

20th June 2021

Served by the
Carmelite
Friars

Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Faversham with Teynham

Whitefriars, 35 Tanners Street, Faversham ME13 7JW
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'Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.'



Rembrandt, *Christ in the Storm on the Lake of Galilee* (1633)

*Jesus woke up and rebuked the wind
and said to the sea, 'Quiet now! Be calm!'
And the wind dropped, and all was calm again.*

Scripture Readings for this Sunday

You can read them online by clicking [here](#).

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office is staffed
Tuesday-Friday 8.30 am - 1.00 pm

Parish Email: faversham@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Phone: **01795 532449**

Parish Website
www.whitefriarsfaversham.org

Parish Facebook Page
www.facebook.com/OLMCFaversham

MASS INTENTIONS: 19th-26th June 12th Week in Ordinary Time

Sat	19	6.00 pm	Mary Joseph, health
Sun	20	9.30 am	Parish
		11.00 am	Arthur Horton
Mon	21	10.00 am	Rakier and Alba, RIP
Tue	22	10.00 am	Anusha
Wed	23	10.00 am	Bernard Allies, RIP
Thurs	24	10.00 am	Vincent Ward, RIP
Fri	25	10.00 am	Peggy Ward, RIP
Sat	26	6.00 pm	Brian Wallace McCabe, RIP

We hold each other prayerfully in our hearts

PLEASE PRAY FOR the sick and housebound: Angela Band, Gloria Barnes, Shelagh Bradley, Nick Brian, Margaret Bridgen, Bill and Millie Castelino, Wendy Coley, Bob Costa, Peter Coulson, Ian Davison, Michael Earls, Lucas Harmsworth, Jeanne Harvey, Gladys Hatch, Michael Hoey, David Jones, Janet MacKay, Ruth Mackay, Terry Mahoney, Barnaby Marchant, John McGuire, Terry Newbery, Gail O'Connor, Joan O'Sullivan, Julian Philips, Lola Rinvoluceri, Mario Rinvoluceri and Paul Williams.

Please also remember in your prayers all those who have died recently, especially Martyn Potts, Patrick Palmer, Margaret Nicolas and John Cole, and those whose anniversaries are about this time, including Michael Noonan, Molly Reynolds, Margaret Conroy, Dorothy Underwood, Frances Feeney, Irene Ballard, Tim Dodwell, Sylvia Clements, Dilys Rycott and Kevin Moynihan.

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



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



Overwhelming Force

In good weather it is lovely to live near the sea, especially when we have such a lovely promenade. Yet, for all the attractiveness of the sea, we know too that the sea can be treacherous. Those who spend time on the sea learn to treat it with respect, because they know it can be a destructive force as well as a benign one.

The Sea of Galilee was a very large inland lake more than a sea, yet, like a sea, it could turn very nasty due to winds suddenly blowing down onto it from the surrounding hills. Something of the fear that a storm at sea can evoke is very well captured in the way that the disciples address Jesus, 'Master, do you not care? We are going down!' They could have been forgiven for thinking that Jesus did not care because, according to the gospel, he was asleep as the storm raged. There is a striking contrast between the relaxed demeanour of Jesus in the storm and the great agitation of the disciples. Jesus was clearly coping with the storm better than they were. Having been rebuked by his disciples, Jesus goes on to rebuke them, 'Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?' They had been with Jesus for some time and had witnessed God powerfully at work in and through him. That experience should have been enough to reassure them that, in spite of the raging storm, all would be well, because Jesus was with them. He had said to them at the beginning of their journey, 'let us cross over to the other side.' They should have trusted that, with Jesus with them, they would make it to the other side, in spite of the storm they were encountering.

The Church's reputation has gone through stormy waters in recent times. Unlike the storm on the lake, the storms the Church has been battling are, to a large extent, of some of our own and our leaders' making. Perhaps, in the midst of these storms some of us may have been tempted to cry out with the disciples in the boat, 'we are going down.' We may be asking, like those disciples, where is the Lord in all of this? Like them, we may find ourselves fearful and losing faith as the Church lurches from side to side in the stormy waters.

One of the messages of the storm story is that the Lord remains with the Church in the storm. The Lord is present to his fearful and faithless disciples. He may rebuke us as he rebuked those disciples in the boat. However,



his presence to us in the storm is not just a rebuking presence. It is ultimately a creative and life-giving presence. Jesus brought calm out of the chaos; he tamed the storm and saw to it that the boat reached the other side. The Lord remains stronger than the storms that threaten the Church, whether those storms are self-inflicted or brought on by others or a combination of both.

Like the apostles, we need to trust that Christ works to bring his Church through the storm to a new place where, as in their case, fear gives way to awe and their rebuking question, 'Master, do you not care?' gives way to amazement, 'Who can this be? Even the winds and sea obey him.' This conviction (that the Lord of the Church is stronger than the storm) should not make us complacent. Yet, it keeps us hopeful and faithful, even when so much seems under threat. The psalms assure us that if we cry to the Lord in our need God will rescue us from our distress. Our need and distress can open us up more fully to God's life-giving presence among us.

