

National Fraternity Meeting – November 7, 2017

Joe, Bob, and Hap were on the call. John had an excused absence as he was circumnavigating the Great Lake Erie. Ron and Greg could have possibly been confused by the moving of our meetings back to the first Tuesdays.

1. Review of Life - Hap's house is a mess as the whole plumbing system had to be replaced. He had a bad fall; has been diagnosed with anemia; and a toothache dictates a new crown. But its 80 degrees and Sunday at the beach and life is good. Prayer has been good. Joe reported that he was giving a preview rather than a review of life as he was ready to take off after the meeting to an old ghost town, Murphy, in the foothills of Sierras. It was come back to live with a thriving wine culture which he intends to explore. He has gone a few weeks without time off so this little break is needed. Bob has also been busy and simplify was the word of the day on his desert day. He'll need to downsize in a couple years to move into a new rectory so he is looking for a good home for his books.
2. Report on the FSSD meeting in Toronto – Federation of Seminary Spiritual Directors gave Hap a nice welcome and hopefully will call on some of us to speak at their seminaries. Cf. enclosed letter
3. Come and See – Vacation Days 2018 in the Renaissance City (Detroit). Let's talk it up! July 2 – 6, 2018. In his trip around Lake Erie John reported to Hap that he picked up some interesting tourist info on Detroit. He seems enthused and hopefully all of us will join in his enthusiasm.
4. Come and See – Bl. Charles Feast day – December 1, 2017 Use the day to share how enriched our priesthood has been by the spirituality of this odd man from the North African Desert.
5. Committee for Universal Brother Award –Greg Pawloski and Don Dunn are working on an article for the Winter Newsletter. Greg questioned whether it should be an annual award as that seems so non-Foucauldian.
6. Month of Nazareth
 - a. Bob will check out the House of Spiritual in Denver which would be a great site. Hap and Shannon are waiting to hear back from Menlo Park.
 - b. Promoting – we need to be aggressive? Ideas?
7. Report for the 2nd Pan American Assembly – please review before our meeting, especially the challenges at the bottom of page 2 – We had a good discussion on the challenges especially the polarity between different visions of the priesthood. For next month take time to reflect on the issues that challenge the Church in America. Given the present political climate, we can overlook the fact that the U.S.

Church has given some good moral leadership in the areas of Migration and Ecology. What are other issues that we need to address?

- 8. Prayer of Abandonment – Joe lead us in the prayer of abandonment at 4:55
Respectfully submitting – G.P. Ragan**