



Fourth



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A Monthly Newsletter for the Sir Knights of Father Jerome Kleber Assembly 1970

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July 2023

Faithful Navigator's Log

Sir Knight Faithful Navigator Jesus Quintanar:

This July 4th is the 247th Birthday of our great Nation! Though facing many challenges along the way, the United States of America has always come out as a shining beacon to the rest of the world (as attested by the thousands of non-Americans recently traveling to our Southern Border). The Judeo-Christian principles that were the foundation of our Nation's [continued on page 2]

Grand Knights' Notes

Council 6711 SK PFN Grand Knight Chuy Perez:

In June, Thunderbird Council 6711 supported Saint Matthew Parish's enchilada sale by setting up and cleaning up and sold empanadas after all Masses.

Council 10788 Grand Knight Santiago Ogeda:

Shepherd of the Valley Council 10788 will be supporting the Saint Jude Parish Bazaar on July 8 by grilling and selling hamburgers and hotdogs.

Council 12160 SK Grand Knight Mike Chavarria:

In June, Franklin Mountains Council 12160 participated in a Corporate Communion Mass at Saint Luke Catholic Church and held a Rosary open to all Parishioners.

Council 14413 SK Grand Knight Dan Fenton: Rio Grande Council 14413 participated in the First Mass of Thanksgiving at Queen of Peace Catholic Church for Sir Knight Father Angel Aguilar (see page 4) and supported the Reception and Dinner that followed.

Council 17420 SK Grand Knight Eric Zubia:

Nothing yet to report.

Assistant Diocesan Deputy's Desk

SK Assistant Diocesan Deputy John Danley:

The Knights of Columbus has a new initiative to help Catholic men build bonds of brotherhood through prayer and faith formation. It is called Cor, taken from Saint John Newman's motto "Cor ad cor loquitur," meaning "Heart speaks to heart." It is designed to be separate from monthly Council meetings and to help Catholic men build a stronger relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation and fraternity. [continued on page 2]



The five-man drafting committee (left to right: John Adams, Roger Sherman, Robert Livingston, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin) of the Declaration of Independence presented their work to the Continental Congress. The Declaration was passed by Congress on July 4, 1776, but not signed by all Congressional delegates until August 2, 1776. (Declaration of Independence, John Trumbull, 1819, US Capitol Rotunda)

Faithful Scribe's Script

SK Faithful Scribe Joe O'Connor: The Declaration of Independence asserted "that all men are created equal." Yet the Declaration of Independence failed to abolish slavery, an issue fought over 85 years later in a bloody Civil War. Was it for lack of trying? Were all the Founding Fathers slaveholders? Is there truth in the 1619 Project (based on the year the first slaves arrived in America) that claims that America's beginning was based on slavery? What were the real reasons why slavery was given a pass in this important document? The article on page 2 addresses these questions and the inset on the next page shows the passage abolishing slavery that was deleted from the Declaration of Independence. The article will show that America has not been a perfect country but a nation that over time that has strived to be a shining beacon to the peoples of the world. God Bless America!

Faithful Navigator's Log (Continued)

SK Faithful Navigator Jesus Quintanar: *[continued]*

formation are equally valid today, despite efforts to make America a secular, Godless country. As members of the Patriotic Degree of the Knights of Columbus, we have a special obligation to maintain the torch of Liberty by living as good Catholic men and espousing the tenets of our Nation's Supreme Authority (on earth)—the United States Constitution. Staying true to these tenets requires courage in this age of cancellations. Whether it is praying in front of abortion clinics, or speaking out at school board meetings, or participating in the Assembly's Patriotic Projects, Sir Knights are encouraged to keep our Country strong. On this July 4th, please pray that God continues to watch over the United States and protect her from decay from within. May God bless you, your family and the United States of America! Vivat Jesus!

Asst. Diocesan Deputy's Desk (Cont'd)

SK Asst. Diocesan Deputy John Danley: *(cont'd)*

Cor invites all Catholic men in a Parish to join with the Knights through weekly or biweekly sessions through such activities as Bible studies or reflections on Sunday Mass readings, share faith testimonials, read the lives of the saints, or watch episodes from the video series *Into the Breach*. At each session, prayer is a vital component. Cor is aligned with Blessed Father McGivney's vision that the Knights were to fortify men as Disciples of Christ against a culture that seeks to rip men away from Jesus. Councils in Parishes with active Men's ACTS programs may want to partner with them for the Cor sessions. Please contact your District Deputy for more information regarding the Cor initiative.

