



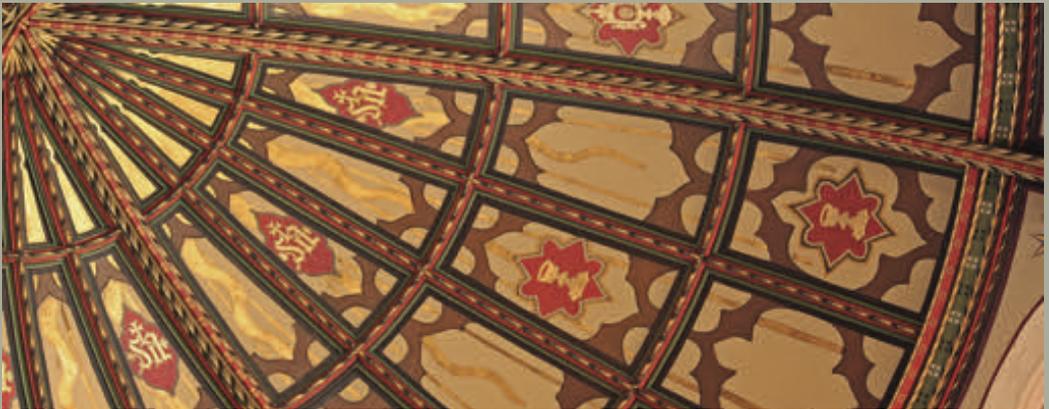
FRIENDS
OF THE
ORATORY

Support the
Oxford Oratory
by becoming
a friend



A vibrant centre of Catholic life

The Oxford Oratory is something of a beacon of Catholic life in the UK. Our Church is open 7am to 7pm daily, with several Masses and times for confession each day. We have a thousand people attending our services each weekend and we attract a wide range of people of all ages and from every walk of life. A lot happens here and we want you to be part of it. Perhaps you are currently an active congregant at the Oratory? Once were but have now moved on to pastures new? Becoming a Friend means you support the work of the Oratory family wherever you are – you help to make all this happen.



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Faithful to our tradition

The issues of St Philip's Rome were not vastly different from those of our own city. We're faithful to the spirit and the method of St Philip and to our Oratorian tradition in winning souls for Christ which was passed down to us by St John Henry Newman, our Cardinal. It is said that where other orders fished with a net, St Philip fished with a line. Friendship was key to his mission and it is still key to the Oratory today. People who are new to the Oxford Oratory have remarked that it is a very friendly place to come to Church, and that the traditional Catholicism they find here does not conform to the dusty stereotype. By prayerful support and fundraising, the Friends of the Oratory help the Fathers keep that tradition alive.

Worship is the heartbeat of the Oratory

All of our work is directed to the worship of God in our church. Nothing is more important than this. The daily round of Masses, the Oratory prayers of the Fathers and those who pop in to light a candle – they all make the Oratory live up to its name as a place set apart for prayer. This heartbeat of worship leads us to God and, we hope, to heaven. The Friends are included in prayers and Masses for their intentions and receive advance notice of events and pilgrimages. By their generosity, the Friends of the Oratory are part of what helps to keep this heart beating.



An investment in faith

Music has always played a major part in the Oratory, and today we are blessed to have outstanding sacred music, performed by some of the finest musicians around. Excellence, however, comes at a cost. We invest in our music because it is an important tool of evangelisation. By becoming a Friend today you are leading the way in helping people have a unique experience that leads them closer to God, and are keeping this cornerstone of Catholic life and culture alive.



Forming all sorts of people in the faith

There is no 'type' of person who frequents the Oratory in Oxford, and anyone is welcome. For 30 years we have guided countless people in the faith, very often the young, and they have gone on to live that faith with dedication and joy wherever they find themselves. Many have expressed a desire to keep in touch because they miss what they found here. The Friends of the Oratory is a wonderful way for you to continue to be part of life at the Oratory wherever you are and to help us keep forming new generations of Catholics.

Using beauty to speak of the things of God

Beauty has a captivating language of its own and the Church has traditionally used it to communicate something of the beauty of God and the beauty of a virtuous life. From the liturgy and its music to the vestments and the decoration of our buildings, we do our best to put beauty at the service of the faith. We want to do more. In the coming years as we make our church even more beautiful, by becoming a Friend of the Oratory you would be seizing the opportunity to be part of a lasting legacy, inspiring generations to come, and making this house of prayer truly worthy of its name.

Types of Membership

Friends of the Oratory receive the Oratory Magazine twice a year and receive invitations to a number of special events throughout the year. (£30 pa)

In addition to receiving the Oratory Magazine, *Benefactor Friends of the Oratory* are able to attend our full calendar of events as well as our residential pilgrimage each year and receive regular updates and mailings about the Oratory. (£100pa)

We also recognise and celebrate the particular generosity of those who are able to contribute at least £1000 or more per year to the work of the Oratory through the Friends. These *Patrons of the Oratory* have access to the full calendar of events, pilgrimages and receive our magazine. In addition they are invited to a number of unique events through the course of the year.

We are blessed by the number of students who attend the Oratory, many of whom move on to pastures new, near and far, at the end of their studies. Our *Student Friends of the Oratory* is a group which supports the work of the Fathers by their annual subscription as well as helping organise Friends events. Student Friends receive our magazine, have access to all our events and have some social events of their own at the specially reduced rate of £15 per year while they are studying.

All Friends of the Oratory and their intentions are remembered in our Mass for benefactors celebrated each week.

Gift Aid

If you are a UK tax payer, we can increase your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you. Please consider gift-aiding your membership donation.

Great reasons to join

By becoming a member of our Friends organisation, you are supporting one of the most vibrant centres of Catholic life in Britain. You will be ensuring we can continue this into the future, supporting our sacred music and the restoration of our beautiful church. The Friends of the Oratory is a wonderful way for you to continue to be part of life at the Oratory wherever you are and to help us keep forming new generations of Catholics.



“I did not know the phrase of St John Henry Newman, Cor ad cor loquitur, until his canonisation, but I experienced this phrase every time I encountered an Oratorian, every time I went to Mass or Confession, and especially through their patient and thoughtful spiritual preparation before my Baptism. The Fathers not only help me to know God’s words and learn the faith intellectually, they also lead me onto the right path to live a Catholic life. No matter where I am, what I have learned from the Oratorians gives me courage and I will always remember the Oratory as my family.”

— Wenlan (Leiden/Shanghai)

Become a Friend today

You can join the Friends of the Oratory today by visiting our website at oxfordoratory.org.uk/friends



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