

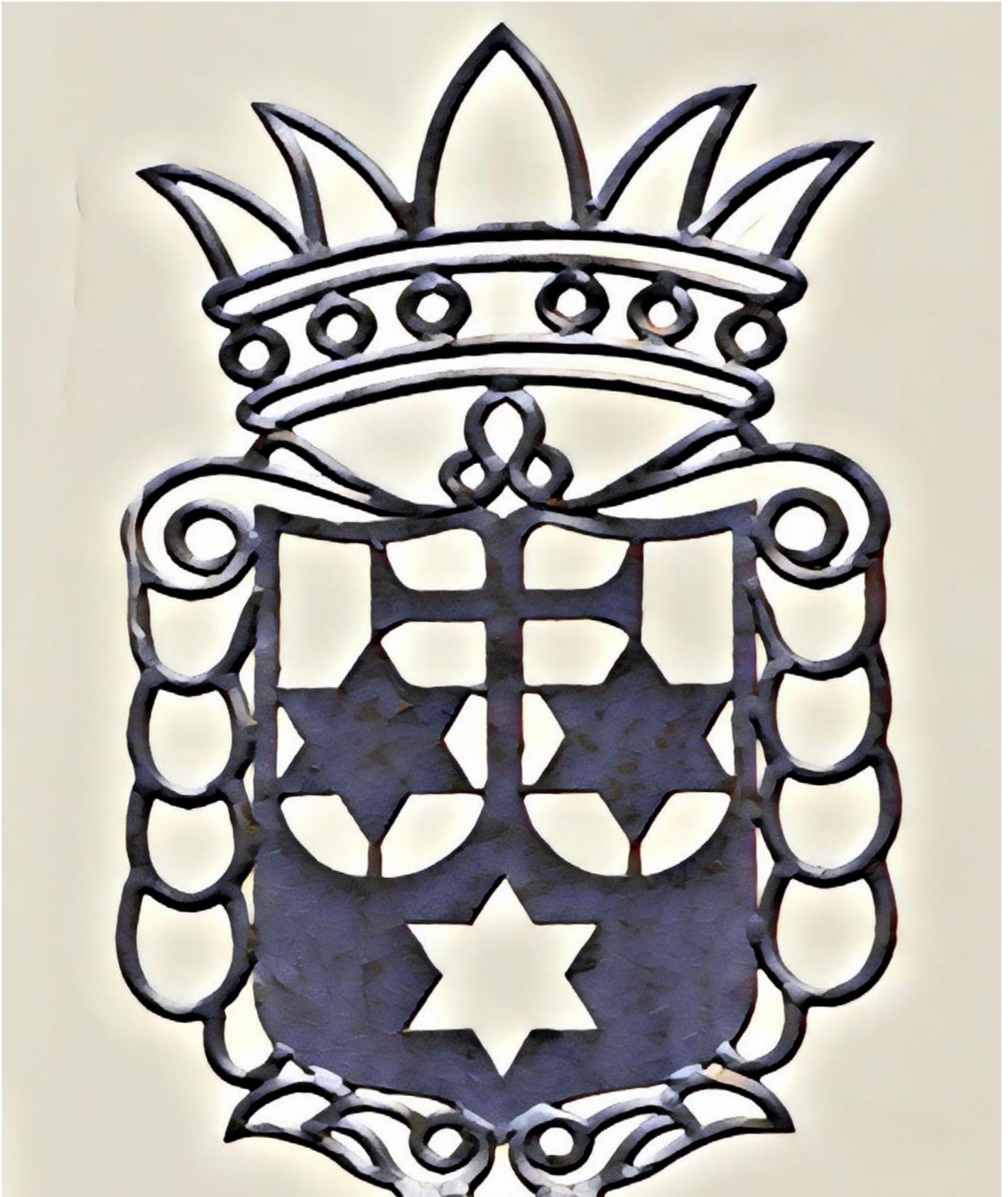
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# OCD

# COMMUNICATIONES





# Theological Essay gains Award

**B**rother Abel of Jesus, a Discalced Carmelite student from the Iberian Province, won the third celebration of the Young Theological Essay Award, organized by the prestigious Spanish Catholic publishing house PPC (Christian Popular Promotion).

At the age of 27, Brother Abel, who gained a Master of Dogmatic-Fundamental Theology degree at the Comillas Pontifical University in Madrid, won the award "the entire jury unanimous" with his work on spirituality in the digital age. According to sources in the publishing house, the essay will be published in March this year.

A Discalced Carmelite since 2016, Br. Abel tries to make his work recognisably believing, inspired by the Gospel and by the doctrine of Carmelite saints, in the stormy sea of social networks. He has a YouTube channel that, at the moment, has 5,330 subscribers and he has already published more than 60 videos on spirituality and networks, but also on other topics, such as the spiritual values of the current cinema or youth literature:

Fray Abel is also present on other networks, such as Twitter and Facebook.

