



OCDS NEWSLETTER

California-Arizona Province of St. Joseph

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Message From Our Provincial Delegate

Praised be Jesus Christ! This is the first OCDS Provincial Newsletter since I was appointed your new Provincial Delegate last May. Father Mathew Williams was elected Provincial of the California-Arizona (Western) Province. I am honored and happy to be asked to serve as your Provincial Delegate! I knew well this Province's first OCDS Provincial Delegate, Father Bonaventure Galvin, who died in 1992. Father Bonaventure was Provincial Delegate from 1970-1991. He did much to lay the foundation for the Secular Order in the Western United States. Father Michael Buckley, Provincial Delegate from 1991-2002 and Father Patrick Sugrue, Provincial Delegate from 2002-2008, have each helped to build up and strengthen the Secular Order. There are now approximately 2,000 members in 63 communities and groups in our Province. During his six years in office, Father Patrick visited every one of those communities and groups. Also during those six years, the *OCDS Constitutions* were approved and both the *Provincial Statutes of the California-Arizona Province* and the *Formation Guidelines of the California-Arizona Province* were written and approved. On a personal note, I will always be grateful to Father Patrick because it was he who brought me into the Order when he was Provincial in 1980.

Many of you, as communities and as individuals, have written to express your support of my new ministry to the Secular Order; and many wrote at Christmas as well. I deeply appreciate—and need—your prayers. Because of our Province's personnel shortage, since last May, I have also been continuing on as our Province's Novice Master until this summer. That explains why I am not able to travel much around the Province for the time being. However, I have already been making quite a few commitments to visit communities and groups beginning in June. With my "double duty" as Provincial Delegate and Novice Master, I've been praying for a "double portion" of the Holy Spirit. Despite our limitations and challenges, the Lord is blessing us abundantly.

I owe you an apology for taking so long to prepare this OCDS newsletter. I have been working on it for months and wanted to have it ready before Christmas, but it was not possible to complete it until now. I want you to know that during the Christmas season I offered a novena of Masses for all of you, your families, and your intentions.

One of the great blessings of the Secular Order in our Province is Peggy Scheerger, a member of the San Jose OCDS Community. This is Peggy's fifth year as volunteer Secretary of the OCDS Central Office. I am delighted that she has agreed to continue. By now she has much experience with the Secular Order, its members, and our procedures. Peggy usually comes into the OCDS Central Office one day a week to help with paperwork; but throughout the week, she generously gives her time to answer your calls, e-mails, and letters. I am very grateful to Peggy; and I know you are, too. Peggy would prefer to stay in the background, but I want to take this opportunity to thank her once again for all she does for us.

Since last May, I have been in contact with most of the communities and groups in the Province. I encourage you to call or write if I can help you. My phone number is (408) 259-7786 and e-mail address is dkinneyocd@catholic.org. I am often slow in returning messages, but I will do my best to help you as promptly as I can. Peggy's cell phone is (408) 230-5944. Her e-mail is pegscheer@sbcglobal.net.

Current Challenges

Since I came into office, I see two challenges that many of your communities/groups are facing in this new triennium: the shortage of priests as Spiritual Assistants and the adjustment of new local Councils learning to work together. Unfortunately, a number of communities/groups have not been able to find a priest to serve as Spiritual Assistant for this new triennium. Even the number of available Carmelite priests is reduced. This trend will continue for the foreseeable future. For those of you who are blessed with a priest who comes regularly to your meetings, be good to him and continue thanking him for his service to you. Those of you who do not have a regular Spiritual Assistant will need to work out creative solutions so that your meetings will run smoothly. Not having the guidance of a regular Spiritual Assistant puts more responsibility on the local Council. More than ever, we Carmelites need to pray for vocations.

Message From Our Provincial Delegate (cont'd)

In the first few months following the Council's election, it is sometimes difficult for the Councillors to work together. Leadership in the Secular Order is different than that of most other organizations. Decisions are made by the Council together as a whole, not by the President alone. The *OCDS Constitutions* state that "the Council ... constitutes the immediate authority of the Community" (#46). "The President is the presider and coordinator of the Council and Community" (#51). Most of the communities/groups are implementing our new *Formation Guidelines*. They are a much-needed and wonderful addition to our education and spirituality. We continue to thank the Task Force, chaired by Theresa Thomas of the Berkeley Community, which met ten weekends from 2003 through 2006 to write the *Formation Guidelines*.

