

## Feasts/Memorials

### May

Wednesday 18	St John I, Pope & Martyr
Friday 20	St Bernardine of Siena, Priest
Saturday 21	St Christopher Magallanes, Priest & Companions, Martyrs

- \* Our **Young Adults Monday Group** will meet tomorrow, Monday 16 May at 7.30 for 8.00pm, in the Parish Centre. All young adults (18-30) who come to our Church are very welcome to join them. Entrance to the Parish Centre via Pitt Street.

### Readers Required

We need some more Readers for our 6.00pm week-day Masses. If you would like to be considered for this very important ministry in the Mass, please contact Rita on 020-7727-6554.

### Visiting the Sick

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 and he will be pleased to arrange for one of the Fathers to pay a visit.

Weekday Masses: 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm  
Saturday Masses: 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm (*Vigil for Sunday*)  
Sunday Masses: 8.30am, 10.00am (*with Choir*) 11.00am **Latin Choir**  
12.15pm, 6.00pm **Young Adults Choir**

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesdays 6.30pm-7.30pm

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**Registered Charity No: 253645**

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

## OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

### Parish Newsletter

Sunday 15 May 2011 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

## Good Shepherd Sunday

Our Psalm today "*The Lord is my shepherd*" must be one of the best known and most loved of the 150 Psalms in the bible. It is particularly popular at funerals. These are times of loss, pain and grief and therefore times when we most need the reassurance, support and strength that comes from the Word of God. Today is traditionally known as "*Good Shepherd Sunday*" because our Gospel today is an extract from Jesus' teaching about himself as the Good Shepherd.

We may be surprised to hear Jesus describing himself as the "*Gate*". This is a very unusual and original image for God, yet when we think about it we can see its meaning and depth. Jesus is the "*Gate*" that allows us to enter that place of security, peace and freedom that we all long for. In fact, it is the deepest desire of the human heart. Where is that place? It is deep within us. Jesus is the "*gate*" to the "*sheepfold*" of the human heart. Only through Jesus can we really come to know our true selves and find the peace, security and inner freedom we so desire.

Our Psalm today expresses our prayer for this gift but only Jesus can take us there. He tells us: "*I have come that they may have life and have it to the full*". We all readily say yes to this but we do not always say yes to the road he marks out for us. We need today to think about the "*thieves and brigands*" that we allow into our lives. These are the forces, desires, addictions, habits, attitudes and relationships that compromise or destroy our freedom, peace and security. All of these take away something that is essential to our identity. The thieves and brigands lead us subtly into a life that is false, energy-sapping and lacking inner peace and freedom.

*Fr Matt Blake, Prior*

**40 Hours Eucharistic Adoration:** As you know this takes place this year at **St Mary's Cadogan St., Chelsea, SW3 2QR**, beginning this evening at 6.30pm and ending Tuesday at 12.00 Noon. My thanks to all who have already signed up to be there during the time assigned to this parish – 11.00pm tonight (Sunday) until 3.00am Monday morning. It is important we have a good turn-out – the other parishes supported us very well last year. If you cannot go at this time, you are welcome to be present at any time during the 40 hours.

### ***Vocations Sunday***

Today is **Vocations Sunday** and I would like to share an extract from Pope Benedict's message for today:

"It is essential that every local Church becomes more sensitive and attentive to the pastoral care of vocations, helping children and young people in particular at every level of family, parish and associations – as Jesus did with his disciples – to grow into genuine and affectionate friendship with the Lord, cultivated through personal and liturgical prayer; to grow in familiarity with the sacred scriptures and thus to listen attentively and fruitfully to the word of God; to understand that entering into God's will does not crush or destroy a person, but instead leads to a discovery of the deepest truth of ourselves; and finally to be generous and fraternal in relationships with others, since it is only in being open to the love of God that we discover true joy and fulfilment in our aspirations".

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There will be a special collection after all Masses today for the *Education of Priests*. 50% of the money collected goes to the Archdiocese of Westminster and 50% to the Carmelite Order. Your kind generosity will be greatly appreciated.

*Fr Matt*

### ***'With Hearts & Minds' - A Catechetical Session on the Mass*** **For all Catechists and Readers– this Tuesday 17 May from 7.00-9.00pm in our Carmelite Church**

A session offering catechists a time to engage with a systematic exploration of the teaching of the church, a time of prayer and space for reflection and discussion with other catechists. In this session, participants will come to a deeper understanding of the Mass, and how we *pray the Mass*. In view of the upcoming introduction of the new translation of the Missal later this year, all catechists, readers and others in the parish who are involved in liturgy are strongly advised to attend this meeting on Tuesday next. For enquiries: e-mail: Warren Brown: [catadmin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:catadmin@rcdow.org.uk) or call 020-7798-9150.

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

The latest issue of **'Mount Carmel' – A Review of the Spiritual Life** – is now available at Reception. As always, it is an excellent read with contributions by many well-known writers and Carmelite Fathers – highly recommended. Price £2.50.

### ***Gathering for Young Married Couples***

Our next **Gathering for Young Married Couples** will take place on Wednesday next, 18 May, from 7.30-9.00pm. The gathering is a time when young couples come to the Carmelite Priory and enjoy friendly conversation over a glass of wine. We follow this with some input relevant to marriage or being parents, and general discussion. All young married couples who come to our Church are warmly invited. Fr Iain 07776-457392 [ianmatthew@yahoo.com](mailto:ianmatthew@yahoo.com)

### ***Children's Painting Exhibition*** ***in aid of The Catholic Children's Society***

Children! Hope you are progressing with your painting/drawings for our **Annual Children's Painting Exhibition** in aid of *The Catholic Children's Society*, following any one of the following themes (1) *Jesus is risen !* (2) *Love and Peace*. (3) *Blessed Pope John Paul*. Your work can be handed in at any time c/o Fr Iain. Closing date: Ascension of the Lord, Sunday 5 June. **Exhibition in the Priory:** Pentecost Sunday 12 June, when Parishioners will have the opportunity to view your work and hopefully make a donation to the Catholic Children's Society.

### ***Pre-Marriage Procedure***

If there are any couples planning to get married within the next year, it is very important they come and see Fr Iain or Fr Matt without delay so that marriage preparation and all the paperwork can be completed well in advance.

- \* **Parish Gathering:** We will have our monthly *Parish Gathering* this morning after the 10 o'clock Mass, when you are all invited downstairs for tea/coffee and to socialise with your friends.

### ***Solemnities in June***

Very shortly we will reach a period of important Solemnities celebrated on four consecutive Sundays as follows:- Sunday 5 June, Ascension of the Lord; Sunday 12 June, Pentecost Sunday; Sunday 19 June, The Most Holy Trinity, and Sunday 26 June, Corpus Christi, Most Holy Body & Blood of the Lord. Following this we will have the *Solemnity of Saints Peter & Paul* on Wednesday 29 June.