

RECTORY

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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*

DONATIONS

[maidenlane.org.uk/
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*Thank you for your
kindness and generosity.*



THE LAMPS ARE BURNING FOR:

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Private Intention

LADY CHAPEL

Private Intention

SACRED HEART CHAPEL

Jane Humphries

*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 HOLY NAME OF JESUS

✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE WEEK – 23RD JANUARY 2022 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – OF THE WORD OF GOD

SUNDAY 23RD

✠ 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (OF THE WORD OF GOD) *Ps. Week 3*

9.30 am Mass *Pro Populo*
11.30 am Sung Mass in Latin *Fr Tamas – sick*
5.00 pm Holy Hour

MONDAY 24TH

ST FRANCIS DE SALES, BISHOP & DOCTOR

ANNIVERSARY OF THE EPISCOPAL CONSECRATION OF HIS EMINENCE, VINCENT, CARDINAL NICHOLS (1992)

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass *Ronald & Joan Hankinson – Intentions*
5.00 pm Holy Hour
6.30 pm Mass – 1962 Missal

TUESDAY 25TH

THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL THE APOSTLE

No public Mass today. Church open for prayer. *Inge Apel RIP*

WEDNESDAY 26TH

Ss TIMOTHY AND TITUS, BISHOPS

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass *Christine Burn – Anniversary*
5.00 pm Holy Hour

THURSDAY 27TH

ST ANGELA MERICI, VIRGIN

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass *David Maddaford – Intentions*
5.00 pm Holy Hour

FRIDAY 28TH

(Friday Abstinence)

ST THOMAS AQUINAS, PRIEST & DOCTOR

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass *Fr David Egan – Intentions*
5.00 pm Holy Hour

SATURDAY 29TH

FERIA

5.00 pm Exposition
6.00 pm Vigil Mass *Nicefra & Simon Nowak – Intentions*

SUNDAY 30TH

✠ 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.30 am Mass *Ps. Week 4*
11.30 am Sung Mass in Latin *Pro Populo*
5.00 pm Holy Hour *Lalage Hall – Intentions*

Confessions: Confessions are heard for half an hour before all Masses, or by making an appointment with the Rector.

Exposition & Benediction: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place each weekday, except Tuesdays from 12noon – 1pm, and every day, except Tuesdays, from 5pm – 6pm.

THE TODAY OF SALVATION

Today's Liturgy brings together two separate passages of Luke's Gospel and presents them to us. The first is the Prologue, addressed to a certain "Theophilus". Since this name in Greek means "friend of God" we can see in him every believer who opens himself to God and wants to know the Gospel. Instead the second passage presents Jesus who, "in the power of the Spirit", goes to the Synagogue in Nazareth on the Sabbath.

As a strict observer, the Lord does not disregard the pattern of the weekly liturgy and joins the assembly of his fellow citizens in prayer and in listening to the Scriptures. The ritual provides for the reading of a text from the Torah or the Prophets, followed by a commentary. That day Jesus stood up to read and found a passage from the Prophet Isaiah that begins this way: "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted". Origen's comment was: "It is no coincidence that he opened the scroll and found the chapter of the reading that prophesies about him, this, too, was the work of God's providence". In fact when the reading was over in a silence charged with attention, Jesus said, "Today this scripture has [now] been fulfilled in your hearing". St Cyril of Alexandria says that "today", placed between the first and the final coming of Christ, is related to the believer's ability to listen and to repent. But in an even more radical sense, Jesus himself is "the today" of salvation in history, because he brings to completion the work of redemption. The word "today", very dear to St Luke, brings us back to the Christological title preferred by the Evangelist himself, namely: "Saviour" (sōtēr). Already in the infancy narratives, it is present in the words of the Angel to the shepherds: "For to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord".

Dear friends, this Gospel passage also challenges us "today". First of all, it makes us think about how we live Sunday, a day of rest and a day for the family. Above all, it is the day to devote to the Lord, by participating in the Eucharist, in which we are nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ and by his life-giving Word. Second, in our diversified and distracted time, this Gospel passage invites us to ask ourselves whether we are able to listen. Before we can speak of God and with God we must listen to him, and the liturgy of the Church is the "school" of this listening to the Lord who speaks to us. Finally, he tells us that every moment can be the propitious "day" for our conversion. Every day (kathēmeran) can become the today of our salvation, because salvation is a story that is ongoing for the Church and for every disciple of Christ. This is the Christian meaning of "*carpe diem*": seize the day in which God is calling you to give you salvation!

