BECOMING BROTHERS JESUS CARITAS FRATERNITY OF PRIESTS



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Jesus Caritas Fraternity of Priests 1420 Monte Sano Ave. Augusta, GA. 30904

From the Responsible

Dear Brothers,

I write this letter to you on the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Before I knew Blessed Charles, I knew St. Ignatius. Blessed Charles helped me to see the importance of being committed to prayer with a monthly desert day and a daily holy hour, but it was St. Ignatius who gave me the spiritual resources to fill those times.

Long before it came into vogue, Ignatius taught anyone who would listen how to have a personal relationship with Jesus. His concept of conversing directly with Jesus through the use of the imagination is now a time-proven method of deepening one's faith. His insights into the spiritual life in his Spiritual Exercises are unparalleled in helping to bring people into closer relationship with God.

As Diocesan priests we are more or less left to find our own path to a solid spiritual life. Led by God's grace and guided by wonderful mentors like Mike Smith (for Charles) and Chuck Gallagher (for Ignatius) I found a spirituality that works; that intimately connects me to Jesus and the Father's will for my life. I know the life of an eccentric French priest living among Moslems in the Sahara is not an easy "sell" for many Diocesan priests, but I think trying to understand how and why Blessed Charles lived out his deep love for Jesus can give spiritual strength to our priestly ministry.

SUMMER 2018

It would not hurt to review these spiritual charisms of Blessed Charles with your fraternity, which can be explored in greater depths on our web site, https://jesuscaritasusa.org/. Jesus Caritas Fraternities should encourage:

- Daily Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament
- Modeling our lives on Jesus in the Gospels
- · Simplicity of Life
- Reviewing our life with our brothers in fraternity on a monthly basis
- Becoming a Universal Brother as we reach out to the peripheries.
- Times of Solitude as experienced in a Desert Day



Priest with Current Dues & Diocese

Bishop John W. Yanta, Emeritus Rev. Anthony T. Curran Rev. John C. Kieran Rev. Daniel J. Berg Rev. Chris Kadrmas, Jcl Rev. Bruce Krebs Rev. Dennis Day Rev. Leslie P. Kish Rev. Joseph F. Schmidt Msgr. Andrew J. Schumacher Rev. Gregory M. Faulhaber Rev. John J. Mitka Rev. William Quinlivan Rev. Ron Sajdak Msgr. Fred R. Voorhes Rev. Leonard Tighe Rev. Michael Carr Rev. John E. Murray Rev. Thomas Ogg Msgr. James O'Neill Rev. Gary J. Ruzicka Rev. Daniel P. Coughlin Rev. Thomas Dore Rev. Joseph Mulcrone Rev. Daniel R. Fickes Rev. Thomas A. Haren Rev. Kevin Liebhardt Rev. James P. O'Donnell Rev. Robert J. Sanson Rev. Kevin Shemuga Rev. Ron Szudarek Rev. Thomas E. Wisniewski Rev. David Woost Rev. George V. Fagan, Jr. Rev. John F. Slattery Rev. Martin J. Ralko Rev. Stephen Adams Msgr. Robert L. Amundsen Msgr. Edward Buelt Rev. Bert Chilson Rev. Jude Geilenkirchen **Rev. Frank Maroney** Rev. Thomas L. McCormick Rev. Robert J. Aubrey Rev. Donald G. Bruck **Rev. Kenneth Gross**

Amarillo Atlanta Atlanta Bismarck Bismarck **Bismarck** Boise Boise Boise Boise Buffalo Buffalo Buffalo Buffalo Buffalo Charleston, SC Cheyenne Cheyenne Cheyenne Cheyenne Cheyenne Chicago Chicago Chicago Cleveland Cleveland Cleveland Cleveland Cleveland Cleveland Cleveland Cleveland Cleveland Colorado Springs Colorado Springs Columbus Denver Denver Denver Denver Denver Denver Denver **Des Moines Des Moines Des Moines**

