

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 | 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>SUNDAY 2nd March 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time 17:00 Mass (<i>Vigil</i>): Terry & Hazel O'Brien, RIP 8:00 Mass: Holy Souls/Maggie Danilowicz, B'day 10:00 Mass: Mary Fury, RIP; 11:15 Mass: Rose Hellyer, Int. 16:00 Second Vespers & Benediction</p>	<p>THURSDAY 6th March 7:30 Mass: Holy Souls 09:00 Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions 09:30 Mass: Michael Trow, RIP 17:30 Rosary & Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>
<p>MONDAY 3rd March 07:30 Mass: Holy Souls 09:00 Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions 09:30 Mass: Barbara Cole, RIP 17:30 Rosary & Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>	<p>LENTEN ABSTINENCE FRIDAY 7th March 07:30 Mass: Holy Souls/John George Whitfield, RIP 09:00 Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions 09:30 Mass: Gerald & Faye Simpson, RIP <u>**10.00 & 19.00 Stations of the Cross</u></p>
<p>TUESDAY 4th March <i>St. Casimir ~ Shrove Tuesday</i> 07:30 Mass: Holy Souls 09:00 Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions 11:00 Requiem Mass: Mary Fury, RIP 17:30 Rosary & Oratory Evening Spiritual Exercises</p>	<p>SATURDAY 8th March <i>Our Lady's Saturday</i> 08:00 Mass: Holy Souls/Those who served Poland, RIP 16:30 First Vespers 17:00 Mass (<i>Vigil</i>): Cyril & Bridget George, RIP</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY 5th March Ash Wednesday 7:30 Mass: Holy Souls 9:30 School Mass: Pope Francis **12:noon Mass: The Archbishop 18:00 Adoration ~ Confessions 19:00 Mass: <i>Pro Populo</i></p> 	<p>SUNDAY 9th March 1st Sunday of Lent 8:00 Mass: Holy Souls/Miroslaw Michon, Int. 10:00 Mass: Angelika Spiteri, RIP 11:15 Mass: <i>Pro Populo</i> 16:00 Second Vespers & 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.

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 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.

+ + +



ST DAVID'S DAY

St David (*Dewi Sant* in the Welsh language) was Bishop of Menevia and Confessor. He is Patron Saint of Wales. Usually represented standing on a little hill, with a dove on his shoulder. He is commemorated on 1 March. The earliest mention of him is found in the tenth-century manuscript *Annales Cambriae*", which assigns his death to A.D. 601. Born at Henvynyw (Vetus-Menevia) in Cardiganshire. He was prominent at the Synod of Brevi in Cardiganshire, which was an important Roman military station, Loventium. Shortly afterwards, in 569, he presided over another synod held at a place called Lucus Victoriae. He was Bishop of Menevia, the Roman port Menapia in Pembrokeshire, later known as St. David's, then the chief point of departure for Ireland. St. David was canonized by Pope Callistus II in the year 1120.

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:** Anna Platcha, Int.
- **Sacred Heart:** Paul O'Brien
- **Divine Mercy Chapel:** Glowacki & Szczech Fam.
- **The Lady Chapel:** John, Irene, Constance, & Veronica Matthews, RIP
- **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:** John George Whitfield, 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.

Tea & Coffee after Sunday 10.00am Mass

I am pleased that the number of parishioners popping in for a quick cuppa, a biscuit and a catch up is increasing! The hall is warm and it is good to be able to welcome new parishioners as well as those who have lived in the parish all their lives.



ST ALBAN'S PARISH MASS

TELEPHONE LINE: 029 2267 0924

Monthly Coffee Morning
this Tuesday 4th March in
St Alban's Hall.
All Welcome



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

MICHAEL TROW, RIP

Died on 23 February 2025. Please pray for him and his parents

Jesus Mercy + Mary Help



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

MISS MARY FURY, RIP

Requiem Mass: Tuesday 4th March at 11.00am
Please remember her brother and sisters 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.

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.



Planned Giving Envelopes

The smarter way to support your Parish when 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.



"By the solemn forty days of Lent, the Catholic Church unites herself each year to the Mystery of Jesus Christ in the desert."

Catechism of the Catholic Church nos. 538-40

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.

LENTEN BOOKS

The GUILD BOOK SHOP

New books added daily

New to the website:

Used books from only £5.00

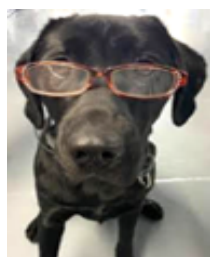
www.theguildbookshop.co.uk



Books Woof I Have Read

by Pippo

This week, I read *'The Stripping of the Altars: Traditional Religion in England, 1400-1580'*, by Eamon Duffy.



