



# Newsletter

Number 263, October 2020

## Carmel OCDS Community Meeting Sunday 4 October 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: Chapter 1, from p.40)

### 2:30pm Father's Teaching

#### Divine Office in Chapel

Leader: Mary, Reader: Eddie

#### Afternoon Tea

Prep. & Serving: Pat C. & Ken  
Dishes: Karen & Christine



For Goma and  
Tonga Carmel

### Bethany Day

Tuesday 20 October 2020

(10:30am – 1:00pm)

10:30am Morning Tea

11:00am DVD

12:00pm Chapel – Quiet Prayer

12:30pm BYO Lunch and Study

### Birthdays

Patricia Sutherland Tue. 20 October  
Stephanie Tabley Wed. 28 October



NZ OCDS Website: [www.carmel.org.nz](http://www.carmel.org.nz)

## October: Dedicated to the Holy Rosary

Dear sisters and brothers in Carmel,

It's October! A special month dedicated to The Holy Rosary; and it is extra special for us as we celebrate the Feast days of St Thérèse of the Child Jesus (1<sup>st</sup> Oct), and our beloved Foundress St Teresa of Jesus (15<sup>th</sup> Oct). May God continue to shower His blessings and protection over us.

Please note three other special events coming up in October:

- The Beatitudes' "St Thérèse Rose Petal Evening", Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 7-9pm, at St Theresa's
- Deacon Tang Anthony Phan's ordination to the priesthood, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October, 11-12:30pm, at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral
- Maryfest, Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2-3pm, at Our Lady of Victories

We are on track with our preparation for our forthcoming retreat in November; the response to it has been very encouraging. Please continue to keep this event in your prayers. Thank you.

Your prayers are needed too for the **defeat** of the referendum for *End of Life Choice* and *Legalise Cannabis*.

Please pray for one another and for those who have asked for our prayers. Miracles happen when we pray; many people have expressed their gratitude for the solace and blessings received from our prayers. Keep our vocation strong...

Blessings in Carmel

Maureen William, OCDS

(President, Peace of Christ Community, Christchurch)



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

**"Sometimes when I find myself, spiritually, in dryness so great that I cannot produce a single good thought, I recite very slowly a Pater or an Ave Maria; these prayers alone console me, they suffice, they nourish my soul."**

## EXCERPTS FROM “MARY, OUR MOTHER: PONDERING HER LIFE IN THE SCRIPTURES”

By Anne Harriss (“Mount Carmel” Magazine, April – June 2020)

...If Mary can teach us always to put prayer at the centre of our lives, we shall indeed be secure within the faith, under her mantle!

### THE ROSARY: A gift at the heart of the Church

And this is what she has done over many centuries. And she does not only plead with her Son on our behalf: she insistently pleads with us to mend our ways! Our Mother has always been directly involved in our concerns, as countless stories of her apparitions and interventions over the centuries confirm. But some are of more importance. There was, for example, the time when she appeared to St Dominic and bestowed the Rosary on him. Everyone seems to have taken this gift to heart. Three hundred years later, St Teresa learned to say it at home, from her mother. She recited it every day throughout her life and mentions at some point that when she was too ill to attend to mental prayer, she recited the Rosary instead... Then, when in 1858, Our Lady appeared to Bernadette Soubirous, Mary herself carried a rosary on her arm. And Bernadette always had hers in her pocket and recited it as she saw Mary: so it is clear that at least the poor and unlearned continued reciting it centuries after it was first given to the Church.

But the apparitions at Fatima brought this to a culmination. There, Mary declared herself to be the Lady of the Rosary, and every Pope since then has reminded the faithful to recite it, daily if possible. And who can have been more devoted to it than Pope St John Paul II?

### The safest place on earth

Why the Rosary? What is it all about? The twenty mysteries of the Rosary give us the answer. The Rosary is the infallible way of making us enter into the Gospels in the company of our Mother, of meditating on their teachings and forming our minds and hearts around the saving Revelation of Jesus Christ. In the Rosary, time is foreshortened, as it were, and we dwell securely there among those who were taught, healed and saved by Jesus. The Rosary is the safest place on earth, where we can always take refuge! Through this 'time portal', we become witnesses again to the events that happened. We are fed by the word. It is the word of God, in fact, that steers and underlies the Rosary... In other words, through the Rosary, Mary leads us to the Scriptures, to the word of God, to her Son.

