



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783
Newsletter
August 2013



SAVED FROM ABORTION, CHILEAN TWIN BROTHERS ARE NOW PRIESTS

Santiago, Chile, Aug 16, 2013 / 05:12 pm (EWTN News/CNA)

Two twin brothers in Chile say that their mother's determination in protecting them from abortion despite the advice of doctors helped to foster their vocations to the priesthood.

"How can I not defend the God of life?" said Fr. Paulo Lizama. "This event strengthened my vocation and gave it a specific vitality, and therefore, I was able to give myself existentially to what I believe."

"I am convinced of what I believe, of what I am and of what I speak, clearly by the grace of God," he told EWTN News.

Fr. Paulo and his identical twin brother, Fr. Felipe, were born in 1984 in the Chilean town of Lagunillas de Casablanca.

Before discovering her pregnancy, their mother, Rosa Silva, had exposed herself to x-rays while performing her duties as a paramedic. Consequently, after confirming the pregnancy, her doctor conducted ultrasounds and informed her that he had seen "something strange" in the image.

"The baby has three arms and its feet are sort of entangled. It also has two heads," he told her.

Although abortion for "therapeutic" reasons was legal at the time in Chile and doctors told her that her life was in danger, Rosa opposed the idea and said she would accept whatever God would send her.

"The Lord worked and produced a twin pregnancy. I don't know if the doctors were wrong or what," Fr. Felipe said.

"I always think with special affection and tenderness in the heart of my mother who gave her life for me, for us," Fr. Paulo added.

The two brothers were born on Sept. 10, 1984. Felipe was born first, and when the placenta would not detach, doctors suggested scraping her womb. Silva refused however, saying she felt another baby was coming out. Paulo was born 17 minutes later.

"This last detail is very significant for me," Fr. Paulo said. "The doctors inserted instruments to remove the placenta because it wouldn't come out. My mother knew that I was there. I was late, but I came out." Had doctors scraped his mother's womb, he would likely have been "gravely injured."

The twins learned about the circumstances of their birth when they were in the sixth year of seminary formation.

"It was surely the wisdom of my mother and her heart that allowed us to learn of such an amazing event at the right time," Fr. Paulo said, reflected that while he had always thought his priestly vocation came during adolescence, he later realized that God was working in his life from the beginning, thanks to the 'yes' of his mother.

Although they grew up in a Catholic home, the Lizama brothers drifted away from the faith and stopped attending Mass. However, their parents' separation and divorce led them back to the Church, and they received the sacrament of Confirmation.

At the time, Fr. Paulo said, he lacked conviction in his faith but was attracted by the Blessed Sacrament, Gregorian chant, and the silent reverence of prayer.

Fr. Felipe said he was drawn to God through a priest, Fr. Reinaldo Osorio, who would later become his formation director at the seminary.

“God was calling me. I realized that it was in God and in the things of God that I was happy, there was no doubt: I wanted to be a priest,” he recalled.

Despite being close, the two brothers did not talk about their vocations with each other.

“I don’t know who felt the call first,” Fr. Paulo said. “I think God did things the right way in order to safeguard the freedom of our response.”

In March 2003, they both entered the seminary. While it was difficult for the family to accept the brothers’ decision at first, their mother told them after the first year of formation that she was at peace, realizing that they were happy.

The twins were ordained priests on April 28, 2012, and celebrated their first Mass at Our Lady of Mercies in Lagunillas.

Now, a year after their ordination, Fr. Felipe serves at the parish of Saint Martin of Tours in Quillota, and Fr. Paulo serves at the parish of the Assumption of Mary in Achupallas.

“God doesn’t mess around with us. He wants us to be happy, and the priesthood is a beautiful vocation and that makes us completely happy,” Fr. Felipe said.

Following Jesus is not easy but it is beautiful, added Fr. Paulo.

