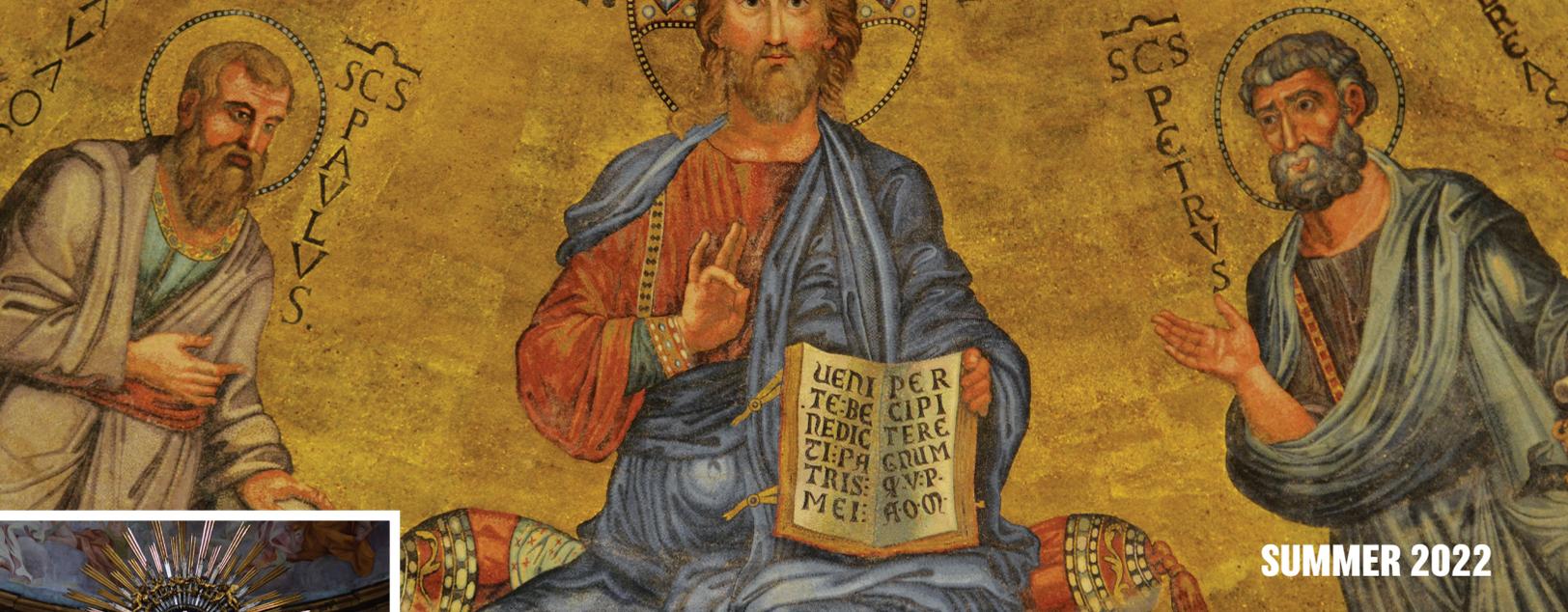


BECOMING BROTHERS JESUS CARITAS FRATERNITY OF PRIESTS



SUMMER 2022



IN THIS ISSUE

| | |
|--|---|
| Reviewing the Basics... <i>The Fraternity Meeting</i> | 2 |
| Week of Nazareth | 3 |
| Day in the Desert | 3 |
| Sincere Thanks | 3 |
| Letter to Brothers Around the World from Graz, Austria | 4 |
| Pray for Us | 6 |
| What Your Brothers are Reading | 7 |
| Sharing Our News | 7 |
| National Fraternity Contacts | 8 |

From Our NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE

Dear Brothers,

Well, I apologize for the lateness of this newsletter. We had a few people scurrying to find a new way to produce it – our friends at Catholic Stewardship Council were unable to continue.



I hope Spring is putting something more into your step and heart, as it is doing for me. With all the disconcerting, disheartening, disturbing, and discouraging news coming our way, it isn't easy to stay focused on redemption, renewal, and resurrection. But that's indeed to what we are called – to witness to “good news” in several different ways.

This is a part of my family – Linda (sister), Peggy (sister-in-law), and Dave (brother) enjoying a picnic.

I (and many others) will be visiting the Vatican for the Canonization of someone we never thought had much of a chance.

