



St. Maron Council 12640 Newsletter

January 2023



### **Reflections From President Theodore Roosevelt**

Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care.

Believe you can and you're halfway there.

A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education.

*BrainyQuote*

<https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/theodore-roosevelt-quotes>

### **Amen – Do Not Be Confused**

Financial Secretary Christopher R. Cooper

The word “Amen” is such a simple word. In a Christian prayer it is used at the conclusion to mean “certainly” or “truly”. (Twombly & Lichtenwanger, 1963) Not surprisingly one of the members of the United States House of Representatives did manage to confuse the meaning of the word “Amen”. (Jacobs, 2021) The congressman in question ended the prayer for the new congress with “...Amen and a woman.” Not only are the words grammatically incorrect the word “Amen” has nothing to do with gender. What is most surprising is our confused congressman is an ordained minister who has served for over thirty seven years in the United Methodist Church. (Rousselle, 2021) Oh, well...let us help our confused congressman out with the word “Amen”.

The first item to sort out is the grammatical usage of the indefinite and definite articles in the English language or misuse in the case of our confused congressman. The indefinite article in English “a” or “an” before a vowel are only used in conjunction with a noun in the singular. (Merriam-Webster, Incorporated, 1993) The definite article in English “the” can be used with a noun in the singular or the plural. Since our confused congressman wanted to bring his version of gender equality at the end of his prayer the only option that would work with “a woman” is “a man”. “A man” at the end of a prayer does not sound quite right.

The word “Amen” and *The Holy Bible* are inseparable. *The Holy Bible* defines “Amen” as, “A Hebrew word meaning, ‘certainly’, ‘truly,’ used to give assent to a statement, a curse, a blessing, a prayer, or the like in this sense of ‘so be it.’” (Catholic Book Publishing Co., 1986) One example is in the Book of Deuteronomy chapter 27 verse 18:

“Cursed be anyone who misleads the blind on their way!”

And all the people shall answer, “Amen!”

The word “Amen” and the name “Adam” are not to be confused either in case anyone makes a feeble attempt to connect these two words together. The name “Adam” originates in the Hebrew language. It is a generic term for man. (Unger, 1969) The name “Adam” also has a double meaning in Hebrew. It can also mean “earth”. (Gutstein, 1963) “Adam” becomes a proper name in the Book of Genesis chapter 4, verse 25. (Catholic Book Publishing Co., 1986) It is never associated with the word “Amen”.

What is the origin of the words “man” and “woman” in the English language? The word “man” comes from the ancient language of Sanskrit. (Merriam-Webster, Inc, 1993) The Sanskrit word is “manu”. The word “woman” is

from the old English word “wifman”. It is a compound word of “wif” for wife in old English and man. “Amen” which is of Hebrew origin is not remotely associated with the words “man” and “woman”.

For the sake of argument if the word “Amen” were gender specific as our confessed congressman implied would it not be so in other languages? In two languages the answer is a resounding no. In Spanish the word for man is “hombre” and the word for woman is “mujer”. (Jackson & Rubio, 1984) The word for “Amen” in Spanish is “Amén”. Ending a prayer with “un hombre y una mujer” is laughable. In Russian the word for man is “мужчина” (muzhchina) and the word for woman is “женщина” (zhenshchina). (Duff & Makaroff, 1962) The word for “Amen” in Russian is “Аминь” (amin’). Ending a prayer with “мужчина и женщина” is also just as laughable. On a side note a person cannot say “a man”, “a woman”, “the man (men)”, or “the woman (women)” in Russian. The indefinite and definite articles do not exist in the Russian language.

So, do not be like our confused congressman. Do not confuse the word “Amen”. It is a simple word used at the end of a Christian prayer to mean “certainly” or “truly”. “Amen” has no gender specific qualities whatsoever.

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### **INASMUCH BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

The next date is 7 February 2023 @ 7:00 AM. This date may change depending on guidance from Operation INASMUCH and local directives.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **January 2023**

January 1	World Peace Day
January 6	Feast of the Epiphany
January 8	Council Meeting
January 15	Family of the Month Form Due
January 16	MLK Day
January 25	Articles for the Tar Heel Knight Due
January 31	Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728)

### **February 2023**

February 5	Council Meeting
February 9	Feast of Saint Maron
February 14	Feast of Saint Valentine
February 15	Family of the Month Form Due
February 15	Council Semiannual Audit Due
February 20	Ash Monday
February 21	Presidents' Day
February 25	Articles for the Tar Heel Knight Due

### **March 2023**

March 5	Council Meeting
March 15	Family of the Month Form Due
March 17	Feast of Saint Patrick
March 25	Articles for the Tar Heel Knight Due