In this difficult time in our country, God is longing to draw each of us into a closer relationship with him. More than ever, we as Carmelites need to deepen our commitment to the Eucharist, to daily prayer (personal prayer and the Liturgy of the Hours), and to spiritual reading. Our Lady is the model for peace in troubled times. "She teaches us to listen to God's Word in Scripture and in life, to believe in it in every circumstance in order to live its demands. All this she did, without understanding many things; pondering all in her heart until light dawned on her through contemplative prayer" (*Const. #29*).

Your formation and spiritual reading is meant to support your prayer life. Too often OCDS members at every stage do not read and study their formation material. No wonder they are not growing in their Carmelite calling. On the other hand, there are some communities/groups that interpret the *Formation Guidelines* too strictly, to the extent that some members hesitate to come to meetings if they have not completed their assignments.

Our Province's Congress & One-Day Regional Conferences

A few weeks after I took office, the OCDS Provincial Council met July 18-20 in Oakville at our Carmelite House of Prayer. The Council had a lengthy discussion on how we might better serve your diverse needs and communicate better with you. The subject of our Province's Regional Congress, held once every three years, was discussed. Some members around the Province are disappointed that the Congress is so difficult and expensive to attend. Usually about 300 people participate. However, the Provincial Council feels that the advantages of the Congress far outweigh the limitations. The Congress is the only time in each triennium when the seculars from around the Province—and country—can spend time together with Spiritual Assistants and Carmelite Fathers and Brothers to get to know one another and to deepen our vocation. It has become a unique and treasured family reunion.

Our next Western Regional OCDS Congress will be held in Bakersfield June 24-27, 2010 (see page 7). I encourage you to attend. In these hard financial times, I urge each community/group to begin now to take up a regular voluntary collection at your monthly meetings to be used as a Congress scholarship fund for your members. A little money donated month by month by an entire community adds up quickly. If your community or group was able to send two members to the Seattle Congress in 2007, why not try to send four to the Bakersfield Congress in 2010? For the majority of you who still cannot attend our next Congress, the Provincial Council had the idea to organize several One-Day Regional Conferences on Carmelite spirituality and OCDS formation, especially in areas of the Province that do not have much contact with OCD friars. This was very successful in Phoenix in December 2006 when Father Patrick met with a good representation of all five Arizona communities/groups. We have already scheduled other One-Day Regional Conferences in Montana (June 27, 2009), Utah (July 11, 2009), and Arizona (March 6, 2010). I, and possibly one of our Provincial Councillors, will attend.

We also can communicate better through the Internet. I am very grateful to Kathy Marcellino of the Portland OCDS Community for setting up and managing our OCDS Provincial web site. Its address is www.ocds.info. Please make sure you are using our updated forms to send to Peggy in the Central Office. These updated forms are all found on our web site. Peggy and I remind you to keep sending us updates to your roster, including changes of address.

Message From Our Provincial Delegate (cont'd)

We thank all our communities and groups for sending in your yearly dues this past year. Almost one hundred percent of our communities and groups responded in 2008. Our annual dues will remain at \$25 this year. Of course, this should not be a burden on anyone. Those who have been received into formation (Formation I) do pay annual dues to the Central Office. Aspirants do not pay dues.

OCDS Provincial Council

The *OCDS Constitutions* state: "There shall be a six member Provincial Council for the Secular Carmelites. It shall be composed of five members of the OCDS California-Arizona Province and the Provincial Delegate" (*Statutes XXVI, #1*).

Our Province's first Provincial Council began in 2004 when Father Patrick, after much consultation, appointed as Councillors Chris Hart (Oregon), Virginia Black (Wyoming), Thomas Moore (Idaho), Doreen Glynn-Pawski (California), and Sue Williams (New Mexico). At their first meeting, Chris Hart was appointed President of the Provincial Council, and Thomas Moore was appointed Secretary.



OCDS Provincial Council, July 18-20, Oakville, California. Front row (L to R): Sue Williams and Virginia Black. Back row (L to R): Chris Hart, Father Donald Kinney, Thomas Moore, and Doreen Glynn-Pawski

"The primary responsibility of the Provincial Council is to assist in formation and the apostolate. The Provincial Council shall also serve as an advisory body to the Provincial" (*Statutes XXVI, #6*). The OCDS Provincial Council is certainly an invaluable benefit to me. During my two meetings with the Provincial Council this triennium, I have been most impressed with the Councillors' dedication. They met fifteen weekends in four years! At their meetings, they really work long and hard! Special thanks to Thomas Moore for his countless hours as Secretary while the Council was writing the *Statutes* and *Formation Guidelines*. The Councillors' wisdom, devotion to the Order, and hard work for you is part of the reason the Secular Order is in such good condition in our Province.

