

Feasts/Memorials

Nov

Monday	3	Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day)
Tuesday	4	St Charles Borromeo, Bishop
Thursday	6	Bl Josepha Naval Girbes, Virgin - Carmelite
Friday	7	Bl Francis Palau y Quer, Priest – Carmelite
Saturday	8	Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity, Virgin – Carmelite

Marriage Communication Deanery Day

There will be a Marriage Communication Day on Saturday 15 November at St Wilfrid's Hall, Brompton Oratory, London SW7. This day forms part of a wider Marriage Preparation Course run by St Mary's Church, Cadogan Street. The day starts at 11.00am and finishes around 4.30pm. Cost is £40.00 per couple. To book, email: chelseal@rcdow.org.uk Telephone: 020-7589-5487 (Please call between 9.00am and 3.00pm only and ask for the Parish Secretary). See details on our Church notice-board.

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Our **Babies & Toddlers Group** returns on Friday next 7 November, following their recent half-term break. New children welcome. Contact: Segolene on 020-3062-2978

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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 (<i>Vigil Mass for Sunday</i>)
Sunday Masses:	8.30am, 10am, 11am <i>Sung/Latin</i> 12.15pm, 6pm <i>Young Adults Choir</i>
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

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Registered Charity No: 253645.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Parish Newsletter

Sunday 2 November 2008

All Saints Day

You have probably seen in the newspapers that certain atheists want to put the following advertisement on London buses: "*There's probably no God. Now stop worrying and enjoy your life*". There are many interesting aspects to this advertisement but I would like just to comment a little on the second sentence. Are they implying that those who believe in God are unhappy people or at least less happy than the rest of society? Is God and/or religion the cause of unhappiness? Today we celebrate the **Feast of All Saints**; should we re-title it the "*feast of unhappy people*"?

Perhaps there is another way of looking at what these people mean by "*Stop worrying and enjoy your life*". We could rephrase it something like this: *Now stop asking inconvenient questions – Now stop expecting more from life than what is fashionable, utilitarian and uncontroversial – Now stop searching for the deeper meaning of human life and asking questions about humanity's destiny.*

The saints whom we celebrate today are the people who ask inconvenient questions of humanity, they are the people who expect more of human life, the people who see being human as something truly great. In other words, saints are those who are not prepared to shut up and accept what the prevailing thinking is. So let us re-write today's Gospel to help us discover the saints in our world today:

- * The saints are those who are willing to be **poor in spirit** in a world where wealth, success and power are worshipped.
- * The saints are those who freely choose to be **gentle** so that even their enemies have their rights, freedoms and dignity respected.
- * The saints are those who have the courage to **mourn**, they are the ones who accept the pain and sacrifice of love. They are willing to cry and express love even in the most painful circumstances and for the sake of the most vulnerable and marginalised in our society.
- * The saints are those who **hunger, thirst**, fight for, long for and make great sacrifices for all that is **right**, truthful, just and life-giving.

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- * The saints are those who are prepared to be **merciful** even to those who do not “deserve” mercy.
- * The saints are those who have the strength and courage to be **pure in heart** even when this virtue is no longer seen as fashionable or desirable.
- * The saints are those who will do everything and sacrifice everything to make **peace**, even when this is at great cost to their lives, health, wealth, dignity or status.
- * The saints are those who are willing to risk being **persecuted**, alienated, misunderstood or powerless for the sake of what is right, just and truthful.

Let us conclude by saying that the saints are happy, our Gospel today tells us so, but it is a happiness that those who do not have it cannot understand.

Fr Matt Blake, Prior

November Dead List

A Mass will be said in this Church 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.

Annual Mass for Deceased Clergy

On Thursday November 13 at 5.30pm there will be the *Annual Mass for Deceased Clergy* at Westminster Cathedral. All are welcome.

‘Come and See’

There will be an evening for men considering a **Vocation to the Priesthood** on Tuesday 18 November, from 7.30pm-9.00pm, at Our Lady of Grace & St Edward Church, 247 Chiswick High Road, W4. For more details please contact the Vocations Director, Fr Chris Vipers on 020-7798-9083.

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Bible Studies will continue at the Prayer Centre, Nazareth House, Hammersmith Rd., W6, with talks on the Bible by Fr Peter Burrows on three consecutive Tuesdays starting on 4 November at 7.30pm. All are invited.

On Friday 7 November the 12.15 Mass will be a **Funeral Mass for Mr Maddy Solomon RIP**

Collection for the Sick and Retired Priests Fund

There will be a Special Collection after all Masses today for the **Sick and Retired Priests Fund**. The number of sick and elderly priests who need our support is growing and we need your help. 50% of the money that you give goes to Westminster Diocese and 50% to the Carmelite Order. We ask you please to be as generous as you can.

Young Adults Monday Group

‘Appointed by God’. Our Monday Group who are following the Group Reflections from the booklet *‘Appointed by God’* begin **Week 3 - Paul, Faith & Mystery** - tomorrow Monday 3 November. All young adults are very welcome to come along. Meetings start at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre – entrance in Pitt Street.

Christmas Cards

We will shortly have our usual sale of **Christmas Cards** in aid of the Catholic Children’s Society. Full details will be announced next week.

Children’s ‘All Saints’ Party

Children ! We are looking forward to seeing you at our **‘All Saints’** party tomorrow Monday afternoon, dressed as your favourite saint. We will gather in the Church at 4.30pm and afterwards proceed downstairs for some fun. Children of all ages are welcome. *Fr Iain*

Readings at Masses today and Tomorrow

Readings at all Masses today will be those of the **Solemnity of All Saints**. Tomorrow Monday we celebrate the **Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed** (All Souls Day). Masses will be at the usual times, 8.00am, 12.15 and 6.00pm, and the Readings will be those of All Souls Day.

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday next 9 November is **Remembrance Sunday**. The 11am Mass will be a **Requiem Mass** for all who died in two World Wars and other conflicts. As usual the doors of the Church will close promptly at one minute to 11 o’clock for the **two-minute silence** before Mass. *So please remember to be on time.*

Readings at all Masses will be those of the **Solemnity of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica** – to be found on Pages 116-119 in our Parish Mass Books.