

FOURTH WEEK OF LENT (LAETARE)

Sunday 15th March - Fourth Sunday of Lent

(Sat) 17:00 - Holy Mass: Constance Ann Matthews, RIP
 8:00 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Pattie Wheeler, RIP
 10:00 - Holy Mass: Pro Populo
 11:15 - Holy Mass: Teresa Jonker, RIP
 16:00 - Vespers and Benediction

Monday 16th March - Lenten Feria

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Paul Davidson, RIP
 8:30 - Oratory Morning exercises
 09:30 - Holy Mass: Teresa Jonker, RIP
 17:30 - Oratory Evening exercises

Tuesday 17th March - St. Patrick

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Nick Hamilton, RIP
 8:30 - Oratory Morning exercises
 09:30 - Holy Mass: Pat Jennings, RIP
 17:30 - Oratory Evening exercises

Wednesday 18th March - Lenten Feria

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Anthony O'Keefe, RIP
 18:00 - Adoration and Rosary
 19:00 - Holy Mass: Teresa Jonker, RIP

Thursday 19th March - St. Joseph

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Anthony O'Keefe, RIP
 8:30 - Oratory Morning exercises
 09:30 - Holy Mass: Phyllis Houlston, RIP
 17:30 - Oratory Evening exercises

Friday 20th March - Lenten Feria

7:30 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Teresa Jonker, RIP
 09:30 - Holy Mass: James Roohan, RIP
 17:30 - Oratory Evening exercises

Saturday 21st March - Lenten Feria

08:00 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Anthony O'Keefe, RIP
 16:30 - First Vespers
 17:00 - Holy Mass: Giovanni Aghedo, Int

Sunday 22nd March - Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00 - Holy Mass: Holy Souls/Judge Patrick Curran, QC, RIP
 10:00 - Holy Mass: Pro Populo
 11:15 - Holy Mass: Mariangela & Raffale Zurlo, RIP
 16:00 - Vespers and Benediction

Friday's in Lent are days of Abstinence

"You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church") ensures the times of asceticism and penance which prepare us for the liturgical feasts and help us acquire mastery over our instincts and freedom of heart." (Catechism of the Catholic Church: 2043)
 Abstinence from meat is that penitential practice which unites us to Christ's sacrifice and helps foster self-discipline and conversion of heart.

Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 10am & 7pm

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.

Alan Turner, Dawn, Alun Edwards, Dina Williams, Elaine Molan, Edgar Guerin, Dai Thomas, Marilyn Maunder, Len Reece, Dooley, Sian Haffield, Dianna Ward, Mike Grant, Shirley O'Leary, Victoria Sweeney, A.& N Xavier Philips, Kevin Harris, Kate, Pauline Cook, Daniel Doran, Robert Matthews, Rita Taylor, John C. Keenan, 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, Summer Arnesen, Dianne, Laura, Jane, Lucy Iacobucci, Dorotka Sookanadenchetty, Jason Benedito, Gareth Bowen, Ann Henry, Sarah, Claire Hawkey, Danielle Camilleri, Jane Morris, Jonathan Bowen.

CONFESSION TIMES



Sundays: 15 minutes before and during all Masses
Weekdays: 7:15 to 7.30am ; 9:00 to 9:30am

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.

“Thus recalling the mysteries of the redemption, she opens up to the faithful the riches of her Lord's powers and merits, so that these are in some way made present in every age; the faithful lay hold of them and are filled with saving grace.” - CCC1163

“In trying to get rid of bad habits, it is of the greatest importance not to put off going to confession after a fall”
St. Philip Neri

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT



Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:
9.00- 9.30am Wednesday 6.00 - 7.00pm

HOLY ROSARY

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 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.

Homilies during Lent

The homilies for the Sundays of Lent will be available on our website after they have been preached, to give you more material for meditation and prayer.

Catholics who cannot make it to Mass

If you know of any parishioner who cannot make it to Mass and would like a priest to come and visit them please let one of the community know.

Email - admin@cardifforatory.co.uk



ST ALBAN'S PARISH, CARDIFF

MONEY MATTERS

Our Bank Details:

Name: Oratory of St Philip Neri at Cardiff

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

NATWEST Bank. Cardiff Branch

Registered Charity: 1170563

Parish Giving

Gift Aid (Green Envelopes): £290.00

Loose: £151.95

Restoration Fund Giving

Gift Aid (Yellow Envelopes): £219.00

Restoration Fund: £630.35

5p Boxes: £5.00

200 Club: £24.00

Total

£1,320.30

“Whether you give weekly, monthly, in envelopes, plate, or bank transfer God bless your generosity”

Fr Sebastian M. PP.



