



Footsteps

May 2005

Volume 1, Number 3

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Some Announcements

- ✚ Our interim Assembly has been formed, temporary officers in place, and an Executive Committee formed as well. A meeting will be announced in the near future. All will be invited to attend.
- ✚ Brother John Sorges' made a successful trip to St. James in Eatontown, NJ, to aid them in possibly forming another Chapter. From what I gather he was instrumental in their decision. We should all offer our congratulations to John for his first Brotherhood Chapter recruitment. John will be receiving the first ever 1st Assembly of NJ "ATTA BOY" award.
- ✚ Calvary Church in Burnt Hills, N.Y., in the Diocese of Albany has formed the newest Chapter of the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew, under the guidance of their first Director Jeff Gulock. Let us offer our prayers to their success in their first essential year.
- ✚ Brother Sam Gill has been appointed Diocesan Coordinator for the Diocese of Long Island.

Call to Worship and Call to Annual Spring Meeting

Please mark your calendars and pass the word to your Chapter officers, members, and associates that the Annual Spring Meeting of Province II will commence at 9:00 AM on Saturday, May 7, 2005, with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist by our guest clergy, the Rev. Richard C. Doscher. Immediately followed by the Business Meeting, to be held at the Church of the Nativity, located at 1099 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11230.

A delicious Lunch will be served at the nominal price of \$15.00 per person. To ensure that plenty of food is available, we must have your payment and reservation no later than May 3rd. Please make your check or money order payable to: Province II - Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Mail your check or money order for \$15 per person together with your name, address and telephone number to the Treasurer of Province II as follows:

Brother Desmond Herbert
146-06 182nd Street
Springfield Gardens, NY 11413

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Contact Us

<http://www.adatum.com>
someone@example.com

An Easter Tradition Continues



Trinity Church's Brotherhood of Saint Andrew with the Saint Annes' Unit

The Trinity Church, Woodbridge, NJ Chapter of The Brotherhood of Saint Andrew; got together with the Saint Anne's Unit to bring the Second Annual Easter Egg Hunt to the children of their parish. Both organizations had the youth of the church in their hearts when they combined their efforts to bring a fun event for all ages on the day of our Lords' victory. The hunt was set in two different area's, one for the toddlers to frolic without the danger of getting hurt, or the having to search far for eggs; and another setup for the older children and young teens with a more advanced search. The Holy Spirit was truly present, the Brotherhood did not have the funds to purchase the candy for the plastic eggs; so Saint Anne's, upon hearing our dilemma, stepped up and found a way to provide the candy. The unity of two parish organizations, is truly a testament to our faith, and a message to the rest of the organizations, that help is there; all you have to do is ask, and put it in God's hands.

Be A Fisherman, Not A Fish

Have you considered becoming a member of the Cross and Reel club? This inclusive club's members are fishermen for Christ. They go out onto the Lake, and cast out, leaving their cares behind. Some days their catch is plentiful, and on others, it's not, but they persevere. They continue fishing the next chance they get.

Now a fish is already in the Lake, comes up for air occasionally, and avoids the fisherman at all costs. The fish swims around, goes where it wants or must, and has a life that is predictable. It is curious, but doesn't take any chances; it doesn't have to persevere, only to swim around the Lake. Sounds simple enough, doesn't it!

Be A Fisherman, Not A Fish (continued)

As a member of the Brotherhood, we are to spread Christ's Kingdom among men. We are to go into waters that we have not ventured into before, trusting in our Lord Jesus to guide the way. To commit ourselves to the disciplines of prayer, study and service, as we live our daily rule of life, but that means we will have to persevere. Can we commit ourselves to the disciplines, or do we want to swim and avoid having to?

Swimming to avoid commitment is easy, fishing for Christ takes patience. We don't just decide to "fish or cut bait", we are men of action. We don't wait for the storm on the horizon of life to come, and then act. We act now so that when the storms come, we can weather the rough water in life, and the times of trial that we are better equipped to stay afloat in. Jesus is our pilot in the storm and in the calm waters!

