



LAY CARMELITE COMMUNITY #578
Northern California/Northern Nevada Region
C/o OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL CHURCH
2700 Dover Avenue
Fairfield, CA 94533

NEWSLETTER
JULY 2020

This month, the Church and the Order of Carmelites honor and remember the following Carmelite Blessed and Saints.

July 04 – ***Bl. Maria Crocifissa Curcio, Virgin*** (1877 - 1957)

Foundress of the Carmelite Missionary Sisters of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for the care of the poor and the needy. She was beatified on the 13th November 2005.

July 09 – ***Bl. Jane Scopelli, Virgin*** (1428 - 1491)

She had a special devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In 1492, her body was exhumed and found to be incorrupt. Many supernatural events were attributed to her and she was gifted with a great devotion to Our Lady, while living an intensely penitential life. She was named “Servant of God” in 1590 by Pope Alexander VI and beatified on August 24, 1771 by Pope Clement XIV.

July 13 – ***St. Teresa de Jesus “de los andes”*** (OCD), Virgin (1900 – 1920)

She died on 12th April 1920 after having spent only 11 months in Carmel, as a postulant and a novice. She was canonized by Pope John Paul II on 21st March 1993 and proposed as an example for young people in today’s Church. She is the first Chilean to be declared a saint.

July 16 – ***Solemn Commemoration of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Solemnity)***

Carmelites see in the Virgin Mary, Mother of God and archetype of the Church, the perfect image of all that they want and hope to be. For this reason, Carmelites have always thought of Mary as the patron of the order, its Mother and Splendour; she is constantly before their eyes and in their heart as “the Virgin Most Pure.” Looking to her, and living in spiritual intimacy with her, we learn to stand before God, and with one another, as the Lord’s brothers. Mary lives among us, as mother and sister, attentive to our needs; along with us she waits and hopes, suffers and rejoices.

*The **Scapular** is a sign of Mary’s permanent and constant motherly love for Carmelite brothers and sisters. By their **devotion to the Scapular**, faithful to a tradition in the Order, especially since the 16th century, **Carmelites express the loving closeness of Mary to the people of God; it is a sign of consecration to Mary, a means of uniting the faithful to the Order, and an effective and popular means of evangelization.***

(Carmelite Constitutions #27)

July 17 – [Bl. Teresa of St. Augustine and Companions \(OCD\), Virgins and Martyrs](#)

When the full terror of the French revolution began, they offered themselves as sacrificial victims to beg God for peace for the Church and for their country. July 1794 they saw sixteen nuns were arrested on the charge of continuing their illicit way of life. The nuns were “enemies of the people by conspiring against its sovereign rule. On July 17, 1794, the nuns were taken to the place of execution, all the while singing the Salve Regina and the Te Deum and reciting the prayers for the dying.

July 20 – [St. Elijah, Prophet \(Solemnity\)](#)

Elijah is the solitary prophet who cultivated the thirst of the only God and lived in his presence. He is the contemplative enraptured by the ardent passion for the absolute of God, whose word burnt like a torch. He is the mystic who, after a long and tiresome road, learns and reads the new signs of the presence of God.

July 24 – [Memorial of Blessed John Soreth, Priest](#)

He dedicated himself entirely to the reform of the Order, promoting a more faithful observance of religious life. His other activities include the encouragement and establishment of the Carmelite nuns. He was instrumental in the development of the Lay Carmelite Third Order.

July 26 – [Memorial of St. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Virgin Mary, Protectors of the Order](#)

According to tradition, Saint Anne was born in Bethlehem, and married Joachim of Nazareth, both descendants of David. Together with her husband, Anne raised Mary to be a paragon of virtue and entrusted her to the temple as a child. It appears that she died at an advanced age. The same tradition tells of Joachim, a wealthy livestock owner whose marriage to Anne did not produce offspring until late. This was regarded as a lack of heavenly blessing, resulting in Joachim’s sacrifice being refused at the temple. Remembering the son granted to Abraham late in life, Joachim resolved to go into the desert and fast for forty days. An angel appeared and told him of the birth of his daughter, and he went to meet his wife at the “Golden Gate” of Jerusalem.

July 27 – [Memorial of Blessed Titus Brandsma, Priest and Martyr](#)

During the Nazi occupation, he argued passionately against the National Socialist ideology basing his stand on the Gospels. He defended the right to freedom in education and for the Catholic Press and for that he was imprisoned. He was killed on July 26, 1942. He was beatified as a martyr by Pope John Paul II on 3rd November 1985.

(Source: OCARM.org)

VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETING

DATE: July 18, 2020

TIME: 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM

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

Call in by phone (audio only) +1 (312) 584-2401, 239157#

Meeting Extension: 239157#

A message from your Director

Fellow Carmelites, greetings:

“Life in this world,” according to Venerable Bishop Fulton Sheen, “is like a Broadway play. When the show is over and the curtain rolls down the stage, the performers of the play will not be judged based on the role that they play, but rather on how well they played the role that was assigned to them”.

