

# Parish Newsletter

Sunday 9 October 2011 – 28th Sunday of the Year

Not too long ago I had an invitation to speak to some year 7 children. The subject was on the relevance of sacred scripture – the Bible! Confident enough I agreed to take the last Friday afternoon Religious Education session – the only alternative was first thing Monday morning - - I guess something has to fill up these awkward times of the day and why not R.E., right?

In the film Michael Fox carries a photo of his family. Having gone back in time he meets his parents in their youthful days. Various people he meets in the past also have association with him in the present. Here is the hub; events happening in the past, strangely enough, affect his present. Every time this happens Michael checks his photo. Some members seem to be disappearing which tells him he needs to change things in the past again. This is to prevent his whole family from being wiped out as if they never existed. So the past affected the future, his future. Nothing strange in that you might say. But I wonder if our present culture has become saturated with concentrating on the present without giving due attention to the past?

Our media links keep us certainly updated with events as they are happening in “real time” – great expression. But what does this expression communicate to us; what does it really reflect? I suspect that it reveals a fall out from the “instant” culture that surrounds us – to have and to have now! Plenty of pitch and pace but very little room for pause in such a drive for possessing the latest information, to be in the “know!”

<u>October</u>		<i><b>Feasts/Memorials</b></i>
Monday	10	St Paulinus of York, Bishop
Wednesday	12	St Wilfrid, Bishop
Thursday	13	St Edward, the Confessor - Solemnity
Friday	14	St Callistus I, Pope & Martyr
Saturday	15	St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin & Doctor of the Church - Carmelite (St Teresa of Avila)

VATICAN CITY, 30 September 2011 (VIS) - Pope Benedict's general prayer intention for October is "*That the terminally ill may be supported by their faith in God and the love of their brothers and sisters*".

The month of November is fast approaching, when a Mass will be said in our Church every day during the month for your departed relatives and friends. Names and donations will be accepted at our Reception Desk as usual. Special forms and envelopes will be available at the back of the Church next week-end.

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 (*with Choir*) 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.

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

Yet, as a Christian, my faith informs me that the past affects my now. Not just in order to learn from my mistakes, but to believe that the same God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, i.e. the living God, still affects and influences me in the now because God is present. Perhaps the past is of little interest compared to the present for most. Perhaps we continue to have the pitch and pace without the necessary pause to perceive this God of past and present. But Pope Benedict recently declared in Germany that “*Where God is, there is a future*”. Though a pause which looks and values the past works of God can rekindle a faith that willingly “makes space for God” to enter our today; it is a pause which can allow us to “*perceive anew that it is God who gives our lives their deepest meaning, true fullness; indeed, that only He gives to us all – a future!*” “*Oh, all you works of the Lord, Bless the Lord!*” cries the psalmist. I wonder if past and present works of the Lord would be identified by the year 7’s, or, for that matter, by us as the psalmist perceived? What would you identify as God’s work? And is it, truly God’s?

*Fr Anthony Parsons OCD, Prior*

#### ***Taize Reflects***

It can be said that, in the New Testament, faith takes first of all the form of a movement and that it is a concrete step a person takes, that of “coming to Jesus”. Perhaps we could even say that before being a “movement towards” it is more fundamentally a thirst, a desire: “If anyone is thirsty, let them come to me and drink, whoever believes in me” (John 7:37). If, in this text, St John sets in parallel “coming to” and “believing in” (cf.6:35), he knows at the same time that this “coming to Jesus” depends in the final analysis upon a secret attraction that the Father has already exercised on a person’s heart (6:44). Musicians needed for a **Taize group**. Contact Fr Tony (Prior) at [anthonylparsons@aol.com](mailto:anthonylparsons@aol.com)

#### ***Carmelite Youth Day, Saturday 15 October 2011***

On Saturday next 15 October, **Feast of St Teresa of Avila**, we will have our seventh annual **Carmelite Youth Day** here in our Church, starting with **Mass at 12.15pm**, followed by a full programme till 5.00pm. The 12.15pm Mass is open to all and we hope as many of our parishioners as possible will come along and celebrate the Feast of St Teresa of Avila, Doctor of the Church and Foundress of the Discalced Carmelites. After the Mass, the Carmelite Youth Day events will continue in the Priory.

#### **♪♪ Bicentenary of Franz Liszt ♪♪**

**1811-1886**

This year is the **Bicentenary of the birth of Pianist & Composer, Franz Liszt**, born in Hungary on 22 October 1811. He was a close friend and music teacher of **Fr Hermann Cohen**, founder of our Carmelite Church. Born in Hamburg in 1820, son of a Jewish banker, Hermann’s great musical talent was evident from an early age and when he was 12 years old he began piano lessons with Liszt. This led to a successful musical career as a pianist. However, at the age of 26 Hermann experienced a moment of ‘revelation’ and was baptised a Christian, and three years later was ordained a Priest in the Carmelite Order.

To commemorate the **Bicentenary of Franz Liszt**, we are pleased to announce that on **Sunday 23 October** our 11 o’clock Latin Choir, conducted by Bruce Ogston, will sing the **Mass composed by Franz Liszt – Missa Choralis**. All are invited.

#### ***A Special Invitation to our Adult & Senior Parishioners***

On Saturday 22 October all Adult & Senior Parishioners are invited to our **12.15 Mass** which will be followed by **tea and cakes in the Refectory**. As in the past, some very willing and helpful students from the LSE will be on hand to chat and entertain you. Do please come along. *Fr Iain*

#### ***Harvest Fast Day for CAFOD***

Friday last was **Harvest Fast Day**, when we were all encouraged to make certain sacrifices in aid of **CAFOD**, the Catholic Church’s own overseas aid agency, and today Sunday there will be a special collection after all Masses when your contributions will be taken up. Your kind generosity towards this very worthy cause will be greatly appreciated.

#### ***Notices***

- \* On Sunday next, 16 October, after the 10 o’clock Mass there will be coffee and refreshments available in the Parish Centre for the usual monthly socialising with your friends.
- \* All are invited to our **Holy Hour** with **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** for *Vocations to the Religious Profession* from 6.30-7.30pm on Friday next 14 October.