

### *Young Adults Monday Group*

Our **Young Adults Monday Group** will meet tomorrow Monday 18 April at 7.30 for 8.00pm in the Parish Centre, when they conclude the '**Faithful Pilgrim**' programme with Session 6, "*Towards the common good*". There will be **no** further meeting until Monday 9 May, due to Bank Holidays.

### *Flowers for the Church for Easter*

Your Donations towards **Flowers for the Church for Easter** will be greatly appreciated. Kindly place your offerings in an envelope and leave at Reception, envelope marked "Flowers for the Church" attention Fr Matt.

You will find a **Lenten Alms Box** at the back of our Church (by the Repository door) for your Lenten Alms contributions towards the two charities specified by Westminster Diocese (1) *The St John Southworth Fund* and (2) *Friends of the Holy Land*. Your kind generosity will be greatly appreciated.

### *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. He will be very pleased 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 on Wednesdays 6.30-7.30pm  
**Carmelite Priory, 41 Kensington Church St., London W8 4BB**  
**Tel: 020-7937-9866 Fax: 020-7938-1470**  
**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 17 April 2011 – Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

### Holy Week

This weekend we begin Holy Week, the most important week of our Christian year. The core of our Christian faith is to be found in the death and resurrection of Jesus. It is essential that we prepare well so as to make this week a deep and personal spiritual experience.

I would like to share some short reflections from **the writings of St John of the Cross**. I recommend you spend time with each of these, make them a source of prayer and reflection, and allow them to lead you more deeply into this great mystery.

\* "There is much to fathom in Christ for he is like an abundant mine with many recesses of treasures, so that however deep individuals may go they never reach the end or the bottom, but rather in every recess find new veins with new riches everywhere".

\* "Mine are the heavens and mine is the earth. Mine are the nations, the just are mine and mine the sinners. The angels are mine, and the Mother of God, and all things are mine; and God himself is mine and for me, because Christ is mine and all for me".

\* "For on this road there is room only for self denial, as our Saviour asserts, and the cross. The cross is a supporting staff and greatly lightens and eases the journey".

\* "A person only makes progress by imitating Christ who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one goes to the Father but through him. Accordingly, I would not consider any spirituality worthwhile that wants to walk in sweetness and ease and run from the imitation of Christ".

\* "From my observations, Christ is little known by those who consider themselves his friends. For we see them going about seeking in him their own consolations and satisfactions, loving themselves very much, but not loving him very much by seeking his bitter trials and death".

\* "Bear fortitude in your heart against all things that move you to that which is not God, and be a friend of the Passion of Christ".

\* "He who seeks not the cross of Christ seeks not the glory of Christ".

\* "Never take others for your example in the tasks you have to perform, however holy they may be, for the devil will set their imperfections before you. But imitate Christ who is supremely perfect and supremely holy, and you will never err".

/Continued...

\* “God could answer: If you desire me to answer with a word of comfort, behold my Son subject to me and to others out of love for me, and afflicted, and you will see how much he answers you. If you desire me to declare some secret truths or events, fix your eyes only on Him, and you will discern hidden in him the most secret mysteries and wisdom and wonders of God”.

\* “Those who do not relish this language God speaks within them must not think on this account that others do not taste it. St Peter tasted it in his soul when he said to Christ: *Lord, where shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.* And the Samaritan woman forgot the water and the water jar for the sweetness of God’s words”.

\* “Lord, you love discretion, you love light, you love love: these three you love above the other operations of the soul. Hence these will be sayings of discretion for the wayfarer, of light for the way, and of love in the wayfaring”.

\* “O Lord, my God, who will seek you with simple and pure love, and not find that you are all one can desire? For you show yourself first and go out to meet those who seek you”.

*Fr Matt Blake, Prior*

#### ***Holy Week Chrism Mass at Westminster Cathedral***

Archbishop Vincent Nichols will celebrate the **Holy Week Chrism Mass** in the Cathedral this Tuesday 19 April at 12 Noon. This is a very special Mass and all parishioners wherever possible are encouraged to attend.

#### ***Prayer for the Royal Wedding***

Archbishop Vincent Nichols has forwarded the following prayer, produced by the Liturgy Office of the Bishop’s Conference, for **HRH Prince William and Catherine Middleton** on the occasion of their Marriage on 29 April 2011:

Heavenly Father,

We ask your blessing upon His Royal Highness, Prince William and Catherine as they pledge their love for each other in marriage. May your love unite them throughout their lives.

Grant them the strength to serve you, our country and our commonwealth with integrity and faithfulness.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

You are invited to take a copy of our **Easter Programmes** from the back of the Church, as you leave after Mass. They contain full details of Holy Week & Easter Masses and Services in our Church.

#### **Caritas – Diocese of Westminster**

##### **Exploring how the Diocese of Westminster serves today’s society.**

Archbishop Vincent Nichols writes: “Inspired by the Holy Father’s visit in 2010, and his call for us to have solidarity with the poor and needy of our society, I invite all in the Diocese to have a ‘**Conversation in Caritas**’. How can we reinvigorate what we understand *Caritas* – the practical work of love – to be? How can we best support and encourage each other?” You are invited to pick up a leaflet from the back of the Church today and also log on to the Diocesan Website: [www.rcdow.org.uk/conversationincaritas](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/conversationincaritas)

#### ***Collections for Charitable Causes***

On **Holy Thursday** of this week, at the 8.00pm *Mass of the Lord’s Supper*, there will be a collection in aid of **The Passage**, which does such wonderful work with homeless people. And on *Good Friday*, during the Liturgy of *The Passion*, there will be the customary collection for **Holy Places throughout the world**. Your kind generosity will be greatly appreciated.

#### ***Easter Sunday Celebration***

On Easter Sunday we will celebrate the Risen Christ with a special **Family Gathering** at 11.am (after the 10.00am Mass). There will be an *Easter Egg Hunt* in the garden for the children, plus a *visit from the Easter Bunny* and much more. Raffle tickets for *two splendid Gourmet Easter Baskets* are available at Reception. (Price £5 each, or three for £12). All proceeds will go to our selected charity – **Mary’s Meals – bringing food and education to children in developing countries**. We thank you for your support. Fr Iain

- \* On Tuesday next 19 April, from 7.30-8.30pm Fr Matt will give the second of two talks, inspired by the teaching of **St John of the Cross**, in preparation for Easter. All are invited.
- \* There will be *Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament* from 6.30-7.30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this coming week.
- \* Friday next, **Good Friday**, is a day of **Fast and Abstinence**. There will be Confessions from 11.00-12 Noon and from 5.00-6.00pm,

\*\*\*\*\*

***Father Prior and the Community wish you a Joyous and Blessed Easter***