

CONTEMPLATIVES IN ACTION

Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel United States, Philippines, and timor-leste

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We continue our focus on Teresa of Avila as we prepare for the 5th centenary of her birth. Two articles center on her first major work, <u>The Way of</u> <u>Perfection</u>.

Two of our sisters passed away since our last edition and we are joined by four aspirants in our Timor-Leste foundation.

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Teresa of Avila-The Way of Perfection

The aim of all my advice to you in this book is that we should surrender ourselves wholly to the Creator, place our will in His hands and detach ourselves from the creatures. WP, p. 137

The Way of Perfection is a treatise on prayer written by Teresa of Avila, at the request of her sisters. Having witnessed Teresa at prayer, they wanted to learn from her how to pray. In obedience to their request that she understood as a call, Teresa sets out the essentials of prayer, and the journey from a desire to pray to union with God. Her writing is addressed to sisters living a life dedicated to strict poverty, obedience and chastity—a deep love of God. Her goal is prayer for the Church, its bishops and priests in a time of upheaval: the Protestant Reformation. Though written for contem-



plative nuns, we are all called to holiness; this book is for all of us.

The essentials are three: love of God and neighbor, detachment from self, and humility: knowing who we are and who God is, to whom we pray. Silence of the heart and obedience of the will are important. Determination to give oneself to the discipline of prayer is the start of a journey. In this treatise, Teresa moves us along the journey from vocal and mental prayer, to the prayer of recollection, the prayer of quiet and into union with God. To some, this is daunting. To Teresa, it was simply being present to and conversing with the one we love, and who loves us. God does the rest.

To move with Teresa is to understand the woman. In her youth and young adult life, Teresa was a vivacious woman, a lover of life. She writes with this same enthusiasm. Amidst deep insights into prayer, she expresses

Message from the Administration

Saint Teresa of Avila Calls Us To Find God Within Our Own Hearts

"We need not wings to go in search of God, but only to find a place where we can be alone and look upon Him present within us." -Teresa of Avila, The Way of Perfection

We are called to meet the needs of our time in society and within our Church. One of our greatest needs today is to assist persons in their search for God who is present within each of us.

When we find God within our own hearts, we find love and can delight in the face of God we then see in each person we meet. We recognize the desire in a person to bring God's goodness to reality in a world struggling to find peace and joy.

Our daily question is: How am I going to encourage others to look within, in order to reach out to bring God's love into spaces filled with distractions, business, disrespect and at times, violence?

We find Christ in healing. In the awareness of our own weaknesses we can then ask God to



give us the graces we need to see holiness in self and in others. We find Christ in the embrace of others, in our realization that the very life of each person is a gift: gift to us, gift to our world; gift to bring about a deeper awareness of God's love. When we recognize holiness in a person, we know we have reached into the

When we recognize holiness in a person, we know we have reached into the depths of our own hearts and have met our God within.

Sister Mary Ellen Wheelahan serves as Safe Environment Coordinator for the Archdiocese of New Orleans, is on the Congregation Executive Council, and is coordinator for the Avila Community, Motherhouse.

Teresa of Avila-The Way of Perfection continued from cover

this in witty remarks, and examples that bring to light what she is intending. She cannot be tied down; she breaks into spontaneous prayer that is itself a teaching. If prayer, for Teresa, is conversation with God who loves us, her book is a conversation with her sisters whom she loves and with whom she wants to share this loving experience of God. This is no academic, well-organized

treatise on prayer; to grasp her message is to sit with her and let her speak to you with all the enthusiasm and joy that flows from one who is deeply in love. You must "go with the flow." Sometimes, sentences speak volumes. It is often these deep tidbits that enable us to identify with the longing for God that is within ourselves. In "surrendering to the Creator," we find our true selves. Sit back and join the conversation!



Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse, O. Carm. assists in the Congregation Development Office and is assistant to the Motherhouse Administrator.

"I Want to Run Through The Halls of My High School"

In John Mayer's song, "No Such Thing," there is a line that says, "I want to run through the halls of my high school." While I'm not really sure what the message Mayer is sending in this song, whenever I hear it on the radio, I usually smile and chuckle a bit. You see I do get to daily "run through the halls of my high school" and I think it's awesome! I am a 1973 graduate of Mount Carmel Academy. After graduating college I was hired by Sister Mary Grace as a social studies and religion teacher. I am grateful every day for that opportunity and to be a part of such a wonderful community. I am thankful to the Sisters for the gift they have given to me and all the young women who have walked these halls.

Another line of the John Mayer song says, "I just found out that there's no such thing as the real world." While I know Mount Carmel prepared me for what was ahead after high school, I always felt (and still feel)

that it's not the "real" world. The Sisters have created for us a safe and spiritual environment. Through my years at Mount Carmel my spirituality has grown in leaps and bounds! We were taught how to pray and how to establish a real friendship with Jesus. True to the Carmelite charism, we were taught to desire God and that God desires us. Through our study of Carmelite history, I fell in love with Thérèse of Lisieux and Teresa of Avila. I learned to live by the words of Teresa of Avila, "He who finds God finds he lacks nothing." Today, prayer is still the center of our world at Mount Carmel. The girls are open to God's love and develop a deep desire to search him out in all aspects of their life.

