March Feasts/Memorials

Monday 17 - Feast of St Patrick, Bishop – Patron of Ireland

Tuesday 18 - Lent feria/ St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor

Wednesday 19 - St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

(Patron of the Universal Church & Protector of

The Carmelite Order) – Solemnity

Thursday 20/Friday 21/Saturday 22 - Lent feria

Lent Retreat Day at the Religious of the Assumption, Kensington Square, W8

<u>Saturday 29 March:</u> – **Lent Retreat Day,** led by Fr Robin Gibbons - Gospel, Mission, World: Understanding Pope Francis' teaching in *Evangelii Gaudium*. From 10am-5pm (light lunch and refreshments included). Suggested donation £15 (waged) or £5 (unwaged). All welcome, but reservations essential. Tel: 020-7361 4756 (see poster on notice-boards).

Lenten Alms

Throughout Lent you will find a Lenten Alms Box at the back of our Church, by the Repository, for your kind donations towards charities chosen by Westminster Diocese. Your generosity towards these charities will be greatly appreciated.

Weekday Masses: 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm

Saturday Masses: 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm (Vigil))

Sunday Masses: 8.30am, 10.00am (with Choir) 11.00am

(Sung Latin), 12.15pm, 6.00pm (with *Choir*)

Holy Day Masses 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm

Bank Holiday Masses: 9.00am, 12.15pm (no 6.00pm Mass) Weekday Confessions: 5.30-5.50pm - Priest on duty except

12 Noon-3pm

Saturday Confessions: 10.30-11.45am, 3.30-5.50pm

The Rosary is recited in the Lady Chapel on Saturdays after 6pm Mass.

Carmelite Priory, 41 Kensington Church St., London W8 4BB

Tel: 020-7937-9866 www.carmelitechurch.org

Registered Charity: 253645



Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kensington

Parish Newsletter 16 March 2014 – Second Sunday of Lent

Lent – Revisiting our sacramental lives!

It's not easy being a sacrament. It is a challenging identity to claim, both as individuals and as community, but it is most definitely what we are called to be by baptism and through our understanding of the Paschal Mystery. Making a commitment to live as sign and symbol of a love beyond human understanding demands much of us. The Catechism of the Catholic Church puts it this way: "The Church's mission is not an addition to that of Christ and the Holy Spirit, but is its sacrament: in her whole being and in all her members, the Church is sent to announce, bear witness, make present, and spread the mystery of the communion of the Holy Trinity" (738).

Embracing this mission requires a certain surrender of self. We have to abandon the part of ourselves that seeks recognition and praise and build up instead the part that reflects Christ. We enter into the kind of human existence that Christ shaped and shapes by the Holy Spirit. But this is essentially based on our willingness to accept to live for the sake of Christ.

The primary way that we do this is by growing in communion with each other, by sharing sacramentally in communion, by celebrating Eucharist in the most powerful ways that we can. By bringing our self – not what we want, or have been, but who we are now to the Eucharist. Here Christ is still forming our way of life. When we have shared of the bread and cup and so again become the living Body of Christ, we are renewed in our ability to transform a broken world. As Pope Francis tweeted: "The Eucharist is essential for us: it is Christ who wishes to enter our lives and fill us with his grace."

Fr Tony

Lenten Events at the Carmelite Church, Kensington Please come and join us on the following evenings:

- On Mondays (fortnightly): led by Fr Tony A Lenten mini-series to prepare us for Easter from 8-9pm in the Refectory.
 Session 2 on Monday 24 March: Attentiveness: Absorbed and Amazed.
 Session 3 on Monday 7 April: Teresa of Avila Facing with Jesus
 Christ our world of need
- 2. **Tuesdays: Taize Evening:** Fr Tony leads a quiet hour in the Church from 7pm-8pm. Prayer and reflection with music. All are welcome.
- 3. **Wednesdays:** From **7pm-8pm** each Wednesday evening during Lent the Community of Sant'Egidio will offer prayers in the Church in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. A time of prayer, listening and silence. We hope as many as possible can be present.
- 4. Thursdays: Lenten Retreat with Film:

Searching for Gospel Values and the Meaning of Life in Film:
Fr Robert Opala OCD is presenting a series of Films during the Lenten
Season – starting at **7pm in the Refectory**. All are invited.
20 March: Lent is upon us – Journeying from Religiousity to
Relationship.

27 March: *The Cost of Discipleship* 3 April: *The Passion of Our Lord*

5. On Fridays during Lent – there will be Stations of the Cross in our Church immediately after the 6pm Mass. We hope as many as possible can take attend.

Retreats at our Carmelite Priory, Boars Hill, Oxford

For anyone interested in going on a **Retreat** at our Carmelite Priory, Boars Hill, Oxford, we would refer you to the full schedule of dates on our noticeboards, with contact details for making a booking

Anointing of the Sick

A Date for your diaries: On Saturday 26 April the Liturgy of the Anointing of the Sick will take place in our Church, starting at 2pm – being the day before the Canonisation of Popes John XXIII and John Paul II, and Divine Mercy Sunday. More details to follow but in the meantime you are invited to consider whom you would like to bring along, who would benefit from this very special Service. Your kindness in spreading the word and giving any assistance you can to those who wish to attend would be appreciated. (Fr Tony)

Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Cardinal Nichols will lead the 4th Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land from 17-25 November this year. Price: £1495 per person, sharing. £275 single room supplement. For further details and booking form etc., contact Gerald Daly at the Diocesan Pilgrimage Office. Tel: 020-7798 9173 email: geralddaly@rcdow.org.uk. Also: Tangney Tours Tel: 01732 886666.

Flowers in the Church during Lent

<u>A polite reminder</u>: We thank those of you who kindly place flowers on the various Shrines in our Church throughout the year. However, during the Season of Lent, we would request that you please refrain from doing so.

Lent Fast Day for CAFOD - Collection

Friday last was *Lent Fast Day for CAFOD*, and today Sunday 16 March your contributions will be taken up at all Masses. **CAFOD** is the official overseas development and relief agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. Your kind generosity towards this very worthy cause will be greatly appreciated. There are also envelopes at the back of the Church to assist you with your donations.

Confirmation Certificates for last year's Candidates

Will the parents of last year's Confirmation candidates, kindly collect their Certificates from our Reception Desk as soon as possible please.