



Our Lady of Lourdes Assembly 2143



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Volume 2009, Issue 7

January 2009

FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR'S MESSAGE

Brothers,

I hope everyone had a beautiful and happy Christmas! With all the end of year activities at my work, and preparing for the Christmas celebration, it's been a pretty hectic month for me. I took time recently to ponder my life this past year and that caused me to question a lot of things, some of which I will share with you:

Why is it considered necessary to nail down the lid of a coffin?

Why don't you ever see the headline "Psychic Wins Lottery"?

Why is it that doctors call what they do "practice"?

Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?

Why can't they make the whole plane out of the same material that little indestructible black box is made of?

If a person with multiple personalities threatens suicide, is that considered a hostage situation?

How come abbreviated is such a long word?

Since light travels faster than sound, isn't that why politicians appear bright until you hear them speak?

Ever wonder what the speed of lightning would be if it didn't zigzag?

If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the OTHERS here for?

If Fed Ex and UPS were to merge, would they call it Fed UP?

If quitters never win, and winners never quit, what fool came up with, "Quit while you're ahead"?

What hair color do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men?

How much deeper would oceans be if sponges didn't live there?

Clones are people two.

If a man says something in the woods and there are no women there, is he still wrong?

If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.

Isn't Disney World a people trap operated by a mouse?

Why can't you find fresh sardines in the fish market?

Why can't we get Knights to attend the meetings?

Brother Knights, have a great, happy, and prosperous New Year!

Gary Rhodes, Faithful Navigator

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Assembly Schedule

Meetings 8 P.M. |

January 5, 2009

February 2, 2009

March 2, 2009

From the Desk of Deacon Vince

We Are All Mirrors for Each Other

When we look at other people, we see many of their qualities in innumerable and seemingly random combinations. However, the qualities that we see in the people around us are directly related to the traits that exist in us. "Like attracts like" is one of the spiritual laws of the universe. We attract individuals into our lives that mirror who we are. Those you feel drawn to reflect your inner self back at you, and you act as a mirror for them. Simply put, when you look at others, you will likely see what exists in you. When you see beauty, divinity, sweetness, or light in the soul of another, you are seeing the goodness that resides in your soul. When you see traits in others that evoke feelings of anger, annoyance, or hatred, you may be seeing reflected back at you those parts of yourself that you have disowned or do not like.

Because we are all mirrors for each other, looking at the people in your life can tell you a lot about yourself. Who you are can be laid bare to you through what you see in others. It is easy to see the traits you do not like in others. It is much more difficult to realize that you possess those same traits. Often, the habits, attitudes, and behaviors of others are closely linked to our unconscious and unresolved issues.

When you come into contact with someone you admire, search your soul for similarly admirable traits. Likewise, when you meet someone exhibiting traits that you dislike, accept that you are looking at your reflection. Looking at yourself through your perception of others can be a humbling and eye-opening experience. You can also cultivate in you the traits and behaviors that you do like. Be loving and respectful to all people, and you will attract individuals that will love and respect you back. Nurture compassion and empathy and let the goodness you see in others be your mirror.

Just recently our healing team had a mother come to us because of her worries about her 30+ year old son she told us of all her worries each time we responded to her she would say, "Not my son" at the end of the session she affirmed what we told her by saying, "You know I remember a time". As we completed our time together she stated, "I am going to go home and reflect on what has been said and pray for guidance.

In a parish where I worked briefly there were people who claimed to be something they are not. You would hear them say, "Praise Jesus" after everything was said yet they did not do so. Many think that by using words they can be better Catholics, or that attending special masses makes them holier. Yet we know from scripture not to be a false prophet because we will doom ourselves. When they are faced with questions or asked to explain their feelings it is always Praise Jesus, yes we should Praise Jesus, but in a proper fashion. Do you think they look in a mirror and see a true follower? A Believer? A Prophet?

Finally on December 15th Deacon Mike Scannella and I left for Stockbridge, Mass. to deliver Christmas gifts to the National Shrine of Divine Mercy the Marians of the Immaculate Conception. **The good people of Saint Mary of The Lake Church in Lakewood** collected items for the Priest and Brothers. It is not because they were in dire need but that many of the items were worn out, such as towels, bedding, blankets, flatware and glassware. Because they are at a National Shrine many of us think, "They receive millions of dollars each year they are better off than our parish priest." They are not; many Christmases go by with little to nothing for these men who have given themselves to Jesus and all his children.