As I reflect on my days at Mount Carmel, I feel such joy. Many of my fondest memories revolve around the Sisters. Our visits to Lacombe for retreat (and of course, an opportunity to go roller skating), trying to learn to sew with

Sister Marian (and later as a young adult, in the convent sewing with Sister Blaise), saving our extra lunch food for Sister Patricia's cat, SuSu, and then going over to the Motherhouse to eat the scraps from the hosts that the sisters were cutting out for local churches. Again, looking back on these simple memories, I realize "not the real world"! Mount Carmel was family.

From the time I was born I would listen to my grandmother talk about the Sisters of Mount Carmel. My grandmother attended school in the Mount Carmel convent in Plattenville, Louisiana. When it was time for me to attend high school, she was so proud I chose Mount Carmel. As a young bride, I decided to get married in the chapel in the Motherhouse. I couldn't imagine celebrating my marriage anywhere else. The Sisters were all there to give me their blessings. What beautiful pictures I have from that day! I also was able to baptize my oldest child there. She went on to become a Carmel girl, too. Katy graduated in 2000 and coincidentally, we both are Pink Panthers. When I asked Katy about her experience, she replied, "It has been almost fourteen years since I have graduated, and it is evident how much Mount Carmel helped shape the person I have become. My spirituality, my personality, my relationships...all formed during those four years of high school."

Having the privilege of returning as a teacher has been an opportunity for which I will forever be grateful. Sister Camille Anne is an amazing mentor and I have grown so much professionally and spiritually under her tutelage. The Sisters of Mount Carmel have indeed been such a blessing in my life. Today, there are no other halls I would run through!

Katy Bowman Jambon, '00 and Cindy Williams Bowman, '73



History Highlights

Our history highlights cover a period of growth, peace and the prelude to war. At the request of Archbishop Antoine Blanc, the sisters left Plattenville, LA in 1838 and resettled in New Orleans in St. Augustine Parish. During these years, towns in southwest Louisiana were growing and settlers were in need of Catholic instruction and education for their children. Fr. Antoine Desiré Megret, a friend of the community from its early days in France, invited the sisters to establish a foundation in 1846 in what was then called Vermillionville. The years 1846 to 1855 would be referred to as the 'Lafayette Years.'

In 1855, the sisters were again on the move. They were invited to Thibodaux, a developing community near their first foundation in Plattenville. The pastor, Fr. Charles Menard, was intent on establishing a Catholic school in the developing area around Bayou Lafourche. Algiers, located on the west bank of the Mississippi River across from New Orleans, was expanding in the 1840's. The Catholic population crossed the river to attend services at St. Louis Cathedral until St. Bartholomew Parish Church was blessed in 1848. In 1857 the pastor, Fr. Paul Guerard, invited the sisters to staff the school. Although the sisters remained in Algiers until 1888, very little information is available about the foundation.

By 1859, the community of 23 professed sisters staffed five schools in Louisiana. In June of 1860, they would lose a dear friend and supporter, Archbishop Antoine Blanc.

- Sister Alice Abate, O. Carm.

Sister Angelica "Angie" Donado Returns to God

Sister Angelica "Angie" Donado, O. Carm., born Vilma M. Donado, a Sister of Mount Carmel, died February 16 in Manila, Philippines. She was 76 years old, and in the 50th year of her religious profession.

Sister was born on November 16, 1937 in Cavite City, Philippines to Manuel Mata Donado and Victoria M. Maristela. She entered the Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on February 4, 1962 and received the habit of the Sisters of Mount Carmel on August 6, 1962. On Aug. 5, 1964, she made her first profession, and pronounced perpetual vows in August 1969 in Dumaguete City, Philippines.

Sister Angie attended Cavite High School, Cavite City, Philippines, received a Bachelor of Science in Education from St. Thomas University, Manila, Philippines and

a Master of Arts in Literature from San Carlos University, Cebu City, Philippines. Sister taught at Mount Carmel Elementary, Abbeville, LA and Dumaguete Cathedral College, Dumaguete City, Philippines. She served the Philippine Region as Formation/Vocation Directress while serving in parish social services. In the late '70's Sister was chaplain at Makati Medical Center and Chinese General Hospital, Quezon City. She served on the Philippine Regional Council from 1985-1992. From 1981-2000 she served as pastoral worker at Immaculate Conception Parish in Marawi Prelature, Mindanao, Philippines. In 2000 Sister Angie was awarded a certificate of appreciation for her work in recognition of her humanitarian mission through disaster response to the displaced civilians in Mindanao. She spent sabbatical time at Blessing Place, Lacombe, LA in 2007-2008 she served as assistant to the Formation Director. Prior to her death she was the resource person on healing and health ministry and lived in Fairview, Quezon City, Philippines.

Sister Angie was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Lina Donado Estrella. She is the eldest of three children and is survived by her sister, Ema Donado Reyes Novaliches of Quezon City, Philippines. She was buried at Serenity Park, Novaliches, Quezon City, Philippines.



Sister Mary Hilary Hernandez Returns to God



Sister Mary Hilary Hernandez, O. Carm., a Sister of Mount Carmel, principal and teacher, died March 17, 2014 at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Lafayette, LA. She was 89 years old, and in the 72nd year of her religious profession.

Sister Hilary, Rose Mary Hernandez, was born on Sept. 15, 1924 in White Castle, LA to Robert Hernandez of White Castle, LA and Marie Foret of Plattenville, LA. She entered the Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on Jan. 30, 1940 and received the habit of the Sisters of Mount Carmel Aug. 5, 1940. On Aug. 3, 1942, she made her first profession, and pronounced perpetual vows Aug. 2, 1946. She celebrated her 70th jubilee in 2012.

