



V CENTENARY
SAINT TERESA
OF JESUS

A Celebration of
The Creative Spiritual Genius of St. Teresa of Avila
Today

August 21- 23, 2014 San José, California
www.stj500westernus.com

SPONSOR

Disalced Carmelite Friars
California-Arizona Province
www.disalcedcarmelitefriars.com

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January 6, 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Disalced Carmelite Friars of the California-Arizona (USA) Province are planning for an early celebration honoring the 500th anniversary of the birth of our Holy Mother, St. Teresa, in August of 2014 in San José, California. Included in our two and a half day celebration will be the world premiere of two virtual choirs of Carmelites. We are writing to invite your participation in these choirs.

Please see Eric Whitacre's Virtual Choir *[Lux Aurumque](#)* on YouTube as an example of what a virtual choir is. Through God's grace we have located Scott Haines, the producer of *Lux Aurumque* and have received the funding necessary to contract him to produce 2 virtual choirs of Carmelites:

1. *Nada te Turbe* (Lyrics in Spanish) Carmelite Nuns world-wide
2. *Salve Regina* (Lyrics in Latin) Carmelite Order world-wide (Nuns, Friars, OCDS)

Sr. Claire Sokol, OCD, who composed *Therese's Canticle of Love* for St. Therese's centenary celebrations has composed both of these choral works specifically for the celebrations around St. Teresa's 500th anniversary of birth. The *Nada te Turbe* is an original melody. The *Salve Regina* is an arrangement of the melody we are accustomed to singing every week to honor Our Lady.

The only requirement for participation in these choirs is a relatively good voice, an ability to learn the music and a computer with a camera and microphone. **It is not necessary to leave one's monastery.** To participate, please log onto the producer's website via the link provided below. Each part must be sung individually, not in groups. After reading the instructions on the producer's website (available in several languages), you may then learn your part (music will be available on the website), record your track and submit it to the producer on the virtual choir website. The producer will then synchronize each vocal track individually. After hundreds of hours of editing, we will have two world-wide choirs of Carmelites that will unite us both visually and musically for the first time in our history. Should anyone wish to sing but not be seen – you will have the option, when accessing the producer's website, to submit an audio track only – without visual representation.

Our plan is to premiere both of **these virtual choirs** at our celebration for St. Teresa in San José in August, 2014. After that they **will be available for anyone to use at their STJ500 celebrations anywhere in the world** where access to the world-wide web is possible. **There is no cost involved.**

This letter is being mailed or emailed to all the Carmelite Nuns of the world. **We are asking you to please spread the word to the OCD Friars and OCDS group(s) in your area to encourage their participation in singing in the Salve Regina.** There is no limit on the number of participants. Please encourage as many as possible to sing!

On February 1st, the producer's website will be accessible to anyone participating in this project.

www.stj500choirs.com

The deadline for submitting tracks for *Nada te Turbe* is May 1, 2014.

The deadline for submitting tracks for *Salve Regina* is May 17, 2014.

There will also be a place on the producer's website where **you may submit a video or still photograph of your community singing the *Salve Regina*** (Nuns, Friars and OCDS) as you ordinarily do every week. These photos may be incorporated into the background of the virtual choir singing the ***Salve Regina***.

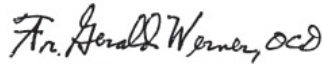
If the instructions on the producer's website need further clarification, Scott Haines will be available by email between 9AM and 8PM (Eastern Standard Time, USA) to answer any question addressed to him in English. You can contact him through the website's contact page.

May this musical project serve to unite us ever more deeply in the Carmelite charism of St. Teresa and stir into flame the love of Jesus which animated her contemplative life.

Blessings in the spirit of St. Teresa, true friend of Jesus,



Cherry Caparas, OCDS, Coordinator



Rev. Gerald Werner, OCD



Sr. Claire Sokol, OCD



Theresa Thomas, OCDS