



Publisher—Faithful Navigator

# “THE OBSERVER”

Editor—S.K. Robert E. Zeigler



Volume 14 February 2018

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

## ROBERT’S RAMBLINGS

SAINT VALENTINE OR THE OTHER SAINT VALENTINES...OR CHOOSE

WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING ON FEBRUARY 14, CUPID, A ROBUST LOVER, A SYMBOL OF LOVE OR AN HISTORICAL FIGURE HAVING A RELIGIOUS FEAST DAY??



### Cardinal Gibbons Assembly Officer’s Roll Fraternal year 2017-2018

The following Faithful Sir Knights



Michael Handlin	Navigator
TBA	Captain
John McCormick	Admiral
Rev. Indongesit Etim	Friar
Thomas Green	Pilot
Steven Haller	Scribe
Lawrence Maguire	Comptroller
Christopher M. Green	Purser
William Lawler	Trustee 3 year
James Gardner	Trustee 2 year
Gerald Safranski	Trustee 1 year
William Marino	Inner Sentinel
Edward Godsell	Outer Sentinel
Albert Ware	Commander CC

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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’s



## EYE OF THE NAVIGATOR

I have dedicated this space to Membership, normally membership in the 4th Degree. I am taking a slight turn, still membership but not to a Degree. I am only a fifteen year member in the Knights. I am challenged by a gross difference in a numbers report. Our membership in the Knights of Columbus is well over 200,000. Our membership in the Guild that supports the cause of Sainthood for Venerable Father Michael McGivney is way less than 200,000 according to the Guild. So, I figure somebody needs to join! It costs nothing! The benefits are personal.

The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney. The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics. Guild members receive regular updates on the progress of Father McGivney's cause for canonization and are invited to participate in promoting devotion to this Servant of God. Members of the Knights of Columbus are not automatically Guild members and must elect to join the Guild. The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild Newsletter is published bimonthly except July- August, and is sent free to Guild members. To join the Guild, all you need to do is send your name and address and email to.....  
<http://www.fathermcgivney.org>. or sign up thru your Council. You would be helping a great cause.



**REMEMBERING OTHERS---GIBBONS ASSEMBLY 150**

**A PERMANENT PAGE**

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

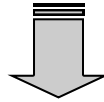
<b>Pope Francis</b>
<b>Bishop Malooly</b>
<b>Priests, Deacons, religious Brothers, Sisters of the Diocese and all the Church</b>
<b>Men &amp; women serving in ALL branches of the Armed Forces</b>
<b>The President of the United States</b>
<b>Men &amp; women peace officers, EMT's</b>
<b>The intentions of each member of Cardinal Gibbons</b>
<b>Peace in the Korea's</b>
<b>Diane Lawler</b>
<b>Ann Gardner</b>
<b>Ann Diamond</b>
<b>Patricia Miller</b>
<b>Should you have others, send me notice at: <a href="mailto:rez38@comcast.net">rez38@comcast.net</a></b>



**In your heart and mind please pray for all the intentions on this page.**



## **TWO MONTH CALENDAR**



### **February 2018**

- 1... BINGO...Little Sister!s of the Poor, Salem Church Road, 6:45PM**
- 4... POLAR PLUNGE IN REHOBOTH BEACH  
canned soup drive  
Super Bowl Sunday- MAY THE BEST TEAM WIN**
- 5... Business Meeting of the Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 150, 7PM, Holy Family. Our Worthy Master will join us!**

### **SOCK'S FOR SOLDIERS CAMPAIGN BEGINS!!!!!!!!!!**

- 8... BINGO...Little Sister's of the Poor, Salem Church Road, 6:45PM**
- 10... Veterans BINGO...2pm, VA Hospital in Elsmere**
- 14... ASH WEDNESDAY & ALSO ST. VALENTINE'S DAY [see article on this Saint[s]**
- 15... BINGO...Little Sisters of the Poor, Salem Church Road, 6:45PM**
- 22... BINGO...Little Sisters of the Poor, Salem Church Road, 6:45PM**

