

# The CARDIFF ORATORY

ORATORY CHURCH of  
SAINT ALBAN-*on-the-MOORS*



# Yr ORATORI CAERDYDD

EGLWYS ORATORI  
SANT ALBAN-*ar-y-RHOSTIROEDD*

*A Parish of the Archdiocese of Cardiff: Registered Charity N° 1177272*

Oratory House: 029 2046 3219 | In an Emergency: 07595 372695 | [www.cardifforatory.co.uk](http://www.cardifforatory.co.uk) | [frsebastian@cardifforatory.co.uk](mailto:frsebastian@cardifforatory.co.uk)

<p>SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> January <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time</b> 17:00 Mass (<i>Vigil</i>): Robert Carr, RIP 08:00 Mass: <i>Pro Populo</i> 10:00 Mass: Angelika Spiteri, RIP 11:15 Mass: John Kane, RIP 16:00 Second Vespers &amp; Benediction</p>	<p>THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> January  07:30 Mass: Holy Souls 08:30 Oratory Morning Spiritual Exercises 09:00 Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Confessions 09:30 Mass: David Davies, RIP 17:30 Rosary &amp; Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>
<p>MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> January <i>St. Sebastian, Martyr</i> 07:30 Mass: Holy Souls/E., RIP 08:30 Oratory Morning Spiritual Exercises 09:00 Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Confessions 09:30 Mass: Fernando family (Thanksgiving) <b>**4.00pm Reception: Mr Tom Connors, RIP</b> 17:30 Rosary &amp; Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>	<p>FRIDAY 24<sup>th</sup> January <i>St. Francis de Sales</i> 07:30 Mass: Holy Souls 08:30 Oratory Morning Spiritual Exercises 09:00 Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Confessions 09:30 Mass: Patrick Felix Hogan, RIP 17:30 Rosary &amp; Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>
<p>TUESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> January <i>St. Agnes, Martyr</i> 07:30 Mass: Holy Souls 08:30 Oratory Morning Spiritual Exercises <b>**9.00am Requiem Mass: Mr. Tom Connors, RIP</b> 17:30 Rosary &amp; Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>	<p>SATURDAY 25<sup>th</sup> January <i>The Conversion of St. Paul</i> 08:00 Mass: Holy Souls  16:30 First Vespers 17:00 Mass (<i>Vigil</i>): Cyril &amp; Bridget George, RIP</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> January <i>St. Vincent</i> 07:30 Mass: Holy Souls <b>**11.00am Requiem Mass: Mr. Eamonn Russell, RIP</b> 18:00 Rosary ~ Eucharistic Adoration ~ Confessions 19:00 Mass: Ellie Davies, RIP</p>	<p>SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup> January <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time</b> 08:00 Mass: Holy Souls/Jakub Michon, Int. 10:00 Mass: <i>Pro Populo</i> 11:15 Mass: Greg O'Connor, RIP 16:00 Second Vespers &amp; Benediction</p>

## PRAYERS REQUESTED for the SICK

*The Fathers and Brothers remember the sick and those who have care for them in their prayers and at Mass.*

Julian, William, John O'Donoghue, Elizabeth Williams, Veronica Williams, Gary Britton, Clare Schwartz, Martin Flynn, Darren, Summer Hutchinson, Johnnie Doherty, Patricia Yarwood, Teresa Jonker, Elizabeth Conway, Summer Arnesen, Dianne, Laura, Jane, Lucy Iacobucci, Brooke, Mike, Hayden, Dave, Patrick Mongan, Dorotka Sookanadenchetty, Jason Benedito, Gareth Bowen, Ann Henry, Sarah, Claire Hawkey, Danielle Camilleri, Jane Morris, Jonathan Bowen, Anne Marie Bell, Karen, Jenny, Kingsley, Gareth Vaughan, Hannah Bird, Bernadette Horan, Mark, Joseph Heron, Yvonne Murray, Patrick M., McGinley Family, Anna Maria & Carmella Tannorella, Rose Christina, Mark, Martin, Geoff, Billy Page, Alison, Kit Lewis, Phoebe, Paul, Ruth Pinder, Christian Babu, Olive Bowen, Paul Burns, Julie Cale, John Cowhey, Elle Fine, Jim & Doris Painter, Sharon Bradley, Nell Horan, James Hogg, Jennifer King, Shirley & Michael Kingston, E. Connors, Shelagh O'Donoghue, J. Pratt, J. Price, Beatrice Rajanayagam, Nia P-Jones, Elizabeth Sitole, Pamela, Daniel, Ellen Smith, Joseph Smith, Benjamin & Abigail Smith, Gareth & Ethan Woodberry, Shirley O'Leary, Jim Price, Bernard Mahoney, Margaret Tyler, Margaret O'Brien, Brenda Brooks.



