



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783
Newsletter
April 2016



REFLECTIONS FROM PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH

I believe that God has planted in every heart the desire to live in freedom.

Do I think faith will be an important part of being a good president? Yes, I do.

Everywhere that freedom stirs, let tyrants fear.

From: *Brainy Quote*

http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/g/george_w_bush.html

EUTHANASIA: A SIN OF DEATH

Christopher R. Cooper

Euthanasia is a sin of death. The Holy Bible never talks about euthanasia directly, but it does indirectly. Murder is addressed in The Holy Bible and it is forbidden. Some people try to rationalize euthanasia is not murder. An examination of the definition of euthanasia proves otherwise. The Holy Bible calls for the Faithful to choose life and the reason for choosing life. In time of trouble it is easy to look at euthanasia as an easy way out, but the Word of God gives the Faithful strength to endure tribulation. Euthanasia should not be rationalized to rid society of the infirmed. The Faithful knows to help the least of our brothers. The first item for examination is the definition of euthanasia.

The Holy Bible calls the Faithful to choose life. An example is in Deuteronomy Chapter 30, “19. I call heaven and earth today to witness against you I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live, 20. by loving the LORD, your God, obeying his voice, and holding fast to him. For that will mean life for you, a long life for you to live on the land which the LORD swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give to them.” (USCCB, 1986) By choosing life over euthanasia the Faithful will ensure life for their descendants. The NAZI government cheapened life by rationalizing euthanasia. It was beginning of the road to the Final Solution and the countless who perished during World War II.

The Faithful knows in times of trouble and hardship God is with them. In the twenty third Psalm verse 1 the Psalmist remind the Faithful God is with them always, “The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want.” (USCCB, 1986) In my opinion this verse is the most powerful verse in The Holy Bible. The Lord assures the Faithful He is with them always. He provides guidance for the Faithful to follow. Rejecting the Lord will lead to a disastrous destination and moral decay. Another example is the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR). (Pipes, 2015) The USSR rejected God and eventually collapsed under its own weight. One cause was the lack of concern for human life and the euthanasia of some people who were deemed unworthy.

The Holy Bible calls us to care for the infirmed and not reject them. In the Gospel of St. Matthew Chapter 25: 31-46 Christ talks about the Faithful who cared for the least of our brother and those who did not. (USCCB, 1986) In one verse Christ talks about caring for the ill. He did not advocate for euthanasia, but caring for the infirmed. In the Gospels there are numerous passages where one of the Faithful asked for Christ to cure an ill person. He never resorted to euthanasia. Christ always promoted life.

Euthanasia is a sin of death and strictly forbidden in The Holy Bible. The Faithful will always be called to choose life. Any other decision will lead to disastrous consequences. Two examples from history are NAZI

Germany and the USSR. Both nations resorted to euthanasia which started them on the road to cheapen life. This course led to the demise of both nations. The Faithful does not make this mistake because of the guidance to choose life as stated in The Holy Bible.

Work Cited:

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

Pipes, R. E. (2015, June 8). *Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*. Retrieved from Encyclopedia Britannica:
<http://www.britannica.com/place/Soviet-Union>

Shirer, W. L. (1990). *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*. New York: Simon and Schuster.

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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.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS 2016

Faithful Navigator Chris Cooper thanks the Sir Knights who participated in the presentation of the Colors for Special Olympics 2016 held at Methodist University.

Honor Guard Commander	Rod Komlofske
Faithful Navigator	Chris Cooper
Past Faithful Navigator	Steve Canali
Sir Knight	Darryl Gerow
Sir Knight	Carlos Gonzales

UPCOMING HONOR GUARD EVENT:

MEMORIAL DAY WREATH LAYING CEREMONY 2016

Location: Freedom Memorial Park across the street from the Airborne & Special Operations Museum, 100 Bragg Blvd., Fayetteville, NC 28301

Date: 30 May 2016

Show Time: 9:30 AM

Start Time: 10:00 AM

Completion Time: 11:00 AM

Sir Knights who are interested in participating in this Honor Guard Event please sign up at the following link:

<http://cardinalgibbonsassembly783.weebly.com/memorial-day-wreath-laying-ceremony-2016.html>

DATES TO REMEMBER

30 Days

April 30	4 th Degree Exemplification, Assembly 2417, Mooresville, NC
May 1	State Raffle Tickets
May 13	FINAL day for 2016 Convention registration
May 15	Family of the Month
May 20-23	2016 State Convention Information
May 28-29	Corporate Communion weekend
May 30	Memorial Day

