



Newsletter

Number 283, August 2022

Carmel OCDS Community Meeting

Sunday 7 August 2022

("FOUNDATION DAY": 1 August)

12:00pm Formation Groups

1pm Community Meeting

Welcome & opening prayers

Roll call & apologies

Minutes of previous meeting

Treasurer's report, Correspondence

General business, General discussion

Closing prayers

**Reading of Secretary's
& President's Reports**

2:30pm Elections

(Presided by Fr Michael-Thérèse)

Afternoon Tea

(To celebrate Foundation Day)

Prep. & Serving: Elizabeth & Karen

Dishes: Pat C. & Christine



Bethany Day

Tuesday 16 August 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

Maureen William Friday 5 August

Christine Pitcaithly Friday 12 August



NZ OCDS Website: www.carmel.org.nz

August: Dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Dear brothers and sisters in Carmel,

As we come to the close of our term as Council of the Peace of Christ Community, I wish to thank each and everyone of you for your support and trust in us in the past three years.

My deepest gratitude to the members of the Council whose support and understanding gave me the strength to face the circumstances of the challenging times that we went through.

Thank you, dear Lyn, for conscientiously taking down the Minutes at every Community and Council meetings and also for assuming the extra responsibility of being the Formator – I shall always treasure your gentle guidance and care.

Christine – thank you for the very beautiful monthly Newsletters and the preparation of birthday and Mass cards for the Community.

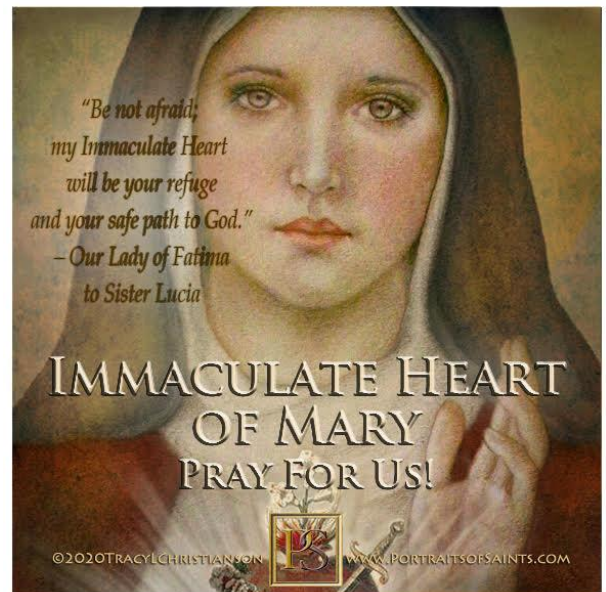
Thank you to Karen, our Treasurer, who, ever cheerfully, keeps our accounts in balance, and to Marian, our cheerful giver, always the first in hospitality.

Many thanks too to our Spiritual Director, Fr Michael-Thérèse, for his guidance and care.

On behalf of the Council, I thank the Sisters for all they have done for us. How blessed we are to be cared for by the Sisters. Thank you, Lord.

May the Holy Spirit bless and guide our Community as we head for our elections in August.

Blessings in Carmel,
Maureen William,
OCDS (President,
Peace of Christ Community,
Christchurch)



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

**St Thérèse's ardent wish was to "pass the day of life hidden with Jesus under the mantle of Mary,"
"...submerged in loving ecstasy in the depths of her maternal Heart..."**

MARIAN FALLON'S DEFINITIVE PROMISE AT CARMEL MONASTERY

Homily by Fr Rick Loughnan (Sunday 3 July 2022)

"For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations." (Isaiah 61:11)

The Garden of Carmel – The life of Christ lived in the Holy Spirit – Carmel is a microcosm of the Body of Christ. A place of blessings – a place of God's grace and the Community's response – a call, in the Body of Christ, to contemplation and prayer. You, Marian, do and will continue, with this deep commitment and promise, to live this life of Carmel, this vocation, in the funny, busy, good and sinful world we live in, not in the monastery, but in your own setting and life and world. All the riches of the Lord, the Sacraments, the Prayer of the Church, the strong association with the Sisters and the monastery... the riches of the Lord's garden will remain yours but your Carmelite life will have its own difficulties – as I am sure you know already. How do you continue to allow this life, this call, to take deeper and deeper root in your life, in all the ordinariness and challenges of your family and circumstances?

The big answer of course is in the Gospel today – this famous passage where Jesus talks of what we call the Beatitudes. These are not so much things we should do. They are more what our lives will look like as we follow our Saviour, as we walk in his love.

So, Lord, how do we show these fruits, these flowers from your garden? How do we grow in holiness, how do we become love as you are love?

Well, I think the psalm and the second reading really help us here.