Message From Our Provincial Delegate (cont'd)



Your new OCDS Provincial Council, August 22-24, Oakville, California. (L to R): Doreen Glynn-Pawski, Thomas Moore, Chris Hart, Father Donald Kinney, Cindy Sliger, and Ann Seargeant.

Our *OCDS Provincial Statutes* state that a Councillor's term of office will be three years with possible reappointment for another three years (XXVI:3b). At the end of the 2007 triennium, Virginia Black and Sue Williams requested that they be replaced on the Council. So we asked the communities and groups in the Province for nominations to fill these two positions. Some twenty people were nominated. At our July 18-20 meeting, the Council considered each nomination. After much prayer and discernment, Cindy Sliger and Ann Seargeant were chosen. In choosing these new Provincial Councillors, we made a conscious effort to keep as much geographical diversity on the Council as possible. Cindy Sliger is President of the St. Joseph's Community in Seattle, Washington. She also serves on the OCDS National Council and was co-chairperson of the 2007 Seattle Regional Congress. Ann Seargeant, of the Albuquerque, New Mexico Community, has a broad knowledge of the Secular Order from her previous membership in the Redlands and Ogden OCDS Communities. In Ogden, she was President and Director of Formation. She is now a member of the Albuquerque Community. During the Council's August 22-24 meeting in Oakville, Chris Hart was reappointed President and Cindy Sliger was named Secretary. The next meeting of the OCDS Provincial Council is scheduled for February 20-22 in Oakville. If anyone has a matter for the Council to consider, please contact one of the following Councillors.

Father Donald Kinney, OCD, Provincial Delegate: Phone (408) 259-7786 — E-mail: dkinneyocd@catholic.org

Chris Hart, OCDS, President: Phone (541) 673-5777 — E-mail: thekingshouse@hotmail.com

Thomas Moore, OCDS: Phone (208) 265-2946 — E-mail: tmoore_ocds@nctv.com

Doreen Glynn Pawski, OCDS: Phone (415) 626-1759

Ann Seargeant, OCDS: Phone (505) 281-9792 — E-mail: annsarge@gmail.com

Cindy Sliger, OCDS, Secretary: (425) 785-7311 — E-mail: csliger@comcast.net

Message From Our Provincial Delegate (cont'd)

The Scapular

The brown scapular is the sign of our Carmelite commitment to Our Lady (see *Const. #36b, #31, and Provincial Statutes*, Sec. V). Following these guidelines, I encourage communities to promote wearing the large ceremonial scapular at community meetings and events, especially ceremonies. To attach pins and a name tag to one's large scapular can diminish its value and beauty.

“Formation for Formators” Meeting

The Provincial Council is organizing a meeting for the directors of formation (or an alternate formator) from every community and group in the Province to be held Monday, January 11, through Thursday, January 14, 2010, at the El Carmelo Retreat House in Redlands. Attendance is required. We will be sending you more information.

Let's keep praying for one another!

Fraternally in Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,

Father Donald Kinney, OCD

Update From the OCDS Provincial Council

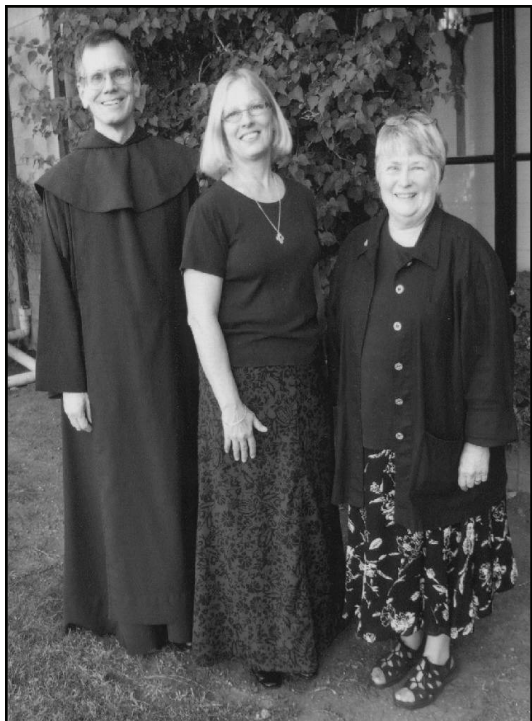
The OCDS Provincial Council wishes to give an update of our activities during the last year. Thomas Moore (Coeur d'Alene) and I represented the OCDS membership at the first two days of the friars' Provincial Chapter May 20-29, 2008, in Redlands. Lillian Kelly (Sacramento) represented the Secular Order's presence at our Uganda Mission, and Peggy Scheerger (San Jose) represented the OCDS Central Office. Also joining the friars were nine Carmelite nuns from five monasteries in the Province.

