"God is standing at door of your heart.. He is waiting.. open to Him. There is no need of beautiful thoughts, only an outpouring of your heart."

- St Elizabeth of the Trinity



Carmelíte Monastery

armelites are women searching for the face of God and in doing so are praying for the suffering faces of today's men and women. As Carmelites prayer is at the heart of our lives. This means being occupied with Christ, setting our eyes on Him, praising God in all we do, mediating on the Word of God, living a life that reveals a generous and loving God. Prayer is a love affair of the heart.

The daily celebration of the Eucharist, nourishes us, forms us and holds our Community life together. The Liturgy of the Hours is a continuation of our celebration of the Eucharist throughout the day. Our Foundress, St Teresa

of Avila, wrote "the world is all in flame..."(Way 1.5). Since the 16th century things have not changed. We are still confronted with the reality of the flames of oppression, violence, war, natural disasters, poverty, injustice, illness, and list goes on. The contemplative life of prayer, the same



life that St. Teresa lived and nurtured, is as necessary and important today as it was during her lifetime. Teresa was one of the first to stress the apostolic nature of prayer – the belief that prayer indeed reaches out beyond the monastery, enters with strong vibrations onto the currents of human consciousness and transforms the lives of people throughout the world.

Through work we share in the creative action of God. Like everyone else we have to earn our living and we do so by making altar breads for many churches around Ireland.

Situated on the boundary of U.C.D. and surrounded by schools, exam time is always a special time for prayer for students, parents and teachers. Like St Teresa we carry all our priests in our hearts as we go about our daily round of prayer work and recreation.

We welcome the recent apostolic constitution Vultum Dei Quaerere (seeking the face of God) as a great gift to us as contemplative women. In it Pope Francis calls our monasteries to be schools of prayer and contemplation. This must lead us to being expert in the "art of listening" which "is more than hearing".

We feel that there has never been a better time to be a Carmelite. Let us rejoice!

From time to time we organise days of prayer and reflection for women aged 25-45

who are interested in exploring the possibility of a vocation to religious life. For further information email **maria@roebuckcarmel.com**

Or visit us on www.roebuckcarmel.com