



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

December 15, 2019
The Third Sunday
of Advent

SACRAMENTS

Masses

Sundays:

Vigil 6.00pm

AM: 8.00, 10.30, 11.30

PM: 12.30, 4.00, 7.00

Weekdays:

AM: 8.00, 10.00, 11.30

PM: 1.10, 3.00

Bank Holidays:

AM: 10.00, 11.30

Holy days:

according to the day of the
week

Confessions

Monday to Friday:

10.30-11.30; 3.00-4.00

Saturdays:

10.30-12.30, 2.00-4.00

Devotions at 2.30pm

Monday: Miraculous

Medal – Rosary &
Benediction

Friday: Exposition of the

Blessed Sacrament –
silent prayer

Saturday: Our Lady of

Mount Carmel – Rosary
& Benediction

St Jude Novena

Tuesdays at 8.00pm

including blessing with the
Relics of St Jude and of St
Thérèse of Lisieux

Living abroad?

Join us for liturgy through
our webcam.



Gaudete in Domino semper – Rejoice in the Lord always!

The tone of the celebration for the Third Sunday of Advent is somewhat different to the rest of the Advent season. The Entrance Antiphon for the Mass says *Gaudete in Domino semper – Rejoice in the Lord always!* Advent has a penitential aspect as we endeavour to make ourselves better people in order to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and to receive his loving presence in our hearts once more. But in the midst of that work of transformation, we are reminded to rejoice at the fact that the coming of the Lord is very near, that all of the expectations of the Old Testament and of the people regarding their salvation are about to be fulfilled.

We again have John the Baptist in the gospel but, unlike his clear and determined teaching last week, this time he appears to be somewhat unsure about Jesus. He sent his own disciples to find out if Jesus really was the Christ, and the reply he gave was based very much on the scriptures, particularly the prophet Isaiah. Jesus told them to report back what they had seen: the blind being given sight, the lame walking again. Jesus said that John was a prophet and the one who was preparing the way for the Messiah according to the scriptures.

Jesus is the reason why we rejoice; he is the reason why we make an effort to amend our lives each year because he alone is our Saviour and he alone who will raise us with him to eternal life.

That call to rejoice is a reason to celebrate but the most important preparation for that rejoicing is the preparation of our mind and heart so that we truly mark the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas, not as some event that took place so long ago, but an event which is taking place in reality for each of us, an event which took place and is taking place because God loves each one of us. Our response to the love of God, is to love God in return.

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

THIS WEEK'S LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Sunday 15: Third Sunday of Advent
Monday 16: Third Week in Advent
Tuesday 17: Third Week in Advent
Wednesday 18: Third Week in Advent
Thursday 19: Third Week in Advent
Friday 20: Third Week in Advent
Saturday 21: Third Week in Advent

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY SCENES

Scenes of Christ's birth in a stable have been part of Catholic culture going back to the middle of the fourth century. However, it was St Francis of Assisi who inspired the nativity scenes that we now find in our homes, churches and elsewhere. According to legend, Francis walked the streets of Greccio, Italy, in December 1223 and saw shops filled with glittery Christmas presents. People were talking about buying and selling gifts, but nobody spoke of Jesus' birth. Francis wanted to do something that would remind the people that Christmas was the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ ('Christmas' is the shortened form of 'Christ's Mass'), so he created a live nativity scene in a cave on the outskirts of the town based on what he saw in the original cave in the Holy Land. The form of the stable differs from country to country reflecting the culture of the country.



CHURCH SHOP, MASS OFFICE & GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Sunday: 10.00am - 2.00pm
Monday to Friday: 8.30am - 5.00pm.
Tuesday extra: 7.30pm - 8.15pm
Saturday: 9.30am - 6.00pm
☎ 01 475 8821
Email: shop@whitefriarstreetchurch.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.

Christmas Schedule

The Christmas schedule of Masses, Confessions and Church Shop hours is available at Calvary.

Nativity Play

On Wednesday next, December 18, St Enda's Primary School will hold their Nativity Play here in the church at 12.00 noon, just after the 11.30 Mass. All are welcome to attend.

Thanks

The Society of St Vincent de Paul Christmas Collection taken up last week to support those in need in our parish amounted to €11866.72. We thank you for your ongoing generosity to the various special collections throughout the year.

St Jude Weekly Novena

The St Jude Novena has been celebrated on Tuesday evenings at 8.00 for many years. This year the evening Mass on Tuesday, December 24, will be the Vigil Mass of Christmas and on Tuesday, December 31, we will close the church at 6.00pm. On those two Tuesdays we will continue the St Jude Novena Mass, but it will be celebrated instead at the 3.00pm Mass on both days – the Novena Prayers and Blessing with the Relics will take place at that Mass for those who are able to join us.

Donations from Whitefriar Street Church fund food programme in Zimbabwe

Many of you will have heard in recent news reports of the plight of the people of Zimbabwe. The Irish Province of Carmelites has ministered in that country since the 1940s. We are pleased to report that money collected at Whitefriar Street as part of a special collection, and also in our collection boxes, is funding an important food programme there. Irish Carmelite bishop, Bishop Paul Horan, O.Carm., has told us that direct contributions from Whitefriar Street have ensured that the food distribution programme organised in his Diocese of Mutare can continue for many more months.

PARISH OFFICE

For certificates of Baptism, Confirmation and Marriage, or to book a baptism or a wedding.
Monday to Friday: 9.00am - 1.00pm
☎ 01 475 8821
Email: parish@whitefriarstreetchurch.ie

CARMELITE COMMUNITY CENTRE

☎ 01 475 4673
Email: info@carmelitecommunitycentre.com