

# *Flos Carmeli*



*Our Lady of Mt. Carmel*



St. Teresa of Avila



St. John of the Cross



St. Joseph

**Western Canada OCDS**  
Provincial Delegation Canada  
Karnataka-Goa Province

**Newsletter - December 2020**

**Edition 2020.020**

***A Blessed, Joyous Christmas and  
A Happy, Healthy New Year!***



**Isaiah 9:6** *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*



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**Provincial Delegation Canada**  
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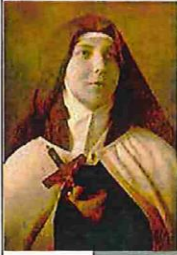


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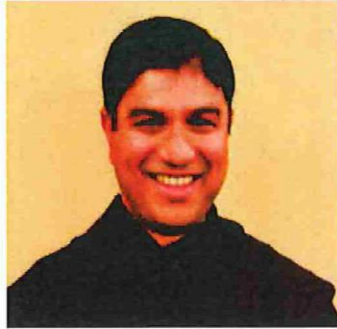
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**St. Teresa of Los Andes**  
**Canada Region Office, 15 Templebow Rd, N.E.**  
**Calgary, Alberta, Canada - T1Y 6J3**

*Zelo Zelatus Sum Pro Domino Deo exercituum.*



The welcome sound of Christmas chimes is very much in the air. We are rushing to the end of this special year 2020, and are waiting eagerly to celebrate Christmas, the most loved celebration in the world, especially of Christians. A glimpse deeper, and our minds are confronted with the shockingly surprising historic context of the birth of the Christ Child in a lowly stable. It was the coldest part of the winter in Bethlehem, just two kilometres from Jerusalem.

And the birth happens amidst the stench of cattle. No warmth of a home, no comfort of a hospital ward, nay just a cave carved on the side of the hill, when their own blood relatives and friends rejected accommodating a pregnant woman about to give birth. Mary of Nazareth had to give birth to her first babe even without the minimum assistance from a woman in her dire moment of need; she was denied the minimum comfort of warmth, fresh air and light. We would not wish it even to those who hurt us most. Our contemplation would suddenly stop with a shocking question, why at all would God choose this 'weird' way to introduce the saviour of mankind, Jesus Christ.

John 3,16 tells us, 'God so loved the world that He gave His only Son' to give us inner freedom to turn to God. Therefore, the mystery of this strange surprise of Jesus' birth amidst us is to be placed in the heart of the Fatherly love of God for us. A father's love is encompassing, focused for the long-term good of the family and its members. It is often sensed as crude, rude, uncompromising and even heavy and unjust. But God's ways are not our ways (Hos. 11, Is 55,10; Rom 11,33). Our thinking is often blurred by human sympathy and pity. What we decide is often not leading us to the happy end of our lives.

In the painful situation of the birth of Jesus, the mystery of the suffering cross, and foreshadowing of the victory of the resurrection are hidden. The willing surrender to God's will is indeed an act of homage to God. Therefore, the sacrifices of Mary and Joseph and the lowliness of the birth of Jesus among the cattle that sacrifice their lives to human beings, the shepherds who endure the vagaries of nature in the open fields day and night to care for the sheep, have a lasting message specifically for our days.

The whole of this year, the world is shaken by an invisible Corona virus and every country lost thousands of its citizens. It snatched away the parents and the grandparents, friends and foes without mercy.



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*Zelo Zelatus Sum Pro Domino Deo exercituum.*



The worst torment was that we could not even approach them and offer them our help even in their last moments. The message is clear; we do not have a lasting city here below. We are pilgrims headed to a promised land. We have to renounce what our nature desires to choose what God wants. We cannot bypass the cross if we want to find the true joy of resurrection.

I am happy to share the good news from the Carmelite General Definitory. It has juridically assigned the English-speaking territories of Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan to the care of the Province of Karnataka-Goa. It means we can now venture into new initiatives, with your cooperation, for the spiritual enrichment of Canada. Right now, we total twenty friars serving Canada under the Provincial Delegation of Canada. On the other hand, the twenty-eight OCDS communities are spread all over as the ferment of spiritual life: nineteen of them in Ontario, one in Prince Edward Island, one in Nova Scotia, one in New Brunswick, one in Saskatchewan, two in Alberta, and three in British Columbia. We look forward to the birth of many more.

As the Delegate Provincial, I have the duty of making pastoral visitations to favour and facilitate authentic Christian spiritual life and fidelity to the Carmelite heritage amidst us. I would begin the visits as soon as it is feasible. Meanwhile I entrust each one of you to Jesus in the manger, and to Mary and Joseph. May the tragedies around us not deter us and discourage us into passivity. God is above everything; He knows what is truly good for us and Our heavenly Father cares. Let us seek to do His will. Besides, St. Teresa too reminds us, Carmelites, that we are called to be a joyous people. May I wish everyone, our friars, nuns, OCDS sisters and brothers, friends and benefactors, a joyous and blessed Christmas and a New Year 2021 full of health, hope and happiness.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Jerald D'Souza, OCD  
 Delegate Provincial





Nacimiento (1690-1706) - Córdoba

150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church



« ST. JOSEPH IS IN THE MIDDLE OF JESUS AND MARY  
AS A RESPLENDENT STAR »

(St. Mary Magdalen de' Pazzi)

Glædelig Jul  
 Feliz Navidad  
 Linksmų Kalėdų Buone Feste  
 Boże Narodzenie God Jul  
 Srečan Božic Mele Kalikimaka  
**Fröhliche Weihnachten**  
*Buon Natale* Feliz Natal  
 Bon Nadal  
 Nadolig Llawen Vrolijk Kerstfeest  
 Hgyvää Joulua  
**Merry Christmas**  
 Zalig Kerstfeest Joyeux Noël  
*Merii Kurisumasi*  
 Frohes Fest

*f. Saverio Lannicola*

Superior General, with the General Definitors  
and the Community of the Generalate O.C.D.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

*"Jesus became human, so that we could be more and more human."* The Covid pandemic has brought our life, relationships and endeavours to a standstill. It has made us realize, how fragile life is. Christmas is a time, when a fragile baby teaches us true love. Let us pray to Jesus, to make us more human, in our relationships with Him and people, especially the least and lost of the world. Here are a few highlights of our journey with Jesus in the year 2020.

**NEW LEADERSHIP**

Once in three years we have the grace of the Provincial Chapter: It was held at Dhyana Sadhana, Mysuru from the 16 -26 of July 2020 with the theme: *Pray and Proclaim.*

Rev. Fr Pius James D'Souza was elected as *Provincial Superior*, along with a team of *Councillors*: Frs George Santhumayor, Melvin D'Cunha, Prakash D'Cunha and Deep Fernandes.



Fr Jerald D'Souza has been appointed as *Delegate Provincial* in Canada, with Frs Rudolf D'Souza and Jerome Mascarenhas as his *Councillors*.



In the Special Congress held in the Tanzanian Vicariate, Fr Praveen Frank was elected as *Regional Vicar*, along with Frs Aureus Mwinuka and Raymond Santhanaz as his *Councillors*.

**ENTERING CARMEL**

In September 2020, 23 young boys from Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra entered our minor Seminary at Mapusa, Goa. Also 6 smart youth have begun the Postulancy programme at Carmelite Monastery, Margao.



**FRAGRANT SELF OFFERING**

7 novices from India and 4 novices from our mission in Tanzania, took an important step in their life by making their first religious profession.



**FRUITS FOR THE CHURCH**

Brs Abel, Siprian and Urban from Tanzania made their solemn profession on November 20. Br Jignesh Solanki will make his solemn profession in December 14 2020 in Rome.



We received 9 new priests and 6 deacons this year; in the persons of Frs Joseph D'Souza, Wilson Tauro, Sunil D'Souza, Ivan Sequeira, Anoop Fernandes, Roshan Monteiro, Ashwin D Souza, Peter Chami(Tanzania), Simon Rupoli (Tanz.); Deacons Ashwath, Adarsh, Vishan, Abel(Tanz.), Siprian(Tanz.) and Urban (Tanz.).

**FRUITS FOR THE CHURCH**

The Carmelgiri community now have a new chapel, which was blessed by Most Rev. Robert Miranda of Gulbarga diocese on February 9.



The Carmelites inaugurated a new retreat centre in Benoni, South Africa on February 21. The building was blessed by the Archbishop of Johannesburg, Most Rev. Buti Tlhagale.