60 Days

June 5	3 rd Degree, Council 7225, Lumberton, NC
June 11	Council Leadership Training Sessions Region #1 – Council 12017, Wilmington, NC Region #4 – Council 12654, Huntersville, NC Region #6 – Council 9364, Washington, NC
June 15	Family of the Month
June 16-18	Support the NC Columbian Squires Convention -(Belmont Abbey College)
June 18	Council Leadership Training Session Region #2 – Council 13812, Durham, NC
June 25	Council Leadership Training Sessions Region #3 – Council 12167, Kannapolis, NC Region #5 – Council 7184, Hendersonville, NC Region #6 – Council 7225, Lumberton, NC
June 30	Columbian Award (SP7)
June 30	RSVP (2863)

90 Days

July 1	Report of Officers Chosen (185)
July 1	State Directory Update
July 1	State Staff Directory Update
July 8-10	DD Organization Meeting
July 15	Family of the Month

DEGREE CEREMONIES

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/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 30 July 2016. Location: Council 11266, Garner, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

BRINGING CHILDREN TO CHURCH

Faithful Navigator Christopher R. Cooper

Children in Church are a joyous sight to see. It is an indication of a Catholic Community that is alive and vibrant. The little ones at times make happy noises and indulge in cute antics and at other times they do not. A Church without children is a Church that one day will be no more. The little ones should not be packed off to some room for day care while the Mass is conducted. They should be part of the Mass. At times small children do experience the proverbial “melt down”. Parents may have to take them to the cry room or outside until the moment passes. Such is life. Why bring children especially very young ones to Church? The Holy Bible addresses this question. There are many other reasons to bring children to Church too.

The Holy Bible instructs the Faithful to let children come to Jesus. (USCCB, 1986) In the Gospel of Saint Matthew Chapter 19:13-15:

Then children were brought to Him that He might lay His hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked them, Jesus said, “Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these” After He placed His hands on them, He went away.

Today children who have not made their First Holy Communion are brought forward to receive a Blessing from the Priest. This practice keeps alive letting children to come to Christ.

Educating children in the Catholic Faith is very important. (Bruesehoff, 2013) It can be a burden for the parents. Getting little ones ready for Church can be a logistics challenge; making sure there are books and toys ready to go and herding everyone to the vehicle to get to Mass on time. As far as older children goes it is not too difficult until they become teenagers when a whole set of new problems arise as any parent will attest to. The effort is worth it to educate children in the Catholic Faith. Giving children a good foundation in what is right and what is wrong is part of the mission of the Holy Catholic Church. Knowing right from wrong is a life skill that is good for a thriving Church Community and it is also good for the secular world. Christians are happier and live longer productive lives. (Ravitz, 2013) These are just of the benefit of bring children to Church. Is it beneficial for the parents? The Holy Bible addresses this question in the Gospel of St. Matthew 25: 14-30, “The Parable of the Talents”. (USCCB, 1986) God grants individuals gifts: speaking different languages, mathematical skills, artistic, etc. Children are a talent God grants individuals. Our Heavenly Father expects the Faithful to use these gifts and increase them. Raising children in the Catholic Faith is increasing the gift God gives to parents. Does that mean God will punish parents whose children decide to take a bad path? The answer is no. God expects parents to put forth the effort to bring children to Church and see to their Christian education. Unfortunately, some children will take the wrong path even though their parents did everything right.

There is a reverse question. Can children bring their parents to the Holy Catholic Church? Yes, they can. Mr. David Mills in his article, *A “Bonus Baby” Brought Us into the Catholic Church*, explains how the birth of his youngest child brought him and his family to the Holy Catholic Church. (Mills, 2015) Mr. Mills recounts how people chastised him and his wife having another child so late in life. He looked up his bonus baby as a gift from God and not an inconvenient nuisance to be disposed of. Mr. Mills states he and his wife were Protestant at the time, but also believed the Holy Catholic Church has is right concerning family, marriage, and sexuality. They became converts to the Holy Catholic Church. Their “bonus baby” brought them to the Holy Catholic Church.

In conclusion there is one final question, how is bringing children to Church beneficial for people who do not have children? Last Sunday during Holy Communion at my parish, Saint Michael the Archangel Maronite Catholic Church, a family came forward with several children. One of their children is a toddler who is around three years old. Before Father could bless her she raised her doll up for blessing. This little girl brought a smile to everyone who saw this act of wisdom from one so young. At her young age she understood the importance of

bringing children to Church. Her display of wisdom brought joy to my heart and it is always beneficial when anyone can bring joy to another person.

Works Cited

Bruesehoff, J. (2013, September 14). *Dear Parents With Young Children in Church*. Retrieved from The Huffington Post: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jamie-bruesehoff/parents-kids-church_b_3909085.html

Mills, D. (2015, October 7). A "Bonus Baby" Brought Us into the Catholic Church. Retrieved from Aleteia: <http://aleteia.org/2015/10/07/a-bonus-child-brought-us-into-to-the-catholic-church/>

Ravitz, J. (2013, June 28). *Christians happier than atheists - on Twitter*. Retrieved from CNN Belief Blog: <http://religion.blogs.cnn.com/2013/06/28/christians-happier-than-atheists-at-least-on-twitter/>

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

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.