



Newsletter

**A PRAYING
COMMUNITY IN
LONDON SERVING
GOD'S PEOPLE**

www.carmelite.org

October- November 2013

Volume 6, Number 8

Editor: Kim Insley kim@shawfields.com

**Shawfields, 152 Cudham Lane North, Cudham,
Sevenoaks, Kent, TN14 7QT**

28 October 2013

Dear friends

Our year- long programme of reflections on the documents of the 2nd Vatican Council ended earlier this month when Brother Paul Jenkins O.Carm. came to our Carmel in the City meeting to share his thoughts about moving on from Vatican 2.

As we have discovered, the Church and the world have both changed a great deal in the 50 years since the Council. Paul used the description of the Cathedral to illustrate how he understands the Church: we look towards the altar as the focal point where we are fed and nourished by Word and Sacrament but the priest also looks beyond to the great West door where we meet with the world. Both are essential to our lives of faith. He reminded us that the Church, like the Cathedral, will always be Christ-centred but the way in which we, as the People of God, encounter and understand the world will constantly be changing as we meet and respond to the new challenges of our time.

Our Vatican 2 talks have raised a lot of interesting points for discussion and what these mean for us as we live out our vocation to Carmel. We will try to follow up on some of these points in the new year and we are contacting various speakers who we hope will be able to come to talk to us. I will let you have details as soon as they are confirmed.

Another new development is our own website www.carmelinthecity.org.uk which should go live very soon. You will find the newsletters on there and other information which I hope will be interesting and useful.

You may have noticed that this newsletter is for 2 months, October and November. Both Martin and I are joining the Romero Trust pilgrimage to El Salvador in November and we will not be returning until the weekend before our December meeting. This will not leave time to write the newsletter therefore November- December information is included here. Please keep all those going on the pilgrimage in your prayers. It is a very moving and, at times, a very sad experience, as we visit places associated with the lives and deaths of Archbishop Oscar Romero and the other Salvadorean martyrs. But my lasting memory from our previous pilgrimage, 3 years ago, is of meeting so many inspiring people who asked us to tell their stories and whose own lives are full of faith and hope in Resurrection.

November is traditionally the month when we pray for our relatives and friends who have died. Fr Francis Kemsley O.Carm. will celebrate Mass for them when we meet on 2nd November. If you wish to have any names mentioned during the Mass please let me know as soon as possible. In the afternoon, Ayuba Saleh, who has worked for many years as a nurse for people needing end of life care, will share some of his experience with us.

I look forward to seeing you on 2nd. All good wishes,

Sylvia e-mail: carmelinthecity@laycarmel.org

tel 07889 436165

Diary Dates

Forthcoming Feast Days

1st November

**All Saints,
Solemnity**

2nd November

**All Souls,
Commemoration**

9th November

**Dedication of
Lateran
Basilica**

14th November

**All Carmelite
Saints**

15th November

**All Carmelite
Souls**

*Please pray:
for those who have
died recently:
Agnes McGuire,
Patsy Cross; for all
our deceased
relatives and
friends; for the
martyrs of El
Salvador and all
victims of violence.*

*Eternal light grant
unto them O Lord
and let perpetual
light shine upon
them. May they rest
in peace.*

For the sick

*Martin's mother, Bill
Lucas, Mary Moss,
Ron Aldridge and all
in our families in
any kind of need,
that God will bless
them and restore
them to health and
happiness.*

Details of forthcoming events

29th October 6.30pm Westminster Abbey. Lecture by Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP. *A Disturbing Truth: The Church, the poor and Oscar Romero.*

4th-8th November Living Wage Week

11th- 23rd November Romero Trust Pilgrimage to El Salvador.

28th November 7.30pm at St Mary Magdalen's Church, Archway. North London Citizens Delegates' Assembly. St. Joseph's parishioners and Carmel in the City members are working together with others to improve local facilities and to make our community safer.

Carmel in the City Meetings

2nd November 2013 All Souls.

10.30 am Formation Group meets in the hall. Continuing *Climbing the Mountain. Chapter 20. Commitment in Carmel.*

11.30am Mass. Fr Francis Kemsley O.Carm. Reception of Sue Abrahams into Third Order of Carmel.

1.30pm Afternoon session: *Care for the Dying with Ayuba Saleh and Fr Francis. Ending with Lectio Divina.*

7th December. Advent Penitential Service. A quiet day of reflection and prayer to prepare for Christmas.

4th January Celebrating Epiphany and Interfaith Dialogue.

1st February Candlemass. Fr Wilfrid McGreal O.Carm. will join us for our 6th Anniversary Mass

The Formation Group meets in the hall before our monthly meetings for discussion and reflection on aspects of Carmelite spirituality- what it is and how we can live it. It is important for anyone wishing to become a member of the Third Order of Carmel to take part but anyone is welcome to come along and listen.

Thought for the Month

'Together the living form with the dead one community of memory and hope, a holy people touched with the fire of the Spirit, summoned to go forth as companions bringing the face of divine compassion into everyday life and the great struggles of history, wrestling with evil, and delighting even now when fragments of justice, peace and healing gain however small a foothold.'

Elizabeth Johnson. *Friends of God and Prophets in Oscar Romero and the Communion of Saints.* Scott Wright 2009.