Duffy is emeritus professor of the History of Christianity at the University of Cambridge. In this work, which was first published in 1992, he looks at popular religion in England before, during and after the various upheavals of the sixteenth century. The book is split into two parts. The first provides an extremely detailed (one might even say 'forensic') analysis of popular religion from 1400 until the eve of the Henrician Reformation. Duffy examines every available source, such as (surviving) church architecture, Wills, and surviving accounts of events both local and national.

The depth of research is so detailed and painstaking that it can be very dry. However, by the end of it, one is left with a

clear sense of the experience of the Catholic Faith enjoyed by ordinary people up and down the country before Henry VIII and his henchmen rode roughshod over centuries of tradition. The second part of the book looks, in turn, at the remainder of the reign of Henry VIII (that is from the calling of the so-called Reformation Parliament in 1529 until the king's death in January 1547); the reign of Edward VI (1547 to 1553); the attempts to restore traditional religion under Mary (1553 to 1558); and, finally, the first 22 years of Elizabeth's reign (1558 to 1580).

It is striking how much depended upon the personality, beliefs and ideas of the individual monarch. For example, Henry VIII's appetite for (and willingness to countenance) change waxed and waned over the final years of his reign, meaning that the 'message' from the top of government was not always consistent. Edward's regime, on the other hand, was whole-heartedly committed to a degree of reform which far exceeded anything Henry would have entertained. In many ways, Duffy's examination of Mary's reign is one of the most interesting part of the book. First, he is able to demonstrate that the previous 24 years of reform had not been enough to extinguish the flame of popular Catholicism in England and that, far from being an unpopular reactionary, Mary was (in many respects, at least) pushing at an open door. Second, Mary was nothing like as dogmatic as is sometimes suggested, and was realistic enough to appreciate that the clock could not simply be turned back to 1529 (for example, she could not simply strip the gentry of the monastic lands and return them to the religious houses which had been dissolved).

When one reaches Elizabeth's reign, it becomes obvious that it was the so-called Elizabethan Settlement which determined the religion of England more than anything which had gone before. If Elizabeth had been a Catholic - that is, if she had continued Mary's work - it is very likely that this would have been the end of Protestant reforms in England. However, the fact that Mary reigned for just 5 years, whereas Elizabeth, a Protestant, reigned for 45 years, meant that, by the time Elizabeth died in 1603, the fervent adherents to the 'Old Religion' had largely died out. It must be said that much of this book does not make for easy-reading. That is it because it is a very detailed, academic work. However, it does challenge many of the popular myths about the English Reformation: that it was largely welcomed by most people, that it somehow set them free from the servitude of medieval Catholicism, and that the eventual outcome was a foregone conclusion. If you have an interest in the history of Catholicism in this country then this book is well worth reading.



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.

Lent with your child

This link is to a children's cartoon of Way of the Cross.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=psX9ZXY>

HPOs



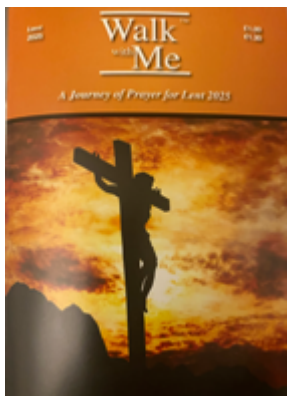
ON BECOMING A CATHOLIC

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 4, 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

SPIRITUAL READING FOR LENT 2025

His Grace the Archbishop has once again written the foreword and has asked Parish Priests to encourage their parishioners to make use of the "Walk with Me" Lenten booklet. There is a dedicated page for each day of Lent with a brief reflection. During this Jubilee Lent has added significance as we try to respond to the Mercy of God for us. (£1)



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 had. Auditions will begin shortly for parts in this year's production. Below are the list of parts we are looking for. Please do consider participating (date of audition to follow):

PARTS:

1. Our Lord Jesus Christ
2. Jewish Priest (Speaking)
3. Pilate (Speaking)
4. Longinus (Small Speaking)
5. Our Lady
4. John
5. Simon
6. Alexander (Child)
7. Rufus (Child)
8. St Veronica
9. St Veronica's Daughter (Child)
10. Barabbas
11. Roman Soldier 1
12. Roman Soldier 2
13. Women of Jerusalem
14. Children of Jerusalem (Children)
15. Servant Boy (Child)
16. Servant Girl (Child)



LENT (the word "Lent" comes from the Old English "lencten," meaning "springtime") lasts from Ash Wednesday to the Vespers of Holy Saturday – forty days, never minding the six Sundays which don't count as "Lent" liturgically. The Latin name for Lent, Quadragesima, means forty and refers to the forty days Christ spent in the desert which is the origin of the Season. The last two weeks of Lent are known as "Passiontide," made up of Passion Week (which begins and Holy Week (which begins on The last three days of Holy Week are known as the "Sacred Triduum."

