



# The Encyclical



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Summer 2006

## FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR'S MESSAGE

My Brother Sir Knights

It is an honor to be elected as your Faithful Navigator for the 2006-2007 Columbian Year. I feel confident that with my slate of Officers and the Assembly, we will have a productive year. It's important to be active and get involved.

I would like to welcome our new Outer Sentinel, SK Richard Fox.

On behalf of the Assembly, I would like to thank SK William Kimmig PFN on his years of dedicated service to the Assembly as Faithful Purser. SK Wayne Sturges PFN will be filling the position.

To our PFN and new Faithful Admiral SK Ronald P. Brindle, thank you for a job well done as our Faithful Navigator this past year.

Please have a safe and healthy summer.

Fraternally Yours,  
*SK Charles L. DiPrima*

## Installation of Officers

Pope John XXIII Assembly will be installing their newly elected Officers on Saturday, September 16th after the 5:00 Mass at St. Martin of Tours in Bethpage. After the Mass there'll be a repast at the Catholic War Veterans in Bethpage, hosted by Rev. Michael J. Hartigan Council #5033.

A head count is needed for the repast, so if you're going, please contact Faithful Navigator Charlie DiPrima (home) 516-796-0448, (cell) 516-322-5647, or Charmer533@aol.com

### Directions to St. Martin of Tours Church:

From the Northern State Parkway go to exit 36 or from the Long Island Expressway, go to exit 44, and go south on the Seaford Oyster Bay Expressway (Rt. 135) Take the Powell Ave exit- exit 8. Turn right onto Powell Ave and take it about a quarter mile until you see Broadway. Turn left onto Broadway, and go South. Make the first left after the railroad tracks onto Seaman Ave and take it around the bend You'll see St. Martin of Tours coming up on your right.

From the Southern State Parkway, go to exit 36A-B. That's the Seaford Oyster Bay. Go North until you see Exit 8, which is Powell Avenue. Take it about a quarter mile until you see Broadway. Turn left onto Broadway, and go South. Make the first left after the railroad tracks onto Seaman Ave and take it around the bend You'll see St. Martin of Tours coming up on your right.

## Pope John XXIII Assembly officers for 2006-2007:

<i>Faithful Navigator</i>	<i>SK Charles DiPrima</i>	<i>Faithful Scribe</i>	<i>SK Thomas Liddy</i>
<i>Faithful Captain</i>	<i>SK Edward McKee</i>	<i>Faithful Inner Sentinel</i>	<i>SK Winston Delpesh</i>
<i>Faithful Pilot</i>	<i>SK Kevin Finnegan</i>	<i>Faithful Outer Sentinel</i>	<i>SK Richard Fox</i>
<i>Faithful Admiral</i>	<i>SK Ronald P. Brindle PFN</i>	<i>Faithful 3-year Trustee</i>	<i>SK Joseph Zink PFN</i>
<i>Faithful Comptroller</i>	<i>SK Norbert Wengler</i>	<i>Faithful 2-year Trustee</i>	<i>SK Steve Ohlrich PFN</i>
<i>Faithful Purser</i>	<i>SK Wayne Sturges PFN</i>	<i>Faithful 1-year Trustee</i>	<i>SK Frank Veit PFN</i>

### Meeting Schedule for 2006-2007

- 9-13-06 Catholic War Veterans, Bethpage\*
- 9-27-06 Floral Park Council
- 10-8-06 Exemplification, Melville Marriott
- 10-11-06 Catholic War Veterans, Bethpage\*
- 10-25-06 Msgr. Seidenschwang Council
- 11-8-06 Catholic War Veterans, Bethpage\*
- 11-22-06 St. Therese the Little Flower Council
- 12-13-06 Catholic War Veterans, Bethpage\*
- 12-27-06 New Hyde Park Council
- 1-10-07 Catholic War Veterans, Bethpage\*
- 1-24-07 Sign of the Cross Council
- 2-14-07 Catholic War Veterans, Bethpage\*
- 2-28-07 St. Thomas the Apostle Council
- 3-11-07 PFN Testimonial/Patriotic Ball  
New Hyde Park Council
- 3-14-07 Catholic War Veterans, Bethpage\*
- 4-11-07 Catholic War Veterans, Bethpage\*
- 4-25-07 Our Lady of the Island Council
- 5-9-07 Catholic War Veterans, Bethpage\*
- 5-23-07 Msgr. Delaney Council
- 6-13-07 Catholic War Veterans, Bethpage\*
- 6-27-07 Catholic War Veterans, Bethpage\*

\*Denotes an Executive meeting, which starts at 7:30. All other meetings will start at 8:00 pm.

