

RECTORY

1 Maiden Lane, Covent Garden,
LONDON, WC2E 7NB
020 7836 4700

RECTOR

Fr Alan I P Robinson
a.i.p.robinson@btinternet.com

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Alex Dimminger
catholicchurchcoventgarden@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Edward Kay
musiccorpuschristi@gmail.com

SAFEGUARDING

Sabina Leigh
coventgardensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

PARISH WEBSITE

www.maidenlane.org.uk

*This parish is part of the WRCDT
Registered Charity Number 233699*



CORPUS CHRISTI

THE DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

DECEMBER - MONTH DEDICATED TO
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE WEEK – 30TH DECEMBER 2018

✠ THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

SUNDAY 30TH

✠ **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH** *(Ps. Week – Proper)*
9.30am Mass *Maureen Goodey – RIP*
11.30am Solemn Mass *Pro Populo*

MONDAY 31ST

7TH DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS

1.05pm Mass *Linda & Lawrence McNulty – Ints & Catherine McNulty – RIP*
N.B. No Extraordinary Form Mass tonight

TUESDAY 1ST JANUARY 2019

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

12.00noon Mass *Foundation Mass*

WEDNESDAY 2ND

Ss BASIL THE GREAT AND GREGORY NAZIANZEN, BISHOPS & DOCTORS

1.05pm Mass *Florence & Patrick Murphy – Ints.*

THURSDAY 3RD

CHRISTMAS FERIA

1.05pm Mass *Ryan Clark – Ints.*

FRIDAY 4TH

CHRISTMAS FERIA

1.05pm Mass *Gillian Edwards & Family – Ints.*

SATURDAY 5TH

CHRISTMAS FERIA

6.00pm Vigil Mass *Georgina Bell – Anniv.*

SUNDAY 6TH

✠ THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

9.30am Mass *(Ps. Week – 2)*
11.30am Solemn Mass in Latin (Ordinary Form) *Pro Populo*
Johannes Tenzler – RIP

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

resumes Wednesday 3rd January

weekdays* at 7:30am-8:30am & 12noon – 1pm

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION: 30 mins before Mass*

* except Tuesdays

THE LAMPS ARE BURNING FOR:

SANCTUARY LAMPS

Hristov Family x1
Steel Family x1
In Reparation x5

LADY CHAPEL

Conversion of England

*To have the lamps burning for your
intentions, use an envelope at the back of
the church or visit the website.*



REGULAR PARISH GROUPS:

Sodality of the Blessed Sacrament: First Thursday of the Month, 6:30pm, Mass, Adoration and Benediction with a different guest preacher each month. All welcome!

Mass in the Extraordinary Form (Missal of 1962): 6.30pm Mondays & Bank Holidays; 6:30pm Second Friday of the month (Contact Latin Mass Society Tel: 020 7404 7284)

Eucharistic Prayer Group: Young Adults Prayer Group each Wednesday 7pm in Church with Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary - Mass first Wednesday of the Month. Contact Annette: ccpguk@gmail.com

CaAPA (The Catholic Association for Performing Arts) 020 7240 1221

St. John Paul II Prayer Group (Fraternity of St. Genesius) 7.00pm on 2nd Thursday of each month – Mass, Benediction and Blessing with First Class Relic of Pope St. John Paul II.

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Saturday evening after the Vigil Mass.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

From all of us here at the Diocesan Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament, I wish you a very happy and holy Christmas! The Child whom we contemplate in the Crib is our salvation! Come – let us adore Him!

THE HOLY FAMILY – JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

The Gospel according to Luke recounts that when the shepherds of Bethlehem had received the Angel's announcement of the Messiah's birth "they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger". The first eyewitnesses of Jesus' birth therefore beheld a family scene: a mother, a father and a new-born son. For this reason the Liturgy has us celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family on the First Sunday after Christmas. This feast invites us to contemplate this "icon" in which the little Jesus appears at the centre of his parents' affection and care.

In the poor grotto of Bethlehem — the Fathers of the Church wrote — shines a very bright light, a reflection of the profound mystery which envelopes that Child, which Mary and Joseph cherish in their hearts and which can be seen in their expression, in their actions, and especially in their silence. Indeed, they preserve in their inmost depths the words of the Angel's Annunciation to Mary: "the Child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God".

Yet every child's birth brings something of this mystery with it! Parents who receive a child as a gift know this well and often speak of it in this way. We have all heard people say to a father and a mother: "this child is a gift, a miracle!". Indeed, human beings do not experience procreation merely as a reproductive act but perceive its richness and intuit that every human creature who is born on earth is the "sign" par excellence of the Creator and Father who is in Heaven.

