



Guild of Saint Jude

2016 members' magazine

Editorial

by Matt Betts

Welcome to our third Guild magazine in our third year as a Guild. We hope you enjoy the articles we have put together in this edition.

We are very proud to be one of the four 'Doors of Mercy' in Southwark Archdiocese (alongside our sister shrine at Aylesford) during this Year of Mercy. We encourage Guild members to make a Pilgrimage during this special Jubilee. All are welcome. We discuss this special year further in the magazine.

The Shrine now boasts a proper on-line shop! It has taken a few months of development, but it is finally complete and includes all our stock available at your finger tips. This shop is much more user-friendly than our old one and I encourage our members to try it out. For Guild members we are offering 15% off anything you buy - more details at the back of this magazine.

This year we bade farewell to Fr Michael Manning, O.Carm, who was our chaplain for two years, and welcomed Fr Brendan Grady, O.Carm as our new chaplain. Fr Michael has written a small article to say goodbye to the Guild.

In addition, Fr Wilfrid McGreal, Prior at Faversham, has written about the great Saint Teresa of Avila, whose 500th anniversary took place last year. Thank you to all our writers.

If you would like to contribute to next years Guild magazine, please send your article to: guild@stjudeshrine.org.uk, or to our postal address.

If you can help spread the message of our Shrine, please contact me on guild@stjudeshrine.org.uk, or via Guild of Saint Jude, Carmelite Friars, P.O. Box 140, Kent, ME20 7SJ. We can send you literature and more to help you to publicise the Shrine and the Guild - just let us know.

Matt is the Development Manager at the National Shrine of Saint Jude



Chaplain

After two years as our Chaplain, Fr Michael Manning, O.Carm left for pastures new to assist in Aylesford Priory (our sister shrine). We are very pleased to welcome Fr Brendan Grady, O.Carm as his successor. Thank you Fr Michael for all your work with the National Shrine of Saint Jude, and welcome to Fr Brendan (pictured below).

Fr Michael wanted to write some final words: *“Well, the Summer Celebration is over for another year and this year I was not a part of it; except through prayer.*

As is usual with religious orders I was asked if I would take up another appointment and I agreed to this and left Faversham on the 16th May. I shall miss the Shrine of Saint Jude, the pilgrims and visitors, and the gardens. But I will also miss the team of which I was a part: Matt, Rachael and Kevin. I think we gelled as a team and got on well as friends; something you cannot always guarantee.

One of the things I did especially enjoy was the writing of letters to all the people who had asked for advice or wanted a little support with a difficult situation. I hope that those who received letters from me found them to be helpful and a comfort in times of pain.

Thank you for all your support and prayers. God Bless you and I'll keep the Shrine and the Guild of Saint Jude in my prayers.”

Fr Brendan has already been very busy with the work at the Shrine. Last month, he celebrated our mothers' mass in the Shrine chapel for all the names we received beforehand. Fr Brendan introduced the Mass by telling the congregation that we were praying “for all mothers that they may lead us to Jesus, just like Our Lady did...”.

It was a joyous occasion with lots of friends of Saint Jude joining us. Photos from our special shared Mass can be seen on our blog, and two photos are also below!



Around the Shrine

In each edition of the Guild magazine, we'll take a look at a part of our beautiful Shrine.

This time, the shrine's stunning reliquary (pictured below). The reliquary which stands in the inner shrine is known as the Augsburg Reliquary. It is a modern copy of a silver monstrance dated 1547, and it has been modified to display the relic, a bone fragment, of Saint Jude.



Saint Jude, pray for us.

