

# Carmelite Connections

Newsletter of the Discalced Carmelite Friars • California-Arizona Province

Fall 2004



## From the Provincial

Father Gerald Werner, OCD

Dear Friends,

One of our ministries is with the Discalced Carmelite seculars or "Third Order" members. Every three or four years we have a western regional congress for the Secular Order. The most recent congress took place in Las Vegas, Nevada in June. Enjoy Father Patrick's article and learn more about this event.

Several of our Brothers took major steps forward in their formation. Brother Mario was ordained to the priesthood; Brothers Adam and José Luis were ordained deacons. Four others moved from the novitiate in San Jose to Mt. Angel, Oregon to begin their studies. Three more postulants (or pre-novices) received the Carmelite habit and became novices. They will continue their training at Mount St. Joseph in San Jose.

Our biggest news is the September 8 groundbreaking for our House of Studies in Mt. Angel...a truly joyous celebration!

Each of you shares in our life and ministry. Thank you for your participation and support. We ask you to consider a gift in support of our ministries and our brothers in training. We continue to pray for God's blessings on you and your loved ones.

Father Gerald Werner, OCD

*There are three Discalced Carmelite Provinces of Friars and Seculars in the United States. One of these Provinces annually hosts a Congress for the Carmelite Seculars. Congresses began in the late 60's. The Community of Carmelite Seculars in Las Vegas offered to host this year's Congress.*

## Celebrating Community at OCDS Congress

Father Patrick Sugrue, OCD, Provincial Delegate

Among the great blessings of a Congress are the camaraderie and the feeling of belonging to a larger community of Carmelites. It is a unique opportunity for Seculars to meet the friars and seminarians, and vice versa. The Congress offers an opportunity to share at meals, learn at plenary talks and workshops, celebrate the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours.

This year's theme was *The Desert Blooms: OCDS Constitutions 2003*. The Constitutions for the Discalced Carmelite Seculars were approved by the Holy See in June 2003. **Father Aloysius Deeney, OCD, General Delegate in Rome for OCDS**, set the tone with the first talk, "New Wine Skin for New Wine, the OCDS Legislation, and the Vocation to Carmel." His talk was informative and helpful. OCDS members could go home and share it with their communities and groups, as well as the friars and brothers who are now, or will be our future spiritual assistants. Father's talk was practical, addressing areas in the new Constitutions. He fielded questions at another session to offer additional clarification.

*Continued on page six*

*Congress Registration Tables staffed by OCDS members from Las Vegas and Reno*





Fathers Albe Doolan, Deacon José Luis Ferroni, Father Albert Bunsic, Bishop Gerald Barnes, Father Christopher La Rocca, and Deacon Adam Gonzales

## Brother Adam Gonzales and Brother José Luis Ferroni Ordained Deacons

**O**n May 25 **Brothers Adam Gonzales and José Luis Ferroni** were ordained deacons by **Bishop Gerald R. Barnes**, Diocese of San Bernardino, at El Carmelo Retreat House, Redlands. Carmelites from around our Province, family members, and friends celebrated with them. Everyone had the opportunity to congratulate our two new deacons at the luncheon reception.

Brothers Adam and José Luis had very different summer experiences following their ordination. Brother Adam participated in a ten-week Clinical Pastoral Education course at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas, Texas, as part of the requirements for the Masters of Divinity degree at Mount Angel Seminary. He had an intense experience of what it is like to work as a hospital chaplain, including ministering to 37 patients who died. “My summer as a hospital chaplain intern fulfilled my desire to learn ministry to the suffering and dying, and their families. While it was unforgettable, it was also a positive experience, which strengthened my relationship with God and with others.”

Brother José Luis spent most of the summer working as a deacon at Santa Cruz Parish, Tucson. There he baptized 40 babies, officiated at three weddings, and presided at several funeral services. He also had many opportunities to preach. He is remembering all these events to pray for these people for the rest of his life. He returned to his studies at Mount Angel Seminary with an inspiring enthusiasm for our Carmelite parish ministry. He comments, “Serving the Lord as a deacon is bringing me joy beyond all I have ever experienced and could ever imagine!”

