



Dear Friend of Saint Jude

GREETINGS FROM the Carmelite Shrine of Saint Jude! I hope that you have had a good summer. There's lots of news to share of past activities and upcoming events, so I will begin straight away.

This year the British Province of Carmelites has been celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Refoundation of the Province in 1969.

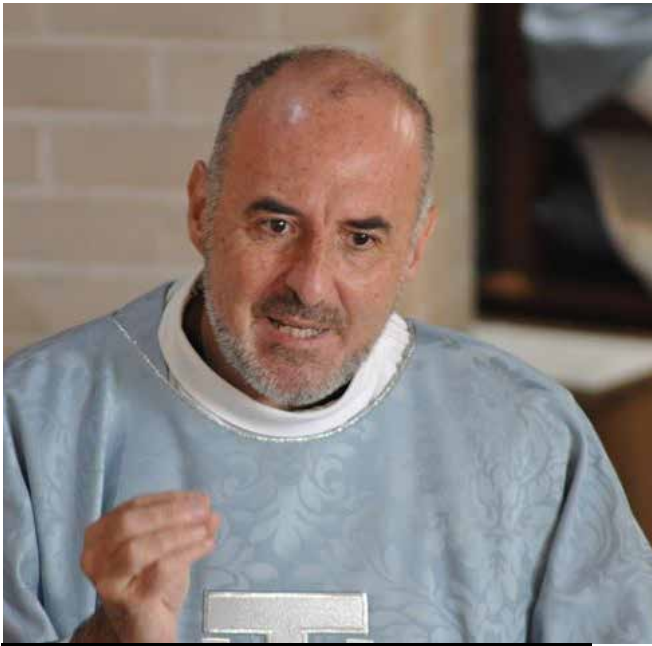
In the summer issue of *Carmelite News*, I wrote about the Mass in Hulne Priory near Alnwick. The photos showed a very wet day and at the end of Mass I was completely soaked through. Nothing could have been more different in Lampeter for the Solemnity of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on 16 July 2019! We were blessed with glorious weather! We

were also fortunate to have the presence of our Prior General, Father Fernando Millán Romeral, on his last visit to our province as General before he leaves office in September this year.

The Carmelites came to Aberystwyth in 1936 to take over a parish and the university chaplaincy. However, the friars wanted to be true to their missionary spirit and Father Malachy Lynch, first Carmelite prior of Aberystwyth, was able to expand the Carmelite presence in Wales as a response to the number of Catholics relocated to the area at the beginning of the Second World War. The Church was opened in 1940 and remained in Carmelite hands until 1972. It was a fitting place to recall the contribution of the province

to Welsh Catholicism.

There were parishioners present from Aberystwyth, Carmarthen and members of the Third Order from Cardiff, as well as folk from Lampeter itself. It was also great to meet up with the parish priest, Father Keith Evans, who was a student of mine in Rome. He was responsible for all the logistics on the ground before and on the day itself. The Mass was simple but moving as we recalled our Patron and Sister, Our Lady of Mount Carmel on her feast day. It was wonderful that the Prior General was able to be present and preach too. Father Fernando has been a great supporter of the province and of the Shrine of Saint Jude - we thank him for his service to the Order and to us here.



Father Fernando preached at the Mass in Lampeter

“ ..novenas are an opportunity to reflect on the many dimensions of our faith.. ”



Pentecost - Adam Kossowski

THE MARKING OF DAYS for special prayers and devotions goes right back to the earliest days of Christianity. Some feasts had a longer period of preparation over nine days. The reason for nine seems to be linked with ancient times of mourning after a funeral and before the final feast. Over time, people began to associate a novena with Christian themes such as the nine months Jesus spent in the womb; the giving up of His spirit at the ninth hour; and the event which occurred in the Upper Room with Twelve Apostles and the Blessed Virgin Mary when they prayed for nine days until the Holy Spirit descended on Pentecost.

During a novena, the devotees make petitions, implore favours, or obtain graces by worshipping Jesus Christ, and asking for intercessions of Mary or the saints of the faith. Individuals may express love and honour by kneeling, burning candles or placing flowers for the person represented by a statue.

