

<u>December</u>		<i><b>Feasts/Memorials</b></i>
Monday	19	Advent Feria
Tuesday	20	Advent Feria
Wednesday	21	Advent Feria (St Peter Canisius)
Thursday	22	Advnt Feria
Friday	23	Advent Feria (St John of Kanty)
Saturday	24	Christmas Eve

### ***Carol Concert on Sunday last***

Thanks to all who came to our Carol Concert on Sunday last and supported the **Catholic Children's Society**. A superb performance by our two Choirs - the 6 o'clock Sunday Evening Choir and 10 o'clock Sunday morning Choir, conducted by **Daniela Mirai**. Harpist, **Francesca Kaminski's** beautiful piece by Bach was very popular. And our three young Readers, **Angela Bidaud**, **Daniel Menendez** and **Zara Hammon** were really outstanding. And thanks to all who contributed so generously to the *Catholic Children's Society* – the amount raised was **£630.00**. Well done everybody for a very successful event.

\*\*\*\*\*

It's appropriate at this point to congratulate our two Choirs again for their earlier **Carol singing at Kensington High St. Station** two weeks ago, conducted by **Daniela**, when they raised a total of **£650.00** for the *Catholic Children's Society*. Another huge thank you to all of them for giving their time so generously.

Weekday Masses: 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm  
 Saturday Masses: 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm (*Vigil for Sunday*)  
 Sunday Masses: 8.30am, 10.00am (*with Choir*) 11.00am **Latin Choir**  
 12.15pm, 6.00pm **Young Adults 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  
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Fridays 6.30-7.30pm – for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Profession.

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

**Tel: 020-7937-9866 Fax: 020-7938-1470**

**Registered Charity No: 253645**

Carmelite Newsletter on the Web: [www.carmelitechurch.org](http://www.carmelitechurch.org)

## OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

### **Parish Newsletter**

Sunday 18 December 2011

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent - 18 December 2011**

God makes a covenant of fidelity with us, as strong as a rock that cannot be moved. God is a loving “father” whose kindness and mercy stand firm forever. God builds an everlasting home in which to dwell, not a magnificent temple or palace, but a virgin womb, a new tabernacle for a new covenant. Mary's child is called “*Jesus, Saviour, and Son of the Most High*”. His throne and kingdom will be without end.

Paul says that this mystery, hidden throughout the ages and manifested by the prophets, is fully revealed in Jesus Christ. The universal kingdom that Jesus establishes is for all people in search of love, truth and justice.

To those who are fearful, God's messenger says, “Do not be afraid. Nothing is impossible with God!” With the Virgin Mary who placed her life at the service of God, we humbly answer, “I am the servant of the Lord. Let it be done as you say.” “Ave Maria! Rejoice! O highly favoured daughter !”

**For Reflection:** Have I experienced the Lord's presence today? Do I give evidence that God resides in my life?

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Christmas Day – 25 December 2011**

God speaks in all manner of ways – as varied as the works of creation and as mighty as the deeds of deliverance. God's most powerful word is the one who comes to dwell among us – Jesus, the creative and redeeming Word of God. Some are unable to hear God's word. Many ignore his words. Others cannot accept the one who speaks of peace, love, forgiveness and justice. To those who welcome his message, Christ is birthed anew in them and they become children of God.

God needs our words too. How beautiful are those who carry glad tidings of salvation! How healing are the words spoken to those in pain! How comforting is the message to the oppressed. The Word of God pierces the

darkness, illuminating the whole earth with saving power. God speaks to us words of enduring love first spoken to the Son: “*You are my child, my first born, this day I have begotten you*”.

**For Reflection:** Am I a faithful messenger of good news? What “words” of peace and salvation can I announce today?

\* \* \* \* \*

**“Jesse” Giving tree:** A huge thank you to all those who took a tab from our tree last week and purchased gifts for the recipients mentioned. The response was tremendous and as a result a large consignment of gifts have been provided for some very needy people. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. *Fr Tony*

\* \* \* \* \*

### **The Crib**

Each year your offerings towards *The Crib* during Christmas are passed to a charity of our choice. This year they will be donated to the *Catholic Children’s Society* which does such wonderful work with needy children and their families.

### ***Westminster Year Book 2012***

The **Westminster Year Book 2012** – the official Directory of the Diocese of Westminster, is now available from our Repository, price £4.50. This Year Book contains listings of all parishes and schools in the Diocese, plus the Liturgical Calendar for the Year, and much more. It is an invaluable reference book and a must for every Catholic household.

### ***Young Adults Monday Group***

Our Monday Group will meet at 7.30 for 8.00pm in the Parish Centre tomorrow Monday 19 December, when they will enjoy their Pre-Christmas celebration, with Prayer, Thanksgiving and Party, returning in the New Year.

### ***Flowers for the Church for Christmas***

Donations towards Flowers for the Church for Christmas will be gratefully accepted. Contributions may be handed in at Reception in an envelope marked “*Flowers for the Church*”. *Thank you*

### ***Post Christmas Film Show***

On Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December we will be showing the film “**Nativity Story**” in the Parish Centre, with mince pies, from 2.30-4.00pm. This is a feature film dramatising the events of the first Christmas, and a nice way to celebrate these days.... All are welcome. (Note: This is not the *Nativity* series shown on BBC-1 last Christmas).

(Contact: Fr Iain)

### ***Notices***

- \* We would remind Parishioners that our **10 o’clock Sunday Choir** will be singing at next Sunday’s 10 o’clock Mass, **Christmas Day**, and as always, will provide some very appropriate music to celebrate the Birth of Christ.
- \* Immediately after the 10 o’clock Mass this morning we will have our monthly **Coffee Morning**, when you are invited downstairs to the Parish Centre for tea/coffee and to socialise with your friends.
- \* If you are still looking for some last minute gifts or cards for Christmas, please note that our Repository at the end of the Church has got a good supply of cards, rosaries, statues etc. Please feel free to take a look round after Mass.
- \* All are invited to our **Holy Hour** with **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** for *Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Profession*, on Friday next 23 December from 6.30-7.30pm. Please note there will be no Exposition on Friday 30 December as the Church will close at 1.00pm on that day.

Please note that **cards** listing all our **Christmas Masses & Services** are now available from the back of the Church. Please take one for reference throughout the Christmas period. You will note that **The Epiphany of the Lord** will be celebrated this year on Sunday 8 January.