ST. AIDAN OF LINDISFARNE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTMINSTER

PARISH NEWSLETTER

29th November 2026



'Reflection for Sunday 29 November 1st Sunday of Advent Year B, Mark 13: 33-37.

"Watch, therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house will come....Lest he come suddenly and find you asleep".

In 2001 a bomb exploded in Ealing Broadway injuring seven and destroying a pub and other buildings. My neighbour's son was in the pub but escaped injury. My own sons often frequented the area during the day. For some time after this incident, it was as though I had woken from a long sleep. The proximity of possible sudden death made me feel as never before what was precious in my life and how fragile it was – particularly relationships with family, friends, neighbours and the wider community. I looked at people in Acton with new eyes, they became precious too, as did the natural world with its trees and sunsets.

I also realised that difficult things I'd been putting off needed to be done now, for there may not be a tomorrow. If the end came, I would regret not doing them. People I needed to forgive or ask for forgiveness, people I should contact, especially the elderly and sick, showing them that I remembered and loved them.

Today's Gospel emphasizes we must live today in right relationship with others and God without waiting for tomorrow, when it may be too late - not just for Him, but for us. I think Jesus is also telling us to wake up and appreciate the gifts and love God has given us here and now, while we're still on earth. ~ Elizabeth Stonor

Second collection this weekend: is to support the youth who would like to participate in the World Youth Day in South Korea in 2027.

First Sunday of Advent: Advent is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth at Christmas. The first purple candle, which we light today, symbolises hope. Known as the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents hope; the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

Advent Reconciliation Service

Tuesday 15th December at 7pm

We will have visiting priests to help with the

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve—Wednesday 8pm

(Christmas Carols from 7:30pm)

Christmas Day—Thursday 10am

Decorating the Church: On Thursday 3rd December after the 10 o'clock Mass we will decorate the church. Please do come and join if you can.

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



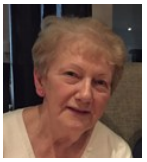
CURRENT NEWS & NOTICES

Baptism Preparation Course 2026: The next baptism course will take place in the new year. Please do come to the parish office to fill in the forms and register.

First Holy Communion: the next Holy communion class will take place on Sunday the 29th November after the 10 o'clock Mass.

Confirmation 2027: Parent's and candidates meeting with Father Patrick is on Tues 8 December at 7pm in OLOL Parish Hall. There will be a welcome Mass for candidates on Sunday 13 Dec at 10.30am at Our Lady of Lourdes.

Kathy Finnegan R.I.P.: we are sad to inform you that Kathy died on Sunday 1st November. Kathy was a valued member of St Aidan's church where she volunteered in many different capacities. Please do keep her family in your prayers. **The funeral will be on the 1st December at 11:15 am .**



Open invitation -join the St Aidan Singers as we prepare for Christmas and beyond!

Do you enjoy singing carols? Help us make this years services extra special - we meet today, 29th November just after the 10 am mass (11.15 - 12.15 pm) - all welcome.



Gluten Free: gluten free hosts are now available for those with dietary restrictions who would like to receive Holy Communion.



Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.
Mark 13:33

Youth Corner

The next youth meeting will be in January at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall. Youth events are for all young people from School Year 8 to the age of 25 years old, plus our Confirmation Class.

They youth will also he hosting a **Quiz night on Friday 27th November at 7:30** pm in OLOL Parish Hall.

Some of 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.



Kids' Corner

CURRENT NEWS & NOTICES

St Vincent's Primary School: Nursery & Reception Application Forms for admission in **September 2027** are currently available from the School web-site at www.st-vincents.ealing.sch.uk/admissions → Key Information → Admissions. . The online applications may be submitted until the deadline of **15th January 2027**. For more information, please contact admissions@stvps.co.uk .

Book Launch – The Alphabet Animal Adventures

Saturday 5th December 10.00 am – 12 noon
St Aidan's Church

You are warmly invited to the launch of **The Alphabet Animal Adventures**, a delightful new family book written by Sister Mary Joy Langdon

Everyone is welcome to come along, listen to a few tales read by Mary Joy, buy a book and have it signed. The Alphabet Animal Adventures will make a perfect Christmas present.

