

CARMELITE CHARITABLE TRUST



SAINT JUDE ANNUAL FUND 2023

NATIONAL SHRINE of ST. JUDE • WHITEFRIARS, FAVERSHAM, KENT

EVERY GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

We are delighted to present our Saint Jude Annual Fund for 2023/2024.

We are looking for support in three areas:

- National Shrine of Saint Jude
- Vocations
- Where we need it most

We would be very grateful if you could help us in some way, with all donations helping to keep the Carmelite Order and its work secure for many generations to come.

If five hundred friends of Saint Jude were to give £10 a month, we would raise an incredible £60,000 extra each year. This would have a transformational effect in the work we do.

Our 'Garden of Hope' is dedicated to those people who donate to the Annual Fund or for those people you have asked us to remember. The names are renewed each year. Each friend of Saint Jude is unique to us and this garden allows us to remember each person through our special 'Garden of Hope'. If you are able, you can add an extra donation for the work we are doing to the garden via our form.



SHRINE OF SAINT JUDE

Back in 1955, Carmelite friar, Fr. Elias Lynch, founded the Shrine of Saint Jude for two reasons: first, because he was responding to the needs of the post-war generation who were looking for hope, and secondly because the Carmelite charism is so deeply rooted in the Word of God. It is therefore fitting that there is a place dedicated to Saint Jude - the **Apostle of Hope**. Both of Fr. Lynch's initial reasons are still realities in 2023, and pilgrims find the Shrine to be a place of prayer, peace, and hope.

We know that Saint Jude is a friend to all of us and he is the Saint of Hope, since with God no situation is hopeless.

The Shrine is always available to everyone and to achieve this throughout the site, we need to continue our refurbishment of the Welcome Centre. This work includes new guttering around the centre, a new boiler, and we need to replace most of the lighting - amongst many other repairs. We would also like to refurbish parts of the complex, which are looking tired and need a bit of freshening up. The Welcome Centre can then continue its purpose as a place of welcome for all pilgrims, as well as place of welcome for the people of Faversham and beyond.

If you can help us with the Saint Jude project, we can make sure that knowledge of the Shrine and our work will continue to grow for many generations to come.

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I have been praying to Saint Jude for his intercession in two difficult areas of my life and I can attest that very recently, my prayers have been answered in a way that is nothing short of remarkable. - Anonymous

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VOCATIONS



We want to ensure that Carmelites continue to share the Good News of God's love for all - now and in the future.

Those who become Carmelite friars join a small group of dedicated brothers who are involved in the work of preaching the Gospel and witnessing to the presence of God in the world.

At the moment, two men are in training and these young Carmelites need your support in their early years of preparing for ministry.

The province has now created a new community of friars in Reading. It is an ideal location with easy transport links to Oxford, and London and other places of study. The community is now very involved in the local area.

“ *The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet.*

- Frederick Buechner

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WHERE WE NEED IT MOST

Today, the Carmelites work with the people of God through prayer, fraternity and service and works 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 Trust serves the community throughout Britain: directing a large retreat centre, running parishes, working in prisons and hospitals, and running the Shrine of Saint Jude. It also supports Carmelite communities across the world, but particularly in Colombia, East Timor and Kenya.





GARDEN OF HOPE

The Saint Jude 'Garden of Hope' is dedicated to all those people who donate to the Annual Fund or for those people you have asked us to remember, too. Why a 'Garden of Hope'?

Saint Jude is best known as the patron of "desperate" or "difficult" cases (a term used in preference to the older title of "hopeless" cases, since with God no situation is hopeless). To us, Saint Jude is the patron saint of hope in Jesus Christ.

As our friend Fr Nicholas King, SJ wrote in a recent reflection: "Hope is a strange Christian attitude, but incredibly important. It places us between the now and the not-yet. Can you remember all the way back to Pre-Virus, when we had never heard of Covid-19 (or Zoom, for that matter)? Do you recall how simple things were then, in contrast to that extraordinary moment when it was suddenly no longer possible to plan, and all we can do is live one day at a time? So "hope" is what gets us through the darkness; and it is not the same as being "optimistic". Our source of hope is not the gloomy insight that "things can't possibly get any worse; so they must get better".

Rather it is the entirely cheerful certainty that God has raised Jesus from the dead, so everything is all right, no matter how dark things may appear".

Thus, the 'Garden of Hope' continues to be a place of hope and a place to celebrate the promise of Jesus. No matter how dark things may appear – there is always hope. If you are able, you can add an extra donation for the work we are doing to the garden via our form.

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*God Almighty first planted a garden.
And indeed, it is the purest of human pleasures.*

- Francis Bacon

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HOW TO GIVE

The easiest way to give is to complete the enclosed gift form and make a donation by cheque, credit/debit card, or you can set up a regular standing order. Please return your form using the enclosed envelope.

Alternatively, you can donate online at:
www.stjudeshrine.org.uk/AF23

You can choose to allocate your gift to a specific project or on an unrestricted basis which will be allocated by the Provincial and his council to where the need is greatest.

If you are a UK taxpayer, 25% can be added to the value of your gift, at no extra cost to you through Gift Aid. To enable us to claim Gift Aid, please complete the Gift Aid Declaration form enclosed.

Your generous donation will make a real difference to our work at the Shrine, in the UK and abroad. THANK YOU.





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*Beloved, build yourselves up on your most
holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit*
- Letter of Saint Jude, verse 20

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Carmelite Friars, PO Box 289, FAVERSHAM, Kent, ME13 3BZ

developmentmanager@stjudeshrine.org.uk
01795 539 214

www.stjudeshrine.org.uk/AF23



Carmelite Charitable Trust. Registered Charity No: 1061342.
Registered office: Churchill House, Suite 320/321, 120 Bunn's Lane, Mill Hill, London NW7 2AS

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