



## ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT DURING LENT

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

Wednesday 6:00pm (Confessions during these times)

<p>SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> March <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> 17:00 Mass (<i>Vigil</i>): Cyril &amp; Bridget George, RIP 08:00 Mass: Holy Souls/Mirosław Michon, Int. 10:00 Mass: Angelika Spiteri, RIP 11:15 Mass: <i>Pro Populo</i> 16:00 Second Vespers &amp; Benediction</p>	<p>THURSDAY 13<sup>th</sup> March 07:30 Mass: Holy Souls/Ryszard Karpienia, RIP 09:00 Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Confessions 09:30 Mass: Mrs. Eileen Hougardy, RIP 17:30 Rosary &amp; Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>
<p>MONDAY 10<sup>th</sup> March 07:30 Mass: Holy Souls/Paulson, RIP 09:00 Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Confessions 09:30 Mass: Mary Thomas (Hawkey), RIP 17:30 Rosary &amp; Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>	<p>FRIDAY in Lent 14<sup>th</sup> March <i>Day of Abstinence</i> 07:30 Mass: Holy Souls/Those who served Poland, RIP 09:00 Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Confessions 09:30 Mass: Constance A. Matthews, RIP <b>**10:00 &amp; 19:00 – Stations of the Cross</b></p>
<p>TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> March 07:30 Mass: Holy Souls 09:00 Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Confessions 09:30 Mass: Franca Ianni, Int. 17:30 Rosary &amp; Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>	<p>SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup> March <i>Our Lady's Saturday</i> 08:00 Mass: Holy Souls 16:30 First Vespers 17:00 Mass (<i>Vigil</i>): Pattie Wheeler, RIP</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> March 07:30 Mass: Holy Souls 18:00 Rosary ~ Eucharistic Adoration ~ Confessions 19:00 Mass: Colin Horwill &amp; Dave White, RIP</p>	<p>SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup> March <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> 08:00 Mass: Holy Souls/John George Whitfield, RIP 10:00 Mass: <i>Pro Populo</i> 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.*

Neil B. Anne, Joseph Hurley, Daniel, Sarah Caswell, 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 Jacobucci, 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:** Joan & Bill Kerrigan
- **Sacred Heart:** Judge Patrick Curran QC, RIP
- **Divine Mercy Chapel:** Glowacki & Szczech Fam.
- **The Lady Chapel:** Kerrigan & Molan families •  
Chantry of Our Lady: Patrick Curran, RIP
- **Our Lady of Pieta Chapel:** Maria & Tom Marshall, RIP
- **Our Lady of Walsingham** David Woolf, Int
- **Shrine of St Joseph:** Fr William Curran, IC., RIP
- **Shrine of St Alban:** Paul Martin O'Hara

*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.*

*The Parish Hall will be closed from Monday 10th March due to drainage excavation works and the requirements of H&S with the exception of Race Night which will be accessed via the boys sacristy (Some steps will be unavoidable).*



## LENT '2025

*The Stations of the Cross will be prayed in church every Friday in Lent immediately after the 9:30am Mass and at 7:00pm in the evening. Every parishioner should try to make the Stations at least once during Lent.*



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

**MRS. GERALDINE ROSE REECE, RIP**

Please pray for her family.

*Jesus Mercy + Mary Help*



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

**MR. DAVID BYRNE, RIP**

Please remember his widow and children in your prayers

*Jesus Mercy + Mary Help*



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

**MRS. EILEEN HOUGARDY, RIP**

Requiem Mass 28th March at St Helen's Barry.

Please remember her children in your prayers

*Jesus Mercy + Mary Help*



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

**FR. WILLIAM CURRAN, IC, RIP**

Please remember the Curran family in your prayers

*Jesus Mercy + Mary Help*



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

**MRS. MARY THOMAS (HAWKEY) RIP**

Please remember her husband and family in your prayers

*Jesus Mercy + Mary Help*

# RACE NIGHT



**FRIDAY 28TH MARCH**

**7:00 PM START**

**ST. ALBAN'S PARISH HALL**

This event is only for persons 18+

**Entry £3**

Organised in aid of the Parish Restoration Fund

**A FEW TICKETS LEFT!**



"A 2025 INITIATIVE"

LATEST NEWS: Restoration Work

"Parish Stewardship: *Our* Task"

**20% +**

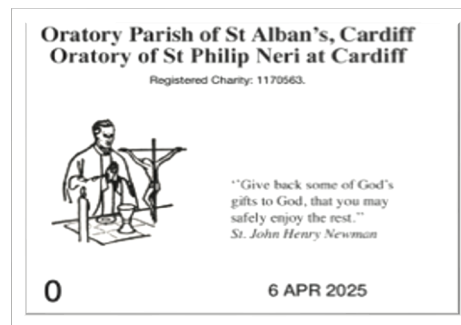
Lent is the time when every Catholic is called by Christ to consider his or her own personal response to Christ's invitation "Follow Me". The call is God's grace, our individual response is discipleship/stewardship. In the first moment it is a spiritual conversion *metanoia*-repentance. Then this action necessarily becomes corporal - social. Social not only in the sense of Poor Box Giving and Missions, SPUC, etc, but social as in the duty and responsibility of every adult Catholic man and woman to support their Parish.

