# St Patrick's Catholic Church

Parish of Wapping, Archdiocese of Westminster

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

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (Year B)

18<sup>th</sup> February 2024



### FR ANDREW WRITES:

## Synod of Bishops 2024

The Synod of Bishops, meeting in October 2024, is concerned with a renewal of the Church's mission, particularly how we build up communion and widen participation. For our diocese to contribute to the next stage of this process, we are asked to reflect on a few simple questions about how our own parish is living out the Church's mission. We will meet this Sunday, 11.15am (after the morning Mass) in the parish centre. Please do come and contribute.

Otherwise, you might like to pray and to reflect on these questions at home, and email me your thoughts, by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March at the latest, please:

andrewconnick@rcdow.org.uk

- 1. How do we witness as a parish and proclaim our faith to:
  - those who have never heard of Christ;
  - those who have ceased walking with Christ;
  - those with whom we worship Christ (those who go to church)?
- 2. How should we organise ourselves as a parish to do this more effectively?

3. What concrete steps/formation opportunities would help us begin to witness and proclaim our faith more effectively?

4. What structures may need to change? How might we need to develop the way we are organised currently?

I wish you all God's blessing for the week ahead. Fr Andrew.

## THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION

**February: For the Terminally III.** 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

Stations of the Cross, Fridays in Lent, 7.00pm (after the evening Mass).

**Lenten Liturgy** – You will notice during Lent that our celebration of Mass assumes a more sombre character. There is less singing, no Gloria, no flowers in church (please don't bring any) and we refrain from singing or saying "Alleluia". Later in Lent you will see the statues veiled, too.

Lenten Alms (Jesuit Refugee Service) – As usual, our parish is nominating the Jesuit Refugee Service, based here in Wapping, as the recipient of our Lenten almsgiving. In Lent we fast, pray and give alms. You may have your own almsgiving project in mind, but if not, the money box nearest the sacristy door is for Lenten alms donations. More information about the work of JRS: jrsuk.net

**CAFOD Lent Fast Day, Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** – The Lenten Fast Day takes place this Friday. We fast from a meal, or abstain from some luxury, and donate the money saved to CAFOD to support the poorest of our brothers and sisters around the world. There will be a retiring collection for CAFOD next weekend. Donation envelopes are available at the back of church. If you are a UK taxpayer, then you can use the envelopes to Gift Aid your donations, increasing them by 25% at no cost to you. You can also donate directly to CAFOD online: <u>https://cafod.org.uk/fundraise/family-fast-day</u>

**Baptism Preparation for Parents** – The next Baptism preparation sessions will take place on Sundays 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> February and 3<sup>rd</sup> March, after the 10am Mass. Please register online if you have a child for baptism: <u>http://rcwapping.typeform.com/baptism</u>

**Weekly Wednesday Film and Conversation Nights** – Join us for a short, 30-45 minute video followed by discussion every Wednesday from 7.30pm in the Upper Room (accessed via the front entrance of the Parish Centre on Dundee Street). The next session will be on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February. We will start watching 'Metanoia', a 10-week programme filmed in locations in the Holy Land. Metanoia is the Greek for (spiritual) conversion - it means to change, to repent, to turn, to think differently. The series aims at helping us through this metanoia, while we journey through the places where Jesus physically taught His Church the meaning and the way of metanoia. The first session is entitled "Who do you say that I am?". No preparation required, everyone is welcome!

#### **DIOCESAN NOTICES**

**Annual Mass for Matrimony,** Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2.30pm, Westminster Cathedral – The Cardinal will celebrate this Mass for couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries: 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 60+. If you are celebrating an anniversary this year, please give your full names, date of Catholic marriage, and home address to Fr Andrew.

**Vocations Days: 'Come and See',** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 10am-2pm – For men who are interested in exploring vocations to the priesthood or the permanent diaconate. Held

at Vaughan House (behind Westminster Cathedral), 46 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN. To find out more and to register attendance at one of the days:

Priesthood: Canon Roger Taylor <u>vocationspromoter@rcdow.org.uk</u> Permanent Diaconate: Deacon Adrian Cullen <u>adriancullen@rcdow.org.uk</u> | 07961 594725

**Bach's St John's Passion,** Westminster Cathedral Choir, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm – Tickets are available via Ticketmaster. The Cathedral Choir will be conducted by Simon Johnson, Cathedral Master of Music, accompanied by a Baroque orchestra and soloists James Gilchrist (as the Evangelist) and William Thomas (Christus).

https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/westminster-cathedral-tickets-london/venue/254582

### **REGULAR NOTICES**

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

**Bingo for the Over 50s** – Next bingo this Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 12.30pm, Parish Centre.

**Catholicism for the Curious** – Next session Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 7.30pm, Presbytery.

**Church Cleaning** – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 10.30am (Beryl's team).

Film and Conversation Nights – Wednesdays 7.30pm, Upper Room (Parish Centre). Watching and discussing "Metanoia". Friendship, discussion, refreshments. All welcome.

**First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion** – Next session Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 11.30am. Children in the Upper Room. Parents in the Presbytery.

**Rosary Group** – 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 (term-time only). In the Presbytery meeting room, accessed via the Kitchen Garden. Resumes on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February (after half-term).

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, (term-time only) in the Upper Room. Please speak to Fr Andrew. Resumes on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February (after half-term).

#### **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 giftaid it cost to you. Register by emailing <u>giftaid@rcdow.org.uk</u>

## **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: <u>beryl.israel@hotmail.com</u>

**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 (<u>non-perishable items only</u>): 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): <u>https://www.london.gov.uk/cost-living-hub</u>
- 2. Energy debts: <u>https://fuelpovertyresource.org.uk/focus-on/fuel-debt-and-trust-funds/</u>
- 3. National Energy Action: Warm and Safe Homes helpline 0800 304 7159
- 4. Green Doctors London: Energy advice <u>https://london.greendoctors.org.uk</u>

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

**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 outpatient care and home visits. It is an independent charity run by the Religious Sisters of Charity. For more information: 020 8525 6035 <u>www.stjh.org.uk</u>

**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: <u>www.skw-wardpanel.org</u>. 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: <u>www.owl.co.uk</u>. As a local community, it is good for us to be connected together and to look out for each other.