



CASA GENERALIZIA CARMELITANI SCALZI
CORSO D'ITALIA, 38
00198 ROMA

Dear Major Superiors
Delegates and Assistants for the OCDS
Provincial and national OCDS Councils
OCDS Brothers and sisters,

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

In the letter I sent you on September 30, 2024, I brought to your attention the importance of not letting the first promise of the OCDS expire, which has **juridical value** and is valid for **three years** (cfr. OCDS Const. 36c). Unfortunately, we continue to experience the little importance that some circumscriptions give to this important fact. There are many brothers and sisters of the OCDS who find themselves in irregular situations regarding their promise. Some have let their first promise expire and continue their life in community without formally extending it and others have made their definitive promise having let the first promise expire. It is necessary to remember that the promises in the OCDS - with due distinctions, of course - are as important as the vows are for the nuns and friars in our Order. The OCDS is not a devotional group or association, its members are members of the Order of Discalced Carmelites and must fulfill what is required of them in their Constitutions.

I explained to you that a *sanatio in radice* was necessary to regularize these situations and I asked you to request it by writing to the OCDS Secretariat in Rome, in the case you have members who find themselves in these situations. Many circumscriptions have requested it and some others - in which we know there are people in irregular situations - have not done so.

We thought we could deal with this important issue within the Order itself, but after consulting the *Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life*, we were informed that it is up to the Holy See to intervene to regularize these members of the OCDS in irregular situations by granting them a *sanatio in radice*.

Being aware of the seriousness of this problem, I ask Major Superiors, who are the legitimate superiors and responsible of the OCDS in their own circumscriptions, to pay attention to this delicate

matter. Likewise, I ask the Delegates and Assistants of the OCDS, the provincial and/or national Councils of the OCDS and the OCDS Councils of each community, to ensure that these situations do not happen again, because that would require further intervention by the Holy See.

In the coming month of March 2025, we will present to the Holy See the request for a *sanatio in radice* for all the members of the OCDS who are in irregular situations regarding to their promise. We have been informed that we must present a list with the full name of each person requesting it. I kindly ask you to send this list in PDF format to the OCDS Secretariat (secularord@ocdcuria.org), no later than March 15, 2025. This list must be accompanied by a letter of request signed by the Major Superior of the circumscription or his delegate, addressed to the *Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life*. Please attach the signatures of all those requesting the *sanatio in radice*. Please note that it will be granted to the individual persons named on the list, and not generically to a country or circumscription.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your understanding and prompt collaboration. May this year 2025 bring many blessings to you, your families and your communities. I bless you all and ask Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Joseph to accompany and protect you.

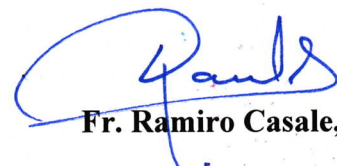
Fraternally,

Rome, January 21, 2025



Fr. Miguel Márquez Calle, OCD

Superior General



Fr. Ramiro Casale, OCD

General Delegate for the OCDS