



**Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783**  
**Newsletter**  
**July 2020**



**REFLECTIONS FROM FORMER U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE**

**CONDOLEEZZA RICE**

The essence of America - that which really unites us - is not ethnicity, or nationality or religion - it is an idea - and what an idea it is: That you can come from humble circumstances and do great things.

What you know today can affect what you do tomorrow.

But what you know today cannot affect what you did yesterday.

I've been in enough positions to respect people with different views.

*Brainy Quote*

<https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/condoleezza-rice-quotes>

**ASSEMBLY MEETINGS**

The next Assembly meeting scheduled for 16 August 2020 at 2:30 PM at St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church, 2840 Village Drive, Fayetteville, NC is **TENTATIVE**. The date and location may change depending on guidance from K of C Supreme and local directives.

**THE LAST FIVE STAR GENERAL – OMAR N. BRADLEY**

Faithful Scribe Christopher R. Cooper

Omar N. Bradley was a humble man who was given the nickname “the GI General” by the famous World War II news correspondent Ernie Pyle. (History.com Editors, 2018) General Bradley earned this nickname because of his low-key style and always extending courtesy to everyone regardless of rank. The nickname is also a reflection of General Bradley’s beginning.

Clark, MO is the birth place of General Bradley. (Nash, 1982) He arrived in this world on 12 February 1893. At the age of thirteen his father who was a school teacher passed away. His father’s passing put family in financial hardship. Education beyond high school would be unlikely. However, General Bradley’s Sunday school superintendent advised him to apply for entrance into U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY and he was accepted.

General Bradley graduated from West Point in 1915 in the class that became known as the “class the stars fell on”. (Nash, 1982) His class earned this expression of praise because thirty members became general officers. After graduation then Second Lieutenant Bradley married Mary Elizabeth Quayle who was a high school classmate in December 1916. General Bradley did not participate in military operations in World War I. He served in various posts and training assignments until 1941 when he was promoted to Brigadier General. General Bradley was the first of his class to be promoted to general officer.

In 1943 General Bradley became commander of Second U.S. Army Corps in Northern Africa. (Nash, 1982) Under General Bradley's leadership his troops defeated the German Forces in North Africa. From North Africa his troops went on to oust the German Forces in Sicily. After North Africa and Sicily military campaigns General Bradley was called to London, U.K. to assist in planning Operation OVERLORD, the invasion of northern France. (History.com Editors, 2018)

After the launch of the Normandy invasion on 6 June 1944 General Bradley was on the ground in northern France within twenty-four hours. (Nash, 1982) He devised Operation COBRA, the breakout of U.S. Armed Forces from the Cotentin Peninsula into the rest of France. (History.com Editors, 2018) General Bradley and his troops carried their march all the way into Germany. They met up with Soviet Union Forces on 25 April 1945. (Nash, 1982) Hostilities in Europe officially ended on 8 May 1945 (West) or 9 May 1945 (East). (Rapp, 1969) During this time General Bradley earned an important distinction, "As an army group commander from August 1, 1944, to V-E Day in May 1945, Bradley commanded more troops than any general in American history: four armies, twelve corps, forty-eight divisions—in all, over 1.3 million troops." (History.com Editors, 2018)

After World War II General Bradley became Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army from 1948 to 1953. (Nash, 1982) He went on to serve as Joint Chief of Staff. During his tenure as Joint Chief he was promoted to General of the Army (five-star general).

General Bradley entered civilian life in 1953. (History.com Editors, 2018) He worked at the Bulova Watch Company as the chairman of the board of directors starting in 1958. (Nash, 1982) In 1965 his wife, Mary Elizabeth, passed away. He remarried in 1966 to Ester Buhler. General Bradley spent his remaining years at Fort Bliss, TX. As an individual who holds the rank of five-star general he did not officially retire from active duty.

