

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

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

DONATIONS

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*Thank you for your
kindness and generosity.*

THE LAMPS ARE BURNING FOR:

SANCTUARY LAMPS

In Thanksgiving

LADY CHAPEL

Pope Benedict XVI RIP

SACRED HEART CHAPEL

Leadbeater Family & Friends

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

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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 – 4TH JANUARY 2026 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY

SUNDAY 4TH

✠ SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY

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

*Ps Wk 2
Pro Populo
Pope Benedict XVI RIP*

MONDAY 5TH

CHRISTMAS FERIA

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour
6.30 pm Mass (1962 Missal) – Octave Day of the Nativity

Johannes Tenzler RIP – Anniversary

TUESDAY 6TH

✠ THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8.00 am Mass (1962 Missal)
1.05 pm Said Mass in English
6.30 pm Sung Mass in Latin

*Georgina Bell RIP
Pro Populo
Tom Glennon RIP*

WEDNESDAY 7TH

ST RAYMOND OF PENYAFORT, PRIEST

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass
5.00 pm Holy Hour

Horgan Family – Intentions

THURSDAY 8TH

CHRISTMAS FERIA

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

*Benefactors of Corpus Christi
Sodality Members*

(Friday Abstinence)

FRIDAY 9TH

CHRISTMAS FERIA

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

Balbina Kessinger RIP

Good Counsel Network

SATURDAY 10TH

CHRISTMAS FERIA

5.00 pm Exposition
6.00 pm Vigil Mass

Pro Populo

SUNDAY 11TH

✠ THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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

*Ps Wk 1
Ellen McCarthy & Kathleen Sullivan RIP
Ashlyn da Silva & Shane Menezes – Intentions*

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

THE WORD MADE FLESH

This Sunday's Liturgy proposes anew the Prologue of the Gospel according to St John, solemnly proclaimed on Christmas Day. This wonderful text expresses the mystery of the Incarnation, preached by eyewitnesses, the Apostles, and in particular by John whose feast — not by chance — is celebrated on 27 December.

St Chromatius of Aquileia said that "John was the youngest of all the Lord's disciples; the youngest in age, but already old in faith".

When we read: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God", the Evangelist, traditionally compared with an eagle — soars above human history, scrutinizing God's depths; but very soon, following his Teacher, he returns to the earthly dimension, saying: "and the Word became flesh".

The Word is "a living reality: a God who... communicates himself by making himself man. In fact, John testifies that he "dwelt among us" and "we have beheld his glory".

"He lowered himself to assume the humility of our condition", St Leo the Great comments, "without this diminishing his majesty".

Further, we read in the Prologue: "From his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace". "What is the first grace that we have received?", St Augustine asks and answers, "it is faith". The second grace, he immediately adds, is "eternal life".

Dear brothers and sisters, I ask you to be strong in love and to contemplate with humility the Mystery of Christmas that continues to speak to the heart and to become a school of family and fraternal life. The motherly gaze of the Virgin Mary, the loving protection of St Joseph and the sweet presence of the Baby Jesus are a clear image of what every Christian family must be: an authentic sanctuary of fidelity, respect and understanding in which faith is passed on, hope is strengthened and love is kindled.

I encourage one and all to live the Christian vocation in your homes with renewed enthusiasm, as genuine servants of the love that welcomes, accompanies and protects life. Make your home a real nursery of virtues and a serene and luminous place of trust, in which, guided by God's grace, it is possible to discern wisely the call of the Lord who continues to invite people to follow him.

With these sentiments I fervently commend to the Holy Family of Nazareth all of you, so that there may be an increasing number of families in which joy, mutual giving and generosity hold sway. May God always bless you. Let us ask the Virgin Mary, whom the Lord entrusted as Mother to "the disciple whom Jesus loved", for the strength to behave as children "who were born ... of God", accepting one another and thereby expressing brotherly love.

MASS INTENTIONS

The earliest dates available are now in **July 2026**. Book intentions online at maidenlane.org.uk/intentions There are not many dates left for this year, so please don't leave it til the last minute!

HOLY YEAR OF JUBILEE HAS ENDED

The Holy Year of Jubilee has now closed for us. It has been a wonderful year of drawing nearer to the Lord. It is still possible, of course, to obtain regular Plenary Indulgences, for example by coming to the Shrine to pray the Stations of the Cross and fulfilling the conditions. More information of how to go about this can be found at maidenlanejubilee.co.uk

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

The Epiphany of the Lord is a Holy Day of Obligation and falls on **Tuesday 6th January**. Masses on that day will be at 8am (1962, Low), 1.05pm (said, English) and 6.30pm (sung, Latin). Blessed chalk will be available for you to take home to bless your homes.

SODALITY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The next Sodality of the Blessed Sacrament Mass, concluding with Adoration and Benediction will be on **Thursday 8th January at 6:30pm**. To find out more about the Sodality, and to become a member, visit sodality.co.uk

MASS IN THE BYZANTINE-SLAVIC RITE

Fr Gabriel Diaz will be returning on **Saturday 17th January at 10am** for a Mass celebrated in the Byzantine-Slavic Rite, along with the Ss Cyril & Methodius Choir. The Mass is celebrated in Old Slavonic and lasts about 2 hours.

CRIB APPEAL

This year's crib appeal is for the Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation. The hospital is run by the Order of Malta and is the only hospital in the region that can care for neonatal babies. Please be as generous as you are able. Thank you!

REPAIRS TO THE ROOF

Those of you who have been in the church during the week will have heard considerable banging going on as repairs to the lead on the roof have taken place. There is still some work to be done. If you are able to donate towards these repairs, please visit maidenlane.org.uk/donate Thank you to those who already have! It's made such a difference.

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. Please make use of this most important and life-giving Sacrament as often as you may need it – and even if you're not sure if you do!

ORATORY PILGRIMAGE TO TURKEY

The Brompton Oratory are offering a pilgrimage to Turkey with the theme "In the Footsteps of Abraham, the Apostles, and the Early Fathers of the Church", led by Fr Michael Lang from 1st to 9th May 2026. The tour will include ancient Syriac monasteries in Tur Abdin, the historical Christian centres of Edessa and Antioch, Tarsus, the birthplace of the Apostle Paul, the rock churches of Cappadocia and much more. Pope Leo XIV mentioned some of the places they hope to visit in his address to clergy and religious during his present Apostolic Visit in Turkey. If you are interested and for more information, please contact Fr Michael Lang at michaellang@rcdow.org.uk

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:** Rose Reid, 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