



Latin Mass Society / Guild of St Clare Sponsorship Scheme for the Royal School of Needlework Certificate Course



Each year the Latin Mass Society, in association with the [Guild of St Clare](#), sponsors a student undertaking the Royal School of Needlework (RSN) Certificate Course (the ‘Certificate in Technical Hand Embroidery’), paying up to half of the cost of tuition days. The Certificate course trains students to the highest standards in skills relevant to vestment construction and repair, but can be done part-time, at the student’s own pace, making it ideal for the enthusiastic amateur.

The RSN Certificate Course takes between one and four years, depending on how intensively students wish to do it. Its great flexibility makes it ideal for those who can only spare limited time, or whose availability fluctuates over the year. The Certificate gives its graduates a thorough grounding in a range of traditional hand-embroidery skills, skills for which the RSN is renowned, and which its experts apply to historic restoration projects and important commissions.

The Certificate Course comprises four modules, each on a different embroidery technique. Each module requires attendance at 8 tuition days, either RSN’s headquarters at Hampton Court Palace outside London, or at one of its satellite centres (Bristol, Rugby, Durham, and Glasgow). The expectation is that the project for each module can be completed in eight tuition days plus work at home, though students can do more tuition days if they wish. The timing of the tuition days is at the student’s choice.

Sponsored students are able to reclaim half the cost of their tuition days, up to a maximum of £2,000 a year, at the time of booking them, subject to satisfactory progress and attendance (for free) at at least one of the Guild’s two annual Sewing Retreats.

The sponsorship is open to anyone who is able to do the RSN Certificate Course (or who has already started it), shares the Guild’s passion for hand embroidery and the restoration of fine vestments, and is happy to join us at some of our events.

Written applications should be made by 22nd June to Lucy Shaw, Mistress of the Guild, at guildofstclare@lms.org.uk

There is no form to fill in, but your application should include the following information:

- Name and address
- Previous experience / training if any
- A short paragraph (200 words) on your interest in the course, your plans, and your creative background
- Details of a character reference if possible.

We hope to interview shortlisted candidates, by Zoom, in mid July.

The successful candidate will need to make his or her own application to the Royal School of Needlework for admission to the [Certificate Course](#).