



Our Lady of Lourdes Assembly 2143



Volume 2008, Issue 11

May 2008

FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR'S MESSAGE

My Brother Sir Knights,

Let me start by welcoming the newest members of Our Lady of Lourdes Assembly. Brother Richard Stanton, of Council 7926, was exemplified on Saturday, April 19, at St. Gregory the Great Parish Hall in Hamilton Square. It was a beautiful ceremony, and the Banquet afterward was held at Council 6213, Klockner Road, Hamilton. Worthy Master Steven Richardson Knighted the new Sir Knights at the Banquet, as it is not an Official part of the Fourth Degree Exemplification.

Also joining the Assembly recently was Brother Joseph Arcchi, formerly of St. Joseph's Assembly in Keyport. This transfer took some extra time due to paperwork snafus, but we are happy to finally say Joe is a member of Assembly 2143.

The summer is approaching and so is the end of my reign as Faithful Navigator. Unfortunately, I was not able to implement some of the programs I would have liked to see the Assembly become a part of, but there's always time in the future. My health being what it is, I was not able to attend as many functions as I would have liked to, and for that I apologize. I will support our new Faithful Navigator as he sets sail on his term in Office.

Our next meeting will be Monday, June 2, at 8 p.m. It is election night and it would be great to see a full house there as we welcome our new Navigator. Hope to see you there.

Bernard Ernst, Faithful Navigator

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Assembly Schedule

Meetings 8 P.M. |

May 5, 2008

June 2, 2008

July 7, 2008

Faithful Captain's Message

Where has the time gone? I can't believe that it's been almost a year since becoming your Faithful Captain. I can vaguely remember back to the time when years seemed to take forever to pass. Now, as I want to slow down and enjoy God's beauty, time seems to have sped up. There doesn't seem to be enough hours in a day or days in a week to get all that needs done, accomplished. So, I don't get things done; I put them off for another time, I go to "idle" mode.

Time does exist; it cannot be ignored Time is a real entity in our lives and whether we acknowledge it or not time is passing us by. All of us have only so many minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and years to live on this earth. I have reached a bit over a half century of living, and still I have many more questions than answers. Nevertheless, I am so thankful to know the One who has **all** the answers. I am amazed and exhilarated when I read scriptures such as **Jeremiah 32:27**, "**Behold I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there anything too hard for me?**" *Talk about recharging my batteries! These words got me out of the "idle" mode and into drive mode, making the most of the time I have.*

We don't **need** to be stuck in neutral living, our lives immobile, frozen in space and time. Let's kick up our spiritual heels and receive what has been so freely given by the infinite Gift Giver of all time. Let's call upon our Lord with a heart full of anticipation **knowing** we can be confident in Him to do in us all that we require to live a full abundant life — in Him, and for Him. **Jeremiah 33:3** "**Call unto me and I will answer thee and show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not.**"

Have you read the Good Book lately?

Gary Rhodes
Faithful Captain

Faithful Navigator Bernard Ernst has formed the Nominating Committee to recommend the Slate of Officers for the 2008 – 2009 Columbian Year.

The slate they recommend is as follows:

FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR	SK GARY RHODES
FAITHFUL CAPTAIN	SK WILLIAM WRIGHT
FAITHFUL PILOT	SK JOHN ROMANDO
FAITHFUL COMPTROLLER	SK JOHN GAZIS, PFN
FAITHFUL PURSER	SK ROBERT KEHOE
FAITHFUL ADMIRAL	SK BERNARD ERNST, PFN
FAITHFUL SCRIBE	SK JAMES SPATARO
FAITHFUL INNER SENTINEL	SK MARK BROWN
FAITHFUL OUTER SENTINEL	SK BRIAN HARPER
FAITHFUL 3 YR TRUSTEE	SK VINCENT RICCIARDI, PFN
FAITHFUL 2 YR TRUSTEE	SK RENE CASTELLANO
FAITHFUL 1 YR TRUSTEE	SK RICHARD MASTRONARDI

**Nominations from the floor will be accepted on the night of the election,
June 2, 2008**

Faithful Pilot's Message

Past Faithful Navigator's Dinner:

The big news for this period is that we had a successful PFN dinner for SK Deacon Vincent Ricciardi on Sunday, April 13, 2008, at the Lobster Shanty in Pt. Pleasant Beach. Several members of Vincent's family, and his friends, were there to celebrate with him. If you were not able to attend, you missed a great evening.

