

# *Introducing* **THE PASSAGE**

The PCC have decided that this year our Lenten Appeal should be for The Passage, the London homelessness charity.

The Passage, which was founded in 1980 by Cardinal Basil Hume, runs London's largest voluntary sector day centre for homeless and vulnerable people helping over 200 people every day to access diverse services, including primary services (breakfast and lunch, showers, access to clothes, laundry facilities, etc.), housing and welfare advice, health services and employment and training services. The day centre, located next door to the Archbishop of Westminster's house in Victoria, serves over 34,000 meals a year, and operates alongside homelessness prevention initiatives and an innovative modern slavery referral programme.

As well as the day centre, The Passage manages multiple accommodation projects: Passage House, a 37-bed rapid-response hostel, Montfort House, which contains 16 self-contained studio flats with on-site staff support for those preparing for independent living, Bentley House, a 20-bed accommodation project offering more long-term accommodation support for people with complex needs, and Newman Street, with 79 flats providing temporary accommodation for people who have applied to Westminster Council for a solution to end their homelessness.

The Passage was the first charity organization that the Prince of Wales visited with his mother, Princess Diana, in 1993. Since then, he has made numerous public and private visits. In 2019, Prince William became the patron of The Passage and has helped volunteers serve lunch at their client Christmas party.

More info: [passage.org.uk](http://passage.org.uk)