Sister Hilary graduated from St. Gabriel Elementary in St. Gabriel, LA in 1939 and from Mount Carmel Academy in New Orleans, LA in 1942. At Mount Carmel and Loyola University in New

Orleans, LA she majored in Specialized Elementary Education and received her bachelor's degree, followed by her teaching certification, in 1963. Devoting almost 29 years to education, beginning in 1942, she taught at Mount Carmel schools in Abbeville, Carencro, Lafayette, LA and at St. Dominic in New Orleans, LA, St. Joseph the Worker in Marrero, LA, where she served as principal and at St. Joseph in Rayne, LA. She also served as principal at Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Westwego, LA. She served one year as a missionary with the Sisters of Mount Carmel in the Philippines. She also served the congregation as Novitiate Superior, Motherhouse superior, treasurer and dietary supervisor as well as maintenance manager in Lacombe, LA. From 1983 to 2001 Sister Hilary worked in parish ministry in St. Dominic Parish, New Orleans, LA until her retirement to the Motherhouse. Since Katrina Sister Hilary has resided at St. Leo Convent, Lafayette, LA. Sister Hilary received the Associated Catholic Charities Outstanding Religious Award for service to senior citizens and the St. Dominic Seminar Citizens Award. In 1991 the St. Dominic Kaycee Auxiliary and K.C. Council 3729 tapped her as "Sister of the Year."

Sister Hilary was preceded in death by her parents, four brothers, Nolan, Robert, Jr., James and Charles Hernandez. She is survived by one brother, John H. Hernandez (wife Polly) of Baton Rouge, LA and one sister, Lily Mae (Mrs. Ronald) Mandel of Sun City West, AR.



Above: Mount Carmel Elementary staff members, (from left) Lim Luquette, MCE Teacher of the Year and Catherine Trahan Miller, MCE Supporter of the Year, pictured with Sister Janet LeBlanc, O. Carm., center, President/Principal of MCE, received their awards from Bishop Michael Jarrell on March 16 at St. John's Cathedral, Lafayette.

News of Note



Right: Students participating in the 5K **Beignet Boogie Race** held at Mount Carmel Elementary on January 26 to kick off Catholic Schools Week.

Abate Family by Mrs. Miriam Abate Abshire, Mary Ann P. by Mr. Joseph Vallee Abshire, Mr. Andrew Jude by Mr. and Mrs. Mac Bryson, Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc, Mrs. Jerrie LeBlanc Ackal, Barbara Myers by Mr. and Mrs. Norris Rader Allen, Mr. Earl by Ms. Susan Robinson Angelle, Irene by Mr. and Mrs. Norris Rader Ardoin, Mr. and Mrs. M.J. "Doc" by Mrs. Marlene Wall Arcement, Mr. Alton by Ms. Meta Boudreaux, T.O.C. Arceneaux Family by Mr. and Mrs. James Brasseaux Arnaud, Mrs. Leola by Marshall and Carol Arceneaux Arnold, Mr. William by Mr. Frederick Brown Arsement, J. C. by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen Aucoin, Murphy by Ms. Judy Carrier Bairnsfather, Mrs. Marion by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Delord Bajat, Jordyn Estelle by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Begley Balius, Mr. Frederick by Mrs. Virginia Donner Barras, Rudy by Mrs. Debra Miller Baudot, Mr. C. W. by Dr. and Mrs. Raul Ramirez Beach, Pat by Mrs. Mae Helen Ackal Beadle, John by Ms. Elizabeth Maraist Beasley Family by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mouton Becker, O. S. U., Sister Gertrude by Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse, O. Carm. Bellard, Mrs. Laura by Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc Bender, Mrs. Jeanette by Mrs. Virgie Bender Berger, Mr. and Mrs. Elmo A. by Mr. Chris Berger Bergeron, Irvin A. by Danna, Vito, Ouinn, and Haley Asaro Bernard, Mrs. Nelda by Mrs. Gert Maraist Bernhardt, Dr. Bob by Ms. Jeanne deValcourt Berret, Doris and Harold by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Delord Besse, Mrs. Lorena by Ms. Dolores H. DeRouen Betar, Mr. Bobby by Ms. Nelwyn Hebert Bewley, Lonnie Leo by Mrs. Danielle M. Smith Bienvenu, Earline L by Mr. and Mrs. George Guidry Billiot Creppel, Mr. and Mrs. August and Sidonia by Mrs. Betty Matherne Billiot, Mr. Victor by Ms. Meta Boudreaux, T.O.C. Blanchard, Mr. and Mrs. Abby by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Sternfels Blanchard, Mrs. Viola Guidry by Mr. and Mrs. Willie Leger Boesch, Sr., Mr. Louis W. by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cassreino Boiteaux, Mrs. Beryl by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Delord Boll, Mr. Rudy by Mr. and Mrs. Pete Pharr, Ms. Fay Ferry Bollich, Margaret by Cathedral Carmel Courtesy Committee, Ms. Stella Doucet Bonin, Mrs. Armine by Suzette Armentor Bordelon, Malcolm by Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Gremillion, Mr. and Mrs. Don Wall Bordes, Mrs. Sonia by Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Fitzsimmons, Mrs. Ann Mollere Woodruff Borel, Mrs. Edmonia D. by Mr. and Mrs. George Guidry, Mr. and Mrs. Eloy Placer Boudreaux Family by Mrs. Atrelle Champagne Boudreaux, Mrs. Blanche Martin by Mrs. Louise Ziebell Boudreaux, Mrs. Roberta F. by Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse, O. Carm., Mr. and Mrs. Peter Strawitz, Mrs. JoyLove Toups Bouharb, Samira by Faculty and Staff Cathedral-Carmel School Bourgeois, Jr., Mr. Milton by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Strawitz

