

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Parish Newsletter

27 September 2009 – Twenty Sixth Sunday of the Year

"I will spend my heaven doing good on earth"

We are just two weeks away from the visit of the relics of St Thérèse. The visit will arguably be one of the biggest events in the 150-year history of this Church. Much preparation has already gone into the visit but this weekend we want to involve everyone in the preparation.

Prayer: It is with the following words of St Thérèse that the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* defines prayer: *"For me, prayer is an uplifting of the heart; a glance towards Heaven, a cry of gratitude and of love, in times of sorrow as well as of joy. It is something noble, something supernatural, which expands the soul and unites it to God"*. The most important of all preparation for the visit is prayer, the visit itself will be a great occasion of prayer and we hope that the visit will lead to a renewal in the prayer life of all of us.

Information: We all need to be well informed about this visit; who Thérèse is, and what the purpose and meaning of the visit is. An excellent booklet has been prepared for the visit and we are giving everyone who comes to the Church today a free copy.

In addition we ask all of you to come along at some time today and visit our **Parish Open Day** - the excellent display, film, books etc. that will be available will help us all to be better informed and prepared.

Practical help: While many people are already working very hard to prepare for the visit and many others have offered help, we will need much help for the visit itself on 11-12 October. Many people will be visiting our Church and we want them to feel welcome and we want the visit to be prayerful, dignified and uplifting. When you come in for the **Parish Open Day** today, you will see a table with various opportunities to volunteer to help.

Fr Matt Blake, Prior

Feast of St Thérèse of the Child Jesus

On Thursday next 1 October we celebrate the **Feast of St Thérèse of the Child Jesus**, (Thérèse of Lisieux). Masses will be at the usual times, 8.00am, 12.15 and 6.00pm.

September

Feasts/Memorials

Monday 28 St Wenceslaus, Martyr/
St Lawrence Ruiz & Companions, Martyrs (Japan)

Tuesday 29 SS Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Archangels

Wednesday 30 St Jerome, Priest & Doctor

October

Thursday 1 St Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Carmelite, Virgin & Doctor
of the Church

Friday 2 Holy Guardian Angels

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The **RCIA** programme will run in the Priory from October 2009 until Easter 2010. It is intended for: (i) Adults who wish to be baptised; (ii) Adult Catholics who are baptised but who have not received First Communion and/or Confirmation; (iii) Members of other Christian Churches who wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. For information and to apply, please contact Fr Matt matthewblake@rcdow.org.uk

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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: 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm

Saturday Masses: 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm (*Vigil for Sunday*)

Sunday Masses: 8.30am, 10.00am **Sung**, 11.00am **Sung/Latin**
12.15pm, 6.00pm **Young Adults Choir**

Holy Days: 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm

Bank Holidays: 9am, 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

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

Tel: 020-7937-9866 Fax: 020-7938-1470

Registered Charity No: 253645

Carmelite Youth Day – Saturday 3 October

This is the fifth **Carmelite Youth Day** organised by our young adult Monday Group. Its purpose is to reach out to other young people, share faith with them and introduce them to some aspects of Carmelite Spirituality. This year will be particularly special as we will be preparing for the visit of **St Thérèse's Relics**. In every country where St Thérèse's Relics have visited, the visit has been particularly important for young people. Our hope is that every young adult [18-35] who comes to our Church will make a special effort this year to attend Carmelite Youth Day. Also we ask everyone of you to encourage all the young adults you know to attend.

The programme is as follows:

- 12.15pm Mass - This is a special Mass in honour of St Thérèse – everyone welcome.
- 1.00-4.00pm Various activities, talks, prayer, etc for young adults.
- 4.00-5.00pm Exposition, prayer, reflection in the Church, to which everyone is welcome.

Catechism for Children/Confirmation - 2009/2010

Parents of children attending catechism for **First Holy Communion** (7 years upwards), **pre-Communion** (5/6 & 6/7 year olds) and **post-Communion** are asked to come together with Fr Iain this morning, in the Parish Centre, after the 10.00am Mass.

All classes will begin on Sunday next 4 October, after the 10.00am Mass.

Confirmation: Young people, 13 years and over, who wish to be prepared to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation** next year are invited to pick up an application form from the back of the Church, and complete and return it to Fr Iain as soon as possible.

Harvest Fast Day for CAFOD

Friday next 2 October is **Harvest Fast Day**, and on Sunday next there will be a special collection after all Masses for your contributions to **CAFOD**, the Catholic Church's own overseas aid agency. Your kind generosity towards this very worthy cause will be greatly appreciated.

Recent Collections

We thank you for your contributions to the recent collection for the Catholic Association for **Racial Justice** - the amount collected was **£602.66**. And on Sunday last, **Home Mission Sunday** – the amount collected was **£829.33**.



Programme for the Visit of the Relics of St Thérèse

[Not yet complete, final programme will be published next week].

Sunday 11 October:

- 6.00pm Mass of Preparation, celebrated by Bishop Alan Hopes.
- 7.30pm Arrival of the Relics and Welcoming Ceremony, presided over by Bishop Alan.
- 8.00pm Veneration of the Relics begins.
- 10.00-11.00pm Hour organised by university students – everyone welcome.

[The Church remains open for All Night Vigil]

Monday 12 October:

- 7.00am Morning Prayer of **St Thérèse**
- 8.00am Mass
- 9.00am Closing Ceremony – led by Fr Iain. We will be welcoming in particular the Schola Cantorum of the Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School, who will be singing.
- 9.30am Departure of the Relics

'Open Day' today in readiness for the Visit of the Relics

We welcome you all to our '**Open Day**' today from 11.00am till 6.00pm, which will comprise the following:

- * An Exhibition on Thérèse's life and teaching.
- * Children's activities – including storytelling at 11.00am on the *Life of St Thérèse*
- * Film showing on *St Thérèse* - 40 minutes.
- * Book Stall with many *St Thérèse* publications.
- * Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day in the Hermann Cohen Chapel
- * 4.00pm: Talk by Fr Matt "**The Greater Significance of the Visit**"
- * Refreshments available throughout the day