

## Feasts/Memorials

### July

Tuesday	13	- St Teresa of Jesus de los Andes, Virgin, Carmelite
Wednesday	14	- St Camillus of Lellis, Priest
Thursday	15	- St Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor
Friday	16	- Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

### *Young Men & Women required by SPEC*

**SPEC** is seeking to appoint young men and women for a year-out experience working with children and young people. These full-time volunteers will live as part of the SPEC Community at All Saints Pastoral Centre in London Colney, Herts. They will have a particular focus on nurturing faith in young people through dynamic retreats, using games, nature, team-building activities, art, storytelling, dance and much more. Full training will be provided, along with professional accreditation through the YMCA and the opportunity to study for a foundation degree in Youth Ministry. For more information about the SPEC Community and for an online application form, visit [www.spec.org.uk](http://www.spec.org.uk) Contact: Tracy Curran, Co-Ordinator, Tel: 01727 829218

### *Mount Carmel*

Please note the July-September issue of **Mount Carmel** – *A Review of the Spiritual Life*, is now available from Reception. Price £2.50. As always, an excellent read with contributions by many well known writers – an ideal book to take on holiday.

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**

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

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

**Registered Charity No: 253645**

Our Carmelite Newsletter on the Web: [www.carmelitechurch.org](http://www.carmelitechurch.org)

## OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

### Parish Newsletter

Sunday 11 July 2010 - Fifteenth Sunday of the Year

### Jesus taught in Parables

Jesus was a teacher. In any definition or description of Jesus we will find the term teacher used to describe him. When we look for his method of teaching what is most striking is that he used parables – parables seem to be his favourite method of teaching. In particular, he likes to respond with a parable when he is asked a direct question. For example, today's parable is a response to the question: *Who is my neighbour?*

There are many definitions of parables but I find this one from the scripture scholar, C.H. Dodd, especially helpful: *“At its simplest the parable is a metaphor or simile drawn from nature or common life, arresting the hearer by its vividness or strangeness, and leaving the mind in sufficient doubt about its precise application to tease it into active thought”*.

The example from everyday life that Jesus draws in response to the above question is a mugging – that is certainly familiar to us, people are mugged every day in London. It is the response of the passers-by that surprises and shocks. The priest and Levite should have helped or would be expected to have helped! The Samaritan helps in an extravagant or exaggerated way. The lawyer in the end must conclude that the Samaritan proves himself neighbour to the victim of the mugging. Jesus' final exhortation is *“Go and do the same yourself”*. Only by doing the same, putting charity into action, will the lawyer discover the answer to his question. The word “neighbour” implies relationship, the question cannot be answered with a sterile explanation of definition, the answer can only be found by active engagement with others.

In the above definition by C.H. Dodd we have two characteristics that should be in all good teaching and especially in all good Christian teaching. Firstly it must *“arrest the hearer by its vividness or strangeness”*. In other words there must be something to make us wake up and listen, an element of surprise or an unexpected twist or outcome. The same old words we have heard over and over again do not *“arrest”* us.

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That is not enough however. We must be left with “*sufficient doubt about its precise application*”. The listener or student must be “*teased*” into actively engaging with mind and heart in the particular issue or subject.

The truths of the Christian faith and their application in an individual’s life must be discovered in an active and personal way. They can never be imposed from above or reduced to definitions, systems or practices. Christians are not robots or slaves, they are free, intelligent and creative human beings. The parables are teachings designed for just such people. We must actively engage with the parables, keep returning to them and look at them in different ways. For example, one day read this parable from the point of view of the Samaritan, another day the mugged person, another day the priest or Levite or inn-keeper. What is it like? How does it feel? What are the questions going through my mind? What are my fears, doubts, etc? In the midst of all of this, let the voice of God’s Spirit enter in a free, open and new way. Be surprised, disturbed and enlightened by the outcome.

*Fr Matt Blake, Prior*

**Parish Pilgrimage to Rome**  
**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

**2012** will be the **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this Church** - the Carmelites first came here in 1862. We will have many events to celebrate this but to begin our year of celebration and thanksgiving we are organising a **Parish Pilgrimage to Rome** from **2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2011**. This Pilgrimage will be led by Fr Matt Blake and the cost is **£769**, with £28.50 extra per person for Insurance (if required). Also single room supplement is £96 per person for the 6 nights (limited availability). The Itinerary and Booking Form are now available from Reception. The Booking Form should be completed and returned to Pax Travel Ltd, 152-156 Kentish Town Road, London, NW1 9QB. A deposit of £120, plus the Insurance Premium, should be sent with your booking. These prices are guaranteed until 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010. Any bookings received after this date may be subject to a flight surcharge. Please **do not** return booking forms to the Carmelite Church.

Friday next 16 July is the **Solemnity of Our Lady of Mount Carmel**, Masses will be at the usual weekday times, i.e. 8.00am, 12.15 and 6.00pm.

**RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

The **RCIA** programme will run in the Priory from October 2010 until Easter 2011. It is intended for: (a) Adults who wish to be baptised; (b) Adult Catholics who are baptised but who have not received First Communion and/or Confirmation; (c) 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 at: [matthewblake@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:matthewblake@rcdow.org.uk)

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**Catechism, First Communion and Confirmation 2010/2011**

Enrolment forms for **Catechism**, children 4-6 years and 8-12 years; **First Communion** – children who will have reached their 7<sup>th</sup> birthday by 31 August 2010; and **Confirmation** – young people who will have reached their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday by 31 December 2010, are now available from the back of the Church and also our Reception Desk. Please collect and complete them without delay.

**Confirmation**

On Saturday last 3 July a group of young people from this Church received the **Sacrament of Confirmation** from Bishop Alan Hopes at Our Lady of Victories Church. We send them our warmest congratulations, and also their Catechists and Sponsors.

**Sanctuary at Walsingham**

**Youth 2000** are presenting **Sanctuary@Walsingham : International Youth Prayer Festival** from 3pm Thursday 26 August – 11am Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August at the Catholic Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. Here you can find peace with God, chill out and meet new people. The 5-day Retreat will include a range of talks, life-changing services and time for quiet prayer. Don’t worry if you’re a bit strapped for cash – just give what you can afford. Info at: [www.youth2000.org](http://www.youth2000.org) or National Office Tel: 020-8675-2743

**Sea Sunday**

Today is Sea Sunday. There will be a special Collection after all Masses in support of the **Apostleship of the Sea**. This is an independent charitable agency of the Catholic Church, wholly dependent on voluntary donations to continue its work. It takes the love of Christ to seafarers in the name of the Church, recognising them as our brothers and sisters in need. Please give as generously as you can towards this worthy cause. *Thank you.*