### **March 2018**

- 1... BINGO...Little Sisters of the Poor, Salem Church Road, 6:45PM**
- 5... BUSINESS MEETING OF THE CARDINAL GIBBONS ASSEMBLY, 7PM, Holy Family  
ALSO ON THE DATES OF 8, 15, 22, 29 BINGO AT THE LITTLE SISTERS 6:45 pm**

## Officers can Help Vets in Crisis

*Officer Nicholas Hurst has lost nearly as many fellow Marines in the U.S. as he has Overseas!*

Since returning from 2 Deployments, he has watched his brothers commit suicide as a result of **PTSD**.

Hurst, along with a team of newly trained Delaware officers, now have the skills they need to address and aid veterans in times of crisis-moments that often result in a call for police response. Officer Hurst with the New Castle County Police is helping bring veteran crisis intervention training to other police departments in the State.

Through the formation of the **Veterans Response Team**, a unit within the New Castle County Police that will complement the already existing Crisis Intervention Team, those who have already served in the U.S. Military will have an extra tool in reaching fellow veterans in need. Four County Police Officers attended veterans' response training in Apex, North Carolina, learning the skills necessary to address veterans in crisis and help them not only to safety but to resources available to them in the community. The officers then came back to Delaware and shared the expertise with local agencies including the Wilmington Police Department, the US Department of Veterans Affairs Police Service in Elsmere and Delaware State Police.

Hurst's idea, which earned him recognition as the Crisis Intervention Training Officer of the Year by NAMI Delaware, will hopefully result in sweeping change for the State in veteran response. There are so many people coming back from Military service, and are having a hard time adjusting. In order to have a successful outcome, you should have someone there who speaks that language and can relate. The biggest thing with a Vet is to establish rapport. It instantly takes things lower! VRT training will make a difference for those most affected in the community.

For now, the training is only available to those who have served in the U.S. Military. The goal is to always have an officer specifically trained on veterans' response available in these moments. That is why they are looking to train officers not just within the County, but throughout the State. It is important that we take care of the people taking care of the Country.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**St. Michael Council #4548 Chartered February 26, 1958**

**Join us in celebrating 60 years of our council's service to Church & Community**

**Saturday April 14, 2018**

5:00 PM Mass at Holy Family – celebrated by our Council Chaplain, Very Rev. Mark Kelleher, followed by dinner and dancing at Bella Vita's at Cavalier's Country Club, 100 Addison Drive, Newark, DE. 19702-1939

**Buffet Dinner is:**

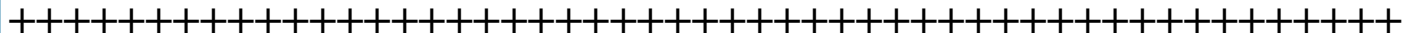
Cheese, crackers, fresh fruit, bruschetta station during cocktail hour / Chef's salad, chicken parmesan, tilapia, pasta tomato basil, chef's choice vegetable, chef's potatoes, rolls & butter, assorted desserts

**Only \$15.00 per person** (coffee, hot tea, iced tea included)

Cash bar available

Cut here and return bottom portion

Dress: Business Casual



**Cutoff date is April 4, 2018**

**Reservation Form**

**Please forward to: Joe McCann, PSD, PGK, FDD, FS  
523 Hambleton Lane  
Newark, DE. 19702-4313**

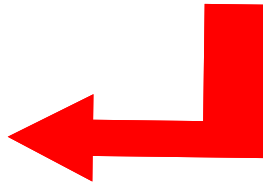
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Council \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: *St. Michael Council 4548 K of C*



## Who was St. Valentine .....ANOTHER RAMBLING



The St. Valentine who inspired the holiday may have been two different persons. Officially recognized by the Church, Valentine is known to be a real person who died in A.D. 269. However his true identity was questioned as early as A.D. 496 by Pope Gelasius I, who referred to the martyr and his acts as “being known only to God.” One account from the 1400’s describes Valentine as a temple priest who was beheaded near Rome by emperor Claudius II for helping Christian couples wed. A different account claims Valentine was the Bishop of Terni, also martyred by Claudius II on the outskirts of Rome. Because of the similarities of these accounts, it’s thought they may refer to the same person. Enough confusion surrounds the true identity of St. Valentine that the Church stopped liturgical veneration of him in 1969, however his name remains on the list of officially recognized saints.

