 ** **

**DIOCESAN-WIDE INVESTITURE TO THE CONFRATERNITY OF**

**OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL THROUGH THE BROWN SCAPULAR**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M.**

**You are invited to participate in this very Spiritual Devotion to Our Blessed Mother at the Diocesan-Wide Investiture to the Confraternity of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Through the Brown Scapular on FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M. at The Cathedral of St. Ignatius of Loyola, 9999 North Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, 33410. The importance of the Investiture is two-fold:**

1. **To make people aware of this Special Devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel; (“Take this Scapular, it shall be a sign of salvation, a protection in danger and a pledge of peace. Whosoever dies wearing this Scapular shall not suffer eternal fire.”) This is Mary’s promise made July 16, 1251 to Saint Simon Stock). … One Must Be Enrolled and Invested by a Priest.**
2. **To be enrolled in the Sabbatine Privilege. The Blessed Virgin of Mount Carmel has promised to save those who wear the scapular from the fires of hell; She will also shorten their stay in purgatory if they should pass from this world still owing some debt of punishment.**

**This promise is found in a Bull of Pope John XXII. The Blessed Virgin appeared to him and, speaking of those who wear the Brown Scapular, said, “I, the Mother of Grace, shall descend on the Saturday after their death and whomsoever I shall find in purgatory I shall free so that I may lead them to the mountain of life everlasting.**

 **All are invited. Please register as soon as possible. If you have been wearing a Brown Scapular but have not yet been Invested, please join us. Scapulars will be provided for those who do not already have one at no charge. Existing Members of the Confraternity are asked to join us in welcoming our new members.**

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED – SEATING IS LIMITED**

**THERE IS NO COST TO PARTICIPATE – SCAPULARS WILL BE PROVIDED**

**Contact Costante Salvadore (Investiture Coordinator):**

**costante.salvador@outlook.com - (561) 762-5415**

**The Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

It is a gift to you from your Heavenly Mother.

*“WHOSOEVER DIES IN THIS GARMENT SHALL NOT SUFFER ETERNAL FIRE.”*

Promise of Our Lady to St. Simon Stock on July 16, 1251

History of The Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

**In the year 1251, in the town of Aylesford in England, Our Lady appeared to St. Simon Stock, a Carmelite. She handed him a brown woolen scapular and said, “This shall be a privilege for you and all Carmelites, that anyone dying in this habit shall not suffer eternal fire.” In time, the Church extended this magnificent privilege to all the laity who are willing to be invested in the Brown Scapular of the Carmelites and who perpetually wear it.**

**Devotion to The Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

**True devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary consists in three things: VENERATION, CONFIDENCE AND LOVE. By simply wearing the Scapular, we can tell her every moment of the day that we venerate her, love her and trust in her protection.**

**The Brown Scapular Is a “Silent Prayer”**

**As Our Lord taught us to say the Our Father, Our Blessed Mother taught us the value of the Scapular. When we use it as a Prayer, Our Lady draws us to the Sacred Heart of Her Divine Son. It is good, therefore, to hold the Scapular in the hand. A Prayer offered while holding the Scapular is as perfect as a Prayer can be. It is especially in time of temptation that we need the powerful intercession of God’s Mother. The evil spirit is utterly powerless when the wearer of a Scapular faces temptation, calling upon the Holy Virgin in this silent devotion. “If you had recommended yourself to me, you would not have run into such danger,” was Our Lady’s gentle reproach to Blessed Alan de la Roche, one of her devoted servants.**

**Enrollment in the Confraternity**

**To be eligible for the Scapular promise, one must be enrolled in the Brown Scapular Confraternity. This is a simple ceremony which can be performed by any Priest (see below). The members of the Confraternity have the added benefit of sharing in all the spiritual benefits of the Carmelite Order.**

 **According to a statement made by the Carmelite Fathers at the National Scapular Center, every Priest now has the right to Invest the faithful in the Brown Scapular and to substitute the Rosary in lieu of the Little Office (See Below).

The Scapular must be 100% wool without plastic casing and should not be pinned or affixed to clothing. It is worn over the head, under one’s clothes, with one square of wool hanging on the chest and the other on the back.**

**The Sabbatine Privilege**

**The Blessed Virgin of Mount Carmel has promised to save those who wear the Scapular from the fires of hell; She will also shorten their stay in purgatory if they should pass from this world still owing some debt of punishment.**

**This promise is found in a Bull of Pope John XXII. The Blessed Virgin appeared to him and, speaking of those who wear the Brown Scapular, said, “I, the Mother of Grace, shall descend on the Saturday after their death and whomsoever I shall find in purgatory I shall free so that I may lead them to the holy mountain of life everlasting.”

The Blessed Virgin assigned certain conditions which must be fulfilled:**

***Wear the Brown Scapular continuously.***

**When replacing a worn scapular it does not have to be Blessed**

***once you are a member and a medal is acceptable.***

**Observe chastity according to one’s state in life (married/single). Recite daily the** [**Little Office**](http://www.sistersofcarmel.com/catholic-books-third-order-carmelite.php) **of the Blessed Virgin OR Observe the fasts of the Church together with abstaining from meat on Wednesdays and Saturdays OR With permission of a priest, say five decades of Our Lady’s Most Holy Rosary OR With permission of a priest, substitute some other good work.**

**Pope Benedict XV, the celebrated World War I Pontiff,**

**granted 500 days indulgence for devoutly kissing your scapular.**

**The Morning Offering**

**Oh, my God, in union with the Immaculate Heart of Mary (here kiss the scapular as a sign of your Consecration) I offer Thee the Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, from all the Altars throughout the world, joining it with offering of my every thought, word and action of this day. O my Jesus, I desire today to gain every indulgence and merit I can, and I offer them, all together with myself, to Mary Immaculate, that She may best apply them to the interests of Thy Most Sacred Heart. Precious Blood of Jesus, save us! Immaculate Heart of Mary, Pray for us! Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. Amen.**

