

**Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Faversham with Teynham**

Served by the
Carmelite
Friars

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

I can do all things through the One who strengthens me

Isaiah 25:6-10

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.
The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

Philippians 4:12-14,19-20

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS 28TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat	10	6.00 pm	Rob Hunt - belated Birthday
Sun	11	9.30 am	Parish
		11.00 am	Jo Clark - Health
Mon	12	10.00 am	Special Intention
Tue	13	10.00 am	Mary O'Kane - belated Birthday
Wed	14	10.00 am	Dana Hogan Intention
Thurs	15	10.00 am	Carmelite Vocations
Fri	16	10.00 am	Fiona Donohoe Intention
Sat	17	10.00 am	May McCreanor Intention

VIRTUAL PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be staffed for phone, email and post correspondence Tuesday-Friday mornings

Parish Email:

faversham@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Phone:

01795 532449

Parish Website

www.whitefriarsfaversham.org

Parish Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/OLMCFaversham

Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus began to speak to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

Tomorrow's World

What does tomorrow hold for us? What is there to hope for? Often our imagination projects into the future. As children, we wondered "What will it be like when we grow up?" Parents promised new freedoms and new possibilities "When you are older." Human nature lives in vital tension between the *Already* and the *Not Yet*.

As adults we may indeed have to trim down and focus our hopes and fantasies into more precise channels, with the passing years. But we are still gripped with interest in what lies ahead—not just for oneself and family, but for the wider society and world. What steps in science and technology lie just around the corner? How will society develop, between now and the year 2050? The changing balance between richer and poorer countries; the unstable marital climate of our own nation; proposed educational changes and law reforms; new employment initiatives; the provision of better medical and recreational facilities – all are subject to our keen analysis and hopeful projections.

Elderly people may ponder more on the past than the future and to dwell on bygone events and treasured relationships. Their looking forward can often be marked with resignation or anxiety than with hope. In the dignity of their mature years, they accept that "Che sera, sera" - whatever will be, will be. And, if they have learned the habit of prayer, they peacefully entrust their future into God's hands.

Today's Scriptures invite us all to raise our sights and our hearts when thinking of the future. Beyond this present life, God has planned a great future for all of us. Isaiah's prophecy of the heavenly banquet is an invitation to think of our eternal destiny. There is more to live for than what we see in this present world, interesting and challenging though it is. What really counts, indeed, is reaching our eternal happiness with God.

Perhaps our predecessors in the faith had a stronger sense of the afterlife than we have today. Like Saint Paul, they believed that history is in God's hands and

that divine justice will have the last say. Difficulties in one's present life could then be seen as growth-pains, or as a means of purifying the spirit from selfishness and sin. Under it all, the world was "in travail" - in process of bringing a new era into existence. So it was that Paul and many other men and women of faith could be inwardly at peace, no matter how hard the circumstances in which they found themselves. We can "do all things in the One who strengthens us" if we hold on to the hope of everlasting life.

The eternal banquet must not be abandoned as so much pie in the sky! Christians don't literally expect to sit down to an everlasting meal, an eternal eating and drinking festival somewhere in the stratosphere. While heaven is described in vivid anthropomorphic images, we realise that "eye has not seen... nor can the human heart imagine, what God has prepared for those who love God" (1 Cor 2:9.) Still, the banqueting atmosphere of friendly conviviality is a good image for that perfect loving communion with God and with others towards which our lives are destined.

Jesus emphasises that this wedding banquet is open to all people indeed, that God sends messengers out to scour the highways and byways in order to fill the house with guests. It is a comforting thought that God wants us to be saved, even more than we do ourselves.

On the other hand, there is a special regalia or wedding-garment that must be worn. This is the level of personal commitment required, in order to accept our place at the wedding feast. Perhaps this refers primarily to community spirit, an ability to share our wellbeing with other people in the presence of God. Though founded on faith in God's creative love, Christian hope retains a strong ethical dimension. Our wedding garment is therefore being woven daily, by the quality of our interaction with others. In this sense, we hold tomorrow in our own hands, as with the help of God's grace we build our own eternal future.

Our wedding garment is being woven daily by the quality of our interaction with others.



Our parish is served by a
Community of Carmelite Friars.
We pray for you daily. Please pray for us too.



