



ST. THÉRÈSE OF CARMEL

January 3, 2023

Notre Dame Academy
Order of Union-Chrétienne de Saint Chaumond
4345 Del Mar Trails Road
San Diego, CA 92130

Dear Faculty, Staff, Students and Families of Notre Dame Academy,

In March of 2003, the Sisters of the Order of Union-Chrétienne de Saint Chaumond began the work, in collaboration with the Pastor of St. Thérèse of Carmel, Father Nicholas Dempsey, of building a Catholic elementary/middle school in Carmel Valley. Almost 20 years later we celebrate the fruit of their labor, the establishment of Notre Dame Academy. The Sisters, in collaboration with the multitalented staff members of NDA, have integrated traditional Catholic values, a robust liberal arts curriculum and leading edge theories of administration and pedagogy, establishing our Academy as one of the most respected elementary/middle schools in the region.

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the Order of Union-Chrétienne de Saint Chaumond's decision to step down from the administration of the Academy. In addition to the educational and spiritual expertise Sr. Marie Pascale, Sr. Angélique Thérèse and Sr. Gabriel Marie have brought to the Academy, they communicate through their participation in the life of this community the love and friendship of our Lord Jesus Christ and Our Lady. Though we will miss their daily presence, the legacy that they leave us will live on, in and through, the traditions and values that they have nurtured in this community and in the lives of every student they have mentored.

As we begin the transition of the administration of NDA to St. Thérèse of Carmel, I want to assure you that the mission of building a **Foundation For A Lifetime Of Fulfillment** will continue. Notre Dame Academy will continue as Notre Dame Academy, under the patronage of our Blessed Mother and St. Thérèse of Lisieux. The parish is committed to the ongoing mission of Notre Dame Academy and ensuring that each and every student that passes through its doors receives the highest quality Catholic education possible.

As your pastor, I want you to know that I understand that you are sad and that you have questions about the future. Our goal in this transition is to minimize the amount of change and provide as much continuity going into next year as possible. We have two preliminary informational sessions scheduled Friday, January 6, 2023, at 9:00 am, right after Mass, and at 6:00 pm, both taking place in the Dempsey Social Hall. We will do our best to answer your questions and address your concerns at that time.

In the meantime, please join me in thanking the Sisters of the Order of Union-Chrétienne de Saint Chaumond, and in particular Sr. Marie Pascale, Sr. Angélique Thérèse and Sr. Gabriel Marie for all they have done to enrich the lives of every member of this community. You will be deeply missed.

We will always be "One Family, Always United!"

God Bless,

Rev. Chris Tozzi, Pastor