

The Ministry of Peter

As Successor of Peter and Vicar of Christ, the pope guides the Church on earth in a spirit of unity

by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori

(Source: http://www.kofc.org/un/en/columbia/detail/printer_friendly/2013_04_chaplain_lori.html)

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You may have seen, as I have, the footage of Benedict XVI, now pope emeritus, departing the Vatican on Feb. 28. There was live television news coverage of his final audiences, his farewell to the cardinals, his helicopter lifting off from the Vatican heliport and then landing at Castel Gandolfo, and his brief address on the balcony of the residence there.

With breathtaking humility, this man of such erudition and talent said simply, "I'm no longer the supreme pontiff of the Catholic Church — or I will be until 8 o'clock this evening and then no longer. I am simply a pilgrim beginning the last part of his journey on earth." And then, at the stroke of 8 p.m., we saw the Swiss Guards depart and the doors of the residence close. After that moment, the Chair of St. Peter stood vacant.

one particularly touching scene that struck me: The driver who would take the pope to the heliport was crying as he greeted Benedict and kissed his ring. Along with our gratitude and prayers for Benedict XVI's loving service to the Church, there is also a mixture of sorrow.

Although I had the privilege of seeing and even meeting with the pope emeritus, those were relatively rare occasions. Most of the time, I was separated from the Holy Father by six time zones and thousands of miles. Yet as Benedict XVI departed, I experienced a sense of aloneness. This prompted me to reflect on the importance of the ministry of the Successor of Peter in my life as a bishop and in the life of every Catholic.

Although most Catholics never have the opportunity to see the pope in person, he is still an exemplary model for the practice of our faith. After all, it was Christ who declared Peter the rock on which the Church is built (cf. Mt 16:18). And it was Peter, under the inspiration

'UPON THIS ROCK'

As Benedict XVI took his leave, there was



《哥倫布騎士會》創辦人麥堅夫尼神父(Fr Michael McGivney)

每月例會 Monthly Meeting

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(本月例會：4月16日)



of the Holy Spirit, who boldly recognized Jesus' identity and declared, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (Mt 16:16).

For more than two millennia, Peter has continued to speak the truth about Jesus to the whole world through his successors. Every time a priest preaches a homily or offers instruction in the faith, and every time parents teach the faith to their children or a catechist forms adults or children in the faith, they are standing secure on Peter's confession of faith.

Jesus gave the keys of the Church to Peter, making him shepherd of the whole flock. He entrusted to Peter as leader of the Apostles the power of "binding and loosing" — the power to govern the Church and to forgive sins (cf. Mt 16:19). This power has been transmitted to Peter's successors, the popes, and to the successors of the Apostles, the bishops. As I go about my own ministry as a bishop — teaching the faith, celebrating Mass and the sacraments, and guiding in truth and love the archdiocese entrusted to my pastoral care — I do so in union with the Holy Father.

UNITED IN CHRIST

As Peter's successor, the pope "is the perpetual and visible source and foundation of the unity both of the bishops and the whole company of the faithful" (Lumen Gentium, 23; Catechism of the Catholic Church, 882). We look to the Holy Father's leadership to maintain that unity of faith so essential for the preaching of the Gospel. As universal pastor with authority over the whole Church, the pope confirms and strengthens my ministry as a bishop.

Standing with Peter, I am called to be the "visible source and foundation of unity" in my archdiocese. Standing with Peter, bishops everywhere are united and able to strengthen each other in ministering to the Church throughout the world. Standing with Peter, every Catholic has a sense of the importance of his or her baptismal call to embrace a vocation to love and to be a witness to Christ in our contemporary world.

A dramatic expression of the unity between pope and the college of bishops took place 50 years ago when Pope John XXIII convoked the Second Vatican Council. And we see this unity every time bishops journey to Rome to meet together, such as during the recent Synod of Bishops dedicated to the promotion of the new evangelization.

We also express our unity as a Church during the Eucharistic Prayer at Mass, during which we always pray for the pope and the local bishop. In times of transition, the absence of these prayers should prompt us to pray even harder for worthy successors to lead and guide the Church.

The news of the pope's resignation and the process of electing a successor inevitably put the Church very much in the public spotlight. Since that spotlight often focuses on the challenges and problems that the Church faces, we may be discouraged by some of what we see in the media coverage. But through it all, it is important for us to keep our eyes fixed on Christ, the Good Shepherd, who never leaves his flock untended.

As the new pontiff, Pope Francis, begins his Petrine ministry, we pray especially for his holy witness, because it is holiness that opens for us the source of the Church's life and vitality: Jesus Christ and the power of his death and resurrection. May the Holy Spirit guide and bless our beloved Church in the days ahead.

