



THE CARMELITE NEWS



From the National Shrine of Saint Jude



AUTUMN 2023



Dear Friend of Saint Jude and valued friend of the Carmelites,

As our quarterly newsletter finds its way to you, the summer is fading into memory. It has been a varied summer in this country: a mix of intense sunshine, strong winds and rain with the occasional storm, and the inevitable uncertainty about what the next day might bring. While I am not at all superstitious, I have discovered that if I take an umbrella with me when I go out, it rarely seems to rain; if I don't... well, you know what happens! For many, of course, summer is a season for taking trips, breaks and, for the fortunate, a holiday or perhaps for making a pilgrimage. Whatever your summer has been like, Carmelites, staff and friends at the Shrine of Saint Jude have continued to hold you and your loved ones in prayer.

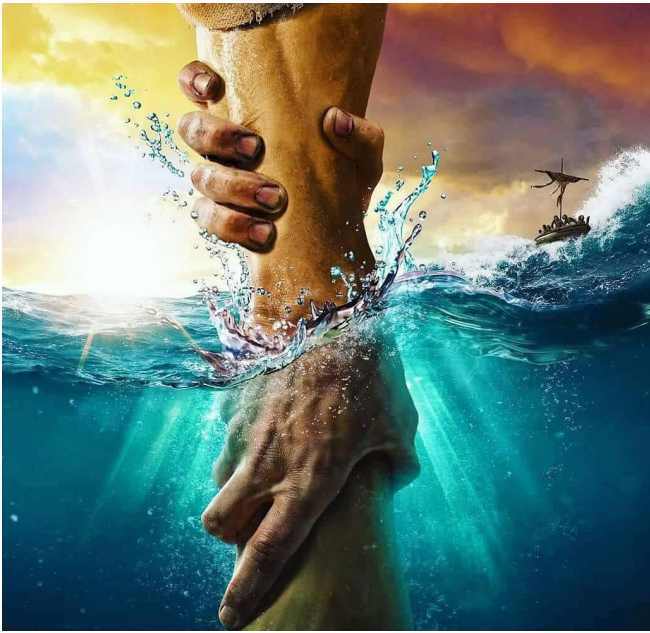
Being held

What stories in the gospels do you find encouraging and challenging? A gospel story that I often re-visit is about Jesus inviting Peter to walk on the water with him during a storm. You might like to open your bible and slowly read the version in *Matthew 14:22-33*. Jesus has had another busy day gathering people, nourishing their physical and spiritual hunger, and teaching them about God's inclusive and accepting love. With Jesus no-one is excluded. We can imagine Saint Jude and the other disciples in awe of Jesus, being shaped and formed by Jesus' prophetic, life-giving words into a community of believers.

Jesus sends his disciples across a lake while he takes some down-time to pray. I

often wonder what Jesus' prayer was like during those times. What do you think? It seems that he is just completely himself and is comfortably at home being with God, whom he calls 'Abba' (Daddy!). Perhaps there are no words spoken; just a gentle and open awareness of being in harmony and communion with the One who sent him. Perhaps we can call this contemplative prayer - a very simple resting in God in simplicity without words and distractions and with utter self-abandoning trust. How do you imagine Jesus at prayer?

While Jesus is being held in love and by love, his disciples are in the middle of a storm on the lake. Despite the chaos (outside and inside his friends), Jesus calmly walks towards them and then calls out to Peter.



“...Jesus reaches out and holds Peter...just as Jesus is held lovingly by his Father...”



Joseph and Clara bring communion

He invites him not to yield to overwhelming fear but to walk towards him on the water. While Peter keeps his focus trustingly on Jesus, he does not sink. However, Peter's attention seems to be distracted by the howling gale and down he begins to go. He has no option but to cry out in desperation, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus reaches out and holds Peter. Just as Jesus is held lovingly by his Father, so he embraces those whom he loves. What Jesus experiences in his intimacy with God, he shares generously with others.

Creating space for God

Of course, we know that the story is about much more than just a storm on a lake. As we read the

account for ourselves, we might recognise the times of chaos that there have been or maybe even continue to be in our experience. As friends of Saint Jude, our patron saint of hope, we call upon his intercession. Being a follower of Jesus does not eliminate all the challenges we need to face in the ordinariness of daily living. With a sense of purpose, a Christ-centred vision, and an increasing sense of our need for God, we can create space and time to allow ourselves to be held by God. Can we set aside just ten minutes each day to be attentive to God in quiet, listening prayer?

