

RECTORY

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THE ACTORS' & POLICE CHURCH

National Church for Catholic Actors
& the London Catholic Police Guild

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PARISH WEBSITE

www.maidenlane.org.uk

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

DONATIONS

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kindness and generosity.*

THE LAMPS ARE BURNING FOR:

SANCTUARY LAMPS

Pope Francis
Panagiota Stojiljkovic RIP
Protection of Life

LADY CHAPEL
Private Intention

SACRED HEART CHAPEL
Private Intention

*To have the lamps burning for your intentions,
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CORPUS CHRISTI THE DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FEBRUARY – MONTH DEDICATED TO
THE HOLY FAMILY



✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE WEEK – 23RD FEBRUARY 2025 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 23RD

✠ 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

*Ps Wk 3
Jonathan Manto – Intentions
Pro Populo*

MONDAY 24TH

FERIA

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

Giovanni Maria – Intentions

TUESDAY 25TH

FERIA

No public Mass today. Private Mass for *Welfare of S, D & M Woodman-Stanes Family*

WEDNESDAY 26TH

FERIA

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour

Vera Smirkina RIP

THURSDAY 27TH

ST GREGORY OF NAREK, ABBOT & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour

Welfare of A & N Stanes

FRIDAY 28TH

FERIA

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour

(Friday Abstinence)

Deceased Family & Friends of Stanes & Perkins Families

SATURDAY 1ST MARCH

ST DAVID, BISHOP, PATRON OF WALES

10.00 am Exposition & Confessions
11.00 am Sung Jubilee Mass in Latin
5.00 pm Exposition
6.00 pm Vigil Mass

Holy Father's Intentions

Pro Populo

SUNDAY 2ND

✠ 8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

*Ps Wk 4
John O'Dea – Intentions
Private Intention (NS)*

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

LOVE OF ENEMIES

This Sunday's Gospel contains some of the most typical and forceful words of Jesus' preaching: "Love your enemies". It is taken from Luke's Gospel but is also found in Matthew's, in the context of the programmatic discourse that opens with the famous "Beatitudes". Jesus delivered it in Galilee at the beginning of his public life: it is, as it were, a "manifesto" presented to all, in which he asks for his disciples' adherence, proposing his model of life to them in radical terms.

But what do his words mean? Why does Jesus ask us to love precisely our enemies, that is, a love which exceeds human capacities?

Actually, Christ's proposal is realistic because it takes into account that in the world there is too much violence, too much injustice, and therefore that this situation cannot be overcome except by countering it with more love, with more goodness. This "more" comes from God: it is his mercy which was made flesh in Jesus and which alone can "tip the balance" of the world from evil to good, starting with that small and decisive "world" which is the human heart.

This Gospel passage is rightly considered the magna carta of Christian non-violence. It does not consist in succumbing to evil, as a false interpretation of "turning the other cheek" claims, but in responding to evil with good and thereby breaking the chain of injustice.

One then understands that for Christians, non-violence is not merely tactical behaviour but a person's way of being, the attitude of one who is so convinced of God's love and power that he is not afraid to tackle evil with the weapons of love and truth alone.

Love of one's enemy constitutes the nucleus of the "Christian revolution", a revolution not based on strategies of economic, political or media power: the revolution of love, a love that does not rely ultimately on human resources but is a gift of God which is obtained by trusting solely and unreservedly in his merciful goodness. Here is the newness of the Gospel which silently changes the world! Here is the heroism of the "lowly" who believe in God's love and spread it, even at the cost of their lives.

MASS INTENTIONS

The earliest dates available are now in **June 2025**. To book a Mass, you can use the envelopes at the back of the church or online at maidenlane.org.uk/intentions

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL

Cardinal Nichols has criticised the way in which the assisted suicide bill is being handled. Highlighting the fact that the 2004 ban on fox hunting had 700 hours of parliamentary debate compared to this bill's mere **five** hours of debate he said, "I believe it is deeply irresponsible of any government to allow a change of this magnitude to be carried out without due, proper, government-supported parliamentary process... The radical change in the law now being proposed risks bringing about for all medical professionals a slow change from a duty to care to a duty to kill." You can make your feelings known to your MP by simply completing the form online at righttolife.org.uk/asvote

2025 – HOLY YEAR OF JUBILEE

2025 is a Holy Year of Jubilee, which is a time of special graces and opportunities to grow closer to Our Lord. Corpus Christi is a Jubilee Church here in the Diocese of Westminster, and so it is a place of Pilgrimage where you can obtain the special Plenary Indulgences available for the year. There will be a particular sung Jubilee Mass celebrated on **the first Saturday of the month at 11am** as well as various other events during the course of the year. The next one is **this Saturday 1st March**, on the feast of St David. For more information about the Jubilee and what's on here, visit maidenlanejubilee.co.uk

LENT IS ON THE WAY

The next big milestone for all of us is Lent – just a month away. Perhaps you might like to think about spiritual direction. If so – please do get in touch with me.

ASH WEDNESDAY – 5TH MARCH

Ash Wednesday this year falls on **Wednesday 5th March**. There will be three Masses – 8am (1962 Missal), 1:05pm (said, English) and 6:30pm (sung, Latin). Ashes will be distributed at all Masses.

SODALITY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The next Sodality of the Blessed Sacrament Mass with Adoration and Benediction will be on **Thursday 6th March at 6:30pm**. This month's guest preacher will be **Fr Patrick Allsop**, Parish Priest of Immaculate Heart of Mary and St Dominic, Homerton. To find out more about the Sodality, and to become a member, visit sodality.co.uk

FRIDAYS IN LENT

On Fridays in Lent, we will be running an extensive programme to help you prepare for Easter, as well as obtain Jubilee Plenary Indulgences:

5pm: Holy Hour with Vespers, Rosary & Benediction

6pm: Stations of the Cross

6:30pm: Various devotions as advertised:

- **7th March & 4th April:** The Passion of Our Lord sung to the traditional chants of Holy Week

- **14th March & 11th April:** Low Mass

- **21st March & 28th March:** Akathist to the Mother of God

- **18th April:** Veneration of the relic of the True Cross

Of particular note is the **Akathist to the Mother of God**, a moving Lenten Devotion from the Eastern Churches, which the Holy Father has specifically designated as an act by which one can obtain the Plenary Indulgence under the usual conditions. We are grateful to Fr Gabriel Diaz-Patri for offering this here.

DIVINE LITURGY IN THE BYZANTINE-SLAVIC RITE

There will be celebrations of the Divine Liturgy in the Byzantine-Slavic Rite on **Saturdays 15th & 29th March at 10am**. The celebration will be in Old Slavonic, the language traditionally used in the Slavic regions, both for the Byzantine and even for the Roman Rite (Glagolitic Mass), for over 1,000 years.

SEVEN DAY LAMPS

Are available at the back of the church for £6, or online at maidenlane.org.uk/lamps. If you'd like to have the Sanctuary Lamps lit for a particular intention, you can get all seven for £30.

CONFESSION

Confessions are heard for half an hour before all Masses, or upon request.

Our sick parishioners and friends: Pope Francis, 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:** Fr David Barnes, 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