

Feasts/Memorials

Thursday 23 St John of Capestrano, Priest
Friday 24 St Anthony Claret, Bishop

Pre-Marriage Course

On Monday 3 November a Pre-Marriage Course will begin at Holy Apostles Church Hall, 47 Cumberland St., Pimlico, from 7.00pm – 9.00pm. A series of three Monday evenings – the following two will be held on 10 and 17 November. Cost £30 per couple. Some places still left. For application form, email: pimlico@rcdow.org.uk Contact: Canon Pat Browne 020-7834-6965.

Celebrating Paul in the Pauline Year

On Tuesday next 21 October, at The Prayer Centre, Nazareth House, Hammersmith Rd., W6, Fr Peter Edmonds SJ will give the last of three talks on **St Paul**. 7.30-9.00pm. All are welcome.

Towards Advent 2008 – Festival of Catholic Culture

The annual **Towards Advent** Festival of Catholic Culture takes place at Westminster Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Ave., on Saturday 8 November from 10.00am–4.00pm. There will be guest speakers, music, stalls and refreshments. There will also be talks in the Cathedral Crypt. Admission is free.

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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: 8am, 12.15pm, 6pm
Saturday Masses: 8am, 12.15pm, 6pm (*Vigil Mass for Sunday*)
Sunday Masses: 8.30am, 10am, 11am *Sung/Latin*
12.15pm, 6pm *Young Adults Choir*
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
Carmelite Priory, 41 Kensington Church St., London W8 4BB
Tel: 020-7937-9866 Fax: 020-7938-1470
Registered Charity No: 253645.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Parish Newsletter

19 October 2008 – Twenty Ninth Sunday of the Year

World Mission Sunday

Today our second reading is the opening lines of St Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians. Paul wrote this letter to the Church of Thessalonica around 50 AD, and it is probably the first document of the New Testament to be written, so today we are reading the first lines of Christian literature.

From these few opening lines we can pick out three aspects of Paul's writings:

Names: Silvanus and Timothy are co-authors of this letter, though we do not know what their contribution to the writing was. Paul names many people in his letters, some of whom we know a lot about like Silvanus and Timothy, others who are unknown to us apart from Paul's mentioning of them. Paul's purpose was not just to send greetings but also to build up the Church. Paul's letters are letters from "Church" to "Church", one Christian community building up and supporting another Christian community. Or perhaps we should put it another way; for Paul there is only one Church of Jesus Christ and that Church is a community of Christian communities spread throughout the world.

Thanksgiving: So many of Paul's letters begin with prayers of thanksgiving. When we ask the question: *How did the early Christians pray?* an important part of the answer must be thanksgiving. The early Christians knew they had received so much and felt a deep need to give thanks to God in the prayer.

Vocation: A Christian is called and chosen by God. In the words of Paul in today's extract, a Christian is one who receives the Good News "not only as words, but as power and the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction". These are words to reflect upon and ask ourselves how we listen to and receive the word of God.

Today is **World Mission Sunday** and we could say that St Paul is the first "world missionary". What Paul did, the Church has been doing ever since – sharing the Good News in new places, cultures and situations and building up existing Churches with teaching, encouragement and practical help.

Fr Matt Blake, Prior

Beatification of Louis and Zelig Martin

Today in Lisieux the parents of **St Thérèse** will be beatified.

Louis Martin: Born August 22nd 1823, in Bordeaux. Married Zelig Guerin July 23rd 1858. Died July 29th 1894.

Zelig Martin (nee Guerin): Born December 23rd 1831. Died August 28th 1877.

The following is an extract from a press release for the occasion:-

Zelig and Louis are an inspiration to the families of today. Each owned a small business and worked hard while raising a large family. In the 19th century this two-career couple faced the challenges we face in the 21st century – finding good child care; achieving professional excellence; operating a profitable business; caring for ageing parents; educating a special-needs child; forming their children in the faith; finding time to pray and to be active in their parish. Devout Catholics, they saw Christ in the poor and worked for a just society. In 1877 Zelig died of breast cancer, leaving Louis a single parent with five minor daughters to bring up. Later Louis was diagnosed with cerebral arteriosclerosis and spent three years in a psychiatric hospital.

Like us, Louis and Zelig could not control their circumstances. Life came at them unexpectedly, just as it comes at us. They could not prevent their tragedies: the Franco-Prussian war, when they had to house nine German soldiers; the infant deaths of four of their nine children, one from abuse by a wet-nurse; their painful diseases and Zelig's premature death. Nor could they escape their responsibilities as business owners, caregivers, spouses and parents. Their genius lay in how they accepted what happened to them. They accepted their own powerlessness, that God might be all-powerful in their lives.

They taught the same radical openness to their youngest daughter **Thérèse**, now a Doctor of the Church. Zelig and Louis were not declared "Blessed" because of Thérèse. She became a saint because of them. They created the environment that invited her to holiness, and she responded freely to the invitation they offered her.

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As announced earlier, **The Relics of St Thérèse** will be coming to England and Wales in September/October 2009 and will be coming to our Church here in Kensington on **11 October**. A very special date for your diaries!

(Fr Matt)

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.

Carmelite Youth Day

Our Carmelite Youth day on Saturday last was a great success, and I would like to thank everyone who worked so hard in planning and organising the day. Thanks to all who came and all who helped in any way. (Fr Matt)

Children's 'All Saints' Party

There will be a Children's '**All Saints**' Party here in the Priory on Monday 3 November. *Children* ! please come dressed as your favourite saint and enjoy a great afternoon. We will gather in the Church at 4.30pm and afterwards proceed downstairs for some fun, and please bring a small snack to share. Children of all ages are welcome. For assistance or for ideas on saints and get-up, please contact Fr Iain: iaimathew@yahoo.com

Notices

- * We will have our monthly **Parish Gathering** this morning after the 10 o'clock Mass. You are all invited downstairs for tea/coffee and some socialising.
- * Will readers please note that the **Readers' Meeting**, set for today, has been postponed – a new date will be confirmed shortly.
- * Due to half-term break, there will be no babies and toddlers playgroup on Friday 24 and Friday 31 October, returning on Friday 7 November.
- * '**Appointed by God**'. Today begins our 6-week course on Meditations and Reflections on the life and ministry of St Paul, as we follow the booklet distributed earlier. Further copies are still available if needed.

World Mission Sunday

Today is **World Mission Sunday**. There will be a special collection after all Masses for the APF (Overseas Missions). By supporting World Mission Sunday you will help millions of people all over the world to receive and share the gift of life and faith.

Reminder: Summer time ends next week-end. So please remember to **put your clocks back** by one hour on Saturday night 25 October !