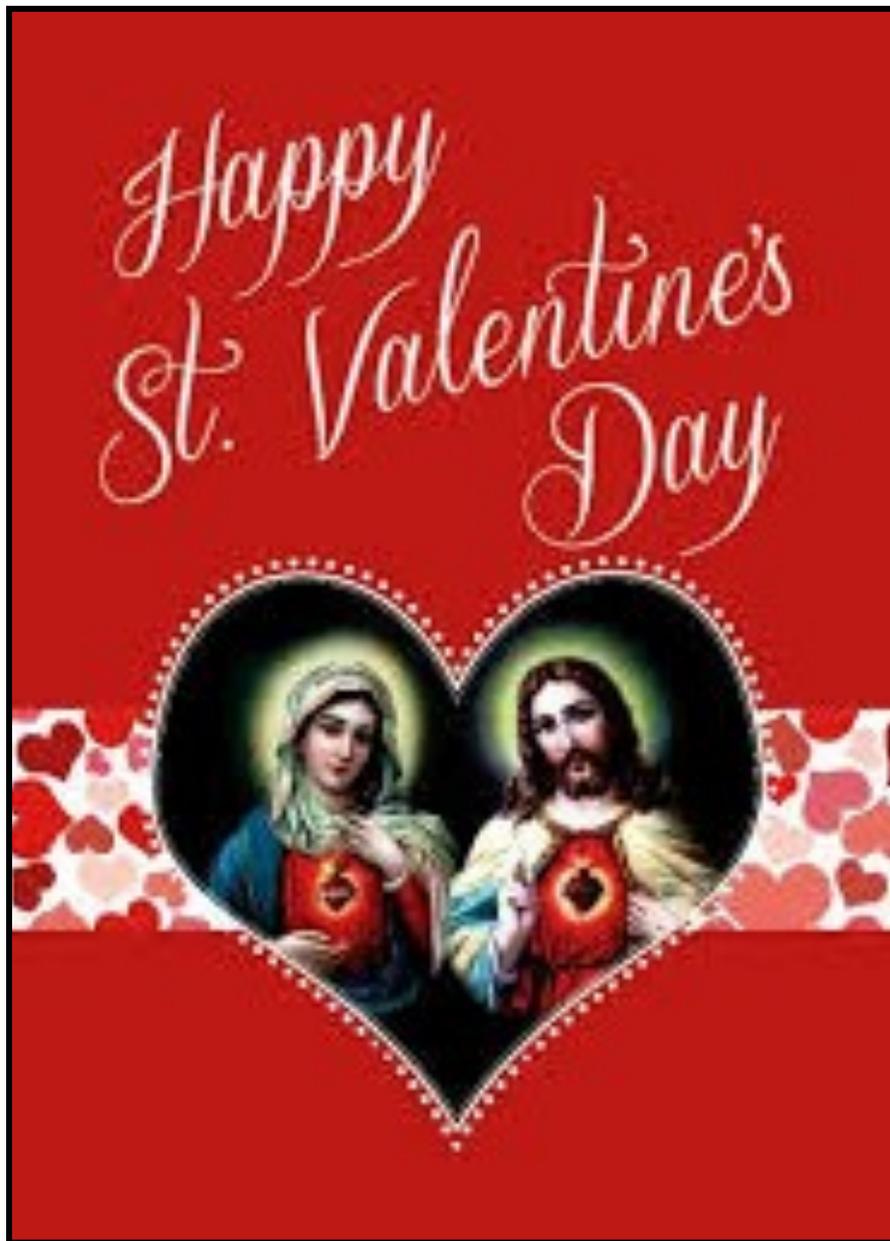




The Bishop Flaherty Patriot



Published by:

Bishop J. Louis Flaherty Assembly #1678

**Knights of Columbus in the Fourth Degree - The Patriotic Arm of Our Order
Serving District 19 Knights of Columbus Councils:**

George Brent #5332, All Saints Catholic Church, Manassas, VA

Our Lady of the Rosary #12982, Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Gainesville, VA

Father Jon O'Brien #16793, St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church, Haymarket, VA

February 2021

NAVIGATOR'S MESSAGE

Sir Knights,

I want to wish everyone a happy and safe New Year.

