



“THE OBSERVER”



Volume 5 —May 2017

**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CARDINAL GIBBONS ASSEMBLY 150 — 4TH. DEGREE—KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MEETS 1ST. MONDAY OF EACH MONTH—7 PM—AT HOLY FAMILY PARISH HALL, RTE. 4 & GENDER ROAD
NEWARK DELAWARE**

++EXCEPT IN JULY AND SEPTEMBER—DATES MAY CHANGE—NOTICE WILL BE GIVEN++

Publisher—Faithful Navigator & Editor—Robert E. Zeigler

Trivial Factoids

1. A “jiffy” is an actual unit of time for 1/100 of a second.
2. A US dime has 118 ridges around the edge. Count them yourself!
3. A crocodile cannot not stick out its tongue.
4. A goldfish [carp] has a memory span of 3 seconds.
5. Almonds are a member of the peach family. **— — —AND NOW YOU KNOW EVERYTHING!— — —**

Cardinal Gibbons Assembly Officer’s Roll Fraternal year 2016-2017

The following Faithful Sir Knights



Michael Handlin	Navigator
Anthony Gennusa	Captain
John McCormick	Admiral
	Friar
Thomas Green	Pilot
Christopher Green	Scribe
Lawrence Maguire	Comptroller
Robert E. Zeigler	Purser
James Gardner	Trustee 3 year
Gerald Safranski	Trustee 2 year
William Lawler	Trustee 1 year
William Marino	Inner Sentinel
Edward Godsell	Outer Sentinel
Albert Ware	Commander CC

Councils OFFICIALLY affiliated with Assembly 150

4548	St. Michaels
6768	Coffee Run
11469	Our Lady of Fatima
11796	St. John the Beloved
12104	Holy Angels
12842	St. David



The Eye

Or...

Just the Fact’s



There are jingles that stick in our brain. Have you had a show tune or song you cannot shake? Who can forget Jack Webb and Harry Morgan on Dragnet, “Just the fact’s Ma’am, just the Facts!” The facts for our Assembly and others are pretty clear. We have many programs that need volunteers, need fresh blood, need Candidates, need knights to attend a meeting or two. Jack and Harry, let’s investigate! Men of the Cardinal Gibbons Assembly have some pretty cool activities taking place. Many of the activities center on veterans or Active duty Armed Forces. We do have activities that focus on the Rosary. The activities are service oriented, awareness, and Faith, and Patriotism. Their common point is people, cannot do it without people. So, as we watch Jack and Harry on Dragnet the answer from their investigation is new Candidates.

Let us shoot for November 10, 11, and 12 of 2017 at the Exemplification in Wilmington at the Doubletree on Concord Pike to have the answer. We need to interview, and support, and remind our 1st, 2nd, 3rd Degree Knights that more adventures are in their future as they grow in the Knights of Columbus. The Facts, just the Facts!



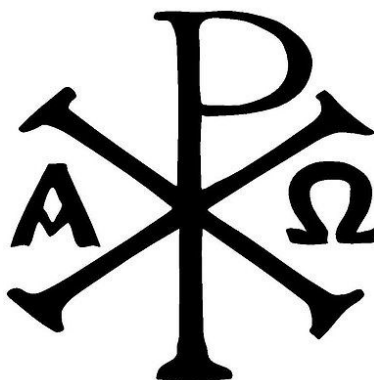
REMEMBERING OTHERS---GIBBONS ASSEMBLY 150

This page permanent and reserved in each edition.

For the ill, deceased, members of the Armed Services, public servants to include law enforcement, medical emergency personnel, government and all other personal intentions.

1	Pope Francis
2	Bishop Malooly
3	Priests, Deacons, religious Brothers, Sisters of the Diocese
4	Men & women serving in ALL branches of the Armed Forces
5	The President of the United States
6	Men & women peace officers, EMT's
7	The intentions of each member of Cardinal Gibbons
8	IF YOU HAVE YOUR OWN PERSONAL INTENTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT REZ38@COMCAST.NET TO ADD THEM
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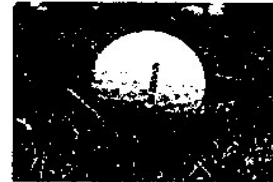
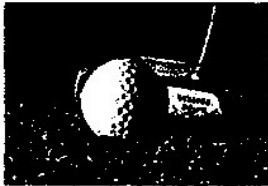
In your heart and mind please pray for all the intentions on this page.



Holy Family Catholic Church

7th Annual Golf Tournament

Friday, August 18, 2017



Family Hole Sponsorship ~ \$50.00

*Family signage display at the golf course

*Family name will be listed in the program book & Church Bulletin after the event.

