

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Parish Newsletter

Sunday 1 June 2008 – Ninth Sunday of the Year

<u>June</u>		<i>Feasts/Memorials</i>
Monday	2	SS Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs
Tuesday	3	SS Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs
Thursday	5	St Boniface, Bishop & Martyr
Friday	6	St Norbert, Bishop
Saturday	7	Blessed Anne of St Bartholomew, Virgin, Carmelite

Brown Scapular Devotions to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

The *Brown Scapular Devotions to Our Lady of Mount Carmel* will take place on Saturday next 7 June after the 6pm Mass. You are all invited to join us for the Rosary and special prayers

The Sick, Elderly & Housebound

If you know of any sick, elderly or housebound parishioner who would like a visit from a priest, please tell **Fr. Iain** at the Priory. He will be very pleased to pay a visit.

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Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesdays from 6.30-8.00pm.

Our Parish Newsletter on the Web: www.carmelitechurch.org

Weekday Masses:	8am, 12.15pm, 6pm
Saturday Masses:	8am, 12.15pm, 6pm (<i>Vigil Mass for Sunday</i>)
Sunday Masses:	8.30am, 10am, 11am <i>Sung/Latin</i> 12.15pm, 6pm <i>Young Adults Choir</i>
Holy Days:	8am, 12.15pm, 6pm
Bank Holidays:	9am, 12.15pm (no 6pm Mass)
Weekday Confessions:	5.30-5.50pm (Priest on duty except between 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 Fax: 020-7938-1470	
Registered Charity No: 253645.	

Jesus Teaches

Today we have a reading from the *Book of Deuteronomy* as our first reading and our Gospel is the conclusion of the “*Sermon on the Mount*” from Matthew’s Gospel.

Deuteronomy is the last of the first five books of the bible which are known as the **Pentateuch**. The main focus of these books is the law of Moses, and in New Testament times, and indeed up to the nineteenth century, it was assumed by both Jewish and Christian scholars that these books were written by Moses. The Book of Deuteronomy could be summed up something like this: “There is one God, the people of Israel are God’s chosen people, there is only one way to worship God. God has liberated his people from the slavery of Egypt and their future freedom, welfare and prosperity depends on obeying the law. The greatest sin is the worship of false gods. They must help the poor, orphans, widows and all who are in need.”

Jesus knew the Pentateuch well and particularly the Book of Deuteronomy. He grew up steeped in the traditions and spirituality of his people. There are a number of speeches in Matthew’s Gospel which show us that Jesus knew the law well, not only could he quote it but he could interpret it as well or better than the scribes and other experts.

Jesus, however, goes much further than this - He is the new Law. The law is now not written on tablets of stone like the law of Moses but in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Jesus himself is the new law and for a Christian to obey the law is to live like Jesus.

Jesus in the Gospel is telling his disciples how important it is to listen to what he is saying and to observe what he does. However, this is not enough – they must change their lives. Those who truly heed the words of Jesus and live their lives by imitating him are living on very solid foundations. That is how Jesus concludes his Sermon on the Mount, and St John Chrysostom in his commentary sums up very clearly what Jesus means:

By rain here, and flood and gales, he is expressing metaphorically the calamities and afflictions that befall people; such as false accusations, plots, bereavements, deaths, loss of friends, vexations from strangers, all the ills in our life that anyone could mention. “But to none of these”, he says, “does such a soul give way; and the case is, it is founded on the rock.”

He calls the steadfastness of his doctrine a rock, because in truth his commands are stronger than any rock, setting one above all the waves of human affairs. For he who keeps these things strictly, will not have the advantage of men only when they are vexing him, but even of the very devils plotting against him. And now what can be happier than this kind of life?

Fr Matt Blake, Prior

🎵 ***A Musical Event in our Church on Sunday next 8 June*** 🎵

Please don't Forget!! On Sunday next 8 June, at 7.00pm, (after the 6.00pm Mass) there will be a very special musical event in our Church, organised by Daniela and our 6pm Sunday Choir. We will have a group of professional musicians giving a performance of popular classical favourites, assisted by our own regular singers. You are all invited to what promises to be a very entertaining evening. There is no entrance fee but there will be a collection after the Concert in aid of the **'DREAM' Project in Africa** (*Drug Resource Enhancement against AIDS and Malnutrition*). We do hope you will make every effort to join us.

***The Story of St Paul - A Public Lecture
by Fr Jerome Murphy-O'Connor OP***

Fr Jerome Murphy-O'Connor OP, a renowned scholar on the Letters of St Paul, will give a talk entitled **'The Story of St Paul'** on Thursday 19 June at 7.30pm at Westminster Cathedral Hall, Victoria Street. The Cardinal will give an introduction, and there will be time for questions. To reserve your free place, contact Ausra Karaliute ausrakaraliute@rcdow.org.uk or telephone 020-7931-6078.

A Crossroads in Britain

Before the Final Reading of the **Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill** currently before Parliament, there is still value in writing to or telephoning MP's. Even if you have already done so, please do so again. (www.writetothem.com is a convenient way of reaching your MP's desk). This would be a way of affirming: that fatherhood is important for our society; that the child in the womb deserves more, not less, protection; that human dignity is for real and would be compromised by the creation of human-animal hybrids; that, anyway, the scientific dividends promised by such hybrids are mythical, and other avenues have proved to be effective; and that the way that decisions about embryology are made in Britain deserve a more ethical framework. These are issues of vital concern to people who care about people. *Fr Iain*

First Holy Communion

On Sunday 15 June at the 10 o'clock Mass, 18 young children from this Parish will receive First Holy Communion. We ask you please to remember the following in your prayers: *Antonio, Arelene, Benjie, Carolina, Cecilia, Daniel, Ebuade, Eléonore, Eugenia, Gaspard, Giulia, Ines, Jumarie, Lucas, Ludovica, Maximilian, Teresa and Thomas* Also their Catechists: *Annegrid, Elizabetta, Oredola and Georgina*. You are all invited to be present at the Mass.

Confirmation

We offer our congratulations to *Blanca, Constance, Elvira, Giulia, India, Maria, Matt, Teddy* and *Vittoria* who were confirmed by Bishop George Stack at the 6.00pm Mass on Saturday last. And sincere thanks to their Catechists, *Alison* and *Zdenka* and *Fr. Iain*.

We also offer our heartfelt gratitude to the **Maria Assumpta Convent musicians and singers** who made such a valuable contribution to the liturgy of the Mass and enhanced the occasion enormously.

Notices

* **Our Monday Group** resumes tomorrow with a very special evening. Guest speaker will be *Ewa Sokolowska* (former student at St Patrick's Evangelisation School). Ewa will be speaking about evangelisation and what goes on at the School, plus other topics. All young adults from the parish are invited to come along - 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

* *Babies and Toddlers Playgroup* returns this Friday 6 June, following half-term break. New children welcome - 3.30-5.00pm each Friday. Contact Segolene on 020-3062-2978

* We will have our next *Parish Gathering* on Sunday 22 June after the 10 o'clock Mass. You are all invited to join us.

Solemn Matins & Civic Service at St Mary Abbots Church

As announced last week, **Councillor Joanna Gardner**, a parishioner of our Carmelite Parish, has been elected **Mayor of Kensington & Chelsea**, and she has invited me to be her **Chaplain** for the year. She has asked me to invite you all, on her behalf, to **Solemn Matins and Civic Service** at St Mary Abbots Church on Sunday next 8 June at 11.15am, at which I have been asked to give the Sermon. I do hope as many of you as possible can come. *Fr Matt*