

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B)

4th February 2024

SAT 3 Feb	6.30pm		Private Intention
SUN 4	10.00am 	+ 5 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	People of the Parish
	6.30pm		Ines Silva RIP
MON 5	10.00am 	St Agatha, Virgin & Martyr	Kathleen Bridget Aspell RIP
TUE 6	10.00am 	St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs	Nora Fuller RIP (B'day)
WED 7	No Mass	Feria	
THU 8	6.30pm 	Feria	Joseph Célestin (Ints)
FRI 9	6.30pm 	Feria	Gary & Daniella Stephens (Ints)
SAT 10	10.00am 	St Scholastica, Virgin	Private Intention
	6.30pm		John Facer RIP
SUN 11	10.00am 	+ 6 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Martin Hoy RIP
	6.30pm		People of the Parish

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat & Sun 6.00pm, and by appointment.

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Sunday 5.45-6.15pm. Friday 7.00-8.00pm.

Morning Prayer: Mon-Fri 7.00am **Evening Prayer:** Thu 7.00pm

The 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

Seminarians: Farvin Gonsalves & Devon Petrie

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:

Towards the Synod of Bishops 2024

The Synod of Bishops met in October 2023 on the subject of “synodality” itself (“journeying together”), with a further meeting scheduled for October 2024.

The Church is a communion of the People of God. It is the nature of the Church that all her members journey together and take an active part in her mission to evangelise the world. The synod intends a renewal of the Church’s mission and our shared responsibility for it. What emerged, last year, was a focus on building up communion and widening participation.

For our diocese to contribute to the next stage of the synod, our archbishop, Cardinal Nichols, asks parishes to meet and to reflect on a few simple questions about how our own parish is living out the Church’s mission. I propose that we do that on **Sunday 18th February, 11.15am**, after the morning Mass. We will arrange refreshments in the parish centre. Please do come and contribute.

On Suffering

One of the most common objections raised against people of faith concerns human suffering. Why would an all-knowing, all-powerful, and all-good God allow us to suffer? The first reading at Mass this weekend is taken from the Book of Job, in the Old Testament. Job is the most profound exploration of this difficult question in the Scriptures.

These few words are insufficient for an adequate answer to that question, if there is an adequate answer in the face of the lived reality. However, if you have wondered about this, and want to explore it further, then I commend to you an apostolic letter of Saint John Paul II called “*Salvifici Doloris*” (“salvific suffering”), written in 1984:

https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost_letters/1984/documents/hf_jp-ii_apl_11021984_salvifici-doloris.html

The Catechism of the Catholic Church addresses the question of evil and sin in paragraphs 385-421 (and therefore the origin of suffering), and the question of illness and suffering in paragraphs 1499-1513:

<http://www.usccb.org/sites/default/files/flipbooks/catechism/376/>

Perhaps most importantly, for now, we recognise in the Cross of Jesus that we are not alone in suffering. God allows us to suffer, but not uninterestedly, observing from afar. Rather, he enters the world in Jesus Christ and experiences the mystery of human suffering for himself. Moreso, he embraces all the evil and suffering of the world, so

that we are never alone when we suffer, he is there. And he uses that suffering and death, on the Cross, as the very means of our salvation, forever changing the meaning of suffering and death for the Christian. This is an awesome and difficult mystery.

Next Sunday, 11th February, is the World Day of Prayer for the Sick. It would be the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, were it not Sunday. Perhaps this week we might turn our prayers particularly to the sick and suffering, especially in our own parish and among our loved ones.

With my prayers and best wishes for you all, Fr Andrew.

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION

February: For the Terminally Ill. Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

PARISH NOTICES

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation – This Sunday the children preparing for First Holy Communion will be enrolled during the 10am Mass. Please pray for them as they begin this special journey. If you have a child in years 2 to 6, please do join the usual Sunday Catechesis, after 10am Mass on Sundays in the Meeting Room (accessed via the Kitchen Garden).

Baptism Preparation for Parents – The next Baptism preparation sessions will take place on Sundays 18th and 25th February, after the 10am Mass. Please register online if you have a child for baptism: <http://rcwapping.typeform.com/baptism>

Weekly Wednesday Film and Conversation Nights – Join us for a short, 30-45 minute video followed by discussion every Wednesday in the Upper Room (accessed via the front entrance of the Parish Centre on Dundee Street). The next session will be this Wednesday, 7th February, at 7.30pm. We are currently watching episodes of “The Chosen” – a historical drama based on the life of Jesus Christ, seen through the eyes of those who knew him - followed by a chance to reflect, chat, and socialise. Refreshments are provided. Everyone is welcome!

New shared Christian bookshelf – A new shared Christian bookshelf has been started in the Upper Room. If you have any books (or CDs, or DVDs) related to our faith (theology, bible commentaries, spirituality, life of the saints, etc.) you would like to

donate and share for others to read, please leave them on the shelf in the Upper Room or in the Sacristy after Mass. The books are there to be borrowed, so help yourselves whenever you come to the Upper Room.

Certificates of Catholic Practice for nursery admissions in September 2024. Please complete this online form to request the Certificate of Catholic Practice (and other similar references) required for school admissions.

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/wapping/ccp/>

REGULAR NOTICES

Please pray for the sick in the parish, including: Cathy Walsh, Joseph Célestin, Ann Sullivan, Fraser McDonald, Sabrina Pillai, Maureen Franey.

200 Club Draw – January’s winning numbers: 26, 9, 5, 14. Winners have been notified.

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

Catholicism for the Curious – Next session Thursday 8th February, 7.30pm, Presbytery.

Church Cleaning – Saturday 10th February, 11am (Caroline’s team).

Film and Conversation Nights – Wednesdays 7.30pm, Upper Room (Parish Centre). Watching “The Chosen”, friendship, discussion, refreshments. All welcome.

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.

Sunday Catechesis – Sundays for 30 minutes after 10am Mass. For all children in school years 2 to 6. In the Presbytery meeting room, accessed via the Kitchen Garden.

Sunday Tea and Coffee – Sundays after 10am Mass, in the Parish Centre.

Tuesday Tea and Coffee – Every Tuesday after 10am Mass in the Presbytery.

Youth Catechesis – For years 7-13, including preparation for Confirmation. Sundays 5pm, in the Upper Room. Please speak to Fr Andrew.

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

Volunteers for Church Cleaning – We are in desperate need of volunteers to bolster the numbers in our church cleaning teams. There are three teams at present, so the commitment is an hour once every three weeks on a Saturday morning. The teams meet at 8.30am, 10.30am and 11.00am, so there is some flexibility. Cleaning involves light duties: hoovering and sweeping mainly. It is also a good chance to socialise with other parishioners. Please speak to one of the stewards after Mass or email Beryl: beryl.israel@hotmail.com

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!

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.

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/>

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:

1. **Cost of Living Hub** (Mayor of London): <https://www.london.gov.uk/cost-living-hub>
2. **Energy debts**: <https://fuelpovertyresource.org.uk/focus-on/fuel-debt-and-trust-funds/>
3. **National Energy Action**: Warm and Safe Homes helpline 0800 304 7159
4. **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

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 McEnergy 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.