

Council Officers

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THE 4011 NEWS

Fr. O'Neill Council No. 4011

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Living Our Faith

May, 2008

Home of the Maryland State Chaplain, Msgr. Jeremiah F. Kenney, KCHS

**Grand Knight's
Corner**

Greetings and Salutations,

Well this is my second to last article as the grand knight of the Fr. O'Neill Council and I can finally see the light at the end of the tunnel! It has been an amazing run and my life has changed in so many ways both personally and as the elected leader of the council. Personally, the birth of our fourth child, Ronan Michael (after Fr. McGivney, I never told Julie this, so please don't tell her!) has been the hallmark of the past two years.

Julie, Tommy, Katie, Paddy and I started my term as grand knight on the heels of a very painful miscarriage of a child and sibling we will have to wait until we get to heaven to meet. We were enveloped with the love of the great members of the Fr. O'Neill Council and it helped to sooth our loss in so many ways.

We were then blessed again with another beautiful boy to help to take away the pain that we felt upon losing our little treasure the year before. I can vividly recall announcing our loss to the membership and the tender and appropriate response that helped put a salve on our wound. It really reinforced eve-

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Chaplain's Counsel

The recent papal visit to the United States was by my measure a resounding success. Pope Benedict XVI spoke frankly and directly as time and time again he spoke of Christ our Hope. He came to proclaim Jesus Christ as the center and being of our lives. He did that in spades. And, along the way he addressed some other issues, most particularly the sex abuse scandal that has rocked the church for several years.

The welcome he received was warm and hospitable. I believe he made very many friends on his visit here. I was privileged to attend the papal Mass in Washington DC and to serve as a minister of Holy Communion to those in attendance. It was an awesome experience for me.

The Holy Father renewed for me, my pride in being a Catholic. I felt particularly proud when, in one of his

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ELECTION NOTICE

Nominations for Council Officers, O'Neill Club Board members and Fr. O'Neill Charities officers will be made at the May 7th business meeting. Nominations will remain open until the June 4th business meeting at which elections will be held.

**District Deputy's
Note**

I would like to thank Brother Knights and their families, who went to Washington, DC to see the visit of Pope Benedict XVI. It was a memorable visit for everyone. Let's pray for a safe visit of the Pope in the United States.

The State Convention is May 16-18, 2008 in Ocean City. I hope you have registered to attend the event. We, District # 19, have a Hospitality Room available during your stay. This is provided by the generosity of the Father O'Neill and Santo Nino Council. You are welcome to join us and share the camaraderie of the convention. This is a great time to meet and get to know Brother Knights from different councils in the state of Maryland.

At the convention in Ocean City, the State Council is going to submit a resolution to increase the per capita of members, from \$ 5.50 to \$ 7.50 per member. For inactive members a decrease of dues from \$ 4.50 to \$ 3.50. The last time the State Council had an increase of per capita was in the year 1991. These resolutions depend on the delegates.

Special Quarterly Incentive: For councils that recruit five (5) new members between April 1 to June 30, 2008, The Grand Knight's name will be entered into a drawing to

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FR. O'NEILL COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT

THE FATHER O'NEILL COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IS A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION OF CATHOLIC MEN DEDICATED TO THE CHURCH. WE WILL EXPEND OUR ENERGIES TOWARD PRESERVING THE SANCTITY OF LIFE AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY VIA SERVICE AND CHARITY. IN PURSUIT OF THESE OBJECTIVES WE PROMOTE FAMILY., DEVELOP FRIENDSHIPS, ENJOY FRATERNALISM AND GROW IN FAITH.

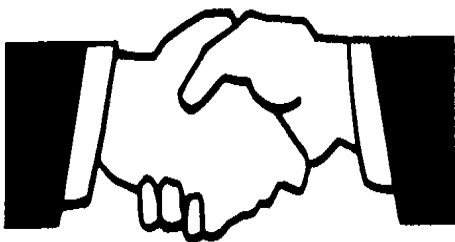
DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Greetings brothers! We have a busy May planned, so please mark you calendars for the Cinco de Mayo Party, May 3rd; the State Convention, May 16th; and the Memorial Day Picnic, May 25th. These are all sure to be great events, and nice opportunities to meet with your brother knights and their families before the summer vacation season starts.