As I noted last month, the Fredericksburg Religious Freedom parade was canceled due to COVID restrictions. In its place, the Assembly held a reading of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom on Saturday, January 9 at the George Brent Council Hall. Sir Knight Tom Mehr read the statute, but before he did, he gave us a fascinating report on the background of the religious laws of Virginia, and the reason that Thomas Jefferson wrote the Statute.

The Evening with Zac has been postponed to a later date, most likely in late April or May.

Deacon Brian Majewski has agreed to be our Spiritual Advisor and his appointment has been approved by both Father Roos and Bishop Burbidge. Please welcome Deacon Majewski.

The next 4th Degree Exemplification will be April 17 and will be virtual. We will stream the Exemplification at the George Brent Council Hall again. Please recruit now. This is a good opportunity to take the Exemplification without having to travel.

We received word that the Bishop Flaherty Assembly has been awarded Star Assembly. Congratulations to PFN Greg Murray and all Sir Knights of the Assembly.

We have two events coming in February. Our Super Bowl sub sale will be the weekend of February 6 and 7. The Lenten Fish Fry sponsored by the Assembly will be on February 26. Please come out and volunteer for these events.

As we begin a new year, please keep in your prayers all who have suffered through the COVID pandemic. Please remember those who have died or lost loved ones, those who are sick or recovering, and those suffering financially. Please pray that 2021 will be a better year for all.

Stay safe and healthy,
Harry Post
Faithful Navigator



Brothers, a favorite prayer of the Knights is the Prayer to St Michael the Archangel. St. Pope John Paul II asked everyone not to forget it and to recite it to obtain help in the battle against the forces of darkness of this world. As there are some variants, the following has been selected by the Faithful Navigator as the standard for the Assembly. As you recite the following prayer imagine him moving swiftly on a golden ray of light with his sword and blue light and visualize Archangel Michael putting his "strong blue light" around you for protection:



*Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou,
O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God,
thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits,
who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*

READING OF VIRGINIA STATUTE FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



After the reading of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, a special award was presented to two young men who often attend Assembly functions. For their participation and help in many of our outside events, Gabriel and Rafael Solet were given Knights of Columbus Challenge Coins. Thank you Gabriel and Rafael for your participation.

VIRGINIA STATUTE FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Virginia Statute on Religious Freedom

Author: Thomas Jefferson

Date: 1786

Annotation: On his gravestone, Thomas Jefferson listed the three accomplishments for which he most wanted to be remembered: drafting the Declaration of Independence, founding the University of Virginia, and writing the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom. Enacted in 1786, the Statute for Religious Freedom is one of the most important documents in American history on the subject of religious liberty. It prohibited government interference or support for religion and became an inspiration for the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

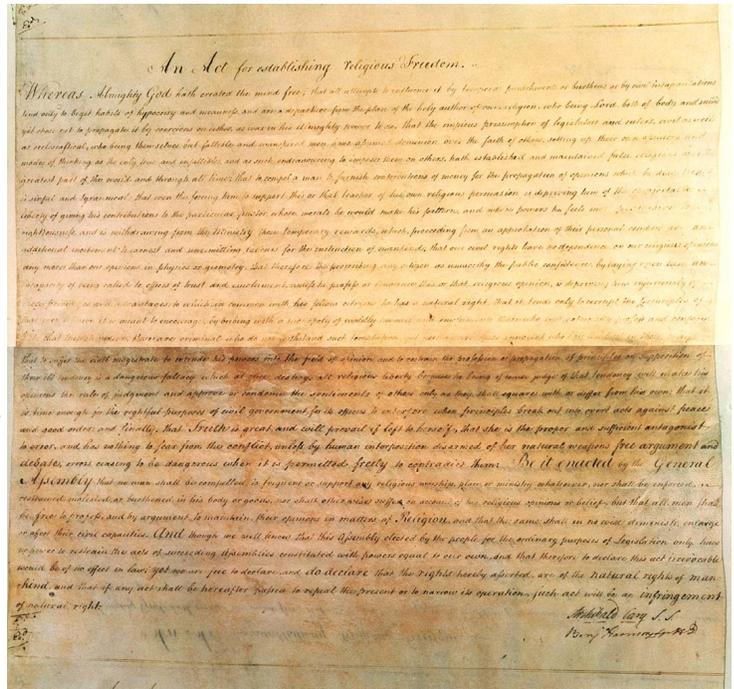
Jefferson originally drafted the statute in 1777, during the American Revolution. But the measure was opposed by Patrick Henry and many of Virginia's larger religious denominations, who feared that churches would decline without tax support.

