

# MASS PROPER SUNDAY 10.30AM

## Introit

*Dum medium* (Wis 18:14-15; Ps 93:1)

When as all the world was in profoundest quietness, and night was in the midst of her swift course: thine almighty Word, O Lord, leaped down from heaven out of thy royal throne.

(Ps) The Lord is King and hath put on glorious apparel: the Lord hath put on his apparel, and girded himself with strength.

GLORY. When as...

## Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who didst wonderfully create man in thine own image, and didst yet more wonderfully restore him: grant, we beseech thee, that as thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ was made in the likeness of men, so we may be made partakers of the divine nature; through the same Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

## First reading

*Sirach 24:1-2, 8-12*

Wisdom will praise herself and will boast in the midst of her people. In the assembly of the Most High she will open her mouth, and in the presence of his forces she will boast: "Then the Creator of all things commanded me, and the one who created me gave me my tent a resting place. And he said, "Make your dwelling in Jacob and in Israel receive your inheritance." From eternity, in the beginning, he created me, and for eternity I shall not cease to exist. In the holy tabernacle I ministered before him, and so I was established in Sion. In the beloved city likewise he gave me a resting place, and in Jerusalem was my dominion. So I took root in an honoured people, in the portion of the Lord, his inheritance."

## Second reading

*Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints.

## Gospel Acclamation

*Dominus regnavit, decorem* (Ps 93:1)

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord is King, and hath put on glorious apparel:

the Lord hath put on his apparel, and girded himself with strength.

Alleluia.

## Gospel

*John 1:1-18*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and

the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the Only Begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me." "

For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only begotten God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

## Offertory

*Benedic, anima mea* (Ps 103:2,5)

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; making thee young and lusty as an eagle.

## Prayer over the Offerings

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God: that the gifts which we offer in the sight of thy divine majesty, may obtain for us grace to serve thee in this life with all godliness, and bring us in the end to everlasting felicity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Preface

*Preface of the Incarnation*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God; because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother, and that without spot of sin; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; ever more praising thee, and saying: Holy, Holy, Holy &c.

Communion *Domine, Dominus noster* (Ps 8:1)

O Lord our Governor: how excellent is thy Name in all the world.

Postcommunion

Grant, O Lord, that by the operation of these thy mysteries, we may be cleansed from all our sins, and obtain that which we have asked according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our

## 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](http://www.warwickstreet.org.uk); Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/warwickstreetchurch>



## SUNDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

St John says that the Word, the *Logos*, was with God in the beginning and that everything was done through the Word and nothing that exists was done without him (cf. Jn 1:1-13). The Evangelist is clearly alluding to the Creation narrative in the first chapters of the Book of Genesis, and reinterprets it in the light of Christ. This is a fundamental criterion in the Christian interpretation of the Bible: The Old and New Testaments should always be read together and, starting with the New, the deepest meaning of the Old Testament is also revealed. That same Word, who has always existed with God, who is God himself and through whom and for whom all things were created (cf. Col 1:16-17), became man: the eternal and infinite God immersed himself in human finiteness, in his creature, to bring back man and the whole of creation to himself.

Benedict XVI

## This Sunday's Readings

### First reading

*Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2,8-12*

Wisdom in Scripture is not some lofty unworldly attribute, but a down-to-earth gift of practical living: seeing how to live, and putting it into action. This Wisdom comes forth from the mouth of God – a creative Word as in the beginning in Genesis: "from eternity, in the beginning, he created me." The tent echoes the place of the Ark of the Covenant during the years in the desert, celebrated each year to this day at the Feast of Tabernacles (Tents). It echoes the later Tabernacle, the Temple.

### Second reading

*Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18*

God created us with the intent of adopting us as his children. In response to this gift, we are to worship him in love. Worship in this sense had two dimensions: 1) praise of the Father and 2) fellowship with the Son and his followers. Such worship was not restricted to Sunday mornings; it began with the assembly, but spilled out into the week's activities. Such worship was to be found in praise and charity.