Please keep Brothers Adam and José Luis in your prayers as they begin their fourth and final year of theology at Mount Angel Seminary. They both look forward to ordination to the priesthood in the spring.



Catungal Family members on Father Mario Catungal's ordination day; among those pictured are (left to right) Araceli, Reynaldo, Father Mario, Crisanto, Dominga (his mother), Ana Marie, and Pastor Jr.

## Father Mario Catungal Ordained a Priest

**O**n June 5, **Brother Mario Catungal** was ordained a priest, the first member of our Province to be ordained to the priesthood since Father Fernando Pinto's ordination in 1999. The ceremony took place at St. Therese Church, Alhambra with a large congregation present. Father Mario invited **Bishop Rolando Tirona, OCD**, from the Philippines, for the occasion. It was a happy reunion for the two, who had been friends before Mario emigrated to this country. This ordination also brought a reunion of Bishop Tirona and **Father Jerome Lantry**, who was Provincial of the Anglo-Irish Province when Bishop Tirona was a young Carmelite student.

Father Mario's ordination reunited him with family members and many friends from different stages of his life. He is one of nine children, the son of Dominga and the late Pastor Catungal. He was born in Malasiqui, Pangasinan, in the Philippines. Now his mother and most of his family live in San Diego. It was exciting to see people at the ordination who had traveled great distances to attend. We are all very proud of our new priest, the first Filipino priest in our Province.

There was a whirl-wind “First Mass tour” at Carmelite monasteries and parishes in California and Arizona following his ordination. Father Mario is now assigned to Santa Cruz Parish, Tucson. He offers Mass each day, officiates at weddings and funerals, baptizes, hears confessions, visits the sick, and works with several parish groups. Everybody wants to get to know the new priest!

*Father Mario's ordination reunited him with family members and many friends from different stages of his life.*

# Ground Breaking

With joy and thanksgiving to God  
the Discalced Carmelite Friars  
of the Western Province  
blessed the site and broke ground  
for the new Carmelite House of Studies  
in Mt. Angel, Oregon  
on the Feast of the Birth of Mary  
September 8, 2004.



*Most Reverend John G. Vlazny, Archbishop of Portland, assisted by Brother Laurence Poncini, blesses the site of the new House of Studies*