Vigil Lamps for the Fourth Week of Lent

- Blessed Sacrament: Geraldine, John, & Daniel Rees
 - Sacred Heart: Giovanni Aghedo, Int
- Divine Mercy Chapel: Glowacki & Szczech Families
 - The Lady Chapel: Dylan Barry, RIP
- Chantry of Our Lady: Rees & Eccles Family, RIP
 - Our Lady of Pity: Francis Eccles, RIP
 - St Joseph: Daniel Rees, RIP
- Our Lady of Walsingham: David Woolf & the Order of St. Lazarus

Re-thinking my Parish Stewardship this Lent

Fr Sebastian M., PP.

Parish Giving as Catholics should form part of my overall “weekly housekeeping budget.”

Supporting your Parish is not an added extra but who we are as Catholics. Everything associated with the Parish and Oratory has always depended on the sacrifices of faithful Catholics over the centuries. Today, you carry the torch to keep the flame alive. Increase your own individual Weekly Collection Giving by ticking the Gift Aid Box next Sunday. A simple tick redirects 25% of your paid taxes from the Government back to support St Alban's Parish. You can't claim it personally, but the Parish can, hence making your contribution greater. If you pay 40% Tax, then as well as giving 25% of your tax to the Parish, you also enjoy a further 15% rebate.

Signing up to the Weekly Giving Envelopes or Online Planned Giving is a “no brainer”. Planned Giving is confidential and governed by the laws on data protection. If you pay tax and don't sign up, then you are throwing some of your hard earned money away. Please do consider supporting Your Parish by “Gift Aiding” your donation, which will help the Parish and Oratory continue to flourish for future generations.

If you like more information please email frsebastian@cardifforatory.co.uk

“Give back some of God's gifts to God, that you may safely enjoy the rest”
St. John Henry Newman

Fr Sebastian would like to thank all those who responded so quickly to support the Parish by filling out the Gift Aid Forms. More are available this weekend.

May God reward you.

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Fr Sebastian writes

His Grace the Archbishop recently asked the Cardiff Oratory to oversee the pastoral and administrative care of Blessed Sacrament and St John Lloyd parishes for one year. As of last Sunday, with the celebration baptisms, this has now begun. It will obviously have some impact on our own Oratorian life and the Oratory Parish, and I would ask please that we all be understanding as we "learn the ropes" of supporting and accompanying these neighbouring parishes for the year. On a practical level it means that we are a "priest down" for 10am Sunday morning Mass, and so on some occasions Confessions may have to be before or after the Mass, or if during, they may be disrupted either for preaching or assisting at Holy Communion / Anointing of the Sick.

I wish to thank parishioners most sincerely who approached me after last Sunday's Masses to sign up for the Oratory Parish Gift Aid and who have already organised monthly or weekly bank transfers / standing orders and in some cases have already made their first deposit. Thank you most sincerely. I cannot express what a relief it is to know that you have appreciated the expectations upon your Parish Priest and your willingness to share in the stewardship of the Oratory Parish. I do apologise to those who wanted Gift Aid forms after the 11:15am Sunday Mass and were unable to, as I hadn't printed enough. There will be more available this-weekend. I wish to thank a family who signed up last weekend and both husband and wife made their own Gift Aid declarations and started with a one off donation of £500. This was immensely generous. I wish to thank all those who have Gift Aided over the years, and whose generosity has enabled us to build upon such foundations. To all of you, who give in any way, God reward you!

During the course of the week, the closure of the Barclays Diocesan Parish accounts was confirmed by the Archdiocese as being on 31st March 2026. If you haven't as yet transferred your monthly / weekly Parish Giving from the Barclays Account, I would ask you to please do so now, and set up it to the Oratory Parish Account as given above the published figures of last week's Parish Giving. The Archdiocese will also terminate the Health & Safety cover and Safeguarding management on the same date. I have held numerous meetings again this week to ensure that cover is in place before the 31st March 2026. I am confident it will be. Lastly, the Archdiocese confirmed that it will transfer all remaining monies belonging to the Oratory Parish on 31st March, 2026. As I related on Lent Sunday II, this transfer will constitute part of the £100,000 required as a buffer held in the Oratory Parish deposit account. Once we have reached £100,000 on deposit, then the fundraising for the next phase of the Restoration will take place. You may notice that scaffolding has gone up on the East end of the church, to investigate and remedy recent water ingress into the Oratory and Sanctuary. As with all listed buildings, maintenance is ongoing. I hadn't anticipated more scaffolding so soon! The works have been identified as "dilapidation" and hence we cannot claim on the insurance.

