



# OCD

## COMMUNICATIONES

415  
11.2025



**DISCALCED CARMELITES**  
GENERAL CURIA OF THE TERESIAN CARMEL

# PLENARY INDULGENCE FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR OF SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS.

**O**n 6 October 2025, the Apostolic Penitentiary published a decree granting a plenary indulgence on the occasion of the sanjuanist Centenaries, which will be celebrated from 14 December 2025 to 27 December 2026, during which the third centenary of the canonization and the first centenary of the ecclesiastical Doctorate of Saint John of the Cross will be celebrated.

The decree specifies that the faithful will be able to benefit from the indulgence, under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father), if they participate in a spirit of penance and devotion in the jubilee celebrations or if they go on pilgrimage to the designated churches. The decree mentions in particular the Church of San Juan de la Cruz of the Discalced Carmelites in Segovia, where his mortal remains are buried, as the main jubilee site, as well as the churches as-

sociated with the jubilee in the dioceses of Ávila, Segovia and Jaén.

The possibility of obtaining the indulgence is also extended to the elderly, the sick, and the disabled, provided that they unite themselves spiritually to the jubilee celebrations from their place of residence, offering their prayers, sufferings, or sacrifices to our merciful God, with sincere contrition and the desire to fulfil the established conditions as soon as possible.

The Penitentiary also encourages priests to promote the celebration of the sacrament of reconciliation during the jubilee year, so that the faithful may experience this time of grace with a complete inner disposition.

The decree thus officially recognizes the Sanjuanist Jubilee Year as a time of spiritual renewal during which the Church invites the faithful to rediscover the mystical and theological heritage of St John of the Cross under the theme: 'Hope obtains as much as it hopes'.



Prot. N. 02328/2025-841/24/I

## DECRETUM

*PAENITENTIARIA APOSTOLICA, ad augendam fidelium religionem animarumque salutem, vi facultatum sibi specialissimo modo tributarum a Sanctissimo in Christo Patre et Domino Nostro, Domino Leone Divina Providentia Papa XIV, Ministro fidei ac laetitiae nostrae, attentis precibus die III Iunii MMXXIV allatis ab Ex.mo Domino Cesare Franco Martínez, tunc Episcopo Segobiensi, occasione sollemni in honorem Sancti Ioannis a Cruce celebrationum quae, a die XIV Decembris MMXXV usque ad diem XXVII Decembris MMXXVI peraguntur, de caelestibus Ecclesiae thesauris benigne concedit plenariam Indulgentiam, suetis sub condicionibus (sacramentali Confessione, eucharistica Communionem et orationem ad mentem Summi Pontificis) a christifidelibus vere paenitentibus atque caritate compulsis lucrandam, quam etiam animabus fidelium in Purgatorio detentis per modum suffragii applicare possint si, sociato corde cum spiritalibus finibus Iubilaei Ordinarii anni MMXXV, ecclesiam Sancti Ioannis a Cruce Monasterii Sororum Discalceatarum Beatae Mariae Virginis de Monte Carmelo, in forma peregrinationis inviserint et ibi iubilare ritibus devote interfuerint, vel saltem per congruum temporis spatium piis vacaverint considerationibus, concludendis Oratione Dominica, Symbolo Fidei invocationibusque Beatae Mariae Virginis, Reginae Pacis et Sancti Ioannis a Cruce.*

*Senes, infirmi omnesque qui gravi causa domo exire nequeunt, pariter plenariam consequi poterunt Indulgentiam, concepta detestatione cuiusque peccati et intentione praestandi, ubi primum licuerit, tres consuetas condiciones, si coram aliqua imagine iubilare celebrationibus se spiritaliter adiunxerint, precibus doloribusque suis vel incommodis propriae vitae misericordiam Deo oblatam.*

*Quo igitur accessus, ad divinam veniam per Ecclesiae claves consequendam, facilius pro pastoralis caritatis evadat, haec Paenitentaria enixe rogat ut sacerdotes opportunis facultatibus ad confessiones excipiendas praediti, prompto et generoso animo, celebrationi Paenitentiae sese praebeant.*

*Praesenti pro hac vice tantum valituro. Non obstantibus in contrarium facientibus quibuscumque.*

*Datum Romae, ex aedibus Paenitentiarum Apostolicarum, die VI mensis Octobris, anno Dominicae Incarnationis MMXXV.*

*Augustus card. de S. R. E.  
Praefectus*

*+ Christophorus Iosephus Nydhal  
Episcopus Tit. Veleuntis, Regens*





# Ivory Coast: Opening of the double jubilee in Abidjan

**O**n Sunday, 19 October 2025, a solemn Mass was held in Abidjan to mark the opening of the silver jubilee of the presence of the Discalced Carmelite Friars in Ivory Coast and the creation of the parish of *Saint Louis de Gonzague*.