**The Faversham Foodbank exists
to provide food for local people in crisis.**



Hello Friends

Thank you to all the Churches in Faversham who support Faversham Foodbank we could not operate without the support from the whole town but we especially appreciate the support from the faith community here.

We have seen a slow and steady rise in the use of the Foodbank over the last few months, though not as high as some other Foodbanks in the country.

So far this financial year we have fed:

365	Adults
311	Children
Total	676

We have given out approximately 6084 meals in this period; that is 1539 more meals than the same period last year: an increase of 33%.

The folk of Faversham have continued to be generous in their donations and we have never been short of stock though there was a little help during the lock-down from Tesco and Morrisons who had a national policy of direct aid to Foodbanks.

We are now in a position to start training in new volunteers and are approaching those that contacted us during the lock-down to ask them to come in for training. We are, however, in particular need for those who can help in our back-stock warehouse, this is a more active area and only suitable for those who are physical fit, if you are interested please contact our Warehouse Manager at warehouse@faversham.foodbank.org.uk. We are also looking for someone to take on the role of Press/Promotions officer this role involves not only writing press releases but ensuring our information posters are up to date and visible around the town, maintaining our social media presence and keeping our website up to date. Anyone interested in this role should contact me by emailing info@faversham.foodbank.org.uk

There are plans afoot for the usual November in store collection at Tesco (Thursday 19th – Saturday 21st) but at present it appears this will have to be an unmanned collection.

A small group of volunteers are now meeting for 15 minutes before each session to pray and we would ask you to support us in that way in your homes between 12.45 and 1pm each Wednesday and Friday.

Thank you for your support and prayers they are appreciated.

Yours in Christ
Stephen Palmer

Acting Project Manager - Faversham Foodbank

A Staffed Parish Office

We were delighted to welcome back to Whitefriars last week Linda Durkin, our Parish Secretary.

Linda's hours in the Parish Office are

Tuesdays 8.30 –12.00

Wednesday - Friday 8.30 - 1.00

As far as possible,
please use these hours for general parish business and for registering for Mass - Sundays and Weekdays.

Parishioners who phone during these hours will be delighted to hear Linda's dulcet tones again!

Gather Online

Tuesday, 13th October

4.00 PM VIRTUAL TEATIME

An opportunity to catch up with other parishioners.

To join others, simply

[click here](#)

**When prompted, you will need
to enter the passcode: 958919**

Every Saturday at 9.00 am

INTER-CHURCH HOPE PRAYER

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

SUNDAY MASS AT OUR CHURCH

At this time there are three Sunday Masses in the church:

SATURDAY 6.00 PM

SUNDAY 9.30 AM & 11.00 AM

With limited space it is important, as far as possible, to register in advance to avoid disappointment. We thank parishioners who do this each week.

We also ask that parishioners try to be flexible. As more return to Mass, we may need to spread over the whole week, so that everyone who wishes can participate at Mass. Thank you for your support, understanding and patience during this challenging time. All who wished to come to Mass last weekend were able to join us.

It would be very helpful if parishioners can register **preferably by 12 Noon on Friday**

PLEASE HELP BY REGISTERING FOR MASS BEFOREHAND

“Rule of Six”

Following the government’s most recent announcements about gatherings of people (the so-called “Rule of Six”), we are pleased to confirm that Masses in our church, are currently unaffected. Masses continue in the church following the previously established guidelines. As we are able to seat couples, families and social “bubbles” together, we can increase our capacity to approximately 40, depending on where people sit and who sits together. Please note that funerals continue to be limited to 30 people. With the recent announcement, weddings are now reduced to 15 people.

Sacramental Confession

Some parishioners have asked about the provision of Confession during this time. Obviously, we cannot use confined spaces, but it is possible to use either the garden or the church. If you would like to celebrate this sacrament of reconciliation, please contact us at Whitefriars to make an appointment with either Fr. Richard or Fr. Brendan.

Rediscover Your Marriage

Retrouvaille simply means 'rediscovery'. The programme offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. There is no group therapy or group work.

For confidential information about *Retrouvaille* or to register for the next programme commencing with a virtual weekend on 12th -15th November 2020,

call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443,
email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com
or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Helen Wilkinson, RIP



When you pray, please remember Helen Wilkinson who died on Friday, 25th September. Helen is the daughter of valued parishioners Ted and Cindy Davis. We hold them in our hearts as they grieve this tremendous loss. Please also pray for Helen’s husband, James and their two teenaged children, Eleanor and George.

