

RECTORY

1 Maiden Lane, Covent Garden,
LONDON, WC2E 7NB
020 7836 4700

THE ACTORS' & POLICE CHURCH

National Church for Catholic Actors
& the London Catholic Police Guild

RECTOR

Fr Alan I P Robinson
a.i.p.robinson@btinternet.com

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Alex Dimminger
maidenlane@rcdow.org.uk

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Edward Kay

SAFEGUARDING

Sabina Leigh
coventgardensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

PARISH WEBSITE

www.maidenlane.org.uk

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

DONATIONS

maidenlane.org.uk/
support
or scan the QR Code



*Thank you for your
kindness and generosity.*

THE LAMPS ARE BURNING FOR:

SANCTUARY LAMPS

Private Intention – EW

LADY CHAPEL

Private Intention – EW

SACRED HEART CHAPEL

Private Intention – EW

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

FIND US ONLINE

LIVE STREAM



maidenlane.org.uk/live

FACEBOOK



[corpuschristimaidenlane](https://www.facebook.com/corpuschristimaidenlane)

INSTAGRAM



[@corpuschristishrine](https://www.instagram.com/corpuschristishrine)

WEB



maidenlane.org.uk



CORPUS CHRISTI THE DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

DECEMBER – MONTH DEDICATED TO
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE WEEK – 1ST DECEMBER 2024 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER

✠ FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

Ps Wk 1

*Maureen Goodey RIP
Wanda Milewska RIP*

MONDAY 2ND

ADVENT FERIA

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

Rosemary Grant RIP

TUESDAY 3RD

ST FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST

No Public Mass. Private Mass offered for

Padney McDonagh – Intentions

WEDNESDAY 4TH

ST JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
Apologies – No Holy Hour today.

Graciana Rodrigues RIP

THURSDAY 5TH

ADVENT FERIA

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

Phil & Family – Intentions

Sodality Members

(Friday Abstinence)

FRIDAY 6TH

ST NICHOLAS, BISHOP

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
Apologies – No Holy Hour today.

Anna Maria Cotinou RIP

SATURDAY 7TH

ST AMBROSE, BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

5.00 pm Exposition
6.00 pm Vigil Mass

Pro Populo

SUNDAY 8TH

✠ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

Ps Wk 2

*Maureen Goodey RIP
Welfare of Nick Bunny*

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

TAKE HEED

Today the Church begins a new Liturgical Year. The first Season on this itinerary is Advent, formed — in the Roman Rite — of the four weeks preceding the Nativity of Our Lord, that is, the mystery of the Incarnation.

The word “advent” means “coming” or “presence”. In the ancient world it meant the visit of the king or emperor to a province; in the Christian language it refers to the Coming of God, to his presence in the world; a mystery that embraces the entire cosmos and history, but that has two culminating events: the First and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. The first is, precisely, the Incarnation. The second is his glorious return at the end of time. These two events that are chronologically distant — and we are not given to know by how long — are deeply connected, because with his death and Resurrection Jesus fulfilled that transformation of man and of the cosmos which is the final goal of Creation. However, before the end, the Gospel must be proclaimed to all the nations, as Jesus says in the Gospel according to St Mark. The Lord’s Coming continues, the world must be penetrated by his presence and this ongoing Coming of the Lord in the proclamation of the Gospel requires our continuous collaboration. Moreover the Church, who is, as it were, the Betrothed, the promised Bride of the Lamb of the Crucified and Risen God, in communion with her Lord, collaborates in this Coming of the Lord, in which his glorious return has already begun.

Today the word of God calls us to this, outlining the lines of conduct we should follow to be ready for the Lord’s Coming. In Luke’s Gospel, Jesus says to the disciples: “take heed... lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life... at all times, praying”. Therefore, moderation and prayer. And the Apostle Paul adds the invitation to “increase and abound in love” among ourselves and for everyone, to make our hearts blameless in holiness.

In the midst of the upheavals of the world or in the deserts of indifference and materialism, may Christians accept salvation from God and bear witness to it with a different way of life, like a city set upon a hill. “In those days”, the Prophet Jeremiah announced, “Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: The Lord is our righteousness”. The community of believers is a sign of God’s love, of his justice which is already present and active in history but is not yet completely fulfilled and must therefore always be awaited, invoked and sought with patience and courage.