James Madison, who guided the Statute for Religious Freedom through the Virginia Assembly, argued that the right to religious liberty was one of the rights for which Americans had waged the Revolution. Jefferson and Madison held that the right to freedom of conscience extended to non-Christians and even to nonbelievers. Jefferson felt that religion would flourish if left alone. "It is error alone which needs the support of government," he wrote. "Truth can stand by itself."

During the years following the Revolution, every state ended tax support for churches and religious qualifications for voting and officeholding. Religious denominations had to compete for followers without government support.

There can be no doubt that the "American system" of voluntary support for religious proved to be enormously successful. Between 1800 and 1840, the proportion of Americans who were church members doubled. Older denominations--including Baptist, Methodist, and Catholic churches--while a host of new denominations arose, including the Church of Christ, the Mormons, and new African American churches. Today, a higher proportion of Americans regularly attend a religious institution than in virtually any other western nation.

Document: *Whereas Almighty God hath created the mind free; that all attempts to influence it by temporal punishments or burthens, or by civil incapacitations, tend only to beget habits of hypocrisy and meanness, and are a departure from the plan of the Holy author of our religion, who being Lord both of body and mind, yet chose not to propagate it by coercions on either, as it was in his Almighty power to do; that the impious presumption of legislators and rulers, civil as well as ecclesiastical, who being themselves but fallible and uninspired men, have assumed dominion over the faith of others, setting up their own*



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(continued on page 5)

VIRGINIA STATUTE FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

(continued from page 4)

opinions and modes of thinking as the only true and infallible, and as such endeavouring to impose them on others, hath established and maintained false religions over the greatest part of the world, and through all time; that to compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves, is sinful and tyrannical; that even the forcing him to support this or that teacher of his own religious persuasion, is depriving him of the comfortable liberty of giving his contributions to the particular pastor, whose morals he would make his pattern, and whose powers he feels most persuasive to righteousness, and is withdrawing from the ministry those temporary rewards, which proceeding from an approbation of their personal conduct, are an additional incitement to earnest and unremitting labours for the instruction of mankind; that our civil rights have no dependence on our religious opinions, any more than our opinions in physics or geometry; that therefore the proscribing any citizen as unworthy the public confidence by laying upon him an incapacity of being called to offices of trust and emolument, unless he profess or renounce this or that religious opinion, is depriving him injuriously of those privileges and advantages to which in common with his fellow-citizens he has a natural right; that it tends only to corrupt the principles of that religion it is meant to encourage, by bribing with a monopoly of worldly honours and emoluments, those who will externally profess and conform to it; that though indeed these are criminal who do not withstand such temptation, yet neither are those innocent who lay the bait in their way; that to suffer the civil magistrate to intrude his powers into the field of opinion, and to restrain the profession or propagation of principles on supposition of their ill tendency, is a dangerous fallacy, which at once destroys all religious liberty, because he being of course judge of that tendency will make his opinions the rule of judgment, and approve or condemn the sentiments of others only as they shall square with or differ from his own; that it is time enough for the rightful purposes of civil government, for its officers to interfere when principles break out into overt acts against peace and good order; and finally, that truth is great and will prevail if left to herself, that she is the proper and sufficient antagonist to error, and has nothing to fear from the conflict, unless by human interposition disarmed of her natural weapons, free argument and debate, errors ceasing to be dangerous when it is permitted freely to contradict them:

Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That no man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place, or ministry whatsoever, nor shall be enforced, restrained, molested, or burthened in his body or goods, nor shall otherwise suffer on account of his religious opinions or belief; but that all men shall be free to profess, and by argument to maintain, their opinion in matters of religion, and that the same shall in no wise diminish enlarge, or affect their civil capacities.

