



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783
Newsletter
May 2021



REFLECTIONS FROM BRITISH PRIME MINISTER SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

All the great things are simple, and many can be expressed in a single word:
freedom, justice, honor, duty, mercy, hope.

Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.

To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.

Brainy Quote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/winston-churchill-quotes>

ASSEMBLY MEETING

The next Assembly meeting scheduled for 20 May 2021 at 6:30 PM. The location is Sammio's Italian Restaurant 2623 Raeford Rd, Fayetteville, NC 28303.

THE HOLY TRINITY

Holy Trinity: A Unison of Love

"Who can fully comprehend God as Holy Trinity? So great is this mystery far beyond our scrutiny! The Father, before all time, begot the Son, the Eternal Word. The Begotten Son took flesh from the holy Virgin's womb. The Spirit was sent to give courage and perfect. All creation worships him, the Lord of all, in three persons, one true God."

In those eight lines is contained the totality of the theology of the Trinity. The Syriac writers recognized that the primary and most effective way of teaching was within the Liturgy. St Ephrem, a Deacon, was committed to that task and wrote many hymns and homilies.

Over the centuries many have used symbols to explain the Trinity. Through-out his writings St Ephrem refers to symbols in nature and in the scriptures to reference the Trinity. St Ephrem explains the Holy Trinity through the sun which contains the elements of fire (God), light (Christ) and heat (the Holy Spirit). In Syriac thought everything is created as a revelation to lead us to know and understand God. St Ephrem uses the sun to teach about the Trinity, but God created the sun to reveal to us his own nature and the Trinity. The Syriac writers also draw the link between Creation and Scripture.

These elements representing God, Jesus and the Spirit are also emphasized in the Scriptures. There are many references to God as fire in the Scriptures, such as in Exodus where Moses recognized God as the 'burning bush'. Christ is often described as the Light in Scriptures, particularly in the Gospel of John. In Scripture the Holy Spirit is referred to as like a fire. This is an important distinction to God being described as fire in the Old Testament. The Holy Spirit brings God's presence, it is like fire and resides where it rests as a Spirit, filling a person with the heat of the Spirit and filling the Eucharist with the presence of God. We see this at the Epiphany and Pentecost.

This article was retrieved from the *St. Michael the Archangel Maronite Catholic Church* bulletin 29-30 May 2021:

<https://www.stmichaelsmaronite.net/bulletin.html>



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

May 2021

May 9	Mother's Day
May 15	NC State Convention (Virtual)
May 15	Family of the Month Form Due
May 16	Retention Meeting
May 20	Assembly Meeting
May 25	Tar Heel Knight Articles Due
May 31	Memorial Day

June 2021

June 1	Basic DD Training
June 5-6	Fr Bill Membership Drive Council 17501
June 5	Council Leadership Training West
June 15	Family of the Month Form Due
June 19	Council Leadership Training East
June 19	4 th Degree, Saint Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd, Charlotte, NC
June 20	Father's Day
June 20	Assembly Meeting
June 20	Retention Meeting
June 25	Tar Heel Knight Articles Due
June 30	Columbian Award Due

July 2021

July 1	Report of Officers Due
July 4	Independence Day
July 9-11	DD Meeting
July 15	Family of the Month Form Due
July 18	Assembly Meeting
July 18	Retention Meeting
July 25	Tar Heel Knight Articles Due

August 2021

August 1	Service Program Personnel Report (#365) Due
August 1	St Joseph Seminary Welcome Event
August 8	200th Anniversary Celebration at St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church, Fayetteville, NC
August 15	The Assumption

DATES TO REMEMBER (Continued)

August 2021

August 15	Family of the Month Form Due
August 15	Retention Meeting
August 16	Drive Out Hunger Golf Tournament
August 25	Articles for the Tar Heel Knight 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/>

<u>Date</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Council – Location</u>
None.	None.	None.

FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATIONS

19 June 2021 @ 11:00 AM, Saint Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd, Charlotte, NC

EASTER

Faithful Scribe Christopher R. Cooper

Easter is the holiest day of the year for the Catholic Church. (Tucciarone, 2013) The day the Faithful celebrate our Lord's Resurrection and victory over death. As with many traditions, Easter originated in the early Church and is based on Scripture from *The Holy Bible*, "...Be not affrighted. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen: he is not here..." (The Holy Bible - Douay-Rheims Edition, 2005) The Holy Bible does not address all the traditions associated with Easter. The early Church Fathers settled several disputes concerning Easter. Easter does not go by the same name in every country. Until the mid-19th century the literacy was very low. The Faithful used symbols to identify with Easter. These symbols survived into modern times. The first item to consider is the day to celebrate Easter.

