

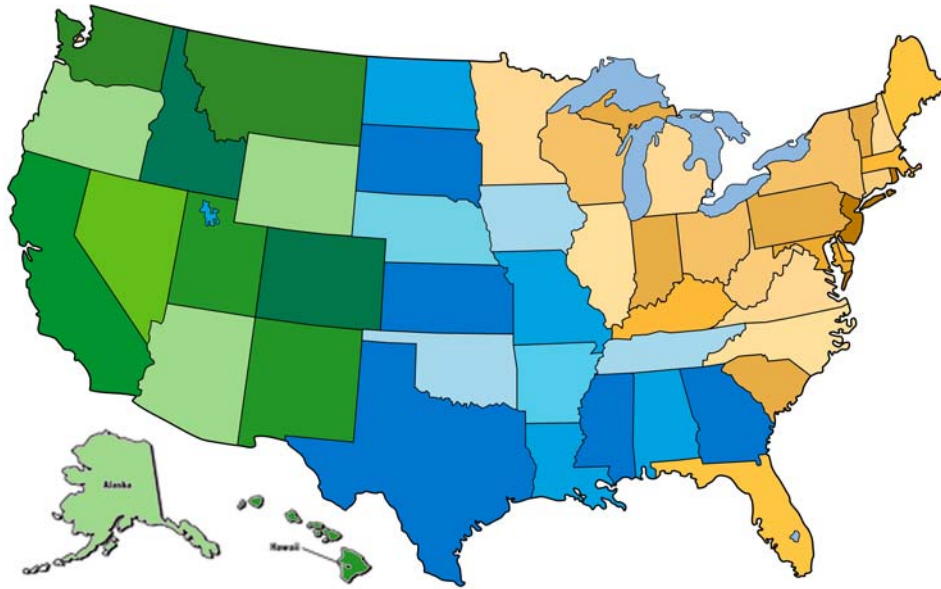
Secular Discalced Carmelite Communities of the Washington Province

In recent years, God has blessed the Washington Province with an abundance of vocations to the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites. Ten years ago (1999) there were 14 communities in the New England States; 47 in the Middle Atlantic States; 12 in the State of Florida; and 37 in the Great Lake States and Kentucky. At that time there were 110 communities. At the present time in the Washington Province (2009), there are now more than 4000 professed members in 151 groups and communities.

The location and contact information for the Secular Carmelite groups and communities within the Washington Province of the Order of Discalced Carmelites are in the process of being updated. Our goal in the 21st Century Carmelites Campaign in preparation for the 2009 OCDS Congress is to assemble pictures and a paragraph narrative of the history/apostolate from each community. This information will permit OCDS members to share their Community's formation journey and provide us all with a better understand the OCDS history within our Province. Our hope is to collect a community picture and corresponding history from each OCDS group within the Province. Please send an original or digital photograph (4 x 6 or larger) and a typed paragraph indicating your Community Religious Title and history/apostolate information you want to share. Individual names should not be listed. Please send this information **as soon as possible** to:

Sacred Heart OCDS Community,
c/o St. John the Evangelist Parish,
Attn: Michael Alley, OCDS
112 East 2nd Street, Frederick, MD 21701

Digital photos and text can be sent to ocds2009congress@live.com
Original photographs and text will be scanned and returned to you.



OCDS Communities throughout the United States

Members of the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelite Communities can be found throughout the United States. A number of OCDS members from communities in the Midwest and Western states will be attending the 2009 OCDS Congress hosted by the Washington Province. OCDS communities are accountable to the OCD Superiors in three juridical provinces. In the Washington Province (states depicted in brown), communities are accountable to the Discalced Carmelite Friars of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Discalced Carmelite Friars of the Oklahoma Province of St. Thérèse have jurisdiction over OCDS communities located in the Midwest states (depicted in blue). The Discalced Carmelite Friars of the California-Arizona Province of St. Joseph have jurisdiction over the OCDS communities located in the Western states (depicted in green).

We are so pleased with the amazing response throughout the country of OCDS being called to Baltimore on the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Attendees of all Regions in the Washington Province are almost equally represented: Mid-Atlantic – 22%, Mid-West and Florida – 22%, Northeast – 17%, Washington Area – 21%; and 18% joining us from either the California or Oklahoma Provinces, or Canada.

Our hope is that the experience of the Congress will enliven and deepen our Carmelite life, not only as individuals, but also as communities across the US and Canada. We look forward to participating in liturgies and comparing notes with everyone in Baltimore this Summer.