



Congress Chronicles

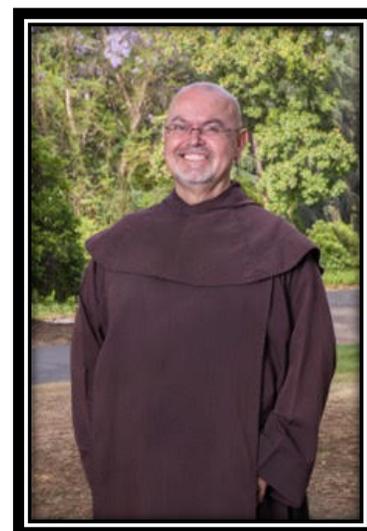
Promoting the Ontario, California OCDS Congress of the CA-AZ Province

Welcome to the “Congress Chronicles”, sponsored by the OCDS Central Office of the California-Arizona Province.
 Logo Graphic Designer: *Linnae Frei, OCDS*

To my brothers and sisters of the
 Discalced Carmelite Seculars,

Praised be Jesus Christ!

In March, the Province hosted the
 triennial workshop for the
 Carmelite Seculars at our El
 Carmelo Retreat House in Redlands,



California. I had the privilege of giving the first address to the sixty Formators gathered from all over the Province. After welcoming and giving a few words of encouragements I opened the floor to questions. One Carmelite Secular asked, “what is your vision for our Province during your time as Provincial Superior?” My response, although originally intended for the Friars, is equally relevant to the Seculars. First, my hope is to cultivate and encourage an atmosphere where holiness will thrive and be the norm; and second, that we will come to a greater respect and appreciation for the dignity of the Liturgy. As Catholics and Carmelites, these two goals cannot be separated. They are essential to our vocations. We have already opened this conversation among the Friars and I encourage you to do the same in your own groups and communities.

As St. Teresa said, “there is a time for penance and there is a time for partridge.” A part of that partridge will be the celebration of the ordination of Bro. Matthias of the Immaculate Heart. We are grateful for the many Secular communities and individuals who support our young Friars in formation in practical and prayerful ways. So, the celebration will be all the greater by your presence. The ordination liturgy will be celebrated at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 8, 2018 at St. Mary Church in Mount Angel, Oregon. If attending, please RSVP to CarmeliteOrdination2018@gmail.com.

Finally, I encourage you to support our 2019 OCDS Congress. Many ways to participate are available. Of course, the best way is to attend. However, the committee is in need of practical support by volunteers and donations. Please be generous. I look forward to seeing you there.

Please know that all of you are in my daily prayer. And I humbly ask for your prayers for our Province and for me. And keep in mind the words of St. Teresa of Calcutta: “holiness is not the luxury of a few, it is the duty of all.”

In Jesus and Mary,

Very Rev. Adam Gregory Gonzales, O.C.D.
 Provincial Superior



Dear Seculars of the St. Joseph Province, Peace in Carmel.

The Provincial Statutes Section XXVIII, #12, states: “Each U.S. Province shall normally hold a Regional Congress every three years.” Although, in the context of Section XXVIII, this is a directive to the OCDS Provincial Council, it is intended for all the Seculars of our respective U.S. Province. This is what the Order desires of us. This is our opportunity for Carmelite communion. This is the opportunity when we can step outside our local community and open ourselves to the communities and the members of the wider Province. This is the opportunity when we can celebrate the larger family of our Province. I encourage you to avail yourself of this special opportunity. As any family, I encourage each of you to support this Congress in whatever way you can, each according to the measure of the gift given to you personally and the measure of the gift given to your local community, be it with material resources or spiritual resources. May the Lord bless you.

Fraternally in Carmel,

Fr. Juan Elias Medina, OCD
OCDS Provincial Delegate



The 2019 Ontario Congress collaboration effort is led by Chairperson **Jim Montpas** (right) and assisted by **Amy Holmes** (middle) and **Stan Interrante** (left).

Dear OCDS Communities and Groups in the Western Province,

The Alhambra Community of “St. Teresa of Jesus and St. John of the Cross”, and Alhambra Group of “Pope St. John Paul II” are hosting the 2019 OCDS Congress for our Province. Our fundraising committee is working very hard to raise money to lower the cost of everyone’s registration at the Congress. We are writing to ask for your help in two ways:

1. As stated in our last issue of “The Congress Chronicles”, we wish to encourage all of you to do some fundraising for your own community in order to offer scholarships for all your members to attend the Congress. Some simple things that we have been doing in our community and group are:
 - At every meeting, we have 2 boxes positioned on the Council’s table. One is marked for donations to our own community & group. The other is marked for donations to the Congress.
 - We have 2 tables for used books, religious articles, etc. They are marked with the same 2 signs for donations: Community/Congress.
 - Bake sales have been used during some of our meetings.
 - We began putting together a pilgrimage to Mexico for December of this year (see page 6 below). If we fill 50 seats in a tour bus, one of our members will generously donate a sizable sum to the Congress.