We are indebted to our French brothers who doggedly worked up the “statutes” years ago which gave our fraternity standing in canonical circles. Then, we thank those who painstakingly drew up the case for sainthood and supported the investigations that led to the Congregation's recommendation for Beatification. Once that momentum was going, it still took much effort and energy to bring him over the threshold in the final process, which Pope Francis earmarked as a priority, for sure. His extended reference to Charles de Foucauld at the end of *Fratelli Tutti* (2020) made that abundantly clear!

Our National Council had a good work session in February – and we are happy to announce that plans are in the works for a vacation week in July 10-14, 2023 at Lake Benet, Wisconsin (between

Continued on page 2

Reviewing the Basics

THE FRATERNITY MEETING

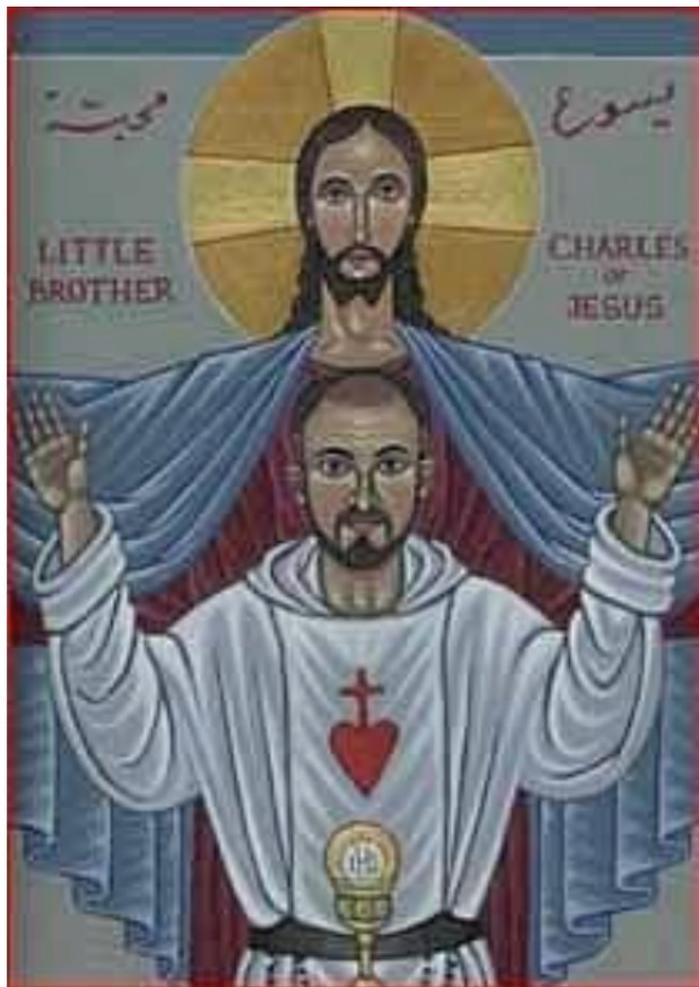
We discover the heart of the Fraternity, its spirituality, lived out when a fraternity gathers together. What is shared in common on this day allows the brothers to reflect upon and to celebrate the workings of God in their lives of discipleship and service. Each brother is expected to be present and responsible to the brothers on this day. Practically, this meeting would occur at least once-a-month. Less frequency leads to too little reflection on the part of individuals and the group. More frequency is usually pastorally impractical. In most cases at least two periods of the day would be set aside: a morning-afternoon, afternoon-evening, or evening-overnight-morning. Many groups have found the overnight to offer the best opportunity for prayer, sharing and time together. Some groups choose to begin with time of solitude, others with social or a shared meal.

What is most important is that the group shares a common understanding of how essential their presence is to each other. Groups will usually reserve these days for months in advance, giving them the highest priority. Each brother is responsible to come to this gathering having prepared himself in his desert day for this review of life (both of these will be explained in future reviewing the basics columns). This preparation will communicate to the brothers the seriousness with which this quality graced time is taken. The brothers focus their attention on Jesus present among them and for them, who desires to strengthen and encourage them through each other in their love of Him and their service of His Gospel. The fraternity seeks to encounter their brother Jesus in silence, in the Word, in the Eucharistic mystery, and in the life and ministry of one another. The structure of the day is intended to foster the climate within which this can happen.

The ordinary elements of a fraternity day include:

- praying with and sharing the Word.
- adoration of Jesus in the Eucharistic Mystery,
- review of life,
- time for friendly, relaxed fellowship.

