



The Encyclical



See us! <http://www.kofca730.org> E-mail us! towncrier@mindspring.com October/November2008

Faithful Navigator's Message

Welcome to the new Columbian year from Pope John XXIII Assembly!



For those who may not know of me, I'm the first Faithful Navigator in Pope John XXIII Assembly-and possibly any assembly-who is hearing impaired. I'm a Past Grand Knight of Sign of the Cross Council, which is composed entirely of hearing impaired Brother Knights. I also serve as a District Warden for the New York State 13th district.

I would like to thank you, the members of Pope John XXIII Assembly, for electing me as your Faithful Navigator. I look forward to a great year in charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. But my elected officers and I can't do it alone. We need your support. Come to our meetings. Come to our functions. Support our endeavors. Support our Assembly.

On September 13th we had our Installation of Officers. It was a special day for my officers and me. I thank all who attended and for your support. And as always, I wish to thank my fellow Honor Guardsmen for their usual *job par excellence*. May I ask you, Sir Knights, to join the rank of the Honor Guard? It's a most rewarding way to serve the assembly and, as the saying goes, "when the Honor Guard is there, the Knights of Columbus are there."

I need to inform you of changes regarding our Encyclical. During the summer the Executive Committee decided, after much review, to publish our newsletter on a bi-monthly, rather than a monthly, basis. So as of this issue, we'll be publishing the Encyclical every *other* month. More frequent updated information can be found at our Assembly website, <http://www.kofca730.org>, and through our Assembly e-mail directory.

God Bless you all and Pope John XXIII Assembly!

Yours in Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism,
SK Kevin Finnegan PGK
Faithful Navigator

Assembly Almanac

- October 22, Assembly Meeting (directions below)
- November 26, Assembly meeting, St, Therese the Little Flower Council, Valley Stream
- December 10, Christmas celebration, site TBD
- January 14, 2009 Assembly meeting, Hartigan Council, Bethpage
- February 25, Assembly meeting, St. Thomas the Apostle Council, West Hempstead
- March 8, Patriotic Ball/PFN Testimonial, Hartigan Council
- March 25, Assembly meeting, Delaney Council, Farmingdale
- April 22, Assembly meeting, Our Lady of the Island Council, Massapequa Park
- May 27, Assembly meeting, New Hyde Park Council
- June 24, Assembly meeting, Barry Council, Hicksville (hosted by Sign of the Cross Council)

Executive meetings are held the Second Wednesday of the month at Barry Council in Hicksville. Officers, Committee Chairmen, and Fourth Degree chairmen are required to attend.

The Honor Guard drills on the Fourth Monday of every month at Hempstead Council, across from Our Lady of Loretto Church. All guardsmen are required to attend.

Captain's Compass

Our next Assembly meeting will be on Wednesday October 22nd 8:00 pm, at St. Anne's Church, 35 Dartmouth Street, Garden City (hosted by Msgr. John Seidenschwang Council)

Directions:

From the South, take exit 15. Go North on Corona Avenue to Franklin Avenue, go North (left) on Franklin Avenue, crossing Hempstead Turnpike, onto New Hyde Park Road (bear a left at the fork) to Dartmouth street. Church is on the right.

From the North, take the Long Island Expressway or Northern State Parkway to New Hyde Park Road. Proceed South to Dartmouth Street. Parking is on the left corner.

See you there!
Thomas J. Lidley
Faithful Captain

Have you seen us online lately? <http://www.kofca730.org>

Assembly Officers, 2008-2009

Faithful Friar Rev. Rudyferio Pescongo
Faithful Navigator Kevin Finnegan, PGK DW
Faithful Captain Thomas J. Liddy
Faithful Pilot Winston Delpesh, PGK DW
Faithful Admiral Edward McKee, PGK PFN
Faithful Comptroller Norbert Wengler, PGK
Faithful Purser Wayne Sturges PGK PFN
Faithful Scribe Richard Fox, PGK
Faithful Inner Sentinel James Morrongoello DW
Faithful Outer Sentinel John Seibert PGK DW
Faithful 3-year Trustee Charles DiPrima PFN GK
Faithful 2-year Trustee Ronald P. Brindle PFN PGK
Faithful 1-year Trustee Joseph Zink PGK PFN FDD