I know for myself that if I reaffirm my faith, somehow God is with me in everything – the ups and the downs – and I can find the courage to take just one step at a time. Engaging with the stories in the gospels can help us to gaze more deeply into the eyes of Jesus and, with the disciples say, 'You are the Son of God'. Just as Jesus invited Peter to engage more deeply in his own journey of faith, we too are summoned to step out of our cosy, sleepy ways into a future that God will reveal to us...if we have the courage to engage in a pilgrimage of trust.



Pilgrim People

People have a variety of reasons for participating in a pilgrimage, which is both an outward and inward journey. Perhaps a search for meaning or direction, a time to work through some challenges or a desire to find peace and healing. Some may be looking for time out and an opportunity to re-evaluate life choices, a different sort of break away, or even an adventure. Others may be looking for a time of spiritual renewal, for prayer and contemplative silence.

It is always good to spend time with pilgrims who come to the Shrine of Saint Jude. Listening to their experiences can be inspiring, and appreciating their hopes, desires, concerns and challenges can evoke a strong sense of connectedness. While each of our stories is unique to us,

engaging with others' lives with respect and empathy can draw us in to another person's heart and we can reach out, like Jesus on the lake, to offer a reassuring hand. When we allow Christ to work through our everyday encounters, we form a praying community. This is a fundamental ministry of the Shrine, and it is an essential aspect of the lives of Carmelite friars.

Canterbury

On 22 July a group of Carmelite friars and friends of Saint Jude made a short pilgrimage to Canterbury Cathedral. It was good to be with fellow pilgrims and to spend time in prayer at this iconic space made sacred by the memory and witness of Saint Thomas Becket. Celebrating Eucharist in the cathedral, we processed with our pilgrim candle, carried by Brother Tony (see cover).

The bond of community was tangible, and it was a beautiful moment when everyone joined hands to pray the Lord's Prayer and were invited to be silently aware of the energy of God's love uniting us. As you know, the cathedral attracts thousands of people each year, most of whom are tourists. As people were walking past where we were praying, many stopped and spent a few moments. Who knows what effect the simple witness of a few people praying together had on them? Is it too much to think that they became part of our little community for a short while and were transformed from being tourists into pilgrims?

World Youth Day

This global event celebrated every few years, brings together young people from all around the world with Pope Francis.

This year, a small group of young adults and friars from the British Province of Carmelites attended WYD in Lisbon, Portugal from 31 July to 7 August. Joining the huge number from around the world, they had an opportunity to spend a day with Carmelite groups from other countries. An estimated 1.5 million participated at the final Mass.

Looking back at the experience, Brother Matthew Janvier writes: *'Like Mary, we must treasure all these things in our heart, and it is these things that Pope Francis spoke of when he asked us to ponder "what will we take back with us to the valley of our daily lives?" To shine, to listen and not be afraid was the Pope's message to us. They were his verbs of transformation that will help us as we returned home. Over the week we formed a little community, and it has become clear that Pope Francis' words have been drawn to the centre of it. The call to listen and not be afraid has been core to our community; listening to each other's needs and wants, but also not being afraid to be who we really are. When we are being ourselves(as God has called us by name to be) we have*



Fathers Ged and Brendan make sure that the rain does not stop the pilgrimage

shone. I have no doubt that this will continue into the future, not only in our WYD community, but in each and every encounter that we have from this moment onwards. It is the light of Christ that gives us strength. It lifts us each time we fall, and it is the light of hope that reminds us "do not fear, do not fear, do not fear...for there is only one free thing: the love of Jesus."

Lithuania

In a previous issue of our newsletter, we mentioned that Carmelites working together in Europe are strengthening links with small communities of people who are closely associated with us in Lithuania.

“...there is only one free thing: the love of Jesus...”



World Youth Day

Br. Richard Green travelled to meet them (see photo below) from 3 - 6 August with fellow Carmelites, Fr. Sean Ford from Ireland and Fr. Mariusz Placek from Poland. They prayed together and shared time exploring different aspects of Carmelite spirituality and how best this can be supported and nourished. It seems that good Lithuanian food was also enjoyed! These dedicated Lithuanians experience a strong bond of community with the Carmelite family throughout the world and root their individual and community prayer in the scriptures. Following on from the gathering, a series of retreats is being planned, the first being in October. Energy will also be given to translating into Lithuanian some Carmelite materials so that their journey as Carmelite communities of lay people can flourish. In time, we hope that a network of young adults will also be formed. Please continue to keep this project

in your hearts when you pray.

