



Newsletter

Number 280, May 2022

Carmel OCDS Community Meeting Sunday 1 May 2022

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 5, from p.166)

2:30pm Renewal of Promise in Chapel

Divine Office in Chapel

Leader: Maureen, Reader: Marian

Afternoon Tea

Prep. & Serving: Pat C. & Mary

Dishes: Eddie & Elizabeth

4pm Council Meeting



Bethany Day

Tuesday 17 May 2022

(10:30am – 1:00pm)

10:30am Morning Tea

11:00am DVD

11:45am Chapel – Quiet Prayer

12:10pm BYO Lunch

12:30pm Study: St John of the Cross

Birthdays

Patricia O'Connor Tuesday 10 May

NZ OCDS Website: www.carmel.org.nz

May: Dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Dear brothers and sisters in Carmel,

Thank you to those who turned up at our April meeting earlier this month at the Parish Centre of Christ the King Church. It was wonderful to be able to come together as a Community, albeit for a very short time. Praise the Lord!

I am pleased to announce that our monthly meetings as of 1st May (Sunday) shall be held at the Carmelite Monastery once again. Thank you, dear Sisters, for making it possible for us to be back.

On another happy note, the management of Rochester and Rutherford Halls (University of Canterbury) has confirmed the booking for our annual retreat – 18-20th November 2022. More details to follow – watch this space!

As it is the practice to renew our Promise on our first meeting back after Easter, please remember to bring your "Promise" card on 1st May. Thank you.

A holy and happy Eastertide to all.

God bless,

Maureen William, OCDS

(President, Peace of Christ Community, Christchurch)



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

"There, too, I listen on my knees, great Queen of all the Angels! To that sweet canticle that flows in rapture from your soul; so do you teach me how to sing like heavenly, glad angels. And glorify my Jesus, Who alone can make me whole."

ST ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY: “RADIATE GOD”



“We must become aware that God dwells within us and do everything with Him; then we are never commonplace, even when performing the most ordinary tasks.”

This was the fruit of contemplation that St. Elizabeth of the Trinity wanted to share with everyone; the secret of transforming love hidden within our own hearts. By gazing steadfastly upon God, in faith and simplicity, the Word of God, Jesus Christ – as in the legend of St Veronica’s Veil – will leave the imprint of His image on the veil of the soul. **By her continual loving gaze at Him, St. Elizabeth of the Trinity was transformed into His image.** When she died at the young age of twenty-six, she had already fulfilled her mission in the Church as a ceaseless “Praise of Glory,” reflecting the luminous, pure light of the Holy Trinity.

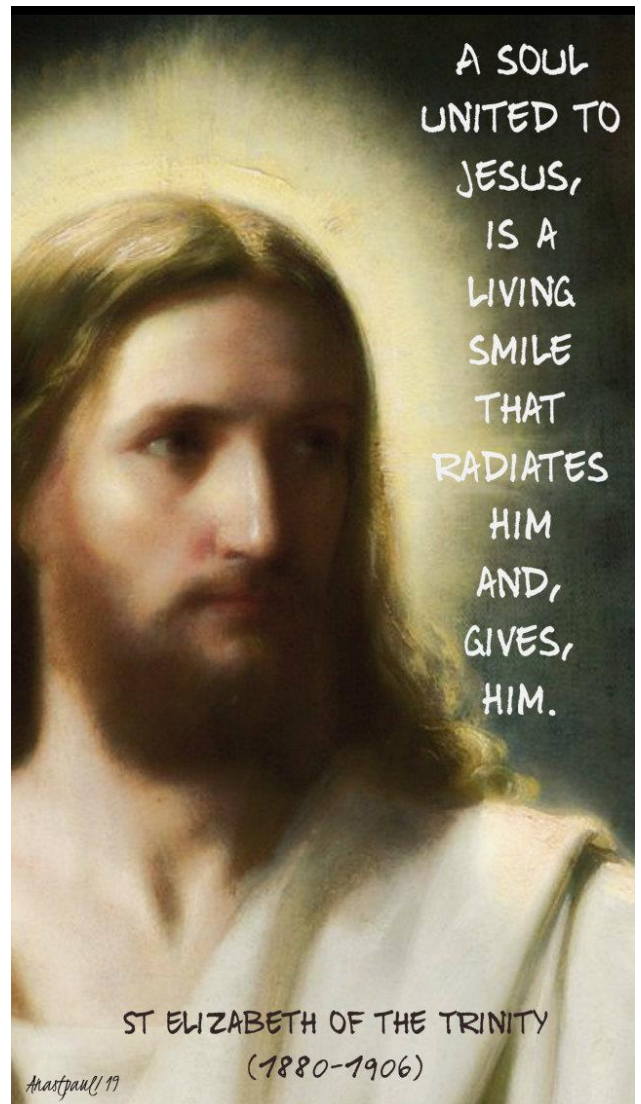
“It is Your continual desire to associate Yourself with Your creatures...How can I better satisfy Your desire than by keeping myself simply and lovingly turned towards You, so that You can reflect Your own image in me, as the sun is reflected through pure crystal? ...We will be glorified in the measure in which we will have been conformed to the image of His divine Son. So, let us contemplate this adored Image, let us remain unceasingly under its radiance so that it may imprint itself on us.” [[Web Link](#)]

