

OCDS NEWSLETTER



California-Arizona Province of St. Joseph



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Message From Our Provincial Delegate

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Praised be Jesus Christ!

Wonders never cease! There are many graces during these days of prayer with Our Lady of Mount Carmel: We're finally able to resume our "OCDS Provincial Newsletter." I appreciate your patience during this very long delay.

This is an historic issue: It is our first email newsletter. Our OCDS Provincial Council made the decision to change the format because printing had become more and more expensive, the quality of the photos was disappointing, and many copies were returned due to members' changes of address.

This email format will enable us to communicate easier and more often with you. We can send short bulletins from time to time, without such long delays.

However, about half our OCDS members in the Province don't have email. So it will be up to each community and group to designate one person to make copies for everyone and to distribute them at your next meeting.

I would appreciate your feedback on this new format. This issue will be short. In the future, we'll be giving you more in-depth articles and news.

Father Donald Kinney, OCD

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New OCDS Provincial Council Members

The OCDS Provincial Council met July 1-3 at the Carmelite House of Prayer in Oakville, California. During this meeting, we elected four new members for this triennium. It is my joy to announce their names now. In alphabetical order, they are:

Erin Foord (Santa Clara Community). He has been Director of Formation for several terms and continues to serve on his local Council as a Councilor.

Rebecca Lambert (Portland Community). She has served as President of the Eugene Community, moved to Sacramento, was a member of that community, and now lives in Portland where she is Director of Formation. Rebecca served on the 2003 task force that helped draw up our *Formation Guidelines*.

Lucy Okoh (Denver Community) is in her second term as President.

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New OCDS Provincial Council Members (cont'd)

Thelma Prisco (Boise Group). Thelma was a member of the Oakville Community and is now Group Leader in Boise.

In accordance with Section XXVI of our “Provincial Statutes,” these four new Provincial Councilors were chosen from nominations received from the communities and groups around the Province, as well as from the Provincial Council itself.

Cindy Sliger (St. Joseph Community, Seattle) and I will be continuing on as members of the Provincial Council for one more triennium.

On behalf of our entire Province, I thank Chris Hart (Eugene Community); Thomas Moore (Coeur d’Alene Community); and Doreen Glynn Pawski (Cristo Rey Community, San Francisco) for their outstanding service to the Provincial Council these last few years. We are also grateful to Ann Seargeant (Albuquerque Community), who resigned within the last year for health reasons. May God reward them for their outstanding leadership and bless our new Council and the entire Province in this triennium just begun.

Changes in Our “Provincial Statutes”

When our “Provincial Statutes” were originally approved by the General Definitory on September 9, 2006, we were given five years to submit changes. Throughout the last three years, our OCDS Provincial Council worked on several changes that needed to be made and approved. These changes have now been posted on our website: www.ocds.info. By now, each president and group leader has received a letter in the mail about these changes.

It is very important that someone in each community and group be designated to make a complete copy of the revised “Provincial Statutes” to be distributed to each one of your members, including those who have been received into formation. The outdated pages of the “Statutes” need to be discarded. Future changes to the “Provincial Statutes” must be submitted to our Order’s General Definitory. Changes to the Constitutions can only come from the Holy See.

Where’s Our Next Congress? Portland!

Our OCDS Western Regional Congress in Bakersfield, June 24-27, 2010, was a resounding success. After much prayer and hard work by Catherine Faller, Cheryl Dockter, and the Bakersfield OCDS Community, the turnout surpassed all our expectations: 350 OCDS members attended from around the Province and the country.

Now we’re happy to announce that our next Western Regional OCDS Congress will be held in Portland, Oregon, June 20-23, 2013. People were so pleased with the DoubleTree Hotel in Bakersfield that we’ve signed a contract with the DoubleTree in Portland. Stay tuned for lots of exciting details coming your way ... and some photos from Bakersfield as well.

It’s not too early for each community and group to begin a scholarship fund for your members. At Bakersfield, it was a special blessing that so many people could attend because of full or partial scholarships. We want these opportunities to continue so that as many of our members as possible can join us in Portland.