Carmel Hill is a dream come true of the Discalced Carmelites of the Karnataka Goa Province (India) in Canada. It is virtually a dream of dreams that is getting shaped through the monastery being built in this picturesque green surrounding at Fraser Valley, British Columbia—Canada. The surroundings of this beautiful area is filled with lush green meadows, mountains and beautiful lakes.

It was in April 2012 when Helen Chua Tiampo agreed to donate a piece of land to the Carmelites through Fr. Rudolf V. D’Souza, that the seed of this great project was sown. After repeated discussions and meetings held with the estate planners and lawyers that finally a deal was struck to concretely find a land suitable for developing and realizing of the charism of the Discalced Carmelites friars. When at a meeting Helen C. Tiampo directed her secretary Mr. Steve Creighton to look for the land end of April 2012. Since Mr. Steve is in the field of real estate, he looked for almost 6 pieces of land in the Mission area of British Columbia. We zeroed in on a property at Sylvester Street, which was 20 acres in dimension. But as we were about to strike deal to purchase this land, someone else paid a higher price and we lost this chance.

“This is God’s work, because God wants us to go elsewhere” said Helen and “we need to look for another piece.” Then in 15 days of search finally there was a 20 acreage of land with a beautiful house. Helen personally took charge of finalizing the deal and she strongly affirmed that she wanted this piece of land as there was a beautiful mountain right at the edge of the property. Immediately after initial documentations were done, Helen herself exclaimed saying “this land for the Carmelites is beautiful with a mountain attached, we can call it CARMEL HILL”. This is just the beginning of the story...
In preparation for the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, St. Edmund's Church held a Novena with Masses celebrated by OCD friar, Fr. Jerald D'Souza. On July 16 at 7 pm, the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel was celebrated with a solemn Mass. Parishioners of St. Edmund's, devotees of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel along with OCDS members, Religious and Secular members filled St. Edmund's Church. A beautiful flower arrangement surrounded the statue of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel which stood prominently in front of the Altar. Bishop David Monroe of Kamloops was the main celebrant (hurled the 5-hour drive to North Vancouver). Concelebrating the Mass were OCD friars Fr. Rudolf D'Souza, Fr. Jerald D'Souza, Fr. Steny Mascarenhas, Fr. Rajesh Madtha together with Msgr. Gregory Smith, Fr. James Comey and Fr. Paul Goo, of the North Shore Deanery.

Bishop Monroe was particularly pleased to celebrate the special liturgy at St. Edmund's, his former parish. He has been instrumental in many initiatives in the Parish and nostalgically recalled the challenges he and other faithful overcame and accomplished during his tenure.

Prior to the final blessing, Bishop Monroe blessed scapulars (donated by OCDS members), and were distributed to the devotees after the Mass.

In his concluding remarks, Fr. Jerald D'Souza, thanked Bishop Monroe, his brother Carmelites, all the other priests present, and everyone who contributed their time and talent to make the celebration such a prayerful, joyous occasion. He also introduced Fr. Rudolf D'Souza, Regional Superior of OCD Canada, who has been instrumental in the building of Carmel Hill in Deroche (Fraser Valley).

Fr. Rudolf announced the publication of the first Carmel Hill bulletin (copies were distributed to the congregation) and extended the invitation to visit the new Formation House and beautiful grounds. He also spoke about the many features provided by the members of the Order and encouraged the congregation to consider joining.

Afterwards, everyone went to the Parish Hall and enjoyed a reception prepared by the CWL and parishioners.

Fr. Rudy’s homilies on: youtube.com/Fr. Rudolf
The Evolution of Carmel Hill
Construction-In-Progress as of July 23, 2015
British Columbia

Archdiocese of Vancouver
- Guardian Angels Church (Vancouver Downtown)
  Fr. Rudolf V. D’Souza - Regional Superior
  Fr. Rajesh Madtha (In-Res.) Hosp. Chaplaincy
- St. Edmund’s Church (North Vancouver)
  Fr. Jerald D’Souza
- St. Anthony of Padua (Agassiz)
  Fr. Steny Mascarenhas
- Carmel Hill (Deroche, BC)
  Bro. Joseph Giroux

Diocese of Prince George
- Sacred Heart Cathedral (Prince George)
  Fr. Melvin Pinto (Rector)
  Fr. Ronald Sequeira (Assistant)

Alberta

Diocese of Calgary
- St. Thomas More Church (Calgary)
  Fr. John Pinto
  Fr. Godwin Pinto

Ontario:

Diocese of London
- St. Andrew’s Church (London, ON)
  Fr. Ranjan De Sa
  Fr. Alfredo Pereira (In Residence)

Diocese of Hamilton
- St. Aloysius Church (Hamilton, ON)
  Fr. Jerome Mascarenhas

Diocese of St. Catherine
- St. Patrick’s Church (St. Catherine, ON)
  Fr. Mario Fernandes
- St. Anne and St. Mary’s Church
  Fr. Victor Fernandes

FOR MORE INFO ABOUT DISCALCED CARMELITES IN CANADA
- http://www.carmelhill.ca
- http://www.cccsocd.ca

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