We rejoiced at the inauguration and blessing of Lar De Terezinha Destitute Home at Pajifond, Margao.

**RESPONSE TO COVID**

The Covid pandemic has brought a new understanding to life. It put out not only our medical defenses, but also put out our social inequalities and exploitation. The Carmelites responded by providing food ration packets, sanitizers, masks, etc to those affected by loss of employment and the lockdown.



The Carmelites also fed the spiritually famished by providing online liturgy and spiritual food. Our



communities in Mangalore and Margao provided daily online Mass. Our fathers and brothers through creative ministry broadcasted programmes and contests to renew the faith. Through our Youtube channels, Android App Carmel Preran, we reached a multitude of people.

#### MATURED FRUITS



Carmel is a fertile vineyard. Some of our friars have borne choicest fruits: Frs Felix Moras, Lawrence D'Mello and Peter D'Sa completed their **Golden Jubilee**; and Frs Teodosio Fernandes, Bartholomew D'Souza, Steny Mascarenhas, Victor Pais, Vijay Martin, Lawrence D'Cunha, Lancy Lovis, Melwyn Rosario and Ronald D'Souza their **Silver Jubilee of religious profession in 2020**.

We recalled the abundant fruits of priestly ministry as Frs Gregory D Souza and Michael Morris Shenoy celebrated their **Golden Jubilee**; and Frs Jerome Moras, Shabas Crasta, Alfred Menezes and Clifford D Souza commemorated the **Silver Jubilee** of their Ordination to the Priesthood.

#### EMPOWERED WITH WISDOM

Fr Richard Francis D'Souza became the first member of our Province to obtain a doctorate in Sacred Scripture, from Biblicum, Rome. He is now appointed as Professor of Sacred Scripture at Pontifical Institute - Teresianum, Rome

Fr Renatus Payovela from our Vicariate of Tanzania has been appointed by the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) as Spiritual Director of the Major Seminary and Lecturer at Nazareth Major Seminary, Mwendakulima.

Fr Marie Joseph was appointed as Episcopal Vicar for the Religious in the Archdiocese of Cape Town (South Africa) and a member of the College of Consultors.

#### LOVE OFFERING TO GOD

Sr Rachel of the Good Shepherd from Cloistered Carmel, Chicalim, Goa, made her Solemn profession on 7 October; the memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary.



Sr Hemangini Maria of the Child Jesus, the first indigenous vocation from Gujarat, made her first profession on 1 October; the feast of St Therese of the Child Jesus.

#### FRUITS OF COMMITMENT

Some of our Cloistered Carmel Sisters celebrated the Jubilee of their commitment to Christ in Carmel this year. Sr Mary Frances of the Blessed Sacrament (Mangalore) completed **70 years**; Late Sr Mary of St Joseph (Pune) and Sr Filomina of Jesus & Mary (Chicalim) completed **60 years**; and Srs Mercy of the Sacred Heart (Hassan), Theresita of Jesus Crucified (Chicalim) and Marie Elizabeth of the Trinity (Mumbai) celebrated **25 years** of religious profession.

#### ETERNAL JOURNEY

Sr Mary of St Joseph hailing from Kadri, Mangalore left to her heavenly abode on April 1, after living to a ripe age of 83, and serving at the Cloistered Carmels of Trichy and Pune for 60 years of religious life.



Sr Teresa of Jesus who hailed from Ernakulam, went to receive her heavenly reward on May 13 at age of 84. This 'bride of Christ' lived a graceful 55 years in Carmel, at Bengaluru, and Kurnool (Andhra).

Sr Mary Matilda of Jesus hailing from Poovarany, Kerala slept in the Lord on June 14. She often gave company to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. She served for 67 years at the Mangalore Cloistered Carmel.



Sr Mary of Mount Carmel hailing from Majorda, Goa commended her soul to God rest on September 19 at the age of 84. She embroidered her love for Christ on many holy vestments and altar cloths for the 58 years in the Cloistered Carmel of Chicalim, Goa.

*P.J.S.*

Rev. Dr. Pius J. D'Souza, OCD  
Provincial Superior



*May this great season of Christmas bring the glow of prosperity, joy, happiness, health and success. May Jesus illuminate your life to grow in his love, to share and give HIM to others.*

*Wishing you a blessed Christmas and faith filled New Year 2021*

### DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS (OCD) KARNATAKA GOA PROVINCE

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# ST. JOSEPH, PATRON OF CARMEL

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**A Letter from the Prior General, O.Carm. and Superior General, O.C.D. to the Carmelite Family on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of St. Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.**



## ST. JOSEPH, PATRON OF CARMEL

A Letter from the Prior General, O.Carm. and Superior General, O.C.D.  
to the Carmelite Family on the occasion of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the  
proclamation of St. Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.

This year, 2020, we celebrated the feast of St. Joseph in the full throws of a pandemic, that forced us to remain in our own homes. Because of that, we felt the need even more to turn to that just and faithful man who knew the meaning of hardship, exile, and worries about tomorrow, but did not lose heart, but continued to believe and hope God, from whom he had received a very unique mission: he was to take care of Mary and the child Jesus, the family of Nazareth, the embryo of the new family that God was giving to the world. Pope Francis, preaching in Santa Marta, reminded us of some of the qualities of St. Joseph: the man of clear and practical vision, capable of doing his work with precision and professional skill, and one who at the same time penetrated the mystery of God, beyond all that was familiar to him or was under his control, and in the presence of which he kneels and adores.<sup>1</sup>

It does us good to think about St. Joseph, to meditate on him as one whom our tradition has recognised as a patron and a model of Carmelite life. It is something we want to do together, as a Carmelite family, O.Carm. and O.C.D., because in our veneration of St. Joseph, and in our constant reference to him, we find one of the most precious aspects of our common heritage and spirituality. This year has the added motivation of a significant anniversary, namely, the proclamation of St. Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church, by Pope Pius IX, on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December 1870, 150 years ago.

### *The place of St. Joseph in Carmel*

The veneration of St. Joseph is an integral part of our Christian formation, tradition and culture. We are so accustomed to placing St. Joseph alongside Jesus and Mary, that we tend to think that the Church has always attributed to him, whose life was one of intimacy with the mystery of the incarnation, the dignity and the honours that we normally associate with him, but in reality, it was not always so. In the first

<sup>1</sup> Pope Francis, Homily, Santa Marta, 19<sup>th</sup> of March, 2020.



millennium, the traces of a theological reflection on St. Joseph, or of any particular homage given to him are very rare. It was only with the advent of the mendicant orders that devotion to St. Joseph began to develop. In addition to the work of the French theologian, Jean Gerson, a decisive contribution was given by the Franciscans and by the Carmelites.

For Carmelites, interest in St. Joseph was a natural offshoot of its fundamental Marian orientation. Every member of the wider family of Mary (her parents, Joachim and Anne, the secondary protectors of Carmel, and his alleged sisters and brothers, Mary of James and Mary of Salome) were the recipients of particular attention in Carmel. In that context, Joseph, Mary's spouse, could not be ignored. Pious medieval legends, in order to underline the close link with the family of Nazareth, Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and based perhaps on the Apocryphal Gospel of Pseudo Matthew, make references to visits that the Holy Family made to the sons of the prophets, the descendants of the prophet Elijah, living on Mount Carmel. Others speak about a presumed visit that the Holy Family made on their return from Egypt<sup>2</sup>. This connection must have looked so strong in the Church that some of the ancient authors, like the Benedictine abbot, Giovanni Tritemio, thought that perhaps the veneration of St. Joseph in the Latin Church may well have been brought by the Carmelite hermits on their return to Europe.<sup>3</sup> This idea, which is no longer accepted, is one that we find in the writings of Pope Benedict XIV, who suggested that the veneration of St. Joseph in the liturgy began with the Carmelites.<sup>4</sup> What is certain is that devotion to St. Joseph among Carmelites had liturgical overtones from the very beginning. In later times, and right up to the present day, we find also a Eucharistic dimension in Carmelite devotion to St. Joseph, as the one who held in his hands the bread of life, our spiritual food and drink.

In truth, it is impossible to say exactly when people began to celebrate the feast of St. Joseph in Carmelite churches. In all probability, as early as the 14<sup>th</sup> century, there was strong local devotion, but by the 15<sup>th</sup> century we begin to see a Mass and a Divine Office proper to St. Joseph. The Flemish Carmelite, Arnold Bostius, in 1476, stated that Carmelites had a solemn celebration of his feast.<sup>5</sup> The proper of the liturgy in honour of St. Joseph in the Carmelite tradition is thought by historians and liturgists to be the

2 These pious legends inspired important works of art, e.g. paintings from the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century that hang today in the Cathedral Museum in Frankfurt am Main.

