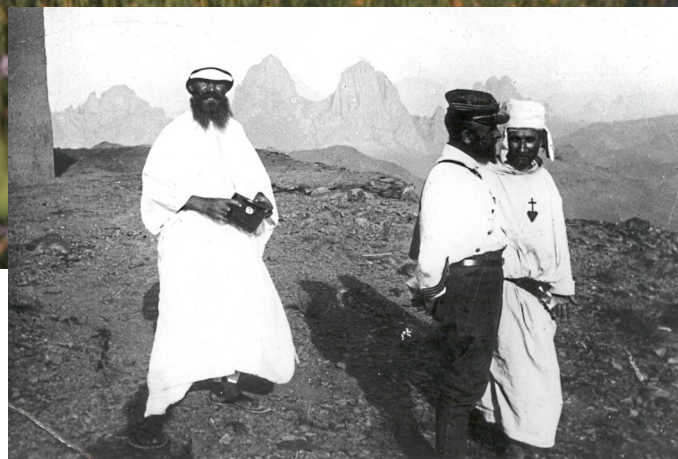


# *Be Brothers! uk*

Jesus Caritas  
Priests'  
Fraternity

New series 21

November 2018



*The inspirational beauty of the “Assekrem” then and now- Brother Charles (left) at his mountain retreat with associates; and the scene recently, as presented by Little Sister Kathy during our Summer retreat. (See inside, page 3.)*



*Every editor is glad to amass plenty of material for his publication, and that's again true for this issue of "Be Brothers uk;" many thanks to all contributors!*

**Editorial**  
**Bob Rainbow**

Despite this I felt I really couldn't condense my report on Sr. Kathy's retreat any further, as she provided us with such an incomparably rich analysis of the meanings inherent in Brother Charles' life and letters. And we were gifted with the most pleasant and outgoing of personalities to convey them! But your national Team, supporting Peter Stodart as our National Responsible, does freely admit that we didn't quite have our act together when the application forms went out to the fraternities far too late; the giving of the dates in a single-liner of the November 2017 "BB's" really didn't cover. We were left with a viable but quite select attendance! The annual January mini-retreat will hopefully be better attended as the booking forms have already been e.mailed to local Responsibles and thus hopefully put in the hands of all brothers.

Then there's the plethora of "emails to the editor" this time, updating us on many goings-on among our fraternities; great!

Stephen Squires is working wonders for us all, not only in the website he has established for the British fraternities (DO have a look at <https://www.jesuscarrispriests.org.uk>) but is now organising a "mini-Month" to offer an easy 1-week taster of a full "Month of Nazareth," that real-life living of some of Brother Charles' ideals that many find so helpful for making us better priests. Do check out the "mini-Month" at its lovely Midlands venue on page 11 of this issue.

Oh, and by the way, if your fraternity doesn't feature on the "Fraternities" page of the website, do send the details up to Stephen, as given under his Birmingham fraternities on that page. (Otherwise one is not allowed to bemoan a dearth of new members in your fraternity!)

Please keep the flow of contributions coming— especially if you'd just drop a very few lines (and a picture?) on even the ordinary things you do in your fraternity, on who's involved, etc. It can encourage the others! ***With some good material in too late for full publication this time, may I set a press deadline of mid-April and mid-September for the June and November issues, with very small "stop press" additions possible until the start of May and October.***

Finally, don't miss John Carter's subs. appeal on page 13; we must keep the show running.

**Bob.**

+

**Pause for a smile**

(A series of billboards outside American churches)





***Our annual retreat  
at Nympsfield Marist Centre,  
Gloucestershire, 11-15th June;  
With Little Sister Kathy McKee***

*(This is precis'd from 5 pages of notes taken by the editor, containing much more of Kathy's insights; they are available on application.)*

***Canadian Sr. Kathy joined the sisters in 1981 and now, while in her community at Walsingham ('England's Nazareth!') works in a hotel in Wells-Next-The-Sea. Her approach to Brother Charles is to get to know his life (as happened with her presentations re at the Buckfast Month of Nazareth in 2016;) she saw 5 parts to knowing him:***

- 1. Love for the person of Jesus;***
- 2. The life of Nazareth;***
- 3. Fraternity;***
- 4. The Visitation as a model of how to announce the Gospel; and***
- 5. The Prayer of Abandonment.***

Beginning with a 90-slide presentation on Bro. Charles' life, Kathy pointed out that Charles was very empty as a young man, rather like so many young people today. The woman he really fell in love with was the desert. During his surveying of Morocco, Islam impressed him and when home he prayed continually, *"My God, if you exist, let me know you."* His cousin, Marie de Bondy, sent him to Fr. Huvelin, a noted spiritual director, whereupon he said, *"As soon as I believed, I could only live for God alone."* Fr. Huvelin sent him on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land where Nazareth became a spiritual experience- the very place where God "went down;" Charles said that his vocation became one to "go down." Fr. Polycarp, the novice master at ND of the Snows taught him to *"remain alone with God alone"* (quoting St. Teresa of Avila.) But he perceived that the monks were richer than the local workers and thus took off to live in the Poor Clares tool shed at Nazareth.