The Deleted Passage from the Declaration of Independence

He has waged cruel war against human nature itself, violating its most sacred rights of life and liberty in the persons of a distant people who never offended him, captivating & carrying them into slavery in another hemisphere or to incur miserable death in their transportation thither. This piratical warfare, the opprobrium of infidel powers, is the warfare of the Christian King of Great Britain. Determined to keep open a market where Men should be bought & sold, he has prostituted his negative for suppressing every legislative attempt to prohibit or restrain this execrable commerce. And that this assemblage of horrors might want no fact of distinguished die, he is now exciting those very people to rise in arms among us, and to purchase that liberty of which he has deprived them, by murdering the people on whom he has obtruded them: thus paying off former crimes committed against the Liberties of one people, with crimes which he urges them to commit against the lives of another. [Editor's Highlighting]

The Declaration of Independence and Slavery (The Committee of Five, Currier & Ives 1876)



Not widely known is that Founding Father Thomas Jefferson, in an early version of the Declaration of Independence, drafted a 168-word passage that condemned slavery as one of the many evils foisted upon the colonies by the British crown. (See inset below.) The passage was cut from the final wording. The question is "Why?" In 1776, slavery was legal in the British Empire, which outlawed the slave trade in 1807 and abolished slavery in 1833. While many of the Founding Fathers recognized that slavery violated the American Revolution's core ideal of liberty, their strong commitment to private property rights, principles of limited government, and regional harmony prevented them from making a bold move against slavery. More obviously, the considerable investment of Southern Founding Fathers in slave-based agriculture, along with their deep-seated racial prejudice, were substantial obstacles to emancipation. Also, Northern shipping merchants were benefitting from the slave trade triangle (slaves->sugar->rum). At the time of the American Revolution, slavery was legal in every Northern state. Of 21 prominent Founding Fathers, 14 of them at one time owned slaves, including such Northerners as John Hancock, John Jay, and Benjamin Franklin. The latter two later became officers in their states' antislavery societies. The Founders' failure to directly address the question of slavery exposed the hollowness of the words "all men created equal." Nonetheless, the underlying ideals of freedom and equality expressed in the document have inspired generations of Americans to struggle to obtain their inalienable rights. The 1619 Project, when it debuted, claimed that 1619 was the true founding of America. (By the way, the 20 African slaves who arrived in Jamestown in 1619 were originally destined for the Spanish colony of Veracruz when their ships were intercepted by English privateers.) This assertion has been vigorously attacked by prominent American historians who state that America, hitherto 13 separate colonies, was not formed into a united nation until 1776. America, an imperfect but great country, has strived toward a more perfect union.

Assembly's Knights in Action

† Sir Knight Father Angel Aguilar's Ordination to the Priesthood †



On June 7, 2023, in Saint Patrick Cathedral, after the Promise of the Elect, Assembly 1970 Sir Knight Father Angel Aguilar made the Promise of Obedience to Bishop Mark Seitz as Father John Telles, Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary Rector, observed. (Photo: Sir Knight Joe O'Connor)



Bishop Seitz concluded the Litany of Supplication and Litany of Saints with a prayer. The three prostrated Priests-To-Be included (top to bottom) Fathers SK Angel Aguilar, Lloyd Divinagracia and Angel Tarango. (Photo: SK Joe O'Connor)



Bishop Seitz (left) and Sir Knight Father Allan Alaka, Queen of Peace Pastor (right), laid hands on Sir Knight Father Angel Aguilar following the Litany of the Saints at Saint Patrick Cathedral. (Photos: SK Joe O'Connor)



Sir Knight Father Ed Carpenter, Saint Luke Pastor (top center), laid hands on Sir Knight Father Angel Aguilar (below left), followed by Sir Knight Father Frank Lopez, Saint Matthew Pastor (top right). (Photo: Sir Knight Joe O'Connor)



The Rite of Ordination concluded with the Presentation of the Paten and Chalice where

Bishop Seitz placed those two objects into the hands of Sir Knight Father Angel Aguilar and prayed, while Sir Knight Father Allan Alaka (top center) observed. (Photo: Sir Knight Joe O'Connor)



Bishop Seitz incensed the altar in preparation for the Liturgy of the Eucharist as Sir Knight Father Angel Aguilar (just below the Bishop's Cathedra) stood at the altar to the right of Bishop Anthony Celino. (Photo: Sir Knight Joe O'Connor)

Assembly's Knights in Action



Sir Knight Father Angel Aguilar's First Mass of Thanksgiving



On June 10, 2023, Assembly 1970 and Rio Grande Council 14413 Knights formed up before the Procession (left to right): Knight Joe Palomo and Sir Knights PGK Robert Valdiviez, Bill Sutton, Wally Piatek, GK Dan Fenton, Marc Carrillo, PFN Chuy Perez and Joe O'Connor. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)

On June 10, 2023, Sir Knight Father Angel Aguilar celebrated his First Mass of Thanksgiving at Queen of Peace Catholic Church. Sir Knight Father Angel (right) processed into the Church, assisted by Sir Knight Deacon Orlando Sanchez (left). Several area Priests concelebrated with Sir Knight Father Angel. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)