3 LEONE DI SAN GIOACCHINO, *Il culto di San Giuseppe e l'Ordine del Carmelo*, Barcellona, 1905, 48. For the history of the development, cfr. E. BOAGA, O.Carm., 'Giuseppe, santo e sposo della B.V.M.', in *Dizionario Carmelitano*, ed. E. BOAGA e L. BORRIELLO, Città Nuova, Roma 2008, 443-446.

4 *De Serv. Dei beatif.*, I/iv, 11; I/xx, 17.

5 Cfr. B. M. XIBERTA, O.CARM., *Flores josefinas en la liturgia carmelitana antigua*, "Estudios Josefinos" 18, 1963-1964, pp. 301-319.

first monument of the Latin Church to the dignity of St. Joseph.

The ancient liturgy celebrates St. Joseph as the first among his contemporaries in Nazareth, the one chosen by Divine Wisdom to be the Spouse of the Virgin Mary, so that the Son of God might enter the world with honour, but without fanfare. Carmelite Preachers insisted that just as Mary the Virgin conceived the Incarnate Word in her womb through the work of the Holy Spirit, so Joseph, through the work of the same Holy Spirit, conceived the Word through contemplation, and became the father of Jesus on this earth.<sup>6</sup> The liturgy celebrated the nuptial union between Joseph and Mary the Virgin, and presented him as the protector of her virginity and of the life of the incarnate Son of God. With the sensitivity that is typical of the Carmelite contemplative charism, the ancient liturgy celebrated the purity of the Blessed Virgin and of St. Joseph, by highlighting their openness to God, which made it possible for them to welcome the mystery of the Incarnation. Formed by this liturgical spirituality, St. Mary Magdalen de'Pazzi would see Joseph's protection as a consequence of his purity: "In paradise Joseph's purity joins with the purity of Mary, and in that exchange of splendour, Joseph's purity shines a light on the even greater glory and splendour of Mary's purity. Saint Joseph is in the middle of Jesus and Mary as a resplendent star, and he takes particular care of our monastery because we are under the care of the Virgin Mary."<sup>7</sup>

St. Joseph is presented in Carmel's ancient liturgy as the virginal spouse of Mary, united to her through a real marriage, in which his authority as a spouse, protector and father is seen in his constant service. Moreover, St. Joseph is presented in his obedience to God. He is the just one, the worthy master of the house of the Lord, to whom a great responsibility is entrusted, that of giving a name to the child that is born. He gave him the divine name announced by the angel, the name Jesus. By doing this, Joseph became the first one to announce that in the child of Nazareth we are saved by God. In that same ancient liturgy we can detect a wealth of Carmelite spirituality under the image of St. Joseph: 1) *puritas cordis* that makes it possible to have a vision of God, 2) union with Mary, and 3) the fruitfulness of the mystical life understood in terms of the conception and birth of the incarnate Word in the soul that is pure. St. Joseph for that reason is celebrated as the image and reflection of the Carmelite mystical life in God.

<sup>6</sup> CRISTOVAL DE AVENDAÑO, *Tomo primero sobre los evangelios de la quaresma, predicados en la corte de Madrid...*, Sebastian y Iayme Matevad, Barcelona 1630, 158-159.

<sup>7</sup> SANTA MARIA MADDALENA DE PAZZI, 'Vigesimo secondo colloquio', in *I Colloqui: Tutte le opere...dai manoscritti originali* a cura di Claudio Catena, Fulvio Nardoni, Firenze 1961, 237-238.



### *Saint Teresa and Saint Joseph*

As the heir of a rich tradition of veneration and devotion to St. Joseph in Carmel, St. Teresa of Jesus would give more breadth and depth to the tradition, to the great benefit of Carmel and of the universal Church. Indeed, it is undeniable that more than any other, Teresa of Jesus made devotion to Joseph one of the elements that characterizes the spiritual identity of Carmel. Her encounter with St. Joseph came about in one of the darkest periods in her life. She was about twenty-five years old. She had been suffering from a painful and endless illness, and the doctors had not only not cured her but made her worse. She was paralysed and worn out, both physically and psychologically. She felt that she was alone, without anybody to help her, when as if she felt something inside pushing her, she turned to St. Joseph as her “lord and father” (*Life* 6, 6; 33, 12). For the rest of her life, Joseph would remain for her and her work as the custodian and protector, taking her out of every difficulty that came her way. From being only a personal devotion, her devotion to Joseph would become in time a feature of the Teresian Reform centred on friendship with Jesus Christ. Just as Joseph watched over the relationship between Jesus and Mary, defending it from dangers from outside and protecting the home where they dwelt, likewise, he would watch over the Carmels that just like the family of Nazareth were intended to be places in which the humanity of Jesus would find a home, and Carmelites would live only for that end. For this reason, Joseph is not only a patron, but also the master of all who practice prayer, (*Life* 6, 8) because there is no one who knows more than he what it means to live a life of intimacy with Jesus and Mary, because of the many years he lived with them and the way in which he made possible their life as a family in Nazareth. It is no surprise therefore that ten out of the fifteen Carmelite monasteries that Teresa herself founded bore the name of St. Joseph.

St. Joseph was so much a presence in the founding activities of Teresa (every time she travelled she brought with her a statue of St. Joseph) that he began to be known as the “Founder” of the Teresian Carmel.<sup>8</sup> We should understand by that that he truly helped her in the founding of the Carmelite monasteries of the reform. It is certain, however, that alongside the traditional figure of the Prophet Elijah, there was now a place for St. Joseph, and this caused some questioning, as to which of these should be considered

<sup>8</sup> Gracián, in a well known passage from his work *Josefina* (1597), reached the point of stating that «(those who profess the Rule of the Discalced Carmelites) recognise glorious St. Joseph as the founder of this reform because St. Teresa founded it through her devotion to him, just as the Carmelite Order recognises as its foundress the Blessed Virgin Mary, in devotion to whom the prophet Elijah initiated the religious life of the prophets on Mount Carmel.» (l. V, cap. 4; ed. Silverio, 476).

the principal patron and founder after the Blessed Virgin Mary.<sup>9</sup> It is significant that in a letter to Fr. Gracián, Teresa in trying to decide what name should be given to the college that they were establishing in Salamanca, wrote: It would be right to call this college after St. Joseph (Letter, 22 May 1578) but the college will be called after Saint Elijah. The following year, in 1579, St. John of the Cross gave the name of St. Joseph to the college in Baeza, which made the college in Baeza the first male foundation that was dedicated to St. Joseph. The title, however, lasted only two years. From March 1581 onwards the college would be known as the college of St. Basil, one of the great fathers of the Church. It is clear to us that there was still some uncertainty around the role to be attributed to the carpenter of Nazareth in the Teresian reform of the Carmelites. Things became clearer a quarter of a century later when, in his *Instruction for Novices*, Fr. Giovanni di Gesù Maria explained that veneration of St. Joseph is second only to the Blessed Virgin and is followed by devotion to the great prophets, Elijah and Elisha, the “founders of our Order”. (*Istruzione dei novizi*, III, cap. 4, 29-30).

### *The patronage of St. Joseph*

One of the characteristic thoughts of Teresa was that while other saints are destined by God to help in certain kinds of need, St. Joseph has a kind of universal mandate, to assist in any kind of need, material or spiritual. (*Life* 6, 6). It is on this conviction that the feast of the patronage of St. Joseph was founded, in a way that was typically Carmelite. In the year 1628, the intermediate General Chapter of the Spanish congregation of the Discalced Carmelites, declared St. Joseph as the principal patron of the Discalced Order. The initiative of celebrating the feast of the patronage of St. Joseph may be attributed to the discalced Carmelite Juan de la Concepción (1625-1700), who was the first Provincial of the Province of Catalonia and after that Superior General of the Spanish Congregation. He obtained from the General Chapter of 1679 the approval of the feast of the patronage of St. Joseph, the liturgical texts for which were composed by another Catalan discalced Carmelite, Juan de San José (1642-1718). The Congregation of Rites, after a comprehensive rewriting of the texts by Card. Casanate, approved them on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April 1680. The feast of St. Joseph's Patronage was set for the third Sunday after Easter, the day on which normally General and Provincial Chapters were convoked. Very soon after that the feast was taken up by the Carmelites of the Ancient

<sup>9</sup> Cf. FORTUNATO DE JESÚS SACRAMENTADO, OCD, *San José en el Carmen Descalzo español en su primer siglo*, “Estudios Josefinos” 18, 1963-1964, 367.



