



SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

32nd Sunday *Dedication of the Lateran Basilica* 9th November 2025

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. Mon – Fri: 5.40 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Priests in the Parish: Fr Thaddeus Ekuma ocd, Fr Matt Blake ocd,
Fr John Williamson ocd, Fr Joseph Odiahi, ocd, Fr Bartholomew Senewo, ocd, Fr Anthony
Parsons, ocd & Fr Deepu Daniel, ocd

Safeguarding Rep: Franca Bren

Reflection

A REASON TO HOPE

Today is Remembrance Sunday – the Sunday that is closest to Remembrance Day November 11th. It was originally known as Armistice Day, commemorating the armistice of November 11th, 1918, which brought an end to World War One [eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month]. It was a day to honour and pray for the soldiers who died in the war. Later it was extended to include World War Two and now it includes those who have died in all conflicts.

One of the changes that the wars of the 20th century brought about is that now very many, and sometimes the majority, of the victims of war are no longer soldiers but civilians – women, children, the elderly, the poor, the vulnerable, etc. We see this in the wars currently taking place in Ukraine and Palestine and indeed everywhere in our world where there is war and conflict. The

methods of war have changed and so also have the consequences. The consequences of modern warfare affect everyone and devastate our planet.

At the end of the First World War, they said it was the "War to end all Wars". They could not have imagined that in a little over twenty years the world will be at war again, a conflict even greater than the one just ended, and here are we over a hundred years later living in a world afflicted by new wars and conflicts. The twentieth century has been described as the "bloodiest in human history" – we are nearly a quarter of the way through the 21st century, will it be different?

Today it is right and appropriate that we remember and honour the sacrifices, the courage, the generosity of those who have gone before us; soldiers and civilians,

people of all races and backgrounds, young and old. We pray for those who have died, we pray for those who are in grief and for those enduring horrific and life changing injuries.

St. Paul reminds us that "We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. So, we shall stay with the Lord forever. With thoughts such as these you should comfort one another". Let us pray trusting in the hope that Jesus Christ has given us.

This is not a time to lose hope. This is a day to pray for peace, to pray for an end to all conflict and divisions, to pray for a new way of living in unity and understanding among all peoples. This is a day to believe in the power of prayer, to believe that our prayer makes a

difference. It is easier to start wars than it is to promote and nurture peace. We must do all we can to support and encourage all who work for peace; they are heroes also, no less than those who give their lives in warfare.

Today we live in a world that is not just threatened by war, there are other equally important threats: climate change, poverty, inequality, oppressive regimes, and a disregard

for human dignity – this list could go on forever. These are all threats to our future and the future of the planet God gave us responsibility for. It is right that we remember, honour, and give thanks to those who have gone before us; but we must also take responsibility for the world we are passing on to those who come after us. Will they remember our heroism in caring for the environment? Our heroism in making the sacrifices necessary to

bring about world peace? Our heroism and generosity in sharing the goods of the world with everyone? Our courage in promoting the dignity, freedom, and welfare of all people? How will we be remembered is a question we could reflect upon today!

*To follow the
Mass Readings
on your phone,
please scan the
QR Code:*



NOTICES

NOVEMBER – MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

Throughout November, we will remember in a special way and pray for our dead relatives and Friends. The **envelopes for November Dead List are available at the back of the church.** Please place your list in the envelop and drop it in any of the offering boxes where it can be collected and placed in front of the altar, or give to one of the priests.

TAIZÉ PILGRIMAGE FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Taizé Pilgrimage for Young Adults (aged 18-35) in Paris with the Assumption group from 28 Dec 2025 to 1 Jan 2026. The Taizé European Meeting is a "Pilgrimage of trust on Earth" gathering thousands of young people for prayer, reflection, and community. Cost: €110 + travel. Register by 15th November, for more information visit www.assumpta-eu.org/taize-pilgrimage. Email rebecca@assumpta-eu.org

THE SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND COLLECTION IS NEXT WEEK

The second collection next week will be for the sick and retired priests of our Diocese. Most priests offer their resignation at 75, but many continue to serve in our schools, hospitals, hospices and parishes. Last year, the Diocese of Westminster provided care to **73** retired priests, at a cost of **£1,270,000**. Caring for our brother priests in their senior years, or at a time of illness, is a fundamental part of the mission of our diocese. By supporting the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund, you can help cover essential costs and give them peace of mind that in the event of an emergency, their needs will be met.

ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC GRAMMAR SCHOOL, NORTH FINCHLEY - 'INTO THE SIXTH' OPEN EVENING - THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER 6-8PM

The Sixth Form at St Michael's is a place where the pursuit of academic excellence and academic curiosity are at the heart of all we do. The school was recently named the second best state school in the country, and the best in London, in the 2025 Daily Telegraph Best Schools Guide. We look forward to welcoming you to our Open Evening when you will have the opportunity to listen to subject specific talks and a talk by the Headteacher, Mr Stimpson. You can register to attend via this link ['Into the Sixth' Open Evening Registration](#) but are also welcome to turn up on the night.

**You may make your offering or donation by scanning this
QR Code with your mobile phone
Thank you and God bless!**



Collections Last Sunday

Offering	£1886
Gift Aid Envelopes	£245

Thank you for your generosity!

Fr Thaddeus