

## **PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MINUTES**

If members of your community do not have access to email, please consider printing a set of these minutes for their benefit. But please remember that these minutes deal with confidential matters and are intended to be seen by members of the PCM Province only. If you are printing these minutes out, please make sure they are kept in a secure place.

**Provincial Council Meeting  
Avon-by-the-Sea, New Jersey  
October 19-21, 2021  
Minutes**

Present in Avon: Carl J. Markelz, O.Carm., David McEvoy, O.Carm., Daryl Moresco, O.Carm., Gregory Houck, O.Carm., Luis Jesús “Chuy” Paz Acosta, O.Carm., and Rolf “Nepi” Willemsen, O.Carm.

The Provincial Council met at the Shore House at Avon, NJ, for our first in-person Council meeting. We were able to celebrate Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, and Eucharist together each day, share meals and fraternity, enjoy the natural beauty of the Jersey shore, and deepen fraternal bonds beyond our working relationships. Our first morning together was spent updating one another on our personal lives. We also reviewed and discussed the Strategic Plan Objectives, 2020-2026, accepted by the previous Provincial Council on April 22, 2020, and Provincial Council Goals, 2020-2023, accepted by the current Council on December 19, 2020.

**Assignments**

Robert Carroll	Retirement, Effective June 30, 2022
Neil Conlisk	Spanish Language Studies, Casa del Carmen, Tlalpan, Mexico City, Mexico, effective January 10, 2022
Stanley Makacinas	Sabbatical Program at the Institute for Continuing Theological Education at the Pontifical North American College in Rome, January-April, 2022
Elias O’Brien	Residence in Great Cacapon, WV; Associated with the Whitefriars Hall Community, Washington, DC
Michael O’Keefe	Retirement, Effective June 30, 2022
Frederick Tillotson	Retirement, Effective June 30, 2022

## **Open Listings Effective July 1, 2022**

Pastor	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Osprey, FL
Pastor	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Darien, IL,
Parochial Vicar	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Darien, IL

Please contact Carl Markelz if you are interested in one of these ministry opportunities.

## **Diocesan Incardination**

The Provincial Council reviewed a Decree issued by Archbishop José H. Gómez of Los Angeles, incardinating Marlon Mateo into the Archdiocese of Los Angeles effective September 17, 2021. We wish every blessing and good luck to Marlon as a member of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

## **Honduras Initiative**

The Provincial Council met through Zoom video conference with the four men scheduled to create our new Carmelite community in Yamaranguila, Honduras. The four Carmelites joining us included: Alfredo Guillén, future pastor of Santa Lucia Parish, currently on sabbatical in El Salvador; Thomas Jordan, future prior of the new community in Honduras, currently at St. Cecilia Priory in Englewood, NJ; Gregorio Vazquez, future Parochial Vicar, currently in Casa del Carmen, Tlalpan, Mexico City, Mexico; and Edgar Lucio “Lucho” Lezama, future Parochial Vicar, currently in Centro Xiberta in El Salvador. All four members of our new community in Honduras shared their expectations with the Council.

Carl emphasized the importance of community life and prayer in our new foundation, as we bring the Carmelite charism to Honduras. Alfredo reported that the Diocese of Gracias, Intibucá, has a comprehensive pastoral plan which the team will be following in Santa Lucia Parish. The Carmelite Mission Office will be sending monthly funds to financially support our new community.

It was agreed by all that Alfredo would be arriving in Yamaranguila by November 15, 2021, with Tom Jordan joining him for a week in December to celebrate the parish’s patronal feast on the Feast of St. Lucy on December 13, 2021. Tom, Gregorio, and Lucho will all arrive in Yamaranguila to join Alfredo on February 1, 2022. Alfredo will be sending weekly reports to the other members of the community from November 15, 2021, to February 1, 2022, to keep the entire community informed of Alfredo’s first weeks in Honduras.

### **September 2021 Priors' Meeting**

The Provincial Council reviewed the minutes of the September 14, 2021, Priors' Meeting conducted via Lifesize video conferencing. Carl Markelz requested that the individual priors call a meeting before October 31, 2021, to have a discussion with the men of their communities regarding the challenges of climate change and the principles of Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'*. Each community was asked to discuss the "14 Little Changes of Behavior" document from the Carmelite NGO that had previously been distributed to the men of the Province. Chuy Paz shared information and personal perspectives from his visit to our new foundation in Yarmaranguila, Honduras. Finally, Robert Colaresi announced to the priors the recent confirmation of the arrival of the relics of St. Therese and Sts. Louis and Zelig Martin at the National Shrine of St. Therese in Darien, IL, September 15-October 2, 2023. The priors will meet again via video conferencing on November 2, 2021.

