

# 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)



## ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday, Tues, Thurs & Friday (9.00- 9.30)

Wednesday 6:00pm

(Confessions during these times)

<p><b>SUNDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> February</b>  <b>The Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)</b>            17:00 Mass (<i>Vigil</i>): Terry &amp; Hazel O'Brien, RIP            08:00 Mass: <i>Pro Populo</i>            10:00 Mass: Sally Hiles, RIP            11:15 Mass: Camilla Way, Int.            16:00 Second Vespers &amp; Benediction</p>	<p><b>THURSDAY 6<sup>th</sup> February</b>  <i>St. Paul Miki &amp; Companions</i>            07:30 Mass: Holy Souls            09:00 Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Confessions            09:30 Mass: Kevin O'Donnell, RIP            17:30 Rosary &amp; Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>
<p><b>MONDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> February</b>  <i>St. Blaise</i> (Blessing of throats at Mass today)            07:30 Mass: Holy Souls            09:00 Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Confessions            09:30 Mass: Annie Habic, RIP            17:30 Rosary &amp; Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>	<p><b>FRIDAY 7<sup>th</sup> February</b>            07:30 Mass: Holy Souls            09:00 Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Confessions            09:30 Mass: Gerald &amp; Faye Simpson, RIP            17:30 Rosary &amp; Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>
<p><b>TUESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> February</b>            07:30 Mass: Holy Souls            09:00 Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Confessions            09:30 Mass: Kevin O'Donnell, RIP            17:30 Rosary &amp; Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> February</b>  <i>Our Lady's Saturday</i>            08:00 Mass: Holy Souls/Wieslaw Klaput, RIP            16:30 First Vespers            17:00 Mass (<i>Vigil</i>): Sib Nath Mandal, RIP</p>
<p><b>WEDNESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> February</b> <i>St. Agatha</i>            07:30 Mass: Holy Souls/Dc'd Paclawski, RIP            18:00 Rosary ~ Eucharistic Adoration ~ Confessions            19:00 Mass: Bridget Scanlon, RIP</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>  <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>            08:00 Mass: <i>Pro Populo</i>            10:00 Mass: Angelika Spiteri, RIP            11:15 Mass: Judge Patrick Curran QC, 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.*

Mary, May Cassidy, Rosa Tannorella, 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:** Teresa & Tony Mead
- **Sacred Heart Chapel:** Anthony Cady, RIP
- **Divine Mercy Chapel:** Glowacki & Szczech Fam.
  - **The Lady Chapel:** Bridget Scanlon, RIP
  - **Chantry of Our Lady:** Patrick Curran, RIP
- **Our Lady of Pieta Chapel:** Annie Habic, RIP
- **Our Lady of Walsingham** David Woolf, Int
  - **Shrine of St Joseph:** Fr Alexander, Int.
  - **Shrine of St Alban:** Mrs Woodward Int.

*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.*



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

**MRS. SALLY HILES, RIP**

Requiem Mass: Tuesday 18th February at 11.00am

*Jesus Mercy + Mary Help*



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

**MR BILLY KEANE, RIP**

who died on Tuesday 28th January 2025. Please pray for him and his sister Mary Beach.

*Jesus Mercy + Mary Help*

**Coffee Morning**



**ON TUESDAY 4TH  
FEBRUARY  
IN PARISH HALL  
ALL WELCOME**



**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*

**MONTHLY MEN'S NIGHT**

Friday, 1st Feb. 7:00pm

*All Catholic men 18+ welcome*

*Join our WhatsApp Group:*

*Email admin@cardifforatory.co.uk*

**The GUILD BOOK SHOP**

New books added daily

New to the website:

Used books from only £5.00



[www.theguildbookshop.co.uk](http://www.theguildbookshop.co.uk)



**CALLING ALL OLD COPPPERS**

Thank you to those who faithfully return their boxes monthly. Your coppers and silver coins are making a difference to the Restoration Fund. Boxes are in the porch of the church Last Sunday £40.40



**Bath Coach Trip**

The re-scheduled to  
Saturday 10th May, Leaving from the church at 9.30am; leaving Bath at 5pm. Please speak to Tina or Ann. There are currently 6 places available if anyone would like a spring trip (£25pp/ return).



