



"The opportunity to serve together"

Portsmouth Knightly News

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Honoring Our Mothers!



Mother's Day is set apart every year in honor of motherhood. On the second Sunday in May, many families and churches make a special point of honoring mothers. Many people follow the custom of wearing a carnation on Mother's Day.

A colored carnation means that a person's mother is living. A white carnation indicates that a person's mother is dead.

A day for honoring mothers was observed many years ago in England. It was called *Mothering Sunday*, and came in mid-Lent. Yugoslavs and people in other nations have observed similar days. Julia Ward Howe made the first known suggestion for a Mother's Day in the United States in 1872. She suggested that people observe a Mother's Day on June 2 as a day dedicated to peace. For several years, she held an annual Mother's Day meeting in Boston. Mary Towles Sasseen, a Kentucky schoolteacher, started conducting Mother's Day celebrations in 1887. Frank E. Hering of South Bend, Ind., launched a campaign for the observance of Mother's Day in 1904.

Three years later, Anna Jarvis of Grafton, W. Va., and Philadelphia, began a campaign for a nationwide observance of Mother's Day. She chose the second Sunday in May, and began the custom of wearing a carnation. On May 10, 1908, churches in Grafton and Philadelphia held Mother's Day celebrations. The service at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton honored the memory of Anna Jarvis' own mother, Mrs. Anna Reeves Jarvis. At the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Minneapolis, Minn., in

1912, a delegate from Andrews Church introduced a resolution recognizing Anna Jarvis as the founder of Mother's Day. It suggested that the second Sunday in May be observed as Mother's Day.

Mother's Day received national recognition on May 9, 1914. On that day, President Woodrow Wilson signed a joint resolution of Congress recommending that Congress and the executive departments of the federal government observe Mother's Day. The next year, President Wilson was authorized to proclaim Mother's Day an annual national observance. This year it is Sunday, 11 May.

On Mother's Day we take the time to remember the one special person that means more to us than anyone else on earth. She is the one that brought us into this world. She is the one that clothed us, fed us, and cared for us from infancy to adulthood. She listened to our problems, she put up with our misgivings, and she was there every step of the way to support us during our most difficult times. She may have been poor, she may have been a single mom, and she may have had a difficult life herself. But she did it all for us. From the very moment of conception she was there to nurture us. She may have faced the temptation of abortion, but she chose to keep us. She put up with us all those years, and now its time to again honor her.

Happy
Mother's
Day!



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Grand Knight's Message



Brothers All,

First and foremost I want to thank everyone who volunteered their time and energy into planning, organizing, cooking, setting-up, serving and cleaning during the Lenten Fish

Dinners. We received very positive feedback and everyone enjoyed themselves. The proceeds of the three dinners will be shared equally among St. Anthony's, St. Barnabas', the Senior Center, and St. Barnabas' CYO.

Troop I of Portsmouth expressed their thanks for the donation they received from the ticket sales of the Pancake Breakfast that we had in January. The Scouts and the Knights of Columbus, the young and the young at heart, worked side by side to put on another successful event.

It was an eventful quarter. I was proud of the altruism and dedication of our active members. They continue to make the Fr. Rooney Council vibrant. However, in more than two years we haven't recruited any new members. We have been blessed to have a couple of hardworking transfers who, with their experience and dedication, have contributed greatly to our success. The future of Council 3618 can only be assured with the recruitment of new members. Our membership is aging and some of us need to pass the torch to new bearers. We all need to be defenders of the faith, promoters of the cause, and recruiters among our friends and families.

Every new member proposed into the Order until June 30th will be presented with a limited edition certificate commemorating the papal visit to the United States. If you join before April 20th, your name will be listed in a special book that will be presented to Pope Benedict XVI.

Please don't forget that, starting in April, we will be returning to our old meeting schedule: 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month.

Lets us strive to close another Columbian year with continued successes and measurable forward momentum.

Vivat Jesus,
Paulo De Sousa
Grand Knight

Our Basketball Free Throw Competition 19 January 2008



Fr. Christopher S. Rooney Council 3618 Schedule of Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT	TIME	POINT OF CONTACT	COMMENTS
May 2&3	K of C State Convention		Please contact the Grand Knight	Location is Newport, RI
May 15-17	Annual Tootsie Roll Drive		Please contact the Grand Knight	
June 21	End of Columbian Year Social	6:30 PM	Paul St. Laurent, 401-683-2501	Paul's home at 48 Schooner Drive, Portsmouth. This is a Pot Luck event. Call Paul to find out what to bring and for directions. RVSP by 14 June.

Honoring Our Mothers

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How many of us are still fortunate to have our mothers still with us? For those of us that are, I'm sure that she still loves us and cares for us as she did on the very day that we were born. How many of us have mothers that have gone to their eternal reward? For those of us that have, I'm sure that she is also watching over us and bringing our every need before our Heavenly Father. Is one day really sufficient to honor the person that has done so much for us? For all that she has done, and is still doing, shouldn't we not honor her every day of our life?

