

## Feasts/Memorials

February 2017

Monday 06 - SS Paul Miki, Priest & Companions, Martyrs  
Tuesday 07 - Feria  
Wednesday 08 – St Jerome Emiliani/St Josephine Bakhita - Day for Victims of Trafficking & those who work to combat it.  
Thursday 09 - Feria  
Friday 10 – St Scholastica, Virgin  
Saturday 11 – World Day of Prayer for the Sick – Our Lady of Lourdes Mass in the Cathedral at 2pm  
Sunday 12 – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Racial Justice Day

## Weekly 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.*

**Weekday Rosary** at 5.20pm, Monday-Friday in the Church

Weekday Masses:	8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm
Saturday Masses:	8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm ( <i>Vigil with Organ/Singer</i> )
Sunday Masses:	8.30am, 10.00am (with Choir), 11.00am ( <i>Latin Choir</i> ) 12.15pm, 6.00pm ( <i>with Choir</i> )
Holy Day Masses	8.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm
Bank Holiday Masses:	9.00am, 12.15pm (no 6.00pm Mass)
Weekday Confessions:	5.40-6.00pm – 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: <a href="http://www.carmelitechurch.org">www.carmelitechurch.org</a>	
Registered Charity No: 253645	
You can keep up-to-date with our Choir via <a href="http://www.carmelitechoir.com">www.carmelitechoir.com</a>	
Simon Lloyd, Organist & Director of Music, Carmelite Priory, Kensington.	



## Our Lady of Mount Carmel Newsletter 5 February 2017 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### *Salt of the Earth*

The two images of *salt* and *light* to the world are powerful ones – *Salt* stands apart from insipid food to which it gives taste, and *light* stands in sharp contrast to darkness which it dispels. They may be used to delineate the position of the Christian in the world, especially today. It may well not be true that – as the prophets of doom claim – we live in a world of declining standards, but it is certainly true that those who have firm principles by which they live, stand out more. No longer is morality buoyed up by the props of a Christian society as in the Middle Ages, or by the bourgeois conventionalism of the nineteenth century. People are far more ready to make their own decisions about belief and behaviour – which is a good thing – but often on insufficient information and thought which is not. Religious education is declining, and with it the automatic safeguards which protected Christian practice. There is, as in most situations, a loss and a gain in all this. But it does mean undeniably that the Christian is far more noticeable and has a more isolated position, combined with a strong opportunity to be a witness to others for the values of Christ.

However, the way this Christian witness is presented might well touch upon the twin dangers of intransigence and hypocrisy. If the Christian stands alone in making a stand in such matters as business morality, the morality of marriage or public service, there is a danger that he may make a show of Christianity in these matters which is only superficial, a visible morality which cloaks corruption within, in the same way as the Pharisees. It is only a few verses later that Matthew warns three times against a parade of virtue: ‘*Your left hand must not know what your right is doing*’ and ‘*good works must be done in secret.*’ The paradox of the combination of these two seemingly opposed counsels can be resolved in that it is precisely by its self-effacing unobtrusiveness that the Christian witness is noticed. The other danger of self-righteous hardness and superiority is clear in its contrast to the open generosity of Christ.

Perhaps then in all this we need the humility that Paul speaks of in the Second Reading to realise that it is only through grace that all this is possible. We too, like Paul, must pray for this gift of God’s Spirit. The Christian witness therefore that we need to give is allowing the power of God’s Spirit to work in and through us, so that in all our relationships and dealings with others it is Christ’s light that will shine through and give flavour to our lives and the lives of those around us.

*(Adapted from an article by Henry Wansbrough, OSB)*

### ***Feast of Santo Niño – Sunday 29 January 2017***

On behalf of the Filipino Choir, I wish to extend our extreme gratitude for the large number of people who attended the **21<sup>st</sup> Annual Feast of Santo Niño, Holy Infant Jesus of Prague** here in our Church on Sunday last. Your support and generous contributions towards the event, and all those who helped in any way, are greatly appreciated. The Filipino choir itself, and singers, under their Leader Edgar Bautista, performed magnificently. *(Fr Bob Davies)*

### **Our Lady of Fatima Visits Her Dowry**

One hundred years ago from May-October 1917, Our Lady appeared to three young shepherd children, Jacinta, Francisco Marto and Lucia dos Santos, at Fatima in Portugal. Thus we are now in its **Centenary**, and the world Apostolate of Fatima in England and Wales (WAF) will be commemorating this special event by means of visitations to Cathedrals by the **National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, together with relics of Blessed Jacinta and Francisco**. This statue of Our Lady was blessed by Pope Paul VI at Fatima in May 1967 and given to this country by the Bishop of Fatima in 1968, and was also blessed by Pope John Paul II during his visit to Britain in 1982.

The WAF programme will start with a visitation of the statue and relics to **Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 18 February 2017, from 1.45pm onwards**, when Cardinal Vincent will bless the statue and crown it with a new silvergilt centenary crown that is being specially made in Portugal. The Cardinal will then preside at Mass and renew the consecration of England and Wales to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. After Mass, there will be an opportunity to venerate the relics of Blessed Jacinta and Francisco. This will be followed at 4pm by a Fatima Symposium etc. The Statue and Relics will be present in the Cathedral until 2.30pm on Sunday 19 February. All are welcome to take the opportunity to visit this event at Westminster Cathedral.

### ***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 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.

### ***An Evening Retreat with the Young – Saturday 11 March***

**Male and Female, He Created Them (Gen.1:27):** God has made each one specially and uniquely, either as male or female, for a particular purpose in the general plan of God. An Evening Retreat with the young on ***Theology of the Body***, accepting and appreciating who God has created in our fast changing society. This will take place here in our Carmelite Priory **at 4pm on Saturday 11 March**. Register at the Priory Reception, or call: 020-7937-9866 e-mail: [retreats.carmelitepriory@gmail.com](mailto:retreats.carmelitepriory@gmail.com)

*Fr Luke-Dominic, OCD)*

### **Lenten Course - Prayer: *Finding Intimacy with God***

*Fr Luke-Dominic, OCD*, invites all to a six-week course on deepening your prayer relationship with God, based on the traditional ***Lectio Divina method of praying the Scriptures***, on **Wednesdays in Lent** beginning on 1 March. in the Carmelite Priory, from 6.30-8.00pm. Cost: £25 (inclusive of study pack with daily reflections to deepen your prayer life. Registration necessary. RSVP 020-7937-9866 [retreats.carmelitepriory@gmail.com](mailto:retreats.carmelitepriory@gmail.com)

### ***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 next 11 February at 2pm**. All are welcome.

### ***Racial Justice Day***

Next Sunday 12 February is **Racial Justice Day**. There will be Special Collection after all Masses in support of Racial Justice. Your kind generosity will be greatly appreciated.

### **“The Westminster Record” February 2017 Edition**

Please note the February issue of “The Westminster Record” is now available from the back of the Church. As usual, it contains a wealth of useful Diocesan information and a delightful read. Please pick up a copy as you leave the Church after Mass.

### ***Silver Jubilee of the Episcopal Ordination of Cardinal Vincent Nichols***

We extend our warmest congratulations to Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster, who celebrated his **Silver Jubilee of Episcopal Ordination** on Monday 23 January 2017. *(Fr Bob Davies)*