



LAY CARMELITE COMMUNITY #578

Northern California/Northern Nevada Region

C/o OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL CHURCH

2700 Dover Avenue

Fairfield, CA 94533

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020

ELECTION RESULTS

The mail in ballots have been sent in and have been counted and your new Community Director is JESS PACHECO.

.....and as your new Director and on behalf of the new Council we would like to express our thanks to each and every one of you for the trust and confidence you have place in us. Please pray for us and let's pray for one another as we continue our journey to the summit of the Holy Mountain of God.

The current composition of the Lay Carmelite Community #578 Council is as follows:

JESS PACHECO, Director

ANNABELLE CASTRO, Formation Director

TERESA SMITH, Treasurer

BOB RILLO, Secretary

COUNCILORS:

ANNE OBIACORO

IRMA TORRES

VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETING

(due to the unavailability of the morning hours, please make note of the new time)

DATE: June 20, 2020

TIME: 2:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Website Link: <https://call.lifesize.com/239157>

Call in by phone (audio only) +1 (312) 584-2401

Meeting Extension: 239157#

A message from your Director

Fellow Carmelites, greetings:

We are moving on.....

And today, we turn the pages to the next chapter of our journey to the summit of the Holy Mountain of God. We can always make this a great and joyful journey, if

we so desire. It can be a long, wearisome, tiring and a dangerous one for us, as we face and meet the many enemies of our soul.

Let us not be a stranger to one another but as one community, let us go together hand in hand, side by side and let go of all the things and worries that are keeping us away from God. We can do this with love, joy, kindness, compassion, patience, modesty, self-control, purity and faith that with His grace we can and will continue our climb to the summit of the Holy Mountain of God.

No matter what the obstacles maybe, we will continue on without looking back. If ever, we will do so with a smile and joy in our heart.

*Our Blessed Lord did not promise us that there will be no tribulation in this world. In fact, he told His disciples, **“I have told you this so that you might have peace in me. In this world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world”**.*

*And, St. Paul, in his letter to the Corinthians, wrote: “I was given a thorn in my flesh, a true messenger of Satan; to torment me lest I become proud. Three times I prayed to the Lord that it might leave me; but he answered me, **“My grace is enough for you, for my power is manifested fully in weakness”**”.*

My fellow Carmelites, as God the Father by his 10 Commandments led the Israelites to the promise land, we have our Blessed Lord, Jesus Christ by His teachings, example and by his grace will show us a way of life that will help us in our journey. In addition, we have the three pillars of Carmelite charism, namely: prayer, community and service which will give us the spiritual strength, wisdom and courage to help us go through with our journey.

And finally...quoting a Carmelite Doctor and Saint, just remember....

“Every part of the journey is of importance to the whole”

St. Teresa of Avila

.....and from your Formation Director

HOLY THIRST...

The heart of the Carmelite charism is prayer and contemplation.

The goal of the Carmelite life is to be united with God, living in God's presence and conforming to His divine will.

Are we listening to God who speaks to us in many ways especially in the words of Scripture?

Do we grow in friendship with Christ in our prayer as we tend to become more and more simple and child-like to Him and with Him?

*The relationship with Christ will change us, helping us to move out of the prison of selfishness towards the bright daylight of **Pure Love** for God and others.*

Only God can change our hearts and so we learn to wait patiently for the coming of God to us.

We are Lay Carmelites: It is our vocation. Treasure it. Nurture it. Deepen it.

--- Please pray for our Phase One Candidate: Jorge Urrutia and Laura Hernandez, another inquirer.

Holy Thirst Books:

Please stop by Jess' home if you still need a book.

The books are complimentary from the council

Love and Joy in Carmel!

Annie

Minutes of the May 27 Community Meeting, May 23, 2020

Attendees, 17 called in, with and without video, at around 10:00 a.m.

Melody, our incumbent Director, opened the meeting with a morning prayer and a hymn.

During this Corona Virus Pandemic, the Lay Carmelites were advised to use mask and gloves and other protective equipment in public. This is a time for change and acceptance, in our process for complete transformation.

Annie announced the availability of the formation books and topics for future meetings.

Jess presented the Treasury report and requested the check-payment for provincial dues and local community dues to be mailed to him, i.e., that is for those who have not yet paid.

