Carmelite Institute of Britain and Ireland

Programme: Discovering Carmel

Module DC07: The Carmelite School of Spirituality, Teresian Perspective

This module is an outline by two Secular Discalced Carmelites of what they see as distinctive in the Discalced/Teresian approach to Carmelite spirituality.

Inevitably, therefore, it is focused on the two foundation stones of the Order, Teresa of Jesus and John of the Cross. A detailed introduction to these great Carmelites is the task of other modules and this module will draw out themes and perspectives in their lives and teaching which they see as giving the Teresian Carmel its particular flavour.

The following topics are covered in the module:

Unit 1: Introduction to Teresa & the Teresian approach to prayer

Unit 2: Our Humanity and the Human Jesus; Friendship

Unit 3: Self-Knowledge or (in another word) Humility; Community and Authority

Unit 4: John of the Cross – the Incarnation

Unit 5: John – surrender, eremitical spirit, woundedness