



# 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!*

Just a few weeks ago, we held our annual fundraising gala after skipping 2020. Because of seating capacity, this was one of our smallest banquets. However, it was also one of our most successful. Thank you to everyone who helped make it such a success. That evening, I revealed that we exceeded our fundraising goal in 2020 by over 200%. For which we are very grateful. At the gala, we set a fundraising goal of \$400,000 for 2020/21, of which, at this point, we have around \$300,000 either raised or pledged. Thank you!

This year's funds will cover our usual operating expenses (electricity, gas, insurance, food, etc.). The funding will also help us replace the roof on the Pious House, which is over 30 years old with a life expectancy of 25 years. We also hope to finish our chapel off a bit more by purchasing two custom statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph for the niches on our altar. These statues will hold relics of the veil of Our Lady and the cloak of St. Joseph. We would also like to do some stenciling on the chapel's back wall to add more color. Your assistance will help us complete these goals, prepare for future vocations, and look toward the future stability of the Oratory.

If you haven't made your 2021 contribution yet, there are still a few weeks to count this for this tax year. You can mail in a donation with the included envelope, donate online at <http://donate.cincinnatiatoratory.com/>, and donate stocks (please contact me directly). I would also ask that you consider us in your final will!

As we enter this holy season of Advent in preparation for the commemoration of the birth of Our Lord, please be sure to tend to your spiritual lives. The Lord took on our human nature to give us a share of His divine nature, a much-overlooked gift. To help perfect us to be worthy of such a gift is the mission of the Church, of which your gifts and prayers work towards its success. So be sure to take full advantage of all the Advent offerings, particularly our Advent Rorate Mass on December 11 and our Musical Oratory of Advent on December 15. Please also be sure to make it to confession this Advent season to welcome the newborn Lord more perfectly in a few weeks! Please remember us in your prayers, and be assured of our daily prayers for you!

In remain humbly in Christ,

*Fr. Jon-Paul Bevak*

Fr. Jon-Paul Bevak, C.O.  
Provost



*The new wood carving entering the chapel, "My house shall be called a house of prayer."*



*The chapel decorated for Christmas 2020*



*Fr. Jon-Paul speaking at the Annual Gala 2021*

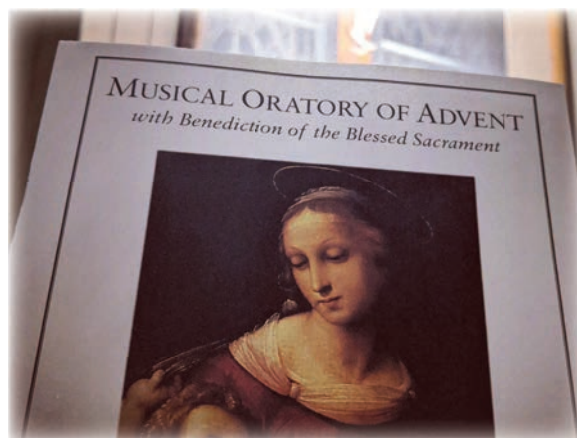


**ON ADVENT****BY FR. ADRIAN J. HILTON, C.O.***The annual Rorate Mass*

St. Ambrose of Milan, most famous for having converted and baptized St. Augustine, is the attributed author of the great Advent Hymn, *Veni Redemptor Gentium* (Redeemer of the Nations, Come). In this hymn, St. Ambrose describes the miraculous reality of the Incarnation when he writes, "Not from man's seed, but by the mystic spirit, the Word of God was made man, and the fruit of the womb sprung forth." Jesus Christ is conceived by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit, and we are reminded how the created world was made from nothing but the creative power of God. God acts alone in creation, but in the Incarnation, He freely chooses not to do so. He desires the free cooperation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

During this season of Advent, we can easily find many sources of meditation, but this meditation on the Blessed Virgin is particularly important, especially in the religious and social climate in which we live. We are reminded of her fidelity to God, abandoning herself freely and completely to His Will.