So, you decide what you want to be. Will you be a fisherman or a fish? Either one is acceptable, but has a price. If you decide to be a fisherman, then join the Cross and Reel club now. However, if you feel the time is not right to decide, then swim around, but watch out for the hooks. One of them is going to get you!

Each man in the Brotherhood reaches a point in his life, at some time or another, and is faced with answering this question. He has to decide for himself which may question his faith. A fellow Brother Andrew can help each one of us find the answer to be a fisherman or not. We are not alone, nor are we solitary Christians, as we were never meant to be.

Say a prayer about this decision, and you can begin with: My Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, you hung on the Cross for the forgiveness of my sins, help me today to be what you want. Help me to decide to be a fisherman, or what You may want me to be. Help me to let go, and let you enter my life. Enter my boat, and still the waters. Thank you for the gifts you have given to me and for the Holy Spirit leading me to this prayer. Help me to use my gifts as you would have me. All this I ask through the mercy and grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Now go out and fish, and welcome to the club!

Something This Way, Comes...

I never claimed to be the smartest man in the world, nor have I claimed to be the Holiest. Neither have I ever stated to be the most spiritual. The only thing I lay claim to proudly is that I am a simple man. Those of you who have a personal relationship with me, know this to be true. For those that have only made an acquaintance with me, let me let you in. Before I do let me tell you how I came about writing this. I had a hard time coming to gripes with happening within my parish, difficulties with my Youth Group, within my Chapter, and within the Brotherhood.

Something This Way, Comes... (Continued)

I seeked counsel, none of it helped. I shouldn't say that, but at that moment; the moment before you find clarity, you can't help but think it didn't work. But it is in that moment that God is working, making you work to find YOUR answer. So I sat down and wrote a lengthy essay that I was going to post in this newsletter. It started as a paragraph, that took a life of it's own and grew to a strapping three pages. The article was meant as a motivational tool, but when proofread by a close friend and a confidant, came across as a slap in the face. So I pulled the article. With that said let me tell you who I am.

My name is Angelo Berardi, and I am the President of the 1st NJ Assembly of The Brotherhood Of Saint Andrew. The Brotherhood has done a lot for me; it has aloud me to see myself for the first time. To see what my true potential is as a human being, not some freak. There was a time I would hurt inside, the emotional pains would manifest to physical. It was a dark time for me, I would decide to make others feel what I felt, so I would pick fights, and hurt people, make them feel physically, what I felt emotionally; just for fun. And boy, did I revel in the chaos I wreaked, and the blood I spilled; that made me happy, the more pain I inflicted, the better I felt. All that turmoil, all that pain, all that anger, I hated myself. I despised myself, everything about me. My life was worthless. I considered God and Satan my adversaries, the reason I lived was because Heaven didn't want me and Hell was afraid I'd take over.

But that was then, this is now. Call it Divine Intervention, the power of the Holy Spirit; I got a call that changed my life. A call to try the Brotherhood out; just one meeting, see how it feels. It felt right, it felt good. I went from joining the Brotherhood, to teaching Sunday school, to running the Youth Group, and becoming a Lay Eucharist Minister. The Brotherhood has helped me for the first time in my short life, to be at peace with myself. It has succeeded in bring me closer to Christ.

I'm writing this, thinking that you who are reading this are wondering about the point of my ramble. Well this morning as I was mowing my lawn I was lost in my thoughts, mostly were I am in my life, what could I do to make it better. Then I started to think about my issues. Then I started to think about The Brotherhood, and that was when I had clarity, in that moment someone was speaking to me cause something this way comes. I say that cause when a thought comes to you as powerful as the one I am about to share you will understand why I say, "Something This Way Comes".

I wonder how many of you actually get who we are. No not just the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew, no not JUST. I just figured out TODAY, that when I joined The Brotherhood, I actually laid claim to being a true Apostle of Christ, one of His Disciples; no not one of the original twelve, but a Disciple non-the-less. Prayer, Study, and Service, working to bring other men and youth closer to Christ. I've heard these words twice a month and a occasional Assembly, but never actually understood them. All my conversations with Bob Dennis, my Rector Robert Counselman, and my own Chapter; and I didn't get it. It took me mowing my lawn to finally receive the message.

