



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783
Newsletter
November 2015



REFLECTIONS FROM ADMIRAL CHESTER W. NIMITZ

God grant me the courage not to give up what I think is right even though I think it is hopeless.

Leadership consists of picking good men and helping them do their best.

Uncommon valor was a common virtue.

From: Brainy Quote

http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/c/chester_w_nimitz.html

INNER SENTINEL

Sir Knight Chris Kendziera has resigned his office of Inner Sentinel due to job commitments. At our Assembly Planning Meeting held on 15 November 2015 the nominations process began to fill this Office. Sir Knight Dennis Cahill is the only nominee thus far. Anyone who wishes to fill this office nominations will be taken up the election at the Assembly Meeting scheduled for 17 January 2016.

HOW TO AVOID BEING A HYPOCRITE

Sir Knight Christopher R. Cooper

How to avoid being a hypocrite is not an easy path to follow at times. Temptation is always lurking around the next corner. However, Pope Francis offers many tips on how to avoid being a hypocrite in his homilies and writings. From Pope Francis' wise guidance five key points can be rendered. (Noble, 2015) These points are all based on passages from the Bible. Following the truth from the Bible is one of the guides Christ provides for us to avoid the temptation of being a hypocrite. The first question to answer is what is a hypocrite?

A hypocrite is a person who engages in hypocrisy. According to *Webster's Dictionary*, hypocrisy is, "the professing of publically approved qualities, beliefs, or feelings that one does not possess." (Braham, 1996) Another way to state what a hypocrite is, "a person who says, 'do what I tell you...not what I do'". Hypocrites live by one set of standards and hold people to another set of standards. Double standards are a hallmark of hypocrites. Following Pope Francis' wise counsel the Faithful can avoid this pitfall.

The first point from Pope Francis is for a person to acknowledge their own faults. (Francis, 2015) His point is from the Gospel of St. Matthew 7:3-5 (USCCB, 1986):

Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove that splinter from your eye,' while the wooden beam is in your eye? You hypocrite, remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter from your brother's eye.

In this passage from the Bible, Christ instructs the Faithful to acknowledge their own faults before pointing out the faults of others. Examining our faults we can strive to do better with help from Christ. Acknowledging our faults leads us to living a better way of life and sets an example to help strengthen our brethren.

Pope Francis' second point to avoid hypocrisy is charity. (Harris, 2013) Charity is the first principle of the Knights of Columbus. Pope Francis points out that the hypocrite is a self-absorbed individual who thinks he or she does not need God. Charity counteracts this temptation. Charitable people understand the world does not revolve around them and encourages them to help the less fortunate. A charitable person realizes their dependence on God and is thankful for His many blessing. There are many passages in the Bible to support Pope Francis' second point. One example is from the Acts of the Apostles 20:35 (USCCB, 1986):

In every way I have shown you that by hard work of that sort we must help the weak, and keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus who himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

Pope Francis's third point is to pray with tears to avoid being like the hypocrites. (Scaramuzzi, 2015) Praying with tears helps through difficult times such as praying for the repose of the soul of a loved one, seeking help from God through difficult times, or remembering deceased comrades-in-arms on Veterans Day. Pope Francis points out hypocrites suffer from self-absorption to the point where they do not how to shed tears or have forgotten how. The Pope's third point is based in the Gospel of St. John chapter 11 where Christ wept tears for Lazarus. (USCCB, 1986)

The fourth point from Pope Francis to avoid hypocrisy is not to engage in excessive formalities. (Catholic Herald, 2014) Pope Francis brings to our attention a type of excessive formality: going through the motions. One example is a hypocrite chastising one of the Faithful for missing Mass/Divine Liturgy on Sunday. Here the hypocrite goes through the motions of making it to Church every Sunday and looks down on anyone who does not. The hypocrite conveniently overlooks the fact some of the Faithful are first responders, law enforcement, military, etc., who have unusual work schedules. An example from the Bible to support Pope Francis' fourth point is from the Gospel of St. Matthew chapter 23. Christ denounces the scribes and Pharisees for their excessive formalities and driving people away from the temple.

Learn the language that children speak is the fifth point of Pope Francis. Hypocrites pretend to speak the truth, but have a hidden agenda to trick people. An example from the Bible is the Gospel of St. Matthew chapter 12. (USCCB, 1986) The Pharisees want to trick Christ whether it was lawful to heal or do work on the Sabbath. Christ cited examples from scriptures where it is lawful. The Pharisees only saw the part of the truth that suited their agenda instead of looking at the whole truth. Pope Francis urges the Faithful to follow the example of Christ by speaking the whole truth, the language of children. The Faithful should avoid hidden agendas and speak plainly.

Pope Francis has sage advice and guidance to avoid hypocrisy. His advice is based in the Bible. Avoiding the ways of a hypocrite set an example to help strengthen our brethren and promotes Christian values.

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CARDINAL GIBBONS ASSEMBLY HONOR GUARD

REGALIA ITEMS FOR LOAN

Faithful Comptroller Rod Komlofske has regalia items to loan for members of the Assembly who do not have them. If you want to participate in an Honor Guard event and do not have the required regalia items send email to rod.komlofske@gmail.com.

VETERANS DAY PARADE 2015

Faithful Navigator Chris Cooper thanks the Sir Knights who participated in the Veterans Day Parade 2015 held in Fayetteville, NC.

PFN Rod Komlofske – Assembly 783 (HGC)
FN Chris Cooper – Assembly 783
FN Ray Sienkiewicz – Assembly 3459
PFN John Handley – Assembly 783
PFN Bob Testa – Assembly 783
PFN Paul Tomacelli – Assembly 783

PFN Bob White – Assembly 3459
SK Dennis Cahill – Assembly 783
SK Jeff Jankocivs – Assembly 783
SK Jesse Montenez – Assembly 783
SK Danny Harrington – Assembly 3459
SK Neil Vince – Assembly 783





UPCOMING HONOR GUARD EVENT(S):

There are no Honor Guard events scheduled at this time.