2. We started a raffle in our May meetings that will run from May until November 10, 2018. We are now asking all communities and groups to participate in this Province-wide raffle. Anyone can buy a ticket. The proceeds from this raffle will go directly toward lowering the cost of the Congress registration fee for everyone. This will make the Congress more accessible to all the members of our Province and other Provinces as well.

We thank you all for your constant prayers and your help to make this a blessed 2019 OCDS Congress! We would really appreciate your help in these efforts.

May Our Lady of Mount Carmel bless us all.

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Stan Interrante, OCDS
stancarmel911@gmail.com
(714) 996-4164

Organizers of the Alhambra Community and Group



Stan Interrante, OCDS
St. Teresa of Avila & St. John of the Cross Community
Alhambra OCDS Community President

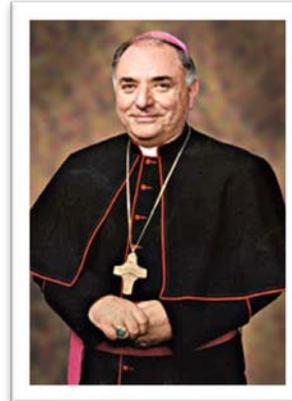
All of us in our Carmelite family have so much to be grateful for, and for which to be thankful to the Lord. We are called to be an example to the world of love, mutual support, and solidarity. Our upcoming Congress in June of 2019 will give us an opportunity to share our experiences, grow in Faith, and establish a closer collaboration between our OCDS communities.

As part of our organizing team, we are working to make our Southern California Congress a memorable and spiritually enriching event. We look forward to meeting and greeting all of you. God bless you and we hope to see you in Ontario, California.

~~~ **Celebrants and Homilists at the Eucharist** ~~~

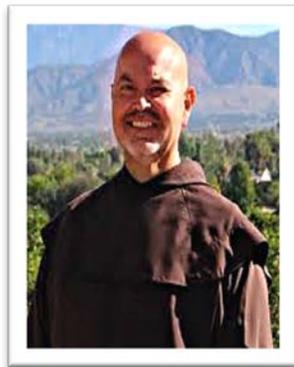


**Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Papal Nuncio to the United States**, will preside and preach at Mass on Saturday morning, June 22, 2019 and speak after the

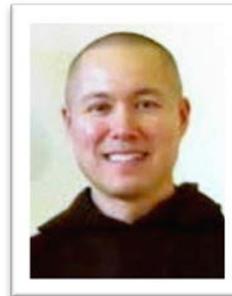


**Bishop Gerald R. Barnes** celebrates twenty-five years as Bishop of the Diocese of San Bernardino this year. Bishop Barnes will preside and preach at Mass on Friday, June 21, 2019.

banquet that evening



**Very Rev. Adam Gregory Gonzales, OCD** is Provincial Superior of the California-Arizona Province. He will be presiding and preaching at the Thursday, June 20, 2019 opening Mass of the Congress.



**Fr. Thomas Reeves, OCD** is Superior of El Carmelo Retreat House in Redlands, California. He will be presiding and preaching at the closing Mass on the Congress on Sunday, June 23, 2019.

~~~ **Speakers** ~~~



Fr. Alzinir Debastiani, OCD is General Delegate for the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites. He made his First Profession in 1984 and was ordained a priest in 1994. He travels extensively in Europe, South America, and Africa.



Fr. Juan Elias Medina, OCD is our OCDS Provincial Delegate since January 2, 2018 and resides at El Carmelo Retreat House in Redlands, CA. He entered the CA-AZ Province of Discalced Carmelite Friars in 2002. He studied philosophy at Mt. Angel Seminary and theology at the Teresianum in Rome. He was ordained a priest in 2011.



Sister Regina Marie Gorman, OCD is a member of the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles and is known for her tireless commitment to bring Jesus Christ to those with whom she works and serves.



Br. John Cannon, OCD is from Birmingham, AL. Prior to entering Carmel, he served as a policy advisor to the Governor of Alabama and later worked as a financial consultant. He is currently in his second year of theology, preparing for priesthood.



