



Irish Province of
CARMELITES

KINSALE FRIARY

Newsletter

JULY 2022

Friary Church Refurbishment Project 2022

In 1837 the Carmelite Community of that time, with great faith and fortitude, undertook the building of the present Friary Church in Kinsale. It replaced an earlier Church which was in very poor condition. This historic Church is a great tribute to the people of Kinsale and surrounding areas who supported its building by their contributions at a time when the country was struck by the Great Famine (1845-52). In the years that have followed, the Friary Church continues to be place of significance in the spiritual and social lives of many people from the town and beyond and a place of welcome and hospitality for countless visitors to Kinsale.

When work began on the building, the Carmelites and people of Kinsale looked forward in joyful hope to the arrival of a

new Church. That hope was eventually realised thirteen years later. Their hope was not just about a building. It was a hope, rooted in the Gospel. It was a hope that looked forward to a way of being community - of being a believing, celebrating, praying and witnessing community rooted in the Word of God and in the Eucharist. When the initial work began, one hundred and eighty five years ago, the ground had to be cleared and prepared and foundations put in place. Thank God, this Church, like the people who worship here, has strong foundations. Rooted in the faith and worship of a Christian community stretching back many centuries, it reaches down to the earth from which we are all made and reaches high into the Kinsale skyline. It is one of the many beautiful features *Cont. Overleaf...*



Friary Church Refurbishment Project 2022 *cont.*

our town. The interior, lovingly cared for by so many volunteers, welcomes all who enter its doors as it lifts hearts and minds to God through worship, prayer, music and art.

The passage of time has witnessed the influence of the unforgiving Irish weather leaving its mark on the Church. In 2016, very significant 'Phase One' works were carried out to address the external structure and internal areas of the church that were suffering from damp decay. As part of that project the main south facing wall and the west facing wall were successfully repaired and repointed. We now need to complete 'Phase Two' of the renovation of the Friary Church. Works will include:

Repairing and repointing the east facing external wall.

Reroofing the boiler room, toilets, confessional and sacristy.

Repairing some of the stained glass and leaded windows and installing protective storm glazing.

Electrical rewiring.

Installation of a new sound system and LED lighting system.

Complete redecoration of the interior of the Church and replacing existing flooring in the main body of the Church and the sanctuary.

Refurbishment of the Church Seating.

The estimated cost of the project, including fees, is approximately €600,000.00. We are profoundly grateful to those who have already supported the project through donations and fundraising events. It is your generosity that has helped and encouraged us to begin this ambitious fundraising appeal.





How might you help?

- Keep the project in your prayers.
- Make a financial contribution.

All contributions are gratefully received and can be sent to:

Church Renovation Project
Carmelite Friary
Lower Catholic Walk
Kinsale, Co. Cork
P17 WR88

Or by Direct Debit to:

Carmelite Friary
Account Number: 03520123
NSC: 93-40-89
IBAN: IE32 AIBK 9340 8903 5201 23
BIC: AIBKIE2D

As a registered charity we can reclaim a refund of tax on contributions of €250 or more during the tax year if you complete the attached CHY3 form from the Revenue Commissioners. Each completed CHY3 form is worth an extra 44.9%. So your donation of €250 is worth €112.25 extra to our Renovation Project at no additional cost to you.

As we begin this project we think of our the generations past, who in the very different world of nineteenth century Ireland, inspired and indeed contributed to building this Church. They looked towards the future,

strengthened in their faith at a time of difficulty and uncertainty.

We think of all those near and far, family members here in Ireland or overseas who may welcome to the opportunity to support the current renovation project. May this refurbishment project be a continuing sign of the renewal that is taking place

in the life of the Church. Together, may we work to make a place that is a sign of welcome, a source of inspiration and consolation and a place of prayer and community.

We thank you for your continuing support of the Friary and our ministry of prayer and hospitality.



Bishop Fintan Gavin & Fr. James

Novena of Masses in Honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

The Solemnity of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, so dear to all of us who are part of the Carmelite Family, is fast approaching and we look forward to celebrating the Novena of Masses and Sacred Triduum in honour of our Blessed Lady. Our newest Carmelite saint, Titus Brandsma, canonised by Pope Francis on May 15th reminds us that we, like Mary, are called to be "Theotokos", bearers of God, who take the Lord to the most needy places. We are also called to be contemplatives, imitating the example of Our Lady, who in pondering what was happening in her world, found the will of God and responded generously.

As Mother and Patroness, Our Lady leads us to the heart of the Gospel and the Christian life. This year's Novena from Friday July 8th – Sunday July 17th is an opportunity for all of us to open our hearts to the Good News of the Gospel and be encouraged to share it with courage, authenticity and joy.



Due to the Friary Church Refurbishment, the Novena will be marked somewhat differently with Holy Mass being celebrated at 10:00am each weekday morning in the Friary Meeting Room. Fr Paddy Smyth, O.Carm., from our community in Whitefriar Street, Dublin, will be the guest homilist for our Triduum and the following services:

Friday 15th July

10:00am Mass of Healing
Holy Mass & Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
7:30pm Holy Mass (outdoors weather permitting) and the blessing of graves in the Abbey Cemetery

Saturday 16th

10:00am Solemnity of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Holy Mass with Rite of Blessing & Enrolment with the Brown Scapular

Sunday 17th

12:00 Holy Mass (St John the Baptist – Parish Church, Kinsale)
7:00pm Solemn Evening Prayer
(St John the Baptist – Parish Church, Kinsale)
7:30pm Blessed Sacrament Procession (with Rosary & Benediction)

May these days of prayer in which we honour Mary as the Mother and Advocate of Carmel, help all of us to give new life to our Carmelite charism and make it more present and more alive in our hearts. If you would like to participate in the Novena of Masses in Honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel please find the remittance and petition form for inclusion in the celebrations and prayers of the Carmelite Community here in the Friary.

Our Community depends on the generosity of our friends and benefactors. It is only through your ongoing support that we can continue to develop our ministry of prayer and hospitality. We thank you most sincerely for that support.

I offer the gratitude of the Carmelite Community to all who take part in the forthcoming Novena and Sacred Triduum and to all our generous helpers who make sure you receive this letter.

May Our Lady of Mount Carmel continue to intercede for you and those you love most.

With prayerful best wishes.

James Eivers, O.Carm.

Fr. James Eivers, O.Carm.
Prior.

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Charity no: CHY 5894



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