



# CARMEL CONNECT

Newsletter of the OCDS Main Office



WASHINGTON PROVINCE  
SECULAR ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITES

[ocdswashprov.org](http://ocdswashprov.org)

OCDS Main Office, 166 Foster St., Brighton, MA 02135 / 617-851-8584 / [ocdsmainoffice@gmail.com](mailto:ocdsmainoffice@gmail.com)



## From the Desk of the Provincial Delegate

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Carmel,

May the Peace and love of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with each of you.

As you know, every six years our Order has a General Chapter in Rome to elect the General Superiors of our Order. For this event the members include the present General and his Council, Provincial Superiors and elected delegates from every Province throughout the world at a location designated by the General Council. This year the 92<sup>nd</sup> General Chapter took place at the Casa La Salle, a Christian Brothers

Retreat House in Rome, from August 30<sup>th</sup> - September 14<sup>th</sup> and Father Miguel Márquez Calle was elected our General Superior for the next six years. One of the awesome events that takes place during the Chapter is that the entire General Chapter has an audience with the Pope. The members of the General Chapter met with our Holy Father, Pope Francis, on Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

In the address of the Holy Father to our Chapter Members he mentioned several key areas; although spoken specifically to the Chapter members, his words apply in a unique and special way to each of us as Discalced Carmelites. [Refer to the OCDS website for full text, under "Publications: Pope Francis."]

I am suggesting that Communities and individual members:

Read, listen, reflect on the Pope's words .... let the Holy Spirit come to each of us as members of Communities. Some key excerpts from his Sept. 11th address:

1. "Listening is the fundamental attitude of the disciple, of those who place themselves in the school of Jesus and want to respond to what He asks of us in this time that is difficult but always beautiful, because it is God's time."
2. "Listening to the Spirit, in order to be able to discern what comes from the Lord and what is contrary to Him and, in this way, to respond, starting from the Gospel, to the signs of the times through which the Lord of history speaks to us and reveals Himself."
3. "In this time, in which the pandemic has confronted us all with so many questions and which has seen the collapse of so many certainties, you are called, as children of St. Teresa, to safeguard your fidelity to the perennial elements of your charism."
4. "You must not imitate the mission of other charisms, but be faithful to your own, to give to the world what the Lord has given you for the good of all, that is, the living water of contemplation. Contemplation is ... an opening of the heart and life to the power that truly transforms the world, that is, God's love."

The words that seem so appropriate at this moment are: SPEAK LORD FOR YOUR SERVANTS ARE LISTENING.

May Mary, Mother of Carmel, intercede for us to open our hearts in the call of listening. In the name of Jesus our Savior and Lord, I bid you from my heart...SHALOM.

Your Brother in Carmel,

Fr. Leonard Copeland, OCD





## **92nd General Chapter of the Discalced Carmelite Order Rome: September 2021**

### **WE HAVE A NEW FATHER GENERAL !!!!**

**As you must know by now, Divine Providence has graciously blessed our beloved Discalced Carmelite Order with a new Superior General: Fr. Miguel Márquez Calle, hailing from Spain.**



