



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783
Newsletter
November 2021



REFLECTIONS FROM PRESIDENT SAINT JEROME

Good, better, best. Never let it rest. 'Til your good is better and your better is best.

Keep doing some kind of work, that the devil may always find you employed.

The scars of others should teach us caution.

Brainy Quote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/st-jerome-quotes>

ASSEMBLY MEETING

The next Assembly meeting scheduled for 18 November 2021 at 6:30 PM. The location is Sammio's Italian Restaurant 2623 Raeford Rd, Fayetteville, NC 28303.

PRAYER OF SAINT JEROME

O Lord, show Your mercy to me

and gladden my heart.

I am like the man on the way to Jericho

who was overtaken by robbers,

wounded and left for dead.

O Good Samaritan, come to my aid.

I am like the sheep that went astray.

O Good Shepherd, seek me out

and bring me home in accord with Your will.

Let me dwell in Your house all the days of my life

and praise You forever and ever with those who are there.

Daily Prayers

<https://www.daily-prayers.org/angels-and-saints/prayers-by-saint-jerome/>



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 2021

November 1	All Saints Day
November 2	All Souls Day
November 6	4 th Degree Exemplification
November 11	Veterans Day
November 15	Family of the Month Form Due
November 25	Thanksgiving Day
November 25	Articles for the Tar Heel Knight Due

December 2021

December 8	Immaculate Conception
December 15	Family of the Month Form Due
December 25	Christmas
December 25	Articles for the Tar Heel Knight Due

January 2022

January 1	World Peace Day
January 6	Feast of the Epiphany
January 15	Family of the Month Form Due
January 17	MLK Day
January 25	Articles for the Tar Heel Knight Due
January 31	Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728)
January 31	Special Olympics Partnership Form Due

February 2022

February 9	Feast of Saint Maron
February 14	Feast of Saint Valentine
February 15	Family of the Month Form Due
February 15	Council Semiannual Audit Due
February 21	Presidents' Day
February 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

None scheduled at this time.

BLESSED FRANZ JÄGERSTÄTTER

Faithful Scribe Christopher R. Cooper

When heroes of World War II are mentioned famous names such as General George S. Patton of the United States Army, Field Marshall Bernard Montgomery of the British Army, or General Charles De Gaulle of the Free French come to mind. There were many not so famous heroes of WWII as well. One individual was a humble Austrian farmer, Blessed Franz Jägerstätter.

Bl. Franz Jägerstätter was born on 20 May 1907 in the city of St. Radegund of Upper Austria. (Vatican, 2020) He was born to working class parents Rosalia Huber and Franz Bachmeier. His parents were too poor to get married. Franz Bachmeier perished on the battleground of World War I. (CatholicSaints.Info, 2020) Bl. Franz Jägerstätter was ten years old at the time of his father's death. Rosalia Huber married a local farmer, Heinrich Jägerstätter, in 1917. (Copp, 2020) In that same year Heinrich Jägerstätter formally adopted Bl. Franz Jägerstätter. (CatholicSaints.Info, 2020)

At the age of 20 Bl. Franz Jägerstätter entered the workforce. (CatholicSaints.Info, 2020) He secured a position in the iron ore industry. During his early to mid-twenties he was somewhat of a rascal. He led a carefree life and at times he indulged in some questionable activities. (Vatican, 2020) Fortunately, in his late twenties Bl. Franz Jägerstätter began to mend his ways and settled down. He became a family man.

Bl. Franz Jägerstätter started to court his future wife, Franziska. (Vatican, 2020) They married in 1936. Franziska Jägerstätter was a positive influence on Bl. Franz Jägerstätter. With her guidance he became stronger in his Catholic Faith. He left the iron ore industry and took up farming. The loving couple went on to have three daughters. Bl. Franz Jägerstätter became very involved in his parish. In addition to farming he became a sexton. A sexton is “a church officer or employee who takes care of the property and performs related minor duties (as ringing the bell for serves and digging graves)”. (Merriam-Webster, 1993) It was a happy and peaceful time for Bl. Franz Jägerstätter and his family, but it would soon change for the worse.

Across Austria's northern frontier the NAZI movement had firmly taken control of Germany. Bl. Franz Jägerstätter had a troubling premonition in a dream:

“He saw a train going around a mountain, and adults and children could not hold themselves back from boarding. Then a voice spoke out, ‘This train is going to hell.’ He realized the train represented Nazi Germany.” (Copp, 2020)

His dream was a warning of “Anschluss”. Anschluss was the forced annexation of Austria into NAZI Germany. (Von Schuschnigg, 1969) After the takeover of Austria by the NAZI government adult males were pressed into military service and Bl. Franz Jägerstätter was no exception. (Vatican, 2020) With the help of local government officials he was able to resist NAZI attempts to draft him into the army for active combat. He felt that service to the NAZI armed force was incompatible with his Catholic beliefs. One indication was the obedience to Adolf Hitler as stated in the NAZI military oath also referred to as “The Führer Oath” (Holocaust Encyclopedia, 2020):

“I swear by God this holy oath, that I will render to Adolf Hitler, Führer of the German Reich and People, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, unconditional obedience, and that I am ready, as a brave soldier, to risk my life at any time for this oath.”

In February 1943 Bl. Franz Jägerstätter was called up for military service for a final time. (Vatican, 2020) He refused and was immediately imprisoned.

Bl. Franz Jägerstätter was imprisoned at first in Linz, Austria and later he was transferred to Berlin, Germany to await trial. (CatholicSaints.Info, 2020) He and along with other “enemies of the state” were tortured in prison. (Greydanus, 2019) One such torture was making prisoner stand completely still. If they moved at all they would be severely beaten with truncheons. Bl. Franz Jägerstätter did not lose Faith. He still managed to muster energy to write to his family and bolster the Faith of his fellow inmates.

Bl. Franz Jägerstätter trial was on 6 July 1943. (Copp, 2020) The outcome was inevitable. He received a guilty verdict for “undermining the army”. The following month he was executed on 3 August 1943 by beheading.

The NAZI government tried to erase all knowledge and evidence of Bl. Franz Jägerstätter, but its attempts failed miserably. His widow, Franziska Jägerstätter, refused to let his memory die. She saved all of his letters. Franziska Jägerstätter’s diligence led to his biography being published and later a documentary made for television. Her hard work caught the attention of the Vatican. Bl. Franz Jägerstätter was venerated on 1 June 2007 by Pope Benedict XVI. (CatholicSaints.Info, 2020) He was also professed a martyr by Pope Benedict XVI on this same date. Pope Benedict XVI beatified Bl. Franz Jägerstätter on 26 October 2007.

Not all heroes of WWII are widely known unlike the great generals. Some of the heroes are humble peasant farmers like Bl. Franz Jägerstätter.

Works Cited

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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.