



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783
Newsletter
April 2017



REFLECTIONS FROM CHRISTIAN APOLOGIST C. S. LEWIS

I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.

Courage is not simply one of the virtues, but the form of every virtue at the testing point.

Failures, repeated failures, are finger posts on the road to achievement. One fails forward toward success.

From: *Brainy Quote*

https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/c/c_s_lewis.html

OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Faithful Navigator Christopher R. Cooper

Our Lady of Fatima is the visions three peasant children received over the span of several months. (Vatican, 2017) These visions are celebrating their centennial. The first of these visions occurred 13 May 1917 A.D. and the last occurred on 13 October 1917 A.D. (Rocks, 2017) There are three messages (or secrets) associated with the visions. Along with what are the messages two other questions arise. Who were the children and what is the significance of Fatima, Portugal?

The three children who received the vision of Our Lady of Fatima were Lucia Santos, Francisco Marto, and Jacinta Marto. (EWTN, 2017) They were not born into an easy world. World War I was raging all around them. There was also an anti-clerical movement sweeping Portugal at the time instigated by the Freemasons. However, through all the turmoil they and their families remained faithful to God and in communion with the Holy Catholic Church. Francisco and Jacinta were called from this life a few years after the visions. They had fallen victim to the Great Flu Epidemic of 1919 A.D. Lucia carried on their work. She entered the religious life on 24 October 1925 A.D. Lucia entered the Institute of the Sisters of St. Dorothy and remained in the religious life until her death in 2005.

What is the significance of the Fatima, Portugal? Fatima is named after a twelfth century Muslim princess. (Bunson, 2017) Cistercian Bernardo de Brito, a Portuguese chronicler, related that during the Christians retaking their country Goncalo Hermigues along with his fellow soldiers captured Princesses Fatima. She was the last of the Muslim royalty in the area. The two fell in love and married. She changed her name to Oureana when she was baptized into the Catholic Faith. In honor of his new bride Goncalo Hermigues gave her the local town which she named Ourem. Unfortunately, Oureana passed away not long after her wedding. Goncalo Hermigues renamed the town, Fatima, to honor the memory of his late wife. St. Mary is mentioned numerous times in the Quran. The Blessed Virgin is considered the connection between Christianity and Islam.

The next question is what where the messages (secrets) the children received? The first of these messages was a vision of hell. (Vatican, 2017) St. Mary wanted the children to tell the world the result of being non-repentant and living without God. The second message concerned the devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. St. Mary completely embraced the acceptance of Christ into her life with all her heart. If the Faithful imitate St. Mary they will be grant salvation and everlasting life with her son, Jesus Christ. The third message was not revealed until 2000

A.D. by Cardinal Joseph A. Ratzinger (later to become Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI). (Vatican, 2017) Cardinal Ratzinger broke the message into five parts. (ChurchPOP Editor, 2017) The parts are: 1. Penance, 2. Judgement, 3. the future is not inevitable, 4. the persecutions of the 20th century, and 5. no apocalyptic revelations. The main emphasis of the message encourages the Faithful to seek penance. Seeking penance can change a person's life. Penance will set a person on the right path and avert grave consequences in the next life.

After one hundred years Our Lady of Fatima is still relevant today. It shows God working through the Blessed Virgin Mary to lift up the most humble of the Faithful to great heights. In this case it was peasant shepherd children tending their family flocks. It signifies a bridge between the Faithful of Christianity and Islam. The most enduring legacy of Our Lady of Fatima is the three messages or secrets to guide the Faithful on the right path towards God.

