

Be Brothers! uk

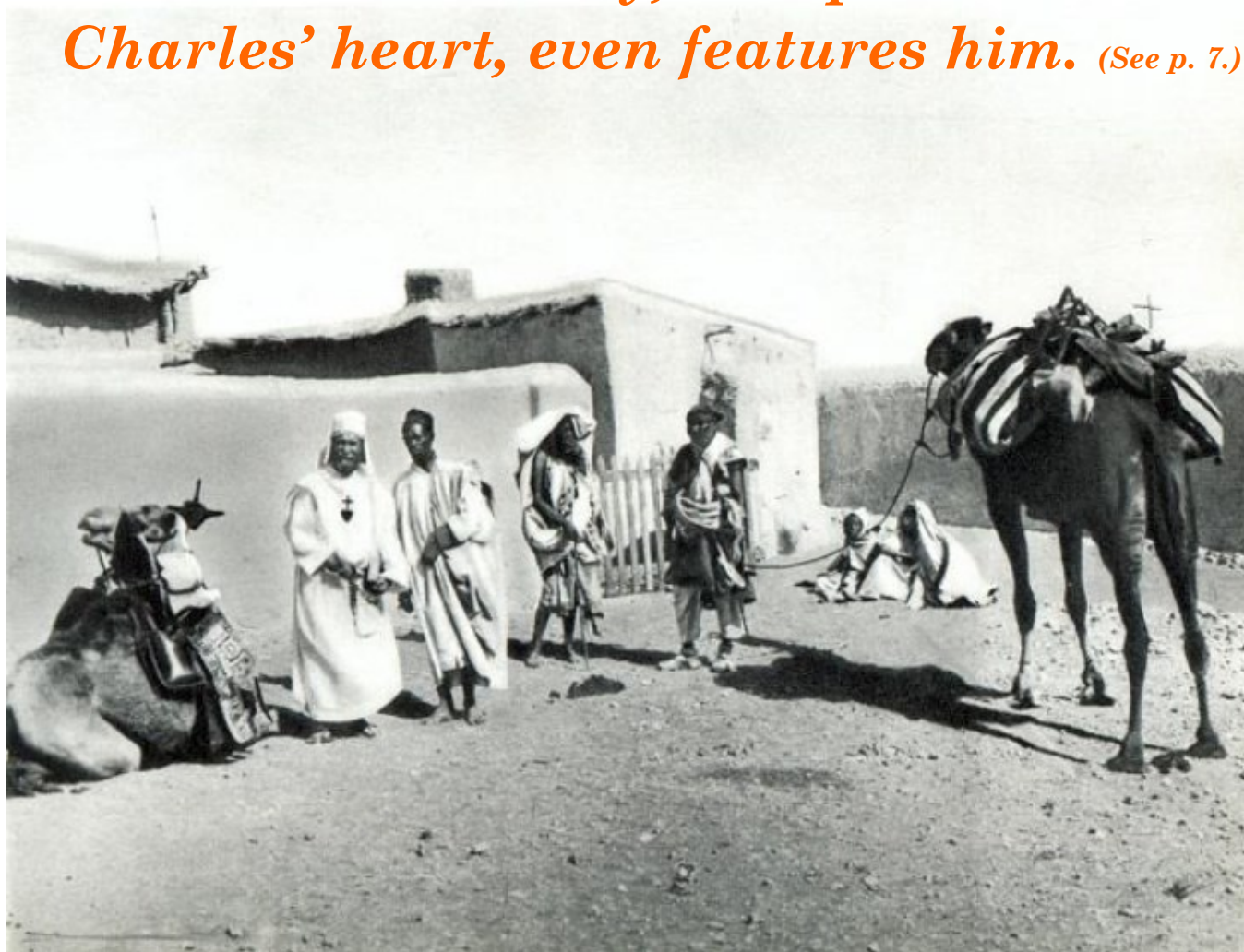
Jesus Caritas
Priests'
Fraternity

New series 25

November 2020

*A remarkable miracle heralds
impending sainthood for
Brother Charles (See p. 3)*

*-and the new papal encyclical
on "Fraternity," a topic so close to
Charles' heart, even features him. (See p. 7.)*





With everything so quiet during the pandemic lockdown, I had feared we'd be in for the thinnest "Be Brothers uk" ever. But Moira Potier, the newly-appointed European Responsible for the Lay Communities of Brother Charles, has ridden to the rescue by sharing no less than 4 items sent to her members!

Editorial
Bob Rainbow

Yet it begs the question— how has everyone else maintained faith during this period? David Standley requests a response to such things at the foot of this page; don't let the ladies show us up!

But also thanks to others for the wonderful news of Br. Charles' impending canonisation. No—not what he would have wanted for himself, but surely a great incentive to spread his message?

25 issues since the first of the 'new' "Be Brothers uk" in January 2009; congratulations to all whose contributions made this possible!

Bob.