Rev. Wayne Gubbels Rev. Lawrence Hoffmann Rev. Lazarus Kirigia Rev. David J. Polich Rev. Ronald J. De Hondt Rev. Patrick F. Halfpenny Rev. Lawrence Kaiser Rev. Michael Molnar Rev. Theodore Parker Rev. John Beal Rev. John M. Fischer Rev. David Foradori Rev. Leo Gallina Rev. John B. Jacquel Rev. Jerry Koos Rev. Gregory P. Passauer **Rev. Charles Schmitt** Rev. George Strohmeyer Msgr. John W. Swoger Rev. Gerald J. Harr Rev. Richard J. Schlosser Rev. Roch R. Naguin Rev. Bob Hasenkamp Rev. Thomas Kearns Rev. Mark G. Mertes Msgr. Mike Mullen Rev. John C. Reynolds Rev. James Shaughnessy Rev. Dennis Wait Rev. Michael Roach Rev. Nicholas Baker Rev. Robert Barnhill Rev. James F. Benton **Rev. Stephen Cooney** Rev. Jeremy Hazuka Rev. Lyle M. Johnson **Rev. Thomas McGuire** Rev. Gregory P. Pawloski Rev. Philip J. Rauth Rev. Julius Tvrdy Rev. Tom Wiedel Rev. John A. Zastrow Rev. Francis Colborn Rev. William J. Connor Msgr. Joseph F. Greeley Rev. Henry Hernando

Des Moines Des Moines Des Moines Des Moines Detroit Detroit Detroit Detroit Detroit Erie Erie Erie Erie Erie Erie Erie Erie Frie Erie Grand Island Great Falls - Billings Houma-Thibodaux Kansas City Kansas Kansas City-St. Joseph Lincoln Los Angeles Los Angeles Los Angeles Los Angeles

SUMMER 2018

San Antonio

Rev. Tim Klosterman Msgr. Dick Martini Msgr. Paul M. Montoya **Rev. Brian Nunes** Most Rev. Joseph Sartoris Rev. Jerome L. Schmit Rev. Norman Supancheck Most Rev. Gerald Wilkerson Rev. Thomas Coyle Rev. John Hedrick Rev. Richard Aiken Rev. Patrick E. Heppe Rev. Michael F. Michalski Rev. Philip D. Reifenberg Rev. Daniel J. Sanders Most Rev. Richard Sklba Rev. Michael G. Witczak Rev. Don Zerkel Rev. Neil Zinthefer Rev, Jerry McCormick Rev. Douglas Brougher Rev. Samuel J. Taylor Rev. Albert J. Berner Rev. Richard M. Liddy Rev. Daniel Danielson Rev. Denis A. Des Rosiers Rev. Michael W. Grewe **Rev. Richard Reiser** Rev. Michael Swanton Bishop Tod D. Brown Bishop John Noonan **Rev. Joseph Mills** Rev. Richard W. Vevia, Jr. Rev. William Cramer Rev. Eugene Casserly Bro. Charles W. Roland Rev. Greg Nelson **Bishop Thomas Olmsted** Rev. Joseph Heuberger Rev. Garv L. Jacobson Rev. Richard G. Rossman Rev. Jonathan A. Woodhall **Rev. Daniel Juelfs** Rev. William Darling Rev. William Graf Rev. Robert Schrader Rev. Paul J. Tomasso **Rev. Gerard Ringenback** Rev. Michael Degerolami Rev. Carlos B. Velazquez

Los Angeles Madison Madison Milwaukee Milwaukee Milwaukee Milwaukee Milwaukee Milwaukee Milwaukee Milwaukee Milwaukee Monterey New Orleans New York Newark Newark Oakland Oakland Omaha Omaha Omaha Orange Orlando Owensboro Pacifica Synod / Elca Paterson Pensacola-Tallahassee Pensacola-Tallahassee Peoria Phoenix Portland, OR Portland, OR Portland, OR Raleigh Rapid City Rochester Rochester **Rochester** Rochester **Rockville Centre** San Antonio San Antonio