Marie-Paul Stevens, OCDS is from Belgium. She was diagnosed with an auto-immune disease in 1997 that gradually made her an invalid. By 2002, she was preparing to die. Hear about her miraculous healing, which is approved by the Vatican.

~~~ 2019 Ontario Congress Information ~~~



***** Registration Opens January 1, 2019 *****

Theme

Secular Carmelites: Radiating Gratitude & Love

Venue

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Ontario Airport

Rate: \$149 (up to four people per room);
222 N Vineyard Ave, Ontario, CA 91764
(909) 937-0900

Dates to Remember

Congress Dates: June 20-23, 2019

Registration Start Date: January 1, 2019

Website Launch Date: November 1, 2018

For those who do not have access to the Internet, information will be mailed to all our Communities and Groups.

Congress Prayer

Gracious heavenly Father, we ask You to bless us as we prepare for our 2019 OCDS Congress in Ontario.

May we be open to the inspirations of Your Spirit.

Guide and strengthen us as we work together.

Help us to overcome any difficulties that come our way.

May our Congress be a great blessing for us all!

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, may we do whatever we can to “radiate gratitude and love” in our world today.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

NOTE:

2018 OCDS Congress

October 18 ~ 21, 2018

At the Polaris Hilton, Columbus, OH

<http://www.2018ocdscongress.com/>

GEORGE'S
INTERNATIONAL TOURS



PILGRIMAGE TO MEXICO

December 3-10, 2018

with

Fr. Francis Goode, OP

Chaplain



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Dec. 3: U.S.A. / Mexico City

Our Mexico adventure and spiritual journey begins as we depart the United States on our flight to Mexico City. Upon arrival in Mexico City we will be welcomed by our local guide and transfer to our hotel.

Day 2 - Dec. 4: Mexico City

After breakfast, we will board our motorcoach for a visit to the Plaza of the Three Cultures to see the ancient ruins and the place where Juan Diego was baptized. Continue to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the holiest place in the Western Hemisphere, for an introductory guided tour of the Basilica and the surrounding grounds, including the old Basilica, Tepeyac Hill Indian Church, the Church of the Well, and the Monument of the Offerings. Mass will be celebrated at one of the side altars. In the afternoon, we will visit the Anthropological Museum and the Metropolitan Cathedral.

Day 3 - Dec. 5: Mexico City

This morning visit the Floating Gardens of Xochimilco where we will enjoy a guided tour through the canals on board a typical chalupa (small boat). Continue to Tulpetlac, the site of the 5th apparition to Juan Diego's uncle, Juan Bernardino, and the Monastery of Acolman. Then proceed to Teotihuacan to visit the Pyramids of the Sun and Moon. After dinner this evening we will go to Plaza Garibaldi to attend a traditional Mexican folkloric show.

Day 4 - Dec. 6: Mexico City

Drive to Puebla to visit the Santo Domingo Church and celebrate mass at the Capilla del Rosario. Continue to the Shrine and Sanctuary of Our Lady of Ocotlan. Here Our Lady appeared to Juan Diego Bernardino in 1541 and left her miraculous statue in a burnt tree. Our next stop is the Shrine of San Miguel del Milagro, the site of miraculous apparitions of St. Michael to Diego Lazaro in 1631. Pray St. Michael's exorcism and visit the well of healing waters before returning to Mexico City.

Day 5 - Dec. 7: Mexico City / Guanajuato

This morning we will depart Mexico City for Queretaro. After Mass at the Santa Rosa de Viterbo Convent we will enjoy a tour through the cobblestoned streets of this beautiful colonial town. Home of the famous Corregidora, Queretaro played a leading role during the Independence War as well as in the Revolution movement of 1910. Continue to San Miguel de Allende which was founded in 1524 by the Franciscan monk, Juan de San Miguel. The town added Allende to its name after the Independence hero, Ignacio Allende, perhaps its most famous resident. This city enchants visitors with its cobblestoned streets, inviting Zocalo, framed by stunning 17th century Gothic churches, strings of outdoor cafes and numerous art galleries. Continue to Guanajuato and check in at our hotel.

Day 6 - Dec. 8: Guanajuato / Guadalajara

After breakfast we will enjoy a tour of Guanajuato, the "Cradle of Independence," where the revolutionary leader Captain Ignacio Allende allied himself with Father Hidalgo. Our visits here will include the Alhondiga, Jardin San Gabriel de la Barrera, and the Minas de la Valenciana. Then depart Guanajuato and drive to Cerro del Cubilete to see Christ of the Mountain. Our next stop will be in San Juan de los Lagos to visit the main Cathedral and then we will continue to Guadalajara to check in at our hotel.

Day 7 - Dec. 9: Guadalajara

This morning we will drive to Our Lady of Zapopan for Mass and then later tour Tlequepapie and the downtown area of Guadalajara including the Cathedral, Plaza Tapatia and many other interesting sites and building connected with the Colonial era.

Day 8 - Dec. 10: Guadalajara / U.S.A.

After breakfast drive to the airport for our return flight home with wonderful memories of our pilgrimage.

\$1,650.00

per person based upon double occupancy

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For single occupancy please add \$262.00.

This price includes:

