ST. AIDAN OF LINDISFARNE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTMINSTER

PARISH NEWSLETTER

18th October 2026



What Belongs to Caesar… and What Belongs to God?

There are few things guaranteed to get people talking quite like money, politics and religion. Put all three together and you have the ingredients for a lively parish coffee morning!

In this Sunday's Gospel, the Pharisees try to catch Jesus out with a tricky question about paying taxes to Caesar. It is a bit like asking a priest whether the parish should spend more money on the heating or the flowers. Either answer could cause trouble!

Jesus, however, refuses to be drawn into their trap. Instead, he asks whose image is stamped on the coin. "Caesar's," they reply. "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." It is a clever answer, but it also leaves us with a question worth pondering: What belongs to God?

We might be tempted to say, "Well, Sunday mornings, obviously!" Perhaps we could add a few prayers before meals, a donation to the parish, and the occasional guilty glance at the collection basket. Job done! But Jesus is asking for something much bigger than a few hours on Sunday or whatever loose change we happen to have in our pockets.

If Caesar's image is on the coin, whose image is on us? We are made in the image of God. That means our lives, our gifts and our relationships are all opportunities to reflect his love. And that includes Monday morning traffic, awkward family WhatsApp groups, difficult colleagues, and the person who takes twelve items through the supermarket checkout marked "Ten items or fewer". Holiness, it seems, is not always achieved in peaceful surroundings!

Giving God what belongs to him means trying to be patient when we are irritated, generous when it would be easier to be selfish, and forgiving when we would much rather have the last word. So, by all means, let Caesar have his taxes. He will probably send a reminder if we forget! But let us not forget what God asks of us: not merely our money or our Sunday attendance, but our hearts. And the good news? God doesn't ask for exact change. He asks for a little more love, every day.
~ Andrew Bull

Prayer intentions of the Holy Father for October: Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

The Second Collection : Today, parishes worldwide celebrate World Mission Sunday. By supporting Missio—the Pope's charity for world mission—we stand united as God's global family in prayer, solidarity and action. The Holy Father has chosen the theme of "**One in Christ, united in mission"** to celebrate 100 years of World Mission Sunday and encourages us to unite with missionaries as they strive to reach out with God's love to communities in need. Please pray for the work of mission and give what you can to this vital collection. **To donate, use the Missio envelopes, call 02078219755 (office hours) or visit mission.org.uk to give a gift, set up a direct Debit and gift aid your donation if possible.**

Making a gift in your will to your parish or the Spiritans as a lasting legacy could have an impact greater than you know – if you would like more information on why and how please get in touch with the parish office.

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
Deacon Jayson Wingrove: jaysonwingrove@rcdow.org.uk
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

Our young people will be travelling to South Korea in 2027 for World Youth Day! If you would like to contribute, please bring your donations to the office marked World Youth Day.

The next youth meeting will be on Tuesday 24th November at 7pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall



CURRENT NEWS & NOTICES

Baptism Preparation Course 2026: The next baptism course will take place on Mondays 12th Oct, 19th Oct and 9th Nov at 7-8:30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes. Parents must attend all three sessions. To register for the course, please go to the parish office and fill in the forms by Monday 5th October.

First Holy Communion: the next Holy communion class will take place on Sunday the 18th October after the 10 o'clock Mass.

Confirmation 2027: confirmation candidates are expected to attend the youth meetings at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall. The next one is on Tuesday 24th November at 7pm.

Come and See: There will be a Diocese vocations morning for the Priesthood and Permanent Diaconate on Saturday 17th October at Ealing Abbey 10:30 am to 1:30 pm. To find out more or to register get in touch with Deacon Ian Edward: ianedwards@rcdow.org.uk or Canon Roger Taylor: vocationspromoter@rcdow.org.uk

Thanksgiving & Celebration Mass for Baptism: We are inviting the families who attended the Baptism Preparation Courses in Jan-June 2026 to a Mass of Thanksgiving for the baptism of their children on Sunday 18th October at 10.30am. Mass will be followed by a celebration in the Parish Hall to which all are invited. This is also an opportunity for the Parish Community to support and encourage our young parents in their commitment to nurture the faith life of their children within the Catholic community. To plan and prepare for the Thanksgiving Mass, the Baptism Team would like to meet with these parents on Monday 5th October at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Fire drill: the fire wardens will carry out a fire drill at all masses on the 24th and 25th October.

Kids' Corner

"Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."
Matthew 22:21



CURRENT NEWS & NOTICES

St Vincent's Primary School: Nursery & Reception Application Forms for admission in **September 2027** 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 2027**. 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 Saturday 7th November at 2pm, Tuesday 10th November at 9.30am and Tuesday 17th November at 9.30am. For registration forms, please visit www.st-vincents.ealing.sch.uk/open-days .

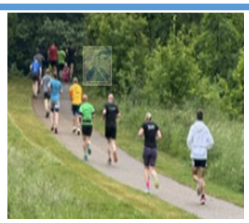
A Day With Mary is taking place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 7 November 2026 (9.45am to 5.00pm). The Most Reverend Richard Moth, Archbishop of Westminster will be the Celebrant & Preacher at 10.30am Cathedral Mass on that day. Further information is available at **https://www.adaywithmary.org/**

Interreligious Dialogue: The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales is arranging the following events for across London:

1) A Christian and Jewish Gathering Sunday 18 Oct 3-4.30pm (Central London) 2) A Day with Christians and Hindus Monday 19 Oct 10am-5pm (Willesden Green) 3) A Day with Christians and Jains Tuesday 20 Oct 9.30am-5pm (Harrow) To register, please email Elliot Vanstone from the Catholic Bishops' Conference at elot.vanstone@cbcew.org.uk

LONDON CATHOLIC SOCIAL GROUP 30+
Would you like to meet more Catholics in London?
London Catholic Social Group 30+ organises friendly social events, walks, day trips and faith events throughout the year. New members are always very welcome, whether coming alone or with friends.
To find out more: WhatsApp Brendan: 07425 549408
Email:londonswcatholicsocial@gmail.com Instagram: @londoncatholicsocial

Running Club and Walking Club: the next monthly run/wask will be on Saturday 31st October. Please come and join us. We meet at 8am outside the church fand runners and walkers are invited to breakfast in the hall afterwards. All are welcome!



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.

Patrick Ryan & Daughter Funeral Directors
Official Supporter of St Aidan's Parish Newsletter
"Patrick Ryan & Daughter Funeral Directors
Proudly supporting the local community since 1968"
6 South Ealing Rd, W5 4QA 0208 567 1664

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.
Holy communion and Confirmation: preparation classes take place once a year starting in the Autumn. Please talk to the office if you would like more information on the next class.



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

18th October 2026 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

1st Reading: Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6 2nd Reading: 1 Thesalonians 1: 1-5b Gospel: Matthew 22: 15-21

Saturday 17th October		
6:30 pm	For the people in the parish	Special Intention
Sunday 18th October	**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	
10am	Pow Family Patrick Yallen	Thanksgiving R.I.P.
1pm	Ge'ez Rite	
Mon 19th October	**NO MASS**	
Tues 20th October		
10 am	For all the volunteer in the parish	Special Intention
Wed 21st October		
10 am	For the people in the parish	Special Intention
Thurs 22nd October		
10 am	For the musicians in the parish	Special Intention
Friday 23rd October		
10 am	Anthony Yallen	R.I.P. Anniversary
Saturday 24th October		
6:30 pm	For the people in the parish	Special Intention
Sunday 25th October	**THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	
10am	Juanita Vargas Dorothy Degrasse	Anniversary R.I.P. Anniversary
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.