The Biblical Origins of Our Jubilee Year

by Fr Craig Morrison, O.Carm

Carmelites from Britain took part in a gathering held in Rome in mid-January 2016 for those involved in the work of pilgrimage and shrine ministry. On the second day of our visit, we took the opportunity to build fraternal links with fellow Carmelites, and to make a pilgrimage to some of the Order's holy sites in the Eternal City. Warm hospitality was offered by the friars at the Basilica of San Martino ai Monti, where we met Fr Craig Morrison, O.Carm., who teaches Aramaic and Sacred Scripture at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome. Fr Craig has very kindly allowed us to publish his excellent article on the biblical origins of the Jubilee Year:

“The Book of Leviticus, the third book of the Old Testament, announced to the ancient Israelites the specifics of their Jubilee Year observance: *“You shall consecrate the fiftieth year and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a Jubilee for you”* (Leviticus 25:10). So during the Jubilee Year, our Israelite ancestors freed their slaves, cancelled debts, and everyone, rich and poor alike, enjoyed a year of rest. It was a year of clemency and mercy for those in need, especially those who had been sold into slavery because of financial difficulties.

This year's Jubilee is called “extraordinary” because it is not in the cycle of the fifty-year Jubilee as the Bible commands, but has been proclaimed for a special occasion. Pope Francis announced this special Jubilee Year to remind all the baptised that the Church in the world is a sign of God's mercy and clemency toward all peoples. Jesus too understood his own mission as an extraordinary Jubilee Year. At the beginning of his public life, he returned to the synagogue in his home town of Nazareth (see Luke 4:14-20). It was the Sabbath day (our Saturday) and Jesus, an observant Jew, stood up to read from the Bible. He chose verses from chapters 58 and 61 of the Book of Isaiah. The Bible at the time of Jesus was written on lengthy scrolls, and so the servants in the synagogue that day would have had to roll the scroll for quite some time as Jesus scanned the Hebrew text looking for the passages he wanted. The congregation must have been waiting with fervent anticipation: *“What passage is this rabbi searching for?”* Finally Jesus finds the text from Isaiah that he wants to read aloud:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.”

Jesus' announcement that his time on earth would be a "*year of the Lord's favour*" proclaimed to this ancient Jewish congregation that a Jubilee Year was about to begin. Once Jesus leaves the synagogue we follow him through the Gospels to discover that everyone whom Jesus meets experiences the Jubilee. Jesus stops at the casket of a widow's only son and addresses the dead man: "*Young man, I say to you, rise!*" (Luke 7:14). A paralytic lying beside the pool at one of Jerusalem's gates rises from the mat on which he has been lying for 38 years: "*Stand up, take your mat and walk.*" (John 5:8). Another paralysed man, after being lowered down through the roof of the house where Jesus is teaching, never even gets a chance to open his mouth before Jesus says to him, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you" (Luke 5:20). An excluded woman with a haemorrhage is called a "daughter" by Jesus (Luke 8:48) and a leprous man, touched by Jesus, can return to life in the Jewish community. These individuals and so many others in the Gospel celebrate Jesus' Jubilee year.

Many of these key moments of mercy in the Gospels are depicted on the Holy Doors of St Peter's Basilica—the bronze doors that Pope Francis opened on 8 December 2015 to inaugurate the Jubilee year. The sixteen images on the doors trace various Jubilee moments in biblical history—moments of redemption. Among my favourites is the depiction of Jesus' glance at Peter who has just denied knowing Jesus. The Latin inscription is taken from Luke 22:61 "*conversus Dominus respexit Petrum*"; "*The Lord turned and looked at Peter.*" You can see at the top of the scene the rooster that has just crowed, reminding Peter of Jesus' prediction at the Last Supper: "*I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me*" (Luke 22:34). The high priest Caiaphas is seated in the background and Jesus, his hands now bound, looks at Peter who cannot look at him. Through his tears, he recognizes that he has denied knowing the one whom he recognized as the messiah just as Jesus is about to embrace his cross. But after the Resurrection, Jesus' first words to Peter are "*Peace be with you*" (Luke 24:36). In that sacred moment Peter experiences the profound meaning of Jesus' "*Year of Favour,*" the Jubilee Year that he announced that day in the synagogue. The debt Peter owes to Jesus is cancelled in the risen Christ's loving greeting: "*Peace be with you.*"

When Pope Francis announced the Jubilee year, he wrote that the Holy Doors are doors of mercy "through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instills hope." The faith-filled millions, who will pass through St. Peter's Holy Doors this year, will pass by the image of Peter weeping for his sin. We too can pass through the holy doors in the National Shrine of Saint Jude knowing that Jesus waits for us on the other side with the same words of

mercy that he said long ago to his friend and disciple Peter: "Peace be with you."



