THE Carmelite SYSTEM

THE BEACON

A NEWSLETTER FOR CARMELITE SYSTEM EMPLOYEES

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A Message from the Heart of Our Pilgrimage

Nuance, Stewardship, and the Power of Our Shared Mission



A message from Trish Gathers, CEO of The Carmelite System

Dear Friends, Colleagues, and Fellow Stewards of the Carmelite System, *I am writing to you from Italy while on pilgrimage with the Oblates of the Virgin Mary. I came here with a specific purpose: to deepen my understanding of the spiritual foundations of the mission we have been entrusted to carry forward.*

This pilgrimage has become a defining moment in my leadership journey, a time to reflect deeply on where we have come from, what has been entrusted to us, and the legacy we will leave for the future of the Carmelite System.

That is exactly why we have recently implemented our new assessment tools and metrics. They are not bureaucratic boxes to check, but strategic instruments designed to ensure that we are relentlessly pursuing excellence. Our mission is sacred and requires more than the status quo. We carry out this work in the name of the very foundations of our heritage, conscious that in just seven short years, in 2033, we will celebrate the monumentally powerful 2,000th anniversary of Jesus's death.

This journey coincides with a sacred moment for our community, as our Carmelite Sisters enter their General Chapter to discern their leadership for the next six years. We stand together at an important crossroads.

We are called to preserve the mission, not simply the structures. Buildings may change, institutions may evolve, and models of care may be transformed, but the charism must endure.









True leadership involves the intricate and graceful balance of addressing the evolving demands of today's world while remaining steadfastly rooted in our 2,000-year-old core values and the foundation of Catholic Social Teaching.

What began as a traditional journey has organically evolved into a profound pilgrimage for the Care of Creation. This spiritual shift was not planned for this exact time, yet the timing has unfolded perfectly. It aligns our current footsteps with the global awakening and the urgent call from our Holy Father about our environmental and human responsibilities.

Every historic site on this journey has expanded my perspective on how we must lead and serve. Standing amid the ancient ruins of the Roman Forum, the lesson of history is clear: societies built purely on physical dominance and material supremacy always carry an expiration date. What outlasted the empires, surviving the centuries and prevailing for nearly two millennia, is an enduring work of grace and a countercultural legacy of Love.

This calls us to look closely at the nature of our own stewardship. Inside the historic Mamertine Prison, where Saints Peter and Paul were held in heavy chains, we are invited to reflect on the modern, invisible routines that can easily imprison the human spirit today. In a world increasingly trapped by technology, constant connectivity, and consumerism, true freedom is unlocked the moment we choose to look outward, unplug from the noise, and engage with a reality far greater than ourselves. That spark of engagement is what led to the seed of Carith Ministries, a newly formed ministry entity associated with our system and proudly sponsored by the Carmelite Sisters, which continues to gather vital momentum under the effective clarity and leadership of Pope Leo.

Moving through the quiet stone alleyways of Assisi, this message of stewardship deepens. We are currently marking the historic 800th anniversary of the culmination of Saint Francis's life and his enduring impact on the world. Saint Francis did not rebuild the church through wealth or power; he revitalized it through the immense strength of radical simplicity, profound humility, and an active responsibility to care for creation. His timeless plea to be an "instrument of peace" serves as our modern blueprint.

As the pilgrimage moves north to Florence and Turin, the visual arts serve as a language of translation, highlighting God's gift of creativity to communicate the value and dignity of others. This dignity reaches its peak at the Duomo di Torino before the Holy Shroud, which challenges us to be authentic and caring toward others.



The grand history of this pilgrimage draws down to a singular, beautiful focal point: **you, our remarkable employees.**

Stewardship is not just an organizational strategy; it is a way of directing one's own life, and the impact our staff makes every single day on our residents' lives is profound. Nowhere is the illusion of the material world more gently or completely set aside than at the bedside of those in the final stages of life. When our care ministries and the Carmelite Sisters encounter individuals at the twilight of their earthly journey, the transition is absolute. By that hour, physical function fades and material items matter less. The human soul experiences a deep, urgent, and consuming thirst for spiritual development, genuine engagement, and a true sense of community.