[Excerpt from the Carmelite Online Retreat, Lent 2017, by Br Didier-Marie Golay, OCD (Convent of Lisieux) and translator, Lynn Gaubatz] ...Elizabeth suggested to her friend Germaine de Gemeaux that she entrust her soul to her. She wrote: *“If you’d really like to give me your soul, I will consecrate it to the Holy Trinity so that it may introduce you into the depths of the Mystery, and so that those Three whom we both love so much may truly be the center in which our life passes! Saint Teresa says that the soul is like a crystal in which the Divinity is reflected. I love that*

comparison so much, and when I see the sun invade our cloisters with its rays, I think that this is how God invades the soul that seeks only Him! My darling, let us live in intimacy with our Beloved, let us belong wholly to Him, as he belongs wholly to us.” (Letter 136)

Now that she has been canonized, let us not hesitate to entrust our souls to Elizabeth so that she may consecrate them to the Most Holy Trinity. We will then be able to radiate the light of God and become disciples and missionaries, as she wrote to Abbé Beaubis: *“He bends over us with all His charity, day and night, wanting to communicate with us, to infuse us with His divine life, so as to make us deified beings who radiate Him everywhere. [...] ‘Apostle, Carmelite,’ it is all one! Let us be wholly His.”* (Letter 124)

She explained to her friend Germaine de Gemeaux, *“A soul united to Jesus is a living smile that radiates Him and shares Him with others.”* (Letter 252) **Let us be witnesses to the joy and life of Christ. May the Easter Time that begins now show us the way! Bon voyage!**



Prayers for May

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

We pray for:

- Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, Archbishop Paul, SM, the appointment of a new bishop for our diocese and all our priests, religious and seminarians
- Our Provincial, Fr John Grennan, OCD, our new General, Fr Miguel Márquez Calle, 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:

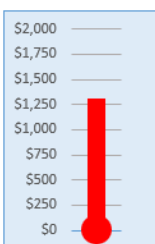
- Our Ukrainian Carmelite nuns, friars & seculars, and all the people of Ukraine, suffering from the terrors of war
- Fr Jérôme, OCD and our Goma school mission
- Fr Michael-Thérèse, Fr Antoine and CSJ
- Fr Philip, CSJ and the University Chaplaincy Team
- Sr Mary Teresa and our Carmelite Sisters
- Our Special Members, especially Margaret Dwyer. Also Dorothea, Stephanie, Rosaline and Peb
- John Paul II Centre for Life and prayers for life. Also, Megan on Board of Trustees.
- Those who have died recently, especially Fr Tadgh Tierney, OCD, Fr Antoine's mother, Marie, 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 Fr Benito (cancer), Annette and her daughter, Stephanie, Marian's son, Stephen, Noeline and Hec, baby Carter, Fr Arsène, Shaun Hickland (NET Ministries), Carol Miers' cousin, Raewyn, Claire's Sister Marie (very sore back), Linda (heart) and Edith (cancer)

Our Holy Father's Intentions for May:

- We pray for all **young people**, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

OUR MISSIONS PROJECT

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



New Total



Our Lady of Mt Carmel Chapel

Our May Carmelite Saints

4 Wed. Bls Angelus Maria Prat Hostench and Lucas of St Joseph Pujol (priests and martyrs, and companions)

16 Mon. **St Simon Stock (priest)**

25 Wed. St Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi (virgin)



Renewal of Promise

I,,
 inspired by the Holy Spirit,
 in response to God's call,
 sincerely renew my Promise
 to the Superiors of the Order
 of the Teresian Carmel,
 and to you, my brothers and sisters,
 to tend to evangelical perfection
 in the spirit of the evangelical counsels
 of chastity, poverty, obedience,
 and of the Beatitudes,
 according to the Constitutions of the
 Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites.
 I confidently entrust this, my Promise,
 to the Virgin Mary,
 Mother and Queen of Carmel.



NATIONAL STATUTES

PART VII – Organisation and Government Section Fourteen – Elections

*"O guide our minds with thy blest light,
 with love our hearts inflame."*

43. The following offices are incompatible:

- the office of President with any other office in the community
- the office of Councillor with the office of Director of Formation

44. Election to office is a call to serve the Community and, unless there is a serious reason, such a call is accepted in a spirit of obedience to God's will. A member who is unable to accept election to office, due to family commitments, ill health or other serious reason, will make this known to the Community Council in good time before an election. The Council, having considered the matter, informs the Community and omits that member's name from the appropriate ballot paper. While some consultation among members to assist in making a wise choice is commendable, absolute secrecy as to how one votes is always maintained before, during and after elections.

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

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