We look forward to seeing you at the launch.

Young Adults ADVENT RETREAT DAY with the Assumption Sisters on Saturday 5th December 2026, 10am – 6pm. Venue: Milleret House, 20 Kensington Square, London, W8 5HH (closest tube station: High Street Kensington). Programme includes talks • prayer, adoration and confessions • faith sharing • Mass and social time. £5 registration fee/ subsidised student places available on request. Register now by emailing: rebecca@assumpta-eu.org

Inclusive Mass especially for people with intellectual disabilities is taking place at Our Lady of Fatima, White City, on 28th November? The details are in this link - https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/event/inclusive-mass-white-city-2/

On Thursday 3 December, at 6.30pm in Westminster Cathedral Hall, Chris Trott, the former Ambassador at Holy See, will give a talk entitled: 'Serving His Majesty in the Holy See – 5 years in Rome' Tickets, £10, including refreshments. Our popular Carols by Candlelight returns this Advent, on Monday 7 December. The evening will begin at 6.30pm in Cathedral Hall, before we move to the Lady Chapel for carols, followed by festive refreshments back in the Hall. Tickets are £30, please join us. Tickets at https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/news-events/ or email friends@rcdow.org.uk

On Friday 4 December at 7.30 pm the Orion Symphony Orchestra will perform Handel's Messiah at St James's Spanish Place, London W1U 3QY Tickets from

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

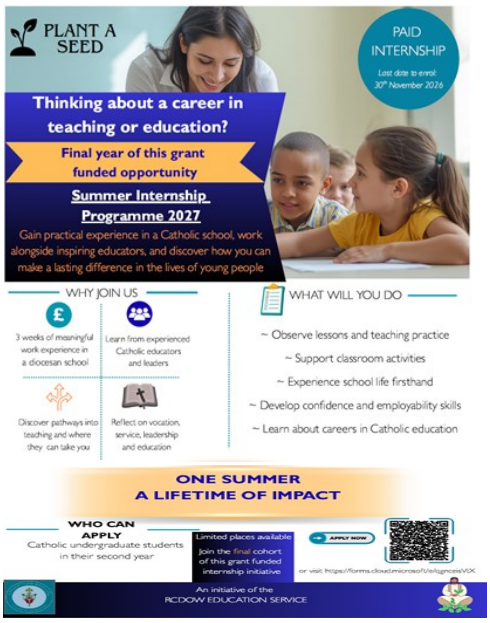
SACRAMENTS AT OUR PARISH

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.



The Giving Box

We are collecting non perishable food and toiletries to help support our parishioners in need and Acton Homeless Concern Charity. Please bring a little extra warmth and support to our local community. The collection box on the sanctuary.



MASS & LITURGICAL ACTIVITIES

29 November 2026 1st Sunday of Advent (B)

1st Reading: Isaiah 63: 16b-17; 64:1, 3b-8 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9 Gospel: Mark 13: 33-37

Saturday 28th November		
6:30 pm	For the People in the parish	Special intentions
Sunday 29th November	**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**	
10am	Pat Lafferty Clemente Catini	R.I.P. R.I.P.
1pm	Ge'ez Rite	
Mon 30th November	**NO MASS**	
Tues 1st December	**No 10 am MASS**	
11:15 am	**Funeral Mass for Kathy Finnegan** Richard, John , Angela Fitkin	R.I.P.
Wed 2nd December	**Saint Francis Xavier, Priest**	
7pm	Mrs Meehan	R.I.P.
Thurs 3rd December		
10 am	For the people in the parish	Special Intentions
Friday 4th December		
10 am	For the sick in the parish	Special Intentions
Saturday 5th December		
6:30 pm	Dorothy Zerafa	1st R.I.P. Anniversary
Sunday 6th December	**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**	
10am	Kathy Finnegan Willie Ryan	R.I.P. 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.