Fraternity news

- *The annual meeting of Responsibles, usually at Westminster, was this time conducted electronically by "Zoom" on Weds. 23rd September, the Minutes will be found from page 5.*
- *"Be Brothers uk" by email:* This copy is being both printed and distributed by email as a PDF file to all brothers via their Responsibles (in case fraternities are unable to meet and circulate it manually.) If you would like to regularly receive your "BB's" by email, let the editor know, as on the back page. Make it clear whether you would then still like the 'hard copy' magazine. Any back numbers wanted can also be emailed.
- *A 'Month of Nazareth' is to be held near Broadway, Worcs. over Mon. 6th September - Fri. 1st October 2021; see more on page 12. Recommended for every brother once in your life!*
- *Stephen Squires has created a 'corona' page on our website* inviting anyone to send reflections on being brothers in the current lockdown situation (web address on back page.) *The annual Jesus Caritas mini-retreat* takes place at Boars Hill Carmelite centre, Oxford, over 12-14th January. Booking forms will be emailed to Responsibles later.
- *STOP PRESS: Assembly of European Regional Responsibles* has just changed from Douai Abbey to Annecy, France, over 15-22 July 2021 due to the uncertainties of Brexit.
- *PRESS DATE for the next (June) "Be Bros." must be the start of April for full articles, with snippets accepted till April 15th. Like to say how you or your fraternity coped during 'lockdown?' Some tried to meet electronically via "Zoom," how did you get on?* +

Reflections on Lockdown and Covid

(A "Stop press" from David Standley, requesting responses:)

Arising from AOB at the annual Responsibles Meeting (held by "Zoom" on Sept. 23rd) David asks: "As people who are trying to live out of the spirituality of Brother Charles, does that spirituality prompt us to formulate a few questions to offer for reflection at our local Fraternity meetings on the experience of Lockdown and Covid. E.g., Is this experience uniting us more closely with our people? How are we coping with frustration? Have we lived, or allowed ourselves to live, with prolonged deprivation of the Eucharist? Do we want to recover the routines we have lost awhile, or are we called into a new wilderness? If you have other/better questions, or would like to ponder this further, please get in touch with myself as below; I may shape it up for 'Be Bros.'"

David Standley davidjstandley@gmail.com +

A second miracle ascribed to Brother Charles

*Information kindly provided in
June to our Stephen Squires by
Little Sister Kathy McKee.*

Blessed Charles de Foucauld is to be declared a saint, a second miracle having been ascribed to his intercession.

The first miracle, which led to his beatification in 2005, cured an Italian woman, Giovanna Citeri Pulici, of bone cancer. The second concerns the preservation from apparently life-threatening injury of a young French worker.

On November 30th, 2016, the eve of the centenary of Br. Charles's death, Charle, a carpenter's apprentice working on restoring a chapel in Saumur, fell over 50 feet from the vault onto a bench whose armrest pierced his left side and came out at the back at the base of his rib cage.



The 21-year-old did not pass out, got up immediately to seek help and, after an operation in hospital, was discharged after a week. Following convalescence, he went back to work two months after the accident without suffering any physical or psychological ill-effects.

Seven doctors who examined his dossier last December concluded unanimously that the lightness of the damage done by an unbroken fall from that height could not be explained medically.

In February seven theologians charged with assessing the documentation presented by the postulator of Br. Charles's cause, Fr. Bernard Ardura, considered the particular context in which Charle had been preserved from mortal danger.

First, throughout 2016 many prayers had been addressed to Blessed Charles, and many groups belonging to his spiritual family, particularly from France and Italy, had been praying for his canonization.

Second, on December 1st, 2016 the parish of Blessed Charles de Foucauld in Saumur, unique in the diocese of Angers in being dedicated to Br. Charles, was celebrating its parochial feast day, parishioners having been encouraged to pray a novena to their patron saint in the days leading up to that date.

Third, the accident took place not only in the town where Charles de Foucauld attended the cavalry school as a young officer, when he was the same age as Charles, but also in the chapel of the Catholic lycée of Saint-Louis where parishioners were preparing to celebrate the centenary of Br. Charles's death. In addition, the accident took place at four o'clock in the afternoon, just before the liturgical feast day began.



Fifth, following the accident, an extraordinary number of people prayed to Blessed Charles to save the young apprentice. Among them was François Asselin, boss of the firm for whom Charle was working and a member of the parish of Blessed Charles de Foucauld. He spent the whole night in prayer.

Having taken these facts into consideration, the theologians concluded unanimously that God had worked a miracle through the intercession of Br. Charles, a conclusion seconded by cardinals and bishops on May 5th, leading to Pope Francis's authorizing the publication of the decree to this effect on May 27th. [*See below, ed.*]

Church promulgates new decrees for Causes of Saints

(I am indebted to Fr. Arthur Charles of Karachi for drawing my attention to this extract from "Vatican News" of 27th May 2020. Information on the various Blesseds and Venerables other than Br. Charles have been removed for reasons of space. The full document can be emailed if you contact the editor.)

With the approval of Pope Francis, the Congregation for the Causes of Saints publishes decrees advancing the causes of various holy men and women, including Blessed Charles de Foucauld, French hermit who was martyred in North Africa.

Pope Francis on Wednesday advanced the causes for canonization of twelve holy men and women, authorizing the publication of decrees recognizing various miracles, as well as the martyrdom of an Italian missionary in El Salvador and a group of Cistercian monks in Italy.

Miracles were also attributed to three Blessed: Charles de Foucauld. The official acceptance of the miracles means that all three can now be canonized.

