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THE ACTORS' CHURCH

National Church for Catholic Actors

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

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THE LAMPS ARE BURNING FOR:

SANCTUARY LAMPS

Private Intention

LADY CHAPEL

Curtin Family

SACRED HEART CHAPEL

Eddie Moran

*To have the lamps burning for your intentions,
visit maidenlane.org.uk/lamps*

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CORPUS CHRISTI THE DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

JANUARY – MONTH DEDICATED TO
THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE WEEK – 10TH JANUARY 2021 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

In spite of the Government Lockdown, the church is open for private prayer and public Mass. Please keep a safe distance from those outside your household. There is no need to book. Please wear a face covering. The church will open just before the times listed below, and will close soon after Mass to allow for cleaning. An NHS Track & Trace QR Code is by the entrance.

Confessions may be heard before Masses, or upon appointment, but will be heard with social distancing in place. Live stream continues at maidenlane.org.uk/live

SUNDAY 10TH

✠ THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9.30 am Mass
11.30 am Sung Mass in Latin
5.00 pm Holy Hour

*Ps Week 1
Pro Populo
Thanksgiving*

MONDAY 11TH

FERIA

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour
6.30 pm Mass – Extraordinary Form

Fr John Hollowell – sick

TUESDAY 12TH

ST AELRED OF RIEVAULX

8.00 am Mass

Welfare of S, D & M Woodman-Stanes Family

WEDNESDAY 13TH

ST HILARY, BISHOP & DOCTOR

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour

Jana van Loon – sick

THURSDAY 14TH

FERIA

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
6.30 pm Sodality of the Blessed Sacrament

*Welfare of A&N Stanes
Sodality Members*

(Friday Abstinence)

FRIDAY 15TH

FERIA

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour

Niki Bordokas RIP

SATURDAY 16TH

FERIA

5.00 pm Exposition
6.00 pm Vigil Mass

Pro Populo

SUNDAY 17TH

✠ 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.30 am Mass
11.30 am Sung Mass in Latin
5.00 pm Holy Hour

*Ps Week 2
Tony Garnsworthy RIP
Holy Souls in Purgatory*

IN WISDOM AND IN STATURE

Today we are celebrating the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Let us start, then, with our being, quite simply, children: this is the fundamental condition that brings us all together. We are not all parents, but we are certainly all children.

Being born is never a choice, we are not asked first whether we wish to be born. Yet, in life, we can develop a free attitude with regard to life itself: we can regard it as a gift and, in a certain sense “become” what we are: children. This transition marks a turning point of maturity in our existence and in our relationship with our parents, which is filled with gratitude. It is a transition that also renders us capable in turn of being parents, not biologically, but morally.

Also before God we are all children. God is at the root of every created being's life and is the Father of every human person in a special way: he has a unique and personal relationship with every human being. Each one of us is wanted and loved by God. And also in this relationship with God, we can be “reborn”, so to speak, in other words become what we are. This happens through faith, through a profound and personal “yes” to God as the origin and foundation of our existence. With this “yes” I receive life as a gift of the Father who is in Heaven, a Parent whom I do not see but in whom I believe and whom, in the depths of my heart, I feel is my Father and the Father of all my brethren in humanity, an immensely good and faithful Father.

On what is this faith in God the Father based? It is based on Jesus Christ: he himself and his history reveal the Father to us, enable us to know him as much as possible in this world. Believing that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, makes it possible to be “born from above”, that is, from God, who is Love.

Moreover, let us bear in mind once again that no individual makes him or herself a human being. We are born without doing anything ourselves, the passivity of being born precedes the activity of what we ourselves do. It is also the same at the level of being Christian: no one can become Christian solely by one's own will, being Christian is also a gift that comes before our own action: we must be reborn in a new birth. St John says: “to all who received him... he gave power to become children of God”.

This is the meaning of the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptism is this new birth that precedes our own action. With our faith we can go to meet Christ, but he alone can make us Christian and give to our will and to this desire of ours the response, dignity and power to become children of God, which we ourselves do not possess.