Whatever the origins of novenas and however they are celebrated, these periods of time before a feast also offer an important opportunity to reflect on the many dimensions of our faith. It's not always possible to say everything in a single homily (though I've heard some priests try!), so a series of Masses and homilies gives us a good way of exploring all the levels of a particular feast. Even if we cannot take part in Mass over the nine days of a novena, we can read the gospels for the different days and reflect on their importance in our lives.

As ever, we have included three novenas for the next few weeks - please do consider praying with us for each of the nine days. You can also include your intentions for the novena masses on the intentions sheet.



THIS YEAR THE FEAST day of Saint Jude falls on a Monday, so we will be having a full programme of Masses and devotions on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 October, as well as on the feast day itself. Please see below and the back page for details of these.

I am pleased to advise that the church reopened on 1 September.

The Feast of Saint Jude is an ideal opportunity to renew our dedication and discipleship. We may not know much about Saint Jude as an individual, but his role as one of the Twelve is quite

clear: they are a collective symbol of the restoration of the Twelve Tribes of Israel and therefore witnesses to the new Israel, the Kingdom of God. Jesus comes as Messiah, but not in a way the people were expecting. So too the Twelve Apostles are not generals in an army of liberation nor princes in a royal household. They are servants of the Kingdom of God and witnesses to the values of the Kingdom by their actions. So too we can draw inspiration from Saint Jude in the same way: taking up God's Word and seeing how it changes our lives.

Saint Jude has a special place in our lives as the saint who

has a particular care for all of those who feel desperate or abandoned. When we have no one left to intercede for us (or so it seems) we can turn to Saint Jude. It seems appropriate that the apostle who appears next to last on the gospel lists of the Twelve and who is often confused with Judas Iscariot, should be the one who helps those who feel forgotten themselves. Saint Jude with all the apostles teaches us how to trust and persevere in our faith.

Saint Jude is truly a saint of hope.

Feast of Saint Jude celebrations - 2019

26 October

12pm - 1pm - 2pm - 3pm

Saint Jude Mass with Anointing

27 October

12pm - 1pm - 2pm - 3pm

Saint Jude Mass with Anointing

28 October

12pm & 7.00pm

Saint Jude Mass with Anointing

NOVEMBER WILL BE with us soon and this always means a time of special prayer for those we have lost. This might be for those who have died recently or those who have died many years ago. It doesn't really matter how recently or how long ago since they died.

There is a story about the second Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Manning. Before becoming a priest in 1851, Manning had been married but his wife had died very young. When Manning himself died in 1892 after 45 years of celibacy, a locket was found around his neck containing a piece of his wife's hair. It is also said that Manning kept a picture of her under his pillow and took it out every night when he said his prayers. Clearly the long years between her death and his counted for nothing in his mind and more importantly in his affections. His nightly practice was a constant reminder of her presence in his life.

This is the meaning of our devotional practice of praying for the souls of those who have died. They are part of our lives in a real way and we have not forgotten them. Just as we



The Resurrection - window by Richard Joseph King

bring our loved ones who are still living before the Lord in prayer, so too we remember in prayer those who are no longer with us. We also try to remember those who have no one to pray for them: the Holy Souls in general, rather than particular people we know.

The Church sets aside 2 November as a special day of prayer and the whole month of November in general. It is a humbling day, yet also a comforting one. It is humbling because it reminds us of a certain fundamental equality of our human destiny. It is comforting because it reminds us of God's love for us and the true gift of life

after this earthly existence.

We continue to remain in union and solidarity with the Holy Souls as we celebrate the Eucharist because that celebration is with the Body of Christ on earth and in heaven. Mass is the great sacrifice of holiness, presence and mission.

The Church prays for the dead in every Mass and so recalls every day those whose holiness inspires us and which we still feel and appreciate. Praying for the dead also reminds us that our ultimate mission is not on this earth, but to be with God in heaven.

