



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 30th November - First Sunday of Advent

17:00 - Holy Mass: O'Shea & Finegan Families, RIP/ Lynette Houlston, RIP

8:00 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Jozef Dolhan, RIP

10:00 - Holy Mass: Frances & Maureen Maunder, RIP

11:15 - Holy Mass: David Reid, RIP

16:00 - Vespers and Benediction

Monday 1st December - Feria

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/ Aneurin May, Int

8:30 - Oratory Morning exercises

09:30 - Holy Mass: Pat Kiiever & Phyllis Clark, RIP

17:30 - Oratory Evening exercises

Tuesday 2nd December - Feria

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Theresa Jonker, RIP

8:30 - Oratory Morning exercises

09:30 - Holy Mass: John Harris, RIP

17:30 - Oratory Evening exercises

Wednesday 3rd December - St. Francis Xavier

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Teresa Jonker, RIP

19:00 - Holy Mass: Tom, Bidgy & Family, Int

Thursday 4th December - St. John Damascus

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Marcin & Justyna Paclawski

8:30 - Oratory Morning exercises

09:30 - Holy Mass: James Michael Tavena, RIP

17:30 - Oratory Evening exercises

Friday 5th December - Feria

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Donor's Intention

8:30 - Oratory Morning exercises

09:30 - Holy Mass: Bobby Tayloyr

17:30 - Oratory Evening exercises

Saturday 6th December - Our Lady's Saturday

08:00 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Ianni Family, RIP

16:30 - First Vespers

17:00 - Holy Mass: Terry & Hazel O'Brien, RIP

Sunday 7th December - Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Stasia Klaput

10:00 - Holy Mass: Angelika Spiriteri, RIP

11:15 - Holy Mass: Judge Patrick Curran, QC, RIP

16:00 - Vespers and Benediction

CONFESSION TIMES

Sundays: 15 minutes before and during all Masses

Weekdays: 7:15 to 7.30am ; 9:00 to 9:30am

Since the time of St. Philip Neri, the Fathers of the Oratory have made themselves available for Confessions during daily Mass. Outside of these set times, there is a Confessional Bell positioned in between the two Confessional Boxes in the Church. Ring to alert a Priest.

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT



Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9.00- 9.30am

Wednesday 6.00 - 7.00pm

HOLY ROSARY

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday: 5:30pm

Wednesday: 6:00pm

The community pray the Rosary daily for the intentions of the Parish, for those who are sick and have died recently. If you would like an intention added to the list please let one of the community know.



VENERATION OF THE RELIC OF ST. PHILIP NERI

Friday: After morning Masses

The veneration of the relic of St. Philip Neri is a long-standing Oratory custom. When we pray before his relic, we ask for his intercession and strength to live more faithfully as Catholics.

PRAYERS REQUESTED for the SICK

Please join the Cardiff Oratory Fathers and Brothers in praying daily for the sick and those who have care for them.

Marilyn Maunder, Len Reece, Dooley, Sian Haffield, Dylan Barry, Dianna Ward, Mike Grant, Shirley O'Leary, Victoria Sweeney, A.& N Xavier Philips, Alun Edwrads, Kevin Harris, Kate, Pauline Cook, Daniel Doran, Robert Matthews, Rita Taylor, John C. Keenan, Dennis Kassimi, Shirley Thomas, Neil B. Anne, Daniel, Sarah Caswell, Mary May Cassidy, Rosa Tannorella, Veronica Williams, Gary Britton, Clare Schwartz, Martin Flynn, Darren, Summer Hutchinson, Johnnie Doherty, Patricia Yarwood, Libby Conway, Elizabeth Conway, Summer Arnesen, Dianne, Laura, Jane, Lucy Iacobucci, Dorotka Sookanadenchetty, Jason Benedito, Gareth Bowen, Ann Henry, Sarah, Claire Hawkey, Danielle Camilleri, Jane Morris, Jonathan Bowen.