Committee Chairmen

Honor Guard Commander Jim Cunningham PGK PFN
Seminarians Richard Fox, PGK
Fly the Flag Robert Coyne PGK FDD PFN
Americanism Walter Skinner PGK FDD PFN
Jim Cunningham PGK PFN
Right to Life Edward McKee PGK PFN
Encyclical Editor Mike Dragonetti PGK
Photographer To be named
Investment Joseph Zink PGK PFN FDD
Assembly 50/50 to be named
PFN Testimonial/Patriotic Ball Bob Coyne PFN PGK FDD
Keith Wilson PGK FDD PGK PCC

Fourth Degree Chairmen

Hempstead Frank Veit PGK PFN FDD
Timothy Mulhearn
Edgar Perez DW
Floral Park James Morrongoello
St. Therese the Little Flower Richie Fox PGK
Jim Cunningham PGK PFN
New Hyde Park Thomas J. Liddy
Raymond McCaffrey
Alfred E. Smith John Seibert PGK
Robert W. Powell Winston Delpesh PGK DW
Mike Dragonetti PGK
Pope Pius XII Joseph Zink PGK PFN FDD
Twelve Apostles Joe Lannon
Rev. Michael J. Hartigan Charlie DiPrima PFN GK
Rt. Rev. Msgr. William A. Delaney Edward McKee PGK PFN
Wayne Sturges PGK PFN
Our Lady of the Island Ron Brindle PFN PGK
Sign of the Cross Kevin Finnegan PGK FN
St. Thomas the Apostle Joe Dean PGK
Msgr. John C. Seidenschwang Dr. Anthony Battista

Patriotic Ball/PFN Testimonial

Save the date: Sunday March 8th (2009) from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the Catholic War Veterans Hall (the home of Hartigan Council) in Bethpage, when we thank PFN Ed McKee for a great job as Faithful Navigator.

For just \$40 per person, you'll get music by Tony V and "Piece of the Rock," a fruit/cheese table, hot buffet dinner, beer, wine, and soda, dessert and coffee.

There will also be a raffle. More details when they become available.

PGK FDD Richard Elias is your contact for raffles, (516) 799-3879, and Faithful Captain Tom Liddy is your contact for reservations, (516) 354-0793.

Sir Knight of the Year form 2007-2008

The dictionary defines "longevity" merely as "length of life." Our recipient goes that definition one better. He epitomizes the meaning with "fullness."

He served in the Army in WWII and married his sweetheart after being discharged in 1945. They would have been married 63 years on August 29th. That marriage produced three wonderful and loving children. They settled in New Hyde Park and he went to work for the Village from which he retired.

He joined the Knights in 1973, the Fourth Degree two years later, and then eventually became the dean of 2852 New Hyde Park's Fourth Degree contingent. Needless to say, he joined the Honor Guard becoming its Quartermaster and subsequently the Honor guardsman of the year in 1998. He also hosted several annual guard parties. In the interim, he also served two separate stints as Faithful Purser for the Assembly.

As if this were not enough, he regularly served as an Usher at Holy Spirit Church and, through age 90+, faithfully served as a volunteer at St. Francis Hospital. On June 25th, Faithful Navigator Ed McKee presented his widow Eleanor (Ellie) with a plaque honoring him for his dedication during his almost 95 years. We similarly honor him *in Memoriam*:

SK Howard "Harry" Walters

Round the Councils

New Hyde Park Council is hosting a Doo Wop Show and a live comedian on Friday, November 21st. Tickets are \$27.50 per person. Contact Assembly Webmaster Brian Ennis, (516) 270-5938.

Msgr. John Seidenschwang Council is raffling off a pair of tickets to the November 3rd Giants/Cowboys game. \$25 per ticket, and only 200 raffle tickets will be sold. Contact PGK Bob Guida, at (516) 352-2457.

2009 membership cards are now available from Norbert Wengler or your Fourth Degree chairman

Respect Life

(Respectfully Submitted, *SK Ed McKee, pph, pfn*, Pro-Life Chairman)

Election Day is Tuesday November 4, 2008, you will be voting for President and Vice-President of the United States, your Member in the House of Representatives, your N.Y.S. Senator, your N.Y.S. Assembly Member, Judges, and, in some areas Town Clerks and Town Council Members.