### Faithfully speaking

There may still be another month of summer, but it's going too fast for my liking. There's much ado, as you'll see on this edition's six pages. And with a possible change in printers, we could be able to expand the Encyclical when more news happens, so keep it coming!

I'd also like to express condolences to a couple of people I've gotten to know over the years:

Helen Alaimo, wife of fellow Powell Council member SK Sal, passed away. Where Sal went, Helen did too. A very classy lady who'll be sorely missed by all who knew her.

Dario Rossi, who was like a father to a large number of brother Knights and Sir Knights. See the tribute to him on page five. He too will be sorely missed by all of us.

I'd also like to thank Ron Brindle for his year as Faithful Navigator. I also wish him the very best on his year as newly-elected Grand Knight for Our Lady of the Island Council.

To get your Encyclical through the e-mail, make sure I have your e-mail address!

*Mike Dragonetti*  
Editor, *The Encyclical*

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P.S. If I have space, I'll run council articles, too! Feel free to add the Encyclical to your council mailing list!

### Honor Guard news

ANYONE NEEDING THE SERVICES OF THE HONOR GUARD MUST NOTIFY THE FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR AND THE COMMANDER IN WRITING 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EVENT. WAKE CALLS SHOULD BE REQUESTED AS SOON AS THE FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

Fr. Bernie was walking through a playground, when a child asked him, "why are you dressed so funny?" (Fr. was wearing black) Fr. Bernie replied, "I'm a Priest, and this is what we wear."

The child then asked, "is that a boo-boo on your neck?" Fr. Bernie replied, "no, that's a holy Roman collar, and that's part of what we wear." Fr. Bernie then took the collar off to show the youngster, "can you read what's on the back of the collar?"

"Sure I can," the lad replied, "it kills fleas and ticks for up to 90 days!"

Courtesy of Rev. Bernard Turner, Pastor, Sacred Heart Church, Lake George

### Congratulations are in order:

To SK Clem Hudson, PGK for Our Lady of the Island Council, who was honored by the Assembly's Fly the Flag program.

To Pope John XXIII Assembly's Honor Guard, who won second place honors for this year's St. Patrick's Day parade.

To State Deputy Anthony Preziosi for being awarded, "Nassau's favorite son." Anthony is also a Sir Knight for our assembly and always represents the Assembly, and Nassau, very well in everything he does.

To Bill Capatini for winning the American Flag drawing

To Honor Guardsman John Morton for winning the meeting 50/50.

All of these honors took place at our June Assembly meeting at Our Lady of the Island Council

**POPE JOHN XXIII ASSEMBLY  
PROPOSED BUDGET 2006-2007**

EXPENSES			INCOME		
Code	Item	Amount	Code	Item	Amount
A1	Comptroller's Honorarium	1,200.00	H1	Assembly 50/50	3,000.00
A2	Comptroller's Postage	400.00	H2	Assembly Dues	12,000.00
A3	Supreme Supplies	300.00	H3	Donations	300.00
A4	General Supplies	200.00	H4	Meeting 50/50	300.00
	Sub-Total	\$2,100.00	H5	Miscellaneous	200.00
B1	Executive Meetings	300.00	H6	Patriotic Ball	100.00
B2	Assembly Meetings	1,200.00	H7	Patriotic Ball Raffle	300.00
B3	Honor Guard	1,000.00	H8	Patriotic Ball 50/50	348.00
B4	Officer's Installation	500.00	H9	R.S.V.P. Program Reimbursement	200.00
B5	Memorial Mass	100.00	H10	Investment-Projected Interest	2,000.00
B6	Thanksgiving Meeting	300.00			
B7	PFN Testimonial Award	200.00			
B8	Faithful Navigator Expenses	200.00			
B9	Annual Flag Laying Program	225.00			
B10	Deceased Memorial Presentations	300.00			
B11	Donations & Pro Life	400.00			
B12	Fraternal Sick Fund	100.00			
B13	Fly The Flag Program	200.00			
B14	Christmas Meeting	300.00		Total Income	\$18,748.00
B15	Assembly 50/50	1,500.00			
	Sub-Total	\$6,825.00			
C1	R.S.V.P. Program	1,000.00			
C2	Journal Ads	300.00			
C3	Chapter Charity Ball Advertisement	75.00		Investment Fund gains are reinvested into the Investment Fund.	
C4	Chapter Charity Ball Tickets	130.00			
C5	Relief Fund	100.00		A report is given quarterly.	
C6	Americanism	250.00			
C7	Widow Committee	100.00			
C8	Scholarship Program (2)	750.00			
C9	Charities	1,500.00			
	Sub-Total	\$4,205.00			
D1	Encyclical Printing	1,500.00			
D2	Encyclical Postage	1,750.00			
D3	Encyclical Preparation Supplies	100.00			
D4	Postage Meter Rental	100.00			
D5	Encyclical Postage Permit	100.00			
	Sub-Total	\$3,550.00			
E1	Faithful Friar Honorarium	100.00			
E2	Faithful Purser Honorarium	300.00			
E3	Faithful Scribe Honorarium	100.00			
	Sub-Total	\$500.00			
F1	Hospitality Room	450.00			
F2	Hospitality Room Food & Beverage	400.00			
F3					
F4					
	Sub-Total	\$850.00			
G1	Miscellaneous	200.00			
G2	Assembly Photography Expenses	200.00			
G3					
	Sub-Total	\$400.00			
	Total Income	\$18,748.00			
	Total Expenses	\$18,430.00			
	Total Net	\$318.00			