Bourgeois, Mary Ann by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ledet Boyle, Mr. John by Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hampton Brasseaux Family by Mr. and Mrs. James Brasseaux Breaux, Bernard by Ms. Lora Deligans Brignac, Mrs. Roxanne by Mrs. Lorraine Rock Broussard, Deceased family members by Mr. Richard A. Broussard Broussard, Donald by Ms. Donna Lassalle Broussard, Jack by Mr. and Mrs. Norris Rader Broussard, Mr. and Mrs. Adam E. and family by Mr. and Mrs. Irving Broussard Broussard, Mr. Rodney J. by Tommy and Joan Meagher Broussard, Mrs. Claire Klein by Anna Bonin, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Delcambre, Ms. Suzy and Mr. Mike Kimball Broussard, Mrs. Florence H. by Jay and Diane Frederick, Ms. Alberta Winch Broussard, Mrs. Mary Aminthye by Louise Cousin, Ms. Patti Kuebler, Ms. Olga Louviere, Ms. Therese Segura Broussard, O. Carm., Sister Marie Therese by Mr. Gary Phillips Broussard, Sidney by Mr. and Mrs. Nason Leger Brower, Mrs. Edna Ackal by Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Lancon, Bob and Claudia Morgan, Bryant, Mrs. Dorothy by Mrs. Daralee Musso Buford, Therese by Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Armentor Butaux, Ms. Georgia by Mrs. Elder V. Hebert Cagnina, Mr. Joseph by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schutte Calogne, William by Mrs. Lorraine T. Rock Candilora, Jr., Mr. Ernest J. by Danna Asaro, Lisa Pisa, Juli Matthews Carpenter, Bonnie Bagert by Mrs. Eileen Jeanfreau Bruno Carson, Earl by Mr. and Mrs. Vito Asaro, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gravolet, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cassreino Carrette, Mrs. Laura T. by Mr. and Mrs. Cordell Dartez, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Griffin, Ms. Alberta Winch Castay, Mr. Sheldon by Mrs. Catherine Parmley Cavalier Family by Deb and Jan Cavalier Cavalier, Ruth and Quentin by Deb and Jan Cavalier Cestia, Ms. Mary Faye by Mrs. Suzette Armentor, Ms. Nelwyn Hebert, Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse O. Carm., Mr. and Mrs. Norris Rader, Mrs. Mary Lou Bodden, Mrs. Susan Lissard Chaisson, Mrs. Nola by Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Comeaux, Ms. Naomi Comeaux, Ms. Betty Perrodin Chambers, Glen by Mrs. Susan Lissard Champagne Family by Mrs. Atrelle Champagne

These listings include donations received from November 1-February 28. Memorial donations or donations in one's honor assist the sisters in their ministries. For more information contact:

> Sisters of Mount Carmel Office of Development P.O. Box 1160 Lacombe, Louisiana 70445-1160 (985) 882-7577 or (504) 524-2398 e-mail: development@sistersofmountcarmel.org

In Memory Of

- **Champagne, Mrs. Carole T.** by Cordell and Linda Dartez, Dr. Joseph Kite, Ms. Alberta Winch
- Chaplain, O. Carm., Sister Helen by Mrs. Josephine Wagner and Ms. Louise Levin
- Chauvin, Mrs. Therase Percle by Ms. Judy Danos
- Chiasson, Sr., Mr. Earl J. by Mrs. Nellie Chiasson
- Choate, Avery by Wilda and Gleada Broussard, Mark Broussard
- Clark, Deacon Mike by Mrs. Gloria Clark
- Clark, William and Mimi by Mrs. Karen C. Trahan
- Claudet, Mrs. Bessie by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Strawitz, Mrs. Janis Lasseigne
- Clesi, Mrs. Joyce Plummer by Mr. and Mrs. Vito Asaro
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- Cobena, Eula Andrus by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen
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- Conran, Linda and Dolores by Ms. Carol Conran
- **Cook, Mrs. Josie P.** by Donna, Larry and JP Boullion, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Clyde Comeaux, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Deady, Mr. and Mrs. Craig Durio, Sister Kathleen Farrelly, O. Carm., Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc, Mr. and Mrs. Nason Leger, Sister Laura Melancon, O. Carm.
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- Crozat Family by Mrs. Miriam Abate
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- Delhomme, Mrs. Billie by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hoppe
- Delord, Lois and Raymond by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Delord
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- Dombrowski, Mr. Norbert by Sisters of Mount Carmel

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- Dutel, Oneida L. by Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Robicheaux

Eastin, Mrs. Dolores B. by Mr. Ray Eastin
Eberhardt, Mrs. Elaine by Mrs. Barbara Johnson Perry
Ehret, Mrs. Mary Monale by Cathedral Carmel School, Nancy and Joe Autin, Mrs. Mary Ruth Keeley, Sisters of Mount Carmel
Eleazar, Mr. Henry "Hank" by Mr. Joseph Vallee
Eleazar, Zoie LeBlanc by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Conner
Eustance, Mrs. Mary Anne by Mrs. Therese LaBorde

