



Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783 Newsletter June 2012



ELECTION FOR FRATERNAL YEAR 2012/2013

The Assembly Election for Fraternal Year 2012/2013 will be held during the scheduled meeting for June 24, 2012. The meeting will be at 2:30 PM at St. Michael the Archangel Maronite Catholic Church Hall. Directly following the meeting will be a Pot Luck Fellowship Meal. Family members are invited to share in this meal. A sign-up sheet of what to bring can be found at the Assembly website:

<http://cardinalgibbonsassembly783.weebly.com/fellowship-meal.html>

<u>Faithful Navigator</u>	Steve Canali	<u>Faithful Scribe</u>	Chris Cooper
<u>Faithful Comptroller</u>	Rod Komlosfke	<u>Inner Sentinel</u>	Frank Byrne
<u>Faithful Friar</u>	Father Sam Najjar	<u>Outer Sentinel</u>	Bill Hoadley
<u>Faithful Captain</u>	Jose Santos	<u>Faithful Trustee</u>	John Handley
<u>Faithful Admiral</u>	Robert Timbers	<u>Faithful Trustee</u>	John Kotz
<u>Faithful Purser</u>	George Addison	<u>Faithful Trustee</u>	Ernesto Chapa
<u>Faithful Pilot</u>	Bob Testa		

4TH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

The next Fourth Degree Exemplification will be held on Saturday, October 20, 2012, at the Embassy Suites Hotel Greensboro, NC. Further information is available in the June 2012 edition of *The Golden Plume* at <http://kofcnc.org/FOURTH%20DEGREE/Newsletters/2012/04MN0612.pdf>. Instructions for candidates are available on the State website at <http://kofcnc.org/FOURTH%20DEGREE/2008Exemplification.htm>.

MASS. JUDGE UPHOLDS PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE'S 'UNDER GOD'

Boston, Mass., Jun 12, 2012 / 03:31 am (EWTN News)

<http://www.ewtnnews.com/catholic-news/US.php?id=5614>

A Massachusetts judge has rejected a lawsuit that seeks to declare the words “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance to be unconstitutional for schoolchildren to recite, drawing praise from those who said the pledge is in line with American traditions.

Schoolchildren who wanted to continue saying the pledge, their parents, and the Knights of Columbus defended the pledge with legal representation from the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty.

Diana Verm, legal counsel at the Becket Fund, said the decision is a “great victory for everyone who believes human rights come not from the whim of the government, but from a higher power, which is what the pledge proclaims.

MASS. JUDGE UPHOLDS PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE'S 'UNDER GOD' (continued)

Middlesex Superior Court Judge Jane Haggerty cited previous court decisions in upholding the words “under God.” She said the pledge is not a religious exercise but “a voluntary patriotic exercise” that teaches “American history and civics.”

Her decision came in response to a lawsuit from the secularist group the American Humanist Association, which said it may appeal to the Supreme Judicial Court, the state’s highest court.

The association’s president David Niose represented the plaintiffs in the case, a Massachusetts family who objected to the pledge.

Niose said June 11 that the pledge recitation “defines patriotism according to religious belief.”

Verm said that American Humanist Association members have the right to remain silent “but they don’t have the right to silence everyone else.”

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson of the Knights of Columbus said that the decision “kept faith with the foundational concept of this country,” the “unalienable rights” endowed by our Creator.

Four other major lawsuits have tried to remove the words “under God” from the Pledge of Allegiance, with none yet succeeding.

FAITH ALONE vs. GOOD WORKS & GRAVEYARD SHIFT

Chris Cooper (Retired SMSgt/E-8)

Prior to retiring from the United States Air Force I was on graveyard shift at the 618th Tanker/Airlift Control Center located at Scott AFB, IL. Things were a bit slow and I was catching up on paperwork when one of my Evangelical co-workers asked me a question, “Does Faith alone make you a good Christian or do Good Works?” Well I knew where this was going. My co-worker knew went to church at St. Raymond’s Maronite Catholic Cathedral in St. Louis, MO. I would to have to listen to him proselytize how the Catholic Church has it wrong about Good Works and how his church has it right. Well, after too many years of doing “mind-numbing” staff work I gave him his answer with four references, two Protestant and two Catholic:

1. *King James Bible*, The General Epistle of James, Chapter 2: 14 – 26 (Protestant)
2. *Good News Bible*, Book of James Chapter 2: 14 – 26 (Protestant)
3. *The New American Bible St Joseph Edition*, The Letter of James, Chapter 2: 14 – 26 (Catholic)
4. *The Holy Bible Douay – Rheims Edition*, The Catholic Epistle of St James the Apostle, Chapter 2: 14 – 26 (Catholic)

Here is the passage from *The New American Bible St Joseph Edition*:

14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, 16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,” but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? 17 So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. 18 Indeed someone might say, “You have faith and I have works.” Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works. 19 You believe that God is one. You do well. Even the demons believe that and tremble. 20 Do you want proof, you ignoramus, that faith without works is useless? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered his son Isaac upon the altar? 22 You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by the works. 23 Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called “the friend of God.” 24 See how a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. 25 And in the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by a different route? 26 For just as a body without a spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

After reading my response he looked at me with a “shell – shocked” look and said, “Thank you for being so thorough. I guess it is a myth Catholics don’t read their Bibles.” I just smiled and turned back to my paperwork.