



# THE CONGREGATION OF THE ORATORY OF ST. PHILIP NERI IN CINCINNATI

123 EAST 13<sup>TH</sup> STREET • CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202 • INFO@CINCINNATORATORY.COM • WWW.CINCINNATORATORY.COM

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*Laudetur Jesus Christus! Praised be Jesus Christ!*

As we are in this Advent Season in preparation for the Feast and Season of Christmas, I encourage each of you also to ensure that you are looking after your spiritual life. Please be sure to pray in hopeful expectation, make some extra penances as a preparation for the newborn king, and offer something to those who may not be as fortunate. I encourage you to get to confession before Christmas and to participate in some of our own Advent Masses and services. It is easy to overlook our spiritual life in the hustle and bustle of Christmas preparations. But may we do well not to forget it, because Christ came unto us to transform us into something better, into gods, as St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas remind us. So do not overlook the spiritual life, grow in greater humility after the example of the newborn king, and strive to elevate this season beyond a mere material preparation for Christmas.

Our Oratory Gala in November was once again a great success. We certainly could not do any of this without you, so thank you for your generosity, prayers, friendship, and support. Know that we pray for each of you daily, and please be sure to pray for us as well!

In October we welcomed Fr. Jacob Straub, a priest of the Diocese of Covington, into the novitiate. You can read a little about him on the following pages. Please be sure to pray for him and for Br. Stephen and Br. Benjamin, as they prepare to complete their novitiate this August, and also continue their studies at the Toronto Oratory.

On All Saints' Day, the Holy Father followed through on his intention, which he stated to us this past summer, and raised St. John Henry Newman to the rank of Doctor of the Church. The Oratory world is obviously thrilled to have the doctor from our own Institute. May we all pray to St. John Henry Newman that he will continue to inspire and lead these little autonomous communities into great holiness and zeal for souls.

Lastly, I would like to wish each of you a fruitful Advent in preparation for the Nativity of the Lord. May we remember each other in prayer in this holy season, and may the new year bring to each of us great hope and peace!

I remain humbly in Christ,

*Fr. Jon-Paul Bevak*

Fr. Jon-Paul Bevak, C.O.

*Provost*



*Sunset at the Oratory Gala 2025*



*All Souls' Day Mass 2025*



*Eucharistic Procession 2025*



**THE BLESSED MOTHER & ADVENT****BY FR. ADRIAN J. HILTON, C.O.***Fr. Adrian at Candlemas*

Loving Mother of the Redeemer, who remains the accessible Gateway of Heaven, and Star of the Sea, Give aid to a falling people that strives to rise; O Thou who begot thy holy Creator, while all nature marveled, Virgin before and after receiving that “Ave” from the mouth of Gabriel, have mercy on sinners. During the season of Advent, priests and religious throughout the world, daily recite this Marian antiphon, Alma Redemptoris Mater. In this prayer and devotion, we call to mind the great role played by the Blessed Virgin Mary in salvation history, and we look to her with the eyes of children upon their mother.

Like Lent, though on a smaller scale, the church asks us to take on a spirit of penance and anticipation. As the holiday season comes into full swing, we must challenge ourselves to see the spiritual dynamics of preparation for the great feast of Christmas. We are called to exercise penance, prayer, and alms giving in a way that makes our hearts ready to welcome Christ into the world as our Savior. While many celebrate without any real thought of Christ, we must challenge ourselves not to lose sight of the real meaning of what we do. May we enter into a deeper time of prayer, sacrifice, and generosity so that when Christ comes, we’re not celebrating simply a social nicety, but truly that Christ has humbled Himself so that we might have Salvation. Like the Blessed Virgin Mary, then, may we keep on ours on Christ in prayerful watching and anticipation until the joyous day of His birth and the majestic celebration of the Epiphany.

*Midnight Mass 2024***OUR LIFE IN PHOTOS***Br. Benjamin as St. Norbert at the All Saints' Day Party**Fr. Adrian as St. Pier Giorgio Frassati at the All Saints' Day Party**Br. Stephen as Ven. Matteo Ricci at the All Saints' Day Party***THE SECULAR ORATORY**

The Women's Secular Oratory is held on the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the Sacred Heart School

The Men's Secular Oratory is held on the fourth Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in Fr. Felten Hall

Email the Oratory or contact the St. Philip Neri Family of Parishes' Office at (513) 721-2988 for more information!