I ask your prayers please for our work in the neighbouring parishes and that the Archdiocese will find them a good Parish Priest, even within the one year, and also that all our own necessary policies and procedures can all be set up in good time for 31st March, 2026. I am immensely indebted to you, for all you do in your various ways and assure you of my daily prayers, memento at daily Mass and my blessing.

Fr Sebastian M., PP.

LENTEN ALMS FOOD PARCELS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

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

The parcels will be assembled on Monday 30th March.

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

May God reward you.



MEN'S WALKING PILGRIMAGE



21ST MARCH 2026
STARTING WITH 8AM MASS

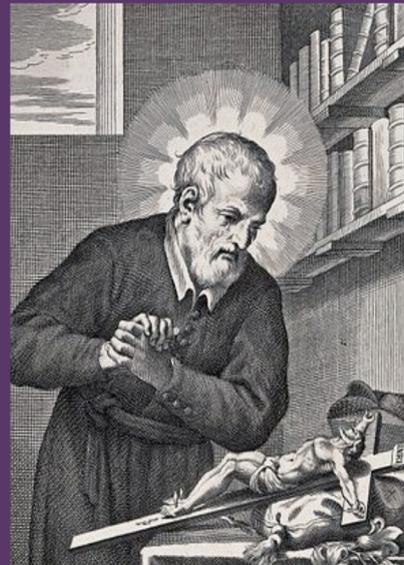
SEVEN CHURCHES OF CARDIFF

ST. PHILIP NERI STARTED THE SEVEN CHURCHES PILGRIMAGE IN ROME TO BUILD FRATERNITY AND TO SPEND TIME IN PRAYER. CARDIFF WILL BE OUR ROME, AS THE MEN'S GROUP WILL WALK TO VARIOUS CHURCHES ACROSS THE CITY REFLECTING ON THE PASSION OF CHRIST.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Lead by the Fathers on Fridays
10am

7pm - Solemn Stations of the Cross
with Holy Communion



STREET PASSION PLAY

GOOD FRIDAY
3RD APRIL
11AM
STARTING AT
ST. ALBAN'S
CF24 2NT



CHOIR GUILD OF ST CECILIA
ST ALBAN'S 10.00am PARISH CHOIR



Choir Practice

Please consider volunteering to sing with the 10.00am Parish Choir. They practice in the Parish Hall on Sunday mornings at 9:00am.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 16th March
Tai Chi with Jeanette

11:00-12:30

Great for improving balance, breathing and for relaxation. Suitable for all ages. There is time for socialising and

Tuesday 17th March



A Catholic view: The History of Western Philosophy

Join our year-long programme exploring the great journey of philosophy, from the wisdom of the Ancient Greeks to the questions of modern times. Along the way, uncover how these ideas are understood by the Church.

Third Tuesday of the Month

6:30pm

www.cardifforatory.co.uk

frilltyd@cardifforatory.co.uk



Cardiff Ardwyn Singers
Cantorion Ardwyn Caerdydd

Music Director • Cyfarwyddwr Cerdd **David Leggett**
Accompanist • Cyfeilydd **Nicola Rose**



Crucifixus

Music for Lent • Cerddoriaeth y Grawys

With music by • Gyda cherddoriaeth gan

Mendelssohn, Faure, Poulenc, Schubert,
Rachmaninoff, Essenvalds, Runestad

Baritone • Bariton **Saul Gerrard** (Miles Scholar 2026)

Sun 22 March • Sul 22 Mawrth '26 • 7pm

The Cardiff Oratory • Yr Oratori Caerdydd, Splott

Tickets • Tocynnau £14

U18 FREE • O Dan 18 oed **AM DDIM**

ticketsource.co.uk

ardwyn.wales

Registered Charity • Elusen Gofrestredig 1127429



I am delighted to announce a visit of Cllr. Huw Thomas, Leader of Cardiff City Council and our own local councillor, to St Alban's Catholic School this Friday 20th March at 1:30pm. As you maybe aware, Cllr Thomas is retiring from the Council so as to stand for the Senedd in the May 2026 elections. I wish to record my sincere thanks and appreciation to Huw for all he has done as a councillor to support the Catholic community. He has always responded to my approaches with good grace and understanding. I note in particular his commitment and collaboration for the education of our children at St Alban's Catholic School, which I know reflects his broader generosity and dedication of spirit to improve the community environment and life opportunities in Splott and Tremorfa as a councillor and across the City as Leader. I have invited Huw and our local councillors on Friday, when Huw will plant a tree as part of our ongoing commitment to the King's commitment of Harmony with the natural world. You are of course all invite to join us, and to thank Huw in person.



