

<u>July</u>		<i>Feasts/Memorials</i>
Tuesday	29	St Martha
Wednesday	30	St Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doctor
Thursday	31	St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

<u>Aug</u>		
Friday	1	St Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor
Saturday	2	St Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop/ St Peter Julian Eymard, Priest
Monday	4	St John Mary Vianney, Priest
Tuesday	5	Dedication of Basilica of St Mary Major
Wednesday	6	Transfiguration of the Lord, Feast
Thursday	7	St Albert of Trapani, Priest, Carmelite
Friday	8	St Dominic, Priest
Saturday	9	St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), Patron of Europe, Virgin & Martyr, Carmelite
Monday	11	St Clare, Virgin
Thursday	14	St Maximilian Kolbe, Martyr
Friday	15	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Solemnity – Holyday of Obligation
Saturday	16	St Stephen of Hungary
Thursday	21	St Pius X, Pope
Friday	22	Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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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

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Registered Charity No: 253645.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Parish Newsletter

27 July 2008 – Seventeenth Sunday of the Year

Solomon

We read about **Solomon** in our first reading today. Solomon was David's son and he reigned over Israel from 961-922 BC [approx]. We hear today about his famous conversation with God – God asks Solomon what he would like him to give him and Solomon gives the right answer. Solomon asks for a true treasure – wisdom (*"a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil"*). God compliments Solomon for not asking for *"long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies"*. God goes on to promise Solomon: *"Here and now I do what you ask, I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you"*.

No one could ask for a better beginning to his reign. Solomon has the highest praise from God that any human being could have, and in addition he is granted the first two things he is complimented for not asking for: *long life and riches* (he does not need the third because for the first time in history Israel is at peace).

Facts: Solomon inherited a powerful and wealthy Kingdom. He controlled trade throughout the entire region and also made enormous profits from mining. He embarked on a massive building programme throughout his kingdom – his most famous building being the Temple in Jerusalem.

His marriage to an Egyptian princess is an indication of how powerful Israel had become and how weak Egypt (which up until now was the major power) had become. Solomon, however, was not a good ruler. As he became wealthier, his people became poorer. He began with no foreign enemies and ended up with many enemies within his kingdom, and his policies led to the break up of his kingdom after his death.

Not only did his economic and diplomatic policies lead to disaster, his spiritual life also went astray. He betrays and even abandons the God who was so exceptionally generous to him.

Message:

- * There is only one ruler who has the true interests of humanity at heart and that is God.
- * Peace and prosperity do not necessarily lead to good government.
- * As the rich become richer the poor become poorer.

- * The gifts of God carry responsibilities. The more a person receives from God, the more that is expected from that person.
- * All human beings are weak and flawed, even the “greatest” ones.
- * When the laws and wisdom of God are ignored or distorted, the people and society suffer.

Solomon is remembered for his wealth and his wisdom but it is his fall that is the great lesson that the scriptures want to teach us.

Fr Matt Blake, Prior

First Holy Communion Catechesis 2008-09

Children aged seven years upwards are welcome to our programme of preparation for **First Holy Communion**, beginning the new catechism year in September/October 2008. Registration forms are now available from the Reception desk. We will also have a programme of Early Catechism for younger children (i.e. *5/6 and 6/7 year olds*) as well as Post-Communion Catechism classes. These classes will take place in the Priory on Sunday mornings after the 10 o'clock Mass.

Also young people aged 13 years and over who wish to be prepared to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation** next year should pick up an application form from the Reception Desk and complete and return it to Fr Iain.

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

This programme is for: Adults who wish to be baptised; Adult Catholics who are baptised but who have not received First Communion and/or Confirmation; Members of other Christian Churches who wish to enter into full Communion with the Catholic Church. The programme runs from October until Easter. Please pass on the word to anyone you know who may be interested. For further information and to apply, please contact Fr Matt at: matthewblake@rcdow.org.uk

Mount Carmel – A Review of the Spiritual Life

Please note the July-September issue of the publication ‘*Mount Carmel*’ is now available from Reception. This issue entitled, ‘**Pillars of Carmel: Mary & Joseph**’, is an absorbing and beautiful read, with contributions from some well-known writers. Highly recommended - an ideal book to take away with you on holiday. Price £2.50.

Our **Monday Group** have now broken up for their summer holiday. They will return on Monday 1 September.

Maureen Fitzsimons R.I.P

We are sad to announce that **Maureen Fitzsimons** who worked for many years on our Reception Desk, passed away on Monday last 21st July. *May she now rest in the peace and love of Christ.* Her **Funeral Mass** will take place in this Church on Wednesday next 30 July at 10.00am. She will be buried on Friday next 1st August in the family grave in Dean’s Grange Cemetery, Dublin, preceded by **Mass at 10.00am at St Joseph’s Carmelite Church, Berkeley Road, Dublin.** Maureen’s many friends are very welcome to attend her Funeral Mass here on Wednesday next.

Year of St Paul

To celebrate the Year of St Paul, Fr Matt will lead an introductory course on the **Life, Mission and Teaching of St Paul**, on Tuesday evenings, 8.00-9.00pm, starting on Tuesday 5 August, followed by the 12th, 19th and 26th. All are welcome.

Renaissance at Walsingham

Thursday 21-Monday 25 August 2008

During ***Renaissance at Walsingham***, you can reconnect with God, chill out, make new friends and give your faith a jump-start. This **5-day Retreat** is taking place at the Catholic Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. It will include a range of talks, life-changing services and time for quiet prayer. If cash is a problem, don’t worry as the event is by donation only. For more information visit: www.youth2000.org or telephone 01937- 584 451.

Patricia Leathem R.I.P.

It is with much sadness that we announce the sudden death of one of our parishioners, **Patricia Leathem**. *May she rest in the peace and love of Christ.* Her body will be received into this Church on Thursday 7 August at 6.45pm, and her **Funeral Mass** will take place at 10.00am on Friday 8 August, followed by Cremation at the West London Crematorium at 11.30am. All Patricia’s friends are warmly invited to attend her Funeral Mass on Friday 8 August.

Your Newsletter goes on holiday today – back on Sunday 31 August