



ACTS OF THE APOSTLES NEWS

Acts of the Apostles Assembly #2411
Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus
P.O. Box 2124, Centreville, Virginia 20120-2124

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Over 100 years of Patriotic Service

December 2007

Faithful Navigator's Report

Dear Sir Knights,

We are into Advent, a time of preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas. Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas and varies in length between 22 days and 28 days. This year it is 23 days long. During Advent we have the well known feasts of St. Nicholas on December 6 and the Immaculate Conception on December 8.

Another important feast day that is sometimes overshadowed by the others is that of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, on December 12. On this feast of Our Lady we can discern two important lessons, one of faith and one of understanding.

Missionaries who first came to Mexico with the conquistadors had little success in the beginning. After nearly a generation, only a few hundred native Mexicans had converted to the Christian faith. Whether they simply did not understand what the missionaries had to offer or whether they resented these people who made them slaves, Christianity was not popular among the native people.

Then in 1531 miracles began to happen. Jesus' own mother appeared to humble Juan Diego. The signs - of the roses, of the uncle miraculously cured of a deadly illness, and especially of her beautiful image on Juan's mantle - convinced the people there was something to be considered in Christianity. Within a short time, six million native Mexicans had themselves baptized as Christians.

The first lesson is that God has chosen Mary to lead us to Jesus. No matter what critics may say

of the devotion of Mexicans to Our Lady of Guadalupe, they owe their Christianity to her influence. If it were not for her, they would not know her son, and so they are eternally grateful. The second lesson is one we take from Mary herself. Mary appeared to Juan Diego not as a European Madonna but as a beautiful Aztec princess speaking to him in his own Aztec language. This shows that if we want to help someone appreciate the gospel we bring, we must appreciate the culture and the mentality in which they live their lives. By understanding them, we can help them to understand and know Christ.

I wish you and your families a very blessed and happy Christmas and hope that you have a wonderful holiday with family and friends.

Fraternally in Christ,

Joe Beres
Faithful Navigator

From Your Faithful Comptroller

Dear Brother Knights,
It's that time for 2008 dues. Please send a check payable to the "Knights of Columbus" to:

Thomas Wiedemer
Financial Comptroller
14643 Soucy Place
Centreville, VA 20120-1555

Thank you and Vivat Jesus,
Thomas R. Wiedemer
703-818-2761

Visit - His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI

As you all know, His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, will visit the United States in April, with a Mass at the new Washington Nationals stadium in DC on Thursday, April 17th.

Our Vice Supreme Master has pledged the full support of the Fourth Degree Color Corps during this Papal visit. While it is not yet clear what role we will play in the events, each District Master has been asked to prepare a list of potential Color Corp volunteers. Please be aware that depending on what roles we will fulfill, special clearance may be required from the Secret Service.

This is a tremendous opportunity for each and every one of us, and I ask that every Sir Knight prayerfully consider volunteering his time.

If you would like to volunteer, please send the following information no later than Wednesday, January 2, 2008:

Name
Address
Phone Number
E-mail
Membership Number

To Joe Beres at e-mail: beresjg@yahoo.com;
phone: 703-631-4174

Captain's Log

My Brother Knights,

Vrolijk Kerstfeest, Joyeux Noël, Mele Kalikimaka, 메리 크리스마스 새해 복 많이 받으세요, Sung Tan Chuk Ha, Feliz Navidad, Веселое Рождество, Καλά Χριστούγεννα, etc. However you say it, Merry Christmas to you! Let us remember to say "Merry Christmas" to everyone we greet.

This month's meeting will be a quick one, in the midst of our annual Christmas celebration.

This will occur on Sunday, December 9, from 2pm to 5pm. Details of the location appear elsewhere in this newsletter. Please RSVP to the Faithful Navigator, Joe Beres, no later than 05 DEC 2007 (Wed) if you will attend the Christmas celebration.

The Fr. Cilinski Council has agreed to provide dinner for the February monthly meeting. Thanks, brothers!

Sir Knights on the Regular Dinner List:

J. Beers	J. Beres
J. Bradley	J. Choi
R. Coffman	K. Craddock
M. Diewald	J. Frazer
A. Grimmig	P. Hannan
C. Hebert	M. Lynch
W. Ossenfort	M. Paulucci
W. Putnam	J. Seiler
T. Trudeau	T. Wiedemer

Please let me know if you would like to be added or subtracted from the regular dinner list. jseiler@seicorp.com or 703-304-6393.

