

Feasts/Memorials

July

Monday	26	- SS Joachim & Ann, Parents of the Bl. Virgin Mary
Wednesday	28	- Bl. John Soreth, Priest, Carmelite
Thursday	29	- St Martha
Friday	30	- St Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doctor
Saturday	31	- St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

Parish Pilgrimage to Rome

Sunday 2nd – Saturday 8th October 2011

2012 will be the **150th Anniversary of this Church** – the Carmelites first came here in 1862. To begin our year of celebration and thanksgiving we are organising a Parish Pilgrimage to Rome from **2nd – 8th 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 (if required) should be sent with your booking. These prices are guaranteed until 1st 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.

Weekday Masses:	8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm
Saturday Masses:	8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm (<i>Vigil for Sunday</i>)
Sunday Masses:	8.30am, 10.00am <i>Sung</i> , 11.00am <i>Latin Choir</i> 12.15pm, 6.00pm <i>Young Adults Choir</i>
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

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Registered Charity No: 253645

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

Our Lady OF MOUNT CARMEL

Parish Newsletter

Sunday 25 July 2010 - Seventeenth Sunday of the Year

Day for Life

The “Day for Life” is celebrated yearly by the Catholic Churches of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. This year the theme is *the meaning of Christian death and the care of those who are dying*. I quote from the official communication for today:

“Human death is not only a physical and psychological process, it is also a spiritual reality. Without this dimension, all our attempts to understand death and dying remain limited and impoverished. In faith we know that all life has a value which cannot be measured or bargained away. No matter how short it may be, or whatever its condition, every life has a purpose and contains a grace. This is why we should not allow ourselves to be persuaded that incapacity or impairment somehow lessen the value of a person’s life or make them less able to enrich others and give glory to God in whose image they are made and continue to grow. We do not possess our lives as we possess some material object, to be used and then disposed of at will. **Life** is a gift we hold from God, who not only gives life but redeems it”.

Death is not a subject we like thinking about and even less talking about it – particularly those who are young enough or healthy enough to put death on some hidden horizon. When we do think about our own death, many uncomfortable questions come up: When? How? Will I suffer? Will it be quick? Slow? Will I die alone? Will I die loved? Successful? Remembered?

Equally, we do not like speaking with another person about their death: Will I upset the person? Cause embarrassment? Perhaps he/she might ask uncomfortable questions! Will I sound despondent? We can add so many questions, fears and deep feelings to these lists.

There are some very interesting moments in the Gospels when Jesus tries to speak with his disciples about his impending death: they do not listen, do not understand, they change the subject, they argue among themselves, etc.

Jesus dies in great suffering, he faces fears and anxieties, he is rejected by friends, mocked by enemies, there is no dignity in his death, he even feels

God has abandoned Him. We can say that the death of Jesus contains most of the fears, anxieties, worries we have about our own deaths. Jesus does not take the pain, fear and mystery out of death, rather he goes there with us, accompanies us and saves us through it.

For Jesus, death is the most profound spiritual moment in his life, the time when God is closest, when he is doing God's will most fully, when he is saving all humanity and fulfilling his mission on earth [but it does not seem like this to him!].

We are all going to die, that is the only certainty we have. Everything else about death is mystery. Our Christian faith gives us great strength, wisdom, comfort and hope as we face the reality of death. Death is our final calling [vocation] from God, it is our greatest act of trust in God and it is the fulfilment of everything we live for and hope for.

The spiritual message of today is summed up in the **Prayers of Cardinal John Henry Newman** as follows:

May He support us all the day long, till the shades lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in His mercy may He give us a safe lodging, and a holy rest and peace at the last.

Oh, my Lord and Saviour, support me in that hour in the strong arms of your Sacraments, and by the fresh fragrance of Your consolations. Let the absolving words be said over me, and the holy oil sign and seal me, and Your own Body be my food, and Your Blood my sprinkling; and let my sweet Mother, Mary, breathe on me, and my Angel whisper peace to me, and my glorious Saints smile upon me; that in them all, and through them all, I may receive the gift of perseverance, and die, as I desire to live, in Your faith, in Your Church, in Your service, and in Your love, *Amen*.

Fr Matt Blake, Prior

'Day for Life' Collection: There will be a special collection after all Masses today to assist the work of the *Anscombe Bioethics Centre* (formerly the Linacre Centre) and other *life-related* activities supported by the Church. Your kind generosity will be greatly appreciated.

- * The **RCIA** programme will run in the Priory from October 2010 until Easter 2011. For information and to apply, please contact Fr Matt at: matthewblake@rcdow.org.uk

Papal Visit in September

An allocation of tickets for **Pope Benedict's Vigil in Hyde Park** on Saturday 18 September, and for the **Beatification of Cardinal Newman at Crofton Park, Birmingham**, on Sunday 19 September, will be given to each parish. At the time of writing, the exact numbers for this parish have not been confirmed – we will know in the next few days.

It is essential that those who would like tickets give us the following information as soon as possible:-

Title, name, surname, address, postcode, home telephone and mobile, plus email. You must **email** these details to: popecarmelite@yahoo.co.uk For security you will be asked to provide details of photo identification – that must be passport or UK driving licence [they are not asking for this immediately but will need to be provided beforehand and taken with you on the day].

Please note the following: Tickets are individual and so cannot be transferred to another person. Please be certain you are able to attend before applying. The cost for **Crofton Park, Birmingham, is £25**; this includes admission, pilgrim pack and coach travel [you must travel on an approved coach for security reasons]. The cost for **Hyde Park is £10**.

The tickets we will be given are for parishioners of this parish only, they will not be given to non-parishioners or members of other organisations or bodies.

Fr Matt

Notices

- * There will be **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** on Wednesday next 28 July as usual. We will not have Exposition during August. It will recommence on Wednesday 1 September after the 6.00pm Mass.
- * There will be 'A Day with Mary' in our Church on Saturday 7 August, starting at 10.00 am. All are invited. Please note there will be no 12.15 Mass on that day.
- * **Catechism, First Communion and Confirmation 2010/2011:** Enrolment forms are now available from the back of the Church and also the Reception Desk - please collect and complete them as soon as possible.

*Your Newsletter goes on holiday today – back on
Sunday 5 September*