Fr Craig Morrison, O.Carm., teaches Aramaic and Sacred Scripture at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome.

Competition Time

It's competition time! Our question is:

In what year was the National Shrine of Saint Jude founded?

Simply send your answer, plus your name and address to:
Guild@stjudeshrine.org.uk, or to our PO Box address (see back of this magazine).

We will pick out three winners who will receive some gifts from the Shrine.

Competition closes on 15 September 2016.

Saint Teresa of Avila

by Fr Wilfrid McGreal, O.Carm

This article comes from a talk Fr Wilfrid gave in 2015 to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Saint Teresa's birth.

A “restless, disobedient, contumacious gadabout” was the Papal Nuncio's description, while the Prior General of the Carmelites said she was “worth a hundred friars” – the person in question is St Teresa of Avila. Last year, we celebrated the 500th anniversary of her birth in 1515. She was born at a time that is seen as the Golden Age of Spain as the riches of the America's flowed into Spain and national unity was finally achieved.

Teresa was one of twelve children, born in Avila in Castile. Her family was prosperous, but they also held a secret because they had moved to Avila from Toledo due to religious tensions. In the interest of national unity Christianity was the only religion permitted. Jews and Muslims had either to convert or leave the country. Teresa's grandfather was Jewish, became a Christian and then went back to Judaism. For this behaviour he had to do public penance, and so the family had to leave Toledo.

What sort of child was Teresa? There was a strong romantic streak from her mother, and she loved to hear stories of chivalry. At one point, she and her brother Luis ran away to fight the Moors but luckily they were quickly found. Teresa grew into an attractive teenager, loving to dress beautifully. She was attracted to the company of her young cousins but she also wanted to serve God. Influenced by her uncle and a nun at school, she began to desire to dedicate her life to God. So she set out on an amazing journey that would see her found convents and become an outstanding teacher of prayer – but it was not going to be an easy journey.

Teresa entered the Carmelite convent of the Incarnation at Avila. The Carmelites had begun in the 12th century as hermits on Mount Carmel. Moving to Europe they became Mendicant Friars, and by the 15th century they had established communities of women. The Incarnation was a large friendly community but lacked a sense of silence but it was observant. Teresa was happy in the community but was dogged by ill-health and found prayer very difficult. Her health was so bad that she was almost given up for dead.

She was faithful at times of prayer but only experienced dryness – the time of prayer seemed to drag on. Then one day she saw a statue of the suffering Christ and was overwhelmed by the love of God that Christ shows us in loving

friendship and in the Spirit. Teresa felt accepted and she related to Jesus in her humanity as the subject of great devotion. She also saw friendship as a gift from God. Prayer became for her spending time with her friend Jesus. This friendship also extended to those around her “all must be friends, all must be loved and held dear”. Out of a sense of friendship she feels able to express her experiences in her writing and founding communities where sisters could live in friendship with God and each other.

So Teresa began a new stage in her journey which would last to her death in 1582. She wanted to found communities with a simple lifestyle valuing silence as an aid to prayer and living in friendship. She also was against large communities as they could become impersonal.

Her first foundation was Saint Joseph’s in Avila and her work was endorsed by John Rossi the Prior general - he said she was “worth a hundred friars” and she could found as many convents as she had hairs on her head.

But the official church in Spain was not happy seeing a woman being so high profile. They thought that her simple but profound way of relating to God as suspicious, and that she needed to be controlled. Teresa became the target of the Spanish Inquisition who censored her writings and would not allow publication until after her death. Teresa felt amused and exasperated. She was conscious as she wrote of the censor’s critical eye, and she often professed her ignorance even though her writing is sublime.

