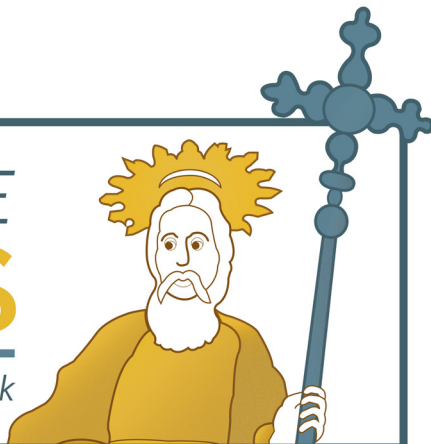


SAINT JUDE FOCUS

www.stjudeshrine.org.uk



News from the Shrine of Saint Jude - July/August 2024



Novena to Saint Jude

20 - 28 October 2024

*A message of hope for
today*



www.TogetherwithJude.org

Join us every day
10am
20 - 28 October 2024
ALL WELCOME



WELCOME

WELCOME TO THE LATEST ISSUE of *Saint Jude Focus* - updating the friends of Saint Jude.

We have had a brilliant few months at the shrine - celebrating the opening of the new 'Footprints of Hope' at the end of May and then the 'Summer Celebration' the very next day. We have also welcomed a number of Kent schools and other pilgrimages - if you would like to visit us as a pilgrimage group, please contact Nic on 01795 539 214 to arrange.

Looking ahead: we are inviting friends of Saint Jude to once more walk 12 miles wherever they live during August to raise money for the charity. Later on this year, we will be celebrating the Feast of Saint Jude on 26 - 28 October - all are welcome.

Thank you for your support of the Apostle of Hope and his Shrine.

Matt

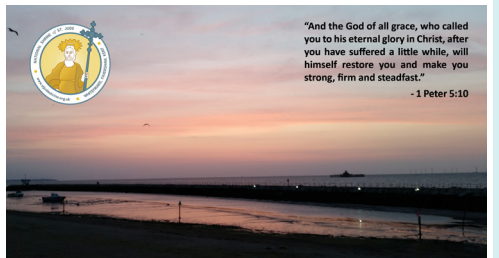


THANK YOU

THANK YOU TO FRIENDS OF SAINT Jude who have sent us a new or up-to-date Gift Aid declaration in the last few months - we really appreciate it.

Gift Aid doesn't cost donors anything extra, but if you sign up, the Carmelite Charitable Trust will be able to claim a 25% boost to your donation. If you would like to sign up for Gift Aid and haven't done this yet, please contact us at the Shrine Office. Thank you.

What do you think of 'Saint Jude Focus'? Is there something you would like us to include in future editions? Please let us know at: newsletter@stjudeshrine.org.uk. Thank you.





Saint Peter

PENTECOST IS SEEN AS the birth or beginning of the Church. In the Gospel of Saint Luke, the images of fire and wind sweeping through the place where the disciples gather bring to mind someone cleaning or sweeping out a room! The action of the Spirit is to 'create, to inspire, to bring life, to jolt, to stir up'. The birth of the Church implies a new creative force in the world and a new perspective on reality. Saint Jude was a part of this new creative force, so what happened to the Apostles after Pentecost?

The Apostles went far and wide as messengers for God and the risen Christ. Many of them suffered greatly for their mission. Over the next twelve weeks, let's see what we can find out...

The New Testament makes it very clear that Peter was preeminent amongst the twelve. When Jesus met Peter, he was given this name which meant 'rock'. Jesus later explained the meaning: *"And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."* – Matthew 16:18

One of the final times that we read about Peter in the New Testament is after King Herod Agrippa has killed Peter's fellow Apostle, James. When King Herod Agrippa *"saw how much [the death of James] pleased the people, he arrested Peter."* Before Peter went on trial, he was fastened with two chains and kept between two soldiers, whilst other guards stood outside the prison gate. However, suddenly, there was a bright light in the cell, and an angel of the Lord stood before Peter. The angel struck him on the side to awaken him



Twelve Apostles (Shrine of Saint Jude)

“...peace be with you, Foundation of the Church, Shepherd of the flock of Christ...”



Jesus and his disciples

and said, “Quick! Get up!” and the chains fell off his wrists. Then the angel told him, “Get dressed and put on your sandals.” And he did. “Now put on your coat and follow me,” the angel ordered.

Peter assumed his escape was just a nice vision, but when the angel led him to outside the gates, he realised it was all quite real. He headed immediately to where members of the community were praying. At first, no one could quite believe it was him, but eventually they accepted Peter had escaped. A bit later, Herod Agrippa was struck down “with worms and died.” Meanwhile “... the word of God continued

to spread, and there were many new believers...”

