



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783
Newsletter
March 2013



TEN THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT
THE HISTORY OF THE CONCLAVE

Verbum Blog

March 8, 2013 By Andrew Jones

- 1) For most of the papacy's history, popes were elected by the clergy and people of Rome through some form of acclamation. Over time, the role of the laity and the non-cardinal clergy was gradually reduced, but the possibility of the cardinals electing a pontiff through acclamation was not removed until 1996. To this day, the people's acclamation of the new pope continues in some form when the new pope presents himself to the crowds in St. Peter's Square.
- 2) The cardinals did not become the principal electors of the pope until 1059, but even then the laity and clergy of Rome retained the right of confirmation.
- 3) It was not until 1179, at the Third Lateran Council that a formal voting procedure for the cardinals was put in place, requiring a two-thirds majority.
- 4) The first conclave happened in 1271. It was a spontaneous event that occurred against the will of the cardinals. The papacy had been vacant for nearly three years and the people of Viterbo, where the 12 cardinals were gathered, had had enough. They locked the cardinals in the church and forbid them access to the outside world. Finally, the townspeople started restricting the food that entered the church and even took the roof off to expose the cardinals to the elements. Finally, they elected Blessed Gregory X pope. At the Second Council of Lyon in 1274, Gregory promulgated a decree that mandated a conclave for papal elections, modeled directly on what the people of Viterbo had done—it included the provision that after three days the cardinals were to be given only bread and water.
- 5) The cardinals can elect any baptized man pope. Pope Gregory X was not even a priest when he was elected in 1271. In a matter of days he was ordained through the minor orders and the priesthood, and was consecrated bishop. He was then made bishop of Rome and pope. Pope Urban VI (1378–1389) was the last pope who was not a cardinal before election. Nevertheless, John Paul II's 1997 apostolic constitution on papal elections lays out the procedure to be followed if the cardinals elect someone outside the college as well as someone who is not yet a bishop.
- 6) In the papal election of 1417, which definitively ended the Western Schism, the conclave included 30 non-cardinal delegates representing the "nations": France, Germany, Italy, England, and Spain.
- 7) There will be 115 cardinal electors in this conclave. Historically, this is a huge number. Indeed, in the conclave of 1261, there were only seven cardinals.
- 8) The first conclave held in the Sistine Chapel was that of 1492. This was 16 years before Michelangelo began working on the chapel's remarkable frescos. In 1492, it had bare walls and ceiling.
- 9) Popes have not always changed their names when elected. John II in 533 seems to have been the first to do so, but for the first thousand years of the Church's history, it was very rare. After 996, almost every pope chose to change his name to that of a previous pope, but not all. Marcellus II, who was elected in 1555, was the last pope who kept his baptismal name. While Pope John Paul I changed his name at his election in 1978, "John Paul" was the first new papal name in over one thousand years.
- 10) The Roman emperor had a significant role in the election of popes for the majority of the papacy's history. This role was normally limited to confirmation of the candidate. Until the eighth century, new popes sent to

Constantinople for their election to be confirmed by the emperor of Byzantium. After Pope Leo III crowned Charlemagne “Roman Emperor” in the year 800, the right of confirmation shifted to the Franks and what would become the Holy Roman Empire. The involvement of secular governments in papal elections went through many changes, culminating in the so-called “right of exclusion” through which the cardinal representatives of France, Austria, and Spain could “veto” a papal candidate. This was last exercised by Austria in 1903, and Pope Pius X definitively abolished this “right” in 1904, laying down excommunication for any cardinal who might try to evoke it in a conclave.

From the Logos Bible Software Catholic Blog: <http://scripturestudysoftware.com/2013/03/08/ten-things-you-might-not-know-about-the-history-of-the-conclave/>

DEGREE CEREMONIES

Third Degree Ceremony: 16 March 2013. Location: Council 15250, new All American Chapel on Fort Bragg at 12:00 PM (Noon). Non-military ID card holders should leave 20 minutes early and gain access unto the base through the All American Expressway Gate (left side) or the Knox St. Gate off Bragg Blvd. Space limited to the first 50 candidates.

Third Degree Ceremony: 19 April 2013. Location: Council 4600, Rocky Mount, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 331 Hammond St. Rocky Mount, NC. Registration will begin at 6:30 PM. For more information go to the NC website (www.kofcnc.org) under ceremonials, under 3rd Degree.

Third Degree Ceremony: 27 April 2013. Location: Council 6451, Hickory, St Aloysius Catholic Church, 921 Second St. NE, Hickory, NC. Registration will be between 11:00 - 11:30 AM. For more information, go to the NC website, (www.kofcnc.org), under ceremonials, under 3rd Degree.

Fourth Degree Exemplification: 4 May 2013. Location: George L. Gettier Assembly 780, St Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. Charlotte, NC. More information to follow.

Third Degree Ceremony: 11 May 2013. Location: Bishop Greco, Council 9499, 4820 Kinnamon Rd. Winston-Salem, NC. Candidates and observers should arrive prior to 11:30am for registration. Candidates will not be admitted to the Anti-Chamber prior to 11:30am. Costs for candidates is \$12.00 and is the responsibility of the council to which he is a member. Costs for observers is \$12.00. For further information go to the state web site at (www.kofnc.org) under ceremonials, under degrees.

