

Communicationes 315

10.2016



Episcopal consecration of Mons. Oswaldo Escobar

At nine in the morning of the first of October, feast of St Therese of the Child Jesus, began the ceremony of consecration of the new Bishop of Chalatenango in El Salvador, Mons. Oswaldo Estéfano Escobar, a Discalced Carmelite who, until his appointment, had been Provincial of the Central American Carmel.

Presiding at the celebration, which took place in the central park of the city, was Mons. Luis Morao Andreazza, ofm, former Bishop of the diocese. Also present among the ordaining Bishops was Mons. Silvio Báez, first Teresian Carmelite Bishop in Central America, as well as the Apostolic Nuncio, León Kalenga. He presided at the consecration of Chalatenango.

Most notable was the support of the public, who occupied not only the park but spilled out into many of the adjacent streets. Accompanying them was the Carmelite family and the clergy. Some fifteen Bishops were present at the celebration, among them was Cardinal Rodríguez Maradiaga, Archbishop of the archdiocese of Tegucigalpa.

The Apostolic Nuncio spoke on the type of bishop wanted by Pope Francis and proposed the example given by the Salvadorian bishop and martyr, Blessed Oscar Arnulfo Romero. After words of thanks from Mons. Oswaldo, Fr Francisco Javier Mena, ocd, spoke. He is the Order's General Councilor for Latin America and conveyed to all words of gratitude in the name of Father General, Saverio Cannistrà. He assured Mons. Oswaldo of continual prayer from Carmel and reminded him that in order to be a good bishop, it was sufficient to be a good Carmelite.

With the final blessing the celebration finished which had filled Carmel and the Church in San Salvador with pleasure.



Opening and inauguration of the Saint Joseph monastery and spirituality centre in Nënshat, Albania

On the first of October, feast of St Therese of the Child Jesus, in the presence of Fr. General, Saverio Cannistrà, the monastery was opened in Nënshat, Albania, which forms part of the Province of Central Italy.

In the morning, Mass was celebrated with the

Carmelite nuns in their monastery church. Later on the friars' monastery was inaugurated, once more in the presence of Fr General, together with the three missionary friars at present in Albania, the Administrator of the diocese and the Archbishop of Scutari, Mons. Massafra. Also present was a good number of priests, religious and secular order members from the country, together with a representation of Discalced Carmelite friars from Italy.

The grand finale of this joyful day ended with refreshments accompanied by dance and songs of the region. But before things came truly to an end we had to taste an exquisite tart in the form of the new monastery, prepared by the Carmelite nuns, together with images of Our Lady, St Joseph and the Holy Face which the nuns wished to give to the community on this occasion.

OCDS CICLA Meetings

OCDS members of the Bolivarian CICLA (Interprovincial Conference of Latin American Carmelites) from Peru, Colombia, and Ecuador met in Quito from September 16th to 20th. A delegation from Argentina also accompanied them. Delegates present were: Fr. Alfredo Amesti (Peru), Fr. Carlos Plata (Colombia), Fr. Juan Berdonces (Ecuador), and the General Delegate for the OCDS, Fr. Alzinir Debastiani.



The OCDS of the Southern CICLA met in Auco, Los Andes, Chile, from September 22nd to 26th, regarding the person of St. Teresa of Jesus of Los Andes. Members in attendance came from both Brazilian provinces of the Teresian Carmel as well as from Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay, accompanied by Discalced Carmelite religious and the General Delegate for the OCDS, who was also present in this important meeting.

The common denominator of both meetings was intensive work on the revision of the life of the Secular Carmelite and his or her call to embody the charism with joy wherever he or she is present, particularly in the peripheries to which Pope Francis calls us.

Appeal for solidarity for the missions

Dear brothers and sisters!

Thanks to the generosity of some monasteries of Carmelites nuns, some provinces of the Order and of some individual members of the OCDS, the centre of the Order, through the Missionary Cooperation Office (Mission Office) has provided for many needs from our missions and supported some of their concrete projects. A big thank you to all who have contributed.

The OCD General Chapter held in Avila in May 2015 invited all the circumscriptions of the Order to contribute to the common fund for the missions. The total funds collected so far for this year is 61,000 euros. From the beginning of the current year, the Mission Cooperation Office has allocated more than 88,000 euros to different urgent projects from the missions. As a result of this shortfall, many others are left out.

Hence, the General Definitory renews the appeal for contributions and donations from all the provinces, Carmelite nuns' monasteries, OCDS communities and people of good will. The goal is to raise funds to concretely assist missionary territories.

We trust in God's providence, which passes through the generosity of each one of you, dear brothers and sisters. Your contribution or donation to the fund for the missions can be sent to the following bank account:

IBAN: IT17J0570403214000000674700

BIC/SWIFT CODE: BPSPTS

BANK: Banca Popolare di Spoleto S.P.A.

ACCOUNT HOLDER: CASA GEN. PP. CARMELITANI SCALZI, CONTO MISSIONI

You can also do it through a bank check payable to:

- **CASA GEN. PP. CARMELITANI SCALZI, CONTO MISSIONI** or to
- **CASA GEN. PP. CARMELITANI SCALZI, PROCURA MISSIONI.**

All of you who bear our missionaries and their daily pains in your prayers, those who promote missionary needs to their families, friends and relations and those who make financial contributions to support the missions' projects, we are exceedingly grateful.

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