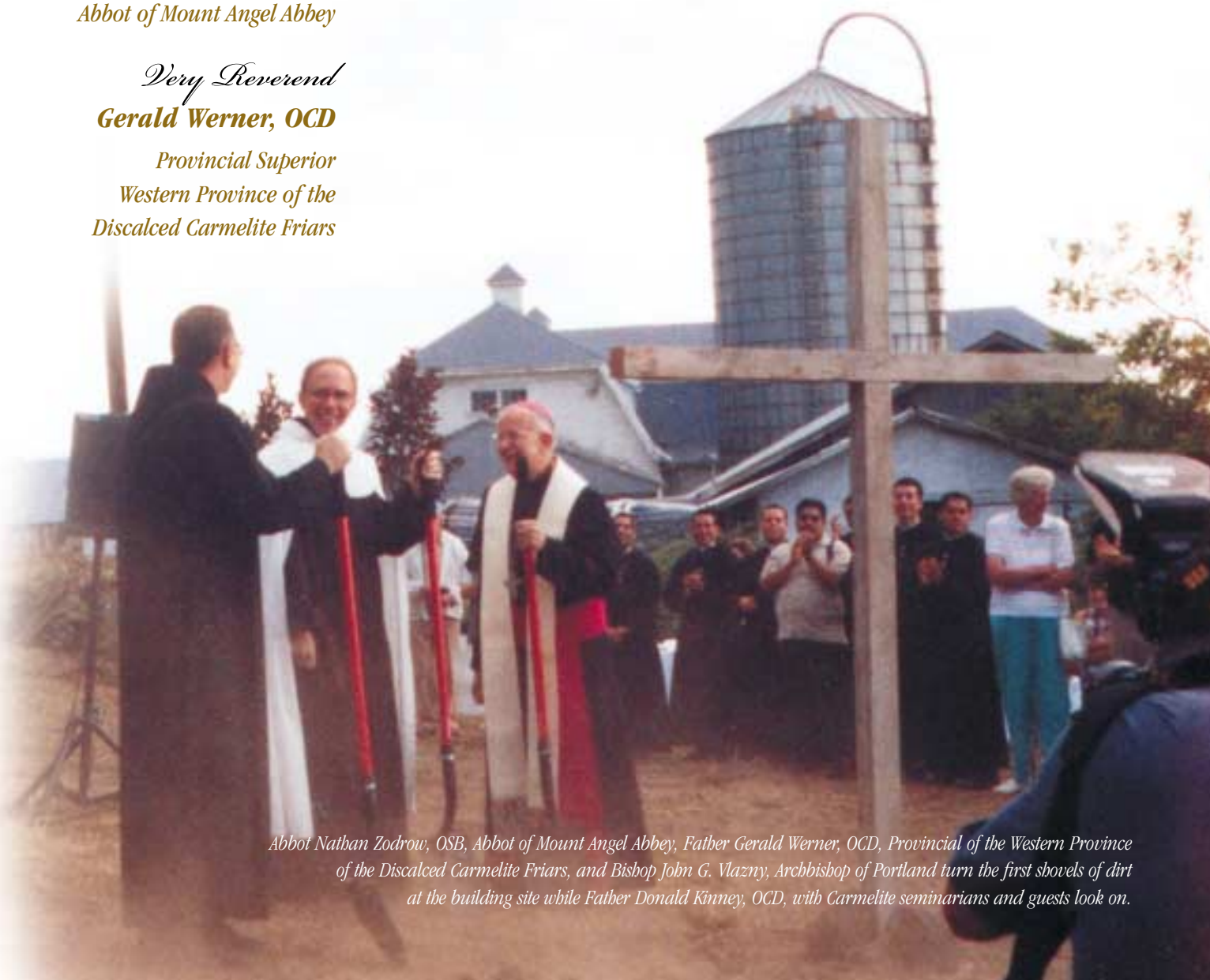
## *Officiating at the ground breaking were:*

*Most Reverend  
**John G. Vlazny**  
Archbishop of Portland*

*Right Reverend  
**Nathan Zodrow, OSB**  
Abbot of Mount Angel Abbey*

*Very Reverend  
**Gerald Werner, OCD**  
Provincial Superior  
Western Province of the  
Discalced Carmelite Friars*

**M**ore than 250 persons celebrated with us, coming from near and far. Our guests included David Richen, architect; Mike Grant, general contractor; numerous students and professors from Mount Angel Seminary; sisters and priests from the diocese, friends from the towns of Mt. Angel, Gervais and surrounding communities. Special thanks to **Vicky Dyrdaahl** and the **Catholic Daughters of America** who prepared the refreshments for the reception. We are grateful to each of you for your faithful support, your sacrificial contributions, your belief in our community and our newest members. Look for an update and a more complete story to come soon.



*Abbot Nathan Zodrow, OSB, Abbot of Mount Angel Abbey, Father Gerald Werner, OCD, Provincial of the Western Province of the Discalced Carmelite Friars, and Bishop John G. Vlazny, Archbishop of Portland turn the first shovels of dirt at the building site while Father Donald Kinney, OCD, with Carmelite seminarians and guests look on.*

Fall marks the beginning of another school year, always a happy time for our Mt. Angel community. It is exciting to see our students again after their summer assignments around the Province. During the summer, they also spend two weeks with their families.

This year's return was particularly lively as four new students from San Jose joined us: **Brothers Mark Moran, Mark Silva, Mark Kissner and Juan Medina**. They visited us last March to begin applying to Mount Angel Seminary. We already knew and appreciated them during visits to Mount Saint Joseph at Christmas and other times since they entered the Order almost two years ago.