News on Organ Donation

Organ, tissue and bone marrow transplants save thousands of lives each year, but many people do not receive the transplants they desperately need because there are not enough donors. More than 100,000 people nationally and over 3500 in New Jersey are on waiting lists for transplants, yet thousands of patients die each year while waiting for the "miracle of life."

The State Council program is designed to promote awareness among members of the Knights of Columbus and the general public as to the importance of organ, tissue and bone marrow donation to help others in need. Too many people in America have not signed donor cards and have not discussed donation with their families.

The State Committee's goal is to heighten public awareness and to reach as many people as possible to make the compassionate decision to be an organ, tissue or bone marrow donor and to have their families and friends become donors as well.

The State Chairman, Carl Buscher, based in Northern New Jersey, was one of those people on the waiting list for a kidney transplant. After four years he received a call that a perfect match had been found for him and he had life saving transplant surgery in December 2002. Now he has been free from dialysis three times a week for over five years.

The State Vice-Chairman, Norbert (Skip) Niszczyk, our committee member for South Jersey, is a volunteer with the Gift of Life donor program based in Philadelphia, which covers eastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and all of Delaware. When his son died suddenly, Skip and his wife donated their son's liver and two kidneys so that others might live. Skip speaks to Councils, health fairs, high schools and others regarding organ and tissue transplantation.

I am a member of the committee and work out of Ocean County and Central New Jersey. I was on dialysis for over two years before receiving a perfect match kidney from my daughter in August 2006.

As you can see, even though there are only three of us, we have a large mission, and we are up to it. For example, Skip and I will be staffing a table at the forthcoming Knights of Columbus State Convention. I have been visiting flea markets, craft fairs and plan to continue this. I will also be planning several days at the Ocean County Fair, visits to carnivals being held by fellow Councils, and visits to Allaire State Park exhibitions. If you are interested in joining me for any of these, please give me a call at 732-920-2420.

COLOR CORPS COMMANDERS REPORT

Brothers,

Our next event this year is the State Convention. Anyone attending the convention should bring their Regalia, and join in presenting the Colors with the First NJ District.

Also upcoming is the Special Olympics at the College of NJ, in June. Anyone wishing to attend this function must have a white dinner jacket for their tuxedo. The Assembly hosting this event goes to summer uniform and this event is the first one of the summer.

Anyone wishing to join the Color Corps can contact me at 732 477-6304.

John A. Gazis, PFN
Color Corps Commander

Faithful Comptrollers Message

Brother Sir Knights,

As of this writing, some of our Brothers haven't sent in their dues yet. I will be beginning the process of sending out dues notices again and try to get everyone caught up to date. The Assembly needs this money to perform the charitable acts we try to do every year. This money also helps us at the Exemplification in November. To those that have sent their dues in already, thank you for your promptness.

We had a candidate at the Exemplification held last month at St. Gregory the Great, in Hamilton Square. Richard Stanton, of Council 7926, joined our Assembly. Rich was originally a Candidate for the November 2007 Exemplification, but had to postpone due to health reasons. The Degree class was larger than usual, as the Master opened it up to a new Assembly and with them there were 43 candidates. The banquet afterward was held at Council 6213 in Hamilton.

Also joining our Assembly is a recent transfer, Joseph Arrecchi. Joe is a Parishioner at the Church of St. Martha. We welcome Joe and Rich to the Assembly.

Our next meeting is June 12. It is the night we will elect the new Officers for the 2008 – 2009 Columbian year. I would ask that you try to make this meeting and join us in electing our Officers. Come out and help them begin their term strongly.

John A. Gazis, PFN
Faithful Comptroller

Faithful Officers

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
<i>Faithful Navigator</i>	S.K. Bernard Ernst	faithfulnavigator@kofc-a2143.org
<i>Faithful Captain</i>	S.K. Gary Rhodes	faithfulcaptain@kofc-a2143.org
<i>Faithful Pilot</i>	S.K. William Wright	faithfulpilot@kofc-a2143.org
<i>Faithful Purser</i>	S.K. Robert Kehoe	faithfulpurser@kofc-a2143.org
<i>Faithful Comptroller</i>	S.K. John A. Gazis, PFN	faithfulcomptroller@kofc-a2143.org
<i>Faithful Admiral</i>	S.K. Vincent Ricciardi, PFN	faithfuladmiral@kofc-a2143.org
<i>Faithful Scribe</i>	S.K. Michael Tuohy	faithfulscribe@kofc-a2143.org
<i>Faithful Inner Sentinel</i>	S.K. Mark Brown	
<i>Faithful Outer Sentinel</i>	S.K. Brian Harper	faithfulsentinel@kofc-a2143.org
<i>Faithful Trustee</i>	S.K. Rene Castellano	faithfultrustee3@kofc-a2143.org
<i>Faithful Trustee</i>	S.K. Richard Mastronardi	faithfultrustee2@kofc-a2143.org
<i>Faithful Trustee</i>	S.K. Frank Cicalese	faithfultrustee1@kofc-a2143.org

