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)

7th December 2025

SAT 6 Dec	6.30pm		Zulekha Ameer RIP
SUN 7	10.00am ▶	+ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Julie Carling RIP (B'day)
	6.30pm		People of the Parish
MON 8	10.00am ▶	**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, Patron of the Diocese**	James Aspell RIP
TUE 9	10.00am ▶	Advent Feria	Joan Mary Hodgkinson RIP
WED 10	*No Mass*	Advent Feria	
THU 11	6.30pm ▶	Advent Feria	Chris Black RIP
FRI 12	6.30pm ▶	Advent Feria	Mary & Ivor Burgoyne RIP
SAT 13	10.00am ▶	St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr	Eileen Griffin (Ints)
	6.30pm		Elliot James Yo (Thanksgiving)
SUN 14	10.00am ▶	+ THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Laetare Sunday)	Lolly Batty RIP
	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:

St John the Baptist in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord!

Each year, the Second Sunday of Advent includes the cry of St John the Baptist in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord! John was cousin to Christ, and six months his senior. He heralded the start of the public ministry of Jesus, when they were both thirty years old. It was at that time that Jesus began preaching and working miracles, setting out of the path that led to his Death and Resurrection, the fulfilment of God's promises to Israel, the birth of the Church, and the promise of salvation to the nations.

In this first half of Advent (which simply means "coming"), we are not thinking about Christmas. With John's call to repentance for the forgiveness of sins, we think about the ways in which Christ comes to us now, in our own lives and situations, especially with his grace and forgiveness, while we wait for his Second Coming and the Last Day.

Above all, Christ instituted the Sacraments as the means by which he enters the concrete reality of our lives today. Every time we come to Mass, and receive Holy Communion, he enters our souls and strengthens our union with him and each other in the Church. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation (or Confession) he comes to us to speak his word of forgiveness in response to the humble admission of our sins.

From the 17th December, Advent turns to a remembrance of Christmas, the First Coming of Christ in Bethlehem.

I'm very grateful to Fr Daniele for caring for the parish while I was away last week. It was great to see Oliver doing so well at seminary in Valladolid, and the same for Joshua (on placement with us last January) at the English College in Rome. Please pray for all our seminarians.

Blessings on the week ahead, 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

Monday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a holyday of obligation in many Catholic countries, but not here in England and Wales. Mass will be at 10am as usual.

Advent Confessions – There will be the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursdays and Fridays for the rest of December, at 7pm, in the sacristy. You can also ask one of the priests after Mass on any day.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make our Christmas Fair such a tremendous success! From the warm mulled wine and a visit from Father Christmas to the wonderful homemade cakes and beautifully crafted festive goods on the stalls, it was a joy to see so many parishioners and Wapping neighbours celebrating together. We look forward to sharing the total amount raised with you next weekend.

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: 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

Christmas Offering – If you are going to be away over Christmas, please consider making your Christmas offering before you go. The offerings at Christmas and Easter make up the clergy annual stipend. There are Christmas offering envelopes at the back of church: put them in the collection or leave at the Parish Office.

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

Please pray for the repose of the soul of John Hanshaw RIP. Funeral details to follow.

Certificates of Catholic Practice for primary school admissions in September 2026. If you are at Mass over the weekend, please speak to Fr Andrew afterwards. The local authority deadline for primary school applications is 15th January. To request forms:

https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/wapping/schools/ccp/

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 help. Please contact Lucy in the Parish Office.

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, Maureen McGrath.

And for the recently deceased, including: John Hanshaw.

Bingo for the Over 50s – Tuesday 16th December, 12.30pm, in St Patrick's Parish Hall.

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

Church Cleaning – Saturday 20th December, Beryl's team, 10.30am.

Hebrews Bible Timeline – Monday 8th December, 7.15pm, 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.

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.