



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783
Newsletter
November 2020



REFLECTIONS FROM PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under.

We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone.

We are never defeated unless we give up on God.

Brainy Quote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/ronald-reagan-quotes>

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Our Assembly will be supporting Wreaths Across America. This program gives us a chance to remember and honor those individuals who served our Nation. The point of contact for this program is Past State Deputy Colin Jorsch. More information on this program is available at the following link:

<https://wreathsassamerica.org/pages/165678>

ASSEMBLY MEETING

The next Assembly meeting is 19 December 2020 @ Noon. The location is Sandhills State Veterans Cemetery, Fort Bragg, NC. We will be laying wreaths to remember and honor those individuals who served and protected our Nation.

FORTRESS MASADA

Faithful Scribe Christopher R. Cooper

The name Masada conjures up memories of the ancient life and death struggle of Jewish rebels and the Roman Empire in the first century A.D. There was a mini-series made about this epic battle in 1981 A.D. called *Masada* starring the late actor Peter O'Toole. (IMDb, 2020) Most of what is known about Fortress Masada comes from the Jewish-Roman historian Josephus. (World Heritage Encyclopedia, 2020) Along with archeology and modern science some interesting questions can be answered about Fortress Masada.

What is the origin of the name "Masada"? It comes from the Hebrew word Metzuda (מצודה) which literally means fortress. (Isseroff, 2009) Masada may also be referred to as Metzada, Masadah, or Massada.

Who constructed Masada? It is uncertain who first fortified Masada. Historians agree it was under the Hasmonean dynasty. (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2020) The fortification occurred either under Jonathan Maccabeus who ruled the area in 143-142 B.C. or under Alexander Jannaeus who ruled the area in 103-76 B.C. The next round of major fortifications occurred under King Herod the Great. (Isseroff, 2009) King Herod the Great is the infamous king in *The Holy Bible* who ordered all the male children under the age of two years old murdered when he felt a threat to his power. (Perowne, 1963) Herod was forced to take refuge at Masada in 40 B.C. (Isseroff, 2009) A Jewish uprising took place at this time. Herod chose Masada because it is an ideal military position. Masada is located on a high plateau, and it has an easily defended approach. For this reason Herod added numerous palaces,

cisterns, and military buildings in case of future trouble with the Jewish people. The uprising was eventually quelled with the aid of the Roman military.

In the first century A.D. a Jewish separatist group known as the Zealots launched another rebellion against the Roman Empire. (Isseroff, 2009) A splinter group of the Zealots called the Sicarii managed to capture Masada in 66 A.D. Masada became the last Jewish military stronghold of the revolt. Under the reign of Roman Emperor Titus the Siege of Masada began in 73 A.D. (Bunting, 2020) The Roman X Legion under the command of General Lucius Silva constructed siege machines to conquer Fortress Masada. According to Josephus to avoid capture the defenders of Masada drew lots. (Isseroff, 2009) The individual chosen by lots killed all the inhabitants of Masada. Once his grim task was complete he committed suicide and ended the Jewish revolt.

In modern times archeologists have discovered many interesting artifacts at Fortress Masada. (Isseroff, 2009) They have uncovered evidence that supports Josephus' account of the Siege of Masada. The remains of an ancient Byzantine Christian Church have also been unearthed. Today Fortress Masada is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Israel.

Works Cited:

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<https://www.britannica.com/event/Siege-of-Masada>

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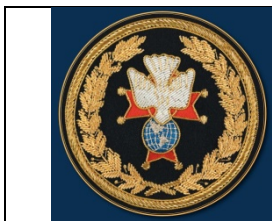
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CARDINAL GIBBONS ASSEMBLY HONOR GUARD

4TH DEGREE UNIFORM

The 4TH 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

November 2020

November 1	All Saints Day
November 2	All Souls Day

DATES TO REMEMBER (Continued)

November 2020

November 11	Veterans Day
November 15	Family of the Month Form Due
November 25	Tar Heel Knight Articles Due
November 26	Thanksgiving Day

December 2020

December 8	Immaculate Conception
December 15	Family of the Month Form Due
December 25	Christmas Day
December 25	Tar Heel Knight Articles Due
December 31	Program Award Submission Due

January 2021

January 6	Epiphany
January 8-9	DD Mid-Year Meeting 2021
January 15	Family of the Month Form Due
January 17	MLK Day
January 25	Tar Heel Knight Articles Due
January 31	Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728) Due
January 31	Special Olympics Partnership Form Due

