets us through very simple things. He speaks in the Scriptures. He gathers us as a visible Church. Above all, he gives himself to us in the Eucharist. The same Jesus who was placed in the manger comes to us quietly in Holy Communion. The Incarnation brings real hope for the year ahead. Christ has entered our world with all its confusion and worry. We do not face anything alone. God walks with us in our ordinary days, and that changes how we live, how we love, and how we hope today.

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**

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 first date for Confirmation Classes is on the 6th January at 7pm in the Church Hall at our Lady of Lourdes (please be there by 6:55. If you would like to make your confirmation in 2026 and have not registered yet you can find application Forms and attendance forms at the back of the church.

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.

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

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. Matthew 2:10



Kids' Corner

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.

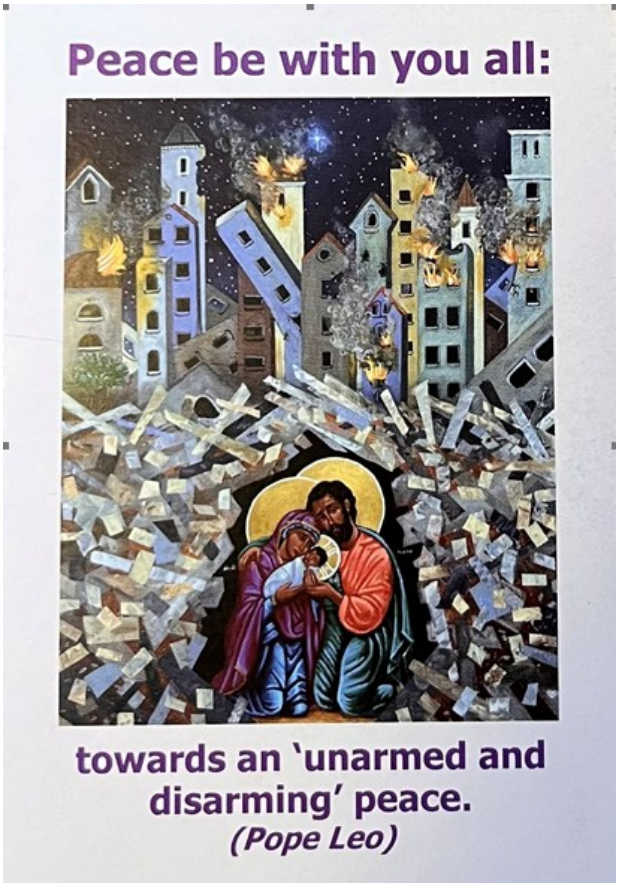
SAFEGUARDING

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 .



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

4th January 2026 Holy Family Year A

1st Reading: Sirach 24:1-2, 8-12 **2nd Reading:** Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18 **Gospel:** John 1:1-18

Sat 3rd January		
Mass of Sunday 6.30pm	For the young people in our parish	Special Intentions
Sunday 4th January	**2nd Sunday after the Nativity**	
10am	Daniel Yohannes For the people of the parish	R.I.P. Anniversary Special Intentions
1pm	Ge'ez Rite	
Mon 5th January	**NO MASS**	
Tues 6th January	**THE EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD**	
10:00 am	Steve Chetwood	R.I.P. Anniversary
Wed 7th January		
10:00 am	Bienvenido Lagahid Jr For the young people of the parish	R.I.P Birth Anniversary Special Intentions
Thurs 8th January	**Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God**	
10:00 pm	Cristina Maroncelli	Health Intentions
Friday 9th January	**St Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen**	
10am	Alfonso Duarte and Holy Souls For the sick people of our parish	R.I.P. Anniversary Health Intentions
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 For the people of the parish	R.I.P. Anniversary 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.