Since last month we have made some outstanding progress towards hosting the Jessica Meredith Jacobsen Memorial 5K Run, "The Charge Of The Knights." We received our official permit from Baltimore County for September 13th, and we've developed a race brochure, a web site and a registration form, which we will continue to update and improve. Chairman, Tim Connelly, even distributed race brochures at the Oriole's Advocate 5K. If you have any ideas regarding the race or the promotional materials, please do not hesitate to contact Tim Connelly or me. Please look for it, and register to run, volunteer or to make a donation. We continue to solicit sponsors, so please let us know if you know of a business that would like to participate.

Please consider chairing an event or activity during the upcoming Columbian Year. What better way to honor your call to charity than to serve the community, church, families, youth or the council in one of our programs. Contact me, Joe Stout, or one of the program directors if you are interested in chairing and activity or event.

Glenn Thuman
General Program Director

**COUNCIL ACTIVITIES**

April 15th (The Dreaded Tax Day!) has come and gone, leaving some of us crying, while leaving others with plans on how to spend their well-deserved refunds. As I was drying off my tears, my fellow brothers provided me with some much needed consolation at the Tax Relief Social which took place on Friday, April 18th. John Volpe did an incredible job of chairing this event. The food and company were delicious! I think that this is just what the doctor ordered to take away the pain. What better way to relieve the stresses of everyday life than to spend it with family.

Next, on the agenda for the council, is the Cinco de Mayo Celebration scheduled for Sat. May 3rd. Bryan and Sandy Rose are heading this incredulous event. Reserve your spots now for this always enjoyable event. Come celebrate the Mexican Independence Day with our beloved council!

Finally, as the temperatures rise and the sun begins to shine upon us, it is the start of a much awaited golf season. May 10th and May 13th marks the beginning of Council 4011's Golf Year, so I hope all you golfers are planning to get out there showing your talent on the links! That's all for now.

Michael Hipolito

Council Activities Director

District Deputy's Note

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receive one of Ten (10) Knights of Columbus Formal Dress Sets. Each set contains a Knights of Columbus Watch and Tuxedo Cuff Links & Studs Set. If the Grand Knight qualifies in each of the quarterly contests during the 125th anniversary celebration, he will be eligible for a grand prize drawing.

State Trip: A Bus trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina is being planned for September 15-19, 2008 The cost is \$ 565.00 per person plus two fabulous shows. A golf outing is optional.

Supreme Convention: Anyone who would like to have a memorable experience about the Knights of Columbus, I would encourage you to sign up for the convention that will be held in Quebec, Canada on August 2 to August 8, 2008 This is an opportunity of o life time. It is a Bus Trip with beverages and snacks. The cost is \$ 1995.00

Dates to Remember:

June 27-29, 2008

Grand Knight Seminar at Mt. St. Mary, Emmitsburg, Maryland

July 5, 2008

State Officers and District Deputy Installation

Degree Dates

1st Degree:

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Notre Dame Council # 2901

District # 4, Baltimore

Wednesday, May 21, 2008 Patapsco Council # 1960

District # 17, Catonsville

Thursday, May 29, 2008

St. Agnes Council # 4449

District # 17, Catonsville

2nd Degree:

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Arch. Fulton Sheen # 7612

District # 5, Owings Mills

3rd Degree:

Friday, May 23, 2008

Arch. Fulton Sheen # 7612

St. Joseph Church, Sykesville

District # 5

Peace and Unity

Rafael M. Nicolas

District deputy # 19

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Benjamin Franklin's 13 Point Plan for Virtuous Living

When Benjamin Franklin was 20 years old, he wrote up a 13-point "plan" for how he would live his life. He found that following the plan increased his happiness so much that he kept it up for the rest of his life. He committed to giving strict attention to one virtue each week so after 13 weeks he moved through all 13. After 13 weeks he would start the process over again so in one year he would complete the course a total of 4 times.