Helen’s funeral was on Friday, 9th October. May Helen rest in peace and rise in glory.

We are tremendously grateful to Ted and Cindy for sharing this cherished and beautiful photograph of Helen with them on the day of her wedding 19 years ago.

Need the SVP?

Tel. 07563 702033

Celebrating St. Jude Online: 20th-28th October

Unfortunately, the annual celebrations in honour of St. Jude cannot happen this year because of COVID-19.

However, we are delighted to announce that there will be

an online Novena in honour of St. Jude **20-28th October** each day at 11.00 am

and an online Mass from the Shrine of St. Jude on his feast day, **28th October** at 12 Noon.

Fr. Kevin Alban, O.Carm. (Prior Provincial of the Carmelites) will preside. [Click here](#) for information.



CAN YOU HELP TO RE-OPEN THE SHRINE TO ST JUDE?

We are very much aware that parishioners and pilgrims have missed the opportunity to visit the Shrine of St Jude. We are very eager to find a way to re-open the shrine as soon as possible for periods of time. This will need the support and generosity of volunteers who can commit to an hour or two each week to help with stewarding and sanitising.

If you are able to help, please contact Fr. Brendan at Whitefriars.

Sadie Taylor

Please pray for Sadie Taylor who has been living with serious illness for some time. She was recently admitted to Pilgrims Hospice in Canterbury. We also support her husband Brian and their family with our friendship and prayer during this time. Sadie has been an active and dedicated member of our parish over decades and is a member of the parish choir.

Arthur Morrison, RIP

In your kindness, when you pray please remember Arthur Morrison who died on 5th October 2020, aged 92 years. We offer our condolences to his wife, Ann, and to their daughter Cary as they grieve his loss. Arthur always lived with a sense of peace. We now entrust him to God and to the fullest experience of peace, love and joy.

Christmas Bazaar 2020

With all the hard work and commitment, this has always been a great parish social event, as well as being a significant fundraiser. Because of the current pandemic and the uncertainty with which we all living over the coming months, the decision has been made to cancel the bazaar this year. We do, however, remain optimistic for next year's event.

Christmas Grand Draw

Despite the cancellation of the Bazaar, we intend to continue with our annual Christmas Grand Draw. We are tremendously grateful to Diane Griffin for offering to prepare the customary luxury hampers etc. We will need the creativity and commitment of all parishioners to ensure that this Draw is viable, especially through the purchase and selling of Draw tickets. We will try to devise a safe way to make this possible. More information will follow.

PLEASE PRAY FOR the sick and housebound: Audrey Bampton, Gloria Barnes, Shelagh Bradley, Margaret Bridgen, Bill and Millie Castelino, Wendy Coley, Bob Costa, Baby Olivia Durkin, Michael Earls, Anthony Freed, Carol Gostling, Jeanne Harvey, Jackie Hitchcock, James Kilcoyne, Janet MacKay, Ruth Mackay, Barnaby Marchant, Terry Newbery, Margaret Nicolas, Gail O'Connor, Joan O'Sullivan, Geraldine Paine, Julian Philips, Ann Rake, Lola Rinvoluceri, Mario Rinvoluceri, Sadie Taylor and Ginny Woodroofe.

Please also remember in your prayers all those who have died recently, especially Helen Wilkinson, Vincent Coley, Beth Durkin, Sara Marshall, Daphne Tucker and Sophie Rinvoluceri, and those whose anniversaries are about this time, including Margaret Byrne, Arthur Grady, John Wallsgrove, Connie Saldanha, Pam Deeson and Kathleen Baxendale.

May they and all the faithful departed rest in peace.

***We hold
each other
prayerfully
in our hearts***



Feast of St Teresa of Avila - 15th October



Known to her family as Teresa de Cepeda y Ahumada, she was born at Avila in Castile, Spain, on 28th March 1515 and died in Alba de Tormes, near Salamanca, on 4th October 1582. She was beatified in 1614, canonised in 1622 and proclaimed a Doctor of the Church in 1970.