Peter then travelled to Rome. In many ways, Rome was the place to be – it was the heart of the Roman Empire, and it was the seat of the Emperor Nero. According to Ignatius of Antioch (who Peter is said to have ordained), Peter founded a Christian community here and established the episcopal succession (which the Pope is a successor of). The Roman historian Tacitus later describes the persecution of Christians that was to come: “Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace.” It is therefore assumed that this is the time when Peter (and Paul) were killed.

It is said that Peter and Paul suffered martyrdom on the same day and were led together until they were separated: Peter for Nero’s Circus; Paul for the Salvian Springs. They did not say goodbye, instead Peter said: “Go in peace, Preacher of glad tidings, Guide of the Just in Salvation”; Paul replied: “Peace be with you, Foundation of the Church, Shepherd of the flock of Christ”.

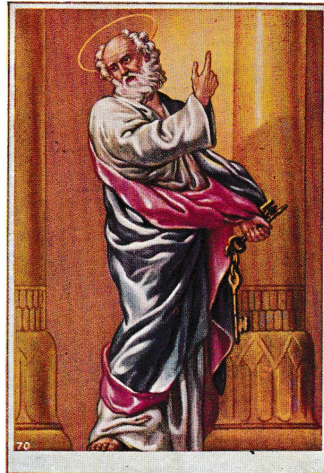
Peter was executed by crucifixion with his head pointed downward.

It was Christian tradition to bury the martyred person near where they had been executed, so it is likely that this is where Peter was buried.

Pope Clement I (d. 99), in his Letter to the Corinthians (Chapter 5), written c. 80–98, speaks of Peter's martyrdom in the following terms: "Let us take the noble examples of our own generation. Through jealousy and envy the greatest and most just pillars of the Church were persecuted and came even unto death...Peter, through unjust envy, endured not one or two but many labours, and at last, having delivered his testimony, departed unto the place of glory due to him."

In 1939, the burial chambers of Peter were uncovered for Pope Pius XI and an archaeological excavation began. In 1942 remains were found by the Administrator of Saint Peter's, but he secretly ordered these remains to be stored elsewhere. It wasn't until his death that these relics were discovered again by chance and Pope

Paul VI was informed. On 26 June 1968, Pope Paul VI declared that the relics of Saint Peter had been found because there had been some nearby graffiti of Peter's name saying that he was buried there. On 24 November 2013, some of these relics were displayed to the public after Pope Francis celebrated the closing of the 'Year of Faith' Mass.



Representations of Peter depict him as an oldish, thick-set man with a short beard, and usually white hair, sometimes balding (but not completely bald like Saint Paul) - as pictured on the shrine's 1950s prayer card above. His visual emblems are Keys of Heaven, Red Martyr, pallium, papal vestments, rooster, man crucified upside down, vested as an Apostle, holding a book or

scroll and a Cross of Saint Peter. He often appears with Paul or the other Twelve Apostles (with Matthias displaced, like at the Shrine of Saint Jude).

His Feast Day was in June and takes place on 29 June alongside Paul.

Peter is a great example to us all - because you can read about how he grew in faith as he learnt to trust Jesus's mission.

Let us pray...

O Glorious Saint Peter, because of your vibrant and generous faith, sincere humility and flaming love, our Lord honoured you with singular privileges and especially leadership of the whole Church. Obtain for us the grace of a living faith, a sincere loyalty to the Church, acceptance of all her teachings, and obedience to all her precepts. Let us thus enjoy an undisturbed peace on earth and everlasting happiness in heaven.

by Matthew Betts

Originally published on the Saint Jude website - June 2021



SAINT JUDE ANNUAL FUND 2024



For over 800 years the Carmelites have responded to God's call in Britain and throughout the world providing a significant response to the needs of an ever-changing world. The Order seeks the face of the living God not only in prayer and fraternity, but also in service.

Today the Carmelites work alongside all people of faith and goodwill, which is done through traditional Christian ministry and by being available to those who are often at the edges of Church and society. The Carmelite Charitable Trust serves the community throughout Britain: running and working at

the Shrine of Saint Jude, in parishes, prisons, and hospitals, and running and working at Aylesford Priory. It also supports Carmelite communities across the world, but particularly in Colombia, East Timor and Kenya.

Thanks to the support of many friends of Saint Jude last year, we were able to refurbish many parts of the Shrine, support ongoing projects for vocations and the missions around the world. Thank you.

In 2024, we are looking for your support in four areas:

- Saint Jude Welcome Centre Complex
- Saint Jude 'Footprints of Hope' project

- Vocations
- Where we need it most

Thank you to all the friends of Saint Jude who have supported this year's annual fund so far. There is still time to support us. Please contact the Shrine Office if you would like a form, or visit us at:

www.stjudeshrine.org.uk/AF24

THANK YOU.






Become a member of the Guild of Saint Jude **TODAY**

1. Members share in the daily Masses
2. Members share in special Masses
3. Members share in our daily prayers
4. Members receive a Handbook of Devotions
5. And support the Shrine of Saint Jude

Membership is open to all those who have a devotion to Saint Jude

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