Contributed by: Jerry Ragan (past National Responsible)



FROM THE RESPONSIBLE

Continued from front cover

Chicago and Milwaukee). Mark your calendar! This will give us opportunity to relax together, enjoy each other's company, engage in some shared prayer and Masses, as well as perhaps some "Farkle," (a very enjoyable dice game) good movies, or all of the above.

We also are thinking about the Pacific Northwest for a gathering of Jesus Caritas brothers in the 2024 National Assembly. We're steering around the International Eucharistic Congress dates of July 17-21 in Indianapolis. Last July, our Assembly was in Detroit (postponed a year due to the pandemic) and we'll do so again to share our stories, think, and dream together, and set a course for the future as we select a National Responsible. I already have some ideas about this, and so will you.

Fraternally yours,
John Jacquel



WEEK OF NAZARETH

Having not ever taken part in the Week of Nazareth before, I decided to attend this year, and how glad I am that I did! It was a great benefit to share in fellowship with the 16 other priests there, especially over our meals, during our socials before dinner, and in the small-group setting as we discussed the presentations on the seven themes of Jesus Caritas. Our presenters, Mark Mertes, Rich Reiser, Jeff Mollner, and Greg Pawloski did a wonderful job in sharing their experience of the fraternity and its fundamentals.

These aspects of St. Charles' charism are nothing new to me, considering that I've been a member of Jesus Caritas for a long time. But I gain so much each time I hear another person's perspective and have the opportunity to engage with brothers from different regions and dioceses. I highly recommend availing yourself of the chance to participate in the Week of Nazareth or one of our fraternity's other national events.

Dan Fickes, Cleveland

Day in the Desert

The Fraternity asks each man to factor into his month a "Day in the Desert". The idea is to deliberately separate yourself from the active side of priesthood, and to submit to God, welcome God in to your life in a prolonged way. This monthly day of quiet also enables us to think through the way our life is going, to look compassionately but critically at our successes and failures, to thank God for his perpetual presence in our lives, and to prepare what we shall say in the "Review of Life" when next our Fraternity meets.

– Tony Philpot

Sincere Thanks

We are grateful to the Catholic Stewardship Consultants for all they have done to help make our newsletter look good. They contributed much expertise to help our graphic design to be so attractive, and they did it for a great price "aka free." If you are interested in contacting them, go to: www.catholicsteward.com

Our entire existence, our whole being must shout the Gospel from the rooftops. Our entire person must breathe Jesus, all our actions. Our whole life must cry out that we belong to Jesus, reflect a Gospel way of living. Our whole being must be a living proclamation, a reflection of Jesus. —
Blessed Charles de Foucauld

LETTER TO BROTHERS AROUND THE WORLD FROM GRAZ, AUSTRIA

“Saint Charles de Foucauld – pray for us!”

Dear Brothers,

We have lived very intense days both in Rome and in Graz (Austria). The canonisation of Brother Charles has been a great joy for us, shared with so many lay men and women, men and women religious, priests and bishops from all over the world. The vigil before the canonisation, the canonisation itself and the thanksgiving mass the following day brought us into contact with the whole Spiritual Family inspired by Charles de Foucauld.

Special mention must be made of the meeting that the Family had in Rome and the audience granted to them by Pope Francis. We were represented by our brother Eric Lozada. More than ever, we feel that we are a branch of the same tree whose roots are found in the witness and writings of the new saint.

We have noticed that his figure has awakened much interest in all the People of God, particularly in young diocesan priests, which fills us with hope. We also feel an urgent call from God to be more faithful to the charism of Bro. Charles: his deep attachment to his beloved brother and Lord Jesus, his welcoming of every man and woman as a brother and a sister, his simple and poor lifestyle, his missionary zeal motivated by true inculturation.

As International Team we want to continue to animate the spiritual life of our Fraternities throughout the world, by our Letters on the occasion of the celebration of the great mysteries of the Christian life, by subsidies for ongoing formation in the great pillars of our spirituality and by our presence at important events such as the Continental Assemblies.



Fernando, Matthias, Tony, We have noticed that his figure has awakened much interest in all Eric and Honoré



Thanksgiving mass for canonisation, Cardinal Philippe Ouédraogo from Burkina and other pilgrims

Continued on page five

Continued from page four

We have made an evaluation of our first three years in the service of the IESUS CARITAS Fraternities and we are happy because, even though we are very different, we have integrated well, we have met monthly by zoom and each one has contributed his gifts to the common work. It was very important for us to provide the brothers with materials written by ourselves to help them prepare spiritually for the canonisation of Brother Charles.