May is also the month of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and the Mother of God. The Mother of Jesus is the primary role of Mary in the history of salvation. References to Jesus' mother in the New Testament are shaped primarily by theological concerns about the mission and identity of her son. St. Paul mentions her to emphasize the saving entry of God's Son into human existence. "God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who are under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children." (Gal 4:4-5)

Mother of God is the title applied to Mary at the council of Ephesus in 431. Nestorius had claimed that Jesus was two persons, the one divine and the other human, as such Mary was not properly to be called the "Mother of God" but "Mother of Christ". Under the leadership of Cyril of Alexandria, the fathers of Ephesus rejected Nestorius' position, claiming that Jesus, although fully human in nature, was a divine person. Consequently, Mary was truly the Mother of God.

Mother of the Church is a title conferred on the Blessed Virgin by Pope Paul VI on 21 November 1964 in response to a number of bishops who felt that the significance of Mary had not been sufficiently stressed by the Second Vatican Council. The title accents Mary's role as mother of all Christians through her role as mother of the Savior.



This article was written with help from the Encyclopedia of Catholicism (1995) and Sharron G. Uhler, "Mother's Day," *World Book Online Americas Edition*.

Pancake Breakfast, 20 January 2008



The Story of Lady Liberty



The Statue of Liberty has stood as a welcoming symbol to millions of immigrants to the United States for more than 100 years. At 151 feet in height she is one of the largest statues in the world. She is probably also the most recognized statue in the world.

Lady Liberty was conceived way back in 1865 by a group of French scholars and statesman who were enjoying a dinner meal together in Glatigny, France. These men were ardent admirers of the American system, especially its Constitution. It was suggested that a gift be sent to the American people, by way of giving homage to that nation as well as marking its centennial celebration. There was, however, an ulterior motive. The host of the evening, Professor Edouard de Laboulaye, was keen to get American backing for his political goal: the establishment of the Third Republic in France.

One of those who was impressed by the idea of a statue-like gift to the Americans was famed sculptor Auguste Bartholdi. Bartholdi envisioned a woman in flowing robes holding a flaming torch in her raised hand. Under Emperor Napoleon, however, it wasn't politically expedient to make a gift to the Americans. So the plan got bogged in red tape until Napoleon was deposed in 1871. With the plan back in vogue, Bartholdi made a trip to America in search of the ideal location for his proposed statue. He found it on a little island on New York Bay called Bedloe's Island. Since 1956 it has been known as Liberty Island. Then the excited Frenchman headed home to

begin work on the statue. His creation soon came to incorporate the symbols of its maker's personal life views. Bartholdi was a Freemason and Lady Liberty came to take on some of their symbols, including the book, the torch in her left hand and the seven pointed diadem around her head.

On July 4, 1884 the Statue of liberty was presented to the American Ambassador in Paris. But, still it had to be transported to its new home in New York harbor. For this, the services of designer Gustave Eiffel were employed. Eiffel would later become famous for another creation, the Eiffel Tower. He constructed an iron framework to house the copper clothing and skin of Lady Liberty. The Statue itself was dismantled and packed into more than 200 crates for its trip to New York.

On October 28, 1886, the Statue of Liberty was officially unveiled on Bedloe's Island. Over the next 100 years it became perhaps that most well known landmark on earth. By 1984, however, the ravages of weather, time and public inspection had left their mark. The Statue was closed down so that repairs could be carried out. The repairs were planned for a reopening to coincide with the centennial celebration on July 4, 1986. Millions of dollars were invested in the project as the Lady was enclosed in a massive shroud for two years. The new Lady Liberty was a great improvement, even incorporating the tallest hydraulic elevator in North America, reaching a height of 30 meters as it takes visitors in a glass walled car to the top of the pedestal. From there, tourists can climb a staircase to the head of the Statue.

The Statue of Liberty is, indeed, a much cherished gift. If only the ideals that she stands for, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness were a reality throughout the world, then her existence would have real meaning. (Edited from **PageWise**)

Effective April, 2008.....

**All Council Meetings are on the Second & Fourth Thursday of the Month
7:00 PM in St Anthony Church Narthex Meeting Room**

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Opinions expressed are those of the individual author and do not necessarily reflect those of Fr. Christopher S. Rooney Council, its Officers, or the Knights of Columbus. Contributions to the *Portsmouth Knightly News* by Brother Knights are welcome. Articles may be on a variety of topics: upcoming events, council related, personal experience, religious, etc. Please send all articles for consideration in PC format via e-mail directly to the Newsletter Editor.

Lenten Fish Dinner, 14 March 2008...and more Pancake Breakfast snapshots

