



OCDS Provincial Newsletter

California-Arizona Province of St. Joseph

December 2023

“Oh, how happy is this soul that ever experiences God resting and reposing within it!” (St. John of the Cross)

O.C.D.S. Leadership Conference

Leadership Conference Invitation:

Tuesday May 14th thru Friday May 17th

Carmelite Leadership and Loving Service

The OCDS Provincial Council and our new Provincial Delegate of the California – Arizona Province of St. Joseph are inviting a leader from each community or group within our OCDS Province to be selected and sent to the upcoming 2024 Leadership Conference. It is highly suggested that the person who is to be sent be the president or leader, or formation director, of the community or group. If that is not possible, then at minimum, the person should be a member of the local council, as the conference will be addressing information to be implemented soon after the person returns. This is the first such conference since 2018 and the council has been requested to assist with pertinent and immediate needs. We also invite leaders to express their concerns and needs for the future as well.

The conference will once again be held at El Carmelo Retreat House in Redlands, California. Leaders will arrive on Tuesday, May 14th and depart Friday May 17th. Space is limited and rooms will be available on a first come first served basis. Some, to save money, can also share rooms on a voluntary basis. Local hotel arrangements can also be made if needed.

The cost of the conference will include lodging for 3 nights and 8 meals, starting with dinner on Tuesday and ending with breakfast on Friday. Two socials will also be included. The cost of the conference will be announced in the next few weeks and will not include travel expenses. Please remember this conference will benefit all members of a community or group. It is highly recommended that the costs be shared amongst all members in sending the chosen representative. This can be accomplished through the community's treasury, additional dues, or by taking a separate collection.

Formation Program Announcement

To all OCDS Presidents, Group Leaders, Formation Directors and Formators,

We are aware that there are some minor corrections that need to be made to the Formation Handbooks and those will be addressed in a future revised edition. However, one error is proving to be problematic and that is the title of the required book for Formation I - Year A: *"The Way of Perfection."* On page 6 of the Formation Manual, it states that *"The Way of Perfection"* can be found in Volume **ONE** of the Collected Works of St. Teresa of Avila. This is incorrect: it is in Volume **TWO**. Orders have been placed with ICS for Volume One with the result of disappointed customers asking for a refund since *"The Way of Perfection"* is not in that volume; this is causing problems (time, effort, energy) with ICS. Please alert members of this error and instruct them to purchase Volume TWO of the Collected Works when studying *"The Way of Perfection."* Of course, the other alternative is to purchase *"The Way of Perfection: Study Edition."*



Picture taken at El Carmelo during the Friars' Chapter in May of this year.

Please remember and pray for our OCDS members who have died within the last year:

Alice Anne Gustafson, OCDS

Portland, OR

If you want to include an OCDS member who has died within the last 12 months in future newsletters, please email the name, city, and state to Pam Gockel at pgockel20@gmail.com. The names listed in our newsletters do not necessarily represent all of the members who have passed away in the last year. This list is for remembrance and prayers only, not for official notification.

Please remember to submit an official record on Form D to our OCDS Central Office for each member that has passed away in your community or group. Go to ocds.info/forms.htm for more information.

