

A Monastery & Retreat House of The Discalced Carmelite Fathers

Mount Carmel Center

Volume II Issue XVI



Spring 2019



Blessed Virgin Mary



“God chose the lowly and despised of the world, those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who are something.”

(1 Cor 1:28)

This is a great mystery that gives us a glimpse into the heart of God, which is manifested all along the history of salvation. It is one of the ways in which he shows us that his ways are not our ways (Is 55:8) and that “the weakness of God is stronger than human strength”, (1 Cor 1:25).

One of the most prominent examples of this divine tendency of using humble ways to bring about great works is a young and poor maiden from Nazareth named Mary. Without a doubt she has been the most remarkable woman that has walked this earth and yet, viewed through the lens of worldly standards she appears as a nobody. Being poor, a woman, very young, unknown and an Israelite (a people dominated by the Roman Empire), Mary had all the elements to be at the very bottom of the social ladder. In fact, she called herself “the handmaid [or slave girl] of the Lord”, (Lk 1:38).

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This paradox that surrounds the mystery of Mary is beautifully expressed in her own words: "He [the Lord] has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me..." (Lk 1: 48-49). Mary of Nazareth is lowly, but also great. These two elements, however, do not stand in opposition, quite the opposite. Mary has been exalted by God because she was lowly in the world's standards. She embodies the new standards of the Kingdom of God where the last are first and the first are last (Mt 20: 16). This poor and seemingly unimportant young lady is referenced in Sacred Scripture from Genesis (3: 15) to the book of Revelation (12: 1). She has been and will always be the most prominent work of God's merciful love, not only on her behalf, but on the behalf of all humanity. In and through her the eternal God immersed himself into our human drama in an unprecedented way and brought redemption and purpose to our human condition, lifting it to an unimaginable dignity. She has been given to us as our Mother (Jn 19: 26) and intercessor (Jn 2: 3).

It is into the mystery of the Blessed Virgin Mary that we invite all to immerse themselves with us at Mt. Carmel Center through our programs this year. It is our prayer that in doing so together we are able, with her help and example, to diminish according to world's standards so as to grow in the values of the Kingdom of her Son



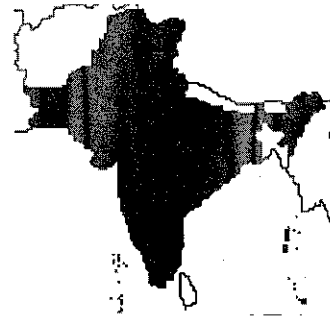
Did you know you can donate to the Discalced Carmelite Fathers of Dallas while you shop on Amazon? Go to:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-1249664>

and log into Amazon as usual. They will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the Fathers whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.

Recent Developments

- ✦ The Provincial, Fr. Stephen Sanchez, just returned from a meeting of Carmelite Provincials in India.



- ✦ Fr. Jorge Cabrera, OCD is the new Superior at Mount Carmel Center. Please see the back cover to get to know him better.

- ✦ Our latest program calendar has been published. Please see inside.



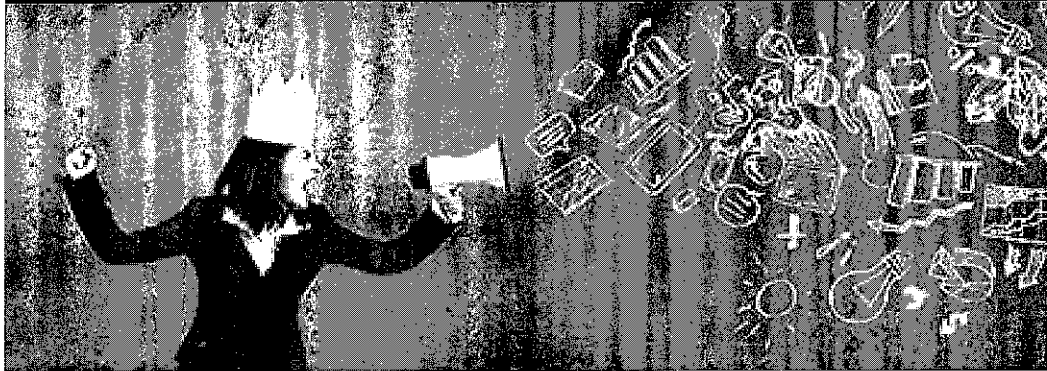
- ✦ Our appeal for the roof for the center raised:

\$8,841.51

Thank you for your generosity!



The World is a loud, busy place



A neighborhood restaurant measures about 82 decibels. A crowded restaurant reads about 86 decibels. Movies usually register between 85 and 130 decibels. 'Fight or Flight' response and hearing damage start at 80 decibels. Any wonder that 1 in 10 Americans have hearing loss and so many suffer from stress related ailments.

We need a quiet place for prayer, a place to rest in God, while we ponder our call to action.

Be still and know that I am God. Ps 46:10

"What we need most in order to make progress is to be silent before this great God with our appetite and with our tongue, for the language he best hears is silent love." ~St John of the Cross, OCD

Mount Carmel Center is a house of prayer, open to you for prayer and retreat.

A private retreatant recently said: "I found Mount Carmel Center to be an oasis of silence, solitude and spiritual direction... A place to go to spend time with God alone and block out temporarily the concerns of day-to-day life. A place to wrestle with those things in your life that hold you back from total surrender to God, to discover His will in those circumstances and find the strength to continue on. A place to talk to friends of God who help you know yourself, understand your relationship to God, and deal with the struggles and failures in your life. A place to listen to God, to talk to Him and find peace."~R. F.