May the Virgin Mary always be our model and our guide in knowing how to recognize and welcome the presence of God our Saviour and of all humanity every day of our lives.

SEVEN DAY LAMPS

Are available at the back of the church for £5, or online at maidenlane.org.uk/lamps If you would like to donate towards the Sanctuary lamps, you can do so online too.

A SHRINE TO BL CARLO ACUTIS

Thank you to everyone who has so kindly donated towards the Shrine of Bl Carlo Acutis. We are very close to our target of **£7000** to cover the costs of making, shipping and installing the shrine, as well as import duty. This means that we are very near making this a reality and are in a position to ask Ferdinand Stuflesser to begin the work. Donors' names will be included in an inscription on the reverse of the shrine and there will be a Mass offered for their intentions every month – usually on the second Thursday. I'm delighted that Bishop Nicholas Hudson has very kindly agreed to come and bless and Shrine, once it is installed. To make a donation, and to see sketches of the design of the proposed shrine, please visit maidenlane.org.uk/carlo or use the card machines at the back of the church. Thank you in advance!

To find out more about Blessed Carlo Acutis and his remarkable life, have a look at the noticeboard at the back of the church, or you can buy a book on his life for **£6** after Mass.

SODALITY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The next Sodality Mass, followed by Adoration and Benediction, will be on **Thursday 3rd February at 6:30pm**, and this month's guest preacher will be **Mgr Gordon Read**, who is the Chancellor of the Diocese of Brentwood. Sodality Masses are offered for the intentions of members each month, and there is a monthly newsletter sent out to members. To find out more about the Sodality and to become a member, visit sodality.co.uk

THE WITNESS OF THE SAINTS

There is a primacy of charity in the life of Christians and of the Church. The privileged witnesses of this primacy are the Saints, who made their lives a hymn to God-Love despite their thousands of different tones. We celebrate them every day of the year in the liturgy.

I am thinking, for example, of those whom we are commemorating in these days: the Apostle Paul with his disciples Timothy and Titus, St Angela Merici, St Thomas Aquinas, St John Bosco. These saints are very different: the first belong to the beginnings of the Church and were missionaries of the first evangelization; in the Middle Ages, Thomas Aquinas is the model of a Catholic theologian who found in Christ the supreme synthesis of truth and love; in the Renaissance, Angela Merici presented a path of holiness also to those who were living in a secular environment; in the modern epoch, Don Bosco, inflamed with love for Jesus the Good Shepherd, cared for the most underprivileged children and became their father and teacher.

In truth, the Church's entire history is a history of holiness, animated by the one Love whose source is God. Indeed, only supernatural love, like the love that flows ever new from Christ's heart, can explain the miraculous flourishing down the centuries.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

If you'd like to talk about your spiritual life, as a one-off or more regularly, please be in touch with me. If I can, I'd be delighted to help you.

MASS INTENTIONS

The Mass book is full now until **April 2022**. If you have any dates that you would particularly like Masses for, please get them in ASAP. maidenlane.org.uk/intentions

Our sick parishioners and friends: Brona Lynch, Sheena Colman, Christos Hana, Philip Barney, Donna Webb, Christopher Bronne, Sandra Jones, Velrich Fernandes, Kee Ow Peng, Maria Jessiman, 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, John Lynch, Ann Gorman, Janet Seeley

Of your charity – please pray for those who have died recently: Muriel Jane Humphries, Sr Jolanta, OCarm., Heather Bashford, Fr David Irwin, Jose Antonio & Bertha, Sir David Amess, Richard Canon Hearn, Amarilde Pellegrini, Concetta Wager, Nellie Goodwin, Marlis Okeke, Paul Colman, Nancy McWilliams, Virginia Maria Vaz, Fr Kidane Lebasi, Mgr Mark Langham, Mary Quinlan, Larinka Wright, Claus Tenzler, Mgr Frederick Canon Miles, Christiane Brown