Carmelite Institute of Britain and Ireland

Programme: B.Th. (Carmelite Studies)

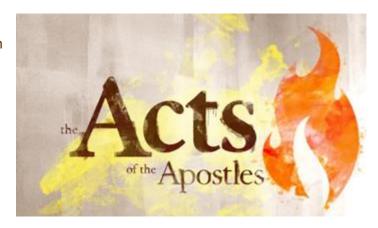
Module T13: The Rebirth of the People of God: The Acts of the Apostles

This module gives a good knowledge of the background of fundamental issues like the authorship, genre and purpose of the Acts of the Apostles, and also gets a grasp of some chosen texts from the book. This should also enable the student to more easily understand other texts from Acts.

The Acts of the Apostles is an exciting book, full of dramatic stories and speeches rich in theology. It is written by the author who wrote the Gospel According to Luke and provides material for both entertainment and reflection.

It is our earliest work on church history, dealing with the period from Jesus' ascension to Paul's imprisonment (ca. 33-63 CE). The book is unique in the New Testament; no other book explicitly presents the history of the church.

Acts is about the growth of Christianity, and how it developed from a Jewish sect to a new religion.



One might say that it is about the rebirth of the people of God; the people of God is no longer synonymous with the Jews, but with Jews and Gentiles together in the Christian community.