On the first day of the Provincial Chapter, the friars, nuns, and seculars shared in a retreat given by Bishop Gordon Bennett, SJ. On the second day, some of the nuns gave a presentation to the Chapter. Then I spoke on behalf of the seculars. Lillian Kelly also shared her experiences as part of the Uganda Mission. Each presentation was followed by a short discussion with more during the afternoon. We all shared our experiences and sought ways to foster better relationships and interactions among the friars, nuns, and seculars in the future.

We thank Virginia Black (Cheyenne) and Sue Williams (Albuquerque) for their five years of service on the Provincial Council, and we welcome our new members Ann Seargeant (Albuquerque) and Cindy Sliger (St. Joseph's-Seattle). The OCDS Provincial Council continues to work on a “Procedures Manual” for use in our communities and groups. We hope to have this completed soon. We thank the communities and groups for your responses to our recent Formation Survey. When the Council meets again February 20-22, we will study your comments and suggestions. They will help us plan the “Formation for Formators” meeting set for January 11-14, 2010, at El Carmelo Retreat House in Redlands. Please let us know how we can be helpful to your needs in the future.

- Submitted by Chris Hart, President -

Bakersfield OCDS Western Regional Congress



(L to R) Father Donald Kinney with Catherine Faller & Cheryl Dockter, co-chairpersons of the Congress.

We are pleased to announce that the next OCDS Western Regional Congress will be held in Bakersfield, California, June 24-27, 2010. The Bakersfield OCDS Community just began in 1999 but was already canonically established in 2007. They are a dynamic community! Cheryl Dockter and Catherine Faller are the Congress' co-chairpersons.

They and their Community are enthusiastically looking forward to welcoming you to the first OCDS Congress in California's Central Valley. The theme of the Bakersfield Congress is "Our Carmelite Saints and their Families: Inspiring Us Today."

Bakersfield is an agricultural center and the "Country Music Capital of the West" with a population of over 300,000. After the 1849 Gold Rush, Colonel Thomas Baker was one of the first settlers in the area. His generous hospitality became legendary: travelers appreciated the welcome their horses received in "Baker's Field."

The beautiful Doubletree Hotel in Bakersfield and the exceptional hospitality of its staff have impressed our OCDS Congress Committee. The Doubletree Hotel is offering us a lower rate than comparable hotels in larger cities.

Bakersfield has its own airport (BFL), and the Doubletree has a free shuttle bus to the airport.

For those who plan on driving to the Congress, Bakersfield is:

- 2 hours north of Los Angeles
- 2 hours south of Fresno
- 4 hours south of Sacramento
- 4 hours south of San Jose
- 4.5 hours north of San Diego
- 5 hours south of San Francisco
- 5 hours west of Las Vegas

Each of the three Provinces in the United States tries to hold an OCDS Congress every three years with a National Congress held every ten years. In our Province, previous Congresses have been held in Redlands (1971), San Francisco (1974), Seattle (1977), Santa Clara (1980), San Diego (1984), Seattle (1987), San Diego (1990), a National Congress in San Francisco (1993), Pasadena, (1998), Las Vegas (2004), and most recently in Seattle (2007).

Now it's Bakersfield's time to shine!

