

State of the Heart of the 2021 Congress

Theme: Surrender to Him and Be Free to Love

FLOS Spring 2020



Registration Begins
October 2020!

Early Bird Registration starts:

Oct. 15th, 2020

Early Bird Registration Fee:

\$300

Start budgeting for the 2021 Congress today!

The 2021 OCDS Congress will be held September 9-12, 2021 at the Omni Houston Hotel in Houston, Texas. In order to help you prepare for the cost of attending, we're posting the **special room rates** for you below.

Special Room Rates* at Omni Houston:

\$135/night (Single/Double)

\$145/night (Triple)

\$155/night (Quad)

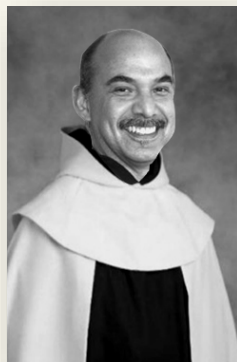
**Special Room Rates are being provided here for budgeting purposes. They are not available to book at this time. A link will be provided closer to Registration.*



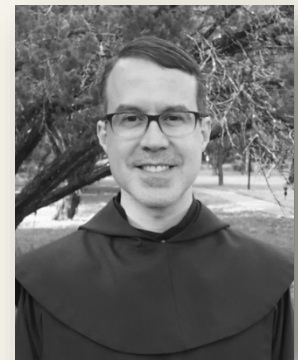
Secular Carmelites of
the Province of St.
Therese – Oklahoma

Congress Speakers Announcement:

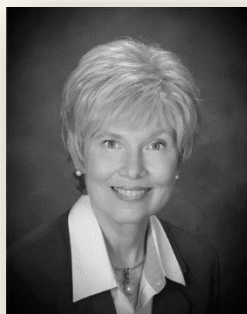
We are excited to share the following three confirmed speakers for the 2021 Congress!



Fr. Stephen Sanchez, OCD
Provincial
Oklahoma Province of St. Therese



Fr. Jorge Cabrera, OCD
Superior, Mt. Carmel Center
Oklahoma Province of St. Therese



Jane Thibault, OCDS
OCDS Washington Province
Learn more here:
contemplatingblog.com/jane-thibault/

2021 Congress Fundraiser

It is with great excitement that we are announcing our first Province-wide fundraiser for the 2021 Congress! We are thrilled to be incorporating 4 beautiful stained-glass windows from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Little Flower in San Antonio, Texas, into 4 note cards (set of 12; 3 of each card). See the images below:



We want to thank the team from the Basilica in San Antonio for their cooperation and support in the design and development of these note cards. We are truly appreciative!

This will be a unique opportunity to purchase note cards with images of our beloved Basilica in San Antonio and support the 2021 Congress at the same time! These note cards are perfect for all occasions, including for those making their Promises!

Presidents and Congress Liaisons will be notified via email with more details & how to order soon!

Donations Appreciated

In an effort to keep registration fees as low as possible and to pay for the increasing costs of expenses necessary to put on the Congress, as well as cover costs for friars to attend, we are praying individuals and communities will help us, both with prayer and monetary gifts.

Because installment payments to the Congress venue begin in early 2021, we are asking those who feel called to support the Congress with monetary gifts to try to do so in 2020. Each donation, large or small, is needed and very much appreciated. The tiered donation structure is below:

Sponsor a Friar		\$750	
Wisdom	\$375	Understanding	\$275
Knowledge	\$175	Piety	\$75

Kindly make the check payable to: **Disalced Carmelite Fathers of Oklahoma – OCDS 2021 Congress.**

Please mail donations to: **Patricia Babcock, 119 Grassmarket, San Antonio, Texas 78259**

*In Carmel,
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel & St. Therese Community, San Antonio, Texas (2021 Community Fundraising Lead)*



2021 OCDS Congress: September 9-12, 2021

Omni Houston Hotel

4 Riverway, Houston, TX 77056

www.omnihotels.com/hotels/houston

Seeking Donations for the Congress Welcome Bag

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
We are in great need of items for the Congress Welcome Bags. We thank the communities who have already volunteered to donate items. In an effort to help generate ideas, the following are examples of items that would be helpful to have for the Welcome Bags:

*Saint drawings * Scapulars * Wrist rosaries *
Note pads * Prayer beads*

We will need about 420 of each item to fill the bags. *Please note we do not want heavy things that will weigh the tote bags down.* Gathering these items can be a group effort (from the same or multiple communities). A group of creative members can make something together or a group can work together to coordinate gathering the same item.

All donations will greatly be appreciated. May God reward you all for your help.

Blessings,

Teresa DeMary, Welcome Bag Team Lead

Most Holy Trinity Community (Houston #4)

**Contact Teresa DeMary to
donate items to the Congress
Welcome Bags:**

Teresa.demary@gmail.com

Please join me in thanking our Congress Planning Team for the generous gift of their time and talents!

Host Community, Venue Coordination, Marketing/Publicity, & Liturgy Team B Lead ~ The Most Holy Trinity and St. Joseph (Houston #1)

Hospitality Team ~ San Juan de la Cruz (Houston #2)

Vendor Room & Venue Search Team ~ St. Theresa of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face Study Group (Houston #3)

Registration Welcome Bag Team ~ Most Holy Trinity (Houston #4)

Liturgy Team A (& Music) ~ Infant Jesus of Prague (Dallas, TX) & St. Joseph and St. Therese of Lisieux (Jackson, MS)

Adoration Room Team ~ The Blessed Virgin Mary of Mt. Carmel and St. Teresa of Jesus (Oklahoma City)

Congress Prayer Team ~ St. Therese of the Little Flower (Lawrenceville, GA)

Program Team ~ The Triumph of the Cross (Georgetown, TX)

Registration Team ~ St. Joseph (St. Louis, MO)

Speaker Team A ~ St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Austin, TX)

Financial Accountability Lead ~ Kathy Rasmussen (Georgetown, TX)

Website Team Lead & Congress Co-Coordinator ~ Michelle Estep (Austin, TX)

Congress Prayer

Jesus, we surrender ourselves into Your Heart, so Your Love may shine through us and spread throughout all the world.

We give ourselves to You, abandoning ourselves into Your Loving embrace so that under the protection of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the Holy Spirit fills us with the inspiration, dedication, devotion and grace needed to work together with Your Love in our hearts.

We entrust this Congress and all that will come – the joys, the difficulties, the obstacles and the blessings – to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. May she guide our every step, every word, and every action, so this Congress is blessed by her example of her perfect humility and surrender and all who prepare and attend this Congress are under her mantle of loving protection.

Jesus, give us the courage to surrender ourselves wholeheartedly to You, fearlessly answering Your call, holding tight to Your cross and embracing ours knowing it will lead us to union with You, which is our heart's deepest desire.

Questions, Comments? Contact:

Laura Durant & Michelle Estep (2021 Congress Co-Coordinators)
512-699-6921

OCDSCongressCoordinator2021@gmail.com