Observance and it was celebrated under the title, '*De Patrocinio S. Joseph Confessoris, Protectoris, et Patroni nostrae Religionis*'.<sup>10</sup> Already, for a long time, the terms, protector, and/or patron, were used without distinction to refer to St. Joseph. Very quickly this celebration spread to other orders and religious congregations, up until the time of the proclamation of his patronage of the universal Church.

The context of the proclamation and the liturgical celebration of the patronage of St. Joseph for Carmel as a whole has always been that of great trial and tribulation, due to both problems within the Order and aggression of the historical, political and religious circumstances of the time. Carmel, in those days, was experiencing great difficulty in its efforts to preserve its own identity and its values. It should be noted that as part of the renewal movements operating within the Carmelite Order, there was a proliferation of devotional writings about St. Joseph, that represented particular forms of expression of the kind of piety that warms the heart and gives impetus to the spiritual life. There were several Carmelite authors and preachers who worked untiringly in spreading devotion to Joseph and in promoting his patronage. Worthy of mention, Raffaele il Bavaro who wrote *Istoria di San Giuseppe* in 1723, in which he exhorted his readers who loved Jesus and Mary, to also love Joseph as one who was loved by both of them.<sup>11</sup> Giuseppe Maria Sardi, may be considered the great propagator of the patronage of St. Joseph, not only for the Order, but also for Christian parents and others who found in him a model of holiness.<sup>12</sup> It was not without reason that Joseph came to be known among Carmelite as the best of teachers and was held to be the protector and patron especially of those who are overburdened or who have lost their way in trying to follow Jesus Christ.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of September, 1847, with the decree of the Congregation for Rites, *Inclutus Patriarcha Joseph*, Pope Pius IX, at a time of great tribulation, extended to the whole Church the feast of the patronage of St. Joseph, to be celebrate on the Third Sunday of Easter. For the liturgy of the Mass, and the divine office, the texts used at that time by the Carmelites were adopted, with some modifications. It was the first gesture by Pius IX in honouring St. Joseph, and he was not yet one full year in office. It was due to his great devotion to the father of Jesus. At the time of convocation of the I Vatican Council, the Pope received a number of requests to increase even more the veneration

10 See, for example: *Missale Fratrum Ordinis Beatissimae Virginis Mariae de Monte Carmelo*, Roma 1759, 350.

11 RAFFAELE MARIA BAVARO, *Istoria di San Giuseppe*, Antonio Abri, Napoli, 1723, 612; *Vita di San Giuseppe o sia Ristretto della sua Istoria ed Esercizi di Devozione per fruttuosamente venerare il medesimo Santo...*, Antonio Abri, Napoli 1724.

12 GIUSEPPE MARIA SARDI (Veneto), 'Discorso sopra il Padrocinio di San Giuseppe Sposo di Maria', in *Sermoni*, Lorenzo Rivan Monti, Venezia 1742, 213-221.

of St. Joseph, especially by making him the patron of the universal church. The council which was interrupted unexpectedly in September 1870, did not allow enough time for the request to be granted. Therefore, on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December of that same year, Pius IX decided upon the solemn proclamation through a decree of the Congregation for Rites *Quemadmodum Deus*.

The feast of the patronage of St. Joseph was transferred in 1913 to Wednesday of the third week after Easter, and then in 1956 it was replaced by the memorial in honour of St. Joseph the Worker, to be celebrated on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. Nevertheless, the Discalced Carmelites, with the approval of their liturgical calendar in 1957, were permitted to celebrate the feast of the patronage of St. Joseph, as “the protector and patron of our Order.”

### *Saint Joseph, patron of Carmel worldwide*

The reform of the Liturgy that followed the Second Vatican Council, brought, among other things, a notable simplification of the liturgical calendar. In the calendar approved on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February 1969 the title “protector of the universal Church” disappeared from the principal feast of St. Joseph, celebrated on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March. Of course, it was not abolished, but it was thought that it would be better to hold on to only the biblical title of “spouse of the Virgin Mary”, giving the individual bishops’ conferences and religious families the freedom to add other titles. Following the instruction of the Congregation for Divine Worship on particular calendars (29<sup>th</sup> of June 1969) the solemnity of the patronage of St. Joseph was removed also from the calendar of the Discalced Carmelites. The General Definitory (OCD) decided then to transfer the title of “protector of our Order” to the 19<sup>th</sup> of March solemnity. Similarly, it was decided that the optional memorial of St. Joseph the Worker should be celebrated throughout the whole Order.<sup>13</sup> These decisions, it would seem, were very quickly forgotten. While the title, “protector of our Order” was kept in the liturgy of the Carmelites of the ancient observance, it disappeared very quickly from the liturgy of the Discalced Carmelites, given that in the particular calendar of the Order, neither the solemnity nor the memorial of St. Joseph appeared. Nevertheless, in the post conciliar constitutions of both Orders there is continued reference to St. Joseph as their protector (Cost. O.Carm., 91; Cost. OCD, 52). By this fact we may recognise an

13 Cfr. ‘Normae de calendario liturgico OCD pro anno 1970’ (approved in the 128<sup>th</sup> session of the General Definitory, July 18, 1969), in *Ordo Divini Officii recitandi missaeque celebrandae iuxta calendarium romanum ac proprium Carmelitarum Discalceatorum [...] pro anno Domini 1970*, [Casa generalizia OCD] 1969, 29-32.



important element of unity in the Carmelite Family as a whole, that perhaps we have not sufficiently considered or appreciated.

### *Today's world*

We are living now in a period in which the Church is not so concerned with defending itself from an outside enemy but seeks to recognise its mission of giving authentic witness to the truth of the Gospel. Thus, in a world where there is need for “concreteness and the sense of mystery”<sup>14</sup>, in a world in which we tend to flee from the bonds of stable relationships and commitments and to revert to a kind of sterile narcissism, Joseph shows us the way of self-denial, daily responsibility, the silent dedication to the care and growth of family. Any father of a family will want to heal the wounds of his own home. Our patron helps us to see the need to heal the wounds of humanity, and the wounds of the Church. There is no Church, there is no Carmel without people, who, forgetting themselves work day and night to give others a sure foundation in which they can trust. These people work away from the limelight, bearing in their own hearts all their own concerns and anxieties, very often, not seeing the fruits or even see the goal, trusting only in the one from whom their paternity comes and takes its name (Ef 3,15) These are the people who will always find in St. Joseph their patron and model, “their father and lord”.

The Word came to Joseph in a dream, which we may understand as his prayer, his interiority. We might say that every Carmel is a place of dreams: prayer is like a dream, that has within it a secret message. A Carmelite community is a group of people that dreams of making of its own home a new Jerusalem, people who share the dream of the prophet for a better world, people who allow themselves to be captured every day by the dream of salvation. In listening every day to the Word of Salvation, we are conformed to Christ in his obedience and in his desire to serve, as the one who did not come to be served, but to serve, as one who found in small children the example of how must be if we want to enter the kingdom of God. Carmelites, like Saint Joseph, know the dream and keep alight the flame of hope that shines for the new world promised to those who are attentive to the word of God, because God will make all things new.

Saint Joseph protects Carmel, not only because he protects it from hostile attack and from every adversity<sup>15</sup>, but also because he helps Carmel to remain firm in the simplicity and profundity of its identity. With his being just he points the way that we

<sup>14</sup> Pope Francis, Homily, Santa Marta, 19<sup>th</sup> of March, 2020.

<sup>15</sup> Prayer to St. Joseph by Pope Leo XIII at the end of the encyclical, *Quamquam pluries*.

must follow and the goal for which we must strive. In this sense, there is no doubt that our veneration of Saint Joseph is not only a devotion or pious practice, but rather a life plan, that is an integral part of the charismatic heritage of Carmel. Together with Mary, Joseph is the gospel icon in which we Carmelites may see and understand what it means to live “in allegiance to Jesus Christ”. It is right then that we continue to turn to him as our father and patron, but also as a faithful friend and reliable guide in our following in the footsteps of Jesus.

As the world continues to deal with Covid-19, we unite in prayer for the doctors and nurses, for medical researchers, and for all who have fallen victim to this pandemic and for the families who are in mourning for the loss of loved ones. May Joseph, our protector, protect each one of us, and with the tender love of God, spread his protection throughout the whole world.