Works Cited

Bunson, M. E. (2017, May 15). *Mary's Providential Bridge to Islam*. Retrieved from National Catholic Register:

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/marys-providential-bridge-to-islam>

EWTN. (2017). *100 Years of Fatima*. Retrieved from Eternal Word Television Network:

<http://ewtn.com/fatima/children.asp>

Rocks, J. F. (2017, May 18). *The message of Our Lady of Fatima*. Retrieved from Catholic Star Herald:

<http://catholicstarherald.org/the-message-of-our-lady-of-fatima/>

Vatican. (2017). *The Message of Fatima*. Retrieved from The Holy See:

http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20000626_message-fatima_en.html



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 2017

Faithful Navigator Chris Cooper thanks the Sir Knights who participated in the Presentation of the Colors at Fayetteville Special Olympics 2017:

Honor Guard Commander	Rod Komlofske
Faithful Navigator	Chris Cooper
Sir Knight	Carlos Cortes

UPCOMING HONOR GUARD EVENT:

MEMORIAL DAY WREATH LAYING CEREMONY MAY 2017

More Details to Follow

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 2017

April 1	Necrology Report Due
April 1	Credentials Due
April 1	Grand Knight Annual Report Due
April 1	District Deputy Annual Report Due
April 8	Knighthood (3 rd) Degree – Raleigh (9709)
April 10	Convention Hotel Registration Due
April 15	Raffle Tickets Due
April 15	Family of the Month
April 16	Easter
April 29-30	5 th Sunday Rosary Program
April 29	State Bocce Tournament

May 2017

May 1 – June 15	Council Officer Elections
May 5-7	NC State Convention
May 6	Bishop Fund Check
May 6	Culture of Life Check
May 6	Columbian Award Report SP-7 (Requested)
May 14	Mother's Day
May 15	Family of the Month
May 20	Knighthood (3 rd) Degree – Greensboro (13236)
May 20	State Bocce Tournament

DEGREE CEREMONIES

Second Degree Ceremony: 25 April 2017. Location: Council 7259, Newton Grove, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <https://kofcnc.org/upcoming-degree-ceremonies/>

First Degree Ceremony: 1 May 2017. Location: Council 11683, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <https://kofcnc.org/upcoming-degree-ceremonies/>

First Degree Ceremony: 16 May 2017. Location: Council 2838, Fayetteville, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <https://kofcnc.org/upcoming-degree-ceremonies/>

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

Third Degree Ceremony: 3 June 2017. Location: Council 11266, Garner, NC. For more details go to the NC K of C State Council Website: <https://kofcnc.org/upcoming-degree-ceremonies/>

UN-CONFUSING GENDER CONFUSION COURTESY OF THE HOLY BIBLE

Faithful Navigator Christopher R. Cooper

One of the latest fads to come down the pike is the so called “gender confusion.” Anyone who is gender confused is just a person who does not know The Holy Bible contains the answers to become un-confused on this subject. Many examples are in The Holy Bible to help the most confused person become un-confused. I will cite five in this article.

The first place to start is in the beginning also known as the Book of Genesis. Genesis 1:27 states, “God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.” (USCCB, 1986) This passage is very straight forward. God only created two genders for mankind: male and female. There is no mention of “fluid”, “trans”, “confused”, “ism”, “questioning”, or whatever the latest buzz word is.

The second citation is Genesis 2:24, "That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body." (USCCB, 1986) In God's plan for mankind a man joins a woman [wife] to become a family [one body]. A very simple and uncomplicated concept provided by God to mankind. Once again there is no mention of "fluid", "trans", "confused", "ism", "questioning", or whatever the latest buzz word is.

The third citation is Genesis 6:19, "Of all living creatures you shall bring two of every kind into the ark, one male and one female, to keep them alive along with you." (USCCB, 1986) When God created only two genders, male and female, He kept it simple for Noah and his family. Fortunately, God was in charge. If modern day government bureaucracy had forced Noah to make room for all the "fluid", "trans", "confused", "ism", "questioning", or whatever the latest buzz word is the utter confusion on the ark would have doomed the world.

The fourth and fifth citations are stated by Christ in the New Testament. In the Gospel of Saint Matthew chapter 19 verses 4-6, "He said in reply, 'Have you not read that from the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, no human being must separate." (USCCB, 1986) Again in the Gospel of Saint Mark chapter 10 verses 6-9, "But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother [and be joined to his wife], and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate." (USCCB, 1986) Christ never mentioned any "fluid", "trans", "confused", "ism", "questioning", or whatever the latest buzz word is. He also reaffirmed marriage is between a man and a woman.

Life is so much easier following the answers God provides in The Holy Bible and avoiding the latest cause célèbre.

Work Cited

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

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.