



Carmelites

Ordo fratrum Beatæ Virginis Mariæ de Monte Carmelo

Rome, November 26, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On November 18, 2021, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments sent Notification of the new Proper Calendar to our Order, which was approved and signed by them on November 6, 2021 on the Feast of Saint Nuno Álvares Pereira.

As you will see, they have made some modifications that will not go unnoticed from that of the 1972 Proper Calendar and in use up until now. The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments has revised the levels and dates of the celebrations according to the 1999 norms. One reason for this lies in the decision to streamline the Calendar. It could also be said that the Dicastery is favouring "local memorials", for example, those of the blessed who will be celebrated in their own region. There may be further changes in the future, as in the case of Blessed Titus Brandsma for whom, once canonized, it would be possible to ask for the 'obligatory memorial' for the whole Order.

The new Calendar is divided into two parts: the first "general" intended for the whole Order, while the second is an Appendix intended exclusively for local areas. In the general part the dates and levels of the celebrations are indicated: solemnity, feast and obligatory memorial. When nothing is indicated, the 'optional memory' ought to be understood. Then, for some optional memorials, the mandatory celebration is indicated for certain provinces.

Some 'optional memorials' have been moved to the Appendix, whereas previously could be celebrated throughout the Order, now they are allowed in certain regions. Therefore, in the Appendix, the dates and places where these optional memorials can be celebrated are indicated.

Finally, in the general part of the Order's Proper Calendar, some saints from the Universal Roman Calendar have been included. In other words, it is a question of those memorials, whose date coincides with the anniversaries of our saints, for which the Congregation has decided that we could celebrate them as 'optional memorials' on a day before or after that set out in the Roman Calendar.

May all Carmel continually celebrate with joy and gratitude the saints given to the Church and, following in their footsteps, may we grow in holiness in imitation of the Holy of Holies, Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

In communion of prayer,

Michael Farrugia, O. Carm.