THIS WEEK'S VIGIL LAMPS

Please use the dedicated candle envelopes in church to make a donation for your vigil candle. If you would like to have one of the vigil lamps burn for a loved one's anniversary or for some special intention or in thanksgiving please use the candle envelopes or write the name on an envelope and drop it in the plate or the sacristy. For a donation of £4.50, to pay for the candle, your intention will be remembered by the whole Parish for one week.

- Blessed Sacrament: Deceased Members of the Burns, Meighan, Evans, & Hollow Families,
- Sacred Heart: Anne McConkey, RIP
- Divine Mercy Chapel: Glowacki & Szczech Families
- The Lady Chapel: Lucy & Mary Lockhart, Int
- Chantry of Our Lady: Sid Williams, RIP
- Our Lady of Pity: Judge Patrick Curran, QC, RIP
- St Joseph: Vocations to the Oratory
- Our Lady of Walsingham: David Woolf & the Order of St. Lazarus

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 1st December Tai Chi with Jeanette

11:00-12:30

Great for improving balance, breathing and for relaxation. Suitable for all ages.

Tuesday 2nd December Coffee Morning

10:00-12:00

The monthly Coffee Morning is this Tuesday which includes bingo and the 200 club draw.

Tuesday 2nd December Bible Study: St. Luke

18:30-19:15

The Monthly bible study continues. This month we are looking at the Infancy narrative, including the Nativity of Our Lord.

Saturday 6th December Wreath Making

14:30-16:30

If you fancy making your own wreath this year, consider going to this event. £10 for entry and the expertise.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FOOD PARCELS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

The Oratory Parish will be assembling Christmas Hampers for Families in need from those in our School and in the local community.

The parcels will be assembled on
Saturday 22nd Dec.

Could we all bring some items and place them in the basket at the back of the church.

May God reward you.



Volunteers wanted for Night Shelter

St Peter's Night Shelter will be operating from 5th December – 29 March 2026.

If you are interested in volunteering at the shelter on a Friday evening or Saturday morning, please contact Peter Sullivan on 07906 101 015

The Light is on for you

During the first week of Advent, extra opportunities for Confession will be provided to prepare ourselves for the great solemnity of Christmas. This will take place at the following churches:

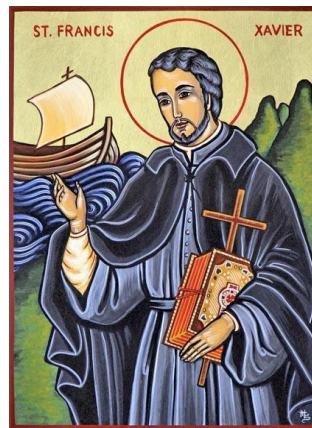
St Patrick's, Grangetown - Tuesday 2nd December
10.30 to 11.30

St. Alban's - Wednesday 3rd December
07:00 to 19:00

St Paul's, Cyncoed - Saturday 6th December
10:00 to 10:00

St Francis, Ely - Saturday 6th December
16:00 to 17:00

Saint of the Week



St. Francis Xavier (1506–1552) stands as one of the greatest missionaries in the history of the Church, a tireless Jesuit whose life embodied zeal and adaptability in order to evangelize.

Born into a noble Basque family, he studied in Paris, where his encounter with St. Ignatius of Loyola transformed his ambitions. Initially resistant, Xavier eventually embraced Ignatius's vision and became one of the first companions to profess vows in what would become the Society of Jesus.

In 1541, he set sail for the Portuguese East, beginning a decade-long mission that took him to India, Sri Lanka, the Indonesian archipelago, Japan, and toward the borders of China. His approach to evangelization was both bold and sensitive: he learned languages, adapted his preaching to local cultures, cared for the sick and poor, and formed committed Christian communities. He baptized tens of thousands, not through superficial methods, but through persistent catechesis and a personal witness to Jesus.

