

# Newsletter

OCTOBER 2022

## In November we Remember

Each year we set aside time during the month of November to remember our beloved dead, particularly those who have died in the past year. Far from being macabre, our remembrances are signs of our faith rooted in the sure and certain hope that our loved ones have passed from death to life in the company of the Risen Christ. During this time we also open our hearts to all those who are mourning the death of a loved one. We pray for them in their grief and loss and ask the Lord of all gentleness to grant them His peace and consolation.

Saint Paul reminds us ““We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.” (Romans 6:9). This is the truth and the joy of the resurrection. This is our hope rooted in Christ Jesus and we know that His love is always stronger than death. As we take this time to remember those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, we as the Church, also have a responsibility to share that hope with those we meet. There are so many people, so many of our family, friends and neighbours who need to hear words of hope. Those who are grieving. Those whose lives have been turned upside down. In this time of darkness we are called to bring light. In this time of sorrow we are called to proclaim life everlasting. Death is not the final word on the human condition. Life is. The Crucified Christ is also the Risen Lord. This central tenet of our faith which gives life a new horizon, renews our strength and offers us hope. Together we turn to our heavenly Father and pray with the psalmist as we

place our trust in God saying:

*The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*

*Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.*

*Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping*

*spirit. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.*

*You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.*

*My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.*

*Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of*

*my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell forever and ever.*

*Psalm 23*

The month of November gives us the opportunity to remember our dearly departed when we enter their names on the Altar List of the Dead, so that they may be prayed for at all

Masses during November. If you wish to have the names of your loved ones inscribed on the list, please complete the enclosed form and return to the Friary in the envelope provided. If you would like to have your loved ones share in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered each day in the Friary for the month of November please see the enclosed Mass Enrolment form which can also be returned to the Friary. This is a lovely way to remember a deceased loved one or to let someone grieving know that you are thinking of them. Our November Remembrance Mass Cards have a space on the card for the name of the person being prayed for, as well as the person who has requested the card. Your Mass enrolment card(s) and blank envelope(s) can be posted to the delivery address that you include with your request. Please allow 3 to 5 working days for receipt of your Mass enrolment cards, once your request is completed by us.



## Lourdes Pilgrimage

From 27th September – 2nd October it was wonderful to be back in the grotto of Lourdes as part of our Annual Carmelite Pilgrimage; to stand beneath the feet of Mary, the Immaculate Virgin, to come in procession and to ask for her intercession. One cannot help but be struck by the noble beauty of the sanctuary and the profound devotion that people have to our blessed lady who invites us to repentance, healing and hope.

Our Lady's message to Bernadette at the grotto invites us to turn towards her Son in the knowledge of God's profound love for each one of us – a love which is stronger than death, stronger than our weaknesses and human frailties. A love is stronger than the evils which threaten our world. It is this mystery of God's gratuitous love for people that Mary came to reveal in Lourdes through Saint Bernadette.

In the great story of the annunciation we hear the Angel greeting the virgin "Hail Mary, Full of Grace". Gratia – in Latin – simply means a gift freely given. Mary is the one ready to receive the great gift from God... in fact, the greatest gift from God! She is the one who is ready to be carried somewhere she cannot go on her own merit. Carmelites have, from the earliest of times, asserted that Mary is the perfect model of a person of faith who constantly accepted what happened to her, not unthinkingly, not passively, not without processing and trying to figure out what God is doing and saying, but always by accepting the reality of God's plan with trust and with hope.

Friends, this is the language of the Gospel, the language of Grace. The height of the spiritual life is knowing,



that in the end, it's not about me... It's not about you... It's about God and allowing God to carry you where you cannot go on your own merit – and yes, that means even to the cross of Christ – the cross of suffering and pain!

It's from the Cross that Jesus turns to his Mother and says "Woman, this is your Son" and to the beloved disciple "This is your Mother". The mother of the redeemer becomes the mother of the redeemed. Mary is the perfect image of what a disciple of Christ should look like. She is the perfect model of one who follows Christ in the way she actively participated in the will of God from the annunciation to the foot of the cross. She is the one who turns to us now in God's word and tells us to "do whatever he tells you". She assures us that God is faithful to all the promises he made from the start of Salvation history and from her very person comes the Messiah, Jesus the Christ.

One reason the Church is continually proposes Mary to us is that in meditating on her we can come to a deeper, more perceptible understanding of her Son. True devotion to the Blessed Virgin leads to many blessings and a life of grace and faith in Christ Jesus and His Church.

And our pilgrimage was blessed in so

many different ways but particularly we were blessed by the presence of our young volunteers. Their joy and enthusiasm for life and their generous service to the sick and infirm stand as an inspiration to us all. Our prayer for our youth, is that in the years to come that they will continue to have the courage to respond generously to God's call to a life that is happy and full of meaning. "Do not allow yourselves to be discouraged by the difficulties this world has to offer. Continue to serve our brothers and sisters with open hearts and willing hands. Be resolved to make Christ known and loved."

Mary. Mother of God, our Mother, teach us to believe, to hope and to love with you. Show us the way towards the kingdom of your Son Jesus! Star of the sea, shine upon us and lead us on our way!

Our Lady of Lourdes,  
Pray for us.