Msgr. Michael Yarbrough Rev. Michael J. Sinor Rev. Daniel Maguire Rev. Anthony McGuire Rev. Paul E. Perry Msgr. Harry G. Schlitt **Rev. Fracis Xavier Eggert** Rev. Lambert Joseph Luna Rev. Juan Mendez Rev. Ausqustine J. Moore Rev. Eric Filmer Rev. Nicholas Mansell Rev. Thomas F. Nellis Rev. Gerald P. Ragan, "Hap" Rev. Ronald H. Belisle Rev. James Eblen Rev. Richard Hayatsu Rev. Joseph Kramis Rev. James E. Lee Rev. Dwight Lewis Rev. Michael J. McDermott **Rev. Patrick McDermott** Rev. Tuan Nguyen Rev. Michael C. O'Brien Rev. Steve Sallis **Rev. Richard Spicer** Rev. Thomas L. Vandenberg Rev. Clair Boes Rev. Albert Grasher Rev. Rick Jones

Most Rev. Felipe Estevez Rev. Francis L. Fried Msgr. John Armistead Msgr. Stephan J. Rossetti Rev. James Caldwell Rev. Paul E. Eichhoff Rev. Michael Briese Rev. Kevin J. Regan Rev. Kenneth S. Van Haverbeke Rev. William F. Graney Rev. John Hynes Rev. Michael B. Roark, Vf Rev. David L. Arnoldt Rev. Michael J. Ibach Rev. William Shaw Rev. Thomas Cebula Rev. Donald Feicht Rev. Mel Rusnak Rev. Edward Wieczorek

San Diego San Francisco San Francisco San Francisco San Francisco Santa Fe Santa Fe Santa Fe Santa Fe Savannah Savannah Savannah Savannah Seattle Sioux City Spokane Springfield - Cape Girardeau St. Augustine St. Paul/Minneapolis Stockton Syracuse Tulsa Tulsa Washington, DC Washington, DC Wichita Wilmington, DE Wilmington, DE Wilmington, DE Winona Yakima Yakima Youngstown Youngstown Youngstown Youngstown



Everywhere is Our Monastery – Da



Tom McCormick, Greg Pawloski, and Mark Mertes breaking bread with Jesus in Detroit.

When Fr. Jerry Ragan graciously invited me to participate in the Fraternity Gathering in Detroit, I was truly delighted. Jerry knows that I love to visit monasteries, especially Trappist monasteries, even during the sweltering summer month of July. Having welcomed this special invitation, the spirituality of Charles de Foucauld resounded in my heart and mind that "Everywhere is our Monastery." These will be days of renewal and rest. And in Detroit! This was an opportunity I simply could not miss.

To be sure, Detroit is the city of Blessed Solanus Casey. This alone compels a visit. Also, from watching and listening to the national and international news, I became aware of what Detroit means to certain European students – especially the French. When the students were asked if they had a preference as to which city they would prefer to visit in the U.S. such as New York, some surprisingly replied, "No. We can visit New York anytime." Detroit ranked highly as their preferred city. Detroit for these students is "a metaphor for hope" according to national and international news reports. In fact, in one of my Easter homilies, I referred to the city of Detroit as "a metaphor of hope."

I did not know then that Detroit's motto was actually penned by Fr. Gabriel Richard after the fire in 1805; "Speramos Meliora, resurget cineribus". The English translation reads; "We hope for better things. It will rise from the ashes." A week before we departed to Detroit, I heard on the national news: "Ford gives Detroit a big dose of hope" with the purchase of the old railway station. I thought to myself, we are heading to the right city for our gathering.

Immediately upon arrival in Detroit, I felt the spirit of the Fraternity. John and Greg met Richard Reiser and

ays of Rest and Renewal in Detroit

mas Healy

I at the airport and were most gracious and hospitable. They set a wonderful tone for the whole Gathering. Jerry was everywhere helping the brothers get settled.

