

SALUTO DEL PRESIDE DELL'INSTITUTUM CARMELITANUM,  
P. PATRICK McMAHON

In translating the norms of the Institutum Carmelitanum recently I was struck by the Carmelites who have preceded me in the work of the Institutum Carmelitanum, Men such as Ludovico Saggi, Joachim Smet, and Emanuele Boaga have been not only effective administrators of the Institutum but outstanding scholars in their own right, people whose ground-breaking research continues to generate new studies by both members of the Carmelite family and scholars from the finest faculties in the world. I do not expect to match these men in their scholarship, but it is my hope that during my tenure as praeses of the Institutum Carmelitanum I can encourage new generations of scholars to investigate our magnificent heritage and put it at the service of the Order, the Church, and the world.

*Carmelus* is an important part of how that can be accomplished.

Because of the work of scholars like the aforementioned, as well as Adrianus Staring, Otger Steggink, Bartolomé Xiberta, Pablo Garrido and so many others, the future seems to hold an inexhaustible treasure of *res carmelitana* yet to be explored and brought out into the light of scholarly research and publication. Furthermore, the Institutum Carmelitanum is dedicated to restoring and expanding its interdisciplinary character. In addition to its original three-fold focus, history, spirituality, and mariology, we see today that the social and behavioral sciences need to be integrated into our field of vision if we are to understand the dynamics of the society in which Carmel functions as well as the dynamics of the human spirit to which our mission is directed. We must also draw on the expertise of scripture scholars to help us explore and expand our vision as Carmel, if it is anything, is profoundly rooted in the Word of God and the encounter with Christ that can be found only in that Word.

And so, we stand at the brink of a new era of Carmelite Studies, with new and wider vision, and ready to draw on the expertise of new

generations of scholars, both Carmelites and friends of Carmel. *Carmelus* plays a very important role in this mission as it is our chief organ of bringing that research out into the eye of those who are seriously interested in *re carmelitana*: scholars, members of the Carmelite Family, and those who have looked to Carmel to anchor their lives in a tested and true spiritual tradition. For all that has been for these past fifty years we are profoundly thankful, and for all that can be in the future of Carmelite Studies, we are filled with great hope. To those men, both living and deceased, who have been part of what has been, we offer our homage, and to those men and women who will be part of our future, we extend a welcoming hand to come and join us in our work.

PATRICK McMAHON, O.CARM.