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### CARDIFF ORATORY CONFESSION TIMES

*Sundays: before & during all Masses / Weekdays: 9 am to 9:30 am*

Since the time of St. Philip Neri, the Fathers of the Oratory have made themselves available for Confessions during daily Mass, as well as during Sunday Masses. Outside of these set times, there is a **CONFESSIONAL BELL** positioned in between the two Confessional Boxes in the Church. Ring to alert a Father. If available he will respond.

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### VIGIL LAMPS



The ancient Catholic tradition of lighting vigil lamps in our churches and chapels is deeply significant and retains its importance for us today. If you would like to have one of

the lamps burn for a loved one's anniversary or for some special intention or in thanksgiving please write the name on an envelope and drop it in the plate or the sacristy. There are vacancies in the lamps for February 2025

- **Blessed Sacrament:** Mr Geoff York, RIP
- **Sacred Heart Chapel:** Archbishop O'Toole, Int.
- **Divine Mercy Chapel:** Glowacki & Szczech Fam.
  - **The Lady Chapel:** Vocations to the Oratory
  - **Chantry of Our Lady:** Patrick Curran, RIP
- **Our Lady of Pieta Chapel:** Francis C Monaghan, RIP
  - **Our Lady of Walsingham** David Woolf, Int
  - **Shrine of St Joseph:** Bro Francis Xavier, Int.
  - **Shrine of St Alban:** People of the Parish

*There are spaces in the diary for Candle Intentions. Reserving a vigil lamp is a beautiful way to remember your loved ones, living or deceased. For a donation of £4.50, to pay for the candle, your intention will be remembered by the whole Parish for one week.*



### DAILY ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT at St Alban's Church

Monday, Tues, Thurs & Friday (9.00)  
Wednesday 6:00pm  
(Confessions during times of Adoration)



Of your charity, pray for the repose of the soul of

**Mr. Geoff York, RIP**

It was with much sadness that we learnt during the week of the death of Mr York. Please keep Mrs Woodward our School's Headmistress and her sister in your prayers on the death of their Father.

*Jesus Mercy + Mary Help*



Of your charity, pray for the repose of the soul of

**Mr. Tom Connors RIP**

Vigil 4.00pm Monday 20th January,

Requiem Mass: 9.00am Tuesday 21st January 2025

Please keep the family in your prayers.

*Jesus Mercy + Mary Help*



Of your charity, pray for the repose of the soul of

**Mr. Eamonn Russell RIP**

Requiem Mass: 11.00am Wednesday 22nd January

Please keep the family in your prayers.

*Jesus Mercy + Mary Help*

### Fr Alexander's 60th Birthday Party

On Saturday 25th January 2025 at 6:30pm we will celebrate Fr Alexander's 60th Birthday in the Parish Hall. With so many talented cooks in the Parish and with parishioners from the four corners of the earth, we've decided to have a "Bring & Share Supper". A list will be placed in the porch to include what you're bringing. Would you please state what you will be preparing ie., savoury, sweet, hot, cold.... etc. It will be a wonderful way for us to thank Fr Alexander for all he does in the Parish. Thank you.



### The 2025 Diary Dates

22nd Feb, 29th March, 26th April, 31st May

at 6:30pm

in St Alban's Hall

*In aid of the Restoration Fund*

## CALLING ALL OLD COPPERS

Thank you to those who faithfully return their boxes monthly. Your coppers and silver coins are making all a difference to the



Restoration Fund. Boxes are in the porch of the church.



difficult time in his life. Indeed, if you scratch the surface, there are darker themes lurking underneath. Yet, the humour is also a reflection of the fact that Milligan was able to recognize in many of the situations in which he found himself the sheer ridiculousness of it all. I am sure there is a good reason why most people who fought during the Second World War did not talk about their experiences subsequently (at least, not to those of us who were not there).

Perhaps it was Milligan's unfailing knack to see the funny side of a given situation that enabled him to share his experiences here. Thank goodness he did, though, because this was a thoroughly entertaining read.



## ST ALBAN'S PARISH MASS LINE:

029 2267 0924  
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### "A 2025 INITIATIVE"

LATEST NEWS: Restoration Work  
"Parish Stewardship: *Our* Task"



There are various ways in which we can all support the Parish's *2025 Restoration Fundraising*. Mr Bill Jonker has once again exhibited his artistic gifts by creating beautifully hand painted glass and kiln fired roundals. They are individually designed and hand painted on re-purposed glass. You can see them in the repository cabinet in the church porch. Each roundal takes many hours of meticulous workmanship by Bill and is also a work of devotion. Bill is donating his time, the raw materials (with a stand) and the chance to own one of these pieces for £25.00 each. They would make a unique present as each one is signed.



