

**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

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.

Sun	19	10.30 am	Parish
Mon	20	10.00 am	Ryan Daily, RIP
Tue	21	10.00 am	Muriel Barfoot, RIP
Wed	22	10.00 am	Richard Martin & Family - Thanks
Thurs	23	10.00 am	Easter List of Remembrance
Fri	24	10.00 am	Naomi Francis & Family - Health
Sat	25	10.00 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. See our website and Facebook for prayer resources.

9.40 am Morning Prayer

10.00 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



### HUGE STONES - LOCKED DOORS

Søren Kierkegaard once wrote that the Gospel text he strongly identified with is the account of the disciples, after the death of Jesus, locking themselves into an upper room in fear and then experiencing Jesus coming through the locked doors to bestow peace on them. Kierkegaard wanted Jesus to do that for him, to come through his locked doors, his resistance, and breathe peace inside him.

That image of locked doors is one of two particularly interesting images inside the story of the first Easter. The other is the image of the “large stone” that entombed the buried Jesus. These images remind us of what often separates us from the grace of the resurrection. Sometimes for that grace to find us, someone must “roll away the stone” that entombs us and sometimes the resurrection must come to us “through locked doors”.

#### First, about the “stone”:

The Gospels tell us that early on Easter morning three women were on their way to the tomb of Jesus intending to embalm his body with spices but they were anxious about how they would remove the large stone that sealed the entrance of his tomb. They were asking each other: “Who will roll away the stone?”

Well, as we know, the stone had already been rolled away. How? We don’t know. Jesus’ resurrection happened with no one there. Nobody knows exactly how that stone was rolled away. But what scripture does make clear is this: Jesus didn’t resurrect himself. God raised him. Jesus didn’t roll away the stone, though that’s what we generally assume. However, and for good reason, both scripture and Christian tradition strongly affirm that Jesus didn’t raise himself from the dead, his Father raised him. This might seem like unnecessary point to emphasize; after all, what difference does it make?

It makes a huge difference. Jesus didn’t raise himself from the dead and neither can we. That’s the point. For the power of the resurrection to enter us something from beyond us has to remove the huge, immovable rock of our resistance. This is not to deny that we, ourselves, have goodwill and personal strength; but these, though important, are more a precondition for receiving the grace of the resurrection than the power of the resurrection itself, which always comes to us from beyond. We never roll back the stone ourselves!

*Sometimes for that grace to find us, someone must “roll away the stone”*



## *Regina Coeli*

O Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.  
For He whom thou didst merit to bear, alleluia.  
Has risen, as he said, alleluia.  
Pray for us to God, alleluia.

Who can roll back the stone? Perhaps that isn't a question we're particularly anxious about, but we should be. Jesus was entombed and helpless to raise himself up, all the more so for us. Like the women at that first Easter, we need to be anxious: "Who will roll back the stone?" We can't open our own tombs.

### **Second, our "locked doors":**

It's interesting how the believers at that first Easter experienced the resurrected Christ in their lives. The Gospels tell us that they were huddled in fear and paranoia behind locked doors, wanting only to protect themselves, when Christ came through their locked doors, the doors of their fear and self-protection, and breathed peace into them. Their huddling in fear wasn't because of ill-will or bad faith. In their hearts they sincerely wished that they weren't afraid, but that good will still didn't unlock their doors. Christ entered and breathed peace into them in spite of their resistance, their fear, and their locked doors.

Things haven't changed much in two thousand years. As a Christian community and as individuals we are still mostly huddling in fear, anxious about ourselves, distrustful, not at peace, our doors locked, even as our hearts desire peace and trust. Perhaps, like Kierkegaard, we might want to privilege that scripture passage where the resurrected Christ comes through the locked doors of human resistance and breathes out peace.

*Christ entered  
and breathed  
peace into  
them in spite  
of their  
resistance,  
their fear, and  
their locked  
doors.*

Moreover, this year, given this extraordinary time when the coronavirus, *Covid 19*, has our cities and communities locked down and we are inside our individual houses, dealing with the various combinations of frustration, impatience, fear, panic, and boredom that assail us there. Right now we need a little extra something to experience the resurrection, a stone needs to be rolled away so that resurrected life can come through our locked doors and breathe peace into us.

At the end of the day, these two images, "the stone that needs to be rolled away" and the "locked doors of our fear", contain within themselves perhaps the most consoling truth in all religion because they reveal this about God's grace:

*When we cannot help ourselves we can still be helped  
and when we are powerless to reach out, grace can still  
come through the walls of our resistance and breathe  
peace into us.*

We need to cling to this whenever we experience irretrievable brokenness in our lives, when we feel helpless inside our wounds and fears, when we feel spiritually inept, and when we grieve loved ones lost to addictions or suicide. The resurrected Christ can come through locked doors and roll back any stone that entombs us, no matter how hopeless the task is for us.

*Ron Rolheiser, OMI*

## Rhiannon Newbury, RIP

In your kindness, please pray for the repose of the soul of Rhiannon who died on Saturday, 4th April. Rhiannon is the granddaughter of Terry and Barbara Newbury who are well known to many parishioners. We keep them and the other members of Rhiannon's family also in our prayers as they grieve her loss. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

### Live-Streaming & Online Resources

We continue to provide online prayer helps and resources, so that we can continue to grow in our sense of being a united faith community. Already on our site are links to live-streamed Masses and other prayers that can be used at home.

