



## Materials for reflection

**I**n order to encourage and assist the Discalced Carmelite communities in reflecting on the Declaration on our Charism, the Order's Secretariat for Information has prepared a series of audio-visual materials. The project has been approved and coordinated by the General Definitory

Three videos are now available in which Frs Saverio Cannistrà (in Italian), Agustí Borrell (in Spanish) and Daniel Chowning (in English) explain the purpose, structure and contents of this Declaration. In addition, it is possible to have a "Power Point" presentation (in Italian, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish) that summarizes the main points that touch on the Declaration on the Charism. The links to access these contents are as follows:

### Videos:

#### Italian:

<https://youtu.be/rBN1RMWkYhk>

#### Spanish:

<https://youtu.be/DNOVO4gEJxE>

#### English:

<https://youtu.be/YpBo3fjwIzE>

### Power Point:

**Italian:** <http://www.carmelitaniscalzi.com/dichiarazione-carismatica/dichiarazione-carismatica-italiano/>

**English:** <http://www.carmelitaniscalzi.com/en/charismatic-declaration-menu/charismatic-declaration-english/>

**Spanish:** <http://www.carmelitaniscalzi.com/es/declaracion-carismatica-menu/declaracion-carismatica-espanol/>

**French:** <http://www.carmelitaniscalzi.com/fr/declarationcharismatique-menu/declaration-charismatique-francais/>

**Portuguese:** <http://www.carmelitaniscalzi.com/pt-br/declaracao-carismatica-menu/declaracao-carismatica-do-carmelo-teresiano/>

It is also possible to find it on [www.carmelitaniscalzi.com](http://www.carmelitaniscalzi.com) or download this PDF document where all the links are:

[DOWNLOAD PDF](#)

## First Workshop on Charismatic Declaration in India

The First Workshop on the Charismatic Declaration began on 17th morning at Trivandrum, India. Given the number of young religious in India, two workshops on the Charismatic Declaration have been planned. The first one is being held at the Benziger Memorial Spirituality Centre at Trivandrum. This workshop is for the young religious of Malabar, Manjummel and South Kerala

Provinces. 25 religious between the ages of 35-45 were expected from each Province. Helped and guided by the resource persons, the group is working seriously on the document. On 17th, Fr. Johannes, the Definitior incharge of the region began the sessions explaining the background of the document, objectives of the workshop, general structure and content of the document etc. Being the resource person of the first day,

he expounded the content of the first three sections on Call and Response, Formation and Charismatic Identity and the Teresian Anthropology. He prepared them for a fruitful group discussion with relevant questions.

The dynamics of working this way seem to be effective and the members are understanding the text and assimilating it. Following is the schedule for the next two days.

16 Thursday : Arrival for Supper at hrs. 20.00

17 Friday : Fr. Johannes Gorantla

ocd, Def. Gen. (3 sessions). Initial Presentation: History, structure and content of the document and the Study of numbers 1-19.

18 Saturday: Fr. Mathew Vekathanam ocd (Mal) (3 sessions) Study of Numbers 20-53

19 Sunday: Fr. Prasad Theruvath ocd (Manj) (3 sessions) Study of Numbers 54-79

20 Monday : Departure

The Second work shop was scheduled from 20-24 January at Mysore for the rest of the 4 provinces.

## Thiruvalla Monastery, Kerala, India A place for the meeting of the various rites

**S**t. Joseph's Monastery of the Discalced Carmelites is the second oldest Discalced Carmelite Monastery in Kerala, the first one being that of Kottayam. It has a history of around 70 years. They were initially invited by the Syro Malancara Bishop of Thiruvalla, a centre for the Malancara Church in Kerala. Hence the sisters have a strong bond with the Malancara church, which in

turn loves them and appreciates their life and mission in the Church. Although the daily masses are celebrated in the Latin rite, the chapel is well frequented by the Syro Malancara, Syro Malabar and Latin rite faithful. Our Monastery chapel is clearly a sign of unity among the Catholic churches of different rites in Kerala.

Recently Thiruvalla Community founded a new Monastery at

Kolayad. Hence at present there are only 13 sisters in this one of the most beautiful monasteries of the sub continent.

Fr. Johannes Gorantla ocd, our

Definitor General visited this Monastery on 14-15 January 2020 to encourage them in living their vocation.

## Visit to CITES – University of Mysticism, by the Prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education.

Recently, on the 23rd of January, Cardinal Giuseppe Versaldi, Prefect in charge of the Roman Congregation for Catholic Education, visited the University of Mysticism in Avila. During the visit he was accompanied, among others, by the CITEs authorities, as well as Professor Javier Belda Iniesta, Delegate for Legal and International Affairs of the John Paul II Pontifical Theological Institute and Professor Manuel Arroba, Dean of the new section of the John Paul II Pontifical Theological Institute which, on Wednesday, January 22nd, the Cardinal inaugurated in Madrid.

While visiting CITEs, the Cardinal expressed the importance of this centre regarding forging and supporting the great ecclesial project of the New Evangelization. He also appreciated the importance of the mysticism of Teresa and St John of the Cross, encouraging the CITEs community to keep on with this work so that it can continue to strengthen the life of faith and the necessary cultural, interdisciplinary and interreligious dialogue. There was no shortage of inspiring references to Teresa of Jesus and her incarnate mysticism, as an inspiring model of what CITEs must be.