He would like to go to Morocco, but it is closed, so he settles as near as possible at Beni Abbes, Algeria. He is to preach by being a brother to all, and links the Sacrament of the altar to the "sacrament of the poor" (*"What you did to the least, you did to me."*) When he was eventually able to move to Tamanrasset it was to be *"Alone with Jesus."* *"Pray alone, live with books, and meet the poor 1:1."*

When killed at the 'Borj' (the fort,) 20 minutes after he was seized, the Tuareg chief said, *"May you go to paradise"* (amazing to say that of a non-Muslim.) His grave was removed from Tamanrasset, where he wanted to be buried, to El Golea so that it could be guarded from relic thieves at a Christian settlement. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2005.

Sr. Kathy said we need to re-read Brother Charles for today's culture.

***Bro. Charles "turns religion into love."***

The love that meets him equalled the emptiness he felt. He was a bright but insecure child, unsociable. In the army he led a life of gaiety yet it gave him no pleasure; he lost family, home, and the carefree life at Nancy. But



in Morocco, he found himself welcomed into Muslim groups in the villages. The simplicity of the Muslim faith attracted him (eg. no Trinity); the people were living constantly in the sight of God, better than him in his worldliness. It was a call to greater things.. *"To know who you are, you have to ask God, who "is greater" (cf. the "Allah akbar" from the minarets.)*

There resulted an anguished search for the truth; *"God made me hungry,"* like the prodigal son. Later, he was able to give thanks for the empty years as being a part of his journey; cf. the scale of drug and alcohol abuse today.. His inner search was answered by the witness of his cousin (Marie de Bondy) who said, *"Do you think that searching all alone is the answer?"* So he was led to Fr. Huvelin, who saw that Charles needed to move from the rational to a person- Christ; and thus from Jesus' love comes his love for all people. Charles wants to live consoling Jesus' sacred heart, which is central to his spirituality. It is to make a submission as is proposed under Islam (although Christianity emphasises that God is love.) Without chastity and poverty, love of God is lacking; love takes us as we are. It is not to focus on one's own wretchedness but to love God. His logo was used on all his writings -the cross emerging from Jesus' heart with the words "Jesus-love (caritas.)" And he died on the first Friday of the month!

### Nazareth

When Charles left Fr. Huvelin he was like the apostles- 'cut to the heart.' Huvelin said, *'Jesus took the lowest place so completely that no-one has been able to take it away from him.'* At Nazareth, Charles finds Jesus born in the lowest place, between animals; and he ends at the lowest place- on the cross; and so it was all his life. Thus Charles needs to 'go down' before being raised to God, and so he joins the Trappists, called to Jesus' hidden life. Amid Charles' changing life, Nazareth is the constant. *'Jesus went down with them to Nazareth,'* (Lk.) discovering God in a Muslim setting. Nb: in Luke, the Finding in the Temple is framed by Nazareth before and after (he *'lived under their authority.'*) So by 'going down,' he grew; 'going down' to Nazareth is doing the Father's 'business.' Charles' insight is not gained in the Nazareth chapel, but walking the streets of the town. His attractiveness is because he always seems to be making mistakes!

Like Nazareth, Charles feels that manual work leaves the heart free to pray (the aristocrat talking?) There is fruit only if the inner man is converted (rather than by external works.) He transports the house of Nazareth with him always; 'If you have not discovered the inner temple, no chapel will help you,' said a colleague of Kathy's. For Charles, Nazareth means *social poverty*; never to have more than a poor workman has ("abjection.") Eventually Charles discovers that Jesus took the lowest place *to save us*, so he needs to go where people are in the greatest need. A 4<sup>th</sup> stage of his development sees the need, therefore, to be a universal brother; to have an open house, and he gets 60-100 visitors a day! It was a contemplative life that 'deepens through human contact.'

Next, Nazareth becomes a place where he learns to *listen*. On his journeys he walks with the army's translator because he needs to proclaim the Gospel in Touareg. He has to learn by listening to how the locals express themselves; and *not* by learning how to say what he *wanted* to tell them! So he collects Touareg songs and poems.



There is something comparable in the study of the language and in contemplation. His Touareg neighbours teach him how to live Nazareth, including to distance himself from his written Rule at times; for instance, when he was ill and the locals gathered milk for him. Pope Francis says we are not holy if we distance ourselves from our neighbours; *they* evangelise us and help us grow in humanity. Just so with the Touaregs and Charles. For his first 30 years Jesus listened to the villagers of Nazareth; he doesn't speak like a city man, and is crucified as "Jesus of Nazareth." The people of Nazareth are his teaching Material- cf. sweeping the house for a

coin; scattering seed; etc. etc. The kingdom is recognised in ordinary people and in learning to speak their language.

There were 30 years from Charles' conversion to his death, like Jesus' 30 years in Nazareth! Talking 1:1 with the poor relates to contemplation. Huvelin: *'Nazareth is a house that we let Jesus build in us.'* Even if it is a little house, it has room for a lot of people!