 **History of The Brown Scapular**

**Throughout time, prayer and Carmel have been synonymous and the Carmelites have contributed greatly to the spiritual life and holiness of the Church. Perhaps one of our most significant contributions has been devotion to Mary, Mother of God, particularly under her title of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Tradition tells us that in 1251,**

**Our Lady appeared to the Prior General of the Carmelite Order, St. Simon Stock at Aylesford, England. In this apparition, Our Lady gave him what we call the brown Scapular... a garment that has become the symbol of the bond between Our Lady and the Order of Carmel.**

**The Carmelites have always been her devoted servants. But Our Lady did not give the Scapular just to the Carmelites. She gave it to the whole world so that all her sons and daughters could wear an outward sign of her love for them. As a "cloak" of grace and love, the Scapular represents the protection and security we find in our heavenly mother's love. Our Lady has given us her Scapular to wear; a garment of special concern a sign of belonging. Her Scapular is a mantle of grace and love.**

**Mary expressed her total openness to the will of God when she said, "Be it done to me according to your word." The message of the Scapular is to always follow Christ in faith, hope and charity. Christ is the source of all truth and holiness, and the graces we receive through Mary's intercession come from Him, to lead us to Him.**

**The Scapular is a constant reminder of Mary's presence in our lives. Through the symbol of the Scapular we strive to live and die as friends of God. This is the substance of the Scapular Promise. When we are baptized, we "clothe ourselves in Christ," and our new dignity is symbolized by our white christening gown, a garment we are urged to bring unstained to the judgment seat of God. At our First Communion, we usually add a new "cloak," that of Our Lady's Brown Scapular. The beautiful custom of enrolling children in the Scapular puts them, in their innocence, under the tender care of their heavenly mother.**

**The Scapular, a monastic apron, is still part of the Carmelite habit. The smaller form, most familiar to Catholics, consists of two panels of cloth joined by string and worn over the shoulders. The Church considers the Scapular a miniature religious habit and, as such, is a highly indulgenced sacramental.**

**Saint Pope John Paul II was very devoted to Our Lady and had a special place in his heart for the Scapular: "Through the Scapular, those devoted to Our Lady of Mount Carmel express their desire to mold their existence on the example of our Mother, Patroness, Sister, Most Pure Virgin, to accept God's word with a purified heart and devote themselves to the zealous service of others."**

**We wear Our Lady's Scapular as a loving response. a "YES"! to her desire that we keep Jesus as the center of our lives and bring Him to others.  "Loving, Mother, I Place This Cause In Your Hands...".**

**Carmelite Friars - North American Province of Saint Elias - P.O. Box 3079, Middletown, New York 10940-0890, Tel:(845) 344-2223, Fax: (845) 344-2210**

Source URL:  [**http://www.carmelites.com/main/content/history-scapular**](http://www.carmelites.com/main/content/history-scapular)

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE BROWN SCAPULAR**

**Q. Why do we wear the Brown Scapular?
A. “The Brown Scapular identifies us, like a habit identifies a religious, or a uniform identifies a person. The Scapular represents a life of prayer.” The Scapular also represents the sweet yoke of Jesus Christ which Our Blessed Mother helps us to bear.**

 **The Brown Scapular is not:
 1) a magical charm to protect you
 2) an automatic guarantee of salvation**

 **3) an excuse for not living up to the demands of the Christian life

It is a sign which stands for the decision to:
 1) follow Jesus like Mary
 2) be open to God and to His Will
 3) be guided by faith, hope and love
 4) to pray at all times
 5) to discover God’s presence in all that happens around us

Pope Pius XII referred to the Scapular as “The Sign of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.” The Pope also said the Scapular marks us as one of Mary’s chosen children, and becomes for us a “Garment of Grace.”

Q. How should the Scapular be worn?
A. The Scapular must be worn over the shoulders in such a manner that one part hangs in front of the body and the other in back.  Worn in any other way, it carries no indulgence or promise. It is not necessary to wear the Scapular next to the skin.**

**Q. Must the Scapular be blessed before wearing it?
A. The first Scapular to be worn must be blessed and imposed by a priest using the formula contained in the Roman ritual for reception into the Confraternity of the Scapular.**

 **Q. What should be done with the Scapular when it is worn out?
A. The Scapular, being a sacred object, when it becomes worn out must be either buried or burned. It should not be disposed of in the regular garbage.

Q. After being enrolled, do subsequent Scapulars need to be blessed?
A. No, subsequent Scapulars need not be blessed as the blessing and imposition are attached to the wearer for life.

Q. Would there be a sin if you stopped wearing the Scapular after having received it?
A. No. It would not be a sin, but in doing so you would loose all the benefits promised. If you have not worn the Scapular, even for several years, and you decide to wear it again, no new ceremony or enrollment is necessary.

Q. Why do we call it a Scapular?
A. The word “Scapular” comes from the Latin word “scapulae” meaning “shoulders”. The Scapular is actually a miniature form of a monk’s habit by the same name which is a sleeveless outer garment falling from the shoulders to the feet.

Q. May non-Catholics wear the Scapular?
A. Yes. Non-Catholics may wear the Scapular but are not enrolled in the Confraternity.  Confraternity members are under the authority of the Catholic Church.  When we give a Scapular to a non-Catholic, we should say one Hail Mary and ask them to say a Hail Mary each day. Our Lady will bring conversions to those who honor Her by this means.**