

Communicationes N. 298

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Canonization

Program for the canonization of the parents of Saint Therese

July 23, 2015 (Communicationes).- On 17th October at 8 in the evening, there will be a prayer vigil at the basilica of St Teresa of Avila (Corso d'Italia, 37), in preparation for the solemn canonization. For French pilgrims, the vigil will take place in the church of St Louis of the French, (Piazza di San Luigi de' Francesi).

On 18th October at 10 a.m., there will be the solemn Eucharistic celebration and canonization in St Peter's square.

On 19th October at 9 in the morning, at St John's Lateran basilica, there will be a thanksgiving Mass to the Most Holy Trinity for this first married couple to be proclaimed saints.

Tickets for the canonization are free and may be obtained from the following electronic address: ocdpost@gmail.com

Chronicles from the General Archives

Carmelites in India

July 23, 2015 (Communicationes).- **P. Óscar I. Aparicio.**- The city of Goa was the first place where the Carmelites arrived in what is now India. The first missionary, the Spaniard Fr Leandro of the Annunciation, arrived in 1620. Goa was a Portuguese colony and at that time until 1640 it was a possession of the Spanish monarchy. A mission seminary, dedicated to Saint Teresa, was founded in 1630 but had to be closed soon after. In 1628 the Discalced Carmelite friars founded on the island of Diu. These houses were integrated under the one administration which the Order called the "Provincial Vicariate of Persia and India" which was also known as the "Mission to the East".

In 1709, the Portuguese authorities gave both the Discalced houses, in Goa and Diu, to the Fathers of the Oratory of Saint Philip.

During this time, the middle of the 17th century, the Discalced friar began to settle more in the south of India, in the Malabar region. One of the first missionaries to gain knowledge of Malabar was Mons. Sebastini, who wrote a book on his missionary travels with the title: *Prima Speditione all' Indie Orientali*, Rome, 1666. The Holy See created the Apostolic Vicariates in Malabar when this zone passed from the Portuguese Crown into the hands of Holland. In 1678, the Holy See entrusted the Mission of Malabar to the Discalced Carmelites. From this date until the present time, this region in the south of India has been tied to the Order.

This is the origin of the Teresian Carmel in India. At the present time more that 30% of the Discalced Carmelite friars have been born in this nation. In the Archives we have much and varied information on the history of our missionaries in this Asiatic subcontinent: documents which deal with and cover such diverse fields as theology, grammar, botany, folklore, culture... It can be said that our Archives hold one of the most important documental sources for a better knowledge of the history of India.

V Centenary–Peru

History, Art and Patrimony of the Teresian Carmel in Lima

July 23, 2015 (Communicationes).- Community of the Carmelite Nuns in Lima, Peru – For the 500th anniversary of our Holy Mother, St Teresa of Jesus, and with the support of the Lima Municipality, the community of the Discalced Carmelite nuns in Lima wanted to share with all of you the artistic display “FOR YOU WAS I BORN: History, Art and Patrimony of the Teresian Carmel in Lima 1643 – 2015”, which is being held in the Pancho Fierro Municipal Gallery from 9th July until 9th August 2015.

As well, on the coming 5th of August, there will be celebrated the seminar: “THE DISCALCED CARMEL IN ART”, which will include, throughout the day, 8 conferences on topics concerning art.

Aware of the fact that we are living in the first monastery of Discalced Carmelite nuns in Peru, where devotion to the virgin of Carmel flourished and was propagated in our country since the beginning of the 17th century, we decided to use art to celebrate the 5th centenary of our Holy Mother, St Teresa of Jesus, and so unite ourselves to the celebrations of the whole Discalced Carmelite Order throughout the world.

In Peru, our history as Discalced Carmelite nuns is marked by entire centuries of devotion to the Virgin of Carmel and sheltering under her protective mantle. This devotion has been carved out in days of prayer by the faithful, who have always been attracted to this Carmelite spirituality, where our Holy Mother Teresa of Jesus holds a leading voice.

The pieces to be seen in this display are not solely part of an art collection of ours. The objects on display are a significant part of our history: the carvings of the Child Jesus, the paintings, reliquaries and other pieces in this display unite us intimately with the prayer and fervour of the sisters who have gone before us. Even today they keep us company in our days of prayer for the Church and invite us to continue sharing with others our reason

for being in the Church: prayer for everyone, without exception, in the absolute handing over of our life to God.

The celebration of the 500th anniversary of the birth of our Holy Mother, Teresa of Jesus, was what moved us to reveal ourselves to the faithful through her iconography, to remind them that it is possible and beautiful to live in the shelter of the Virgin of Carmel's mantle and in this present age it offers a marvellous opportunity for maintaining a close friendship with God.