Saint Teresa is among the most important figures of all time for Christian spirituality. Her works - especially the four best known (*The Life*, *The Way of Perfection*, *The Interior Castle* and *The Foundations*), together with her more historical works, contain a doctrine which encompasses the whole of the spiritual life, from the first steps right up to intimacy with God at the centre of the human person. Her *Letters* show her occupied with a great variety of everyday problems.

Her doctrine on the unity of the soul with God follows the Carmelite tradition which had preceded her and to which she herself contributed in such a notable way, enriching it as well as passing the tradition on, not only to her spiritual sisters and brothers, but also to the whole Church which she served so unsparingly. When she was dying, her one joy was to be able to affirm that "I die a daughter of the Church".

Prayer

**Tender-hearted God,
by your spirit you raised up Saint Teresa of Jesus
to show your Church the way to perfection.
May her inspired teaching awaken in us
a longing for true holiness.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Parish Finances

We are very much aware of how the Covid-19 pandemic is impacting every sphere of our lives. Obviously, it has also had an effect on our financial situation as a parish. While we are not panicking, we are concerned that we are currently not being able to balance our ordinary income/expenditure.

We are delighted that so many parishioners have been able to return to Mass and we look forward to welcoming back others when the time is right for them. We are grateful for the generosity of the weekly offering of those who come each week and of the regular contributions that parishioners make by standing order. Although we no longer take a collection during Mass, boxes are available for those who wish to leave their contribution at the back of the church.

Some people - both those who are able to come regularly and those who are not able to re-join us yet - have asked how they might make their parish offering by standing order. If this is something any parishioner would like to do, you can find a standing order form at the end of this current newsletter. Simply print it out, complete it in blank ink and return it to Whitefriars.

Thank you for all your support at this challenging time.

SAVE LIVES WITH JELLY!

Faversham and Surrounding Villages Refugee Solidarity Group is struggling to maintain support for the refugees in Northern France.

To help them in their effort, we are offering 174g jars of lovely fruity tangy crab-apple jelly - a real rarity and made by one of our parishioners.

We invite a donation of £2.00 per jar.

Please support this life-giving fundraising initiative.

**Call Tony Cartwright on
01795 538949 or 07432 471212**

The jars may be collected from 28 West Street.



Encyclical Letter: *Fratelli tutti*



On Sunday 4th October 2020, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, the Vatican released 'Fratelli tutti', Pope Francis' latest Encyclical which focusses on social friendship.

Pope Francis places the human dignity of all people at the heart of his encyclical. He hopes this "can contribute to the rebirth of a universal aspiration to fraternity. Fraternity between all men and women."

The Holy Father examines a post-pandemic reality suggesting COVID-19 has exposed our 'false securities'. He is critical of how nations, despite their hyper-connectivity, responded to the pandemic in a fragmented way that made it more difficult to resolve the problems that affect us all.

"Anyone who thinks that the only lesson to be learned was the need to improve what we were already doing, or to refine existing systems and regulations, is denying reality."

Pope Francis promotes a new vision, one in which the world stands in solidarity with the vulnerable and works together collaboratively for the common good:

"I offer this social Encyclical as a modest contribution to continued reflection, in the hope that in the face of present-day attempts to eliminate or ignore others, we may prove capable of responding with a new vision of fraternity and social friendship."

The Right Reverend Richard Moth is Bishop of Arundel and Brighton and chair of the Department for Social Justice at the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales writes:

The Holy Father's message is completely consistent with the other things that he has written and indeed the messages of previous Popes, notably, Pope Benedict XVI, St John Paul II and Paul VI whose writings Pope Francis quotes. Indeed there is an important element in this letter, the encouragement he received from the Grand Imam Ahmad al-Tayyeb, that resonates with the document *Nostra Aetate* of the Second Vatican Council which recognised everything that is good in the different faiths of the world.

Pope Francis continues in *Fratelli tutti* to call us to what I see as a continuing theme in all of his writings, the need for listening and the need to give time. These themes are also present in *Amoris laetitia* and *Evangelii gaudium*.

The way of listening and dialogue is key to his theme of the common good and the dignity of every human person at every stage of life.

The challenge of the parable of the Good Samaritan, the key scriptural text in this encyclical, is deeply significant. While, as an individual, it may not be too difficult for me to reach out to another who is in distress, the challenge to those in positions of government and power, the challenge to whole peoples, whole nations, to see other peoples, other nations, in the same way, is deeply significant for our times.

