

Feasts/Memorials

June

Wednesday 16 - St Richard of Chichester, Bishop
Saturday 19 - St Romuald, Abbot

Brightlights Festival 2010

Brightlights is the annual festival for young adults in the Catholic Diocese of Westminster, bringing together hundreds of people, aged 16-30, for top quality music, inspirational speakers, practical workshops and opportunities for prayer and liturgy. The Festival will take place from 16-19 July at SPEC, All Saints Pastoral Centre, Shenley Lane, London Colney, and its theme this year is "The Journey of St Alban : Soldier to Saint". For more information, email: info@brightlights.org.uk or call 01727-829209.

Children's Art Exhibition

For those of you who may have been away recently, please note the very imaginative paintings our children have done in an effort to raise funds for the **Catholic Children's Society** are now displayed in the Church Corridor, along Reception. You are all invited to come inside after Mass and take a look, and hopefully make a donation to the CCS, which does such wonderful work with needy children in London. (Fr Iain)

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 **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 on Wednesdays from 6.30-8.00pm

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

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Parish Newsletter

Sunday 13 June 2010 - Eleventh Sunday of the Year

The Gospel According to Luke

"He made his way through towns and villages, preaching and proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom of God. With him went the twelve, as well as certain women who had been cured of evil spirits and ailments: Mary, surnamed the Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, Suzanna and several others who provided for them out of their own resources".

We return to the reading of *Luke's Gospel* and this final paragraph today draws together a number of themes that will help us as we reflect on our Sunday Gospels over the next few months. Jesus is on the move – nothing ever stands still in Luke's Gospel, there is constant movement. Moving from place to place is a symbol of a much deeper, and far reaching, movement that is taking place. All is changing, nothing is ever going to be the same again because of the story we are reading – it is essential to remember this if we are to read this Gospel well.

The movement and change is driven by the "*Good News*" that is being preached. The lives of those who welcome this Good News are changed for ever, those who resist the Good News find themselves powerless to stop it spreading.

All those who hear the Good News have their sins forgiven, those who have their sins forgiven are the witnesses to the power and effectiveness of the message of Jesus. There is an intrinsic link between the Good News and forgiveness, healing, reconciliation and change of all sorts.

Jesus is never alone, here he is accompanied by the Twelve and a large group of women, three of whom are named. For Luke, the message of Christianity is always heard, lived and proclaimed in community. Community is essential to the Gospel.

Luke keeps a careful balance between men and women in his story – frequently when he tells a story about a man, he follows it with a story about a woman. Here he is giving us a picture of the community that accompanied Jesus, composed of men and women and each group playing an essential role. We are told that the women "*provide for them out of their own resources*". These are financially independent women and the men are dependent upon them [very unusual in those days!]

We are given the names of some women presumably because they are well known or at least are well known to the community Luke is writing for. It is interesting that two of the women are also named in the group who are the first witnesses to the Resurrection. Here they are witnesses because they have been healed and forgiven, later they will be witnesses because they have seen and experienced the reality of the Risen Lord.

There are a number of similar paragraphs in *Luke's Gospel* and in the *Acts of the Apostles*. They are often called "summaries". Luke used this literary technique to give us a sense of the atmosphere and feel of what is taking place, and to remind us of the overall purpose and direction of his story.

There is an important lesson for us here also in how we live our Christian lives today. Our experiences, or the particular issues we are dealing with, are part of something much bigger. No problem, obstacle or crisis can stop the spread of the Good News. Like Luke, we need to frequently pause and look at the bigger picture.

Fr Matt Blake, Prior

Training for Parish Volunteers

There will be a **Training for Parish Volunteers** morning at our Lady of Victories, Kensington High Street on Saturday next, 19 June, from 10.00am until 12 Noon. This training is provided by the Diocese of Westminster Safeguarding Service for the parishes of the Deanery of Kensington and Chelsea. It is particularly for those who work with children and vulnerable adults but is open to all. It is a good opportunity to learn more about what the Church is doing to protect and care for children and those who are vulnerable. Apologies for the short notice about this important event but I hope some people from our Church will be able to attend.

(Fr Matt)

Young Adults in the West Retreat Day

Bishop Alan Hopes will lead a Retreat Day for Young Adults at **St Jude's Shrine, Faversham** on Saturday 24 July from 9.00am – 6.00pm. Cost: £15, includes coach travel (bring your own lunch). All young adults (17-35 years) are welcome to come and meet, pray and relax with other young adults from the diocese. For more information re booking etc. contact Dave Burke on 020-7798-9357 or email: davidburke@rcdow.org.uk

Children's First Holy Communion

As our 31 young children go forward to receive their **First Holy Communion** at the 10 o'clock Mass this morning, we ask you please to pray for them that God will bless them on this most special day in their lives. We also pray for and congratulate their Catechists who have done a wonderful job in preparing them.

Parish Picnic

You are all invited to our **Parish Picnic on Sunday next 20 June**. Weather permitting, we will meet at **1 o'clock** at the Entrance Gate to Kensington Gardens, located near the security barriers by Kensington Palace on the private road which leads to High St. Kensington. If you can, please bring something to share, then we can all enjoy some nice food and have a fun afternoon.

N.B. Should the weather not be in our favour on the day, we will gather in the **Priory at 1 o'clock** and have an entertaining afternoon and enjoy our Picnic under cover !

Gathering for Young Married Couples

We will have another of our **Gatherings for Young Married Couples** on Wednesday 30 June at 7.30pm in the Priory. The gathering is a time when couples come to the Carmelite Priory and enjoy friendly conversation over a glass of wine and cheese. We follow this with some input relevant to marriage or being parents (usually from a DVD), and discussion. All young married couples who come to our Church are warmly invited. Contact: Fr Iain 07776-457392 ianmatthew@yahoo.com

Notices

- * On Sunday next 20 June, after the 10 o'clock Mass, weather permitting, we will have a **Blessed Sacrament Procession**, especially for the *First Communion Children*, but you are all invited to take part.
- * Please note our next *Parish Gathering* will be on Sunday 27 June after the 10 o'clock Mass
- * We will have our *Parish Advisory Group* meeting on Sunday 27 June at 7.00pm in the Priory. If you have any topics you would like raised at this meeting, please hand them in at Reception, attention Fr Matt.