**ST ALBAN'S PARISH MASS**  
**PHONE LINE: 029 2267 0924**  
**MEMORARE**



Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.

Amen.

*(Penrhys)*



**"A 2025 INITIATIVE"**

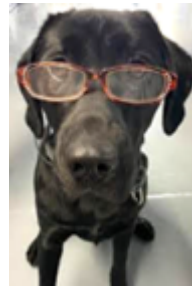
**LATEST NEWS: Restoration Work**  
**"Parish Stewardship: *Our* Task"**

Unfortunately during the recent high winds a solitary slate was displaced at the apex of the main church roof. I am advised that scaffolding will be required due to the height. I shall contact the insurers this week to ask them to determine whether this will be covered. In any event the scaffolding required will cost thousands of pounds, the slate, less that £10! (Such is life). There are various ways in which we can all support the Parish's *2025 Restoration Fundraising*. Thank you to the parishioner who wrote and donated £100 in memory of her late mother who had been a very active parishioner during her lifetime.



**Cardiff-Menevia Youth** led by Father Martin Donnelly on behalf of the Cardiff Menevia Youth Council will be joining 10,000 others at Wembley Arena on 15th March 2025 for the much-anticipated return of the CYMFed

FLAME Congress! £31 per person, which includes transportation (please bring your own packed lunch). Year 9 (typically 14 years old) to university age. If you would like to attend, tap link: <https://forms.gle/6bD2kM3hfQv2sFjC9> or scan QR code on poster in the church by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025. The Oratory will assist families who require it for their child/children to attend. Please contact Fr Sebastian M.



**Books Woof I Have**

**Read by Pippo**

This week, I have been reading '*The Victorians*', by Jacob Rees-Mogg, which is a collection of pen portraits of 12 eminent Victorians: Sir Robert Peel, Lord Palmerston, General Sir Charles Napier, William Sleeman, Augustus Pugin, Prince Albert, Benjamin Disraeli, William Gladstone, General Charles Gordon, Albert Venn Dicey, William Gilbert Grace, and Queen Victoria herself.

In some respects, this book is a response to Lytton Strachey's 1918 book '*Eminent Victorians*', which contained biographies of Cardinal Manning, Florence Nightingale, Thomas Arnold, and General Charles Gordon. Whilst Strachey's book is generally hostile to the Victorians (in a letter to Virginia Woolf written in 1912, he described the Victorians as a '*set of mouth bungled hypocrites*'), Rees-Mogg is much more sympathetic. One of the things I found most striking about this work was the way in which Rees-Mogg (who is widely known to be a committed Catholic) is better able to understand people for whom questions of faith were generally more important than they are today. General Gordon in particular was a man whose Christian faith was central to his entire existence; and, whereas many writers dismiss Gordon's faith as an eccentricity (to put it mildly), Rees-Mogg is much better placed to empathize with his subject.

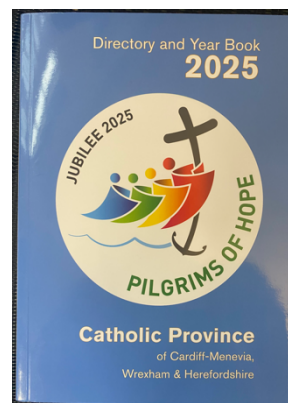
Whilst Rees-Mogg can be something of a divisive figure, he is undoubtedly a highly intelligent, very well educated and articulate person; and that much is evident from this book. I thoroughly enjoyed it not only because the subject matter is immensely interesting but because the book itself is very well written.

**THE SAINT ALBAN'S ROSARY**



This beautifully hand finished Rosary beads are made exclusively for St Alban's Parish.

