



Our Lady of Lourdes



Assembly 2143

Volume 2, Issue 4

October 2006

FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR'S MESSAGE

Deacon Vincent Ricciardi

My Dear Brothers in Christ,

We are each born into this world with unique gifts. Within us is a glimmer of the divine light that can potentially make the world a more beautiful place. However, in many, that light lies dormant, snuffed out by fears and feelings of inadequacy. To spark it is to attract attention, face the possibility of rejection or the responsibility of success, and risk being labeled immodest.

Yet when we undermine the light by hiding our aptitudes and quashing our dreams, we deny ourselves and others a wealth of experiences. Your abilities are a part of who you are and when you take pride in them, you affirm the love, esteem, and trust with which you view yourself. Moreover, as you express the light within, you grant others permission to do the same, freeing them to explore their own talents.

For some, we are taught to hide our light from the world since childhood. Relatives caution us that the professions associated with our aptitudes are unattainable. Our peers may be envious of our skills and thus overly critical of the activities we instinctively enjoy. Authority figures admonish us to be humble and avoid showing off.

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Meeting Schedule:

7:30 p.m.

Monday, October 2, 2006

Monday, November 6, 2006

Monday, December 4, 2006

FAITHFUL NAVIGATORS REPORT (cont)

However, there is a vast chasm that separates those who let their light shine and those who seek only to draw attention to themselves. When you dare to share your light with the world, the beauty and perfection of your soul become clearly visible. You become a whole being—the literal embodiment of your vast potential. Whether you are a wonderful dancer, a first-rate cook, quick with numbers, or a natural negotiator, you'll come to understand that you do the world no favors when you hold yourself back.

If you have hidden your light for so long that it has shrunk to an ember, make a list of everything you do well, however impractical, silly, or seemingly inconsequential. Then ask yourself how you can positively utilize those abilities in your daily life. The gifts you were born with were not granted to you arbitrarily. While you may never discover what impact your light has had on others, you can be certain that when you embrace your talents and share them with others, you will spread illumination in the world.

Several years ago I gave up studies to become a deacon because of the fear of being inadequate, self doubt and confusion set in. Ten years later God once again called me, this time I listened and answered His call. I realized that I am not to be perfect or even close to perfect. God called me and who I am to serve all of my Brothers and Sisters that God brings to me. Yes, we all have self doubt and inadequacies but, we have much more! We have the blessings of God. Those blessings become our power, our strength to carry on in God's name. To go where no man has treaded to carry the Cross of Jesus in one hand and the Flag of Our Country in the other. The two most powerful symbols of this earth. We the men of the Fourth Degree are called to show that strength each time we are called upon. To shine like the stars in the dark of night, the Sun on a cloudy day breaking through and bringing the love of our creator to all we touch.

This is the time that you can shine like the stars or the sun! Become a member of the Color Corps, bring in a new member to the Fourth Degree. Our exemplification is this November 12th if we all bring in just one (1) member we will double our ranks to carry on the sublime mission of God. Think about it! You are the one who will make the difference; you are the one who can change the face of the earth. You have the strength and the abilities to make that difference. Will you answer your call? Will you make that difference? As we ready a beautiful season of fall with all its beauty and changing colors, let us all enter the season to help one and other. Try to come to the meetings. They start at 7:30 and are over within an hour to an hour and twenty minutes. This Monday October 2nd we will be serving Meatballs sandwiches, beer and soda. So if for no other reason, come and enjoy breaking bread with your brothers.

May God bless you and your families,
Deacon Vincent P. Ricciardi, Sr.
Faithful Navigator

Faithful Captains Message

Worthy Sir Knights:

As we grew up we were told to "mind your own business", but how far does that admonition go?

- **If we witness a crime, do we mind our own business?**
- **If we see an injustice, do we come to the aid...or do we mind our own business?**
- **What if the crime we see is murder or manslaughter, do we take action, or do we mind our own business?**

What if it had been us who were the victim? Would we have wanted someone to help, or to mind their own business?

Every one of us is united in one indisputable fact, with every single person on the face of the earth: We have all survived the threat of abortion, thanks to our parents.

I presume, as I write this, that none of you are pregnant, nor is likely to be! So why should you care? Why is it your business?

Because in electing pro-abortion politicians, or standing idly by as abortions are committed by our tacit approval, we are permitting this act to take place. Life, in all its forms (from conception to natural death) IS our business. We are all made in the image and likeness of God, so we should all be given a chance to survive. So it IS our business to protect and defend life.

There is a bill before Congress that stalled late in the night on September 29th. It would have prevented strangers from transporting minors across state lines with the intent of providing them with, or assisting them with, the opportunity to have an abortion – without notification to the girl's parents. Would YOU want this to happen to your daughter? Your Granddaughter? Your Godchild?

There are some, right in our own Assembly that feel the day will never come when Roe v. Wade is overturned. That does not mean we should just stand by and let abortions to occur.

We are Knights of Columbus; we took oaths to stand up, to speak up, united with our Brother Knights against crimes against humanity and sins against God. Do you not remember? Were you all just giving lip service to the conferring officer?

If we believe, if we TRULY believe, as Christians that we are ALL the army of Christ than we need to ask: "What would Jesus do"?

Would Jesus stand by as millions are murdered through abortions and euthanasia?

Would he MAKE it his business?

Parties, events and socials are OK as an Assembly. They promote fraternity and patriotism, but they are not fulfilling the basic duty we have had since baptism, and we repeat our vow during the Easter Season. We must renounce Satan every waking moment. We must stand up against his evil ways.