NOTE: Last day to sign up is August 8, 2017

Family Name: _____

Contact: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Email: _____

What do you want the sign to say?

Please mail the check to: Holy Family Church ~ Phone: 302-368-4665

15 Gender Road, Newark, DE 19713

*Please write "Golf Tournament Sponsorship" in the memo.

Questions? Please feel free to contact:

Bill Black ~ wbjr01@verizon.net ~ 302-502-5768

Joe McCann ~ joemccann8@comcast.net ~ 302-584-1603

Dennis Skinner ~ papadskinz@yahoo.com ~ 302-981-8743

Jeff Munsch ~ jmunsch@verizon.net ~ 302-318-6008

Rick Johnstone ~ richardajohnstone1@gmail.com ~ 302-229-5919

Holy Family ~ parish@holyfamilynewark.org ~ 302-368-4665

*A tax donation letter with tax ID available upon request.

“WE ARE!....., CARDINAL GIBBONS!”

His Eminence James Cardinal Gibbons

Motto: *Emitte Spiritum Tuum.* "Send forth thy Spirit." (Psalm 103:30)

James Gibbons was born in Baltimore on July 23, 1834, the son of Thomas Gibbons, a clerk, and Bridget Walsh Gibbons. He was baptized in the Cathedral from which he would be buried.

Early Years

Gibbons' parents had come to the United States about 1829 but returned to Ireland in 1837. There his father ran a grocery in Ballinrobe, County Mayo, until his death in 1847. The widow and children returned to the United States in 1853, establishing their residence in New Orleans. There James worked in a grocery store until inspired by a Redemptorist retreat to become a priest. In 1855 he entered St. Charles College, the minor seminary in Baltimore, and in 1857 St. Mary's, the major seminary. On June 30, 1861, he was ordained by Archbishop Francis Patrick Kenrick of Baltimore, who had accepted him for his archdiocese. For six weeks Gibbons was assistant at St. Patrick's parish, then appointed first pastor of St. Bridget's, originally a mission of St. Patrick's. There he served as a chaplain for Fort McHenry during the Civil War.

In 1865 Archbishop Martin John Spalding summoned Gibbons to be his secretary and help prepare for the Second Plenary Council of Baltimore

Archbishop of Baltimore

In his first ten years as archbishop, Gibbons had neither large plans nor great ambitions. He believed his archdiocese well endowed in personnel and institutions, which, in fact, it was. The greatest problems with which he had to contend were those that arose from the influx of new immigrants: the Bohemians, Poles, Lithuanians, and Italians. Though his approach to most difficulties was a "masterly inactivity," he had on more than one occasion to intervene in the affairs of their troublesome parishes but was unable at one to prevent a Polish schism.

Church Leader: 1

In Rome Gibbons formed a close bond with three other Americans in their efforts to resolve a number of problems: Bishop (soon Archbishop) John Ireland of St. Paul; John Keane, rector designate for The Catholic University to be established in Washington, D.C.; and Denis O'Connell, rector of the North American College in Rome. Together they won Roman approval for The Catholic University. Catholics in the United States strived for a greater degree of autonomy and were highly critical of Irish bishops. The defense of the Knights of Labor was signed by Gibbons alone and won for him a reputation as champion of the working class.

Gibbons, Ireland, Keane and O'Connell came to be recognized as the leaders of the "liberals" in the Catholic hierarchy. When German discontent surfaced again in what was called the "Cahensly affair," Gibbons delivered in 1891 a forceful sermon in the cathedral of Milwaukee denouncing those who would "sow tares of discord in the fair fields of the Church in America."

Though hitherto supportive of parochial schools, Gibbons rose to the defense of Archbishop Ireland in 1891 and his Faribault plan that would incorporate parish schools into the public school system. Rome declared that the plan could be tolerated, but in 1893 sent a permanent apostolic delegate to the United States, Francesco Satolli, to resolve this and other points of conflict.

Church Leader: 2

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Gibbons continued to play the role of spokesman of the Catholic Church in America splendidly. His public utterances commanded increasing attention. His presence at important national events, usually to deliver the invocation, was given even greater coverage in the press. Gibbons developed a warm friendship with several presidents, especially Theodore Roosevelt. For the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood in 1911, business in the national capital came practically to a halt so that almost every politician of note could go to Baltimore to pay their respects.

Gibbons' views were not always consistent. At the time of the Spanish-American War he was a pacifist, denouncing militarism and the arms race as unchristian. At the outset of World War I he was a strong proponent of preparedness, and during its course urged Catholic men to go forth and be proud of their wounds. At the local level Gibbons

supported such progressive measures as city planning, public health, consumer protection, and the regulation of sweatshops. At the national level he opposed the Seventeenth, Eighteenth and Nineteenth Amendments. The list of his denunciations of the movement for women's suffrage was embarrassingly long.

