



The Neumann News

St. John N. Neumann Assembly 1763

Bowie, Maryland



Volume XXIII, Issue 2 In the Spirit of God's Beloved Angels, We are Men for Others August 2017



Faithful Associate Friar's Report

Deacon Andrew J. Nosacek

I will go into the altar of God,
To God the joy of my youth.
Judge me, of God, and distinguish
my cause from the nation that is not
holy; deliver me from the unjust
and deceitful man.
for Thou art God my strength;
why hast thou forsaken me?
And why do I go about sorrowful,
while the enemy afflicts me?
Send forth Thy light and Thy truth;
they have conducted me and led me
to Thy holy hill and into Thy Tabernacle.
And I will go in to the altar of God;
To God who is the joy of my youth!

This was the prayer of many young men (some of us) that started their day at the foot of the altar. [Although you might recall it as *Ad Deum qui laetificat ...*] Some may even say this 'psalm' as they enter Church today. This was the world of the Altar Boy. In those days, at least, our sufferings were within our reach. We had not yet suffered the plight of the Israelites at the time of the Babylonian exile. Yet today the song of that ancient people of God seems to resonate in our modern American ears.

By the waters of Babylon, there we sat down and wept,
When we remembered Zion.
On the willows there we hung our lyres. For there
our captors required of us songs.
How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?
If I forget thee Jerusalem, Let my right hand wither.
Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth.
If I do not remember you, If I do not set Jerusalem
above my highest joy.

This is the lament of the faithful today in this our Promised Land, our America. Our forefathers had a dream that we were the new Chosen People, in the land dedicated to God and set upon his Rock of religious freedom and worship. Today we feel we are adrift in the new Babylon, the land of unbelievers, that burden us and yet want us to sing their songs.

But we are at home in our Promised Land. Let us lift our hands and hearts and face the present enemy. Take to heart these wondrous words by Our President on his July visit to Poland, sharing a common heritage:

We write symphonies. We pursue innovation. We celebrate our ancient heroes ... and always seek to explore and discover brand-new frontiers. We reward brilliance. We strive for excellence.... We treasure the rule of law and protect the right to free speech and free expression. We empower women as pillars of society and our success ... And we debate everything. We challenge everything. We seek to know everything so that we can better know ourselves. [WSJ, July 8-9, 2017]

And above all, he recalled St. Pope John Paul II visit to Warsaw in 1979: *A million Polish people did not ask for wealth. They did not ask for privilege. Instead, one million Poles sang three simple words: 'We want God!' He called the Polish people "the soul of Europe."*

We can be, along with our northern and southern neighbors, "the soul of the New World." The Great Saint Peter reminds us, in his First Letter: *There is cause for rejoicing here. You may for a time have to suffer the distress of many trials, but this is so that your faith, which is more precious than the passing splendor of fire-tried gold, may by its genuineness lead to praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ appears.* [1 Peter 1:6-7].



THANK YOU LORD FOR ALL YOUR GRACES AND BLESSING

Faithful Navigator's Report Rob VanRite

The Fourth Degree Installation of Officers was conducted with the solemnity and yes grandeur typical of the Knights of Columbus most recognizable element. Many thanks to FM John Winfrey and DM Mike Davenport for conducting a very professional ceremony. It was not without some trepidation that I accepted the charge of Faithful Navigator, but any fears I had (real or imagined) were instantly dispelled by the participation and the commitment of so many Sir Knights. I am deeply indebted to those returning officers who have made themselves generously available. Moreover, it is with much gratitude that I congratulate SK Del Billings, PFN who has accepted the post of Color Corps Commander. SK Jeff McMullen, the returning Vice Commander, along with SK Fred Raggazone, PFN provided just the right touch of "pomp and circumstance" for both the Installation and the following Reception. St Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, characterized as the "... strong right arm of the Neumann Assembly" supported the Installation with their parishioners who provided musical accompaniment and their parish hall where a sumptuous banquet was held. Worthy FM Winfrey exhorted the assembled Sir Knight to go out and "make a difference." FN Van Rite added the rejoinder to disregard grand gestures and instead pursue the small steps that may one day yield a rich harvest. Faithful Friar Fr. Paul Sparklin in the words of the Gospel reminded us the while the harvest is rich, the laborers are few. Very apropos words of wisdom that we, as Sir Knights of the Neumann Assembly, must internalize and act upon.



Please Pray for Those Serving US Today

M/SGT Robert K. Burkhardt, USAF
Son of Bob & Jeanne Burkhardt
Stationed in Washington State

SGT Scott A. Cecilio, US Army
Son of Alan & Linda Cecilio
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

CAPT Colin Green, USN Seal
Son of Leo & Alhen Green
Commander of Seals in Iraq et al.

MAJ John Marshall, US Army
Son-in-Law of Angelo Troisi
Stationed in Afghanistan

M/SGT Brian McMullen, USMC
Son of Jeff & Lorna McMullen
Stationed in Twentynine Palms, CA

CMSG Steve Poiani, USAF
Son of Claudio & Eva Poiani
Stationed in Spokane, Washington

Col Greg Scheidhauer, US Army
Son of Jerry Scheidhauer
Assigned to U.S. Capitol from Pentagon

Col Michael Sierco, USAF
Son of Mike & Mary Jo Sierco
Air Force War College, AL

Lt Dawn Weaver, USN
Grandchild of Bruno & Martha Seppi
Stationed in Mediterranean

*"The Nation Which Forgets Its Defenders Will Be Itself
Forgotten." - Calvin Coolidge*



**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL OUR
DEPARTED BROTHERS AND
FAMILY MEMBERS OF SIR
KNIGHTS, ESPECIALLY,
FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK
AND RECOVERING,**

If you know of a SK or SK's family member who is ill, has died, or is in need of our prayers, please contact the Faithful Pilot.



*The Fourth Degree Color
Corps are the Visible Knights of
Columbus and frequently are seen
at Religious, Patriotic, and Civic
Functions.*

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