



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783
Newsletter
January 2015



REFLECTIONS FROM ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

Occupy yourself in beholding and bewailing your own imperfections rather than contemplating the imperfections of others.

I wish not merely to be called Christian, but also to be Christian.

Teach us to give and not to count the cost.

Brainy Quote

https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/s/saint_ignatius.html

REGIONAL FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

Our Assembly will host a region Fourth Degree Exemplification on 28 February 2015. Sir Knights who would like to help with this project please contact Faithful Navigator Bob Testa.

Instructions for candidates are on the NC State Council Website at:

<http://www.kofcnc.org/FOURTH%20DEGREE/Exemplification%20Page.htm>.

ST. JOSEPH VAZ

SK Christopher R. Cooper

At the time of the writing of this article Pope Francis is visiting India and Sri Lanka. Pope Francis is canonizing missionary Joseph Vaz to sainthood. Who is Joseph Vaz? He was a missionary to Sri Lanka in the late 17th and early 18th centuries. St. Joseph Vaz encountered many difficulties during his missionary work because of world events occurring at that time in history. He was able to overcome these trials and rekindled the Catholic communities in Sri Lanka. First, let's take a look at his beginnings.

St. Joseph Vaz was born on April 21, 1651 A.D. (Joseph Naik Vaz Institute, USA, 2010) His birth place was Benaulim, Goa, India. In 1676 A.D. St. Joseph Vaz was ordained a priest. He volunteered to go to Sri Lanka to tend the Catholic faithful, but he was not allowed to go because of the dangerous situation in that part of the world with the colonial power struggle. St. Joseph Vaz completed a mission to Kanara in 1681 A.D. He rebuilt the Catholic Church and tended to the faithful.

During this time the Catholic communities of Sri Lanka suffered persecution from the Dutch authorities. (New Delhi Television, 2015) The Dutch seized control of Sri Lanka from the Portuguese. The Dutch imposed Calvinism on the local inhabitants. St. Joseph Vaz covertly entered Sri Lanka in 1687 A.D. He disguised himself as a porter, but the Dutch discovered him. (Bhattacharya, 2015) After two years of imprisonment Buddhist King Vimaladharna Surya II released him released St. Joseph Vaz performed a miracle which impressed the Buddhist King. The miracle was St. Joseph Vaz prayed for an end to the drought plaguing Sri Lanka.

St. Joseph Vaz continued his missionary work. He would disguise himself as a beggar to evade the Dutch colonial powers. (New Delhi Television, 2015) After 23 years of missionary work in Sri Lanka, St. Joseph Vaz was called from this life in 1711 A.D. He revitalized the Catholic community of Sri Lanka. Today, Sri Lanka has a seven percent Catholic population due to his dedication. (Bhattacharya, 2015)

Works Cited:

Bhattacharya, S. (2015, January 14). *Joseph Vaz: Indian Mistaken as Spy and Sri Lanka's First Saint*. Retrieved January 14, 2015, from Wall Street Journal: <http://blogs.wsj.com/indiarealtime/2015/01/14/joseph-vaz-indian-mistaken-as-spy-and-sri-lankas-first-saint/>

Joseph Naik Vaz Institute, USA. (2010). *Blessed Joseph Vaz*. Retrieved January 14, 2015, from Blessed Joseph Vaz: <http://www.josephnaikvaz.org/>

New Delhi Television. (2015, January 15). *Joseph Vaz: Sri Lanka's First Saint*. Retrieved January 15, 2015, from New Delhi Television: <http://www.ndtv.com/article/people/joseph-vaz-sri-lanka-s-first-saint-648522>

DEGREE CEREMONIES

Third Degree Ceremony: 7 February 2015. Location: Council 2546, Raleigh, NC. For more details go to: http://www.kofcnc.org/09_10Files/calendar.htm?pli=1

Third Degree Ceremony: 14 February 2015. Location: Council 9499, Clemmons, NC. For more details go to: http://www.kofcnc.org/09_10Files/calendar.htm?pli=1

Fourth Degree Exemplification: 28 February 2015. Location: Council 2838, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to: http://www.kofcnc.org/09_10Files/calendar.htm?pli=1

First Degree Ceremony: 17 March 2015. Location: Council 2838, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to: http://www.kofcnc.org/09_10Files/calendar.htm?pli=1

First Degree Ceremony: 8 April 2015. Location: Council 9847, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to: http://www.kofcnc.org/09_10Files/calendar.htm?pli=1

First Degree Ceremony: 10 June 2015. Location: Council 9847, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to: http://www.kofcnc.org/09_10Files/calendar.htm?pli=1

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

NEW HONOR GUARD COMMANDER WANTED

Faithful Navigator Bob Testa will not be to continue as Honor Guard Commander. If you are interested in becoming Honor Guard Commander contact him or any of the Assembly Officers to volunteer.

