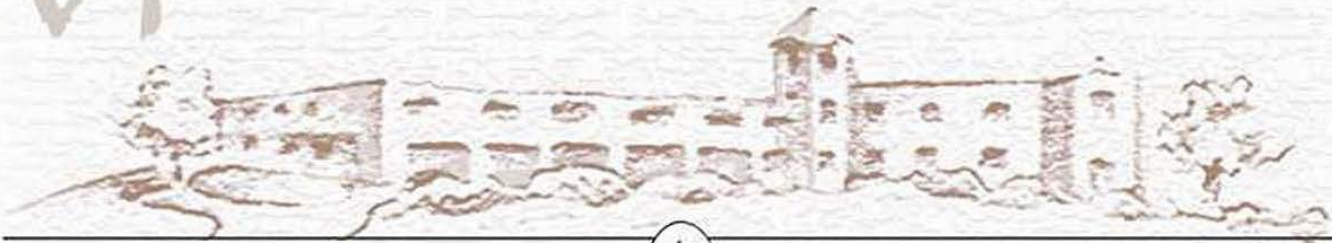


# Mount Carmel Center



Autumn 2010



## Recent Developments

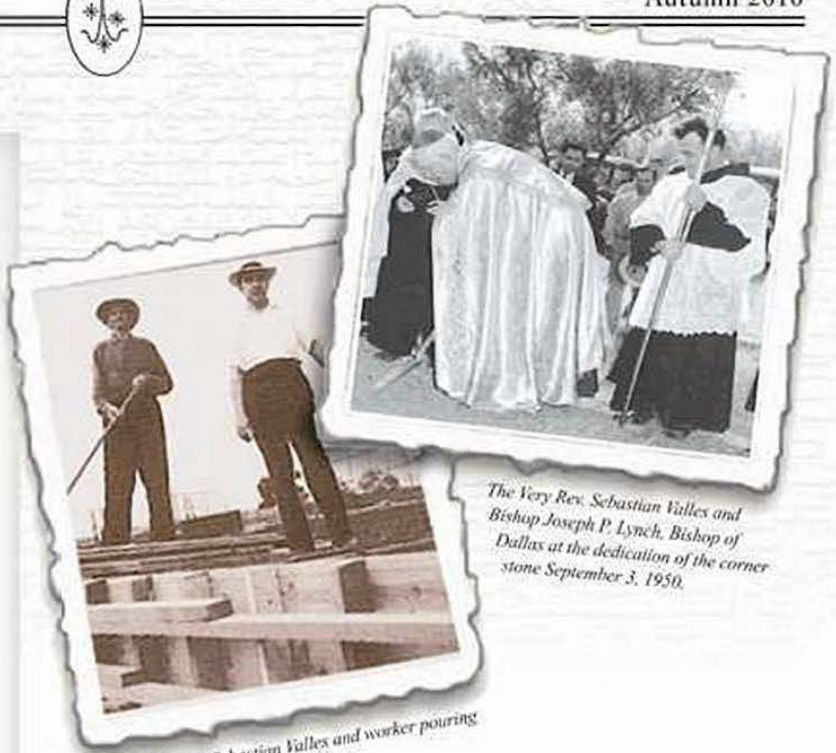
- ❖ We'd like to thank the Scanlan Foundation for their grant of \$40,000 towards our renovation project.
- ❖ The windows on our second floor, in the large dormitory, will be replaced by the end of October. *(Read more about it on the back cover.)*
- ❖ Please pray for the success of our grant applications to various foundations. Of particular note is our application to the Kennedy Foundation's Big Impact Fund, which if obtained, could almost complete the renovation of the entire building.
- ❖ Donna has been hard at work collecting her best recipes for a Mount Carmel cookbook, available this fall for \$10 each. These would make great Christmas gifts. Contact Mary to pre-order.
- ❖ Online registration for our programs is now available from our website:  
[www.mountcarmelcenter.org](http://www.mountcarmelcenter.org)  
Just click on the "Activities" link to see a list of programs and use the link at the top to register.