We must admit it took a few days to adjust to three new members with the same first name. There are 15 of us in our community this year. Breaking ground for our new House of Studies adds a new level of joy and dedication to our lives.

Here is a little about each one of our new brothers:

- **Brother Mark Moran**, 36, was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He worked as a machinist before entering Carmel.
- **Brother Mark Silva**, 42, was born in Phoenix, Arizona. After graduating from the University of Santa Clara with a Bachelors degree in Finance, he worked in the insurance field.

- **Brother Mark Kissner**, 37, comes from Dayton, Ohio. He graduated from Purdue University as an electrical engineer and was employed in the computer industry in San Diego when he became acquainted with the Carmelites.
- **Brother Juan Medina**, 23, was born and raised in the Santa Clara Valley. He was attending college when he discerned that God was calling him to the Carmelite Order.

**Brother Laurence Poncini** returned after his pastoral year at St. Therese Church, Alhambra. He is beginning his third year of theology at Mount Angel Seminary.

We stay close to our students, **Brothers Salvador Román and John Froula**, who are studying at the Carmelites' International College in Rome. Brother Salvador helped this summer at El Carmelo Retreat House while Brother John studied Spanish in Spain. Brothers Salvador and John, with classmates from Rome, also visited historic Carmelite monasteries and sites in Spain at the end of the summer.

*Our Province is very grateful for the vocations the Lord sends us. We can never thank you enough for your prayers and support of our future!*



Brothers Paul Venables, Matthew Townsend and Juan José Diaz

## Meet Our Novices

Our newest novices were clothed and began their novitiate at Mount St. Joseph, San Jose, on April 30, 2004. Here's a bit about our novices:

- **Brother Paul Venables of the Holy Spirit**, 44, was born in Seattle, Washington, one of five children.
- **Brother Matthew Townsend of Mary and the Eucharist**, 40, is one of four children born in Bellingham, Washington.
- **Brother Juan José Diaz of the Holy Cross**, 33, was born in Santo Tomás, Nicaragua, one of seven children.

These brothers will live in community and study the vows, find out more about Carmelite heritage and traditions, learn more about Carmelite saints and their writings. Continue to pray for them as they journey in faith.

*Vocation is ...a voice with a singular accent, mysterious, but unmistakable, grave and delicate at the same time, calm and powerful. A voice which is at the same time an invitation and an order. A voice simple as a sigh and profound as a drama. Christ's voice, today too, today more than ever, says, "Come follow me!"* POPE PAUL VI

For more information about the Discalced Carmelite Friars, contact Father Jan Lundberg, Vocation Director 408-251-1361.



## St. Kizito Celebrates

*The rectory and Carmelite Mission Kyengeza are "a work in progress." Photo was taken in January 2003 after considerable refurbishing. Much remains to be done.*

On October we celebrate the second anniversary of our Carmelite Mission in Kyengeza, Uganda. **Fathers David Costello, OCD and Colm Stone, OCD**, together with **Lillian Kelly, OCDS** member from California and lay volunteer during these two years work with three Sisters of Mary of Mount Carmel from Austria.

We are growing as a community. **Father Edmond Shabani, OCD**, from the Congo, joined us along with **Brother Joseph Baru, OCD**, who is from the northern Uganda. Brother Joseph was recently ordained a deacon. **Bishop Joseph Mukwaya** also appointed **Father Josaphat Kasambula** to our parish as assistant priest. Father Josaphat served in Kyengeza some years ago, when it was an outstation of Mwera parish. He brings not only knowledge of Luganda but much pastoral experience as well.

Other events at our parish include:

- **Sister M. Antonia DuLong's Little Flowers**, a children's choir which sings regularly at Sunday Mass.
- Lillian's report that the OCDS group chose a name **St. Elijah OCDS Group, Kyengeza**. Only later did she remember that this is also the name of the Berkeley OCDS Community to which she belongs!
- The **Xavarians** are young people from 13 of our 15 sub-parishes who meet every Saturday at their respective churches to clean them and prepare them for Sunday Masses. In the remaining two sub-parishes, members are being recruited.