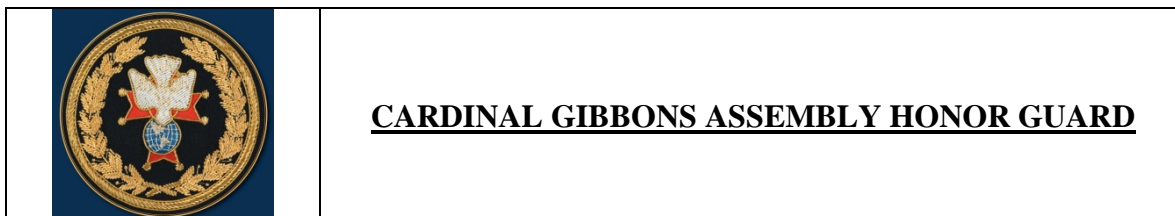
General Bradley was called from this life on 8 April 1981 at the age of 89, and 70 years of military service to his country. (Nash, 1982) Upon his death, General Omar N. Bradley became The Last Five Star General.

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History.com Editors. (2018, August 21). *Omar N. Bradley*. Retrieved August 3, 2019, from HISTORY: <https://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/omar-bradley>

Nash, E. G. (1982). GI General. In I. World Book, *The 1982 World Book Year Book* (p. 188). Chicago: World Book, Inc.

Rapp, T. (1969). World War II. In F. E. Corporation, *The World Book Encyclopedia Volume 20* (p. 399). Chicago: Field Enterprises Educational Corporation.



#### **4<sup>TH</sup> DEGREE UNIFORM**

The 4<sup>TH</sup> Degree uniform and accessories are available to order at the following link:

<https://kofcuniform.com/CustomPage/OrderNow>

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

No Events Scheduled.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **July 2020**

July 1	Report of Council Officers Due
July 10-12	DD Organizational Meeting
July 15	Family of the Month Form Due
July 25	Tar Heel Knight Articles Due

### **August 2020**

August 1	Service Program Personnel Report (#365) Due
August 15	Family of the Month Form Due
August 15	Semiannual Council Audit Report (#1295) Due
August 25	Tar Heel Knight Articles Due

### **September 2020**

September 15	Family of the Month Form Due
September 25	Tar Heel Knight Articles Due

### **October 2020**

October 15	Family of the Month Form Due
October 25	Tar Heel Knight Articles Due

## **DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATIONS**

### **IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ!**

**3/14/2020 – Governor Roy Cooper has issued an executive order banning mass gatherings of 100 people or more. Before attending any of the Degree Ceremonies listed below, please contact the host council to be sure that the event will still be held.**

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

Degree Exemplifications: <https://kofcnc.org/>

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

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Start Time</u></b>	<b><u>Council – Location</u></b>
8 July 2020	7:00 PM	Council 12481, Lexington, NC
18 August 2020	6:30 PM	Council 8509, Kernersville, NC

## **FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATIONS**

There are no Fourth Degree Exemplifications scheduled at this time.

## **POWER OF THE CROSS**

Faithful Scribe Christopher R. Cooper

Why does the Cross strike fear into the enemies of Christianity? Father Sam Najjar of St. Michael the Archangel Maronite Catholic Church posed this question during his sermon at the beginning of the Season of the Holy Cross. Father Sam's question was intriguing. I always considered the people who made complaints about the Cross or any reference to Christianity as just a bunch of whiney malcontents who have too much time on their hands and are not happy unless they have something to complain about. However, the subject is not that simple. The Cross as a Christian symbol goes back to Biblical times with the ministry of St. Paul the Apostle. St. Paul explains why people fear the Cross. Even in today's overly politically correct society the Cross still triumphs.

The origin of the Cross became a prominent Christian symbol that can be traced back to St. Paul the Apostle's ministry. (Benedict XVI, 2008) To St. Paul the Cross represents the power of God. He states this principle in 1 Corinthians 1:18, "For the word of the cross, to them indeed that perish, is foolishness: but to them that are saved, that is to us, it is the power of God." (The Holy Bible, 2005) The enemies of the Christianity the Cross is a symbol they do not understand. Indicative of human nature people fear what they do not understand. Some of the more arrogant people hide their fear by belittling the Cross as a mere trifle to be dismissed. To the Christian the Cross is the symbol of God's power and his love for mankind. How powerful is the Cross?