### Fraternity

As he doesn't find the community he wants, Charles wants to found one; though he admits he is not a good 'founder.' He sees that he needs to be with the most needy 'flock' rather than necessarily in his beloved Nazareth. He no longer sees himself as a hermit but as a 'little brother.' The term "fraternity" means to have links to all, not just within a 'congregation;' fraternity is lived together but extends outside. Christ came to gather the scattered, but there is no perfect brotherhood because life is unfair, ever since Cain killed Abel. So it is not just individuals who need saving, but their *bonds*. Jesus came not to start a new religion but to repair brotherhood; cf. the Prodigal Son story. Here The elder brother focusses on the fatted calf, which is mentioned three times. So without brotherhood, idolatry comes in (cf. the Golden calf.) Our relationship with brothers is only mended when we take into account the father. Some of the worst conflicts in our world are between brother nations (Israel-Palestine; Arab states...) Jesus teaches us to say "*Our* father" as the key to forgiving our brothers.

Charles builds his chapel at Beni Abbes based on his idea of fraternity; he wants all to see him as a 'universal brother.' Here, he puts the Sacred Heart and fraternity together (cf. the picture in his chapel of the Sacred Heart.) All are welcomed to his hermitage. Being a universal brother was, first, to be a brother and only secondly to be universal, as universal love needs personal love first.

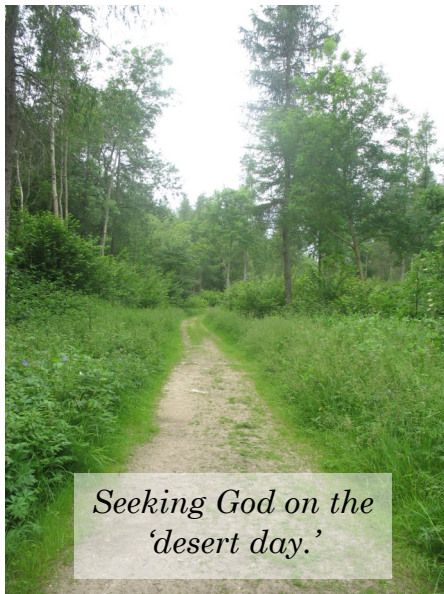
Charles is not willing to leave Beni Abbes where he is by now settled. But he sees the Touaregs as less Islamicised than the arabs, something in which he is mistaken. He accepts that Muslims can reach heaven, and encouraged them in their prayer. Brother Charles saw his role as building trust so that a later generation of priests could work towards their conversion. Charles' relationship with the Touaregs does not let him convert a crushed people (and today the Touareg language is dying in Algeria, replaced by Arabic.) He had two convictions- to preach the Gospel, and to work for brotherhood.

### The Visitation

Charles sees the Visitation as an icon of evangelisation in a missionary country; he takes the Blessed Sacrament not to Elizabeth, but to mission lands. Thus the contemplative (living in silence for God alone, cf. Mary aware of Jesus in her womb;) and brotherhood (going to others just as Mary went to Elizabeth) are united. The tension between these two brings Charles to call himself a "missionary monk" -an apparent anomaly. He writes: *"You came to me born of another way."* A beautiful soul brought me to God, but in her silence. This has to be the pattern of contemplatives to non-Christians; it is a perfume, like wine, that leads to a change of mind. The Pope said one is attracted not by proselytism but by the scent of attractiveness. Yet scent has to penetrate in order to be given off (thus women rub it in at the arteries.) Charles saw the need to build bonds before he can catechise. [Cf. *The 'smell of the sheep? Ed.]* We can note a better attitude in ourselves towards others after a day of prayer. Pope Francis said that the Church needs to get *out* to the world.. Only in announcing Jesus do you fully receive him. [Cf. *our 'missioning' at the end of Mass. Ed.]*

One question for Charles- if he settles in Tamanrasset there will be no-one to serve Mass. But





*Seeking God on the  
'desert day.'*

he decides it is better to be there without Mass than to live where others also celebrate Mass (quite advanced thinking for his day!) Eventually Charles got permission from the Pope to celebrate alone, but not to reserve the sacrament; in case Charles is killed. This 'fast' will lead from exposition to the exposition of his own life.

Living alone at Tamanrasset, Charles is more available to the local people. Love helps one live with others, and to chat one-to-one with poor people. A few conversations with Moussa, the local Touareg chief- "*He who tries to be great does not know God.*" "*To flatter someone is contemptible.*" "*Do an examination of conscience before bed.*" Charles often asked himself what the Touaregs think of him. If one talks like the secular people around you, they do not learn why you are there. Mary was changed by the Visitation, from a girl of Nazareth to the Mother of God. Charles' visitors were struck by his cheerfulness above all; it was celestial in origin. He used to

say- "*Always laugh when you meet others;*" it breaks the ice.

### *An enduring perseverance*

Charles kept going even with no sign of overt results; cf. all his work on the Touareg dictionary. Only one 23-year-old from the White Fathers ever tried Charles' life, but he was given no preparation for, eg. crossing the desert to Tamanrasset on foot and sleeping in the sand in freezing conditions. Bro. Charles was more admirable than imitable! He hoped to build a Christian community while in Beni Abbes, but he only redeemed a few slaves, and soon lost even these. Charles wanted lay people to come for his community as a counterpoint to the military excesses. Such ideas evolved into the idea of a home-based confraternity, supported from afar, and he visited France in 1909 with this aim- the "*Union of Brothers and Sisters of the Sacred Heart.*" But there was war next year and all these plans were put on hold. At this time a book about Charles makes him very well-known in France.