Ann Obiacoro mentioned St. Vincent de Paul mission for the community's next financial contribution.

Melody talked about Sr. Libby's February visit and handout regarding her recommended Lectio Divina and on-going formation methods. This was expounded on by Steve.

Desi brought up an important point that Sr. Libby's visit and recommendations occurred before the lockdown, so that there will be changes due to social distancing requirements.

Fr. David Fontaine will officially retire on June 30th. Fr. Patrick Gavin will officially be the parish priest of OLMC Parish Church and the Spiritual Advisor of the Fairfield Third Order Carmelites.

Melody announced the new Fairfield Lay Carmelite Director, Jess Pacheco. This information is to be formally relayed to the Provincial Office.

Melody kindly turned over her Directorship and expressed her gratitude and joy for the past years. Others also express their thoughts and feelings. "Once a Director always a Director in Life".

The virtual meeting ended with a slowly deliberately and wonderfully sung SALVE REGINA.

COMMUNITY MEETING AGENDA:

- *Opening Prayer (page 139, CARMEL'S CALL)*

- *Liturgy of the Hours*
 - Opening Hymn – page 77, “Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly”*
 - Antiphon/Psalms - Page 1022 - Saturday (Daytime Prayer)*

 - *Cantor 1 – Teresa Smith*
 - *Cantor 2 – Anne Obiacoro*
 - *Cantor 3 - Irma Torres*

Reading – page 1025 (mid-afternoon)

Reader – Annabelle Castro

- *Lectio Divina*

“Lectio Divina is a traditional way of praying the Scriptures so that the Word of God may penetrate our hearts and that we may grow in an intimate relationship with the Lord”.

Carmel's Call, page 133

We will begin with the sign of the cross and close with the “Lord's Prayer”

After each reading, please allow 15 to 20 seconds of silence to allow the Word of God to penetrate into our hearts and then share.

After the 1st reading: Share a word or phrase that most touch your heart.

After the 2nd reading: Share an insight. What was the message that you received from God.

*After the 3rd reading: And what is your response to that message? Start with
“the grace I need to pray for is....”*

Reader - Bob Rillo

Jesus said to the Twelve:

*“Fear no one.
Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed,
nor secret that will not be known.
What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light;
What you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops.
And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul;
rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy
both soul and body in Gehenna.
Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin?
Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father’s knowledge.
Even all the hair of your head are counted.
So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.
Everyone who acknowledges me before others
I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father.
But whoever denies me before others,
I will deny before my heavenly Father.”*

Mt 10: 26-33

- *Correspondence/news from the Lay Carmelite Office or the Regional Director*
- *Carmel’s Call*

Carmel’s call is a call to seek the face of God in prayer, in community, and in service. Carmel’s call is one way among many that Christians seek to live a

*life of allegiance to Jesus Christ; how pure in heart and stout in conscience we seek to serve our master. **This manual is an effort to provide some of the structures to help the Lay Carmelite achieve these aims**".*

Foreword, Carmel's Call

Assigned Topic for this month:

Part II, General Statutes: Structure

Chapter 1 – General Characteristics

Start on page 42, paragraph 50

End on page 43, paragraph 53

- **Other Business announcements:**

Treasurer's Report

	<u>Gen Fund</u>	<u>Prov Dues</u>	<u>Pre-Payment</u>
<i>Beginning Balance</i>	604.11	660.00	347.25
<i>Receipts</i>	<u>95.00</u>	<u>440.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<i>Total Available</i>	699.11	1,100.00	
<i>Disbursements</i>	<u>91.39</u>	<u>(1,100.00)</u>	<u>(347.25)</u>
<i>Ending Balance</i>	<u>607.72</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>

Novena

Reception Ceremonies

Formation update

Saturday Mass Servers; Lectors, EM, Altar servers

Altar & Sanctuary (Sacristy servers)

Ministry for the month

Birthday Celebrants:

Melody McCloskey June 13

- *On-going-formation:*

The on-going formation resumes this month with our new book, “Holy Thirst”, Essentials of Carmelite Spirituality”.

We will just be in one group since we cannot break-out into smaller groups. Ingredients added into the pot will be done randomly and not in any particular order.

Assignment: Foreword and Rule of St. Albert, pages 7 – 19

Leader: Annabelle Castro

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