

Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Simon Stock

Carmelite Church 41 Kensington Church St., London W8 4BB

Phone No. 0207 937 9866 www.carmelitechurch.org

Mass Times Vigil Sat 6.00 p.m. Sunn: 8.30 a.m. , 10.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. (Choir) 12.15 p.m. & 6.00 p.m.

Weekdays Masses: 8.00 a.m., 12.15 p.m. & 6.00 p.m.

Confessions: Sat 10.30 - 11.30 a.m. & 5.00 p.m. - 5.50 p.m. Weekdays 5.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Priests of the Parish

Fr Christopher Clarke ODC (Prior & Parish Priest) Fr Alexander Ezechukwu ODC

Fr John McGowan, Fr. Tijo Xavier ODC

Safegurading Persons

Franca Bren & Teresa Lynch

5th Sunday of Eastertide

10th May 2020

Live Stream Mass from the Parish

Thankfully we have arranged to have the 12.15 p.m. Mass lived streamed from the parish each day including Sundays.

You can login at www.carmelitechurch.org.

or You Tube Kensington Carmelite Parish

Opening Prayer

Almighty and ever living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal. Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Psalm 32

Response:

**May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.**

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed lute give him praise R/

For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. R/

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. R/



Alleluia Alleluia

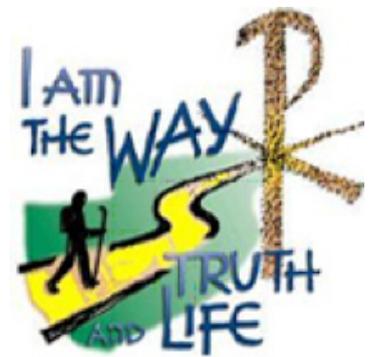
Jesus said; 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.
No one can come to the Father except through me.'
Alleluia



Gospel According to John 14:1-12

Jesus said, "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God. And trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house. I would not tell you this if it were not true. I am going there to prepare a place for you. After I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back. Then I will take you to be with me so that you may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to Jesus, "Lord, we don't know where you are going. So how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way. And I am the truth and the life. The only way to the Father is through me. If you really knew me, then you would know my Father, too. But now you do know him, and you have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father. Then we will be satisfied." Jesus

answered, "I have been with you a long time now. Do you still not know me, Philip? He who has seen me has seen the Father. So why do you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you don't come from me. The Father lives in me, and he is doing his own work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or believe because of the miracles I have done. I tell you the truth. He who believes in me will do the same things that I do. He will do even greater things than these because I am going to the Father.



Reflection

"Show us the Father and then we will be satisfied"

It is often thought that faith was easier for those who accompanied Our Lord in his public ministry. Yet we see from the Gospels that this was not so. They were in fact the ones who deserted him, denied him and betrayed him. Our Lord himself on occasions found them dense. 'How long must I put up with you,' he said, 'do you still not understand?' "You have eyes and you cannot see, you have ears and you cannot hear."

They had their own understanding of what a Messiah should be and this clouded their ability to perceive what Our Lord came into the world to reveal. Even those closest to him were confused. When the twelve-year-old Jesus, after his first pilgrimage to Jerusalem, remained behind in the

temple and Mary, after a long search chided him, he coolly responded : “How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be about my Father’s business? (Lk 2:49-50).

The accounts of his three years of public ministry are peppered with incidents of misunderstanding and incomprehension. ‘O foolish ones....so slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer and enter into his glory.’ (Lk 24:25-26)

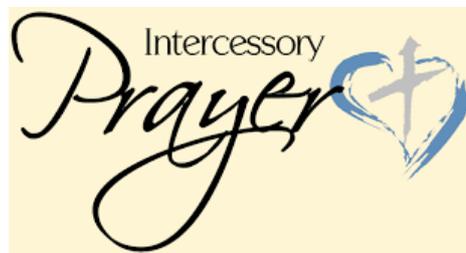
It is therefore important to ask ourselves why did Jesus come and what was his purpose in coming into the world? An answer to these questions will give direction to our lives, give clarity to the road that the Gospel invites us to take, to the life we must embrace and to the peace that Christ promised.

Jesus never claimed to be the point of our pilgrimage. Rather he claimed to be the Way. The way to the Father. Jesus is the Light of the World. A light that is filtered to the vision of the human eye. He reveals the Father through a lens dimmed to our capacity. Our human eyes are incapable of beholding the Glory of God. Here below we live by faith. Faith invites us to make our own the request of Philip “Lord let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.” To have the mind of Jesus is to have his vision, his eyes. Eyes that were always focused on the Father. This is the vision that he wants to give us. In today's Gospel Our Lord expresses surprise when Philip asked “Let us see the Father ...have you been with me all this time, Philip,” said Jesus to him ‘and you still do not know me? To see me is to see the Father.’”

