

Antiochian Orthodox
Christian Archdiocese
of the British Isles and
Ireland



الأبرشية الإنطاكية
المسيحية الأرثوذكسية
للجزر البريطانية وإيرلندا

Registered Charity Number: 1175538

Archbishop: His Eminence, Metropolitan Silouan Oner

London 23/05/2026

To the Reverend Clergy, Parish Councils, and Faithful of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of the British Isles and Ireland,

Beloved Fathers, Brothers, and Sisters in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

As members of the one Body of Christ, we are called to “bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2). In every parish throughout our Archdiocese, we are not isolated communities, but one spiritual family united in faith, love, and service to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Today, I write to you with a heartfelt appeal on behalf of two of our beloved parish communities: St Constantine in York and the Twelve Apostles in Eastleigh. By the grace of God, both communities have found opportunities for church buildings that may become permanent homes for worship, ministry, and witness. This is a great blessing and a hopeful step for the future of Orthodoxy in our Archdiocese. Yet these opportunities also bring financial needs beyond what these communities can carry alone.

As your bishop, I ask all our parishes and faithful to stand beside these communities with love and generosity.

First and foremost, I ask you to pray fervently for these communities, that the Lord may bless their efforts and grant success according to His holy will. Let us remember that every good work in the Church begins with prayer and is sustained by the grace of God.

Secondly, if you know faithful individuals within your parishes who may be able to assist, I encourage you to speak with them personally and invite them to support these holy endeavours.

Thirdly, I kindly ask every parish priest and parish council to discuss together how your parish may contribute financially to help these communities. Whether the offering is great or small, every act of love strengthens the Church and becomes a blessing before God.

I also encourage all parish priests and communities to share this appeal through parish social media pages, websites, newsletters, and parish communications, so that this need may reach as many faithful as possible and that many hearts may be moved to support these blessed efforts.

If any of the faithful wish to offer assistance personally or seek further information regarding how they may support these communities, I kindly encourage them to contact directly the priest of the respective parish. The clergy of St Constantine in York and the Twelve Apostles in Eastleigh will be grateful to guide and assist anyone moved to help in this blessed work.

Let us remember the words of the Apostle: "If one member suffer, all the members suffer with it" (1 Corinthians 12:26). When one parish is in need, the whole Archdiocese is called to respond with compassion and unity. In helping these communities, we are investing not merely in buildings, but in the future spiritual life of our faithful, our children, and the generations to come.

May the Lord, Who multiplied the loaves in the wilderness, bless every offering given with love, and reward abundantly all those who support His Church.

With paternal love and prayers,

Your Father in Christ,

+Silouan
Metropolitan of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian
Archdiocese of the British Isles and Ireland

**+ Silouan, Metropolitan of the Antiochian Orthodox
Christian British Isles and Ireland**



Patriarchate of Antioch and all the East