UPCOMING HONOR GUARD EVENT

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS AT SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Location: TBD

Date: April 17, 2015

Show Time: TBD

Start Time: TBD

Completion Time: TBD

More details will be sent out when they arrive.

THE SOCIETY OF JESUS – THE JESUITS

SK Christopher R. Cooper

The Society of Jesus also known as the Jesuits has a long and rich history. St. Ignatius of Loyola found this monastic order in the sixteenth century. Like many religious of his time, St. Ignatius lived in the secular world before dedicating his life to God. He sought to educate the faithful on Catholic doctrine. Educating the Catholic Faithful is a mission of the Jesuits today.

St. Ignatius of Loyola was born 24 December 1491 A.D. (Puca, 2008) His birth place was the province of Guipuzcoa, Spain. It is located in the Basque region of north western Spain on the border with France. His baptismal name was Iñigo. St. Ignatius received the sacrament of Baptism at St. Sebastian Roman Catholic Church in Soreasu, Spain. St. Ignatius came from royal heritage. His father was Don Beltram, the lord of Onaz and Loyola. He was the youngest of thirteen children.

St. Ignatius received education in military training in order to become a soldier. (EWTN, 2015) This type of education was a normal practice for Spanish royalty at that time. After his education he entered military service under the Duke of Najera. St. Ignatius received an injury during one of the border skirmishes along the Spanish-French border. A cannon ball struck his right shin. After the combatants declared a truce he was taken to his father's castle in Loyola to convalesce from his wounds. This injury caused his right leg to be shorter than his left and he suffered with pain for the remainder of his life. During his convalescent St. Ignatius decided to dedicate his life to God.

St. Ignatius did not have an easy road to his lifelong dedication to God. His family wanted him to stay and help run the family estate. (EWTN, 2015) He contemplated suicide on several occasions, but through prayer he regained his desire to serve God and the Catholic Church. St. Ignatius decided to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Before embarking on his pilgrimage he dropped his baptismal name, Iñigo, and became known as Ignatius. He made his way to the Holy Land via Rome, Venice, Cyprus, and Jaffa. While in the Holy Land his zeal to visit all the sites Christ had been caused concern among the Franciscan Guardians. They were concerned for his safety from the Ottoman Turks who controlled the Holy Land at that time. The Guardians urged St. Ignatius to leave the Holy Land before the Turkish authorities apprehended him.

St. Ignatius returned to Barcelona, Spain. (EWTN, 2015) He continued his education especially learning Latin. Most works were written in Latin during that time in history. Over time he made his way to Paris, France. He and several of his associates began meeting regularly. They formed the core of what was to become the Jesuits. He returned to his homeland because of health reasons.

The founding members of the Society of Jesus followed St. Ignatius from Paris to Spain. (EWTN, 2015) In December 1538 A.D. they began to call themselves the "Company of Jesus." They received official recognition from the Vatican on September 27, 1540 A.D. and their name changed to the "Society of Jesus." (Pollen, 1912) The name "Jesuit" came about sometime between 1544 A.D. and 1552 A.D. Ignatius sent missionaries to pagan lands and Protestant countries to spread the Catholic faith. He guided the Society of Jesus until his death on July 31, 1556 A.D.

Today the legacy of St. Ignatius of Loyola can be seen throughout the world. The Society of Jesus was not founded to confront Protestantism, but to educate the Faithful on Catholic doctrine. The Jesuits found many schools, colleges and universities. Two resources on the internet to find out more about the Jesuits are:

The Jesuit Curia in Rome: <http://www.sjweb.info/>

Jesuits: <http://www.jesuit.org/>

Works Cited:

EWTN. (2015). *Saint Ignatius of Loyola*. Retrieved January 16, 2015, from Eternal Word Television Network: <http://www.ewtn.com/library/MARY/IGNAITU2.HTM>

Pollen, J. H. (1912). *The Society of Jesus*. Retrieved January 16, 2015, from New Advent:

<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/14081a.htm>

Puca, P. (2008, January 30). *St. Ignatius of Loyola and the Development of the Society of Jesus*. Retrieved January 16, 2015, from Eternal Word Television Network: <http://www.ewtn.com/library/MARY/ignatloysj.htm>

IN MEMORIAM:

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

All Deceased Knights of Columbus.

All Members of the U.S Armed Forces.

All First Responders.

ARTICLES FROM THE ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP

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