

**Ongoing Priestly Formation**  
**Parish of St. Monica**  
**406 East 80<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**New York, NY 10075**

Dear Father,

One thing we have all learned during this time of pandemic is that plans can change rather suddenly and unexpectedly. Despite this, we still need to look to what we can hope to accomplish in the future. One of these events is the annual convention of pastors at the Breakers Hotel in Spring Lake, NJ.

At this moment, the hotel is open, but dining is out of doors only. The expectation is that by October the dining room will also be available. However, if there still is a social distancing requirement in place in New Jersey at that time, the Breakers would not be able to accommodate the numbers we normally have for our meeting, not just in the dining room but in the banquet room where we gather for prayer and conferences.

Considering this, we have tentatively reserved the Breakers for the week of October 12-15 in addition to the week of October 19-22 which is the usual time we hold the convention. We are giving you the opportunity to register for either week. When we have an idea of the numbers registered for each week, a decision will be made as to whether we have the need to hold two separate gatherings. If there are two separate groups, the speakers might be different for each of the weeks.

The presentations this year will be concerned with how we as priests and pastors have dealt with the pandemic on personal, spiritual, and ministerial levels, and how we are preparing for what parish ministry might look like in the future. As is his custom, His Eminence will be joining us to celebrate Eucharist and share his thoughts with his brother priests.

We need to have an idea about numbers soon so we can start the planning process. Please contact me by Monday, August 10 at [msgr.leslie.ivers@archny.org](mailto:msgr.leslie.ivers@archny.org). We ask that you provide your name, parish, cell phone number and e-mail address and indicate your preference of attending the convention on either the week of October 12 or 19. If both times work for you, please indicate that also. Formal registrations will be sent at later on.

Please remember that the convention of pastors will take place *only* if the Breakers will be able to accommodate us in October. There is no guarantee today that all will be well in the fall. Obviously, our hope and prayer is that we will be able to continue with our long-standing tradition of bringing our pastors together for prayer and fraternity.

Fraternally,

  
Msgr. Leslie J. Ivers, Director

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