



**Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783**  
**Newsletter**  
**May 2018**



**REFLECTIONS FROM THE BOOK OF SIRACH 11:7-9**

Before investigation, find no fault; examine first, then criticize.

Before hearing, answer not, and interrupt no one in the middle of his speech.

Dispute not about what is not your concern; in the strife of the arrogant take not part.

*The New American Bible – Saint Joseph Edition*

**CATHOLIC CLERGY WHO STOOD UP TO HITLER**

Faithful Navigator Christopher R. Cooper

During World War II the Catholic Church was not complicit with the NAZI government of Adolf Hitler in spite of all the political correctness attempting to rewrite history. Many Catholic Church officials stood up against fascist tyranny that ran unabated in Europe in WWII. Some paid with their lives for standing on Christian Catholic principles. Countless Jewish lives were spared from the concentration camps. The Catholic Clergy prevented the death of many medically and mentally infirmed people who would have otherwise been euthanized as not being worthy of life. Allied troops benefitted from the bravery of the Catholic Clergy. Instead of languishing for years as prisoners of war the Catholic Clergy sheltered and helped them return to allied lines. Three examples of these brave clergymen are Pope Pius XII, Blessed Vilmos Apor, and Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty.

Pope Pius XII led the Catholic Church during WWII. Through his guidance approximately 860,000 Jewish people were saved from the horrors of the NAZI government. (Michael Journal, 2002) No other organization, religious, government, etc., can claim to have saved this many Jewish people from the atrocities of Adolf Hitler and his henchmen. Unfortunately, malcontents with a political agenda as far back as 1963 A.D. have borne false witness against Pope Pius XII. These malcontents have claimed Pope Pius XII either turn a blind eye to the Holocaust or collaborated with NAZI officials. None of these accusations are true. Here is a quote from Albert Einstein who fled his native Germany because of NAZI-ism, "Only the [Catholic] Church stood squarely across the path of Hitler's campaign for suppressing the truth...I never had any special interest in the [Catholic] Church before, but now I feel great affection and admiration...and am forced thus to confess that what I once despised, I now praise unreservedly."

Blessed Vilmos Apor was Bishop of Győr, Hungary when Hitler's forces invaded Hungary. (Columbia, 2015) He offered shelter to the Jewish people. Blessed Apor decried the force removal of the Jewish people to the NAZI death camps. When the Red Army arrived in Győr Blessed Apor sheltered refugees from the drunken soldiers. When these vagabonds demanded the young ladies who Blessed Apor sheltered, he stood in their way and they responded with gun fire. Blessed Apor saved the young ladies from being assaulted, but he paid with his life. He died from his wounds on Easter Monday 2 April 1945.

Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty has been dubbed a Scarlet Pimpernel-esque Vatican priest. (Lewis, 2011) He was in Rome, Italy during WWII. Monsignor O'Flaherty organized a network that sheltered approximately 4,000 allied troops who otherwise would have spent the remainder of the war in a prisoner of war camp. He played a game of cat and mouse with the NAZI authorities. A movie was made about Monsignor O'Flaherty called *The Scarlet and the Black* starring Gregory Peck.

Many Catholic Church officials from Priest, to Bishop, to Pope stood up to the tyranny of Adolf Hitler. Many Jewish people and allied troops benefitted from their bravery and opposition to NAZI rule. Some died for their principles while other survived WWII. Unfortunately, political correctness from malcontents and enemies of the Catholic Church defamed the efforts of these good men. The truth will preserve in the end. To end this article here is a quote from Sir Winston Churchill on standing up to tyrants, "You have enemies? Good. That means you've stood up for something, sometime in your life."

Works Cited:

Columbia. (2015, April). Blessed Vilmos Apor (1892-1945). *Columbia*, p. 5.

Lewis, P. (2011, April 7). *The heroic Vatican priest who ran rings round a Nazi colonel*. Retrieved April 7, 2015, from Mail Online: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/books/article-1374534/The-heroic-Vatican-priest-ran-rings-round-Nazi-colonel.html#ixzz1Iv7N2nHb>

Michael Journal. (2002, May). *Pius XII and the Jews during World War II*. Retrieved April 7, 2015, from Michael Journal: <http://michaeljournal.org/piusXII.htm>



**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](mailto:rod.komlofske@gmail.com).

**UPCOMING HONOR GUARD EVENT(S):**

**Memorial Day Wreath Laying Ceremony 2018**

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

Date: 28 May 2018

Show Time: 9:30 AM

Start Time: 10:00 AM

Completion Time: 11:00 AM

Sir Knights may sign-up for this event on the Assembly website at the following link:

<https://cardinalgibbonsassembly783.weebly.com/memorial-day-wreath-laying-ceremony-2018.html>

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**April 2018**

April 1	Easter
April 8	Knighthood Degree (3 <sup>rd</sup> Degree) – Council 7259, Newton Grove, NC
April 8	NC State Raffle tickets due to District Deputy (DD)
April 14	4 <sup>th</sup> Degree Exemplification – Assembly 2552, Raleigh, NC
April 15	Family of the Month Due

## **DATES TO REMEMBER (Continued)**

### **April 2018**

April 28                      Knighthood Degree (3<sup>rd</sup> Degree) – Council 13236 Greensboro, NC  
April 28                      District Master's Meeting

### **May 2018**

May 1                        Council Officer Elections begin  
May 4-6                    NC State Convention – Hickory, NC  
May 10                    Ascension Thursday  
May 15                    Family of the Month Due  
May 28                    Memorial Day