Falcon Family by Deb and Jan Cavalier

- Farnet, Jacqueline Even by Mr. and Mrs. Chris Clement, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lakey
- Faulk, Nettie Chiasson by Ms. Lois Bennett, Ms. Florence Carr, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Clyde Comeaux, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Ms. Peggy Gossen, Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc, Ms. Betty Perrodin, Mr. and Mrs. Craig Durio, Mrs. Jeanette Simoneaux
- Fauteux, Pauline by Sr. Germaine Lauzon, O. Carm.
- Fewell, Mr. Charles G. by Mrs. Mary Ann Fewell
- Fink, Mr. Robert L. by Mary Kay Molbert-Gifted Nurses
- Folse, Jr., Mr. Wofford by Ms. Robbie Dale Folse David
- Fontenot, Mr. Rodney J. by Mr. and Mrs. Craig Durio
- Fortier, Juanita by Sister Laura Melancon, O. Carm.
- Friedrich, Mona Anke by Keith and Jessie Broussard and Family
- Gallagher, Jr., Mr. Charles Raymond by Ms. Peggy Gossen
- Gallagher, O. Carm., Sister Gail by Mr. and Mrs. William H. Martin
- Gallagher, Mr. Ray by Ms. Lois Bennett
- Gallen, Reverend John by Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse, O. Carm. Gallet Families by Mr. and Mrs. James Gallet
- Garzotto, II, Ivan L. "Joey" by Mrs. Barbara Garzotto
- Gaspard, Mrs. Shirley by Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Trahan
- Gaston, Percy and Lottie by Mr. and Mrs. Emile Guidry, Jr.
- Gauthier, Sr., Mr. Lester "L.J." by Edna Mae Landry, Ms. Alberta Winch, Ms. Alga Landry
- Gauthreaux, Mrs. Pauline by Mrs. Rosalie Marcello Gayle, Mr. Billy by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Blackmon
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In Memory Of

- Gertrude, O. Carm., Sister Mary by Mrs. Evelyn Coleman Brown Girouard, Joseph E. by Janelle Landry Godeaux, Mr. Willie by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schneider Gonzalez, Mrs. Norma by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Autin Goss, Wanda by Ms. Lora Deligans Gossen, Fay Fruge by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen Gothreaux Rene by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mouton Gotreaux, Mrs. Shirley by Ms. Jeanne deValcourt Graugnard, Jr., Mr. James D. by Mr. and Mrs. David Graugnard Gros, Ms. Theresa by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hernandez, Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc, Mr. and Mrs. Nason Leger, Ms. Betty Perrodin Guichard, Mrs. Zorka Tadin by Mr. Lawrence Guichard Guidry, Bernice "Bee" by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Clyde Comeaux Guidry, Emile and Pauline by Mr. and Mrs. Emile Guidry, Jr. Guiffre, Mrs. Mercedes by Dr. and Mrs. Raul Ramirez Guilbeaux, Prentice J. by Wilda and Gleada Broussard Habetz, Bernadine by Mr. Bernard Habetz, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Habetz Habetz, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. by Mr. Bernard Habetz Habetz, Mrs. Bernard by Mr. Bernard Habetz Hammon, Mrs. Yvonne by Mrs. Rita Toups Harrington, Francis by Sister Paula Marie Derise, O. Carm., Mrs. Therese LaBorde Harrington, Gayle by Faculty and Staff Cathedral-Carmel School Hartzog, Mrs. Nellie by Mr. and Mrs. Philip Mouledous Haure, Mr. Curney J. by Mrs. Lois Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Comeaux, Ms. Peggy Gossen Haure, Mr. James C. by Mr. and Mrs. Mac Bryson, Mrs. Jeanette Simoneaux Hawkins, Ms. Tricia P. by Mrs. Vilma Norton, Mr. and Mrs. Eloy Placer Hawkins, Tricia by Faculty and Staff Cathedral-Carmel School Heathcote, Mr. Thomas by Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Deady Hebert Families by Mr. and Mrs. James Gallet Hebert, Bettye by Mrs. Bennett Augustine, Mr. Dudley Stelly Hebert, Brady by Mr. and Mrs. Norris Rader Hebert, Deceased family members by Mr. Richard A. Broussard Hebert, Mr. Antoine by Ms. Alberta Winch Hebert. Mr. and Mrs. Francis by Mrs. Janet Stevens Hebert, Mr. Billy by Ms. Nelwyn Hebert Hebert, Mr. Herman by Mrs. Beth Boyd Hebert, Mr. Olton by Mrs. Olton Hebert Hebert, Mr. Patrick R. by Mr. Joseph Vallee Hebert, Mr. William Eugene by Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse, O. Carm. Hebert, Mrs. Velma Use by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Broggi Hebert, Ms. Marcy Bourque by Keith and Jessie Broussard and Family, Mr. and Mrs. Boniface Suire Heinen, Mrs. Jeanette by Mr. and Mrs. Wilton Gary, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schneider Heingarten, Mrs. Bobbie Ducrest by Mount Carmel Class of 1960, Lafayette Held, Jr., Mr. Lloyd A. by Mrs. Rose Esler Helm Family, James, Sarah, Jack and Jim by Ms. Sally Helm Evans
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- Hensgens, Lawrence by Mr. and Mrs. Norris Rader
- Hensgens, Mr. Raymond by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schneider

