

7 July 2025

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Warm greetings during these winter months in Christchurch!

We apologize for the long delay between our last update and this one. We've been working hard to practice the patience of saints as we've eagerly awaited the architect and engineers to work through some of the finer details of the Chapel design and complete the developed drawings.

Today, on the first day of our community Novena to Our Lady of Mt Carmel, we are very pleased to share the news that the developed drawings are now complete and have been released to the contractors for pricing! With the time frame given us by our builder, and due consultation applied, it's looking like the cost of the Chapel could be determined by early September!

With our fundraising goal now on the horizon, we will begin producing the main fundraiser video. We will also be updating the webpage to include more details; including the opportunity for donors to dedicate their gift in a special way in memory of a loved one or have their name (or that of someone dear to them) included in a lasting and prayerful way in the new Chapel. We hope to also share an artist's rendering of the interior and some initial sacred art designs.

The heavenly signs we continue to receive surrounding the rebuilding of our Monastery Chapel have been so encouraging, such as a very large donation which arrived on the Feast of St Joseph, who is our main intercessor for this project. Having been able to do so little by way of promotion these last months, it has been with no small wonderment that we have watched donations slowly but surely coming in from New Zealand and overseas donors. To date, we've received \$147,650 from 84 donors. Deo Gratias!

We look forward to being in touch again when the overall cost of the Chapel is set and ready to share. In the meantime, we are so grateful for your prayers and support as we journey towards building our beautiful permanent Chapel. We assure you of our grateful and fervent prayers from behind Carmel's walls.

May God bless you!

Your Carmelite Sisters in Christchurch.