## Books **W**oof **I** Have **R**ead

by Pippo

This week, I decided that I wanted to read something amusing, so I alighted upon the first volume of Spike Milligan's war memoirs, '*Adolf Hitler: My Part in His Downfall*'.



Covering the period from the outbreak of the Second World War on 3 September 1939 until Milligan arrived in North Africa as part of the Allied liberation force in November 1942, this book is immensely entertaining and extremely readable. The subject matter is entirely serious, of course, but Milligan tells the story with his trade-mark silliness. That said, the work is peppered with poetic passages where Milligan displays a genuine talent for serious composition. It seems not unlikely that the humour Milligan deploys in this book was, at least in part, a means of coping with what must have been a



## THE CARDIFF ORATORY

ST ALBAN'S PARISH, CARDIFF

PARISH FINANCE MATTERS:

**Our Parish Bank Details:**

**Name:** The Oratory of St Philip Neri at Cardiff

**Account:** 20222572 **Sort Code:** 52-21-06

NatWest Bank, Cardiff

God bless your generosity. Fr Sebastian M.



The Fathers & Brothers gather in the church to pray the Holy Rosary for your intentions

Mon-Friday at 5:30pm  
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## The GUILD BOOK SHOP

*Order online:*

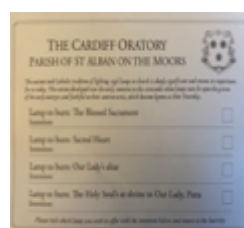
[theguildbookshop.co.uk](http://theguildbookshop.co.uk)  
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**SPUC's White Flower Appeal** will take place at St Alban's on Sunday 25/26th January 2025. It will be the second collection at the Sunday Masses

Vigil Lamp Envelopes

A new supply of vigil lamp envelopes for those wishing to dedicate lamps for their loved ones and own intentions has arrived.





*St Alban pray for the Parish.*

Please consider joining or renewing your subscription for ***St Alban's Parish 200 Club***

The Two Hundred Club supports the Parish Restoration Fund with a monthly draw for First, Second, and Third Place cash prizes. For the low fee of £1 per month, you can join the club, support the Parish, and have a chance to win!

Please cut out the slip below and enclose it with your membership fee. You can join for as few or as many months as you like, up to 12 months at a time.

Questions? Email  
admin@cardifforatory.co.uk.

**SAINT ALBAN-*on-the*-MOORS PARISH  
200 CLUB**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please tick one box:*

I am renewing my 200 Club Membership

Membership is £1 per month (maximum 12 months).

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a *NEW* 200 Club Member

I am enclosing £ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please cut out this slip and enclose it with your  
Membership Fee.*

Finally...

There is a passage in Hamlet that I often consider when trying to prepare a homily for a Requiem Mass or when a problem come across my desk and I am stumped by it:

There's special providence in the fall  
of a sparrow. If it be now, 'tis not to  
come; if it be not to come, it will be  
now; if it be not now, yet it will come.  
The readiness is all. Since no man  
knows aught of what he leaves, what  
is't to leave betimes?

Of course the illusion to the "fall of the sparrow" immediately brings to mind Christ's reassuring words:

Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing?  
and not one of them shall fall on the  
ground without your Father.  
(St Matthew 10:29)

The implication "the readiness is all" is not an allusion to the oft repeated falsity of pre-destination, nor is it the abandonment to karma-ridden gerbil's wheel existence. Rather, the "special providence" is that immediacy and transcendence of God in Jesus Christ celebrated in the crib scene while the worldly hurtle on looking for another distraction from the mediacy of their day to life's existence.

We stand around the crib scene and ponder *not* what the Incarnation means but how we *interiorise* the message of Bethlehem (silent, angelic, tangible; pondered in the virginal heart). The atheist repeats a doctrine that *it is* impossible to confront the big questions "who am I, why is life so, what *is* now, is there *future*..." To do so requires the acceptance that life isn't a jigsaw being played out in my own head and that *I, me, my* and *mine* define objective reality. When one acknowledges the natural world, the laws of physics, the ability of art, poetry, music, architecture, etc to inspire and convey intelligent and noble even transcendent meaning, leaving the spoken word embarrassed by it's short comings, then one can begin to see how hope is a Divine gift, not a comfort blank or placebo. We understand Christ's *Real Presence* in the Most Holy Eucharist. His presence is always in *this* moment. There is no *past tense here*, except when we fracture the friendship by mortal sin, when we choose *the self* over the eternal communion of the Trinitarian God: Emmanuel.