



Welcome

Welcome to our second Saint Jude Focus. We have created this newsletter so that the friends of Saint Jude can be kept up to date on our work and news at the Shrine in between the quarterly Carmelite News written by the Prior Provincial.

Saint Jude at home



Saint Jude is a powerful intercessor, as the letters we receive testify. He answers to petitions about problems considered beyond human help: he is the saint of helping with the impossible.

In our Christian lives prayer is an absolutely necessary activity. We can perform many good deeds, but we have to check in with God from time to time and keep in contact with him.

So, as well as the brand new Saint Jude prayer book released last year, we also have a new initiative called **Saint Jude at home**.

At the end of each month, those who subscribe will receive a pack of five cards, which will include prayers and reflections on a particular subject. It is hoped that these cards will help each of us in our daily lives through prayer with Saint Jude.

Each month a new person will write a reflection and Fr Kevin Alban, O.Carm is writing the first one.

To join, either donate **£8.50** per month or pay for an annual membership now for just **£85** (two months free). For **Guild members**, it's **£7.50** per month or annual membership is **£75**.

Please write to us at our PO Box to sign up for this new initiative.

Summer Celebration

Our annual Summer Celebration will be taking place on 25 May 2019. All welcome. Our theme this year is to "celebrate Saint Jude together" and will start with Devotions and Anointing at 11am.

Afterwards, there will be time for pilgrims to enjoy some lunch - this year there will be an opportunity to donate for some food and drinks.

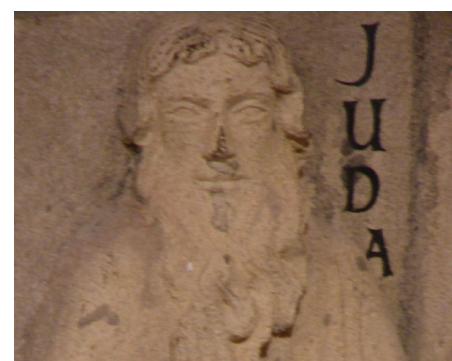
At 1.30pm, an open air Mass will be celebrated by the Prior Provincial, which will be followed by a procession past the Shrine (see photo of the 2018 procession below).

Our candle tent will be available for pilgrims to light candles and leave petitions to Saint Jude. We will also have a piety stall selling items associated with our favourite saint. All welcome.



Stamps

For the third year in a row, and thanks to all of you who write in to us, we were able to donate many postal stamps to another charity to help them in their work. This time, we donated the stamps to the charity Kicks Count, and we received a very nice letter and thanks in return. Thank you friends of Saint Jude for writing to us!



Sponsored Walk



Earlier this year, Mr Matthew Betts, the development manager at the Shrine, walked from Westminster Abbey to Rochester Cathedral. The walk was to raise funds for the Order and the Shrine for our important work in the UK and abroad.

It was a glorious few days, and Matt walked past Saint Paul's Cathedral (pictured above); along the Thames; reaching Greenwich park. He then walked along Blackheath until reaching Gravesend.

After Gravesend, Matt walked along a disused canal (the Thames and Medway Canal) until reaching Rochester (the cathedral is pictured below) later that day. A long walk, but a beautiful one. Thank you to everyone who sponsored Matt.



You can read Matt's full report online at:
www.stjudeshrine.org.uk/news/

Printer Catridges

You can now recycle your ink cartridges with the Shrine of Saint Jude via the Recycling Factory. This company recycle over 8 million inkjet and toner cartridges. Each one they receive on our behalf, the company will donate to our fund. Send your catridges to:

Freepost RSYA-SZBS-LRTL, The Recycling Factory, Marsh Lane, Boston, PE21 7TX. Thank you.

Easter cards

Once again, we are selling five different Easter card packs. All Easter cards are exclusively designed by and for the National Shrine of Saint Jude. Each Easter card pack includes envelopes. You can see all of these on the insert with this newsletter.

Please order card packs and novenas by 12 April for delivery before Easter. Thank you.

Did you know?

Only in Saint John's Gospel are we told of any words spoken by Saint Jude (John 14:22). At the Last Supper there was an impending sense of final tragedy, and Jude still could not understand why this needed to be so. Puzzled, he asked: "Lord, why is it that you reveal yourself to us and not to the world?" Jude is saying that it is not the Apostles that need convincing about Jesus, but the rest of the world. Jesus' reply is consistent with his constant message that you cannot win love and loyalty by display of force - only when someone opens their heart will the Father and Jesus be able to possess them:

"If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me". (John 14:23)

You can find out much more about Saint Jude in our new prayer book - now in hardback and paperback.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

ALMIGHTY God, in union with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the angels and saints, I praise and bless you for your love and for all the graces you have poured out upon your people in answer to their prayers.

Especially I thank you for the graces and privileges you have poured upon Saint Jude, the kinsman and apostle of your Son. Please continue to bestow your grace upon me and upon those for whom I pray; strengthen me at the hour of my death and defend me from the assaults of the evil one. Amen.

Thank you

Thank you for your recent and continued support of the Shrine and the Carmelites.

May we wish you a good Lent and a happy Easter.

Saint Jude Shrine Office

SAINT JUDE, PRAY FOR US



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