

BOSTON CARMEL



Newsletter

for Carmel's Benefactors, Relatives and Friends
Fall, 2001

TOWERS OF LOVE

What can we say as we hold in our hearts forever the terrible event that shattered buildings, lives and hearts on 9/11/01? Tears still flow, not only from the horror of it all, but also because we have been so moved by the goodness and heroism and selflessness of firemen and policemen and ordinary people who volunteered to do whatever was needed, who reached out in so many ways. The Twin Towers may have collapsed, but the love response that this tragedy evoked, has raised up taller towers of the spirit reaching to the heavens! May the love response never stop. It is the best way to overcome terrorism and every evil because it is God's way!

A BIRTHDAY PRESENT

You may remember that August 6th was the drawing day for our pilgrimage winner. We went through our usual format: we prayed first, and then each Sister took a turn mixing up the batch of slips bearing the names of hopeful winners. The one picked was Michael Feloney from Cambridge. And guess what? August 6th was his birthday! Congratulations, Michael!

A TRIO OF CELEBRATIONS

We had quite a few things to celebrate since our last newsletter. Sr. Therese was 'crowned' for her feat of persevering 60 years in Carmel and was also given a staff to help her continue her marathon journey of love to the end. That happened on August 5.

On August 15, Solemnity of Mary's Assumption, Sr. Jeanne Marie almost made it to heaven with Our Lady when she made her first profession of vows.

On September 17, the feast of St. Albert, author of Carmel's Rule, Cecilia Kim began her postulancy with us. Cecilia is originally from Korea.

SAN ANTONIO HERE WE COME!

It was a first visit to cowboy country for two of us. The purpose was not to ride horses or acquire a Texas accent, but to learn about our Carmelite Rule! The setting was right across from The Alamo, so input was had not only on the Carmelite Rule but also on American history. It was such a very enriching experience...also a cooling one... the air conditioning was a real treat!

THE ROSE

The ST. THERESA HYBRID TEA ROSE is here! It is ivory pink with shades of peach and orange,

has a strong pleasant fragrance, is disease resistant and very winter hardy. The grower and distributor is in Ontario and it was suggested that maybe we could encourage local garden centers to stock it. Anyone know of such a place(s) that would be willing? It would spread out the U.S. plant inspection fee, lessen shipping and handling costs, and make it easier to get.

VISITORS FROM AFAR

Ghana is pretty far away from MA, but it felt close when Fr. Vincent Burke, SVD, visited us and shared stories and songs from there. He told us about our Carmelite Sisters there who are his neighbors. They support themselves by baking bread and he buys it from them to help feed his seminarians. Since his visit we have had a letter from their Prioress, Mother Bernard, OCD. How good to have Sisters even thousands of miles away!

We do not have any full-blooded Scots among our members, only partial ones, but they were not the only nuns delighted with the visit of our Carmelite Sister Mary of the Holy spirit from the Carmel in Dumbarton, Scotland! We had a wonderful time looking at

pictures and sharing Carmelite tales and anecdotes.

An Irish brogue from Africa? Yes, indeed! Such was our third visitor, Sister Teresa, OCD is her name. Sister is really from Ireland but went on a foundation to northern Nigeria. We were awestruck as we heard the challenges her community has! The climate requires them changing their habits 3 times a day! Getting water is a major duty and so is getting food all of which has to be sterilized. What courage and what a crown those Sisters will get! We felt unworthy to loosen the strap of their sandals!

VISITORS FROM NEARBY

We cannot list all the people who have visited us, but we cannot fail to mention two special visitors.

On November 1st, ALL SAINTS DAY Cardinal Law blessed us by celebrating our community Mass. You can imagine how special such an occasion is for us as well as the visit we have with His Eminence afterward with breakfast. We did not need to hire Boston's best chef for our menu, as the Cardinal's breakfast is very simple. Besides coffee and orange juice, he only takes toast, peanut butter and apricot jam. Our Cardinal truly spends himself for all of us in the archdiocese and we hope that his visit with us gave him a little respite from his heavy burdens. The day before Cardinal Law came, we were visited by our new Delegate for Religious, Sr. Marian Batho, CSJ. We had a delightful time visiting with Sister. One of the things that happened on that occasion was the sharing of stories about our vocations. What a delightful

experience it was to hear the wonders of God's love at work in each of our lives! May God bless Sister Marian in her new responsibility, giving her all the grace she needs.

VISITOR OR INHABITANT?

One has seen 'it', all have smelled 'it'. We have a skunk!

IT IS DONE!

Yes, it is! What? Our infirmary! Oh, we still have lots of moving and sorting to do but the construction part, the long big dig part, is over! It calls for a HALLELUJAH CHORUS, except we are not able to sing it! But God knows we keep saying "THANK YOU" in our hearts to Him and to you who have been so generous to us.

ANOTHER ST. JOSEPH

There's no doubt about it...He fills the description in so many ways: humble, simple prayerful, a lover of God, self-forgetful, generous, kind...and even a carpenter! There probably is no place in our monastery, inside or out, that has not been helped by his very gifted hands. Whatever breaks (note: no one breaks anything, "It broke" is the expression!) the universal remedy is "Mr. Del Pico can fix it!" And 99 times out of a 100, he does! For more years than Jesus was on earth, Mr. Roland Del Pico has been coming to us week after week volunteering his services and bringing supplies at no cost to us. Repay him? Impossible! We are not even able to adequately thank him with words! BUT...we have fun imagining how our God, who will repay us for a glass of water given in His name, will reward Mr. Del Pico! His place in heaven has to be close to St. Joseph because he is so much like him. Thank you, God, for

giving us Mr. Del Pico, and thank you, Mr. Del Pico, for all you have done and are for us!

SEMPER PARATUS

Always ready...that's the motto of the U.S. Coast Guard, but it is also a good one for all of us Christians. We just never know what will be asked of us...for example, going to the emergency room as one of our Sisters had to do this summer. (Thanks be to God all turned out well.)

Will we ever be ready when death comes? Four of our Sisters lost loved ones this year. Please pray for Sr. Catherine's sister, Mary; Sr. Mary Clare's brother Billy; Sr. Marie's grandfather, Carl and Sr. Therese's brother John. May they rest in peace and have eternal joy!

PEACE, PAX, PAZ, POKOJ

We are at war. We long for peace—every race and tongue and nation of us. May the Prince of Peace bring it to each one of you and all those you love.

Your Sisters of Boston
Carmel