



OCDS Provincial Newsletter

California-Arizona Province of St. Joseph – July 2019

Provincial Council Update

“...Our Lord, at his second coming, will reward anyone who does more than he is obliged to do. See that the bounds of discretion are not exceeded, however, for discretion is the guide of the virtues.” *Rule of St. Albert, No. 24*

Upcoming Provincial Council Changes

The current triennium will draw to a close next year when our OCDS Communities hold their triennial elections in April 2020. At that time, two or three Provincial Council Members will rotate off the Provincial Council, and new Provincial Council Members will be appointed. We would like you to start thinking about potential replacements for our Provincial Council.

According to Provincial Statutes, Sec. XXVIII, No. 2, page 88, a Provincial Councilor must:

- a) be definitively professed;
- b) have served on a local Council (President, Formation Director, or Councilor);
- c) take an active interest in the Order and in all things Carmelite.

Please refer to the entire Sec. XXVIII on pages 88 - 90 for a complete list of the statutory requirements and duties.

To help you make good recommendations, we would like to provide a little more information on the qualities and abilities needed in a Provincial Councilor. The spiritual qualities are perhaps the most important. A Provincial Councilor needs to be motivated by a genuine desire to help others grow in virtue and union with God. He or she needs to have a generous spirit and a loving heart, and be available to periodically spend a significant amount of time on the duties of the position. He or she must also have the ability to be tactful and discrete when dealing with interpersonal problems that sometimes arise in Communities, Groups, and Study Groups.

In addition to the spiritual qualities needed, here are some concrete skills and abilities needed for the position:

- A good working knowledge of the OCDS Constitutions and our Provincial Statutes.
- The basic ability to write and input information into Word and Excel documents.
- Access to the Internet and email.
- The ability to travel annually to the Inter-Provincial Council Meetings that are held at various locations throughout the Continental United States.
- The ability to travel to various locations within the Provincial Councilor's region to visit OCDS Communities, Groups, and Study Groups.
- The ability to maintain telephone contact with Community, Group, and Study Group Presidents and Leaders, as needed.
- The ability to respond to routine questions from Presidents and Group Leaders via email.
- The ability to prepare and present a one-hour presentation at our triennial Leadership Conference in Redlands, California.
- The ability to consult and work well with our Provincial Delegate and the other Provincial Councilors when dealing with non-routine questions and issues.
- The ability to complete other special projects as needed, which may require writing and editing skills.

Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us when we select the Provincial Councilors for the next triennium. As the time for the 2020 elections draws near, we will be asking for your input.