He tracked his progress by using a little book of 13 charts. At the top of each chart was one of the virtues. The charts had a column for each day of the week and 13 rows marked with the first letter of each of the 13 virtues. Every evening he would review the day and put a mark (dot) next to each virtue for each fault committed with respect to that virtue for that day.

1. TEMPERANCE: Eat not to dullness and drink not to elevation.
2. SILENCE: Speak not what may benefit others or yourself. Avoid trifling conversation.
3. ORDER: Let all of your things have their places. Let each part of your business have its time.
4. RESOLUTION: Resolve to perform what you ought. Perform without fail what you resolve.
5. FRUGALITY: Make no expense but to do good to others or yourself: i.e. Waste nothing.
6. INDUSTRY: Lose no time. Be always employed in something useful. Cut off all unnecessary actions.
7. SINCERITY: Use no hurtful deceit. Think innocently and justly: and, if you speak accordingly.

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FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Catholic Family FYI - Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service.

There are many stories as to its actual beginnings, with over two dozen cities and towns laying claim to being the birthplace of Memorial Day. While Waterloo NY was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day and it is more likely that it had many separate beginnings in each of those towns and in every planned or spontaneous gathering of people to honor the war dead in the 1860s.

Today, Memorial Day is celebrated on the last Monday in May and is marked by parades, picnics and solemn ceremonies around the country.

Our own 4011 council will celebrate Memorial Day with a picnic at our council hall on Sunday, May 25 between 12:00 and 4:00 P.M. Come and share this day with other 4011 Knights families as we enjoy a classic American cookout, music, kid's activities and more.

As we approach Memorial Day, take some time with your family and friends to remember the service and ultimate sacrifice that so many American soldiers have made to preserve our republic and protect our freedom. Here is a prayer that Catholic families can say to honor our military men and women fighting today in Iraq and Afghanistan:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, let thy protection be upon all those who are in the service of our country; guard them from all harm and danger of body and soul; sustain and comfort those at home, especially in their hours of loneliness, anxiety, and sorrow; prepare the dying for death and the living for your service; give success to our arms on land and sea and in the air; and grant unto us and all nations a speedy, just and lasting peace. Amen.

Here are some more ways to commemorate Memorial Day with your

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The Squires had a meeting in April and elected their officers. They also successfully recruited their first additional member. Their first official event will be helping the K Ladies with their Bingo night on May 2nd. They will be helping with set-up, general bingo operations, and clean-up.

Chuck Cooper
Youth Director

family:

- by visiting cemeteries and placing flags or flowers on the graves of our fallen heroes.
- by visiting memorials.
- by flying the U.S. Flag at half-staff until noon.
- by flying the 'POW/MIA Flag' as well
- by participating in a "National Moment of Remembrance": at 3 p.m. to pause and think upon the true meaning of the day, and for Taps to be played.
- by renewing a pledge to aid the widows, widowers, and orphans of our fallen dead, and to aid the disabled veterans.

Al DuCharme
Family Director

Wanted

4011 Newsletter Editor

If you have about 5-7 hours to give each month and like to fiddle around with desktop publishing, then this job is for you! We are looking for one of our members to step up and edit the monthly Newsletter. Proficiency with Microsoft Publisher or similar software a definite plus. If interested, please contact DGK Joe Stout as soon as possible.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

"We all live under the same blue sky, but can see a different horizon". This is interesting in reference to the Knights and the horizons our young founder Fr. Michael McGivney had in his thirty-eight years and priestly vocation.

I remember when Eleanor and I in my senior year in '52 when we were married and I joined the Knights. We never thought at the time that the Knights' founder Fr. McGivney would eventually be recognized as a canonized saint! He organized our Order during a time that was hostile towards Catholics. Today the Knights have grown to be the largest Catholic fraternal organization. This growth is due to many valid, good reasons "in the Knights' fraternal sense of "Catholic peoplehood".