In those sacred moments, the vital, critical role that our staff plays cannot be overstated. You are the hands and hearts that feed the spirit when the world falls away. We want to explicitly acknowledge, honor, and thank you for the wonderful, tireless work you do to make a lasting difference.

This ministry is never a one-way street. It is a beautiful, sacred interchange between two human beings. By showing up authentically for our residents at the bedside, that interaction reshapes you in return, making you stronger, more understanding, and more deeply grounded. This is the enduring energy behind everything we do. Buildings may change, implementation tools will drive us to be better than the best, and long-term plans will evolve, but the core foundation of the Carmelite System will always remain the same.

The Difference is Love.

In Shared Stewardship,

- Trish Gathers.

Reflecting on Our Guiding Principles

A message from Sr. Patricia Margaret Rawdon, Executive VP & Chief Mission Director

"As a Catholic Ministry sponsored by the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, our Guiding Principles are based on the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services, and the tenets of Catholic Social Teaching.

Our 10 Guiding Principles are:

1. Mission, Values, Carmelite Charism and Heritage, and Catholic Teachings
2. Stewardship
3. System Organization, Structure and Authority
4. Servant Leadership Philosophy
5. Leadership Formation and Development
6. Services Delivery and Operations
7. Human Resources
8. Planning and Visioning
9. Values-Based Decision-Making
10. Community Outreach

Guiding Principle # 7 Human Resources

We embrace a diverse workplace that honors and treats all with justice, dignity, kindness, and respect. Our staff are our most valuable resources. Our Value of Shared Commitment emphasizes our belief that quality of care is attained by a team spirit that has a shared sense of achievement, accountability, ideas, insights and commitment to the wise stewardship of resources.

This principle challenges us to encourage an exchange of gifts across our Ministry, involving different individuals and teams, to strengthen our common Mission. In the words of Mother Angeline, "You must be a credible reflection of the training you have received". It is all of us working together for our common Mission that will enable us to move forward and provide care for elderly well into the future.

On September 3, 2026, we celebrated the 97th anniversary of the founding of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and infirm. I'm sure Mother Angeline never imagined some of the issues we would be dealing with today, especially regarding the Sanctity of Life. I feel she would be very proud of the work we are doing to continue her legacy. Thank you for all you do every day to continue our beautiful Mission.



Fall 2026 Events

LCWR 2026 70th Anniversary Conference



The Carmelite System and Carith Ministries' were proud to once again sponsor the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) 2026 conference which this year took place at the Rosen Center (Orlando, FL). Celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the LCWR's founding, the Assembly brought together women and men religious from congregations throughout the Americas under the theme "Many Charisms, One Spirit, One Call." Booth 400 was buzzing with activity, welcoming visitors, building meaningful connections, and sharing our mission of faith, compassion, and service. It was a wonderful opportunity for The Carmelite System and Carith Ministries to listen, build relationships and strengthen their commitment to preserving Catholic senior care.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION:

Leading with Experience. Advocating with Purpose. Advancing the Future of Care.



We are proud to celebrate our very own Kahoney Anderson, Administrator of St. Patrick's Manor, (Framingham, MA) on her appointment to the Massachusetts Public Health Council. Selected by Massachusetts Governor Healy to represent skilled nursing and post-acute care, Kahoney brings exceptional leadership, extensive expertise, and a deep commitment to improving care for older adults across the Commonwealth. Congratulations, Kahoney, on this well-deserved achievement!

St. Patrick's Residence Awarded Best of Naperville 2026!

