

Pax Christi!

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Very dear Mother Pious and Sisters,
Our dearest Families and Friends,

October 2021

Praised be Jesus Christ! We pray this finds you well in the month of Our Lady of the Rosary.

We would like to acknowledge that we have heard of the many rumors and false interpretations which have been ^{recently} circulating, especially on the internet, concerning our Monastery. These were published without our knowledge or approval. As you know, in July 2017 ten nuns from our Carmel here in Valparaiso and from Elysburg (now Fairfield), PA went to help the Philadelphia Carmel which was decreasing in numbers. Unfortunately, the city neighborhood surrounding the Philadelphia Carmel was sharply declining, especially due to the widespread civil unrest in 2020. The Sisters sought an environment more conducive to our contemplative life. Following a lengthy time of prayer, consultation, exploration of various options which did not fulfill their need, the Sisters ultimately discerned to transfer back to Valparaiso temporarily. After fulfilling all the requisites for the Sisters' transfers, Bishop Conley welcomed them home to the Diocese of Lincoln in early April of this year. The Holy See wanted to clarify some details of this situation, so visitators came to our Carmel in the first days of October. The meetings went smoothly in an atmosphere of fraternal charity. Please continue to pray for us as we look forward to a resolution according to our Lord's holy will.

May God reward you for all your generous, both spiritual and material, support of our Carmel. We keep each of you in our daily prayers, especially in our Novena leading up to Our Holy Mother St. Teresa of Jesus' feast day on the 15th of this month.

Lovingly in the Sacred Hearts of Jesus, Mary and Joseph,

M. Teresa of Jesus, O.C.D. and Community