Xavier's letters reveal a man of burning charity and practical wisdom, never discouraged by hardship. These letters were a great inspiration to our dear St. Philip Neri. Francis Xavier dreamed of bringing the Gospel to China, but died on the island of Sancian in 1552, gazing toward the mainland he could not reach.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

NOVEMBER

YOUNG ADULTS OPEN MIC

Sunday 30th from 6pm-9pm in the Parish Hall

After the success of the last Open Mic, the young adults have asked for another one to be held. Those 18-35 are encouraged to come along and show off your talents, whether singing or storytelling. There will be refreshments available.

DECEMBER

WREATH MAKING

Saturday 6th 2:30pm in the Parish Hall

To get into the festive spirit, there will be a wreath making event in the Hall. All you have to bring is your own decorations and the greenery with expertise will be provided. Tickets are on sale, £10 per person.#

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Friday 12th 7pm in the Church

The Annual festival of Lessons and Carols is another highlight of the Christmas season. His Grace, the Archbishop of Cardiff-Menevia will preside this year.

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Saturday 20th starting at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall

The Christmas Social is always a jolly occasion where there will be Carols, Pantomime Sketches and the Christmas raffle draw.

Children's Liturgy

Each Sunday there is Children's Liturgy in the Lower Sacristy during the 10am Mass.

The Children learn about that Sunday's Gospel and how to put it into practice.

Speak to Theresa about your child joining.

MASS AND TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

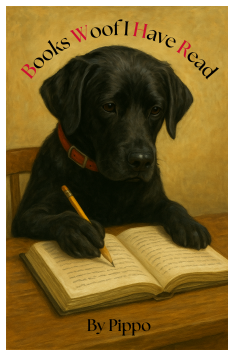
MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER

7PM

ST. ALBAN'S ON THE MOORS

CF24 2NT





This week, I read *'The Strangest Family: The Private Lives of George III, Queen Charlotte & The Hanoverians'*, by Janice Hadlow.

In January of this year, I reviewed excellent biographies of both George III and his longest-serving prime minister, Pitt the Younger, written by Andrew Roberts and William Hague respectively. This book, however, is not limited to the life of the king, but looks at the lives of his wider family also. Moreover, as the title suggests, this is very much a private history, and places much less emphasis upon public events. The research which must have gone into writing this book is considerable, as Hadlow draws from a wealth of contemporaneous sources. This was an age of prolific letter-writing, where people corresponded with one another on an almost daily basis, so the amount of material Hadlow had to marshal was obviously substantial. These letters provide detailed insights into the day-to-day lives and experiences of all the key players, which are most revealing. One of the most striking things about the lives it reveals is just how difficult it was to be a royal (particularly a royal woman) in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Royal princesses had very little agency, and most of the king's daughters were desperate to marry in the hope of achieving some measure of freedom. Indeed, almost all of George and Charlotte's children felt the sting of the Royal Marriages Act – which forbade members of the royal family from marrying without the king's consent – at one time or another. A gilded cage is still a cage, even if it offers certain material comforts, and the results were often disastrous.

Sympathetically-written, this book does a lot to put the lives of George III and his relations in their wider context as the king battled to break the mould of his immoral and dysfunctional Hanoverian inheritance.



Of your charity
Please pray for the soul of

Mr Jimmy Pratt

*Requiem Mass 4th December
at 11am*

Eternal Rest grant unto him
O lord and let perpetual light
shine upon him.

Jesus Mercy + Mary Help



Of your charity
Please pray for the soul of

Mr John Cowhey

*Requiem on the 5th December
at 11am*

Eternal Rest grant unto him
O lord and let perpetual light
shine upon him.

Jesus Mercy + Mary Help



SCHOOL NEWS - 24th-28th November

Our Heddlu Bach Committee recently carried out a Health and Safety audit of the school grounds. Their findings were extremely positive, showing that our environment is safe and welcoming for all. However, our sharp-eyed young detectives did spot a few minor snags, which have been carefully identified and reported to Mr Whittle.

