

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

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



*Thank you for your
kindness and generosity.*

THE LAMPS ARE BURNING FOR:

SANCTUARY LAMPS

Ambrose & Rosepila – Thanksgiving

LADY CHAPEL

Private Intention

SACRED HEART CHAPEL

Private Intention

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

FIND US ONLINE



LIVE STREAM

maidenlane.org.uk/live



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



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maidenlane.org.uk



CORPUS CHRISTI THE DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

DECEMBER – MONTH DEDICATED TO
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE WEEK – 21ST DECEMBER 2025 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 21ST

✠ FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

*Ps Wk 4
Sheila Gaeton RIP
Margaret Kelly Seery RIP*

MONDAY 22ND

ADVENT FERIA

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

Ted Pearce RIP – Anniversary

TUESDAY 23RD

ADVENT FERIA

No Public Mass today. Private Mass for *Increase of Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament*

WEDNESDAY 24TH

ADVENT FERIA

12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass

Holy Souls in Purgatory

CHRISTMAS EVE

9.00 pm Sung Mass in Latin

Fr David Barnes RIP – Anniversary

THURSDAY 25TH – CHRISTMAS DAY

✠ THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

9.30 am Said Mass in English
11.30 am Sung Mass in Latin

*Kath & Charles Hodges RIP
Pro Populo*

The church will close after the 11:30am Mass.

FRIDAY 26TH – BOXING DAY

ST STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR

10.00 am Mass

(No Friday Abstinence)

Gio & Martha – Sick

SATURDAY 27TH

ST JOHN, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST

5.00 pm Exposition
6.00 pm Vigil Mass

Robert Taylor RIP – Anniversary

SUNDAY 28TH

✠ THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

9.30 am Said Mass in English
11.30 am Said Mass in Latin

*Ps Wk 1
Pro Populo
Anthony Brown RIP – Anniversary*

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

A NEW ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER

On Friday, His Holiness, Pope Leo XIV appointed Bishop Richard Moth – previously Bishop of Arundel & Brighton – as the next Archbishop of Westminster. He will be installed on 14th February 2026. Please pray for our new Archbishop, as well as for Cardinal Nichols who, during his time here, did so much to develop this Shrine church. Ad multos annos, Archbishop Moth!

A JUST MAN

On this Fourth Sunday of Advent the Gospel according to St Matthew recounts the birth of Jesus from St Joseph's viewpoint. He was betrothed to Mary who, "before they came together... was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit". The Son of God, fulfilling an ancient prophecy, became man in the womb of a virgin and this mystery at the same time expressed the love, wisdom and power of God for mankind, wounded by sin. St Joseph is presented as "a just man", faithful to God's law and ready to do his will. For this reason he enters the mystery of the Incarnation after an Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, announcing: "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins". Having given up the idea of divorcing Mary secretly, Joseph took her to himself because he then saw God's work in her with his own eyes.

St Ambrose comments that "Joseph had the amiability and stature of a just man, to make his capacity as a witness worthier". St Ambrose continues: "He could not have contaminated the temple of the Holy Spirit, the Mother of the Lord, the womb rendered fertile by the mystery". Although he had felt distressed, Joseph "did as the Angel of the Lord commanded him", certain that he was doing the right thing. And in giving the name of "Jesus" to the Child who rules the entire universe, he placed himself among the throng of humble and faithful servants, similar to the Angels and Prophets, similar to the Martyrs and to the Apostles — as the ancient Eastern hymns sing. In witnessing to Mary's virginity, to God's gratuitous action and in safeguarding the Messiah's earthly life St Joseph announces the miracle of the Lord. Therefore let us venerate the legal father of Jesus, because the new man is outlined in him, who looks with trust and courage to the future. He does not follow his own plans but entrusts himself without reserve to the infinite mercy of the One who will fulfil the prophecies and open the time of salvation.

Dear friends, we must entrust all Pastors to St Joseph, universal Patron of the Church, and urge them to offer "Christ's [humble] words and actions each day to the faithful and to the whole world". May our life adhere ever more closely to the Person of Jesus, precisely because "the One who is himself the Word takes on a body, he comes from God as a man, and draws the whole of man's being to himself, bearing it into the Word of God". Let us invoke with trust the Virgin Mary, full of grace, "adorned by God", so that at Christmas, which is now at hand, our eyes may be opened and see Jesus, and our hearts rejoice in this wonderful encounter of love.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

Happy Christmas! May you all have a very happy and holy day. Thank you also to everyone who has sent cards and given presents. I am very grateful to you all for your incredible kindness and generosity!

2025 – HOLY YEAR OF JUBILEE

The Holy Year of Jubilee continues and there are still opportunities to obtain the Plenary Indulgences. The first Saturday morning Masses, however, have now come to an end. For more information about the Jubilee and what's on here, visit maidenlanejubilee.co.uk

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

can be found on the flyers at the back of church or on our website at maidenlane.org.uk/Christmas Mass on Christmas Eve is at 9pm, and Christmas Day at 9:30am (said, English) and 11:30am (sung, Latin). Mass in the weekdays following Christmas Day will be at 10am.

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.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Mass on New Year's Day – The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God – will be at **12noon** and will be a said Mass in Latin.

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

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 do make use of this life-giving Sacrament during what remains of this Holy Year of Jubilee.

MASS INTENTIONS

The earliest dates available are now in **June 2026**. Book intentions online at maidenlane.org.uk/intentions There are not many dates left for next year.

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