We also wanted to keep up to date with the data of our Fraternities: Who are the National Responsible Brothers in each country? How many Fraternities exist in each country? How many Brothers are there in the world? What is our age? How many have done the month of Nazareth? In which peripheries of the world are we present? To do this, we sent a survey to all the National Responsibles. Not all of them responded, but the results of the survey enlightened us to plan for the next three years. Thanks to the brothers who responded.

We realized that we have problems of communication between the different fraternities, absence of young priests, weaknesses in the organization of our Fraternity and insufficient practice of the means of spiritual growth proper to our Association. At the same time we gave thanks to God for all the older brothers who have remained faithful for many years to the charism of Brother Charles, who continue to participate with enthusiasm in the meetings of their local fraternities and in the National Encounters, and who keep on giving witness to the Gospel through a simple, poor and joyful life. We were able to see this at the Meeting of the National Responsibles of Europe which took place in Rome on the occasion of the canonisation and to which we were invited.



A young pilgrim at the canonisation of Br. Charles



Bishop of Graz, Wilhelm Krautwaschl and the international Team

to our next World Assembly a renewed version of our Statutes for discussion and approval. We will then submit it to the Congregation for the Clergy for final approval.

We have seen the convenience of holding our next World Assembly in Burkina Faso, Africa, given the good number of young brothers we have there. It will be an encouragement for them to continue in our Fraternity and to invite other priests and lay people to share our charism. It will take place in January 2025.

We also visited Archbishop Andrés Ferrada, Secretary of the Congregation for the Clergy, in Rome to ask him to renew the approval of our Statutes for another six years. Commenting on the present reality of our Fraternities, described above, he advised us to simplify it and to adapt it to the new situation we are living, especially with regard to the Month of Nazareth. During our stay in Graz, in the parish of our brother Matthias, we have started this work, so that we can propose

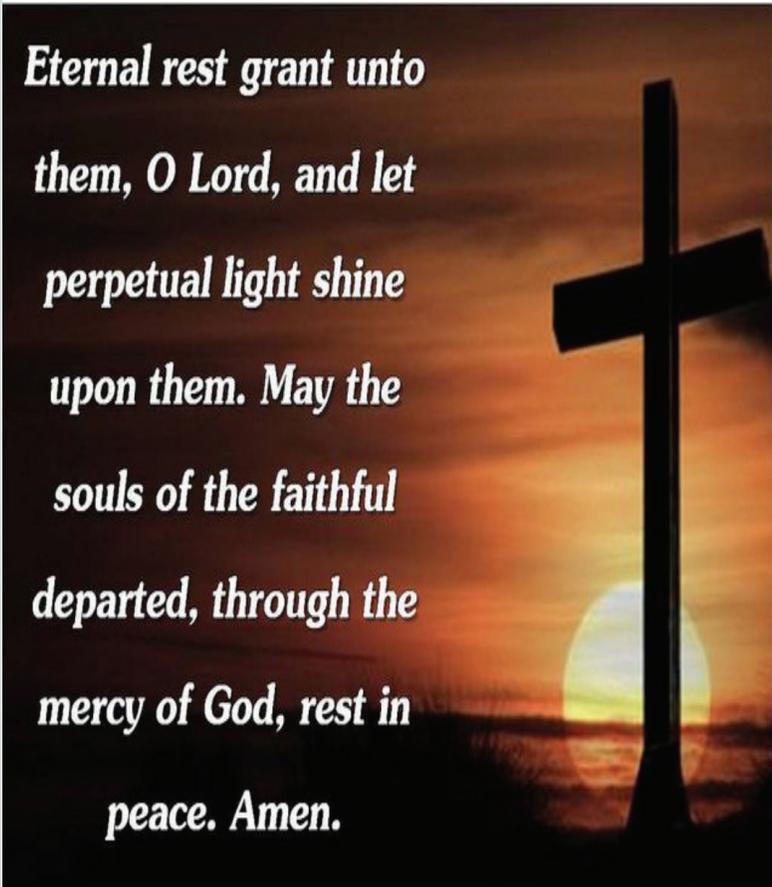
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We are grateful for the hospitality that the Society of African Missions (SMA) offered us in Rome and to our brother Matthias for the cordial welcoming he offered us in his parish of the Sacred Heart in Graz, Austria. Here we had the opportunity to share with the lay people of the parish, to visit the Bishop and the Little Sisters of Jesus. We felt at home.