### **October 2021 Health Commission Meeting**

The Provincial Council reviewed the minutes of the October 5, 2021, Health Commission meeting with specific information regarding the current status of the elderly and infirm members of the Province.

### **Pre-Novices in Mexico to Whitefriars Hall**

The Provincial Council approved the request of Mario Loya, Formation Director at Casa del Carmen, Tlalpan, Mexico City, to move five pre-novices in Mexico to Whitefriars Hall, Washington, DC, for English studies at the LADO Institute, effective in January 2022. It is the hope that these men will be ready for entrance into the Novitiate program in Middletown, NY, beginning June 2022. The pre-novices are Luis Alberto Briones González, Pedro Adolfo Cruz Díaz, José Luis Hernández Cabrera, Salvador Solís Castro, and Bernardo Soriano Rosales. Daryl Moresco will assist Nepi Willemsen in formation duties for these newly arrived pre-novices beginning in January 2022.

### **Pre-Novices in El Salvador Approved for Peruvian Novitiate**

Following a review of evaluations presented by Chuy Paz, Formation Director at Centro Xiberta, Ciudad Delgado, El Salvador, the Provincial Council approved six pre-novices currently at Centro Xiberta, for entrance into the Novitiate program in Lurín, Peru effective January 2022. Those approved include: Kevin Alexander

Flores Landaverde, Noé Marcelo Girón López, Juan Carlos Meléndez Landaverde, Luis Alberto Valeriano Meza, Kevin Eduardo Vega Paniagua, and Irvin Omar Zometa Samayoa.

### **Novices in Peru Approved for Simple Profession**

Following a review of evaluations presented by Gerald Payea, Novice Director, at the Carmelite Novitiate in Lurín, Peru, the Provincial Council approved five novices for simple profession on January 7, 2022. Those approved include: Bertoliny Alexander Montes Ramos, Héctor Tavárez Mendoza, Geovanni de Jesús Velázquez Ramos, Christian Orlando Garcia Hernández, and Pedro Antonio Mira Padilla. (Natanael Torres Núñez left the Novitiate in Lurín in October and the Carmelite formation program to return to Mexico.) After profession, Bertoliny will resume studies while in residence at Casa San Elias in Miraflores, Lima, Peru. Christian and Pedro will resume studies while in residence at the San Alberto de Jerusalén Community in San Salvador, El Salvador. Hector and Geovanni will resume philosophy studies while in residence at Casa del Carmen, in Tlalpan, Mexico City, Mexico.

### **Professed Salvadoran Students to Whitefriars Hall**

The Provincial Council approved the move of Tereso de Jesús Benítez López and Jairo Augusto Hernández Jiménez, currently at Casa San Alberto de Jerusalén in San Salvador, El Salvador, to Whitefriars Hall effective February 2022, for English Studies at the LADO Institute. Tereso and Jairo professed simple vows upon completing their novitiate in Peru in January 2021, and have been studying theology in El Salvador during this current year. After sufficient English studies, they will be assigned to a pastoral internship.

### **Salvadoran Brothers Approved for Solemn Profession**

The Provincial Council, by a canonical votation, unanimously approved the following three brothers at San Alberto de Jerusalén community in San Salvador, El Salvador, for solemn profession: Santos Antolino Méndez Ramirez, Henry Mauricio Cienfuegos Ostorga, and Daniel Ulises González Cabrera. Antolino, Henry, and Daniel are scheduled to profess solemn vows on January 28, 2022, during the Provincial Council visitation in El Salvador.

## **Review of Carmel Catholic High School Strategic Plan**

The Provincial Council reviewed the Strategic Plan 2021-2026 for Carmel Catholic High School in Mundelein, IL. The plan includes goals for Catholic Identity, Academics, Student Life, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Advancement Revenue and Donor Engagement, Brand and Enrollment, and Infrastructure.

## **Improvements on the Michigan City, IN Cottage**

The Provincial Council approved a bid of \$38,296.00 to maintain the Michigan City, IN, cottage. This includes some remodeling of the kitchen and bathrooms, and a number of miscellaneous improvements. Another bid of \$2,150.00 for tree trimming and tree removal on the property was also approved.