Until the day he died Gibbons exercised considerable power in the American Church. As ranking prelate he presided over the annual meetings of the archbishops that began in 1890. He also presided over the transformation of the National Catholic War Council into the National Catholic Welfare Council in 1919. After his reception of the red hat, he came to enjoy the power he seemed to win effortlessly. In 1914 he raised strong objections to the rumors that the national capital would be detached from his archdiocese. He refused to have a coadjutor. He also enjoyed remarkable health until a few days before his death on March 24, 1921, at the age of eighty-seven years and eight months.

Assessment

More than any other Catholic, not excepting John Carroll, James Gibbons was embraced by his country. He was personable, outgoing, and seldom without a smile. Concern for his reputation, according to some, made him conciliatory but overtly cautious. To a querulous few he was vain, devious, and timid. To most, however, he was assured, prudent, and gentle. Quietly he worked to defuse the lay Catholic Congress movement while praising the layman's efforts. Though in print he continued to champion the cause of the working class, in practice his dealings with labor unions left much to be desired. While he fought a bill to disfranchise Maryland blacks, at a Catholic African American Congress he counseled "wisdom, forbearance, prudence, and discretion." While he complimented women for their virtue, industry, and piety, he made no effort to hide his disdain for feminists.

Gibbons was not an institution builder because he was not a wall builder. He desired his immigrant charges to move into the mainstream as rapidly as possible. In this and in other ways he resembled the first archbishop of Baltimore. Like John Carroll, Gibbons evidenced a broad ecumenism in his association with the leaders of other denominations. In his involvement in civic affairs he also resembled Carroll.

The apostolic delegate was prepared to admit that Gibbons had served the Church well in assuaging intolerance and bigotry. With consummate tact he had become the friend of people of every condition, race, and faith, so that at his death he was exalted as a patriot, a citizen, and a statesman, a man of great vision whose words on national questions were always peaceful and just. Five years before his death the Baltimore Sun had said the same. "The Catholic Church has given many distinguished prelates and priests to its work in this country, but none who has inspired the same general confidence and the same earnest esteem." Its explanation: "To all he seems to speak in their own tongues by some Pentecostal power, or by some subtle affinity that makes nothing human foreign to him."



Baltimore Cathedral



Who's on First?

Or

What is my Assembly?

My Dad, John Handlin was a Knight and belonged to Monaghan Council, (Forty Acres). My Uncle Joe Handlin was a die-hard Blessed Sacrament. Uncle Andy was a Blessed Sacrament. Yet, with their traveling card in hand they participated in many Councils including St. Thomas depending on which Council was doing the most interesting activity. Dad, a plumber, helped out both Councils if they had plumbing issues. All three Handlin's hustled raffle tickets for the Councils, it was just the right thing to do. They were Knights, they had their traveling or membership cards, and the Councils were doing interesting things.

Now we add in Assemblies and WHO belongs to what! Frightening!

It is still a simple answer. Your traveling or membership card opens the door to Council meetings, and your Assembly Card opens the door to the 4th Degree. You may choose, you make the choice. It is quite possible, in the small State of Delaware, for you to live in one Assembly jurisdiction and the meeting for another is actually closer to your residence. The answer to this is to TRANSFER via an appropriate form. The Assembly uses Form 4.

The Assembly gets its roster from Supreme and Form 4. Do you remember hearing anyone talk about handwriting that looked like chicken scratch? Have you heard a Financial Secretary or Grand Knight remind Knights or Candidates to use a Ball Point Pen and press on the NCR Form? Transposed numbers, handwriting, legibility, and eyesight could re-route a Knight being placed in a different Council, or in our case, Assembly.

Mistakes happen. With the ever changing addresses and trying to mail Newsletter's electronically, I can assure you we have found recipients that were not of our Assembly. Knights helping Knights made it easy. File a new Form 4 and transfer to the Assembly you wish. We will help.

Who is on First? The answer is not the riddle of Costello, it is you and a Form 4.



"The Home Front 100 years Ago"

When we look back 100 years ago there's a tendency for people to think life was much simpler than it is today.

For example... there was no TV, no radio, no drug problem, no road rage, no going through security at the airport, etc. There were no housing developments like you see today where once was a farmer's field—only little towns like Hockessin, Marshallton, Felton, and Dagsboro.

Trains traveled up and down the state every day and night. When was the last time you heard a train whistle passing through town? There were no malls, just mom and pop stores downtown. Doctors made house calls—can you believe that? They came to your home and for \$5 a visit?

