

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Parish Newsletter

Sunday 6 November 2011 – 32nd Sunday of the Year

Remembering and Praying

Not too long ago we as Church celebrated two days that remind us of who we are: *All Saints* and *All Souls*. All Saints reminded us of our hope in a definite end to the pain and sorrow experienced in this life. St Thérèse taught that this end does not leave behind the “friendships forged in this life”. The saints have not arrived at a destination – the eternal enjoyment of God alone, and forgot about us. But in their communion with us, they want to spend their “*heaven doing good upon the earth*”. They pray for us to be where they are, in God.

If *All Saints* reminds us of the desires of all saints to help us towards our end in God, *All Souls* reminds us on earth that we too can express God’s desire for all to be in communion with him, that we can pray for those who are undergoing a purification and intensification of God’s love, to help them gain their eternal reward. These two days remind us that we are a Church that prays together. We grasp that prayer begins with a desire, which we experience as our own, that we want to do this and, like those in heaven, grow into a realisation that our praying does help others. A prayer like this expresses God’s will. We want what God wants for our family, friends and strangers. It is a wholesome thought to pray for the dying and those who have died.

That’s why a day like **Remembrance Sunday** – though a civil commemoration – should be part of our communal memory. Thousands were deprived of a natural death due to wars. Our families have been affected by tragic loss and sadly it is still a reality today. As we remember them for the sacrifice they made, let’s not stop at that – remembering those who gave their lives for our freedom and that is it! Let us remember there is a spiritual war going on that tries to paralyse families and friends in their grief and loss. As a praying Church, heaven and earth unites us to our loved ones; let our prayer realise the “separations” death has brought to our relationships with others. But equally let us believe that our prayer,

<u>November</u>		<i>Feasts/Memorials</i>
Monday	7	St Willibrord, Bishop
Tuesday	8	Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity, Virgin, Carmelite
Wednesday	9	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica - Feast
Thursday	10	St Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor
Friday	11	St Martin of Tours, Bishop
Saturday	12	St Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr

Mass for our Departed Relatives and Friends

During the month of November a Mass will be said in our Church every day in memory of **our departed relatives and friends**. Names and donations will be accepted at Reception Desk. Special forms and envelopes are available at the back of the Church for you to complete.

Recent Collections – CAFOD and Overseas Missions

We thank you for your contributions to the above two recent Collections. The amount collected for **CAFOD** on Sunday 9 October amounted to **£1,047.05**, and on Sunday 23 October, the amount collected for **Overseas Missions** was **£958.62**.

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 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:	Fridays 6.30-7.30pm – for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Profession.

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even now, can help others struggling, stammering, straining to make sense of death, which the Book of Wisdom tells us: was “*never of God’s fashioning; not for his pleasure does life cease to be*”. If only to help those of us left behind in grief and sorrow to remain confident that death does not have the last say but “*Life, Love and Light*” will await us as Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity spoke with her last breath....

Taize Reflects

The Gospel unsettles us, draws us out of ourselves and challenges us. It does this, not to alienate us from ourselves, but to awaken us to what is deepest and truest within us. In this sense, we are reminded of the words of E Mounier: “*The other is not a limit to the self, but a source of the self*”.

Musicians interested in forming a **Taize group**, please contact Fr Tony for further details: anthonylparsons@aol.com

New Parish Mass Books

On Sunday 27 November, **First Sunday of Advent, Year B**, we shall begin using our New Parish Mass Books containing the **Revised Liturgy**. They will be available from the back of the Church on Saturday evening 26 November for use at the Vigil Mass and thereafter.

Young Adults Monday Group

Our Monday Group will meet at 7.30 for 8.00pm in the Parish Centre tomorrow Monday evening. This week they will concentrate on Week 4 of the Diocese of Westminster’s Faith Sharing booklet ‘**A Foretaste of Heaven**’ - *How is Mass a Sacrifice? – Reflecting on the true meaning of sacrifice*. All young adults who come to our Church are very welcome to join them – entrance to the Parish Centre via Pitt St.

All are invited to our **Holy Hour** with **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** for *Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Profession*, from 6.30-7.30pm on Friday next 11 November.

Collection for the ‘Sick and Retired Priests’ Fund

There will be a Special Collection after all Masses today Sunday for the **Sick and Retired Priests Fund**. The number of sick and elderly priests who need our support is growing and we need your help. 50% of the money that you give goes to Westminster Diocese and 50% to the Carmelite Order. We ask you please to be as generous as you can towards this very worthy cause.

Mass and Reception for our Adult & Senior Parishioners

A date for your diaries: We would like to have another social event for our **Adult and Senior Parishioners** at the end of this month, say **Saturday 26 November**. We will start with 12.15 Mass and then follow with a Reception where our LSE students will be on hand to help out and to meet and entertain you all. It will be a nice opportunity to enjoy a little pre-Christmas time with your friends. Please spread the word. *Fr Iain*

Samuel

Wondering what God is calling you to do with your life? “*Speak Lord, your servant is listening*” (1 Samuel 3:10). Groups for young, single adults [20-30s] open to listening to the Word of God and putting it into action in their lives.

- * Commit to attending 8 monthly meetings.
- * Beginning Advent 2011 in several London locations.
- * **Open Afternoon:** November 20th

samuel@ukvocation.org 0750 324 1127

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday next 13 November is **Remembrance Sunday**. The 11.00am Mass will be a Requiem Mass for all who died in two World Wars and other conflicts of our time. As usual the doors of the Church will close promptly at one minute to 11 o’clock for the **two-minute silence** before Mass. Those of you attending the Mass are asked to kindly arrive early please.