



The Patriot's Sword

Bishop Thomas E. Gill Assembly 1955
Knights of Columbus

Archbishop Francis Norbert Blanchet Province
South King County, Washington

*The Knights of Columbus...a Catholic, Family, Fraternal, Service
Organization*



Volume 2005, Issue 2

March 2005

Navigator's Log



In February's Issue Patriot's Sword there was a request to have someone step forward, interview and record the stories of our Past War Veterans. This is a very important project. Not only to preserve the history of our veterans, but also as our entry for "To be a Patriot Award". If you would like to take this vital project or just be on the team on please let me, or Sir Knight Gary Webber know. We can work out the details together.

On Sunday March 6, 2005 our assembly participated in "The Massing of the Colors" at Fort Lewis, WA. Massing of the Colors is a Patriotic Ceremony honoring those who served the United States of America and the Youth of today, who will carry forth in the future. Our Color Corps Commander Sir Knight Bob Dahl lead our assembly.

We are three weeks into Lent and I hope you are taking part in the different programs most Parishes are offering. Here at Holy Spirit in Kent we are on "It's a Journey!, Living the Truth". Father Mike Ryan, our Parrish Priest, Leads us in this with invited quest speakers taking part. In week three we listened to "The Five Stages of Dying", which are, Shock, Anger, Bargaining, Depression, and Acceptance. It's been very rewarding and causes one to do some **real** soul searching towards "Living the Truth".

Here's wishing the Best Easter ever, the Day our Lord Jesus Christ Rose from the Dead and assured us a place with Him in Eternity. All we have to do is **Believe** and **Follow** Him!

Remember to ask a Third Degree Brother to become a Fourth Degree member.

Vivat Jesus

Jim Sheffield, Faithful Navigator

Captain's Corner



This is my last installment on Father Michael J. McGivney. I hope these short looks at our founder and how intertwined his life is to our order has inspired you as it has me. Father McGivney will not be beatified or canonized because he founded the Knights of Columbus. The Church will raise him to the honors of the altar because of the outstanding virtue and holiness of his life. The founding of the Knights was the most significant work of his life. We hope and pray for the day of his beatification, which can only strengthen the identity and direction of the Knights of Columbus.

Father McGivney, though, belongs to all Catholics. The Church proposes saints to edify and encourage all Christians to strive for holiness and to take up the duties of their vocation with renewed enthusiasm. Saints are intended to spur us on to spiritual greatness.

As we are drawn to Father McGivney and his life, he draws us to Christ. Our destiny is to be with Christ for all eternity.

(Parts extracted from Columbia)

Jim Miles, Faithful Captain

Color Corps Commander's Call



Bishop Thomas E. Gill Assembly enjoys one of the larger Honor Guards in the State. Presently we have 32 members however, their have been times lately when we have had two events on the same day or back to back events. So as not to wear

everyone out, I would like to recruit about five more men. We also have two complete sets of regalia to loan out. If you are interested in joining, please call Bob Dahl 253-838-9873 or e-mail brdahl@aol.com.

Faithful Comptroller's Ledger

Sir Knights, I have sent out the 2005 billing for dues for the Assembly. Sometimes in our hurried lives the smallest details are often overlooked. Please take a moment and ask yourself did I? If you have already sent it in thank you, if you haven't, and you know who you are, please do so right away. A note to the members of Council 7528: Please send your dues for the 4th degree separately from your 3rd degree dues. I won't be able to accept a single check this year for both. Thanks for your continued support. Tim Philomeno,

Hundreds at Blue Mass Hosted by Knights



Hundreds of police, firefighters, emergency services personnel and their families attended the annual Blue Mass hosted Feb. 27 by the Knights of Columbus at St. Mary's Church in New Haven.

Among those attending were New Haven Mayor John DeStefano Jr., Police Chief Francisco Ortiz and Fire Marshal Joe Capucci, as well as the mayors, police chiefs and fire chiefs of nearby communities.

The Knights of Columbus has a long history of supporting the brave men and women of the emergency services community. Within a few days of the terrorist attack of Sept. 11, 2001, the Knights began distributing nearly \$1.5 million in direct aid to the families of slain police and rescue workers.

The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council began the Blue Mass in New Haven in 2002 and has hosted it each year since. Similar Blue Masses have been organized by Knights of Columbus councils nationwide.

2005 a Pivotal Year for Culture of Life

"The year 2005 will be a pivotal year in the long battle to replace the culture of death enabled by *Roe v. Wade* with a culture of life," Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson said

in a statement on the 32nd anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision.

"*Roe* has long been recognized as fundamentally flawed as a matter of constitutional law, even by abortion proponents. And today, with the benefit of three decades of scientific research in human biology, it is readily apparent to all that its 'science' was equally flawed."

In 1973, the court majority declared that it "need not resolve the difficult question of when life begins," because there was a 'wide divergence of thinking on this most sensitive and difficult question.' In fact, there was little doubt at all about when life begins in 1973, and there is no doubt whatsoever today," Anderson declared.

"Each person's life begins at conception, and using modern technology we can view every moment of the earliest development of the human child. Today, doctors routinely enable the long-term survival of premature children who are delivered well before the moment of 'viability' described in *Roe*."