*Fraternally in Carmel*

P. Mícheál O'Neill O.Carm.  
*Prior General*

P. Saverio Cannistrà O.C.D.  
*Superior General*

***A JOYFUL AND  
BLESSED CHRISTMAS  
TO EVERYONE!***







**ST. TERESA OF JESUS COMMUNITY  
VANCOUVER BC**



**ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS COMMUNITY  
NORTH VANCOUVER, BC**



**ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS AND  
THE HOLY FACE GROUP, EDMONTON, AB**



**NEWS AROUND THE  
COMMUNITIES**



## CEREMONIAL RITES – WESTERN CANADA OCDS

The OCDS communities of Western Canada gathered for the annual ceremonial rites in the month of October. Through their commitment and innovations, meetings and the formation process continued by virtual means and physical meetings, guidelines permitting.



### ST. TERESA OF JESUS COMMUNITY VANCOUVER, BC

On October 24, St. Teresa of Jesus Community, Vancouver held their ceremonial rites at Guardian Angels Church. It was officiated by Spiritual Assistant Fr. Victor Fernandes. There were five candidates of whom one made vows and four made their first promises.





## CEREMONIAL RITES – ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS COMMUNITY

On October 15, Feast of St. Teresa of Jesus, St. John of the Cross Community, North Vancouver held their ceremonial rites at St. Edmund's Church. It was officiated by Spiritual Assistant Fr. Cannio Cordozo. There were five candidates of whom one made vows, two made their first promises and two received their scapulars.





## CEREMONIAL RITES – ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY, CALGARY

On October 15<sup>th</sup> Feast of St Teresa of Avila, Fr Jerald D’Souza celebrated a special Mass at St Thomas More Church for the St Joseph OCDS Community. Because of health restrictions, it was a simple celebration; nevertheless, it was a joyous occasion as Definitive and First Promises were made by four members and Vows by one member.





# OCDS CONGRESS, TORONTO



**Gladys McMullin OCDS  
President, Secretariat  
Eastern Canada**

**Toronto OCDS Congress in the Fall of 2022?** Gladys McMullin, President of the Secretariat, was all set with the venue and planning for a 2021 Congress. However, due to the COVID-19 Virus, plans have been halted and it is anticipated that they may proceed for the Fall of 2022. We will keep you posted. Meanwhile, keep your options to attend open. It will be your opportunity to meet OCDS Delegate General, Fr. Alzinir Debastiani, Gladys McMullin and our Carmelite Family of the Eastern Communities. Our members who attended the 2018 Congress were spiritually nourished by the presentations of the speakers. The hotel offered quality service, comfortable rooms and was conveniently located with free shuttle service. Well deserved kudos to Gladys!



**Fr. Alzinir Debastiani OCD  
OCDS Delegate General**



**OCDS Members from  
Western Canada with Fr. Jaison Tellis**







**NEWS AROUND THE  
PROVINCE**

## **OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ESTABLISHMENT OF PROVINCIAL DELEGATION IN CANADA**

September 13, 2019. During the General Pastoral Visitation, the Canada Region was established as a Provincial Delegation in Canada.

### **ASSIGNMENT OF THE TERRITORY OF ONTARIO**

On 3rd June 2020, in its 155th Ordinary Session, the General Definitory assigned the territory of Ontario, which was so far part of the territory of the Malta Province, to the Karnataka-Goa Province

### **PROVINCIAL CHAPTER – “TO PRAY AND PROCLAIM”**

July 16 to July 26, 2020. For a Carmelite, prayer can never be a job to be performed time to time, but a way of a perennial and progressive life-bond with Jesus Christ exactly as our hermit forefathers understood. It is a relationship that transforms every aspect of our human life and raises us up to higher levels of spiritual growth. And when the true transformation happens, the life can do nothing but proclaim the wonders that has happened to him. Simply said, “To pray and proclaim.”

Considering this as the central theme of the Chapter, amid the turbulent times raging with the pandemic, the Carmelites in their usual attire of calm and serenity gathered for the 14th Provincial Chapter held at Dhyana Sadhana from the 16th till the 26th of July. The Central theme “To pray and proclaim” was providentially channelized in the election of the friars who for the upcoming triennium will steer the Province to the promising pastures. The team elected consists of:

- Rev. Fr Pius James D’Souza – Provincial Superior
- Rev. Fr George Santhumayor – First Councillor
- Rev. Fr Melvin D’Cunha – Second Councillor
- Rev. Fr Prakash D’Cunha – Third Councillor
- Rev. Fr Deep Francis Fernandes – Fourth Councillor

Let us whisper a prayer every day for these friars that they may guide all the Province friars and sisters with the ideal of being an authentic Carmelites set in the example of our Holy Parents.

### **PROVINCIAL DELEGATION IN CANADA**

On August 25, 2020 the Provincial Delegation in Canada followed in the footsteps of the Province and the friars of the Canada region elected the office bearers of the new triennium and they are:

- Rev. Fr Jerald D'Souza - Delegate Provincial
- Rev. Fr Rudolf Valerian D'Souza - First Councillor
- Rev. Fr Jerome Mascarenhas - Second Councillor and Secretary
- Rev. Fr Steny Mascarenhas – Bursar

We congratulate these friars of ours and wish them every success in the administration of the Provincial Delegation of Canada.

### **PROVINCIAL DELEGATE FOR THE OCDS**

August 28, 2020 Our Provincial Superior, Fr. Pius James D'Souza appointed Fr. Jerald D'Souza as the Provincial Delegate for the OCDS. He succeeds Fr. Roshan D’Souza.



**VERY REV. DR. PIUS  
JAMES D'SOUZA OCD**



**REV. FR. GEORGE  
SANTHUMAYOR OCD**



**REV. FR. MELVIN  
D'CUNHA OCD**



**REV. FR. PRAKASH  
D'CUNHA OCD**



**REV. FR. DEEP  
FERNANDES OCD**



*Congratulations to the New Provincial and Councilors of the*  
**ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITES**  
**KARNATAKA-GOA PROVINCE**

**NEW PROVINCIAL SUPERIOR FOR THE KARNATAKA-GOA PROVINCE (Discalced Carmelites)**



*Rev. Fr. Pius James D'Souza* was born in Agrar, Diocese of Mangalore. He joined the Carmelite Order in the year 1982 and made his first religious profession on 3rd July, 1986. After his priestly ordination on 27th of April 1994, he pursued a master's in English Literature, obtaining a Golden Medal at the Mysore University and also a Master's in Philosophy, at Dharwad University. He proceeded to Rome and obtained a Licentiate at the Pontifical Institute, Biblicum. A few years later he was awarded a doctorate in Biblical Theology at The Gregorian University Rome.

In the Karnataka-Goa Province he has been Formator (Pushpashrama Philosophy College, Mysuru), Professor (Institutes of Spirituality and Seminaries in India), Superior of St Joseph's Monastery, Mangaluru and Director of Ryshivana, Ranipura, a Centre for Inner Silence and Contemplation. For the last three years, he served as First Provincial Councillor.

He has authored two books and co-authored two others. In the 14th Provincial Chapter being held at Dhyana Sadhana, Bogadi, Mysuru, he was elected the Provincial Superior of the Karnataka-Goa Province. He succeeds Rev. Fr. Charles Serrao, past Provincial, who held the office for the last six years.

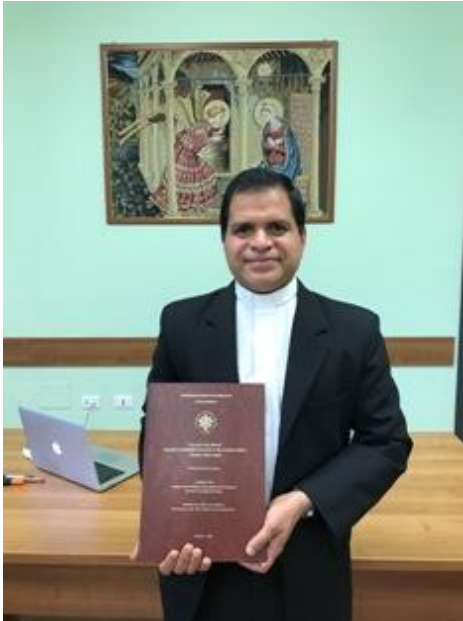


## New Provincial, Councillors and Superior felicitated at Infant Mary Parish, Bajjodi

The Solemn mass was celebrated at 8.30am at Infant Mary Church, wherein new Provincial Superior for Karnataka Goa Province Rev. Fr. Pius James D'Souza was the main celebrant. The mass was concelebrated by the II councillor - Rev. Fr. Melwyn D'Cunha, IV Councillor - Rev Fr. Deep Fernandes, new Superior of St. Joseph's Monastery, Carmel Hill - Rev Fr. Charles Serrao, Parish Priest Fr. Ivan D'Souza, Companion Priest Fr. Patrick Lobo, Fr. Joseph D'Souza and Fr. Ryan Pinto. Fr. Deep Fernandes in his homily preached on the theme – God's assurance to be with us at all times and that we need not fear.



**Dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters in Carmel**  
***Prayerful greetings in the Lord!***



We are pleased to announce that Rev. Dr Richard Francis D'Souza, OCD, of our Province, who defended his doctoral thesis titled, '*Yes Lord, I have Believed*', Martha's confession of faith in the fourth gospel, a narrative critical analysis, on June 30, 2020 at Biblicum in Rome, has been appointed as the Professor of Teresianum, Pontifical Theological Faculty, Rome. He is also given conventuality in the Teresianum Community.

We congratulate Fr Richard and wish him all the best in his new responsibility as Professor of the Sacred Scripture.

**Fraternally in Carmel**  
***Fr Pius James D'Souza, OCD***

**First Doctor in Sacred Scripture from Karnataka**

The entire Karnataka-Goa Province rejoices at the news of its first Doctor in Sacred Scripture in the person of Fr. Richard Francis D'Souza, OCD. Fr. Richard defended his thesis titled, "Yes Lord, I have Believed", Martha's Confession of Faith in the Fourth Gospel, A Narrative Critical Analysis, on Tuesday 30th June in Rome. It was an online defense which lasted for about two hours and was live streamed in YouTube starting at 7.30 p.m. Indian standard time.

Fr. Richard is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Maurice D'Souza and Elize D'Souza and hails from Our Lady of Pompei Church, Gurpur, Mangalore. He did his primary schooling at Our Lady of Pompei Church School. After completing his SSLC at Rosa Mystica High School in 1992, he joined the Order of the Discalced Carmelites of the Karnataka-Goa Province. He pursued his Philosophy in Mysore and graduated in Commerce securing the first rank and a gold medal. Later he completed his Theology at St. Peter's Pontifical Seminary, Bangalore. He was ordained priest on 28th December 2004.

After his ordination, while serving six months at the Carmelite mission in Hadagali, he was appointed as the director of the minor seminary in Koteshwar, Kundapur for three years. Meantime, he also completed his MBA

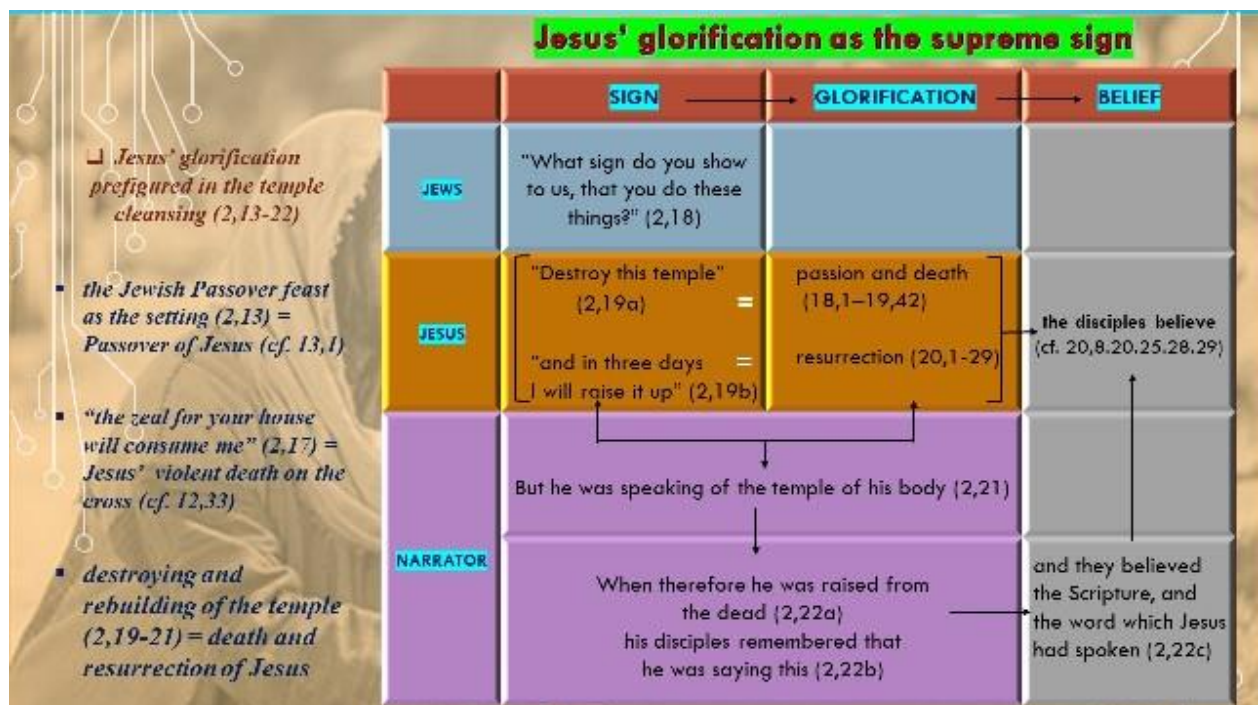


in Human Resource Management at the KSOU, Mysore. Thereafter, for three years he rendered his services as the secretary to the Provincial Superior in Bangalore. Meantime he also a visiting professor at "Pushpashrama", the college of Philosophy and Religion, Mysore.

In 2011, Fr. Richard travelled to Italy for his higher studies in Rome. In October, the same year he began his Licentiate in Sacred Scripture at the prestigious Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome. Having completed his Licentiate in record time (December 2014), he registered himself for the Doctoral programme at the said university in 2015. In February 2016 he successfully cleared his free-doctoral defense (Lectio Coram). From October that year Fr. Richard began his doctoral research under the guidance of Prof. Luca Pedroli and submitted the completed thesis for the defense in February 2020.

While working on his research paper, Fr. Richard was also teaching at the Pontifical Spirituality and Theology Institute, "Teresianum", Rome. At present he is a fulltime professor of Sacred Scripture at the said Institute. During his visits to India, Fr. Richard also teaches Scripture at the Carmelite Spirituality Institutes such as "Ryshivana" in Mangalore and "Dhyanavana" in Mysore. In summer, he holds biblical conferences to the Cloistered Carmel sisters in Italy and to the Parishioners of St. Gregory the Great Church, Harrison, New York.

The Discalced Carmelites, together with all his friends, congratulates Fr. Richard Francis D'Souza on being the first Doctor in Sacred Scripture and wish him all the very best for his teaching ministry as the professor at the Teresianum, Rome.





## RETREAT AT CARMEL HILL, DEROCHE MISSION, CANADA

The Carmelite friars of the Vancouver Region gathered on August 10<sup>th</sup> to August 13<sup>th</sup> at Little Flower Monastery, Deroche, Mission BC for their annual retreat on the theme, “Learning and Living in Prayer and Grace according to the teaching of our Holy Parents”. Participation was limited due to the restrictions strictly imposed by the British Columbia Provincial Health Authorities due to the COVID -19 pandemic.

Fr Rudolf V. D’Souza OCD, the retreat preacher, led the group helping the friars to reflect on how as a Carmelite, one can develop a deeper contemplative spirit, experience God’s presence and see God’s everlasting love and mercy in religious life, in Mission and in everyday life. Instructing expansively on the teachings of our Holy Parents, he raised their thoughts on how the soul is led to experience of God, and with Christian hope how we broaden our faith by opening all our senses and spirit to prayer and to experience the beauty of God’s Presence and Grace. The retreat prepared them to face successfully and faithfully the challenges of life around them. Fr Rudolf, Fr. John Alex Pinto, Fr. Steny Mascarenhas, and Fr. Alex Braganza took turns to celebrate Holy Eucharist and Fr. Rajesh Madtha, Fr. Victor Fernandes, Fr. Cannio Cardozo conducted the Vespers and Adoration each day.

It was a good time for the friars to experience a strong feeling of fellowship and Carmelite fraternity, while each day they enjoyed a variety of delicious cooking and time spent in community sharing and caring, thus rebuilding their fraternal Carmelite spirit, after months of isolation due to COVID -19.

