

Catholic Church of Our Lady and St. Walstan

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



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With Christmas almost upon us, the mystery of the Incarnation is the focus of all our prayers. That Christ should be born of a virgin was established in scripture from of old, as is made plain in the reading from Isaiah. And it is not just a child that is about to enter our midst, the baby is Emmanuel – 'God with us'. We anticipate his coming with joy.

*Sundays Year A ~ Advent Season ~ Psalms Week: IV
 Fourth Sunday of Advent
 21st December 2025*

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|---------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Entrance Antiphon | <i>Drop down dew from above, you heavens, And let the clouds rain down the Just One; Let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour</i> | |
| First Reading | <i>'Behold, the virgin shall conceive.'</i> | Isaiah 7:10-14 |
| Responsorial Psalm | <i>Let the Lord enter, he is the king of glory.</i> | Psalm 24 |
| Second Reading | <i>Jesus Christ, descended from David, Son of God</i> | Romans 1:1-7 |
| Gospel Acclamation | <i>Alleluia, Alleluia! Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, And they shall call his name Emmanuel – which means, God with us.. Alleluia!</i> | |
| Gospel | <i>Jesus was born of Mary; who betrothed to Joseph, son of David.</i> | Matthew 1:18-24 |

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| Saturday | | | 6:00pm | William Yee R.I.P. |
| Sunday | 21st December | 4th Sunday of Advent | 10:30am | Evelyn Petrie & Deceased Family Members |
| Monday | 22nd December | Advent Feria | 9:15am | Ruth Bealey R.I.P. |
| | | | 1:30pm | Funeral Service – Tony Doggett |
| Tuesday | 23rd December | Advent Feria | | No Mass |
| Wednesday | 24th December | Advent Feria | 9:00pm | Margaret Buck R.I.P. |
| Thursday | 25th December | Christmas Day | 10:30am | Parishioners |
| Friday | 26th December | St. Stephen | 10:00am | Altar Servers |
| Saturday | 27th December | St. John | 10:00am | Parishioners |
| | | | 6:00pm | Personal Intention |
| Sunday | 28th December | The Holy Family | 10:30am | Thanksgiving – Yee Family |

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 Helen Williams, Bridget Scott, Michael Collins, Thomas Crilly, Neville Ternan, Doreen Howes, Therese (Ann) Finnie, Angel Staddon, Vivienne McDonnell, Brian Duffield, Sheila Day 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.

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.

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.

Lord, in this moment I feel the hush of waiting. I feel the longing of my heart, the edges of hope mingled with real weariness. Thank You that You are the Love who comes—quietly, gently—to fill the shadows. On this 4th Sunday of Advent, I ask You: help me to receive Your love. Not just the idea of it, but the real warmth in my life. When I feel distant or distracted, draw my heart back to You. Remind me that love came down and still comes. Help me to love others as You love me: patiently, humbly, freely. And in that, let me reflect the coming of Christ in this world—even in small, ordinary ways. Amen

**Collections (DONA) 13th /14th December £624.47 (£41)
2nd Collection (DONA) £371.80 (£3)**

Many Thanks

Recycled Newspapers: We have received a payment for the recycled newspapers and magazines of £53.88. This is being donated to the Christina Thomas fund towards her treatment. As you will know the skip has now been removed so this will be our last donation. Thank you for your support over the years.

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:



“The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”

Psalms 34:18

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.