

Catholic Church of Our Lady and St. Walstan

Website: <http://www.stwalstans.com>



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Advent now enters its second phase. Having focused on the end times: death, judgement and the need for repentance, the liturgy today invites us to consider the person of Jesus who will come at Christmas. Who is he? The Gospel reveals John the Baptist simply as the forerunner to Christ. We know that Jesus, whose nativity we will shortly celebrate, is the Saviour of the World.

Sundays Year A ~ Advent Season ~ Psalms Week: III

Third Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday

14th December 2025

Entrance Antiphon

*Rejoice in the Lord, always: again, I say, rejoice.
 Indeed, the Lord is near.*

First Reading

God himself will come and save you.

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

Responsorial Psalm

Come, Lord, and save us.

Psalm 146

Second Reading

'Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.'

James 5:7-10

Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, Alleluia!
 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
 He has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor.
 Alleluia!*

Gospel

'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'

Matthew 11:2-11

Saturday			6:00pm	Gerry Watt R.I.P.
Sunday	14th December	3rd Sunday of Advent	10:30am	Tony & Jennie Howes
Monday	15th December	Advent Feria	9:15am	Charlie Yates R.I.P.
Tuesday	16th December	Advent Feria		No Mass
Wednesday	17th December	Advent Feria	7:00pm	Dante La Rosa R.I.P.
Thursday	18th December	Advent Feria	9:15am	Helen Williams R.I.P.
Friday	19th December	Advent Feria		No Mass
Saturday	20th December	Advent Feria	10:00am	Parishioners
			6:00pm	William Yee R.I.P.
Sunday	21st December	4th Sunday of Advent	10:30am	Evelyn Petrie & Deceased Family Members

Morning or Evening Prayer will be prayed fifteen minutes before weekday Masses.

Confessions on Saturday 10.30-11.00am and Wednesday 6.00-6.30pm.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Thursday after the morning Mass.

Sick and Housebound – Please pray for Jenny King, David Hogg, Peter King, Dorota Gobiecka-Grosz, Peter Bevis, Patricia Paul, Christopher Sharples, Peter King, Joseph Mitton, Geoff Routs, Henry Bedingfield, Jane Henson, John Barnes, Sue Williams, Jennifer Gates, Trudy McClosky, Yustyna Adamska, Michele Bendall, Christina Thomas, Ann Bettany and Marcia Jenkin.

Faithful Departed – Please pray for Joan Symes, Ellen Webster, Colin Stainsby, Irene Carter, Sheila Joyce, Rosemary Weatherstone, Maria Figureido de Oliveira Rodrigues, Laura Juby and all whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Christmas Cards From Cambodia: Several Christmas cards have been received from our twin parish of Taken in Cambodia. A selection of them are on the noticeboard in the church porch.

The Chosen: The next episode will be shown in the Garden Room at 7.30pm (after evening Mass) this Wednesday, December 17th. All welcome.

All welcome to St Walstan's Lectio Devina prayer sessions. They will recommence every other Thursday in the new year at 7pm in the Garden room on 8th January, then 22nd January continuing fortnightly.

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers: The new rota is now available in the porch.

Extra Confessions for Advent: Fr David will be available in the confessional at the back of the church from 10.30am until 12.00 noon on Saturday December 20th for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Christmas Cards: As in previous years, one of the noticeboards in the church porch will be cleared for you to pin up a Christmas card to the parish. Please do not leave cards for individuals in the porch. Thank you.

Volunteers Sought to Support School Admission

Appeals: The Diocese of East Anglia Schools' Service is seeking volunteers to serve as school admission appeals panel members, helping ensure parents' rights are upheld when a child is not offered a place at their preferred Catholic school. Each hearing typically lasts between 20 and 30 minutes, although some may take longer depending on their complexity. During the busy summer term, multiple appeals may be scheduled on the same day, and volunteers may occasionally be asked to sit for two or even three consecutive days. Importantly, panel members are always able to decide their own availability, making this a flexible opportunity suited to those available during school hours. Appeals may be heard in person or via video conferencing, and volunteers can express a preference for the type of hearings they are comfortable with. All panel members will receive training from the Diocese. Individuals cannot sit on panels for schools with which they have a personal connection. Anyone interested in volunteering or finding out more is invited to contact Helen Bates, Assistant Director (Schools' Service), at the Diocese of East Anglia, 21 Upgate, Poringland, Norwich, NR14 7SH, by email at ssc@rcdea.org.uk or by telephone on 01508 495509.

Items for the newsletter may be left at the presbytery (marked clearly "for newsletter" along with the date, and your name), or email newsletter@stwalstans.com. For all forms of communication, please provide a telephone number on which you can be contacted. The deadline for items to be included in the newsletter is Wednesday 6pm.

**Collections (DONA) 6th /7th December £575.30 (£85)
Many Thanks**

Christmas Bazaar: A nice sum of £2157.82 was raised during last Saturday's Bazaar. All proceeds will be shared equally between the School and the Church. Thanks to everyone.

Advent Carol Service: Thursday December 18th, 7.00pm, in the church. Please come and join us to sing some Advent and Christmas carols and to hear the Christmas story read by some of our young readers.

Jubilee Survey: Thank you to those who have already completed the Jubilee survey. We need more responses please so we can hear your comments and share your ideas in our pamphlet or contribute to our exhibition. There are spare surveys in the porch with our information leaflet, or you can complete the survey online here <https://forms.office.com/e/0Qq2CZgEcb> or scan the code:



*"O God, who see how
your people
faithfully await the
feast of the Lord's
Nativity, enable us,
we pray, to attain
the joys of so great
a salvation and to
celebrate them
always with solemn
worship and glad
rejoicing."*