

We are praying for all parishioners and friends at this time.

VIRTUAL PARISH OFFICE

The physical Parish Office is closed until further notice

Emails to the Parish Email address
will still be received and answered.

Parish Email:

faversham@rcaos.org.uk

We continue to have phone contact through
the usual number

Parish Phone:

01795 532449

We will keep parishioners regularly updated via our

Parish Website

www.whitefriarsfaversham.org

Parish Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/OLMCFaversham

Mass Intentions for the week

Although there will be no public Masses,
there will be a private Mass each day.
Please unite in prayer with us from home if you can.

Sun	29	10.30 am	Ronnie & Doreen McIntosh, RIP
Mon	30	9.30 am	Mary Waters, RIP
Tue	31	9.30 am	Edward Blackith, RIP
Wed	01	9.30 am	Parish
Thurs	02	9.30 am	Margaret Mary Heath, RIP
Fri	03	9.30 am	Special Intention
Sat	04	9.30 am	Special Intention

UNITED IN PRAYER FROM HOME

Although we cannot gather together for prayer,
please join us in our daily rhythm of prayer at home.

9.10 am	Morning Prayer
9.30 am	Weekday Mass
10.30 am	Sunday Mass
12.45 am	Midday Prayer
6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
8.00 pm	Prayer in union with Pope Francis

A Lenten Desert

As the Hebrew tribes were led by Moses from Egypt into the desert for 40 years, and as Jesus entered the desert of solitude, prayer and testing for 40 days, our Lent this year has become a real challenge to the living and expression of our faith, hope and love.

Having digested the news that we would no longer be able to gather for public Mass in our churches, further measures have now come into play, as together we seek to act responsibly, compassionately and radically in our common efforts to slow the devastating spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Following the Prime Minister's announcement on 23rd March and the direction of the Bishops of England & Wales, all Catholic churches will now be closed, even for individual visits, until further notice.

It is so important that we continue to pray from home and find the best ways possible to support each other at this time. Our social and spiritual lives, as well as our physical wellbeing, are essential to us as human beings. In these days of social distancing, let's make good use of the phone, email and online resources. It is good to know that many are drinking deep from the wells of their spiritual reserves. Let us continue to support each other in our commitment to personal prayer.

Archbishop John Wilson writes:

'Although we are socially isolated from each other, we are not isolated from Christ. Now is a time to strengthen our spiritual bonds of connection through personal prayer and the intensification of our inner relationship with Christ. We will continue to use social media to sustain our communal online presence, with the live-streaming of Mass and devotions from different churches... For the time being, our buildings must close; but our hearts must open wider, expanding with love for Christ and others.

'Dear friends, the yearning in our hearts for the Eucharist and for fellowship with one another must sustain us until we come, once more, to gather at the altar... We take inspiration from the Apostle St Paul writing to the first Christians in Rome:

"...hardship develops perseverance, perseverance develops character, character produces hope and hope does not disappoint, since the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit given to us." (Rom 5:3-5) We are people of profound hope. We will remain firm in faith and generous in charity, through Christ the *"hope of glory,"* alive within us. (cf. Col 1:27)

Need the SVP? Tel. 07563 702033

SVP Continues to Serve

We offer renewed thanks to members of our Parish SVP Conference who continue to reach out to those in most need. If you would like to offer help to others, please contact the SVP, using the phone number above.

Online Resources

We will also endeavour to provide online prayer helps and resources, so that we can continue to grow in our sense of being a united praying community that serves. Already on our site are links to live-streamed Masses and other prayers. We will post a simple prayer service that can be used at home each Sunday.

“Like” our Parish Facebook Page

We have now created a Parish Facebook Page. Please visit and “Like” it, so that we can reach as many people as possible. Visit it often for daily updates and invite other parishioners to “Like” it too.



Spiritual Communion & Daily Mass

Although we can no longer offer public Masses in our churches, each day there will be a Mass offered privately. The love of Christ celebrated in the Eucharist remains at the heart of who we are as a Christian community. Please unite with us in prayer at home.

Mass Intentions

The Mass times and intentions are listed in the usual box. If anyone wishes specific intentions to be prayed for, please send them by email or post to Whitefriars.

Praying with Pope Francis

Pope Francis has invited everyone throughout the world to pray the Rosary with him at 8.00 pm each day.

Weekly Prayer via Zoom

Christians from different churches in and around Faversham will continue their weekly prayer on Saturdays 9.00-9.30 am online via the Zoom app. Details can be found at: www.hopefaversham.org.uk

Kathleen Thompson

Please pray for Kate, who died on Wednesday, 11th March, aged 96 years. Her funeral is on **2nd April**.

Margaret Mary Heath

Please remember in your prayers the sister of John Barnes, Margaret Mary Heath who died on 21st March.

Thomas Byrne

Please also pray for Thomas Byrne who died on 27th March. He is the brother of parishioner Bridie Fordham.

Easter Remembrance of Loved Ones

Each week during the Easter season we will pray each day and celebrate a Mass each week specifically for those whose names are recorded on the Easter List of Remembrance. If you would like to make a dedication of £3.00, please send the names of your loved ones in writing to Whitefriars.

Ronnie McIntosh

On 1st April we call to mind with great affection Ronnie McIntosh who died a year ago. Please remember him and his beloved wife, Doreen, in your prayers. We offer our best wishes to Ronnie’s nieces, godchildren and their families.



The Amazing Jackie Hitchcock

We offer our warmest congratulations to Jackie on the occasion of her 93rd Birthday on 25th March. Jackie has always lived life to the full and we thank God for the joy that she continues to bring to so many.



Fr. Richard’s New Book

After years of research and determined dedication, Fr. Richard Copsey of the Carmelite Community has now published his *Biographical Register of Carmelites in England and Wales 1240-1540*.



Carmelite Community News

For the past while, the Carmelite Community has been in individual self-isolation. Richard, Tony and Brendan had symptoms that were very much like those described for the Coronavirus. Following medical advice from our nurse health advisor, they will be able to leave their rooms and commune with each other from Thursday. We thank **Fr. Kevin Alban, O.Carm.** for his generous and kind help with three funerals during this period.

PARISH FINANCES

We fully appreciate these incredibly difficult times.

WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPES

Distributing new envelopes is challenging at this time. We ask parishioners to put your contribution into an envelope and keep it safe until later.

STANDING ORDER

Some parishioners have asked about making their regular contribution by Standing Order. If you would like to contribute by Standing Order, please send an email to faversham@rcaos.org.uk and we will send you a form to make this possible. **THANK YOU!**

PLEASE PRAY FOR the sick and housebound: Audrey Bampton, Angela Band, Shelagh Bradley, Margaret Bridgen, Millie Castelino, Wendy Coley, Bob Costa, Baby Olivia Durkin and her mum Beth Durkin, Michael Earls, Carol Gostling, Jeanne Harvey, Jackie Hitchcock, James Kilcoyne, Ruth Mackay, Barnaby Marchant, Mike Moran, Rhiannon Newbury, Gail O’Connor, Joan O’Sullivan, Julian Philips and Sadie Taylor. **Please also remember** in your prayers all those who have died recently, especially Thomas Byrne, Margaret Mary Heath, Mike Moran, Kathleen (Kate) Thompson, Gerard Cookson, Archbishop Peter Smith, Fr John Garret, Clara Roberts and Vera Robinson and those whose anniversaries are about this time including: Marjorie Bateman, Errol Montrose, Ernest Lennard, Winifred Hayes, Ronald McIntosh, Joyce Howe and Bettina Carroll.

May they and all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Our Parish is served by a Community of Carmelite Friars