In a joyful atmosphere, the brothers of the Provincial Delegation of *Saint Thérèse Bénédicte de la Croix* and the parishioners gave thanks to God for the wonders He has accomplished through the presence of the Ter-



esian Carmelite Order in this neighbourhood of the city of Abidjan.

This double jubilee was opened by the Provincial Delegate, Brother Florent Traoré. During the celebration, he lit the jubilee candle and sent the organizing committee, composed of brothers, lay members of the Secular Carmelite Order and members of the parish pastoral council, on mission.

Various activities will punctuate this jubilee year, which will come to a solemn close on 21 June 2026.





# ECUADOR: 7<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL MEETING OF THE SECULAR CARMELITE ORDER



**T**he city of Cuenca welcomed the Secular Carmelite Order of Ecuador with open arms from 1 to 3 November for our National Meeting. It was with immense joy that we hosted the 14 OCDS communities of Ecuador and more than 120 brothers and sisters. The opening Eucharist reminded us that holiness is a daily invitation from Jesus, and that we are called to live it with simplicity and depth every day. We then shared on a powerful theme: 'Who are you, brother?', led by Lorena Pabón, OCDS, and Brother José Miguel Chunzho, OCD. On 2 November, we had moments of reflection with our sisters Ana Luisa

Lozano, OCDS, and Sandra García, OCDS, national formator of the Secular Carmelite Order. Then, Fr. Ovidio Rendón, OCD, invited us to rediscover the importance of listening and fraternal commitment in community. On the last day of the meeting, Fr. Robin Calle, OCD, gave us a powerful and enlightening message for our journey: he invited us to be Martha and Mary, servants and contemplatives, capable of loving and serving with availability and humility. These were days of prayer, reflection and fraternity, during which we rediscovered that we are not a group, but an Order, called to live with fidelity and dedication, placing Jesus at the centre of our lives.







## USA: the Relics of St. Therese visit a Carmelite Monastery on its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary

**T**he Relics of St. Therese visited the Carmelite Monastery of Our Lady of Grace and St. Therese in Carmel, California, on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our foundation. We began our Centenary Anniversary with a Holy Year of Thanksgiving. Our Bishop opened our Holy Door on October 24, 2024.

Our Chapel holds about 250 people. About 450 people came for the Arrival of the Relics on October 23, 2025. We processed through the Chapel, holding lighted candles, to welcome St. Therese at the door. The next day, the first Triduum Mass, in honor of St. Therese, was celebrated by the Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles, Slawomir Szkredka, who concelebrated with 13 priests. Over 700 people attended. Over 2,200 people visited the Monastery and Chapel during our Centenary Jubilee Triduum celebration.

When we hosted the relic in 2000, about 1,200 people venerated them. We are greatly encouraged to see the devotion and faith of so many more faithful people, young and old, this time. Therese's message of simplicity, confidence and love is very needed and meaningful in our world today!







## UK: a symposium on Christian Human Development

The On-going Formation Committee of the Anglo-Irish Province organized a symposium on Christian human development. The event took place from 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> October. The setting was our Carmelite Priory in the Northern Ireland city of Derry. The event was open to the Carmelite friars and secular Order from these islands. In all, there were eight speakers, all experts in their field. One evening the Prior of the community, from Belfast, gave the participants a fascinating talk about the troubled history of Ireland. The Symposium coincided with the feast of St Teresa of Avila. We were delighted to welcome our Carmelite Bishop Philip Boyce who presided at the Eucharist. There followed a delicious celebratory dinner then music and singing in true teresian tradition. All who attended said the symposium had been very worthwhile.

## India: A Heavenly Conversation with Therese of Lisieux

Have you ever wondered what would happen if a soul entered heaven and still could not understand why he was there? That is exactly how Fr. Nelson Pinto's play *Mogache Vaten (Path of Love)* begins, with a baffled sinner, a slightly irritated St. Peter, and the gentle intercession of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. Staged on November 9, 2025, at St. Agnes College Auditorium, Mangaluru, this production was a highlight of the Centenary Celebration of the Canonization of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. Written by Fr. Nelson Pinto, OCD, directed by Mr. Arunraj Rodrigues, and performed by the talented young artists of Mandd Sobhann's





Kala Kul, *Mogache Vaten* goes far beyond a mere retelling of the saint's life. It is a living meditation on her spirituality - told with imagination, humour, and heart. It is not just a drama, it is an encounter, a conversation between heaven and humanity, reminding us that love, when lived simply, still leads us to God.



## BURUNDI: TEREZA MWIZA FESTIVAL 2025



**4** October 2025 marked the anniversary of the *Teresa Mwiza Festival*, organized annually by the Carmelite Brothers in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Bujumbura. Twelve choirs took part in the final stage of the celebrations. Each had different skills, but the organizers finally selected the three that stood out: the *Regina Caeli* choir, the *Voix des Anges* choir and the *Charismatic* choir, all three from the Vicariate of Saint Michael. In addition to the praise given to the three choirs that sang first, congratulations were also given to those who had performed the requested songs.







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