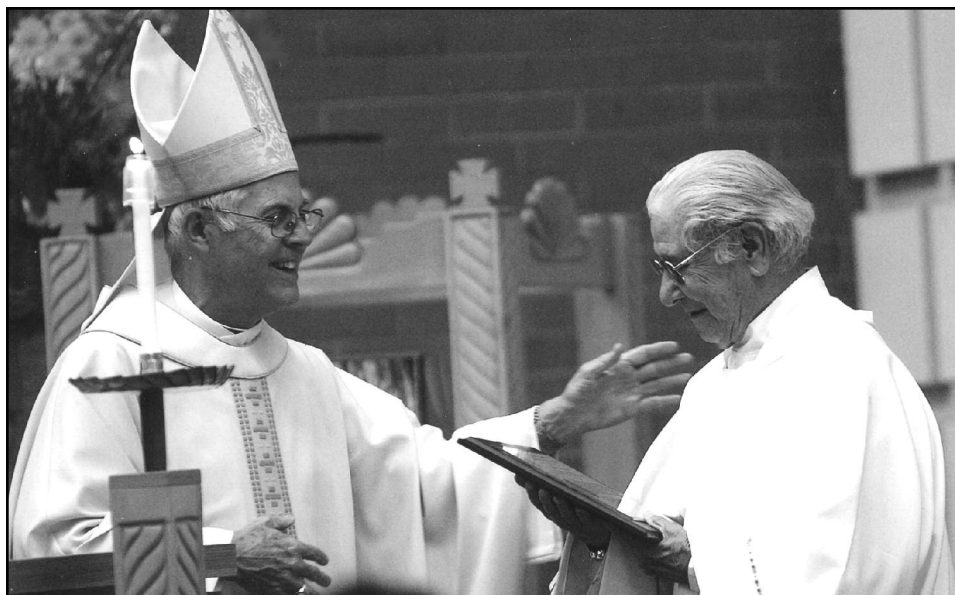
More information on the Congress will be coming.

Some Events Around the Province

On January 4, the OCDS Community of St. Joseph in Seattle honored Dr. Maria Orallo for her many years of service to Carmel. Maria has been a Secular Order Carmelite for forty-three years. She was chiefly responsible for founding the Secular Order Communities of St. Joseph in Seattle, Washington; Eugene, Oregon; Salt Lake City, Utah; Juneau, Alaska; Anchorage, Alaska; and Richmond, British Columbia, Canada.



To the left of Maria Orallo is Father Robert Egan, SJ, long-time spiritual assistant to the St. Joseph-Seattle Community. To her right is Father Scott Settimo, OCDS, now spiritual assistant of the Juneau OCDS Group.



On June 30, Deacon Ruben Barela of the Albuquerque OCDS Community celebrated fifty years as a Secular Order Carmelite. Shown with him at a special Mass in his honor is Archbishop Michael Sheehan of Santa Fe.

Some Events Around the Province (cont'd)



On October 11, 2008, the Santa Barbara OCDS Community celebrated fifty years of canonical establishment. Pictured above is the Community. Mary Klink, third from left in front row, was one of the original founders of this Community. Also in this photo are Audrey Adelson, President; Rudyne Egan, Director of Formation; and Father Carrol O'Sullivan, Spiritual Assistant.



The Sierra Vista, Arizona, OCDS Community was canonically established on November 8, 2008, at St. Andrew the Apostle church. Shown here after Mass is the Community with Father Gregory Adolf, Pastor; Deacon Salvador Román, Spiritual Assistant; Nancy Goldcamp, President; Paula Kjolsrud, Director of Formation; Father Donald Kinney, Provincial Delegate; two Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles from Douglas, Arizona; three novice brothers from San Jose, California; and OCDS guests from Tucson and Phoenix, Arizona.

Eastern Province OCDS Congress

The Washington (Eastern) Province will be hosting the OCDS Congress in Baltimore this July 16-19, 2009, at the Westin BWI Hotel. The theme is **Embracing All Challenges with Zeal, Prayer, and Action**. Their statement reads: "Let us embrace the challenges faced by each and every OCDS community — United in zeal, prayer, and action, we know that our Lord and Lady will bless and guide us." The goal of the Congress is to identify and explore solutions to the challenges facing our Secular Carmelites now and in the future.

For more information about the Congress, log on to their web site at www.ocds2009congress.org.

Carmelite Digest



Carmelite Digest is a quarterly magazine published and sponsored by the California-Arizona Province of Discalced Carmelite Friars. It has become part of their ministry. It will assist you in your prayerful quest in finding the path to God and is a wonderful channel of communication within the Carmelite Order. We use few ads and offer our readers almost 80 pages of solid reading material. Our subscription prices are an affordable \$26 a year. Or you can save by subscribing for two years at \$46. We also offer a five-year subscription for \$94. All current subscribers can get a nice price break by "renewing early." We encourage our Carmelite Seculars to consider subscribing to this Provincial publication and enjoy the many outstanding articles we present from our writers, both religious and secular. Most of our writers are Carmelites, but we do publish articles from others that contain common sense spirituality.