Below, please find the text of the notification of publication of decrees from Congregation for the Causes of Saints, followed by brief biographical notices prepared by Vatican News.

Decrees of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints

On May 26, 2020, the Holy Father Francis received in audience His Eminence Cardinal Angelo Becciu, prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. During the audience, the Supreme Pontiff authorized the same Congregation to promulgate the Decrees regarding:

the miracle, attributed to the intercession of Blessed Charles de Foucauld (known as Charles of Jesus), diocesan priest; born in Strasbourg (France) on 15 September 1858 and died in Tamnasset (Algeria) on 1 December 1916;

Biographical notes

Blessed Charles de Foucauld was an officer in the French army. He became a Trappist monk, but left the order to live as a hermit. He was ordained to the priesthood in France, then settled in the Algerian Sahara. He evangelized the Berbers, learning their language and culture. De Foucauld was assassinated at his hermitage in 1916. +

Prayer and welcome: Provided by Peter Stodart.

1. **News from the fraternities:**

Southwark Dartford fraternity: Michael Jones reported that Fr. Gerry Flood had died. They have 8 brothers. In July they were able to meet 'socially-distanced' in a Dartford garden. They expect 6 to meet next Tuesday for prayer, Gospel enquiry, lunch, and Reviews of Life. They have kept in touch during the Lockdown.

Plymouth Fraternity: Peter Coxe repeated this written report (submitted in advance to Bob Rainbow:)

- Max 6 Brethren, including 1 Deacon, with occasional added presence of a member now retired to Italy. 2nd Mon of month
 - Pre-COVID: Adoration, Scripture, lunch, Review (divided into 2 groups when all 6 attend), Evening Prayer (totalling about 5 hours) at Buckfast with 1 annual opportunity for overnight Sun-Tue chez Chemin Neuf at Sclerder Abbey, Looe, Cornwall
 - Post-COVID: Adoration in private, 1130 meet on Skype for 1 hour Scripture (now on Jn 8) and midday prayer. Lunch in private. 1400 meet on Skype for Review, business and Evening Prayer. Usually 3-4 attend; several brethren can't get online
- We are attempting to go to Sclerder in October for 24 hours, COVID safety permitting.

A & B Fraternity, Leatherhead: John Inglis said they have met up with ZOOM every week ever since 'lockdown' began back in March, and it has proved really helpful. They have a 40-minute meeting, discussing the following Sunday's Gospel and then life sharing, followed by what we are doing 'parish-wise' which is extremely useful.

South Birmingham fraternity: Cecil Rogerson, standing in for Paul Johnson who was unwell, reported on this recently-founded fraternity: Their brothers include a Belmont priest, and sometimes meet in Hereford to help him. They had found that 'lockdown' was useful spiritually, helping them to be 'rooted.' But they find that the 'genie is out of the bottle' now parishioners have such a wealth of online Masses, possibly diminishing the spirit of community. So Jesus Caritas is important to promote, with Bro. Charles' sense of the contemplative being so essential.

Nottingham fraternity: Jonathan Cotton reported they want to start another fraternity in Lincoln but none of the potential members would act as Responsible, so it did not continue. They meet 10.30-3 at Jonathan's presbytery in Nottingham for a Gospel reflection, adoration, sandwich lunch and Reviews of life. They are 5, including 2 deacons and may possibly meet via "Zoom." Their bishop is very supportive, having been in a Birmingham fraternity. They hope to make further promotions in Derbyshire and Leicestershire.

Broadway and Maryvale (Birmingham) fraternities: Stephen Squires said they met by "Zoom" each Monday with scripture and Reviews of Life. There were some blessings of Covid!

Portsmouth fraternity: Peter Codd spoke for Paul Lyons, Responsible, in his absence. They have 6 brothers but have not met in Lockdown. Only one of them is not retired. They have had conversations by phone.

Clifton fraternity: Barnabas Page reported they have 10 brothers. 6 met in August, but they have also had fraternity meetings by "Zoom."

Wrexham fraternity: Bob Rainbow said they have 9 brothers, but one is now permanently in a care home. They have had several

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Responsibles

Held by "Zoom" technology from 2pm. on Sept. 23rd.

Continued overleaf

Continued from previous page

sessions by “Zoom” during Lockdown, but one brother does not take part as he has misgivings about the security of “Zoom,” while another does not have a webcam and doesn’t want to have to cope with the technology, while a further one has the kit but could not get it to link up, even with the help of another brother. They have some hopes of being able to have a physical meeting in October at their usual venue of the Noddfa (“Refuge”) convent retreat centre at Penmaenmawr, who look forward to seeing them again if conditions permit.

Southwark Goudhurst fraternity: Peter Stodart aid they used to have some members well-known in Jesus Caritas circles, but there are now just 3 brothers. They had phone contact during Lockdown and face-to-face in September. They hope to gain more members.

British Lay Communities: Sue Williamson was invited to speak, having taken over from Moira Potier (who has a community in Liverpool, but is now the European Lay Responsible.) David Standley attends some of Sue’s meetings; a real blessing. There are 2 lay communities in London. They have tried “Zoom.” In 2019 they had a retreat at Walsingham but this was not possible in 2020. There are also some members in the North-East, and some interest in Lancashire. She says it has to be more than friendship –a spirituality. She finds there is a lot of resistance to making Reviews of Life, and there are problems with their website. She is in touch with lay communities in Europe, these being especially strong in France, of course. She would like to see more involvement of the priests with the lay communities.