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- Hidalgo, Mrs. Florida L. by Mr. and Mrs. Errol Delahoussaye
- Hitter, Ms. Olivier May by Mrs. Betty Hitter Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Porter

Hoyt, Mrs. Barbara Olivier by Mrs. Kay Gueringer Woolfolk

- Huddleston, Judge Margaret by Ms. Patti Kuebler
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Indest, Sr., Mr. Roy by Mrs. Mary Indest Resweber

- Jefferson, Mr. Charles by Mrs. Gene Jefferson
- Johnson, Cynthia by Mrs. Bennett Augustine
- Johnson, Mr. Bill by Ms. Marion Lochridge

Johnston, Mr. Eric Hagen by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Clyde Comeaux, Mr. and Mrs. Nason Leger

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- LeBlanc, Mr. Gerard by Sisters of Mount Carmel, Ms. Sonya Trebucq

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Mouton, Mr. Joseph Calvin by Mrs. Debra Gay Mouton, Mr. Michael O'Neil by Mrs. Georgie Mouton Mouton, Ronnie by Ms. Nell Dean Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Shea Mouton, Whitney deceased family members by Ms. Ruth Buniva Naquin, Rose Mary by Immaculate Conception, T.O.C. Neef, Sr., James R. by Mrs. Gloria L. Wiggins Neuner, Sr., Frank X. by Mrs. Gesina Arnold, Ms. Tammy Derouen Newman, Mrs. Gladys by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc Nix, Donald by Mr. and Mrs. Orlando Matus Ohlenforst, Mr. John F. by Mrs. Philomena L. Ohlenforst and Family Oncale, Mrs. Earline by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ledet Oschwald, Mr. Ray Joseph by Mr. and Mrs. Todd Lemoine Oubre, Ms. Susie by Sandra Oubre Parks, Brian by Ms. Judy Danos Passantino, Mr. & Mrs. Tom by Mr. and Mrs. Dale Hotard Patout, Rae M. by Ms. Jeanne deValcourt Pe, Lorraine by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Broggi Perrero, Dennis and Dewayne by Mr. and Mrs. Norris Rader Piazza, Deceased family members by Mr. Richard A. Broussard Pitard, Adele by Mr. and Mrs. Orlando Matus Planchard, Mr. Don by Mrs. Yolande Dutel Plattsmier, Jr., Mrs. W. J. by Mr. Winn Plattsmier Plattsmier, Mrs. Edna by Mr. Winn Plattsmier Pollet, Mr. Leonard by Ms. Geraldine Gayral Porretto, Mr. Frank by Mrs. Cathy Mayeux Pou, Jeanette Ruli by Mr. and Mrs. Rick DeVun Prescott, Mrs. Carrie by Mrs. Gesina Arnold Privat, Eddie by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen Probst, Sr., George David by Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Greco, Mr. and Mrs. Wavne Naguin Pulizzano, Mrs. Sylvia Silvestri by Gifted Nurses Pujals, Deacon Pedro by Sisters of Mount Carmel, Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse, O. Carm. Quebodeaux, Mr. James by Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Trahan Rawls, Willa Mae by Mrs. Mary Ruth Keeley, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schneider Reyes, Mr. and Mrs. Jesus by Mrs. Jessica Mirasol Rice. Charles and Dorothy by Mrs. Susan Rice Chustz Richard, Jr., Mr. Bradley by Mr. and Mrs. James Morvant Richard, Mr. Norbert G. by Mr. Chris Berger, Boyd and Lou Ann Hebert, Mr. and Mrs. Denis Granier, Sisters of Mount Carmel Riehlmann, Mrs. Dorothy by Howard and Carol Crock Rito, Mr. Frank E. by Mrs. Gerry Rito Robichaux, Mr. Carlyle by Mr. and Mrs. Larry Viator Robicheaux, Sybil by Mr. and Mrs. Shelby Nicholas Robin, Mavis by Dr. Joseph Kite Rock Family by Mrs. Lorraine T. Rock Rodrigue, George by Mrs. Catherine Huckaby Rogers, Cindy by Cathedral Carmel Faculty and Staff

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Rome, Mr. Steven by Mrs. Lorraine Rock

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Zaunbrecher, Rose Marie by Ms. Angelina Gonthier, Mrs. Philomena Ohlenforst, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schneider Zimmerle, Mr. Morgan Matthew by Mr. and Mrs. Howard Crock

In Honor Of

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Faile, Sue by Mrs. Millord (Run) Kalimann
Faulk, Seminarian Joel by Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Landry
Favaloro, Mr. George by Cathedral Carmel School
Feerick, Miles by Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Feerick
Fitzgerald, S.J., Reverend Raymond by Sisters of Mount Carmel

Fitzpatrick, O. Carm., Sister Elizabeth by Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse, O. Carm.