The third area lacking success was his mission among the Touaregs. The journey to Tamanrasset took 1-1/2 months. Charles walked when everyone else rode camels; he travelled 6,000km. in his first year with the Touaregs, at 50km. a day, 30 km. being on foot. The presence of the army led to arab-isation of the Hogar, and hence its re-Islamisation.

At Christmas 1907 Charles is at an all-time low, now in Tamanrasset; he will succeed not by effort but by abandonment. The '*Prayer of Abandonment*' is now very widely known, but it is not really Charles' authorship. It springs from a meditation by Charles on Christ's abandonment; it is a leap in the dark, supported by faith. When that French priest was murdered in his Normandy church a few years ago, a parishioner who was injured prayed this prayer, among many others, and became very calm- total abandonment! Christ by abandoning himself to his father changes his death into a gift. For Charles, it changed his tough character into love - confident in God's work *in us*.

*Sr. Kathy is publishing a book on all this, soon ("New City" Publishers.)*

+

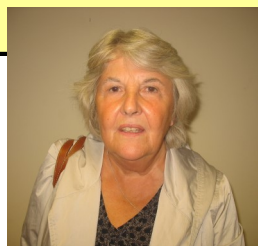


*Don-Peter S-Vincent-Adrian-Stephen  
Bob-Peter C-Kathy-Barnabas*

*Prayer of Abandonment: Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do*

# News from the British lay communities

August update from Moira Poitier, the lay National Responsible



I was in Dublin for a quick visit to help the Little Sisters and Fr Lennie Tighe with the set-up of our

stall in the RDS exhibition centre for the *World Meeting of Families* - here are some photos of our stall, which is small, but ideally placed just opposite the desk that issues meal vouchers(!) so should get some interest.

Moira also sent details of the lay fraternities' world meeting in Lebanon, where discussions included on martyrdom, on official recognition by the Vatican, and reports from lay fraternities around the world; with visits to holy sites in that country. (If anyone would like the long, full report, the editor can e.mail this.)

## From Moira's report to the lay fraternities' world meeting:

### Description of National Fraternity:

The Lay Fraternity has been present in the UK continuously since 1956, when the first fraternity



was started in Leeds. My parents were founder members. Leeds was chosen by the Little Brothers of Jesus as their first Fraternity in the UK. Sadly there are no longer any Little Brothers in the UK, the last one having left for Belgium two years ago.



Currently the lay community of Charles de Foucauld in England, Scotland and Wales consists of 7 active Lay Fraternities, with 1 weekly Gospel sharing group with Little Sisters. All but two of the fraternities are in the south of England clustered around London. There is one in Norfolk, near the Little Sisters in Walsingham and one in Liverpool, where I live. Two fraternities are ecumenical in that they include Anglican members, including Anglican priests, male and female. One new fraternity includes a Muslim member. +

See also Moira's e.mail on page 14.

## Pause for a smile

(A series of billboards outside American churches)



with me what you will. Whatever you do, I thank you. I am ready for all, I accept all;

## *“The Companions of Jesus of Nazareth in the footsteps of Charles de Foucauld”*

*This is a new initiative to form an on-line world-wide ‘community’ of Bro. Charles.*



The initiative comes from a Fr. Lenny Tighe in the USA and his e.mail was introduced thus:

*Attached to this e.mail is the final draft/first edition of a new virtual community connected to the spirituality and the family of Blessed Charles de Foucauld. It is an invitation to become a Companion of Jesus of Nazareth, in the footsteps of Charles de Foucauld. Many religious communities have developed an associates program. You become a member of the congregation “living in the world” but are attached by living the spirituality and the particular charism of that congregation. This is something new, and has not existed in this form until now. Please read the attached document and see if it touches your heart that you may be called to this new venture.*

Fr. Lenny Tighe [BlChdeFoucauld@gmail.com](mailto:BlChdeFoucauld@gmail.com)

*The editor offers just the first of a 15-page description of this initiative; the remainder available from the editor. But for other details of the project, please try e.mailing Fr. Tighe as given above.*

**“Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time and always start with the person nearest you.” – Mother Teresa**

I. Who are The Companions of Jesus of Nazareth? Walking the way of Jesus in the footsteps of Bl. Charles de Foucauld, we are a fraternity hidden in the heart of the world. *“The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough”* (Mt. 13:33). *“You are the salt of the earth”* (Mt. 5:13). Like yeast permeating dough to rise into bread and salt cutting bitterness to increase food flavor, we endeavour to allow Jesus of Nazareth to mystically present himself in our “own little world” to raise it up and cut its bitterness.

It is difficult in a world whose mentality and customs are dominated by a spirit contrary to the Gospel, to live in accordance with Jesus’ teachings on renunciation, poverty, chastity, and obedience without from time to time translating this fidelity into actions that go beyond Our Lord’s actual commandments. To some Jesus says: “If thou wilt,” and here one is no longer confronted with an obligation but rather a solicitation of love.

