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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Gaudete Sunday (Year A)

14th December 2025

SAT 13 Dec	6.30pm		Elliot James Yo (Thanksgiving)
SUN 14	10.00am	+ THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Gaudete Sunday)	Lolly Batty RIP
	6.30pm		People of the Parish
MON 15	10.00am	Advent Feria	Billy Macdonald RIP (B'day)
TUE 16	10.00am	Advent Feria	Kit & Ted Fletcher RIP
WED 17	*No Mass*	Advent Feria	
THU 18	6.30pm	Advent Feria	Ravi & Chriss Kumar RIP
FRI 19	6.30pm	Advent Feria	Dora Israel RIP
SAT 20	10.00am	Advent Feria	Private Intention
	6.30pm		People of the Parish
SUN 21	10.00am	+ FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Holy Souls
	6.30pm		Private Intention

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

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.

FR DANIELE WRITES:

Dear Parishioners,

Advent is always a time of novelty, in which the Holy Spirit works within us and around us. This is true for me as well: the Lord is calling me back to serve in my diocese in Italy. My academic course isn't finished yet, but the rest of it can be done online, so I will continue my research back home. Next weekend will be my last in the parish.

I must thank from the bottom of my heart every one of you, for your support, your precious kindness and your sincere appreciation for my pastoral service at St Patrick's this year and a half. My experience has been enormously enriched while staying here and it will be a precious treasure also in the future.

I deeply thank Fr Andrew for everything he has done for me, introducing me in this new reality and accompanying me with brotherhood along this journey. I also thank the Archdiocese of Westminster for giving me the possibility and the privilege to be part of it, even for a short time.

I hope I will leave a positive memory to all of you, and I hope I contributed to your faith and spirituality through my ministry.

Please, keep up praying for me! I assure you that I'll do the same for you all.

Wishing you a very merry Christmas, Fr Daniele.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

6.30pm Vigil Mass of Christmas (for families)

10.00pm Christmas Mass in the Holy Night

Thursday 25th December (Christmas Day)

10.00am Christmas Mass (there will be no evening Mass)

Friday 26th December (Feast of St Stephen)

11.00am Mass (there will be no evening Mass)

GOING AWAY FOR CHRISTMAS

To the many parishioners going away for the Christmas holidays, I wish you a happy and holy celebration of the Lord's birth, safe journeys and peace in your families. Thank you for your cards, gifts, and Christmas offerings. I look forward to seeing you in the New Year. Fr Andrew.

PARISH NOTICES

Gaudete Sunday – This third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete Sunday". Gaudete is Latin for "rejoice", the first word of the entrance antiphon for this Sunday's Mass: *"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near."* (Philippians 4:4-5). You will notice the rose-pink vestments and veils, meant to symbolise the white light of Christmas brightening the usual Advent purple.

Bonfire and Carols – Next Sunday, 7.30pm, following the evening Mass. Please join us for hot mince pies, mulled wine, hot chocolate, and carols around the bonfire.

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.

Wapping Posada Mary and Joseph will be on their way around different homes in our parish. Beginning this 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/

Vigil Mass Christmas Eve – Special call for our younger parishioners – dress up as your favourite figure from the Nativity: Mary, Joseph, an angel, shepherd, king, even the donkey or any of the animals in the stable. At the beginning of the Mass the children accompanied by Angie will follow Baby Jesus as he makes His way to our crib. All those wishing to take part, please arrive by 6.20pm.

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.

Christmas Fair – We raised an amazing £1942.90, thank you to all who came and supported this lovely festive event.

Pensioners' Christmas Party – Thank you to Jo for organising another fabulous party this year, and to the volunteers who help, to the SVP who brought some of the guests, and to State Street Bank for kindly donating table decorations and gifts, and their employees who helped on the day.

St Vincent de Paul Society - The SVP has been busy this year, supporting the housebound and those in need in our community. As you give alms this Advent, consider donating to our SVP Conference – details of ways to give are on the notice board at the back of the church and on the SVP page of the parish website. The SVP is also still looking for volunteers if you can spare a few hours every month:

Presidenta220816@svp.org.uk

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 – Resumes in the New Year.

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

Hebrews Bible Timeline – Monday 15th 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 10am Mass Tea & Coffee – Please join us. To help, please contact Lucy.

Sunday Catechesis (School Years 2-6) – Sundays 11am-12noon in the Parish Hall. Sunday 14th December will be the last Catechesis until January.

Youth Group (School Years 7-13) – The session scheduled for this Saturday 13th December has been postponed until January, date TBC.

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 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.