



The Neumann News

St. John N. Neumann Assembly 1763

Bowie, Maryland



Volume XXIII, Issue 6 In the Spirit of God's Beloved Angels, We are Men for Others December 2017



Faithful Associate Friar's Report Deacon Andrew J. Nosacek

*Praised be God, the Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ, the Father of Mercies, and
the God of all consolation! He comforts
us in all our afflictions and thus enables
us to comfort those who are in trouble,
with the same consolation we have
received from Him.*

- St. Paul, 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

A man took to hunting, and went out to buy his first dog. Went out at once to the lake and seeing his first quail fly over, raised his gun, and the hit bird fell into the water. "Get um," he told the dog. The dog set out at once, walking atop the water, took the quail in his teeth, and walked again over the water to his master. The man was astonished. Quickly called a friend over, went through the same drill; down came the bird, the dog again walked over the water to get the bird and walked with it back over the water to the hunter. "Did you see that?" he asked his Buddy? The fellow replied "Sure did! That dog - it can't swim!"

Thus it is with us in life. The magic in us sometimes makes no impression on others. But wait; perhaps our God, expecting the ordinary from us, is amazed at the extraordinary we manage somehow. He does see the good that happens in us and comforts us when we fall back to the ordinary. This is what we are to do ourselves; overlook the usual in others and praise the good that is there. Jesus comforts us in our afflictions, and we are to do the same for others. But not only that, he guides us in the good we do, rewards us with the comfort of success. So we too should do the same to others. Smile when they walk on the water! Comfort and joy, just as in that favorite Christmas hymn!

So it was and is with Mary. Recall that marvelous, masterful, painting by Titian: Mary, with her entire family behind her, walking alone up the steps to the Temple, to be presented, as promised by Joachim and Anne, to the Lord.

Some tradition estimates she was 5 or 6. She stayed and studied and served the Temple until a young girl, twelve or so. It was the "time of preparation". This was the beginning of her task to be the Mother of the Messiah. Then some thirty years a Mother, with the Lord, her Son, at her side, and she at

His. One knows that she was not too far away from Him at any time for those years of His public life, down to His last breath on the Cross. Surely, she shared those precious days during which her Son gave the final touch, message, and blessing here on earth. She was indeed the mother of that comfort which St. Paul speaks of in his letter to the Corinthians. This is that comfort breathed into us by God; that, through us, is breathed in some small measure upon our neighbor.

A sidelight before the closing curtain. A father, hoping to give his son a complete prayer life, took him aside and quietly told him: "son, you pray frequently to God the Father and God the Son. To complete your prayer life you should sometimes ask God the Holy Spirit to help you." The son agreed to do just that. A devout lad, he went off on his new bicycle to Confession at his Church. He parked in front and went in. The priest welcomed him. The boy began "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, Amen." The priest, in wonderment, asked "what about the Holy Spirit?" The lad quickly responded, "oh, He's out in front of the Church guarding my new bicycle." It is through The Trinity that the One gives us that God-like comfort!

One final comment, with your indulgence. Sometimes opposition grows against a tradition because of a misunderstanding or perhaps out of personal dislike. One should recognize some things are noble, based on studied and even sacred truths, with the purpose of elevating others to similar beliefs. Often it is just a uniform worn by a few, for their community, to stand tall and bright before the Lord. A personal motto: if you put down a Tradition you often do away with the Wisdom behind it. This is a saying most apt to the lives of us Catholic Knights of Columbus. Never put down an upright dog, or comrade!

***For Thou hast been my help, and in the shadow of
Thy wings I sing for joy! Psalm 63:7***

*... and it was always said of him, that he knew how to keep
Christmas well,
if any man alive possessed the knowledge.
May that be truly said of us, and all of us!
And so Tiny Tim observed, God Bless Us, Every One!*



**THANK YOU LORD FOR ALL YOUR
GRACES AND BLESSING**

Faithful Navigator Report

Rob Van Rite

The Patriotic Breakfast on 4 Nov 2017 had everything you could want—except maybe attendance. However we were honored to have many veterans groups in attendance in addition to Brother Knight Senator Doug Peters. Four Sir Knights of the Assembly were honored by a video presentation commemorating their military careers. The honorees were: SK Paul Mullenhoff, USNR; SK Claudio Poiani, USAR; SK FN Rob Van Rite, USAFR; and SK Faithful Admiral Ed Fox, USN. Not to worry, but the mountain of food left over was put to good use. I received a text from Mother Aiparthenos, Mistress of Novices for the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Materà, that they had just finished the last of the biscuits and gravy, bacon, sausage, potatoes, etc. The Color Corps commanded by SK PFN Del Billings did themselves proud not only at the Breakfast, but also on the following weekend with the placement of an Assembly wreath at the Veterans Park in Old Bowie. Many thanks to SK PFN Joe Massimini, Secretary to the Master of the 4th Degree, for his assistance at the event. It is said that James Brown (RIP) was the hardest workin' man in show business. No less hardworking is SK PFN Luther Holley for his efforts to make the \$1,000 raffle a success (it was!) and the Wagon of Cheer raffle to be concluded at the next 4th Degree meeting on 14 December. Hope you can make it. We meet @ 7:30pm. Vivat Jesus!



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.



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

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Visit our website <http://www.kofc2577.org>