Do you repeat this vow annually and mean it...or are you just giving lip service.

Worthy Sir Knights, if we cannot stand up against evil, today, tomorrow, and everyday either individually or united, then what is left?

Just because this evil is not happening in YOUR backyard, it IS still your business.

**Bernard J Ernst
Faithful Captain**

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

In future issues of the newsletter, this area will be dedicated to our Councils. The activities and programs of the Councils will be listed here. Please support our Councils by attending their affairs

Faithful Comptrollers Message

My Brother Sir Knights,

The end of the year is rapidly approaching and with it brings the Christmas Season and the bills that go along with it. It also means that in the near future, we will be sending out our dues notices, which are due at the end of the year. I will begin preparing them so they can go out at the end of October. Hopefully, we can get them back early this year. Anyone having difficulty should contact me and I will forward the information to the Faithful Navigator for discussion.

Also in the dues envelope, will be a form that I will be asking you to fill out and return to me. This form will be asking for certain information, (i.e. Phone numbers, e-mail address, etc.) for the Assembly files. No information will be shared with any other organization, Assembly, or Council.

As was mentioned previously, our Assembly has a new website, with many new features. This newsletter is available there, as are pictures of all the Assembly Officers, the Past Faithful Navigators, a list of Charter Members from the year of the Assembly's inception. There will be many other features available to us on there also. There is a calendar of events, as well as an area for pictures from our events. There will be a monthly section of the calendar, listing Birthdays. Please visit our new website. Soon it will be password protected. This will allow the members of the Assembly to see the Officers phone numbers. The general public will only see their names, titles, and Assembly e-mail addresses. Emails sent to a members Assembly e-mail address will be sent to the members personal e-mail address without delay, without their personal e-mail being broadcast across the net.

I hope to see you all at the meetings and our events.

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

COLOR CORPS COMMANDERS REPORT

Brothers,

Our Color Corps will be joining the Chapter, Councils, and Assemblies of Ocean County marching in the Annual Columbus Day parade on Sunday, October 8.

The next important date is Sunday November 12, which is the Exemplification of the Fourth Degree. The Exemplification will be held at the Sheraton, on Route 35 in Eatontown.

These are District Callouts and all Color Corps members are invited to come and join in.

Anyone wishing to join the Color Corps can call me at (609) 597-1197.

Edward F. Kelly, K.H.S., P.F.N.
Color Corps Commander

UPCOMING BIRTHDAY'S

OCTOBER

Michael S. Doelger	Oct. 10
Robert P. Murray, P.F.N.	Oct. 22
John A. Gazis, P.F.N.	Oct. 26
William J. Bouford	Oct. 27
Richard P. Mastronardi	Oct. 27

NOVEMBER

George J. Dormanski	Nov. 28
Ronald "Jack" O'Shea	Nov. 30
Gerard F. Spanola	Nov. 30

DECEMBER

Michael J. Tuohy	Dec. 7
Brian J. Harper	Dec. 8
Steven R. Kelly	Dec. 20
Jesus Christ	Dec. 25
Joseph LoBianco	Dec. 26

Assembly Officer's

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
<u>Faithful Navigator</u>	<u>S.K. Vincent Ricciardi</u>		<u>fn2143@njkofc.org</u>
<u>Faithful Captain</u>	<u>S.K. Bernard Ernst</u>		
<u>Faithful Pilot</u>	<u>S.K. Gary Rhodes</u>		
<u>Faithful Scribe</u>	<u>S.K. Robert Kehoe</u>		
<u>Faithful Admiral</u>	<u>S.K.S.K Frank Cicalese</u>		
<u>Faithful Comptroller</u>	<u>S.K. John Gazis, P.F.N.</u>		<u>fc2143@njkofc.org</u>
<u>Faithful Purser</u>	<u>S.K. Albert DelTufo</u>		
<u>Faithful Inner Sentinel</u>	<u>S.K. Bryan Harper</u>		
<u>Faithful Outer Sentinel</u>	<u>S.K. Mark Brown</u>		
<u>Faithful 3 Yr Trustee</u>	<u>S.K. Warren Frey</u>		
<u>Faithful 2 Yr Trustee</u>	<u>S.K. Richard Mastronardi</u>		
<u>Faithful 1 Yr Trustee</u>	<u>S.K. Bryan Dickerson</u>		
<u>Color Corps Commander</u>	<u>S.K. Edward Kelly, K.H.S.</u>		

WARRENS WORLD

"Heavenly Father, we come before you today to ask your forgiveness and to seek your direction and guidance."

We know Your Word says, "Woe to those who call evil good," but that is exactly what we have done.

**We have lost our spiritual equilibrium,
and reversed our values.**

**We have exploited the poor,
and called it the lottery.**

**We have rewarded laziness,
and called it welfare.**

**We have killed our unborn,
and called it choice.**

**We have shot abortionists,
and called it justifiable.**

**We have executed people with questionable evidence,
and called it justice.**

**We have neglected to discipline our children,
and called it building self esteem.**

**We have abused power,
and called it politics.**

**We have coveted our neighbor's possessions,
and called it ambition.**

**We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography,
and called it "freedom of expression".**

**We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers,
and called it "enlightenment".**

**Search us, Oh God, and know our hearts today;
cleanse us from every sin and set us free. Amen!**

**With the Lord's help, may this prayer sweep over our nation
and wholeheartedly become our desire so that we again
can be called "One nation under God."**