



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783
Newsletter
February 2016



REFLECTIONS FROM U.S. FOUNDING FATHER PATRICK HENRY

The Bible is worth all the other books which have ever been printed.

This is all the inheritance I give to my dear family.
The religion of Christ will give them one which will make them rich indeed.

For my part, whatever anguish of spirit it may cost,
I am willing to know the whole truth; to know the worst and provide for it.

From: Brainy Quote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/p/patrickhen165618.html>

!!!SPECIAL NOTICE!!!

The Assembly Meeting scheduled for 20 March 2016 (Palm Sunday) is rescheduled for Sunday, 13 March 2016 at 2:30 PM at St. Michael the Archangel Maronite Catholic Church, 806 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, NC. Further changes will be sent out via email and posted on the Assembly website.

STATE COUNCIL JOB OPENINGS

State Deputy Colin Jorsch has posted job openings on for the State Council. See attachment 1 for the list of job openings. If you are interested in filling any of the job openings contact the Grand Knight of your Council.

INNER SENTINEL

Congratulations to Sir Knight Dennis Cahill on his election to Inner Sentinel. Sir Knight Cahill replaced Sir Knight Chris Kendziera who had to resign this office due to job commitments.

HOLY THURSDAY ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Many Parishes will have an All Night Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after their Holy Thursday Service. The Knights of Columbus encourages Knights to participate in this sacred event. It keeps in line with building a Domestic Church.

RELICS

Sir Knight Christopher R. Cooper

Relics are a tradition of the Holy Catholic Church that is based in *The Holy Bible*. The first reference is mentioned in the Old Testament in the Second Book of Kings. More references are in the New Testament. Many of our Protestant brothers are confused about the Catholic tradition of relics. Some of the confusion comes from former members of the Holy Catholic Church. They did not take time to learn or understand their Faith. With a little research the subject of relics can be cleared up. The question to answer is, "what is a relic?"

A relic by definition is, "an object associated with a saint and venerated as sacred." (Braham, 1996) Examples are the Cross of Christ or earthly remains of a Saints. The definition does expose a sticking point for our Protestant brethren with the word "venerate." They claim there is no support in The Holy Bible to venerate relics.

(Catholic Answers, 2004) However, this is not true. One example is the burial of Christ. Usually the Roman authorities disposed the bodies of crucifixion. With the body of Christ his followers ask Pontius Pilate for the remains. Christ's followers venerated his remains by providing a grave and spices to anoint His body. Today Christ followers in the Holy Catholic Church venerate His relics by receiving the Eucharist and during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

The first reference of relics in *The Holy Bible* is in 2 Kings 13:20-21, "And so Elisha died and was buried. At that time of year, bands of Moabites used to raid the land. Once some people were burying a man, when suddenly they saw such a raiding band. So they cast the man into the grave of Elisha, and everyone went off. But when the man came in contact with the bones of Elisha, he came back to life and got to his feet." (Catholic Book Publishing Co., 1986) This passage is the first example of a relic in connection with a miracle. Another example from the Old Testament connecting Elisha's relics with miraculous works is in the Book of Sirach 48:14, "In life he [Elisha] performed wonders, and after death, marvelous deeds." In the New Testament relics of St. Paul are connect with miraculous works in the Book of Acts 19:11-12, "And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them." (Regency Publishing House, 1976) This passage illustrates relics from St. Paul were connect with healing the sick.

As *The Holy Bible* illustrates relics are connected with biblical teaching and miraculous works. Both the Old and New Testament support the Catholic tradition of relics. Relics are connected with Christ, the Prophet Elisha, and St. Paul the Apostle. Understanding the tradition of relics is very simple with a little study and a good knowledge of *The Holy Bible*.

Works Cited:

Braham, C. G. (1996). *Random House Webster's Dictionary*. New York: Ballantine Books.

Catholic Answers. (2004, August 10). *Relics*. Retrieved September 30, 2015, from Catholic Answers: <http://www.catholic.com/tracts/relics>

Catholic Book Publishing Co. (1986). *The New American Bible - Saint Joseph Edition*. New York: Catholic Book Publishing Co.

Regency Publishing House. (1976). *The Holy Bible - King James Version*. New York: Regency Publishing House.



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.

UPCOMING HONOR GUARD EVENT(S):

SPECIAL OLYMPICS 2016

More Details to Follow

MEMORIAL DAY WREATH LAYING CEREMONY 2016

More Details to Follow

VIEWING OF THE RELIC OF ST. SHARBEL MAKHLOUF

Sir Knight Father Sam Najjar and Faithful Navigator Chris Cooper greatly appreciate all the Knights who participated in the Honor Guard for the Viewing of the Relic of St. Sharbel Makhlof.