The family of Blessed Charles de Foucauld has grown and evolved over time, with religious congregations beginning and developing in a variety of countries throughout the world. The Little Sisters of Nazareth, for instance, were founded in Belgium and are primarily Belgian women. Religious congregations have been founded in Vietnam, as well as lay communities in several other countries. They came into existence as a zealous response to concrete needs.

let only your will be done in me and in all your creatures, I wish no more than this. Into your hands



One such unique community was developed by a Parisian French priest named Jean Francois Six. It was, and remains, a way for isolated people from many countries to connect and receive nourishment from the spirituality of Br. Charles in a non-territorial way of communication. His bi-yearly letters are translated into several languages and then sent to those in the Association he lovingly guides. It was unpopular in the USA and other English speaking countries primarily due to the language barrier and the difficulty to translate the material of an ongoing project.

The Companions of Jesus of Nazareth is built upon Jean Francois Six's inspiration and model.

Only time will tell if this is to become a new family of the Foucauld family. However, that's not very important, because the Companions are not about them but about you. It is entirely free to become a member of this growing family. Becoming a member begins with a 24-month program, after which you may take a private promise (not a vow) to live your particular Foucauld vocation in a hidden and yet dynamic way, whatever your state of life may be. Consider it a call within a call. The lessons for the 24 months consist primarily of writings about Br. Charles and the spirituality of living the gospel in a life of intimacy with JESUS. Br. Charles, then, is simply like a signpost directing a way that happens to pass right where you live. It is an obscure, narrow way in your own little sphere of the world. Upon this ordinary, hidden way, one is driven by love for Jesus in every person and place He lives. *(The subsequent pages 2-15 available on application.)* +

## Remembering Canon Tom Curtis-Hayward

*Many will remember Tom, a stalwart member of Clifton fraternity. His wooden grave cross having succumbed recently, his old parish of Stroud, Gloucestershire, have erected a new tombstone for him in the churchyard of the Church of the Annunciation at Woodchester, near Nailsworth.* +



s I commend my soul; I offer it to you with all the love of my heart. For I love you, Lord, and

## Our 15-17th January annual mini-retreat at Boars Hill Carmelite Centre, Oxford.

Our speaker this time will be the popular Adrian Toffollo (cf. below) of Plymouth fraternity. Booking details from Barnabas Page, [barnabas.page@gmail.com](mailto:barnabas.page@gmail.com) 01594 833173, or refer to our website [www.jesus Caritaspriests.org.uk](http://www.jesus Caritaspriests.org.uk) where the booking form will be

posted. The forms need to be sent to: *Carmelite Priory, Chilswell, Boars Hill, Oxford OX1 5HB*, and applications should be received by them with £20 deposit by 15th December, or immediately on receipt of this issue of "Be Brothers uk." Let Barnabas know you applied. +

## The "Plymouth Brethren"

A "stop press" segment of Peter Coxe's fraternity report; full coverage next time.

Distanced from the rest of England and from one another, the 1 deacon and 7 priests of Plymouth fraternity meet at Buckfast Abbey for adoration, scripture reflection (Book of Revelation at present,) cafe meal and reviews of life (if more than 5, they split to 2 groups for the latter.) In 2017 they enjoyed an overnighter at Sclerder Abbey, as seen here. L-R: Gilmour-Andrew-Adrian-George-Peter.



## A Website for the Jesus Caritas Priests' Fraternity in England and Wales


[www.JesusCaritaspriests.org.uk](http://www.JesusCaritaspriests.org.uk)

The aim is to provide information and communication both for existing members of Jesus Caritas, and for any priest who may use the web to search for a source of fraternity and support. Please do have a look. If your fraternity is not listed, please send the details to [frstevessquires@aol.com](mailto:frstevessquires@aol.com). (Your permission to publish on this site will be assumed.) Also, please send any comments or suggestions. It will only be useful if it is used!

This site has been running for a year. The Resposables meeting at Westminster in September 2018 agreed that it should run for another trial year and then be assessed at the 2019 meeting as to its usefulness and value for money. + *Homepage >>*

**The Jesus Caritas Fraternity of Priests**

Home | Info | The Fraternities | The Directory | Charles de Foucauld | Links



Welcome to the Jesus Caritas Fraternity in England and Wales. We are a group of priests (and deacons nowadays!) who meet to share the scriptures, review our lives and to adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist. Our monthly meeting, where possible, also includes a meal and time to relax together. We draw our inspiration from Blessed Charles de Foucauld (Brother Charles) Here is his prayer known as the Prayer of Abandonment:

*Father,  
I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will.  
Whatever you may do, I thank you:  
I am ready for all, I accept all.  
Let only your will be done in me, and in all your creatures.  
I wish no more than this, O Lord.  
Into your hands I commend my soul;  
I offer it to you  
with all the love of my heart,  
for I love you, Lord,  
and so need to give myself,  
to surrender myself into your hands,  
without reserve,  
and with boundless confidence,  
for you are my Father.*

00066

so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands, without reserve, and with



## *A Week of Nazareth 2-7th June 2019*

*at the "House of the Open Door,"  
Childswickham, Worcs.*

*-promoted by Stephen Squires  
with the encouragement  
of our National Team.*

***Every member of Jesus Caritas is encouraged to do the Month of Nazareth, an extended time to devote oneself to the charism of the Fraternity.*** The Month of Nazareth is a sharing of the fraternal life at every level: prayer, reflection, manual work, leisure etc. *"There is a deepening shared spiritual awareness of the Fraternity, with an attempt to confront the conflicting appeals of the Church and the word, the situations in which priests have to live."* (from the Directory)

In practice it is difficult for many priests to set a whole month aside; so we are offering a few days, a kind of 'mini Nazareth,' as a taster for those who have not experienced the Month. It could also serve as a refresher for those who have.