The importance and significance of praying for the dead is well underlined at Mass during the Eucharistic prayer. For instance, Eucharistic Prayer III has the following beautiful special insert for the dead:

Remember your servant whom you have called from this world to yourself. Grant that he who was united with your son in a death like his, may also be one with him in his Resurrection, when from the earth he will raise up in the flesh those who have died, and transform our lowly body after the pattern of his own glorious body. To our departed brothers and sisters, too, and to all who were pleasing to you at their passing from this life, give kind admittance to your kingdom. There we hope to enjoy for ever the fullness of your glory, when you will wipe away every tear from our eyes. For seeing you, our God, as you are, we shall be like you for all the ages and praise you without end...

This prayer emphasises that our own fate is bound up with the fate of those for whom we pray and we will see them again in heaven in the love of God. The Saint Jude Holy Souls Society allows us to keep the souls

in our prayers in November and then throughout the rest of the year.

THE SHRINE OF SAINT Jude and the Shrine Information Centre have gone through some refurbishment.

The old lighting over the sixteenth century statue of Saint Jude was damaging it. So, we have worked with a local electrician to make sure some new lighting will keep it undamaged for the next 100 years. The local electrician researched this extensively and spoke to a number of museums around the world to properly work out how to protect the statue. The lighting will keep the statue lit for all those around the world too who can never visit us, but can pray with Saint Jude over the internet.

In addition to the statue, we have built a new entrance at the Shrine Information Centre, and made the walls of the building safe and durable. We believe that the new entrance has made the building much easier to find and much more welcoming to our pilgrims.

Later this year, we will be adding a display on the history of the Shrine and the Carmelites in this area,

so that more people can find out about the Shrine.

Thank you to all those who have donated to our annual fund and helped support these important works.

On 6 August, the Mayor of Faversham, Alison Reynolds, with the local WI President, Susi Du Toit, unveiled a new defibrillator at the Shrine. The WI raised the money so that they could donate the defibrillator to the Shrine and town of Faversham. It will be accessible to the people of Faversham and our pilgrims 24 hours a day. Thank you to the WI.

In other news, we have produced a new Christmas card. The new card shows a Christmas scene in the gardens here. It has been exclusively painted by the artist, Patricia Hall.



Every time, friends of Saint Jude purchase an item from us, that donation then helps us to continue our work in the province and in the world. And, of course, when you send the card - someone else finds out about us!



I HOPE TO SEE YOU at the celebrations in October. Parish groups are very welcome.

Thank you for all your donations and kind generosity. In my Christmas

letter, I'll be reporting back on the impact you have made this year.

Until then may God bless you and may Our Lady and Saint Jude intercede for you!

With the assurance of prayers,

Kevin Alban O. Carm.
Prior Provincial

Notice Board



Remember our Novenas

Novena to the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary

29 September - 7 October 2019

Novena to Saint Teresa of Avila

7 - 15 October 2019

Novena to Saint Jude

20 - 28 October 2019

Please recycle or pass this newsletter onto a friend after you have finished reading it - thank you.



Proof Reader?

We are looking for proof readers to help us look at the newsletter and other items. Can you spare some time and have easy access to a computer? Please email Matt Betts on address below if you can help. Thank you.

developmentmanager@stjudeshrine.org.uk



2019 Reflection & Prayer with

St. Jude

National Shrine of St. Jude

SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER

SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER

MONDAY 28 OCTOBER

ST. JUDE FEAST CELEBRATIONS

Saturday 16 November

PRAYER IN A BUSY WORLD

Kevin Alban, O.Carm.

Prior Provincial of the Carmelites in Britain

11.00 Mass - 11.45 Talk on theme

12.30 Prayer Together - 13.00 Conclusion



THE CARMELITE FRIARS WELCOME YOU

Come and join us!



✉ Carmelite Friars, PO Box 289, Faversham, ME13 3BZ

☎ 01795 539 214

✉ newsletter@stjudeshrine.org.uk

💻 www.stjudeshrine.org.uk

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THE CARMELITE NEWS



From the National Shrine of Saint Jude



AUTUMN 2019