

# Provincial Council Strategic Goals

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## **Goal # 1**      ***“To inspire a life of prayer”***

*The Provincial Council will:*

- *Examine the topic of prayer, liturgy, and the specifics enumerated in the strategic plan as evidenced by community life plans and minutes of community meetings.*
- *Invite to various members of the province to author articles on prayer, which in turn will be sent to the province for reflection and consideration during community meetings.*
- *Offer prayer experiences at the regional meetings, as well as encourage communities to hold prayer/retreat days.*
- *Offer a province wide retreat once over the next three years.*

## **Goal #2**      ***“To evangelize by spreading the Gospel in word and action”***

*The provincial council will*

- *Coordinate with the vocation office to continue building a culture of vocations throughout the province and by identifying prospects on a local level.*
- *Support the Carmelite Media Office's efforts to evangelize through social media and print.*
- *Support the Carmelite NGO and the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation commission initiatives of the Order and Province to promote action on issues.*

## **Goal # 3**      ***“To promote the study and teaching of Carmelite Spirituality”***

*The provincial council will*

- *Foster the development of The Carmelite Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary Endowed Chair and Center for Carmelite Studies at the Catholic University of America.*
- *Support the Carmelite Institute of North America both financially and through participation in its programs.*
- *Develop a Carmelite Institute (Instituto Carmelitano de las Americas) in the non-English speaking parts of the Province.*
- *To continue inviting Carmelites from other provinces to come and study in the Province.*
- *Strengthen the impact of the Carmelite Students Program with participation of all formandi, utilizing Internet and social media for those unable to travel to the USA or to be physically present*
- *Promote the development of on-line resources for the promotion and study of Carmelite spirituality.*

## **Goal # 4**      ***“To grow in fraternal communion”***

*The provincial council will*

- *Initiate a study by the Formation Commission of the three levels of initial formation to determine the consistency in content and execution of the formation program.*
- *Determine ways to help the priors and brothers to openly, charitably, and respectfully discuss problematic behaviors that impact fraternal life.*
- *Encourage the provincial and/or his delegate to use the yearly one-to-one meeting with each member of the province (as prescribed by Praesidium) to also review the member's plan for healthy self-care.*
- *Develop programs to support members from initial to ongoing formation*

## **Goal # 5**      ***“To think family”***

*The provincial council will*

- *Continue to support and raise awareness of the internationality of the Carmelite Order through the participation in meetings, commissions, and assignments that offer experiences of other cultures and languages.*
- *Promote the concept of Carmelite family among employees and in our Carmelite ministry sites.*
- *Encourage the direction of the Lay Carmelites toward well-formed members of the Order.*
- *Annually visit each of the monasteries of the enclosed nuns within the territory of the province.*
- *Work with other provinces on ministry opportunities in the province.*
- *Annually visit the hermitages in Lake Elmo, Minn. and Christoval, Texas.*

## **Goal # 6**      ***“ To serve the people of God”***

*The provincial council will*

- *Work with the Parish Commission to develop a plan for managing our current and future parochial commitments.*
- *Appoint a Director of Sponsorship in order to carry out the action plan proposed in the strategic plan.*
- *Encourage senior member of the province to offer their presence and sacramental help in parishes and schools, when possible and in consultation with those in positions of leadership.*
- *Encourage seniors to participate in on-going educational programs in order to stay updated and relevant to current times.*
- *Continue to promote strategic planning in each area of the province (USA/Canada, Peru, Mexico, and El Salvador).*
- *Encourage men of the province to pursue academic degrees, to develop professionally in areas pertaining to ministries.*
- *Maintain standards of safe environment in priories and ministry sites, in*

*particular the regulations that refer to minors and vulnerable adults as describe in the 2017 Policies for Ethical Ministry with Minors and Vulnerable Adults.*

- Evaluate ministry commitments according to established guidelines.*
- Facilitate access to programs of English or Spanish language courses for all formandi of the province.*

## **Goal # 7**      ***“To provide accountable and transparent stewardship***

*The provincial council will*

- Encourage discussion in local communities about vowed life, responsibilities and rights as members of a religious order, and professionalism as ministers of the Church.*
- Continue to develop the "Operating Manual" for the province.*
- Provide a workshop at the priors meeting and other opportunities to strengthen and enhance the role of the prior.*
- Continue to work and support all the provincial commissions leading toward a triennial report and evaluation at the provincial chapter.*
- Continue to strengthen the Provincial Development Committee to “think outside the envelope” about the provinces fund raising strategies.*
- Continue the development of programs leading to the financial independence of ministerial programs in Mexico and El Salvador.*
- Develop a process for creating a revised strategic plan (2020-2026) for presentation at the Chapter of 2020.*