Bishop Reiss gave us a great challenge at the opening Mass. The review of life, he reminded us, is "to help us to help one another to see and hear more clearly the full reality of what we live day in and day out. We must contemplatively really listen to and really see one another, to touch the truth (reality) of who we are and what we are about." Fr. Mark Martes also gave a humble and moving witness as to how he is living out the spirituality of the Fraternity in his priestly life and ministry.

What a memorable 4th of July we had at St. Paul on the Lake. We extend our sincere thanks for the generosity of Msgr. Pat Half Penny and to Bishop Hanchon for being the face of Detroit's hospitality. It seemed so natural to him. He is a wonderful witness to the fruitfulness that comes from living the spirituality of Blessed Charles. Bishop Hanchon's own dose of hope was contagious in Detroit, especially when he introduced to us the two young priests who are now members of the Fraternity.

A special thanks also to John Jacquel for his Film Festival. It was a daily, evening of fellowship that was both enjoyable and inspiring. It concluded on the right spiritual note with the movie, "True Confessions." Jerry Ragan was everywhere. He did not leave a stone unturned in making sure we were all in the right place at the right time, and that we all felt at home. Fr. Richard Reiser celebrated the farewell Mass for us. He prayerfully sent us on our way to live "the hidden life of Jesus,' the major portion of Christ's life.

There is a quotation from Little Sister Magdeleine of Jesus which personally summarizes the reality I experienced in Detroit. "Before being religious, be Christian. Have the plain human virtues of hospitality and charity and cultivate them to their highest degree."

As we reflect back on our days at the beautiful Passionist Retreat Center, may the words of Archbishop Vigneron, spoken at the fundraiser for Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit on June 15th, find lodgment in our hearts. "There is indeed in this community of Metro Detroit in southeast Michigan a broad sense of optimism that many of us have not experienced in decades...This hope can't simply be a shallow optimism...This hope has to be rooted in something deeper, something rooted in our souls, a confidence that God is with us and whether the times are good or bad, God will permit us to hope for better, and He is always working to raise something new from the ashes."

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In speaking of the McCarrick scandal and "the silence of so many bishops who knew about him," Bishop Shawn McKnight of the Diocese of Jefferson City wondered how a bishop could "disrespect with such callousness the dignity of young boys, seminarians and priests over decades and no one called him on the carpet? It is inexplicable to me. This cannot continue, and I hope with God's grace there will be a change of culture among the clergy."

Many in our fraternities long for a change of culture within the institution Church. As bishops and priests of the Fraternity, facing this shameful McCarrick moment and with a humble hope that reform is possible, might not we offer to our brothers the Review of Life rooted in a commitment to contemplative prayer as a pathway to effect change? We need to be accountable to each other and to our people. We need to men of prayer who are willing to shout the Gospel with our lives. If you would like to express your thoughts and opinions on this "McCarrick moment", please send them to jesus.caritas.usa@gmail.com and we will begin a dialogue on the matter in our Fall Newsletter.

A New Book

Jesus Day by Day is a book of daily meditations in the spirit of Brother Charles de Foucauld put together by Fr Joe Diele who is a member of the Jesus Caritas Community of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island. Fr. Joe was mentored in the Fraternity by two of the giants of fraternity life here in the States, Howie Calkins and Bryan Karvelis. This calendar walks through the year with quotes from Brother Charles, Rene' Voillaume, and little Sister Magdeleine. It received rave reviews from the priests gathered for the Vacation Days in Detroit. The book can be ordered by sending a check for \$10.00 + \$2 shipping to:

> JESUS CARITAS PUBLICATION 12116 WOODHOLM COURT FORT MILL, SC 29708

Jesus Caritas Publications offers a number of books and other resources of interest to the Foucauldian Family. More information is available at www.charlesdefoucauld.info