**Here are some important dates in his life:**

**Born: October 5, 1965**

**Place of Birth: Plasencia (Caceres), Spain**

**First Religious Profession: Oct. 21, 1985**

**Solemn Profession: Oct. 21, 1989**

**Religious Name in Carmel: Miguel de María**

**Priestly ordination: June 23, 1990**

**Elected Father General of the Order: Sept. 4, 2021**

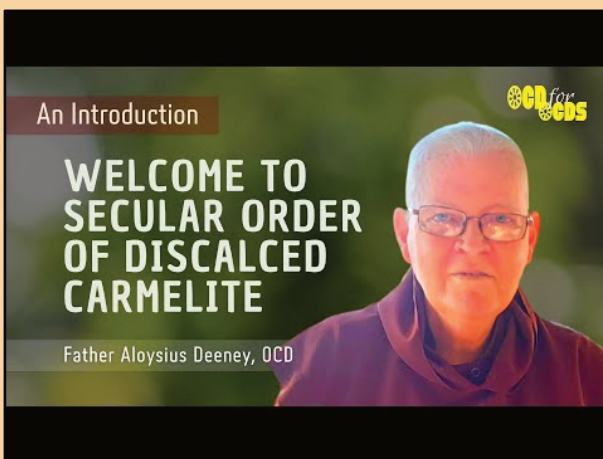
**Another momentous and joyous occasion was when the newly elected Father General, along with the entire General Chapter participants, met with the Holy Father on Sept. 11th at the Vatican in the Sala Clementina. (See next page for pictures.) You can view a photo of this historic event, as well as read Fr. General's address to Pope Francis, on the OCDS website: <https://www.ocdswashprov.org/letters-fr-general>. Let us commit to accompanying Fr. General with our prayers as he begins his new mission in the service of the Order and the Church.**



## 92nd General Chapter Audience with Pope Francis



**Clementine Hall, Vatican  
Sept. 11, 2021**



### **FR. DEENEY VIDEOS AVAILABLE**

Fr. Aloysius Deeney OCD, the author of *Welcome to the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites* (ICS Publications), is now posting practical and insightful talks on the contents of his book on YouTube. To date there are eight short videos on the discernment of a vocation to the OCDS - more may be forthcoming. As most of you know, Fr. Deeney was the first General Delegate to the OCDS (a position created by Fr. General Camilo Maccise in 1997) and was very instrumental in formulating our OCDS legislation and Formation Programs worldwide. He has worked in the Commissariat of Indonesia since 2012 and is broadcasting from Badau, Indonesia. Thanks to all who brought this wonderful video resource to the attention of

the Main Office! Here is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcc752XnM7I>



## A NEW TRADITION FOR NOVEMBER 15

**"Secular Carmelites should remember the deceased members of the entire Order in their daily prayers, especially on the Feast of All Souls of the Carmelite Order (November 15)." [Statute 20]**



**A Mass at the Brighton monastery will be celebrated on November 15th for all the members of the Discalced Carmelite family of the Washington Province who were called home to the Lord in the past year. Fr. Leonard has arranged for small votive lights to be placed near the altar in remembrance of our beloved Secular Carmelites who left us this past year (approximately 50 members). Each candle will bear the name, community and date of death of the member. *Requiescat in pace*, dear sisters and brothers.**



## 2021 FEAST OF ALL CARMELITE SAINTS

November 14th, Feast of All Carmelite Saints, occurs on a Sunday this year. All Sundays are considered Solemnities of the Lord. This year we *DO NOT* celebrate the Feast of All Carmelite Saints because a Solemnity takes precedence over a Feast. The Liturgy of the Hours will be from the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time and fasting is not required on the 13th.

## NEXT PROJECT: DETERMINING COMMUNITY STATUS FOR RC AND GID

Now that we have definitively determined which communities are Canonically Established (a total of 89; all listed on the website with documentation from Rome available online for public viewing/printing), we are addressing the issue of categorizing the remaining 57 communities as either Recognized Communities (RC) or Groups in Discernment (GID). Because, in the past, there was no standard Form sent to the Main Office to document the date at which a community was founded or changed from a GID to an RC, we have to rely on any kind of documentation that can be located: Council minutes, emails, correspondence, etc. The defining difference between a GID and an RC is that a Group in Discernment has an appointed Formation Director and cannot hold elections, while a Recognized Community has a Council that serves with the approval of the Regional Assistant and may hold elections when he feels it has reached sufficient maturation to do so. (Statute 57) [The current policy of the Province is that a community may hold elections only if there is a minimum of 12 Professed members eligible to vote in any given triennial election year.] Thank you for your cooperation in helping us to document, once and for all, the official status of your community in the Main Office.



