



Our Lady of Lourdes



Assembly 2143

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January 2007

FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR'S MESSAGE

Deacon Vincent Ricciardi

When it comes to our families, we sometimes see only our differences. We see the way our parents cling to ideas we don't believe, or act in ways we try not to act. We see how practical one of our siblings is and wonder how we can be from the same gene pool. Similarly, within the human family we see how different we are from each other, in ways ranging from gender and race to geographical location and religious beliefs. It is almost as if we think we are a different species sometimes. But the truth is, in our personal families as well as the human family, we really are the same.

A single mother of four living in Africa looks up at the same stars and moon that shine down on an elderly Italian in Italy. A Tibetan monk living in India, a newborn infant in China, and a young couple saying their marriage vows in New Jersey all breathe the same air, by the same process. We have all been hurt and we have all cried. Each one of us knows how it feels to love someone dearly. No matter what our political views are, we all love to laugh. Regardless of how much or how little money we have, our hearts pump blood through our bodies in the same way. With all this in common, it is clear we are each individual members of the same family. We are human.

Acknowledging how close we all are, instead of clinging to what separates us, enables us to feel less alone in the world. Every person we meet, see, hear, or read about, is a member of our family. We are truly not alone. We also begin to see that we are perfectly capable of understanding and relating to people who, on the surface, may seem very different from us.

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Assembly Schedule

Meetings 7:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 15, 2007
January 15 Meeting at Holy Family
Monday, February 5, 2007
Monday March 5, 2007

FAITHFUL NAVIGATORS MESSAGE (cont.)

This awareness prevents us from disconnecting from people on the other side of the tracks, and the other side of the world. We begin to understand that we must treat all people for what they are—family.

In this New Year make a resolution to really try and love one another as Jesus did. Celebrating his birth just days ago, let us remember the feelings of love that we have for our family and friends. Let us not lose that SPIRIT, the spirit of love, the spirit of forgiveness and yes the spirit of family. We are all one, one in God and one in each other. Our lives are hurried with the spoils of the world around us, we must make time to love one another and time to pray. In prayer we will find that special love that God gives us to share with others.

Many will feel that this time of celebration is a time of sadness, come to the Father and receive the healing you need. Seek out the family you love deep down in your heart, they are waiting for you. You, yourself must make the first move in the healing process, whether it be physical, emotional or spiritual it is all up to you. Peace has to come from within, never from the outside, only you can heal yourself and bring the happiness you seek.

Seek God, receive Healing and happiness. Seek Jesus, receive Peace and Love. Pray and receive all the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Attend Church regularly and meet all your family!

May this New Year bring you all the Happiness and Health you can handle.

I hope to see you all at our FIRST “Ladies Appreciation Night” February 9th at the Circle Landmark Route 70 West in Lakehurst.

May the Peace of Christ remain with you,

Please continue to Prayer for our Military and their families.

May God bless you and your families,

Deacon Vincent P. Ricciardi, Sr.

Faithful Navigator

Assembly Officer's

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<u>Faithful Navigator</u>	<u>S.K. Vincent Ricciardi</u>	<u>faithfulnavigator @kofc-a2143.org</u>
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<u>Faithful Inner Sent.</u>	<u>S.K. Mark BrownF</u>	
<u>Faithful Outer Sent.</u>	<u>S.K. Bryan Harper</u>	<u>faithfulsentinel @kofc-a2143.org</u>
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<u>Faithful 1 Yr Trustee</u>	<u>S.K. Bryan Dickerson</u>	<u>faithful1yrtrustee@kofc-a2143.org</u>
<u>C. C. Commander</u>	<u>S.K. Edward Kelly, K.H.S.</u>	

Faithful Captains Message

In less than three months, the Knights of Columbus will mark the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of their charter from the state of Connecticut.

One has to wonder if the aspirations, and inspirations that caused our order to come into being on March 29, 1882 still exist in the hearts and minds of Knights today. Or have we become more, or less, than was ever dreamed possible.

It truly is a shame that today's media will barely grant the Knights of Columbus space to pay to promote, inform or to educate the public about who we are, and why we do what we do. If an advertisement is deemed "too controversial" many of the broadsheets will refuse to print our positions on abortion, same-sex marriage, embryonic stem cell research or homosexuality.

The chance for "free" space, in line with what we used to regard as just plain good reporting, stands a slim chance of ever appearing in print.

The Knights of Columbus, individually as Councils and Assemblies, and collectively as a world-wide order do so much good for humanity – without regard for race, creed or even religion – that one has to wonder when what we do will be considered worthy of a few column inches.

To be sure we do not do our good works for promotion purposes, but it is only through public awareness that others may learn to follow our lead by example and find Charity in their own hearts and minds.