Keeping our pupils safe, happy, and thriving is always our top priority, and we are proud of the commitment shown by our Heddlu Bach team in supporting this important work.

A big well done to our Heddlu Bach team for their careful observations and commitment to keeping our school safe!



Last week, our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils used their *pupil voice* to explore this term's exciting topic: Express Yourself. Together, we discussed what makes each of us unique – our personalities, interests, and the things we love.

To bring these ideas to life, the children created stunning portrait collages that showcase their identities, likes, and dislikes. It was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to celebrate individuality and creativity while learning more about each other.

This weekend we welcome the school to the 10am Mass as our school community begins its preparations for Christmas.

There will be a Penitential service down the school this Wednesday for the children.

Preparing for Advent using St. Luke as a guide

Advent is that season of longing, preparation, and quiet joy, a time in which the Church invites us to “prepare the way of the Lord.” Among the four Gospels, St. Luke gives us the richest account of the events preceding Christ’s birth. His Gospel becomes an ideal guide for making a good Advent, because Luke shows not only what happened, but how hearts were prepared to receive the Saviour.

1. Begin with Silence and Listening (Luke 1: 5-25)

Luke’s Gospel opens not with noise or spectacle but with silence: Zechariah offering incense in the stillness of the Temple. It is in this silence that the angel’s message can be heard. Advent calls us to reclaim spaces of quiet so that God’s word can reach us. In a season often filled with noise and distraction, St. Luke invites us to pause, to listen, and to allow God to speak into our fears and our hopes.



2. Receive God’s Word with Humility (Luke 1: 26-38)

Mary embodies the true Advent disposition. When the Archangel Gabriel announces God’s plan, she responds, “Behold, the handmaid of the Lord.” Her “yes” is not careless or self-confident. It is a humble surrender rooted in trust. To make a good Advent, we must allow God’s word, when we meditate upon it in Scripture and through our prayers, to shape our plans and transform our hearts. Like Mary, we do not need all the answers; we simply need to be open to God’s will.

3. Practice Joyful Expectation (Luke 1: 39-56)

After the Annunciation, Mary goes “in haste” to Elizabeth. She brings Christ, though hidden, to others. Elizabeth’s child leaps for joy, showing that Christ’s presence brings life even before His birth. Advent joy is knowing that God is near, acting even in hidden ways. Luke teaches us that joy grows when we share Christ with others, especially through acts of charity and encouragement.

4. Embrace Conversion (Luke 3:2-18)

John the Baptist, whose mission Luke highlights, cries out: “Prepare the way of the Lord... every valley shall be filled.” Advent includes the call to repentance, not in fear, but in hope. Conversion is clearing space for Christ, filling emptiness with grace, and straightening the crooked paths of our habits. A sincere examination of conscience and a good Confession are among the most powerful Advent practices, making room in our souls for the coming of Christ.

We have some famous faces in the congregation. Last week, the S4C show *Heno*, did a piece about the work of the Splott Community Volunteers. It highlighted the tremendous work of the volunteers who help those who are less fortunate in our local area.

It is always good to see the work of our parishioners getting their due praise. Angela Bullard was interviewed about the beginnings of the charity and there are some other parishioners shown getting involved with activities, like our very own Tai Chi group.

Llongyfarchiadau mawr i Wirfoddolwyr Cymunedol Splott! Diolch am eich gwaith caled, eich brwdfrydedd, a'ch ymroddiad i wasanaethu'r gymuned.

To see the segment follow:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f2HsOmx8Zzc>



12th December

7pm

**THE ORATORY | YR ORATORI
SWINTON STREET, CARDIFF**



For more information with regards to Sacramental Catechesis for Children please follow:

<https://cardifforatory.co.uk/parish/sacramental-catechesis/>

Enrolment ends towards the end of December.