This calls us to a new world view. If I may take the example of the refugee, and the Holy Father recognises the situation of the refugee a number of times in the document, the temptation is there to ask, Where have you come from? Why have you come here? The Holy Father asks us to look deeper and say, You are a brother, a sister, that dignity is yours because you are a human being. The only valid response will be that of welcome. And this is but one example.

If we simply take it as read that the person standing before me is a human being, we put other considerations higher up the list. Rather, the Holy Father calls us to look deeper, to recognise innate human dignity in every person and to place this before other, sometimes divisive considerations.

In the parable, the Good Samaritan did not ask the superficial questions. He saw the man in the ditch, and reached out to him, recognising his dignity. Pope Francis invites us to imagine, to hope what it would be like if nations, peoples, thought the same way, and to strive that this becomes reality.

I'm sure that many people will pick up on the Holy Father's words about the death penalty and about war. His words on these issues stem from the same place. He recognises the possibility of the use of arms for defence but warns of the broadening of the principle of defence. His questioning of the applicability of the just war tradition in our modern times calls us to think in new ways, calling the world to the often difficult and slow path of listening, dialogue and the development of all peoples for the common good.

This document is also timely given the present circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic and again, Pope Francis refers to this in the letter. Many are grieving the loss of loved ones. Great numbers are living with the effects of the virus.

The Holy Father's call to us in these circumstances, to think in new ways about our brothers and sisters, is so timely. Many are asking questions and seeking not to go back to the old ways. Pope Francis is giving us a road map for new ways, rooted in the Gospel, calling the peoples of the world to recognise the dignity of every person, every people. This is surely an opportunity that we miss at our peril.

The full text of *Fratelli Tutti* can be downloaded [here](#).



survive rebuild heal

A Harvest like no other
Join in the CAFOD Family Fast Day
Bring your CAFOD envelopes to Whitefriars
or donate to CAFOD directly online
cafod.org.uk/Give

OUR PARISH CAN HELP TO REBUILD LIVES

This is a Harvest like no other as families around the world face chronic food shortages, malnutrition and poverty as the result of coronavirus. This Family Fast Day on Friday 9 October let's stand alongside the poorest and most vulnerable people and help them to rebuild their lives.

Our donations will help to:

- provide handwashing stations in communities lacking access to clean water and soap
- distribute PPE to health workers
- supply children with books and pencils so they can study from home while schools are closed
- allow farmers to sell their produce safely
- deliver food packages to people in cities who can't go out to work.



Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Faversham Standing Order Contributions

Some parishioners contribute to the regular financial support of our parish by means of a Standing Order with their Bank or Building Society, rather than (or in addition to) their weekly contribution at Sunday Mass. If you would like to contribute in this helpful way, please complete the Standing Order form and send it to:

Whitefriars, 35 Tanners Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 7JW

Please note: this is a separate Standing Order to the Parish Restoration and Repair Appeal.

If you normally use the Weekly Collection Envelopes,
please write your Donor Number here:

Title*		
First Name*	Surname*	
Address*		
	Postcode**	
Tel.	Email	

* Required fields
PLEASE PRINT

If you are a tax payer and wish to Gift Aid your donation

I want the R.C. Archdiocese of Southwark to claim Gift Aid on this



and any future donations until I notify you otherwise. I am a UK tax payer and understand that if I pay Less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I will notify the R.C. Archdiocese of Southwark at Faversham if I want to cancel this declaration, change my name or home address, or no longer pay sufficient tax on my Income and/or Capital Gains Tax.

N.B. Please ensure the box is ticked.

Signature

Date

To Donate by Standing Order

please complete in PRINT & black ink

Your Bank

To: The Manager	Name of Bank/Building Society
Address	
Postcode	

Bank/Building Society account number	Branch sort code
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Name of Account Holder

Instruction to your Bank/Building Society:

Please pay to: RCAS WHITEFRIARS ACCOUNT
Account No: 00538329 Sort Code: 56-00-51
 Nat West, Faversham Branch, 13 Market Place,
 Faversham, Kent ME13 7AF

The sum of **£** per week **£** per month

Starting *Start Date*

Please date 21 days after your signature date below to allow time for processing

Signature	Today's Date
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Please return your completed form to:

Whitefriars, 35 Tanners Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 7JW