In the midst of founding convents she found time to write a number of books, plus a lot of letters. I always wonder how she managed to write so profoundly amid all her activity. Much of her travelling would have been by an ox cart along very rugged roads!

Her letters reveal a passionate woman capable of deep friendship. Her influence and support enabled John of the Cross to grow in his humanity and helped him discover his poetic gift. The letters also shows her humanity as she could be upset, and at times she could be possessive or passionate. Yet she was always tireless in serving God. She was a contemplative, a woman of amazing vitality and generosity of spirit.

Teresa is the best of teachers for every age.

Fr Wilfrid McGreal, O.Carm., is Prior at Faversham and former Prior Provincial of the British Carmelites.

Notices

Prayers

Please pray for the souls of the following members who have died recently:

Mr Denis Ryan

Mr Eugene Boyle

Mrs Monica Slaughter

Mrs Marianne MacQueen

Mrs Bertha Blackith

Miss MC Brady

Mrs Maureen Murphy

Mrs Norma Batty

Mrs Mary Attridge

May they Rest in Peace and rise in glory.

Please also pray for any of our members who are sick, in particular Melda White, plus any friars of the British Province who are sick.

Saint Jude, pray for us

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, pray for us

Upcoming events

All welcome

Children's Mass

23 September 2016

For the first time, a shared Mass will be celebrated at the National Shrine of Saint Jude in honour of the Infant of Prague and all children. Friends of Sthe Shrine can just send us the name(s) of a child with a message. Anyone is welcome to attend our Mass, which will be celebrated in the Shrine on 23 September 2016 at 11am.

Feast of Saint Jude

28, 29, 30 October 2016

Friday 28 October

12.00 - Saint Jude Mass with the Blessing of Oil and Anointing

16.00 - Saint Jude Mass with the Blessing of Oil and Anointing

Saturday 29 October

12.00 - Saint Jude Mass with the Blessing of Oil and Anointing

14.00 - Saint Jude Mass with the Blessing of Oil and Anointing

Sunday 30 October

12.30 - Saint Jude Mass with the Blessing of Oil and Anointing

14.30 - Saint Jude Mass with the Blessing of Oil and Anointing

Christmas Carols at the Shrine

3 December 2016

We will be singing all the great carols in the Shrine of Saint Jude. Everyone who attends will need to get their voices ready for a good and celebratory singalong.

Mince pies, mulled wine, teas and coffees and fruit juice available. A book stall with lots of fiction and non-fiction will also be available. The whole day will be a great Christmas celebration.

Carol singing starts at 2.30pm, but there will be plenty of activities before and after. All are welcome.

Further information on all our future events can be found on our blog:

<http://tinyurl.com/JudeEvents>

On-line shop



Welcome to the National Shrine of Saint Jude shop

The National Shrine of Saint Jude, Apostle and Martyr, which was founded in 1955 has seen thousands of pilgrims come to Faversham from all over the world to visit and pray.

Our new on-line shop will be live when you receive this magazine, and we hope that the shop can help us to provide a sense of connectedness with the Shrine. Our shop includes not only a number of religious gifts and souvenirs connected with Saint Jude, but also to other important national and Carmelite saints

We are offering all our Guild members a 15% discount on anything you buy in our shop from now till the end of September. The Shrine will not be offering this discount to anyone else. Simply use the code **1794** in the section called "Discount Code" at the bottom of the Shopping Cart. Once the code is entered simply click "Apply Coupon" (see below). You can pay for items via cheque, postal order, or using your debit/credit card.

Our shop can be found at: <http://tinyurl.com/SaintJudeShop>

Thank you.

Discount Code

Enter your coupon here

APPLY COUPON

The Guild Magazine is the annual magazine for the Guild of Saint Jude based at the National Shrine of Saint Jude, Faversham. If you would like to join, or would like to recommend that a family member/friend to join, please send details to:

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