### Sunday Mass with Archbishop John

Our Archbishop, John Wilson, will celebrate a live-streamed Mass at St. George's Cathedral this Sunday at 10.00 am. You can view it online here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DC9wzn4Wu-k>

### "Like" our Parish Facebook Page

We thank those who have joined us on our Parish Facebook Page. Join the increasing number and "Like" it, so that we can reach as many people as possible. We are posting daily updates/links and invite you to comment.



### Living Faith Booklets - Free Online

Those who wish can, access *Living Faith* online at

[http://www.livingfaith.com/account\\_dev.php](http://www.livingfaith.com/account_dev.php)

Also, a similar and popular publication, *Magnificat*, is offering its issues free online during the crisis.

<https://us.magnificat.net/free>

### Happy Birthday, Fr. Richard!

We offer our very warm best wishes to Fr. Richard of the Carmelite Community who celebrates his 84th birthday this Sunday. At his tender ages, he continues to research and write on medieval Carmelite history. Because of the situation of his study, during normal times Richard is often a smiling, welcoming face for many visitors to the Shrine of St. Jude.



## 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 wish to offer help to others, please contact the SVP, using their phone number below.

### Community Hub Response

West Faversham Community Centre is the designated Local Hub for the Community Response to Covid-19 for the non-clinically vulnerable in the community. Initially, the main task will be the distribution of essential food and supplies to those who are isolated. As other needs become evident, more services will be offered by the hub. Volunteers - under 70 years and with no underlying health issues - are needed. Particularly needed are volunteer drivers with their own vehicle. Thank you to the SVP for coordinating potential volunteers on behalf of the parish. If you are able to help, please call the SVP number below.

## Parish Gathers Online

Many are already using Zoom to interact virtually. This is an easy way to chat and keep in touch. Participants will need a video camera, microphone and headset or speakers on their device (PC/iPad/Tablet etc.). Download the Zoom App for free here: <https://zoom.us/support/download>



As a start, we have set up two 30-minute online meetings, which any parishioner is welcome to join.

**Tuesday, 21st April at 4.00 pm**

### - VIRTUAL TEATIME -

An opportunity to catch up with other parishioners, have a chat and share a cuppa together.

To join others, simply click:

<https://zoom.us/j/99278633238>

**Friday, 24th April at 4.00 pm**

### - SCRIPTURE REFLECTION -

An opportunity to reflect together on selected scripture passages and to pray.

To join others, simply click:

<https://zoom.us/j/97860619020>

**Need the SVP? Tel. 07563 702033**

**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, Gail O'Connor, Joan O'Sullivan, Julian Philips, Sadie Taylor and Denis Wood.

**Please also remember** in your prayers all those who have died recently, especially Rhiannon Newbery, Joy Wight, Thomas Byrne, Margaret Mary Heath, Mike Moran, Kathleen (Kate) Thompson, Gerard Cookson and Clara Roberts and those whose anniversaries are about this time including: Elaine Miller, Dora Donovan, Peter Harris, Douglas Loadsman, Alfred Tweed, Donald McDonald, Matthew Lewis, Peggy Holden, Ethan Noden, Joan Goodman and Joseph Park, and all whose names are recorded on our Easter List of Remembrance.

**May they and all the faithful departed rest in peace.**

**Our Parish is served by a Community of Carmelite Friars**

## PARISH FINANCES

We fully appreciate these difficult times for everyone.

### - WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPES -

We ask parishioners who are able to put your normal contribution into an envelope and keep it safe until later.

### - STANDING ORDERS -

Some parishioners have asked about making their regular contribution by Standing Order. If you would like to do this, please send an email to [faversham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:faversham@rcaos.org.uk) and we will send you a form.

## THANK YOU!



### *Easter Remembrance*

#### *- Our Loved Ones -*

*During the Easter season  
we will pray each day  
and celebrate a Mass each week  
for those names recorded on our  
Parish's Easter List of Remembrance.*

*If you would like  
to make a dedication,  
send the names of your  
loved ones who have died to  
[faversham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:faversham@rcaos.org.uk)*

It's done  
now begin

buried grains anticipating  
crushed grapes rejoicing  
humanised hearts *anawim* raising

live mercy... cry freedom  
unleash new melodies  
liberate the song

## LOVE TO EXTREME

tomb stench transcending  
*ex cinere surreximus*  
out of ashes we have risen

enflesh joyful compassion  
breathe divine extravagance

*χορεύει με τον Θεό*

## Biographical Register of Carmelites in England and Wales 1240 - 1540

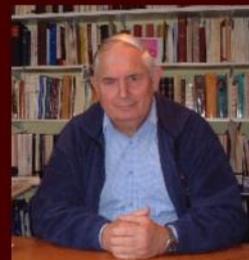


by

RICHARD COPSEY, O.CARM.

Saint Albert's Press

## Congratulations, Fr. Richard!



The highs and lows of the Carmelite Order in medieval England and Wales have been captured in this biographical register by eminent historian Richard Copsey.

The fruit of decades of scholarly research, the register compiles the known details of nearly 5,000 Carmelite men (and a handful of women) from the Order's arrival in England until its suppression at the Dissolution of the Monasteries.

By scouring hundreds of historical sources, Copsey's register casts light on medieval Carmelite friars who were saints, bishops, confessors to royalty, academics, men of prayer, scientists, diplomats, musicians, preachers, poets, and even a handful of thieves, heretics and murderers.

