



SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

11th Sunday of the Year A

Sunday 18th June 2023

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL & ST SIMON STOCK, CARMELITE CHURCH

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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.

Weekdays (including Bank Holidays): 8.00 a.m., 12.15 p.m. & 6.00 p.m.

Livestream (All Masses): www.carmelitechurch.org & YouTube: "Kensington Carmelite Church"

Confessions: Sat: 11.30 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. & 5.00 - 5.50 p.m. Weekdays: 5.40 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Priests in the Parish: Fr Thaddeus Ekuma ocd, Fr Matt Blake ocd,

Fr Tijo Xavier ocd, Fr Theophilus Nyamali, ocd

Safeguarding Reps: Franca Bren

Reflection

You are the Chosen Ones!

A Homily by a Carmelite Priest

As those called by God to be his followers, God our Father wants us to be united with Him through Jesus, his son. In the First Reading, we hear about the biblical chosen people, all that God did for them. He did all that for them because he wanted to show them that he is their Lord and they are his chosen ones. Today, we are the "consecrated nation" of the 21st century. Tribal boundaries are not now the measure of those who have been chosen. All of us who desire it have inherited the place in God's kingdom. He is telling us all "You are mine".

Because God had chosen his people, he sent his Son to help them find salvation. For them, and us, he came, lived, and died. As St Paul writes in the Second Reading, it is hard to imagine why someone would want to die for another person. Certainly, for someone really worthy, a person might choose to die. Or for one's child.

But who would choose to die to help someone who was a worthless sinner?

Yet, that is just what Jesus did. Although we are all still sinners, he went ahead. St Paul makes the logical deduction: if Christ has gone to his death for us to be reconciled to the Father, then surely by his resurrection we have been saved. The resurrection is the great gift to us from the Father. Jesus has, through his death and rising, given us the security of love, peace, and hope.

The Gospel shows us the character of Jesus. As he looks around at the harassed crowd, he feels compassion and pity. He sees a leaderless people, lost, unsure. They need help, so he gives them twelve leaders. And, to those twelve, his instructions are simple. To continue looking after the people as he has done – cure,

exorcise, proclaim the Kingdom. To those who have been given the Faith freely, he expects it to be passed on freely. To all, for all, and to become one in Him.

The great message of our calling is that we need not fear. Everything is in the hands of God. This is the God who rescued his people from slavery through Moses. He has rescued us from the slavery of sin through Jesus. Having been saved, we must now go out and save others. We must take the Good News of salvation to the world.

God has given us a deal. If we keep the Faith with Him, then we will be a special people. Through us and our descendants the world will be saved. He has put us first, we are asked to put Him first.

Perhaps we sometimes take the death and resurrection of Christ for granted. We have known about it

for so long. Nothing in the story seems new anymore. It is hard to Imagine the world before it took place. Yet, Jesus did not need to come and save us. He did not have to do it. Is there anyone who is worth saving? Has there ever been anyone worth saving?

Even while Moses was with God on Mount Sinai, the Jews were forgetting all about the Father and beginning to worship the calf of gold that they had made. That is just a small example of the way that

humanity has treated the Creator. Just Imagine our fate if the Father had decided not to bother with us. Not to send his Son at all. Leaving us on our own. We could hardly blame him, if we see what has been done to this planet by humanity. But no, God loves us so much that despite our behaviour he still sent Jesus to bring salvation. Jesus then gave himself totally to us.

If God has done that for us worthless people, then we should celebrate our good fortune. We

have done nothing to deserve such treatment. What a free and undeserved gift we have been given! We should not be able to believe our fortune. What joy should we show to such a Father! We should place our trust in Him absolutely. We cannot thank Him enough. All We can do is to respond to his call We have been made a consecrated people. We are His. Let us try to become a little more worthy of that love.

NOTICES

DAY FOR LIFE

This Sunday is the Day for Life – a day set aside to pray for and celebrate life from conception to natural death.
We've been asked to take a second collection at all Masses to help those who work to promote the value of life.

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL

16th July is the Celebration of the Solemnity of Our Lady of Mt Carmel – the Patroness of our Church as well as the Carmelite Order.
This year, together with the Parish celebration we are blessed with the Solemn Profession of two Carmelite brothers on that day. Please save the date.

ANNIVERSARIES OF ST THERESE 2023 – 2025



In 2023 we will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Theresia of the Child Jesus (January 2nd, 1873), as well as the first centenary of her beatification (April 29, 1923) and, in 2025, the first centenary of her canonization (May 17, 1925). For this occasion, Carmelites all over the world are

engaging in a cycle of reading of the writings of Saint Theresia.

Each year, 8 selected texts will be proposed. They will be accompanied by a brief comment and some

questions aimed at stimulating reflection and dialogue. The main objective is to make us aware of the relevance of the experience and message of Theresia of the Child Jesus for us today. For this year, we are focusing on reading and reflection on the Autobiographical Manuscripts and other writings of Theresia.

Dates for our Reading and Reflection:

July 11th and 25th	- 7.00pm in the Hall
August 8th and 22nd	- 7.00pm in the Hall
Sept. 12th and 26th	- 7.00pm in the Hall
Oct. 10th and 24th	- 7.00pm in the Hall

**To make your Sunday offering, please scan this QR Code
With your mobile phone**



Thank you and God bless!

<u>Collections Last Sunday</u>	Offering	£1357
	Gift Aid Envelopes	£98

Thank you for your generosity!

Fr Thaddeus