



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Newsletter

22 January 2017 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Feasts/Memorials

January 2017

- Monday 23 - Feria
 Tuesday 24 - St Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church/
 25th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination of Cardinal
 Vincent Nichols (1992)
 Wednesday 25 – THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL THE APOSTLE - Feast
 Thursday 26 – Sts Timothy and Titus, Bishops
 Friday 27 – St Angela Merici, Virgin/
 Blessed Henry de Ossò y Cervello, Priest, Carmelite
 Saturday 28 – St Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church
 Sunday 29 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

REGULAR EVENTS

Fridays, after the 6.00pm Mass until 7.30pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, plus prayers and reflection for *Vocations to the Discalced Carmelites and Congregations of Sisters represented in our Parish.*

The weekday Rosary at 5.30pm, Monday-Friday in the Church

Weekday Masses: 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm
 Saturday Masses: 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm (*Vigil with Organ/Singer*)
 Sunday Masses: 8.30am, 10.00am (with Choir), 11.00am (*Latin Choir*)
 12.15pm, 6.00pm (*with Choir*)
 Holy Day Masses 8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm
 Bank Holiday Masses: 9.00am, 12.15pm (no 6.00pm Mass)
 Weekday Confessions: 5.40-6.00pm – Monday-Friday
 Saturday Confessions: 10.30-11.30am, 5.00-6.00pm
 Carmelite Priory, 41 Kensington Church St., London W8 4BB
 Tel: 020-7937-9866
 Internet: www.carmelitechurch.org
 Registered Charity No: 253645
 You can keep up-to-date with our Choir via www.carmelitechoir.com
 Simon Lloyd, Organist & Director of Music, Carmelite Priory, Kensington.

Turn Towards the Light

We saw last Sunday that each of us as a follower of Christ is called to be a servant of God. We are called and empowered by the Holy Spirit to work towards all that 'light' stands for – truth knowledge of God and ourselves, confidence and hope, sight and clarity, a clear vision of all that we can be as children of God. We are invited out of the darkness of ignorance, deception and sin, and into the brightness of God's kingdom of wisdom, truth and love.

In the First Reading from Isaiah, God promises to a people who have suffered exile and oppression, fear and shame, that he will brighten their future and they will be filled with joy. With the coming of Jesus, the Christ, this prophecy was fulfilled, according to Matthew's Gospel. Jesus offered truth and wisdom to the people of his day. He spread God's light both by his words and his actions. It was not only in the incomparable parables and sayings that Jesus spread God's truths. Jesus also powerfully communicated God's truth to the people around him by the way he treated those he met.

Jesus' authority was very strong, rooted in the Father. He called some men to help him to spread God's light. They responded to the great challenge he presented: '*Follow me*'. We are here today because of many 'fishers of men', men and women who have been inspired by the risen Lord to spread God's light, to further the Kingdom of God. They have done this in their words and in their life-styles, and most powerfully when these two were fully integrated as they were in Jesus Christ.

What is the message of the Kingdom? At its simplest it is that God has loved, loves, and will always love us with an infinite love. This truth should certainly light up our lives! It should be source of deep rejoicing and peace, of the kind expressed in today's Psalm and First Reading.

Yet the Gospel of Jesus Christ is not merely a source of peace and joy. Its light is also a great challenge to each one of us, and to the Church as a whole, to repent. Whilst Jesus offered peace and healing to those who needed it, he also was very definite in his vision of God's call to all persons to repent, to turn from sin and towards God and our fellows. For the light cannot help and benefit us unless we turn towards it and approach that presence. To know deep in our hearts that God loves us should jolt us out of our complacency – it should inspire us with a generosity and a selflessness that would transform our lives and our world.

One of the consequences of the dawning of God's light in Jesus Christ is seen in the Second Reading. We are called to be united in our community, able and willing to forgive each other and to work for agreement. The pride and fear that lead to disunity must be left behind as part of the darkness that we have turned from.

(from an article by Maurice Fearon, O.P.)

Feast of Santo Niño

The Carmelite Filipino Choir invites all to join and celebrate the **21st Annual Feast of Santo Niño, Holy Infant Jesus of Prague** on Sunday next, 29 January, with Mass in our Church at **2.00pm**. Please bring your **Santo Niño** statue for the customary blessing. After Mass there will be a Reception in the Parish Centre, to which all are very welcome.

Present Refugee Crisis

Caritas Westminster, in partnership with Capital Mass, are holding two events relating to the **Refugee Crisis**, as follows:

Refugees: Next Steps: On Wednesday 1 February from 7-9pm at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN, there will be a chance to hear more about the community sponsorship programme, and an update about the current situation in Syria.

After the Jungle, where next? On Wednesday 8 February from 7-9pm, at Christ Church, Spitalfields, Commercial St., London E1 6LY, hear from Br Johannes Maertens about what's now happening in Calais, and see two films made by refugees living in the camp.

Please RSVP to caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk if you'd like to attend.

Pope Francis appoints Fr Gregory Homeming OCD as new Bishop of Lismore, Diocese of Sydney

We have great pleasure in announcing the appointment of **Fr Gregory Homeming OCD** as Sixth Bishop of Lismore, Diocese of Sydney. Fr Gregory is well known to many of our parishioners due to his regular visits to us here at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kensington, over the years. His Ordination will take place on 22nd February next. We ask you to please join us in prayers for Fr Gregory and congratulations, as he takes up this very important role as Bishop of Lismore. (*Fr Bob Davies, Prior*)

Vocations Evening at Servite Church, Fulham Road for the Deanery of Kensington & Chelsea

Do you think you might be hearing the call of God?

The Vocations Promotion Team of our Diocese are keen to talk with you and tell you more. Why not join them at Our Lady of Dolours Church (Servites) in Fulham Road, on **Saturday next 28 January at 6.30pm**. **Canon Stuart Wilson** will be preaching and there will be an opportunity to hear from one or two Seminarians about how God called them. After Mass there will be an opportunity to chat with each other. It would be great to see as many as possible there. If you want to know more, call 07515-065696 – vocationspromoter@rcdow.org.uk Please pick up an information sheet from the back of the Church, giving further details on this event.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for The Sacrament of Matrimony at Westminster Cathedral

Once again, Archbishop Vincent Nichols will be celebrating the **Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony** on **Saturday 3rd June at 3.00pm at Westminster Cathedral**, for couples celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over) Wedding Anniversary of Catholic Marriage in 2017, and who would like to be included in the Mass. Admission is by the Cardinal's personal invitation only, and couples are asked to provide the following details and submit them to their **Parish Priest** without delay:

Husband and wife's names, Wedding Date, Full Postal Address and e-mail (or telephone number, if no e-mail). Parish Priest will send all details to : Office of Marriage & Family Life, Vaughan House, Westminster, in time for mailing of invitations go directly to couples.

Children's First Holy Communion/Confirmation

First Holy Communion: On Sunday 7 and 14 May, a group of 44 children from this Parish will receive First Holy Communion in our Church at the **10am Mass**. You are all welcome to both Masses.

Confirmation: On Saturday 10 June at 6pm, a group of young people from this Parish will be confirmed at Our Lady of Victories High St., Kensington. We ask you please to remember all these young people and their families and catechists in your prayers.

Annual Mass for the Sick

The **Annual Mass for the Sick** in Honour of **Our Lady of Lourdes** will take place at Westminster Cathedral on **Saturday 11 February at 2pm**. All are welcome.