We are so proud to announce that St. Patrick's Residence was named a 2026 Best of Naperville winner for the second consecutive year! This community-voted recognition is a meaningful reflection of the trust St. Patrick's Residence has built throughout the Naperville, IL community and the dedication of the team that brings the Carmelite mission to life each day. Congratulations on this well-earned milestone!

best of naperville 2026

Fall 2026 Events

REGIONAL EVENTS:

20th Annual D'Youville Life & Wellness Community Golf Classic

On September 8, 2026, D'Youville Life & Wellness Community (Lowell, MA), celebrated the 20th Annual D'Youville Life & Wellness Community Golf Classic at the beautiful Indian Ridge Country Club in Andover, Massachusetts. It was a wonderful day filled with sunshine, camaraderie, generosity and over 100 golfers who came together to support the D'Youville Life & Wellness Community Foundation.







St. Patrick's Residence 37th Annual Benefit Golf Outing



On June 1, 2026, St. Patrick's Residence (Naperville, Il) brought together over 100 golfers on the green at the Naperville Country Club, where every swing, putt and Milligan helped enhance the lives of their wonderful residents! Congratulations on a great day and for raising $40,000!

St. Patrick's Residence 37th Annual Benefit Golf Outing at Naperville Country Club was a great success with over 100 golfers on the field, raising over $40,000 to help continue the mission of Mother Angeline. Looking forward to our 2027 outing!

St. Patrick's Residence 23rd Annual Gold Key Gala



On October 1, St. Patrick's Residence brought the Naperville, IL community to the Cress Creek Country Club for the 23rd Annual Gold Key Gala in support of St. Patrick's Residence. Congratulations on a wonderful evening and for surpassing your fundraising goal and raising $275,000! Every single dollar raised goes directly towards supporting the St. Patrick's Residence mission and expanding programs and services for their community.

HR Corner:
Making Benefits Easier with Brite

Carmelite Systems is partnering with Brite, an employee benefits communication platform designed to help all employees better understand and use your benefits.

Brite provides a single, easy-to-use website where you can access your benefits information anytime, from any device.

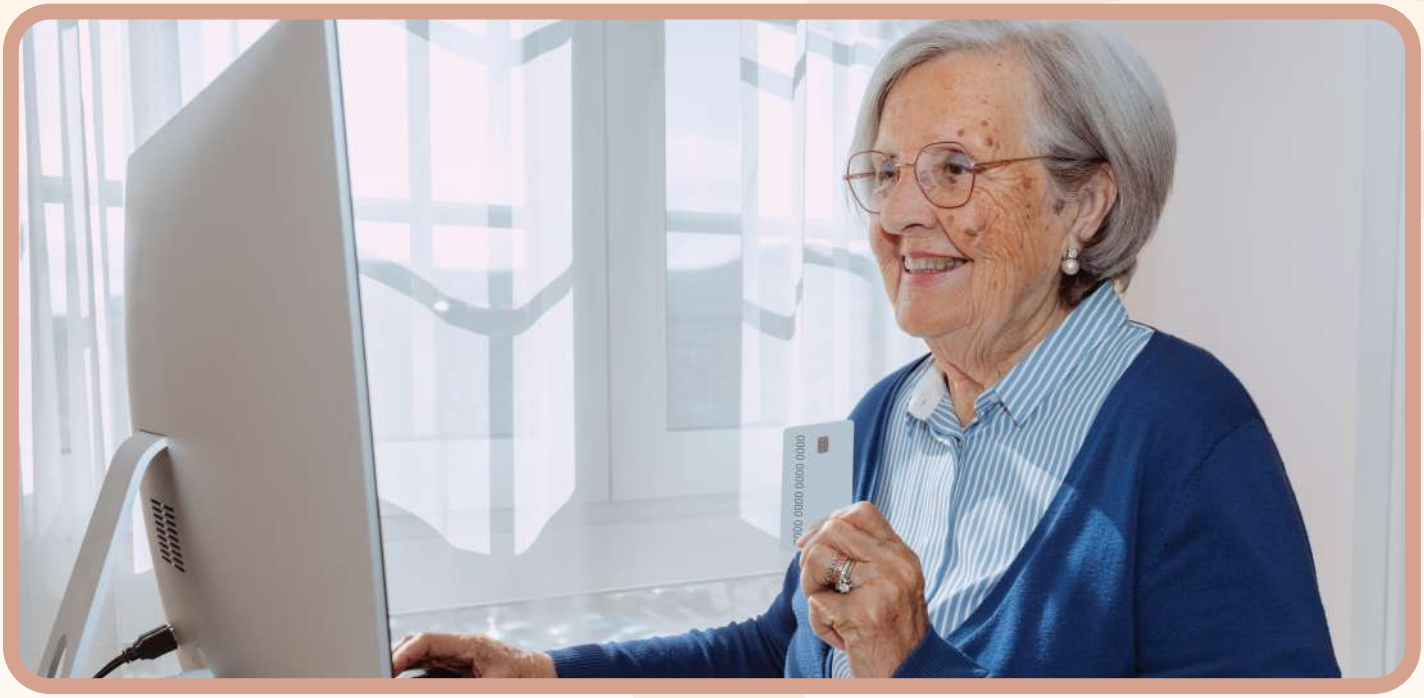
Through our personalized Carmelite benefits site, you can:

- View and compare your benefit options
- Get answers to benefits questions using an AI-powered assistant
- Translate information into your preferred language
- Access important documents and resources in one place

If you're unsure which plan is best for you or your family, Brite's decision support tool can guide you through your choices step by step, making benefits easier to understand and helping you make informed decisions.

This resource is especially helpful for employees who may prefer information in a language other than English or who would like additional support understanding their benefits.

More information will be shared as **Open Enrollment approaches.**



Anniversary Shout Outs

Anniversaries between July 1 and September 30.

We are grateful for the dedication and faithful service of our employees across all Carmelite communities.

1-4 yrs

Cabrini of Westchester: 36
Carmel Manor: 30
Carmel Terrace: 1
Carmelite Sisters: 4
D'Youville Life and Wellness Center: 51
Kahl Home: 23
Lourdes Noreen McKeen Residence: 38
Marian Woods: 1
Mother Angeline McCrory Manor: 30
Mount Carmel Care Center: 16
Ozanam Hall of Queens: 40
St. Patrick's Residence: 31
St. Patrick's Manor: 41
The Carmelite System: 9
Villas St. Therese: 2

5-9 yrs

Cabrini of Westchester: 15
Carmel Terrace: 1
D'Youville Life and Wellness Center: 15
Kahl Home: 9
Lourdes Noreen McKeen Residence: 4
Mother Angeline McCrory Manor: 9
Mount Carmel Care Center: 3
Ozanam Hall of Queens: 7
St. Patrick's Manor: 10
St. Patrick's Residence: 9
The Carmelite System: 12
Villas St. Therese: 1

10-14 yrs

Cabrini of Westchester: 14
Carmel Manor: 1
D'Youville Life and Wellness Center: 13
Kahl Home: 4
Lourdes Noreen McKeen Residence: 4
Marian Woods: 1
Mother Angeline McCrory Manor: 1
Mount Carmel Care Center: 3
Ozanam Hall of Queens: 10
St. Patrick's Manor: 3
St. Patrick's Residence: 3
The Carmelite System: 2

15-24 yrs

Cabrini of Westchester: 16
Carmel Manor: 2
Carmel Terrace: 3
D'Youville Life and Wellness Center: 7
Kahl Home: 4
Lourdes Noreen McKeen Residence: 4
Mother Angeline McCrory Manor: 3
Mount Carmel Care Center: 1
Ozanam Hall of Queens: 6
St. Patrick's Manor: 8
St. Patrick's Residence: 4
Villas St. Therese: 1

25-39 yrs

Cabrini of Westchester: 13
Carmel Manor: 1
Carmel Terrace: 1
D'Youville Life and Wellness Center: 3
Lourdes Noreen McKeen Residence: 3
Mother Angeline McCrory Manor: 1
Ozanam Hall of Queens: 12
St. Patrick's Manor: 8

40-49 yrs

Carmelite Sisters: 1
D'Youville Life and Wellness Center: 1
Ozanam Hall of Queens: 1
St. Patrick's Manor: 2

To find out more, simply scan the QR code or visit us at **CarmeliteSystem.org/Service**