The timetable will be relaxed while including the essential elements of Adoration, Eucharist, Gospel Sharing and Review of Life. There will be a Day in the Desert, an extended time of solitude and silence in which we can deepen our relationship with the Lord.

The House of the Open Door is a Catholic Ecumenical Community with roots in the Charismatic Renewal. It is situated on the edge of a quiet village in the Vale of Evesham, close to the Cotswolds. There are extensive gardens; see: [www.houseoftheopendoor.org](http://www.houseoftheopendoor.org)

The accommodation is basic but comfortable (no en-suites) and the food is excellent.

The cost, full board, will be £55 per day.

If interested please contact Stephen Squires at [frstevesquires@aol.com](mailto:frstevesquires@aol.com). For more details, updates and application form in due course, please visit [www.jesus Caritas priests.org.uk](http://www.jesus Caritas priests.org.uk) +



*The main chapel*



*and the Blessed Sacrament chapel.*

boundless confidence, for you are my Father. (*Brother Charles.*)

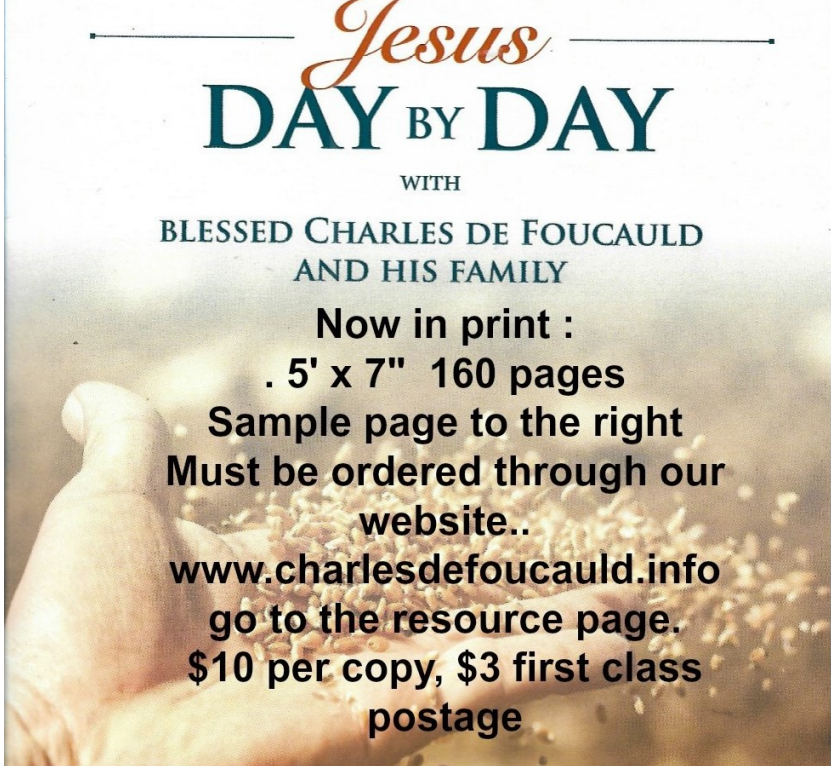
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*Recommended by  
Little Sister Kathy McKee*

*Jesus*  
**DAY BY DAY**

WITH  
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AND HIS FAMILY**



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*This book is sold at cost so everyone might be fed and chal-*

