

"See that you fulfil the ministry which you have received in the Lord"

Colossians 4.17

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Our Triennial year is now beginning and we will culminate the year with our Congress in October of 2018. We will celebrate with great enthusiasm and joy the life and vocation of our members and the life of each community with their challenges, promise, and unique beauty as part of the richness of the Province and the Church in Canada.

I encourage every member to enter into this Triennial year through participating in the reflection on and preparation of your community's Triennial report in conjunction with your President and Council.

Everyone's thoughts, reflections, experience and insights into Secular Carmelite life are needed and desired. Each community's work benefits all our communities. We see how others live the life, its challenges, and its ups and downs. We are enriched by the sharing of the triennial preparation and work at the Congress.

This year is not just a time to reflect back on our past three years, but it is a time to take the opportunity for an intense renewal or recommitment to our vocation. To assist us with this, the theme of "Enkindling the Fire Within" was chosen.

We are called by this theme to pray intensely that God will increase our longing and desire to enkindle the fire within our hearts so that we may witness ever so powerfully through our Secular Carmelite vocation to the presence of God in our lives and in the world.

May the Spirit of the Lord pursue His work in each of your hearts and in each of your communities this year until you are a burning fire consumed by His Love.

Fraternally,

Gladys McMullin, ocds President, Secretariat