- ✘ Roundtrip airfare from Los Angeles
- ✘ All airline taxes/fuel surcharges as currently levied
- ✘ Accommodation in a Superior Four Star hotels
- ✘ All hotel taxes
- ✘ Breakfast and dinner daily
- ✘ Land transportation by deluxe motorcoach
- ✘ All transfers & baggage handling at hotels
- ✘ Sightseeing with a professional licensed guide
- ✘ All entrance fees as per itinerary
- ✘ Gratuities to the hotel staff and waiters for the included meals
- ✘ Daily Mass

Airfares from other departure cities throughout the United States are available upon request.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

Reservations and Payment: Please complete the attached Reservation Application and return it with your deposit of \$300.00 per person at the time of booking. Final payment is due 65 days prior to departure.

Cancellations: All cancellations must be in writing. The following per person cancellation charges will apply: if canceled 91 days or more prior to departure, a \$50.00 administrative fee will be charged. If canceled 90 - 61 days prior to departure, \$250.00 will be charged. If canceled 60 - 31 days prior to departure, \$450.00 will be charged. If canceled 30 - 7 days prior to departure \$700.00 will be charged. No refunds will be made within 6 days of departure. In addition, once the airline tickets have been issued, 100% of the airfare is non-refundable unless you have been advised otherwise at the time of your booking. Additional cancellation charges may apply depending upon the cancellation terms of our suppliers.

Refunds: Subject to the foregoing Cancellation Terms, upon cancellation of travel related services, all sums paid to George's International Tours for such services will be promptly returned to the passenger, provided the passenger has not caused such cancellation and is not in violation of any of the terms and conditions previously, clearly and conspicuously disclosed and agreed to by the passenger. This refund provision does not apply where George's International Tours has remitted the payment to another registered seller of travel or a carrier and they default in providing the agreed-upon transportation or service without providing a refund. In such a situation, George's International Tours agrees to provide passenger with a written statement accompanied by a copy of the bank records establishing the disbursement of the payment, and if disbursed to a seller of travel, proof of their current registration.

Trust Account Disclosure: California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. George's International Tours has such a trust account.

Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"): George's International Tours is a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"). You, the passenger, may request reimbursement from TCRC if the Seller of Travel was registered and participating in the TCRC at the time of sale and the passenger is located in California at the time of payment. Please be advised that passengers purchasing from outside of California are not covered by the TCRC. Eligible passengers may file a claim with TCRC if the passenger is owed a refund of more than \$50 for transportation or travel services which the Seller of Travel failed to forward to a proper provider or if such money was not refunded to you when required. The maximum amount which may be paid by the TCRC to any one passenger is the total amount paid on behalf of the passenger to the Seller of Travel, not to exceed \$15,000. A claim must be submitted to the TCRC within six months after the scheduled completion date of the travel. A claim must include sufficient information and documentation to prove your claim and a \$35 processing fee. You must agree to waive your right to other civil remedies against a registered participating Seller of Travel for matters arising out of a sale for which you file a claim with the TCRC, if you were located in California at the time of the sale. You may request a claim form by writing to: Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation, P.O. Box 6001, Larkspur, CA 94977-6001; or by faxing a request to 415-927-7698.

Travel Documents: A passport with a minimum of 6 months validity remaining is required of all U.S. citizens. U.S. citizens do not require visas for entry to Mexico. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please call to find out if you need a visa. George's International is not responsible for visas or passports.

Tour Cost: All quoted prices are based upon airfares, tariffs and currency exchange rates at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. Should the minimum number of 20 tour members not be reached, the right is reserved to increase the tour cost accordingly.

Tour Documents and Tickets: Final tour documents are mailed, provided we have received full payment, within 3 weeks of departure.

Baggage: Each passenger is allowed one checked bag and one carry-on. You will be responsible for paying to the airline any additional charges for additional checked baggage or overweight baggage (if excess weight is permitted). George's International Tours is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen baggage.

Air Transportation: Air travel is in economy class on United Airlines (or any other IATA carrier). Fares are based upon levels in effect at the time of printing. Fares and flight schedules are subject to change without notice.

