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THE ACTORS' CHURCH National Church for Catholic Actors

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THE LAMPS ARE BURNING FOR:

SANCTUARY LAMPS Luke, Alex & James Dugan

LADY CHAPEL Pope Benedict XVI RIP

SACRED HEART CHAPEL Private Intention

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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 – 8th January 2023 The Baptism of the Lord

SUNDAY 8TH

★ THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD9.30 amSaid Mass in English11.30 amSung Mass in LatinApologies – No Holy Hour today.

MONDAY 9TH

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

TUESDAY 10th Feria

No public Mass today. Private Mass offered for

WEDNESDAY 11th

FERIA12 noonExposition1.05 pmMass5.00 pmHoly Hour

Thursday 12th

ST AELRED OF RIEVAULX

12 noonExposition1.05 pmMass5.00 pmHoly Hour

Friday 13th

ST HILARY, BISHOP & DOCTOR

12 noonExposition1.05 pmMass5.00 pmHoly Hour6.30 pmMass - 1962 Missal

SATURDAY 14th

FERIA

5.00 pmExposition of the Blessed Sacrament6.00 pmVigil Mass

SUNDAY 15th

✤ 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.30 am	Said Mass in English	Maureen Gillen RIP
11.30 am	Sung Mass in Latin	Catherine McGovern – sick
5.00 pm	Holy Hour	

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, which includes Vespers, Rosary and Benediction

Eucharistic Prayer Group: Young Adults Prayer Group each Wednesday 7pm in Church with Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary. Contact Annette: ccpguk@gmail.com

Ps. Week 1 Pro Populo James Sheehy – Intentions

Blanche – Intentions

Eileen Masters RIP

Della Frances Murphy RIP

Benefactors of Corpus Christi

(Friday abstinence)

Kathleen Bernadette McGovern RIP

Good Counsel Network

Pro Populo

Ps. Week 2

BEHOLD MY SERVANT

Today the Church is celebrating the Baptism of the Lord, the Feast which concludes the liturgical Season of Christmas, although the decorations remain up until the feast of the Presentation of the Lord on 2nd February. This mystery of the life of Christ visibly demonstrates that his coming in the flesh is a sublime act of love by the Three Divine Persons. We can say that from this solemn event the creative, redemptive and sanctifying action of the Most Holy Trinity will be increasingly evident in the public ministry of Jesus, in his teaching, his miracles, and in his Passion, death and Resurrection. We read, in fact, in the Gospel according to St Matthew that "when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold the heavens were opened [for him] and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased' ".

The Holy Spirit "dwells" in the Son and testifies to his divinity, while the voice of the Father, coming from the heavens, expresses the communion of love. "The conclusion of the baptismal scene tells us that Jesus has received this true 'anointing', that he is the awaited Anointed One [the Christ]", which confirms Isaiah's prophecy: "Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights". He is truly the Messiah, the Son of the Most High who, emerging from the waters of the Jordan, establishes the regeneration in the Spirit and opens, to those who desire it, the possibility of becoming sons of God.

Not by chance, in fact, does every baptized person acquire the character of son, based on the Christian name, an unmistakable sign that the Holy Spirit gives birth to man "anew" from the womb of the Church. Bl. Antonio Rosmini affirms that "the baptized undergoes a secret but very powerful operation, through which he is raised to the supernatural order, is placed in communication with God". Dear friends, Baptism is the beginning of the spiritual life which finds its fullness in the Church. At the favourable moment of the sacrament, while the ecclesial community is praying and entrusting to God a new son or daughter, parents and godparents commit themselves to welcoming the newly baptized, sustaining them in Christian formation and education. This is a great responsibility which comes from a great gift! Therefore, we should desire to encourage all the faithful to rediscover the beauty of being baptized and of belonging to the large family of God, and to give a joyful witness of their faith so that this faith may produce fruits of good and harmony. Let us ask this through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Help of Christians, to whom we entrust the parents who are preparing for their children's Baptism, as well as the catechists. The entire community participates in the joy of rebirth in water and in the Holy Spirit!

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE On Wednesday I was at Moorfields Eye Hospital, having the final tests before surgery on 18th January. I will be off for around one week recovering and would very much appreciate your prayers. Fr Alan.

POPE BENEDICT XVI RIP

Much has been said and written in the last few days about His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI. Yet, the most profound words came from Pope Benedict himself in his final hours. In his lifetime, he preached thousands of homilies, wrote over 60 books, three encyclicals as Pope – and they all boiled down to **"Lord, I love you."** May we all lead lives such as these, that in our final hours we can be received by the Lord such a similar fullness of faith. And may we all be as prepared for our final days as Pope Benedict was: by going to confession and seeking out Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Already a few years ago, a website was set up by a German newspaper to serve as a Benedict XVI resource centre, including his writings, videos and pictures. This is gradually being translated into English (indeed our own Parish Administrator has been helping with the translations of previously untranslated texts), and in the coming years will also be available in Italian and other languages. They have set up a Book of Condolences if you would like to leave a message: **www.benedictusxvi.com**

SODALITY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The next Sodality of the Blessed Sacrament Mass is on **Thursday 2nd February at 6:30pm**. This is the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candlemas. This month's guest preacher is **Fr John Jesus Moloney, CSJ**, Parish Priest of St Anthony's Church, Forest Gate. Candles will be blessed and there will be the traditional procession through the church at the start of Mass. Mass concludes with a period of Adoration and Benediction. To find out more about the Sodality and to become a member, visit **sodality.co.uk**

DONATIONS

I would like to say a very big **thank you** to everyone who has supported the work of the Shrine during the last year, both financially and spiritually. Donations can be made at Mass by cash, via our card machines, via our website at **maidenlane.org.uk/support** or by scanning the QR Code on the front of this newsletter. And remember, if you are able to Gift Aid your donations, please do so. This allows us to claim an extra 25p for every £1 you donate from the Government. A simple £10 donation very quickly becomes a £12.50 donation, with no extra cost to you. Thank you!

CONFESSION

A reminder that Confessions are heard for half an hour before all Masses, or by appointment. Many of you already go to Confession regularly. But if you've got out of the "habit", please do come back.

SEVEN DAY LAMPS

Are available at the back of the church for $f_{.6}$, or online at **maidenlane.org.uk/lamps**. You can also have the lamps that hang in the Sanctuary burn for a particular intention of yours. **MASS INTENTIONS**

To have a Mass offered for your intentions, use the envelopes at the back of the church or visit the website at **maidenlane.org.uk/intentions** The earliest dates available are now in March 2023. If there are any particular dates you would like next year, please get them in as early as possible.

Our sick parishioners and friends: Norma Stanes, Phil Bawden, Almudena Dagn, 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, 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: Pope Benedict XVI, Veronica Davies, Vivien May Adams, Irene Walters, Gerard Joseph Waddingham KGCHS, Fr Sir Charles Dilke, Bt, Fr Jeremy Davies, Crispin Harrison CR, HM Queen Elizabeth II, Edie Moran, Sr Marie Louise OCarm, Louise Gusmaroli, Berenice Roetheli, Sheila Szymczak, Fr Tony Brunning, Muriel Jane Humphries, Sr Jolanta, OCarm., Heather Bashford, Fr David Irwin, Sir David Amess,