Gautreaux, Laura by Cathedral Carmel School Gautreaux, Ms. Annie by Immaculate Conception, T.O.C. Gawert, Mrs. Christa by Ms. Laura M. Meaux Gilbert, Margaret by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schneider Gonzales, Mr. Lester by Sisters of Mount Carmel Granger, Mrs. Fran by Mrs. Charlotte Giordano Gros, Mrs. Myrna by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Broggi Guilbeau, Harold by Mr. and Mrs. W. C. "Pete" Lavergne

Habetz, O. Carm., Sister Lawrence by Court St. Leo CDA #2168
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Hannie, Evelyn by Mr. John Tanory
Harkins, Greg and Jason by Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Feerick
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Hensgens, Michael and Cathy by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schneider

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Labat, Marcelle by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Broggi
LaBauve, Mr. John by Sister Lawrence Habetz, O. Carm.
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Latiolois, Dot by Sister Laura Melancon, O. Carm.
LeBlanc, Brittany by Ms. Joan Ellender
Lissard, E. Family by Mrs. Susan Lissard
Lopez, Emelie by Sister Laura Melancon, O. Carm.
Luft, Mrs. Myra by Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse, O. Carm., Sister Denis Rodrigue, O. Carm.

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McBride, Mr. Bryan by Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Landry
McDonald, Mrs. Sybil by Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse, O. Carm.
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Mechler, Kathleen and James by Mr. and Mrs. James Mechler
Mendoza, Mr. Brad by Sister Kathleen Farrelly, O. Carm.
Mirasol, Edward by Mrs. Jessica Mirasol
Mire, Mary Lou by Ms. Ann Mire
Mula, J.Y. and Elaine by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Delord
Muse, Mr. Hersey by Lora Deligans

Neupert, Adele by Sister Kathleen Farrelly, O. Carm.

O'Connell, Nora by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Broggi

In Honor Of

News of Note

Paskewich, Mrs. Maude by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Griffin
Penouilh, O. Carm., Sister Rose Marie by Mrs. Renee Trahan Richard

Privat, Mr. Kenneth by Ms. Barbara Cramer DuBose

Rader, George J. by Mrs. Rose Mary Walker
Robichaux, Glenn by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Broggi
Rodrigue, O. Carm., Sister Denis by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Cavell
Rodrique, George by Mr. and Mrs. Victor Huckaby
Rogers, Cindy by Cathedral Carmel School

Sabiston, Ms. Norma Jane by Ms. P.K. Scheerle Safford, O. Carm., Sister Margaret by Ms. Alice Robertson Schaff, Ursula by Sister Andrée Marie Bindewald, O. Carm. Schexnayder, Mr. Claude by Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse,

O. Carm., Sister Denis Rodrigue, O. Carm.
Segrest, Mr. James by Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Landry
Silvio, C.S.J., Sister Lucy by Sister Laura Melancon, O. Carm.
Simon, Jane by Mr. and Mrs. Rex Simon
Simon, Mrs. Rex O. "Jane" by Mrs. P. Simon
Sister Catherine of the Holy Family by Daughters of Charity
Sisters of Mount Carmel, by Mrs. Barbara Alexander, Ms. Ruth Buniva, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Bonin
Smith, Amy by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schneider
Sonnier, Ms. Sydney N. by Mr. Joseph Vallee
Stelly, Carroll by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schneider

Sterrett, Mrs. Karen by Ms. Johnnie Verrette Surratt, Josette by Sister Laura Melancon, O. Carm.

Tanory, Jasmine by Mr. John Tanory
Tarantino, Mr. Walter by Byron Dodd Family
Trahan, Mary by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schneider
Trahan, Ms. Hilda by Mr. and Mrs. Rex Simon
Tranchino, Agnes and Anthony by Mrs. Virgie Bender
Truxillo, O. Carm., Sister Francesca by Sisters of Mount Carmel

Vial, Robert, Nancy, Ronald, Robby and families by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vial Viator, Mr. Tommy by Mr. and Mrs. Errol Delahoussaye

Villani, Mr. Anthony (Robbie) by Ms. Johnnie Verrette

Ward, O.S.B., Father Dan by Sisters of Mount Carmel Wilkinson, Ms. Ann by Ms. Judith Sheon Williams, Very Reverend Patrick by Sisters of Mount Carmel

Zeringue, Mrs. Sylvia by Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse, O. Carm., Sister Denis Rodrigue, O. Carm.

For your convenience in submitting your prayer requests and donations please visit our website <u>www.sistersofmountcarmel.org</u> and click "Donate" on the navigation panel.



St. Anastasia Church in Teaneck, New Jersey–**Sister Jane Remson, O. Carm.** gave a talk on the role of the Carmelite NGO to members of the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation team of the Pure Heart of Mary Province. Also attending were members from five Carmelite parishes from the area surrounding St. Anastasia Parish. After her presentation all joined for dinner. (Photo by Sister Helen Ojario, O. Carm.)



Father Eduardo Agosta Scarel, O. Carm. visited the Sisters of Mount Carmel January 23-30. He is from Argentina, a member of the Carmelite NGO team, and an expert on climate. He explained the reasons for our severe cold and the severe drought in California. Father's address at Loyola University was cancelled when the university closed due to freezing weather. His presentations are available at *www.lim.loyno.edu/media-archive*. (Photo by Sister Maria Sheila Undang, O. Carm.)

News of Note



Left: The Carmelite Spirituality Center in Lacombe, LA was the site of our February 1 Assembly on Servant Leadership. Sharing her insights into models of leadership was our Congregation friend, **Dr. Nancy Autin**. Nancy holds a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of New Orleans. Pictured right: **Sister Terry Falco, RSM**, a staff member of the Center and **Brother Louis Couvillon, S.C.**, an ordained Brother of the Sacred Heart, also a close friend of the Congregation, led us in liturgy. (Photos by Sister Maria Sheila Undang, O. Carm.)



