



# The Neumann News

## St. John N. Neumann Assembly 1763

### Bowie, Maryland



Volume XXIII, Issue 1 In the Spirit of God's Beloved Angels, We are Men for Others JULY 2017



### Faithful Associate Friar's Report

#### Deacon Andrew J. Nosacek

*And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations ... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and low, I am with you always to the close of the age.*

- Matt. 16:18-20..

Religion and education have two things in common: the message and the basics. The "idea of a university" (at least prior to the silly sixties) was to turn a boy into a gentleman (and, for the girls, a lady). In Bl. John Henry Cardinal Newman's view it was *teaching universal knowledge*. The purpose of a religious education was to turn boys and girls into saints. The basics were essential.

How simple to teach: to speak and write - a b c d e f g ... ; to count - 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 ... ; to live a moral life - the Ten Commandments. This was in the beginning, before all else. Fundamental! Not subject to opinion or freedom of thought. Unfortunately, today the 'selfie' is the building block.

It happened a dozen or so years ago; a man of 70 was asked to conduct religion classes (in a parish elementary school) for children of 7 and 12 years of age. His early education (at least the memory of it) came to mind - so, back to the beginning. Wisdom led him to pick up the Holy Book. In Genesis 1:1 he read: *In the beginning, God created heaven, and earth.* (Douay-Rheims). In the other hand, he picked up the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Let us reflect on the closing prayer of St. John Paul II (St. Karol) in that worthy book.

*May the light of of the true faith free humanity from the ignorance and slavery of sin in order to lead it to the only freedom worthy of the name (cf. Jn 32): that of life in Jesus Christ under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, here below and in the Kingdom of heaven, in the*

*fullness of the blessed vision of God face to face (cf. 1 Cor 13:12; 2 Cor 5:6-8!*

There is no better beginning. Once you recapture the basics the children will help you understand. [An example: a child asked how can you know there is a God? Another child in the class raised a hand and explained: *If there was no God I wouldn't be here.*]

The third basic book good for religious and secular learning is a dictionary, (at least the Webster Collegiate). A few years ago a friend was asking around for a dictionary temporarily needed for a university course. Only one requirement - it had to be one published after 1970. This surely was a presage of the beginning of a decline. Even in language all now was personal, not universal, preference?

The message is simple. If you wish to resist the decline go back to your beginning, your roots. Some of you are fortunate to be welcomed every Thursday, around Noon, to the YORK Club (Young Old Retired Knights). What a privilege to be with men who have lived lives of learning, faith, and good works. They continue to do so because they are alive with the beginnings of their Christian lives. They *observe all that the Lord has commanded*.

This month we in America celebrate two great saints that had, and continue to have, an impact on us, St. Junipero Serra (July 1) and St. Kateri Tekakwitha (July 14). In our first years in school we heard about them, were awed by their lives, and asked them to pray for us. Some things never fade or lose their joy. They become more important and of value for us and for our great Land.



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

## Faithful Navigator's Report Rob VanRite

(Updated version) I've got to admit; my attention has been fairly riveted on Third Degree activities these last few years. But now, that I have become old, suddenly, the Fourth Degree beckons. Whenever the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree does come to mind, I am unalterably drawn to thinking about the Color Corps and the many events they support. During a recent training session for new FN's, I learned that I am automatically a member of the Color Corps and entitled to the white handled sword, chapeau and cape. I very much would like to charge off in this direction but at this moment, I'm in need of a Color Corps service to the Assembly. Worthy PFN Ed Fox sounded the clarion call for participation in the last Accolade; but, as of Commander. In fact, I'm in need of several Sir Knights to step up to the plate and perform some the last meeting, our roster has more holes than Dave Buckley's underwear. Be that as it may, Practice for the Installation Ceremony will be conducted @ Seton Parish on Saturday, 15 July @ 2:30pm. The Installation Ceremony, also at Seton Parish, will follow the 5:30pm Mass on Sunday, 23 July 2017. The reception & dinner will be at the Seton Parish Hall following the Installation Ceremony. My vision for the coming year is more scalpel than shotgun. I think the Assembly should assess its strengths and embark ambitiously on a few well-chosen programs. As I have heard renowned regionally famous Chef Robef say many times: . . . "That food don't cook itself!" Looking forward to a great Fraternal Year.



### 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.***

### ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

#### Faithful Friar

Rev. John Barry 301-249-9199

#### Faithful Associate Friar

Deacon Andy Nosacek 301-262-5755

#### Faithful Navigator

Ed Fox 410-451-4382

#### Faithful Captain

SK Bill Saper (410) 721-9163

#### Faithful Admiral

Joe Massimini, PGK, PFN, FDD 301- 464-4656

#### Faithful Pilot

#### Faithful Comptroller

Frank Italiano, PGK, PFN, FDD 301-336-6113

#### Faithful Purser

Jerry Schablein 301-464-3194

#### Faithful Scribe

Donahue Aitcheson, PGK 301-352-0947

#### Faithful Sentinels

Romeo Paternoster, PGK, DD 301-509-0236

#### Faithful Trustees

Luther Holley, PGK, PFN 301-249-3539  
Fred Raggazone, PGK, PFN, FDW (301)262-9573  
Ray DeVous, PFN 301-731-0073

#### Color Corps Commander

Dave Willett 301-464-0598

#### Vice Commander

Jeff McMullen, PGK 240-353-6021  
Bill Saper 410-721-9163

#### Newsletter Editor and Website Author

George Vincent 301-249-6399

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Visit my website: [www.donaitcheson.com](http://www.donaitcheson.com)



### Four Legs Animal Hospital

**Dr. Natalia Nosacek Bassford**

1329 W. Central Avenue  
Davidsonville, MD 21035  
410-798-5222

### Dr. Ivan J. Nosacek, P.A. Family Foot Care

North Oak Professional Park  
3006 Mitchellville Road  
Bowie, MD 20716  
301-390-3338

### Dennis Doyle

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