The following is reprinted with permission from the May 17, 2006 Long Island Catholic

## Boyhood Memories Helped Father Mason Forge Vocation To Priesthood

By Pete Sheehan, Senior Reporter

Massapequa Park — Two places from his boyhood stand out in Father Robert Mason's mind — Ebbets Field in Brooklyn and St. Clare's Church in Queens. Until he was six, Father Mason said, his family lived "about six blocks from Ebbets Field," where the Brooklyn Dodgers played. "You could look out the window of the apartment building and see right field through the wire screen. "Gil Hodges was a hero of mine," said Father Mason, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church here, recalling the Dodgers' legendary slugging first baseman and later New York Mets manager who was also known as a devout Catholic.

When his family moved to Rosedale, they went to St. Clare's. "There were a lot of great priests, especially Father Tom Haggerty. He was very involved with young people." What sticks out most in his mind, Father Mason said, was "watching him standing on the steps of St. Clare's talking to young men who had come back from World War II. Some of them were badly injured. He helped them find a will to live. "I used to think: 'If I could do that, or at least help people find a will to be better, to have a will for God, that would be a great way to live,'" Father Mason said.

On June 4, Father Mason will celebrate his 50th anniversary as a priest at Our Lady of Lourdes' regular Sunday Mass. An informal reception will follow in the school. As he looks back on his priesthood, he values the help he received from many priests and lay people for his ministry. "You can't do this alone."

In addition to the priests of his parish while growing up, Father Mason credits the faculty at Brooklyn Cathedral Preparatory School for fostering his vocation. Among the priests he noted were Father Charles (later Bishop) Mulrooney. "They were great teachers and showed you what it meant to be a priest." At Immaculate Conception Seminary, Huntington, Father Mason said, he also found dedicated priests who served as role models, including Msgr. Henry Reel, Msgr. Francis Glimm and Father Charles Boyd, spiritual director. "At the time there were more than 200 seminarians studying. Of course, we were all one diocese then," he recalled. "Our class stayed close, getting together every year, both the guys who stayed in Brooklyn and the ones who came out here" when the Diocese of Rockville Centre was formed in 1957. His class was ordained June 2, 1956. "When they split the diocese, all the priests who had been assigned out here stayed out here," Father Mason said.

His first assignment was St. Aloysius Church, Great Neck, where he served until 1966. His time there was "a great experience," he recalled. "The priests there were wonderful for someone who was just starting out. There was no generation gap. You had Msgr. Vincent Baldwin, the pastor, who later became Bishop Baldwin. Father Jimmy Collins (later Msgr.) was the senior curate," Father Mason said. "There was also a chaplain, Father James McKenna, at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point," he noted. "I learned a lot from him and his experiences." Father Mason enjoyed the parishioners as well. "The people in Great Neck were very Church-oriented, very supportive of the parish. If you asked them to do something, they did it."

From 1966 to 1976, he served at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, Roosevelt. "The pastor there, Father John Bukey, also influenced me. It was a different kind of community," racially mixed and less affluent, "but it was a very good community. "We would offer Masses in people's homes in those days and found the people very gracious. They might not have a lot of material things, but they had a lot of heart and they would give you their heart and soul." During that time, he became director of the diocesan Nocturnal Adoration Society, a post he held almost 20 years. "It's a great organization. You didn't have to worry about finances. All anyone was asked to do was come to pray in the front of the Blessed Sacrament."