Past Faithful Navigator Rod Komlofske – Honor Guard Commander

Faithful Navigator Chris Cooper

Past Faithful Navigator John Handley

Past Faithful Navigator Jose Santos

Past Faithful Navigator Bob Testa

John Gonzales

Steve Kenny

Tom Opalak

DATES TO REMEMBER

30 Days

	-Matrix forms for each of your Councils are due by the end of March
	--Encourage your Councils to submit their Program reports before the end of March
	-Challenge your Councils to use their Fraternal Leader Success Planner
	-March Business Meeting Election of Council Delegates to State Convention
	-March Business Meeting Bishop Fund and Culture of Life Fund checks approved
March 5	State Free Throw – Burlington, NC
March 12	State Basketball Tournament
March 12-13	Order-wide Church Drive
March 14-20	Order-wide First Degree Week
March 13	3rd Degree Council 7259 Newton Grove, NC (Spanish)
March 15	Family of the Month Due
March 19	3rd Degree Council 9499 Clemmons, NC
March 24-26	Holy Triduum
March 27	Easter
March 29	Founder's Day

60 Days

April 1	State Per Capita Due
April 1	Council Service Programs Matrix Report Due
April 1	State Program Report Due
April 1	State Knight of the Year Write Up Due
April 1	State Family of the Year Write Up Due
April 1	State Golden Knight of the Year Write Up Due
April 1	State Rookie of the Year Write Up Due
April 1	Priest of the Year Chaplain Award
April 1	Necrology Report
April 1	All Council Resolutions Due
April 2	Knighthood (3rd) Degree –15265 Candler –in Spanish
March 28-3 April	Order-wide Outreach Week
April 2	4 th Degree Biannual Meeting – Greensboro
April 15	Family of the Month Due
April 16	Knighthood (3rd) Degree – 13236 Greensboro
April 23	Knighthood (3rd) Degree –9709 Raleigh
April 24	Convention Registration is due
April 30	4th Degree Exemplification – Mooresville

90 Days

May 8	Mother's Day
May 15	Family of the Month due
May 20-23	2016 State Convention Information

DEGREE CEREMONIES

Third Degree Ceremony (Spanish): 13 March 2016. Location: Council 7259, Newton Grove, 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 (Spanish): 2 April 2016. Location: Council 15264, Candler, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First Degree Ceremony: 13 April 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: 16 April 2016. Location: Council 13236, Greensboro, 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/>

Fourth Degree Ceremony: 30 April 2016. Location: Assembly 2417, Mooresville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First & Second 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/>

ST. SHARBEL MAKHLOUF

Sir Knight Christopher R. Cooper

St. Sharbel Makhlof is a saint of the Maronite Catholic Church. Some references spell this saint's name "Charbel". As with many saints he came from humble origins, but left a worldwide legacy. He joined one of the monastic orders and became an ordained priest. St. Sharbel led an austere life until his death. After St. Sharbel Makhlof's death he credited with many miracles he petitioned God to bestow on the Faithful.

St. Sharbel Makhlof was born in northern Lebanon on 8 May 1828 A.D. (Monastery Saint Maron, 2016) His parents baptized him Youssef Antoun Makhlof. He was the oldest of five children; two brothers and two sisters. St. Sharbel Makhlof felt the calling to the priesthood at an early age. He studied Arabic and Syriac in his youth. While not attending to his studies he would take the family's herd to graze in the outlying grasslands. St. Sharbel Makhlof would pray at a local grotto during his time out in the fields.

After St. Sharbel Makhoulf completed his studies he started his journey to become a monk in 1851 A.D. (Monastery Saint Maron, 2016) He first started at Lady of Mayfouk for his initiation into the monastic life. When he completed his initiation St. Sharbel Makhoulf moved onto St. Maroun's Monastery-Annaya. At St. Maroun's Monastery-Annaya he entered the Corps of the Lebanese Maronite Order. He took the name of Sharbel after a martyr from the early Church. In 1853 A.D. he took his monastic vows and continued his theological studies at Monastery of Saints Kouberyanous and Justina. St. Sharbel Makhoulf received the Sacrament of Holy Order on 23 July 1859 A.D. Father Sharbel Makhoulf served as a priest for sixteen years before becoming a hermit at the St. Peter & Paul Hermitage which is part of the Monastery of Saints Kouberyanous and Justina. Here, St. Sharbel Makhoulf lived as a hermit for twenty-three years until his death on 24 December 1898 A.D.

After St. Sharbel Makhoulf death many miracles are attributed to his intercessions. (Monastery Saint Maron, 2016) Lights were viewed by the Faithful around his grave. His grave was opened by the monks. St. Sharbel Makhoulf's body had not decayed and emitted a sweet smelling liquid. The monks changed his clothes and placed his body in a new tomb. In 1925 A.D. a petition was to Rome to start the canonization of process of St. Sharbel Makhoulf. In 1950 A.D. his grave was reexamined by Church officials confirming that his body was still intact and emitting the sweet smelling liquid. St. Sharbel Makhoulf was beautified in 1965 A.D. and canonized in 1977 A.D. by Pope Paul VI.

Today St. Sharbel Makhoulf is revered worldwide by Christians and non-Christians alike. Many Maronite Catholic Churches are named after him. His relics are view throughout the world and attributed to the intercessions of many miracles.