2. Forthcoming events:

Boars Hill:

Barnabas reported that a provisional booking for 2021 had been made, of 12-14th January.

European Assembly July 2021? at Douai Abbey:

Peter S. reported that, following this year’s cancellation, Fr. Kuno, the European responsible, is to be contacted to see whether a booking should again be made at Douai for 2021; and as to whether the proposed programme needs updating.

Month of Nazareth:

Stephen Squires spoke of how it has been a few years since we last had a Month of Nazareth. One now could help us to explore the spirituality of Bro. Charles in his canonisation year, so Stephen has booked “The House of the Open Door” retreat centre near Broadway, Worcs. over Mon. 6th Sept. – Fri. 1st Oct. 2021. Bob Rainbow suggested that the importance given by our Directory of doing a ‘Month’ at some time in one’s life needs to be flagged up among our fraternities. Peter Coxe asked whether one could just take part for a few days.

Biennial Retreat – merge with Month?

We have had a Monday-Friday retreat every 2 years in the past, which should have been in 2020, except the expected European Assembly took the Team’s time. Those who could be accommodated for the retreat during the Month of Nazareth would be very limited. David Standley felt something should be offered.

Canonisation:

Peter S. raised the question of how we should celebrate when this happens – a joint event with the other groups of the Bro. Charles family? Certainly Mass and perhaps a ‘party’ in a central venue, when such can be allowed.

3. Magazine and website:

As they have no journal of their own at this time, Niall Ahern, the Irish National Responsible, had in passing some months ago suggested to Bob (editor) the idea of a joint UK/Eire “Be Brothers,” but no more had been heard since; it was suggested the matter be raised again with Niall. With few if any fraternities meeting physically and thus able to easily distribute the mag., Bob had contemplated emailing the upcoming November issue out as a PDF for a 2nd time; but it was felt that having

Concluded on page 12.

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

Pope Francis' forthcoming encyclical on "Fraternity"

Information sent to their members by Moira Potier, of the Lay Communities of Br. Charles, providing some thinking-points kindly shared for us.

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Lay Fraternity of Charles de Foucauld,

Maybe you have already read about Pope Francis' forthcoming encyclical on Fraternity? Here is a message from Fr Lennie Tighe, whom some of us know.

Moira.

Dear friends in Christ, friends of Charles de Foucauld,

I am sure most of you have heard about the Holy Father's new encyclical to be signed in Assisi in October. I have heard that there will be significant mention of Charles de Foucauld.

Strange as it may be I know someone in France who received an actual personal letter from Pope Francis in which he mentions that he will add something that is important to him about Charles de Foucauld. We shall see if this is true. [See "stop press" below -Ed.] I mention it because the Catholic Press has already made a great deal of publicity about Br Charles, because he is so little known. The canonization will have and is already influencing people wanting to know more about him. This encyclical will be more affirmation of Charles' place in the life of the universal Church.

What happens, now that Br Charles is pulled away "from the last place" that he wanted so dearly? It will be interesting to see how it affects American Catholicism. The papal approval and affirmation of the validity of the charism of Charles de Foucauld will open a new window and door especially for English speaking people who will be introduced to him

Thanks to each of you for your interest and prayer in the ever-growing family of St Charles de Foucauld.

Fr. Lenny Tighe blchdefoucauld@gmail.com +



The words that conclude Pope Francis' new encyclical, "Fratelli Tutti:

286. In these pages of reflection on universal fraternity, I felt inspired particularly by Saint Francis of Assisi, but also by others of our brothers and sisters who are not Catholics: Martin Luther King, Desmond Tutu, Mahatma Gandhi and many more. Yet I would like to conclude by mentioning another person of deep faith who, drawing upon his intense experience of God, made a journey of transformation towards feeling a brother to all. I am speaking of Blessed Charles de Foucauld.

287. Blessed Charles directed his ideal of total surrender to God towards an identification with the poor, abandoned in the depths of the African desert. In that setting, he expressed his desire to feel himself a brother to every human being, and asked a friend to "pray to God that I truly be the brother of all". He wanted to be, in the end, "the universal brother". Yet only by identifying with the least did he come at last to be the brother of all. May God inspire that dream in each one of us. Amen.

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

Crisis in Beirut

Further information sent by Moira Potier, European Responsible for the Lay Communities of Br. Charles, to their members.

Mon 17/08/2020

Dear All,

I received this message [opposite] in Flemish, some 10 days ago, and sent it for circulation around the European Lay Fraternities, with the covering note immediately below.

Since receiving it I have been talking to Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald. Michael is the Patron of a charity called FACE (Fellowship and Aid to the Christians of the East) and Timothy Radcliffe is the Pastoral Advisor, some of you may know of it. We wondered that if you were minded to donate you might prefer to do so via a charity receiving sterling contributions, rather than euros - just a thought, but here is the website for information <https://facecharity.org> There is of course CAFOD too.

Above all we are asked to keep the people of Beirut in our prayers.

