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The Actors' & Police Church
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& the London Catholic Police Guild

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This parish is part of the WRCDT
Registered Charity Number 233699

Donations

maidenlane.org.uk/support
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Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

The Lamps are Burning for:

Sanctuary Lamps
In Thanksgiving
Lady Chapel
Private Intention CW
Sacred Heart Chapel
In Thanksgiving
Sacred Heart Narthex
Private Intentions
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

November – Month Dedicated to The Holy Souls in Purgatory

✠ Holy Mass for the Week – 29th November 2026
First Sunday of Advent

Sunday 29th

✠ First Sunday of Advent *Ps Wk 1*
9.30 am Said Mass in English *Pro Populo*
11.30 am Sung Mass in Latin *Wanda Milewska RIP – Anniversary*
5.00 pm Holy Hour

Monday 30th

St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland
12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass *James, John Duffy & Harry Flood RIP*
6.30 pm Mass (1962 Missal)

Tuesday 1st December

Advent Feria
No public Mass today. Private Mass offered for *Gabriel & Candita Rodrigues RIP*

Wednesday 2nd

Advent Feria
12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass *Rosemary Grant RIP – Anniversary*

Thursday 3rd

St Francis Xavier, Priest
12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass *Graciana Rodrigues RIP*
6.30 pm **Sodality of the Blessed Sacrament Mass** *Sodality Members*

Friday 4th *(Friday Abstinence)*

St John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church
12 noon Exposition
1.05 pm Mass *Joaquim Rodrigues RIP*

Saturday 5th

Advent Feria
5.00 pm Exposition
6.00 pm Vigil Mass *Pro Populo*
7.00 pm **Byron Consort of Harrow School – Free Concert**

Sunday 6th

✠ Second Sunday of Advent *Ps Wk 1*
9.30 am Said Mass in English *Maureen Goodey RIP*
11.30 am Sung Mass in Latin *Elizabeth Greaves RIP*
5.00 pm Holy Hour

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

My Kingship is not of this world

Today, together with the Church, we are beginning the new liturgical year: a new journey of faith to experience together in Christian communities but, as always, also to be taken within world history so as to open it to God's mystery, to the salvation that comes from his love. The liturgical year begins with the Season of Advent. It is a marvellous period in which the expectation of Christ's return and the memory of his first Coming – when he emptied himself of his divine glory to take on our mortal flesh – reawakens in hearts.

"Watch!" This is Jesus' call in today's Gospel. He does not only address it to his disciples but to everyone: "Watch!" It is a salutary reminder to us that life does not only have an earthly dimension but reaches towards a "beyond", like a plantlet that sprouts from the ground and opens towards the sky. A thinking plantlet, man, endowed with freedom and responsibility, which is why each one of us will be called to account for how he/she has lived, how each one has used the talents with which each is endowed: whether one has kept them to oneself or has made them productive for the good of one's brethren too.

Today, Isaiah, too, the prophet of Advent, with a heartfelt entreaty addressed to God on behalf of the people, gives us food for thought. He recognized the shortcomings of his people and said at a certain point: "There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to cling to you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our iniquities".

How can we fail to find this description striking? It seems to reflect certain panoramas of the post-modern world: cities where life becomes anonymous and horizontal, where God seems absent and man the only master, as if he were the architect and director of all things: construction, work, the economy, transport, the branches of knowledge, technology, everything seems to depend on man alone. And in this world that appears almost perfect at times disturbing things happen, either in nature or in society, which is why we think that God has, as it were, withdrawn and has, so to speak, left us to ourselves.

In fact, the true "master" of the world is not the human being but God. The Gospel says: "Watch therefore – for you do not know when the master of the house will coming, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning – lest he come suddenly and find you asleep".

The Season of Advent returns every year to remind us of this in order that our life may find its proper orientation, turned to the face of God. The face is not that of a "master" but of a Father and a Friend. Let us make the Prophet's words our own, together with the Virgin Mary who guides us on our Advent journey.

The Nativity Scene

There is a collection for the Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem. Please give generously.

Seven Day Lamps

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

Pray for our Archbishop

Please keep His Grace, The Archbishop in your prayers. This week he was admitted to hospital after feeling unwell. We await the results of tests he has been having there.

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 3rd December at 6:30pm**. To join the Sodality, visit **sodality.co.uk**

The Byron Consort of Harrow School

will be singing at the **6pm** Vigil Mass on **Saturday 5th December** and there will be a free short concert of sacred music afterwards. All are most welcome to come and hear one of the finest school choirs in the country.

The Immaculate Conception of Our Lady

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, surprisingly, is not a Holy Day of Obligation in this country, although it is in many countries across the world. The feast falls on **Tuesday 8th December** and there will be Mass here that day at **1:05pm (said, English) and 6:30pm (sung, Latin).**

Corpus Christi Carol Service

Our Annual Carol Service, concluding with Exposition & Benediction will happen on **Wednesday 9th December at 6:30pm**. This is always a beautiful evening, which raises a lot of money for the Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem.

Mosaic Choir of the Orthodox Fellowship of St John the Baptist

will be singing a selection of Eastern Carols again on **Friday 11th December at 7pm.** This is a free concert, with a retiring collection for good causes. Please do come along and experience the riches of Christmas through the lens of the Eastern Churches.

Church Cleaning

We will be cleaning the church and getting it ready for the Christmas celebrations from **9am on Saturday 12th December.** If you are able to come and give us a hand, we'd be exceedingly grateful. The turn out last month was amazing and made it all very easy.

The Newman Schola

On **Saturday 12th December, after the Vigil Mass**, the Catholic Choir *The Newman Schola* will perform a concert of Sacred Choral music for Advent and Christmas. Admission is free with a retiring collection. Details at **newmanschola.co.uk**

Mass Intentions

The earliest dates available are now in **July/August 2027**. Book intentions online at **maidenlane.org.uk/intentions**

Confession

Confessions are heard for half an hour before all Masses, or upon request. Make the most of this penitential season of Advent to prepare yourself spiritually for Christmas.

Our sick parishioners and friends: Archbishop Richard Moth, Dr Adel Isaak, Pam Molyneux, Peter Noakes, 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:** Regina, Dame Ann Widdecombe, Ibolya Keshely, Marygold Turner, Catherine Donner, Dan Brown, Diane Bettles, Philip Umunnakwe, Robert Adams, Fr Hubert Bonnet-Eymard SM, 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