Works Cited

Monastery Saint Maron. (2016). *St. Charbel*. Retrieved February 20, 2016, from Monastery Saint Maron: <http://www.saintcharbel-annaya.com/home.php?lgid=0>

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.

Country Store Chairman

Description: Physically maintain country store inventory, set up and sell country store items at three (currently) separate state meetings (Mid-Year East and West, Convention). Work with the State Secretary to order items needed for country store. Retail experience preferred, but not an absolute requirement. Work sales days with Squires.

Coats for Kids Chairman

Description: Have a loving heart for helping those less fortunate. Encourage councils in the State to participate in this Supreme sponsored program. Provide direction and serve as program guide. Work with Public Relations Chairman to publicize program

Traveling Gavel Chariman

Description: Have a loving heart for the spread of Fraternity within our state. Maintain inventory of gavels working with Regional Membership and Program Consultants (RMPC) to insure participation by all Districts and Councils. Ensure RMPCs report monthly progress within their Regions and District. Collect the gavels at Annual Convention and reissue at Organizational Meeting.

Training Chairman

Description: Have a passion for sharing knowledge to the leadership teams throughout the state. You will be asked to develop Training Programs for the District Deputies (DD Training and Organizational Meeting) and Council Leadership (Regional Training Sessions). Communicate and work with State Officers, Regional Membership and Program Consultants, and District Deputies on training programs beneficial to the State Council. Preferable candidate has some instructional experience and has a firm grasp of the various Council Leadership and District Deputy responsibilities (but not necessary).

Council Reactivation Chairman

Description: Have a desire to help councils that have been inactive for any of a variety of reasons. Work with the Regional Membership and Program Consultant and the District Deputy to identify potential inactive councils that may be reactivated. Work with the local Pastor to identify potential new members and council leadership. Work with a team to reactivate the council.

Communication Chairman

Description: Have a love of media. Your responsibilities will include, but not be limited to: maintain the State Website (WordPress); maintain the State Directory (can be separated) (.hmt); maintain the email distribution list (can be separated)(outlook); maintain the 1st & 2nd degree forms and sheets (can be separated) (google); maintain the State Email system (can be separated); maintain the State Forum (.php); maintain the Guest Book; maintain the State Photo Gallery (shutterfly); State Calendar/Officer Calendar (google); maintain State Officers (only) Directory on server; maintain the on-line forms (ASP & Adobe); and compile and submit monthly website hits report. Again, training and mentorship will be provided.

Audio Visual Chairman and Assistant(s)

Description: Have a desire to make the state council presentations look professional. You will assist the State Warden with the setup of the chamber (audio/visual media) for all large state meetings (DD Organizational Meeting; 2 x Mid-Year Meetings; and the State Convention). You will run the audio/visual presentations during the aforementioned meetings. The Chairman is asked to maintain (keep at his residence) a small portion of the state's audio/visual equipment in order to provide capability in different parts of the state. Presentations are sent to you prior to the meetings for you to properly arrange for the professional presentation the Membership views.

Culture of Life Director

Description: Have a passionate love for human life, from conception to natural death. Develop and implement the State Culture of Life Programs and present at the Organizational meeting. Encourage all councils to be active in life activities. Oversee Culture of Life Regional Chairmen and work with them to promote their program activities. These activities include but are not limited to: Marches; Forty Days for Life; Ultrasound; Work with state, diocesan, and local officials promoting a culture of life.

Youth Director

Description: Have a love for working with our youth. Assist councils with the transition directed by the Supreme Knight by becoming more involved in their Parish's Youth Ministry. Develop and implement the State Youth program and present it at the July Training meeting. Encourage all councils to be active in Youth activities in their church, council and communities. Work with Chairmen to develop their programs to include: Squires State Chief Counselor; Christmas Card Sales Chairman; State Free Throw Chairman; State Soccer Chairman; Poster and Essay Contest Chairman.

Squires State Chief Counselor

Description: Have a passion for working with our youth and spreading our values to them in a structured manner. Work closely with the existing Circles to ensure they remain active and vibrant. Establish a team of Councilors from the Knights around the State to assist with both active and struggling Circles. Promote intra-Circle activities.

District Deputy

Description: The District Deputy (DD) is the key to the success of the State Council and is the guide and advisor to the local councils he represents. He should be sensitive to the needs of his councils and go out of his way to assist them as needed. He must thoroughly read and understand the DD handbook, and be familiar with the Supreme and State By-laws.

Some of your responsibilities will include, but not be limited to:

- Perform as specified in the District Deputies handbook.
- Assist the State Warden at all state meetings with set up, tear down, and guard duty as required.
- Work with your councils in completing and submitting, on time, all forms required by Supreme and State.
- Monitor the councils assigned to your district. The council officers must run the council so stay in the background, but guide and advise as necessary.
- Review the council accounts and records if necessary.
- Host a district meeting immediately after the State Organizational & Mid-Year Training meetings.
- Install council officers.
- Attend and **report** all degrees in your district. This includes first, second, and third degrees.
- Encourage councils to have district or area competition or activities.

We promise that training and mentorship will be provided.