



SUPERIOR GENERAL OF THE DISCALCED CARMELITES  
Corso d'Italia, 38  
00198 Roma – Italia

Rome, 13 October 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the great Teresian Carmelite Family:

In this month of October, under the gaze of Mary, Mother of the Rosary, I salute you with that joy and hope which She continually gifts us.

Ever since becoming General, I have had a heartfelt desire to revitalize our Marian life in Carmel.

On the 16 July this year, Fr. Michael O'Neill, the O.Carm. Prior General, and I, wrote a letter dedicated to Mary and Prayer in the context of the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and this Year of Prayer.

In our letter we “invited all our Carmelite Sisters and Brothers, in whatever part of the world you are and whatever circumstances you live in, in full health or sickness, on a journey or in moments of difficulty or crisis, in strength or weakness, joy or temptation, to humbly open yourselves without hesitation to this moment of grace, entrusting to Mary’s hands this birth of God in our lands”.

We continue to place in Our Lady’s hands the present and the future of our Teresian Family. We ask Her to enlighten us about treasures of our Carmelite life that She wishes us to understand and that we have not yet fully grasped. We especially beseech Mary, Mother of Peace and Our Lady of Hope, that She might quell the horror of war in the Holy Land, Lebanon and Gaza. May She grant us the gifts of unity and missionary fervour.

In collaboration with our Brothers in Fatima, we had proposed four areas for revitalization: theology, spirituality, pastoral care and charism. (Cf. *Letter of the General Definitory, 18 December 2023*).

At our last Definitory we refined this final proposal and we now present it to yourselves: “...we will send a questionnaire to the whole Order referring to different aspects of Marian life”. (*Letter of the General Definitory, 16 June 2024*).

Today, 13 October, the memory of Sister Lucia and Our Lady of Fatima are fresh in our thoughts and heart. This day reminds us of the sixth Apparition of the Virgin of Fatima and of Lucia’s account of how she saw Her “with a dress similar to our Lady of Carmel”. We remember that this is also the month of Teresita and our Holy Mother Teresa.

It gives me great pleasure to present these questionnaires to you with some variations for our Nuns, our Friars and our OCDS members, as well as for the Federations, Provincial Councils and the Communities of our three branches of Carmel.

They are proposed in different languages with an on-line formula that will facilitate the collection and study of your responses. Below you have the links for access to the questionnaires:

- FIRST: For the communities of OCDS, Friars and Nuns (with the possibility of individual responses): <https://forms.gle/42r84k1CGC9BWwnX7>
- SECOND: For the Provincial Councils of the Friars, for Provincial or National Councils of the Seculars and the Councils of the Associations or Federations of our Nuns: <https://forms.gle/Pixt3ZBgEZY4v2A6>

The response is simple and will be very useful for us in programing and proposing to the whole Order the eventual conclusions resulting from this study. The Definitory will undertake a discernment of the priorities and essential indications again from your responses, with a view to revitalizing Marian life and devotion in our life.

The closing date for your responses will be 14 December 2024. For any doubt or difficulty with the questionnaire or any other question, you may write to email:

I am most grateful for the support and enthusiastic collaboration of our Brothers at “Domus Carmeli” in Fatima.

I thank you for your attention to this questionnaire, in the hope of re-invigorating our vitality and requesting Mary to enlighten us anew with Her presence and influence.

Let us follow united under the mantle of Mary, Who invites us to have humble courage and daring trust, while She walks with us as a sister and companion as we confront so many challenges with Her own and St. Joseph’s guiding hands.

In communion.

Father Miguel Marquez Calle  
*Superior General OCD*

