

Mount Carmel Center

Volume II Issue XVI



Summer 2018

Holy Spirit

The spirit hovered over the waters in the chaos, the deep, or formless void (tohu wabohu) before God separated the waters from the earth. The Spirit of God gave life with his breath to the form of man which He had shaped from the clay of the earth. It was through the spirit, the cloud by day and the column of fire by night, the Shekinah, that guided the people from the slavery of Egypt to the freedom of worshipping God in the desert. It was the spirit of God which anointed the Prophet Isaiah with righteousness to vindicate his people, to redeem them and to make them holy. (cf. Isaiah 61 and 62)



The ruah overshadowed the Virgin Mary as she responded with her "fiat" to the message of the Archangel. And the Word was made flesh. (Luke 1:26-36)

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit for forty days in the wilderness, tempted by the devil. (Luke 4:1-2)

Luke 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and he went to the synagogue, as his custom was, on the Sabbath day. ...he opened the scroll of Isaiah 61:1-2, where the prophet says, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."



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Luke 23:46 "then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!' And having said this he breathed his last." As Jesus gives up his Spirit on the Cross, He gives life to the world.

On the evening of that day, the being shut where the disciples were. . . Jesus Himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace to you!"

Thus it is written that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are my witnesses of these things, and behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you;" (Luke 24:36 ff.) The Promise of the Father being the Spirit who would descend on the disciples and the Church on Pentecost.

While the Gospel of John (20:19-24) varies from that of Luke, the message is the same. "As the Father has sent me, even so I send you. And when he had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; If you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

From the very beginning of creation, the spirit was the source of life for all created things and continues to give life to everything.

Whether the "ruah" is a breath, life-giving air, principle of life or a charismatic spirit imparted to give strength, it is often a dynamic power that changes an individual within to go forth and proclaim the life-giving Word of salvific grace saving the world.

The Holy Spirit comes to the disciples and they become dynamic ministers, going unto the world proclaiming Jesus as Savior. As the Father had sent the Son, the Son now sends his disciples to go forth and bring salvation to the world through the Spirit that had been given them. The disciples today, the Church, continue to be sent forth. Known as the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, the Advocate, the Sanctifier, this Indwelling Spirit continues to send all disciples to evangelize and be a light to all nations, continues to make the Church holy.

The Lord Jesus directs us to "be holy as our heavenly Father is holy." How are we to be so enveloped in the Holy Spirit as to put the words of Jesus into practice. The words of the Lord must resonate in and through all our being so that the

Spirit bring us to see the poor, the needy and in them see the very image of the Lord. Seeing the Lord in the least of our brothers and sisters and serving them, we serves the Lord. It is easy to see ours brothers and sisters in need when we look for them and find them in street corners asking for handouts, it is easy to find the needy in those living in make-shift boards and covers which they call homes. Yet, we miss the poor and needy in our own homes and families. How is it we live with our families and not see the loneliness? The need for kindness? The need for understanding? The need for consolation? The need for compassion? If we just look at those around us, we find ourselves next to those who yearn for companionship and for love. The isolation is there; the loneliness is there; the ignored are there. Jesus assured us that He and the Father would send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit to remind us what Jesus wants us to do. We do not have far to go to find those wanting. We have to tend to the poor and needy in our families before we reach out to others outside our homes. We begin with our families to share with them what the Lord has shared with us, then we reach out to others and the rest of the world. At the very beginning of the Church, this is how the disciples began to spread the Good News to others. And this is how they the Christians were recognized: See how they love one another.

May our prayer be today that we be guided by the Spirit to reach out to our Lord God and to those around us in love; Unless we begin serving those with whom we live, we will serve neither neighbor nor God. How true it is: love begins at home. Let us serve first our families whom we love in order that we may reach out to others and to God. Everyone of us can do this at home with our families. This is what Jesus asks; this is what the Spirit prompts us to do. This is what makes us holy in the Spirit.

I remain in Christ,

Fr. Raul Reyes, OCD



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>

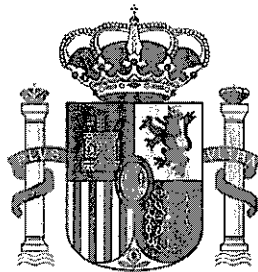
and log into Amazon as usual. They will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the Fathers whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.



Recent Developments

✦ Our Provincial, Fr. Stephen Sanchez and two, soon-to-be-ordained Deacons will be travelling to Spain to make the El Camino de Santiago (in English, the Way of St. James), in July and August. This is where the remains of St. James, (Santiago), were discovered in the ninth century.

Please keep them in your prayers.



