

26 July 2020

Served by the
Carmelite
Friars

Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Faversham with Teynham

Whitefriars, 35 Tanners Street, Faversham ME13 7JW
Tel. 01795 532449 faversham@rcaos.org.uk
Website : www.whitefriarsfaversham.org

Public Mass in our parish resumed on Sunday, 19th July

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 17TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Sun	26	9.30 am	Parish
		11.00 am	John Regan (Birthday)
Mon	27	10.00 am	Airbheamm McAleer (Health)
Tue	28	10.00 am	Neri Fernandes (Health)
Wed	29	10.00 am	Anne Matthews (Birthday)
Thurs	30	10.00 am	Denis Wood, RIP
Fri	31	10.00 am	Anne Matthews' family
Sat	01	10.00 am	Special Intention

ARCHBISHOP JOHN WILSON

Saturday, 25th July marks the first anniversary of the Installation of Archbishop John Wilson as Archbishop of Southwark. We join together in offering our congratulations and good wishes for the future.

We regret that Sunday online Masses from St George's Cathedral have now ceased. However, the Archbishop is delighted to extend an invitation to everyone to join him online for his Silver Anniversary Mass next Wednesday, 29th July 2020, at 7 pm, when he will give thanks for 25 years of priesthood

SUNDAY'S WORD FOR LIVING

1 Kings 3:5,7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its number cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Matthew 13:44-52

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Higher Wisdom

A heart, wise and understanding. (1 Kings 3:12)

Some prominent sages have written that the root desires of human existence are the pride of power, the accumulation of money, and the experience of pleasure. Thinkers like Hobbes, Ayn Rand, Machiavelli, and the Marquis de Sade have built great ideologies on one of the competing life-goals of sex, power, and money.

This opinion is not limited to ivory tower theoreticians; it's expressed in the language of ordinary people when they appeal to the "real" motives lurking behind all human actions: "Looking out for Number One," "We're all out for a buck," "Everybody's on the make."

The billions spent on advertising presume, quite successfully, that the foundations of all value and meaning are things, privilege, and self-indulgence.

A computer ad announces that you can "Satisfy Your Lust for Power and Money" in a new reconstruction of the ancient religious vows. Reformulations of Descartes's "*Cogito ergo sum*," appear as "I want, therefore I am," "I shop, therefore I am," "I win, therefore I am."

Yamaha says, "Beat thy neighbour." Nike Corporation has even mounted an entire advertising campaign on the celebration of pleasure: "We are all basically hedonists. That's what makes us human. And we all want, we've ever all wanted is to have a good time. If it feels good, then just do it."

It was not a marketing huckster, but Solomon's God who offered in a dream, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you." As it turned out, it was not a good time Solomon sought. While most people might ask for bliss or some prized object identified with fulfilment—an advertiser's dream, to be sure—Solomon requested wisdom.

Perhaps that is why God seems a bit amazed (if God can be amazed) by the fact that Solomon's deepest desire is not for a long life or riches or success over enemies, but for a heart that can distinguish right from wrong. Solomon, famous for his riches, found his real treasure in a wise and understanding heart. It was in knowing right from wrong that he found joy.

What is our treasure that, once found, is worth all we can sell or trade? What is the pearl of great price for which we would sacrifice everything? This is what the gospel's reign of God is about: our hearts' desire, our deepest existential longing.

Some seek pleasures in every variation imaginable. They fall away sated but restless. Some build shrines to the ego's power. They die alone, unloved, and uncaring. Others collect their things, like the movies' Citizen Kane, empty of substance.

Solomon dreamed long ago that a higher wisdom and deeper joy might be found. It would not be grasped in the accumulation of things, the collection of earthly delights, or dominance over others, even though these would be given to him in good time.

His deepest desire was to know a good that was fully worth loving. His highest hope was to know what was right and to be able to do it. God saw this higher wisdom in him, this pearl of great price, and Solomon's wish was granted.

For the treasures of his heart, not earthly, Solomon is rightly remembered.

John Kavanaugh, SJ

*Solomon dreamed long ago
that a higher wisdom and deeper joy might be found*

Thanks from Mary Edwardes

A very big thank you to ALL who worked to prepare our church for visiting, and the volunteers who gave their time keeping it open. Also to the working party who prepared the garden for Mass to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel last Sunday. It was a Mass that will go down in history; so strange, a Mass that seemed to wipe out the months of shutdown. Hopefully that feeling will stay with us giving strength for whatever lies ahead.

