



PRIORE GENERALE DEI CARMELITANI

VIA GIOVANNI LANZA, 138
00184 ROMA - (ITALIA)

Rome, 21st December 2015
Prot. 243/2015

To the Priors Provincial, Commissaries, and General Delegates,
Mother Prioresses and General Superiors

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Carmelite Family,

At the beginning of this Jubilee Year of Mercy and on the eve of Christmas, I am happy to send you some additional information about the 450th anniversary of the birth of St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi as we already announced the anniversary on several occasions.

The anniversary year opens on April 2, 2016, the anniversary of her birth, and will close on May 25, 2017. As I have mentioned before, the celebration of an anniversary is not an exercise in archeology but an opportunity to discover new inspirations from the great figures that preceded us in order that we might, living out our Carmelite vocation, announce the Gospel with renewed enthusiasm.

St. Mary Magdalene is a great mystic who can assist us in our own spirituality. We must confess, however, that she is poorly understood. Therefore, the purpose for this 450th anniversary is to deepen our knowledge of our sister, find connections to our own lives, and, above all, to disseminate what we discover not only within the Carmelite Family but within the Church community in which we live as well.

The commission appointed by the general council has organized, with the collaboration of the nuns of the Italian Federation, a series of initiatives that will be available through the Order's website at: ocarm.org/mmp450. Throughout this anniversary year, you will find information about scheduled events, as well as educational and liturgical materials for use at community meetings or in groups.

Since we also want to share what already exists or is being planned on the more local levels to celebrate St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, I ask that you send the following information to Mario Alfarano, coordinator of the 450th anniversary, at the general curia (email: malfarano@ocarm.org):

- Publications, CDs or videos you have produced or that you will be creating;
- Images of St. Mary Magdalene (paintings, icons, statues, etc.) indicating, if possible, where they are located, the artist that did them, and date of the work;
- News of any initiatives and/or celebrations that you intend to carry out.

I sincerely invite you to seize with enthusiasm the opportunity this anniversary presents to us to learn and spread, through a wide variety of projects, the teachings of this extraordinary saint of Carmel who has so much to say to our Order and to the Church today.

With fraternal greetings,




Fr. Fernando Millán Romeral, O. Carm.
Prior General