



Newsletter

Number 259, June 2020

Carmel OCDS Community Meeting Sunday 7 June 2020

12:00pm Formation Groups

12:45pm Community Meeting

Welcome & opening prayers

Roll call & apologies

Minutes of previous meeting

Treasurer's report, Correspondence

General business, General discussion

Closing prayers

1:45pm Community Formation

St Thérèse of Lisieux

"Story of a Soul: Study Edition"

(Community Study: Prologue)

2:30pm Renewal of Promise in Chapel
(Please remember to bring your Promise.)

Father's Teaching

Divine Office in Chapel

Leader: Claire, Reader: Maureen

Council Meeting



Bethany Day

Tuesday 16 June 2020

(10:30am – 1:00pm)

10:30am Morning Tea

11:00am DVD:

"St Teresa of Jesus" (continued)

12:00pm Chapel – Quiet Prayer

12:30pm BYO Lunch



Birthdays

Karen Marra Tuesday 23 June

June: Dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

My dear brothers and sisters in Carmel,

"My Jesus...

**Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually
into my heart.**

**I embrace You as if
You were already there..."**

This has been our prayer at online Mass every day for the past two months. Thankfully we shall once again be able to actively participate and receive Our Lord at Holy Mass. Thank you, O Sacred Heart of Jesus, for answering our prayers.

Now that rules on social gathering are further relaxed, we can look to meet on 7th June (Trinity Sunday) for our Community meeting. Please check the panel on the left for details.

For some of us, we had an opportunity to have a little catch-up at Carmel on Thursday, 14th May. It was for the funeral service of the mum of our beloved Mother Dorothea. Once the ruling of allowing only ten people at a funeral changed to that of fifty people allowed, Mother quickly emailed to invite us for the service. It was very short notice but those of us who could make it were glad we went. It was wonderful to pray together in the Chapel, really felt like coming home.

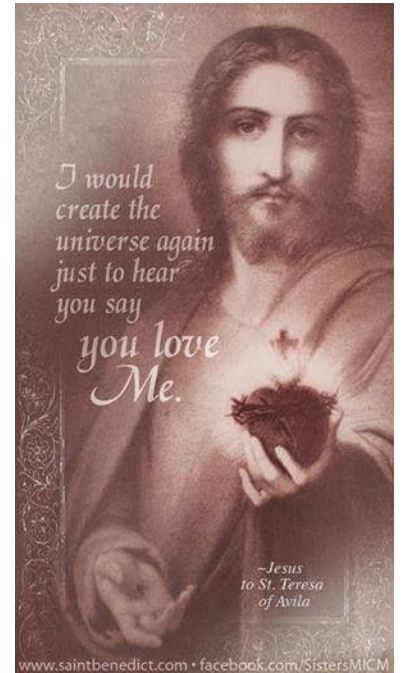
We also celebrate Theresa Siew's Mind Mass this month. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. We look forward to meeting with her daughter, Mary, when international travel restrictions are lifted. Thank you, Eddie, for visiting Theresa's grave with Fr Schmack last Friday, and for having the grave blessed by Father.*

(Theresa's grave is situated at Block 1, no. 32, Yaldhurst Cemetery).

Stay warm and healthy. Keep up with the good work of praying for all the intentions requested.

**"O Sacred Heart of Jesus, please protect us.
I will do everything in my life for love of God
and I will love others as God has loved me."**

God bless always,
Maureen William, OCDS
(President, Peace of Christ Community, Christchurch)



June quote from St Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face:

"I wish to make You smile, resting on Your heart, and there tell You again and again that I love You, O my Lord."

THE ABYSSES OF LOVE AND MERCY OF THE HEART OF JESUS : ST THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX AND THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS [[Web Link](#)]



...For Thérèse the Heart of Jesus is always **for her**, and it always seeks a response from her heart. At fifteen she called Jesus “Him whose heart beats in unison with my own.” At seventeen she wrote to her sister Céline, who was at Paray-le-Monial with their sister Leonie for the second centenary of the death of then Blessed Margaret Mary Alacoque, who received visions of the Sacred Heart:

“Pray to the Sacred Heart; you know that I myself do not see the Sacred Heart as everybody else. I think that the heart of my Spouse is mine alone, just as mine is His alone, and I speak to Him then in the solitude of this delightful heart to heart, while waiting to contemplate Him one day face to face.”

In June 1895, the “year of the Sacred Heart” for Thérèse, she had a new experience of the heart of God:

“I was thinking about the souls who offer themselves as victims of God’s Justice in order to turn away the punishments reserved to sinners, drawing them upon themselves. This offering seemed great and very generous to me, but I was far from feeling attracted to making it. From the depths of my heart, I cried out:

*‘O my God! Will Your Justice alone find souls willing to immolate themselves as victims? Does not Your **Merciful Love** need them too?... On every side this love is unknown, rejected... O my God! Is Your disdained Love going to remain closed up within Your Heart? It seems to me that if You were to find souls offering themselves as victims of holocaust to Your Love, You would consume them rapidly; it seems to me, too, that You would be happy not to hold back the waves of infinite tenderness within You.’ ”*

Thérèse experienced God not as outraged justice exacting atonement from her but as rejected love arousing her compassion and inviting her to be a channel of God’s infinite love to humanity. In her poem “To the Sacred Heart of Jesus”, written either in June or in October 1895 for her sister, Marie of the Sacred Heart, Thérèse returns to many of the themes of her “Offering of myself as a victim of Holocaust to Merciful Love.” The editors of her poetry write:

