

# BOSTON CARMEL



# Newsletter

61 Mt. Pleasant Ave. Boston, MA 02119

For CARMEL'S BENEFACTORS, RELATIVES, & FRIENDS

Spring / Summer- 2004

[www.carmelitesofboston.org](http://www.carmelitesofboston.org)

## **WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD**

It is always good to give thanks to the Lord. Every moment, every season is appropriate. So, it was fitting on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November 2003 to be precise, for us to give God thanks, because on that day we were given a new Prioress, Sr. Eileen Mary of the Heart of Jesus. Because Sister is serving us so well in her new position, we are still giving Him thanks! As you well know, those in leadership positions today do not have an easy task, so your remembering Sister in prayer during these next three years would be very welcome.

## **OUR AUGUST SPECIAL**

We are preparing for a very special event on August 15. Yes, it is the solemnity of Mary's Assumption but we will also be celebrating the solemn profession of our Sr. Jeanne Marie of Merciful Love! This is such a wonderful event for a community, a gift so profound and wonderful from God who inspires and calls us and from the one who says "yes". We are all now busy as bees getting ready for this big day. Since we do not have access to a crystal ball, we will have to wait until our next newsletter to tell you about the celebration.

## **SHARE OUR JOY**

This year we are looking forward to the entrance of two postulants into our community! We cannot give you all the details yet so you will have to

read our next newsletter! (Sounds like a serial movie, doesn't it? Be sure not to miss the next episode?!)

## **WE HAD A PHEASANT**

Yes, we really did! Missy and Chacha, in their dog language of barking, alerted us to its presence. It was so beautiful sitting in one of our blue spruce trees. We would have been delighted if it decided to make its home in our garden. But alas, that was not to be. Later that very day, the same creatures who "told" us of its presence, removed it from the land of the living! We were so sad about its violent death.

## **FROM FAR AWAY**

Sr. Eve, a contemplative Anglican nun visited us in April. Sister befriended our Sr. Mary Elizabeth Stanton, now deceased, and wanted to renew contact with us. Sister's monastery is in Oxford, England. They are known as the Sisters of the Love of God. Besides looking to other traditions, they also look to our Carmelite saints for inspiration. One of the Sisters in her community wrote a book: **DOOR THROUGH DARKNESS** which is a fine commentary on St. John of the Cross. You might like to read it sometime.

On a Saturday in May we were privileged to have Mass celebrated by Bishop Arlingot from Cape Verde. He is the first Bishop of a new diocese just created there by Rome. His Mass with us was the first time

his Excellency celebrated Mass in English and he did extremely well. Fr. Ze, from St. Patrick's is very good friends with the Bishop and concelebrated with him.

## **EDUCATION MATTERS**

Every so often we are able to have some educational opportunities that come our way.

Sr. Eileen Mary and Sr. Mary Clare were able to go to a workshop on leadership development that was sponsored by one of the Carmelite Associations. The bonus part of this: it was held at Darien, Illinois where they have a wonderful shrine and relics of St. Therese. It was a very good spiritual and learning experience for them—and also a time of making and deepening relationships with other Carmelite Sisters.

Scattered throughout the year, as part of our formation program for new Sisters, we had lectures from many priests in the areas of Sacramental Theology, Patristics, Christology, Eschatology, Vatican II, and Canon Law. Sr. Marian from Barrington Carmel gave some historical input about Carmel.

All of us were blessed with input from Professor Maura Ryan, a bio-ethicist from Notre Dame who spoke about the human genome project and stem cell research. Such topics can be very difficult and challenging but she was able to deliver this information in a way we could all

understand. God bless her and all teachers who do so much for us by sharing their learning and research and opening our minds and hearts to the wonders and dangers of what we may be able to do in the worlds of technology and science.

### **WANT TO HELP ST. THERESE?**

We have mentioned the movie about St Therese before. Latest word is it will be released on October 1, her feast day! But help is needed. Maybe you can do one or more of the things listed:

TELL 10 FRIENDS TO HIT THE WEB-SITE AND REGISTER: [www.theresemovie.com](http://www.theresemovie.com).

