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OCD

COMMUNICATIONES



Italy: Therese and her parents voyage to Rome



At the initiative of the Pontifical Russicum College in Rome, the relics of Saint Therese of the Child Jesus and her parents, Louis and Zélie Martin, came on pilgrimage to Rome from the 6th to the 16th of June.

On June 7, the relics were present at the general audience of Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square. Pope Francis consecrated his catechesis to Therese,

"patroness of the missions". He affirmed that the presence of Therese was a consolation for him and announced that he wanted to dedicate an Apostolic Letter to her this year. *"Pope Francis stated that the engine of mission is precisely this 'power of intercession moved by charity', and underlines that missionaries 'are not only those who travel long distances, learn new languages, do good works, and are good at proclamation, no, a missionary is also anyone who*



lives as an instrument of God's love where they are. Missionaries are those who do everything so that, through their witness, their prayer, their intercession, Jesus might pass by".

On Thursday, June 8, the relics were received at the Teresianum. That same day, a Seminar on holiness in Thérèse of Lisieux began, with 17 specialists sharing the fruit of their research. At 6 p.m., at the Teresianum, there was a solemn Eucharistic celebration at which Fr. General, Fr. Miguel Márquez Calle, presided, in the numerous presence of many devotees and many members of the great Carmelite Family, men and women religious and secular. At the end of the celebration, the relics were transferred in procession to the nearby Basilica of St. Pancras, of the Discalced Carmelites of Central Italy, for an Adoration animated by young people that lasted throughout the night. On Sunday the 11th, the relics were present, from 8.30 am, in our Saint Teresa of Avila parish in Corso d'Italia. At 10:30 a.m., Father General presided at the solemn Mass of Corpus Christi, in the presence of the relics. In the afternoon, the relics continued on their Roman pilgrimage.



Australia:

Celebrating 1st Centenary of St Thérèse's Beatification

On Saturday, the 29th of April 2023, the St John of the Cross OCDS Community, Melbourne, gathered in the parish of the Good Shepherd Church in Gladstone Park, Victoria, to celebrate the first centenary of the beatification of St Thérèse of the Child Jesus. Fr Dishan Candappa, OCDS, celebrated St Thérèse's votive Mass for the Community and its guests in his parish, with her first class relic was present on the altar. After the celebration of the Mass, we gathered in the parish hall and enjoyed a beautiful feast of food and fellowship together. We had two display tables with Carmelite resources: one dedicated to the occasion, and the other with various Carmelite pamphlets. It was a most joyful and blessed occasion. May we always strive to follow St Thérèse's Little Way as we delve deeper into the richness of her life in Christ. "In the heart of the Church, my Mother, I shall be Love."



BRAZIL: 16TH OCDS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF THE NORTH/NORTHEAST



From the 8th to the 11th of June 2023, the 16th Provincial Congress of the North/Northeast OCDS of the Province of São José took place in Fortaleza, Ceará. After two years of absence due to the pandemic, the Congress was even more special with the participation of secular Carmelites from various regions of the country and the presence of Father Provincial, Fr. Emerson of Jesus OCD and the three Delegates for the OCDS, Fr. Alzinir Debastiani OCD, Fr. Luis Fernando OCD and Fr. Wilson Gomes OCD and the OCDS Provincial President, Rose Lemos. The Congress was structured around various moments for reflection, prayer, fraternal communion and joy. Carmelite spirituality was discussed, as an authentic testimony of our vocation, addressing our identity as Carmelites and belonging to the Order of Discalced Carmelites. Emphasized was the importance and necessity of promoting vocations and a more active presence of the communities of the Secular Order in the activities of the Church and with apostolates that promote the Carmelite charism.



INDIA

Inauguration of the Academic Year 2023-24 and Lectio brevis

The inauguration of the academic year 2023-24 of the Pushpashrama Institute of Philosophy and Religion took place on June 3rd Saturday. The solemn inaugural Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Rev Fr Silvestre D'Souza OCD, the Provincial Superior of Karnataka Goa Province. At 11.00 am, Fr Oswald Crasta OCD, the Rector welcomed the gathering, Fr Wilfred Rodrigues OCD, the Dean presented the annual report, and the students put up a chorus and a piece of instrumental music. The Lectio brevis was presented by Dr. M. Daniel, a Professor at Mysore University. Students' wall magazine 'Cosmos' was released by Fr Provincial. The program ended with a Pushpashrama anthem.



Called to serve our Mother, the Church!

On June 5, 2023, his Excellency Most Rev Peter Paul Saldanha, Bishop of Mangalore, ordained five Carmelite Brothers of the Karnataka Goa Province as deacons, in Jeppu, along with eight Diocesan Brothers. Many dioceses and religious priests participated in the Mass. Each of the brothers' families was present. The Mariya Jayanti Hall on the Seminary grounds organized a brief felicitation programme to congratulate the newly ordained deacons. We express our deep joy at the ordination of these Brothers to the diaconate and pledge our fervent support for their ministry.

Malawi: Canonical erection of new OCDS Communities

The canonical erection of the OCDS communities of St. Joseph and Our Lady of Hope, in Malawi, took place last May. The solemn ceremonies of canonical erection brought much joy to everyone and great celebrations were organized.

We are grateful for the establishment of these two OCDS communities of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel, and ask God to continue to bless the Discalced Carmelite Family in Malawi.



Ivory Coast: two jubilees at the Carmelite nuns' monastery in Logbakro

On Saturday, June 17, 2023, at the Carmelite nuns' monastery in Logbakro, two jubilees were celebrated, one golden and the other silver: that of Sr Marie Pacis of Jesus and that of Sr Marie Bernadette of Eternal Love. Religious men and women from the United States, Belgium, Rwanda, Burkina Faso and the Ivory Coast took part in the celebration. The new bishop of Yamoussoukro, Mgr.

Joseph Aka, presided at the Eucharist which was concelebrated by a dozen priests, including Discalced Carmelites. The celebration was full of singing and dancing as a sign of gratitude to God. After the Mass, a meal was offered and shared in a convivial atmosphere. At the end of the day, after Vespers and dinner, recreation took place together with parents, friends and our Carmelite sisters.



Secular Carmel in Peru

There are OCDS communities in Peru present in the cities of Abancay, Arequipa, Cusco, Ica, Lima and Trujillo. There are 165 members in various stages of the formation. The national formation program was recently approved, which is about to be applied throughout the country. One of the priorities of the Peruvian OCDS is integration and communion among themselves and with the friars and nuns of the Order of Discalced Carmelites, by promoting a true life of fraternal communion. The apostolates of the OCDS communities are very varied and all strive to continue to serve the Order, the Church and society with a love, based on their Carmelite identity and charism.



Secular Carmel in Venezuela

The latest OCDS statistics in Venezuela show that there are eight canonically erected communities and four in the process of being established. There are about 150 active members. There are also projects for foundations in different places. The OCDS in Venezuela are characterized by a good formation and fraternal life. The communities strive to provide adequate room for formation that allows all their members to deepen the essential elements of their vocation, through the study of the Constitutions and familiarity with the charismatic richness of the Discalced Carmel.





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