

BECOMING BROTHERS

Spring 2011

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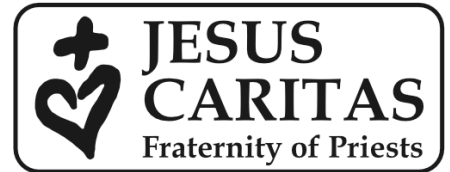
FROM OUR NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE



Fr. Mark Mertres

Dear Brothers,

I was gifted this past February to spend 3 days with 17 fraternity brothers at Conyers, GA. We enjoyed the deep silence of the monastery, the affirming support of one another, the beauty of nature and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit. As I reflect on my participation in Jesus Caritas the past 24 years, I believe that one of the benefits of gathering with brothers regionally or nationally is the ability to set aside a few days and reflect on the charisms of Brother Charles. In our go-go-go lives as diocesan priests we don't always get the chance to practice those values that are nourish and feed a healthy priestly life. By attending an event with Jesus Caritas brothers we carve out some reserved time to reflect on the mystery of our lives in the priesthood and have meaningful dialogue with one another.



*In this newsletter you will find a tentative schedule for our upcoming **Triennial National Assembly** to be held in the incredible town of Kansas City, Kansas (yes, I am a bit biased), August 1-5, 2011. Since the assembly was last held here in KC in 1999 we have built, for your enjoyment, a NASCAR track, a minor league baseball stadium, a major league soccer stadium, and about 100 restaurants and shops all located within 10 minutes of the Savior of the World Pastoral Center. We'd love to welcome you and show you some Kansas style hospitality, complete with KC jazz, barbeque and heartland beauty. I hope you will make plans to attend the assembly and share your insights, hopes and concerns regarding our shared fraternity life as priests.*

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Mark Mertres

Mark Mertres

AN ENCOURAGEMENT FROM DES DILLON

Our elder brother in Yakima, Washington. He sent these comments to Richard Reiser in 2007. I have edited his comments for space and content.

Here are some of the suggestions I make for Jesus Caritas and the National Responsible:

- *Becoming Brothers* be strengthened a great deal and issued monthly as a news bulletin rather than a gospel message.

Suggestions for Jesus Caritas Regional Responsibles:

- Regional Responsibles should be appointed for each NCCB region. We do not need to reinvent the wheel.
- Regions as far as possible be maintained, doubled up in the east where they are close together, or maybe

divided in the west where they are so large in distances.

- The first work of the regional responsible is to find diocesan responsible.
- Diocesan Responsibles should be priests who are acceptable to the local ordinary or his administration.
- Regional responsible should endeavor to have an annual retreat of at least 1 day or 2, to update

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jesus Caritas National Assembly
August 1 - 5, 2011
will be held at Savior of the World Pastoral Center
12601 Parallel Parkway
Kansas City, KS 66109

See Page 3 for more Details.

We're online!!!

Visit us at:

www.jesus Caritas usa.org



JESUS CARITAS 2011 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AUGUST 1 - 5, 2011

The Cost for the week will be \$320. Please make checks payable to *Jesus Caritas*. For those who have registred and have sent their payment, Yahaira will be contacting you by email or phone with more information.

If you would like to participate and register for this event, please fill out the form below and send it to the National Office at:
Jesus Caritas National Assembly, 333 N. Michigan Ave, Suite 1205, Chicago, IL 60601 or fax it to 312.442.9709

JESUS CARITAS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION FORM

August 1 - 5, 2011

Savior of the World Pastoral Center | 12601 Parallel Parkway | Kansas City, KS 66109 | [P] 913.721.1097

Please provide the following information:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Method of Transportation

Airplane: _____ **Car:** _____

Flight information

(If arriving by air please give flight number and arrival time and indicate if you would like to be picked up at Kansas City International Airport (MCI))

Airline: _____

Flight Number: _____ **Arrival Date/Time:** _____

Do you want to be picked up from Kansas City International Airport? _____ Yes _____ No

Car Travel Information

Arrival Day and Time: _____

Please list any special dietary needs:

Send your registration form with payment to:

Jesus Caritas National Assembly
333 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1205
Chicago IL 60601
[F] 312.442.9709



JESUS CARITAS 2011 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(TENTATIVE SCHEDULE)

Monday – August 1, 2011

All day	Arrival of Participants
11:00 am - 5:00 pm	"A Taste and Tour of Kansas City" (optional)
5:00 pm	Evening Prayer with Archbishop Naumann
6:00	Dinner
7:00	Introduction of Participants
8:30	Social

Tuesday – August 2, 2011

7:00 am	Adoration/Morning Prayer
8:00	Breakfast
9:00	First Presentation
	<i>What is the Review of Life?</i>
10:15	Break
10:30	Second Presentation
	<i>Panel Discussion on Review of Life</i>
11:30	Form Fraternities
12:00 pm	Lunch
4:00	Third Presentation
	<i>Review of Life as support for brothers in crisis</i>
5:00	Mass
6:00	Dinner
7:00	Evening Prayer
7:30	Fourth Presentation
	<i>Supporting one another in the Priesthood of Jesus Christ</i>
8:30	Social

Wednesday – August 3, 2011

7:00 am	Adoration/Morning Prayer
8:00	Breakfast
9:00	National Report

Wednesday – August 3, 2011 (Continuation)

