



CCA Newer Members

Embracing our history
Proclaiming our passion for Carmel
Waking the world to the fire of God's Love

January 14, 2019

Dear Sisters,

Happy New Year! We wanted to begin this New Year by sharing some exciting news about our 2019 Newer Members Gathering, *Together We Journey: Embracing Our Past, Illumining Our Future*.

As you know, 2019 marks the 400th Anniversary of the founding of English Antwerp, the first English speaking community of Discalced Carmelites in the world. To commemorate this special occasion, we will focus our Newer Members Gathering on the foundation of English Antwerp, the foundation of Hoogstraten Carmel, as well as the subsequent founding of Carmel in the United States in 1790. Lectures will spotlight various facets of our history while simultaneously concentrating on the transmission of the (Spanish) Teresian heritage to the United States. We will also journey together on a pilgrimage to the places in Southern Maryland that hold special significance for the birth of both Carmel and the Catholic Church in the United States (see below).

We are delighted to have Sr. Constance FitzGerald (Baltimore) and Fr. Steven Payne, OCD as our presenters, Sr. Marjorie Robinson (Beacon) as our facilitator, Fr. Brian McDermott, SJ as our Jesuit Chaplain, and Sr. Colette Ackerman (Baltimore) as one of our pilgrimage guides.

Sr. Connie will be focusing her presentations on our history and spirituality in terms of how it can inform our future. Fr. Steven Payne will be discussing the importance of flexibility, a virtue that St. Teresa exemplified, as it relates to both community life and leadership.

Since the Jesuits have been close companions of the nuns from the time of Teresa and through the histories of the Antwerp and Hoogstraten communities, we want to acknowledge that our relationship with the Jesuits has been important since the very beginning. For this reason, we've invited Fr. Brian McDermott, SJ to accompany us as our Jesuit Chaplain. He will join Sr. Colette and Sr. Connie as one of our pilgrimage guides, helping us to better understand the significance of the Jesuit places we will visit.

It is our hope that sisters from other associations, both in the US and abroad, will participate in the Gathering. We feel that coming together in one location is the best way to mine the depth of contemplative wisdom among us. Learning together, praying together, dreaming together, and having the opportunity to deepen the sisterly bonds among us will help to ensure that the foundational values of the Carmelite contemplative life will be maintained and that the Carmelite charism will continue to be transmitted in ways appropriate for our

time. Most importantly, we hope that our time together will help each sister deepen her love for Carmel and will send her back to her community rekindled with the fire of God's love.

The Gathering will be held at *Loyola on the Potomac* in Faulkner, MD (August 25-30, 2019). We are holding 70 rooms and we need to give the retreat center a final count by **March 1, 2019**.

Please complete [this form](#) to register no later than March 1, 2019.

The cost is \$540/person, which covers the cost of the retreat center (including meals and overnight accommodations), 1 dinner out in St. Mary's City, travel to and from BWI and throughout the pilgrimage. Please make checks payable to Carmelite Communities Associated and send to Sr. Marjorie Robinson (address below) by May 1, 2019.

Thank you for your prayerful support and encouragement. Please let us know if you have any questions.

We wish you many blessings in 2019!

With love from your Sisters,

Agnes Ahn (Boston)

Celia Ashton (Baltimore)

Teresa Susan Dreyer (Eldridge)

CCA Treasurer

Sr. Marjorie Robinson, OCD
Monastery of the Incarnation
89 Hiddenbrooke Drive
Beacon, NY 12508-2230

Pilgrimage Stops

- Chandlers Hope
- Port Tobacco
- St. Clement's Island Museum
- St. Francis Xavier Church
- St. Mary's City
- St. Inigoes
- Point Lookout