This week, I read

'Princes at War: The British Royal Family's Private Battle in the Second World War',
by Deborah Cadbury.

First published in 2015, this is the story of King George VI and his three brothers, the dukes of Windsor (Edward VIII), Gloucester (Prince Henry) and Kent (Prince George), during the Second World War.

When I picked up this book, I was not entirely sure whether it would be about the wartime experiences of the four brothers, or whether the title referred to some conflict between them. As I began to read, however, it became increasingly clear that, principally, the focus of the book would be the latter, rather than the former. Specifically, this is yet another book which looks at the career of the former King Edward VIII following his abdication in December 1936, and all that he got up to during the War (much to the anxiety of the new king, George VI, and the rest of the family). The dukes of Kent and Gloucester do not figure very prominently in the book at all, whereas the story of the other two brothers has been told (and retold) many times over. In particular, the controversies surrounding Edward's conduct abroad and the delicate position in which it placed the monarchy during wartime continue to attract historians and biographers alike.

Whilst this was a perfectly well-written book, therefore, I rather regretted picking it up because it contained nothing which I thought very original. The subject matter was all rather too familiar, and I think I should have preferred spending the week reading something different instead.



Rugby Report

It has been a while since the last report. This is due to the Six Nations taking place and the weather postponing matches.

However since the last report St. Alban's have not done as well as they could. Losing their first three games of 2026 against top of the table Penarth, Caerphilly and Abercynon. They managed to beat Barry by a last minute penalty kick before losing to Abercwmboi.

Last week they hosted Rhydyfelin at Tremorfa Park where they returned to winning ways. It was a good performance from the Buns as they try to end the season on a high. Most notably, the usual outside half could only secure his position on the bench as the coaches tried something new to revitalise the team.

This did seem to do the trick as they managed to score four tries to the opposition's one. Although not every try was converted, St. Alban's managed to get the four try bonus point winning the match 28-8. Even though Rhydyfelin are bottom of the table, they did well in defense for most of the match.

With only four matches left of this season, St. Alban's are mathematically safe from relegation. Which was a target for this season having just been promoted. They have four games left against Cambrian Welfare, Llanharan, Abercwmboi, and Rhydyfelin. It should be an entertaining end to this brilliant season and start looking ahead to the next.



School News

Year 3/4 had a fantastic visit to Splott Railway Gardens today! They loved seeing how they could support their community and care for the environment. The children came away with lots of great ideas to bring back and implement at school.

This was a part of the school's work on Catholic Social Teaching with regards to the common good. "Man's earthly activity, when inspired and sustained by charity, contributes to the building of the universal city of God, which is the goal of the history of the human family" Pope Benedict XVI



After visiting Cadbury World last week, years 5/6 have been looking into the history of Chocolate and the nutritional information of their favourite brands. They Children will do a survey of what type of chocolate is preferred in the school. They also learned about how St. John Henry Newman helped the women of the factory by speaking to the Quaker owners of Cadbury allowing the women workers to have their own time for prayer. It is great to have this link between the Oratory and Chocolate.

On Thursday last week was World Book Day! Y1/Y2 have all been little bookworms by learning features of a book, different genres of books, creating their own book covers, bookmarks, and playing a game of Guess the Story. Reading in different ways; audio books, video books and reading books.

The school Senedd are going to be giving out books to lend from the school's library so that the children can practice reading at home and maybe spend less time on devices.

Last week a few of the classes had the pleasure of visiting Greenmeadow Community Farm in Cwmbran. The children learned all about the farmyard system. They even had the opportunity to pet some of the animals including holding chickens. Some were fortunate to see a cow being milked. They were also surprised to see a dragon on the farm. Although it is not as active as it once was as Fr. Illtyd remembers it spewing forth water when he was younger. The Children had a brilliant time on these trips.