In all, there are about a dozen St. Valentines, plus a Pope. The saint we celebrate on Valentines Day is known officially as St. Valentine of Rome in order to differentiate him from the dozens or so other Valentines on the list. Because “Valentinus”...from the Latin word for worthy, strong or powerful...was a popular moniker between the 2nd. & 8th. Centuries A.D., several martyrs over the centuries have carried this name. The official Roman Catholic roster of saints shows about a dozen who were named Valentine or some variation thereof. The most recently beautified Valentine is St. Valentine Berrio-Ochoa, a Spaniard of the Dominican Order who traveled to Vietnam where he served as bishop until his beheading in 1861. Pope John Paul II canonized Berrio-Ochoa in 1988. There was a Pope Valentine who served 40 days as Pontiff around A.D. 827.

Valentine is the patron saint of beekeepers and epilepsy. Saints are expected to stay busy in the afterlife. Their holy duties include interceding in earthly affairs and entertaining petitions from living souls. In this respect, St. Valentine has wide-ranging spiritual responsibilities. People call on him to watch over the lives of lovers, of course, but also for interventions regarding beekeeping and epilepsy, as well as the plague, fainting and traveling. As you might expect, he’s also the patron saint of engaged couple and happy marriages.

You find Valentine’s skull in Rome on display in the Basilica of Santa Maria in Cosmedin, Rome. In the early 1800’s the excavation of a catacomb near Rome yielded skeletal remains and other relics now associated with St. Valentine. As is customary, these bits and pieces of the late saint’s body have subsequently been distributed to reliquaries around the world. You can find other bits of St. Valentine’s skeleton on display in the Czech Republic, Ireland, Scotland, England and France.

Chaucer may have invented Valentine’s Day. Geoffrey Chaucer often took liberties with history, placing his poetic characters into fictitious historical contexts what he represented as real. No record exists of romantic celebrations on Valentine’s Day prior to a poem written in 1375. In his work, “Parliament of Fowles,” he links a courtly love with the celebration of St. Valentine’s feast day—an association that did not exist until after his poem received widespread attention. The poem refers to February 14 as the day birds [and humans] come together to find a mate. When Chaucer wrote, “For this was sent on Seynt Valentynes day / whan every foul cometh ther to choose his mate, “ he may have invented the holiday we know today.

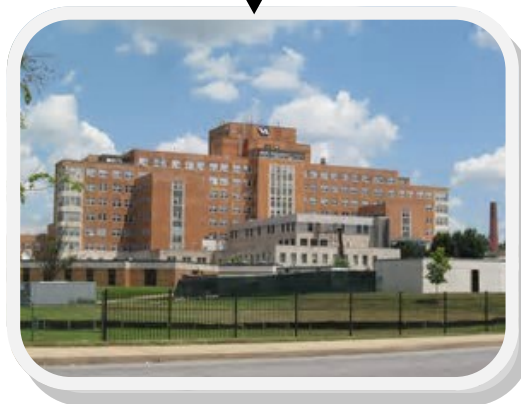
Valentine’s Day can be celebrated several times a year. Because of the abundance of St. Valentines on the Church roster, you can choose to celebrate the saint multiple times each year. Besides February 14, you might decide to celebrate St. Valentine of Viterbo on November 3. Or maybe you want to get a jump on the traditional Valentine celebration by feting St. Valentine of Raetia on January 7. Women might choose to honor the only female St. Valentine [Valentina] a virgin martyred in Palestine on July 25, A.D. 308. The Eastern Orthodox Churches officially celebrates St. Valentine twice, once as an Elder of the Church on July 6 and once as a martyr on July 30.