## **Financial Report for First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2022**

Elias O'Brien, Provincial Treasurer, and Brian Gawel, Director of Finance, joined the Provincial Council by telephone to present the Provincial Financial Report for July 1-September 30, 2021. Brian provided an update to the Council on the following matters:

--A review of the unaudited balance sheet as of September 30, 2021, as well as the related income statement for the three month period ending September 30, 2021. There was no unusual activity during the first quarter to note.

--A summary of the investment portfolio was provided to the Council for their information. There was no unusual activity during the first quarter of the 2022 Fiscal Year. The Provincial Office did not need to draw from the investment portfolio for cash flow needs. The investment portfolio had a ½ percent return for the quarter.

--The Fiscal Year 2021 audit is still in progress and the audited financial statements will be available for review at the November Finance Commission meeting.

--An update regarding the search for an accounting firm to assist with the finances of El Salvador was given. Plante & Moran (our audit firm) was able to provide a recommendation of a firm in El Salvador which is part of their global network of firms, and whom they are fully comfortable for our project need. The Provincial Council was in agreement for us to continue our conversations with

Plante & Moran regarding this project, with Brian and Elias coordinating the next steps.

--Whitefriars Hall had been budgeted \$1 million for renovations and updates over the next four years. Once the project started, it became evident that it would be more practical to keep the project moving forward, even though the current year allocation of \$250,000 had been met. This included mold treatment in the first floor classrooms and hallway, replacement flooring in the entire building, tuckpointing of the dining room chimney, resealing of the dining room roof, renewal of the main entrance stairway and landing, repair and relaying of patio floor tiles, replacement of air handler units, replacement of bed frames and mattresses, and acquisition of new furniture for the common rooms. The Council agreed that the Whitefriars Hall project should be re-categorized out of the annual capital budget of the Province and into the category of a Provincial Project. This would free-up capital funds for other capital project needs of the Province during the 2022 Fiscal Year, and allow the Whitefriars Hall project to continue to move forward, still with the approved \$1 million appropriation. It is expected that the project could be concluded by June 30, 2023.

### **PCM Endowed Chair and Center for Carmelite Studies**

Daryl Moresco reported on recent developments at the Center for Carmelite Studies at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. The Second Annual Lecture in Carmelite Studies was presented on October 14, 2021, at Catholic University. The lecture, entitled "Father, Teacher of Prayer, Intercessor in Every Need: St. Joseph's Vital Presence in the Life and Carmelite Reform of St. Teresa of Avila" was presented by Rev. Joseph Chorpenning, OSSF. The Carmelite Center will again be co-sponsoring the Annual Roland Murphy Memorial Lecture in April 2022, with the Biblical Studies division of the School of Theology and Religious Studies. The Center for Carmelite Studies has also budgeted \$20,000.00 for the creation of a website that is currently being developed.

A number of Faculty Scholars have been named for the Center. These include: Cardinal Anders Arborelius, OCD, of Sweden, Fernando Millan, O.Carm., of Spain, Leopold Glueckert, O.Carm., Constance Fitzgerald, OCD, John Sullivan, OCD, Christof Betschart, OCD, Mary Frohlich, RCSJ, Mark O'Keefe, OSB, and Professor Donna Orsuto. A number of Graduate Scholars have also been named and are helping to develop programs and assist in the work of the Center. Simon Nolan, O.Carm., of the Irish Province, has been teaching in the Carmelite History course this semester along with Daryl Moresco, O.Carm., and Leopold Glueckert, O.Carm. Additional adjunct professors will be needed as the program

develops. Finally, work toward the establishment of a “Certificate in Carmelite Studies” at Catholic University is being negotiated between the Center and CUA authorities.

### **St. Elias Community, Joliet, IL Donation to OLMC Community, Joliet**

The Provincial Council reviewed the minutes of the September 30, 2021, Community Meeting of the St. Elias Community in Joliet, IL. The St. Elias Community generously agreed to donate \$25,000.00 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Community in Joliet to help finance needed repairs and remodeling of the Priory at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, which is owned by the Province. The Provincial Council is grateful to the St. Elias community for its generosity.

### **Correspondence from the Prior Provincial of the Pernambuco Province**

The Provincial Council reviewed a letter from Sormani José Barbosa Lima, O.Carm., Prior Provincial of the Brazilian Province of Pernambuco, thanking the PCM Province for a donation of \$6,000.00 for a water supply system and other improvements at the St. Teresa of Avila Carmelite Priory in Icó, Brazil.

### **Water Project at Casa del Carmen, Tlalpan, Mexico City, Mexico**

The Provincial Council approved an expenditure of \$34,000.00 from the Carmelite Mission Fund for a rainwater conservation system for Casa del Carmen in Tlalpan, Mexico City.

