

Catholic Church of Our Lady and St. Walstan

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



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We contemplate the 'shining example of the Holy family' as Herod's threat makes them refugees in Egypt. It is their love, bound 'together in perfect harmony'. That strengthens them to endure this nightmare. Different ages have different images of family – as we hear from the Old Testament and from Paul – but while times change, our prayer is that the 'word of Christ' – which is love – may always bind every family together..

*Sundays Year A ~ Christmas Season ~ Psalms Week:
 The Holy Family
 28th December 2025*

Entrance Antiphon	<i>The shepherds went in haste, And found Mary, Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.</i>	
First Reading	<i>'He who fears the Lord honours his parents.'</i>	<i>Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14</i>
Responsorial Psalm	<i>Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk his ways.</i>	<i>Psalm 128</i>
Second Reading	<i>Family life in the Lord.</i>	<i>Colossians 3:12-21</i>
Gospel Acclamation	<i>Alleluia, Alleluia! Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. Alleluia!</i>	
Gospel	<i>'Take the child and his mother and flee to Egypt.'</i>	<i>Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23</i>

Saturday			6:00pm	Personal Intention
Sunday	28th December	The Holy Family	10:30am	Thanksgiving – Yee Family
Monday	29th December	St. Thomas Becket	9:15am	Brendan Beake R.I.P.
Tuesday	30th December	Nativity Octave		No Mass
Wednesday	31st December	Nativity Octave	7:00pm	Margaret Buck R.I.P.
Thursday	1st January	Mary, Holy Mother of God	9:15am	Holy Souls
Friday	2nd January	Ss Basil & Gregory		No Mass
Saturday	3rd January	Christmas Feria	10:00am	Fr. Francis McLaughlin R.I.P.
			6:00pm	Prada & Hermoso Families
Sunday	4th January	2nd Sunday of Christmas	10:30am	Parishioners

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 May Luddington, Adelina Batch, Linda Devey, Jim Sheen, Frederick Cook, Gerard Potter, David Tosh, Anna Kinlan, Austin Bates, Agnes Radovan, Delphine Franklin and all whose anniversaries occur around this time.

"The Family is the fundamental focus of the covenant between the church and God's creation, with that creation which God blessed on the last day with a family. Without the family, not even the Church would exist."

Pope Francis

Jam Jars: We no longer need donations of empty jam jars. Thank you for those that have been donated in the past.

Deacon Anthony Reilly: Anthony was ordained to the diaconate on Saturday December 20th and will be resident in our parish from January 14th until he is ordained priest in July. I am sure you will make him very welcome and assist him all you can. On Saturday January 17th, Fr Peter Wygnanski, Bishop Peter's secretary, will be concelebrating the 6.00pm Mass and giving a short talk in the Garden Room afterwards about the role of a transient deacon. Please do attend if you possibly can. Tea and coffee will be available.

Decorating: The Garden Room, sacristy and parish office will be decorated the week commencing Monday January 19th and so will be unavailable for use during that week. Ministers of the Eucharist should be able to access the tabernacle key but please take extra care and be advised by the decorators. Thank you.

Diocesan Yearbook 2026: This very useful resource is available in the church porch priced at £5. You can either put the money in the silver slot or select the repository option on the Dona machine.

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I give
you my heart and my soul.
Jesus, Mary and Joseph, assist
me in my last agony.
Jesus, Mary and Joseph, may
my soul rest in peace in You.*

Collections (DONA) 20th/21st December £598.62 (£105)
2nd Collection (DONA) £ 20.00 (£0)
Many Thanks

The next Cake Stall is on Sunday, January 4th after Mass in the Garden Room. Last month's cake stall raised £37, many thanks for your support.

All welcome to St Walstan's Lectio Divina 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.

Tea & Coffee after Mass: Please sign up to the rotas in the church porch to help with this ministry. If you are unsure what to do, please ask one of the regular helpers or Fr David

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:



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.