



GENERAL HOUSE OF THE DISCALCED CARMELITES
Corso d'Italia 38
00198 Rome – Italy

WORLD MEETING OF THE OCDS

Rome, December 1st 2024

Dear brothers and sisters of the Teresian Carmel,

The *World Meeting of the Order of Secular Discalced Carmelites (OCDS)* will be held in the city of Avila, Spain, from 23rd to 26th July 2026. Its theme will be « Witnesses to the experience of God : Identity and Mission ».

In order to participate, there will be two stages: 1) pre-inscription and 2) inscription.

PRE-INSCRIPTION

This is essential for us to be able to estimate the number of participants by Province. It should be done individually online, using the link given below. You should give the following information: 1) first and last name ; 2) copy of a piece of identity (if you don't have a passport, you should obtain one as soon as possible, as you will need it at time of inscription) ; 3) name of the community to which you belong ; 4) town ; 5) province or State ; 6) country ; 7) email address ; 8) mobile phone number. Pre-inscription is strictly individual, and must not be done in the name of a group or community.

Pre-inscription link :

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1v34KQtLZuQbO7pmwz3Fy4GA2N71RcBgAY1TVmQYix8/edit>

Once the pre-inscription process is over, we will have an idea of the global number of participants and their provenance. We will then proceed to make a potential readjustment of the number of participants by province, in order to ensure an equitable distribution and to allow the largest number to participate. In fact, if the number of pre-inscriptions from one province is very large, it will not be possible to register them all at first, in order to allow other provinces to participate. We will consider firstly the pre-inscriptions by province; the others will be put on a waiting-list.

The pre-inscriptions can be made online from 1st December 2024 to 31st March 2025.

INSCRIPTION

Once the numbers by province have been determined, we will start the second stage : the final inscription, It will be open from 1st December 2025 to 31st January 2026. During this period, you can pay for the entirety of your registration costs, which will amount to between 220 and 250 euros, depending on the number of participants and the final prices of the providers.

The costs of registration will cover participation in all sessions and activities, materials, the simultaneous interpretation service, coffee breaks (morning and afternoon), lunches, transport to the conference site, a guided visit of your choice (Avila, Segovia, Alba de Tormes or Medina del Campo), as well as a document certifying your participation in the congress.

Although you can choose your lodging from the various options offered in place, a list of religious houses, hotels and guest-rooms will be suggested to assist your search. Prices in the Catholic centres are around 50€ per person per night for a double room, and 55€ per person per night for a single room. These prices include breakfast and dinner. For young people who wish to stay in the Youth Centre of the CITEs, in dormitories of 6, 8 or 10 bunks, for around 35€ per night per person : this price includes breakfast and dinner. Regarding hotels and guest-rooms, prices vary from 50€ to 120€ per person per night. Some of them include breakfast, but not dinner.

The inscription process will be finalised when we receive your proof of payment (which should be sent to the email address that we will indicate). If you have to request a visa, we will provide a certificate of inscription along with a bill, to facilitate the procedure.

MEANS OF PAYMENT

The payment can be made by bank transfer, credit card or PayPal. Bank details will be available on the platform at the start of the inscription process.

CANCELLATION OF THE INSCRIPTION

Once the inscription and the payment have been made, you can cancel your participation only for important reasons that must be duly justified. In this case, a 20% penalty will be applied to cover administrative expenses. The latest cancellation date will be communicated at the time of the inscription. After this date, no reimbursement will be possible.

PROGRAMME

NB : the programme may be modified.

Please find below the programme of the Congress :

THURSDAY, 23RD JULY

- 9am-11am : Welcome and handout of documents
- 11am-12.30pm : Mass and opening ceremony
- 1pm-2pm : Coffee-break
- 1pm : Conference
- 2pm : Lunch

4pm : Conference
5pm-5.30pm Coffee-break
5.30pm-6.30pm Conference
6.30pm-7pm Prayer, end of day

FRIDAY, 24TH JULY

10am-11am Eucharist
11.30am-12.30pm Conference
12.30pm-1pm Coffee-break
1pm : Conference
2pm : Lunch
4pm : OCDS intercultural encounter
6pm : Coffee-break
6.30pm-7pm Prayer, end of day

SATURDAY, 25TH JULY

10am-11am Eucharist
11.30am-12.30pm Conference
12.30pm-1pm Coffee-break
1pm : Conference
2pm : Lunch
4pm : Conference
5pm-5.30pm : Coffee-break
5.30pm-6.30pm Conference
6.30pm-7pm Prayer, end of day

SUNDAY, 26TH JULY

10am-5pm : Excursion
6pm : Eucharist and closure