Thanks for your generosity

Thank you to all parishioners who by various means, including last Sunday's Parish Offering, standing orders, cheques and donations by post are enabling us to keep our financial heads above the waters.

Gift Aid Envelopes

Many parishioners have already taken their Gift Aid envelopes. They will be available for collection again this Sunday at our two Masses in the garden.

**Our Parish is served by a Community of Carmelite Friars
We pray for parishioners every day. Please pray for us.**

OUR CHURCH IS NOW OPEN FOR MASS AND PRAYER

VOLUNTEERS ENABLE OUR PARISH AND CHURCH TO FUNCTION

We are very grateful to parishioners who have already volunteered to assist in stewarding and those who have come to pray in our church

Now that Public Mass has resumed and taking account of people's habits the church will now be open at these revised times:

MONDAYS - SATURDAYS 9.30-10.30 am

SATURDAYS 3.00 - 5.00 pm

SHRINE TO ST. JUDE

The Shrine to St.. Jude will remain closed until we have more volunteers who will be able to make the re-opening of the shrine possible. The shrine is held with great affection by parishioners and our many visiting pilgrims, so we hope we can find a way to open it soon through the generosity of parishioners.

BE SAFE - BE SENSIBLE - BE CO-OPERATIVE

Our volunteer stewards will help us all to be safe when we visit. Please do follow their guidance.

Do not enter the church or grounds if you have any Covid-19 symptoms

PUBLIC MASS HAS RESUMED IN OUR PARISH

As we return to Mass together we will notice some differences to reduce any risk of spreading the virus.

Masses will be shorter than usual (including the homilies!) and initially will be at these times:

SUNDAYS: 9.30 AM & 11.00 AM IN WHITEFRIARS GARDEN (60 MAX.)

MONDAY-SATURDAY: 10.00 AM IN THE CHURCH (25 MAX.)

We will be asked to sanitise our hands on entering and leaving, and observe social distancing before, during and after Mass. Holy Communion will only be offered on the hand and there will be no physical Sign of Peace. Unfortunately, toilet facilities will not be available.

WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE THE WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS

IN THE CHURCH (WEEKDAY MASS AND INDIVIDUAL PRAYER)

Registering for Mass

There will obviously be limited space. Therefore, we encourage parishioners to "register" for a Mass, so that people are not disappointed if capacity for each Mass is full. We will all need to be flexible, respectful of others' needs and may need to spread ourselves out over the whole week.

If you have email, we ask you to use this to indicate in advance (at least 1 day before) which Mass you wish to attend. If you do not have email, please phone.

Please be patient, as the Parish Office is not currently staffed.

We will confirm as soon as we can that there is adequate space at your desired Mass.

Each of us is requested to give our name, contact details and which Mass we attend.

Teynham

Unfortunately, as it is not our building and no risk assessment has been completed for the Greenstreet Chapel, there will be **no Mass** at this time in Teynham.

Volunteers

We need additional volunteers to help with stewarding at each Mass and sanitising afterwards.

With all of this, we know that our parishioners are understanding, sensible and aware of the need for these measures. Thank you for your patience as we do our best to get things right for the benefit of all.



Because of you,
death has become our mother.
The beams of your soft light
guide us through the dark night,
anointing us with the fervent hope
of an eternal day.

We pray for those whose funerals were during the last week



Antony Roberts

22 February 1938 - 19 June 2020
whose funeral was on
Thursday, 23rd July 2020



Mary Henderson

21st May 1951 - 28th June 2020
whose funeral was on
Monday, 20th July 2020

They are gone

David Harkins

You can shed tears that they have gone
Or you can smile because they have lived.

You can close your eyes and pray that they will come back
Or you can open your eyes and see all that they have left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see them
Or you can be full of the love that you shared.

You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

You can remember them and only that they are gone
Or you can cherish their memory and let it live on.

You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back
Or you can do what they would want:
smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

For what might we pray this week?

Pray for the gift of discernment, as our guide in making decisions. Everything has intrinsic value, but if we over-value our favourite "things", we devalue God. I need to loosen my grip on what is transient and seek what is eternal in the spirit of discernment and know the ultimate treasure on which my life depends.

