ST. AIDAN OF LINDISFARNE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTMINSTER

PARISH NEWSLETTER

24th May 2026



Pentecost is often called the birthday of the Church. Yet it is not confined to the past. Even two thousand years on, in 2026, the same mystery is still unfolding in the life of the Church. The disciples remain gathered, waiting upon the Lord and dependent on the gift of the Holy Spirit. In the Upper Room we see Peter and the apostles, Mary the Mother of Jesus, and the other disciples, still united in prayer, because what began there has never ceased.

Back in 2019 I visited the Upper Room in Jerusalem. I am not sure what I expected, perhaps the table still set for the Last Supper. Instead I found an empty room with visitors passing through. The emptiness struck me. With many relics of Christ's life I wondered what had become of the table where Jesus shared his final meal.

Over time I have come to see that the emptiness is fitting. The Last Supper never ended. Every altar becomes that place of sacrifice and communion. Each Mass draws us into the mystery where Christ gives himself to his people. The apostles remain present in Church they founded, and Mary continues to gather the disciples in prayer. What happened there continues today.

A Palestinian Christian once told us that Mass is only permitted in the Cenacle on Pentecost. The Spirit was poured out in the very place where the Eucharist was first given. The disciples who received Christ's Body and Blood there soon received the fire of the Holy Spirit and were sent from locked doors into Jerusalem and beyond.

Strikingly, the Upper Room is not a permanent chapel. Pentecost reminds us the Spirit is not given to buildings but to people, transforming hearts and sending them outward.

We hear this at the end of every Mass: Go forth, the Mass is ended. This is dismissal but mission. As the apostles were sent from the Upper Room, so we are sent into the world to live the Gospel.

Pentecost reminds us the Church cannot remain enclosed. The Spirit sends us into homes, workplaces, schools, and communities carrying Christ's peace. The Eucharist leads to mission.

May this Pentecost open what is closed within us. May the Spirit set our hearts alight so we go forth with courage and joy proclaiming the Gospel. ~ Deacon Tito

Today: Our Pentecost Picnic will be on Pentecost Sunday which this year falls on 24th May. It will take place at St Vincent's Primary School compound and will start at 1pm.



There will be a BBQ, an ice cream van and you can also bring your own food to share. There will also be a bouncy castle for children. All parishioners and friends are invited.

The Second Collection this week will be to help support the Spiritan Missions to the poor. This is our yearly opportunity to support the mission of the priests that serve in our parish.

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 **Fr. Patrick Adusei Poku CSSp Parish Priest**

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



Youth Corner

We're now looking ahead to an exciting upcoming event as the group begins planning our **Pentecost Picnic**. The young people are getting involved in ideas and preparations, and we're looking forward to a relaxed time of food, fellowship, and celebration together.

We are also planning a Parish Quiz night so watch this space!

Thank you, as always, to our parishioners who support the youth group in so many ways.

Youth Fund: GIFT-AID donations to the Youth Fund are possible please contact the parish office for details.

CURRENT NEWS & NOTICES

First Holy Communion 2026: Congratulation to all the children that received their first Holy communion last weekend. May you be fully blessed as you continue on your faith journey within our parish.

Baptism Preparation Course 2026: The next baptism course will take place on Monday 1st, 8th and 15th June at 7pm at OLOL in the parish hall. Parent's must register their child for baptism by Monday 25th May in order to attend the course.

Come and join the St Aidan's Singers! We meet at 9.30 am in the small room next to the Parish Office (right hand side as you enter the Church) and then lead the singing at the 10 am Mass. All ages welcome and no experience or commitment at this stage necessary. Why not come along and just join us!'

Thinking of Becoming a Catholic? Have you ever considered becoming a Roman Catholic or do you know somebody who is searching for a deeper meaning and purpose in life? The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is a process for welcoming adults into the Roman Catholic Church in preparation for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. This process welcomes non-baptised Adults; Adults baptised in another Christian Tradition; Catholics who were baptised but never received the Sacraments of Confirmation or the Eucharist. It offers the opportunity for people to deepen their knowledge of Jesus and their relationship with Him. Weekly sessions take people through the key teachings of the Catholic faith and the issues facing Catholics in today's

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: we need some more volunteers to keep our church clean and welcoming. If you have time please do join our group of volunteers on Thursdays after the 10 o'clock mass.



Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them "Receive the holy Spirit."