(Distributors and cinema owners NOTICE when website activity is high. They need to know people are interested.)

VOLUNTEER to build support at churches, youth groups and conferences to get the word out that the movie THERESE is coming out this fall. Call 503-524-7760 for other ideas.

PRAY! That St. Luke Productions will succeed in bringing St. Therese to our world.

Wouldn't it be a blessing to have this kind of movie in our theatres to inspire people?

### **HOSPITAL VISIT**

This past Lent our Sister Catherine had 2 visits to the emergency room and then a hospital stay. Sister had some compression fractures and was in great pain. Eventually, a new procedure was performed on Sister called KYPHOPLASTY. It is a procedure that has a 95% success rate and, thank God, it was successful for our Sister. God bless all those at Carney Hospital who were so kind, compassionate and helpful to Sister.

### **COLLEGE VISITORS**

Once again we were privileged to host a visit from Sr. Mary Johnson, SND and students from her class at Emmanuel College. We were so

impressed with these students who were so oriented to helping others. What a wonderful example they were for us.

### **A PIECE OF HISTORY**

Some years ago, even before all the anxiety about closing parishes was in the air, St. Theresa's parish in Watertown was closed. We had a special link with that parish because it was founded by Fr. F. Rogers, the brother of Mother Aloysius, whose cause for beatification has been introduced in Rome. Mother entered our Carmel, and was Prioress here for many years before making a foundation in Concord, NH.

Father Rogers, established this parish in 1927, when he also acquired for the parish a unique statue of St. Therese modeled on one at her monastery in Lisieux.

We asked the Chancellor of the Archdiocese, Mr. David Smith, if we could have this statue for our monastery. He graciously gave permission and now we are happy to have this special piece of history in our chapel. The statue is very lovely and you will be able to see it if you come to our public celebration of St. Therese this year.

### **RENOVATION REPORT**

Our new bathroom is in use, ALLELUIA! Four more cells have been painted, ALLELUIA! More of our property walls have been pointed and made safe, ALLELUIA! We have a new storage area under our infirmary porch, ALLELUIA! Another portion of roof gutters has been installed, ALLELUIA!

Other things are being worked on, but not finished, so we are not ready to say 'alleluia' to them yet. Our prayer in their regard is: Lord, bring this work to completion, SOON! To let you know what is in the works: the tiling of the bathroom floor on our third floor area; plans are in process for our new fire alarm system; (parts are no longer

available to fix our old one, so....) The finishing of the trim and floor and putting in of the radiator, sink and ceiling light/fan in the 4 rooms just painted. The only reason we are able to get these things done is because of your generosity to us and bequests that have been given to us. May God reward each and all of you as only He can!

### **NAME THAT.....FROG!**

Did we ever tell you that we have a little fish pond? Year after year we hope our fish will survive the winter—and we try different things to make this possible. Once again, they did not survive, despite our efforts. BUT we have a frog that did! We decided to give him/her a name. These were some of the suggestions: Kiwi; Jumpin' Jimminy; Ripples; Rodney; Froggy; Ripley. Then one of the nuns came up with the winning name that pleased us all: Dunk-In, pronounced like Duncan. May he/she have a long life and catch many bad bugs for us!

### **OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL**

July gives us our biggest Carmelite solemnity: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Here are some facts that you may find interesting.

Spain and ALL the countries of South America are dedicated to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

Three crowns of gold adorn the Madonna of the Scapular in Malta. This was the first Madonna to be solemnly crowned by the Holy See. Our Lady of the Scapular is the QUEEN OF ARABIA!

Our Lady of Carmel is not only Queen of Chile, she is also General of the Army!

As you can see, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is a very busy Patroness! During our novena we pray for all of you and your intentions. May she show you a mother's love and bring all of us closer to her divine Son.

Summer blessings and joy to you,  
Your Sisters of Boston Carmel