Is it possible that we have never asked Our Lord in prayer ‘to see the Father’? The Father is central to Our Lord’s life and mission. Without the Father we cannot make sense of our Lord’s life. We do well to reflect on the words of St. John of the Cross when he wrote “I see that Christ is very little known by those who think themselves his friends.” Yes, to be in the company of Our Lord is to hold ourselves before a great mystery. To lose that sense of mystery is to lose the eyes of a child who always asks questions, who is always on a journey of discovery, who has a sense of wonder. Again, St. John of the Cross writes; “There is much to fathom in Christ, he is like a huge mine with seam after seam of treasures. However deeply you dig, never will you find an end or come to a conclusion.” It was this sense of wonder that Our Lord aroused in Philip to request: “Let us see the Father and then we will be satisfied. ” Philip perceived that his peace depended on knowing the Father

There is a discontent in the human person and it manifests itself in our inability to be at peace in Our Father’s house. The parable of the prodigal Son is a warning to us of the blindness that can keep us from seeing what should be obvious to us. Both sons in the parable failed to appreciate the privilege of living in their Father's house. One left for what he perceived as a better life in a foreign land before he came to his senses. While the other remained at home full of resentment and bitterness.

Our Lord lived a radical life that is captured in his words “I come not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.” He formed and shaped his life by obedience to the will of his Father. Wherever that happens in people's lives, there peace reigns and there Our Lord takes delight. There his prayer of thanksgiving is said: “I thank you Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for hiding these things from the wise and clever and revealing them to mere children, for that is what it pleases you to do” (Lk 10:21).



Priest... Gathered together as a people in need, with humble hearts we pray to God the Father to guide us on the path that leads to truth and life.

Reader: . . . We pray for all who are anxious about the future, that they may find guidance and peace in Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. . . . Lord, hear us.

Rd. . . . We pray for those who feel alienated from the Church: may they encounter God's love and know that they are welcome within this Christian family. . . . Lord, hear us.

Rd. . . . We pray for those who cannot be joyful or thankful because they are broken with grief or suffering. . . Lord, hear us.

Rd. . . . We pray for ourselves, and all our needs, remembering especially those who are unwell or lonely: may we all know the comfort and healing of God's Spirit in this life. . . Lord, hear us.

Rd. . . . We pray for our dead who have gone before us in faith, we pray for Fr Stan Callnan, Michael Orofino who died recently and those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Keith Middleton, John Richard & Margaret, Edward Mannion and the deceased members of the Sharpin family, may they share the fullness of life Christ has won for them. . . . Lord, hear us.

Priest... Father, you have a place for us in your house, prepared by Jesus Christ. Fit us for your kingdom, helping us always to work for your glory. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Our Father

Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and
unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Closing Prayer

Graciously be present to you people, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of Life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord

Notices

Live Stream Mass from the Parish

Thankfully we have arranged to have the 12.15 p.m. Mass lived streamed from the parish each day including Sundays. You can login at www.carmelitechurch.org. or You Tube Kensington Carmelite Parish

Live Stream Mass on Thursdays at 7 p.m.

The bishops in England and Wales have informed us that every Thursday evening, at 7pm, a bishop, in turn, will celebrate Mass in his cathedral, live streamed, for all those frontline workers in the NHS and care homes, for the sick and their families. This will begin next Thursday (23rd April). The Bishops have asked that every priest would celebrate Mass for this same intention each Thursday.

Share the Newsletter

If you have been receiving the Newsletter from 'enquiries'. Please now register directly on the website. www.carmelitechurch.org. The relevant button is at the top of the HOMEPAGE. You may unsubscribe at any time.

Support Your Parish

Dear Friends,

As it seems the Lockdown will continue for sometime into the future and we are without our weekly collections we will need your help to keep the usual bills paid.

We are grateful to those who since the lockdown have sent cheques, their weekly envelope and those who have used the standing order and bank transfer.

I remind those who use the weekly envelopes that the new boxes are available which we can post to you on request. If you wish do a bank transfer our bank details are:

Bank Address: RBS, 78 Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3HP

Account Name: The Community of the Order of Discalced Carmelite Priory Current Account

Bank Code 16 00 82

Account No: 11531232

BIC: RBOS BG 2L

IBAN: GB91 RBOS1600 8211 5312 32

We remind those who pay tax that you can gift aid your donation.

Thanking you and assuring you of a place in our Prayers and Masses

Fr Christopher odc.