The focus of Lent is the Cross and penance, penance as we imitate Christ's forty days of fasting, like Moses and Elias before Him, and await the triumph of Easter. We fast, abstain, mortify the flesh, give alms, and think more of charitable works.

morning with
"How might I
my sins? How
more? How can
today?"



Awakening each
the thought,
make amends for
can I serve God
I serve others

St Alban's Sewing & Crafting Group



Contact Louise:
07817 825 343



REV BROTHER ILLTYD M.

IN THE SNOW...

Bro Illtyd M. has been making the most of the snow in Canada. As you will see his "Buns" woolie hat came in useful for himself and the first St Alban's snowman.

Llyfr Gweddï Cymraeg Lladin,
The Oratory-published prayer book *Llyfr Gweddï Cymraeg-Lladin*, containing Latin & Welsh prayers of the Church, is available for only £4.99 (it include the Order of Mass, daily prayers, sacramentals, and devotional prayers)



ARCHDIOCESE of
CARDIFF – MENEVIA
ARCHESGOBAETH
CAERDYDD – MYNYW

Two-Child Cap Campaign

The Bishops' Conference work on the implications of the current two-child limit on Universal Credit payments for vulnerable, larger families. The link to the 'contact your MP' page on this issue can be found at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/contact-mp-two-child-cap/>

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: _____

I am renewing my 200 Club Membership

Membership is £1 per month

I am a *NEW* 200 Club Member

I am enclosing £_____

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

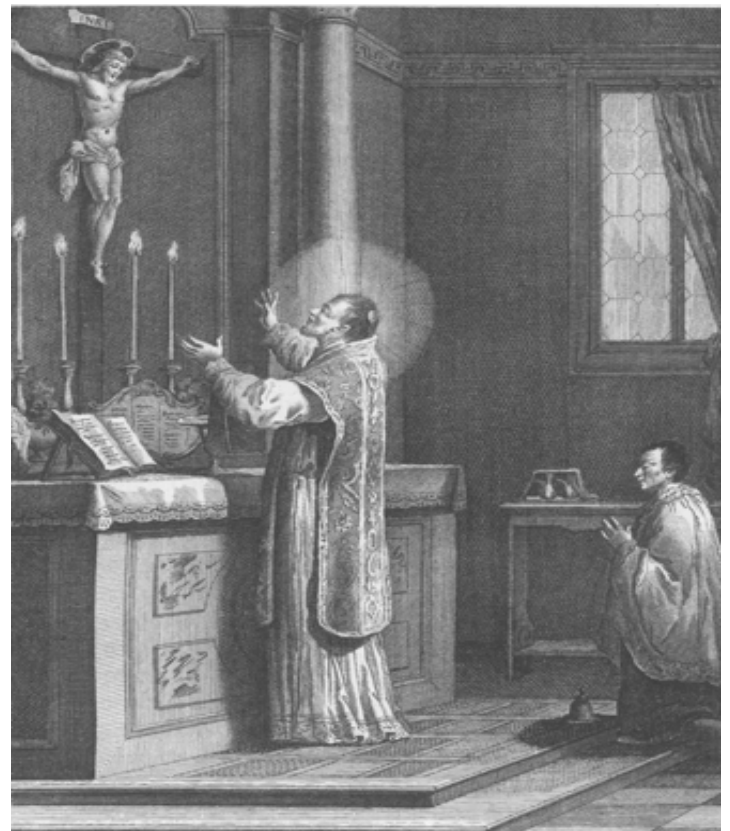
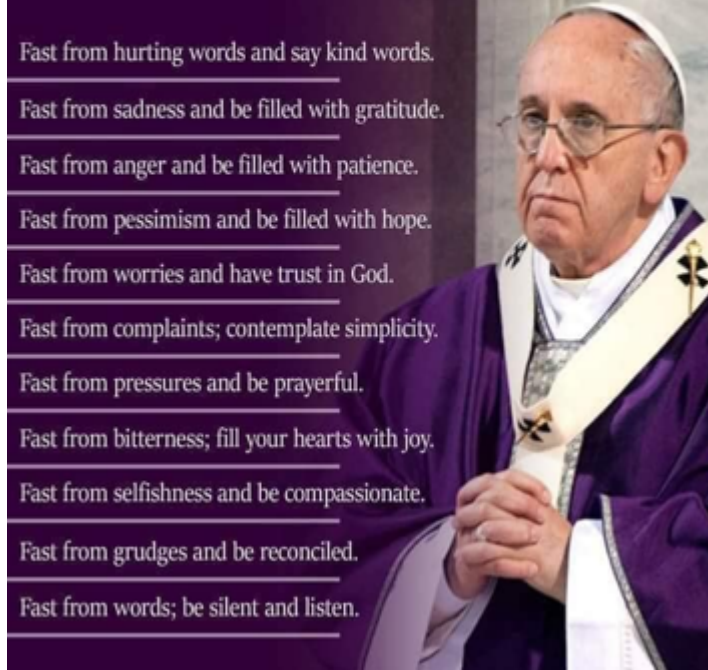


