

Award category: **SPECIAL AWARD**

Award Winner: A New Oratory in the South of England

Client

A Charitable Trust

Architect

Craig Hamilton Architects

Main Contractor

Symm

Principal Stone Contractor

Ketton Stone Masonry & Fixings Ltd

Stone Supplier (1 & 2)

Albion Stone PLC

Stone Supplier (3)

Portland Stone Firms Ltd

Stone Supplier (4)

McKeon Stone

Stone Supplier (5)

Top Grange Quarry

Stone Supplier (6)

Fontanilli

Stone Supplier (7)

Naturstens

Stone Used (1)

Portland Jordans Basebed

Stone Used (2)

Portland Jordans Whitbed

Stone Used (3)

Portland Broadcroft Whitbred

Stone Used (4)

Kilkenny Limestone

Stone Used (5)

Ballinasloe

Stone Used (6)

Statuary Marble

Stone Used (7)

Oland

A new chapel located in the south of England. It was built by a Charitable Trust and is open to the public on the last Sunday of each month for mass as well as other days in the year. This building is a truly traditional build, using solid masonry, brick backing solid walls and load bearing masonry. Construction of the new structure included a load bearing vault over the main nave, load bearing columns to the crypt and load bearing walls.

The judges could not speak highly enough of the quality of this project. Every detail has



been carefully considered and expertly carried out. This project was planned, controlled and executed to standards of years past.

The decision to celebrate this project with a Special Award came as a result of the judges realising that it would have been a worthy winner in a number of the categories.

Speaking of the chapel, the judges said: "This is one of the finest examples of modern day stonemasonry and proof that the standards of the past years can still be met. This building is a traditional load bearing masonry construction, executed to the highest standards.

The external masonry is true and crisp throughout with fine examples of various masonry disciplines from beautifully lettered panels, knapped flint work and lions heads projecting from the cornice either side of the chapel, all stitched together with sound

traditional masonry skills".

However, the external façade of this building is modest compared to the masonry embellishment carried out on the interior. To highlight a few outstanding features: the main chapel ceiling is a stone barrel vault with intersecting barrel vaulted windows, the crypt doors

are solid stone, beautifully carved on both sides, the two floors and organ chamber are connected with a stunning cantilevered elliptical staircase with a solid balustrade wall.

It is evident that every detail to this building was carefully considered and expertly carried out.

