



Our Lady of Lourdes Assembly 2143



Volume 3, Issue 7

January 2008

FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR'S MESSAGE

Worthy Sir Knights:

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas with family and friends, and now we look forward to everyone having a prosperous and healthy New Year!

We started December with a meeting on the 3rd, despite the cold we had a good showing by the majority of our newest members -- Good Work Sir Knights. The key is to get involved early and build enthusiasm for yourself and the organization.

If anyone has any ideas for veteran or active military support for our Assembly please let me know so we can get behind a good Patriotic program. Also the Assembly needs a new fund-raising idea.

In March or April, I would like our Assembly to serve one night at Simon's Kitchen at Council 8415, probably on a Friday night. I will publicize the date far enough in advance for everyone to place the date on their calendar and help support this worthwhile program.

Our Assembly is grateful to have been invited to the Christmas party put on by Council 7926 on December 15th, the food was good and a great time was had by all.

December 28th was the Feast of the Holy Family, a day to recall the blessings that we have as a direct result of Christ's birth and the unwavering trust in God by Mary and Joseph.

January promises to be cold and unforgiving weather-wise; try and make it to the Assembly meetings if at all possible, all we ask is about an hour of your time!

Stay warm, stay healthy, pray for Peace, and God Bless each and everyone of you.

Vivat Jesus!!!

S/K Bernie Ernst

Faithful Navigator

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Assembly Schedule

Meetings 8 P.M.

January 7, 2008

February 4, 2008

March 5, 2008

Faithful Admirals Message
The Importance Of Seeing The Good In All

Our perception shapes the lives we lead because the universe adjusts itself almost instantly to our expectations. When we look for negativity, we are bound to come across it in abundance. On the other hand, we create positive energy when we endeavor to see the goodness around us. As easy as it is to criticize the people and situations that frustrate or hurt us, **we do ourselves a disservice** in the process. **It is important to see the good in all as there are blessings hiding in every aspect of our outer-world reality**, and the potential for grace exists in all human beings. When our lives are flooded with challenges, grief, and pain, we may be tempted to believe that some individuals or incidents are simply bad. But if we look for the good in all, good reveals itself to us, easing our doubts and reminding us that the universe is a place of balance.

There is a perceptible energetic shift that takes place when we choose to see the good in all. The unnecessary tension that came into being when we dwelled on negativity fades away and is replaced by sympathetic tolerance. We can forgive those that have wronged us because we recognize in them traits we admire, and we may even discover that we can bring out the good in one another. Though loss still grieves us, we recognize the beginning of a new phase of existence that abounds with fresh opportunities. Each new challenge becomes another chance to prove ourselves, and we learn to show great patience in the face of difficulty. There are few pleasures greater than gazing outward and seeing beauty, wisdom, and harmony. These are the attributes of the universe that help us to cope when we encounter their opposing forces.

Since you create your reality, you make your world a better place each time you acknowledge the good in your circumstances and in the people you encounter. As you draw attention to the positive aspects of the world around you, your understanding of the affirmative nature of all existence will grow. There are few lessons you will learn in this life that will prove as helpful to your happiness and satisfaction. In appreciating the all pervasive goodness that exists in the universe, you internalize it, making it a lasting part of your life

My wife and I have a friend Dolores who only sees the good in everyone she meets. At times it drives me up a wall, because I do not see what she sees. So I can say that at times I am blinded by the darkness of our world and refuse to see all the good in a person. I am sure you have experienced the same with someone in school or perhaps a neighbor that just bugs you, yet there is good in that person!

At times our eyes form a veil over them; it could be the veil of jealousy, or a veil of powerlessness. Some of us have to be in control of everything around us or we feel incomplete, weak or just not the leader we feel we should be.

On the other side of that coin, when we are at our best we feel invincible and stronger than ever before it is then when we start to lose sight of the goodness in the world. Maybe today, this weekend we all should stop and look for the goodness in someone we really don't care for too much. See if we can find something that is good in that person then give thanks to God for whatever good that person has and pray that they receive more. While praying for that person let us also ask God to open our eyes each day to see the good in all people. Who knows you might become BFFE! Or at least for a little while.

Decon Vincent Rcciardi, P.F.N.
Faithful Admiral

Faithful Captains Message

Brother Sir Knights,

I love this time of the year!! Not only for the birth of the Son of God, or how most people are more caring and giving around Christmas; but it is a perfect time for reflecting upon one's own life. Have I been truthful? Have I done all that I could to help others? Have I been the best husband and father I could? Have I been the best Catholic gentleman I could have been?

