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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year A)

30th November 2025

SAT 29 Nov	6.30pm		Holy Souls
SUN 30	10.00am	**+ FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**	People of the Parish
	6.30pm		Private Intention
MON 1 Dec	10.00am	Advent Feria	Ravi, Chriss & Sheila Kumar, & Kathleen Aspell (Ints)
TUE 2	10.00am	Advent Feria	Private Intention
WED 3	*No Mass*	St Francis Xavier, Priest	
THU 4	6.30pm	Advent Feria	Laila Felaifel (Ints)
FRI 5	6.30pm	Advent Feria	Daud Mubarak RIP
SAT 6	10.00am	St Nicholas, Bishop	Monica Day RIP (Anni.)
	6.30pm		Zulekha Ameer (Ints)
SUN 7	10.00am	**+ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**	Julie Carling RIP (B'day)
	6.30pm		People of the Parish

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

Sacrament of Penance (Confession): Saturday & Sunday 6.00pm.

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

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

The Rosary: Thursday 7.00pm. **Praise and Worship:** Friday 7.00-8.00pm.

youtube.com /rcwapping | facebook.com /rcwapping | x.com @rcwapping

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

In Residence: Fr Daniele Falcomer

Safeguarding: Adele Schirinzi
wappingsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

PARISH OFFICE: Mon, Tue & Fri 10am-3pm

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. This is the focus from 17th December onwards.
- **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 perfect the Kingdom of God. On that day, the dead will be resurrected, and the Final Judgement will take place. This is our focus in the first half of the Advent season.

Advent is not primarily penitential, like Lent, but is marked nonetheless by simplicity and sobriety: we use purple vestments, like Lent; we refrain from decorating the church with flowers; the music is quieter; and we omit the Gloria at Mass. The only notable decoration is the Advent wreath, a custom we adopted from German Lutherans in the sixteenth century.

This Sunday also marks the beginning of a new year in the life of the Church, and our journey again through the events in the life of the Lord Jesus. This is year A in the Sunday cycle of readings, in which we predominantly read from the Gospel of Matthew at Sunday Mass.

I am away this week visiting our seminarians in the Royal English College of St Alban, Valladolid, and then the Venerable English College, Rome. I'll see our parishioner, Oliver, in Valladolid, and will assure him of the prayers of our parish for his discernment of priesthood. Please pray for all our seminarians. Thank you to Fr Daniele for holding down the fort while I am away.

Praying for the Lord to bless you all with new hope in his coming, Fr Andrew.

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION

December: For Christians in areas of conflict. Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

PARISH NOTICES

This Sunday, 30th November, join us for our Christmas Fair, *A Cup of Christmas*! Enjoy a mulled wine or hot chocolate with a mince pie, or treat yourself to one of our delicious cakes, as we come together to celebrate the beginning of the Advent season. There will be Christmas stalls selling cards, wreaths and stocking fillers—perfect for some early gift shopping—along with a raffle and Father Christmas's Grotto (see below for booking). It promises to be a joyful occasion for all ages!

Wapping Posada Mary and Joseph will be on their way around different homes in our parish. Beginning on Sunday 14th December and arriving back in the church in time for the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at 6.30pm. Can you welcome Mary, Joseph and their donkey on their way to Bethlehem? This is a lovely way to prepare for Christmas, for children and adults alike. For more information and to register:

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

200 Club – The parish's 200 Club supports the refurbishment of our parish buildings. The idea is simple: you pay £10 a month. Half goes to the buildings fund, and half goes to prize money. Every month, four participants are drawn at random and receive a prize. If 100 parishioners sign up, the monthly prizes will be £200, £150, £100, and £50, with the chance of winning 1 in 25! https://rcwapping.typeform.com/200Club

Sunday 10am Mass Tea and Coffee – Sunday 7th December after the 10am Mass in the Back Chapel. Thank you to those who have offered their time to volunteer already. We are still in need of more volunteers, if you are interested contact Lucy in the Parish Office.

"Operation Elf" – Thank you to everyone who has donated a gift for this great cause. HMP Belmarsh came to collect the gifts on Friday, they were hugely grateful for everything that has been donated and told us how much our gifts mean to the parents and their children. They will distribute presents at the Family Fun Day and at family visits until Christmas Eve.

Pensioners' Christmas Party – Thursday 11th December 12.30pm in the Parish Hall. Please email Jo, or phone Lucy in the Parish Office, to reserve your place.

joanncondon@rcdow.org.uk | 020 7481 2202

ENGLISH MARTYRS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Foundation Governor Vacancy – English Martyrs have a vacancy for a Foundation Governor. Foundation Governors are appointed in the name of the Archbishop and

form a majority in the governing body of a Catholic school. They do not need to be parents, but must be practicing Catholics, and are responsible for developing the Catholic character of the school. Please speak to Fr Andrew or contact the school directly. More information about the role:

https://education.rcdow.org.uk/governance-admissions/foundation-governors/

PARISH GROUPS AND REGULAR ACTIVITIES

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

Bingo for the Over 50s – Tuesday 2nd December, 12.30pm, in St Patrick's Parish Hall.

Catholicism for the Curious – Thursday **11th December**, 7.30-8.30pm, Presbytery.

Church Cleaning – Saturday 6th December, Maria's team, 10.30am.

Hebrews Bible Timeline – Monday **8th December**, 7pm, Presbytery.

Praise and Worship Group – Friday 7.00-8.00pm in the church.

Rosary Group – Thursdays in church at 7pm. Also, daily Rosary at home via WhatsApp. Prayer for the intentions of the Church, parish and all parishioners.

St Vincent de Paul Society - Provides practical support to members of our community asking for help. For more information: PresidentA220816@svp.org.uk
For assistance or support from the SVP Society: request@svp.org.uk | 020 7703 3030
Foreign/Old Currency for SVP: Please leave in an envelope or bag marked "SVP" in the sacristy after Mass, or in the Presbytery letterbox.

Sunday Catechesis (School Years 2-6) – Sundays 11am-12noon in the Parish Hall. **No Catechesis this Sunday 30th November.**

Youth Group (School Years 7-13) – Saturday 13th December 7.30pm, Upper Room.

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



REGULAR NOTICES

Volunteers for Church Cleaning – We are in desperate need of volunteers to bolster the numbers in our church cleaning teams on a Saturday mornings, 10.30am. Cleaning involves light duties: hoovering and sweeping mainly. It is also a good chance to socialise with other parishioners. The Lord's house is here for us all, and our care of it is a practical expression of our love for God and the care we have for our faith.

Livestreaming – A reminder that Mass is livestreamed most days on our YouTube channel. The camera is focussed on the sanctuary, to avoid capturing images of the people at Mass. However, those standing in the front two pews are occasionally visible, as is the procession to Holy Communion. Any questions, speak to Fr Andrew.

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!

Parent & Baby Group, "Les bébés de Mary"– For parents with little ones (not yet walking) and those who are expecting, a relaxed and friendly gathering in the Presbytery with Lucy, Angie, and Marie. It's a great chance to share in our faith, support one another, and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee together. As the group grows, we hope to invite guest speakers to chat about different aspects of parenting and how it connects with our Catholic faith. Please do come along. Next session to be confirmed soon. Please contact Lucy in the parish office if you would like to come along.

lucyknights@rcdow.org.uk

Interested in Catholic Faith or Adult Confirmation – This is for anyone who wants to know about Catholic faith, and for adult Catholics who missed out on the Sacrament of Confirmation for any reason. Meeting on Thursdays at 7.30pm. Please register:

https://rcwapping.typeform.com/wrcia

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.

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 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.