



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

December 1, 2019  
The First 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

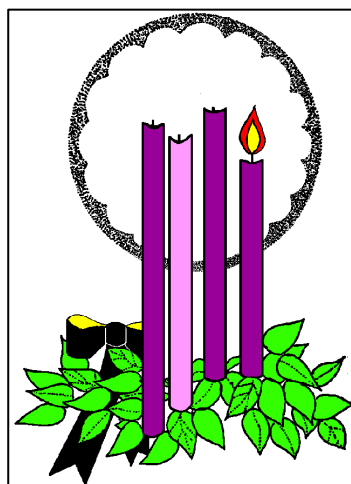
**St Jude Novena**

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.



*Advent*

Daylight grows shorter. The dark of night grows longer and more intense. In this cold dark, lights begin to shine which were not there before – they are in windows and on trees. It is as if people are afraid of the dark and all it symbolizes.

A spirit of expectation begins to pick up momentum: shopping trips, gift wrapping, parties, a different kind of music and song, and an avalanche of decorations. It is obvious that something wonderful is about to happen.

In the midst of this swelling excitement throughout contemporary society and culture, worshippers in churches are reminded to be watchful, to repent, to do penance. The gospel message almost parallels a secular song heard occasionally during this time of the year: *You better watch out, you better not cry, you better not pout, I'm telling you why....*

In churches, the colour purple clashes with the red, green and sparkling silver and gold we see everywhere else. Young and old alike prepare to celebrate Christmas by taking part in a variety of traditions, some of them only remotely associated with the preparation for the Christian mystery of the Incarnation – the birth of God in human flesh.

Yes, someone *is coming to town*. And so the season reminds us to prepare the way of the Lord, to stay awake and be ready because while we know the date of Christmas and will carefully count down the remaining days, it is very easy to let the time run by so fast that we forget the true preparations that must be made to celebrate the birth of the Messiah – the personal preparation which sees us open our hearts to receive the gift of the Christ-child who was born so long ago for each one of us today.

*cf. Catholic Customs & Traditions*

☎ 01 475 8821. Email: [hello@whitefriarstreetchurch.ie](mailto:hello@whitefriarstreetchurch.ie)  
[www.whitefriarstreetchurch.ie](http://www.whitefriarstreetchurch.ie)

### THIS WEEK'S LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Sunday 1:	First Sunday of Advent
Monday 2:	First Week in Advent
Tuesday 3:	St Francis Xavier
Wednesday 4:	First Week in Advent
Thursday 5:	First Week in Advent
Friday 6:	First Week in Advent
Saturday 7:	St Ambrose of Milan

### A SAINT OR TWO THIS WEEK...

#### St Francis Xavier, Priest

Francis Xavier was born in the Kingdom of Navarre, northern Spain, in 1506, and was one of the original seven companions of St Ignatius of Loyola, who founded the Jesuits. He was one of the greatest missionaries and concentrated his efforts on India and the Far East. He died in 1552 on his way to China. He is Patron Saint of the Foreign Missions and of all works for the spreading of Christianity.

#### St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Ambrose was born sometime around the year 340 in Gaul, which covered much of western Europe. He was a lawyer and later became governor in what is today northern Italy. He had his offices in Milan, in northern Italy, where he was elected Bishop by popular acclaim of the laity, even though he was still only preparing to be baptised. He worked untiringly for the Church and was not afraid of standing up to the emperors in defence of the faith and of morals. He was a close friend of St Monica and baptised St Augustine. He died on Good Friday, 397.

### 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.

### Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

December 8 is the calendar day for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. However, this year December 8 is a Sunday in Advent and so the Immaculate Conception will move and be celebrated on Monday, December 9. This also means that for this year, the Immaculate Conception is **not** a holy day of obligation.

### First Friday

December 6 is the First Friday of the month and a day when the sick and housebound are traditionally brought the Blessed Sacrament by a priest or Extra-Ordinary Minister. If there are members of the parish who are housebound and unable to attend Mass but who would like to receive the Blessed Sacrament, their name and number can be given in at the parish office and a visit can be arranged for the First Friday of the month.

### Tap and Go card machine

As more and more people prefer to use cards or their mobile phone to pay for items and carry less cash, a simple tap and go machine has been installed at the back of the church. Those who prefer to use cards, Apple Pay or Google Pay can use the machine to donate to the church, contribute to the Mass collections, or pay for candles.

*On the question of relating to our fellowman – our neighbour's spiritual need transcends every commandment. Everything else we do is a means to an end. But love is an end already, since God is love.*

*Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross  
Carmelite Nun, Co-Patroness of Europe  
1891 – 1942*

### 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