Fourth Degree Exemplification: 26 October 2013. Location: Sheraton Imperial, Durham for next Exemplification. Details TBA. <http://kofcnc.org/FOURTH%20DEGREE/2008Exemplification.htm>

If your Council is hosting a Degree Ceremony send an email to COOP5614@yahoo.com with the information and I will place it in the next Assembly Newsletter and on the website Calendar page.



CARDINAL GIBBONS ASSEMBLY HONOR GUARD

Special thanks to the Honor Guard members who performed at the Confirmation Ceremony at the All American Chapel on Ft Bragg hosted by St. Michal the Archangel Council 15250:

Bob Hambly
John Handley
Colin Jorsch
Barry Keith
Bob White
Bob Testa
Peter Thayer

The next Honor Guard event is the Running of the Rose (Silver Rose) and the presentation of the Icon of the Virgin of Guadalupe on 14 April 2013 at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Roman Catholic Church, 6199 Fayetteville Road, Raeford, NC. Any Knight who would like to participate, but does not have the all the Regalia items state what items you have and what items you need in the comment block of the sign-up form. The sign-up form and further details are on the sign-up page at:

<http://cardinalgibbonsassembly783.weebly.com/st-elizabeth-of-hungary---silver-rose.html>

EASTER

Christopher R. Cooper

Easter is the holiest day of the year for the Catholic Church. (Tucciarone, 2013) The day the Faithful celebrate our Lord's Resurrection and victory over death. As with many traditions, Easter originated in the early Church and is based on Scripture from *The Holy Bible*, "...Be not affrighted. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen: he is not here..." (The Holy Bible - Douy-Rheims Edition, 2005) The Holy Bible does not address all the traditions associated with Easter. The early Church Fathers settled several disputes concerning Easter. Easter does not go by the same name in every country. Until the mid-19th century the literacy was very low. The Faithful used symbols to identify with Easter. These symbols survived into modern times. The first item to consider is the day to celebrate Easter.

In the early Church there was no standard method to calculate when the Easter Celebration occurred. The Church in Alexandria would celebrate Easter on a different date than the Church in Antioch. (Thurston, 1909) The Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. established the dating system for Easter. The date can be as early as March 22 or as late as April 25. (Saunders, 1995) The formula to calculate the date is "...the Sunday that follows the first full moon after March 21, the vernal (spring) equinox." (McNamara, 2011) For 2013, according to the *Farmers' Almanac* the next full moon is March 27 making Easter Sunday, March 31. (Full Moon Calendar for 2013, 2013) In case you are wondering, Easter Sunday 2014 is April 20. The next item to consider is the names Easter and Pascha.

In many parts of the world Easter is referred to as Pascha. (Saunders, 1995) Pascha comes from Greek. It means Passover. Pascha connects the Church to her roots in Judaism. Passover represents the Old Covenant with God. Pascha represents the New Covenant with God and Christ's victory over death. In the early Church Pascha was the word for Easter. Easter came about when Christian missionaries encountered the Germanic speaking people. Easter is derived from *Eostre*, a pagan Saxon goddess. (Juergens, 1963) This goddess symbolized spring and the coming of life. *Eostre* was Christianized into Christ bringing life to the world and to the Faithful entering the Church. Over the evolution of English *Eostre* became Easter. The next topic to discuss are Easter symbols.

Since the literacy rate was very low through most of history the early Church used many symbols for Easter. One symbol is the peacock. (Tucciarone, 2013) In the ancient world people believe a peacock's flesh was incorruptible. From this belief the peacock became the symbol of the Resurrection and immortality. Images of the peacock can be found graves from the ancient world as a symbol of the Faithful joining Christ in his victory over death. Easter Eggs are another tradition from the earlier times. (Tucciarone, 2013). Eggs at first were painted red to represent Christ' sacrifice on the cross and rebirth. This tradition evolved into the modern Easter Eggs with different colors and patterns.

Easter is a happy time of year and the holiest day for the Church. The date of Easter Sunday can be calculated for a given year with a few basic variables. The name, Easter, has long and interesting history. The name, Pascha, with its Greek origins and the Christianized name, Easter, in the English speaking world. The symbols and customs surrounding the Easter originated from long ago. The peacock is the ancient symbol of the Resurrection. A favorite tradition among children is coloring Easter Eggs originated in ancient times to symbolize rebirth and Christ' sacrifice on the cross. I will leave you with one last item. An old Easter greeting I found in my research from the Gospel of St. Luke 24:34 (Tucciarone, 2013):

Surrexit Dominus Vere, Alleluia! ("The Lord is risen indeed!")

Et Apparuit Simoni, Alleluia! ("And hath appeared unto Simon!")

Bibliography

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Tucciarone, T. (2013, Mar 8). *Easter Sunday*. Retrieved from Fish Eaters: <http://www.fisheaters.com/customseastertide2.html>

IN MEMORIAM:

Please keep in your prayers for the repose of the souls of:

All Departed Brother Knights.

ARTICLES FROM THE ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP

Any Sir Knight who wants to add his article to the Newsletter, submit the article to Faithful Scribe, SK Chris Cooper, at the next Assembly meeting or send it via email to COOP5614@yahoo.com.