Join with us on *October 17, Mission Sunday*, to pray in thanksgiving for God's blessings on our Carmelite mission in Uganda and those of you who support it with your generous contributions. Daily we know we are not here alone. God bless you!



*The faces of Sister Antonia's children's choir, "Flowers for Jesus"*

*The Xavarian Group at Kyengeza*





*OCDS members gather around an icon*

## *Celebrating Community* Continued from front page

Other presentations provided valuable insights into the living of our Carmelite vocation. **Father Datus Kanjiramukil's** session on the *Apostolic Exhortation (Christifidelis Laici)* was thought-provoking, helping OCDS members realize that lay people are truly called to holiness. **Father Michael Buckley** compared the new Constitution to the former OCDS Rule of Life and the Rule of St. Albert. He brought his usual astuteness and attention to detail to this session.

One of our members, **Thomas Moore, OCDS**, provided a great service for us, looking up and printing all the footnotes for the new Constitutions in a booklet. This reference will be an important resource for all communities and groups as they study the new Constitutions. Thomas gave a succinct overview of his work at two workshops.

**Brother Philip Sullivan, OCD** presented a workshop on iconography. **Father James Geoghegan, OCD** and **Brother Jose Luis Ferroni, OCD** talked about the Carmelite friars who served in Arizona and were later martyred during the Spanish Civil War. **Father John Sullivan, OCD** from the Eastern Province spoke about his work as a delegate for the Order as a NGO (Non Government Organization) to the United Nations. **Doreen Glynn-Pawski** led us in a prayerful reflection on Psalm 63, the Hymn for Contemplatives. Her practical insights and ability to blend our Constitutions with our prayer life were inspiring and compelling.

Saturday evening's traditional banquet was festive with entertainment provided by the voices of the *Sweet Adelines*—all 50 of them! It was a welcome change from the intensity of the weekend.

*Continued on page seven*



*Father Gerald Werner, OCD, Provincial of the Western Province, presiding at Mass*



*Members of the OCDS Community in Denver, Colorado attending the Congress*

## Celebrating Community *Continued from page six*

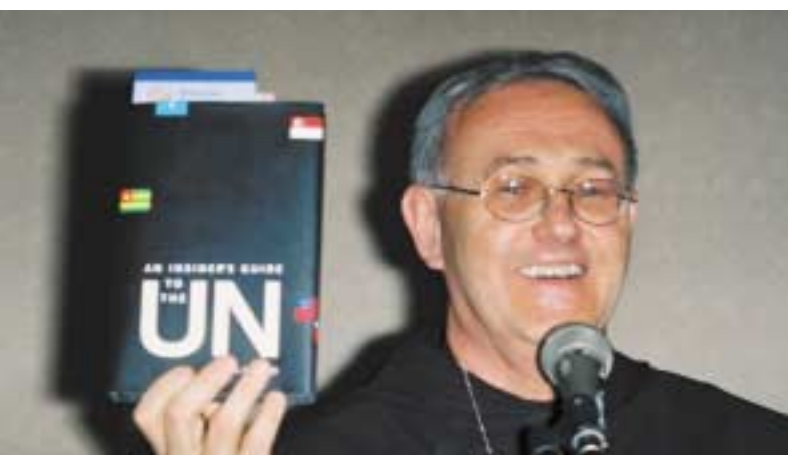
In Sunday's closing talk, *Wait a little...and you will see great things* (Foundations 1:8), **Father Reginald McSweeney, OCD**, challenged us to follow St. Teresa of Jesus by imitating Christ with fidelity and renewed commitment in the light of the new Constitutions.

Special thanks to the **OCDS Community in Las Vegas**, especially to the co-chairpersons, **Elizabeth Pesco** and **Toni Hagey**. We are grateful to those whose hard work created such a successful experience for participants. They came away with great respect for the professional manner in which our Las Vegas OCDS orchestrated this Congress.

