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THE ACTORS' CHURCH

National Church for Catholic Actors

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PARISH WEBSITE

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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

Euan Woodworth

SACRED HEART CHAPEL

Unborn Children

*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



MARCH – MONTH DEDICATED TO
ST JOSEPH

✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE WEEK – 14TH MARCH 2021

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT – LETARE SUNDAY

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. You **MUST** wear a face covering unless exempt. The church will open just before the times listed below, and will close soon after Mass to allow for cleaning. **Confessions** may be heard before Masses, or upon appointment, in the Lady Chapel with social distancing in place. Live stream continues at maidenlane.org.uk/live

SUNDAY 14TH

✠ 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT – LETARE SUNDAY

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

*Ps Week 4
Diana Helena Waddington – Intentions
Private Intention*

MONDAY 15TH

LENT FERIA

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

Stephen & Luisa – Intentions

TUESDAY 16TH

LENT FERIA

Private Mass – church closed today.

Kee Ow Peng – sick

WEDNESDAY 17TH

ST PATRICK, BISHOP, PATRON OF IRELAND

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour

Maria Jessiman – sick

THURSDAY 18TH

LENT FERIA (ST CYRIL OF JERUSALEM, BISHOP & DOCTOR)

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour

Jessie Stewart RIP

FRIDAY 19TH

ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PATRON OF THE DIOCESE

(Friday Abstinence)

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour
6.00 pm Stations of the Cross

Martha Tenzler RIP – Anniversary

SATURDAY 20TH

LENT FERIA

5.00 pm Exposition
6.00 pm Vigil Mass

Harold Leigh RIP – Anniversary

SUNDAY 21ST

✠ 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT – PASSION SUNDAY

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

*Ps Week 1
Eric Pollock RIP – Anniversary
Pro Populo*

OPEN TO THE LIGHT

On our way towards Easter we have reached the Fourth Sunday of Lent. It is a journey with Jesus through the "wilderness", that is, a time in which to listen more attentively to God's voice and also to unmask the temptations that speak within us. The Cross is silhouetted against the horizon of this wilderness. Jesus knows that it is the culmination of his mission: in fact the Cross of Christ is the apex of love which gives us salvation. Christ himself says so in today's Gospel: just "as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life".

The reference is to the episode in which, during the Exodus from Egypt, the Jews were attacked by poisonous serpents and many of them died. God then commanded Moses to make a bronze serpent and to set it on a pole; anyone bitten by serpents was cured by looking at the bronze serpent. Jesus was to be raised likewise on the Cross, so that anyone in danger of death because of sin, may be saved by turning with faith to him who died for our sake: "for God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him".

St Augustine comments: "So far, then, as it lies with the physician, he has come to heal the sick. He that will not observe the orders of the physician destroys himself. He has come a Saviour to the world... You will not be saved by him; you shall be judged of yourself". Therefore, if the merciful love of God — who went so far as to give his only Son to redeem our life — is infinite, we have a great responsibility: each one of us, in fact, must recognize that he is sick in order to be healed. Each one must confess his sin so that God's forgiveness, already granted on the Cross, may have an effect in his heart and in his life.

St Augustine writes further: "God accuses your sins: and if you also accuse them, you are united to God.... When your own deeds will begin to displease you, from that time your good works begin, as you find fault with your evil works. The confession of evil works is the beginning of good works".

Sometimes men and women prefer the darkness to the light because they are attached to their sins. Nevertheless it is only by opening oneself to the light and only by sincerely confessing one's sins to God that one finds true peace and true joy. It is therefore important to receive the Sacrament of Penance regularly, especially during Lent, in order to receive the Lord's forgiveness and to intensify our process of conversion.

CARDINAL SARAH INTERVIEW

"I am very struck by the fact that there is much talk about the Church, about her necessary reform. But are we talking about God? Are we talking about the work of Redemption that Christ accomplished[...]? Rather than talking about ourselves, let us turn to God! If God is not at the centre of the Church's life, then she is in danger of death. That is certainly why Benedict XVI said that the crisis of the Church is essentially a crisis of the liturgy, because it is a crisis of the relationship with God." **(This week we received a charming letter from Cardinal Sarah – he send his best wishes and prayers for all us at the Shrine – and asks us to pray for him.)**

SAINT JOSEPH – PATRON OF THE CHURCH

At a difficult time in the Church's history, Pope Pius IX, wishing to place her under the powerful patronage of the holy patriarch Joseph, declared him "Patron of the Catholic Church." For Pius IX this was no idle gesture, since by virtue of the sublime dignity which God has granted to his most faithful servant Joseph, "the Church, after the Blessed Virgin, his spouse, has always held him in great honour and showered him with praise, having recourse to him amid tribulations."

What are the reasons for such great confidence? Leo XIII explained it in this way: "The reasons why St. Joseph must be considered the special patron of the Church, and the Church in turn draws exceeding hope from his care and patronage, chiefly arise from his having been the husband of Mary and the presumed father of Jesus..., Joseph was in his day the lawful and natural guardian, head and defender of the Holy Family.... It is thus fitting and most worthy of Joseph's dignity that, in the same way that he once kept unceasing holy watch over the family of Nazareth, so now does he protect and defend with his heavenly patronage the Church of Christ." This patronage must be invoked as ever necessary for the Church, not only as a defence against all dangers, but also, and indeed primarily, as an impetus for her renewed commitment to evangelization in the world. St Joseph, pray for us.

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is fast approaching and our Mass times for all these services is on our website. Please note that seating at these Masses will be **first come, first served**. Once the church is full, according to our distanced capacity, we won't be able to admit anyone else.

Maundy Thursday: 7pm with watching until Midnight

Good Friday: 3pm, with Stations of the Cross at 6pm

Holy Saturday: 8pm

Easter Sunday: 9:30am and 11:30am

Easter Monday: 10am

There will be some slight adjustments to the usual ceremonies, though none of these will be significantly drastic so as to be confusing.

CONFESSION

Confessions may still be heard before all Masses, or upon appointment, in the Lady Chapel. Please ensure you are wearing a face covering to protect both yourself and the priest.

MASS INTENTIONS

You can still request Masses to be offered for a particular intention. At the moment, the earliest date available is in July. You can make a request either by using the envelopes at the back of the church, or going on the website maidenlane.org.uk/intentions

SEVEN DAY LAMPS

Are available at the back of the church for £5, or online at maidenlane.org.uk/lamps You can also request the Sanctuary lamps to burn for a particular intention in this way.

A YEAR WITH THE CATECHISM

We were given some copies of this book – presently we have a few copies remaining. It's ideal for growing in knowledge and faith during Lent and beyond. There are a few copies remaining. Please email me if you would like one or ask after Mass. a.i.p.robinson@btinternet.com

Our sick parishioners and friends: Kee Ow Peng, Maria Jessiman, 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: Nancy McWilliams, Virginia Maria Vaz, Fr Kidane Lebasi, Giles Canon Goward, Mgr Mark Langham, Olive O'Grady, Fr John Miller, Jack Ward, Mary Quinlan, Fr Frederick Jackson, Christopher Canon Tuckwell, Larinka Wright, Claus Tenzler, Revd. Dr. Cadoc Douglas Auld Leighton, Mgr Frederick Canon Miles, Rita Lobo, Bill Tomlinson, Mgr John Klyberg, Mgr. Wolfgang Nastainczyk, Christiane Brown