### Gospel

*John 1:1-18*

Jesus did not only become a human being, he entered fully into our human situation subject to all its weaknesses. As the Letter to the Hebrews puts it, speaking of Jesus as our High Priest: "We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise [empathise] with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin" (Hebrews 4:15). And Paul, writing to the Romans: "God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh" (Romans 8:3).

### 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](mailto:safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk).

# NEWS & EVENTS

**Our Website:** [www.warwickstreet.org.uk](http://www.warwickstreet.org.uk)

Please visit our website for further information about our activities, for upcoming events, to access past newsletters, or to learn about the Ordinate!

**Many thanks...**

to the Choir, who sang so beautifully at our Carol Service and the Christmas Evening Mass; to the servers, who prepared and made the Christmas liturgy so beautiful; to all those who worked very hard to make the church ready for Christmas, and to all those who sent cards and presents.

Thank you very much!

**Tuesday is the Solemnity of the Epiphany**

This is a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 12.45pm and there will be a Sung Mass at 6.30pm

**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](mailto: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 25<sup>th</sup> 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 Chaloner Hall with ecumenical guests.

**Ecumenical Marian Pilgrimage to Walsingham**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> 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.

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS</b>	6pm (Saturday Vigil) 10.30am (Solemn) 5.00pm	People of the Parish People of the Parish People of the Parish	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Please pray for:</b></p> <p><b>THE SICK</b> Assumption Fernandez, Bernice Taylor, Flutura, Charlie O'Donnell, Kenny, Norma Skeggs, Paul</p> <p><b>FAITHFUL DEPARTED</b></p>
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Christmas Feria	No Mass		
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD</b>	12.45pm 6.30pm (Sung) 6pm Rosary		
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Christmas feria	12.45pm 6.30pm (Sung)		
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Christmas feria	12.45pm		
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	Christmas feria	12.45pm		
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Christmas feria <b>BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>	12noon 6pm (Sunday Vigil)		

## WHO'S WHO AT OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

Rector: Fr Mark Elliott Smith (resident at)  
St James Rectory  
22 George Street, W1U 3QY  
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Deacon:  
Rev. William Lo

# MASS PROPER SATURDAY 6PM

**Entrance Antiphon**

When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne.

**Collect**

Almighty ever-living God, splendour of faithful souls, graciously be pleased to fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all peoples by the radiance of your light. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**First reading**

Wisdom will praise herself and will boast in the midst of her people. In the assembly of the Most High she will open her mouth, and in the presence of his forces she will boast: "Then the Creator of all things commanded me, and the one who created me gave me my tent a resting place. And he said, "Make your dwelling in Jacob and in Israel receive your inheritance." From eternity, in the beginning, he created me, and for eternity I shall not cease to exist. In the holy tabernacle I ministered before him, and so I was established in Sion. In the beloved city likewise he gave me a resting place, and in Jerusalem was my dominion. So I took root in an honoured people, in the portion of the Lord, his inheritance."

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 147: 12-13. 14-15. 19-20. R12a**

**Response: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.**

O Jerusalem, glorify the LORD!  
O Sion, praise your God!  
He has strengthened the bars of your gates;  
he has blessed your children within you.

He established peace on your borders;  
he gives you your fill of finest wheat.  
He sends out his word to the earth,  
and swiftly runs his command.

He reveals his word to Jacob;  
to Israel, his decrees and judgements.  
He has not dealt thus with other nations;  
he has not taught them his judgements.

**Second reading**

**Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit

**Wis 18: 14-15**

of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Cf. 1 Timothy 3:16**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Glory to you, O Christ, proclaimed among the nations.  
Glory to you, O Christ, believed in throughout the world.  
Alleluia.

**Gospel**

**John 1:1-18**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the Only Begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me." "

For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only begotten God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

**Prayer over the Offerings**

Sanctify, O Lord, the offerings we make on the Nativity of your Only Begotten Son, for by it you show us the way of truth and promise the life of the heavenly Kingdom. Through Christ our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon**

**Cf. Jn 1: 12**

To all who would accept him, he gave the power to become children of God.

**Prayer after Communion**

Lord our God, we humbly ask you, that, through the working of this mystery, our offences may be cleansed and our just desires fulfilled. Through Christ our Lord.