Universal Brother Award

On July 4th at a national gathering of the Jesus Caritas Fraternity of Priests the Universal Brother Award for 2018 was presented to Fr. Thomas L. McCormick of the Archdiocese of Denver. The Fraternity was gathered at St. Paul on the Lake in Grosse Pointe Farms, MI. for a Mass celebrated by Bishop Don Hanchon, the Episcopal Moderator of the Fraternity. Presented by the Bishop Hanchon and Fr. Jerry Ragan, the National Responsible for the Fraternity, the Award is given to a Diocesan priest who exemplifies the spirituality of Blessed Charles de Foucauld and who has discovered through his message a way of living the Gospel more fully to the ends of the earth, in fraternal sharing with his brother priests, in caring for the least among us, and in silent adoration of our Eucharistic Lord.

From the Responsible continued from front cover

- A Month of Nazareth which forms
 a priest in these charisms
- Friendship and Fraternity with all our brother priests

I am grateful to the almost 200 priests and bishops listed in this newsletter who have supported the Fraternity through their dues and contributions. Your generosity will help some of our brothers from less affluent presbyterates around the world get to the Fraternity's World Assembly in Cebu, the Philippines in January. It will also help us continue our outreach to seminarians here in the United States.

Your support and help are also needed in promoting our next Month of Nazareth. The Month forms a man in a spirituality that can lead to a very happy life as a diocesan priest. It will be directed by Msgr. Robert "Bob" Amundsen of the Archdiocese of Denver on Tybee Island, Georgia from September 23rd to October 13th. The Retreat that concludes the Month will be held at Marywood Retreat Center in Switzerland, Florida from October 14th through 18th. The Retreat portion of the Month is open to all priests. There will be more details on the Month of Nazareth in the Fall Newsletter.

Fraternally,

On. Jerry Ragon

Fr. Jerry "Hap" Ragan

National Fraternity

National Responsible

Rev. Jerry "Hap" Ragan 802 Lovell Ave. Tybee Island, GA 31328 706-267-1073 hapragan@hotmail.com

Western Council Member

Rev. Joseph Greeley 3519 St. Pancratius Place Lakewood, CA 90712 562-634-6111; fax: 562-634-7817 Email: stpanpastor@sbcglobal.net

Central Council Member

Rev. Gregory Pawloski St. Catherine Church PO Box O Indianola, NE 69034 308-364-2428 Email: gppawloski@yahoo.com

Eastern Council Member

Rev. John B. Jacquel Holy Rosary Church 2701 East Avenue Erie, PA 16504 814-456-4254 Email: pastor@sjberie.org

South Central Council Member

Rev. Bob L. Amundsen Immaculate Conception Parish 715 Cabrini Drive Lafayette, CO 80026-2676 303-665-5103 Ext. 106 Email: frbob@lafayettecatholic.org

Northwestern Council Member

Rev. Ronald H Belisle 1200 E. Phillips Lake Loop Road Shelton, WA 98584 360-427-4300 Email: ronbelisle@hctc.com

International Council Member

Rev. Mark Mertes Blessed Sacrament Church 2203 Parallel Avenue Kansas City, KS 66104 913-321-1958; fax: 913-321-1997 Email: frmarkkck2010@gmail.com

Bishop Liaison

Most Rev. Donald F. Hanchon 4311 Central St. Detroit, MI 48210 313-596-7444

International Hermano Responsible

Padre Aurelio Sanz Baeza Perin, Cartagena, Murcia, Espana Email: asanz@quintobe.org

JESUS CARITAS FRATERNITY OF PRIESTS

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Upcoming Dates

OCTOBER 8-11, 2018 National Fraternity Business Meeting, Tybee Island, GA

JANUARY 15-30, 2019 Jesus Caritas World Assembly, Cebu, the Philippines

FEBRUARY 4=6, 2019 Mini Retreat – Open to all Priests, Atlanta, GA

SEPTEMBER 23 – OCTOBER 13, 2019 Month of Nazareth, Tybee Island, GA

> OCTOBER 14-18, 2019 Jesus Caritas Retreat, Switzerland, FL