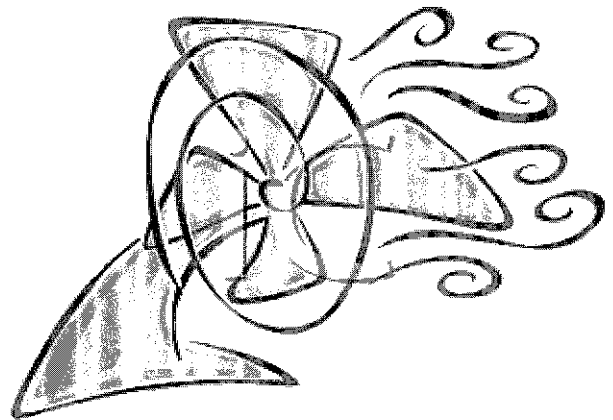
✦ The Carmelite Friars will all be gathering for their Plenary Assembly this June in San Antonio. This is an annual meeting where all the friars meet as one brotherhood to pray, to discuss the business of the Province and to grow in fellowship.

Please keep them in your prayers.



✦ The large Chapel is undergoing some touch ups to brighten the room with new lighting and décor. The area behind the altar is being remodeled and the Stations of the Cross are being refurbished to stand out better. We hope to have all done by next Lent.

A More Comfortable Mount Carmel Center

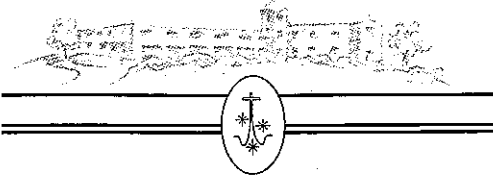


The downstairs bathrooms for both men and women have never been air-conditioned or heated. We are grateful for those of you who have born with the hot and stuffy bathrooms in the summer time and the icy chill in the winter. We know it is far from being comfortable.

We would like to correct this situation starting this year. The project to add HVAC to the bathrooms includes a split unit so that only one unit is needed for both rooms.

The total cost with construction is about \$10,000. Would you be willing to help us reach that goal?

Mount Carmel Center



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"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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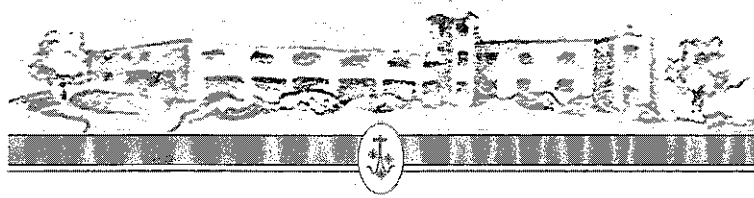
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Weekly Reflections by Fr. Jim Curiel, OCD

We hope you are enjoying the weekly reflection on the Sunday readings from our Fr. Jim Curiel, OCD. If you are on our e-mail list you are receiving these automatically.

If you are not receiving them but would like to please visit our webpage www.mountcarmelcenter.org and go to About Us/Join Our Mailing List and select Sunday Reflections. You can also ask to be added to our Program announcements as well.

Mount Carmel Center



The suggested minimum donation for each is \$25. 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".

Our Unrepeatable Journey

by Fr. Luis Casteneda, OCD from 10am to 12pm on Wed. July the 11th or Sat. the 14th

"The human being is single, unique, and unrepeatable, someone thought of and chosen through eternity, someone called and identified by name." St. John Paul II Come learn about the critical journey of human formation and self-knowledge. This is a journey we must all make in order to foster our capacity for interpersonal dialogue, mutual respect and tolerance. *"Self-knowledge is so important that, even if you were raised right up to the heavens, I should like you never to relax your cultivation of it..." -St. Teresa of Avila*

Fe y Conocimiento

by Very Rev. Stephen Sanchez, OCD from 7pm to 9pm on Wed. August the 22nd or Sat. the 25th

Una examinación de fe y conocimiento, desde el entendimiento católica, en la vida de Sta. Teresa Benedicta (Edith Stein)

The Brown Scapular

by Fr. Gregory Ross, OCD from 10am to 12pm on Wed. September the 12th or Sat. the 15th

This conference will offer a historical overview of the origins and significance of the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel within the Order of Carmel. Particular attention will be given to the Marian spirituality of the Order of Carmel as evidenced in the teachings of our saints and other significant figures. The morning will conclude with the offering of a formal enrollment in the Brown Scapular.

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.

Checks should be made out to Mount Carmel Center.

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.

Our Unrepeatable Journey

_____ Wed. 7/11 or _____ Sat. 7/14

Fe y Conocimiento

_____ Wed. 8/22 or _____ Sat. 8/25

Brown Scapular

_____ Wed. 9/12 or _____ Sat. 9/15