### **June 2018**

June 2                      Knighthood Celebration – Council 11266 Garner, NC  
**Council Leadership Training Sessions:**  
June 9                      Region 1 – Council 3574, Jacksonville, NC  
June 9                      Region 3 – Council 11101, Greensboro, NC  
June 16                    Region 6 – Council 4600, Rocky Mount, NC  
June 16                    Region 6 – Council 8857, Hope Mills, NC  
June 23                    Region 4 – Council 12832, Mint Hill, NC  
June 23                    Region 2 – Council 3390, Durham, NC  
June 30                    Region 5 – Council 7184 Hendersonville, NC

### **July 2018**

July 4                        Independence Day  
July 13-15                DD Organizational Meeting, Durham, NC

## **DEGREE CEREMONIES**

Further details for upcoming degree ceremonies are available on the K of C State Council Website:

First, Second, and Third Degree: <https://kofcnc.org/upcoming-degree-ceremonies/>

Fourth Degree: <https://kofcnc.org/4th-degree/4th-degree-exemplification/>

<b><u>Fourth Degree</u></b>	14 April 2018	11:30 AM	Assembly 3552, Raleigh, NC
<b><u>Third Degree:</u></b>	28 April 2018	12 Noon	Council 13236, Greensboro, NC
<b><u>First Degree</u></b>	2 May 2018	7:00 PM	Council 2546, Raleigh, NC
<b><u>First Degree:</u></b>	3 May 2018	7:00 PM	Clayton 11265, Concord, NC
<b><u>Third Degree</u></b>	2 June 2018	11:00 AM	Council 11266, Garner, NC

## **WISDOM: THE ORIGINAL LIFE COACH**

Faithful Navigator Christopher R. Cooper

Today, a person cannot watch television without a charlatan pushing some modern version of snake oil to cure all of life's problems. The modern version of snake oil ranges from clothing, automobiles, pills, lawyers (to obtain money as a result of the side effects of the pills), programs to help cope with life's problems, and a host of others. The one that is of interest is the programs to cope with life's problems also known as the life coach industry. The life coach industry caters to people trying to find answers to cope with the challenges in their lives. People spent a lot of money to fuel this industry. Our Heavenly Father provided mankind with a life coach, Wisdom, long before the advent of modern snake oil drummers. The Old Testament of The Holy Bible contains Wisdom's message. The instruction of Wisdom comes from antiquity, but the message is still relevant for the modern world.

There are many people who offer life coaching services all of which come with a price tag and big promises. An internet search reveals prices starting at approximately \$800.00 and up. One site promises how a life coach can get ten clients in thirty days. According to Harvard Business Review this industry is a \$1 billion dollar a year money maker. (Pagliarini, 2011) A lot of money is being spent when the advice and instructions to sort out problem in life can be obtained for free. It is very easy to find. The advice and instruction are in the Bible and the best life coach is Wisdom.

Wisdom is found in the Old Testament. The seven books concerning Wisdom are: The Book of Job, The Book of Psalms, The Book of Proverbs, The Book of Ecclesiastes, The Song of Songs, The Book of Wisdom, and The Book of Sirach (Ecclesiasticus). (New American Bible, 1986) In these books Wisdom is personified as female. Wisdom is quoted or referenced in these books, but she sometimes speaks in the first person. An example of Wisdom speaking in the first person is in the Book of Sirach 24, "1. Wisdom sings her own praises, among her own people she proclaims her glory. 2. In the assembly of the Most High she opens her mouth, in the presence of his host she tells of her glory: 3. From the mouth of the Most High I came forth, and covered the earth like a mist." In this passage Wisdom states her origin is from God and she covers the earth to help mankind. What are the lessons Wisdom uses to help mankind?

There are many lessons Wisdom uses to guide mankind. These lessons are pertinent even today. One such lesson is from Ecclesiastes 3:1, "There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens." Wisdom counsels mankind to have his priorities in order. This passage applies to finances: bills paid, food on the table, housing, etc. If a man does not follow Wisdom's advice financial turmoil will follow. Another good lesson from Wisdom is in Proverbs 20:3, "It is honorable for a man to shun strife, while very fool starts a quarrel." Wisdom stresses for mankind to keep his mouth under control. This message is a recurring theme from Wisdom. A wise man chooses his battles wisely. Not every point needs to be proved. Many times things will sort themselves out on their own. A fool has point to be proved at every turn no matter how trivial the issue causing him disgrace and scorn from the community. A third important lesson from Wisdom is Proverbs 18:10, "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the just man runs to it and is safe." Here Wisdom tells mankind no matter how bad events in life go always trust in the Lord.

Wisdom is the original life coach. Her advice is free. There is no price tag or grandiose promises. The Old Testament of the Bible has all her words of sound advice to guide us through life in this world. Only three of her lessons were covered in this article, but there are many more. These lessons are still relevant today as they were in ancient times. I will leave you with one last thought from Wisdom, Proverbs 19:20, "Listen to counsel and receive instruction that you may eventually become wise."

#### Works Cited:

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

Pagliarini, R. (2011, December 20). *Top 10 Professional Life Coaching Myths*. Retrieved March 14, 2015, from CBS News: <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/top-10-professional-life-coaching-myths/>

#### **IN MEMORIAM:**

Please keep in your prayers for the repose of the soul 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 Scribe SK Chris Cooper at the next Assembly meeting or send it via email to [COOP5614@yahoo.com](mailto:COOP5614@yahoo.com).