

UNVEILING CARITH MINISTRIES AT LCWR 2025: LOVE IN MOTION, MISSION IN ACTION” Empowering Mission. Embracing Mercy

As the Carmelite System prepares to attend the 2025 Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) in Atlanta, Georgia, from August 12–14, we are moved not only by purpose, but by love—a love that transcends boundaries, breaks chains, and builds bridges. It is with this love that we joyfully announce the formal launch of **Carith Ministries**, a bold initiative born out of compassion, designed to preserve and protect the legacy of Catholic healthcare and elder care ministries across the nation.

THE LAW REVEALS, BUT LOVE REDEEMS

The law, as handed down came to expose the fractures in humanity. It was holy, just, and necessary—but it was never meant to heal. It brought clarity, but not comfort. It named sin but could not forgive it. In contrast, love—the kind of love embodied in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ—came to redeem. While the law says, “You are guilty,” love whispers, “You are forgiven.” Where the law demands perfection, love embraces imperfection and restores the brokenhearted.

This is the spirit in which Carith Ministries was born: not as a response to failure, but as a movement of mercy. Not to measure worthiness, but to minister to need. In an age where metrics often outweigh meaning, and where policies can unintentionally become walls, Carith stands as a reminder that *love is the first and final word*.



Trish Gathers and Bishop Richard Henning; Archbishop of Boston

A MINISTRY MODELED ON THE MOUNTAIN AND IN THE BROOKS

The Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm have long walked in the footsteps of Christ, Christ climbed the Calvary hill—and came down with love engraved on a cross, choosing the way of love, especially toward the most vulnerable: the aged, the forgotten, and the frail. The mission of the Carmelite System has always been one of *loving beyond limits*. And now, through Carith Ministries, that mis-

sion is expanding—protecting sacred spaces, preserving Catholic identity, and proclaiming a Gospel that says: *you are not defined by your decline, but by your dignity*.

When the prophet Elijah fled into isolation, God led him to the brook *Cherith*—a hidden ravine where he was sustained not by human hands, but by divine care. Ravens brought him food. Water flowed at his feet. In the quiet of that sacred place, Elijah learned that even in moments of fear, famine, or failure, *God’s love provides, protects, and preserves*.

This is the spirit behind Carith Ministries. Like the brook *Cherith*, Carith is not a place of exile, but a refuge. It exists to supply comfort where there is isolation, to restore dignity where there is decline, and to sustain the sa-

cred in a world that often forgets the value of the aged and infirm. Carith is a movement of mercy—forging forward not with fear, but with *love that heals and hope that holds*.

A LAUNCH ROOTED IN LOVE

The LCWR Conference, themed around collaboration, contemplation, and communion, provides the perfect ground on which to launch Carith Ministries. This is not merely a program. It is a promise—to the Church, to our communities, and to every aging soul in our care. A promise that they will not be seen through the lens of limitation, but through the eyes of love.

At Carith, we believe that love:

- Does not judge, it justifies.
- Does not condemn, it comforts.
- Does not shame, it saves.
- Does not retreat, it redeems.

The Carmelite tradition is steeped in these truths, and Carith Ministries is the modern expression of that timeless charism.

A PROPHETIC WITNESS IN A WOUNDED WORLD

As we gather with women religious from across the nation in Atlanta, we come not just to share information, but to sow inspiration. Our launch is a love letter to the future of Catholic healthcare—a vision where mission and mercy meet. In a world that can be quick to label and slow to listen, Carith will stand as a prophetic witness: that love—not law—is the true measure of holiness.

Mother Angeline Teresa, foundress of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, once said:

“See Jesus in every person you care for, and let them see Him in you.”

This is the essence of Carith. This is the difference. This is love.



Trish Gathers and Mother Mary Rose, Prioress General of the Carmelite Sisters of The Aged and Infirm.

Join Us And Be Part of the Movement.

For more information on Carith Ministries or to connect with us at the LCWR Conference, visit www.carithministries.org

Carith Ministries is sponsored by the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm. Just like their sister ministries; the Carmelite System Inc., a Catholic not-for-profit health system that provides the platform that involve increasing the availability of geriatric care.

Located in New York, Massachusetts, Florida, Iowa, Ohio, Kentucky, and Illinois.

With over 3,500 employees and 120 Sisters who continue to serve throughout our communities, which are located in seven states and Ireland.

Ready to learn more or get involved?

Visit or Call: (<https://www.carmelitesystem.org/>)

(<http://www.carithministries.org/>)

518-527-5055

— we’d love to connect with you!