



OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DELEGATE
Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites



October 16, 2023

Dear Carmelites,

After careful consideration of the fact that Provincial Dues for Active Members and those on a Leave of Absence have remained the same for the past 5 years, I find it necessary to increase the Dues for the coming year in order to meet our financial obligations. As all of you know, costs have significantly increased during this time and we now have four Regional Assistants who are ready and willing to be involved with your communities. Your Main Office provides information and assistance with many of your concerns and inquiries in a timely and helpful manner. Provincial Dues are the only means by which these benefits can continue to be offered and supported.

Therefore, the Provincial Dues policy for 2024 is as follows:

- Anyone listed as an **Aspirant** on the Main Office Roster as of Jan. 31, 2024 is exempt from paying Provincial Dues. (Statute 69a)
- All **Active Members** and those on a **Leave of Absence** are expected to pay \$50.00 in Dues.
- Extended Members are asked to pay \$50.00 in Dues, if at all possible. If this poses a financial hardship for Extended Members, they may pay \$25.00 in Dues. "The local council shall ... determine how the local community will assist the needy in their community, including those unable to contribute local or provincial dues." (Statute 74)

Any community that finds itself with an inordinate number of Extended Members, for whom subsidized payment of Dues will pose a significant difficulty for the community, should contact the Main Office. **All Provincial Dues should be sent in the form of one check from the community, made payable to WPDCSO, Inc. by January 31, 2024.** *No personal checks will be accepted; the checking account must be in the name of the community or in a dedicated account which contains only community funds.*

I realize that \$50.00 may sound like a lot, but in light of now needing \$68.00 to buy 100 stamps, it is considerably less. I look forward to meeting many of you in the future and I promise to serve you to the best of my ability, with God's help.

With my blessings,

Fr. George Mangiaracina, OCD
OCDS Provincial Delegate