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 AFTER CHRISTMAS (Year A)

4th January 2026

SAT 3 Jan	6.30pm		Beatrice Bourke RIP Anni.
SUN 4	10.00am ▶	+ SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY	Pasterny Family (Ints)
	6.30pm		People of the Parish
MON 5	10.00am ▶	Christmas Feria	Kay Savage & Family (Ints)
TUE 6	10.00am ▶	**+ THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**	Ravi, Chriss & Sheila Kumar, & Kathleen Aspell (Thanksgiving)
	6.30pm		Vocations to the Priesthood
WED 7	*No Mass*	Christmas Feria	
THU 8	6.30pm	Christmas Feria	Alix Espaton (B'day Ints)
FRI 9	6.30pm	Christmas Feria	Merv Rees RIP
SAT 10	~~10.00am~~	Christmas Feria (*No morning Mass)*	
	6.30pm		John Paul & Liza Galvin RIP
SUN 11	10.00am ▶	+ THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	People of the Parish
	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: 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 *(Returns February)*

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 Epiphany of the Lord

Tuesday is the Epiphany of the Lord, a holyday of obligation. Christ was born quietly; the first witnesses were simple shepherds. The Epiphany recalls the visit of the Magi, representing the nations of the world giving homage to the Christ Child.

This feast is associated with many traditions of popular piety around the world. One such is the blessing of homes through the intercession of the Wise Men, using blessed chalk. We shall bless chalk at the end of the Epiphany Masses for you to take home.

At home, use the chalk to make an inscription above your front door, to entrust your home to God's protection for the new year and ask his blessing for all who enter:

$$20 + C + M + B + 26$$

The number designates the year, while 'CMB' stands for the traditional names of the wise men – Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar – and also the prayer '*Christus mansionem benedicat*' which means 'May Christ bless this home'. You might use this prayer:

℣. Peace be to this house. ℟. **And all who dwell here.**

The three Wise Kings, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, followed a star to find the Christ Child, who was born two thousand and twenty-three years ago.

(Write 20+C+M+B+26 above the door)

Visit, O blessed Lord, our home with the gladness of your presence.
Bless it and all who live or visit here with the gift of your love;
and grant that we may show your love to each other
and all whose lives we touch.
Lord Jesus Christ, be with us now and for ever. Amen.

(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be)

Thank You

Our celebration of Christmas was made possible by a huge number of volunteers who cleaned and decorated the church, polished brassware, arranged flowers, prepared the sacristy, erected the trees, cleared the outside areas, sang, played, operated the screens, took the collection, stewarded, read, served, prepared rotas, and much more. I am grateful too for that hidden but important work of prayer for our parish, responsible for us obtaining God's grace in such abundance. We are so fortunate to have such generosity, and I am very grateful to you all.

I want to express my personal thanks for all the cards, gifts, and offerings I have received, and for all the support and friendship you give to me throughout the year. Thanks be to God for each one of you. May the Lord bless you in this new year.

You might know that I am going away for a few weeks to New Zealand, with my father and brothers. My mum was a New Zealander, and this will be our first visit to family there in 35 years! There are supply priests organised for Mass, with the exception of Saturday mornings. Please make them welcome. Thank you to those generous parishioners helping to hold down the fort, and look after the dogs, while I am away.

With continued Christmas blessings, and assurance of prayers for you all, Fr Andrew.

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION

January: For prayer with the Word of God. Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

PARISH NOTICES

The Epiphany of the Lord, Tuesday 6th January, is a Holyday of Obligation. There will be Mass at 10.00am and 6.30pm.

No Saturday Morning Mass for the next few weeks, while Fr Andrew is away. The Mass timetable should otherwise be as usual, but please check the newsletter in case of unexpected changes.

Livestream – Only the Sunday 10am Mass will be livestreamed while Fr Andrew is away. The livestream of weekday Masses will resume when he returns. 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. The Saturday and Sunday 6.30pm Masses are not livestreamed.

Certificates of Catholic Practice for primary school and nursery admissions in September 2026. You must see Fr Andrew after Mass this weekend at the latest if you have school forms that need to be signed. https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/wapping/ccp/

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/

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



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.