Something This Way, Comes... (Continued)

Now I'm not saying to give away all your worldly possessions, and only wear a robe and simple sandals. That would make me a lunatic in this day and age, no we are the Disciples of a new age, where instead of walking for days to spread the word, we can drive a few hours; instead of waiting weeks for correspondence from a neighboring town, we can email them in mere moments; instead of waiting for months even a year for supplies, we can overnight them. There were many unnamed Apostles, who lived a comfortable lifestyle, but still followed the teachings of our Lord. We are no different than they, we follow His teachings, we pray to Him and His Father, and we do the service He gives us to do. Look at that now I'm saying Prayer, Study, and Service. It's getting to be a catchy phrase.

I have a Chapter meeting in one week. I plan on sharing this with my local Brothers. I plan on using this message to it's fullest capacity. Sounds like a challenge, well in someway it is. "It's hard to do this or make time for that" Is what I'll hear. Well like I tell people in the gym, if it were easy everyone could do it; if everything were easy it would have taken Him 2 days, not 7. We ALL have lives; that's every human beings right. But how we live them; that in itself, is the true measure of a man. I can see clearly now the purpose of our organization, the true meaning of it. I feel a renewed sense of Faith. And without sound dramatic, I can feel the Presence in every fiber of my body. This sheep, was born a lion, but has found the greener pasture, and is bold enough to leave it, in order to bring the flock to it. Whether they enter it, well that in entirely up to you. Free will, it's the greatest gift He could have given.

By sharing this, I am opening myself up to a lot of ridicule. And just for general informational purposes, what I am writing you is raw, aside from a spell check or two.....or three. I just want to help those of you who are confused in our mission, achieve it, and have a better understanding of it. May the peace of the Lord be with you all. God bless.

Angelo Berardi
President
1st Assembly of NJ
Chapter Director,
Trinity Church, Woodbridge, NJ

....A Simple Man

On The Road To Emmaus

Two Disciples were walking along the road to Emmaus. One of them was named Cleopas. Jesus appeared beside the two men and spoke to them. They did not recognize Him as they conversed with Him, and Cleopas could not understand why Jesus seemed to not know what had happened regarding the Crucifixion. As they traveled together, they asked Jesus to join them and have supper together. It was only when Jesus broke bread with them that they

On The Road To Emmaus (continued)

recognized Him, and then Jesus disappeared from their sight. They immediately returned to Jerusalem to tell the eleven Apostles they saw Jesus and that He had risen.

The two men described above were very downcast about the death of Jesus, and had only heard about the Tomb being empty but did not see it for themselves. They were blind at first to the realization that Jesus appeared beside them on the road. This is a brief summary of the NIV translation of the scripture passage from the Gospel of St. Luke, titled "On the road to Emmaus".

Imagine yourself in this story; you are traveling on foot along a road and you are distraught over the loss of someone you love. What do you think your reaction would be if suddenly Jesus appeared next to you? What would you do or say? I'm sure you would feel protected, comforted and probably overwhelmed because of His appearance to you. Then Jesus lifts your burdens and cares as you walk along the road together, and you are now totally at peace.

A friend of yours is also carrying a heavy burden; will you lend a helping hand to lighten his burden? Will you walk with him on the road as Jesus did for you? By your giving a helping hand, by listening to a Brother or just being a friend can make a difference in his life and yours. Being a Brothers Andrew is also about the bond you form at Chapter meetings. It is about praying for one another, looking out for one another, and checking to see how one Brother is doing that has been ill and unable to attend regular meetings.

The friendship and commitment to our Lord and Savior that a Chapter develops over time praying, studying, fellowshiping and bringing men to Christ has its rewards that most often will never be forgotten. We all remember Brothers who have passed away, and their contribution to the welfare of your Chapter. They paved the way for you and me. We need to do the same for those who follow in our footsteps.

We are following in the footsteps of Jesus and our patron, Saint Andrew. We will find it easier traveling on the path together as a Chapter, traveling side by side. As we stumble along the way, we will know that a Brothers Andrew is at our side to pick us up, and that Jesus will see us through to the end of our journey, no matter what! As Jesus said, "Come follow me".

Submitted by: Bob Dennis