

# 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](http://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

## Safeguarding Persons

Franca Bren & Teresa Lynch

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## **6th Sunday of Eastertide**

**17th 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](http://www.carmelitechurch.org).  
or **You Tube Kensington Carmelite Parish**

### Opening Prayer

Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honour of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do,. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

### **First Reading**

#### **Psalm 65**

**Response: Cry out with joy to God all the earth.**

Cry out with joy all the earth,  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise.  
Say to:god "how tremendous your deeds! /R

before you all the earth shall bow;  
shall sing to you, sing to your name!  
Come and see the works of God,  
tremendous his deeds among men. /R

He turned the sea into dry land,  
they pass through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him;  
he rules for ever by his might. ?R



Come and hear, all who fear.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from him. /R

## Second Reading

### Be Ready To Answer

1 Peter 3:15

"but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;"

### A reading from the first letter of St. Peter

In your hearts reverence Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to make a defence to any one who calls you to account for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence; and keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are abused, those who revile your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing right, if that should be God's will, than for doing wrong. For Christ also died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

### The Word of the Lord

## Alleluia

'Jesus said if anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.'

## Alleluia



## Gospel

### A Reading from the Gospel according to John

"If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realise that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

### The Gospel of the Lord

## Reflection:

Over the past weeks we have Our Lord speaking to us about The Father. As we approach the Feast of Pentecost we will hear him speak more of the Holy Spirit. At the same time the first readings are taken from the Acts of the Apostles. A book written by St. Luke and often referred to as the Gospel of the Spirit. It details an account of the preaching of the Apostles who received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. These men who after the crucifixion were so frightened and afraid that they hid themselves for fear they would be known as companions of Our Lord Jesus.



The experience of the Risen Lord on Easter Morning and the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost brought about a miraculous change in them. A new reality was born in them. They now saw clearly what Our Lord tried to communicate to them over the three years of his public ministry. No longer did they seek after a worldly Messiah but one who came to serve and to reveal to them the inner life of God and to know Our Lord Jesus as the Way to participate in the life of God. What were confusing statements of Our Lord, through the light of the Holy Spirit became clear to them. In particular his words: “It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. (Jn16:7) and “he will lead you into the whole Truth.” (Jn16:13). These words of Our Lord apply to all the baptised and indeed to all people of good will who in their life search for the truth. Who discover the mystery of finding their lives by giving them away. All Christian vocations whether we have chosen to live as a single person, married or choose religious life is about giving ourselves as a gift and resisting the temptation of taking back the gift we have given. In this giving of ourselves we reflect the giving of Christ Jesus.

It is this that should amaze us when we read the Acts of the Apostles which records the manner of life lived by those who previously denied, abandoned, betrayed and in the case of St. Paul who persecuted the first Christians. How they went on to witness to Our Lord and die as martyrs for the Gospel.

Our Lord knew from his own temptations in the desert, the temptations of all humanity. It is interesting to note that the Gospel tells us that Jesus “prompted by the Spirit went into the desert.” (Mk1:12) If he needed the Holy Spirit to live a truly human life, a good life, so do we. Jesus is constantly promoting us to open ourselves up to that Spirit, saying to us: “Receive the Holy Spirit.” So we need to be praying ‘Come Holy Spirit fill our hearts and kindly in us the fire of your divine love.’ We need the Holy Spirit because we are called not simply to live a human life but a human life that is touched by the divine. Cardinal Newman defined a rationalist “as a man who makes himself his own centre not his maker” and ever since the fall of the first man, such self-centring has afflicted human life.

Again, we are reminded by St. John Henry Newman that the most important part of the Church is what is hidden. I believe he is referring to the action of the Spirit in the hearts of the baptised. This is where we are really challenged to overcome our weak human nature. To depend on the power of God to transform our lives and bring us to true freedom. For freedom has to be set free by the truth, The Blessed Virgin Mary met the challenge to embrace her own calling. At first she could not understand how she was to undertake what was asked of her. She asked the Angel - How can this be? The Angel replied, “the Holy Spirit will come upon you Mary and the power of the Most High

will cover you with his shadow.” Then she spoke those words that changed the course of humanity: “let what you have said be done unto me.”

It is indeed difficult to pin down the Spirit. Its like the wind. It blows where it wills. Yet we can recognise it. I believe all people of good will recognise it when on Thursday nights they lean out of their windows of their flats and come out to the door to clap and cheer the frontline worker in the NHS.

Come Holy Spirit fill the hearts of the Faithful  
and enkindle in them the Fire of Divine Love



**Celebrant:** ... We bring before the Lord our needs, asking that we may be transformed through the guidance and the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Reader:** ... We pray that the Church may always be receptive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and seek his guidance in decisions and actions. . . Lord, hear us.

**Rd.** ... We pray for Christians who are persecuted for their faith in our world today: may they find strength in the Holy Spirit and safety and support in their communities. . . Lord, hear us.

**Rd.** ... We pray that our homes may be places of peace and harmony, where parents seek to guide their children in the ways of truth and love. . . Lord, hear us.

**Rd.** . . . We pray for all those who are doing examinations: may the Holy Spirit inspire them, ease their anxiety, and grant them success. . . . Lord, hear us.

**Rd.** ... We pray for all who are alone, especially for those who are ill, we remember those who are afflicted with the Corona Virus: may the Holy Spirit comfort them in their loneliness, and move us to show love and care for all who suffer. . . Lord, hear us.

