

For You, Lord we were born; what do You want from us?

‘It is time to walk’

Open to God, open to each other

To our dear Father Saverio, our Sisters and Brothers in Carmel,

We want to thank you, Father Saverio and all of you, our brothers for welcoming us to your General Chapter here in Avila, 2015. We want also to thank our sisters who trusted us to attend this meeting of sharing and prayer with you our Brothers on their behalf. In sharing the answers from our communities we have experienced both our diversity and our unity.

As in the times of Teresa, our world today is in flames, divided by violence and intolerance. As Discalced Carmelites we are challenged by our own need to grow in unity, to bring healing to a divided world. So we ask: ‘What do You want of us, O Lord?’ Our answer would be an ever-deeper commitment to our Teresian contemplative life by building up communion among ourselves, with you our Brothers and our wider Discalced Carmelite Family by means of:

- On-going formation on common and essential themes
- Strengthening the bonds within our own regions
- Opening our hearts and minds to the entire family of Discalced Carmelites

Based on these aims we would be grateful, Father Saverio, if a group of Sisters would work with you to draw up a program of reflection on our charism.

Father Saverio and Brothers, we also ask you to support our efforts on the regional level to strengthen our communion.

With Mary, Queen and Beauty of Mount Carmel, we hold the events of these past days in our hearts and ponder them. We are committed to pray for one another; to walk together; to offer our lives for the good of the Church. Let us go forth with our eyes fixed on Jesus!

Avila, Thursday 21st May, 2015