Dear friends, this Sunday of the Baptism of the Lord brings Christmas Time to an end. Let us give thanks to God for this great mystery which is a source of regeneration for the Church and for the whole world. God made himself the Son of Man so that man might become a son of God. Let us therefore renew our joy in being children, as men and women and as Christians; born and reborn to a new divine existence. Born from the love of a father and a mother and reborn from the love of God through Baptism.

SODALITY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

A reminder that our next **Sodality Mass** will be on this coming Thursday – **6.30pm on Thursday 14th January**. This month's guest preacher is **Fr Jan Nowotnik**, who is the National Ecumenical Officer for the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales. Those of you who can't be here in person can join us online via the live stream.

THE PORCH

You may remember that we were going to have some decorative mosaic work done in the church porch, kindly fully funded and donated by one of our generous sponsors. This work had to be put on hold because of the pandemic. The good news is that this work is now underway and hopefully this will be completed by Easter. A bright and exciting start to the New Year! The entrance and exit to the church is by the glass doors only.

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH – INDULGENCES!

To mark the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church, Pope Francis has written an Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris corde* (“With a Father's Heart”), in which he has proclaimed a special “Year of St Joseph,” which began on 8th December 2020 and extending to the same feast in 2021.

The Apostolic Penitentiary also issued a decree granting special indulgences for the duration of the year to celebrate the anniversary and “to perpetuate the entrustment of the whole Church to the powerful patronage of the Custodian of Jesus.” The plenary indulgence is granted under the usual conditions:

- To those who will meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord's Prayer, or take part in a Spiritual Retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph.
- By those who, following St. Joseph's example, will perform a spiritual or corporal work of mercy. St. Joseph “encourages us to rediscover the value of silence, prudence and loyalty in carrying out our duties”.
- Everyone who entrusts their daily activity to the protection of St. Joseph, and every faithful who invokes the intercession of St. Joseph so that those seeking work can find dignifying work can also obtain the plenary indulgence.
- To the faithful who will recite the Litany to St. Joseph, or the Akathistos to St. Joseph, or any other prayer to St. Joseph proper to the other liturgical traditions, for the persecuted Church ad intra and ad extra, and for the relief of all Christians suffering all forms of persecution.
- The recitation of the Holy Rosary in families and among engaged couples, in order that “all Christian families may be stimulated to recreate the same atmosphere of intimate communion, love and prayer that was in the Holy Family.”

SEVEN DAY LAMPS

Are available at the back of the church for £5, or online at maidenlane.org.uk/lamps

MASS INTENTIONS

Are filling up. If you have any specific dates you would like, please get them in fast to avoid disappointment!

Our sick parishioners and friends: Adam Serdiuchenko, Sue Wingfield, Marilyn Bruce-Mitford, Peter Noakes, Tony Pearce, David Jordan, Christopher Browne, Margaret Griffith, Pascal James, Jean Bernard, Brian Keenan, Sid Shepherd, Terry Miles, John Hughes, Warren Peterson, Nicholas Pollock, Fr Patrick Hayward, Traute Pollock, Noël Tobin, Geoff Smale, David Michael Barrett, Christopher Browne, John Lynch, Ann Gorman, Janet Seeley

Of your charity – please pray for those who have died recently: Olive O'Grady, Fr John Miller, Jack Ward, Mary Quinlan, Fr Frederick Jackson, Beatrice Marti, Stephen Rose, Christopher Canon Tuckwell, Larinka Wright, Claus Tenzler, Eva Wiesinger, Revd. Dr. Cadoc Douglas Auld Leighton, Mgr Anthony Conlon, Fr John Seabrook, Mgr John Coghlan, Mgr Frederick Canon Miles, Rita Lobo, Bill Tomlinson, Mgr John Klyberg, Mgr. Wolfgang Nastainczyk, Christiane Brown