

Feasts/Memorials

November

Monday	16	St Edmund, Bishop
Tuesday	17	St Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious/
Wednesday	18	Dedication of the Basilicas of SS Peter & Paul
Thursday	19	St Raphael Kalinowski, Priest, Carmelite
Saturday	21	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mind the Gap: Faith in Film

The next series of ‘**Mind the Gap**’, the 2009 Advent Reflection Evenings for Young Adults (17-30sh) will take the form of ‘Film nights’ with refreshments and discussion.

24 November: ‘Entertaining Angels: The Dorothy Day Story’

1 December: ‘Molokai: The Story of Father Damien’

8 December: ‘Bella’

15 December: ‘St Thérèse of Lisieux’, introduced by Fr Iain
Matthew OCD

Time: 7.00-9.15pm (6.30pm refreshments)

Please note the new venue: Our Lady of the Assumption & St Gregory Church, Warwick St., W1F 9JR (2 minutes from Piccadilly Circus).

For more information, contact daveburke@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

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OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Parish Newsletter

Sunday 15 November 2009 – 33rd Sunday of the Year

“My Words will not Pass Away”

Nowadays we hear much about the fragile nature of our world and its uncertain future. Perhaps we are tempted to feel that this is a new phenomena. Looking at the scriptures [both Old and New Testaments], we see that biblical people are very aware of the fragility of the world and the fragility of human life. They do not use terms like “global warming” but they can point to much evidence that makes them aware of how fragile and uncertain their future is: wars, conflicts, famines, earthquakes, diseases etc. The approach the Bible takes to this is twofold. Firstly the Bible acknowledges and gives voice to these deep human fears; hence the frequent use of dramatic and very vivid language and imagery. The biblical writers were far better psychologists than we often give them credit for, they understood that human fears cannot be left unacknowledged or unspoken. All our deepest pains, worries, fears, insecurities etc. are to be found expressed in words, imagery and prayer. This is more true than ever when it comes to all the unanswered questions about our future destiny.

Secondly the scriptures continue to emphasise that we can only place our trust in God. Even if, or when, the whole world as we know it comes to an end, God will still be there and in control of everything including our destiny. When all human power, knowledge, systems and experience fail us, God is there, and whatever takes place is part of his greater plan for us. This approach is not an invitation to complacency, naivety or indifference, we must do all we can to save, build up and care for our world and human life. So what does the scripture tell us we must do? **Pray** – prayer is the constant theme coming through in these readings. Prayer is not some kind of last resort, what we do when we cannot do anything else. It is prayer that saves and builds up our world and human life. When we are praying as we should be, then we are in contact with God, his wisdom is guiding and instructing us [even though we are unaware of this most of the time]. In addition, prayer shows us what we really should be doing and gently moves us to give up what is not important or relevant. It is prayer that keeps **Hope** alive in us, and prayer that gives us the security and strength to live, act and decide wisely in all the uncertain and fragile situations human life places us in.

/Cont

Many of the scripture readings we have at Mass at this time of year speak of this theme. Our Gospel today gives us a good example:

*“In those days, after a time of distress, the sun will be darkened,
the moon will lose its brightness..... and then they will see the
Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory....”*

A little further on we read: *“Heaven and earth will pass away, but
my words will not pass away”.*

Fr Matt Blake, Prior

November Dead List

A Mass will be said 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.

Farewell Mass for Bishop Bernard Longley

On Friday next, 20 November at 5.30pm, there will be a *Farewell Mass* in Westminster Cathedral for **Bishop Bernard Longley**, before he departs to take up his post in Birmingham. Bishop Longley welcomes everybody, and particularly invites his many friends whom he got to know during his time in the Diocese of Westminster.

Prisoners' Sunday

Today is a **Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Dependants**. We pray for the men, women and teenagers held in our prisons today. We pray also for prisoners' families, their mothers, fathers, children, wives and husbands, that they may be given the strength to deal with the stigma and pain of separation.

“The Kingdom of God is close at hand”

On Saturday next, 21 November, from 12.30pm – 5.00pm, there will be a time to reflect and share in preparation for the **Feast of Christ the King** at the Convent of the Assumption, 23 Kensington Square, W8. (Light lunch provided). For more information and to reserve a place, contact Sr Cathy assumptiontogether@gmail.com or call 020-7361-4743.

Mass for the Sick

On Saturday next 21 November the 12.15pm Mass will be a special Mass which will include the **Anointing of the Sick**. All are invited, especially the sick and the elderly. Our Choir Master Bruce Ogston will play the organ.

Children's 'All Saints' Party

Children! Today Sunday is the day when we look forward to seeing you all, dressed as your favourite saint, for our **'All Saints' Party** here in the Priory from 3.00pm to 5.00pm - all ages welcome. Let's make it a really happy day !!

Christmas Cards in aid of the Catholic Children's Society

Today from 11.00am-1.00pm, there will be Christmas cards on sale in the Priory in aid of the *Catholic Children's Society*, which reaches out to children and families in need in London. A good opportunity to purchase quality cards at reasonable prices and support the CCS. Enquiries: Elizabetta: 07977 928766.

Children's Winter Cinema

Our popular *Parish Winter Cinema for Children* kicks off again on Sunday next 22 November at 3.00pm in the Priory, showing the film **'Cars'**. All children who come to our Church are invited – no need to book, just come along, accompanied by an adult. Enquiries, contact Luciana at: ludéfazio@yahoo.co.uk

Christmas Carols at the Carmelite Church in aid of the Multiple Sclerosis Trust

On Thursday 17 December at 7.00pm there will be Christmas Carols here in our Church in aid of the **Multiple Sclerosis Trust**, in the presence of the Mayor and Mayoress of Kensington & Chelsea. Tickets cost £15.00 and all proceeds go to the MS Trust. The popular Mosaic Choir will be performing a blend of Christmas music and carols. For full details and to apply for tickets, call: 01462 476700 or email: info@mstrust.org.uk

Notices

- * All are invited downstairs to the Parish Centre this morning after the 10 o'clock Mass for our *Parish Gathering*, and have tea/coffee and to socialise.
- * On Sunday next 22 November, after the 10am Mass, there will be a *Parents of First Holy Communion children* meeting while catechism is taking place. All parents of this group of children are invited.

Sunday next 22 November, *Feast of Christ the King*, is **National Youth Day**. There will be a special collection after all Masses for the Catholic Youth Service.