Sister Libby Dahlstrom, O. Carm., Associate Provincial Delegate to Lay Carmelites, far right, presides at the reception and profession of the Lay Carmelite Community at Our Lady, Queen of the Family, Abita Springs, LA in March. (Photo courtesy of Lay Carmelites)

The 33rd Annual Walk for the Hungry sponsored by Bread for the World, New Orleans was held on March 15. Evy Edwards, Sisters Maria Sheila Undang and Beth Fitzpatrick joined the hundreds gathered at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church yard for the 4.4 mile walk. Sisters Jane Remson and Blaise Fernando, O. Carm., Director and Assistant Director of New Orleans Bread for the World, organized the walk. (Photo by James M. Jowly)

To keep abreast of the Sisters' ministries, visit our website www.sistersofmountcarmel.org



Sisters Maria Sheila Undang, Alice Abate and Margaret Williams, O. Carm. addressed the ninth grade students at Mount Carmel Academy Career Day March 26. Sisters Maria Sheila and Margaret told their vocation stories. (Photo by Sister Lawrence Habetz, O. Carm.)



Timor-Leste Ministry Update





Left: Sisters Mailyn Batocabe and Remedios Natonton, O. Carm. sponsored the first Christmas party the children had experienced.

Above: Children playing sack race during the Christmas party.



Sisters Mailyn and **Remedios** started catechism classes on Sundays for the children in Nossa Senhora do Carmo Parish, which includes four neighboring villages. Most of the children have no slippers for their feet. They use the benches made by the villagers to write on, as there are no funds available to buy tables.

Four young Timor-Leste women have joined our congregation as aspirants. They started the aspirancy program on January 30, 2014, discerning religious life. They live in the convent with **Sisters Mailyn** and **Remedios**.

(Photos courtesy of Sister Mailyn Batocabe, O. Carm.)



Rosita dos Santos



Anastasia Soares Da Silva Lima







Natalina da Cunha Exposto

A Contemplative View

St. Teresa's Way of Perfection

St. Teresa of Avila's spiritual life seemed so extraordinary, both to her confessors, and to her Carmelite Sisters, that on different occasions they either commanded or requested her to put in writing her prayer life and the graces the Lord was giving her. Her own Sisters had asked Teresa "to tell them something about prayer, so I have decided to obey them" (WP Prologue), and so the book that has most influenced the prayer life of the Sisters of Carmel, and of many who have found in St. Teresa a way to grow in their own spiritual life, was born.

The *Way of Perfection* was written around the year 1566, after St. Teresa had founded her first Carmel, St. Joseph, in Avila. It was originally called "Advice and counsel Teresa of Jesus gives to her religious Sisters and daughters," and it was designed for the few nuns who had embraced the form of Carmelite life she established in Avila. It became St. Teresa's handbook for teaching prayer and how to achieve a life of prayer. The first manuscript underwent numerous censures, and Fr. Garcia de Toledo, one of her Dominican confessors, eliminated numerous paragraphs and whole pages from the original 73 chapters, believing them not to be in accordance with church theology. In the second manuscript St. Teresa was obliged to cut out entire pages, reducing the book to 42 chapters.

St. Teresa begins by describing the principal reason which led her to found the first Reformed Carmelite convent, which was the desire to minimize the ravages being wrought by Protestantism in France and elsewhere. She also challenges the Sisters to live a life of humility and poverty in order to combat the excesses that surrounded them.

In the first half of her book, Teresa speaks to the nuns about the virtues necessary for religious life: "the first of these is love for one another; the second is detachment from all created things; the third is true humility, which, even though I speak of it last, is the main practice and embraces all the others" (WP 4, 4). She goes on to describe in detail the difference between spiritual, mature love, and human, imperfect love. Afterwards she turns to detachment, and writes how her nuns must be detached from relatives and friends, from the world and worldly honors, and lastly from themselves. All these efforts to love and become detached lead to true humility, which, for her is nothing more nor less than truth.

In the second half, she instructs them on the practice of vocal and mental prayer and meditates on individual sections of the Lord's Prayer. She teaches those who will read her book that if the Our Father is to be prayed in an authentic manner, it must be joined by mental prayer, but we need to let the Master Himself teach it to us.

Even though Teresa wrote the *Way of Perfection* for her nuns, it has become a popular spiritual book since her commentaries may apply to whoever may be reading it. Whether

we are just beginning to pray or we have reached the contemplation St. Teresa so ardently desired, this prayer manual will nourish and strengthen us in our prayer journey, as we let God "give us to drink abundantly from the fount of living water" (WP 21, 2).

Sister Isabel Ordoño, STJ, a native of Cuba, presently resides at the provincial house of the Teresian Sisters in Covington, LA.



Contemplatives in Action

Editors:

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The **Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel** is a community whose prophetic call moves the sisters to be in active ministries that help bring about a more peaceful, just and loving world. They are nourished by contemplative prayer, community and devotion to Mary, a woman of simplicity and faith.

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Share the vision; be a Contemplative in Action

If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning more about religious life as a Sister of Mount Carmel, please contact: Sister Alice Abate, 420 Robert E. Lee Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70124 - 2541 / 504-524-2398 E-mail: vocations@sistersofmountcarmel.org

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