Moira.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

You will all know what has happened in Beirut and maybe also what has been happening politically in Lebanon recently, apart from Covid-19, which has affected us all. We have received this message below from Little Sister Jo, thanks to René Haentjens. It is an update on their situation and also an invitation to help financially in whatever way we can - if we can... Could you please send this to your national fraternities - in your own language.

Those of us who visited Beirut two years ago will remember with joy our visit to the shrines on Our Lady of Lebanon and St Charbel - we add our prayers to theirs for their beloved country and its people.



LS Jo is the Responsible for the Little Sisters of Nazareth. There are Belgian and Lebanese Little Sisters of Nazareth in Beirut, (also in the Palestinian refugee camps nearby). Magda is the Responsible there.

I have sent this message and invitation to help to all the European Fraternities, including the UK.

With love to you all and hoping you are safe and well.

Moira

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



LS Jo writes:

Good friends and family,

It will not be unknown to any of you what happened in Lebanon on August 4. More than 150 dead, 5,000 injured; 300,000 homeless and dozens more missing... A gigantic explosion devastated part of Beirut and plunged an entire population into mourning. This drama on top of the economic crisis, the corona crisis and the political crisis makes everyone doubt whether Lebanon can overcome this.

Magda had been saying for weeks, *"It is as if we are in a tunnel whose end cannot be seen. Something has to happen. It can't go on like this."* And then came the explosion. The end of Lebanon or a chance for a new beginning?

Our little sisters who live in Beirut and in the camp are all unharmed. Both houses were damaged but this is negligible. The shock at hearing the two explosions was deep. Cecile and Laure went to give blood the same evening. What they saw in the hospitals were real war scenes. It is abundantly clear that a lot of help is needed. The Lebanese do not expect it from their government and are therefore joining forces themselves. The group that called for revolution in October 2019 is now calling for help to clean up; help and rebuild. Anyone who can work goes to Beirut to help. The older people pray for strength and a future. The solidarity is enormous. Even now everyone is working together under one flag: the Lebanese.

Many of you have expressed your sympathy and asked what could be done to help. Magda thanks everyone who in one way or another has empathized with them and the people. She thanks you for the emails, the phone calls, the prayers ... She is sorry but she does not have the time to answer herself. Later - when everything is calmer - she will write.

Those who want to help financially can do this by transferring money to the following account number: **BE39 0689 0079 9419 of the little sisters of Lebanon - Meibloemstraat 90 9000 Ghent.** We will then ensure that this money reaches the people safely and securely.

THANK YOU for every gesture that will help the population to believe in a new beginning.

Jo

Little Sisters of Nazareth

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Into your hands I commend my soul; I offer it to you with all the love of my heart. For

Obituary

Fr. John Andrew Wemyss Taylor

14th April 1927—26th June 2020

John having been a member of Plymouth fraternity before moving to Gloucestershire, the editor is indebted to Peter Coxe, responsible for Plymouth Fraternity, for the following notes which he has pieced together (with Adrian Toffolo's help) from his own ordination piece in a yearbook and Bishop Mark's obituary for him:

John was born in Richmond into an Anglican background and educated in Wimbledon. At King's College and Hospital, London, he learned dentistry and also studied theology

After a hospital appointment in Bristol he worked as an RAF National Service Dental Officer in the Middle East. On returning, after various locums and hospital work he took a practice in Totnes, Devon.

After 2 further years at Salisbury Theological College, he was

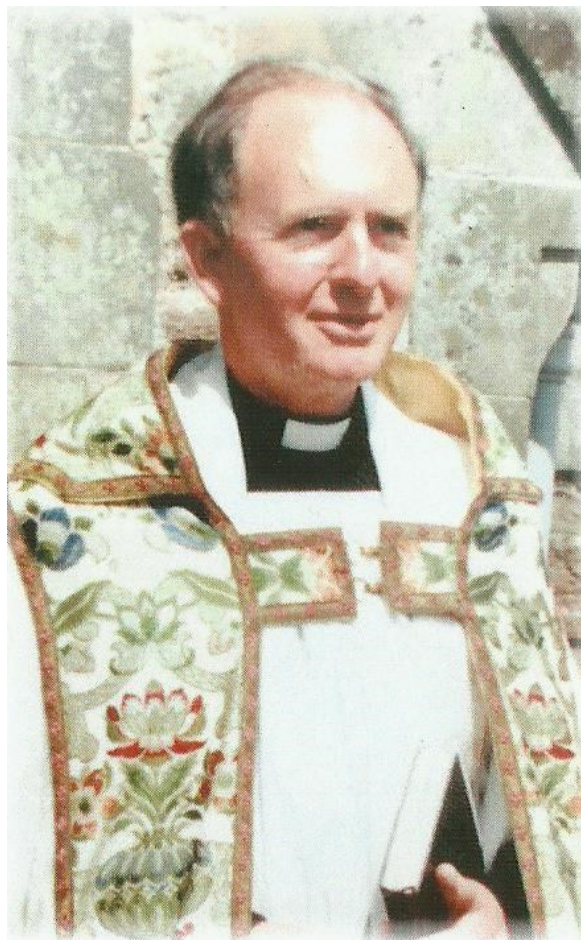
ordained in his forties at Exeter Cathedral and appointed curate in Ashburton, Bickington and Buckland-in-the-Moor, Devon while still working at his dental practice.

