

Jesus Caritas National Fraternity Meeting Conference Call

Tuesday, January 8, 2019 4pm Eastern Time

On the line: Greg Pawlowski, John Jacquel, Hap Ragan, Bob Amundsen, and Joe Greeley. Ron Belisle anticipating surgery didn't make it.

1. Review of Life – Hap mentioned some good experiences of desert and prayer time. He had a Merton experience (Louisville), although his was in Savannah cathedral. He likes being pastor of a smaller faith community – a richer experience. John was asked to celebrate funeral for a parishioner's mother – the obituary listed her same-sex partner as “spouse.” They had a chat about the wording and both continue to support and care for each other, as John apologized that the Church still hasn't formulated a way to support same-sex couples. Greg's fraternity did not meet last month and the parish is dispersing, which he takes to prayer. He's open to the Lord's will, but doesn't like prospect of moving. Bob's oldest fraternity brother died a month ago and said Tom McCormick has come through bladder cancer care – he's recovering in priest retirement home. Bob himself has decided to retire in June 2020 (he'll be 75 in September), but doesn't want to turn parish over to conservative guys. Joe has lost five original classmates (college) since July – startling news; reality hits.

2. Month of Nazareth

- **Director for Retreat** – No commitment yet, Bob reported (Julian Peters from St Meinrad is out of country) but it looks good for one of them to help. Worse comes to worse, National Council members might each take a day.
- **Promoting** – Several members either haven't been able to continue contacting, or been successful. Bob said he downloaded the 56-page document detailing what a Month of Nazareth is – hour by hour. Hap suggests we continue trying to promote through e-mails (no return phone calls). There have been no sign ups yet for Month, but Mark Mertes mentioned someone from his fraternity is planning it. Do we want to put an ad in *National Catholic Reporter* or *America*?

3. World Assembly – January 15-30, 2019 in Cebu, Philippines

- **The life of our fraternities in each country (15 Minutes)** – Bob will make copies of Hap's Continental Assembly report (in 3 languages). Ron will not be attending. Bob and Hap will hopefully make connections and stay together overnight in Manila *en route* to Cebu.

4. Week of Nazareth – Hap wants to promote in the Spring Newsletter. Come, make this week with your whole fraternity – hopefully in a regional setting (although Tybee Island would be wonderful). Hap wants to call Jim O'Donnell to see if Cleveland/Youngstown annual October retreat might be moved to accommodate this year's Month of Nazareth retreat.

5. Prayer of Abandonment – led by Greg at 4:35 pm Eastern time.

Next Meeting – February 12th