As we vested for Mass I could not believe my eyes, they had very little in the way of vestments. One of our members donated a \$1,400 Vestment of Divine Mercy to the Shrine. The manufacturer asked why I am sending this to the National Shrine. When I told her they did not have a Divine Mercy Chasuble she was shocked. She asked what else could they use and I told her, "Stoles". Mannix said to me "Deacon, here is a deal I will make with your Knights of Columbus. I have stoles that start at \$150.00 each I will offer them to you for \$50.00 each and if the donor wants their family name embroidered on the back of the stole the cost will be an additional \$10.00." For \$60.00 you can donate a stole to the National Shrine with your family name inscribed. Mannix looks in the mirror and sees Jesus every time. Her business could be five times larger but she wants to keep it small to serve the Cleric Community with quality and her love in each piece that she makes. I wonder how many of us would do what Mannix did.

We are entering a New Year, will we be able to look in the mirror and see a reflection that we like? Will we look for all the good traits in someone or we will see what we do not like in them that reflect ourselves? Only you can answer that question and only you can change the reflection that you see. **This is going to be a year of many trials** with a new President whom we must pray for daily that he changes his views on abortion and works for the good of all Americans. You have a big job this year look and reflect and most important of all PRAY!

May you and your families have all that you need; May you all have health of body and mind; and May Almighty God Bless you abundantly.

Love and Peace,

Deacon Vincent P. Ricciardi, Sr. E.A.D.M, A.M.H. PFN

Faithful Comptrollers Message

Brother Sir Knights,

Thank you to the members that have sent in their dues recently. This will help with the events we are planning in the future, as well as our obligation to the recently refurbished Dome at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Every Assembly in the Country is being asked to make a donation to the Dome project, and we have been asked to donate \$175.

We will be planning the banquet honoring Past Faithful Navigator Bernard J. Ernst. This banquet has been postponed a few times due to PFN Ernst's health issues. Hopefully we can get a suitable date at the Lobster Shanty.

The Assembly meetings have been under attended the last few months, with not enough members to hold a business meeting. This is **YOUR** Assembly and your input is wanted and needed for the Assembly to perform to its capabilities. Please make a concerted effort to be at the meetings and affairs.

I would like to thank Council 7926 for inviting the Assembly members to their Christmas party, as they have done every year since we re-established the Assembly. Unfortunately, I could not get the message out to the membership early enough and most of you could not attend. Next year, we will get the message out earlier.

John A. Gazis, PFN
Faithful Comptroller

Faithful Officers

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
Faithful Navigator	S.K. Gary Rhodes	faithfulnavigator@kofc-a2143.org
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Faithful Trustee	S.K. Vincent Ricciardi, PFN	faithfultrustee1@kofc-a2143.org

COLOR CORPS COMMANDERS REPORT

Brothers,

As you may have heard, I have been appointed to the position of District Color Guard Commander. In this position, I have the added responsibility of putting together the team that will post the Colors at the Convention and at other State Events held in the Second New Jersey District. However, the 6 gentlemen will not all come from our Assembly, as they have in the past. I will be looking for team members from throughout the Second District. I would, however, like at least 1 member to be from this Assembly. The next scheduled event is the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Seaside Heights in March. Hopefully, some of our members will be available to march in the parade. If you are not a member of the Color Corps, but would like to march, please join in, and bring the family. You can either march with your Council or you can march as a member of the Assembly. We would love to see you there.

John A. Gazis, PFN, Color Corps Commander

WARRENS WORLD

1) NUDITY

I was driving with my three young children one warm summer evening when a woman in the convertible ahead of us stood up and waved. She was stark naked!

As I was reeling from the shock, I heard my 5-year-old shout from the back seat, 'Mom, that lady isn't wearing a seat belt!'

2) OPINIONS

On the first day of school, a first-grader handed his teacher a note from his mother. The note read, 'The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents.'

3) KETCHUP

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone. 'Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now. She's hitting the bottle.'

4) MORE NUDITY

A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover.

The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, 'What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?'

5) POLICE # 1

While taking a routine vandalism report at an elementary school, I was interrupted by a little girl about 6 years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, 'Are you a cop?' 'Yes,' I answered and continued writing the report. My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police. Is that right?' 'Yes, that's right,' I told her. 'Well, then,' she said as she extended her foot toward me, 'would you please tie my shoe?'

6) POLICE # 2

It was the end of the day when I parked my police van in front of the station. As I gathered my equipment, my K-9 partner, Jake, was barking, and I saw a little boy staring in at me. 'Is that a dog you got back there?' he asked. 'It sure is,' I replied.

Puzzled, the boy looked at me and then towards the back of the van. Finally he said, 'What'd he do?'

7) ELDERLY

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs.

One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

8) DRESS-UP

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, 'Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit.' 'And why not, darling?' he asked. 'You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning.'

