

MASS PROPER SUNDAY 10.30AM

Introit *Populus Sion* (Cf Is 30:19, 30; Ps 80:1)

O People of Sion, behold, the Lord is nigh at hand to redeem the nations: and in gladness of your hear the Lord shall cause his glorious voice to be heard.

(Ps) Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel: thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep

GLORY. O People...

Collect

STIR up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the ways of thine only-begotten Son: that through his advent we may be worthy to serve thee with purified minds; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

First reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

On that day:

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots will bear fruit.

And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,

the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the Spirit of counsel and might,

the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,

or decide disputes by what his ears hear;

but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,

and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth,

and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,

and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,

and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,

and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;

and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze;

their young shall lie down together;

and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,

and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

They shall not hurt or destroy

in all my holy mountain;

for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD

as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the

peoples—of him shall the nations enquire, and his resting place

shall be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm (5pm)

Psalm 71(72):1-2,7-8,12-13,17

In his days shall justice flourish,

And great peace for ever.

Second reading

Romans 15:4-9

Brothers and sisters:

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that though endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with

one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,

and sing to your name.'

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 3:4,6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight;

all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

'The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

'I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Prayer over the Offerings

WE beseech thee, O Lord, mercifully to accept the prayers and oblations of us thy humble servants: that we, who can do nothing of ourselves to help ourselves, may be defended by the succour of thy grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Communion

Jerusalem, surge et sta (Bar 5:5; 4:36)

Jerusalem, haste thee, and stand on high: and behold the joy and gladness that cometh unto thee from God thy Saviour.

Postcommunion

OLORD, who hast vouchsafed to satisfy us with heavenly sustenance: we humbly beseech thee; that we, whom thou hast made partakers of thy holy mysteries, may learn therein to despise all things earthly, and to cleave steadfastly unto all things heavenly; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION AND ST. GREGORY WARWICK STREET, LONDON W1B 5LZ

A parish dedicated to the life of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham

Website: www.warwickstreet.org.uk; Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/warwickstreetchurch>



SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER ADVENT TWO

Throughout the first three weeks of Advent our focus is very clearly on the End of Time, and the Second Coming of the Lord - not on the run up to Christmas (that only comes in the last week). If we view Advent as a Season preparing for Christmas these readings will make little sense - and neither will the figure of John the Baptist who appears today: if it was about the preparation for Christmas, then John the Baptist, preaching after Jesus was born, becomes a confusing figure: his role is to preach to us, as he did of old, and to prepare us for the (second) coming of the Lord. Everything gets more specific today: what is being preached is not an event, but a person: Isaiah promises him, John welcomes him, Paul invites us to imitate him. We have here a thumbnail portrait of the Messiah – useful to refer to when we get to Christmas and he is revealed as a child in a manger!

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

If a nature show on TV depicted wolves playing with lambs, cows and bears living next door to each other, and a little baby romping with a deadly serpent, what would you think? These unnatural events might make you think you had tuned into a science fiction program! Or you might wonder whether you were dreaming. Isaiah describes the peace that the Messiah will bring by reversing the hostile elements of nature. The prophet dreams of the day when God's reign of justice and peace is established over all creation. That blessed event will become a reality at the end of the world when Jesus comes again in glory. Consider how you will begin to share now in Isaiah's vision by helping enemies to become friends.

Second Reading

Romans 15:4-9

Just as the first reading painted a picture of harmony, this reading reminds us that Jesus came to unite all people under God's mercy and love. Sometimes we find it easier to wall people out than to welcome them in. But Paul points out that we can find encouragement and guidance in God's word.

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-2

John the Baptist was one of those preachers who did not mind stepping on people's toes, even those of the rich and powerful. His mission was to get people to repent and be baptized before the Messiah arrived. John warns the religious leaders of his time that they must produce good fruit as proof of their conversion.

SUNDAY MASS

6.00pm (Saturday Vigil), 10.30am (Solemn), 5pm

WEEKDAY MASS

12.45pm Tue-Fri

HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION

As advertised.