And though we well know that this assembly elected by the people for the ordinary purposes of legislation only, have no power to restrain the acts of succeeding assemblies, constituted with powers equal to our own, and that therefore to declare this act to be irrevocable would be of no effect in law; yet we are free to declare, and do declare, that the rights hereby asserted are of the natural rights of mankind, and that if any act shall be hereafter passed to repeal the present, or to narrow its operation, such act shall be an infringement of natural right.

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MARCH FOR LIFE

The 48th annual March for Life was held in Washington, D.C. on January 29th. Organizers asked people to stay home and participate virtually, because of the pandemic. The only marchers in attendance were leaders of the pro-life movement flanked by Knights of Columbus marshals from Virginia. Following are links to two articles from the Arlington Catholic Herald reporting on the this year's March for Life and related activities.



https://www.catholicherald.com/News/National_International/Keep_fighting_pro-life_advocates_told_in_virtual_March_for_Life/

https://www.catholicherald.com/News/National_International/National/Pro-life_witness_is_rooted_in_the_Eucharist_Archbishop_Lori_says/

MESSAGES FOR THE MEMBERSHIP

ASSEMBLY DUES--Dues notices for 2021 were emailed out in late November 2020 and later hard copies were mailed USPS. All Honorary Life members and all members who have paid their dues so far have had their membership cards for 2021 mailed to them. Please let me know if you have not received a dues notice or have not received your 2021 membership card if you sent me a check through the mail. Occasionally items do get lost in the mail. Beginning this year, PayPal/credit card payment is also an option to pay Assembly dues. Contact me if you want to use this method of payment. Please let me know if you have a situation which would prevent you from paying your Assembly dues for 2021. We can always work something out as times are tough for so many right now.

Thanks for your time and let me know if there is anything I can do to help you be an active member of Bishop Flaherty Assembly!

Matt Carroll
Comptroller
Bishop Flaherty Assembly
jane.matt@verizon.net
703-477-9838

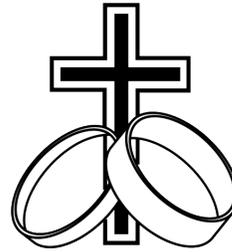
SUB SALE--Our third sub sale of the fraternal year will be held on the weekend of the Super Bowl--February 5-7. Watch for emails coming out soon regarding the making and selling of the subs. Since Brother Knights and their families are our best customers, kindly reserve some subs for you and yours today! Contact sub sale chairman Louis Sheffield (Louis.Sheffield.KofC@gmail.com) for information on how to do this.

FISH FRY--On Friday, February 26, Bishop Flaherty Assembly is hosting a Lenten Fish Fry at the George Brent Council Hall. These dinners will be **Curb-side Pick-Up Only**. Volunteers will be need to cook, pack and deliver the meals. Watch for emails that will be coming out with additional information concerning this event and how you can help.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

FEBRUARY	
FEBRUARY 1	MARGE & CHARLIE GROOM
FEBRUARY 1	KELLIE & SCOTT ROSS
FEBRUARY 1	PATTY & MIKE TRACY
FEBRUARY 2	JENNY & JOHN HAGEN
FEBRUARY 6	LYNETTE & DAN MASARICK
FEBRUARY 14	LAURA & KEVIN GIMLETT
FEBRUARY 16	BARBARA & RAY GENDRON
FEBRUARY 20	BETTY & JIM CANNON
FEBRUARY 20	CHERYL & DAVE MART
FEBRUARY 20	MARGARET & CHARLIE ORAMA
FEBRUARY 26	LINDA & KEVIN GERKEN
FEBRUARY 26	LINDA & DOMINIC PRESTON

MARCH	
MARCH 5	DEISI & SANTIAGO GARCIA
MARCH 8	DELIA & RAMON ECLAVEA
MARCH 8	HYESUK & FREDERICK PUTHOFF
MARCH 16	ANN & JACK SOUTHARD
MARCH 17	TERRI & BERNIE MALLON
MARCH 20	BLANCHE & FRANCIS EARHARDT



If your anniversary is not on the list and you would like to have it added, please notify SK Matt Carroll.