Thanks go to Fr. Rudolf for generously accepting to lead the retreat, which was very well appreciated. Wholehearted thanks to Fr. John Alex Pinto for planning and coordinating the entire retreat, Fr. Alex Braganza, the Superior and Fr. Rajesh Madtha (Carmel Hill, Monastery) for organizing it and Fr. Steny Mascarenhas, Fr. Victor Fernandes, Fr. Cannio Cardozo for their support, participation, and assistance.



## 60TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF FR. RUDOLF VALERIAN D'SOUZA

The "Shasti poorthi" 60th birthday of Fr Rudolf V. D'Souza was celebrated on 27th of July, 2020 at Little Flower Monastery, Carmel Hill, BC. The celebration was attended by a small gathering of the friars from the neighbouring communities with the proper protocols and Provincial Government guidelines of the COVID-19.

The celebration began with the Thanksgiving Eucharist presided over by Fr. Rudy. Fr Vijay Martin preached a meaningful homily emphasizing the dedication, commitment, generosity and pastoral zeal of Fr. Rudy to the Lord's Kingdom. A short felicitation program commenced with a welcome by the Monastery Superior, Fr. Alex Braganza. The birthday celebrant cut the cake and he was toasted by Fr. Mario Fernandes who wished all blessings and success to him.

It was a touching and emotional moment when Fr. Rajesh Madtha presented Fr. Rudy with a beautiful video collection of birthday wishes from his mom, siblings and their families, relatives, friends and Carmelite friars from all over the world.

Fr. John Alex Pinto read a poem written by Fr. Paul D'Souza and presented a souvenir containing a collection of written messages from priests, family, and friends. Fr. Alex Braganza presented the Papal blessing and Fr. Steny Mascarenhas read the Provincial Superior's message.

Fr. Rudy thanked God for his gift of life and gift of the priesthood to serve in God's vineyard and for all the spiritual and moral support of family members, Carmelite friars, and friends. Fr. John Alex Pinto who planned and organized the entire evening, thanked all the friars who worked to make it a great celebration. Fr. Ivan Sanctis prayed the grace for the sumptuous monastic dinner prepared by Frs. Alex, Rajesh and Steny. The celebration was compered by Fr. Jaison Tellis.

Indeed, it was an actual celebration of Carmelite fraternity and brotherhood during this time of social distancing and isolation. This celebration brought joy to the faces of all the friars present.

**Happy 60th Birthday Fr. Rudy**  
**Ad Multos Annos**



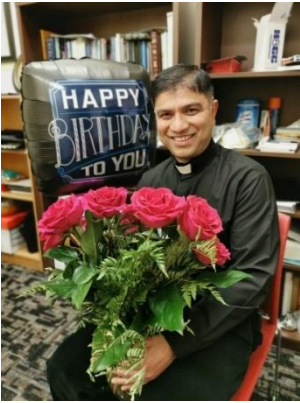






## The Golden Jubilee Celebration

Birthdays - They are always special. Be it the first or 50<sup>th</sup>.



This year (2020) marked two important milestones, one of which you are already well aware, the dominant COVID – 19 pandemic; the other one which brought it with it a lot of joy and pomp was the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday (Nov. 5, 2020) of the Provincial Delegate of the Canada Region – Rev. Fr. Jerald D’Souza.

Albeit the pandemic, celebration and a festive spirit can seldom be contained. The day started with Mass when Rev. Fr. Rajesh D’Souza, also the Associate Pastor at St. Thomas More Parish (Calgary, Alberta), welcomed all Mass attendees to specially pray for Fr. Jerry – as he is lovingly known. Due to the restriction on the number of attendees a massive crowd was not physically present, but all the greetings from Fr. Jerry’s well-wishers were compiled on a giant collage and duly presented to him after Mass.



Fr. Jerry celebrated the Mass, where the Word of God was offered by Rev. Fr. Mario Fernandes. This was his second birthday celebration at St. Thomas More Parish, Calgary, since his last assignment in Vancouver.



Also present were Rev. Fr. Rudolf D’Souza, Rev. Fr. Mario Fernandes, Rev. Fr. Roshan D’Souza, and Rev. Fr. Ivan Sanctis.

After Mass Fr. Mario Fernandes, shared a few insights of his journey with Fr. Jerry and proffered his best wishes, and Fr. Rudolf D’Souza, expanded “JERRY” to become an acronym with the best traits of Fr. Jerry.

Fr. Jerry presented the vote of thanks to all present making the Mass a jubilant celebration.

Good food is key to a good celebration, and so it was. Breakfast was prepared by a parishioner and was well feasted on by Rev. Fr. Rudolf D’Souza, Rev. Fr. Mario Fernandes, Rev. Fr. Roshan D’Souza, Rev. Fr. Ivan Sanctis, Rev. Fr. Rajesh D’Souza, and the birthday boy, Rev. Fr. Jerald D’Souza.

The evening brought it with yet another private celebration, with laughter and love in abundance. All who were not present in person made sure they could convey their greetings via a video. A brief audio visual comprising of greetings from Fr. Jerry’s family and friends was played over dinner.

It is believed that at 50, people are conservative; but Fr. Jerry at 50 is a conserved ball of radiance and happiness.

**Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Fr. Jerry!**

## **Provincial Council Karnataka-Goa Province**



**Provincial Superior**  
**Rev. Fr. Pius James D'Souza, OCD**  
Sadbhavana, Carmelite Provincialate  
P. B. 5602, Rajajinagar I Block  
Dr. Rajkumar Road, Bangalore - 560 010  
Tel : 080 - 23476402 / 22902678  
Fax : 080 - 23476584  
Mobile : +91 9632327614  
E-mail : pjamesocd@gmail.com



**Rev. Fr. George Santhumayor**  
**First Councillor**



**Rev. Fr. Melvin D'Cunha**  
**Second Councillor**



**Rev. Fr. Prakash D'Cunha**  
**Third Councillor**



**Rev. Fr. Deep Fernandes, OCD**  
**Fourth Councillor**



**Rev. Fr. Vinod Lobo**  
**Provincial Secretary**

## Delegate Provincialate of Canada



**Rev. Fr. Jerald D'Souza OCD**  
Delegate Provincial



**Rev. Fr. Rudolf D'Souza OCD**  
First Councillor



**Rev. Fr. Jerome Mascarenhas OCD**  
Second Councillor & Secretary



**Rev. Fr. Steny Mascarenhas OCD**  
Bursar



**DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS**  
**Provincial Delegation Canada – Karnataka-Goa Province**



**Rev. Fr. Jerald D'Souza OCD**  
Delegate Provincial  
St. Thomas More Parish, Calgary AB



**Rev. Fr. Rudolf D'Souza OCD**  
St. Thomas More Parish, Calgary AB



**Rev. Fr. John Alex Pinto OCD**  
Guardian Angels Parish, Vancouver BC



**Rev. Fr. Mario Fernandes OCD**  
Mt. Carmel Spirituality Centre, Parkland County AB



**Rev. Fr. Jerome Mascarenhas OCD**  
St. Patrick Parish, Caledonia ON



**Rev. Fr. Ranjan D'Sa OCD**  
St. Dominic Parish, Oakville ON

**DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS**  
**Provincial Delegation Canada – Karnataka-Goa Province**



**Rev. Fr. Melvin Pinto OCD**  
St. Aloysius Parish, Kitchener ON



**Rev. Fr. Steny Mascarenhas OCD**  
St. Edmund's Parish, North Vancouver BC



**Rev. Fr. Victor Angelo Fernandes OCD**  
Chaplain, St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver BC



**Rev. Fr. Vijay Martin OCD**  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish  
Kamloops BC



**Rev. Fr. Alexander Braganza OCD**  
Little Flower Monastery, Carmel Hill  
Deroche BC



**Rev. Fr. Godwin Arun Pinto OCD**  
St. Patrick Parish, Burlington ON



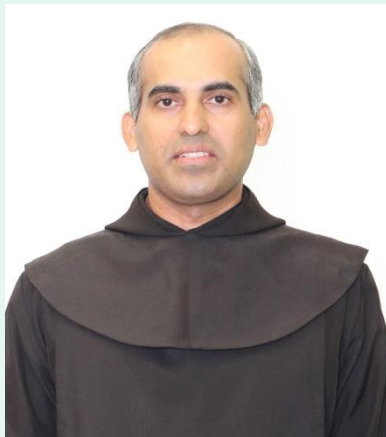
**DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS**  
Canadian Community - Karnataka-Goa Province