February 2021

February 1	Resolutions Due to State Advocate
February 1	State Award Submissions Due (OTY, Website, Newsletter, Scrapbook, etc.)
February 15	Family of the Month Form Due
February 15	Semiannual Council Audit Report Due
February 15	Presidents Day
February 15	Ash Monday (Maronite)
February 17	Ash Wednesday (Roman)
February 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/ceremonials/degrees/>

Degree Exemplifications On-Line: <https://kofcnc.org/ceremonials/upcoming-online-exemplifications/>

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

November 2020

<u>Date</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Council – Location</u>
November 1	3:00 PM	On-Line
November 7	3:00 PM	On-Line
November 21	8:00 PM	On-Line
November 22	8:00 PM	On-Line

DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATIONS (Continued)

December 2020

December 5	3:00 PM	On-Line
December 12	3:00 PM	On-Line

FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATIONS

There is a Fourth Degree Exemplifications scheduled for 21 November 2020 in Gastonia, NC. This exemplification is hosted by the Judge William Gaston Assembly 2531.

GUARDIAN ANGELS

Faithful Scribe Christopher R. Cooper

Guardian Angels are they real or are they just some folklore invented by parents to calm the fears of a small child? The Faithful cannot see them, but they are real according to Christ own words in *The Holy Bible*. Why would God create these supernatural beings? The origin of the word “angel” is the key to answer this question. Do these supernatural beings protect us from all things at all times or does God put a limitation on their abilities?

The first question to be addressed is if the Faithful cannot see angels how does the Faithful know they are there? Part of the answer is in the first two line of the Profession of Faith:

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. (See of Bkerke, 2012)

In the Profession of Faith the Faithful acknowledges there are parts of God’s creation that cannot be seen. The second part of the question is answered in the Gospel of Saint Matthew 18:10:

“See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.” (USCCB, 1986)

From these passages the Faithful understand guardian angels cannot be seen and by the words of Christ in the Gospel of Saint Matthew they do exist.

Another question concerning guardian angels is why did God create them in the first place? The origin of the word “angel” explains why God created them. The word “angel” comes from ancient Greek “αγγελος” meaning “messenger”. (Collier’s Encyclopedia, 1963) One example of an angel bringing a message from God is in the Gospel of Saint Luke 1:19:

And the angel said to him [Zechariah] reply, “I am Gabriel, who stand before God. I was sent to speak to you and to announce to you this good news. (USCCB, 1986)

God sent the Archangel Gabriel as His messenger to Zechariah to announce that Zechariah and his wife, Elizabeth, would have a son, John the Baptist. Further in the Gospel of Saint Luke 1:26-27 God sends out the Archangel Gabriel as His messenger again to announce the birth of Christ to Saint Mary:

In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin’s name was Mary.

Other examples of God sending out His angels to send out His Word and watch over the Faithful are the Archangel Michael who went to give aid to Daniel and the Archangel Raphael who went out to guide Tobit and his wife Sarah through troubling times. (USCCB, 1986)

God assigned a guardian angel to guide the Faithful from infancy to death. (USCC, 1994) Guardian angels watch over and intercede for the Faithful. The question is does God let guardian angels protects us from all danger or does He place limitations on them? The answer is in the Gospel of Saint Matthew 4:5-7:

Then the devil took Him [Christ] to the holy city, and made Him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to Him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: 'He will command his angels concerning you' and 'with their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus answered him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.'"

Christ asserts angels cannot protect those individuals who put God to the test by engaging in risky behavior. Guardian angels may intercede on the individual behalf, but that is all.

Guardian Angels are real creation of God and not just some folklore invented by parents to calm the fears of a small child. Even though the Faithful cannot see them they are among them every day as confirmed with Christ own words in *The Holy Bible*. God created them to watch over and intercede for the Faithful. These supernatural beings protect us, but their protection is limited by God in certain instances.

Works Cited:

Collier's Encyclopedia. (1963). Angel. In B. M. Metzger, *'Encyclopedia* (p. 202). The Crowell-Collier Publishing Company.

See of Bkerke. (2012). *Book of Offering*. New York: Epachy of Saint Maron.

USCC. (1994). *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Washington, DC: United States Catholic Conference.

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

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.