John 20:21-22



Kids' Corner

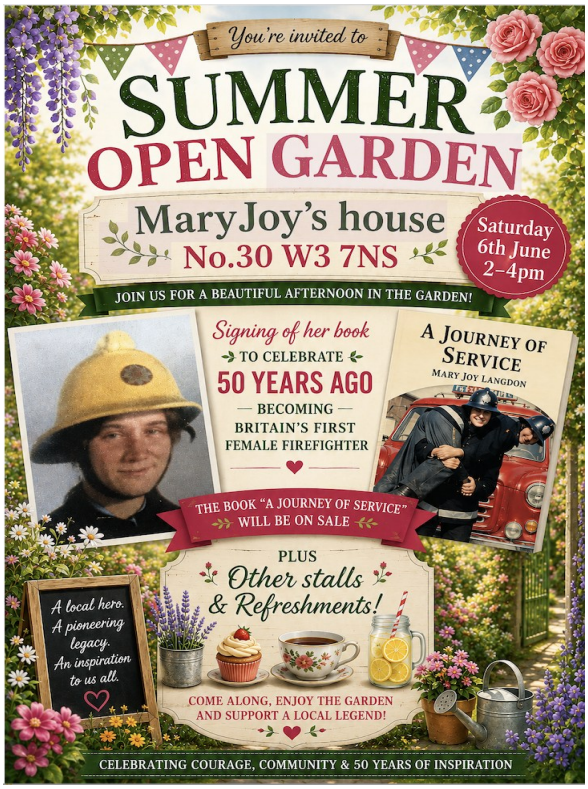
CURRENT NEWS & NOTICES

CELEBRATE Trust is excited to announce a new webinar for parents and carers of teenagers.

Raising teenagers in a Catholic family. 2nd June @ 8pm As children enter adolescence, parenting can feel brand new. Mike and Alicia from the Messy Family Project share faith filled wisdom and practical tools to help parents guide their tweens and teens with patience, modelling, and stronger relationships.

To reserve your place, book now by visiting https://www.celebratetrust.org/faith-parenting

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a **First Saturday Divine Mercy Recollection Day** at the **Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, on Saturday 6th June 2026** from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm. The Recollection Day will include Holy Mass, Talk, Hour of Mercy with Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Pls call millie on 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Slough, Ealing Broadway, North London, Barking and Victoria.



Interested in finding out more about becoming a Westminster Cathedral chorister?

Each September, up to six boys join Westminster Cathedral Choir School in Year 4 or Year 5. Choristership offers the chance to sing in a **world class choir** while attending one of the country's **leading independent school for boys.**

All choristers receive generous discounts covering up to 100% of fees. Interested in finding out more? Join our next Chorister Zoom Information Session on Wednesday, 3rd June at 6:30pm Register here - https://tinyurl.com/2zsf92j8 Alternatively, contact Rachel Bonnet at 020 7798 908, or RBonnet@choirschool.com

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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.

St Michael's Catholic Grammar School - Open Evening for Secondary Transfer - Wednesday 24 June 2026

Full details of the Admissions Policy can be found on the School's website St Michael's Admissions 2027-28.

The online application to apply to sit the entrance tests for entry in September 2027 is now available Year 7 2027. The deadline for applications to be completed and Certificate of Catholic Practice provided to the School Office is 4pm on Tuesday 7 July 2026.

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. Visit spiritans.co.uk/lay-associate-spiritans/ for more info.

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF MASS

1. PREPARE: Arrive early, gather your thoughts in quiet, read through the readings, then be still and open your heart and mind to God in prayer. Remember to always give thanks to God and to be patient in prayer. In addition to your own prayers, please remember to pray for those on the Mass Intention list and those who have no one to pray for them.

2. PARTICIPATE: Join in the singing, the responses, the prayers and listen attentively to the Readings and the Homily.

3. BE RESPECTFUL: Don't use your phone, don't eat in church (except babies), and don't chat needlessly, we come to church to raise our hearts and minds to God. But please do feel free to socialise and chat after Mass. Tea and coffee is serve at the back of the church.

MASS & LITURGICAL ACTIVITIES

24th May 2026 Pentecost Sunday Year A

1st Reading: Acts 2: 1-11 **2nd Reading:** 1Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13 **Gospel:** John 20: 19-23

Sat 23rd May		
6:30 pm	Susan Gallen Ruth Wanza Musembi.	R.I.P. Anniversary R.I.P. Anniversary
Sunday 24th May	**PENTECOST SUNDAY**	
10am	George and Hilda De Grasse Esmeraldina Santos Ghassan Barrage	R.I.P. Anniversary R.I.P. Birthday Anniversary R.I.P.
1pm	Ge'ez Rite	
Mon 25th May	**NO MASS**	
Tues 26th May		
10 am		
Wed 27th May		
10 am	Terry Tinney Adrian Bryk	R.I.P. Anniversary Good job and Life partner
Thurs 28th May		
10 am	All those who volunteer in our parish	Thanksgiving
Friday 29th May		
10 am	For the sick in our parish	Good Health Intentions
Sat 30th May		
6:30 pm	.	Special Intentions
Sunday 31st May	**PENTECOST SUNDAY**	
10am	Brhane Abraha	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: 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.