# St Patrick's Catholic Church

Parish of Wapping, Archdiocese of Westminster

**The Presbytery, Dundee Street**
**London E1W 2PH**

**Tel:** (020) 7481 2202
**Email:** wapping@rcdow.org.uk
**Web:** parish.rcdow.org.uk/wapping

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year A)

4th December 2022

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|---|---|---|---|
| **SAT 3 Dec** | 6.30pm | | François-Henri Pinault (Ints) |
| **SUN 4** | 10.00am | + SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT | Bridie Tedesco RIP |
| | 6.30pm | | People of the Parish |
| **MON 5** | 10.00am | Advent Feria | Alan Jennings RIP (B'day) |
| **TUE 6** | 10.00am | St Nicholas, Bishop | Monica Day RIP Anni. |
| **WED 7** | *No Mass* | St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church | |
| **THU 8** | 6.30pm | **THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, Patron of the Diocese** | William Aldridge RIP |
| **FRI 9** | 6.30pm | Advent Feria | James Aspell RIP (B'day) |
| **SAT 10** | 10.00am | Advent Feria | Kathleen Bridget Aspell RIP |
| **SUN 11** | 6.30pm | + THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Gaudete Sunday) | Lapo Edovard Elkann (Ints) |
| | 10.00am | | Benjamin Aaron Shapiro (Ints) |
| | 6.30pm | | People of the Parish |

Masses marked ▶ are livestreamed on YouTube: www.youtube.com/rcwapping

**Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession):** After every Mass, and by appointment.

**Church Open for Individual Prayer:** Daily 7.00am-8.00pm

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** Tuesday-Friday 7.00-8.00pm

**Rosary:** Friday 7.00pm

www.youtube.com /rcwapping | www.facebook.com /rcwapping | www.twitter.com @rcwapping

**Parish Priest:** Fr Andrew Connick
andrewconnick@rcdow.org.uk
*(Day Off: Wednesday)*

**Safeguarding:** Adele Schirinzi
wappingsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

**PARISH OFFICE: Mon, Tue, Fri 10am-2pm**

**Parish Secretary:** Lucy Knights
lucyknights@rcdow.org.uk

**Events Coordinator:** Joann Condon
joanncondon@rcdow.org.uk

## FR ANDREW WRITES:

### The Season of Advent

The name 'Advent' comes from *adventus*, Latin for 'coming' or 'arrival'. This season is not just a preparation for Christmas! We celebrate a threefold 'advent' of Jesus:

- **In history:** The Word of God took flesh and was born in Bethlehem, as we celebrate at Christmas, to establish the Kingdom of God.
- **In mystery:** The Lord Jesus comes to us today through word and Sacrament, especially the Eucharist, building up the Kingdom of God by his grace in us.
- **In majesty:** Jesus will come again in glory on the Last Day, to draw history to a close and fulfil the Kingdom of God. On that day, the dead will be resurrected and the Final Judgement will take place.

The season of Advent is not penitential, like Lent, but is marked by simplicity and sobriety: we use purple vestments, like Lent; there are no flowers; the music is quieter and we refrain from singing the Gloria. The only notable decoration is the Advent wreath, a custom we adopted from German Lutherans in the sixteenth century.

### Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

We had an excellent pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Three days in the peace and quiet of Galilee, visiting those places where the Lord Jesus began his ministry and taught and performed many of the miracles that led people to believe in him. Three days in busy and ancient Jerusalem, including those places in which the Lord Jesus suffered his Passion, Death and Resurrection. And three days in Bethlehem, particularly apt as we began the season of Advent to visit those places associated with the Lord's birth. I held all your intentions in my prayers as we visited the Holy Places and at Mass.

As well as the experience of the Holy Places, we had the opportunity while staying in Bethlehem to visit the local Catholic parish in Beit Jala for Sunday Mass, and to meet several Palestinian Christian families at a reception in our hotel. We also visited two projects, one for children with special educational needs, one for widows, supported by the Christian charity The Friends of the Holy Land. It was hard to see the terrible suffering of the Palestinian people, especially the Christian Palestinians, and a great encouragement to see that they have faith, joy and hope in their struggles.