“Jesus, the Church and the world need us,” he explained. “But they don’t need just any young person: they need young people empowered by the truth of God, so that their very lives convey life, their smiles convey hope, their faces convey faith and their actions convey love.”

From *Eternal Word Television Network*: <http://www.ewtnnews.com/catholic-news/Americas.php?id=8280>

DEGREE CEREMONIES

First Degree Ceremony: 16 September 2013. Location: Council 15250, Pope Chapel, Pope Army Airfield, NC. Show Time: 6:30 PM. Start Time 7:00 PM.

Second Degree Ceremony: 19 September 2013. Location: Council 12640, St. Michael the Archangel Maronite Catholic Church 806 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville NC. Show Time: 6:30 PM. Start Time 7:00 PM.

Third Degree Ceremony: 20 September 2013. Location: Cardinal Gibbons Council 2838, St. Patrick’s Roman Catholic Church, 2840 Village Drive, Fayetteville, NC. Show Time: 6:30 PM. Start Time 7:00 PM.

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

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Faithful Navigator, Jose Santos, thanks the Sir Knights who participated in the Installation of Officers Ceremony:

District Master SK Dave Onofrio

District Marshal SK Rick Lewis

SK Ed Seaman

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCHES

SK Chris Cooper

In this article we will look at the third family of Catholic Churches, The Byzantine Catholic Churches. The Byzantine Christian tradition originated in the eastern Roman Empire. (Hawkes-Teeples, 2008) This tradition takes its name from the ancient city of Byzantium. The Roman Emperor, Constantine, chose this city as his new capitol and it was called New Rome. Over time it became known as Constantinople or Constantine's City. The Byzantine Christian tradition spread over most of eastern Europe, Asia Minor, and the Near East.

The Byzantine Christian are divided into two major groups. The groups formed after the Great Schism of 1054 A.D. (Donovan, 2007) The Byzantine Christians who did not break communion with Rome or reentered communion with Rome are known as Byzantine Catholics. Those who remained outside communion with Rome are known as Orthodox Christians.

Byzantine Catholics are divide into one of two major groups; the Armenian Catholic Church or one the Byzantine Catholic Churches; Albanian, Belarussian/Byelorussian, Bulgarian, Czech, Krizevci, Greek, Hungarian, Italo-Albanian, Melkite, Romanian, Russian, Ruthenian, Slovak, and Ukrainian. (Donovan, 2007)

I will not cover all of the Byzantine Catholic Churches. The information on some of them is very scarce on the internet.

The Armenian Catholic Church originated in the country of Armenia. Armenia is the first Christian nation. (Hawkes-Teeples, 2008) The following YouTube link is the Armenian Catholic Divine Liturgy held at St. Ann's Armenian Catholic Church, Brooklyn, NY on April 17, 2011:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QHRKaMccCAQ&list=PL113247EB8EE772BC>

The video is divided into six parts. My best guess is the Divine Liturgy is done in classical Armenian. Classical Armenian is their Church Language. (Donovan, 2007).

The world wide website for the Armenian Catholic Church is:

<http://www.armeniancatholic.org/>

The website for the North American Eparchy is:

<http://armenianeparchy.org/>

The Melkite Byzantine Catholic Church originated in Syria and Egypt. (Donovan, 2007). The name Melkite comes from the Council of Chalcedon in 451 A.D. This Church Council declared Christ as both divine and human (two natures). (The Melkites, 2012). The Byzantine Catholic Churches who accepted the Council of Chalcedon declaration were dubbed "Melkites" (the King's men) by the Byzantine Emperor. All Melkites are considered Catholic. None are in the Orthodox Church. (The Melkites, 2012)

The following Melkite Divine Liturgy is divided into seven YouTube videos. The languages are French (Canadian) and Arabic:

Part 1: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=clk4S-SzDgw>

Part 2: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ooiL7YdnI0>

Part 3: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdM1IQN6YUg>

Part 4: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hHs8vshZNRg>

Part 5: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1XU-k2mzqPY>

Part 6: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V2pL_IPoVwg

Part 7: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MFsCb-2wqXk>

Two websites for the Melkite Byzantine Catholic Church are:

Melkite - Greek Catholic Patriarchate:

<http://www.pgc-lb.org/eng/home>

Melkite Greek Catholic Church:

<https://melkite.org/>

The Romanian Catholic Church is small. Most Romanians are orthodox. (Donovan, 2007)

The following YouTube video is the Romanian Catholic Divine Liturgy. It is said in Romanian:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UYn0kI7bpj8>

I found two websites for the Romanian Catholic Church. The first is:

Eparchy of St. George in Canton:

<http://www.romaniancatholic.org/>

This second website is the Romanian Greek-Catholic Association:

<http://www.rogca.org/>

I found some disturbing articles on this website. It appears the Romanian Orthodox Church is lobbying the civil government for religious cleansing. It is an attempt to abolish the Romanian Catholic Church. One article of note is:

Romanian Greek-Catholic Church responds to the intention of the Orthodox Church to lobby for legalization of the cultural and religious cleansing in Romania:

<http://www.rogca.org/a8-Romanian-Greek-Catholic-Church-responds-to-the-intention-of-the-Orthodox-Church-to-lobby-for-legalization-of-the-cultural-and-religious-cleansing-in-Romania.aspx>

The Ruthenian Catholic Church formed in a mountainous region called Carpatho-Ruthenia. It is between Slovakia and Ukraine. (What is the Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Church, 2013) This Church broke communion with Rome in the Great Schism of 1054 A.D. and reenter communion April 24, 1646 A.D.

The following YouTube video is the Ruthenian Catholic Divine Liturgy. It is divided into eleven parts. It will automatically cycle to the next video. The video was taken at St. Basil the Great Byzantine Catholic Church in Los Gatos, CA:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fJ9pPMk70E&list=PL6B6331C7C330B4A0>

Several website for the Ruthenian Catholic Church are:

The Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh:

<http://www.archpitt.org/>

Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic:

<http://www.eparchyofpassaic.com/index.htm>

Saints Cyril & Methodius Byzantine Catholic Church (This Church is Cary, NC.):

<http://saintscyrilandmethodius.org/>

St. Louis Byzantine Catholic Mission (I regularly attended this Parish when I was station at Scott AFB, IL):

<http://www.byzcath.org/stlouis/index.html>

The Ukrainian Byzantine Catholic Church broke communion with Rome in the Great Schism of 1054 AD and reentered communion in 1595 A.D. The Church languages are Old Slavonic and the vernacular. (Donovan, 2007)

The following is a YouTube video of the Ukrainian Byzantine Catholic Divine Liturgy:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3vCz4Rpjyng>

The following are two links for the Ukrainian Byzantine Catholic Church:

Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat

<http://stjosaphateparchy.com/>

Sts. Volodymyr & Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church (This Church is in Garner, NC.)

<http://saintvando.org/home>

I hope you find this information useful. In the next and last article in this series we will explore the Alexandrian Family of Liturgical Rites.

Bibliography

Donovan, C. B. (2007, August 22). *Catholic Rites and Churches*. Retrieved from Eternal Word Television Network:
http://www.ewtn.com/expert/answers/catholic_rites_and_churches.htm

Hawkes-Teeples, S. (2008). *Eastern Christians and Their Churches*. New Haven: Catholic Information Service
Knights of Columbus Supreme Council.

The Melkites. (2012). Retrieved from Eparch of Newton Melkite Greek Catholic Church:
<https://melkite.org/faith/faith-worship/the-melkites>

What is the Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Church. (2013). Retrieved from Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic:
<http://www.eparchyofpassaic.com/history.htm>

IN MEMORIAM:

Please keep in your prayers for the repose of the soul of:
Bishop F. Joseph Gossman

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.