I don't know about the rest of you, but if I am truthful with myself, some of the answers are, "Of course!! Well, maybe not the best, uhmmmm, OK, OK!! I could have tried harder! Jeeesh!"

I used to have all kinds of New Year's resolutions to work on to make myself a better person and, of course, I didn't make any of them come true for more than maybe a month. Sigh! There were just soooo many of them! Now I look back at how I was last year, and pick one or two things to work on. That seems to work better for me, along with the sticky note on my bathroom mirror reminding me every morning. In another 30 years or so, I should be a really good person!

We are all a work in progress, no matter what our age may be. God never gives up on us and neither should we. If we all do just one more good deed, one more smile and good morning to a stranger, one more call to a friend who is ill, or maybe just needs someone to talk to, make one more meeting of the K of C this year than last, who knows what impact it will have on someone else, or ourselves. Just think what happened 125 years ago when one Priest and a few good men got together in the basement of Saint Mary's Church in New Haven to try to do more to help those in need. 13,000 councils and 1.7 million members later, the world is indeed a better place!

May God bless us, and bring us all Peace, Happiness, and Joy with the New Year!!

SK Gary Rhodes
Faithful Captain

Faithful Officers

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Faithful Comptrollers Message

Brothers,

Welcome to January 2008, a new year, and a time for a new beginning. Let's make 2008 a new beginning for Our Lady of Lourdes Assembly, let's make 2008 a better year for our Assembly.

I would like to welcome our latest addition to the Assembly, Joe Arecchi. Joe has transferred in from another Assembly, we are closer to where he lives. Welcome Joe.

Many of you have sent back your dues already, and I would like to thank you for doing that so quickly. Please remember that this is your Assembly and without your help, we cannot perform the tasks we have outlined for the Assembly since we re-established it.

Last year I sent out a form asking you certain dates for our files. Most filled it out, some didn't. I am asking that those that did not fill it out, please do so now and send it back. It is so we can congratulate you and your Lady on certain milestones. If you do not send it in, we cannot include you on the birthday or anniversary lists.

Please try to attend the Assembly meetings, as well as your Council meetings, as often as possible. Remember, the Assembly and your Council need your input to improve and grow.

**John A. Gazis, P.F.N.
Faithful Comptroller**

COLOR CORPS COMMANDERS REPORT

Sir Knights,

Now that the parties and holidays are over and a new year has begun, it is time to get to work, both at our jobs and with the Knights. Your job is something that comes second, right behind your family, with the Knights falling in behind them somewhere.

I will be calling our Color Corps members soon after the first of the year. There will be some drills we have to go through to get each of you certified and get you new certification cards soon. I want to make sure that each of us is operating the way the Manual instructs us to do things. I am taking some tutoring with a Color Corps Commander that has been doing things the right way for 25 years. I do not want anyone coming to us and saying we are not performing the proper way.

As of now, the next Major upcoming event is the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Seaside Heights in March. I hope to see as many of you there as possible. There will also be a small 4th Degree Exemplification in April. As soon as details are finalized, I will let you know where and when it will be. This Degree is only for those candidates that were scheduled to be at the Degree in November but had to miss it for reasons that could not be avoided.

I hope you and your families had a wonderful Christmas Season, and look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

Anyone wishing to join the Color Corps should call me at (732) 477 – 6304, or email me at: faithfulcomptroller@kofc-a2143.org

**John A. Gazis, P.F.N.
Color Corps Commander**

7926 Fundraising Cruise

My name is Anthony Verile and I would like to introduce myself and my business to you. I am the owner of the local Cruise Planners franchise. I am a Cruise Specialist, licensed, bonded and insured. As a Cruise Planner owner, I am also a member of the Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA), National Association of Cruise Oriented Agencies (NACOA), Chamber of Commerce and the Better Business Bureau (BBB).

Cruise Planners is a nationally recognized company that has achieved "Top Producer" status with all the major cruise lines.

What does this mean to you? It means that when you choose to work with Cruise Planners, you get better pricing and more perks than you do with most other travel agencies.

Sometimes Cruise Lines offer "Residents Specials" for certain cities and/or states...military discounts...senior specials (55+)...Union members...and past passenger specials just to name a few.

I would like to have a fundraising cruise for the St Martha's Knight of Columbus. A donation for each cabin sailed will be given to the Knights of Columbus based on the cruise rate of the selected cruise. If a total of 12 or more cabins are sold that the donation will increase.