Fr. McGivney recognized the "compatibility of Catholicism and American fraternalism". Our motto reflects that: Unity, Charity, Fraternity, Patriotism . . . The Order flourishes opening up new horizons in a needy world with many worthwhile, distinguished programs including: family life programs, Catholic school scholarships, youth programs, the Columbian Squires. . . the Catholic Advertising Program attracting a substantial number of converts to Catholicism. . . an outstanding life insurance program. . . support of religious and vocations to the priesthood. . . the Order achieved the "under God" amendment in our Pledge of Allegiance. . . pride in "The Knights Tower" the 329 foot bell tower of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., the largest Catholic church in America, as a pledge of the Knights to our Blessed Lady, Patroness of the U.S.. Reading our "Columbia" is an outstanding, informative Catholic magazine. . . and the Knights' support to our parishes . . .

These are just some of the highlights of well deserving and worth while publicity involving good Columbian public relations that we can proudly share in

recognizing and reaching out together to our common horizons . . .

Bill Myers, Publicity and Public Relations
BMyersMD@aol.com

Chaplain's Counsel

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addresses, he held up Fr. Michael

McGivney, our founder as the very model of a parish priest. He energized me and rededicated me to the proclamation of the Good News of the Gospel to everyone I meet.

As Knights of Columbus, we can do no less than that which the Holy Father calls for.....proclaiming the Lord Jesus Christ as our hope...as the hope of all humanity. Let us redouble our efforts to live our lives as our founder envisioned, proud Catholic men willing to help another in need.

God bless.
Deacon John

Grand Knight's Corner

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rything that we as Knights of Columbus stand for and made me bear down and focus on the challenge of the office that I was about to take.

I have a very strong belief in God and I really believe that he walks with you and answers your prayers if you are willing to let it happen. My life is not void of pain, nor is it lived out in careless excess. However, I have been blessed from above so many times and I think that many of you would agree with the following statement, my greatest blessing in life is my beautiful wife Julie. There is no greater proof of the existence of God in my life, than my dear wife Julie! She is the best mother and the greatest wife for putting up with both our children and all that I throw at her. Julie is the most beautiful person that I have ever known and I have the unbelievable privilege to call her my wife and the mother of my children. I am far from

MEMBERSHIP

Brothers, we have one last shot at making Star Council for this Columbian Year. We will have an Admissions meeting on June 16, 7:30PM and a 1st Degree on June 18, 7:30 PM (for candidates). NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL GOOD BROTHERS TO COME TO THE AID OF THEIR COUNCIL!!! All you have to do is carry a form 100 with you, and make sure you sign it with your membership number (it's on your travel card). Remember, you are doing a fellow Catholic man a distinct honor to himself, his community, his church and his God by asking him to become a Knight Of Columbus!!

Vivat Jesus

Dick Vandenberg PGK

410-828-6155

perfect and Julie as many of our spouses do, has to see the bad side of me more than anyone else. Yet, she hangs in there as my loyal and faithful companion for life.

On that note I would like to take the opportunity to wish all of the mothers of the Fr. O'Neill Council a happy Mother's Day! You are the very best for bringing new life into the world and even if you never had children, you can count your spouse as one. After, who but our wives takes care of our every need and constantly remind us to tuck our shirt in or brush our teeth at night or in some cases to remove our teeth before going to bed! I know that when I was newly married and went to the doctor for a physical for the first time since I was a teenager and he inquired what brought me there. I responded that my wife has been after me to come see him and I felt very reassured when he told me his wife makes his appointments to see his doctor because he hates to go himself! So I hope that my fellow brother Knights take great care your mothers and your wives on their

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FRATERNAL NOTES

BIRTHDAYS

- 2ND Diane Kelly
- 3RD Mary Mohr
Jean Singman
Michael T. Goode
- 4TH Marion Rozario
James V. Scheel, Jr.
- 6TH Tracey Paliath
Mary Shifflett
Leo P. Callaghan
- 8TH W. Lawrence Wescott, II
- 9TH Hugh R. Williams
- 10TH Rev. Stephen E. Hook
- 14TH Alexander Uchuck
- 15TH Michael J. Chrvala
Cezar N. Gomez
- 16TH Linda Dvorak
Aimee Yardley
- 17TH Margaret Shaffrey
- 18TH Anne Marie Beahn
Jennifer Caine
Hubert O. Clay
John J. Dyer, III
- 19TH Katrina Dziejma
Robert V. Woolley
- 20TH Janet Mayer
- 21ST Leo G. Woerner
- 22ND Joseph H. Vach
- 23RD Mary Cascio
- 24TH Mary Whalen
- 26TH R. Chris Ferguson

