



THE CARMELITE NEWS



From the National Shrine of Saint Jude



SUMMER 2019



Dear Friend of Saint Jude

GREETINGS FROM the Carmelite Shrine of Saint Jude! We have just celebrated the Summer Celebration of the Apostle Jude with anointing, Mass and a procession with the relic. However, so much has been going on in the past few months, I would like to share some other news first.

Thanks to your generosity, the British Province of Carmelites has been able to contribute to the new shrine of Saint Oscar Romero at Saint George's Cathedral in Southwark, London, by sharing the cost of gates that allow pilgrims to enter the

sacred space. You can see these in the picture below and above.

The Carmelite Order has strong spiritual links with Romero, the martyred Archbishop of San Salvador who was shot dead whilst celebrating Mass in a Carmelite chapel in 1980.

Oscar Romero was canonised a saint by Pope Francis last October in recognition of his prophetic voice on behalf of the poor and marginalised of society.

Peter Smith, the Archbishop of Southwark established a shrine in Saint George's Catholic

Cathedral in honour of Oscar Romero in 2013 when a four-metre high Salvadorean Cross was installed in a side chapel. The cross was painted by Fernando Llorca, the world-renowned artist who created the naïve art style which has come to represent the beauty of El Salvador. Set inside the cross are relics of the saint: a fragment of Archbishop Romero's bloodstained alb, and his zucchetto (bishop's skull cap).





Father Kevin Alban proclaimed the Gospel at the Mass for Saint Oscar Romero

“ ..the Cyclone brought torrential rains and winds of up to 140 km/h.. ”



Some of the destruction

ON THE 14 to 15 March 2019, Cyclone Idai made landfall in central Mozambique, near Beira City, Sofala Province, leaving almost 90 percent of the city submerged in flood water. The Cyclone brought torrential rains and winds of up to 140 km/h, and a tidal surge has cut off several villages in the area.

It is not clear how many people have died since the storm hit, also affecting Malawi and Zimbabwe. In particular, a whole area of south-western Zimbabwe

was affected. This is part of the diocese of Carmelite Bishop, Paul Horan, of the Irish province. A fellow-Carmelite who works in Zimbabwe, John McGrath, writes:

“Many thanks to many of you for your kind response and concern. I know many of you are very concerned regarding the terrible loss of life and destruction to homes and property in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe because of the Cyclone last weekend. It was awful for all the people in the affected areas, from Beira in Mozambique, reaching Southern Malawi and into Zimbabwe causing terrible destruction in Chimanimani and Chipinge and into the Masvingo district. It was only on Monday and Tuesday when the army and relief workers were able to get into some parts of the affected area that the full extent of the disaster began to be realized. Mozambique took a terrible blow, they say that almost 90% of the Beira area and city was destroyed.”

There has been some progress in getting into some of the affected area in Mozambique and Zimbabwe, the bridges are still down of course, roads are still flooded with mudslides and rocks on most of the roads. It is going to take some time before all the affected areas are reached. It appears that a few hundred people may have died in the Chimanimani and Chipinge areas of Zimbabwe, nobody knows yet the number of deaths. It is believed that 600ml of rain fell in the affected areas in two days [and] the horrific rain, flooded rivers, mudslides and strong winds caused the horrific loss of life and devastation. Bishop Paul Horan and some of the Fathers went to the area today, the road from Skyline to the Seminary and the road from Skyline to the town of Chimanimani is still not passable, one has to foot through the mud etc. The aftermath has shocked everybody, so much devastation, loss of life, loss of homes, animals, crops, we have



Mass at Hulne Priory, Northumberland in celebration of 50 years

been talking about climate change for years, this is the reality! I mentioned on Sunday that two school boys at Saint Charles Lwanga School died in the disaster. During my almost fifty years in Zimbabwe I have never witnessed or experienced anything like this.

May the Lord grant peace to all who have died, to all who are suffering, to all who have been affected and to all who are helping and caring for the people affected."

