

<u>Sept.</u>		<i>Feasts/Memorials</i>
Monday	15	Our Lady of Sorrows
Tuesday	16	SS Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
Wednesday	17	St Albert, Patriarch of Jerusalem, Legislator of The Carmelite Order - Feast
Friday	19	St Januarius, Bishop & Martyr
Saturday	20	SS Andrew Kim Taegon & Companions, Martyrs

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If you go into hospital..... it is important that you state your religion on admission and that you wish your details to be passed to the Roman Catholic Chaplain for the hospital. Under current legislation you will not be visited by the RC Chaplain unless you specifically request this. (If patient is too ill, a member of the family must make the request).

A Website for Catholic Groups and Events in London

A website well worth a visit: For young people (20-30) and everyone, try www.groupsandevents.com

- * On Sunday next 21 September we will have our monthly *Parish Gathering* after the 10 o'clock Mass. You are all invited.

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 (<i>Vigil Mass for Sunday</i>)
Sunday Masses:	8.30am, 10am, 11am <i>Sung/Latin</i> 12.15pm, 6pm <i>Young Adults Choir</i>
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

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OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Parish Newsletter

14 September 2008 – Feast of The Triumph of the Cross

The Triumph of the Cross

Two weeks ago in our Sunday Gospel we had Jesus address these strong, and rather harsh, words to Peter: “*Get behind me Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God’s way but man’s*”. Peter was trying to stop Jesus going to his destiny – *suffering and death on a cross*. In doing so, Peter was refusing to accept God’s way of thinking and God’s way of doing things. More fundamentally Peter was denying the most basic fact of the Christian message: Jesus saves us on the cross.

Human beings cannot save themselves. We are saved by God’s free and undeserved generosity and love. How we are to be saved is God’s choice: his son Jesus becoming human, living, suffering, dying and rising from the dead. There are many other ways he could have chosen but he did not. Jesus did not have to die on a cross, he could have died in so many other ways but this is God’s choice. God’s motive was love, so beautifully expressed by Jesus in our Gospel today: *God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son*. These are powerful words and we could turn Peter’s objection around and express it this way: *Peter loves Jesus so much that he is not prepared to give him up to suffering and death*.

We celebrate today: the **triumph** of God’s way of doing things over human ways, victory coming out of what appears to us to be defeat, life emerging out of death. Only God can turn death on a cross into victory and life.

Let us remind ourselves of the well-known words of St Paul in his first Letter to the Corinthians: *Here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over; to the pagans, madness, but to those who have been called, whether they be Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and Wisdom of God*.

Paul is convinced from his experience that the cross is essential to the presentation of Christianity – in other words, to try to preach or teach a Christianity that denies or plays down the cross is doing Christianity a great disservice.

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In this Feast, not only do we celebrate what God has done for us, we also celebrate His way of doing it. The challenge that Peter is confronted with is also our challenge: Can I accept that the cross is essential to Christianity? There is no other way. Every time we pray we begin by making **a sign of the Cross**; this is a very visible and physical reminder that we cannot approach or speak with God without accepting the cross. The cross is our point of access to God. This is so beautifully expressed for us in our second reading today: in this early Christian hymn, Jesus becomes human in every sense of the word, even to accepting death. The cross brings God so close to us. Jesus, by suffering and dying on a cross and being buried in a tomb, shows us that there is no place in human experience that is unknown to God. Therefore our salvation is completed. That is why the cross is so precious to us Christians.

Fr Matt Blake, Prior

Catechism for Children - 2008-09

We are looking forward to the new season of Catechism for our children: **pre-Communion (5-6); Holy Communion (7+), and post-Communion.** Special thanks to the catechists who are so dedicated. Parents and children are asked to come to the Parish Gathering after the 10am Mass on Sunday next, the 21st. Classes begin on Sunday 28th. (Enrolment forms are available at the back of the Church and Reception Desk. Please complete and return these as soon as possible. Thank you). *Fr Iain*

Confirmation: Young people aged 13 years and over who wish to be prepared to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation** next year should pick up an application form from the back of the Church and complete and return it to Fr Iain without delay.

A Day of Prayer & Fasting for the Relief of Poverty

Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor has proposed that **Friday next 19 September** be a **Day of Prayer and Fasting** in support of the Millenium Development Goals, whereby there is a campaign by the rich countries of the world to eradicate poverty by 2015. This will be discussed at the New York Summit of political leaders on 25 September, attended by our Prime Minister, Gordon Brown.

Today's Readings will be taken from the Feast of **The Triumph of the Cross** - unfortunately they do not appear in our Parish Mass Book.

Carmelite Youth Day – Saturday 11 October 2008

AIM: Pope Benedict expressed his wish to be among the youth at World Youth Day “*To confirm their Faith and Enliven their Hope*”. The aim of our **Carmelite Youth Day** is also to *Confirm the Faith and Enliven the Hope* of the many young people who come to our Church and the many other young people we hope to reach out to, through this day.

Inspiration: Our inspiration this year will be the Carmelite, **St Edith Stein**, Patroness of Europe and Patroness of World Youth Day.

Programme:

- 12.15pm Special Mass of St Edith Stein (everyone welcome)
- 1.15-4.00pm Prayer, Talks, Reflections, Sharing, Refreshments etc.
for our Young People.
An opportunity to get to know Edith Stein better and to learn more about World Youth Day.
- 4.00-5.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Church and concluding liturgy (everyone welcome).

Hopes:

- * To recreate something of the Spirit of World Youth Day
- * To open the treasures of **Carmelite Spirituality** to everyone and especially to our young people.

Support Needed from Everyone:

1. Please invite all the young people you possibly can.
2. Please support the day by your presence, especially at the Mass and the Adoration (the young Church needs the presence, prayer and support of the whole Church).
3. Finally, nothing can be achieved without prayer; please pray for the success of this day.

- * Today is **Racial Justice Sunday**. There will be a special collection after all Masses for the Catholic Association for Racial Justice.
- * Sunday next 21 September is **Home Mission Sunday**. There will be a Special collection after all Masses for the Catholic Agency to Support Evangelisation (CASE).

The 12.15pm Mass on Friday next 19 September will be a **Funeral Mass** for **Mr Raoul Coombes RIP**