- 30TH Joseph P. Ciattei
John J. Kaiser, Jr.
Michael A. Messuri
John D. Volpe
- 31ST Rev. Glenn F. Byrne
Bryan P. Rose

ANNIVERSARIES

- 1ST Raymond & Carolyn Chlan
Raymond & Colette Sheeler
- 3RD Dr. Leonard & Maureen Azonobi
- 4TH John & Donna Easton
Michael & Maureen Paszkiewicz
- 5TH Baika & Salay Sesay
Philip & Carol Sybert
- 9TH Robert & Patricia Eberling
- 10TH Bryan & Sandra Rose
Michael & Mary Lou Weaver
- 15TH Augustine & Carole Muller
G. Edward & Barbara Thommen
- 17TH Donald & Jeanne Cora
- 18TH James & Alta Cavey
John & Joanne Paull
- 19TH Drs. Linh & Maria Duckett
- 21ST Edwin & LaRue Oster
- 23RD Richard & Susan Terlep
- 24TH Raymond & Janet Marsico
- 25TH James & Haroldine Youngblood
- 27TH Leo & Anna Marie Romeo
- 28TH Richard & Gretchen Fisher
- 29TH Richard & Christine Briggs
- 30TH Dr. Robert & Frances Muth

4011 Investment Club Winners

LADIES' AUXILIARY

Carrie Engel from Valley View Farms was our speaker in April. She brought beautiful flowers and herbs and told us about them and even left 2 pots of flowers for our gardens on the Council grounds. Definitely see her for your garden needs.

May 2nd is our Basket Bingo. This is our biggest fundraiser. We do much for Fr. O'Neill council and many other charities with the profits from this bingo. Gretchen Fisher is the chairperson (410-667-6216).

Our next meeting will be Thursday May 8th at 7:30 pm. The Speaker at our meeting will be Chuck Cooper who will speak on the newly reactivated Squires of Fr. O'Neill. The election of officers for next year will take place at this meeting and planning for our June Dinner. We will be collecting non-perishable food for the Assistance Center of Towson Churches.

As an ongoing project, we collect Pop tabs from Soda, Beer and Food cans for Ronald McDonald House, and Box Tops for Education for Immaculate Conception School. These can be given to any Ladies Auxiliary or Fr. O'Neill member to bring to a meeting.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Anne Hilbinger, President

Congratulations!

A very special congratulations to Rev Msgr. F. Dennis Tinder, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish upon his 40th anniversary as priest. Msgr was ordained on May 18th, 1968.

Know that our prayers and best wishes are with you always.

MONTH	WINNER	SELLER
JAN		
\$25	Robert Hogan	George Hogan
\$25	Norman Barczak	Norman Barczak
\$25	Natalie Vick	Ed Bollinger
\$50	Joe Stout	Joe Stout
\$100	Ken Kopro	Dick Kopro
FEB		
\$25	Eleanor Myers	Bill Myers
\$25	Henry Klemkowski	Henry Klemkowski
\$25	John Dyer	John Dyer
\$50	Ken Kopro	Dick Kopro
\$100	Bill Bilo	Bill Bilo
MAR		
\$25	Colette Sheeler	Skip Sheeler
\$25	Annette Strauch	Charlie Vlk
\$25	Amanda Harris	Bob Woolley
\$50	Kathleen Bagwell	Richard Lewandowski
\$100	Tony Baladad	Bernie Pilon

Church Activities

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- 8. **JUSTICE:** Wrong none, by doing injuries or omitting the benefits that are your duty.
- 9. **MODERATION:** Avoid extremes. Forebear resenting injuries so much as you think they deserve.
- 10. **CLEANLINESS:** Tolerate no uncleanness in body, clothes or habitation.
- 11. **CHASTITY** Rarely use venery but for health or offspring; Never to dullness, weakness, or the injury of your own or another's peace or reputation.
- 12. **TRANQUILITY:** Be not disturbed at trifles, or at accidents common or unavoidable.
- 13. **HUMILITY:** Imitate Jesus

Ed Bollinger Church Director
JEBollinger@comcast.net

Grand Knight

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special day of honor.