AMERICAN FLAG DRAWING



Each month at the Assembly meeting we hold a drawing for a U.S. flag. All that is required for each Sir Knight in attendance at the meeting is to sign in prior to the beginning of the meeting and be present at the time of the drawing at the end of the meeting. This is a FREE drawing for every Sir Knight to participate in.

January Raffle Winner--Faithful Navigator Harry Post

FEBRUARY SIR KNIGHT BIRTHDAYS

Greg Alberti	Richard Erikson	David Jacobeen	Michael Morris	Louis Sheffield
Steven Bergquist	Aldwin Estrellado	Timothy Lamb	Douglas Morrison	Adam Simmons
Bryan Blank	Leonardo Garcia	Michael Masci	George Ocilka	Lawrence Stangl
Francis Brenner	Agustin Garcia	Timothy Mayer	Sherman Patrick	Matthew Worrick
Jean-Loup Combemale	Sebastiano Gurciullo	James McCusker	Harold Post	William Yochem
	Bryan Hall		Don Reed	

ASSEMBLY NOTICES

CONTACT INFORMATION--Make sure your Assembly Contact Information is kept up to date. Please inform SK Matt Carroll (jane.matt@verizon.net) of all changes to your contact information.

NEXT NEWSLETTER--Submissions for the March 2021 Newsletter are due to the editor no later than Tuesday, February 23, 2021.

LADIES OF THE FOURTH DEGREE

Hello Ladies,

Here we are in a new year. Let us hope and pray that this new year will bring all of us new hopes and new promises of a better year ahead. Let us pray for strength for those fighting the throes of COVID-19, for strength and comfort for all those who have lost loved ones to COVID -19, for all those who are working so hard to help us deal with this horrific virus, for all those who have worked to create the vaccines and those involved in getting these vaccines to us. Add a prayer for all of us that we may follow all the guidelines given us to fight this killer virus doing our part to help control the virus and show our respect and concern for each other. In the days to come in conquering this coronavirus please remember to respect each other's boundaries. We all have our unique and personal issues that may dictate how we each deal with this.

Christmas and New Year have come and gone. Our All Saints Christmas ornaments have come but they have not gone. We still have many to sell so please ask around to friends, neighbors, family telling them they still have an opportunity to purchase one. Some parishioners questioned the possibility of purchasing prior years. We can do that but there is a minimum amount we have to order and we have only thirty days to pay for them. Something we need to discuss.

All organizations are scratching their heads to come up with ideas to raise funds to support their charities. Put your brains in gear - we welcome all ideas. How about a curbside pickup for St. Patrick's Day dinner of corn beef and cabbage? We are still holding onto hopes of a springtime Dinner with Zac, possibly an outdoor event where we can raffle our baskets to raise funds.

In these uncertain days remember all dates are subject to change.

Our next meeting will be February 22, 2021.

Don't ever feel threatened by the future - take life one day at a time. Have hope! Because it works wonders for those who have it.

Blessings,

Ellie

**Next Meeting
February 22, 2021
Hope to see you there!**

CONTACT INFORMATION

President	Ellie Dale	ellie8dale@gmail.com	703-361-3091
Vice President	Mary Jo Mehr	pioneer77@Reagan.com	703-367-8592
Secretary	Patti Sheffield	louiepatti@yahoo.com	703-368-0358
Treasurer	Cyndy Quinan	cyndyquinan@gmail.com	703-895-0627
Historian	Gillian Quintana	GLQuintana@aol.com	703-368-4723

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for the repose of the souls of the following recently deceased:



Sir Knight Sylvester F. "Buzz" Verry, Jr.
Katherine "Kay" Hockman, Mother-in-law of Sir Knight Chris Goldsmith
Virginia "Gingie" Werner, Mother-in-law of Sir Knight John Bland
Sir Knight Gary E. Walters
Myra Frappier, widow of Sir Knight Robert Frappier
Sir Knight Joseph N. Mugnano
Fr. James R. Shelton—Bishop Flaherty Assembly Faithful Friar



Please pray for our military and civilian service personnel serving in harm's way, especially the following young men and women who are part of our Assembly family:



LT Jennifer Cahill, USN
Michael Gibson, USN
Steven Gibson, USN
SSgt Thomas Grimes
CPT James Mehr, USA

CPT Sarah Mehr, USA
SSG Steven Mehr, USA
A1C Michael Schiesl
1SG Mark Verry, USA

Please remember in prayer all our brother Sir Knights, family members and loved ones who are in need of our prayers, especially the following:

Agnes & Rich Aleksy
Larry & Carol Baer
Vickie Ball
Joe & Sandy Cahill
Amour & Ramon Carag
Mike Carta
Tony Corbo
Carmen & Audreenia DeFranks
Patrick Fucci
Agustin E Garcia
David Jacobeen

Beverly Little
Michael Marshall
Dan & Lynette Masarick
Sam Nealey
Juanita Oliver
Joann Para
Noreen Reynolds
Marie Riley
Jim Sojka
Deacon Jim Van de Voorde
Bob & Carol Weaver



A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC



The ancient fresco of Madonna del Soccorso (Our Lady of Help) in St. Peter's Basilica was restored with the support of the Knights of Columbus to mark the Year of Faith (2012-2013). Photo courtesy of Fabbrica di San Pietro/M. Falconi.

O Mary,
you always brighten our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain
while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother,
you know what we need,
and we are confident you will provide for us
as at Cana in Galilee.

Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,
the Divine Physician,
for those who have fallen ill,
for those who are vulnerable,
and for those who have died.

Intercede also for those charged with
protecting the health and safety of others
and for those who are tending to the sick
and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who took upon himself our
sufferings and carried our sorrows,
so as to lead us, through the Cross,
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

*Under thy protection we seek refuge,
O Holy Mother of God.
In our needs, despise not our petitions,
but deliver us always from all dangers,
O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.*

Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis

KNIGHTS OF  COLUMBUS

ASSEMBLY CALENDAR 2020-2021 as of January 31, 2021

FEBRUARY	
	Liability Insurance Proof of Insurance due to State Advocate
Friday-Sunday, February 5-7	Sub Sale #3 Preparation and Sub Sales (Super Bowl Sunday)
Thursday, February 18	4th Degree Bingo Kitchen, Team #1
Friday, February 19	BFA Officer's Meeting (6 pm)
Monday, February 22	BFA Meeting w/Ladies (6:30 dinner, 7 pm rosary, 8 pm meeting)
Friday February 26	Bishop Flaherty Hosted Lenten Fish Fry 4 pm in the Kitchen

MARCH	
Saturday, March 13	St. Patrick's Day Parade-Manassas (Color Guard Needed)
	GB St. Patrick's Day Dinner
Wednesday, March 17	Birmingham Green Bingo, 6:45pm
TBD	Pilgrimage to Basilica or Franciscan Monastery (with GB, OLR and FJOB) (option 1)
Thursday, March 18	4th Degree Bingo Kitchen, Team #1
Friday-Sunday, March 19-21	Sub Sale #4 Preparation and Sub Sales (March Madness)
Friday, March 19	BFA Officer's Meeting (6 pm)
Monday, March 22	BFA Meeting SK Only, (6:30 dinner, 7 pm rosary, 8 pm meeting)

APRIL	
	Publication of committee nominations for election
TBD	USMC Museum Trip/ Charity Service Project (TBD)
Thursday, April 15	4th Degree Bingo Kitchen, Team #2
Saturday, April 17	Spring Exemplification
Saturday, April 17	Pilgrimage to Basilica or Franciscan Monastery (with GB, OLR and FJOB)
	(option 2)
Friday, April 23	BFA Officer's Meeting (6 pm)
Friday-Saturday, April 23-24	All Saints Parish Festival
Monday, April 26	BFA Meeting w/Ladies (7 pm dinner, 7:30 pm rosary, 8 pm meeting))
Friday, April 30	Submit To Be a Patriot (Form TBP-1) to Master.