Mary - holding Jesus, holding us

We celebrated the Birthday of Our Lady on 8 September and recalled how she allowed God to work through her in a marvellous way. Through saying Yes to God, she allowed God to lead her by the hand through the joys and challenges of ordinary living. She held Jesus' hand as he grew from childhood into adulthood, and I am sure they embraced each other often with profound affectionate hugs. She held him in her arms at the foot of the cross – not knowing but trusting that God would somehow transform the ugliness and brutality of his death into a resurrection beauty that would speak eloquently about new life, a new horizon and an astounding love that cannot be restricted by the grave. Mary continues to offer her son to a world that needs to know just how deeply God desires to hold us gently in

the palm of his hand.

In November, we pray for our family members and friends who have died (especially through the Holy Souls Society - see insert). In silent, gentle confidence we entrust them, like Mary, into the loving care of an amazingly inclusive, welcoming God. Because she is with God in beauty, we know that she will hold us and our prayer as she held Jesus.

Camino 2024

The Camino de Santiago, also known as the Way of Saint James, is a world-renowned place of pilgrimage dating back to medieval times. We are planning a small pilgrimage for young adults (20s & 30s) in Easter Week 2024. You can find more information online at carmelite.org/camino-2024. Please do tell young people you know soon, as we need to finalise numbers in the coming weeks. Perhaps you might even consider sponsoring one of the young pilgrims.



Saint Jude's Feast


We are really looking forward to our annual celebration of the Feast of Saint Jude. We hope many pilgrims will be able to join us. Celebrations are on Saturday, 28 October and Sunday, 29 October. Let's prepare through prayer; let's come with a real desire to make the hope that God offers the centre of our lives; let's be willing to offer both our vulnerability and giftedness to God; and, as we venerate God's great apostle Saint Jude, let's be committed to sharing in his same mission of being

good news. Many are not able to make the journey to the shrine, but we know that we can be united even if separated by space. Send your prayer requests; ask us to light candles for your intentions; join us on the nine-day novena to Jude on Zoom; pray at home, and open your heart to the transforming love of the God of hope.

Forward in hope

The Carmelite tradition speaks of a journey of transformation and our path begins in a place of attentiveness to God. The

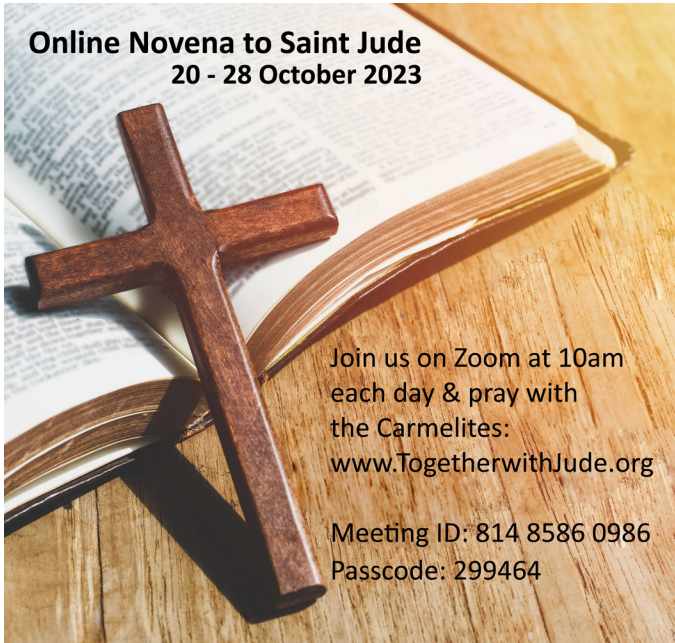
events of our lives are not meaningless. We believe that in each moment of each day, God is calling us to journey forward and will lead us by the hand and hold us when storms and challenges threaten to overwhelm us. As we move into Autumn, be sure that we hold you in our hearts each day as we pray. Please pray for us as we seek to serve the God of hope and the people God sends.