NO ASSEMBLY MEETING FOR DECEMBER 2015

Due to the Christmas Season there will be no Assembly Meeting for December 2015. The next Assembly Meeting will be 17 January 2016.

DEGREE CEREMONIES

First and Second Degree Ceremony: 9 January 2016. Location: Council 15250, Pope AAF, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First and Second Degree Ceremony: 13 January 2016. Location: Council 9847, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 23 January 2016. Location: Council 9030, Laurinburg, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First Degree Ceremony: 1 February 2016. Location: Council 11683, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 6 February 2016. Location: Council 2546, Raleigh, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 20 February 2016. Location: Council 8363, Franklin, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First Degree Ceremony: 15 March 2016. Location: Council 2838, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 19 March 2016. Location: Council 9499, Clemmons, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First Degree Ceremony: 21 March 2016. Location: Council 15250, Pope AAF, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 2 April 2016. Location: Council 15264, Candler, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 16 April 2016. Location: Council 13236, Candler, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 23 April 2016. Location: Council 9709, Raleigh, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First Degree Ceremony: 2 May 2016. Location: Council 11683, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First Degree Ceremony: 16 May 2016. Location: Council 15250, Pope AAF, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First Degree Ceremony: 17 May 2016. Location: Council 2838, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

DATES TO REMEMBER

30 Days

November 25 THK Articles Due

60 Days

December 5	Coats for Kids Event, Charlotte, NC
December 8	Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)
December 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe
December 15	Family of the Month
December 15	Knight of the Month

December 25 Christmas Day (Holy Day of Obligation)
December 25 THK Articles Due

90 Days

January 1 Circumcision of Our Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)
January 8-10 Mid-Year West – Mooresville, NC (St. Therese Catholic Church)
January 15 Right to Life March – Charlotte, NC
January 15 Family of the Month
January 15 Knight of the Month
January 16 Right to Life March – Raleigh, NC
January 16 Love My Life Youth Rally – Raleigh, NC
January 23 Right to Life March – Washington, DC
January 23 Right to Life March – Jacksonville, NC
January 29-31 Mid-Year East – Fayetteville, NC (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church)
January 31 Survey of Fraternal Activity (Form 1728)
January 31 Special Olympics Partnership (Form 4584)

THE SWISS GUARD

Sir Knight Christopher R. Cooper

One of the most famous, yet smallest armed forces in the world is the Swiss Guard. (Britannica, 2015) The Swiss Guards are easy to recognize with their colorful uniforms of yellow, dark blue, and red originating from the Italian family Medici. The history of the Swiss Guard reaches back to medieval times of Europe. As with many military organizations there are requirements for a prospective candidate to meet who desires to enter the Swiss Guard. Today, the Swiss Guard serves both a practical and ceremonial purpose for the Vatican. These purposes are rooted in the history of the Swiss Guard.

As with many communities of the Holy Catholic Church that date back in time the Swiss Guard is no exception. The Swiss Guard evolved from Swiss mercenaries dating to the 13th and 14th centuries. (The Holy See, 2015) Poverty was wide spread in what became present day Switzerland. To become a soldier of fortune was one source of income. The Swiss mercenaries fought for many nations and served as military instructors throughout Europe. The Swiss Guard formally began on 22 January 1506 A.D. under Pope Julius II. Their mission from the beginning is the protection of the Pope and the Vatican. The last incident the Swiss Guard prepared to protect the Vatican from the invading forces of Adolf Hitler during World War II. In 1981 A.D., the Swiss Guard thwarted an assassination attempt on Pope John Paul II. To carry out the Swiss Guard's historical mission to protect the Pope and the Vatican there are qualifications for a new candidate.

The Swiss Guard like many military organizations has a set of requirements for admission to their ranks for each new recruit. (The Holy See, 2015) There are a total of eight:

- I am a Swiss citizen.
- I am a Roman Catholic faithful.
- I am of a good moral ethical background.
- I attended the military school in Switzerland.
- I am between 19 and 30 years old.
- I am at least 174 cm (5 feet 8 inches) tall.
- I am not married.
- I have either a professional diploma or a high school degree.

Anyone who has joined the U.S. Armed Forces will remember going through a litany of requirements that must be met before entering the military. Some of those requirements of the U.S. Armed Forces and the requirements of the

Swiss Guard are the same. These requirements ensure the Swiss Guard maintains itself as a professional military organization today.

The Swiss Guard today is an internationally recognized professional military organization. (The Holy See, 2015) The primary mission of the Swiss Guard is the protection of the Pope and the Vatican. The Swiss Guard serves a ceremonial purpose as honor guards for various Vatican functions. They trained in military tactics. At the Pope's discretion the Swiss Guard may be directed to augment the Pontifical Gendarmerie a.k.a. the Vatican Police. (Collier, 1963) Their living quarters is the Swiss Guard Barracks which is located off St. Peter's Square to the north.

The Swiss Guard has a long and colorful history stretching back to medieval Europe. They evolved from bands of mercenaries to a modern day professional organization. Like most professional military organizations the Swiss Guard has entrance requirements and maintains training to fulfill their mission of protecting the Pope and the Vatican. The Swiss Guard is still a vibrant and positive presence at the Vatican today.

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http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/swiss_guard/swissguard/storia_en.htm#The Swiss Guards in the Vatican

IN MEMORIAM:

Please keep in your prayers for the repose of the souls 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 Navigator Chris Cooper at the next Assembly meeting or send it via email to COOP5614@yahoo.com.