Faithful Admirals Message

We all have defense mechanisms that we've developed over time, often without being aware of it. In times of trouble, the behaviors that have worked to get us past challenges with the least amount of pain are the ones that we repeat; even when part of us knows they no longer work. Such behavior is a natural response from our mental and physical aspects. But because we are spiritual beings as well, we have the ability to rise above habits and patterns to see the truth that lay beyond. And from that moment on, we can make choices that allow us to work directly from that place of truth within us.

Most of our defense mechanisms were developed in childhood; from the moment that we realized crying would get us the attention we craved. Passive aggressive ways of communicating may have allowed us to get what we needed without being scolded, punished or laughed at, so we learned to avoid being direct and honest. Some of us may have taken refuge in the lives of others, discovering ways to direct attention away from ourselves entirely. Throwing ourselves into projects or rescuing others from themselves can be effective ways to avoid dealing with our own issues. And when people are truly helped by our actions, we get the added bonus of feeling heroic. But while defenses can keep away the things we fear, they can also work to keep our good from us.

When we can be honest with ourselves about what we truly desire, then we can connect our desires to the creative power of the spirit within us. Knowing that we are one with God of the universe allows us release any need for defense. Trusting that power, we know that we are exactly where we are meant to be, and that challenges bring gifts of growth and experience. When we can put down arms raised in defense, then we are free to use our hands, minds, hearts and spirits to mold and shape our abundant energy to create and live our lives.

We never walk alone, God is always with us. He walks along side us when we need a hand to hold. He walks behind us when we need the encouragement to move forward. He walks in front of us when we need protection and he carries us when we falter and fall. We are always in His hands even when we give way to Satan! God is there and all we have to do is ask God to come to our assistance. There is no greater power than God all that we ask all that we seek comes from Him.

Many of us have been given the gift of a child to nurture and show the way. We are entrusted to bring them to faith in God. At their baptismal you were asked to vow to raise this child in the catholic faith. It all began then and there. As they become older many parents say, "He or she will make their choice to attend church or not," WRONG! You were empowered by God to bring them to our faith community.

Stop and think if your Mom or Dad said, "It's OK honey you make the decision whether you need God in your life"? Would you make the right choice? I think not, because we know whether we want to admit it or not that God is our center. Maybe we only pray when we are in need, or something is really wrong. Then we go running to God and ask for his Help and "*God grants it, in His Time, not ours*".

Yes our defenses come in so many ways because we want to shine in the eyes of others, but there is only one set of eyes we shine in, no matter what and those are of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. As always when you open your eyes just say, "Thank you God for this day, send your blessings upon me".

Then watch the great day that begins for you! But don't forget to get out of bed first.

To our Mothers may you have a wonderful and blessed Mothers Day. May the light of the Lord shine upon you, this day and every day.

God's Blessing to all,
Deacon Vincent P. Ricciardi, Sr., E.A.D.M., PFN

WARRENS WORLD

Your Social Security

Just in case some of you young whippersnappers (& some older ones) didn't know this. It's easy to check out, if you don't believe it. Be sure and show it to your kids. They need a little history lesson on what's what. And it doesn't matter whether you are Democrat or Republican. Facts are facts!!!

Our Social Security

Franklin Roosevelt, a Democrat, introduced the Social Security (FICA) Program. He promised:

- 1.) That participation in the Program would be completely voluntary.
- 2.) That the participants would only have to pay 1% of the first \$1,400 of their annual incomes into the Program,
- 3.) That the money the participants elected to put into the Program would be deductible from their income for tax purposes each year,
- 4.) That the money the participants put into the Independent "Trust Fund" rather than into the General Operating Fund, and therefore, would only be used to fund the Social Security Retirement Program, and no other government program, and,
- 5.) That the annuity payments to the retirees would never be taxed as income.

Since many of us have paid into FICA for years and are now receiving a Social Security check every month -- and then finding that we are getting taxed on 85% of the money we paid to the federal government to "put away", you may be interested in the following:

Q: Which political party took Social Security from the Independent "Trust Fund" and put it into the General Fund so that Congress could spend it?

A: It was Lyndon Johnson and the democratically- controlled House and Senate.

Q: Which political party eliminated the income tax deduction for Social Security (FICA) withholding?

A: The Democratic Party.