The province was able to donate £10,000 immediately to CAFOD and several other Carmelite houses and parishes made contributions. Without your help, this would not have been possible. Thank you.

T HIS YEAR SEES THE fiftieth anniversary of the restoration of the province of Carmelites in Britain. I wanted to remind you of the history of the province: the Carmelites returned in 1926 when they took on the pastoral

responsibilities of the parishes of Faversham and Sittingbourne, Kent.

The friars returned to Aylesford in 1949 and two years later they took over Allington Castle as a retreat centre until 1996.

In 1936 the Carmelites arrived in Wales, where they were involved in education at various levels. Communities were established in Aberystwyth, Llandeilo, Lampeter and recently in Llanelli. The Carmelites had the care of the inner-city parish of English Martyrs, Walworth from 1980 to 2014.

There was a parish in Tadcaster, North Yorkshire from 1967 to 1980. A few miles away there was a retreat and pilgrimage centre at Hazlewood Castle from 1972 until 1996. Since 1995 the Carmelites have had care of the University Chaplaincy at Heslington, York, where Fr Kevin Melody is now.

From 1969 the province was known as the Anglo-Welsh Province, and then from 1999 it became the

British Province, which it has remained to this day.

On 1 May, our celebrations opened with a Mass in Hulne priory, near Alnwick in Northumberland. As you can see from the photos, it was a very wet affair! In the end, we coped and it becomes insignificant when you consider the effects of Idai in March. We were able to restore body and soul in the local parish hall.

The next celebrations are in Aylesford on 14 July 2019, and in Lampeter on 16 July 2019. On both occasions the Prior General, Father Fernando Millán Romeral, O.Carm will be with us. This is the last time he will visit the province before leaving office in September. All are welcome!



THE SUMMER Celebration took place in glorious, hot sunshine on Saturday 25 May. The pilgrims assembled at 11am for a short service of welcome at which the oil of Saint Jude was blessed and distributed by anointing.

Over the lunch break and before Mass we were honoured to have the newly elected Mayor of Faversham, Cllr Alison Reynolds, as our guest. She charmed us with a short introduction at the afternoon Mass in which she pointed out the importance of the Shrine for the town. It is interesting to note that the first known Mayor of Faversham was elected in 1292 and the town and port of Faversham is one of the oldest in England.

Thank you to all who made the day a great success. In particular, I would like to thank the Faversham Gunpowder WI for the beautiful lunch and cakes, and to the volunteers who are so kind to give up so much time. You can see some photos overleaf.





THANK YOU FOR all your support and for all your prayers, without which the province could not continue.

The Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel will be soon here so I wish you every blessing on this special day.

May Mary protect you and intercede for you always.

Kevin Alban O. Carm.
Prior Provincial

Notice Board



Remember our Novenas

Novena to the Sacred Heart: 20 - 28 June 2019
Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel: 8 - 16 July 2019
Novena to Saint Jude: 8 - 16 August 2019

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



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**



Raffle Tickets

In this newsletter, please find enclosed ten raffle tickets. Please send back as soon as you can - and please pass on any spare tickets to your friends and family. All money raised goes towards our work. Thank you.

2019 Reflection & Prayer with

St. Jude

National Shrine of St. Jude

FAVERSHAM

Saturday, 6 July

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY

Richard Green, O.Carm.

Saturday, 3 August

HEAL MY HEART, O GOD

Brendan Grady, O.Carm.

Saturday, 7 September

CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES

Ged Walsh, O.Carm.

26-28 OCTOBER

ST. JUDE FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

(SEE WEBSITE FOR DAILY PROGRAMME)

Saturday, 16 November

PRAYER IN A BUSY WORLD

Kevin Alban, O.Carm.



THE CARMELITE FRIARS

WELCOME YOU

- 11.00 Mass
- 11.45 Talk on theme
- 12.30 Prayer Together
- 13.00 Conclusion



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