



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CARMELITE LOCAL LEADER ELECTED TO SERVE
AS BURSAR GENERAL IN ROME, ITALY

*Very Reverend Carl J. Markelz, O.Carm., Prior Provincial Of (PCM)
Province Elected to General Council*

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(September 12, 2013: Darien, IL) The Order of Carmelites of the Most Pure Heart of Mary Province (PCM) proudly announces that the Very Reverend Carl Joseph Markelz , O.Carm., Prior Provincial, based in Darien, Illinois, has been elected Bursar General of the Carmelite Order, and will serve a term of six years as Treasurer in Rome, Italy.

The Very Reverend Carl Joseph Markelz, O. Carm., until today's election, was in the second year of a three-year term as Prior Provincial. As Prior Provincial, Father Markelz had been the primary authority in the Province, the Provinces' spiritual leader and the official representative of the Province to the General Curia in Rome, and to other ecclesial and civic authorities.

In his new position as Bursar General for General Council of the Carmelite Order, Father Markelz will manage the assets of the Order, administer the financial affairs of the

General Council and be in communications with the treasurers of the provinces. The Bursar General prepares estimated budgets for projects proposed by the General Chapter and by the Councils of Provinces. He will convene the international financial commission, complete a financial plan, examine the yearly financial reports and establish criteria consistent with the Orders preferential option for the poor and the marginalized. Under his leadership, his office will prepare periodic audits by the General Council.

Very Reverend Carl Markelz, O.Carm., succeeds the outgoing Bursar General, the Very Reverend Kevin Alban, O.Carm., of the British Province. Father Alban was elected as Carmelite Secretary General in 2001 and Bursar General in 2007.

In his now-former position of Prior Provincial, Very Reverend Carl Markelz succeeded the Very Reverend John Welch, O.Carm., who completed two consecutive three-year terms in that office. The Very Reverend Quinn Conners, O.Carm., moves into that position as Acting Prior Provincial.

Reflecting on this election, Father Conners said, "This gathering of international leaders of the Carmelite Order has expressed their confidence in Father Carl to responsibly guide the Order's finances both in the developed and developing world. We are saddened at the loss of Father Carl's Presence in the United States, but are happy that his skills and talents will benefit the entire Order."

Father Markelz was born in Joliet, Illinois, on August 16, 1962. He is a graduate of Saint Paul the Apostle Grammar School, and Joliet Catholic High School. He attended Loyola University where he received his bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 1984. Carl Markelz then joined the Carmelite community and received the Carmelite habit at

Saint Albert's Novitiate in Middletown, New York. After one year of formation, in 1985, Markelz moved to Mount Carmel High School, Chicago, where he served as teacher for the next two years. In 1987 he moved to Washington, DC, where he continued his studies earning a master's degree in Moral Theology, after which he was ordained a priest on May 18, 1991 at Saint Gelasius Church in Chicago, Illinois.

Father Markelz's first assignment was to serve five years as a teacher at Crespi Carmelite High School, in Encino, California. During his assignment at Crespi, Father Markelz completed a second master's degree, this time from the University of San Francisco, in Education.

Completing his assignment in Encino, California, Father Markelz moved back to Illinois, and was appointed Principal of Mount Carmel High School, Chicago, one of the most prestigious Catholic High Schools in the state. During his 15-year term as Principal, Father Markelz established himself as a fair and kind leader who fearlessly sought to continue pushing Mount Carmel to the forefront of academic excellence. Through his leadership he doubled the endowment fund, built a Convocation Center, increased academic program offerings, developed a new mission statement and continued athletic success.

During his term as Principal, he was also elected to the Provincial Council as First Councilor, serving a three year term from 2005 to 2008.

Among his many accomplishments during his tenure as Prior Provincial, Father Markelz is credited with the development of a Strategic Plan for the Province, that of establishing a strong on-line presence for the Carmelite Order, and for opening formation houses in San Salvador and In Mexico City.

When asked about his thoughts as the newly elected Bursar General, The Very Reverend Carl Joseph Markelz, O.Carm., stated, “The Holy Spirit was truly present today. I am honored and humbled to accept such a position.”

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