Carmelite Institute of Britain and Ireland

Programme: Discovering Carmel

Module DC13: Carmel and Inter-Faith Dialogue

This module is an introduction to the topic of interfaith dialogue. Since the Second Vatican Council the Church has recognised that this is an issue that is increasingly important for Christians as we live and work in today's globalised world. It is a crucial aspect of the commitment of the Church to Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation and it is therefore an important area of study for Carmelites who seek to 'live in the midst of the people.'

By working through the 5 units of this module, following the process that is set out in the Constitutions of the Order of Carmelites, you will:

- Deepen your knowledge and understanding of what dialogue is and the Church's teaching about the importance of interfaith dialogue for today's world; you will see how the Carmelite tradition helps us in the building of relationships between people of different faith traditions.
- Study the essential beliefs and practices of the majority faith traditions found in Britain and Ireland today and consider how Carmelites might promote dialogue with people of these faiths focussing especially on the other Abrahamic faiths of Judaism and Islam but also considering Hinduism and Buddhism and, briefly, some of the other world faiths.
- Explore aspects of the origins, teaching, and some of the traditions of the Abrahamic and Eastern faiths. Through these you will develop your awareness of what it means to be Carmelite in a multi faith society and how you might share your experience of God with others.