【 編 者 話 】

SK Eddie Leung, Deputy Grand Knight / Council 15463

這份《騎士通訊》是一份以文字傳揚上主喜訊的工具，她主要以「哥倫布騎士會」的主要理念——行善、團結、友愛、効忠作為依歸，從內文中讓人察看到上主對這個世界的大愛、關懷與眷顧。

今期《通訊》轉載了「騎士總會」出版的月刊《哥倫比亞》(Columbia) 兩篇主要文章，讓大家可以一起再次從教宗本篤十六的榮休及新教宗方濟的當選，更加了解到上主美好的計劃與安排。

總會神師威廉萊尼(William E. Lori) 總主教鼓勵大家，生活要如新教宗方濟的一般，每天都要見證上主和對鄰人的愛，好使每一位騎士的精神都如創辦人麥堅夫尼神父的理念，能一代又一代地傳接下去。

總主教也提醒大家不可避免地接受教會面臨的新挑戰和問題，但重要的是我們要保持我們的眼睛固定在我們的好牧者主基督裡，祂是從來沒有離開過祂的羊群。大家更要多些祈禱，藉著這些聖潔的舉動，為我們打開了教會的新生機和活力。

卡爾安德信(Carl A. Anderson) 是總會的騎士長，他在另一篇文章中也號召大家，以慈善事業，團結友愛的方式與新教宗方濟一起開始一個新旅程，為窮人和那些最需要幫助的人繼續我們的工作。這個旅程是愛的旅程、是博愛、是我們彼此之間的信任。透過我們的一起祈禱、行動，建立一個偉大、永恆的兄弟情誼，以團結和友愛的精神、通過行善活出信仰，回應上主對聖徒們謙卑的說話：「重建我的教會。」

A Pope of Charity, Unity and Fraternity

The faithful, charitable witness of Pope Francis highlights the timeless importance of the Knights' founding principles

by Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson

(Source: http://www.kofc.org/un/en/news/supreme/detail/printer_friendly/fromthesk_20130401.html)



Just days ago, I stood in St. Peter's Square in Rome as the new Holy Father, Pope Francis, was introduced. As the pope came out onto the balcony to address Rome and the world for the first time, he said: "And now let us begin this journey, [together] as bishop and people. This journey of the Church of

Rome, which is to preside over all the Churches in charity, is a journey of fraternity, of love, of trust between us. Let us always pray for one another. Let us pray for the world, so that a great brotherhood may be created."

When I heard those words, I felt the way our first supreme knight, James T. Mullen, must have felt 131 years ago when he heard Father Michael J. McGivney speak of our Order's call to charity, unity and fraternity. The pope's address was a clear call to these virtues, which are the fundamental principles of our Order.

How inspiring for us to have those principles highlighted and reinvigorated by Pope Francis' call for charity, love, trust, fraternity and brotherhood — and how clearly his words highlight the timeless relevance of our Order 131 years after its establishment by Venerable Father McGivney!

The pope's election was a joyful moment for the Knights of Columbus and the Church. We have in Pope Francis a holy man, a dedicated man and a man who will lead the Church forward in its mission of the new evangelization. As his greeting to the world made so clear, there is much in common with the core principles of our Order and those of our Holy Father. And in many ways, we share a very similar history with him.

His roots, like the Knights, are in the Americas. And as more than one person has remarked to me, Pope Francis is the son of European immigrants in the New World, just

as Father McGivney was. What's more, Pope Francis — like Father McGivney and generations of Knights after him — is well known for his personal work with the poor and those most in need.

Even his choice of name — Francis — evokes not just St. Francis of Assisi's charity, but also the words the Lord spoke to that humble saint: "Rebuild my Church." It is a stirring reminder of the need to continue our work of the new evangelization, of rebuilding the Church through prayer and living out faith through charity.

St. Francis' life, like that of our new Holy Father, was a daily witness to love of God and neighbor — and ours must be too. Our principles are just words if we do not live them out.

In his first homily as our Holy Father, Pope Francis said, "If we do not profess Jesus Christ, things go wrong. We may become a charitable NGO, but not the Church, the Bride of the Lord. When we are not walking, we stop moving. When we are not building on the stones, what happens? The same thing that happens to children on the beach when they build sandcastles: everything is swept away, there is no solidity."

So as we celebrate Pope Francis' election and the recent 131st anniversary of our Order's founding, let us all as Knights redouble our efforts as men of faith — and men of action based on that faith.

Let us also pray for our Holy Father as he requested the evening of his election, and let us work even harder for those who need the most help in our society. Let us invite the men of our councils to become even more active in service to their neighbors. In short, let us take the call of both Father McGivney and Pope Francis to heart and live out charity to our neighbor, in unity with our Church and our Holy Father, and in the spirit of fraternity.

Vivat Jesus!



4月5日「騎士之夜籌款晚宴」部份花絮圖片。