

<u>January</u>		<b><u>Feasts/Memorials</u></b>
Monday	28	St Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor
Thursday	31	St John Bosco, Priest
<u>February</u>		
Saturday	02	Presentation of the Lord – Candlemas Day - Feast
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### ***Readers Required***

We urgently need more readers for our **Weekday** and **Sunday Masses**. If you would like to be considered for this very important ministry in the Mass, please contact Rita on 020-7727-6554, [rmcdonagh34@btinternet.com](mailto:rmcdonagh34@btinternet.com)

### ***Talk by Fr Stephen Wang***

On Thursday 31 January Fr Stephen Wang will give a talk on *Freedom in the Christian-Catholic Life* in Cathedral Hall, Westminster, at 7.30pm. Entrance fee £10 on the door. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Contact: 07903-644935; email: [young.friends@mail.com](mailto:young.friends@mail.com)

### **Lenten Retreat**

On Saturday 2 March: A **Lenten Retreat** will be given by Fr John O'Leary on the **Mysteries of March**, in the Hinsley Room, Westminster Cathedral, from 1.00-5.00pm. Price £15 to include lunch. All are welcome. To register, please telephone 07903-644935, or email [young.friends@mail.com](mailto:young.friends@mail.com)

Weekday Masses:	8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm
Saturday Masses:	8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm ( <i>Vigil for Sunday</i> )
Sunday Masses:	8.30am, 10.00am ( <i>with Choir</i> ) 11.00am (Sung Latin) 12.15pm, 6.00pm <b><i>Young Adults Choir</i></b>
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
<b>Carmelite Priory, 41 Kensington Church St., London W8 4BB</b>	
<b>Tel: 020-7937-9866 Fax: 020-7938-1470</b>	
Registered Charity No: 253645 <a href="http://www.carmelitechurch.org">www.carmelitechurch.org</a>	

## **Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kensington**

### **Parish Newsletter**

27<sup>th</sup> January 2013 – Third Sunday of the Year

### ***Surrender***

*“There is no greater disaster in the spiritual life than to be immersed in unreality, for life is maintained and nourished in us by our vital relation with realities outside and above us. When our life feeds on unreality, it must starve. It must therefore die. There is no greater misery than to mistake this fruitless death for the true, fruitful and sacrificial “death” by which we enter life”.*

These words from Thomas Merton are worth pondering in the lead up to **Lent**. How real are our spiritual lives connecting and informing our daily lives? This is indeed a focused question that the Lenten season draws upon as we remember the temptations of Christ, the fasting, the confrontations that led to his trial and crucifixion. In and through these remembered images of Christ's actions, our spiritual lives are being called upon to feed in a way that leads to “surrendering” to the love God has for us – in a way that actually nourishes us.

Signs are perhaps not so evident but even though work is encroaching in our way of practicing our faith in so many ways, we still do not forget faith's call. The simple cry from the heart as we wake to say thank you to God for bringing about a new day; the simple popping into Church on the way to/from work to light a candle to pray for another; the simple inward awareness of Christ in the Tabernacle as we pass a Church on the bus, unable to attend Mass more often than on a Sunday; the simple acknowledgement that our prayer had been answered as we faced a difficult and problematic issue at work that looked impossible to be resolved.

These simple ways of attributing God's help invited or having surprised us – are ways we sustain and maintain God is at the centre and not our own initiatives. What Merton is calling the “sacrificial death by which we enter life” need not be so dramatic as a martyr's surrender. The little “deaths” to pockets of resistance in our spiritual journey are no less important. These can be ways that prevent our hiding in what actually “feeds on unreality” and bring about the sensed freedom we are searching for but have not yet overcome our fear of the word “surrender” – i.e. to cease resistance.

*Fr Prior*

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### **“Carmel: The Spirit of Prayer”**

Starting on Saturday 9 February, from 10am to 12 Noon in our Priory, there will be a series of six Talks called **“Carmel : The Spirit of Prayer”** - based on the teachings of Fr Marie-Eugene of the Child Jesus, OCD, and presented by Fr Anthony Parsons, Prior. For more information contact: Monique Varenne, Tel: 07726-458632 email: [monivarenne@yahoo.fr](mailto:monivarenne@yahoo.fr) or Michelle Matthews, 020-8587-6382. Please see poster on Church notice-board.

### **Art & Prayer**

#### **Self-Giving Love : Human and Divine**

Reflections from **Theology of the Body** and **Carmelite writings**.

Response through creating expressive art in a prayerful and mutually supportive atmosphere. Six Weekly Sessions in Lent 2013, on Thursdays from 7-9pm, from: 14 February – 21 March in the Parish Centre. Basic painting/collage materials provided. Cost: £30. Please book with Karolina Stolarska. [rozamarias@gmail.com](mailto:rozamarias@gmail.com). Tel: 07508-020822

### ***Mass in Honour of Our Lady of Lourdes at Westminster Cathedral***

On Saturday 9 February at 2.00pm at Westminster Cathedral, there will be a **Mass in Honour of Our Lady of Lourdes**, celebrated by Bishop Alan Hopes - at which *The Sacrament of the of the Sick* will be administered. All are welcome.

### **Thanksgiving Mass for Marriages**

#### **Saturday 18 May at Westminster Cathedral**

Archbishop Vincent Nichols will be celebrating the annual **Thanksgiving Mass for Marriages** on Saturday 18 May at 3.00pm at Westminster Cathedral, along with hundreds of married couples from the diocese. Admission is by his personal invitation only, and couples celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>+ anniversaries in 2013 who would like to be included, are asked to provide the following details and submit them to their Parish Priest: Christian names and Surname, full postal address, date of marriage and email (or telephone number if no email). Parish Priest will send these lists of couples' details to Catherine MacGillivray, Office for Marriage and Family Life, Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN, by 21 April, in time for mailing of invitations.

### ***Notices***

- \* All are invited to a Concelebrated Mass in celebration of the **Feast of Sto. Niño** (Divine Infant of Prague), in our Church today at 2.00pm. There will be a Reception in the Parish Centre after the Mass, to which all are welcome.
- \* Saturday next, 2 February, is the *Feast of the Presentation of The Lord – Candlemas Day*. There will be the Blessing of Candles at all Masses.
- \* Please note the February edition of the “**Westminster Record**” is now available from the back of the Church. This paper contains a wealth of relevant Diocesan information and you are invited to pick up a copy as you leave after Mass – price only 20p!

### **Education Sunday**

Today Sunday is **Education Day**. There will be a Special Collection after all Masses for the *Catholic Education Service*.