

The Ordinary Bi-annual meeting of the General Councils O.Carm. - OCD



On December 15 the biannual meeting of the O.Carm. General Council with the members of the General Council of the Discalced Carmelites took place in the General Curia of the Discalced Carmelites. First, there was an assessment of the eighth centenary celebration of the death of St. Albert of Jerusalem and the celebration of the fourth centenary of the death of Fr. Jerome Gracian. Fr. Emilio Martínez, OCD, Vicar General, reported on the events that are taking place on the occasion of the 5th centenary of the birth of Santa Teresa. Also, the two generals reported on the last meeting of the USG (especially the reflection on *Mutuae Relationes*) and the beginning of the year of consecrated life. It was decided that the two generals will write a letter to the Carmelite family about the importance of this year with a brief Carmelite reflection on it.

The two councils shared the results of the special collection for the restoration of the Wadi and expressed their appreciation to the brothers and sisters of both branches of Carmel who have contributed generously. Fr. Christian Körner, O.Carm., and Fr. Michael Farrugia, O. Carm., explained the process the Order has followed (since Vatican II until today) to develop new Constitutions (in 1971 and 1995) and the ongoing project to revise the current Constitutions.

Finally, since this was the last meeting before the General Chapter of the Discalced Carmelites, which will take place in Ávila in the month of May 2015, both Councils expressed their satisfaction with the great atmosphere of fraternity and collaboration that has existed between the two groups over the years.

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