CONFESSIONS

Sat 5.15-5.45pm

SAFEGUARDING

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Dioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Dr Rose Cleary, who can be contacted on safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk.

NEWS & EVENTS

Advent Carols & Benediction

Monday 22nd December at 7pm

Christmas Masses:

Christmas Eve (24th) at 6.30pm Solemn Vigil Mass of Christmas

Christmas Morning: 10.30am Mass with Carols.

Christmas Lunch

The annual Christmas Lunch will now take place after Christmas on Sunday 11th January 2026. It will be a bring-and-share lunch. Peter Sefton-Williams (peter@seftonwilliams.com) will co-ordinate the dishes so please, if you can, let him know what you intend to bring. To pay for the wine we would ask you either to donate £10 on the day or to bring a bottle of wine with you."

For your diary:

Sunday January 25th 2026: the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. There will be a Solemn Evensong at 3.30pm. It is a great joy to welcome back the Rev. Dr Robin Hill, Minister of Gladsmuir Kirk, near Edinburgh. There will be an opportunity to meet downstairs in the Challoner Hall with ecumenical guests.

Ecumenical Marian Pilgrimage to Walsingham

Tuesday 10th to Friday 13th March 2026: the Ecumenical Marian Pilgrimage Trust's Pilgrimage to Walsingham. The accommodation will be at the Anglican Shrine, and the total cost will be £345, including a non refundable deposit of £60. There will be Mass at the Catholic National Shrine, daily Catholic Mass, as well as liturgies in the other traditions represented, including Anglicans and Orthodox. Further details on the leaflet at the back of Church.

A reminder:

...that the Church of our Lady of the Assumption relies very heavily on the generosity of our members and visitors. Regular members are asked to consider setting up a regular monthly standing order, our details being as follows:

WRCDT Warwick Street Church; HSBC Uk account number: **11094904**; sort code: **40-05-20**

Thank you!

Sunday 7 th December	ADVENT TWO	10.30am (Solemn) 5.00pm	People of the Parish People of the Parish	<p style="text-align: center;">Please pray for:</p> <p>THE SICK Assumption Fernandez, Bernice Taylor, Flutura, Charlie O'Donnell, Kenny, Norma Skeggs, Paul</p> <p>FAITHFUL DEPARTED</p>
Monday 8 th December	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION BVM			
Tuesday 9 th December	<i>Advent feria</i>	12.45pm 6pm Rosary	Deceased members of the Galvin family	
Wednesday 10 th December	<i>Advent feria</i>	12.45pm 6.30pm Sung Mass (Latin)	Private intention of a pariahioner	
Thursday 11 th December	<i>Advent feria</i>	12.45pm		
Friday 12 th December	<i>Advent feria</i>	12.45pm	June Celine Lloyd (Intention)	
Saturday 13 th December	Our Lady on Saturday Advent Three	12noon 6pm (Sunday Vigil)	Risoma Gill RIP	

WHO'S WHO AT OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

Rector: Fr Mark Elliott Smith (resident at)

St James Rectory

22 George Street, W1U 3QY

Telephone: 0207 486 7026 *or* 07815 320761

markelliottsmith@rcdow.org.uk

Deacon:

Rev. William Lo

MASS PROPERS SATURDAY 6PM

Entrance Antiphon

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

Collect

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading

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and a branch from his roots will bear fruit.
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the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

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or decide disputes by what his ears hear;
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and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth,
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and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

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and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations enquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm (5pm) Psalm 71(72):1-2,7-8,12-13,17

**In his days shall justice flourish,
And great peace for ever.**

Second reading

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Cf. Is 30: 19, 30

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Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight;
all flesh shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

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Prayer over the Offerings

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and offerings, and, since we have no merits to plead our cause, come, we pray, to our rescue with the protection of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Prayer after Communion

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, through our partaking in this mystery, you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth and hold firm to the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

Lk 3:4,6

Matthew 3:1-12

Bar 5: 5; 4: 36

Romans 15:4-9