According to the Reverend Billy Graham no matter what Church, Catholic or Protestant, all Christians agree on the Cross. (Graham, 1982) Christians may disagree on theological points, but the Cross unites us all. The Cross is a sign of God's love for mankind. (Benedict XVI, 2008) If the Cross is a sign of God's love why do so many people fear the Cross?

In one respect the Cross appears to be a failure. (Benedict XVI, 2008) Crucifixion was a violent and brutal death sentence exercised by the Roman Empire on non-Roman citizens. The purpose was to keep subjugated population in line and not challenge the Roman authorities. This method of execution was the Empire's way of saying to any would be rebels, "If you challenge us, you are doomed to failure. Your failure will be rewarded with the humiliation of crucifixion for the whole world to see in a public execution." St. Paul changed this notion in his ministry. He preached the Cross is the symbol of God's power and love for mankind. God the Father sent his only son to perish on the Cross for mankind's sins. The Cross emerged as a sign of victory when Christ rose from the dead. Some people still cannot accept this view.

One stumbling block for acceptance of the Cross is human arrogance. A prominent example of human arrogance that has caused much suffering is the communist movement. Here is a passage from *The Communist Manifesto*, "There are, besides, eternal truths, such as Freedom, Justice, etc. that are common to all states of society. But Communism abolishes eternal truths, it abolishes all religion, and all morality, instead of constituting them on a new basis; it therefore acts in contradiction to all past historical experience." (Marx & Engels, 1848) To abolish eternal truth and religion is to abolish the Cross. The Cross is the symbol of eternal truth and God's power. Communism fears this symbol. The misguided philosophy of communism wants to establish its own brand of truth. Establishing one's own truth in opposition to the Cross is a perfect example of human arrogance. The Cross did prevail over communism. This victory occurred in the earlier 1990s when the people of the Soviet Union and many other communist nations rejected the Marxist ideology.

There also recent examples of the Cross prevailing against the enemies of Christianity. The Arkansas State football team placed stickers on the back of their helmets. (Bromberg, 2014) The stickers were in the shape of cross as a memorial for two individuals; defensive tackle Markel Owens and team manager Barry Weyer, Jr. Both individuals recently passed away. As usual some malcontent or malcontents made a complaint that this display of the Cross was unconstitutional. After several lawsuits the judicial system ruled the team players could wear the Cross as long as team member do it voluntarily. A second is example of the Cross prevailing against the enemies of Christianity is a set of steel beams removed from the wreckage of the World Trade Center site. The beams formed a Cross approximately seventeen feet high. (Richey, 2014) This Cross will be part of the World Trade Center Memorial and Museum. The judicial system ruled against the atheist whiners who brought a lawsuit against the Cross. The ruling is based on the Establishment Clause of the U.S. Constitution. The judges ruled the Establishment Clause does not prohibit religious references in a public area especially in historical accounts. The Cross is "...a symbol of hope, faith, and healing..." or in other words the power of God.

In the beginning of the history of the Cross, it was hard to accept at first because of the violent nature of crucifixion. St. Paul changed the meaning when he made it part of his ministry. He used the Cross as a symbol of God's power and love for mankind. The Cross became a unifying symbol for all Christians. Communist due to human ignorance tried to abolish the Cross, but in the end they failed. The Cross made recent victories such as the Arkansas State football and the World Trade Center memorials. One last thought on the power of the Cross, in the

Middle East in the area known as the Islamic State the jihadists are using the Arabic Letter “Noon, ن” to identify Christian homes. (Loveluck, 2014) The jihadists use “ن” because it short for Nazarene or Jesus of Nazareth which is a reference for Christians. This reference is not widely known outside of the Middle East. So, why not use the Cross which is a worldwide symbol for Christians or do the jihadists fear the power of the Cross.

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#### **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 Chris Cooper at the next Assembly meeting or send it via email to [COOP5614@yahoo.com](mailto:COOP5614@yahoo.com).