Bad publicity will hang from us like an albatross, which is why we must ever be mindful never to bring scandal upon the order. But it would be nice to open up a major newspaper and read how we are fulfilling the standards set down for us by Father Michael J. McGivney, so when (not if) he is canonized, at least a considerable number of the 1.2 billion Catholics won't be left asking, "Who?!"

Each member should be doing their own part to ensure that the works, the good works, of the Knights of Columbus are *properly* identified and promoted so that the worlds may understand why we do, what we do.

**Bernard J. Ernst
Faithful Captain**

Faithful Comptrollers Message

Brothers,

Dues notices have gone out and I have already received quite a few returns. Thank you to those that have sent in their dues early, it makes my job easier. To those that haven't sent their dues in yet, please do so as soon as possible. I will be sending out Second Notices in about 2 week, and would like to send out as few as possible.

The form that was included in your dues notice will be helpful to me. I will be including the Ladies on the birthday lists, as well as starting a Wedding Anniversary list. I do not want to know the year the ladies were born, but the year of your Wedding is important. It will be helpful to know the year of your wedding so that when a Sir Knight and his Lady reach an important milestone year (i.e. 10, 25, 50 yrs), we can send for a Wedding Anniversary Certificate from Supreme for them. The list will also be available on the website.

A new addition to the website will also be a list of when a Sir Knight joined the 4th Degree. We have some members that have been 4th Degree Knights for almost 50 years, while others will be completing their 1st year soon.

This newsletter is also available online. If you haven't checked out our new website yet, please do so. It is still a work in progress, but it has come a long way in a few months. The calendar is a great place to check out, as it has our events listed for everyone to see, and hopefully join us.

I hope you and your family have a Happy and Healthy New Year.

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

John A. Gazis, P.F.N.

Faithful Comptroller

COLOR CORPS COMMANDERS REPORT

Sir Knights,

The Christmas Season is over and now we begin to think about our upcoming events. The Color Corps will be busy in the next few weeks with callouts for the Divine Mercy Icon. The next 2 scheduled events will be the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Seaside Heights in March, and the State Convention in May. I would like to once again invite those interested to come join the Color Corps.

If your Council would like the Color Corps at one of its events, the Grand Knight should contact our Faithful Navigator, or myself, in writing 2 weeks prior to the event and we will try to fill your request.

May God Bless you and your family and bring you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Edward F. Kelly, K.H.S., P.F.N.

Color Corps Commander

UPCOMING BIRTHDAY'S

JANUARY

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

FEBRUARY

Thomas R. Bishop	Feb. 7
Reynold F. Castellano	Feb. 13
Sal Sarno	Feb. 19

MARCH

Deacon Vincent Ricciardi, F.N.	March 17
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WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

FEBRUARY

Lady Daisy and Sir Knight Vincent Ricciardi	Feb. 1
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MARCH

Lady Margaret and Sir Knight Bernard Ernst	March 22
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APRIL

Lady Julia and Sir Knight Mario Pontecorvo	April 4
Lady Audrey and Sir Knight Lionel Coty	April 16

WARRENS WORLD

A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally she spoke up, "Grandpa, did God make you?"

"Yes, sweetheart," he answered, "God made me a long time ago."

"Oh," she paused, "grandpa, did God make me too?"

"Yes, indeed, honey," he said, "made you just a little while ago."

Feeling their respective faces again, she observed, "God's getting better, isn't he?"

The Sunday School Teacher asks, "Now, Johnny, tell me frankly do you say prayers before eating?"

"No sir," little Johnny replies, "I don't have to. My Mom is a good cook."

A college drama group presented a play in which one character would stand on a trap door and announce, "I descend in to hell!" A stagehand below would then pull a rope, the trapdoor would spring, and the actor would drop from view.

The play was well received. When the actor playing the part became ill, another actor who was quite overweight took his place. When the new actor announced, "I descend into hell!" the stagehand pulled the rope, and the actor began his plunge, but became hopelessly stuck. No amount of tugging on the rope could make him descend.

One student in the balcony jumped up and yelled: "Hallelujah! Hell is full!"

Pastor Dave Charlton tells us, "After a worship service at First Baptist Church in Newcastle, Kentucky, a mother with a fidgety seven-year old boy told me how she finally got her son to sit still and be quiet. About halfway through the sermon, she leaned over and whispered, 'If you don't be quiet, Pastor Charlton is going to lose his place and will have to start his sermon all over again!'

It worked."

A boy was watching his father, a pastor, write a sermon.

"How do you know what to say?" he asked.

"That's easy, God tells me."

"Oh, then why do you keep crossing things out?"