



March 2017

O.C.D.S. Provincial Newsletter California-Arizona Province *Transitions*

With the conclusion of this triennium rapidly approaching, the current O.C.D.S. Provincial Council would like to wrap up our three years of service with a final newsletter to the Seculars in the California-Arizona Western Province. In this newsletter, you will find an update on the O.C.D.S. Provincial Statutes transitions.

Provincial Statutes

The new Provincial Statutes have had one last review by the O.C.D.S. Provincial Council and are now undergoing a final scrutiny by Fr. Donald Kinney, OCD before being published. When published, the yellow highlighting will be removed and an updated, final electronic copy will be placed on the ocds.info website.

The changes were mostly references except for the following:

1. Sec.I.1.d: Removed the words *lectio divina* from the first sentence to clarify and emphasize that the practice of mental prayer should be performed “in an atmosphere of interior silence and solitude.” When the words are used in the second sentence it is not referring to *lectio divina* as a formal technique or practice as outlined in our formation guidelines for use with groups (page 156A-1,2). *Lectio divina* has always been recommended in our statutes, but our intention for revising it was to provide a broader, richer understanding of the concept, “Mental prayer, as practiced in *lectio divina*, with its four aspects of spiritual reading, reflection, conversation with God, and contemplation, is the foundation of Teresian prayer.” *Lectio divina* is not just a technique or practice, it is our way of prayer. The stages are not fixed rules to adhere to, but simply the innate movement of how Teresian prayer naturally develops towards greater simplicity and freedom; from the intellect and imagination to the desire of the will.
2. Sec.XXVI.2.d: Rewrote the paragraph to make the intended understanding clearer.



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The revised statutes will be added to the Rule of St. Albert and the Constitutions and published in a new Legislative Booklet that will be printed for distribution within the Province. The Shoreline, Washington Community of St. Joseph has volunteered for the task of distribution to the Province when they are returned from the printer. As with the previous Booklet, there will be a small charge that the communities will be asked to pay per Booklet. These Booklets will be good for the next three years; therefore, all Seculars will be expected to have a copy.

Thanks to all who wrote in with clarification questions and edits. We believe the finished document will serve the Province well.

Provincial Council Transitions

There will be three open positions on the Provincial Council. **Erin Foord** and **Luci Okoh**, having served 6 years (two terms) will be rotating off the council. **Cheri Kluever** will be stepping down after serving 4 ½ years. **Amy Holmes** and **Lee Ann Trunk** will remain on the Provincial Council for an additional term.



Erin Foord, OCDS (Santa Clara)



Lucy Okoh, OCDS (Denver)



Cheri Kluever, OCDS (Oakville)

Nominations for Provincial Council

***Nomination Deadline
is May 31, 2017***

The deadline for a Community / Group to submit nominations to the O.C.D.S. Provincial Council is **May 31, 2017**. The Provincial Statutes, Sec.XXVIII instructs each Community / Group to submit to the O.C.D.S. Provincial Council one name from the Province by May 31st of the election year. To be considered, a Provincial Councilor must be 1) Definitely Professed, 2) have served on a local council (President, Formation Director or Councilor) and 3) take an active interest in the Order and in all things Carmelite.

Submit nominations to Fr. Donald Kinney at frdonaldocd@gmail.com.

The newly appointed O.C.D.S. Provincial Council members will be announced on the ocds.info website in June.