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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year A)

21st December 2025

SAT 20 Dec	6.30pm		People of the Parish
SUN 21	10.00am ▶	+ 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Holy Souls
	6.30pm		Private Intention
MON 22	10.00am ▶	Advent Feria	Molly Clark RIP
TUE 23	10.00am ▶	Advent Feria	Mary Christina Kumar RIP (B'day)
WED 24	**6.30pm** ▶		Mark Gawor Parents RIP
	10.00pm ▶		Ada Brassett RIP
THU 25	**10.00am**	**+ THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**	Ravi & Chriss RIP & Sheila Kumar, & Kathleen Aspell RIP
FRI 26	**11.00am** ▶	ST STEPHEN, The First Martyr	Joan Mary Hodgkinson RIP
SAT 27	**11.00am** ▶	ST JOHN, Apostle and Evangelist	Joanna Khng (Ints)
SUN 28	6.30pm	+ THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH	Christina Kumar RIP
	10.00am ▶		Aldridge Family (Ints)
	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: Resumes in New Year. **Praise and Worship:** Resumes in New Year

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

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

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

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)

FR ANDREW WRITES:

A New Shepherd

You may have seen the news, yesterday, that the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, has appointed the Right Reverend Richard Moth, Bishop of Arundel and Brighton, as Archbishop of Westminster, in succession to His Eminence Vincent Cardinal Nichols.

Archbishop Moth was born in Zambia in 1958 and grew up in Kent. He was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Southwark in 1982, ministering in Clapham Park and Lewisham, undertook further studies in Canon Law, and served as Private Secretary to the Archbishop of Southwark and then as Vicar General. In 2009, he was appointed Bishop of the Forces, and translated to Arundel and Brighton in 2015. He will be installed in Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 14th February.

Please pray for our new shepherd. The Lord Jesus established his Church on the apostles and their successors, sharing with them his own authority and priesthood. In each place, the Christian faithful gathers around the bishop, who stands in unbroken succession back to the apostles, serving the People of God as teacher, sanctifier, and pastor. Archbishop Moth is not a Cardinal. That is a personal dignity bestowed by the Holy Father, and may come in time, as it has for his predecessors in Westminster.

We give thanks to God for the many years of dedicated service given by Cardinal Nichols, remembering especially his recent pastoral visit to Wapping to mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of our parish. He turned 80 in November, and remains a bishop, of course, but now lays aside the heavy burdens of office, here in Westminster and in the Roman Curia. We pray for the Lord to bless him in his retirement.

Farewell to Fr Daniele

We wish Fr Daniele well as he returns home to Italy on Monday. Please pray for him as he takes up the new ministries given to him by his bishop, and for the completion of his psychological studies. I am very grateful for everything he has contributed to our parish over the last eighteen months, and for his support and friendship for me.

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.

Wishing you all peace in the Lord in these final days of Advent, 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

Mince Pies, Mulled Wine, Hot Chocolate – This Sunday, 7.30pm, following the evening Mass. Sadly, rain is forecast on Sunday evening, so we will forego the carols around the bonfire this year.

Foodbank – This Christmas, the Aviva Community Fund is doubling any financial donations made to Bow Foodbank up to a maximum of £250 per donation and £50,000 overall. This is a great way to support the work of the Foodbank.

https://www.bowfoodbank.org/donate-to-bow-foodbank/

Wapping Posada Mary and Joseph are on their way around different homes in our parish and arriving back in the church in time for the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at 6.30pm. We look forward to hearing all about their journey in Wapping.

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.

Bring your baby Jesus to Christmas Eve Mass! – If you have a nativity scene or crib at home, the tradition is only to place the baby Jesus on Christmas Eve (usually after you have been to Christmas Mass). If you are attending Mass on Christmas Eve (6.30pm or 10pm), you are invited to bring baby Jesus from your crib to Mass to be blessed.

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 Trees and Cribs – Thank you to the great team of people who have helped to put up and decorate our Christmas trees and cribs. They bring joy to so many.

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.

Bingo for the Over 50s – Resumes in the New Year.

Catholicism for the Curious – Thursdays, 7.30pm. Resumes in the New Year.

Church Cleaning – Saturdays, 10.30am. Resumes in the New Year.

Hebrews Bible Timeline – Mondays, 7pm, Presbytery. Resumes in the New Year.

Praise and Worship Group – Fridays 7-8pm. Resumes in the New Year.

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. Resumes 18th January.

Youth Group (School Years 7-13) – Epiphany gathering Saturday 10th January, in the Parish Hall, 7.30pm.

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!

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.