## OUR NEW NOVICE

BY FR. JACOB E. STRAUB



*Fr. Jacob's Clothing in the Oratory Cassock with the Community on November 1, 2025*

For those of you who have not yet met me, my name is Fr. Jacob Straub. I was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Covington in 2013 and have served in a few different positions as a pastor and a teacher in high schools and even in college. I have had a long-standing devotion to Saint Philip Neri as well as to St. John Henry Newman. In fact, I was able to attend the canonization Mass for St. Newman in 2019. After a period of prayer and discernment, I have entered the Cincinnati Oratory to follow more completely in the example and influence of those two great priests as well as to pursue the divine call to holiness with a community of priests that I have known for a long

time. In fact, I was in college seminary for a time with both of the fathers, and have worked with them for quite a few years. I am the oldest of four children, and am an uncle to 8 nieces and nephews, all of whom live in northern Kentucky as do my parents. I am an avid camper and outdoor enthusiast, and enjoy visits to the Red River Gorge any chance I can justify it. Thank you for the welcomes I have already received, and please pray for me to fulfill God's will in all of this.



*Fr. Jacob receiving the Oratorian Cassock*

## GALA 2025 PHOTOS



*Fr. Jon-Paul speaking at the Gala*



*The sisters table*



*Fr. Adrian keeping everything on time!*



*The St. Philip Award*



*The priests table*



*Fr. Jacob pulling the raffle winners!*



## ADVENT &amp; CHRISTMAS AT THE CINCINNATI ORATORY

**Solemn Rorate Mass**  
**Saturday, December 13**  
**6:45 a.m.**



**Musical Oratory of Advent**  
**Tuesday, December 16**  
**6:30 p.m.**



Old St. Mary's Church / 123 East Thirteenth Street / Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

**CHRISTMAS AT OLD ST. MARY'S**

Midnight Mass - High Latin Mass  
 7:30 a.m. - Low Latin Mass  
 9:30 a.m. - High Latin Mass  
 11:30 a.m. - German Mass  
 1:00 p.m. - English Mass

**CHRISTMAS AT SACRED HEART**

9:00 a.m. English Mass  
 11:00 a.m. Sung Latin Mass

**NEW YEAR'S EVE AT OLD ST. MARY'S**

11:00 p.m. - Holy Hour

**NEW YEAR'S DAY AT OLD ST. MARY'S**

9:00 a.m. - Low Latin Mass  
 11:00 a.m. - English Mass

**NEW YEAR'S DAY AT SACRED HEART**

10:00 a.m. Sung Latin Mass

**Upcoming Events**

December 13 - Solemn Rorate Mass @ 6:45 a.m.  
 December 16 - Musical Oratory of Advent @ 6:30 p.m.  
 December 25 - Christmas Day (Mass Schedule above)  
 January 1 - New Year's Day (Mass Schedule above)  
 January 6 - Epiphany Mass @ 6:30 p.m.  
 February 2 - Candlemas Mass @ 6:30 p.m.

Events are at Old St. Mary's Church unless otherwise noted

**WISDOM FROM  
ST. PHILIP NERI**

*It is a great perfection in a heart when it is discreet and does not overstep the limits of convenience and what is befitting.*

## THE CINCINNATI ORATORY NEEDS YOUR HELP!



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**venmo**

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFT

MAIL CHECKS TO:

**THE CINCINNATI ORATORY**  
**123 EAST 13<sup>TH</sup> STREET**  
**CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202**

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

**THE SOCIETY OF SAINT PHILIP NERI**

**OR VISIT: [HTTP://DONATE.CINCINNATORATORY.COM/](http://DONATE.CINCINNATORATORY.COM/)**

**CONSIDER JOINING THE SAINT PHILIP SOCIETY**

Through their commitment to making an annual donation of \$250 or more, our Society of Friends helps contribute to the annual cost of operation for the mission of The Cincinnati Oratory. With their annual support, and hopefully yours, our mission to sanctify and teach moves forward. Without you, this would be impossible!

THE CINCINNATI ORATORY IS A 501(c)3 TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION

VISIT [WWW.CINCINNATORATORY.COM](http://WWW.CINCINNATORATORY.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION