



### *Discalced Carmelite Immigration to the United States*

#### *Holy Hill WI*



The Discalced Carmelite Friars of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in the United States was established by Germanfriars. Archbishop Messmer of Milwaukee offered them a property called Holy Hill, a well-known Marian pilgrimage site about thirty miles northwest of Milwaukee. The Carmelites took formal possession of Holy Hill in 1906 with a small community of four friars: Eliseus, who was appointed first superior, Kilian, and two lay brothers who had been sent from Bavaria. They used a renovated farm house as the first monastery. Other friars were sent from Germany to staff Holy Hill.

#### *Milwaukee WI*

In 1912 they also accepted a parish for German-speaking people in the city of Milwaukee, where they built a church and monastery dedicated to St. Florian. A brick monastery was constructed on Holy Hill in 1920, and in the following year a novitiate was established and American vocations began to apply for admission to the Order.



### *Washington DC*



Another group of friars located in the state of Arizona in 1912: Spaniards from the Catalonia province founded houses at Tucson, Phoenix, Sonora, and a number of mission stations to care for the Spanish speaking residents of the state. In 1916 the friars from Arizona established a monastery in Washington, D.C. Joseph Mary of Jesus (Isasi), a former missionary in Cuba, led a group of friars from Tucson to the nation's capital, and on October 15, 1916, a monastery was formally established in the area near the Catholic University.

### *Brighton MA*

In 1940 the monasteries in Wisconsin and Washington, D.C., were detached from their European provinces and combined into the Washington semi-province. After the war in 1947, this union was canonically elevated to the status of a province under the title of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and further foundations were made in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Ohio, and New York.



### *Hinton WV*



The Province officially established a "Desert" community at Hinton, WV on June 24, 1968. The new community was called "Christ on the Mountain." In the tradition of the Order the 'deserts' are hermitages, dedicated to prayer, silence and solitude.

The Washington Province made their contribution to overseas expansion. In 1947 six friars from the province established a mission on the island of Luzon in the Philippine Islands. Other friars from the province followed, and three years later the mission territory was separated from the Lipa diocese and established as the prelature of Infanta. On April 25, 1950, the Holy See entrusted the prelature of Infanta and its almost seventy thousand inhabitants to the Washington Province.



*Nairobi, Kenya*

On February 2, 1992 the Order officially inaugurated the house in Nairobi, Kenya for the express purpose of being a formation center for the English-speaking students of philosophy and theology, coming from Kenya, Nigeria, Malawi and Tanzania. The house remained under the General administration of the Order until June 1995 when responsibility for it passed to the Washington Province. More complete information about OCD in the United States can be found at [ocdswashprov.org](http://ocdswashprov.org) .