At the Offertory, Assembly 1970 and Rio Grande Council 14413 Knights stood ready to present SK Peter Tovar's chalice and paten to Sir Knight Father Angel (left to right): Knight Joe Palomo, SK PGK Robert Valdiviez, SK Wally Piatek, SK Bill Sutton, SK GK Dan Fenton, SK Marc Carrillo (hidden), SK PFN Chuy Perez and SK Joe O'Connor. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)



After receiving Sir Knight Peter Tovar's chalice and paten, Sir Knight Father Angel blessed the presenting Sir Knights (left to right): Bill Sutton, GK Dan Fenton, Marc Carrillo, Joe O'Connor, Chuy Perez, Wally Piatek and PGK Robert Valdiviez. Sir Knight Peter Tovar passed away in September 2022 and wanted his chalice to be donated to a seminarian upon his ordination. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)



Assembly 1970 and Rio Grande Council 14413 Knights formed up before the Recession (left to right): Knight Joe Palomo and Sir Knights Bill Sutton, Wally Piatek, GK Dan Fenton (hidden), Marc Carrillo, Chuy Perez and Joe O'Connor. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)



Honoring the Recession as they did for the Procession, Assembly 1970 and Rio Grande Council 14413 Knights saluted the procession at the end of Sir Knight Father Angel Aguilar's First Mass of Thanksgiving at Queen of Peace Catholic Church. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)

Assembly's Knights in Action



Corpus Christi Eucharistic Procession



Four Assembly 1113 Sir Knights and one Assembly 1970 Sir Knight participated in the Fallout for the Corpus Christi Eucharistic Procession at Our Lady of Assumption Church on June 11, 2023 (left to right): Robert Diaz, Robert Aranda, Joe O'Connor, John Danley and Jesus Carrasco. (Photo: John Danley IV)



On the Feast of Corpus Christi, June 11, 2023, the Eucharistic Process began with Sir Knight Father Mark Salas, Our Lady of Assumption Pastor, holding the Monstrance under the canopy supported by four Knights of Our Lady of Assumption Council 12687, as five Sir Knights saluted the procession. (Photo: Sir Knight Oscar Villalva)



The Eucharistic Procession was accompanied by several dozen Our Lady of Assumption Parishioners who sang hymns as they marched along. Incense wafted along the route as bells were constantly rung. (Photo: John Danley IV)



The Eucharistic Procession travelled several blocks in the neighborhood and stopped at one station for Eucharistic Benediction. The procession was led by flower girls (left of photo) who strew rose petals along the Procession route. (Photo: John Danley IV)



The escorting Sir Knights saluted the Eucharistic Procession as it reentered Our Lady of Assumption Church. (Photo: Sir Knight Oscar Villalva)

The Eucharistic Procession concluded in the Church, where a Solemn Benediction was held before the Host was removed from the Monstrance. Sir Knights hand saluted during the Benediction. (Photo: John Danley IV)



Assembly's Knights in Action

Council 12160 Corporate Communion



On June 11, 2023, Franklin Mountains Council 12160 held a Corporate Communion at Saint Luke Church. Knights participating in this event included (left to right): SK Paul Richeson, SK Elias Rodriguez, SK Paul Leenheer, Waldo Terrazas, Gerald Michael (seated), Alfred Stell, Manny Silva and SK Chuck Fernandez (not shown—to right of picture). (Photo: Knight Ed Ehrbar)

SSVdP West Side Food Distribution



On June 21, 2023, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVdP) conducted its biweekly West Side Food Distribution at Saint Luke's Parking Lot. Volunteers come from all over El Paso to help. Saint Thomas Aquinas Council 11926 Knight Tomás Saenz, a regular volunteer, delivered a jug of orange juice to a waiting recipient on Side A. (Photo: Sir Knight Joe O'Connor)

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul West Side Food Distribution



On Side A, Sir Knight Jeffrey "Scooter" Fretland loaded a box of table grapes as cars lined up on the upper levels of the Saint Luke Parking Lot. On June 21, 344 households were served. (Photo: SK Joe O'Connor)



On Side B, Sir Knight Gebhard "Gus" Erler carried a box of table grapes to a waiting recipient. On June 21, a total of 22 pallets of food were delivered by El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank for distribution. (Photo: SK Joe O'Connor)

Thunderbird Council 6711 Empanada Sale



On June 25, after one of the Masses at Saint Matthew Catholic Church, Thunderbird Council 6711 Sir Knight Robert Mota sold empanadas to Parishioners. That weekend, the Council sold 140 dozen empanadas. (Photo: Sir Knight Grand Knight Chuy Perez)



On June 25, after one of the Masses at Saint Matthew Catholic Church, three Council 6711 Knights (left to right) sold empanadas to Saint Matthew Parishioners: Rudy Garcia (partially hidden), Sir Knight Adrian Muñoz and Gerry O'Brien. (Photo: Sir Knight Grand Knight Chuy Perez)