Hotels: Accommodations are based on double occupancy rooms. A limited number of single rooms are available at the supplement quoted and should be requested at the time of booking.

Travel Insurance: We strongly recommend that you have comprehensive travel insurance. Insurance may be purchased directly through George's International Tours and registration forms will be provided upon receipt of your deposit or you may purchase online at www.georgesintl.com. George's International Tours acts only as an intermediary between you and the insurance provider and in no event shall George's International Tours be liable to any person or entity whatsoever for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, exemplary, compensatory, consequential, or punitive damages related to insurance coverage purchased.

Not Included: Gratuities to guide and driver, passport and visa fees, personal travel insurance, laundry, beverages and items not on the regular menu of the included meals, additional baggage in excess of airport allowance, optional sightseeing tours, and all expenses of a purely personal nature.

Responsibility Clause: The passenger contract issued by the transportation company shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation company and the passenger. Additional expenses incurred as a result of delay, change of schedules, illness, weather, strikes, hostilities, quarantine, government requisition of hotel space or any other reasons beyond the control of the tour operator or travel agent shall be borne by the passenger. George's International Tours reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category if necessary and to alter itineraries.

Limitation of liability: The airlines, hotels, and other suppliers (jointly: "travel suppliers") providing travel or other services sold by George's International Tours are independent contractors and not agents or employees of George's International Tours. George's International Tours and/or their cooperating selling agents and/or their travel suppliers offer these tours for sale only on the express understanding that they themselves do not perform or in any way assume liability for the performance of the individual components, transfers, hotels, flights, car, motorcoaches, etc. of these tours and act only to combine these components into a single unit of sale for the convenience of the general public. To the extent permitted by law, George's International Tours does not assume liability for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay due to an act or omission of a travel supplier, including, without limitation, an act of negligence or the default of a travel supplier. To the extent permitted by law, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage and/or delay due to force majeure, sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, bankruptcy, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather, terrorism or any causes beyond George's International Tours' control. Further, no responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omissions, delays, failure to make connections, non-performance or poor performance, loss of revenue, loss of anticipated profits, any additional expenses or lost business, attributable to you yourself, acts or omissions of any third parties, or acts of any governmental authority, even if George's International Tours has been advised that such damages were possible or probable.

Please refer to www.georgesintl.com for further disclosures concerning travel risks, travels with special needs or disabilities, and arbitration.

Your deposit certifies that you agree with the above terms and conditions.

For further information on this pilgrimage please contact:

Tessie Gonzales

Phone: (323) 255-2925

Email: tgonzales34@roadrunner.com

George's International Tours

9265 Dowdy Drive, Suite 232

San Diego, CA 92126

Phone: (800) 566-7499

Fax: (858) 271-6692

Email: sales@georgesintl.com

Website: www.georgesintl.com

CST# 2035995-40

GEORGE'S INTERNATIONAL TOURS

RESERVATION APPLICATION

Pilgrimage to Mexico (December 3-10, 2018)

Group Reference Number: 120318A

PERSONAL INFORMATION (Please complete one application per person)

| | |
|---|---|
| Name (as printed on your passport):
First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____ Last Name: _____ | |
| Name (as you wish it to appear on your name badge): | |
| Passport number: | Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Passport date of issue: | Passport date of expiration: |
| Country of citizenship: | Date of birth: |
| Street address: | |
| City: | State: Zipcode: |
| Home phone: | Work phone: |
| Mobile phone: | Email address: |

ROOM ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION

| |
|---|
| Please check one: Double occupancy <input type="checkbox"/> Single occupancy (\$262.00 additional) <input type="checkbox"/> |
| If choosing double occupancy, please indicate the name of your roommate if known at the time of booking: |
| If choosing single occupancy, would be willing to share a room with another person? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |

EMERGENCY CONTACT

| |
|---|
| Please list the name, relationship and phone number for a family member/close friend who is <u>NOT</u> traveling with you: |
|---|

Please enclose a deposit of **\$300.00 per person** made payable to **George's International Tours** and mail to:

**George's International Tours
9265 Dowdy Drive, Suite 232
San Diego, CA 92126**