



***“What good is it if the bread and wine change,
but we don’t?”***

It was the habit of St. Augustine, that quite often in distributing Holy Communion to the people, while holding elevated the Sacred Host, he would say to every individual who approached to receive Holy Communion the following words: “Become what you are about to receive: ‘The Body of Christ’”.

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Secular Order,

The Eucharistic Congress in Ireland has come and gone, and now we yearn for harvesting the fruits of this important event in the life of the Universal Church.

Another important event which is by no means of lesser value is the Synod of the Bishops in Rome this coming October, 2012: “The New Evangelization”. Both the *Limeananta* and the *Instrumentum Laboris* has already been in circulation, and for those who have had the opportunity to read them, it is no wonder that they aim to be a source of practical application of how, through the witnessing of our faith, we become true Evangelizers; a little John the Baptist for every person we encounter. This can be done by allowing the transformation brought in us through the Eucharist and God’s Word, to reflect clearly through the deepening of our faith, a faith that shines through our deeds.

While the Synod on The New Evangelization comes to an end, “The Year of Faith” kicks in. The *Motu Proprio “Porta Fidei”* which we have made available in print at a minimum cost through the “The Centre for Teresian Carmelite Education and Spirituality” (“the Centre”) is very useful. I encourage every member of the OCDS to read the *Motu Proprio “Porta Fidei”* (The Door of Faith), so that we will all benefit from its teachings.

Thank God and each one of you, for together we have worked hard, and I honestly dare to say: more than duty demanded from us! The Secretariat, the Board of the Centre, every Community together with their President and Council members have been active in improving and striving to be not only good Christians, but also genuine Carmelites. The challenges and obstacles still haunt us, but we also know that with His grace we can and will conquer them. It helps to always keep focused on the Cross, for it is there that we see the conflicts of different personalities melt down and become one in Christ: That they may be one! It is Christ working in us that breaks down the dividing walls of strife, jealousy, envy and other vices that divide rather than construct. Romans, chapter 12 is and will always be a chapter to be treasured and lived by every OCDS member ... it is a must and not a choice.

This issue of Carmel Lights is made up of a few documents which will help us live better not only our Christian calling, but also our Carmelite Charism to Spirituality. The news from the Secretariat and also from the Board of the Carmelite Centre, beautifully prepared by Marguerite Mason and Gladys McMullin respectively, are very informative and you are encouraged to read through, especially the financial report which Gladys painstakingly and with great expertise has prepared for all of us. Carmela is always ready to print, type, run to Printers and bind documents in collaboration with the Secretariat and the Secretary of the Centre. A special thank you for her availability. Thank you also to Carlene Parkinson, who patiently proofreads all of our documents with great care.

Speaking of renovations, many of you know already about the extensive renovations which we have just finished at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine. A job well done and for sure Fr Victor the Pastor, the Parish Council, Rico the Janitor, Timothy Reagin, Aurora the secretary and many other volunteers who came to clean once, twice, three times ..., deserve our congratulations and gratitude. The workmen, sometimes three crews working together, did the job with great professionalism, expertise and love for their job. A job well done! I am very proud of the fact that some of the volunteers in cleaning are members in our OCDS Communities. A good example.

The day of reflection that St. Joseph's Community organized at St Agatha, at the Carmel of St. Joseph was a great success, thanks to Teresa the President with the help of Ingrid who worked to organize the bus. Attendance was at full capacity. The hospitality of the sisters, starting from that of Rev. Mother Catherine to the least sister was exceptional to say the least. The Reverend Mother, Sr. Aileen and the other sisters offered (after I approached them) to sew the Carmelite Habit for our new novice Darryl Snider, a 32 year old graduate in Philosophy. You are asked to pray for him and another novice, Mike, who will begin their novitiate this August. Your prayers are very much needed.

This year also marks the 40th Anniversary of my Ordination to the Priesthood. Ordained at the same time as me, was Fr. Marian Debono, OCD who has worked as a missionary for many years in Taiwan. On the 8th of July we will, God willing, be celebrating together a Mass of Thanksgiving in the same Church where we were ordained at St. John of the Cross in Ta'Xbien. Thanks to Fr. Provincial, Fr Manny and Fr Victor Vella who have looked after the celebration in Malta.

This year too, a well-known and respected Friar, Fr. Martin Borg. OCD, is celebrating his 25th Anniversary, Silver Jubilee on July 10th. I am very honoured to be invited to preach for his celebration; a great joy and honour indeed, being one of the faithful students together with Fr Manny, who I am proud to have been their Student Master. May God continue to bless them. For those who are new and don't know Fr. Martin Borg, he is the artist who did the painting of St Teresa during one of his visits to London, Ontario. He is a great mentor indeed.

God-willing, I will be celebrating a Mass of Thanksgiving here in Canada on the 16th of July, on the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel at 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Fatima. All of you, as well as your friends and family are most welcome to join me in thanksgiving – further information can be found in the News Items of this issue of the Carmel Lights.

I want to take this opportunity to convey to all of you who have prayed for the speedy recovery of our Fr Provincial, Very Rev. Fr. Manny. Thank God he responded well to the surgery and is back to *almost* "perfect" health! He has asked me to thank you on his behalf. For those of you who know our Fr Provincial, you also know how much the OCDS in Canada owe him. His love and encouragement for us here in Canada cannot be put into words. Thanks Fr Manny ... God will

reward you. Fr. Manny was the first Discalced Carmelite Pastor in Canada, I was the second, Fr Henry was the third, Fr Victor Vella the first Administrator and Fr. Victor Mallia is the 4th Pastor. Speaking of Fr Victor Mallia, you are asked to keep in your prayers his mother who is not well, her health is deteriorating and your prayers are most welcome. He will be going to Malta for the month of July to be with her. Wishing him a safe flight and God's blessings.

Far be it from me to leave you in suspense ... I am for now explaining my situation with the words of Jesus, here below:

“A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while and you will see me.” Then some of his disciples said to one another “What does he mean by saying to us, ‘A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me.’; and ‘Because I am going to the Father’”? They said, “What does he mean by this ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Are you discussing among yourselves what I meant when I said, ‘A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’? Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. When a woman is in labor, she has pain, because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.” John 16.16-22

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Secretariat, the Board of the Centre and all the OCDS members and to dear friends and parishioners of St. Andrew the Apostle, London, Ontario and Our Lady of Fatima for all your prayers, love and support. Please continue to pray for me and Darryl and the novices that God is entrusting in our hands. May God bless you all abundantly. I thank the Secretariat and our Chinese sisters at Zephyr for their financial support in the formation of the new novices. All financial aid is great appreciated. A few OCDS members have already donated. We are grateful.

God-willing I will see you on the 16th of July. We begin evening Prayer at 6:45 p.m.
Have a joyous and Blessed Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and of the Prophet Elijah.

God bless you all.

Fraternally in Carmel,

Fr. Dominic Borg, ocd
Provincial Delegate



