

<u>January 2012</u>		<i>Feasts/Memorials</i>
Tuesday	17	St Anthony, Abbot
Thursday	19	St Wulstan, Bishop
Friday	20	St Fabian, Pope & Martyr/ St Sebastian, Martyr
Saturday	21	St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

Young Adults Monday Group

Our *Young Adults Monday Group* will meet in the Parish Centre at 7.30 for 8.00pm, tomorrow, Monday 16 January for an evening of stimulating discussion on the faith. All young adults who come to our Church are very welcome. Entrance via Pitt Street.

Mount Carmel

Please note the Spring issue of '**Mount Carmel – A Review of the Spiritual Life**', is now available from Reception. This edition contains in-depth articles, by well-known contributors, on Edith Stein, St John of the Cross, and much more. It is an excellent read and highly recommended. Price £2.50.

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The Crib: Your kind contributions to the Crib this year will be donated to the **Catholic Children's Society**.

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>with Choir</i>) 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:	Fridays 6.30-7.30pm – for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Profession.
Carmelite Priory, 41 Kensington Church St., London W8 4BB	
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Registered Charity No: 253645	
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OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Parish Newsletter

Sunday 15 January 2012 – Second Sunday of the Year
(Peace Day)

Christian Unity Week – 18-25 January 2012

Wikipedia states that an “**ecumenical vision**” comprises “*both the search for the **visible unity** of the Church and the whole inhabited earth*” as a concern for Christians.

Generally, I am uncertain if this “**ecumenical vision**” enthuses most Catholics. This may even be the same for other Christian denominations where it is left to the faithful minority to attend special Ecumenical gatherings. I remain uncertain as to why this is the case generally when it comes to Ecumenical events. Is it suspicion? Indifference? Are we not alright as we are - why do we have to engage in this search for visible unity? I am happy as a Catholic Christian, I am happy as an Anglican Christian, why unite - what's the difficulty in this? Is there a problem?

During **Christian Unity Week, January 18-25**, the Churches unite in their reflection on our Christian diversity. Perhaps at official levels there may be an engagement with the theological divisions but this week is engaged on how we each reflect the truth of Christ in our communities. Unity in and with Christ encourages us to reflect on our readiness to engage in this Ecumenical journey. “Why?” – simply because we can learn from each other and grow in our spiritual lives, hungry for nourishment and fulfilment. Why be divided in this when Christ unites us?

“As you, Father, are in me and I in you, may they also be one in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me” (Jn 17:21).

Ecumenism at the heart of the Family is real. A Christian husband and wife daily hold in tension potential areas of diversity if from different Christian denominations regarding faith issues. Strange as this may seem, rendering Christ's effectiveness more apparent to our world emerges via sensitive decisions that deepen their bonds of love – but usually after personal prayer and much dialogue in the search for what is true and not a little pain either.

So, visible unity communicates what we believe is for everyone from a heart that changes often by what is discerned as true. Deepening our bonds of charity and seeking visible unity strengthens our witness to God's presence in our world. Christian communities are not exempt but perhaps the wounds of division are too deep to think that this can be obvious to most Christians.

So I invite each of you from the 18th-25th January, to pause and rethink your commitment to this mission inherent to the nature of the Church. You need not think of Church events to get involved with; it could be as simple as reflecting on how you can become a more effective sign of unity in the home, workplace, church, or with other Christians? Not because you feel you need to, not because the Church is inviting you, but because Christ desires this to render his presence more effectively.

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Do You Want to Read the Bible, but Don't Know How to Begin?

If you have ever wanted to read the Bible but did not know where or how to begin, then *A Quick Journey Through the Bible* Parish Study is for you.

A Quick Journey Through The Bible makes reading the Bible not only easy but exciting. In this study, you will learn the major people, places, events and themes of the Bible – getting the “big picture” of salvation history. Perhaps for the first time in your life you will understand the overview of the Bible story. This then makes your Bible reading and even the Sunday Mass Readings come alive like never before.

A Quick Journey Through The Bible will be introduced at Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Simon Stock in Kensington. Depending on numbers, there is the intention to hold the event every Wednesday evening at 8.00pm during Lent. To register, please contact the Reception Desk on 020-7937-9866, providing your name and contact details. The course will cost **£40**, inclusive of materials needed, and will run for **8 sessions**. Closure of course registration: Monday 30 January 2012.

All are invited to our **Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** for *Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Profession* on Friday next 20 January from 6.30-7.30pm.

Feast of Santo Niño (Divine Infant of Prague)

The Carmelite Filipino Choir invites you all to attend their annual Celebration of **The Feast of Santo Niño** in this Church on Sunday 29 January. It will commence with Mass with Choir at 2.00pm, followed by a Reception in the Parish Centre.

‘Come and See’ – Women’s Religious Life in the Diocese of Westminster

In 1997, Pope John Paul II instituted a **“World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life”** on 2 February, *Feast of the Presentation of the Lord*. This year, Westminster Diocese will mark this in a special way. On Saturday 4 February there will be a day for women interested in finding out more about consecrated life; a **“Come and See”** experience from a ‘neutral perspective’, held in our **Carmelite Priory**. The idea is that it will enable women to make a first step into exploring what consecrated life is like, with the opportunity to ask questions and interact with religious and with others who are discerning their vocation. A variety of women religious will speak about consecrated life and how to discern if God is calling a person to this way of life. There will also be time set aside for prayer, with **Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact **Fr Richard Nesbitt** for more details at richardnesbitt@rcdow.org.uk

Mothers & Babies Group

Mothers and Babies Group will start at the Priory tomorrow Monday 16 January from 10.30am -12.30pm, and will continue every Monday at this time. Please come to the front door of the Priory. Helena is happy to field questions about this on email: carmelitesbabygroup@gmail.com

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- * After the 10 ‘clock Mass this morning, we will have our monthly **Coffee Morning** downstairs in the Parish Centre. All are welcome.

On Wednesday next, 18 January at 8.00pm, Fr Tony will hold a **Readers’ Meeting** in the Priory. All Readers are invited.