



SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

Easter Sunday

5th April 2026

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 Yamai Bature OCD

Safeguarding Rep: Franca Bren

Reflection

RESURRECTION

We hear the following in the Gospel of St. Mark: "As they came down from the mountain, he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean." [Mark 9: 9-10]. Disciples [and many others] ever since have discussed what "rising from the dead" could mean but just like the first disciples we will never get to a satisfactory answer. Belief in the Resurrection is the foundation and heart of our Christian faith – we are Christians because we believe in the Resurrection. However, we will never be able to explain that belief, and we do not need to.

St. Paul puts it very strongly when writing the new Christians of Corinth: "If there is no resurrection of the dead, Christ himself cannot

have been raised, and if Christ has not been raised then our preaching is useless, and your believing it, is useless. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people." Paul knows that everything he believes, teaches, and does, depends totally on the fact that Jesus has risen from the dead. It is the resurrection that gives meaning to the birth, life, work, preaching, suffering and death of Jesus. Likewise, it is the resurrection that gives meaning and value to the whole life of the Church, and to the life of each individual believer.

Two fundamental points are made by Jesus to his first disciples in the text quoted above from Mark's Gospel: Firstly, nothing that Jesus says or does, and nothing that the disciples experience, can be explained without the Resurrection. Secondly, the Resurrection will

always remain beyond the boundaries of human knowledge and understanding, in other words, it always remains a profound mystery. St. John's Gospel tells us that two disciples entered an empty tomb and "they saw and they believed" [John 20: 8]. The empty tomb is the cradle of Christianity – from it we receive the meaning of all life in this world; and it points us to the reality of a life that is beyond our sight and comprehension in a world we know nothing of. As we read above from St. Paul our hope in Jesus Christ is not for this life only – he describes those whose hope is only for this life as "unfortunate people".

Our hope is for the life that those two disciples got the slightest glimpse of in that empty tomb. Two thousand years of Christianity has been built on what they "saw and believed" that day. Something of

the experience of that empty tomb has touched each one of us. The resurrection is real and personal. There is a great emptiness where we look for explanations and justifications, but there is also something beyond knowledge and words, that draws us with a force we cannot resist or say no to.

To describe this compelling experience of the resurrection, St

Luke tells us of about the disciples of Jesus on their road to Emmaus: *"Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"* This was their description of their experience of the resurrection. It was such a powerful force that they immediately changed their itinerary in order to spread the good news to the other disciples.

Today let us look beyond the horizon of all the emptiness of our lives and our world; and see a life and a world that the Resurrection of Jesus Christ enables us to see through the eyes of faith.

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



NOTICES

A WORD OF THANKS

The Carmelite Community wishes to thank you all who have helped in various ways to make our Lenten and Easter celebrations fruitful. Thanks to all the readers who helped to proclaim the Word of God to us. Thanks to the altar servers who helped to make our liturgies run smoothly. Thanks to the choirs for all the singing throughout this season. Thanks to those who have helped with our digital screen. Thanks to all the collectors and welcomers. Thanks to each one of you who have helped in any way to facilitate our liturgies. Finally, thanks to you all who have participated actively in our various liturgies. And thank you for your generous donations to the poor during Lent as well as your Easter gifts to the priests. May you all receive the blessings of Easter flowing from Jesus' resurrection.

EASTER WEEK

*Please Note: During Easter week, Masses
will be at 8.00am, 12.15pm & 6.00pm.
Adoration will be in the evening only from
5.00pm. There will be no confessions except
by appointment. Thank you*

PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE, IRELAND: MONDAY 1ST - FRIDAY 5TH JUNE 2026

Flight from Heathrow to Knock Airport; we will stay in Knock, near the Shrine, and visit various holy sites nearby, including Croagh Patrick, Ballintubber Abbey and the Fr Peyton Centre. Led by Fr Nigel Woollen, parish priest of Our Lady of Victories (Kensington) and former curate at Knock. £800/pp for flights, accommodation, transport and most meals.

Email: kensington1@rcdow.org.uk or visit: <https://www.ourladyofvictories.net/support.html> to express interest - places are limited!

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	£1892
Gift Aid Envelopes	£123

Thank you for your generosity

Fr Thaddeus