

# OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

## Parish Newsletter

24 February 2008 – Third Sunday of Lent

### Feasts/Memorials

Saturday 1 March - St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales

### Talks at St Patrick's, Soho Square

A series of talks for young people has been organised by St Patrick's Soho Square, entitled 'Love and Responsibility', to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the encyclical *Humanae Vitae*. The series will commence on Wednesday next 27 February, starting with supper at 6.15pm followed at 7.00pm with the talk. For full details, visit: [www.stpatricksoho.org](http://www.stpatricksoho.org)  
See also poster on our Church notice-board.

\* \* \* \* \*

There will be 'A Day with Mary' at Holy Ghost & St Stephen Church, Ashchurch Grove, Shepherds Bush on Saturday next 1 March, starting at 10am. All are welcome.

### 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.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** on Wednesdays after the 6pm Mass till 8pm.

**Our Parish Newsletter on the Web:** [www.carmelitechurch.org](http://www.carmelitechurch.org)

Weekday Masses: 8am, 12.15pm, 6pm  
Saturday Masses: 8am, 12.15pm, 6pm (*Vigil Mass for Sunday*)  
Sunday Masses: 8.30am, 10am, 11am *Sung/Latin*  
12.15pm, 6pm *Young Adults Choir*  
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.**

### Growing in Faith

Today is the Third Sunday of Lent and it is the first of three Sundays when we read very important passages from St John's Gospel:

John 4: 5-42 Jesus meets the Samaritan woman

John 9: 1-41 Jesus heals the man born blind

John 11: 1-45 Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead

These passages have traditionally been used to instruct and support those preparing for baptism and they are very appropriate reading for all of us as we journey through Lent and prepare for Easter. I strongly recommend that you spend time reading and reflecting on these beautiful Gospel stories this Lent. Each story is a meeting with Jesus and a journey in faith. In addition in each story Jesus reveals more of who he is.

The Gospels are not just stories that tell us who Jesus is - they invite us to enter more deeply into the mystery of who He is. [Look out for every time Jesus uses the term "I am" in these stories]. Jesus is a mystery that is unravelled gradually throughout our lives. We can never say we have arrived at the point of knowing Him, there is always more to be learned, experienced and struggled with. Each of these stories invites us to enter more deeply into the mystery of Jesus. We do so by making friends with the main characters of the various stories: Samaritan woman, people of the village, man born blind, parents, Pharisees, Martha, Mary, the crowd who witness the resurrection of Lazarus and the disciples of Jesus [in all three stories]. Over the next three weeks come to know these people, try to enter their experience, feel their excitement, fear and doubts and hear their questions.

Today the Samaritan woman [or to be more precise – the people of Samaria] meet with Jesus. The woman gradually opens herself and her life to Jesus – we can observe the trust growing. Likewise, Jesus gradually reveals his identity to her. Finally the woman herself becomes a disciple and brings her whole village to Jesus.

*Fr Matt Blake, Prior*

### Who is My Neighbour – Lenten Programme

You are all invited to our **Lenten Group Reflections** at 11.30am on Tuesdays in the Priory, led by Fr Iain.

### ***Santo Niño Celebration***

On Sunday 27 January we had the **Feast of Santo Niño** Celebration in this Church, which was a huge success. The total donated to the Church from the collection taken up was **£2,720.44**. My thanks once again to all who organised this very special celebration, and thanks to all who came and all who contributed in any way. *Fr Matt*

### ***St Mary's Cadogan Street – Marriage Preparation***

St Mary's Cadogan Street have prepared a Marriage Preparation Spring Communication Day for Saturday next 1 March. This is offered to couples who wish to complement their own marriage preparation. The venue is our Carmelite Parish Centre. The day commences at 11.00am and ends around 4.30pm. The cost is £40 per couple. For all enquiries and to book: email: [chelsea1@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:chelsea1@rcdow.org.uk) Telephone Parish Secretary on: 020-7589-5487 (between 9.00am and 3.00pm only).

### ***Easter Sunday Children's Party***

On Easter Sunday 23 March there will be a special celebration for children after the 10 o'clock Mass. Like last year, there will be lots of fun and surprises, details will be announced nearer the time, but children please make a note of this date and be sure to come!

### ***Lenten Alms***

You will find a box at the back of the Church, by the Repository door, for your **Lenten Alms** contributions, the proceeds of which will be distributed to needy causes at home and abroad. Your kind generosity will be greatly appreciated

### ***The Cardinal's Lectures***

A series of six public lectures on '***Faith and Life in Britain***' will be given by eminent speakers at Westminster Cathedral on Thursdays from 3 April – 8 May at 7pm. The first, on Thursday 3 April, will be by the Cardinal's special guest speaker. Admission is free but by ticket only – to obtain tickets, telephone: 020-7931-6028, or e-mail: [lectures2008@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:lectures2008@rcdow.org.uk) See poster on our Church notice-board.

### ***Flowers for the Altar for Easter***

Your contributions towards **Flowers for the Altar for Easter** will be greatly appreciated. You may leave your donations at Reception in an envelope marked "Flowers for Easter". *Thank you.*

### ***Children's Lenten Painting/Photograph Project***

**Children !** Once again you are all invited to do something special for Lent to help needy children here in London and, like last year, we are planning an **Exhibition of paintings, or - for older children - a carefully-taken photograph**, to be displayed here in the Priory. Later on, people will be able to view your work and make donations to the **Catholic Children's Society**. So what we are asking you to do now is: *Do a painting or photograph at home, then bring it to the Priory, with your name and age.* The themes this year are:-

(1) *Easter Joy* (2) *The Samaritan Woman meets Jesus at the Well* (John chapter 4); (3) *My Favourite Saint*; and (4) *Reach out to the Poor*. Participants can be from the very young up to the age of 13 years. For further details contact Inma on 07785-906326.

### ***An Evening for Recently-Married Couples***

On Tuesday next 26 February at 8pm there will be a special event in the Priory for **recently-married couples** (up to 5 years) from the Parish. All those who come under this category are warmly invited. For full details of the evening, please e-mail Luciana on: [lufdefazio@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lufdefazio@yahoo.co.uk) or telephone Fr Iain on 07776-457392.

### ***Lenten Talks***

You are all invited to two Lenten talks given by **Fr Iain** starting on Tuesday 4 March – this talk entitled ***Why did Jesus Die?*** and the second on Tuesday 11 March, entitled ***Christianity – A Resurrection Faith***. These will be held in the Priory from 7.30-8.30pm.

### ***Notices***

- \* We have the **Stations of the Cross** each Friday after the 6pm Mass.
- \* On Saturday next 1 March we will have the *Brown Scapular Devotions to Our Lady of Mount Carmel* after the 6pm Mass. You are all invited to stay on for the Rosary and special prayers.
- \* Our next *Parish Advisory Group* meeting will be on Sunday 30 March at 7pm in the Priory.

### ***Family Lenten Fast day for CAFOD***

Grateful thanks for your contributions to the **CAFOD** collection last week-end. The total collected was **£1,089.62**.