



WHITEFRIAR STREET CHURCH
*The Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
& Shrine of Saint Valentine, Dublin 2*

December 27, 2020
Feast of the Holy
Family

SACRAMENTS

*Under Government
restrictions*

Private Prayer

Monday to Saturday:

11.00am to 2.30pm.

Sunday:

11.30am to 3.15pm

Masses

*Mass will be available
live through our website:*

Monday to Saturday:

8.00am, 10.00am,

3.00pm

Sunday:

8.00am, 10.30am,

4.00pm

*Names can be enrolled
for Mass and will be
remembered and prayed
for on the day requested.*

St Jude Novena

*This continues to be
celebrated on Tuesdays at
8.00pm and will be
livestreamed in our
website. The blessing
with the Relics of St Jude
and of St Thérèse of
Lisieux will take place.*

Confessions

Monday to Saturday:

11.00am to 12.00pm

Baptisms & Weddings

*Please contact the parish
office if you have a
baptism or wedding
booked at this time.*

*Join us for liturgy
through our webcam*



For this year's Feast of the Holy Family, we read of the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple, which we will read again on Candlemas Day on February 2. Joseph and Mary brought the Child to the Temple to fulfil the requirements of the Jewish Law and, while there, they were greeted by Simeon and Anna. These two elderly people had devoted much of their lives to praising God in the Temple on a daily basis and both longed for the day when they would see the promised Messiah.

Over the years, Simeon and Anna must have seen thousands of couples coming to the Temple as did Mary and Joseph did, and from every level of society from wealthy to poor. And yet out of all of those couples and babies they recognised just one as being of true significance, something which only the eyes of deep faith could have done. Without hesitation they approached the little family and praised God for all to hear for the birth and presence of this particular child.

For St Luke, this was important because here was the Lord entering his own Temple and being greeted by two people who were devoted to the Lord and who represented the heart of the Temple itself – devotion and service. Simeon had some dark words for Mary, but he also gave praise and glory to God because he had now seen and held the salvation of God.

We are called on to have faith like Simeon and Anna, and to believe in God and his Word even when we do not fully understand what it is that we are believing or where it is that the Lord appears to be leading us. If we do have faith, then the promises of salvation which have been made will be fulfilled for us.

The Holy Family is regarded as holy not because they were perfect or were powerful, but because at the heart of their family was Jesus Christ, who we are invited to make the heart of our own family.

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

www.whitefriarstreetchurch.ie

Registered Charity CHY5894

THIS WEEK'S LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Sunday 27:	Feast of the Holy Family
Monday 28:	Feast of the Holy Innocents
Tuesday 29:	Octave of Christmas
Wednesday 30:	Octave of Christmas
Thursday 31:	Octave of Christmas
Friday 1:	Mary, Mother of God
Saturday 2:	Saints Basil & Gregory

A SAINT OR TWO THIS WEEK...

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

Throughout the Church's liturgical calendar there are several solemnities, feast days and memorials in honour of Our Lady. On January 1 we celebrate Our Blessed Lady as the Mother of God which is not accepted by all Christians – many will accept Mother of Christ but not Mother of God. For us, Jesus Christ is God the Son, the second person of the Most Holy Trinity. Therefore, as his mother, Mary is the Mother of God. However, this does not place Mary in a position superior to God or to her Divine Son, but acknowledges that she is mother of Jesus while also acknowledging exactly who her Son is – God. The document of the Second Vatican Council, *Lumen gentium*, says:

'At the message of the angel, the Virgin Mary received the Word of God in her heart and in her body, and gave Life to the World. Hence she is acknowledged and honoured as being truly the Mother of God and Mother of the Redeemer' (*Lumen gentium* 52).

MASS OFFICE, CHURCH SHOP & GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Sunday: 10.00am – 2.00pm
Monday to Friday: 9.00am – 4.00pm.
Saturday: 9.30am – 4.00pm
Tuesday extra: 7.30pm – 8.15pm
Other enquiries: ☎ 01 475 8821
Email: shop@whitefriarstrectchurch.ie
Web: <https://shop.whitefriarstrectchurch.com/>

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.

REMAINING VIGILANT

While Covid-19 is a significant threat, we strongly recommend and ask all those visiting our church to adhere to the following:

- **Wear a face mask at all times** while in the building no matter how many others are there.
- Wear a face mask when in the confessional.
- Sanitise your hands when entering the building.
- Keep a safe distance from others when seated and avoid crowding, particularly when lighting candles and visiting the Crib.
- Follow the instructions of our staff in the church and shop.

People may bring a clean bottle of tap water to church and it can be blessed by a priest, or they can buy a bottle in the Church Shop and we will fill it for them (there is no charge for the holy water).

GOVERNMENT IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS BEGINNING DECEMBER 26, 2020

On December 22 the Government announced further restrictions requiring the suspension of public Mass and Worship. While the church can be open for private prayer and Confession, we are acutely aware that a very important support and source of hope has again been suppressed and at a difficult time of the year for many people, even while our church and other churches are very well sanitised and looked after. We pray earnestly that this will be the last time such restrictions will be placed on churches and encourage everyone to have a care not just for themselves but for others and to do the right thing.

If I did not simply live from one moment to another, it would be impossible for me to be patient, but I only look at the present, I forget the past, and I take good care not to forestall the future.

*Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face
Carmelite Nun, Doctor of the Church
1873 – 1897*

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