If you would like Mount Carmel Center to continue as a spiritual oasis, please consider making a gift or pledge. In these difficult economic times, we know that situations change. Pledges are non-binding. As a mendicant (begging) order, we depend on your generosity.

GIFT/PLEDGE FORM

Name _____ Address _____

Phone _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

I / We intend to contribute \$ _____ as a one time gift.

I / We intend to contribute \$ _____ every: month, quarter, six months, year (please circle one)

Total annual contribution \$ _____ Please send me a reminder by email

GIVING ONLINE

Please visit: www.mountcarmelcenter.org. Go to: "Support the Center" for various ways to give online.

Mount Carmel Center



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www.mountcarmelcenter.org

"Let nothing disturb you ~ Nothing frighten you ~ All things are passing ~ God never changes ~ With patience you attain all things ~ Who possesses God wants nothing ~ God alone suffices."

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Welcome Fr. Jorge Cabrera

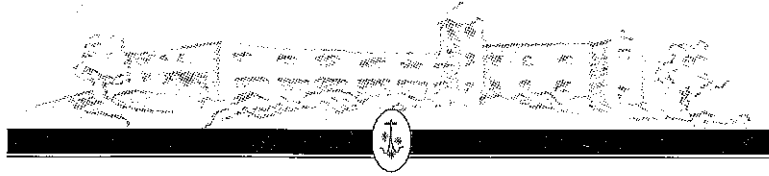


We welcome Fr. Jorge Cabrera de María Inmaculada, O.C.D. as the new Superior of Mount Carmel Center.

Fr. Jorge is a Discalced Carmelite friar who belongs to the Oklahoma Province of St. Thérèse. He entered the Order in 2001, made his first religious profession on January 1st, 2003 and his solemn profession November 14, 2008. He received the sacrament of Holy Orders at the Basilica in San Antonio on June 12, 2009.

He has a Masters Degree in Divinity from Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans and a Masters in Spiritual Theology with concentration on Carmelite spirituality from the Centro Internacional Teresiano Sanjuanista (CITeS) in Avila in conjunction with the Pontifical University of Comillas in Madrid, Spain.

Mount Carmel Center



The suggested minimum donation for each is \$20. Please, in order to avoid waste or shortages we ask that you register **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 e-mail you can sign up on our website. Look under "About Us/ Join Our Mailing List".

Saturday, March 30th from 10am to 12pm

The Holy Rosary

With Fr. Jim Curiel, OCD

St Padre Pio called the Rosary the weapon. We need all the help we can get nowadays in the fight against evil. In this talk we will look at the history of how the Rosary developed, a few testimonies and also look at the Joyous, Luminous, Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries. Additionally, St Louis de Montfort and the spirituality of the Rosary will be presented.

Saturday, April 13th from 10am to 12pm

The Sorrows of Mary

With Fr. Jerome Earley, OCD

The Sorrows of Mary are an important part of Marian spirituality. This conference will consider first an understanding of "sorrow" and then relate these mysteries to Mary's union with Christ and our participation in these mysteries.

Wednesday, May 8th from 7pm to 9pm

La Virgen María en la Sagrada Escritura (2da parte – Español)

Con Fr. Jorge Cabrera

Exploraremos cómo la Sagrada Escritura nos revela quién es la Virgen María desde el libro del Génesis hasta el Apocalipsis, y cómo esta revelación está en armonía con las enseñanzas de la Iglesia. Traiga su Biblia.

Saturday, May 11th from 10am to 12pm

The Virgin Mary in Sacred Scripture (2nd part – English)

With Fr. Jorge Cabrera

We will explore how Sacred Scripture reveals who the Blessed Virgin Mary is from the book of Genesis to the book of Revelation, and how it stands in harmony with the Catholic Church's teachings. Bring your Bible.

Wednesday, May 29th from 7pm to 9pm

La Virgen María en la Devoción popular (Español)

Con Fr. Celedonio Martínez (Mariólogo)

Un acercamiento al misterio de la Virgen María desde las perspectivas de la historia de los pueblos de habla hispana, la sociología y la fe.

Saturday, June 1st from 10am to 12pm

La Virgen María en la Tradición del Carmelo: Historia, Espiritualidad y Devoción (Español)

Con Fr. Celedonio Martínez

Exploraremos el rol de la Santísima Virgen en la Orden de los Carmelitas a través de la historia, incluyendo sus santos y la devoción y significado del Santo Escapulario. Se impondrá el Santo Escapulario a los que asistan.

Registration Form

Please mark your calendars and mail this form to us! Reservations are on a first come first serve basis. The **deadline** is one week before the class session.

For more information, please contact Mary Bellman: admin@mountcarmelcenter.org
or call 214-331-6224 ext. 114

You may also register online at www.mountcarmelcenter.org.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please check all that apply. A non-refundable deposit towards these events as a commitment to attend is appreciated. Any deposits towards events not attended will be considered donations.

The Blessed Virgin Mary and the Rosary

_____ Sat. 3/30/19

The Virgin Mary in Sacred Scripture II

_____ Sat. 5/11/19

The Sorrows of Mary

_____ Sat. 4/13/19

La Virgen Maria en la Devocion Popular

_____ Wed. 5/29/19

La Virgen Maria en la Sagrada Escritura II

_____ Wed. 5/8/19

La Virgen Maria en la Tradicion del Carmelo

_____ Wed. 6/1/19

Mail to:

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4600 W. Davis Street
Dallas, TX 75211

Checks should be made out to Mount Carmel Center.