

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

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
Holy Souls in Purgatory

LADY CHAPEL
Private Intention

SACRED HEART CHAPEL
Private Intention

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

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maidenlane.org.uk/live

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CORPUS CHRISTI

THE DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

NOVEMBER – MONTH DEDICATED TO
THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY



✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE WEEK – 30TH NOVEMBER 2025 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 30TH

✠ 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
Pro Populo*

MONDAY 1ST DECEMBER

ADVENT FERIA

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

Rodrigo's Intentions

TUESDAY 2ND

ADVENT FERIA

No Public Mass today. Private Mass for *Rosemary Grant RIP – Anniversary*

WEDNESDAY 3RD

ST FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass

Margaret Bills RIP

THURSDAY 4TH

ST JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass

Will Chelman – Intentions

6.30 pm Sodality of the Blessed Sacrament Mass *Sodality Members*

(Friday Abstinence)

FRIDAY 5TH

ADVENT FERIA

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour

Fr John Francis Hoban RIP

SATURDAY 6TH

ST NICHOLAS, BISHOP

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 7TH

✠ 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
Wanda Milewska 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, which includes Vespers, Rosary and Benediction

STAY AWAKE!

Today, the first Sunday of Advent, the Church begins a new Liturgical Year, a new journey of faith that on the one hand commemorates the event of Jesus Christ and, on the other, opens to its ultimate fulfilment. It is precisely in this double perspective that she lives the Season of Advent, looking both to the first coming of the Son of God, when he was born of the Virgin Mary, and to his glorious return, when he will come “to judge the living and the dead”, as we say in the Creed. I would now like to focus briefly on this evocative theme of “waiting”, for it touches upon a profoundly human aspect in which the faith becomes, so to speak, completely one with our flesh and our heart.

Expectation or waiting is a dimension that flows through our whole personal, family and social existence. Expectation is present in thousands of situations, from the smallest and most banal to the most important that involve us completely and in our depths. Among these, let us think of waiting for a child, on the part of a husband and wife; of waiting for a relative or friend who is coming from far away to visit us; let us think, for a young person, of waiting to know his results in a crucially important examination or of the outcome of a job interview; in emotional relationships, of waiting to meet the beloved, of waiting for the answer to a letter, or for the acceptance of forgiveness... One could say that man is alive as long as he waits, as long as hope is alive in his heart. And from his expectations man recognizes himself: our moral and spiritual “stature” can be measured by what we wait for, by what we hope for.

Every one of us, therefore, especially in this Season which prepares us for Christmas, can ask himself: What am I waiting for? What, at this moment of my life, does my heart long for? And this same question can be posed at the level of the family, of the community, of the nation. What are we waiting for together? What unites our aspirations, what brings them together? In the time before Jesus’ birth the expectation of the Messiah was very strong in Israel – that is, the expectation of an Anointed one, a descendent of King David, who would at last set the people free from every form of moral and political slavery and find the Kingdom of God. But no one would ever have imagined that the Messiah could be born of a humble girl like Mary, the betrothed of a righteous man, Joseph. Nor would she have ever thought of it, and yet in her heart the expectation of the Saviour was so great, her faith and hope were so ardent, that he was able to find in her a worthy mother. Moreover, God himself had prepared her before time. There is a mysterious correspondence between the waiting of God and that of Mary, the creature “full of grace”, totally transparent to the loving plan of the Most High. Let us learn from her, the Woman of Advent, how to live our daily actions with a new spirit, with the feeling of profound expectation that only the coming of God can fulfil.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

can be found on the flyers at the back of church or on our website at maidenlane.org.uk/Christmas

CHURCH CLEANING

We will be cleaning the church ready for Christmas on **Saturday 13th December from 9am**. Please come along and help. The more there are, the quicker it goes!

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, concluding with Adoration and Benediction will be on **Thursday 4th December at 6:30pm**. To find out more about the Sodality, and to become a member, visit sodality.co.uk

2025 – HOLY YEAR OF JUBILEE

On the **first Saturday of the month at 11am**, there will be a particular sung Jubilee Mass here, the next being **Saturday 6th December**. These are a fantastic opportunity to obtain the Plenary Indulgence on offer during this year. For more information about the Jubilee and what’s on here, visit maidenlanejubilee.co.uk

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Although the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on **Monday 8th December** is not a Holy Day of Obligation in this country, it is across much of Europe, as well as further afield. There will be a said Mass in English at **1.05pm** and a Missa Cantata according to the Missal of 1962 at **6.30pm**.

CAROL SERVICE

The Maiden Lane Carol Service will take place on **Wednesday 10th December at 6:30pm**, concluding with Benediction. As in previous years, there will be a mix of congregational carols as well as some beautiful polyphony from the choir. This will be a marvellous way to use Advent as a time of prayerful preparation for the Nativity. There will be a retiring collection for the work of the Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem, run by the Order of Malta.

MOSAIC CHOIR: EASTERN CAROLS

We are delighted to be welcoming back the Mosaic Choir of The Orthodox Fellowship of St John the Baptist, who have been here in previous years to sing carols from various the Eastern / Orthodox traditions. They will be giving a concert on **Thursday 11th December at 7pm**. Entry is free, though there will be a collection for charity, so please come prepared.

SEVEN DAY LAMPS

Are available at the back of the church for £6, or online at maidenlane.org.uk/lamps. The seven Sanctuary lamps have now been booked for the entirety of 2026, so only the Lady Chapel & Sacred Heart lamps are available until 2027.

CONFESSION

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

MASS INTENTIONS

The earliest dates available are now in **June 2026**. Book intentions online at maidenlane.org.uk/intentions

Our sick parishioners and friends: 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, Nicholas Pollock, Traute Pollock **Of your charity – please pray for those who have died recently:** Joan Rodrigues, Molly Steele, Sarah Burke, Fr Patrick Hayward CRL, John O’Riordan, William Taor, Roy Truman, John Ushe, Jan Skubisz, Pope Francis, Ann Luff, Sr Patricia of the Presentation, Alan Bettles, 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