How important it is, therefore, that every child coming into the world be welcomed by the warmth of a family! External comforts do not matter: Jesus was born in a stable and had a manger as his first cradle, but the love of Mary and of Joseph made him feel the tenderness and beauty of being loved. Children need this: the love of their father and mother. It is this that gives them security and, as they grow, enables them to discover the meaning of life. The Holy Family of Nazareth went through many trials, such as the "massacre of the innocents" — as recounted in the Gospel according to Matthew — which obliged Joseph and Mary to flee to Egypt. Yet, trusting in divine Providence, they found their stability and guaranteed Jesus a serene childhood and a sound upbringing.

The Holy Family is of course unique and unrepeatable, but at the same time it is a "model of life" for every family because Jesus, true man, chose to be born into a human family and thereby blessed and consecrated it. Let us therefore entrust all families to Our Lady and to St Joseph, so that they do not lose heart in the face of trials and difficulties but always cultivate conjugal love and devote themselves with trust to the service of life and education.

SODALITY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The next Sodality Mass is at 6.30pm **Thursday 10th January** and our guest preacher will be **Fr Mark Woodruff**, Chairman of the Society of St John Chrysostom. The confraternity meets on a monthly basis for Mass, Adoration and Benediction, adoring Jesus truly present in the Blessed Sacrament and the Mass is offered for the intentions of members. Leaflets containing application forms are available at the back of the church, or you can join online at sodality.co.uk

SEVEN DAY LAMPS

Seven Day Lamps are available from the Presbytery for £5 or after Sunday Masses. You can also have the Sanctuary Lamps burning for a particular intention of yours. Envelopes are at the back of the church.

PLEASE HELP US

I encourage all of you who give regularly to this parish to help us: by using a box of Weekly Offertory envelopes and, if you pay income tax in this country, by completing a Gift Aid form. If you only come here occasionally, you could use one of the blue Gift Aid envelopes that you can find in the pews. You can, of course, make a regular donation to the parish via a Bank Standing Order, and these gifts can be Gift Aided too. Every £1 that is Gift Aided raises a further 25p for the parish – **AT NO EXTRA COST TO YOU**. Please do consider making your offering in this way. Thank you!

PLANNING AHEAD

In 2019 the Solemnity of Corpus Christi will be celebrated on Thursday 20th June (EF) and Sunday 23rd June (OF). The Extraordinary Form Mass on Thursday will commence the Forty Hour Devotion. This will end on Saturday 22nd. The Solemn Mass on Sunday 22nd at 11.30am will end with a Procession of the Blessed Sacrament in Covent Garden and Benediction on return to the church. There are plans in place – but we will let you have more detail as things are firmed up. But please put **20th to 23rd June 2019** in your diaries. After all, there's nothing on the telly!

OUR SUNDAY OBLIGATION

The Obligation of Catholics is **not to receive** Holy Communion every Sunday – **but to attend** a celebration of Mass every Sunday. We receive Holy Communion if we are in a state of grace, living our lives in a manner approved by the Church, and if we have made due preparation for such a great event. Attending a celebration of Mass means being in the church when the Mass begins until the moment it ends. This is what each one of us is OBLIGED to do every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation. If we're not doing this now - let's go to Confession ASAP and get back on track.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2019

If you'd like us to offer a Mass for an intention on a particular day, please... don't leave it until the last minute. We sometimes get lots of requests appearing together, which then fill up the Mass Book for a few weeks. Only today, as I was writing this newsletter, 5 envelopes came through the letter box. Be like dear Maureen Goodey RIP – book well in advance if you want particular dates.

Our sick parishioners and friends

Peter Noakes, Tony Pearce, Mgr Frederik Miles, Francis Bodis, David Jordan, Bill Tomlinson, Christopher Browne, Margaret Griffith, Pascal James, Jean Bernard, Brian Keenan, Sid Shepherd, Terry Miles, John Hughes, Warren Peterson, Nicholas Pollock, Jack Ward, Traute Pollock, Noël Tobin, Geoff Smale, David Michael Barrett, Christopher Browne, John Lynch, Peter Georgeson, Colin Folan, Ann Gorman, Janet Seeley, Margaret Hopley DGCHS

Of your charity – please pray for those who have died recently: Jean Teresa Wadsworth, Sebastian Jeans, Maureen Goodey, Mark Gregory Kay, Maria-Stella Ngombe, Bishop Friedrich Ostermann, Fr George Dangerfield, Rosaleen Hunt, Craig, Fr. Michael Durand, Fr Philip Mathias, Jean-Louis Cardinal Tauran, Rosa Silvester, Fr James Minogue, Marie Fe Lorenzo Ruiz, Fr Patrick Sammon, Dennis Gunn, Bishop Francis Walmsley, Sergio Alves