[SO NOW YOU HAVE A BETTER PERCEPTION ABOUT VALENTINE PLUS A BIT OF HISTORY](#)

**4th. Degree VA Bingo schedule for News Castle County Assemblies Participating**

**February 2018 to December 2018. Please alert your teams that Bingo begins at 2 PM at the Elsmere VA Hospital.**

<b>February 10</b>	<b>Cardinal Gibbons</b>
<b>March 10</b>	<b>Mardaga Assembly</b>
<b>April 14</b>	<b>Fitzmaurice Assembly</b>
<b>May 12</b>	<b>Cardinal Gibbons</b>
<b>June 9</b>	<b>Mardaga Assembly</b>
<b>July 14</b>	<b>Fitzmaurice Assembly</b>
<b>August 11</b>	<b>Cardinal Gibbons</b>
<b>September 8</b>	<b>Mardaga Assembly</b>
<b>October 13</b>	<b>Fitzmaurice Assembly</b>
<b>November 10</b>	<b>Cardinal Gibbons</b>
<b>December 8</b>	<b>Mardaga Assembly</b>



**A Gentle Reminder From Pope Francis**

**This life will go by fast.**

**Don't fight with people, don't criticize your body so much, don't complain so much.**

**Don't lose sleep over your bills. Look for the person that makes you happy. If you make a mistake, let it go and keep seeking your happiness.**

**Never stop being a good parent. Don't worry so much about buying luxuries and comforts for your home, and don't kill yourself trying to leave an inheritance for your family. Those benefits should be earned by each person, so don't dedicate yourself to accumulating money.**

**Enjoy, travel, enjoy your journeys, see new places, give yourself the pleasures you deserve. Allow dogs to get closer. Don't put away the fine glassware. Utilize the new dinnerware; don't save your favorite perfume, use it to go out with yourself; wear out your favorite sport shoes; repeat your favorite clothes.**

**So what? That's not bad. Why not now? Why not pray now instead of waiting until before you sleep? Why not call now? Why not forgive now? We wait so long for Christmas; for Friday; for Reunions; for another year; for when I have money; for love to come; when everything is perfect...look...**

**Everything perfect doesn't exist. Human beings can't accomplish this because it simply was not intended to be completed here. Here is an opportunity to learn.**

**So take this challenge that is life and do it now...love more, forgive more, embrace more, love more intensely and leave the rest in God's hands. Amen.**

## A SAINT IN THE MAKING 2017



### THE CAUSE FOR THE KNIGHTS' FOUNDER MARKS 20 FRUITFUL YEARS

On Dec. 18, 1997, a press conference was held announcing opening of cause for sainthood for Father Michael J. McGivney by the Hartford Archdiocese. Pictured are then-Supreme Knight Virgil Dechant, Archbishop Emeritus Daniel Cronin, then-Supreme Chaplain Bishop Thomas Daily and Dominican Father Gabriel O'Donnell.

His life inspires and his vision still lives as the process toward sainthood continues for Father Michael J. McGivney. In the 20 years since the cause for his canonization was opened, devotion to the founder of the Knights of Columbus has grown throughout the Order and spread widely among the Catholic faithful.

The humble parish priest, who founded the Knights with a handful of parishioners at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Conn., was declared venerable by the Vatican in 2008. His intercession is sought by priests and laypersons in all the challenges of life, and he still is known as a friend of the poor and neglected; an advocate for widows and orphans and those affected by divorce and family breakup; a supporter of Christian family life; a trustworthy guide to the young; a promoter of the Catholic faith; and above all, a champion of charity, the first principle of the Knights of Columbus.