Br Abel, we send our congratulations and encouragement for your work.



# BLESSING AND INAUGURATION OF OUR FIRST FRIARS' MONASTERY IN SRI LANKA

**W**e received news from the Superior of the Discalced Carmelite mission in Sri Lanka, Fr. S. Arockiasamy, OCD, in which he informed us of the blessing and opening of the first friars' monastery in that country. Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith presided at the ceremony.

Although the event had been prepared for March 2020 and Fr. Saverio Cannistrà, our General, had intended to be present, it had to be suspended because of the pandemic. Thank God, on January 16, 2021, the event was held, although only the local authorities and the closest faithful were present with our brethren.

We thank our brothers for the stable implementation of this desired mission, which has been accompanied with attention by the General Curia, either through communication with Fr. General, or through personal visits by the Definitior in charge of the area, Fr. Johannes Gorantla.

We also join in their joy and pray for success in their apostolate in this new presence of St Teresa's Carmel.



# Golden jubilee of the Teresian Carmel in Burundi



**F**ifty years have passed since the arrival of the Discalced Carmelite friars in Burundi, a presence that presently depends on the Krakow Province.

To celebrate such an important date, in the framework of being a feast of a young Carmel, the religious present in Burundi organized a liturgical ceremony and a series of performances given by the youth of our parishes and Carmelite groups. The event, presided over by Msgr. Simón NTAMWANA, was attended by the Governor of the province and various artists who wanted to join the celebration in order to encourage the young people who carry out different cultural activities in the parish groups: music, folklore, painting, etc.



Also present was the mission delegate, Fr A.M. IGIRUKWAYO, ocd, accompanied by the parish priest, Fr. P. Porwit, ocd, who drew attention to the wealth and potential of Burundian youth, which gives hope for a prosperous and peaceful future for the country.

Msgr. NTAMWANA, for his part, thanked the Carmelites for their work and stressed the need to put young people at the centre of pastoral action, helping them as they come to maturity and opening them to new experiences that facilitate their entry into society, combining tradition and novelty in an increasingly connected and changing world.



# CENTENARY IN BARCELONA

**T**he church of the Discalced Carmelites of the Iberian Province on Avenida Diagonal de Barcelona, which is also a Sanctuary of Our Lady of Mt Carmel, is celebrating one hundred years of existence (1921-2021).

After the abolition of monasteries in the mid-19th century, a first group of Carmelite friars arrived in Barcelona in 1896. With the creation of the Province of Catalonia in 1906, erecting a monastery was immediately thought of, the foundation stone being laid on March 25, 1909, with the work being completed the following year. Later, in 1913, the foundation stone was laid of the church, which was opened on January

13, 1921 with an act of worship attended by civil, military and ecclesiastical authorities.

The builders sought inspiration for his work from very different sources (Romanesque, Byzantine, Islamic or modernist arts), which resulted in quite an eclectic construction. The church is basilical in style, with three naves. The transept is crowned by a large dome. The mosaics, which cover many parts of the interior, especially the main altar, are of high quality and evoke the Byzantine and modernist inspiration of the artists who designed them.

A virtual visit to the church can be made using this link:

<https://roundme.com/tour/228851/view/648703/>



1. Santuario de N.ª S.ª del Carmen - PP. Carmelitas Descalzas. Barcelona  
Fachada

# A book on St Joseph in Portuguese



**F**r. Patrizio Sciadini, ocd, who was a missionary for many years in Brazil and until recently General Delegate in Egypt, has published a book of great interest in this year dedicated to St Joseph. The title is: “*Caminhando com São José*” [Walking with St Joseph].

As the author says, his work, first of all, wants to emphasize the depth of the title given to St. Joseph in the gospel: “the just man”. For Fr. Patrizio, “just” is equivalent to “upright” and “holy” and his holiness

unfolds in the mission for which he was chosen: to be a father figure in the family of Nazareth, to protect Mary and Jesus. Joseph, Fr. Sciadini says, is a man who keeps quiet, but precisely for this reason he has an innate capacity to hear and obey the voice of the Lord.

Vatican Radio and Vatican News in Portuguese mention this publication:

<https://www.vaticannews.va/pt/igreja/news/2021-01/frei-patrizio-caminhando-com-sao-jose.html>



# A Day for Peace in Baoro



**O**n January 30, 1948, Hindu radicals murdered Mahatma K. Gandhi in New Delhi. In homage to the Mahatma, a day of peace is celebrated all over the world on that date.

Our brothers in the Central African Republic have not left this opportunity pass by, during a very difficult situation for the country, and organized a day of prayer for their nation. It was joined by Muslims, Protestants and Catholics of Baoro.

It was an exceptional time of prayer, singing and joy, which brought together more than 2,000 people, representatives of a peace-loving population and, with God's help, more numerous, strong and full of hope than those who desire war.

We join their prayer and intentions.





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