Would you like Mount Carmel Center to receive your contribution automatically? Would you like to reduce the processing time and cost for putting your donation to work? Then consider E-giving.

For details, contact

Mary Bellman at 214-334-6224 ext. 314 or email [admin@mountcarmelcenter.org](mailto:admin@mountcarmelcenter.org).



The Very Rev. Sebastian Valles and Bishop Joseph P. Lynch, Bishop of Dallas at the dedication of the cornerstone September 3, 1950.

The Very Rev. Sebastian Valles and worker pouring the foundation in 1948.

## Faith OF OUR FATHERS

This September 3rd Mount Carmel Center will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of its formal dedication. And since we all carry the history of our lives with all of the consequences of our decisions for good or ill, I will attempt to give you, our friends and benefactors a small history of how we came to be where we are now in our present journey within the Christian Catholic community of the Diocese of Dallas – Fort Worth.

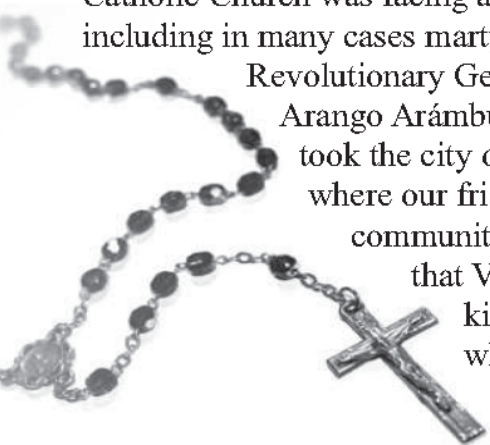
*continued on page 2*

None of us can erase our own history and that history tends to affect our trajectory in our future endeavors. May the holy desires of our beginnings carry us into the fulfillment of God's plans for us and for all those with whom we are in communion.

The Discalced Carmelite Fathers had ventured into U.S. territory before but their definitive arrival into this country was due to an unforeseen act of Divine Providence. Mexico was convulsing under warring factions in the late 1800's and early 1900's, consequentially the Catholic Church was facing a systemic persecution including in many cases martyrdom. The Mexican

Revolutionary General José Doroteo Arango Arámbula (aka Pancho Villa) took the city of Torreón, Coahuila where our friars had established a community. It was well known that Villa had threatened to kill all Spaniards if and when he would take the city – he took the city on April 2, 1914.

The captured friars had been sentenced to die a martyr's death by firing squad but at the insistence of the American Consul's wife, Mrs. William Carothers, the death sentence was commuted to exile. On April 6, 1914, Monday of Holy Week, the friars with hundreds of other Spaniards and other 'unwanted elements' were put on a cattle-train with no food or water and sent via Ciudad Juarez to El Paso, Texas. Fathers Luis Benages, O.C.D., Bernardo Brotons, O.C.D., and Cirilio Corbato, O.C.D. were among the exiled [the fourth member of the community, Fr. Domingo Pitarch, O.C.D. was in Mexico City at the time]. After a trip of 517 miles, the train entered El Paso, Texas on the evening of Tuesday of Holy Week, April 7, 1914. The American border officials would not allow them to exit the train until the next morning [Over one million Mexican nationals fled the religious and civil persecution]. The three friars were allowed to enter into the



United States on April 8, 1914, Wednesday of Holy Week. They begged their way to Chicago then were sent away to Milwaukee where disappointed and disillusioned, decided to return to Spain. They received orders from the Father General to stay in the United States and return to the south and care for the sacramental needs of those who were fleeing the religious persecution in Mexico. God's Will had been made manifest to them they began the hard work to establish themselves and began the work of founding a Province.

On August 23, 1940, Dallas Bishop Joseph Lynch granted permission to the Carmelites to open a seminary in Dallas. The property was purchased in 1946 and construction began in 1948 when Fr. Sebastian Valles was elected Provincial. On July 20, 1950, the first Mass was celebrated here by Fr. Andrew Palmero in the presence of Fr. Michael Okuroski, Br. Victor Kopycinski and the high school seminarians. Formal dedication was on Sunday, September 3, 1950.