### **Lay Carmelites**

The Provincial Council reviewed an October 2021 communication from Cindy Perazzo, T.O.Carm., Provincial Coordinator of the Lay Carmelites, to the Lay Carmelite Community Directors. The Council was brought up to date on the organization of five newly appointed Provincial Visitation Coordinators to conduct a new visitation process with our Lay Carmelite communities.

### **2022 PCM Pre-Chapter Meeting Change**

After extensive discussion, the Provincial Council decided to change the location of one of the 2022 PCM Pre-Chapter Meetings. The first Pre-Chapter Meeting

remains scheduled from May 31-June 3, 2022 at the Redemptorist Renewal Center in Tucson, AZ. The second Pre-Chapter Meeting, however, has been moved from the Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre in Niagara Falls, ON, Canada, to the Carmelite Campus in Darien, IL. The second meeting is still scheduled for the original dates of June 6-9, 2022. Due to the continued effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and border and testing restrictions at the American-Canadian border, the Provincial Council felt that the Darien location would be more convenient for the majority of Carmelites in the United States and Canada.

### **Report on the First Meeting of the 2023 Chapter Preparatory Commission**

Gregory Houck, Co-Chair of the 2023 Chapter Preparatory Commission, gave a brief report to the Provincial Council on the progress of the Commission during its first meeting, October 12-14, 2021, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Priory, Tucson, AZ. Other Preparatory Commission members present for the meeting were Ronald Oakham, Co-Chair, Emanuel Franco, David Ulises García, Christopher Kulig, and Jorge Monterroso. A great deal of brain-storming took place in this initial meeting, as well as a thorough review of the evaluations of the Chapters of 2014 and 2017. The Commission will meet again by Zoom conferencing December 10, 2021.

### **Meeting of the New Jersey Carmelites with the Provincial Council**

The Provincial Council concluded its meetings on the morning of October 22 in Avon, NJ, and then traveled to Cresskill, NJ to attend a luncheon and meeting of all the New Jersey Carmelites at St. Therese Priory. Also present for the gathering was Myron Judy from Philadelphia, PA, and Quinn Connors and the Carmelite novices from Middletown, NY. Samuel Citero, Prior of the New Jersey Carmelites, welcomed the Provincial Council, as well as Bishop Michael A. Saporito, Auxiliary Bishop of Newark and Regional Bishop for Bergen County. After a few remarks from Bishop Saporito, Carl addressed the New Jersey Carmelites, shared with them recent issues in the Province, and answered questions from the brothers.

### **Future 2021 Dates**

November 9-11	Lay Carmelite Commission Meeting, Darien, IL
November 14	All Carmelite Souls Celebration, Darien, IL
November 15-19	International Carmelite Formation Meeting on Generation Z*
December 4	Provincial Council Meeting, Darien, IL*
December 7-9	Six-month Evaluations of Novices, Brandsma Priory, Middletown, NY
December 10	2023 Chapter Preparatory Commission Meeting *
December 20	Annual Meeting of Carmelites from Mexico *

### **Future 2022 Dates**

January 4-7	Annual Meeting of the Peruvian Commissariat
January 6-9	Carmelite Studies Program, Whitefriars Hall, Washington, DC
January 7	Simple Profession of Novices, Lurín, Peru
January 8	Diaconate Ordination for Roberto Mejia, DC
January 14	2023 Chapter Preparatory Commission Meeting *
Jan. 25-Feb. 1	Provincial Council Visitation to El Salvador
January 28	Solemn Professions—El Salvador
January 29	Diaconate and Priestly Ordinations—El Salvador
January 30	First Mass Celebrations—El Salvador
Feb. 20-23	Secondary Schools Commission Meeting, Encino, CA
March 4	2023 Chapter Preparatory Commission Meeting *
March 4-6	Vocation Commission Meeting, Mexico City, Mexico
March 23-24	Provincial Council Meeting, Whitefriars Hall, Washington, DC
March 25	PCM Formation Commission Meeting, WFH--DC
March 26	Interprovincial Formation Commission Meeting, WFH--DC

\*Via Lifesize/Zoom Video Conference

The Provincial Council is very grateful for the use of the Shore House in Avon for our meetings. We want to especially thank Sam Citero for his superb coordination of maintaining the Shore House, and for his hospitality at the Cresskill meeting of the New Jersey Carmelites.

Respectfully Submitted,  
David McEvoy, O.Carm.