Royal Caribbean and Celebrity depart from Bayonne. Norwegian, Carnival and Princess just to name a few depart from New York. Each cruise line has destinations to the Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada and the Caribbean. The rates below are based on sailing during the months of July and August. I can provide cruise rates for any month you wish.

The Royal Caribbean cruise cabin prices range from \$1,000.00 p.p. for an inside cabin up to \$2,100.00 p.p. for a Balcony cabin. The Norwegian, Carnival and Princess cruise cabin rates range from \$600.00 p.p. for an inside cabin up to \$1,700.00 p.p. for a balcony cabin.

These packages are available to everyone, not only the members of the St. Martha Council. The Group is being sponsored by the Council. Please contact Grand Knight S.K. Bryan Dickerson at home (732) 295-4574. Thank you for your time and I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,
Anthony Verile
Cruise Specialist

Warren's World
Men Are Just Happier People

What do you expect from such simple creatures? Your last name stays put. The garage is all yours. Wedding plans take care of themselves. Chocolate is just another snack. You can be President. You can never be pregnant. You can wear a white T-shirt to a water park. You can wear NO shirt to a water park. Car mechanics tell you the truth. The world is your urinal. You never have to drive to another gas station restroom because this one is just too icky. You don't have to stop and think of which way to turn a nut on a bolt. Same work, more pay. Wrinkles add character. Wedding dress \$5000. Tux rental-\$100. People never stare at your chest when you're talking to them. New shoes don't cut, blister, or mangle your feet. One mood all the time!

Phone conversations are over in 30 seconds flat. You know stuff about tanks. A five-day vacation requires only one suitcase. You can open all your own jars. You get extra credit for the slightest act of thoughtfulness. If someone forgets to invite you, he or she can still be your friend.

Your underwear is \$8.95 for a three-pack. Three pairs of shoes are more than enough. You almost never have strap problems in public. You are unable to see wrinkles in your clothes. Everything on your face stays its original color. The same hairstyle lasts for years, maybe decades. You only have to shave your face and neck.

You can play with toys all your life. One wallet and one pair of shoes -- one color for all seasons. You can wear shorts no matter how your legs look. You can 'do' your nails with a pocket knife. You have freedom of choice concerning growing a mustache.

You can do Christmas shopping for 25 relatives on December 24 in 25 minutes.

No wonder men are happier.

Birthdays

JANUARY

S.K. Mario J Pontecorvo	January 19
S.K. John A Rentschler	January 19
S.K. Anthony J Castellano	January 19
S.K. Lionel J Coty	January 24
S.K. Thomas J Lorenc	January 25
S.K. John M Valdora	January 30

FEBRUARY

Lady Micki Tuohy	February 4
S.K. Thomas Bishop	February 7
S.K. Reynold F Castellano	February 13

MARCH

Lady Alice Stanley	March 5
S.K. Vincent P Ricciardi	March 17
Lady Laverne Kuzma	March 19

Wedding Anniversary's

FEBRUARY

S.K. Vincent and Lady Daisy Ricciardi	February 1
S.K. Harry and Lady Laverne Kuzma	February 14
S.K. Bryan and Lady Lisa Dickerson	February 18

MARCH

S.K. Bernard and Lady Margaret Ernst	March 22
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January 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Jan 1 New Year's Day	2	3 8pm Council Meeting 11527	4	5
6	7 8pm Assembly Meeting ~ Our Lady of Lourdes	8 7:30 p.m. 8415 First Degree Business Meeting	9	10 8pm COUNCIL MEETING 7926	11	12
13 7926 Breakfast	14 8pm CHAPTER MEETING	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<u>Feb 1</u>	<u>2</u> <u>Groundhog Day</u> <u>12pm-3pm</u> <u>District 31</u> <u>Free Throw</u> <u>Tournament</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>4</u> <u>8:00pm</u> <u>MEETING -</u> <u>Our Lady</u> <u>of Lourdes</u> <u>Assembly</u>	<u>5</u> <u>7:30pm</u> <u>Council</u> <u>meeting</u> <u>8415</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u> <u>8pm Council</u> <u>Meeting</u> <u>11527</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>10</u> <u>7926</u> <u>Breakfast</u>	<u>11</u> 8 p.m. Chapter meeting	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u> <u>Valentine's</u> <u>Day</u> <u>8pm</u> <u>COUNCIL</u> <u>MEETING</u> <u>7926</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>17</u>	<u>18</u> <u>President's</u> <u>Day</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	