Vivat Jesus!

Jason Seiler, Faithful Captain





Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

*National Shrine Plans 33rd Annual
Christmas Dinner for Area Needy*

Volunteers Needed!

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception will sponsor a dinner on Christmas Day, December 25, 2007 from 12:15 to 2:30 p.m. for those who are alone or in need.

The 33rd annual event is expected to feed approximately 1100 people in the metropolitan area. Volunteers will serve meals in the Shrine's cafeteria as well as deliver complete dinners to individuals and families directly to their homes in the District, Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties. In addition to dinner, guests will be treated to the fellowship of clergy, staff and volunteers, as well as Christmas carols and gifts.

Volunteers with vehicles are especially needed to deliver meals. Those interested in volunteering may contact Liz Kulla at 202-526-8300 or via email at eak@bnsic.org.

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is located at 400 Michigan Avenue, Northeast, in Washington, DC. Dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary under her title the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the United States, the National Shrine is the Patronal Church of the United States and is America's pre-eminent Marian Shrine.

Commander'Swords

See the Activity Box elsewhere in this newsletter for upcoming events. We have loaner regalia for anyone interested in trying out for Color Corps.

Vivat Jesus!!!

Michael J. Diewald, PFN

Our Navigators:

1996-1996	Richard G. Head, Sr, PSD, CFN
1996-1997	Richard G. Head, Sr, PSD, CFN
1997-1998	Ronald J. Savage, PFN
1998-1999	Anthony J. Ascone, PFN
1999-2000	Michael J. Diewald, PFN
2000-2001	James L. Adams, PFN
2001-2002	Thomas A. Trudeau, PFN
2002-2003	Paul T. Hannan, PFN
2003-2004	Alvin E. Grimmig, Jr., PFN
2004-2005	Paul St. Laurent, PFN
2005-2006	Michael Sheil, PFN
2006-2007	Richard (Skip) Coffman, PFN
2007	Joseph Beres



Third Degree Liaisons

The Assembly maintains communication with its assigned Councils via liaisons appointed by the Faithful Navigator. Our liaisons are as follows:

Fr. Robert E. Nudd	Jim Frazer, PGK
Fr. Julius J. Cilinski	Al Grimmig, PGK
St. Chung Hasang	Bok Hwang, GK
St. Veronica	Mike Diewald, PGK
St. Clare of Assisi	Jason Seiler, PGK

ACTIVITY BOX		
What	When	Where
Christmas Midnight Mass	25 December	St. Andrew the Apostle
Religious Freedom Parade and Ceremony	13 January	Fredericksburg
Military Archbishop Installation	25 January	Basilica of the Immaculate Conception

Note: Loaner color corps regalia are available for those who do not have their own. If you want to participate in an activity and don't have regalia, contact Commander Mike Diewald at Michael@thediewalds.net or 703-709-9318.

Our Officers for the Fraternal Year ending 30 June 2008

Office	Name	Spouse	E-mail	Phone
Friar	The Reverend Gerald Weymes		geraldweymes@gmail.com	(703) 378-7461
Navigator	Joseph Beres	Gerri	beresjg@verizon.net	(703) 631-4174
Captain	Jason Seiler	Galena	jseiler@seicorp.com	(703) 304-6393
Pilot	Michael Lynch		michaelylynch0629@aol.com	(703) 818-2945
Admiral	Richard (Skip) Coffman	J'Neane	scoffman@moneymailer.com	(703) 631-9405
Scribe	James Frazer	Linda	jbfraser@verizon.net	(703) 802-6905
Purser	Kevin Craddock	Kathy	kevin.craddock@dc.gov	(703) 830-1752
Comptroller	Tom Wiedemer	Anne Marie	thomas.wiedemer@cqi.com	(703) 818-2761
Inner Sentinel	Joseph Choi		josephdchoi54@yahoo.com	(703) 821-0861
Outer Sentinel	William Ossenfort III			(703) 222-0411
Trustee	Alvin E. Grimmig, Jr., PFN	Debbie	grizzwald1@cox.net	(703) 502-0830
Trustee	Willie Putnam	Louise	willieputnam@gmail.com	(703) 818-8272
Trustee	Michael J. Diewald, PFN	Peggy	Michael@thediewalds.net	(703) 709-9318
Commander	Michael J. Diewald, PFN	Peggy	Michael@thediewalds.net	(703) 709-9318