Today Mount Carmel Center continues to provide retreats and workshops for the spiritual well-being of the Christian Catholic community of Dallas. We hope to carry forward the faith, courage and dedication of those who have gone before us in the service of the Church serving within the charism of the Discalced Carmelite Fathers. May the Glorious St. Joseph, Protector of the Order bless us with the spiritual and temporal means to carry out the mission begun by these determined and faith-filled men.

In Him,  
*Fr. Stephen Sánchez, O.C.D.*



*For this issue's book article, please visit us online at:*  
[www.mountcarmelcenter.org](http://www.mountcarmelcenter.org)





# All Souls' Novena Intentions



*"Souls are guarded jealously in the heart of God and what we think we sometimes understand of our soul is nonetheless always a fleeting reflection of that which will remain God's secret until the day in which everything will come to light. The hope in this future revelation gives me great joy."*

*~ St. Teresa Benedicta (Edith Stein)*

A Novena of Masses in remembrance of the faithfully departed will be celebrated at Mount Carmel Center Sunday, November 2nd - November 10th. If you would like us to remember your loved ones at these special Eucharistic celebrations, return this form with your offering in the enclosed envelope by Oct. 23rd.

Please include the following intentions in the All Souls' Novena:

\_\_\_\_\_

I am including the following donation:    \$25    \$40    \$50    \$100    \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please send acknowledgement of my donation

## Join Us for Our Upcoming Events

### **Thorns and Roses**

*Presented by: Fr. Stephen Sanchez, OCD*

Wednesday, September 29th or Saturday, October 2nd from 10am -12pm

### **John and the Indwelling Presence**

*Presented by: Fr. Jerome Earley, OCD*

Wednesday, October 27th or Saturday, October 31st from 10am-12pm

### **Advent Morning of Reflection: The Romance of St. John of the Cross**

*Presented by: Fr. Jerome Earley, OCD*

Saturday, November 20th from 10am-12pm

### **Letters of St. John of the Cross**

*Presented by: Fr. Stephen Sanchez, OCD*

Wednesday, December 8th or Saturday, December 11th from 10am-12pm

Contact Mary Bellman to register at 214-331-6224 ext. 314 or [admin@mountcarmelcenter.org](mailto:admin@mountcarmelcenter.org)

# Mount Carmel Center



Mount Carmel Center  
4600 West Davis  
Dallas, Texas 75211

Phone: 214-331-6224

Fax: 214-330-0844

[www.mountcarmelcenter.org](http://www.mountcarmelcenter.org)

*"Let nothing disturb you ~ Nothing frighten you ~ All things are passing ~ God never changes ~ With patience you attain all things ~ Who possesses God wants nothing ~ God alone suffices."*

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## A New Outlook at Mount Carmel Center!

We are pleased to announce the latest updates to Mount Carmel Center.

If you have ever stayed in the upstairs dormitory, you know the windows have been in great need of repair. It's finally time to say "goodbye" to the 1950's casement windows, and "hello" to our new energy efficient windows! This project was made possible by our good friends at the Catholic Foundation, the Scanlan Foundation, St. Ann's Catholic Parish, and some of our private benefactors.



Our future plans for this area include: installing an energy efficient heating and cooling system, updating the bathroom, and creating individual rooms complete with new furniture.

Thank you for all your prayers and contributions. It is what makes our ministry possible.

We look forward to being able to serve you even better in the future!

*The Discalced Carmelite Friars live in gratitude for God's providence and your generosity. As you consider your spiritual legacy through wills, bequests, or insurance policies, should you choose to remember us, we humbly ask that you name us as The Discalced Carmelite Fathers of Dallas, Inc. We would like to recognize your generosity through membership in the St. Joseph Society.*

[www.mountcarmelcenter.org](http://www.mountcarmelcenter.org)