We recently had the unique experience to join about four thousand people as we welcomed the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI to the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C. It was an absolutely beautiful day to wait on the lawn of the campus of Catholic University for about three hours to see Pope Benedict for roughly thirty seconds! It was a thrilling experience though and I was happy to share it with my family and six other families of the Fr. O'Neill Council. The papal visit proves to the world that Christ and his Church are extremely relevant in this very time of secularism that seems to penetrate so many of the bastions of today's society in America. We as Knights of Columbus must continue to fight this trend

and support one another in our tireless defense to keep God at the forefront of American society.

The Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is a spectacular place and I would very much enjoy going back and sharing with the council a tour of such a grand cathedral. The Knights of Columbus are responsible for large portions of the shrine, particularly the bell tower that is one of the tallest structures in the capitol city and is known as "The Knights Tower," as well as the commissioning of several of the many beautiful mosaics that are inside.

It also holds special meaning for me, as it was the place where my high school graduation was held. I also attended Mass there on many occasions with my dear grandfather. It is a building whose physical prescience is one of wonder and awe but once inside you feel at home and are comforted by the sheer beauty and the presence of the Holy Spirit and the love of God for his people. Please let me know if you have an interest in visiting this spectacular place that is the largest Marian Shrine in America. I would really love to share the experience with all of you!

The last two months of my administration are jammed with activity and I really hope to see as many of you as possible over the coming months, so I can personally thank you for what you have done for me and the council as a whole. I really want to go out with a bang and you can help make this happen by supporting the last few events scheduled. I think that the date of the Honors Banquet is going to be changed due to the timing of the next Third Degree and I want to allow these great men the opportunity to receive their proper recognition at the banquet. Other than that every other event should proceed as scheduled and is awaiting your participation and effort to make them successful!

In closing, I feel like an old pair of shoes that feel great when you put them on but after an hour or so they just

don't do the job that they used to! I look at Joe Stout and I see the latest and hottest brand that everyone is wearing! Life is full of changes and it is now time to put on the new pair of shoes and get as much mileage out of them as possible. Please don't throw me away or donate me but put me in your closet of memories and when you happen to stumble across me just smile and think about the great paths we have tread together! I will forever cherish the 'tread that you took off my life and am very grateful to have served you and sincerely hope that you enjoyed wearing down the tread that you did! I count so many of you as my friends for LIFE and I look forward to enjoying the good times and being there to pick each other up when bad things happen. I am very proud of the many great accomplishments that we as a council achieved over the past two years and I look forward to continuing the evolution under Joe Stout's leadership. Thanks again for the priceless memories and all of the tremendous work that each of you has done to advance the Fr. O'Neill Council!

God Bless,

Andy Gleeson GK

FREE! FREE!

The O'Neill Club has 12 rectangular tables, 8' long that are free for the asking. They are in fair to good condition. All you need to do is take them away!

If interested, please contact Deacon John Gramling at 410-458-5812

REFLECTIONS

Lawrence P. Grayson

The Christian Concept of Freedom



Pope John Paul II and President Reagan in private conversation, Miami, September 1987

Pope John Paul II, addressing President Reagan during his visit to the United States in 1987, remarked: “From the beginning of America, freedom was directed to forming a well-ordered society and to promoting its peaceful life. Freedom was channeled to the fullness of human life, to the preservation of human dignity and to the safeguarding of all human rights. An experience in ordered freedom is truly a cherished part of the history of this land...The only true freedom, the only freedom that can truly satisfy, is the freedom to do what we ought as human beings

created by God according to his plan. It is the freedom to live the truth of what we are and who we are before God, the truth of our identity as children of God, as brothers and sisters in a common humanity. That is why Jesus Christ linked truth and freedom together, stating solemnly: ‘You will know the truth and the truth will set you free.’”