Please support the Parish repository



**CATHOLIC DIRECTORIEY 2025**

This very useful publication is now available. It contains the Ordo, (the calendar for the Church's year) information on all Catholic churches, monasteries, convents, schools colleges and diocesan offices as well as short articles on various events, jubilees and obituaries. It is not something one would buy every year, but useful as a resource to have in the house. The cover price is £5.



# 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



### DIARY OF A CHURCH MOUSE

John Betjeman

Here among long-discarded cassocks,  
Damp stools, and half-split open  
hassocks, Here where the vicar never  
looks I nibble through old service books.

Lean and alone I spend my days  
Behind this Church of England baize.  
I share my dark forgotten room  
With two oil-lamps and half a broom.  
The cleaner never bothers me,  
So here I eat my frugal tea.  
My bread is sawdust mixed with straw;  
My jam is polish for the floor.  
Christmas and Easter may be feasts  
For congregations and for priests,  
And so may Whitsun. All the same,  
They do not fill my meagre frame.  
For me the only feast at all  
Is Autumn's Harvest Festival,  
When I can satisfy my want  
With ears of corn around the font.  
I climb the eagle's brazen head  
To burrow through a loaf of bread.  
I scramble up the pulpit stair  
And gnaw the marrows hanging there.  
It is enjoyable to taste  
These items ere they go to waste,  
But how annoying when one finds  
That other mice with pagan minds  
Come into church my food to share  
Who have no proper business there.  
Two field mice who have no desire  
To be baptized, invade the choir.  
A large and most unfriendly rat  
Comes in to see what we are at.  
He says he thinks there is no God  
And yet he comes ... it's rather odd.  
This year he stole a sheaf of wheat  
(It screened our special preacher's seat),  
And prosperous mice from fields away  
Come in to hear our organ play,  
And under cover of its notes  
Ate through the altar's sheaf of oats.  
A Low Church mouse, who thinks that I  
Am too papistical, and High,  
Yet somehow doesn't think it wrong  
To munch through Harvest Evensong,  
While I, who starve the whole year through,  
Must share my food with rodents who  
Except at this time of the year  
Not once inside the church appear.  
Within the human world I know  
Such goings-on could not be so,  
For human beings only do  
What their religion tells them to.  
They read the Bible every day  
And always, night and morning, pray,  
And just like me, the good church mouse,  
Worship each week in God's own house,  
But all the same it's strange to me  
How very full the church can be  
With people I don't see at all  
Except at Harvest Festival.

SPUC's White Flower Appeal raised £435.00

**ASH WEDNESDAY** Last year's palm crosses and branches can now be returned to the church to prepare the ashes for Ash Wednesday (5th March ). Please leave any palms at the Shrine of Our Lady of Pity.

### BECOMING A CATHOLIC



**NB: Adults:** If you are a Catholic who hasn't made their First Holy Communion, or are not a Catholic or not Baptised and would like to become a Catholic please see Fr Sebastian. The Oratory custom of "one to one" conversations for preparing for the Sacraments means that everything is at the pace of you the enquirer and questions and discussion moves at your own pace.

Growing in the Catholic Faith is not a *fixed date process* but a journey of discovery..



### IN AID OF THE RESTORATION FUND

These beautifully crafted painted glass and kiln fired pieces with stand, £25 each. Bill spends many hours of meticulous workmanship on each one. Available from the repository in the porch.



### St Alban pray for the Parish.

Please consider joining or renewing your subscription for **St Alban's Parish 200 Club** £1 per month. You can join for as few or as many months as you like.

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

*Please tick one box:*

I am renewing my 200 Club Membership

Membership is £1 per month

I am a **NEW** 200 Club Member

I am enclosing £\_\_\_\_\_

*Please cut out this slip and enclose it with your Membership Fee in an envelope or hand in to one of the Oratorians. Thank you.*