### **April 2023**

April 2	Hosanna Sunday (Palm Sunday)
April 6	Thursday of the Mysteries
April 7	Great Friday of the Crucifixion
April 8	Great Saturday of the Light
April 9	The Glorious Resurrection
April 15	Family of the Month Form Due
April 16	Council Meeting
April 25	Articles for the Tar Heel Knight Due

## **DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATIONS**

Further details for upcoming degree ceremonies are available on the K of C State Council Website:

Degree Exemplifications: <https://kofcnc.org/ceremonials/degrees/>

Degree Exemplifications On-Line: <https://kofcnc.org/ceremonials/upcoming-online-exemplifications/>

Fourth Degree Exemplifications: <https://kofcnc.org/4th-degree/4th-degree-exemplification/>

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Start Time</u></b>	<b><u>Council – Location</u></b>
None.	None.	None.

## **FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATIONS**

None Scheduled At This Time.

## **Catholic Clergy Who Stood Up To Hitler**

Financial Secretary Christopher R. Cooper

During World War II the Catholic Church was not complicit with the NAZI government of Adolf Hitler in spite of all the political correctness attempting to rewrite history. Many Catholic Church officials stood up against fascist tyranny that ran unabated in Europe in WWII. Some paid with their lives for standing on Christian Catholic principles. Countless Jewish lives were spared from the concentration camps. The Catholic Clergy prevented the death of many medically and mentally infirmed people who would have otherwise been euthanized as not being worthy of life. Allied troops benefitted from the bravery of the Catholic Clergy. Instead of languishing for years as prisoners of war the Catholic Clergy sheltered and helped them return to allied lines. Three examples of these brave clergymen are Pope Pius XII, Blessed Vilmos Apor, and Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty.

Pope Pius XII led the Catholic Church during WWII. Through his guidance approximately 860,000 Jewish people were saved from the horrors of the NAZI government. (Michael Journal, 2002) No other organization, religious, government, etc., can claim to have saved this many Jewish people from the atrocities of Adolf Hitler and his henchmen. Unfortunately, malcontents with a political agenda as far back as 1963 A.D. have borne false witness against Pope Pius XII. These malcontents have claimed Pope Pius XII either turn a blind eye to the Holocaust or collaborated with NAZI officials. None of these accusations are true. Here is a quote from Albert Einstein who fled his native Germany because of NAZI-ism, "Only the [Catholic] Church stood squarely across the path of Hitler's campaign for suppressing the truth...I never had any special interest in the [Catholic] Church before, but now I feel great affection and admiration...and am forced thus to confess that what I once despised, I now praise unreservedly."

Blessed Vilmos Apor was Bishop of Győr, Hungary when Hitler's forces invaded Hungary. (Columbia, 2015) He offered shelter to the Jewish people. Blessed Apor decried the force removal of the Jewish people to the NAZI death camps. When the Red Army arrived in Győr Blessed Apor sheltered refugees from the drunken soldiers. When these vagabonds demanded the young ladies who Blessed Apor sheltered, he stood in their way and they responded with gun fire. Blessed Apor saved the young ladies from being assaulted, but he paid with his life. He died from his wounds on Easter Monday 2 April 1945.

Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty has been dubbed a Scarlet Pimpernel-esque Vatican priest. (Lewis, 2011) He was in Rome, Italy during WWII. Monsignor O'Flaherty organized a network that sheltered approximately 4,000 allied troops who otherwise would have spent the remainder of the war in a prisoner of war camp. He played a game of cat and mouse with the NAZI authorities. A movie was made about Monsignor O'Flaherty called *The Scarlet and the Black* starring Gregory Peck.

Many Catholic Church officials from Priest, to Bishop, to Pope stood up to the tyranny of Adolf Hitler. Many Jewish people and allied troops benefitted from their bravery and opposition to NAZI rule. Some died for their principles while other survived WWII. Unfortunately, political correctness from malcontents and enemies of the Catholic Church defamed the efforts of these good men. The truth will preserve in the end. To end this article here is a quote from Sir Winston Churchill on standing up to tyrants, "You have enemies? Good. That means you've stood up for something, sometime in your life."

### Works Cited

Columbia. (2015, April). Blessed Vilmos Apor (1892-1945). *Columbia*, p. 5.

Lewis, P. (2011, April 7). *The heroic Vatican priest who ran rings round a Nazi colonel*. Retrieved April 7, 2015, from Mail Online: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/books/article-1374534/The-heroic-Vatican-priest-ran-rings-round-Nazi-colonel.html#ixzz1Iv7N2nHb>

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**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Deployed military members  
Christians in the Middle East  
Victims of human trafficking

**ARTICLES FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**

Any Brother Knight who wants to add his article to the Newsletter, submit the article to Financial Secretary Chris Cooper, at the next Council meeting or send it via email to [COOP5614@yahoo.com](mailto:COOP5614@yahoo.com).