



Fr. Walter F. Malloy Assembly

Volume XXII
Number 5

NAVIGATOR'S LOG

December
2002

Knights of Columbus, Fourth Degree, Virginia District, Calvert Province

A VERY MERRY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!



NAVIGATORS REPORT

Worthy Sir Knights!

Christmas! The season of joy, and child dreams and wonder. Its probably the one time of the year when so much reflecting, possibly accented with a tear of the past, brings smiles of what traditions, family and friends are all about. Remember, there has only been ONE Christmas. Every other year is just a remembrance. Our Jewish brethren celebrate their season in lights. Seven lights on a menorah. WOW, more traditions.

The season often brings to mind the periods of Peace in time of conflict. We stop wars, we stop conflict, we bring families together to unite and set aside differences. I remember an old WWII movie where war time was stopped for Christmas between the Americans and Germans. They joined for dinner, raised a toast to the season, but returned the next day to their missions of war. Too bad in real life, Christmas day couldn't be extended. These like so many, but one really sticks out in my mind. There is a song that came out in the last couple of years called, "*The Christmas Shoes*", or "*Mama's Going to Meet Jesus*". It tells of a young boy buying shoes for his mother who is on her death bed. He only has so much money, obviously not enough but begs to take the shoes "because Mama does not have much time". The sales person sees the poor boy's scared look and who just wants to make his Mama look good "before Jesus". Call it Faith, pity, but the boy gets home in time for his mom's last Christmas and with the shoes. Sir Knights, lets see life through the ones who are less fortunate. Always ensuring they are ready "to meet Jesus". I know you do, through the many clothing and foods you collect and deeds. Maybe we are that salesman in life, but can make the difference either in kind word or action.

In my early days here in Washington DC, I saw many homeless during this season on my hustle during the holidays at metro stations, and I thought how my life has been blessed but not like them. Jesus says, "If you did it to one of these, you did it to me". Lets do one more thing during Advent, Pray for these people, and people who are lonely and can't afford presents.

I bet many of our parents like us, went without that special present so our kids or family could get *their* special present. That's the present given to the Christ Child. One of sacrifice, one of love, and one of giving. So, like the child dreams, wonders, Seven lights, our Servicemen and women, Mama's Shoes, and those in our neighborhoods, let's ask the Christ Child to give them hope. Many of you have had concerns this year too. Its been a year! Bring them to the stable and leave them for our Lord. After all, he's up all night, might as well give it to him. Let his comfort for you be extended at the stable. He was born poor, and destitute for a reason. Sir Knights and Brother Knights, bring your woes to the stable and let him work them out. Be thankful, then turn to one and extend some warmth.

In closing I bring a message from Mother Teresa: "Joy is love, the normal result of a heart burning with love. **Joy is a need and a physical power.** Our lamps will be burning with sacrifices made out of love if we have joy."

Sir Knights, Karen joins me in sending the best of this Holy Season and the New Year, 2003. PAX!

Tom Snee
Faithful Navigator

**VISIT YOUR ASSEMBLY'S NEW WEB PAGE AT:
WWW.ASSEMBLY1894.KOFCVA.ORG/INDEX.CGIM**

Thanks to new Sir Knight Kevin McGrail, Webmaster. Stay up to date with activities of the Assembly. Set your Bookmarks.

Next Assembly Meeting Wednesday, December 18

The next meeting of Fr. Malloy Assembly will be held at Providence Hall, St. Leo the Great Parish on Wednesday, December 18th. The meeting will start with recitation of the Rosary at 7:30 PM. This will be followed by *The Knight's Cafe*, a social, sit-down repast prepared by Brother Sir Knights. A business meeting will follow *The Knight's Cafe*. All Sir Knights are urged to attend and join in a discussion of a proposed budget for the Assembly. All new Sir Knights are encouraged to attend this, their first Assembly meeting, and meet their Brother Sir Knights.

**Assembly Officers and Staff
2002-2003**

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**SK December Birthdays
(PFN's in BOLD)**

12/05 Steven Fahar	12/17 Mark Weiss
12/05 Rev. Luis	12/18 Alphonso
Valdivieso	Obuchowski
12/07 William Vitaletti	12/18 Brian Vaccaro
12/09 James Caruso	12/19 Luigi Alpentista
12/11 Joseph Chalk	12/20 Paul Simmons
12/11 Donald Champagny	12/22 Gerald Weigand
12/12 James Kelly	12/22 Stephen Smith
12/12 James Seidl	12/23 James Meenan
12/12 William Weich	12/25 Joseph Lipari
12/13 Herbert Zimmerman	12/27 Richard Kelly
12/13 Kevin McGrail	12/27 Rev. David Murrung
12/16 William Delaney	12/28 Stephen Mahoney

In Memoriam

Please remember in your prayers those Sir Knights who have passed during the Month of December:

12/16/1989 SK Rev. Vincent Sikora
12/28/1995 SK Charles D.T. Lenhoff

The Captain's Corner
Sir Knight Tim Donovan
Faithful Captain



We have begun a new liturgical year and the Gospel of Mark calls us to "Watch." Indeed even the seasonal Santa song warns that we "Better watch out, better not cry, better not pout I'm telling you why --- he's coming to town." However the person coming may not be the person you expect. The person coming is Jesus.