MAY	
Friday-Sunday, May 14-16	Sub Sale #5 Preparation and Sub Sales
Thursday, May 20	4th Degree Bingo Kitchen, Team #1
Friday, May 21	BFA Officer's Meeting (6pm)
Monday, May 24	BFA Meeting-Elections (7:30 pm rosary, 8 pm meeting)
Monday, May 31	Memorial Day Wreath Laying (09:30 Manassas) Sir Knights, open to the public

ASSEMBLY CALENDAR 2020-2021 as of January 31, 2021

JUNE	
TBD	Holy Trinity Confirmations, (10 am and 1pm) (Honor Guard Needed)
TBD	All Saints School Graduation, Presentation of Essay Awards (All Saints, SKD, Holy Trinity)
Monday, June 14	Flag Day: Presentation of Colors, Willing Warriors/ Haymarket, VA
Wednesday, June 16	Birmingham Green Bingo, 6:45 pm
Thursday, June 17	4th Degree Bingo Kitchen, Team #1
Friday, June 25	BFA Officer's Meeting 6 pm
Monday, June 28	BFA Meeting w/Ladies and Awards Night/ Dinner

***Our Lady of Fatima Mass: TBD

2020-2021 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Meeting - Dinners	SK Dave Riley
Meeting-Bar	SK Jerry Little
Meeting-Raffle	SK John Oliver
Meeting-Patriotic Report	SK Thom Harrington
Sub Sales	SK Louie Sheffield
Newsletter	SK Matt Carroll
Anniversary Card Program	SK Matt Carroll
Get Well/Sympathy Cards	SK Nic Solet-Bokassa
Chalice Team Captain	SK Tom Mehr
Birmingham Green Bingo	SK Jim Reynolds
Essay Contest	SK Dave Farmer
Wreaths across America	SK Harry Post
PFN Dinner	CANCELED
Columbus Day Observance at Union Station	SK JP McCusker
Aquia Rosary	SK Jim Reynolds
Exemplification – Hospitality Room	SK Tom Masarick
Veterans Day Parade and Dinner	CANCELED
Christmas Parade and Breakfast	CANCELED
Evening with Zac	SK Tom Masarick
Religious Freedom Day-Fredericksburg	CANCELED
St. Patrick's Day Parade & Lunch (3/13/2021).....	?
BBQ Dinner (TBD)	SK Roger Loy
Memorial Day Wreath Laying (5/31/2021)	SKs Carlos Sousa / Harry Post

If you can help with any event, please contact the committee chairman or the Faithful Navigator.

BISHOP J. LOUIS FLAHERTY ASSEMBLY #1678 2020-2021 OFFICERS

Navigator	SK Harold E. Post II (Harry & Teresa) hpost@vt.edu	(H) 703-215-8970 (C) 703-220-4783
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Scribe	SK Louis Sheffield (Louie & Patti) louis.sheffield@gmail.com	(C) 571-229-2251
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Outer Sentinel	SK Anthony R. Bocchichio, PGK (Margaret and Tony) bocchichio@aol.com	(H) 571-284-5246 (C) 703-597-4696
Outer Sentinel	SK Timothy J. Lamb (Tim & Rae) Tim.Lamb@chenega.com	(C) 571-722-2728
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1 Year Trustee	SK Roger L. Loy, Jr. PFN (Roger & Sandy) rsloy@verizon.net	(H) 703-393-7852
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Assistant Commander	SK Thomas J. Masarick, Sr., PGK (Tom & Janet) tmasarick@aol.com	(H) 703-368-8308 (C) 571-238-2044

The Patriot Newsletter is published by Bishop J. Louis Flaherty Assembly. Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of Bishop Flaherty Assembly, the Editor, or the Knights of Columbus. Comments should be directed to the Faithful Navigator.