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Father Mason was assigned to his first and only pastorate, Our Lady of Lourdes here, in 1976. Founded in 1955, "It was a relatively new parish," he said. "When I got here, there was a convent, rectory, and a school," but no church. "In those days, the emphasis was on the school. We used to have Mass in the school auditorium." The parish built a shrine to Mary, mother of Jesus, and also a church, which opened in 1985.

Both the shrine and the church are frequently visited for private prayer. "We are big on Eucharistic Adoration and on Mary in this parish. "We have Eucharistic Adoration twice a month, on the first Friday for the Nocturnal Adoration Society, and on the third Friday for Right to Life," he explained. "We have daily Mass in the morning and also at 8 p.m. The people want it. If they didn't come, we wouldn't have it." Father Mason also finds the parishioners here generous. "If you can make a case for something, they will come through for you."

Being a pastor has its difficulties, Father Mason said. "Finances are a big concern. I think of when I came here; tuition at the school was \$200. Now, it's over \$3,000. Everything costs more and there are more demands. "And you have to convince people today of the value of a Catholic school. Before, they all already believed in it. "Part of the problem is that some people can't afford it, but with others you have to tell them that it's not important that your child gets to travel all around the world before the age of 16, but it is important that your child learns the faith," Father Mason said. He also lamented the presence of so many distractions that hinder people's involvement in the Church.

Nevertheless, he finds his priesthood satisfying. "I love saying Mass and hearing confessions. Confession gives people so much peace. You can see it before your eyes. "I also like to visit sick people, bring them Communion," Father Mason said. "Of course, I'm getting to the age where people are going to have to start doing that for me. "There is so much good you can do as a priest," Father Mason said. "If you can't find happiness in that, you're pretty far off the beam."

Fr. Mason was Faithful Friar for Pope John XXIII Assembly during the 2005-2006 Columbian Year. He's also Chaplain for Our Lady of the Island Council. You can find out more about his role in the formation of the council on their website, [www.kofc6911.org](http://www.kofc6911.org). (on the council history page) Also see "parish history" at [www.ollmp.org](http://www.ollmp.org)

## Dario G. Rossi 1920-2006

He always saw himself as "just a regular guy," but Dario was anything but one. Dario was a Sir Knight. He was everything a Knight should be. A Grand Knight for St. Therese the Little Flower Council. A District Deputy. A Faithful Navigator. An Honor Guard Commander.

After his respective terms ended, Dario remained active, as Financial Secretary for St. Therese, and at Pope John XXIII Assembly as Commander. He also reinstated and chaired our monthly 50/50 club. Dario was also content with life's simple pleasures, the mornings at the coffee shop, the summer pilgrimages to the Novena at the Shrine of St. Anne in his hometown of Scranton, Pa, and reminiscing of his mentors such as PFNS Zygmund Lewinski and Bill Slattery (his predecessor as Commodore), while continuing to himself be a role model to dozens of younger Guardsmen, instructing in his kindly, patient manner. Thanks to Dario, the Guardsmen always looked sharp, and conducted turnouts in precision.

At his wake, his son Dario J. Rossi, himself a Sir Knight, accepted his father's sword and saluted a room packed with people who came to pay their respects, and saluted his father, who was also a father figure to many a Brother Knight, many a Sir Knight, and many a Guardsman. Dario G. Rossi himself said these words at countless wakes over the years:

"The simple words that we possess,  
Are much too meager to express  
The thoughts and feelings in our hearts,  
That we but feebly can impart,  
To you and yours this sorrowful day,  
Forgive us then if we but say,  
The pain and grief are hard to bear,  
Each one of us in common share,  
Our thoughts and sympathies we extend,  
May comforting peace of mind attend . . .

. . . Into Thy gracious keeping, leave us now our Sir  
Knight sleeping"

Worthy Commander, you passed the torch on to us guardsmen. We'll keep it burning bright for liberty's sake.

### Tempus Fugit, Memento Mori

Dario G. Rossi, PGK, FDD, PFN, Ret. Cmdr.  
John Della Decchia, New Hyde Park Council  
Frank De Grande, Delaney Council  
Jim Terlizzi, New Hyde Park Council

All our deceased Sir Knights  
All the men and women serving in  
the Middle East.  
May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful  
departed, through the mercy of God, rest in  
peace. Amen

Sir Knights, if we missed any names, could you kindly submit them here? Thank you!

*-Mike Dragonetti*

### 50-50 drawing

June's winner — Richard Koch  
Our next winner – *you??*

Could be, if you're in the 50-50 club! Every meeting we give away money to one lucky winner. The more players we get, the higher that monthly prize will go!

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