



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783
Newsletter
July 2018



REFLECTIONS FROM THOMAS PAINE

Reputation is what men and women think of us; character is what God and angels know of us.

The World is my country, all mankind are my brethren and to good is my religion.

A long habit of not thinking a thing wrong gives it a superficial appearance of being right.

Brainy Quote:

https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/thomas_paine

THE SWISS GUARD

Faithful Navigator Christopher R. Cooper

One of the most famous, yet smallest armed forces in the world is the Swiss Guard. (Britannica, 2015) The Swiss Guards are easy to recognize with their colorful uniforms of yellow, dark blue, and red originating from the Italian family Medici. The history of the Swiss Guard reaches back to medieval times of Europe. As with many military organizations there are requirements for a prospective candidate to meet who desires to enter the Swiss Guard. Today, the Swiss Guard serves both a practical and ceremonial purpose for the Vatican. These purposes are rooted in the history of the Swiss Guard.

As with many communities of the Holy Catholic Church that date back in time the Swiss Guard is no exception. The Swiss Guard evolved from Swiss mercenaries dating to the 13th and 14th centuries. (The Holy See, 2015) Poverty was wide spread in what became present day Switzerland. To become a soldier of fortune was one source of income. The Swiss mercenaries fought for many nations and served as military instructors throughout Europe. The Swiss Guard formally began on 22 January 1506 A.D. under Pope Julius II. Their mission from the beginning is the protection of the Pope and the Vatican. The last incident the Swiss Guard prepared to protect the Vatican from the invading forces of Adolf Hitler during World War II. In 1981 A.D., the Swiss Guard thwarted an assassination attempt on Pope John Paul II. To carry out the Swiss Guard's historical mission to protect the Pope and the Vatican there are qualifications for a new candidate.

The Swiss Guard like many military organizations has a set of requirements for admission to their ranks for each new recruit. (The Holy See, 2015) There are a total of eight:

- I am a Swiss citizen.
- I am a Roman Catholic faithful.
- I am of a good moral ethical background.
- I attended the military school in Switzerland.
- I am between 19 and 30 years old.
- I am at least 174 cm (5 feet 8 inches) tall.
- I am not married.
- I have either a professional diploma or a high school degree.

Anyone who has joined the U.S. Armed Forces will remember going through a litany of requirements that must be met before entering the military. Some of those requirements of the U.S. Armed Forces and the requirements of the Swiss Guard are the same. These requirements ensure the Swiss Guard maintains itself as a professional military organization today.

The Swiss Guard today is an internationally recognized professional military organization. (The Holy See, 2015) The primary mission of the Swiss Guard is the protection of the Pope and the Vatican. The Swiss Guard serves a ceremonial purpose as honor guards for various Vatican functions. They trained in military tactics. At the Pope's discretion the Swiss Guard may be directed to augment the Pontifical Gendarmerie a.k.a. the Vatican Police. (Collier, 1963) Their living quarters is the Swiss Guard Barracks which is located off St. Peter's Square to the north.

The Swiss Guard has a long and colorful history stretching back to medieval Europe. They evolved from bands of mercenaries to a modern day professional organization. Like most professional military organizations the Swiss Guard has entrance requirements and maintains training to fulfill their mission of protecting the Pope and the Vatican. The Swiss Guard is still a vibrant and positive presence at the Vatican today.

Works Cited:

Britannica. (2015). *Swiss Guards*. Retrieved November 20, 2015, from Encyclopedia Britannica:

<http://www.britannica.com/topic/Swiss-Guards>

Collier. (1963). *Collier's Encyclopedia*. The Crowell-Collier Publishing Company.

The Holy See. (2015). *Swiss Guard - Admission Requirements*. Retrieved November 20, 2015, from The Holy See:

http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/swiss_guard/swissguard/ammissione_en.htm

The Holy See. (2015). *Swiss Guard Duties*. Retrieved November 20, 2015, from The Holy See:

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The Holy See. (2015). *Swiss Guard History*. Retrieved November 20, 2015, from The Holy See:

[http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/swiss_guard/swissguard/storia_en.htm#The Swiss Guards in the Vatican](http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/swiss_guard/swissguard/storia_en.htm#The_Swiss_Guards_in_the_Vatican)



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):

No Events Schedules

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 2018

April 1	Easter
April 8	Knighthood Degree (3 rd Degree) – Council 7259, Newton Grove, NC
April 8	NC State Raffle tickets due to District Deputy (DD)
April 14	4 th Degree Exemplification – Assembly 2552, Raleigh, NC
April 15	Family of the Month Due
April 28	Knighthood Degree (3 rd 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/>

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

SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

Faithful Navigator Christopher R. Cooper

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska was born on 25 August 1905 in what is now western Poland. (American Catholic, 2016) Her parents named her Helena. She had nine siblings. Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska worked in several jobs as a housekeeper before she joined the religious life in 1925. She became a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy and took the name Maria Faustina.

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska was very devoted to her duties as a nun. (American Catholic, 2016) Many people thought of God as a harsh judge. However, she received revelations from God. These revelations dispelled God as a harsh judge. They presented God as a loving compassionate father. In one of the revelations she received the Prayer of Divine Mercy. (Divine Mercy, 2016) This prayer is recited by the Faithful at 3:00 p.m. which is the time Christ perished on the cross. The Prayer of Divine Mercy is:

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of
Jesus as a Fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska continued her life as a nun until her death on 5 October 1938 in Krakow Poland. (American Catholic, 2016) She was beatified by Pope Saint John Paul II in 1938 and he canonized her in 2000.

Works Cited:

American Catholic. (2016). *St. Maria Faustina Kowalska*. Retrieved from American Catholic.org:

<http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/saint.aspx?id=1931>

Divine Mercy. (2016). *The Hour of Mercy*. Retrieved from Divine Mercy.org: <http://www.divinemeracy.org/3-oclock-prayer/87-3-oclock-prayer.html>

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.