



SOLEMN PROFESSION OF RELIGIOUS VOWS

Sister Elizabeth Mary of the Heart of Jesus (above) professed her Solemn Vows on September 24, 2016 in a ceremony that took place during Holy Mass. It was a very moving and festive occasion. Many of Sister's family were able to attend as they are from Muenster, Texas.

The Profession takes place within the Mass as a sign of the public witness that Religious give in the name of the Church to her life and holiness. When the Nun makes her Solemn Profession she promises Poverty, Chastity and Obedience to God "until death" as a total consecration of her whole being in an act of adoration and of giving herself for the salvation of souls and the good of the Church.



The Sisters preparing the roses for the Feast of St. Therese



Our Novices praying the Divine Office in Choir



VOCATIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY

We received a new Postulant in July, 2016 and another young woman entered as a Postulant in January of this year. Please help us to thank God for these signs of growth for our community. Our novices spend about 7 years in formation learning about the Carmelite contemplative vocation and how to live their lives completely for God alone. We are grateful for your support and encouragement of these dear young people whom Our Lord has called and inspired to live according to His Word and His ways.

Whisperings ~ Special Memorial Edition ~ 2017



Mother Maria
of
Jesus Crucified, O.C.D.



August 14, 1933 ~
May 6, 2016

Dear Friends,

This special memorial edition of *Whisperings* commemorates the first anniversary of the death of our dear Mother Maria of Jesus Crucified on May 6, 2017. Mother Maria was the Prioress of our community for many years and also was the foundress of our Monastery here in Arlington in 1984. For countless years Mother fearlessly and lovingly guided our community, encouraging us to remain always faithful to Christ and His Church. Mother Maria's life as a Carmelite Nun was given in total service to Jesus Christ, His Church and all the faithful. You, our dear friends, held such a special place in Mother's heart. She was constantly praying for our many good friends and benefactors and would often offer them heartfelt advice over the phone. Mother's personality was beautiful ~ reflecting Christ Who dwelt in her soul. All that she did was motivated by the love of Christ which impelled her to act. We miss Mother very much, and we know you, dear friends, miss her too. We believe she is interceding for us and she will surely do the same for you.

We hope you enjoy these pages commemorating her life and her contribution to the Church and our Carmelite community. May God grant her the fullness of joy in His heavenly Kingdom where she can sing His praises for all eternity!

God bless and love all of you, our dear friends.

Mother Anne Teresa and the Nuns

"The mercies of the Lord I will sing for ever."

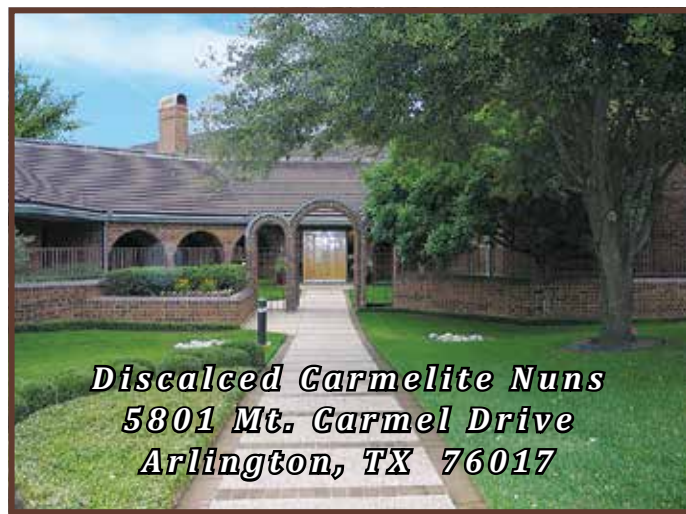


Remember ~ Day and Night on Carmel's Height,
Someone Prays for You!

Please remember us when revising or making your Will.

Our legal name is:
Discalced Carmelite Nuns

Our Federal ID # is:
35-2516195



Discalced Carmelite Nuns
5801 Mt. Carmel Drive
Arlington, TX 76017

IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE



Mother Maria of Jesus Crucified, O.C.D.

Mother Maria of Jesus Crucified, O.C.D., 82, born Patricia Ann Brinkley, died Friday, May 6, 2016, at the Carmelite Monastery in Arlington.

Mother Maria was born August 14, 1933 in Roanoke, VA. She entered the Discalced Carmelite Nuns in Fort Worth on November 1, 1961. She was one of the first members of our community in Fort Worth on Sunset Terrace, which had opened in 1958, and served as Prioress for many years. The community moved to Arlington on Nov. 28, 1984. Mother Maria was Prioress then, and lovingly devoted much time and effort in serving her community, the many friends and benefactors of the Nuns, and the Order of Carmel. Her joyful spirit and wise counsel benefited many people. She is, indeed, greatly missed.

Many of you, our dear friends, knew Mother Maria personally. The testimonies that we have received from people since the time of her death have been very touching. Everyone knew how much she cared for each one personally and how genuine was her promise of prayers from herself and the Nuns.

She helped many people get through times of tragedy or loss in their lives. Her deep faith and confidence in God's Providence helped

to strengthen those virtues in others. She encouraged us, her daughters in Carmel, to have faith in the power of prayer and would tell us that "you can't live a supernatural vocation on the natural level," emphasizing those theological virtues of faith, hope and charity. She would remind us that Our Lord suffered for love of us and we should make a return of that love.

Her example of acceptance of the Cross was very beautiful, as she always had serious health problems in her life. She did not complain or speak much of her sufferings, and that silent witness she gave was very powerful. We were able to see firsthand how a true Bride of Christ accepts suffering in union with Christ.

And so, we wanted to share with you this mailing specifically in memory of her who gave so much to us, to our dear friends, to the Order of Carmel, and to our Diocese and the Church.

She helped our community to remain



MOTHER MARIA OF JESUS CRUCIFIED



Patricia Brinkley (future Mother Maria) with friends in Roanoke, Virginia, her hometown



Mother Maria of Jesus Crucified, O.C.D.



faithful to the charism of St. Teresa of Avila during the difficult years following the Second Vatican Council, when many religious orders began to lose their identity due to secularism and radical feminism.

She was one of the founding members of the St. Teresa Association, which was started to help Carmels of like-spirit to be strengthened in their living of the cloistered Carmelite vocation in today's world.

Drawing from the teachings of our holy Carmelite Saints, she gave us spiritual guidance that showed the way to union with God in the midst of the simple tasks of everyday monastic life and prayer.

In the early 1980's, it became abundantly

clear that our monastery in Fort Worth was no longer adequate for the needs of our growing community. Therefore, Mother Maria led the way for us to begin planning and raising funds for our new monastery in Arlington. She worked along with Mother Anne Teresa and the Chapter Nuns of our community in the very complex and challenging work that this entailed. We are forever grateful to her for her generous efforts in this regard.

After a life of deep love for Christ and dedication to Him and His people, she ended her days peacefully in the arms of our loving and merciful God. May she rest in peace and receive the rich reward of her vocation as a Carmelite Spouse of Christ.



Mother Maria at the time of her Golden Jubilee



Mother Maria as a Novice



Mother Maria after Solemn Profession



Mother Maria and Mother Anne Teresa in the Parlor at our Fort Worth monastery.



Our Chapel in Fort Worth on Sunset Terrace

Any donations we receive other than those for planting memorials will be used to continue the legacy of Mother Maria in providing for the growth and sustenance of our Carmelite Community. Thank You!