At some point, after Christmas, our pilgrimage group is keen to share a little more about our pilgrimage and to think of ways we might help our brothers and sisters who live in the Holy Land. With my prayers and best wishes for you all, Fr Andrew.

**THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION**

**December: Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations.** We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

## PARISH NOTICES

**Sincere thanks** to Fr Ray Warren and Fr Victor Camilleri for covering Masses while Fr Andrew was away on pilgrimage.

**Wapping Posada** – a popular pre-Christmas devotion in Latin America. Each evening from Saturday 10th to Saturday 24th December, we are inviting parishioners to welcome Mary, Joseph and the donkey into their homes. The last family on the list will be responsible for bringing the figures back to church for the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass. Would you be able to offer them a room for the night?

https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/wapping/posada

**Reverse Advent Calendar** – As we begin this special time of Advent we usually ask for some additional support for the Bow Foodbank. This year, with the increasing cost of living, the number of families struggling with food poverty is growing. For those with some surplus, there are "reverse Advent calendars" available at the back of church. These have a suggestion for something you buy or put aside for each day in December for someone in poverty. This weekend we will also be giving out green tote bags for you to use for any Christmas donations. Please leave your donations in the back chapel and we will deliver them to Bow Foodbank in time for Christmas.

**Christmas Vigil Mass (Saturday 24th December, 6.30pm)** – Special call for our younger parishioners – why not dress up as your favourite character from the Nativity: Mary, Joseph, an angel, shepherd, king, even the donkey or any of the animals in the stable. Together we will process into Mass to welcome the Baby Jesus on his special birthday. All those wishing to take part, please arrive by 6.20pm.

**Christmas Raffle** – We will be selling tickets for our Christmas Raffle after Mass beginning this weekend. Tickets are £2 per strip. We have a whole selection of Christmas hampers as prizes, with many thanks to Phyllis.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**, Tuesday-Friday 7-8pm – A reminder that the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for private adoration on weekday evenings. Please consider stopping by to spend a few minutes in the company of the Lord.

**First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion** – Beginning January 2023. Children should be in year 3 at school and above, living (or regularly worshipping) in Wapping, and you must be practicing your faith. Deadline for registration is 22nd December:
https://rcwapping.typeform.com/holycommunion

**Pensioners' Christmas Party**, Thursday 8th December, 12.30pm, Parish Centre - We are pleased that State Street Bank will once again be involved with providing help on the day. St Patrick's will provide the Christmas lunch and entertainment. To reserve your place, please contact Jo in the Parish Office.

**Christmas cards and gifts on sale** after Sunday Masses, supporting the Catholic Children's Society. You can make payments in the "repository" box at the back of church, or using the card machines.

**English Martyrs Primary School Tours** – Every Friday, 4th November - 13th January 2023, 9.30-11.00am, for admissions in September 2023, for children who will be aged 3 or 4 years old by 31st August 2023. No appointment necessary. Unfortunately, there are too many applicants for the school to offer individual appointments.
St Mark Street E1 8DJ | 020 7709 0182 | enquiries@englishmartyrs.towerhamlets.sch.uk

## REGULAR NOTICES

**Please pray for the sick in the parish,** including: Adrian Tobin, Beatrice Bourke, Fraser McDonald, Sabrina Pillai, Maureen & Dennis Franey.

**Bingo for the Over 50s** – Next bingo Tuesday 13th December, 12.30pm, Parish Centre.

**Church Cleaning** – Saturday 10th December, 11.00am (Caroline's team). Please do come and help to clean the church if you can.

**Epic: A Journey Through Church History –** Next session: Thursday 8th December, session 13, Protestors and Defenders I.

**Faith and Life Group** – Meets to pray, connect and explore different topics and questions in the rhythm of everyday Christian life. Mainly for those in their 20s and 30s. More information coming soon.

**Men's Group** – Friday evenings, 7pm. Service to the parish and community, a place of welcome and mutual support. For more information, please contact Marc-Henri: 07728 248806.

**Rosary Group** – Meets in church, Fridays 7pm; also daily Rosary at home via WhatsApp. Prayer for the intentions of the Church, parish and all parishioners.