<i>September</i>	<i>September</i>
<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p><b>24 Our Lady of Mercy</b> We must never despair, neither for ourselves nor for others, not for anyone, however sunk in vice they may be, however much there seems to be not even the least glimmer of kind feelings. Don't ever despair not only of salvation but also of the possibility of them reaching an admirable holiness. God is mighty enough for it. The Good Shepherd can bring the sheep home to the fold at the eleventh hour, as at the first. His kindness and might are limitless. We're obliged to hope for everybody. <i>(Blessed Charles de Foucauld)</i></p> <p><b>25</b> Are you fully aware that despite the outer appearances of leading an apostolic life, you must be a true contemplative? Your contemplative life will have to be all the more luminous and fruitful, precisely because you have chosen to be plunged in the activity of everyday life like leaven in the dough... And so, in order that you may be kneaded deeply into the midst of mankind without imprudence, you will have to be filled to overflowing with Christ. He will be the leaven, working through you. <i>(Little Sister Magdeleine of Jesus)</i></p> <p><b>26 Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs</b> In order to convert the world, like the Apostles, in order to be the foundation stone and the Head of the Church, like St. Peter, one cannot prepare oneself in advance, nor over years, nor months, nor days, nor a single minute; it is enough to obey God's orders at every moment. <i>(Blessed Charles de Foucauld)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p><b>27 Vincent De Paul, Priest</b> Poverty: To embrace poverty with all our hearts; not only are riches baggage that weigh us down, but they are a danger. It is difficult to reconcile them with the perfect love of God, of Jesus, because they are diametrically opposed to imitation of Jesus. It is difficult to reconcile them with the perfect love of neighbor because what one keeps for oneself one does not give to others and one does not love one's neighbor "as oneself" when one is keeping riches and leaving one's brother to die of hunger, and when one is not sharing what one has with those who are destitute... and from the day that one shares with the wretched, one instantly becomes poor oneself. To love others as oneself is generally synonymous with sharing one's goods with the poor, with stripping oneself in order to give them what they lack. As soon as one loves in this manner, one becomes poor. <i>(Blessed Charles de Foucauld)</i></p> <p><b>28 Wenceslaus, Martyr; Lawrence Ruiz, Martyr and his Companions, Martyrs</b> Even though you may give all your time, even though you spend yourself to the breaking point, even though the purpose of this devotion is a work of the highest importance, such as that of evangelization, it is all worthless and Christ's love is not in you, if your heart is not filled with respect for all people, for the least of people, for those who do not understand you, for those who repel your advances, for those who are your enemies and are wholly unlike you. <i>(Father René Vaillaume)</i></p> <p><b>29 Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels</b> I want all the people who live here, Christians, Muslims, Jews, to get used to thinking of me as their brother, the brother of all. They have started calling the place the 'fraternity' and I am really pleased. <i>(Blessed Charles de Foucauld)</i></p>

## *From our national Responsible's team meetings*

Peter Stodart's team of Barnabas Page, Peter Codd and Bob Rainbow has met twice since the last "Be Brothers."

### *In June we-*

- Planned for the September 12th annual local Responsibles' meeting at the Hinsley Hall in Westminster (including inviting Moira Poitier, the national lay Responsible;)
- Looked at potential dates and speakers for the January annual mini-retreat (but were not able to conclude arrangements at this time;)
- Looked towards the July 2020 European Assembly of Regional (eg. national) Responsibles which we host in GB. this time, with plans to suss out venues across the country;
- Received the report that the national funds stood at £2,162 in June; £700 was to be sent to the International Fund (which assist the full-time International Responsible, Aurelio Sanz Baeza, and fraternities in developing countries;)
- Decided to try to interest the English-speaking seminaries in Charles and the fraternity, with an article for their magazines and the possibility of addressing students.

### *In September we-*

- Confirmed Adrian Toffollo to lead the January mini-retreat and settled its dates as 15-17th January;
- It was reported an article for seminary magazines has been written by Bob and is to be sent to seminaries, though there was no progress over the summer in trying to arrange talks to students;
- Three potential venues, with details of accommodation available and prices, were short-listed for the July 2020 Assembly of European regional Responsibles which this time is held in GB; its format is to be:
  - *We to provide free travel from/to the British airports as needed;*
  - *National reports;*
  - *Coach excursion;*
  - *'Day in the Desert' with local walks, etc, proposed;*
  - *The weekend spent in local parishes.*
- The cost of our new website has increased to £112/year; this was to be put to the September Responsibles' meeting (see page 10;)
- Reported Stephen Squires is prepared to run a "week of Nazareth" from 6th May at the centre one of his fraternities uses in Worcestershire. Again, this would be put to the Responsibles' meeting. See page 11. +

## *Subscriptions*

*A message from [John Carter](#) following all the banking delays in transferring the treasurership to him:*

*There are still some 2018 subscriptions due to Jesus Caritas Fraternity. Please ensure your fraternity pays as soon as possible. 2019 subscriptions remain unchanged at £30 per person and will be due on June 1st. If you feel unable to pay this, please contribute whatever you can. Full details re-subs. show at the foot of the back page. +*

*E.mails to the editor* *Lovely to see the page so busy this time!*

**Erratum:**

*SO sorry I forgot to change the issue number and date on the last issue- it should have read "New Series 20" "June 2018." Hopefully we've caught up with this issue! (The Editor.)*

**Sent: 02 May 2018**

Dear Bob. Thanks for the info. Stephen [Squires] gave us; a great intro to the new group. The Nottingham Fraternal will be meeting at the Rosmini Centre Ratcliffe, 433 Fosse way, Ratcliffe on the Wreake, Leicester, LE7 4SJ. The dates of our Meetings this year are: Sunday/Monday's, May 27/28, June 24/25th, July 29/30th, September 23/24th, October 28/29th, December 2/3rd. I will pass on the information about the Retreat in June. I am already booked in on another Retreat for this year so will not be able to attend this time, but I look forward to future Retreats. And I will let them know of the £30 annual sub. With regards to numbers in the group. The Rosmini Centre can sleep up to 8 people. So if you send us 8 copies of the Newsletter for the next while, and we can revise the number later. That's it for now. God bless, *Jonathan Cotton (Nottingham fraternity.)*