And so we move on.... and everything that we do in this world , we do for the love and the glory of God.

Quote from a Carmelite Doctor and Saint, let us all remember....

“In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human success, but rather on how much we have loved”.

St. John of the Cross

From your Formation Director

Carmelite Spirituality

Have you noticed that more Carmelite spiritual texts are read by many? Our great Carmelite saints and doctors of the Church are sought by different faiths and even those with no faith to claim.

How blessed are we to be in this order! Our Carmelite expressions have returned again and again to themes and images pondering on the divine human dialogue. We use mountains, gardens, springs, cells, night, fire, mansions and most especially the heart.

Carmelite spirituality is nothing more than to stand before God (Elijah) and hear God’s Word and keep it.

We grow in friendship with God through unceasing prayer (St. Teresa), participating with Christ (St. John of the Cross), transforming ourselves in any little way (St Therese)

The next time you think of Carmel, be assured of the bounty and the richness that our good Lord has given to you, to our community...

*Oh, we thank you, Jesus!
Peace and blessings and fiat in Carmel,*

Annie

From your Secretary

Highlights of the June 20 Community Meeting

Present (16): Oralia Anaya, Cherie Bauer, Steve Butsko, Desi Byerley, Annie Castro, Seantelle Guillory, Melody McCloskey, Anne Obiacoro, Evelyn Pacheco, Jess Pacheco, Cindy Perazzo, Bob Rillo, Teresa Smith, Marilyn Stahlberger, Rose Terris, Mindy Zindel

Absent (11): Marietta Castillo, Dina Cruz, Celia Guevara, Celina Hess, Olivia Makinano, Claire Oribello, Tom Quinn, Valentine Ramos, Carmelita Torres, Irma Torres, Shelia Williams.

Guests (3): Dolly, Jorge and Laura

- *Desi announced the cancellation of this year's annual retreat.*
- *Steve, Cindy and Melody read from Carmel's call to emphasize the importance of living our lives according to Christ's word and example.*
- *Annie and Jess inquired about the Carmelite Organizational chart. Cindy is working on this with Fr. Bill Harry. Cindy will update the community on this after the elections.*
- *Jess announced that there will be no OLMC novena, but a July 16th mass for Steve's Temporary Profession and Seantelle's Final Profession will take place.*
- *Annie introduced three inquirers as guest observer.*
- *Annie led the discussion on our new study book, the "HOLY THIRST". Everyone contributed generously and enthusiastically to the "Spiritual Pot". The study ended after a complete and thorough discussion with several exchanges of deep-felt Spiritual ideas.*
- *Desi, Cherie and Cindy emphasized the importance of "Silence in Listening", so The Holy Spirit can be heard.*
- *The meeting ended with a group prayer.*

COMMUNITY MEETING AGENDA:

- **Opening Prayer** (page 139 CARMEL'S CALL)
- **Liturgy of the Hours**
Leader: Teresa Smith

Antiphon/Psalms – Week III, page 916

Antiphon 1 – Evelyn Pacheco

Antiphon 2 – Irma Torres

Antiphon 3 – Steve Butsko

Reader: Melody McCloskey

- **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 – Rose Terris

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying:

“The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in the field.

While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off.

When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well.

The slaves of the householder came to him and said, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field?

Where have the weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ His slaves said to him, ‘Do you

want us to go and pull them up?’ He replied, ‘No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along

with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, “First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.””

He proposed another parable to them. “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the ‘birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.”

He spoke to them to them another parable. “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch was leavened.”

All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables. He spoke to them only in parables, to fulfill what had been said through the prophet: I will open my mouth in parables, I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation of the world.

Then dismissing the crowds, he went into the house. His disciples approached him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." He said in reply, "He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

Mt 13: 24-43



- 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**".

Carmel's Call

Assigned Topic for this month:

Part II, General Statutes: Structure
Chapter 2 – Family Life in Carmel
Start on page 43, paragraph 54
and.....
Chapter 3 – Spiritual Care
Paragraphs 57 - 58

- **Other Business announcements:**

Treasurer's Report

	<u>Gen Fund</u>	<u>Prov Dues</u>
Beginning Balance	607.72	0.00
Receipts	<u>225.00</u>	<u>550.00</u>
Total Available	832.72	550.00
Disbursements	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(550.00)</u>

Ending Balance 832.72 0.00

Reception Ceremony

Birthday Celebrants:

Carmelita Torres July 7

Bunny Dominguez July 27

Formation update

- On-going-formation: Annabelle Castro

The on-going formation continue 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: Part 1: pages 22-36

Contacts:

Jess Pacheco, Community Director
707 688-8613 pacjessie8@gmail.com

Annie Castro, Community Formation Director
707 227-5510 accastro@gmail.com

Desi Byerley, Regional Director
707 426-0314 desibyerley@gmail.com