Respect Life, since United States Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion over 35 years ago. There have been over 48 million (48,000,000) children killed in the United States through abortion. Protect God's 5th Commandment, "Thou shalt not kill". Vote for candidates that are pro-life, for humanity sake this holocaust must stop. Remember the Democratic Party takes Pro-Abortion platform, the Republican Party take a Pro-Life platform.

To reflect on this current White House Administration and the job they have done for the last 7.5 years, will have any American thinking. As I have discussed this Administration with many of my peers, there are many mixed-feelings. To see what had occurred on 9.11.2001, each of us were touched emotionally. There were feelings of sadness, shock, anger, and most of us as Americans wanted revenge/justice.

Seven years have passed since that "shocking" day in our Country's history, and many events have occurred since. Our economy is slowly tanking. Our average American income is less vs. the inflation of 20 years ago. Union jobs over 20 years ago were 25% of the America's workforce. Today Union jobs are only 7% of America's workforce. Outsourcing of American White collar & Blue collar jobs has been growing rapidly year-after-year.

The American population is about 4% of the World population. However, the United States has 25% to 30% of the prison population vs. the rest of the World. The United States is Number 1 in incarcerating people, and ranked Number 19th in education. (With the entire People's Tax money that goes to education, how is it that we have such a low ranking in education vs. people going to Prison?)

I am 70 years of age, for almost half my life I have volunteered and dedicated a lot of my time to protecting God's unborn children. Some of my peers have joined me in my fight, as others would just laugh and turn their chin at me. The only one I ever wanted to impress, is the man I hope to see and spend my heavenly days in his Kingdom when I leave this Earth, is our almighty Father, God. I know when I kneel before him, I have done what I hopefully feel in his heart & eyes was the best I could while I was present on this earth for him.

I will admit to you all here, that I have been disappointed by our current White House Administration regarding the Pro-Life issue. From 2001-2007, the GOP had control of the White House, Congress (the House & Senate) and not much was done for the unborn.

The GOP is the party that has, and continues to take a Pro-Life platform. However, in my eyes, they had control for six-years and did not change anything. How strong is their Pro-Life platform? Do they use the Pro-Lifer's and Christian Conservatives as their pawns/fools to just say what we want to hear in order for them to be elected? As the Old-adage goes, "Actions speak louder than words."

Once again, Tuesday November 4, 2008 is Election Day. A day where "We The People" will elect the 44th President of the United States of America. Looking at the choices we have from the two-major political parties, Republican Sen. John McCain and Democrat Sen. Barack Obama. One of these two will be sworn in on January 20, 2009 as the 44th President to lead our Nation for the next four-years.

I pray that God will intercede in the heart of our next President and return our Nation to its Godly heritage our Founding Fathers had instilled when they formed the United States of America in 1776.

May God be in your heart on Tuesday November 4, 2008 when you cast your vote for the next President of the United States.

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**POPE JOHN XXIII ASSEMBLY
FOURTH DEGREE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

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Faithfully Speaking

Hi, it's been awhile!

As you read on page one, the Encyclical will now be published every other month, beginning October. This reminds me of my radio days, "so many words, so little time." And for some, from the time I get the Encyclical approved to the time it appears in your mailbox could take a few weeks. However, for the Assembly members who are in the e-mail directory, they get their Encyclical *minutes* after I send it to the printer! Bottom line: the more Sir Knights join the Assembly e-mail list, the sooner they get informed. E-mail me. You may also e-mail your Assembly items. And while you do, send a copy to Brian Ennis so he can update the Assembly website, <http://www.kofca730.org>. My next deadline is the Thanksgiving meeting at St. Therese the Little Flower Council.

Mike Dragonetti

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SK Rev. Mr. John Weigel, Delaney Council
SK Matteo Petrera DGK, Delaney Council
SK Joseph Coco PGK, New Hyde Park Council
SK Guy Taliencio, New Hyde Park Council Assembly Photographer
SK Kenneth Kalbacher, St. Therese the Little Flower Council

**May their souls, and the souls of all of our Departed Sir Knights,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**