Brendan Grady, O.Carm.
Prior Provincial

Notice Board


Online Novena to Saint Jude 20 - 28 October 2023



Join us on Zoom at 10am
each day & pray with
the Carmelites:
www.TogetherwithJude.org

Meeting ID: 814 8586 0986
Passcode: 299464

 www.stjudeshrine.org.uk

 www.stjudeshrine.co.uk

 <https://tinyurl.com/JudeFB>

 twitter.com/saintjudeshrine

INTENTIONS for HOPE

A shared Mass will be celebrated to pray for your intentions of hope. If you would like to add a name or several names, please click on the image below.



PETITION & CANDLE for the FEAST OF SAINT JUDE

We will light a Saint Jude candle for the two days on and around the Feast of Saint Jude. The petitions will be near the statue. After the celebrations, we will continue to light your candles until they are complete. Please add your petition below. The suggested donation for each candle is £5.00/€6.00. Please click on the donation button below.



CARMELITE HOLY SOULS SOCIETY

The Carmelite Holy Souls Society reminds us that the Church is not confined to this world, but extends into the next as well. By praying for the dead, as we prayed for them when they were alive, we can establish a special link with the communion of saints.

We remember them in prayer and we ask them to pray for us. It is a helpful reminder that our brothers and sisters who die do not lose their identity, or their relationship with us. They remain the people that they were and the core of their identity is carefully preserved by God as they are transformed by God's love and set free to love.

All the Holy Souls on your list become members of the Carmelite Holy Souls Society for the year. Add your names via the button below. Membership includes:

- 1. A daily Mass for deceased relatives and friends through the year***
- 2. A Mass each month for deceased members and benefactors**
- 3. A share in the Masses, prayers and good works of the whole Carmelite Order.**
- 4. A certificate and daily prayers leaflet**



AUTUMN CATALOGUE

Welcome to the Autumn catalogue from the Shrine of Saint Jude, which includes an exclusive selection of Christmas cards, prayer cards, plus some other items for our special saint and his shrine. Every purchase you make directly funds our work, helping to ensure we can continue our work for many years to come - thank you. Please click on each image to purchase safely and securely on our online shop.

Brendan Grady, O.Carm



Christmas card pack A
Pack of five cards with envelopes, includes a quote from Saint Matthew's Gospel. Portrait. **£3.00**



Christmas card pack B
Pack of five cards with envelopes. Christmas scene in the gardens at the Shrine. Landscape. **£3.00**



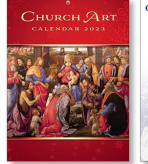
Christmas card pack C
Pack of five cards with envelopes. The three wise men head to the Saviour. Landscape. **£3.00**



Christmas card pack D
Pack of five cards with envelopes. Watercolour of Whitefriars (Shrine/Church) at Christmas. Landscape. **£3.00**



Christmas card pack E
Pack of five cards with envelopes. Landscape. **£3.00**



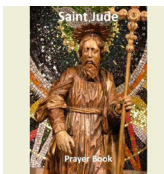
Church Art Calendar 2024
2024 Catholic Church Art Calendar. Scenes with a Full Colour picture for every month of the year. Cover Design, Our Lady of Perpetual Help on one side and Nativity Scene on the other. **£2.00**



Wooden Pocket Cross
Wooden Pocket Cross 3 1/4 inches with a prayer to Saint Jude. **£3.00**



Saint Jude medal
Saint Jude medal with image of the statue by Adam Kossowski, which is in the Shrine Information Centre. **£1.50**



Saint Jude Prayer Book
An introduction to the Apostle and Shrine; many prayers to Saint Jude; common Catholic prayers; and Carmelite prayers. 38 pages. **£4.50** (h/b); **£3.00** (p/b)



