

Feliz Natal...Buon Natale...Happy Christmas...Joyeux Noel
Feliz Navidad...Frohe Weihnachten



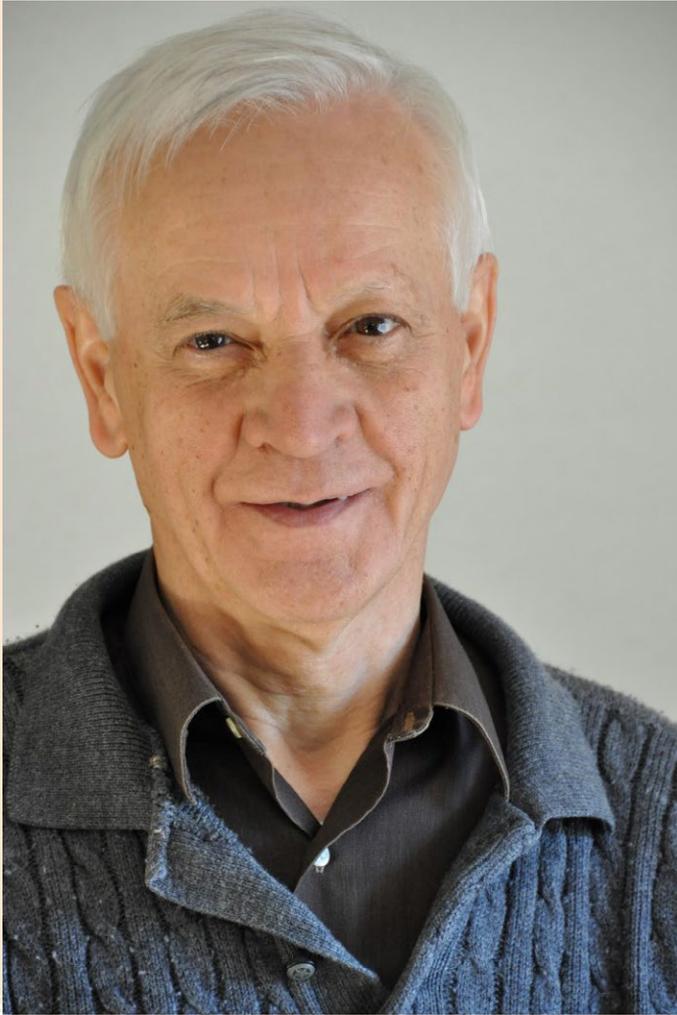
*Auguri di buon Anno * Happy New Year * Frohes neues Jahr * Bonne Année*
*Próspero Año Nuevo * Bons desejos do ano*



OCIP
Communications



Death of Fr Federico Ruiz



As we have already informed you through our social network, Fr Federico Ruiz, a Discalced Carmelite, died recently on the morning of the 16th of November, after having suffered from Alzheimer's for some years.

Born in Cozuelos de Ojeda, a town in the Province of Palencia in Spain, on the 24th of December 1933, he made his profession on the 31st of July, 1950 and was ordained priest on the 27th of October, 1957.

By everyone is known the service that Fr. Federico offered to the Order, the Teresian family and the Church, especially through his studies of spiritual theology and, in particular, as an unparalleled specialist in the doctrine and message of St. John of the Cross.

His funeral was celebrated on the 17th of November in Madrid. From the homily of the Provincial, Fr Miguel Márquez ocd, we select the following words: "Thus it consoles us to entrust Federico to the bosom of the Little Shepherd Boy, whose wounded heart lies opened by love, to be there, with Him who lives and reigns for ever. And from there, from the side of the encounter and the blessed contentment now accomplished, he would awaken us and make us wise about what matters most, and may he lead us to union with Him, and to communion among ourselves".

Two Carmelite congresses in Spain

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the restoration of the Discalced Carmelite friars in Spain, the Spanish Discalced Carmelites are organizing two Congresses which will be celebrated in Avila and in Larrea.

The first (Avila) will take place between the 15th and the 18th of January and will initially present St Teresa's idea of the Discalced Carmelite friar, in order to enter into the situation of the Order after the suppression of the Spanish Congregation, as well as the process and the persons involved in the restoration of the Order, as well as its subsequent expansion in Latin America.

The second (Larrea), of a more international character, is to be celebrated from the 29th of April to the 2nd of May and at a scientific level will deal with

the question of the suppression at a European and Spanish level, the reimplantation of the Order from the Markina monastery, the essential persons in the process of unification of the two Congregations as well as the development of the same and the missionary expansion in India and America. For this second congress, communications in various languages will be accepted. The acts of the congress will be published by the Grupo Editorial Fonte. For more information on this second congress, or to send communications in harmony with the topic of the Congress, it is possible to contact the secretary Fr Dámaso Zuazua, ocd:

zuazuaocd@gmail.com

Tel.: +34945231238, +34664024057.





