

Feasts/Memorials

Oct

Tuesday 28 SS Simon & Jude, Apostles - Feast
Wednesday 29 Blessed Martyrs of Douai College

Nov

Saturday 1 Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sunday 2 Solemnity of All Saints
Monday 3 Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed
(All Souls Day)

Pre-Marriage Course

On Monday 3 November a Pre-Marriage Course will begin at Holy Apostles Church Hall, 47 Cumberland St., Pimlico, from 7.00pm – 9.00pm. A series of three Monday evenings – the following two will be held on 10 and 17 November. Cost £30 per couple. Some places still left. For application form, email: pimlico@rcdow.org.uk Contact: Canon Pat Browne 020-7834-6965.

Bible Studies

Bible Studies will continue at the Prayer Centre, Nazareth House, Hammersmith Rd., W6, with talks on the Bible by Fr Peter Burrows on three consecutive Tuesdays starting on 4 November at 7.30pm. All are invited. For more information contact: Ausra Karaliute on 020-7931-6078

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Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesdays from 6.30-8.00pm.

Our Parish Newsletter on the Web: www.carmelitechurch.org

Weekday Masses: 8am, 12.15pm, 6pm
Saturday Masses: 8am, 12.15pm, 6pm (*Vigil Mass for Sunday*)
Sunday Masses: 8.30am, 10am, 11am *Sung/Latin*
12.15pm, 6pm *Young Adults Choir*
Holy Days: 8am, 12.15pm, 6pm
Bank Holidays: 9am, 12.15pm (no 6pm Mass)
Weekday Confessions: 5.30-5.50pm (Priest on duty except between 12 Noon-3pm)

Saturday Confessions: 10.30-11.45am, 3.30-5.50pm

Carmelite Priory, 41 Kensington Church St., London W8 4BB

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Registered Charity No: 253645.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Parish Newsletter

26 October 2008 – Thirtieth Sunday of the Year

You Must Love

Jesus is challenged to choose the most important commandment in the law of Israel [the experts tell us he had a choice of 613 precepts of the Torah and it was not unusual for the rabbis to debate among themselves which was the most important!] He quotes Deuteronomy 6:5 {**You must love** the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind}, and Leviticus 19:18 {**You must love** your neighbour as yourself}.

Needless to say this was not the answer his challengers expected to hear. Jesus did not answer with the aim of winning an argument but rather to win over the hearts of the Pharisees. The most striking aspect of Jesus' response is how positive it is – most laws say what we must not do or what is forbidden. These two “laws” make the most positive statement possible - **You must love.** One of the most frequently voiced criticisms of religions, and Catholicism in particular, is that they are always telling us what we must not do. Religions are perceived to be negative and to be opposed to human happiness and freedom.

Jesus is so positive in his response here. “*You must love*” is the most positive and affirming statement anyone could make. The response is also an invitation to a change of heart and a change of life. The Pharisees cannot argue with Jesus' response to them but, sadly, they are also unable to accept his invitation.

Jesus concludes by telling the Pharisees: “*on these two commandments hang the whole law, and the prophets also*” – in other words the entire scriptures hang on these commandments. This then is what Religion. Christianity, Catholicism is all about: all Church laws, teachings, rituals and customs are about celebrating love, teaching us to love, setting us free to love and challenging us to ever deeper and more complete love.

The Pharisees live by the rules, they “live” their faith well but they have forgotten “why” they live this way. They have forgotten the purpose of God's promises, laws and worship. This Gospel is a reminder to us of what is really important – a Gospel story we should return to frequently in our prayer and reflection.

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The early Christian writer, Origen, tells us when commenting on this passage of the Gospel:-

*He takes something from its primacy and greatness who subtracts anything from the entirety of this commandment... They alone accept its greatness and primacy who not only love the Lord their God but have also taken it upon themselves to fulfil these three conditions; That with their whole **heart** they hold within themselves the fullness of this love, and its thoughts and actions; And with their whole **soul**, for God is loved with thy whole soul when no part of the soul is seized by anything that is out of keeping with the faith; And with their whole **mind** thinking and speaking of nothing else but the things of God.*

Fr Matt Blake, Prior

“Come and See”

There will be an evening for men considering a **Vocation to the Priesthood** on Tuesday 18 November, from 7.30pm-9.00pm, at Our Lady of Grace & St Edward Church, 247 Chiswick High Road, W4. (Nearest underground, Turnham Green, District Line). For more details please contact the Vocations Director, Fr Chris Vipers on 020-7798-9083.

Imperial College Union : I C Catholic Society

On Thursday next 30 October, the IC Catholic Society presents Lord Alton, Independent Crossbench Peer, in “*The Spirituality of J.R.R. Tolkien : His Faith and Fiction*”, in the Pippard Lecture Theatre, Lv 5, Sherfield Building, Imperial College, South Kensington. Refreshments from 5.30pm.

Towards Advent 2008 – Festival of Catholic Culture

The annual **Towards Advent** Festival of Catholic Culture takes place at Westminster Cathedral Hall on Saturday 8 November from 10.00am–4.00pm. There will be guest speakers, stalls and refreshments. Admission is free.

November Dead List

A Mass will be said in this Church every day during the month of November for your departed relatives and friends. Names and donations accepted at Reception Desk. Special forms and envelopes are available at the back of the Church.

Collection for the Sick and Retired Priests Fund

There will be a Special Collection after all Masses on Sunday next, 2nd November, 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.

Mind the Gap - Four Stops in Advent

A series of four Advent Talks for young adults – ‘**Mind the Gap -Four Stops in Advent**’ - will take place at Corpus Christi Church, Maiden Lane, starting on Tuesday 25 November with guest speaker **Fr Iain Matthew OCD** - talk entitled ‘*Let nothing frighten you – A Carmelite Perspective*’. Start time: 7.00pm (refreshments at 6.30). The remaining three ‘stops’ will follow on consecutive Tuesdays - see poster on our Church notice-board for details of speakers etc.

Kensington Council of Churches -Autumn Lecture 2008

Bishop Paul Richardson will give the Autumn Lecture 2008 at the Kensington United Reformed Church, Allen Street, on Wednesday next 29 October, starting at 7.00pm. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served after the Lecture. See poster on our Church notice-board.

Children’s ‘All Saints’ Party

We will have our Children’s ‘**All Saints**’ Party here in the Priory on Monday 3 November. *Children !* please come dressed as your favourite saint and enjoy a great afternoon. We will gather in the Church at 4.30pm and afterwards proceed downstairs for some fun - and please bring a small snack to share. Children of all ages are welcome. For assistance or for ideas on saints etc. please contact Fr Iain: iainmatthew@yahoo.com

World Mission Sunday

We thank you for your contributions to the collection for Overseas Missions on Sunday last. The amount collected was **£827.83**

All Saints Day and All Souls Day

Please note the **Solemnity of All Saints** will be celebrated on Sunday next, 2 November, and the **Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed** (All Souls Day) will be celebrated on Monday 3 November - Masses at the usual times on Monday: 8.00am, 12.15 and 6.00pm. Readings at Mass on Sunday next will be those of the Solemnity – will readers please note.