This exposure to the Scriptures, of course, has always fed the mental prayer of Carmelites, and even more so in modern times where literacy is now general. St Thérèse carried a copy of the Gospels in her pocket at all times and kept on immersing herself in them. St Elisabeth of the Trinity discovered in depth the Epistles of St Paul. The last year of her life saw her giving herself over completely to meditation on them, for through their teaching she understood and deepened even more her relationship with Christ. Both these modern Carmelite saints were 'pondering the Law of the Lord' every day within their cells, within their hearts, as the *Rule* of St Albert prescribes. For many lay people leading

busy lives, using just the gospel, or even all the readings, of the Mass of the day is another practical way to feed oneself on the word of God... The Rosary and the Scriptures go together.

### A MORTIFIED LIFE: ... In an unobtrusive way

...Mary is inviting us to join her quiet life while she lived in Nazareth, later as she followed Jesus, and later still as she prayed for the Church. In this, we can imitate her if we follow daily the lights or opportunities given to us by the Holy Spirit.

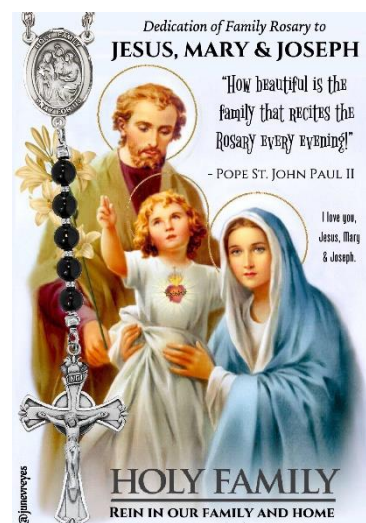
As St Thérèse wrote in her poem 'Why I love you, O Mary':

“Mother full of grace, I know that in Nazareth  
You live in poverty, wanting nothing more.  
*No rapture, miracle, or ecstasy*  
*Embellish your life, O Queen of the Elect! ...*  
The number of little ones on earth is truly great.  
They can raise their eyes to you without trembling.  
It's by the *ordinary way*, incomparable Mother,  
That you like to walk to guide them to Heaven.” ...

### Together with Joseph

At this point, we should remember that Carmelite Marian devotion also involves devotion to St Joseph. In Teresian Carmelite spirituality, St Joseph is closely aligned with the Blessed Virgin. Indeed, in the Teresian Carmel, this dual action of Mary, our Queen and Mother, together with St Joseph, seems to have been the Lord's wish from the very start, since Teresa writes in *The Book of Her Life* that '*His Majesty earnestly commanded me to strive for this new monastery with all my powers, and He made great promises that it would be founded and that He would be highly served in it. He said it should be called St Joseph and that this saint would keep watch over us at one door, and our Lady at the other, that Christ would remain with us, and that it would be a star shining with great splendour*' ...

So whenever we speak of the Teresian Carmel, we should always remember that while Our Lady is its Patroness, Queen, Mother and Sister, St Joseph also is its Patron. Mary herself, in fact, sees her role within it as the Mother of the house, and where St Joseph is the Guardian, and where Our Divine Lord is the absolute centre and life of the household... Let us not lose sight of this in our approach. And when we intercede and mortify ourselves for priests, in particular, it is well also to invoke Mary's Most Chaste Spouse, St Joseph, the terror of demons, especially in these grave times for the Church...



## Prayers for October

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, 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
- Mother Teresa, OCD and the Tonga Carmel
- Fr Michael-Thérèse, Fr Antoine and CSJ
- Fr Philip, CSJ and the University Chaplaincy Team
- Deacon Tang Anthony Phan and his ordination to the priesthood on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October
- Our Special Members, especially Stephanie Tabley, Rosaline Closel, Margaret Dwyer and Peb Simmons
- Our November retreat
- John Paul II Centre for Life and prayers for life
- Defeat of referendums on euthanasia and cannabis
- Aid to Lebanon after the explosion
- Those who have died recently, especially Tahu Hikuroa, Erin Ryan, Fr Kevin Clark, 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), Stephen (Marian's son), baby Carter, who has no immunity (prayers for a miracle healing), Eddie (recovering from surgery), Will (Tess' son, and his friends, for uni flat and studies), and Karen's friend's grandson's assessment in the Melbourne Court

### Our Holy Father's Intentions for October:

- We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the **laity** faithful, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

### 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. ... Each community will keep a register of their deceased members and Spiritual Assistants and pray for them in the intercessions of Morning or Evening Prayer at the meeting closest to their anniversary.

## Our October Carmelite Saints

1 Thu. **St Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face (virgin, doctor)**



15 Thu. **ST TERESA OF JESUS (virgin, doctor, our Mother)**

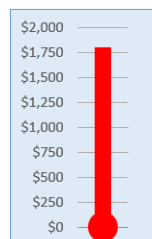


30 Fri. **Bl. Mary Teresa Tauscher (virgin)**

### 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



Way of Perfection School

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

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