When this is done in humility and with generosity, God works great things, and He uses such instruments for His glory. We are reminded especially, that we are not made for this world. Yes, we are given a particular mission and work to do on this earth, but we can never forget that this work is directed towards the beatific vision, towards union with God in heaven. Our Lady is our example of how to properly balance this dual reality. In Advent we see in her as a model of holiness and charity which is the bedrock example of living as a Christian in this world, especially a world that seeks to eliminate the Voice and the Light of Christ. May her example be in our hearts and souls each day as we prayerfully await the Redeemer of the nations.

*The program for Musical of Advent 2020***PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION 2021***The laying on of hands upon Fr. Brent**The newly ordained with Fr. Jon-Paul & Fr. Adrian following the ordination**The laying on of hands upon Fr. Henry*



**STAINED GLASS WINDOW REFLECTION: ST. LAWRENCE****BY FR. HENRY O. HOFFMANN, C.O.**

*The St. Lawrence window in the chapel*  
to flip me over.” St. Lawrence reveals to us the essential nature of Christian fortitude: to face death for our faith with unflinching love.

The Lord has blessed the Cincinnati Oratory with stained-glass chapel windows of remarkable beauty, which provide fertile ground for meditation upon moral virtue and Divine Love.

The first window which one sees in the chapel depicts St. Lawrence shortly before his martyrdom. It shows the climactic scene which immediately preceded his arrest. Demanded to deliver the riches of the Church to the emperor, St. Lawrence gathered the poor of Rome and showed these to the Roman official, crying out that the poor are the true treasure of the Church.

St. Lawrence is perhaps most famous for his courage in martyrdom. He was burned to death upon a grill. With good Christian humor, after he had burned for some time, he remarked to his torturers, “I’m done on this side now; it’s time

Fortunately, we do not have to face the same struggles that St. Lawrence overcame. Nevertheless, in little ways, we are daily called to suffer for our faith. May we do so with the same spirit of courage and good humor that animated St. Lawrence!

**OUR LIFE IN PHOTOS**

*The annual All Saints’ Costume Party*



*The annual Eucharistic Procession in October 2021*



*Celebrating Fr. DeLange’s fiftieth anniversary as a priest!*



*Following Fr. Brent’s first solemn Mass in April*



*Following Fr. Henry’s first solemn Mass in April*

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT THE CINCINNATI ORATORY

**Solemn Rorate Mass**  
**Saturday, December 11**  
**6:45 a.m.**



Musical Oratory of Advent is an evening of choral reflection of the anticipation we have for Christ with meditations on Sacred Scripture and concludes with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The evening includes congregational hymn favorites sung by all.

**Musical Oratory of Advent**  
**Wednesday, December 15**  
**6:30 p.m.**



The Rorate Mass is a Solemn Traditional Latin Mass, only by candlelight. It derives its name from the opening Introit 'Rorate caeli' - 'Drop down ye heavens.' This is a votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and has been called a mini-Christmas.

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

### CHRISTMAS AT OLD ST. MARY'S

Midnight Mass - Sung Traditional Latin Mass  
 7:30 a.m. - Low Traditional Latin Mass  
 9:30 a.m. - Sung Traditional Latin Mass  
 11:30 a.m. - German Mass  
 1:00 p.m. - English Mass  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
 11:00 p.m. Holy Hour

### NEW YEAR'S DAY

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

### CHRISTMAS AT SACRED HEART

9:00 a.m. English Mass  
 11:00 a.m. Sung Traditional Latin Mass  
**NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
 10:00 a.m. Sung Traditional Latin Mass

### Upcoming Events

December 11 - Solemn Rorate Mass @ 6:45 a.m.  
 December 15 - Musical Oratory of Advent @ 6:30 p.m.  
 December 25 - Christmas Day (Mass Schedule above)  
 December 31 - New Year's Eve Holy Hour @ 11:00 p.m.  
 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**

*Our sweet Christ, the Word Incarnate, has given Himself to us for everything that was necessary for us, even to the hard and ignominious death upon the cross.*

## THE CINCINNATI ORATORY NEEDS YOUR HELP!

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