"Together, the decisions in *Roe* and *Dred Scott* form a unique category that stands apart from every other Supreme Court decision in our nation's history. Each considered the question of whether a particular category of human beings were 'persons' entitled to the protection of the law. And in each case, the court issued a decision that was profoundly and tragically wrong, and which resulted in horrendous injustice."

It took a civil war to undo the injustice of *Dred Scott*. Today, we can undo the injustice of *Roe v. Wade* simply by recognizing that new scientific knowledge in this area mandates, and now justifies, a fresh look at the issue by the courts. For more than three decades, the courts have been struggling to sustain an increasingly untenable string of legal precedents based on *Roe*," Anderson said.

"The time has come for the court to overturn *Roe v. Wade* and return the responsibility for deciding the issue to the people and their elected representatives," he concluded.

Remembering the Liberation of Auschwitz

"Today is a day for mourning, for commemoration, for remembrance, and for solidarity," Knights of Columbus CEO Carl A. Anderson said of the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz.

"We mourn the horrible, indescribable deaths suffered by the six million Jewish victims of Hitler's 'final

solution,' and the many other victims who were also exterminated by that hate-filled and ruthless Nazi regime. "We commemorate the moment that the extermination finally stopped.

"We remember those who died, and why they died, because during their final seconds of life in the gas chambers, they scratched the words 'never forget' on the walls they could not escape.

"Finally, we honor the solidarity of suffering among the victims, and recognize that their suffering should encourage solidarity among those of us who remember."

In October, 2004 the Board of Directors of the Knights of Columbus met in Poland, and devoted Sunday morning, October 3 to a visit to Auschwitz. "Words cannot adequately describe the emotions that one feels there," Anderson said. "The sense of horror at the inhumanity of the crimes committed there is overpowering."

Later, the Knights visited the nearby Centre for Dialogue and Prayer, a Catholic institution founded in 1992 by Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, who personally welcomed the Board members to the facility. The Knights of Columbus contributed half a million dollars to finance completion of the Centre, which provides a venue for meetings, exchanges, education, reflection and prayer for all those who visit Auschwitz and are moved by what happened there.

"We are honored to have been able to contribute to this important project, which contributes in a significant way to ensuring that what happened at Auschwitz will not be forgotten," Anderson said. "As Fr. Manfred Deselaers remarked during our visit there, at Auschwitz, 'Hitler must not have the last word.'"

The Myth of the Separation of Church and State

The assault on America's religious underpinnings is based on a distorted interpretation of the establishment and free-exercise clauses of the First Amendment.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."

Only a lawyer could claim not to understand the plain meaning of those words.

The Supreme Court has taken Jefferson's "separation" clause (divorced from Jefferson's own explanation of the phrase) and used it to create a new, and completely arbitrary, interpretation of the First Amendment.

In 1947, with the United States Supreme Court's decision in *Everson v. Board of Education*, Justice

Hugo Black construed the First Amendment in a more restrictive fashion, giving an absolute definition of the First Amendment Establishment Clause which went well beyond the original intent of the framers of the United States Constitution and paved the way for future cases that would further restrict religious expression in American public life. This ruling declares that *any aid or benefit* to religion from governmental actions is unconstitutional. As Justice Black said: *"The First Amendment has erected a wall between church and state. That wall must be kept high and impregnable. We could not approve the slightest breach."*

Hardly what Thomas Jefferson meant or what the constitution guaranteed!!!

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof" had always meant that Congress was prohibited from establishing a national religious denomination, that Congress could not require that all Americans become Catholics, Anglicans, or members of any other denomination.

This understanding of "separation of church and state" was applied not only during the time of the Founders, but for 170 years afterwards. James Madison (1751-1836) clearly articulated this concept of separation when explaining the First Amendment's protection of religious liberty. He said that the First Amendment to the Constitution was prompted because *"The people feared one sect might obtain a preeminence, or two combine together, and establish a religion to which they would compel others to conform."*

The complete and radical disassociation between Christianity and the State that is sometimes advocated now is not what they had in mind. It's clear that they had seen entirely too many religious wars and religious tyrannies in Europe, and thus that they did want to make sure that no specific church or creed had authority over the State.

Recognizing their failure to win their arguments on fact, the latest tactic among liberals is simply to deny the very documents that contain the facts.

Schools and courthouses in eastern Kentucky are removing their displays of historical documents - including the Mayflower Compact, an excerpt from the Declaration of Independence, the national motto, "In God we trust", and the preamble to the state's constitution - to comply with an order from Federal District Judge Jennifer Coffman, who said the displays are a violation of the First Amendment. [Dr. Billy James Hargis, Christian Crusade, June 2000]

When the First Amendment was passed it only had two purposes.