A new Venerable Discalced Carmelite nun

On the 7th of November 2018, our Holy Father Pope Francis received in audience His Excellency Cardinal Angelo Becciu, Prefect of the Congregation of the Causes of the Saints. During the audience, the Holy Father authorized the Congregation to promulgate the Decree on the heroic virtues of the Servant of God, María Antonia de Jesús (born: María Antonia Pereira y Andrade), a professed nun of the Order of Discalced Carmelites; born in El Penedo (Spain) on the 5th of October 1700 and died in the Carmel she founded in Santiago de Compostela (Spain) on the 10th of March 1760. GLORY BE TO GOD!

<http://mariaantoniadejesus.blogspot.com>



South Asian Associations guided to adapt the new trends

In the month of November 2018, The two associations of our nuns in India namely the North East and South West had their Ordinary General assemblies. For the North East it was at Soso Carmel, Jharkhand (nov. 14-21) and the South West at Sadbhavana, the Karnataka Goa Provincial house, Bangalore (nov. 14-21). However in both the assemblies, prior to the formal meetings, a few days were dedicated for the ongoing formation. It was primarily intended to understand the new trends in the women contemplative life especially their adaptations for the life of the Discalced Carmelite nuns in India. Fr. Gorantla Johannes, the Definitor incharge of South Asia was present for both the assemblies and explained in detail the contents and the implications of *Vultum Dei Querere* and *Cor Orans* for the Discalced Carmelite Nuns. He tried to clarify all the possible doubts, fears and confusions among the sisters. A clear road map was chalked out for their right implementation. A good number of Sisters participated in these meetings.

At present the south west association has 14 as-

sociated monasteries ranging from Baroda to Trivandrum, a long distant geographical area. Hence it was decided by the association to bifurcate 6 monasteries of Kerala and form a new association. The three so far non associated monasteries of Srilanka are joining them. The request is being forwarded to the Holy See for its approval.

Prior to these meetings Fr. Johannes guided a three day work shop at Colombo for the three Carmels present in Srilanka (October 27-30). Since These monasteries were not associated so far, Fr. Definitor tried to persuade them to join any one of the existing associations in India, for which all the Carmels of Srilanka responded positively with great joy. Similarly an extraordinary General assembly was held at Ennore, Chennai for the South east association (nov. 4-7). Around 40 sisters were present from all the 10 associated monasteries. These workshops really helped the Indian Discalced Carmelite Nuns to understand the new documents, trends in right perspective with our Charism as the guiding principle of all adaptations.





A Meeting of all the Indian Provincials and other committees met in Goa on november 23-24

November at Goa as part of preparation for the forth coming extraordinary Definitory and 4th centenary of Carmelite presence in India Fr. Definitor presided over the meeting along

with Fr. Charles the IPCI president and all other Provincials. All other delegates from other provinces too participated.



OCDS Forum in Aparecida, Brazil



Between the 15th to the 18th of November, there gathered together in the City of Aparecida, the Brazilian Capital of Marian devotion, some 500 people from throughout Brazil, laity, reli-

gious and priests, for the commemorative Forum for the 100 years of the Secular Carmel in Brazil. .

Organized by the OCDS Provincial Council of the St Joseph Province, the topic chosen for the conferences focussed on Saint Therese of the Child Jesus. Those speaking were: Fr. Patricio Sciadini, Fr Romano Gambalunga, Fr Jean Laurier, Mons. Rubens Sevilha, Mr Gustavo Castro and Fr Alzinir Debastiani. The title of the Congress was: "In the heart of the Church I shall be Love"

During the meeting was presented the book which relates the chronicle of the 100 years of secular Carmel in Brazil, edited by the professor of history and member of Secular Carmel, Estela da Paz. Narrated in the book is the history of the various communities beginning with the first, whose canonical establishment was on the 1st of January, 1918, in the city of



São Bento do Sapucaí. From this followed many other foundations, especially from 1990, until arriving at the present number of almost 60.

Father General, and the Definitor for Latin America, as well as the Provincial of the St Joseph Province sent video-messages to the congress. May the Virgin of Carmel and our Holy Mother Teresa continue blessing the Secular Carmel with their maternal care, inspiring their members to continue with their gaze fixed on Jesus, so that, like Saint Theresa of Lisieux, they may be love in the heart of the Church.

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Casa Generalizia, Carmelitani Scalzi, Corso D'Italia 38, 00198 Roma, Italia
www.carmelitaniscalzi.com