Every Friday during Lent
at 10am and 6:30pm

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

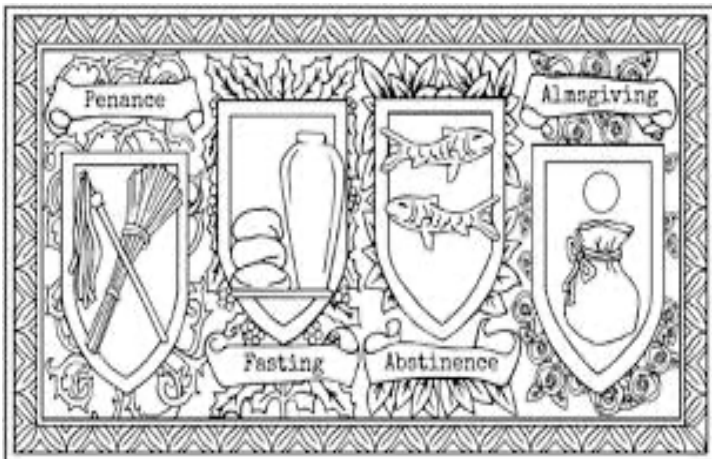
- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words; be silent and listen.



Little Brothers of the Oratory & Ladies of the Oratory

From Fr Sebastian M

Those admitted to the Little Brothers or Ladies are reminded that to make the LENTEN EXERCISES OF THE PASSION with the Fathers and Brothers or the solemn making of the WAY OF THE CROSS on Fridays is very much a part of the rich spirituality of St Philip.





Shrine statue of St David at the Cardiff Oratory, Wales

The Litany of St. David

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, hear us. Christ, graciously hear us.

God the Father of Heaven, have mercy on us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, one God, have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, pray for us.

St. David, *pray for us.

Apostle of Wales, *

Faithful pastor, *

Holy Bishop, *

Holy Confessor, *

Holy Abbot, *

Defender of the Faith, *

Shepherd of the Flock, *

Ardent preacher, *

Who taught us to be joyful, *

Who taught us to keep the faith, *

Worker of miracles, *

Whose birth was foretold by a mystic, *

Born of St. Non, *

Whose birth was marked by a storm, *
At whose birth God caused the sun to shine in the
darkness, *

Pupil of Sts. Paulinus, Justinian, and Illtyd, *

Faithful pilgrim to the Land of Jesus' birth, *

Consecrated as Bishop in Jerusalem, *

Finder of relics, *

Healer of the sick, *

Founder of monasteries, *

Example of purity, *

Example of simplicity of life, *

Example of holiness, *

Teacher of abstinence, *

Who caused wells to spring up as a sign of God's
mercy, *

Who preached at Llanddewi Brevi, *

For whom God caused a hill to rise up, *

Over whom the Dove of the

Holy Spirit appeared, *

Devoted to the spread of the Gospel, *

Devoted to spiritual renewal, *

Who taught us to place our trust in God, *

Pray for us, O holy St. David:

That we may be made worthy of the promises of
Christ.

Let us pray.

O GOD, you gave your servant David the virtue of
wisdom and the gift of eloquence, and made him an
example of prayer and pastoral zeal; grant that,
through his intercession, your Church may ever
prosper and render you joyful praise. Through Christ
our Lord. *Amen.*

O Great Saint David, still we hear thee call us,
unto a life that knows no fear of death;
Yea, down the ages, will thy words enthral us,
strong happy words: 'Be joyful, keep the faith.'

R. On Cambria's sons stretch out thy hands in blessing;
for our dear land thy help we now implore.
Lead us to God, with humble hearts confessing
Jesus, Lord and King for evermore. (++)Mostyn)