9:30	Regional Gatherings
10:30	Break
11:00 am	Regional Reports
12:00 pm	Lunch
3:30	Little Sisters of Jesus
4:30	Mass
5:30	Social
6:00	Dinner
7:30	Evening Prayer
	Candidate Discernment
	Preparing for Desert Day
	Nocturnal Adoration

Thursday – August 4, 2011

Desert Day

	Brown Bag Lunches available in AM
7:00 am	Adoration/Morning Prayer (optional)
8:00	Breakfast (optional)
4:30 pm	Mass
6:00	Dinner
7:30	Evening Prayer
	Discernment of New National Responsible
8:30	Social

Friday – August 5, 2011

7:00 am	Adoration/Morning Prayer
8:00	Breakfast
9:30	International Fraternity Report
10:00	Sharing by New Responsible: Next steps
11:00	Mass
12:00 pm	Lunch/Departure

THE DESERT DAY

For the Fraternity the desert day offers a special place to experience the presence of God. The Scriptures tell us that the desert is a place of emptiness and wilderness where we can feel the weakness of temptations. It can also be a place of solitude and closeness where God speaks to the heart. It is where the deeper feelings of the human person can be experienced. It is a way to know how our body needs more than just food to be whole. Jesus said, "Man does not live on bread alone" (Mt. 4:6) and "I have food that you do not know." (Jn. 4:32) Fasting is a way to be nourished.

The desert day is an opportunity to experience silence. It is where we are able to listen to the small quiet voice of God in a contemplative manner. It may seem like losing time but in reality the desert helps us to be able to develop intimacy in our relationship with God.

For Charles de Foucauld, the desert ultimately led him to be close to his brothers and sisters.

The desert day can be experienced differently. For some it is a total day away from all distractions. For others it can be part of a day. Sometimes the brothers do the day in the desert together such as at the on the Month of Nazareth, at the retreats and on assigned days in local fraternities. The desert day helps those in Fraternity to prepare for their review of life.

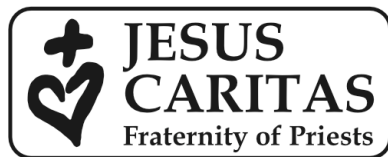


JESUS CARITAS

333 N. Michigan Avenue
Suite 1205
Chicago, IL 60601

[P] 312.442.9700 Ext. 208
[F] 312.442.9709

Please visit us at:
www.jesuscarritasusa.org



333 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1205
Chicago, IL 60601

List of Council Members

National Responsible

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

Western Council Member

Rev. Joseph Greeley
3519 St. Pancratius Place
Lakewood, CA 90712
[P] 562.634.6111; [F] 562.634.7817
Email: stpanpastor@sbcglobal.net

Southeastern Council Member

Rev. Jerry Ragan
1420 Monte Sano Avenue
Augusta, GA 30904
[P] 706.733.6627
Email: hpragan@hotmail.com

Central Council Member

Rev. John Cyr
St. Patrick Church of Merna
1001 N. Towanda Barnes Road
Bloomington, IL 61705
[P] 217.649.6873
Email: frjohncyr@yahoo.com

Eastern Council Member

Rev. John B. Jacquel
Holy Rosary Church
2701 East Avenue
[P] 814.456.4254
Email: pastor_holy_rosary@neo.rr.com

South Central Council Member

Rev. Phil Henning
5667 Old Pearsall Road
San Antonio, TX 78242
[P] 210.623.3970
Email: Phenning74@hotmail.com

Northwestern Council Member

Rev. Dick Rossman
1150 Maxwell Road
Eugene, OR 97404
[P] 541.579.3569
Email: dickr@stpetereugene.org

AN ENCOURAGEMENT FROM DES DILLON

Continued from page 1

their search for members and to improve the quality of small groups.

Suggestions for Diocesan Responsibles:

- Promote small group fraternities of Jesus Caritas.
- Invite all newly ordained or newly entered the diocese into a small group, or develop new groups. The invitation should focus on developing priestly friendship. Priests need priests and how much the individual can contribute to the group and to the diocese.
- There should be a diocesan day of prayer for all small fraternity and open to others.
- The roster of members should be sent to the Office in Chicago in order to receive *Becoming Brothers* and invitations to national events.

Responsibles and brothers need to know what they are supposed to do and not be like Humpty Dumpty who sat on the wall. I hope that these suggestions can be cleaned up and published in *Becoming Brothers*.

—Des Dillon

OPPORTUNITY FOR MONTH OF NAZARETH

Have you ever considered attending the Month of Nazareth in another English speaking country? Richard Reiser, a member of the International Council, received this invitation:

Hello Richard, Good Day!

I must apologize for the interval of non-communicating. I hope that you are in the best of condition and time. I am sending this piece of information and at the same time it is our invitation to the brothers in the international arena to the upcoming fraternity gathering in the Philippines. ***The Manila brothers, together with His Eminence Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales, plan to have another Month of Nazareth in Baguio City this coming September 19 - October 14, 2011.*** The unique feature of this is that the Annual Assembly will be included in here.

Please help us invite the members of the Council or any English speaking brothers.

In Jesus,

Edo Coroza
Manila Fraternity
edcoroza@yahoo.com