Eventually, his Bishop asked him to relinquish the dental practice to become Incumbent of East Portlemouth, South Pool and Chivelstone in the South Hams, Devon. He later become Vicar of Salcombe (where he served 16 years) and Rural Dean of Woodleigh till he resigned the living, but then did winter chaplaincies abroad.

He and his wife, Muriel, were by then living in retirement in Hope Cove, near Kingsbridge, and also oblates of Buckfast Abbey, where he was received into the Catholic Church and Bishop Christopher Budd ordained him Priest 6 March 1999. He then assisted in local parishes when needed.

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A brother in our fraternity was brought up in Totnes. In his words,



I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands, with-

“I first knew John Taylor as my dentist in Totnes in the 1950’s. As I moved towards making an application to the Diocese of Plymouth, John became very interested in my decision and its motives and what was involved. I went to Rome, and for me John Taylor became a figure of the past.

“Much later, I discovered that John had left dentistry and become an Anglican priest, and that by the time I returned from another spell working in Rome in 1990’s, John had become a Catholic and been ordained as a priest. He served for several years as chaplain to the Bridgettine Sisters at Syon Abbey, and helped out with many supplies. He joined our Jesus Caritas Fraternity, and was a faithful member till he moved to the Clifton Diocese to be nearer family.”

John died at Nazareth House, Cheltenham on 26th June 2020, aged 93 and Bishop Mark O’Toole describes him as follows:

“John Taylor had lived in Kingsbridge/ Salcombe for much of his life, and exercised a fruitful ministry as a supply priest in South Devon over the next years. In 2011, he and his wife, Muriel, moved to Tewkesbury, in the Diocese of Clifton, to be closer to their son. A few years ago, due to failing health, and the loss of his beloved wife, Fr John moved to Nazareth House, Cheltenham. I visited him there, last November. Although he was physically frail, his mind was still very sharp. He was keen to hear about the Diocese, about Bishop Christopher and some of the priests he remembered with great fondness.”

Peter Slocombe of Clifton fraternity writes-

Dear Bob, I assisted at John’s cremation in Cheltenham at which Alan Finley presided and Bishop Mark took part, having come up from Plymouth for the purpose. There was a good photo of John on the Funeral Order of Service [see opposite.] I knew John and his wife well from the time I took over at St Joseph’s Tewkesbury, and did her funeral. The son is a driving instructor and spoke well of his father, as Bishop Mark did of John’s background. John had a long, varied and interesting career and held a significant role in the Anglican Church but he fell out with Archbishop Runcie and Bishop Christopher received him into the Catholic Church as a priest of the Plymouth Diocese. He had at some point trained as a dentist. John helped me at St Joseph on occasion but he wasn’t keen on concelebration and provided a weekday mass on his own with a group of devoted parishioners. His joy was his dog and driving up to Scotland for holidays. He had many friends in St Joseph’s parish. I kept an eye on him as his health deteriorated and his balance could be a challenge and I also found him once when he had fallen in his house and could not get up. He was a man of determination and decided views and not the easiest with whom to be a colleague. I was grateful for his time in my parish and the joy and friendliness he could bring. His move to Nazareth House for care seemed inevitable but his son was close by at Prestbury to visit. I went to visit him sometimes and was always recognised but he was often asleep.

Bob Rainbow writes-

While I was supplying at Nazareth House, Cheltenham, on occasions over the last 2 years, he really was suffering badly from dementia, and also of course got very frustrated with his situation. I first met him while supplying for Tewkesbury, where he had moved from the Plymouth Diocese, being a convert from Anglican clergy. While I was actually there he lost his wife. He claimed to have been in the Plymouth Jesus Caritas fraternity so while in Gloucestershire was nominally least, a Clifton fraternity brother (I always saw he got “Be Brothers.”) May he rest in peace.

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out reserve, and with boundless confidence, for you are my Father. *(Brother Charles.)*

A Month of Nazareth

Mon. 6th September - Fri. 1st October 2021.

Stephen Squires is planning to lead a *Month of Nazareth* for UK fraternities in 2021 at the “House of the Open Door” residential retreat centre near Broadway, Worcs. (It might mean holding our Responsibles' Meeting for 2021 in October.)

We featured the unique “Week of Nazareth” that Stephen facilitated at the “House of the Open Door” last Summer, in the Nov. 2019, “Be Brothers uk.” It is always recommended that every Jesus Caritas brother attempts to take part in a “Month of Nazareth” at some time in his life, and here is a golden opportunity to do that without needing to travel to one abroad.



For the admittedly small team present, Stephen’s week went down as a resounding success; combining all the elements of a “Month” such as communal living, sharing, living something of Brother Charles’ life and learning a little more about him and the fraternity. The editor could not strongly-enough recommend a return to the good food, comfortable facilities and beautiful premises of the “HoD” in the so-relaxed surroundings of the village of Childswickham.

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Responsibles Meeting, concluded from page 6

the printed copy could help fraternities with their recruiting, even if a PDF of it was also sent for easy CoViD distribution. There appeared no problem paying for the printed copy on this basis.

Stephen S. reported that the website’s cost had increased to £200/year. John Nolan said that Shirley parish’s website only cost £50, and wondered whether alternative providers had been considered. Stephen pointed out that the present one had the advantage of being easy to operate.