**Rd.** ... We pray for all who died recently remembering: Mary Nortor, Sr. Maria Bernarda Concilio, Sr. Maria Celcilia Berra, Sr. Mary Guadalupe Martinez , Jean de Chantilly and those who died from the Corona Virus and for those whose anniversaries occur, may they enjoy Christ’s gift of peace and eternal rest. . . Lord, hear us.

**Celebrant:** ... Lord, hear our prayer for the gift of your life-giving Spirit. Enlighten us with your truth, and unite us in your love and service. 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**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ,  
Increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal nSacrament and pour into our hearts the  
strength of this saving for.  
Through Christ our Lord

### Prayer for the Novena of Pentecost 23rd May - 31st May

Come down, O Love divine,  
Seek thou this soul of mine,  
And visit it with thine own ardor glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near,  
Within my heart appear,  
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,  
Till earthly passions turn  
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
And let thy glorious light  
Shine ever on my sight,  
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

And so the yearning strong,  
With which the soul will long,  
Shall far out pass the power of human telling;  
For none can guess its grace,  
Till Love create a place  
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

# Notices

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## **Share the Newsletter**

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

## **On Line Pentecost Retreat 23rd May - 31st May 2020**

**Our mailing address is:**

Centre for

Applied Carmelite Spirituality

Carmelite Priory, Boars Hill, Oxford UK  
OX1 5HB

**07849 596572**

For Online Retreat, email: [online-retreat@oxcacs.org](mailto:online-retreat@oxcacs.org)

**For courses and Live-Stream, email: [inquiries@oxcacs.org](mailto:inquiries@oxcacs.org)**

## **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 Account**

**Bank Code 16 00 82**

**Account No: 11531232**

**BIC: RBOS BG 2L**

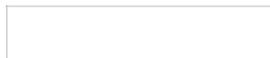
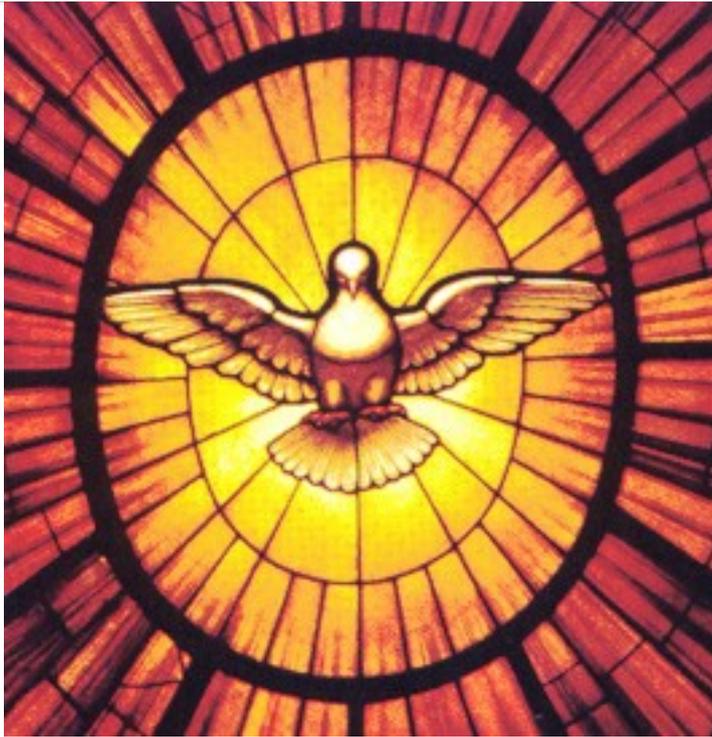
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**We remind those who pay tax that you can gift aid your donation.**

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

**Fr Christopher odc.**

***Centre for Applied Carmelite Spirituality, Boars Hill, Oxford***



# **EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT'S BREATH**

## **AN ONLINE PENTECOST RETREAT 23-31 May 2020**

**After Easter the Lord Jesus said to the disciples: “And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven. (Luke 24:29)”. How do we wait? Who can help us to prepare to receive this precious gift that empowers us to live each day with peace and joy and freedom that nothing in the world can give us? And when we have received the Father’s gift, how do we allow it to transform us into a gift for others?**

**This nine-day retreat will prepare you for Pentecost and help you understand how to cultivate the gifts of the spirit in you so that your life will be a living expression of the fruitfulness of the Spirit and in turn the Father's gift to the world.**

## DAILY THEMES

***Brought to you online. Pick up your daily email and link to the oxcacs website and find information about audio, video and live-stream times.***

**Day 1: May 23 – Saturday –**  
***With God and for God: St Teresa's understanding of personal transformation***

**Day 2: May 24 – Sunday –**  
***The Gift of Knowledge: Living in the Truth of God***

**Day 3: May 25 – Monday –**  
***The Gift of Understanding and Our Growth in Holiness***

**Day 4: May 26 – Tuesday –**  
***The Gift of Counsel and the Illuminating Work of the Holy Spirit***

**Day 5: May 27 –**  
***Wednesday – The Gift of Courage: Infusion of the Holy Spirit's Reinforcement***

**Day 6: May 28 –**  
***Thursday – The Gift of Wisdom: Insights from the Carmelite Tradition***

**Day 7: May 29 –**  
***Friday – The Gift of Piety: God's invitation to friendship***

**Day 8: May 30 –**  
***Saturday – Fear of the Lord: Growing in intimacy with the Lord***

**Day 9: May 31 –**  
***Sunday – Conclusion***