We have lived these days as a small fraternity sharing the Eucharist, adoration, desert day, work and meals in a joyful and hopeful atmosphere. We are infinitely grateful to our Father God in whose hands we place the life and mission of our Priestly Fraternity, "with infinite trust" and immense gratitude.

Eric LOZADA, Fernando TAPIA, Tony LLANES, Honoré SAVADOGO, Matthias KEIL
International Team
Graz, 24. 5 2022



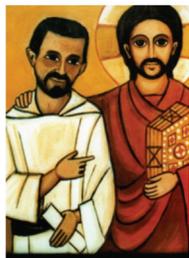
***Eternal rest grant unto
them, O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine
upon them. May the
souls of the faithful
departed, through the
mercy of God, rest in
peace. Amen.***

Pray for Us

Cleveland's deceased members:

| | |
|---|----------|
| Lloyd J. Boymer | 3-28-11 |
| Carl L. D'Agostino | 5-30-17 |
| Mark A. DiNardo | 1-21-18 |
| James F. Flood | 9-28-13 |
| Paul J. Hritz | 7-6-13 |
| John S. Juhas | 1-1-18 |
| Stephen J. Kaminiski | 2-29-16 |
| William D. Karg | 4-18-21 |
| Robert W. Kline | 6-24-11 |
| John W. Krasen | 8-27-05 |
| Albert A. Krupp | 12-24-19 |
| Albert A. Kunkel | 3-26-17 |
| Robert Labella | 8-11-13 |
| Thomas F. Martin | 9-23-01 |
| Joseph A. Romansky | 7-3-04 |
| John T. McDonough | 1-5-16 |
| Thomas A. McGovern | 5-13-21 |
| Francis C. Mulvanity | 5-24-14 |
| Philip P. Pritt | 2-3-18 |
| Eldon G. Reichert, S.M. | 3-20-10 |
| Michael J. Schneid | 9-24-99 |
| Ronald J. Szudarek | 5-21-21 |
| Louis L. Trivison | 3-17-10 |
| Douglas F. Venne, M.M. | 12-28-09 |
| Edward R. Wieczorek | 11-16-19 |
| <i>from the Youngstown Diocese, which gathers with us</i> | |
| Alfred H. Winters | 11-7-15 |
| Robert C. Wolff | 11-14-20 |
| John J. Wright | 5-3-18 |
| Gordon Yahner | 8-13-15 |

WHAT YOUR BROTHERS ARE READING



I have read the reissue of Little Brother Antoine Chatelard's book: **St Charles de Foucauld** (originally 2002 in French). It is full of spelling and grammatical issues but is so valuable for taking another look at our patron saint. Little Brother Antoine takes a new approach as he peruses the many resources (especially letters) between Brother Charles and various contacts in his life. It helps to give us a better picture of the person, the faith, the dedication, the service, and the drive behind this quirky man who was so in love with the Lord! What was especially valuable to me was to read excerpts from many letters and see his life sketched out in balanced timelines.

Sharing Our News

Name: _____

Are you the Fraternity Responsible? Yes No

Diocese: _____

E-mail: _____

How many in my fraternity? Is your fraternity active? Yes No

What's remarkable about our fraternity?

**JESUS CARITAS
FRATERNITY OF PRIESTS**

Return the form to: JESUS CARTIAS, PO Box 2638, Augusta GA 30914

Here's some of what I've recently found out:

Fred Voorhees in Buffalo, NY, mentioned that there are 5 active fraternities in the Diocese – one group met faithfully in-person, one faithfully through Zoom. Two members have died and one is working with construction workers in Poland. A sixth group fell apart.

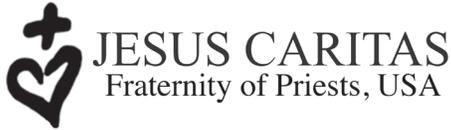
David Bava in Washington, DC, reports that there are a couple of groups in the Archdiocese. One fraternity in seminary is trying to connect with the National team. He's reaching out, making contact with seminarians at Theological College who are interested in the spirituality of Charles de Foucauld.

Al Berner in Newark, NJ, says they are all getting older – and have lost brothers to cancer and violence (one was murdered at his rectory). Another retired as an auxiliary bishop. One group's youngest member is 78.

JESUS CARITAS FRATERNITY OF PRIESTS

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