Saint Paul makes a wonderful statement at the beginning of the second reading for this Sunday, 'the love of Christ overwhelms us.' Another translation would be 'the love of Christ urges us on.' The love of Christ for us was revealed above all in his death on the cross. As Paul says in his Letter to the Romans, 'God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.' It is that remarkable love of God in Christ for us that urges us on, even when we are battling against a headwind. It urges us on until we reach 'the other side', the place towards which the Lord is guiding the Church — the place where he wants us all to be.

PLEASE REGISTER FOR SUNDAY MASS BY FRIDAY 12 NOON

Additional Collection this weekend

DAY FOR LIFE

The *Day for Life* is the day in the Church's year dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death.

This year's *Day for Life* is **Sunday, 21 June 2020**.

Bishop John Sherrington, the Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Church in England and Wales, writes:

Message

We celebrate *Day for Life* on Sunday 20 June 2021. This day, inaugurated by Saint John Paul II, presents an opportunity to pray for the gift of life from conception to natural death, to raise awareness of the precious gift of life, and to support the work of protecting life in its most vulnerable stages through the annual collection. This assists pro-life organisations who raise awareness, engage in parliamentary work and pastoral outreach.

Global Pandemic

The fragility of life and the reality of death has been brought into sharp focus during the Covid-19 pandemic. In the UK alone, more than 126,000 people have died from Covid-19. Yet in the face of such suffering and death, we have also witnessed the extraordinary dedication of healthcare professionals and their loving care for the sick and dying. We too have each made sacrifices for the greater good during this pandemic. These acts of heroic love are a powerful testimony to the fundamental dignity of the human person and to the respect owed to each life, particularly through proper care and love in the last moments of life.

Assisted Dying

Against this backdrop of loving care, we are now faced with the very real threat of the legalisation of 'assisted suicide' in our country. It is not a question of 'if' this challenge will come, it is now a question of 'when?' There is now a Private Members Bill in the House of Lords on so-called 'Assisted Dying' and it is only a matter of time before the issue is back in the House of Commons.



This year's theme for *Day for Life* focuses on assisted suicide and the respect owed to life. The online resources are produced to inform Catholics about this threat to life and to share with people our response to such a threat: a true compassion as the just response to the immense value of the human person.

Donate

Day for Life adds an authenticity to our witness to the dignity of life and this is enabled by the generosity of people in the pews supporting our work.

In 2020, we were unable to hold our annual 'Day for Life' collection due to the pandemic, our funds are very much depleted and the threats to life have never been greater.

Day for Life is a simple, practical response which pushes back against 'the use and throwaway logic' often at the heart of a culture which seeks to abandon its elderly, sick and dying when 'they no longer serve our interests.'

If you feel you can offer financial support no matter how small, please contribute to this weekend's additional Collection or visit the [Donate](#) page.



Martyn Potts, RIP

In your kindness, when you pray please remember Martyn Potts who died on Thursday, 10th June, aged 49 years. Martyn is the husband of Sam Potts who is secretary to our Parish Council and a regular participant at Sunday Mass. We offer our most heartfelt condolences to Sam and to her children, Alex and Dylan, as they grieve the loss of a good husband and father.

Patrick Palmer, RIP

Please also remember in your prayer, Patrick Palmer who died on 26th May in Medway Maritime Hospital, aged 68 years. As we pray for him, we also pray for his family and friends during this difficult time. His funeral will be in our church on 5th July. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

**THE FRIARS
SUMMER FAYRE
SUNDAY 27TH JUNE, 2021
CANCELLED**

CHANGING LIVES

Want to be involved in the project to welcome and provide support in our area for a refugee family from the war-torn Middle East? Drop a line to Favcommunitysponsorship@gmail.com

SOME DEFINITE SERVICE **- DEANERY MENTORS -**

The Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis is developing a model of parish support called *Some Definite Service* and is looking for people who might be willing to volunteer as Deanery Mentors! This is an exciting opportunity to serve the Church and your fellow parishioners. As you serve, you will also receive formation, training, be accompanied and invested in.

For more information, visit: aec.rcaos.org.uk/sds

Every Saturday at 9.00 am

INTER-CHURCH HOPE PRAYER

Details at

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

Need the SVP?
Phone: 07563 702033

MASS IN OUR CHURCH

During the current epidemic, public Mass continues in our church.
We ask parishioners to keep safe and act responsibly.

Three Sunday Masses in our church:

SATURDAY 6.00 PM, SUNDAY 9.30 AM & 11.00 AM

Weekday Mass normally at 10.00 am

The church will be open 30 minutes before each Mass.

KEEPING SAFE IN OUR CHURCH

We thank all parishioners and friends who have helped to create and maintain a safe environment in our church for the public celebration of Mass. We look forward to welcoming back those who feel able to join us again.

By now, we are all aware of the measures we need to take in order to continue having Mass together.

Although it is counter-intuitive for us all, we ask all parishioners to

REFRAIN FROM SOCIALISING IN CHURCH BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER MASS

so that all can feel and actually be safe.

Our church is clearly marked with blue distance markers.

Please do not enter spaces marked by the blue tape if someone else (outside your social bubble) is in that area.

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