



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783
Newsletter
August 2016



REFLECTIONS FROM THE BLUE COLLAR GUYS

There's a reason God didn't give me this success in my 20s, because I'd have blown it.

Bill Engvall

Look at where Jesus went to pick people. He didn't go to the colleges; he got guys off the fishing docks.

Jeff Foxworthy

I've always felt that if you've been blessed, you should try to help as many people as you can.

I just think that's the right thing to do.

Larry the Cable Guy

I'd rather do a really good small part than a really bad big part.

Ron White

From: *Brainy Quote*

<http://www.brainyquote.com>

FAIRNESS

Faithful Navigator Christopher R. Cooper

What is fairness? It depends on who you ask. Some people would say fairness is everyone is the same. That line of thinking is very boring. If everyone is the same there would be no one to excel in their chosen profession; military, writing, mechanic/machinist, medicine, and a host of others. Everyone would be the same. Fortunately, people are allowed to excel. One such individual is the late Dr. Jonas Salk who discovered the polio vaccine. (History.com) Now back to the question, "what is fairness?" According to *Webster's Dictionary* fairness is, "free from bias, dishonesty, or injustice." (Braham, 1996) This definition is sage advice to follow. What documents or books expand on this definition? There are three of these that come to mind; the *Declaration of Independence*, the *United States Constitution*, and *The Holy Bible*.

Reviewing American history, Thomas Jefferson penned the *Declaration of Independence*. (Carnes & Garraty, 2003) This document declared the United States' independence from the British Empire. What does the *Declaration of Independence* have to do with fairness? There is one statement that sums it up, "We hold these truths to be self-evident – that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." (Laidlaw, 1888) In this passage the origin of fairness or being equal comes from God, not men. It can be inferred that unfairness occurs when men lose sight of God as the source of fairness. When men try to enforce a human inspired sense of fairness events run amuck. An example is the former Soviet Union under the rule of Joseph Stalin. (Young, 2015) His sense of fairness was whatever benefitted the state and his power. He took God completely out of the picture. The result was countless people executed as the result of show trials or death of millions in the gulags. The indifference and unfairness to human life permeated the Soviet Union and was one of the factors of its demise in 1991.

The next document that expands on fairness is the *United States Constitution* particularly the first ten amendments also known as the *Bill of Rights*. (Carnes & Garraty, 2003) The Bill of Rights protects our rights from

the government and ensures men are fairly protected from government intrusion. The Founding Fathers fought the War of Independence because of the overreach of Parliament and the British Monarch. They wanted to make sure there are safe guards against these governmental incursions on the citizens' rights. Examples of fairness in the *Bill of Rights* are freedom of religion, freedom of the press, right to bear arms, and protection from unlawful search and seizure. These rights as the Founding Fathers knew come from God to men and not from the government. If men meddle with these rights events could lead to the negative utopia of the Soviet Union and fairness being defined by man and not God.

Christ provides mankind with the best definition of fairness in the Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of St. Matthew. The Sermon on the Mount covers chapter 5, 6, and 7. The passage in question is chapter 7 verse 12, "Do to others whatever you would have them do to you. This is the law and the prophets." (USCCB, 1986) Sometime in the 18th century this passage became known as "The Golden Rule." If you treat people how you would like to be treated you will not go wrong and fairness will be achieved. One of the most egregious examples of the violation of The Golden Rule is the Holocaust perpetrated by the Nazis government of Adolf Hitler. (History.com, 2015) Hitler viewed the Jewish people as less than human and a danger to the "Aryan race." The next statement is my opinion. Hitler would not like to receive the same treatment he and his henchmen metered out the Jewish people of Nazis occupied Europe. Hitler devised his manmade concept of fairness that resulted in the death of 6 million Jews and other people he deemed not worthy of living.