Q. Which political party started taxing Social Security annuities?

A: The Democratic Party, with *Al Gore* casting the "tie-breaking" deciding vote as President of the Senate, while he was Vice President of the U.S.

Q: Which political party decided to start giving annuity payments to immigrants?

A: That's right! *Jimmy Carter* and the Democratic Party. Immigrants moved into this country, and at age 65, they began to receive Social Security payments! The Democratic Party gave these payments to them even though they never paid a dime into it!

Then, after violating the original contract (FICA), the Democrats turn around and tell you that the Republicans want to take your Social Security away!

And the worst part about it is uninformed citizens believe it!

If enough people read this, maybe a seed of awareness will be planted and maybe changes will evolve. Maybe not, some Democrats are awfully sure of what isn't so.

But it's worth a try. How many people can YOU show this to?

Actions speak louder than bumper stickers.

***AND CONGRESS GIVES THEMSELVES 100% RETIREMENT FOR ONLY SERVING ONE TERM!!!
A government big enough to give you everything you want, is strong enough to take everything you have.***

-Thomas Jefferson

Birthday Boys

The following Brother Knights are celebrating birthdays in the upcoming months.

MAY

Bryan J Dickerson, GK	May 13, 1973
Thomas Tamburo	May 15, 1921
Adalbert "Red" Eipert	May 18, 1948
Joseph Murphy	May 23, 1958
Carl Apgar	June 23, 1950
Gary L Rhodes, GK	May 24, 1949
Harry Kuzma	May 25, 1938

JUNE

Frank M Cicalese, PGK	June 08, 1930
Robert F Brogan	June 11, 1968
Thomas Applegate	June 12, 1956
John A Fiore	June 17, 1982
Warren C Frey, FDD	June 13, 1923
Kenneth L Sarro	June 25, 1956
Joseph J Rastelli, PGK	June 26, 1965

JULY

James Spataro	July 06, 1941
Philip A Valese	July 07, 1965
Robert Morris, PGK	July 09, 1969
Bernard J Ernst, FN	July 19, 1954

Wedding Anniversaries

The following Ladies & Sir Knights are celebrating Wedding Anniversaries in the upcoming months.

Lady Kathy and S.K. Tony DeCresci	May 4
Lady Nancy and S.K. George Dormanski	May 15
Lady Alice and S.K. Joseph O'Brien	June 21
Lady Mary and S.K. Robert Murray, PFN	June 29
Lady Elizabeth and S.K. John Romando	August 22

Congratulations to those celebrating Anniversaries and Birthdays in the coming months



Our Lady of Lourdes

Assembly #2143

Knights of Columbus

Bernard J. Ernst, Faithful Navigator



The Ladies, Sir Knights, and Officers of Assembly 2143 Congratulate the State Officers on A Successful Columbian Year

Faithful Navigator	S.K. Bernard Ernst
Faithful Captain	S.K. Gary Rhodes
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Faithful Admiral	S.K. Deacon Vincent Ricciardi, PFN
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Faithful Sentinel	S.K. Brian Harper
Faithful Trustee	S.K. Richard Mastronardi
Faithful Trustee	S.K. Frank Cicalese
Faithful Trustee	S.K. Reynold Castellano



One Nation Under God

May 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<u>May 1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> 8 pm - Assembly Meeting	<u>6</u> 7:30 pm - Council 8415 Business Meeting	<u>7</u> 8pm - Council 11527 Business Meeting	<u>8</u> 8pm - Council 7926 Business Meeting	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>11</u> Mothers Day 7am – 11am Family Communion Breakfast @ Council 7926	<u>12</u> 8pm – Chapter Meeting – Council 8603 Bayville	<u>13</u> 8pm – First Degree @ Council 8415	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u> State Convention @ Wildwood	<u>17</u> State Convention @ Wildwood
<u>18</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> Memorial Day	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>

June 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>Jun 1</u>	<u>2</u> Assembly 2143 Meeting	<u>3</u> Council 8415 Business Meeting	<u>4</u> Council 11527 Meeting	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>8</u> 7am-11am Family Breakfast ~ 7926	<u>9</u> Ocean County Chapter Meeting - Council 4969 - Toms River	<u>10</u> 8pm First Degree @ Council 8415	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u> A.C. Bus Trip ~ Trump Marina <hr/> Council 7926 Meeting	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>15</u> Father's Day	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> Council 8415 Social Meeting	<u>18</u> Council 11527 Social Meeting	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>
<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u> A.C. Bus Trip ~ Taj Mahal <hr/> Council 7926 Social Meeting	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>
<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>					