That is what advent is about. It is not solely a season of the anticipation of Christ's birth on December 25th but is more importantly a liturgical period in which we as Catholics address the need to be prepared for the second coming of Our Lord and Savior. We celebrate the first coming by readying ourselves for the second coming. Advent is an English word derived from the Latin ad-venio, to come to.

In 650, Advent was celebrated in Spain with five Sundays. Several synods had made laws about fasting to be observed during this time, some beginning with the eleventh of November, others the fifteenth, and others as early as the autumnal equinox. Other synods forbade the celebration of matrimony. In the Greek Church we find no documents for the observance of Advent earlier than the eighth century. In the eighth century we find it observed not as a liturgical celebration, but as a time of fast and abstinence, from 15 November to the Nativity. This is the rule today with at least some of the Greeks. Similarly, the Ambrosian and the Mozarabic rites have no special liturgy for Advent, but only the fast. The popular idea that the four weeks of Advent symbolize the four thousand years of darkness in which the world was enveloped before the coming of Christ finds no confirmation in the Liturgy. Epistles and Gospels.

In the Epistle we are told that, since the Redeemer is nearer, we should cast aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; should walk honestly, as in the day, and put on the Lord Jesus Christ. We are encouraged not to pass judgment. For the Lord, when He comes, will manifest the secrets hidden in hearts.

In the Gospels we hear of the Lord coming in glory; of Him in, and through, Whom the prophecies are being fulfilled; of the Eternal walking in the midst of the Jews; of the voice in the desert, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord".

Our Roman Catholic Church in her Liturgy takes us in spirit back to the time before the incarnation of the Son of God, as though it were really yet to take place. Cardinal Wiseman says:

"We are not dryly exhorted to profit by that blessed event, but we are daily made to sigh with the Fathers of old, "Send down the dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the Just One: let the earth be opened, and bud forth the Redeemer". The Collects on three of the four Sundays of the season begin with the words, "Lord, raise up thy power and come".

Have a Blessed Christmas and I know you will make your Guest welcome and even perhaps at home.

Timothy G. Donovan
Faithful Pilot

BOWLING LEAGUE

Members of Malloy Assembly are invited to join Father Diamond's 16 week bowling league which starts January 5, 2003. The league bowls at 6:30 PM on Sunday Evenings and are usuall finished by 9:00 PM. This is a mixed bowling league and women are invited. Last years costs and prize money was \$12.50 per person with a one time ABC sanction fee of \$16. Contact Dave Whitcomb (703-591-7739) or Keith Morrison (703 691-8838) for details.



Attendees enjoy dinner prepared by SK David Todd, Jr. (Great Job David)



Faithful Navigator Tom Snee and Master J. P. McCusker address attendees at Dinner



SK Mike Plumstead and SK Al Leightly presented Certificates and welcomed as new Sir Knights



Sir Knight Lawrence Novak named Sir Knight of the Year for the Jurisdiction of Virginia.

**SK Tim Coe
Faithful Pilot**

Worthy Sir Knights, as I sit here looking out the window I think about one of the explanations I heard of how December 25th was selected as Christmas Day. This reason may not be 100% accurate but I heard it from a good source (a church bulletin), so I thought I'd pass it on. Back then, around 2000 years ago, Joseph and Mary had to return home to comply with local laws to get an accurate census count. Along the way, Mary had a child, Jesus. Time keeping was not the most accurate, but it was probably around the end of the year. Move ahead a few hundred years when the powers in charge established a new calendar. Not wanting to neglect such an important day, much consideration was put into determining when to celebrate the birth of our Lord, the Savior of the World. They looked at the birth of Jesus as a new beginning, a day when life began anew. Since the shortest day of the year was December 21st, they selected December 25th as the day we celebrate a new beginning. They looked for a time of the year when new things will begin to grow and prosper. Since that time astronomers have tweaked the calendar to adjust for changes or inaccuracies in the earth's position, but they have left the day we call Christmas alone. A few centuries later the secular world somehow chose this Holy Day as a day to give loved ones gifts, thus giving us what we have as Christmas, the Holiday. As good Catholics, please do not forget what Christmas really is first.

Congratulations again to our 50 new Sir Knights who joined our assembly last month. You have joined the one catholic organization that supports both God and Country with style and class. Please come out and participate in as many of our functions as possible. It is often impossible make meetings on Wednesday evenings because of work and family, but you're still welcomed at any and all Color Corps functions.

I wish you and yours a very Merry and Holy Christmas!

Tim Coe
Faithful Pilot

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Members of Malloy Assembly are invited to join Fr. Diamond Council for their annual Christmas Party on Dec. 20 in St Leo's Parish Activity Center from 7 to 11 PM. The cost is \$10 per person. This charge includes the main course, DJ, wine, beer, soft drinks, and all set-ups. Attire is semi-formal. Dishes are allocated as follows:

- A-F Appetizers
- G-K Salads
- L-G Side Dishes
- R-Z Desserts

Contact Pete Smith (703 503-1082) for details and



THE NAVIGATOR'S LOG
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