**Sent: 31 May 2018**

Dear Bob, Thanks for the copies of "*Be Brothers uk.*" I noticed the error but the reason was obvious. I thought the magazine was very good and I enjoyed all of it especially the contribution of the Lay fraternity. Hope you are well. With every blessing, *Michael Jones (Southwark fraternity.)*

**Sent: 01 June 2018**

Dear Bob, "*Be Brothers*" received with thanks. I missed the mistake but found the content very stimulating! As ever, *Paul Lyons (Portsmouth fraternity.)*

**Sent: 02 June 2018**

Dear Bob, Just a quick note to say thank you for sending me a copy of "*Be Brothers*" recently. It is an impressive publication and is cause for envy as I am afraid we haven't yet managed to produce a newsletter for the Lay Fraternity in the UK - still reliant on emails etc. This is largely due to the perilous state of our finances, but not only that...

I was heartened to see LS Kathy's article getting such a prominent place - it is a gem I think.

I noted that you are about to have a retreat led by Sr Kathy - I hope you are able to go because I am sure it will be a great blessing to all - she is a wonderful communicator and deeply steeped in the life of Br Charles and the bible.

I am preparing to attend the International Meeting of the Lay Fraternities in Lebanon at the end of July, so should be able to report back on that and share with you, our priest brothers. Thanks again and hope we can meet up sometime.

With best wishes, *Moira Poitier (Responsible, Lay Fraternities in GB.)*

*See also Moira's news from the lay communities on page 7.*

**Sent: 11 June 2018**

Dear brothers of England, I'm with you in the time of your retreat. My prayer for you and all fraternities. Your little brother *Aurelio SANZ BAEZA (International Responsible.)* +

## Publication received

The newsletter of the Little Brothers of Jesus is available from this address (donations appreciated.) +

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& UNITED KINGDOM  
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Little Brothers of Jesus

English Edition: Issue 29 - I 2018

## Pause for a smile

(A series of billboards outside American churches)



## Local fraternity news

*Please provide more info. on your own fraternity for this slot! (But see "stop press" on page 10.)*

- Fr. Tom Treherne, Responsible for one of the **Arundel & Brighton fraternities**, moved last year from St. Leonards-on-Sea to Chichester parish.
- In April last, while Bob Rainbow was supplying at Stroud, Gloucestershire, he was able to visit Fr. Isidore Obi, one of **Clifton fraternity's** brothers, and parish priest at St. Peter's in the historic Cotswold Roman and 'wool-town' of Cirencester. Nigerian-born "Issi" was ordained for Clifton Diocese in 2011 and is qualified as a judge at the Clifton tribunal. He gained much local cuedos in Cirencester's traditional "woolsack race" by running a 250 yard undulating course with a 50lb. bale of Cotswold wool on his back. Talk about "smelling of the sheep!" +



## Reminders

We're still achieving June and November editions of "Be Brothers uk" each year. **Distribution changes and editorial material should be sent, preferably by e.mail, to the Editor at:**

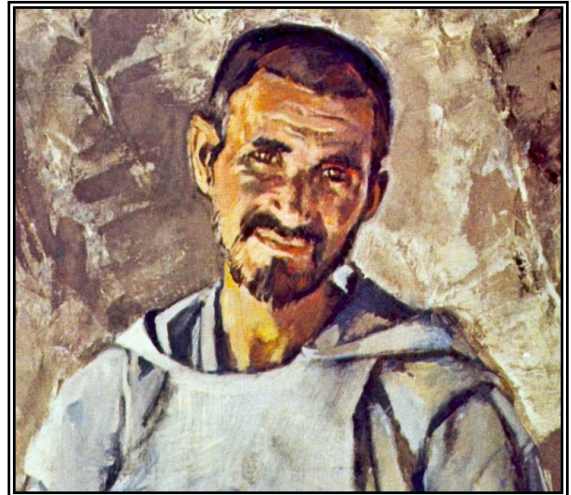
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"Ty'r Efail," Penmorfa,  
Nr. Tremadog, Gwynedd.  
LL49 9RT.

We use an on-line printer for "Be Brothers uk." Clifton fraternity generously do the packaging and posting.



**International Responsible:**

**Aurelio Sanz Baeza,**  
Perín, Cartagena, Spain.

*International Jesus Caritas documents can be seen in translation on the International website:*

<http://www.iesuscaritas.org/en>



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*Peter shares his work with a committee of Peter Codd, Barnabas Page, and Bob Rainbow.*



**Don't forget to book for our January 15-17th mini-retreat (see page 10) and/or for the 6-10th May "week of Nazareth" (page 11.)**

**Requested annual subscription** is £30 per person per annum.

These assist the financing of international Responsibles' meetings and the printing and distribution of "Be Brothers uk" with any substantial surplus going to assist fraternities in developing countries. Subs. should be sent to John Carter as above, payable to: "Jesus Caritas Fraternity." Local Responsibles (or a deputy) might like to coordinate this annually for their Fraternity. (See also foot of page 13.) +

**Website for our British fraternities:** <https://www.jesus Caritaspriests.org.uk>