



WHITEFRIAR STREET CHURCH
*The Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
& Shrine of Saint Valentine*

March 29, 2020
The Fifth Sunday of
Lent

SACRAMENTS

In keeping with the Government and H.S.E. restrictions of March 27, Whitefriar Street Church will remain closed until April 12 at the earliest.

Masses

Due to Covid-19 Restrictions, Mass is not celebrated publicly in our church at this time.

Mass will be available live through our website each day as follows:

Monday to Saturday:

8.00am, 10.00am,
3.00pm

Sunday:

8.00am, 10.00am,
4.00pm

Those whose names were enrolled for Mass will still be remembered on the day, though not at the time originally intended. Names may still be added.

St Jude Novena

This will be celebrated on Tuesdays at 8.00pm even without a congregation. Petitions can still be sent in. The blessing with the Relics of St Jude and of St Thérèse of Lisieux will take place.

Baptisms & Weddings

Contact the parish office

Join us for liturgy through our webcam.



The Raising of Lazarus from the dead

In the gospel for this weekend, we have the story of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. Lazarus, Mary and Martha were close friends of Jesus and they are to be found in other stories in the gospels. The three siblings lived in the village of Bethany, a few kilometres from the city of Jerusalem, and it was in Bethany that Jesus often stayed during his visits to Jerusalem. The sisters sent a message to Jesus that their brother was sick and dying but, rather than going immediately to his aid, Jesus waited a number of days in order to demonstrate the glory of God at work in Jesus. We are also told that Jesus wept to hear that his friend had died.

In other resurrection miracles the one who was raised by Jesus had died just minutes or hours before the Lord's arrival, but in the case of Lazarus he was clearly dead and buried so that there could be no dispute about the fact that he was raised to life from the dead rather than released from a possible coma. There is also a contrast in this story between the two sisters: in another story it is Mary who spends time in the Lord's presence, listening to his every word, whereas in this episode it is Martha who openly declares her faith in Jesus and Mary who has to be sent for. Martha also makes it clear that she believes that Jesus has God working in him and that he can ask God for anything and God will grant it.

This is one of the key episodes in the life of Jesus which resulted in the authorities seeking his death. The story also reminds us of the death of Jesus himself and of his resurrection but also provokes us to think about our own death in baptism and our longed-for resurrection at the end of time. While Lazarus returned to life, we know that he died again like everyone else but, ultimately, that second death was so that he could be raised to life eternal. The readings and these difficult days of pandemic challenge each of us to look closely and honestly at our faith and to see where we have made room for God. We shouldn't worry or become afraid at this because the Lord is always waiting for us with open arms, but we should recognise where it is that we need to make changes to that relationship.

☎ 01 475 8821. Email: hello@whitefriarstreetchurch.ie

www.whitefriarstreetchurch.ie

Registered Charity CHY5894

THIS WEEK'S LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Sunday 29:	The Fifth Sunday of Lent
Monday 30:	The Fifth Week of Lent
Tuesday 31:	The Fifth Week of Lent
Wednesday 1:	The Fifth Week of Lent
Thursday 2:	The Fifth Week of Lent
Friday 3:	The Fifth Week of Lent
Saturday 4:	The Fifth Week of Lent

PASSIONTIDE

The final two weeks of Lent are referred to as 'Passiontide'. There is a slight change of tone in the liturgy in that the Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer changes from the Lenten Preface which speaks about the faithful giving up sin and being reconciled to God, to the Prefaces of the Passion which prepare us for the power of the Cross of Jesus Christ and also for the glory of the Lord's Passion. We don't usually think of the Lord's Passion as being something in which there is glory, especially when we consider the suffering he went through, and which was caused by our waywardness. But it is this passion which restores us to unity with the God the Father.

Traditionally, crosses and statues in churches were veiled in purple during these two weeks to bring home even more what the Lord undertook for our sake, and to increase the sense of joy in the Lord's resurrection.

CHURCH SHOP, MASS OFFICE & GENERAL ENQUIRIES

The Mass Office will remain closed until April 13 at the earliest.

Other enquiries:

☎ 01 475 8821

Email: shop@whitefriarstrectchurch.ie

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Members meet each Monday evening to consider requests. For those living within our parish, requests can be made by text to 085 789 8699. For those outside the parish, please ring 01 855 0022.

Donations for our church

All donations to keep the church going during these days are gratefully acknowledged and the donors are remembered in our prayers.

St Vincent de Paul and the Sunshine Fund

At this time, the monthly collection for the Society of St Vincent de Paul to help families within our parish has been suspended. Those who wish to continue to help can put their donation in an envelope and write the words 'St Vincent de Paul' on it and give it in at the shop, to the sacristan or to one of the Carmelite Community.

The annual St Vincent de Paul Sunshine Fund collection has also been postponed. Those who wish to make a donation can do so on the website www.sunshinefund.ie.

Covid-19

We continue to pray for all of our frontline staff who are under increased pressure at this time, especially those in the medical profession. We pray too for all those who have been infected, that they may have a full and swift recovery. We commend to the Lord those who have died, that he may welcome them into the Kingdom and bring comfort to their families.

Please remember that many older and vulnerable people are more isolated than normal at this time. Please give them a phone call and see how they are doing.

Love is the inclination, strength, and power for the soul in making its way to God, for love unites it with God. The more degrees of love it has, the more deeply it enters into God and centres itself in him.

*Saint John of the Cross
Carmelite Priest, Doctor of the Church
1542 – 1591*

PARISH OFFICE

For certificates of Baptism, Confirmation and Marriage, or to book a baptism or a wedding.

☎ 01 475 8821

Email: parish@whitefriarstrectchurch.ie

CARMELITE COMMUNITY CENTRE

☎ 01 475 4673

Email: info@carmelitecommunitycentre.com