**Rev. Fr. Rajesh Madtha OCD**  
Little Flower Monastery, Carmel Hill, Deroche BC



**Rev. Fr. Jaison Tellis OCD**  
St. John Vianney Parish, Kamloops, BC



**Rev. Fr. Roshan D'Souza OCD**  
St. Thomas More Parish, Calgary AB



**Rev. Fr. Vincent D'Souza OCD**  
St. Mary's and St. Ann's Parishes  
Hagersville, ON



**Rev. Fr. Ivan Leo Sanctis OCD**  
Mt. Carmel Spirituality Centre,  
Parkland County AB



**Rev. Fr. Venil D'Souza OCD**  
St. Aloysius Parish, Kitchener ON

**DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS**  
**Provincial Delegation Canada – Karnataka-Goa Province**



**Rev. Fr. Cannio Remedio Cardozo OCD**  
St. Edmund's Parish  
North Vancouver BC



**Bro. Frank Sharma OCD**



**FR. RAJESH D'SOUZA WELCOME TO CANADA!**

Fr. Rajesh D'Souza was born in the small town of Madanthyar, in the Diocese of Mangalore, Karnataka, Southern India. He has one brother and two sisters. Responding to the call of God, he joined the Discalced Carmelite Order in 1999. After completing his novitiate, he made his first Religious Profession in 2003. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Karnataka State Open University and Bachelor of Philosophy from Pushpashrama Institute of Philosophy, affiliated to Dharma Ram Vidya Kshethram. He completed his Bachelor of Theology at St Joseph's Inter-Diocesan Seminary, Mangalore. After completing his religious formation in 2011, he made his solemn profession. He was ordained to the priesthood on April 20, 2012.

After his ordination, he was appointed as the Director of Social Work in Bellary in Northern Karnataka. After serving at the social work center for 4 years, he was appointed as the Parish Priest of St. Sebastian Church, Honnavar, in the Diocese of Karwar, Karnataka. Following which he was asked to serve in Canada. He arrived in Vancouver on October 16, 2020 and began his appointment as the Associate Pastor at St Thomas More Parish, Calgary on November 1, 2020.



## MONASTERIES



### *Discalced Carmelite Nuns* **Armstrong, B.C.**

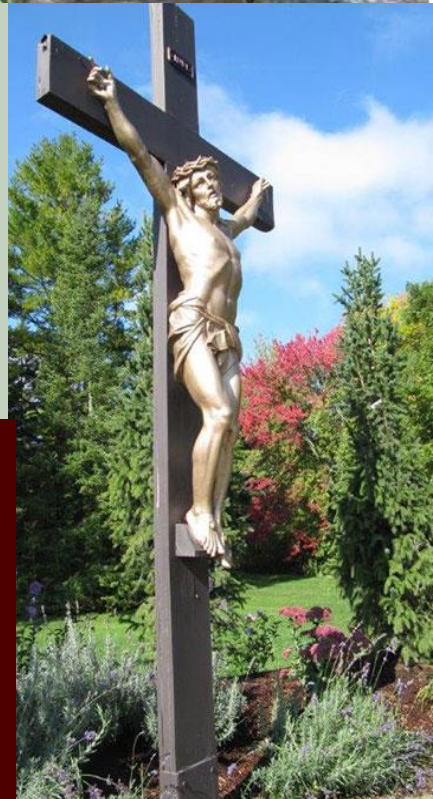
**The Carmel of St. Joseph - 4815 Salmon River Road  
Armstrong, BC Canada V0E 1B4 Tel: 1-250-546-8801  
Prioress: Mother Ann of Jesus OCD [www.carmelspall.org](http://www.carmelspall.org)**



**The Carmel of St. Joseph**  
**12, 51222 Rge Road 270**  
**Spruce Grove, AB T7Y 1G7**  
**Tel: 780-963-3380**  
**Prioress: Mother Catherine of**  
**Our Lady of Divine Providence OCD**

**The Carmel of St. Joseph**  
**St. Agatha, Ontario, Canada**

1127 Carmel-Koch Road  
R.R. 1 St. Agatha, Ontario  
N0B 2L0  
Phone: 519-884-7563



## OCDS COMMUNITIES

### **St. Joseph, Calgary AB**

Meetings: Third Sunday of the Month  
Place: St. Thomas More Church,  
Calgary  
Time: 1:00 p.m.  
President: Carla Jane Romeo OCDS  
Tel: 1.403.288.2296  
Sp. Assistant: Fr. Roshan D'Souza OCD

### **St. Teresa of Jesus of the Andes Group, Vernon BC**

Meetings: Fourth Sunday of the Month  
Place: Our Lady of the Valley Church  
Coldstream, BC  
Time: 1:30 p.m.  
Leader: Loretta Sharko OCDS  
Tel: 1.250.448.5633  
Sp. Assistant: Fr. Peter Nguyen

### **St. Teresa of Jesus, Vancouver BC**

Meetings: Second Saturday of the Month  
Place: Guardian Angels Church  
Vancouver  
Time: 9:00 a.m.  
President: Assunta Tan OCDS  
Tel: 1.604.264.7227  
Sp. Assistant: Fr. Victor Fernandes OCD

### **St. John of the Cross, North Vancouver BC**

Meetings: Third Saturday of the Month  
Place: St. Edmund's Church,  
N. Vancouver  
Time: 8:15 a.m.  
President: Marilyn Cunada OCDS  
Tel: 1.604.931.1555  
Sp. Assistant: Fr. Cannio Cardozo OCD

### **St. Therese of the Child Jesus & the Holy Face Group Edmonton AB**

Meetings: First Saturday of the Month  
Place: Mt. Carmel Spirituality Centre, Parkland County  
Time: 11:00 a.m.  
Leader: MaryAnne McGill  
Tel: 1.780.335.5599  
Sp. Director: Fr. Mario Fernandes OCD

## UPCOMING OCDS EVENTS 2021

**DUE TO THE CURRENT PANDEMIC SITUATION, EVENTS HAVE NOT BEEN SCHEDULED.**

### **PROVINCIAL DELEGATE & REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Fr. Jerald D'Souza, OCD - Provincial Delegate

Email: [pdelegateca@gmail.com](mailto:pdelegateca@gmail.com)

Molly Diaz OCDS - President, Regional Council

Email: [ocdswestpresident@gmail.com](mailto:ocdswestpresident@gmail.com)

Leslie Blair OCDS - Central Director of Formation  
Regional Council

Email: [lblairocds@gmail.com](mailto:lblairocds@gmail.com)

Provincial Delegate & Regional Council Email: [ocdswestpresident@gmail.com](mailto:ocdswestpresident@gmail.com)

### **OFFICE OF STATISTICS**

Membership lists and formation status, forms, scapulars, Constitution & Ritual Booklets

Email: [ocdswestpresident@gmail.com](mailto:ocdswestpresident@gmail.com)

### **WEB MASTER**

Leslie Blair - Update and maintain OCDS website [www.ocdswest.ca](http://www.ocdswest.ca) under the direction of the President, Regional Council & Provincial Delegate. Email: [ocdswest@gmail.com](mailto:ocdswest@gmail.com)

### **MASS REQUESTS**

Masses can be requested by emailing the Monastery Superior of Little Flower Monastery, Carmel Hill at [carmelhillocd@gmail.com](mailto:carmelhillocd@gmail.com). The Masses are offered by our OCD Friars. Cheques are payable to **Discalced Carmelite Fathers** and mailed to 10789 N. Deroche Road, Deroche, BC V0M 1G0

**EVENT PICTURES - FLOS CARMELI & WEBSITE** Submit event photographs with a short description through your respective presidents. Email: [ocdswest@gmail.com](mailto:ocdswest@gmail.com).

### **GREETING CARDS**

Jose Sepidoza – Responsible for formatting and emailing greeting cards on behalf of Western Canada OCDS. Email: [greetingsocdswest@gmail.com](mailto:greetingsocdswest@gmail.com)

### **REGIONAL COUNCIL MAILING ADDRESS:**

P.O. Box 43011, Richmond Centre P.O. , Richmond BC Canada V6Y 3Y3

(Email [ocdswestpresident@gmail.com](mailto:ocdswestpresident@gmail.com) for temporary mailing address.)





*St. Joseph*  
*Patron Saint*

**Mailing Address:**  
Western Canada OCDS  
Provincial Delegation Canada  
Karnataka-Goa Province  
P.O. Box 43011  
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Richmond, BC  
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