First, let's remind ourselves with great confidence and joy – the Lord is our Shepherd. The Good Shepherd. The Lord is leading us. He is for us. He is the Shepherd; he is GOOD. This is where we start.

Secondly, with his leading, his grace, his soil, his planting, nurturing and the watering he has done, and will do, our task is simply to continue to respond. Here again is what St Paul writes to his beloved Philippian converts. Is there any better way of saying it?

"So, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any incentive of love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." (Phil. 2:1-4)

This is the way of holiness; this is the secret of growth in the Holy Spirit. You, Marian, you, dear Sisters, and all of us here, let us plunge in again to the little way, the way that is sometimes painful, that necessarily includes the Cross of our Shepherd, and let us set our sights on him who loves us so much.

We thank God that you have heard the call of the Lord, Marian, and will make these final promises today. May the Lord richly bless you.



Prayers for August

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

We pray for:

- Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, Archbishop Paul, SM, Bishop Michael Gielen, and all our priests, religious and seminarians
- Our Provincial, Fr John Grennan, OCD, our 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:

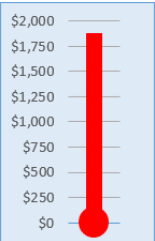
- Our Ukrainian Carmelite nuns, friars & seculars, and all the people of Ukraine, suffering from the terrors of war
- Fr Jérôme, OCD and our Goma school mission
- Fr Michael-Thérèse, Fr Antoine and CSJ
- Fr Philip, CSJ and the University Chaplaincy Team
- Our newly ordained Fr Monty Bamford
- Our new prioress, Mother Cushla of Mary Immaculate, and the new council
- Our OCDS elections in August
- Our upcoming retreat, and director, Fr Carl Telford, SM
- Our Special Members, especially Margaret Dwyer, Dorothea, Stephanie, Rosaline and Peb
- John Paul II Centre for Life and prayers for life. Also Megan on Board of Trustees.
- Those who have asked for, or need our prayers, especially all those affected by covid. Also, prayers for Fr Benito (cancer), Annette and her daughter, Stephanie, Marian's son, Stephen, Noeline and Hec, baby Carter, Fr Arsène, Rebecca (terminally ill), Alannah (respiratory virus), Olivia Rose, Sr Elizabeth, Lyn, Megan, Tess and Gaye (recovering from covid)

Our Holy Father's Intentions for August:


- We pray for **small and medium sized businesses**; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

OUR MISSIONS PROJECT

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



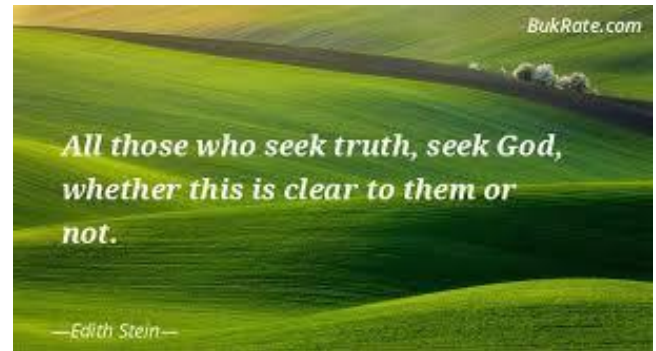
New Total



The pupils' desks in the school have been made with a great help from the OCDS-Christchurch community, New Zealand. Our gratitude to you all my dear sisters and brothers in Carmel.

Our August Carmelite Saints

- 9 Tue. St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) (virgin, martyr)
- 16 Tue. Bl. Maria Sagrario (virgin, martyr)
- 18 Thu. Bls John-Baptist, Michael-Aloysius and James (priests, martyrs)
- 25 Thu. St Mary of Jesus Crucified (virgin)
- 26 Fri. St Teresa of Jesus' Transverberation



NATIONAL STATUTES

PART VII – Organisation and Government

Section Fourteen – Elections

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

47. Without prejudice to [45], in elections a candidate must receive more than half the valid votes to be elected, that is a simple majority. If there is no such majority in the first ballot a second ballot is held. If even in the second ballot no candidate receives a simple majority, a third is held in which only the two with the highest number of votes in the second ballot are candidates. These two candidates do not vote in this ballot. In this third ballot the one with the majority of votes is elected. In all elections where two or more receive an equal number of votes the senior by First Promise is elected, and if they made Promises on the same day, the senior by age is elected.

48. All members in Promises who are active in community have the right to vote in elections. However, because of the essentially lay character of the Order, members who are clerics may not be elected or appointed to office. Special or Isolated members may not vote in elections or be elected to office.

49. The Spiritual Assistant presides at elections with the President and Secretary as scrutineers. If the Spiritual Assistant is absent, the President presides with the Director of Formation and the Secretary as scrutineers.

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

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