## Friary Mass Office and Shop

Whether you are looking Mass Cards, rosaries, a simple book of prayers, or a special gift you will find a collection of books and other religious items in Friary office and shop. The office is open daily from 10.30am – 4.00pm and, for those of who are a distance away, you can contact the Friary at [kinsale@carmelites.ie](mailto:kinsale@carmelites.ie) and we will gladly post you cards and other small items.



## Church Renovation & Reopening

After months of significant renovation, the Friary Church will open its doors once again on Friday 21st October. Exterior and interior works have included; 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, a complete rewiring of the electrics, installation of a new sound system and LED lighting system, refurbishment of the church seating and a complete redecoration of the interior of the church and replacing existing flooring in the main body of the church and the sanctuary. The much needed renovation has only been

possible through grant aid and a loan which will be paid back in the coming years. We are profoundly grateful to those who have already supported the project through donations and fundraising events.

### 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.

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



## Festival of Flowers

KINSALE FRIARY



# FLOWER FESTIVAL

TO CELEBRATE THE RE-OPENING OF THE FRIARY CHURCH

*'In Praise & Thanksgiving'*

**FRIDAY 21ST OCTOBER  
TO SUNDAY 23RD OCTOBER**

**Friday Official Opening & Viewing 7.30pm | Entry €10**

**Saturday Viewing from 10am to 17:00 | Entry €10**

**Sunday Viewing 10am to 14:00 | Entry €10**

**Sunday Closing of Festival 17:00**

**Raffle & Plant Sale  
at the Friary Centre  
all weekend**

€10 ENTRY FEE INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS  
Proceeds to the Friary Renovation Fund

## Liturgy Schedule in the Friary Church

Prayer is at the heart of our lives and each day the Carmelite Community gathers in the Friary church to pray the Divine Office and celebrate the Eucharist. Visitors are welcome to join with the community for all our services or to follow online on our webcam livestream at <https://www.churchservices.tv/kinsalecarmelites>

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is available in the Friary church on Saturdays between 10.30am and 11.30am or by appointment in the Friary office.

### WEEKDAYS

9:30 am Lauds (Morning Prayer)

10:00 am Conventual Mass

6:00 pm Vespers (Evening Prayer)

### CONFESSIONS

10:30 – 11.30 am Saturdays

### SUNDAYS

8:30 am Mass

10:30 am Lauds (Morning Prayer)

11:00 am Mass

7:00 pm Solemn Vespers

Adoration & Benediction  
of the Most Blessed

## Season of Creation Day of Reflection

“Praise be to you my Lord, with all your creatures,” prayed St. Francis of Assisi, well before the Season of Creation began. With this simple but profound prayer, he has encouraged believers of many generations to recognize creation as the fruit of God’s eternal Love.

The Season of Creation is marked throughout the Christian world from 1 September (the World Day of Prayer for Creation) to 4 October (the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi). In 2015 Pope Francis declared this time as a liturgical season within the Church’s calendar, just like Lent, Easter and Advent. It is a time to celebrate the joy of creation as well as raising awareness of what is happening to our common home. Pope Francis’ encyclical “Laudato Si” published in 2015 is a foundation stone for Season of Creation.

Laudato Si means “Praised be” in the dialect of the time and place of St Francis.”

Each year there is a different theme for us to think about during Season of Creation. The Symbol and theme for 2022 is “Listen to the Voice of Creation” and the Burning bush is the symbol. Today, the prevalence of unnatural fires are a sign of the devastating effects

that climate change has on the most vulnerable of our planet. Creation cries out as forests crackle, animals flee, and people are forced to migrate due to the fires of injustice. On the contrary, the fire of the burning bush that called to Moses as he tended the flock on Mt. Horeb (Exodus 3) did not consume or destroy the bush. This flame of the Spirit reveals God’s presence and affirms that God heard the cries of all who suffer and promises to be with us as we work for justice.

In this Season of Creation, this symbol of God’s Spirit calls us to listen to the voice of creation, to the voices of those who suffer the impacts of climate change, to the voices of those who hold generational wisdom about how to live gratefully within the limits of the land. These are voices of the Earth. The global Christian family is called to awaken to the urgent need to heal our relationships with creation and with each other and to encourage our parish communities to do the same, “for we know that things can change!” (Laudato Si’, 13).

In keeping with “Listen to the Voice of Creation” Jane Mellet (Trocaire Laudato Si Officer) and Noirin Lynch (Spiritual Director FCJ spirituality House Clare)

facilitated a day of Reflection in the our Friary on Saturday, October 1st. The theme was “Learning to Listen for God, how God speaks to us through Nature.” Twenty seven participants from all over Ireland heard that just like Moses, we stand on Holy Ground and God speaks to us in the minutiae of creation, we can hear His voice through a leaf, through a bee, through a blade of grass.

The day concluded with the planting of a Cratagus tree (Hawthorn) on the lawn in front of the Friary as a symbolic action, declaring our commitment to care more deeply for God’s Creation. We prayed that “this tree take root in this soil, drawing from it water and nutrients so it may grow and blossom, bringing beauty in flower and leaf, offering shelter to birds and insects, enriching this place with its presence and life. May this tree’s presence in this place speak to all who see it of the power and the life of the world revealed through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