There were no soccer moms hauling boys and girls to practice after school. In our day kids chose up sides and played their own games after supper. Remember when Mom would say: "You be home before dark!" Milk was delivered in glass bottles to your door step every morning. Friends, family, and acquaintances used to drop in to see you just to be neighborly.

Doesn't that sound wonderful?—the good old days? When looking back in time, we tend to look at the "good" times, but now let's look at a more realistic approach at what it was like 100 years ago in Delaware during the WW1.

First, there was:

- ✓ No hot running water to take a bath or shower. You had to pump the water yourself and then heat it up. There were very few inside toilets —only outhouses out there in back— in hot and cold weather—no a/c in the heat there, nor heat in the cold.
- ✓ You know when you get into your car now, turn the key and the motor comes on—there were no electric starters—somebody had to get out and crank the engine and hope the engine would keep running until you got back in the seat and drove off.
- ✓ No CNN to catch the latest news; no cell phones to keep in constant contact with your friends or find out the latest tweet.
- ✓ No microwave to quick heat your coffee but a cook stove that had to be kept going in hot or cold weather.
- ✓ There was no social security for the old folks, no food stamps— can you imagine how poor some of these people were?
- ✓ Good public schools were found in the city of Wilmington, but as for the rest of the state, it was a sorry situation. In many rural areas kids were not even in school. In some places schools started only after all the crops had been harvested. Downstate there were three so called public school systems: one for white, one of blacks, and one for Nanticoke and Moor Indians!
- ✓ Dad was the bread winner. Women couldn't even vote and wouldn't be permitted to do so until after the war. By the way, Delaware could have been the 36th state to make it law across the country, but lost out to Tennessee. Delaware's State Senate passed it but the House of Representatives wouldn't even bring it up. What were they afraid of if women voted?
- ✓ Roads were just being built in the state and slowly... muddy roads became concrete. We've been building more and more roads ever since. Fancy automobiles costing upwards of \$5,000 were being built and could only be afforded by rich people. Then, a man came along by the name of Henry Ford

...and sold his car for \$600. About this time Coleman DuPont's gift to the state, a monument 100 miles long was laid down and called the DuPont highway, eventually named Route 113.

Speaking of DuPont—during World War I the newly reformed DuPont Company supplied gun powder to the US government and its Allies and made tons of money. It was said more wealth was brought to the banks of the Brandywine than ever seen before. Thus was the start of Chateau Country.

The anti-liquor movement was building and would soon result in a constitutional amendment against the use of it. The rest of the world looked on and said to itself: "Are the Americans crazy?—you can't get a drink?" But, on the other hand, people like Al Capone and rum runners licked their chops and said: "Boy, oh, boy—look what we got here. **People are going to get awful thirsty!**"

Then, there was the weather. The winter of 1917/1918 saw some of the coldest weather any had seen in their lifetimes. During the last week of 1917 temperatures were officially -4°F. This was before anti-freeze when water in car radiators froze and the vehicles had to be hauled home by a team of horses. In Ellendale, with coal and wood being scarce, pumps froze. Ice was piled up in the bay out from Lewes. On farms some said chickens froze and died simply by dropping from their roosts.

The summer of 1918 showed the flip side of the thermometer with record days of scorching heat and humidity. In the first week of August, temperatures up and down the state ranged from 100-110°F. Milford claimed the hottest weather since 1872 showed a temperature of 112°F!

Aside from the concerns with loved ones going away to war and maybe not coming back, there was even a greater worry at home and abroad—the Spanish Flu epidemic. No one knew where it came from. It decimated army camps with some 80,000 cases. The epidemic started in September in Wilmington and by cold weather more than 50 million people had died worldwide. People became sick with sore throats and just when they thought they were getting better, pneumonia developed. Whole families were wiped out and the Wilmington Board of Health stated flu had killed 520 in the city by October 12. Florists ran out of flowers for funerals with a shortage of caskets as well.

By Armistice Day (that's what they used to call Veterans Day), the "war to end all wars" had subsided and the last cases of the Spanish Flu had gone away.

Ever hear anyone talk about bringing back the good old days? Well, on the home front they endured excessive heat without air conditioning, cold weather and disease without antibiotics.

Such as it was a hundred years ago on the home front. It was a scary time when we saw our loved ones go off to war—some never to return. From what I have been talking about, do you see what everyone had to worry about back home while the war raged in Europe?

Would you like to turn the clock back to the "good old days" or continue living this life you enjoy now?

Published with permission of the Writer ——Roger A. Martin
Wilmington College 3/21/17