

Jesus Caritas National Fraternity Meeting Conference Call Tuesday, May 2, 2017 4pm Eastern Time

On the line: Hap Ragan, John Jacquel, Ron Belisle, Joe Greely, and Bob Amundsen. Greg Pawlowski was in transit and could not take part.

1. Review of Life – Hap talked about his sister, Mollie's (57), death in the Easter Octave – she reached out to many people, but suffered from bi-polar disorder much of her life. Hap said it was good to be with Sara, her daughter. He's also sad, having received his sudden assignment change (Aug 1st). Does Bishop know this parish? The anger expressed by some parishioners is both affirming and awkward. John had a restful, renewing retreat at the Abbey of the Genesee (NY), which included the beginning of a 10-day penance (a good experience, also). Joe's been inviting his people to reflect upon how often they've received Eucharist and when it has really meant something! Bob is in need of rest "down time" – deaths, illness, tired – but the Seminary rector stopped in to talk with him. He feels they are in agreement that something's got to change, a new vision of where formation needs to go. Ron hosted Confirmation last evening with a younger auxiliary bishop who didn't follow the directions the Archdiocese sent. He's not easy to deal with, and his DRE is quite upset. What can you do? Let's keep each other in prayer.

2. Preparing for the Assembly – Let's look at our local lists and keep inviting. We advertised \$400, but haven't heard back yet from St John's. Joe reported that Leo Allberg died, a fraternity brother, who was scheduled to help with transportation. Hap said the Desert Day will be Thursday and he'll talk up next February's Pan-American Assembly (Santo Domingo) and the General Assembly (Bangalore, India). He'll ask Mark Mertes to facilitate the election, and Shannon is willing to work with either Hap (re-elected) or whoever is the next National Responsible.

3. Questionnaire for Bangalore – We answered some of this for ourselves – we look at Human Questions: regarding politics, many are "hopefully pessimistic", economics – many disparities in various parts of the country, LA being the highest cost of living, Erie among the lowest; cultural – various groups get behind either Middle East persecution or immigration/refugee issue. In the area of Church – most dioceses have found reflecting upon *Evangelii Gaudium* fruitfully engaging their folks – homeless shelter, community organizing, Hispanic groups. In the area of Fraternities – we loved the article in Southern Nebraska Register (Greg's Diocesan paper).

4. Report on Howie Calkin's Funeral – Greg communicated what an uplifting experience it was. When questions were raised about the music, all were reminded that this parish is on the north end of Harlem – it had to be "rocking."

5. Evangelizing our Brother Priests and Seminarians – John will be at Christ the King Seminary July 24th for a two-part presentation. He'd like to get to Baltimore (St Mary's). Hap will join with the seminary spiritual directors in Toronto in October. Bob now has good contact in Denver. Ron said writing to the newly ordained about the value of fraternity in our lives is a very good opportunity.

6. Vacation Week in the Northwest – Now that Easter is past, Ron will get on this. He's tried e-mail contact, but will follow up with some phone calls.

7. Prayer of Abandonment - was prayed at 4:54 pm EST.
Next conference call – Tuesday, June 6th

Respectfully submitted: John Jacquel