

RECTORY

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THE ACTORS' CHURCH

National Church for Catholic Actors

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PARISH WEBSITE

www.maidenlane.org.uk

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

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kindness and generosity.*

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CORPUS CHRISTI

THE DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

MARCH – MONTH DEDICATED TO
ST JOSEPH

✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE WEEK – 6TH MARCH 2022 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

SUNDAY 6TH

✠ 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

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

*Ps. Week 1
Andrew Gob RIP
Pro Populo*

MONDAY 7TH

LENT FERIA (SS PERPETUA & FELICITY, MARTYRS)

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour
6.30 pm Mass – 1962 Missal

Barbara Jurenczyk RIP

TUESDAY 8TH

LENT FERIA (ST JOHN OF GOD, RELIGIOUS)

No public Mass today. Church open for prayer.

Our Lady's Intentions

WEDNESDAY 9TH

LENT FERIA (ST FRANCES OF ROME, RELIGIOUS)

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour
7.00 pm Prayer Group

Grace's Intentions

THURSDAY 10TH

LENT FERIA

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour

Benefactors of Corpus Christi

FRIDAY 11TH

LENT FERIA

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour
6.00 pm Stations of the Cross
6.30 pm Mass – 1962 Missal

(Friday Abstinence)

Anna Löffler – sick

Good Counsel Network

SATURDAY 12TH

LENT FERIA

5.00 pm Exposition
6.00 pm Vigil Mass

Kevin & Ruth Fox – Anniversary

SUNDAY 13TH

✠ 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

ANNIVERSARY OF THE ELECTION OF POPE FRANCIS (2013)

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

Ps. Week 2

*Pro Populo
Gabriel Burke RIP*

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.

LISTEN TO GOD'S VOICE

What does it mean to begin the Lenten journey? The Gospel for this First Sunday of Lent illustrates it for us with the account of the temptations of Jesus in the desert. The Evangelist St Luke recounts that after receiving Baptism from John, "Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit for forty days in the wilderness, tempted by the devil". There is a clear insistence on the fact that the temptations were not just an incident on the way but rather the consequence of Jesus' decision to carry out the mission entrusted to him by the Father to live to the very end his reality as the beloved Son who trusts totally in him. Christ came into the world to set us free from sin and from the ambiguous fascination of planning our life leaving God out. He did not do so with loud proclamations but rather by fighting the Tempter himself, until the Cross. This example applies to everyone: the world is improved by starting with oneself, changing, with God's grace, everything in one's life that is not going well.

The first of the three temptations to which Satan subjects Jesus originates in hunger, that is, in material need: "If you are the Son of God command this stone to become bread". But Jesus responds with Sacred Scripture: "Man shall not live by bread alone". Then the Devil shows Jesus all the kingdoms of the earth and says: all this will be yours if, prostrating yourself, you worship me. This is the deception of power, and an attempt which Jesus was to unmask and reject: "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve". Not adoration of power, but only of God, of truth and love. Lastly, the Tempter suggests to Jesus that he work a spectacular miracle: that he throw himself down from the pinnacle of the Temple and let the angels save him so that everyone might believe in him. However, Jesus answers that God must never be put to the test. We cannot "do an experiment" in which God has to respond and show that he is God: we must believe in him! We should not make God "the substance" of "our experiment". Still referring to Sacred Scripture, Jesus puts the only authentic criterion obedience, conformity to God's will, which is the foundation of our existence before human criteria. This is also a fundamental teaching for us: if we carry God's word in our minds and hearts, if it enters our lives, if we trust in God, we can reject every kind of deception by the Tempter. Furthermore, Christ's image as the new Adam emerges clearly from this account. He is the Son of God, humble and obedient to the Father, unlike Adam and Eve who in the Garden of Eden succumbed to the seduction of the evil spirit, of being immortal without God.

Lent is like a long "retreat" in which to re-enter oneself and listen to God's voice in order to overcome the temptations of the Evil One and to find the truth of our existence. It is a time, we may say, of spiritual "training" in order to live alongside Jesus not with pride and presumption but rather by using the weapons of faith: namely prayer, listening to the Word of God and penance. In this way we shall succeed in celebrating Easter in truth, ready to renew our baptismal promises.

AKATHIST TO THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

On **Saturday 19th March at 3:30pm** we will be welcoming the Byzantine choir of the C.I.E.L. (Centre international d'Etudes Liturgiques), who will be singing Greek office of the Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God. The Akathist Hymn is a much loved Lenten Devotion in the Eastern Catholic and Orthodox traditions, in which the praises of Our Lady are solemnly sung in this most ancient hymn. **All are most welcome!**

This profound, devotional liturgical poem, which sings the praises of the Holy Mother of God (the "Theotokos") and Ever-Virgin Mary is not only the most famous work of Byzantine hymnography – the famous Byzantinist Louis Bréhier said: "By its elegant form, by the depth of the mystical feeling and the musical beauty of the words, the Akathist is unique in Byzantine literature" – but for some it is also "the most beautiful, most profound, the most ancient Marian Hymn in all Christian literature". Pope Benedict XVI said: "The venerable Akathist hymn to the Mother of God represents one of the highest expressions of the Marian piety of the Byzantine tradition. Praying with these words opens wide the heart and disposes it to the peace that is from above, from God, to that peace which is Christ himself, born of Mary for our salvation."

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY

The Cardinal is inviting to all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) Wedding Anniversary of Catholic Marriage in 2022 to a Mass at Westminster Cathedral on **Saturday 14th May at 3pm**. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email Alex the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

LENT HAS BEGUN – KEEP GOING

Lent has begun – that time of prayer, fasting and abstinence ahead of Our Lord's Passion and Resurrection. How will you spend these forty days? I'm sure many of you might have thought of things to give up: but what about taking something up instead? Don't just deprive yourself in a dietary fashion, by giving up chocolate or alcohol, but really try to feed your Spiritual Life and your relationship with God. **At this particular time, you could offer the whole of your Lent for Peace in Ukraine.** You could say some of the Divine Office each day, perhaps Morning and Evening Prayer. And where does Confession fit into your Lent plan? Why not come to Mass during the week as well as Sunday? Here at Corpus Christi on **Fridays in Lent**, there will be a **Holy Hour with Vespers, Rosary & Benediction from 5pm, followed by Stations of the Cross at 6pm**. Every day we have two Holy Hours, with the Blessed Sacrament exposed. Why not come and spend some extra time with the Lord, Truly Present in the Most Blessed Sacrament? Perhaps bring some spiritual reading with you as well? If you're not sure what to read, I can recommend plenty of books that will help!

SEVEN DAY LAMPS

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

MASS INTENTIONS

To have a Mass offered for your intentions, use the envelopes at the back of the church or visit 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