What is fairness? Manmade concepts of fairness end in disaster. Examples from history are numerous. Two of them are the Soviet Union and the Nazis government of Adolf Hitler. In the Soviet Union a negative utopia emerged. Life was cheap and many perished in the purges of Joseph Stalin. Fairness was defined as the state is supreme and the individual if necessary would be eliminated to protect the state. Under Adolf Hitler a religion and its member were systematically murdered. Fairness was defined to protect the master race. The Founding Fathers of the United States took a different course. They based fairness as coming from God as evident in the *Declaration of Independence* and the *United States Constitution*. People from all over the world make their way to America because of these precepts. Christ in the Bible in the Sermon on the Mount gives mankind the best definition of fairness in the Golden Rule.

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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.

UPCOMING HONOR GUARD EVENT:

VETERANS DAY PARADE NOVEMBER 2016

More Details to Follow

4TH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION 19 NOVEMBER 2016

More Details to Follow

DATES TO REMEMBER

30 Days

September 1	Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest Kit Order Form
September 1	Essay Contest Kit Order Form
September 1	Council Pending Suspension List
September 1	Columbian Squires Officers and Counselors Report #468 Supreme Form
September 1	Notice of Appointment of Round Table Coordinator #2629 Supreme Form
September 9-10	Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte
September 15	Family of the Month Due
September 16	District Deputy Council Development begins. This is a 7 week initiative
September 18	Knighthood (3rd) Degree – Henderson, NC
September	Regional Membership Training
September	Building the Domestic Church Family Project
September	Hold Council Soccer Challenge Contest
September	Order Keep Christ in Christmas Cards via the state website

60 Days

October 1	Raleigh Men's Conference – Raleigh, NC
October 1-9	Charitable Service Outreach Week
October 2	Plan to participate in a Life Chain
October 8	Knighthood (3rd) Degree – Wilmington, NC
October 15	Family of the Month Form
October 8-9	Council Membership Drive
October 13	Order Christmas Poster Contest Kit
October 14	Knighthood (3rd) Degree – Cary, NC
October 15-16	Council Membership Drive
October 15	Knighthood (3rd) Degree – Gastonia, NC
October 22	Knighthood (3rd) Degree – Kill Devil Hills, NC
October 29-30	5th Sunday Rosary
October 29	Knighthood (3rd) Degree – Concord, NC

DATES TO REMEMBER (Continued)

October 29 Order Free Throw Kit Form
October Building the Domestic Church Family Project

90 Days

November 6 Knighthood (3rd) Degree – Swannanoa, NC
November 8 Election Day
November 11 Veterans Day
November 15 Family of the Month Supreme Form
November 19 4th Degree Exemplification – Fayetteville, NC
November - TBA State Youth Soccer Challenge (EAST)
November - TBA State Youth Soccer Challenge (WEST)

DEGREE CEREMONIES

First Degree Ceremony: 6 September 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: 18 September 2016. Location: Council 9365, Henderson, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First Degree Ceremony: 23 September 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: 14 October 2016. Location: Council 6650, Cary, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 15 October 2016. Location: Council 6700, Gastonia, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 22 October 2016. Location: Council 8759, Kill Devil Hills, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 29 October 2016. Location: Council 7459, Concord, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 5 November 2016. Location: Council 13016, Swannanoa, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First Degree Ceremony: 7 November 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: 15 November 2016. Location: Council 2838, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Fourth Degree Ceremony: 19 November 2016. Location: Assembly 783, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Second Degree Ceremony: 2 December 2016. Location: Council 12640, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 4 February 2017. Location: Council 2546, Raleigh, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

DEGREE CEREMONIES (Continued)

Third Degree Ceremony: 11 February 2017. Location: Council 8363, Franklin, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First Degree Ceremony: 18 February 2017. Location: Council 2838, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 18 February 2017. Location: Council 9499, Clemons, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First Degree Ceremony: 6 March 2017. Location: Council 11683, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Second Degree Ceremony: 6 March 2017. Location: Council 11683, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 4 April 2017. Location: Council 9709, Raleigh, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

First Degree Ceremony: 1 May 2017. 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 2017. Location: Council 2838, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

Third Degree Ceremony: 20 May 2017. Location: Council 13236, Greensboro, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <http://kofcnc.org/>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Faithful Navigator Christopher R. Cooper

Human trafficking is a modern day tragedy. Most nations have laws against this heinous criminal activity. Families are split apart. In many cases the victims become slaves and are treated no better than a pack animal or worse. Unfortunately, the most innocent among us suffer the most. Baby factories use surrogate mothers to furnish infertile couples with a baby. It sounds good on paper, but it is not. Human trafficking exists not only abroad, but also domestically. The first item for review is what is human trafficking?

