

A Monastery and Retreat House of the Discalced Carmelite Fathers

Mount Carmel Center



Mount Carmel Center
4600 West Davis
Dallas, Texas 75211

Phone: 214-331-6224
Fax: 214-330-0844

www.mountcarmelcenter.org

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAL POSTAGE PAID
DALLAS, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 7271

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

A Monastery and Retreat House of the Discalced Carmelite Fathers Mount Carmel Center



Volume III | Issue I



Spring 2022

Let nothing disturb you — Nothing frighten you — All things are passing — God never changes — With patience you attain all things — Who possess God wants nothing — God alone suffices. "
— St. Therese of Lisieux (the little flower)



Discalced Carmelite Friars

The Discalced Carmelite Friars of the Oklahoma Semi-Province of St Thérèse are a community of Roman Catholic men — Priests and religious brothers — committed to a life of allegiance to Jesus Christ. We follow Christ by professing the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience, and strive to serve the Lord and his people through a life of contemplative prayer lived in community. In addition to dedicating ourselves to prayer, we strive to serve the people of God especially through the 'apostolate of spirituality,' helping others to grow in their union with God and with neighbor. Taking Mary as the mother and patroness of our Order, we look upon her life and her sharing in the mystery of Christ as a model of religious consecration. We also look to the prophet Elijah as a source of inspiration. We look to his prophetic charism as the prototype of our own vocation to ponder God's word and proclaim it to the world.



MCC HOSTS

PROVINCIAL MEETING

June 2021—MCC Hosts Provincial Meeting for Friars.

January 2022—Spring IDP Meeting held at MCC.

Why Are We Addressing Contemporary Issues?

"...the Church has always had the duty of scrutinizing the signs of the times and of interpreting them in the light of the Gospel....she can respond to the perennial questions which men ask about this present life and the life to come, and about the relationship of the one to the other. We must therefore recognize and understand the world in which we live, its explanations, its longings, and its often dramatic characteristics." —GAUDIUM ET SPES, Vatican II



Provincial Meetings 2021-2022—Friars gathered at MCC in Late Fall and early Spring to discuss relative issues on the future.



A message from the Superior—

It is kind of hard to tell these days whether or not Spring is just around the corner or whether we are going back to Winter or springing ahead to Summer. Adjusting to the weather is like being on a roller coaster.

But, of course, the weather is not the only thing we have had to adjust and readjust to. We are still in the throes of a pandemic. I and Father Marion and Fr. Bonaventure have all had the Omicron variant. We got fairly sick. In fact, Father Bonaventure said that he was glad he had been fully vaccinated, otherwise, he was certain that he would have ended up in the hospital.

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has said that Covid has not only revealed to us just how vulnerable we are, "it has unmasked another pandemic," he said, "the virus of indifference." He went on to say that we have reason for hope because "God is never indifferent. His essence is mercy" and he is faithful in love. (See: Let Us Dream)

We certainly feel as though the mercy of God and the love of God have been showered upon us in recent months. Those of you who know us, acting as God's laborers, have been abundantly generous in giving, helping us to stay ahead of the game as regards our budget. May God reward you.

And, even though we have had some disruption in our conference series because of illness on the part of some of our planned speakers, we were able to cover our series on St. Joseph quite adequately. Our talks were well received.

On another front, we have continued to work to improve the Center's infrastructure. For some time we friars had been worried about the roof of the apartment building behind the monastery. A patch of shingles had been missing as a result of the ice storm we had a year ago. We were also inconvenienced by a long standing leak into the ceiling of the friar's dining room. Well Leo, our Administrative Assistant was able to twist the arms of our insurance agents and talk them into covering almost all the expense of reroofing both the apartments and the roof above the dining area.

Some of you may be wondering about our restructuring plans for our semi-Province. We continue to make progress. On the 22nd of this month of February we will have another meeting at Mount Carmel Center to continue our deliberations. Some of the friars think we are going too fast, others think the process is too slow. The important thing is that we continue to make progress and we are growing in our ability to work with one another.

Faternally in Christ,

Fr John Magdalene, OCD
Superior, Mount Carmel Center

News from Mount Carmel—

Mount Carmel Center would like to introduce our new employee. His name is Leo Landin. He will be working as an Administrative Assistant. So, when you call or write, you will encounter this very pleasant and talented man. Leo's association with the Carmelite Fathers goes back in time significantly. He began his Catholic Formation at St Mary of Carmel School where his passion for his faith was forged. Later, he went on to study liturgical art and architecture at the University of Dallas where he received a BFA in Painting. In his diverse career managing several disciplines, he has traveled abroad, formed a family, and studied psychology. After serving the Diocese and its parishes for several years with the accounting firm Ford & Goodman, Leo Landin has found his way to a role of service at Mount Carmel Center. The Carmelite community is very happy to have him on board.

Conference themes for Spring 2022 Contemporary Concerns and a Carmelite Response

Upcoming Events

Authoritarianism and the Abuse of Power—Guidance of Carmelite Saints show the way
— Fr John Magdalene, OCD | March 12th

Responding to Relativism by Proclaiming the Truth – St. Teresa Benedicta
— Fr. Jim Curiel, OCD | April 9th

The Climate Crisis – John of the Cross and Laudato Si
— Father Bonaventure Sauer, OCD | TBD May 14 or the 28th

The Liturgical Crisis: Who owns the Liturgy? Liturgical Rigidity
— TBD | TBD June 11th or the 25th

The suggested minimum donation for each session is \$30 . Please, in order to avoid waste or shortages we ask that you register at least one week in advance. For the latest updates on programs or to register online please see our website: www.mountcarmelcenter.org. To receive program news and updates via email you can sign up on our website.

APPEAL

I'd like to help the Friars...

Only with your help and financial support, the Friars maintain a prayerful presence in the heart of Dallas creating an oasis where people can encounter God in the quiet of their hearts. As a mendicant order, they depend on the generosity of benefactors. Please consider making a donation to the Friars today.

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$ _____ other

Please add any special intentions for which you would like the friars to pray. These intentions will be placed before the alter in the community chapel during the season of Advent:

Name _____ Address _____

City/ST/Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Donate at: www.mountcarmelcenter.org