**Carmelite Solemnities and the Liturgy of the Hours**

In the General Calendar, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, St Teresa of Avila, St John of the Cross, and St Thérèse are only memorials, and are not observed if they fall on a Sunday.

However! In the Discalced Carmelites Calendar, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, St Teresa of Avila, and St John of the Cross are observed as **solemnities**. Additionally, in the St. Thérèse Province (Oklahoma) we celebrate our patroness St. Thérèse of Lisieux as a solemnity.

The St. Joseph guide for the LOTH follows the General Calendar, so we need to know the “rules” well enough to apply them in our own case.

The basic rules for solemnities are:

***During Ordinary Time***

Solemnities take the place of the regular Sunday office.

If they overlap with Sunday:

For a solemnity on Monday, use the solemnity’s Evening Prayer I on Sunday evening.

For a solemnity on Saturday, use the solemnity’s Evening Prayer II on Saturday evening.

***During Advent, Christmas Season, Lent, Easter Season***

Solemnities do not take the place of Sunday, the Easter Triduum, or the Octave of Easter; they are moved to the next open Monday.

If they overlap with Sunday:

For a solemnity on Monday, use the Sunday’s Evening Prayer II on Sunday evening.

For a solemnity on Saturday, use the Sunday’s Evening Prayer I on Saturday evening.

[cf. USCCB General Instructions of the Liturgy of the Hours, chapter IV]

The bottom line…

Our Lady of Mt Carmel, St Teresa, and St Thérèse always fall in ordinary time. Their office will take the place of a Sunday office. St John of the Cross always falls during Advent. His office will not take the place of Sunday, but will be moved to the next available Monday.

Another note!

Regarding Thérèse, the Carmelite Proper doesn’t give us an Evening Prayer I, since the Order normally observes her day as a feast, not a solemnity.

In the Oklahoma Province one can either:

Use the Evening Prayer from the Carmelite Proper for both Evening Prayer I and II.

Or use Evening Prayer I from the Common of Virgins, and the proper for Evening Prayer II.