Pray for Beth Durkin and her family

Beth is the mother of two beautiful daughters, Rhiannon and Olivia and the wife of Marc Durkin. Marc is the son of valued parishioners Paul and Linda Durkin. Read more about Beth's struggle with cancer and an opportunity to donate towards treatment [here](#).



Need the SVP? Tel. 07563 702033

PLEASE PRAY FOR the sick and housebound: Audrey Bampton, Angela Band, Shelagh Bradley, Margaret Bridgen, Paule Cailleau, Bill and Millie Castelino, Wendy Coley, Bob Costa, Baby Olivia Durkin and her mum Beth Durkin, Michael Earls, Carol Gostling, Jeanne Harvey, Jackie Hitchcock, James Kilcoyne, Janet MacKay, Ruth Mackay, Barnaby Marchant, Terry Newbery, Gail O'Connor, Joan O'Sullivan, Geraldine Paine, Julian Philips, Lola Rinvoluceri, Sophie Rinvoluceri, Mario Rinvoluceri, Sadie Taylor, Helen Wilkinson and Ginny Woodrooffe.

Please also remember in your prayers all those who have died recently, especially Denis Wood, Mary Henderson and Antony Roberts, and those whose anniversaries are about this time including: Will Morgan, Doreen Vesey, Joan Galligan, Albert Smith, Andrew Costelloe, Alan Band, Roy Jolly, Mary Demomme, Victor Marsh and Dennis Smith.

May they and all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Denis Wood, RIP

It was with sadness that we heard recently of the death of Denis Wood on 11th April. Denis and his wife Doreen from Australia were frequent visitors to Faversham where they spent time with their family. Regularly at Sunday and weekday Mass, they endeared themselves to many parishioners. We offer our prayer and condolences to Doreen and to their daughter Suzanne, her husband Ben and their son Jude who live in Faversham. Mass will be offered for the repose of Denis's soul on Thursday, 30th July.

Congratulations to Archbishop John

We congratulate Archbishop John Wilson who celebrates his Silver Jubilee of Ordination to the priesthood on Wednesday, 29th July.

A live-streamed Mass may be viewed at 7.00 pm on Wednesday by clicking [here](#). During the period of the lockdown, it feels as if we have gradually had the opportunity to get to know our archbishop via his live-streams.

As a parish in his diocese, we keep him and his ministry of leadership and support in our prayer.

We hold each other prayerfully in our hearts



A Story to Tell? A Gift to Share?

During this extraordinary period of social distancing, self-isolation and lockdown, we are not able to print and distribute our weekly newsletter. However, we can continue to make it available online on our website.

Perhaps one advantage is that we are not limited by print space. We are grateful to those who have shared their poetry and other gifts with us. We know that there are so

many who have positive contributions to share with others. If you have something for inclusion in our newsletter that people may enjoy and will maybe raise their spirits, please do send us brief submissions and we will do our best to share your interest with others. Photographs are always welcome! Send your contribution by email to: faversham@rcaos.org.uk



'I made £3.87 from the cake sale and £2,300 from fining people for not wearing a face mask'

Gather Online

Many are already using Zoom to interact virtually. 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>



Tuesday, 28th July at 4.00 pm

- VIRTUAL TEATIME -

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

We will review this gathering at our next session.

To join others, simply

[click here](#)

- SCRIPTURE REFLECTION -

now that we have resumed public Mass, the meetings are now suspended.

Every Saturday at 9.00 am

INTER-CHURCH HOPE PRAYER

Details at <http://www.hopefaversham.org.uk>

DISCUSS - REFLECT - SHARE

Although the weekly Scripture Reflection has been suspended, a suggestion that has reached us is that we might find opportunities to share on different pertinent themes together as "stand-alone" topics. If there is something in which you think other parishioners may be interested and which you might like to facilitate, please contact us at the Parish email address:

faversham@rcaos.org.uk

PARISH FINANCES

We fully appreciate these difficult times.

- WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPES -

These are now available for collection before or after our Sunday Masses.

- 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 asking for a form.

THANK YOU!



The place where
God calls you is the
place where your
deep gladness
meets the world's
deep hunger.

~ Frederick Buechner



" Sometimes your mind plays tricks on you. It can tell you you're no good, that it's all hopeless. But remember this; you are



loved, and important, and you bring to this world things no one else can. So hold on "