Check out our newly designed web site. Log on at www.carmelitedigest.com. If you have any questions or comments, write us at our e-mail address at carmelitedig@aol.com. You may also reach us by phone at (707) 944-9007 and may place phone orders using Visa/MasterCard.

Beatification of Blessed Louis & Zélie Martin



The Church around the world has been rejoicing in the October 19, 2008, beatification of Blessed Zélie and Louis Martin, the parents of St. Thérèse. Our families need their intercession and inspiration! To commemorate their beatification, we had 100,000 prayer cards printed. They were distributed among the friars, nuns, and especially the Secular Order branch of our Province.

Thank you very much for your generous donations to help cover our printing and mailing costs. These cards are now spreading far and wide, even to our mission in Uganda.

The letters of Blessed Zélie and Louis Martin are now being translated into English and should be published in another year. In the meantime, on pg. 11 is one of Blessed Zélie's letters that has never been published in English.

A Letter from Blessed Zélie Martin to her Sister-in-law¹



Zélie is writing to Céline Guérin, the wife of her brother Isidore. They had convinced Zélie to come to Lisieux to consult Dr. Notta, a fine doctor there, about her worsening breast cancer. He did not give her much hope. Her condition was so serious that she missed Christmas with her family in Alençon. She was to die eight months later on August 28 at the age of forty-five, leaving her husband and five daughters under the age of eighteen. Thérèse, the youngest, was four and a half.

December 31, 1876

So one more year has gone by ... As for me, I don't regret it. I'm impatiently waiting for the end of the next one; however, I hardly have reason to rejoice to see the time pass. I'm like children who don't worry about tomorrow. I always hope for happiness.

I've thought of you many a time since I left you. I can still see you surrounding me with every possible care. Really, if I stayed long with you, you would spoil me completely. Do you know how hard it is after that to get back to work and miseries of all kinds? I could easily get used to the sweet life you gave me during those three days. I think I'm cured or on the way to being cured because since Thursday I haven't felt the least little pain. In any case, I could go on like that for a very long time. It won't be the same for my sister. We're only expecting the saddest news, sad for us, but not for her, for I think she is truly blessed to have prepared herself for such a holy death.²

As for me, I'm trying to change, but I'm not getting there. It really is true that we die as we've lived. We can't go against the current when we want to. I assure you that I really see this in myself. Sometimes I get discouraged about it. They say, however, that it just takes a moment for an outcast to become a saint, but I think he would only be a very little saint! Well, we need all kinds of saints.

In spite of my desire to hide my illness from Pauline,³ she's already heard too much talk about it. This morning she asked me what all this was about. I told her that I could live fifteen to twenty years more like this. She was very reassured. That seems an eternity to her. That's the way it is when you're young. You don't worry about what's so far off. So on Wednesday, I'll take her back to the Visitation. I'm really afraid that something bad will happen to my sister between now and then. In that case, I don't know if I'll have the courage to go back to Le Mans.

I have to finish. It's time for the mail. I wish you much happiness in this new year. If God grants my prayers, you'll be as happy as Adam and Eve in their earthly Paradise. They should have stayed there and not thrown us into misery like they did. I'm not grateful to them for that.

I kiss all of you with all the love I have, and I thank you thousands and thousands of times for your many kindnesses to me.

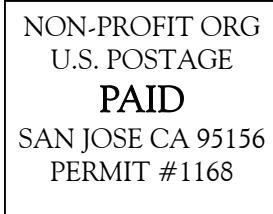
Notes:

¹ Letter 180 from Zélie Martin, *Correspondance Familiale de Zélie Martin, 1863-1877*, Paris: Office Central de Lisieux /Librairie Saint-Paul, 1958.

² Zélie's sister Marie-Louise, in religion Sister Marie-Dosithée, was a Visitation nun in Le Mans. She died of tuberculosis on February 24, 1877, at the age of forty-eight.

³ Pauline, age fifteen, was at home on Christmas vacation from her boarding school with the Visitation nuns in Le Mans.

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