4. Treasurer's Report:

The Jan-Sept. accounts had been emailed to Responsibles earlier [see opposite page.]

John Nolan (Treasurer) reported that no budget had been made yet, although it would help; especially as regards setting the subscriptions level. The savings account, containing only £30, was proposed for cancelling as the interest was negligible.

The a/c’s showed a surplus of £1013, with a further £500 located recently and 3 promises of subscriptions to come in; possibly giving a £1700 surplus for 2020. John was to try to move the a/c from HSBC to National Westminster, as this would allow internet banking.

Peter S. thought that c. £2900 would be needed for the European Assembly in 2021.

5. A.O.B.:

David S. asked if we could learn from CoViD-19 regarding our spirituality, and not just endure it! Could this be promoted in our own fraternities or by “Zoom” between ourselves? Peter Coxe said that the encouragement to take exercise helps us to connect with nature. Peter S. pointed out the importance of phone ministry; parishioners are more likely to receive prayer that way at this time. David is ready to receive ideas on all this and, at his prompt, Bob said he would try to squeeze such an invitation into the nearly-edited November “Be Brothers.” [See page 2.]

There being no further business, Peter S. concluded the meeting soon after 4pm. +

Latest accounts for Jesus Caritas, UK

Provided by John Nolan, our Hon. Treasurer.

Cash Flow Jan-Sept 2020 - YTD

01/01/2020 thu' 15/09/2020

INFLOWS	£
Retreat Income	1,140.00
Subscriptions	
Subscriptions 2019	30.00
Subscriptions 2020	1,930.00
TOTAL Subscriptions	1,960.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	3,100.00
OUTFLOWS	
Postage	26.60
Retreat expenses	2,060.00
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	2,086.60
OVERALL TOTAL	1,013.40

Account Balances - As of 15/09/2020

	£
Bank Accounts	JCF current 3,802.43
	Savings a/c 30.00
TOTAL Bank Accounts	3,832.43

Treasurer's Report 1st January 2020 to 15th September 2020

Combined bank balances 1 st January 2020:	£2,819.03
Balance of inflow over outflows	£1,013.40
Balance as at 15 th September 2020	£3,832.43

We have two bank balances: the current account is at £3,803.43, the savings account has £30.

Looking at the details of the monies received and spent:

1. The spreadsheet shows £1,860 (62 payments) in subs for 2020 plus £290 (29 payments) as an optional extra for the International Responsibilities Meeting originally planned for 2020.
2. The spreadsheet figures of £1,860 + £290 for subs + extra for 2020 = £2,150. This is made up of the Cash Flow sheet's figure of £1,930 plus an advance payment of £220 received Nov/Dec 2019
3. 62 members paying subs for 2020 represents 52% of the notional membership total of 120.
4. 47% of members paying subs paid the £10 extra
5. The Boars Hill retreat expenses comprise £1,760 for the accommodation and meals plus £300 for the retreat giver, a total of £2,060.
6. £1,140 was received from members and banked on the 20th January 2020. I am unable to identify any other monies received for the cost of the retreat: an apparent shortfall of £920.
7. Is it worth keeping the saving account? The present rate of interest offered is 0.01% On £30, that is 0.3 of one penny.

Other matters:

1. The present bank account with HSBC does not allow us to have a card or internet banking (I have asked, but no.) I am about to apply to NatWest, whom I am told offer both.
2. My apologies for all and any mistakes omissions etc on the subscriptions spreadsheet. Corrections very much welcome.

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Among emails received by the editor:

From: Jonathan Cotton
Sent: 31 May 2020
Subject: RE: "Be Brothers uk" June issue:

Dear Bob.

Thank you for the Newsletter which I'll be sending on later today. We seem to have settled to a small group of five of us here in the Nottingham Diocese [3 priests & 2 deacons], meeting where I live in The Old Friary in Nottingham which also is our Vocations Discernment Centre. We have one Discerner "staying at home" with us in this time of lockdown. He hopefully will do a propaedeutic year at Valladolid in the Autumn with one other. We nearly had another fraternity in Lincoln but the leader backed down! There are other priests and deacons interested but for various reasons have been unable to commit at the moment. After lockdown I'll try and advertise the Fraternal again around the Diocese. With the Canonisation looming and Christopher Nolan's film being released soon – I presume, once this crisis ends – it would seem an ideal time to publicise the Fraternal once again. The Bishop is very supportive.

Thanks for all you do with the Newsletter and with the Clergy Fraternal in general.

Happy Pentecost!

Jonathan Cotton.

From: Moira Potier
Sent: 31 May 2020
Subject: Lay communities

Hello Bob,

Thanks for sending me a copy of 'Be Brothers.'

I wonder if you have Sue Williamson in your circulation list? Sue is the new National Responsible and took over from me when I became European Responsible last July.

What great news about Br Charles - not sure if any of us will be able to get to Rome, when and if the canonisation process happens anytime soon.....

Hoping you are well too, as we are, and wishing you a Happy Pentecost !