*“Thérèse does not linger over the **symbol** of Christ’s Heart wounded by the lance, which was so popular in her day. She goes straight to the **reality**: the loving Person of Jesus, his deep feelings, and the love that fills his Heart.”*

She speaks of the heart her own heart desires:

*“I need a heart burning with tenderness
Who will be my support forever,
Who loves everything in me, even my weakness...
And who never leaves me day or night.”*

She finds this heart in the humanity of Jesus and in the Eucharist:

*“You heard me, only Friend whom I love.
To ravish my heart, you became man.
You shed your blood, what a supreme mystery!...
And you still live for me on the Altar.”*

Deprived of palpable consolation, she can rest on the Sacred Heart:

*“If I cannot see the brilliance of your Face
Or hear your sweet voice,
O my God, I can live by your grace,
I can rest on your Sacred Heart!”*

The Heart is not a distant symbol to her: it is all her joy:

*“O Heart of Jesus, treasure of tenderness,
You Yourself are my happiness, my only hope.
You who knew how to charm my tender youth,
Stay near me till the last night.”*

She does not propitiate the Heart, but always locates herself inside it:

*“It’s in your ever-infinite goodness
That I want to lose myself, O Heart of Jesus!”*

The Heart of Jesus does not demand atonement; it simply burns with love. Faced with her human weakness and the justice of the law, Thérèse takes refuge in that heart, which not only protects her but also is itself her virtue (reminiscent of her offering of herself: “I beg You, O my God, to be Yourself my Sanctity!”):

*“Ah! I know well all our righteousness
Is worthless in your sight.
To give value to my sacrifices,
I want to cast them into your Divine Heart.
I do not fear, my virtue is You!...
You did not find your angels without blemish.
In the midst of lightning you gave your law!...
I hide myself in your Sacred Heart, Jesus.”*

Thérèse’s confidence reaches its height in her daring prayer choosing the Heart of God as her purgatory and asking to go straight to the Heaven of that Heart:

*“To be able to gaze on your glory,
I know we have to pass through fire.
So I, for my purgatory,
Choose your burning love, O heart of my God!
On leaving this life, my exiled soul
Would like to make an act of pure love,
And then, flying away to Heaven, its Homeland,
Enter straightaway into your Heart.”*

Prayers for June

Thank-you, Lord, for all the blessings you give us each day.

We pray for:

- Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, Bishop Paul and all our priests, religious and seminarians
- Our new Provincial, Fr John Grennan, OCD and the Provincial Chapter held from July 27-31, Fr General Saverio Cannistrà, OCD and all our Carmel family, especially our Carmelite Sisters. Also, vocations to Carmel and to our own Peace of Christ Community **(Please offer a decade of the rosary daily for this, as requested by Bishop Greg Homeming, OCD.)**

Special Intentions:

- Fr Jérôme, OCD and our Goma school mission
- Fr Michael-Thérèse, Fr Antoine and CSJ
- Fr Philip, CSJ and the University Chaplaincy Team
- Our Special Members, especially Rosaline Closel, Margaret Dwyer and Peb Simmons
- John Paul II Centre for Life and prayers for life
- Shaun and Samuel with NET Ministries in Ireland
- Those who have died recently, especially Fr Stan Callanan, OCD, Yvonne Wilkes (Mother Dorothea's mother), and the consolation of their families
- Those who have asked for, or need our prayers, especially all those affected by the coronavirus. Also prayers for Stephanie & Patricia (Annette's daughter & granddaughter), Steven (Eddie's son), Stephen (Marian's son), Rosemarie (with Motor Neurone Disease), Tahu (with a brain tumour), Margaret (with cancer on her neck and liver), Casie (for ongoing recovery), Fr John Morrison (for healing), a two-week-old baby who is failing to thrive, Caspar (Marian's grandson) and Xavier (Megan's grandson) for good results from their hospital procedures

Our Holy Father's Intentions for June:

- We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the **Heart of Jesus**.

NATIONAL STATUTES PART IV – SERVING GOD'S PLAN Section Eight – Our Beloved Dead

*"We have loved them in life, let us not forget them in death."
(St Ambrose)*

19. ...For a member belonging to another community within New Zealand each member will pray five decades of the Rosary or pray the Office of the Dead.

Our June Carmelite Saints

12 Fri. Bl. Alphonsus Mary Mazurek and Companions (priest & martyrs) [[Web Link](#)]



Blessed Alphonsus was a Polish Carmelite friar, prior and priest. He was tortured and shot by the Gestapo. He is one of the 108 Martyrs of World War II. Throughout his torture and death, he had a rosary clutched in his hands.

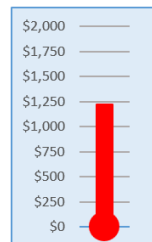


Funeral of Yvonne Wilkes (Mother Dorothea's mother) at the Carmelite Monastery, 14 May 2020

OUR MISSIONS PROJECT

To help Fr Jérôme, OCD in providing education for the children in Goma

- The account for donations is: SECULAR ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITES, 03 1593 0029937 00
- Please put your name and "Goma" in the details for the deposit.
- No receipt is necessary because it is printed on our bank statement.
- No tax refund is possible because we are not a registered charity.



New Total



The children in class

The Seal of Carmel: "Zelo zelatus sum pro Domino Deo exercituum"

"With zeal have I been zealous for the Lord God of hosts"