

Conference call of Jesus Caritas National Council

May 18, 2021 3 pm EDT (2 pm Central, 1 pm Mountain, 12 pm Pacific)

On the line: +Don Hanchon, John Jacquel, Joe Greeley, Bob Amundsen, Alex Trejo, Ron Belisle, Hap Ragan, and Greg Pawlowski. Opening Prayer was led by Joe at :04, with gratitude for spring and pandemic easing – may we all be filled with hope and move forward.

- 1. Review of Life** – John is in a good space, his brother Dave will be ordained a deacon next week so that both boys in family will be clergy/serving church – great feelings about that. Bob's fraternity brother died (funeral tomorrow) & will have left knee replaced soon (unsure of Detroit attendance). Bob lives fairly near to where he grew up, twin sister moving back from Arkansas, and has “nothing to do and all day to do it.” +Don is remembering Ed Farrell (dead 15 years) and reflecting on priesthood and fraternity membership of 46 years. Joe had melanoma surgery (sporting big dressing on his head) and enjoyed his time recently in the redwoods. Hap also had Fraternity yesterday and a member will retire to Tybee Island July 1st. Now, he's beginning to think about retirement and has had bouts of desolation and discouragement, but they are easing. Alex enjoyed Yakima priest retreat (he organized hospitality) but experiences some allergies. Ron read Chaput's “*Priest to Die For*” but sees problems more as opportunities than obstacles. Fearing dementia, he's taking the Great Course “Joy of Mathematics.” Greg was returning from the funeral of a priest who didn't make it to his own 50th (and had planned the party). He also recently met a lad contemplating suicide with good outcome. Looks like there's 12-15 for the June Week of Nazareth.
- 2. International / Pan American news** – No meetings (lack of numbers), and still no date on canonization due to COVID situation. Fernando Tapia awaits responses from survey.
- 3. July 2021 National Assembly** – +Don spoke with Detroit Communications Office – someone will assist us. Nominations for National Responsible to be posted prior with e-mail voting. Joe will re-send the “blast” from last month to +Don who will write up something to encourage nominations. Fernando will give talk (Zoom) Tuesday that week and be present Thursday to preside / witness election. No word on how many have registered so far. Pat Halfpenny would like to invite seminarians – we said “Sure!” They will come Tuesday and we'll feed them lunch and dinner. Hap concerned there may be no nominees. We should each contact (individually) priests to consider being nominated. Nominees should have some formation (Month or Week). If we get no nominees, this will change the Assembly. Ron suggests that during the Assembly we need serious discussion of recruiting, formation, newsletter, senior priests, and administration, among other topics.
- 4. E-mail Blast** – Gary Joseph Mallon (Chagrin Falls, OH) wasn't happy that the blast went out with everyone's e-mails exposed (450 or so). Should have sent out “BCC.” One decline, no “yeses.”
- 5. Becoming Brothers** – our next issue will have Assembly results.
- 6. Next meeting** – June 8th – regular time (4 pm Eastern / 1 pm Pacific)
- 7. Prayer of Abandonment** led by Joe at :58.

Respectfully submitted: John Jacquel