By the very name “human trafficking” implies moving human beings from one place to another for an intended purpose. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has a more precise definition:

Article 3, paragraph (a) of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons defines Trafficking in Persons as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. (UNODC, 2015)

This definition address the sinister part of human trafficking. Victims are forced or deceived into becoming human merchandise to be exploited and cast aside when they are no longer useful. The victims are used for sexual exploitation, forced labor, organ harvesting, or whatever the twisted minds of their captors can devise. Since the victims are so brutalize why is it so difficult to bring the perpetrators to justice?

There are two major reasons why bringing human trafficking criminals to justice is so difficult. The first is it is difficult to get accurate numbers. (Zurita, 2014). Human trafficking, by the nature of this heinous activity, is a clandestine operation. The preferred method of the perpetrators is to operate under the cover of darkness and in

remote areas. This method reduces the likely hood of law enforcement or a bystander witnessing the perpetrators in the act. The remote areas also reduce the chance that the victims will try to flee due to their unfamiliarity with the local area. The second reason is fear. The perpetrators instill fear in their victims to prevent them from reporting what has happen to them or becoming witnesses for law enforcement. Victims fear bodily harm, retribution against family, or deportation to their home nation. Many victims have an innate fear of law enforcement due to institutional corruption in their home nation.

Is any nation immune from human trafficking? Unfortunately, the answer is no. Human trafficking is a problem in foreign countries and domestically in the United States. An example of a foreign nation is Turkey. (Zaman, 2006) Many women from the former Soviet Union were lured to Turkey with the promise of jobs. Once in Turkey the perpetrators confiscated the women's passports. After the passports are confiscated the women are legally prevented from leaving the country. The women are pressed into slave labor, the sex trade, or both. The United States is not immune from this problem. Long Island, NY is a problem area in the United States. (Mead, 2006) New York City is a major port of entry for commercial aircraft and maritime traffic. The sheer volume of people and cargo entering New York City overwhelms local law enforcement. It is difficult for law enforcement to closely scrutinize everyone and especially every cargo container entering the port. A particular problem in Long Island is Asian women being forced into the sex trade. As bad as it is with women forced into the sex trade it gets worse.

Human trafficking affects the most innocent among us, babies. Improvements in medical technology have caused an increase in surrogate motherhood. (Taylor, 2015) Infertile couples can hire an agency specializing in surrogate mothers. The surrogate mothers are generally from a third world nation. India is prime country. Donor material is provided by the infertile couple and/or through the agency. Doctors in India perform the procedure on the surrogate mother to implant fertilized embryos. What is not told to the infertile couple is multiple embryos are implanted into the surrogate mother. This procedure results in multiple births. The infertile couple receives their baby: male or female which ever one is requested. The other babies have an uncertain future. If the baby is desirable he or she is sold on the black market. If the baby is undesirable the surrogate mother may take care of the baby, the organs maybe harvested or the baby is "discarded" as undesirable. Undesirables are the sad result of these baby factories.

Human trafficking is a very heinous crime. The victims are subject to an unknown fate. The fate could be forced servitude, sex trade, body organs harvested, or something worse. The clandestine aspect of human trafficking makes estimating the number of victims difficult to estimate and to bring the perpetrators to justice. Fear instilled in the victims hampers law enforcement efforts to control human trafficking. No nation is immune from human trafficking, not even the United States. The worse aspect of human trafficking is it affects the most innocent among us, babies.

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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.