

## What is Distinctive about a Jesus Caritas Retreat?



At the National Assembly, on July 27, 1991 an ad hoc group met to discuss the content and method of a "Jesus Caritas" style retreat.

The person giving the retreat should be authentic, a committed and knowledgeable member of a fraternity.

If the retreat is an introduction to the Fraternity, the director would have to explain the Review of Life, and praying with Scripture. Probably the best way to do this would be to model

it.

The style of all Jesus Caritas retreats include 1) adoration together, 2) Scripture together, and 3) a day of Desert together. So our practices are incorporated: a daily hour of Eucharistic adoration (simple exposition), Scripture sharing (by Fraternities) and a Day of Desert followed by a sharing of what spoke to me of this day. If any members of the "families of Brother Charles" are in the vicinity, e.g. member/s of a lay fraternity, they can be invited to share in the adoration.

The following are themes/topics to be covered; some of these are subdivisions of each other, and in no particular order.

1. Hidden life of Nazareth.
2. Adoration of the Eucharist - spend a long time at it;.
3. Solitude and Desert;.
4. Simplicity and poverty;.
5. Littleness - being little brother and universal brother;.
6. Failure;.
7. Hospitality;.
8. Incartinality - life with the folks in the midst of the world;.



PO BOX 763 • Franklin Park, IL 60131 • [P] 260-786-JESU (5378)

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Website: [www.JesusCaritasUSA.org](http://www.JesusCaritasUSA.org) • [E] [Jesus.Caritas.USA@gmail.com](mailto:Jesus.Caritas.USA@gmail.com)

9. Scripture - contemplative while not removed from the world such as Danielson's concept of "living under the Scriptures";

10. Charles' stance of reaching out to the poorest of the poor, and what to learn from a little person..

In presenting the themes, the director could use some of Charles de Foucauld's key texts, some of his vocabulary and his favorite Scripture passages. The bibliography and resources are available, thanks to Tom Suppa.