9) DEATH

While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his 5-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cotton batting, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased.

The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his version of what he thought his father always said: 'Glory be unto the Faaather, and unto the Sonnn, and into the hole he gooos.' (I want this line used at my funeral!)

10) SCHOOL

A little girl had just finished her first week of school. 'I'm just wasting my time,' she said to her mother. 'I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk!'

11) BIBLE

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. 'Mama, look what I found,' the boy called out. 'What have you got there, dear?'

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, 'I think it's Adam's underwear!'

NOW IF THIS DIDN'T BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY, GO BACK TO BED AND FORGET IT.

January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Jan 1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5 Assembly 2143 Meeting	6 7:30pm-9pm Council 8415 Business Meeting	7	8 A.C. Bus Trip ~ Marina Council 7926 Meeting	9	10
11 7am-Family Breakfast ~ 7926	12 8pm Ocean County Chapter Meeting	13 8pm First Degree @ Council 8415	14	15	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	20 6:30pm Council 8415 Social Meeting	21 8pm Council 11527 Social Meeting	<u>22</u> A.C. Bus Trip ~ Taj Mahal Council 7926 Social Meeting	23	24
25	26 Trenton Federation Meeting	27	28	29 Convention Committee Meeting	30	31

February 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Feb 1 Super Bowl	2 Groundhog Day Assembly 2143 Meeting	3 7:30pm-9pm Council 8415 Business Meeting	4 Council 11527 Meeting	5	6	7 District 31 Free Throw Tournament
8 7am-11am Family Breakfast ~ 7926	9 8pm-9pm Ocean County Chapter Meeting	10	11 Council 8160 Meeting	12 A.C. Bus Trip ~ Harrah's Council 7926 Meeting	13	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 President's Day	17 6:30pm-8pm Council 8415 Social Meeting	18 8pm-9pm Council 11527 Social Meeting	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Council 8160 Social Meeting	26 A.C. Bus Trip ~ Taj Mahal Council 7926 Social Meeting	27	28

Birthday Boys

The following Brothers will be celebrating birthdays in the coming months:

JANUARY

Mario J Pontecorvo	January 19, 1933
John A Rentschler	January 19, 1934
Anthony J Castellano	January 19, 1960
Lionel J Coty	January 24, 1926
Thomas J Lorenc	January 25, 1946

FEBRUARY

Thomas Bishop	February 07, 1933
Reynold F Castellano	February 13, 1937

MARCH

Michael Permuko	March 11, 1959
Vincent P Ricciardi	March 17, 1949
Juan Garcia	March 26, 1966

Wedding Anniversaries

The following Ladies and Sir Knights will be celebrating Wedding Anniversaries in the coming months:

FEBRUARY

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

MARCH

S.K. Bernard and Lady Margaret Ernst	March 22
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APRIL

S.K. Arthur and Lady Alice Stanley	April 3
S.K. Mario and Lady Julia Pontecorvo	April 4
S.K. Lionel and Lady Audrey Coty	April 16
S.K. Michael and Lady Micki Tuohy	April 20

4th Degree Anniversaries

In the coming months, the following Brothers will be celebrating the Anniversary of the date they were Exemplified in the Fourth Degree:

<u>Sir Knight</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Yrs</u>
Father Gerald Marchand	Feb 1, 1959	50 yrs
Thomas Tamburo	Feb 1, 1963	46 yrs
Peter C. Beaugard	Feb 17, 2002	7 yrs
William J Bouford	Feb 17, 2002	7 yrs
Bryan Dickerson	Feb 17, 2002	7 yrs
Michael Doelger	Feb 17, 2002	7 yrs
Father Micheal O'Connor	Feb 17, 2002	7 yrs
Joseph Rastelli	Feb 17, 2002	7 yrs
Thomas Applegate	Feb 18, 2001	8 yrs
Joseph Murphy	Feb 18, 2001	8 yrs
Thomas Lorenc	Feb 20, 2000	9 yrs
Richard Mastronardi	Feb 20, 2000	9 yrs
Robert Morris	Feb 20, 2000	9 yrs
Lionel Coty	March 19, 1999	10 yrs
Deacon Vincent Ricciardi, PFN	April 1, 1980	29 yrs
Kenneth Sarro	April 1, 1980	29 yrs
Anthony DeCresci	April 30, 2006	3 yrs
Peter Malara	April 30, 2006	3 yrs
Frank Cicalese	May 1, 1987	22 yrs
Warren Frey	May 3, 1981	28 yrs

The Assembly and the Order thanks them for their service to our Church, our Order, and the Community