

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)

**New Mass Times:** Sun: Sat Vigil 6.00 p.m. Sun. 8.30 a.m. 10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m. & 6.00 p.m.

**Weekday:** 8.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m. & 6.00 p.m.

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

**Priests in the Parish**

Fr Christopher Clarke odc (Prior & Parish Priests) Fr Alexander Ezechukwu odc,

Fr John McGowan, Fr Tijo Xavier odc

**Safeguarding Persons**

Franca Bren & Teresas Lynch

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**18th Sunday of the Year- 2nd August 2020**

The prophet Isaiah is writing to the Jews at a time of great calamity – the Babylonian captivity. They have neither temple in Jerusalem nor the Promised Land: and God's presence has become a faded memory. Using imagery of want as experienced through hunger, thirst and poverty, the prophet tells them that their deepest need, which is for God, will be generously met. But they must turn to God.

Their exile will soon be over. The happy future that awaits them is symbolised by a plentiful supply of food and drink. Throughout the Scriptures food and drink symbolise God's abundant graciousness.

The messianic banquet, promised by Isaiah, has its fulfilment in Jesus. It is obvious that the people of Israel realise that Jesus is someone special. He cures the sick; he speaks with wisdom, authority and authenticity. They want to see him and hear him. So crowds gather.

Jesus heard the tragic news that John the Baptist had been murdered. He decides to slip across the Lake of Galilee for a little peace and quiet. The pain of grief needs attention. But the determined crowds seek him out.

Jesus is moved with compassion and reaches out to a people in need. He cures their sick; he preaches the word of life; and he feeds them. In today's Gospel reading we see the miracle of God's blessing on human generosity. The compassionate response of Jesus to the human need for food brought about the miracle of abundance. This miracle of abundance points to the word and sacrament, to the Eucharist, where Christ's total gift of himself in his death and resurrection is celebrated.

In the Eucharist the Bread of Life is given to countless multitudes, and in the breaking of the Bread of the Word one finds nourishment for earthly and eternal life.

The gift of God in Christ is the model of all gifts. It responds to our deepest needs, and gives us an example to follow, for in responding to the needs of others, the gift of God takes effect in ourselves. The Lord not only invites us here to be nourished at his table, but he sends us forth to give as we have received, to forgive as we have been forgiven, and to love as we have been loved. The Eucharist calls us to become the bread of God in a spiritually impoverished world.

## Notices

### **Last Weeks Collections**

Collection £865, Gift Aid Envelopes £208, Standing Orders £582. We are gratefully to all for your generosity.

### **Dr Scott Hahn: The Word of God for a World in Pain**

8th August (15:00 BST) Live Stream See Notice Board for details.

### **Praying for the Dead**

We remember all who died over the past months and we pray especially for all who died recently: Paddy Burke, John Benjamin & Kevin Packenham and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Kathleen Jennings. May they know that peace Our Lord promised.

### **Church Opening Times**

Monday: 7.45 a.m. - 9.00 a.m. 11.30a.m. - 1.00 p.m. & 4.30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.

Sundays:8.15a.m- 9.00a.m. / 9.30a.m.-11.00a.m. / 11.30a.m. - 1.00p.m. / 4.30-6.45 p.m.

### **Supporting our Parish**

We express our gratitude to all who supported the Parish financially during the Lockdown. These are difficult and uncertain times and we appreciate the sacrifices you have made. Those who may not have had the opportunity to contribute over the past months are encourage to contribute what they can.

You are encouraged to use the Standing Order method of payment as it avoids the handling of cash with its obvious dangers in these days of the Corona Virus. There is a form at the back of the Church which you are invited to complete and return to the Parish.

Those who have not collected their Gift Aid Boxes can do so from the back of the Church. For those who may wish to make a Bank Transfer, the following are the details you require:Bank Address: RBS, 78 Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3HP

Account Name: The Community of the Order of Discalced Carmelite PrioryAccount

Bank Code 16 00 82 Account No: 11531232.