## Please Notice This



## Important Information from the Main Office

### **DELEGATION POLICY**

There seems to have been some confusion re: the need to request delegation from the Provincial Delegate (Fr. Leonard) for anyone who has not been appointed to a community as its Spiritual Assistant and wishes to officiate at Clothings, Promises or Vows. We checked with Fr. Alzimir Debastiani (OCDS General Delegate in Rome) and he re-affirmed that *any Community that does not have an officially appointed Spiritual Assistant must seek delegation from the Provincial Delegate* in order for a priest or deacon to preside at Clothings, Promises or Vows. This applies, *without exception*, to *all* clergy and religious (including friars of the Discalced Carmelite Order) - even bishops. Delegation is necessary because the presiding clergy is standing in *as a representative on behalf of the Order and must have been granted permission by the legitimate authority in the Province, namely, the Provincial or his Delegate*. Please adhere to this policy for the good of all concerned. If ever in doubt, please do not hesitate to call the Main Office.

### **DONATIONS TO THE MAIN OFFICE**

A Secular Carmelite recently called the Main Office to obtain the legal name for the OCDS Main Office as he is in the process of updating his will and wanted to include his fellow Seculars of the Province as beneficiaries of his estate. (He is already a regular donor to the Main Office, God bless him.) He suggested that we recommend this practice of bequeathing funds to support the work of the Main Office to other OCDS and offered this reflection:

"I was thinking about what is really important to me and what defines me; what organizations I should support with my extra funds in my charitable giving. I figure I'm a member of the Catholic Church and the OCDS; these are the most important things in my life that define me as a person. People should donate to organizations that are really meaningful to them."

What a beautiful, generous and admirable spirit this gentleman has! May Our Lord reward his goodness as only He can. (FYI: the legal name for the "Main Office" is **Washington Province Discalced Carmelite Secular Order, Inc.**)

### **CURRENT ATTENDANCE POLICY RE: COVID**

The policy as stated in the last edition (June 2021) of the Carmel Connect is still in place until December 31st: "The pre-pandemic attendance policy is now in effect based on the criteria of the diocesan and civil authorities. However, sensitivity should be given to persons who might still be concerned about the Covid pandemic and its effects. So, for the next 6 months, a person who is seriously concerned about this, should be granted permission not to attend meetings in person and therefore, not marked absent. If possible, the community should provide Formation classes for these individuals." The attendance policy will be re-evaluated based on the pandemic situation at the end of the year. Let us continue to beseech Our Lord for an end to this worldwide suffering.

### **MESSAGE FROM FR. LEONARD RE: 2022 PROVINCIAL DUES**

The Provincial Dues for 2022 for Active and Leave of Absence Members on the Roster will be \$45.00, as it has been for the last 5 years. Though it has been a long time since the amount has changed, I am keenly aware of the economic challenges of the pandemic and am committed to helping our OCDS communities with their finances. For Extended Members who cannot afford, or are dependent upon the community (Statutes 69, 74 and 82) to pay for their dues, the Provincial Dues will be \$25.00. Anyone listed as an Aspirant on the Roster is exempt from paying Provincial Dues.

### **WHAT ARE MY OCDS PROVINCIAL DUES USED FOR?**

Each of the three Provinces in the U.S. (CA-AZ, OK and our Washington Province) has a Main/Central Office that exists to serve the needs of the OCDS in that Province. The OCDS Main Office is fully funded by the Secular Carmelite members of the Province via the annual collection of Provincial Dues. As you can imagine, the operation of a Main Office includes expenses for office rent (space, electricity, heat, etc.), paid positions of Office Administrator and Webmaster, computer, printer, Internet and phone services, website, office supplies, etc. In addition, any expenses incurred by the OCDS Provincial Delegate and OCDS Regional Assistants in serving the OCDS (travel, computer, printer, phone, car maintenance, Internet, etc.) are also covered by your Provincial Dues.