In the early Church there was no standard method to calculate when the Easter Celebration occurred. The Church in Alexandria would celebrate Easter on different date than the Church in Antioch. (Thurston, 1909) The Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. established the dating system for Easter. The date can be as early as March 22 or as late as April 25. (Saunders, 1995) The formula to calculate the date is "...the Sunday that follows the first full moon after March 21, the vernal (spring) equinox." (McNamara, 2011) For 2013, according to the *Farmers' Almanac* the next full moon is March 27 making Easter Sunday, March 31. (Full Moon Calendar for 2013, 2013) In case you are wondering, Easter Sunday 2014 is April 20. The next item to consider is the names Easter and Pascha.

In many parts of the world Easter is referred to as Pascha. (Saunders, 1995) Pascha comes from Greek. It means Passover. Pascha connects the Church to her roots in Judaism. Passover represents the Old Covenant with God. Pascha represents the New Covenant with God and Christ' victory over death. In the early Church Pascha was the word for Easter. Easter came about when Christian missionaries encountered the Germanic speaking people. Easter is derived from *Eostre*, a pagan Saxon goddess. (Juergens, 1963) This goddess symbolized spring and the

coming of life. *Eostre* was Christianized into Christ bringing life to the world and to the Faithful entering the Church. Over the evolution of English *Eostre* became Easter. The next topic to discuss is Easter symbols.

Since the literacy rate was very low through most of history the early Church used many symbols for Easter. One symbol is the peacock. (Tucciarone, 2013) In the ancient world people believe a peacock's flesh was incorruptible. From this belief the peacock became the symbol of the Resurrection and immortality. Images of the peacock can be found graves from the ancient world as a symbol of the Faithful joining Christ in his victory over death. Easter Eggs are another tradition from the earlier times. (Tucciarone, 2013). Eggs at first were painted red to represent Christ' sacrifice on the cross and rebirth. This tradition evolved into the modern Easter Eggs with different colors and patterns.

Easter is a happy time of year and the holiest day for the Church. The date of Easter Sunday can be calculated for a given year with a few basic variables. The name, Easter, has long and interesting history. The name, Pascha, with its Greek origins and the Christianized name, Easter, in the English speaking world. The symbols and customs surrounding the Easter originated from long ago. The peacock is the ancient symbol of the Resurrection. A favorite tradition among children is coloring Easter Eggs originated in ancient times to symbolize rebirth and Christ' sacrifice on the cross. I will leave you with one last item. An old Easter greeting I found in my research from the Gospel of St. Luke 24:34 (Tucciarone, 2013):

Surrexit Dominus Vere, Alleluia!

("The Lord is risen indeed!")

Et Apparuit Simoni, Alleluia!

("And hath appeared unto Simon!")

Work Cited

Full Moon Calendar for 2013. (2013). Retrieved from Farmers' Almanac: <http://www.farmersalmanac.com/full-moon-dates-and-times/>

Juergens, S. P. (1963). *The New Marian Missal*. New York: Regina Press.

McNamara, F. E. (2011, March 29). *Why Dates of Easter Differ*. Retrieved from Eternal Word Television Network: <http://www.ewtn.com/library/liturgy/zlitur355.htm>

Saunders, F. W. (1995, April 27). *Was Easter Originally A Pagan Holiday?* Retrieved from Eternal Word Television Network: <http://www.ewtn.com/library/ANSWERS/EASTPAG.htm>

The Holy Bible - Douy-Rheims Edition. (2005). Fitzwilliam: Loreto Publications.

Thurston, H. (1909). *Easter Controversy*. Retrieved from The New Advent: <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/05228a.htm>

Tucciarone, T. (2013, Mar 8). *Easter Sunday*. Retrieved from Fish Eaters: <http://www.fisheaters.com/customseastertide2.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 Chris Cooper at the next Assembly meeting or send it via email to COOP5614@yahoo.com.