Freedom, correctly understood, is a natural right, a constitutional right, and above all a spiritual right. It has both a *material* and a *moral* aspect. From a material perspective, freedom is the right to do, to think or to say what one pleases. It allows every person to develop his own philosophy of life and to carry it out, without reference to traditions or society, or even religion. An approval of unconditional action, however, without regard for objective standards or authority, is license, not freedom.

In their desire for liberation, people too often forget that freedom requires constraint. Unfettered liberty is detrimental because it focuses on what men *do*, instead of what man *is*. People desire to be free from something, but they forgot that freedom *from* something implies freedom *for* something. Freedom from illness and pain provides a person with freedom for living one’s life in goodness and love. We were created by God with a purpose – a purpose beyond our life on this earth – and were given freedom to pursue that end. Modern society extols self-autonomy, but it forgets the purpose of life. It ignores why people should be free. Without concern for the purpose of man, it is difficult to set any limits upon what a person may say, or do, or think.

Freedom as a material ability to do whatever one pleases is quite distinct from the moral responsibility to do what one ought. The power to act in a certain way does not confer the right to act in that way. A man can rob a bank, strike his wife, commit adultery, and lie about his actions, but he ought not to these things. The words *can* and *ought* distinguish between the material and the moral, and bring to the fore the choices facing us – and the world around us. Ought implies morality, rights, and duties, as distinct from a material ability to do something. St. Peter understood this as he instructed his followers to: “Live as freemen, yet not using freedom as a cloak for malice, but as servants of God.” When freedom becomes arbitrary it breeds profligacy and self-indulgence. Ordered freedom means choice with responsibility; it is the balance between anarchy and compulsion.

Every right entails responsibility and, as such, must be limited when it is used to impair another’s rights or to abuse the common good. Freedom of speech implies that it not be used to incite riots or destroy the reputation of others. Freedom of the press does not allow it to be used to corrupt public morals or manipulate public opinion. Freedom of association does not include the right to organize for unlawful behavior or against national security. In these practices, it is not the right to freedom that must be curtailed, but its abuse.

If freedom in America is to allow man to achieve his ultimate ends and not lead to a disregard for the common good, the nation’s people must act more in accord with the teachings of religion. A government of the people, that is, a democracy, assumes that its citizens will always act in the interest of justice, righteousness, and virtue. But, as Bishop Fulton J. Sheen pointed out in his book, *Freedom Under God*: “justice, righteousness, and virtue are inseparable from a conscience and a conscience is inseparable from a moral law, and a moral law is inseparable from religion with a Lawmaker whose nature is Goodness. Let religion die out of the hearts of citizens and the virtues essential for democracy die with it.”

America was established with an appeal to the sovereignty of God. The inalienable rights set forth in the Declaration of Independence were to be buttressed with moral principles and religious convictions. Democracy is more than a political activity; it is a spiritual and moral undertaking. People who wish to remain free must discipline themselves and be governed by virtue from within.

In his 1987 visit, Pope John Paul II said: “[F]reedom is indeed a great gift of God to this nation...freedom to exercise responsibility and generosity, freedom to meet the challenge of serving humanity, the freedom necessary to fulfill human destiny, the freedom to live by truth, to defend it against whatever distorts and manipulates it, the freedom to observe God’s law – which is the supreme standard of all human liberty, the freedom to live as children of God – secure and happy, the freedom to be America in that constitutional democracy which was conceived to be ‘One Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.’”

Father O'Neill Council No. 4011
P.O. Box 52
Lutherville, MD 21093-0052

Time Dated Material

Non Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LUTHERVILLE, MARYLAND
PERMIT NO 203



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

3rd	Cinquo de Mayo Party
7th	Business Meeting
8th	K Club Meeting
13th	O'Neill Club Board Meeting
16-18	MD State Convention, Ocean City
21st	Social Meeting
25th	Memorial Day Picnic
28th	Officer's Meeting

JUNE

4th	Business Meeting
10th	O'Neill Club Board Meeting
12th	K Club Dinner and Installation
16th	Admissions Committee
18th	Social Meeting & 1st Degree
25th	Officer's Meeting
28th	Picnic & Fireworks
29th	5th Sunday Mass and Breakfast