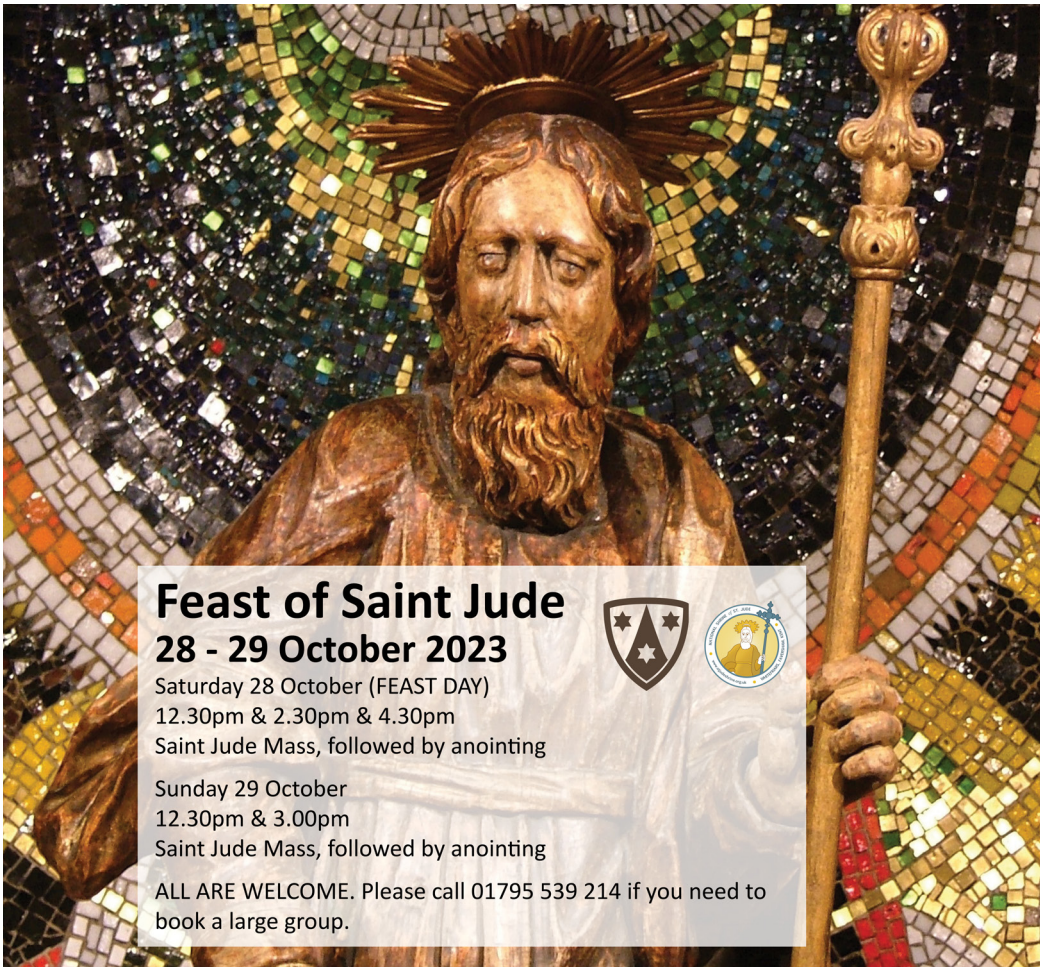
Prayers for the Dead
A pocket laminated prayer booklet to pray for those who have died, includes three prayers. 4 pages. **£1.50**

Prayer booklets

Various laminated prayer booklets are available.

4 page booklet with prayers to the saint as listed. **£1.50 each.**

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| * Saint Alphonsus Liguori | * St Francis | * St Martha | * St Theresa of Calcutta |
| * St Andrew | * St George | * St Matthew | * St Thomas |
| * St Anthony of Padua | * St Gerard | * St Monica | * St Thomas More |
| * St Anne | * St John Henry Newman | * St Patrick | * Twelve Apostles |
| * St Augustine | * St John of God | * St Paul | * Our Lady of Health |
| * St David | * St Jude | * St Peregrine | * Our Lady of Mount Carmel |
| * St Faustina Kowalska | * St Lucy | * St Peter | |
| | | * St Theresa | |



Feast of Saint Jude 28 - 29 October 2023



Saturday 28 October (FEAST DAY)

12.30pm & 2.30pm & 4.30pm

Saint Jude Mass, followed by anointing

Sunday 29 October

12.30pm & 3.00pm

Saint Jude Mass, followed by anointing

ALL ARE WELCOME. Please call 01795 539 214 if you need to book a large group.

Remember our Novenas

Novena to the Little Flower (23 September - 1 October) - Novena to the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary (29 September - 7 October) - Novena to Saint Jude (20 - 28 October)

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

 01795 539 214

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 www.stjudeshrine.org.uk

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Online shop: <http://tinyurl.com/SaintJudeShop>



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