



ORDER OF CARMELITES
PROVINCE OF THE MOST PURE HEART OF MARY
Legally Incorporated as "Society of Mount Carmel"

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March 31, 2026

Dear Members of the Lay Carmelites,

As you may know, our Provincial Coordinator of the Lay Carmelites, Cindy Perazzo, T.O.Carm, will retire on June 30, 2026. Cindy has been in this position for the last nine years and we thank her for her leadership, dedication, and support for all our Lay Carmelites and their communities. We wish her every happiness and will keep her in our prayers as she enters a new pace for her life.

There have been many changes in our structure of the Lay Carmelites over the past few years, and Cindy has been at the center of those changes and has always been willing to explain and help members understand these steps forward. This past year we hired Nancy Buschman as our Assistant Coordinator of the Lay Carmelites, and she works on a part-time basis and supports Cindy as they work together on projects and decisions regarding membership and communities.

I am happy to announce that **Doug Buschman** has been appointed as the Provincial Coordinator for the Lay Carmelites, beginning July 1, 2026. Many of you already know Doug, the husband of Nancy, as they were both instrumental in organizing our last Lay Carmelites Convocation in Washington, DC in 2025. Doug is on the Inter-Provincial Lay Carmelites Commission and serves as one of the five Provincial Visitation Coordinators for our Lay Carmelites.

Doug has worked in previous jobs dealing with technology, engineering, and consulting. He has been a program manager, system designer and has experience in dealing with databases. He has always been a positive team builder and is committed to include as many voices as possible in future decision making.

Doug will be working out of his home in Gaithersburg, MD and will have an office at Whitefriars Hall, the Carmelite House of Theological Studies in Washington, DC. You will still be able to call or write to him in the office in Darien, IL as Sheri Carioto remains as support staff for Doug and Nancy. Doug will periodically come to the office in Darien throughout the year.

On behalf of all the Carmelites, I welcome Doug to this ministry and pray that you will support him and find him to be a great leader. Once again, we thank Cindy for her great leadership and pray that this transition will be smooth and successful. May our Lay Carmelites communities be stronger than ever in the local Church and we pray that Carmelite Spirituality be more accessible to all.

May Our Lady of Mount Carmel and the Prophet Elijah guide us in all we do!

Your brother,

Carl J. Markelz, O.Carm.

Prior Provincial, Carmelites

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