

<u>January</u>	<u>Feasts/Memorials</u>
Monday	13 St Hilary, Bishop & Doctor
Friday	17 St Anthony, Abbot
Saturday	18 Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday
18-25 January: <b>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</b>	

### The Crib

As is customary, each year your offerings towards the Crib in our Church during the Christmas period are passed to a worthy charity of our choice. This year the nominated recipients are the **Catholic Children's Society** which do such wonderful work with needy children and their families. You will find a special box for your donations located near the Crib at the back of the Church. We thank you for your generosity.

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**Readers' Rota:** Will Readers please collect their new Rota from Reception as they leave after Mass today Sunday.

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
<b>Carmelite Priory, 41 Kensington Church St., London W8 4BB</b>	
<b>Tel: 020-7937-9866</b> www.carmelitechurch.org	
Registered Charity: 253645	

## Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kensington

### Parish Newsletter

Sunday 12 January 2014 – The Baptism of the Lord

### There is a Child born for us

Devotion to the Child Jesus has long had a place in Carmelite spirituality. St Teresa of Jesus, on her arduous journeys to make each foundation, used to carry a statue of the Holy Child in her arms, to be enthroned in the new monastery. It is known that the austere St John of the Cross, on one Christmas Day, picked up the figure of the Christ-Child and danced around the room with it.

The image best known to most of us is that of the **Infant of Prague**, and it is the Carmelite friars who maintain the famous shrine in the Czech Republic. Here in our own monastery, the Child Jesus is venerated as the Little King of Grace, of French origin. The statue was made for a young French Carmelite, Margaret of the Blessed Sacrament, who did much to foster devotion to the divine infancy. Her prayers were thought to have obtained a long-desired heir to the French throne, and this very regal Child has the unmistakable features of the Bourbon dynasty.

Nearer to our own time, **St Thérèse of the Child Jesus** wrote of her entry into Carmel: "*The first thing that struck my eye was the statue of the Little Jesus smiling at me from the midst of flowers and light*". Taking inspiration from her religious name, she learned the meaning of spiritual childhood, the "*Little Way*" that so many have followed in her steps.

There is nothing sentimental about devotion to the Child Jesus. It is a way of honouring the truth of the Incarnation. When we kneel before the Crib, we know that God, our Creator, has truly become one of us – "like us in all things", even to the extent of experiencing the helpless dependence of an infant, the vulnerability of a little child.

*A Carmelite nun - Notting Hill community*

### Christmas Offering for the Carmelite Community

Extreme gratitude to all who have so kindly sent in their donations towards our **Carmelite Community's Annual Christmas** offerings. For those who have celebrated Christmas away and would like to contribute on return home, you will find some specially printed small envelopes available at the back of the Church for this purpose. Your donation may be placed in any Collection pouch taken up during Mass.

*Thank you.*

### Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School

**Reminder for Parents:** The Governing Body of the Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School is consulting on its proposed admission arrangements for entry in **September 2015**. The consultation will close on 1 March 2014. If you would like to read the arrangements or comment on them, please follow the Admissions link on their website [www.cvms.co.uk](http://www.cvms.co.uk) (available before the end of term).

### Tutor + (Back after Christmas break)

**Free tuition for young people.** Every Monday and Thursday at Assumption Convent, Kensington Square, from 5.00-6.30pm Pre-registration necessary: <http://kandcyouth.com/tutor-plus/>  
Contact: Daniel McNamara, Youth Worker, Kensington & Chelsea Deanery. Mobile: 07890-675484.

### Westminster Year Book 2014

The **Westminster Year Book 2014** – the official Directory of the Diocese of Westminster, is now available from our Repository. This Year Book contains listings of all parishes and schools in the Diocese, plus the Liturgical Calendar for the year, and much more. It is an invaluable reference book and a must for every Catholic household. Price: £4.50 standard, and £5 ring-bound.

### Carmelite School of Prayer:

**Discovering Gospel and Carmelite Values in Film:** You are invited to our new project, *The Spirituality & Film Group*, during which we hope to search for God and the meaning of life, exploring some of the Gospel values in film. **Fr Robert Opala OCD** will explore Christian themes conveyed through film. The first in this series will begin on Thursday 6 February 2014 from 7.00-9.00pm, followed by the second on Thursday 20 February. No booking or payment required.

### Faith Matters

*What is the Church for? 50 years after Vatican II, in the light of Pope Francis' Evangelii Gaudium:* A new season of Faith Matters will begin at Westminster Cathedral on Thursday 13 March, and will continue weekly on Thursdays until 3 April. Location: Vaughan House, 46 Francis St., SW1, from 7.00-8.30pm. Suggested donation is £5.00. Tea/coffee will be provided. Please register at <http://rcdow.org.uk/events> or [livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk)

### 'Mount Carmel' – A Review of the Spiritual Life

Please note the Spring issue of '**Mount Carmel**' is now available from our Repository. As always, it contains a wealth of in-depth articles on Carmelite life by well-known and popular writers, and is a superb read. Price £3.00.

### Readings at Mass till beginning of Lent

Starting tomorrow Monday 13 January, until Ash Wednesday, **Weekday Readings** will be taken from **Year 2** in the Lectionary, tomorrow Monday being the First Week of Year 2. For **Sunday Readings**, we continue with **Year A** - Sunday next 19 January will be the **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**. Will Readers please note.