Moira

Pause for a smile

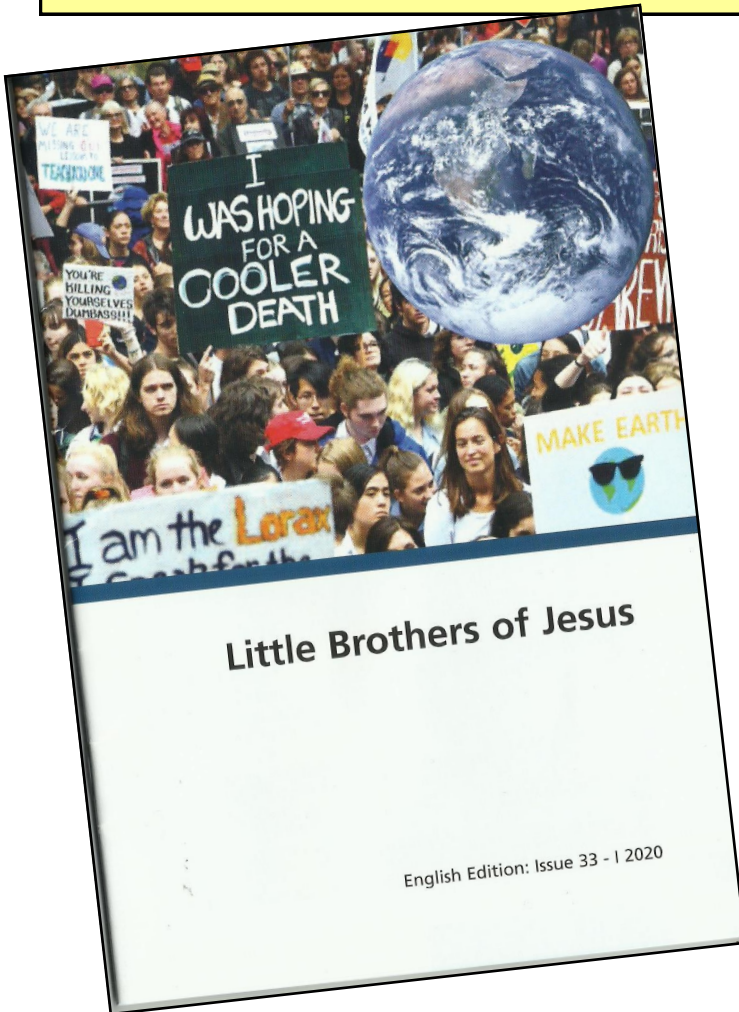
The Senility Prayer



Grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good fortune to run into the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference.

From Alan Finley of Clifton fraternity

Periodical 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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tel: [32] 02 522 25 03
www.jesus Caritas.info

A great resource from Hungary!

More information sent by Moira Potier, European Responsible for the Lay Communities of Br. Charles, to their members.

This wonderful list of resources has been brought to my attention and I thought you might enjoy browsing through it. <http://nazaret.hu/en/writings> It was compiled by the Lay Fraternity in Hungary, but is of material in English - marvellous !

Amongst the treasures you will find an audio recording of LS Catharine Helen's talk about Br Charles to an audience in Winchester Cathedral last year I think, it's wonderful !

Also two very interesting articles about Br Charles and Islam and Inter-religious dialogue; I had not come across either before. The first entitled 'Christian Marabout : Soldier Monk - Charles de Foucauld between the French and the Touaregs' is really interesting I found. The penultimate article 'Charles and Islam', by a 'White Father', purports to be written by Archbishop (now Cardinal) Michael Fitzgerald. However, I wrote to Michael to say what a good article it was and apparently Michael didn't write it !!! I have ordered the original publication that the article was published in so should know more when it arrives - watch this space !

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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 email, to the Editor at:**

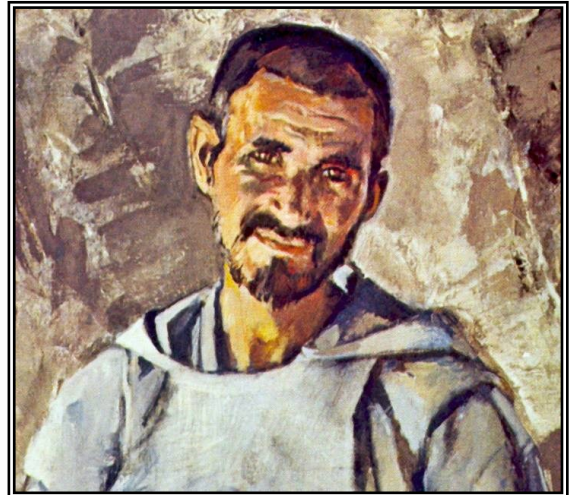
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We use an on-line printer for "Be Brothers uk." Clifton fraternity generously do the packaging and posting.



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(Philippines)

International Jesus Caritas documents can be seen in English on our International website:



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

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Peter is assisted by a Team of Peter Codd, Barnabas Page, Bob Rainbow & Stephen Squires.



Do note our annual mini-retreat at Boars Hill, Oxford 12-14th January; see page 2.

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, payable to: "Jesus Caritas Fraternity, to the Treasurer as above, otherwise direct to the bank 40-19-22 01376586; but ensuring you drop John a note of whom the credit was made for.

Local Responsibles (or a deputy) might like to coordinate this for their Fraternity. +

Website for our British fraternities: <https://www.jesuscaritaspriests.org.uk>