CONFESSION

Confessions are heard for half an hour before all Masses, or upon request. Please don’t neglect this sacrament, especially as we approach the penitential season of Advent.

MASS INTENTIONS

The earliest dates available are now in **March 2025**. To book a Mass, you can use the envelopes at the back of the church or online at maidenlane.org.uk/intentions If there are any dates you specifically want, please book them before they’re gone!

NEW NATIVITY SCENE

This weekend, we are so pleased to unveil our **new Nativity Scene**, following our appeal last year for donations towards new figures. The appeal went exceedingly well and the new Nativity scene contains over 100 figures, which have all been donated by benefactors from around the world. There are still some figures that have not yet been donated. If you would like to add to our nativity scene, visit maidenlane.org.uk/crib

Do come and begin your spiritual preparations for the Holy Season of Christmas at the Diocesan Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament, spending some time before the Crib.

CAROL SEASON

As we begin Advent, we enter also into Carol Season. For many years, we have hosted various Catholic charities, organisations and schools, as they come together to prepare for the Birth of our Lord through a service of Carols and Readings. Please be aware, therefore, that the church may be closed some evenings for these functions, and as such there will be no Holy Hour on those days.

SODALITY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The next Sodality of the Blessed Sacrament Mass with Adoration and Benediction will be on **Thursday 5th December at 6:30pm**. This month’s guest preacher will be **Bishop James Curry**, Auxiliary Bishop in Westminster. To find out more about the Sodality, and to become a member, visit sodality.co.uk

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM CATHSOC CHOIR

The University of Birmingham Cathsoc Choir will be giving a free concert of sacred choral music after the Vigil Mass next **Saturday 7th December**, beginning at **7pm**. There will be a retiring collection to cover costs. All most welcome.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary this year falls on **Monday 9th December**. While it is a Holy Day of Obligation in many parts of Europe, it is not kept as such in England & Wales. There will be Mass here on that day at 1.05pm (said, English) and 6.30pm (1962, Missa Cantata). There will also be a Holy Hour at 5.00pm.

WEST END CAROL SERVICE

On **Wednesday 11th December at 6.30pm** there will be a traditional Service of Lessons and Carols, ending with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, here at Corpus Christi, the Catholic Actors’ Church. This is organised in collaboration with various artists from the West End, including the Royal Opera House, Wigmore Hall, and many others. It will be a wonderful evening, preparing for the coming of the Lord. More details will follow in due course, but please do put this date in your diaries now. Entry is free and all are most welcome to come and begin the spiritual preparations for Christmas.

DIARY DATE – CHURCH CLEANING

On **Saturday 14th December from 9am** we will be cleaning the church and getting it ready for Christmas. Please could you come and help us in whichever way you can – sweeping, mopping, dusting or polishing? The more volunteers we have, the quicker it goes! Thank you!

SEVEN DAY LAMPS

Are available at the back of the church for £6, or online at maidenlane.org.uk/lamps.

Our sick parishioners and friends: Fr David Barnes, Alain de Jager, Mieko Madenokoji, Douglas Adams, Norma Stanes, Phil Bawden, Sheena Colman, Christos Hana, Christopher Bronne, Sandra Jones, Velrich Fernandes, Kee Ow Peng, Maria Jessiman, Marilyn Bruce-Mitford, Peter Noakes, Tony Pearce, David Jordan, Christopher Browne, Margaret Griffith, Pascal James, Brian Keenan, Sid Shepherd, Nicholas Pollock, Fr Patrick Hayward, Traute Pollock, **Of your charity – please pray for those who have died recently:** Evelyn Watkin, Holly Armstrong, Fr Michael Gallagher O.Praem., Lola Pinagli, Sydney Byrne, Sr Carmel of Jesus, Fr Francis Wahle, Fr John Warnaby, Fr Michael Daley, Ann Slater, Ann Christine Leece, Johanna Sophia Pretorius, Pauline Lewis, Michael O’Toole, John Hughes, Fr Mark James Leenane, William Blake,