

## *Talking Spiritual Life,*

### *Living Spiritual Talk...*

#### *Allowing God's Word to become flesh in Our lives !!!*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Carmel,

Now that Summer is here, many are those who look forward to it in order that they will do some projects that they had no time for during Winter. With me it makes no difference whether it is Summer or Winter... work has to be done, and believe me when I tell you that there is plenty of it. Of course, I am not the only one...far from it; but the saying still holds true: ***If you want something to be done, give it to someone who is Busy.***

It is my great privilege and honour to once again participate in another Canadian OCDS Congress, planned for the weekend of Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> to Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011. For the past year, a Committee of Secular members has been working diligently to plan and prepare for this event, and I can tell you that they have put many hours of effort into ensuring that "**Congress – 2011**" will exceed your expectations. I met with them recently at the hotel that will host the Congress, and I would like to share with you some of my impressions.

The program for the Congress includes 11 Conferences on the Life, Writings, and Spirituality of St. Teresa, presented by eight different speakers. This Congress will surely have something for everyone, whether new to Carmel, or whether a definitively professed member in Carmel for many, many years. The seculars themselves are given ample opportunity to put into

action what Christifideles Laici has encouraged:

*"The gospel parable sets before our eyes the Lord's vast vineyard and the multitude of persons, both women and men, who are called and sent forth by him to labour in it."*

*(John Paul II, Christifideles Laici, Introduction #1)*

One of the highlights of this Congress will surely be the presence of the Archbishop of Toronto, his Excellency Thomas Collins, who will join us to celebrate the Eucharist on the Feast of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. Additionally, we are very pleased to welcome Fr. Manny Schembri, Provincial of the Maltese Province, who will journey from Malta to be with us for our weekend. Fr. Manny's presentation will be of great interest to all, and will surely help each one of us grow in our spiritual life.

Lastly, the facility itself is outstanding; to be able to negotiate the use of such a facility at almost the same rate as paid in the past, is a feat! My congratulations to the team that made this happen. Indeed, busy is not exactly the right expression... full of zeal is better. So much work behind the scene, apart from running here and there and as always, so many things that are taken for granted, both now and in the past.

Even though the event is still three months away, I can not help but get excited over the prospect of once again coming together as a family to celebrate our rich heritage and the charism and spirituality of our Holy Mother Teresa.

It is possible that there are still many Secular members who have not yet attended an OCDS Congress, so I want to take this

opportunity to encourage you to seriously consider attending this one. If possible try to bring a friend or encourage others to attend. The clock is ticking... so please do not leave this to the last moment. Also to those who have already registered, make sure that your dues are paid in time. This will help the facilitators to have a little peace of mind.

I look forward to seeing you at **“Congress – 2011”** and humbly ask you to pray the following prayer each day to help you prepare spiritually for this auspicious event:

*“Heavenly Father, we praise you and thank you for your love manifested to us through your Son Jesus Christ.*

*May Mary Our Mother continue to guide us and come to our rescue in her intercession with Her Son. While placing this Congress under the Patronage of St Joseph, the Saint that Our Holy Mother St Teresa calls the Saint of the Impossible, may we be open for the gift of your Spirit, so that the Charism and Zeal of St Teresa of Jesus be indeed infused in us for the service of Your People, the Church of Jesus Christ, and the good of Our Teresian Carmel.*

*We ask this in the Name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.”*

I want to express my sincere thanks to all the OCDS members and our Friends and Benefactors for their support. May the good Lord bless them abundantly.

The Workshop on the Lectio Divina, with all its necessary preparations was a success. When we work hand in hand, we can indeed produce marvels. Many thanks to the Moderators and Congratulations also to the Board Members of The Centre for Teresian Carmelite Education and Spirituality and also the Secretariat.

The 16<sup>th</sup> of July being the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, God-willing we will be celebrating this Great Feast with a few hours of reflection, including Mass and Homily, at Our Lady of Fatima Church at 3170, St Clair Ave East, Scarborough, on the 16<sup>th</sup> July beginning with Mass at 11:00 a.m.

Please mark your calendar and bring your friends with you too.

*“Your words were found, and I ate them,  
and your words became to me a joy and the  
delight of my heart;  
O Lord, God of hosts.”* Jeremiah 15:16

May God bless you and keep you in His care,

I look forward to seeing you in the above mentioned opportunities.

*Fraternally in Carmel,  
Fr Dominic Borg, ocd  
Provincial Delegate.*