

February **Feasts/Memorials**

Monday 24 – Friday 28 - Feria

March:

Saturday 1 - St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales

St Joseph's Almshouse, Brook Green

Applications are invited from retired practising Catholics, aged 65 or over, who wish to live independently in compact modern flats situated beside the Catholic Church in Brook Green Hammersmith. Please contact the Secretary on 020-7603-9817.

The Rosary

The Rosary is recited in The Lady Chapel in our Church every Saturday evening after the 6pm Vigil Mass. All are welcome.

A Little Inspiration:

“I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ”. (Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel* 3)

Weekday Masses:	8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm
Saturday Masses:	8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm (<i>Vigil</i>)
Sunday Masses:	8.30am, 10.00am (<i>with Choir</i>) 11.00am (Sung Latin), 12.15pm, 6.00pm (<i>with Choir</i>)
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
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

23 February 2014 – 7th Sunday of the Year

The New Evangelisation

To experience joy is to befriend Christ, is a fundamental theme running through Pope Francis' *Apostolic Exhortation Evangelii Gaudium – The Joy of the Gospel*. All the rage of the day, regards to engaging with Pope Francis' exhortation to share this joy of Christ, finds many a person willing to enter a debate on Facebook, Twitter, RSS feeds, G+, to try and convert others. Is this the New Evangelisation's intent? The sad thing - people are spending more time on the computer in a world full of passionate expressions of commitment but ignore devoting time to plugging into the day-to-day life of their family, their face-to-face encounters with strangers (potential friends) and even the day-to-day life of their parishes - ignoring their needed presence, their needed commitment to persons known and yet to be known. Pope Francis' exhortation is encouraging us to embrace balance in our lives as a primary objective.

Lent is round the corner. Essentially, it is about restoring balance in our spiritual lives. The belief being, our spiritual life is the most important gift we possess that needs to be protected, nourished in order to flourish and witness to the joy of the gospel - but not only for this reason. To address balance in our spiritual life, is to redirect us toward a future – communion with God, our ultimate goal. We do not live forever in this world!

The *New Evangelisation* is seeking a form of *discipleship* that connects with this interior living that struggles to keep the spark of God's love alive and active in our own era. Before we can connect with a world that may not be aware of its hunger for God, Pope Francis points towards taking our spiritual lives more seriously:

/Over.....

“.... Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God's

voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good, fades. This is a very real danger for believers too. Many fall prey to it, and end up resentful, angry and listless. That is no way to live a dignified and fulfilled life; it is not God's will for us, nor is it the life in the Spirit which has its source in the heart of the risen Christ..." (EG)

Imbalance does not mean we should give up on outreach, but provides a hint, that we find something to offer others by discovering Christ as our answer to readdressing it. The New Evangelisation seems to me to direct us towards the tug of faith. That tug where God is always drawing us to a deeper intimacy away from any self-absorbed life to a way of living that embraces self-giving love: "Love God with all your heart"; "Love your neighbour as yourself." Authentic Evangelisation is person-centred not computer-centred to the detriment of commitment to our being present to one another where needed"

Fr Tony

Carmelite School of Prayer

This is a mini Lenten Series to help us prepare for Easter 2014. Please come and join us in the Priory to the following sessions:

Monday 10 March – 8pm – 9pm - **Session 1**

Freeing the Heart - Filling the hearing, sight, touch, taste and every sense.

Monday 24 March – 8pm – 9pm - **Session 2**

Attentiveness: Absorbed and Amazed

Monday 7 April – 8 pm – 9pm - **Session 3**

Teresa of Avila – *Facing with Jesus Christ Our World of Need*

Masses of Welcome & Thanksgiving

Cardinal Vincent Nichols will celebrate two Masses in the Cathedral on his return from Rome after being created Cardinal. A **Mass of Welcome** on Friday next 28 February at 5.30pm, and a **Mass of Thanksgiving** on Sunday next 2 March at 10.30am. All are welcome to both these Masses.

Carmelite School of Prayer

Lenten Retreat with Film : *Searching for Gospel Values and the Meaning of Life in Film*. Fr Robert Opala OCD will present a series of Films during the Lenten season as follows – all starting at 7.00pm in the Refectory.

Thursday 13 March: *The Mystery of Love and Conversion*

Thursday 20 March: *Lent is upon us – Journeying from Religiosity to Relationship*

Thursday 27 March: *The Cost of Discipleship*

Thursday 3 April: *The Passion of Our Lord*

Lent Retreat Day at the

Religious of the Assumption, Kensington Square, W8

Saturday 29 March: – **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 as places are limited. Tel: 020-7361 4756

enquiries@assumptionreligious.org

Women's World Day of Prayer, Kensington & Chelsea Branch, St Columba's, Pont Street, London SW1

This year's service has been prepared by the women of Egypt with the theme "Streams in the Desert" – *Praying for Egypt*, and will take place at 11am at St Columba's, Pont Street, SW1, for the Kensington & Chelsea Branch. The speaker will be Huda Nasser from the Awareness Foundation. Although the service is written by the women of Egypt, everyone, men and women, are welcome.

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Sister Maria Anna Concordia Scott RIP

Your prayers are asked for the repose of the soul of Sister Maria Anna Concordia Scott, former Prioress of St Mildred's Priory, Minster Abbey, who died peacefully on 5th February 2014, (in her 90th year). Her funeral took place on Friday 14 February, following Requiem Mass in the Abbey Chapel.