**Board of Members**  
**Salpointe Catholic High School, Tucson, Arizona**  
**October 20, 2021**  
**Minutes**

Present: Carl J. Markelz, O.Carm., David McEvoy, O.Carm., Daryl Moresco, O.Carm., Gregory Houck, O.Carm., Luis Jesús “Chuy” Paz Acosta, O.Carm., and Rolf “Nepi” Willemssen, O.Carm.

Carl Markelz gave a presentation to the Board of Members regarding his visit to Tucson, October 6-8, 2021. The Bishop of Tucson, Edward Weisenburger, had requested a meeting with Carl and Kay Sullivan, President of Salpointe. The meeting took place on Friday, October 8, 2021. The issues discussed included:

1. Salpointe’s Relationship with the Diocese of Tucson: Bishop Weisenburger was assured that Salpointe Catholic High School is part of the Diocese of Tucson. Our Carmelite school must cooperate with the Diocese and engage in diocesan meetings and policies. This will happen in a more concerted effort with openness and transparency.
2. Mandatory Reporting Policy: Bishop Weisenburger wants to review the policy of Salpointe Catholic High School regarding the school’s policy of mandatory reporting to state authorities when students report incidents to school counselors or other school personnel. He wishes the Diocese of Tucson to be informed at the same time that these reports are made to the civil authorities. The appropriate legal authorities will be consulted before any decision is made.
3. Salpointe’s Search for a New Principal: Sheri Dahl, superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Tucson, is a member of the search committee which is comprised of 15 people. The Board of Directors organizes the search. They interviewed three candidates to date, but will open up a new search in January 2022, the more traditional time when current school administrators would be looking for a new opportunity.
4. LGBTQ+ Policy: Bishop Weisenburger has put out guidelines for developing policies around LGBTQ+ and Transgender Students. He wants to be extremely pastoral in this approach and would like Salpointe to participate on a committee to work on these details. This is an on-going task and may take some time to be put in place. Salpointe will cooperate and collaborate with the Diocese.

5. Theology Faculty and Curriculum: Salpointe currently uses the USCCB curriculum for theology classes. The Bishop supports this approach. Salpointe will be reviewing their current policy and will change textbooks, teaching methods and personnel, if necessary.

The Board of Members supports the ongoing efforts to collaborate with the Diocese of Tucson.

Respectfully submitted,  
David McEvoy, O.Carm.

**Board of Members  
Mount Carmel High School, Chicago, Illinois  
October 20, 2021  
Minutes**

Present: Carl J. Markelz, O.Carm., David McEvoy, O.Carm., Daryl Moresco, O.Carm., Gregory Houck, O.Carm., Luis Jesús “Chuy” Paz Acosta, O.Carm., and Rolf “Nepi” Willemsen, O.Carm.

The Board of Members reviewed the Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of Mount Carmel High School on September 14, 2021. The Board of Directors reviewed Board membership, Board liaisons, and a review of the Board bylaws.

Scott Tabernacki, Principal, and Brendan Conroy, President, presented five domains of excellent teachers to the Mount Carmel faculty. These include:

- Catholic and Carmelite identity
- Planning and Preparation
- Classroom Environment
- Instruction
- Professional Responsibilities.

Scott will use the domains as an evaluation tool and framework for merit-based increases. The faculty is engaged in on-going discussions of these domains.

Brendan described the Carmelite mission as a “challenger” to the status quo and a “consoler” to the marginalized. Mount Carmel is working on setting goals as a school community to embrace diversity, create equity and build inclusion. The Board discussed a University of Michigan survey as a tool to assess strengths and weaknesses of an institution regarding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

Respectfully submitted,  
David McEvoy, O.Carm.

**Board of Members  
Crespi Carmelite High School, Encino, California  
October 20, 2021  
Minutes**

Present: Carl J. Markelz, O.Carm., David McEvoy, O.Carm., Daryl Moresco, O.Carm., Gregory Houck, O.Carm., Luis Jesús “Chuy” Paz Acosta, O.Carm., and Rolf “Nepi” Willemsen, O.Carm.

Carl Markelz shared with the Board of Members his recent visit to Crespi Carmelite High School in Encino, CA, for the dedication of the Robinson Aquatic Center at the high school on October 3, 2021. Bishop Jerry Wilkerson joined the members of the Board of Directors in the blessing, along with Thomas Batsis, O.Carm., Jeffrey Lima, O.Carm., and Roberto Reyes, O.Carm.

Respectfully submitted,  
David McEvoy, O.Carm.