## SUPPORTING THE PARISH

**Bank Transfer/Standing Order** (One-off donations or regular standing order):
Account Name: **WRCDT Wapping** Sort Code: **40-05-20** Account Number: **21255339**
Reference: **Surname and First Initial** (optionally the purpose of the donation)

**Online (Credit/Debit Card or PayPal)**: parish.rcdow.org.uk/wapping/donate/

**Gift Aid** – If you are a UK taxpayer, please register for Gift Aid. The parish can claim an additional 25p for every £1 given, at no cost to you. Register by emailing giftaid@rcdow.org.uk

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## REGULAR NOTICES

**Foodbank** – At the back of church is a box for donations to Bow Foodbank. Foodbanks provide boxes of food to people who would otherwise go hungry for a range of reasons, from benefit delays to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income. We collect donations for Bow Foodbank (non-perishable items only): cereal, soup, pasta, rice, tinned food, lentils, beans, tea/coffee, biscuits, UHT milk, fruit juice, toiletries and hygiene products. Why not pick up something extra each week in your shopping and leave it in the box at the back of church when you come to Mass? Thank you!

https://www.bowfoodbank.org/give-food/

**Getting Married?** – Six months' notice is required for marriage. If you live in Wapping but are planning to marry elsewhere, even in your home country, you need to see Fr Andrew at least six months beforehand. This is very important!

**Men's Group** – We are starting a new Men's Group in the parish, meeting on Friday evenings, 7pm, to be of service to the parish and community, a place of welcome, and for friendship and mutual support in living the Christian faith as a man. For more information, please contact Marc-Henri: 07728 248806 or email the Parish Office.

**Catholic Listeners Telephone Helpline** – Catholic Listeners is a new confidential listening helpline, set up for those who are returning to the faith. Although not a counselling service, they have a professional team trained on signposting to other services and agencies. They aim to help those in need of a safe space to talk:

0800 448 0704

**Financial Resilience and Cost of Living –** Some resources to support those struggling with the increased cost of living:

- **Cost of Living Hub** (Mayor of London): https://www.london.gov.uk/cost-living-hub

- **Energy debts:** https://fuelpovertyresource.org.uk/focus-on/fuel-debt-and-trust-funds/
- **National Energy Action:** Warm and Safe Homes helpline 0800 304 7159
- **Green Doctors London:** Energy advice https://london.greendoctors.org.uk

**Interested in Working for the Church?** – The Diocese of Westminster advertises job vacancies for parishes and central services online: rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs/

**St Joseph's Hospice** is the only Catholic hospice in Greater London, available to this parish and everyone across East and North London regardless of background. It serves our community through in-patient care of the terminally ill, Day Hospice for out-patient care and home visits. It is an independent charity run by the Religious Sisters of Charity. For more information: 020 8525 6035 www.stjh.org.uk

**Interested in Catholic Faith** – If you not a Catholic but interested in finding out more about Catholic faith, please get in touch with Fr Andrew directly.

**Caritas Kingsland Saturday Club**, for people with learning difficulties and additional needs, and their families. Third Sunday of each month at the church hall of Our Lady and St Joseph, 100a Balls Pond Road, London N1 4AG. For more information contact Gerald McEnery 07989 895257.

**Calix Society for Recovering Alcoholics** – The Calix Society offers a Catholic ministry to alcoholics in recovery by deepening or rediscovering their faith and sharing the healing mercy of God. Meetings are held every Thursday at the Calix Centre, Church of Our Lady, 54 Lodge Road, NW8 8LA. For details:

www.calixsociety.org.uk | 07762 570361 | calixsjw@btinternet.com

**The St Katharine and Wapping Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panel** has a website: www.skw-wardpanel.org. It contains information and links for reporting anti-social behaviour to Tower Hamlets and the Police, information about Streetlink for reporting rough sleepers, and local news and upcoming events. We also recommend that Wapping residents register for OWL ('Online Watch Link'), to stay updated with local security advice and information and incident reports: www.owl.co.uk. As a local community, it is good for us to be connected together and to look out for each other.