*It is a unique opportunity for Seculars to meet the friars and seminarians, and vice versa.*



*Father Aloysius Deeney, OCD, the General Delegate in Rome for the OCDS and Congress presenter*



*Father John Sullivan, OCD, Eastern Province member and the Carmelites' United Nations representative*

## Ten Things to Know about Estate and Financial Planning

*John Hranek, Esquire, Hranek & Associates, Attorneys and Counselors at Law Hilary S. Jones Rojo, BSBM, Certified Senior Advisor, Foresters*

Leaving a legacy for your family, your parish church and other charities can be accomplished with proper planning consulting financial, legal and tax professionals. This article is intended to assist you with your decision making process.

- **What is an estate plan?** The elements of a good estate plan include: A Will, a Financial Power of Attorney and Medical Power of Attorney. For some people, a Living Trust may also make sense. When putting together your estate plan, you must be mindful of both federal and state laws governing estates.
- **Do most people have a basic estate plan in place?** It may surprise you to learn that, according to Consumer Reports, 70% of American adults do not have wills. Why? Blame inertia, fear of facing one's mortality, lack of appropriate information. People know they're going to die eventually. But nobody plans to die in the next year. Having a plan ensures your family and financial goals are met if you are disabled, and after you die.
- **Where do I start when making an estate and financial plan?** Taking inventory of your assets is a good place to start. Assets include your investments, retirement savings, insurance policies, real estate or business interests. Next, ask yourself three questions: *Whom do you want to inherit your assets? Whom do you want handling your financial affairs if ever you're incapacitated? And whom do you want making medical decisions for you if you are unable to make them for yourself?*
- **Does everybody need a will?** Yes. A Will tells the world exactly where you want your assets distributed when you die. It is also the best way to name guardians for your children. Dying without a will—also known as dying “intestate”—can be costly to your heirs and leaves you no say over who gets your assets. Even if you have a Trust, you still need a Will to take care of any holdings outside of that Trust when you die.
- **Should I discuss my estate plans with my children or heirs?** Yes, this could prevent disputes or avoid a lot of confusion. Inheritance can be a loaded issue. By being clear about your intentions, you help dispel potential conflicts after you're gone.



*Marie Kupecz with Father Mario*

*We thank the Lord for Marie's life  
and witness. Marie's love and  
generosity live on in her gift  
our new monastery in Mt. Angel..*

## *Marie Kupecz Shares God's Gifts*

**M**arie Kupecz, from Yucaipa, California, passed away on April 20, 2004. She was a longtime member of the Carmelite Secular Order. She volunteered at El Carmelo Retreat House since 1957 and was a faithful supporter. Marie loved people and had a sparkling sense of humor. She was a daily communicant and had a great devotion to Our Lady.

In July 2003 Marie wrote a prayer to Our Blessed Mother: "Our Lady of the Holy Eucharist, you brought to a waiting world the greatest gift God could possibly give. Now, more than ever, a tired and troubled world needs your gift of love."

A year ago, before she became ill, Marie decided to give \$250,000 to the Capital Campaign to build our Province's new House of Studies in Mt. Angel. This was a planned gift on her part. It was a great joy to her to know she would help provide a home for Carmelite seminarians for years to come. She loved to meet our students and encourage them. Marie planned to attend our groundbreaking ceremony, but the Lord had other plans. During her last illness Father Fernando Pinto faithfully visited Marie and brought her the sacraments almost every day.

Marie is survived by her niece, Christine, and her husband, Clifford Anthony, and their children, Michael and Susan. We thank the Lord for Marie's life and witness. Marie's love and generosity live on in her gift our new monastery in Mt. Angel.

Daily, in our houses throughout the Western Province, we pray for our benefactors, living and deceased. Those of us who were privileged to know Marie miss her very much, yet we know she intercedes for our students, for those who come to El Carmelo Retreat House and for all the needs of our Province.



*Discalced Carmelite Friars  
California-Arizona Province*

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