First, there would be no established, national church for the united thirteen states. To say it another way: there would be no "Church of the United States." The government is prohibited from setting up a state religion, such as Britain has, but no barriers will be erected against the practice of any religion. Thomas Jefferson's famous "wall of separation" between church and state comment was made in a letter to a group of Baptist clergymen January 1, 1802 in Danbury, Connecticut, who feared the Congregationalists Church would become the state-sponsored religion. Jefferson assured the Danbury Baptist Association that the First Amendment guaranteed that there would be no establishment of any one denomination over another. It was never intended for our governing bodies to be "separated" from Christianity and its principles. The "wall" was understood as one directional; its purpose was to protect the church from the state. The world was not to corrupt the church, yet the church was free to teach the people Biblical values. **It keeps the government from running the church but makes sure that Christian principles will always stay in government.**

The second purpose of the First Amendment was the very opposite from what is being made of it today. It states expressly that government should not impede or interfere with the free practice of religion. The purpose of the separation of church and state in American society is not to exclude the voice of religion from public debate, but to provide a context of religious freedom where the insights of each religious tradition can be set forth and tested. As Justice Douglas wrote for the majority of the Supreme Court in the *United States vs. Ballard* case in 1944: The First Amendment has a dual aspect. It not only *"forestalls compulsion by law of the acceptance of any creed or the practice of any form of worship"* but also *"safeguards the free exercise of the chosen form of religion."* The First Amendment was a safe-guard so that the State can have no jurisdiction over the Church. **Its purpose was to protect the Church, not to disestablish it.**

To Be a Patriot Award

Fourth Degree projects in three different countries honoring soldiers on the frontlines and public servants at home were recognized with 2003-2004 To Be a Patriot awards.

Announced by Supreme Master Joseph P. Schultz, the awards are based on the Fourth Degree's dedication to patriotism.

The winning assemblies are the Very Rev. William J. Power Assembly in Bellevue, Wash., which organized Operation Knight Flight, sending care packages to U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan; the Rev. Dr. G. Everett Grant Assembly in Fredericton, N.B., which honored emergency response personnel in New Brunswick at its Serve and Protect Day, and the Padre Zamora Assembly in Mandaluyong City, Luzon, sponsor of a monument to a former president of the Philippine senate.

The Very Rev. William J. Power Assembly began its care package program by asking local councils, parishes and assemblies for donations, raising \$2,091 for materials and postage. Many items for the packages were sold at cost or donated by local businesses. Last May the assembly sent two shipments with a total of 288 boxes to Iraq and Afghanistan. The packages included personal items that would be hard to find in a battle zone, including prepaid calling cards and postage stamps, disposable razors, bubble gum and candy, and current magazines, including copies of Columbia.

"We already have heard from troops who received boxes from our first shipment. The response is very positive," said Faithful Navigator Douglas Withers.

Catholic Information Service

The Catholic Information Service (CIS) is an evangelization program of the Knights of Columbus. Booklets on critical Catholic moral and doctrinal issues are published regularly and distributed widely. CIS publications faithfully adhere to the teaching authority of the Catholic Church.

New and translated resources will be added as they become available.

Online Resources:

- ☒ CIS Publications
- ☒ The Luke E. Hart Series
- ☒ The Veritas Series
- ☒ Devotional Resources
- ☒ The Catechism of the Catholic Church

Online Courses (Includes chapter tests and instant scoring):

- ☒ The Luke E. Hart Series Course
- ☒ The Faith Formation Course

Print Resources:

- ☒ Faith Formation Course by mail
- ☒ Luke E. Hart Series
- ☒ Veritas Series

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If you would like your birthday or anniversary listed in the Patriot's Sword, or would like to receive this newsletter electronically please send your information and email address to either the Faithful Navigator or Faithful Comptroller using the e-mail address' listed below or send it in to the return address listed on the mailing page of this newsletter.

Good of the Order

Please remember our Brother Sir Knights and Family Members in your daily Prayers. If you know of a Brother Sir Knight or Family Member sick or in distress, Please call the Faithful Navigator or Faithful Comptroller right away.

Brother Sir Knights		Family Members	
Leo Ligad		Taylor Freyberg	
Tony Lamar			
Dave Ditter			
Deceased Brother Sir Knights		Deceased Family Members	

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Leo Ligad		Taylor Freyberg	
Tony Lamar			
Dave Ditter			
Deceased Brother Sir Knights		Deceased Family Members	

2004-2005 Assembly Officers Directory

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(The officer directory is for Official Assembly business and not intended for public release.)

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Washington State Council's web site: <http://www.kofc-wa.org>

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2005 Meeting Calendar

March

23 rd Wednesday 7:30 PM	Assembly Meeting POC: Mike Adams - 206 824-5934	St Philomena's Parish Hall 1790 S 222 nd Street, Des Moines
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April

13 th Wednesday 7:00 PM	Officers Meeting POC: Jim Sheffield - 253-854-1546	Holy Spirit Parish, 310 S 3 rd Ave SE, Kent
27 th Wednesday 7:30 PM	Assembly Meeting POC: Jim Sheffield - 253-854-1546	Holy Spirit Parish, 310 S 3 rd Ave SE, Kent

May

25 th Wednesday 7:30 PM	Assembly Meeting POC: Joe Penwell - 253-941-6339	St Vincent De Paul, Willenborg Center 30525 8 th Ave S, Federal Way
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June

	TBD	
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Knights of Columbus
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Federal Way, WA 98093-1763

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