The canonization cause was opened on Dec. 18, 1997, in the Archdiocese of Hartford, then under Archbishop Daniel Cronin, with the Knights of Columbus serving as the "actor" or prime supporter. Dominican Father Gabriel O'Donnell, the first postulator in charge of the cause, set out to compile the *positio*, a deeply researched and carefully footnoted document drawing upon all historical evidence attesting to Father McGivney's holiness and virtue. After review and approval at the archdiocesan level, the *positio* was sent to the Vatican and in March 15, 2008, Pope Benedict XVI declared Father McGivney a "Venerable Servant of God," recognizing that he exercised the theological and cardinal virtues "to a heroic degree."

During his apostolic visit to the United States the following month, Pope Benedict called Father McGivney an "exemplary American priest" whose work was key to the "impressive growth" of the Catholic Church in America during the 19th century. CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



...With his cause active at the Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of Saints, a miracle attributed to Father McGivney's intercession is required for him to be declared Blessed, and then another such miracle would be needed for canonization or sainthood. All Knights and their families, as well as everyone devoted to Father McGivney, are encouraged to implore Father McGivney's intercession in all struggles in life, especially in times of serious illness, and to report any favors or healings to the Father McGivney Guild, the office that promotes the sainthood cause.

But the cause is about more than seeking miracles, as vital as that is to its successful completion. The cause also involves learning about the many practical virtues of this exemplary priest and the ways he responded in an informed and practical manner to the serious challenges facing his immigrant parishioners. His cause for sainthood also encourages us to emulate him in our daily lives, as Knights and as Catholic laypersons, and pray for his help in our daily struggles.

The vitality of the Father Michael J. McGivney Guild is prime indicator of his continued popularity and presence in people's lives. With close to 170,000 members throughout the world, the Guild has received reports of thousands of favors over the years, a testament to the intercession of Father McGivney and the trust that people place in him. These favors fall generally into four categories that Father McGivney was concerned about during his earthly priesthood:

#### **GIBBONS COLOR CORPS PARTICIPATION DURING JANUARY 2018**

**January 28, Installation Mass for Fr. Stanley J. Russell to Monsignor at St. Helena Church  
Celebrant: Most Reverend W. Francis Malooly, DD, Bishop of Wilmington.**

**J. Gardner  
T. Green  
L. McGuire  
B. Keller  
A. Ware**



**January 30, Mass of Christian Burial for Sir Knight James DeCarlo at St. Ann Church.**

**T. Green  
W. Marino  
A. Ware**





In 2009, officials of a supplemental tribunal, constituted by the Archdiocese of Hartford, formally sent a new report to the Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of Saints. The tribunal interviewed additional witnesses, including several medical doctors, about the circumstances of a reported miracle attributed to Venerable Michael McGivney's intercession. The report was signed and presented to Archbishop

1. **Employment and finances.** Just as his parishioners looked to Father McGivney for guidance at a time when the words “No Irish need apply” were often included in job postings, so today many receive help when they are laid off or seeking a better job.
2. **Substance abuse.** In Father McGivney’s day, alcoholism afflicted the immigrant population, and he founded a parish “total abstinence” society. Many now find relief from drug or alcohol abuse through praying to him.
3. **Family reconciliation.** Divisions occurred within immigrant families struggling to make ends meet, and they are not uncommon today with the increase of divorce. Father McGivney continues to respond to the prayers of families.
4. **Return to the faith.** Father McGivney founded the Order to keep men from leaving the Church to join anti-Catholic secret societies. Today, many Catholics receive favors when calling upon him to help their fallen-away children return to Mass.

Twenty years may seem like a long time to wait for a holy person to be canonized, but it is far from an unusual period for a saint-hood cause. We can use this time to renew our faith, deepen our prayer life, join the Guild and unite our prayers for the good of the Knights of Columbus and for an increase of devotion to its founder.



Pokud můžete odpovědět na otázku, pošlete svou odpověď na [rez38@comcast.net](mailto:rez38@comcast.net)

OR

IF YOU CAN ANSWER THE QUESTION, SEND YOUR ANSWER TO [REZ38@COMCAST.NET](mailto:REZ38@COMCAST.NET)



QUESTION....



IN WHAT CITY OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC ARE THESE PALACE GUARDS ON PARADE?