## More from the Main Office

### CLARION STATUS UPDATE

Some of you have asked if the *Clarion* will be issued in 2022. Unfortunately, the answer to that is no. Our friars can no longer commit to providing, on a regular basis, the quality articles and insights that comprised the majority of the content of the *Clarion*. Without a reliable source of new, insightful, quality material, we cannot -- in good faith -- collect money for subscriptions that may, or may not, be issued. Paying costly royalties for articles that are already in published books is not good stewardship of subscribers' funds. "To everything there is a season ..." and we have to face the fact that "the season" may be over for this publication. Having said that, please check the OCDS website for 57 digital issues (so far), dating back to 2006, electronically available for downloading and printing. There is also an Index for your convenience in looking up articles on specific topics. Many thanks to our fellow OCDS for their loving time and efforts in continuing to archive, catalog and scan back issues of the *Clarion* so that *people all over the world* can enjoy quality spiritual articles from the Carmelite perspective: Vicky Badics, Edward Donnelly, Kenneth Norman, Susan Parker, Mary Stewart and Ken Vaughan (in alphabetical order). The wisdom and knowledge contained in these *Clarions* is TIMELESS and PRICELESS, so please avail yourselves of them often.

### INCREASE IN POSTAL RATES

This announcement is *totally* out of our hands. As you know, the U.S. Postal Service recently instituted a postage increase across the board. Unfortunately, the minimum rate for Media Mail went from \$2.89 to \$3.19 -- a .30 cent (10%) increase! Therefore, you will see increased prices for items offered in the Carmelite online "store." (All items are offered postage paid.) We are sorry about having to do this, but the decision to raise the price of postage is out of our hands and the Main Office cannot possibly afford to absorb the cost of the postal increase.

### CANONICAL ESTABLISHMENT STATUS

The application Form for obtaining Canonically Established status is still "under construction." In addition, the new OCDS General Delegate (to whom the Main Office has to submit the paperwork) has not yet been appointed (supposedly that will happen next month) and we are certain there will be a couple of months "learning curve" for the friar in charge. We do not want to overwhelm him with requests from our Province for Canonical Establishments just as he takes office and so the Main Office will not be accepting applications at this time. In addition, one of the items that needs to be submitted is a current Roster. As January 31st is the deadline for the 2022 Roster to be submitted, it seems logical that we would not be processing applications for CE status until Spring 2022 at the earliest. There is no rush to do this, anyway, since obtaining CE status really changes nothing, on a practical level, for a Recognized Community. Both Recognized Communities and Canonically Established Communities function the same. Thank you for your patience and understanding in this regard.

### 2024 CONGRESS:

#### "TWIN CITIES," HERE WE COME !!!

Though the dates have not yet been set, the eight OCDS communities of Minnesota have graciously agreed to sponsor the 2024 OCDS Congress. We are very grateful to them for being willing to assume this great responsibility. We would ask that you keep them in your prayers as they zealously begin this undertaking. We hope all will plan to attend this wonderful "Carmelite Family Reunion." There are currently no OCDS

Congresses scheduled for 2022 or 2023 so a Congress in 2024 should prove to be very popular. Thanks to all the OCDS Communities in the great state of Minnesota for "stepping up to the plate":



**Crystal**

**St. Anthony**

**Deephaven**

**St. Paul**

**New Brighton**

**Spicer**

**Pine Island**

**Stillwater**

## UPDATE ON OUR CARMELITE STUDENTS

We give thanks to God for the fruit of our ongoing prayers for our recent Carmelite vocations! Currently there are seven brothers in Formation at the friars' monastery in Brighton, MA. Since many of you have asked, here is some information on them, gleaned from the OCD friars' Vocation website and the St. John's Seminary (Brighton, MA) website. From left to right:

**Br. Emmanuel Burke:** candidate for Master of Arts in Theology at St. John's Seminary

**Br. John-Mary Winter:** studying spirituality at Boston College

**Br. John-Teresa Novosad:** finishing Master of Divinity at St. John's Seminary

**Br. John-Magdalene Fanders:** Third Theology student at St. John's Seminary (Class of 2023)

**Br. Isaiah Klena:** First Theology student at St. John's Seminary (Class of 2025)

**Br. Nathanael Gregor:** candidate for Master of Arts in Ministry at St. John's Seminary

**Br. Moses Urlakis:** First Theology student at St. John's Seminary (Class of 2025)



Articles by Loretta L. Gallagher, OCDS

OCDS Logos designed by Mary K. Stewart, OCDS

Newsletter graphic design by Ann T. Bouchard, OCDS