At the beginning of Advent 2024 I mentioned that there was need for a 20%+ increase in parishioner's individual weekly giving to support the Parish to maintain the present momentum of restoration work, H&S upgrading, ordinary building maintenance, insurances on the properties, rates, heating, support for the Parish School and the Archdiocesan Levy. This expenditure is largely statutory, and that is mentioned before the requirements for the worthy celebration of Mass and the Sacraments and the requirements of the Church's ceremonies and distinct

seasons. In terms of Parish housekeeping as the Parish Priest and your own housekeeping is a of course a question of scale. In August 2025 the Oratory has been at St Alban's for 6 years. In that time a "tight rein" has been kept on all spending, in the domestic life of the Fathers and Brothers and the Parish so as to ensure that no false economies are adopted with the short-termism of "buy cheap, pay twice". I hope that we can all appreciate that monies raised and legacies received and spent in accordance with their stated purposes have always had the concern to restore and build now with the future in mind. So many visitors to St Alban's marvel at the vibrance of the Parish in its richness of families and sense of Cardiff history.

As your Parish Priest I am well aware of the financial restraints upon every parishioner. I see first-hand how almost every week the money set aside for food shopping brings less and less to the table. Likewise the utility companies seem to have a license to extort money, and as we know, heating one's home should not be considered a luxury or a perk of an already well paid job. I was in London on two consecutive Fridays, yesterday's exact same ticket was £12 more...

Therefore, in order to increase *your own* individual weekly giving to the Parish without having to give a penny more, I ask every adult Parishioner to sign up to the Weekly Giving Envelopes or Online Planned Giving. The Oratory as a registered charity can claim 20% on all such planned giving, and there are no administration costs to eat into that sum. Planned Giving is confidential and governed by the laws on data protection. All that is required is that the person whose name is on the box is a tax payer.



The present giving envelopes will soon succeeded with 2025-2026 envelopes.

I ask that you return the Planned Giving Form to the Parish Priest as soon as possible. He will be happy to answer any individual questions you may have. and ensure your envelopes are ready for your personal stewardship giving. From Sunday 6th April *your* first and second collection envelope giving will increase Parish funds by 20%+

I now ask every adult Parishioner to re-commit himself / herself this Lent to *our shared task* the stewardship of the Parish. I shall be signing up myself for the planned giving envelopes, to show that however small one's income may be, we are all called as individuals to give an account of our stewardship. It was St John Henry Newman who noted on this matter: "Give back some of God's gifts to God, that you may safely enjoy the rest." In signing up, you will greatly assist your Fr Sebastian M as your Parish Priest and remove from him the burden and anxiety of being confronted with increasing expenditure and static giving. God bless you.



ST ALBAN'S PARISH MASS TELEPHONE

LINE: 029 2267 0924

# LENT '2025

## Stations of the Cross at St Alban's



*The Stations of the Cross will be prayed in church every Friday in Lent immediately after the 9:30am Mass and at 7:00pm in the evening. Every parishioner should try to make the Stations at least once in Lent.*



### Books Woof I Have Read by Pippo

This week, I read 'The Weimar Years: Rise & Fall 1918-1933', by Frank McDonough.

As the title suggests, this is a history of Germany's Weimar Republic, which was born at the end of the First World War, when Kaiser Willhelm II abdicated, and died when Adolph Hitler became Chancellor of Germany in January 1933. Generally speaking, the history of Weimar is viewed either as a stepping stone between the First World War and the Third Reich, or else it is overlooked altogether. Yet, as McDonough shows, this period of German history - which spanned just 15 years - is extremely interesting in its own right.

I was surprised to read how relatively liberal German society was during the Weimar years. For example, homosexuality and cross-dressing (particularly in cabaret clubs) was tolerated to an extent that would be have been unthinkable in the years before and after. Also, German filmmaking thrived until the Nazis got hold of it and did it irreparable harm. That said, I think the most interesting aspect of this book is the way in which McDonough explains why the Weimar Republic failed. In this, the Allied powers must accept some share of blame.

First, by not occupying Germany in November 1918, they allowed most Germans to believe that they had not actually lost the war; and that it had ended only because a group within Germany itself (individuals who came to be known as the 'November Criminals') had supposedly stabbed Germany in the back. Second, once the Kaiser and his cronies had gone, the Allies did nothing to help and support the fledgling democracy. On the contrary, they made impossible financial demands of Germany and brought its economy to the brink of collapse. Third, they left the German military high command more-or-less intact, leaving

it free to start laying plans for another war (which it was doing long before Hitler came along).

The new republic was beset with more problems than it could manage. Indeed, its political system produced a succession of governments with no overall majority. Consequently, many came to believe that democracy itself was part of the problem, and that what Germany really needed was a strong leader. Here, McDonough blames President Hindenburg for resorting to presidential decrees to avoid having to govern through the divided Reichstag, as well as the millions of ordinary Germans who voted for a party which was avowedly anti-democratic. It is an interesting footnote that the Allied powers did not make the same mistakes in 1945. On that occasion, they invaded and occupied Germany; they punished war criminals and began a programme of denazification; and they ensured that Germany had a stable and effective government. If the Allies had behaved in the same way in 1918, it is hard to see how the Second World War, the Holocaust, or even the Cold War would have happened. That is a sobering thought given that, over 100 years later, the world is still living with the consequences.



### 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 weekend £32.10

### ON BECOMING A CATHOLIC

**Begins this Tuesday 4th March at 7pm** in the lower sacristy. Six 45 minute sessions of catechetical instruction for those baptised persons wishing to be received into the Catholic Church, given by Fr Sebastian M on the following Tuesdays: MARCH 11, 18, 25, APRIL 1, 8. The sessions may be attended in person at the Oratory or virtually via zoom. A copy of the Catechism will be provided. To register to join in these sessions please email: frsebastian@cardifforatory.co.uk

### ST ALBAN'S GOOD FRIDAY PASSION PLAY

No one who witnessed last year's Good Friday Passion play will forget the beauty and impact it hand. Auditions will begin shortly for parts in this year's production. Please contact Adam