



Battle Ready?

By Deacon Wigton

'The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere' was a poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow concerning the Revolutionary War that began in April of 1775. At the end of the poem, he describes the tremendous success of the ride through the New England colonies. On horseback, Paul spread the news that the

British were coming. The message spread like wildfire and raised farmers throughout the land. His voice was a 'cry of defiance, and not of fear, a voice in the darkness, a knock at the door.' The poem reports how the colonialists answered the call.

How the British Regulars fired and fled,—

How the farmers gave them ball for ball,

From behind each fence and farmyard-wall,

Chasing the red-coats down the lane,

Then crossing the fields to emerge again

Under the trees at the turn of the road,

And only pausing to fire and load.

Paul's voice ignited a passion for freedom and the war was won not on numbers of troops but on sheer willpower and fortitude. The poem goes on to say that: "In the hour of darkness and peril and need, the people will waken to listen to hear the hurrying hoof-beats of that steed, and the midnight message of Paul Revere."

Advent is a time when we hear a call. A call to be free; free from the rule of Satan who was given rule over humanity by Adam and Eve and who has been at war with us from the moment we left the Garden of Eden even to this present time. He has not let down his guard. There has been no mercy. John the Baptist is another midnight messenger who has had a 'cry of defiance and not of fear'. His message, even more powerful than that of Paul



Revere, echoes through the ages. It is a "voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low: and the

crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways plain." (Luke 3:4-5) It is more than a message! It is prophecy! It is a command! It is a time to awaken and listen and hear.

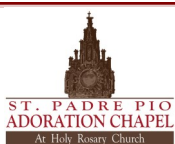
Advent is not just a time to wait. It is a time to prepare. It is a time for action! The call of John the Baptist should be ringing in our ears! Jesus is coming. "Prepare ye the way." Yes, He did come two thousand years ago, but He is coming again for each of us one at a time at the end of our lives or for all of us at the end of the world. The message should ignite a passion for freedom. As a nation and as a world, we are being swallowed by the tactics of Satan, who steals the rights and privileges of the children of God at every turn of the road. We are held captive, and Jesus "Came to set the Captives free".

"Prepare ye the way of the Lord". John's message is not one of waiting. It is being battle-ready. John did not stop with a simple 'be prepared' message. He went on to tell us how to do so. His preaching was that of repentance of sins and baptism of penance. Perhaps we are looking forward to Jesus' return. We may even hope that His second coming is imminent. Are we ready?

Ephesians 5:25 tells us: "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ love the Church and gave Himself up for her, in order to make her holy by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word, so as to present the Church to Himself in splendor, without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind – yes, so that she may be holy and without blemish."

Are we prepared? Are we ready? Do we have a Church that is without spot or wrinkle that can be presented to the Father in splendor?

It is the "hour of darkness and peril and needs." Hear the message. Do not keep Jesus waiting. He waits for us in the Chapel for us to repent of our sins and lay down our lives in penance to become battle ready for His purposes, that we might be useful servants in the war against the enemy of darkness. Could it be that Jesus is waiting for us before He comes to rule in glory and present His Church to His Father? Have Him wait no longer! Prepare ye the way!



St. Padre Pio Perpetual Adoration Chapel

Located in the Old Convent Building at HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
6982 S. Schomberg Road * Cedar, MI 49621 * 231-228-5429 * mail@holyrosarycedar.org
For more information, contact: Dosie Kermode, 231-632-7834

Faithfully Praying
Since June, 2012
Celebrating 13 Years of
Perpetual Adoration!

HOLY ROSARY PRAYER CORNER

Prayer feeds our lives. Prayer is a gift. It is a gift because Christian Prayer is based on knowing the Lord Jesus, and having the Holy Spirit stir and move through us in prayer. Please keep these intentions in your prayers.

Pray for those that are not able to attend Mass with us

Jill Anderson - Home
 Ted Bodus - Woodside Assisted Living
 Betty Flaska - Maple Valley
 Gerri Galla - Villa in Traverse City
 John King - Home * Loraine Kulanda - Home
 Ann Mazurek - Home * Kelly Priest - Woodside Asst Living
 Joyce Novak - Maple Valley * Elizabeth Randall - Home

Please call the office to correct & update this list.

PRAY FOR FIRST SACRAMENTS CANDIDATES

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Logan Baker | Ellorie Macomber | John Paul Trudeau |
| Colleen Berninger | James Parshall | Anna Witkowski |
| Wren Blanchard | Veronica Ritola | |
| Grace Goff | Lilian Scott | |
| Sarah Maciborski | Maggie Steck | |



FOR OUR MILITARY MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Ken Artz — US Air Force | • Zachary Karpinski -Basic Training |
| • Isaiah Belanger — US Navy | • Jesse Kohler — MT National Guard |
| • Charles Berninger — US Coast Guard | • Jacob Kunde — US Air Force |
| • Nicholas Bryan — US Army | • Austin McQueer — US Marines |
| • John Bunek — US Navy | • Collin Platts — US Army Nurse Corp |
| • Curtis Bunek — US Navy | • Ryan Tondreau — US Army |
| • Keith Castle — US Marines | • Leif Vanderwerf — US Marines |
| • Matthew Culver — US Navy | • Capt. Daniel Weber, DO — US Army |
| • Timothy Fisher — US Army | • Tim Wigton — MI National Guard |
| • Peter Freundl — US Coast Guard | • Andrew Zeits — US Army |
| • Joshua Harris — US Coast Guard | |

Prayer for The Vocations in Our Diocese

Seminarians:

Jake Belanger
 John Mawby
 Mark Steck
 David Witkowski

Candidates for Diaconate:

Jason Maday
 Neil Witkowski

Religious Life:

Sister Philomena Marie of Christ Crucified (Gianna Belanger)
 Margaret Foster
 Christopher Witkowski



In Our Thoughts & Prayers Recent Prayer Intentions

Fr. Lawler's parents - Both Serious Health Issues * Lou & Diane Dunson
 Donna Peterson - Injured Shoulder & Ribs * Kelly Priest - Pneumonia & Fall Injury
 Hailie T. - Increased Health Problems * Dalton - Recent Loss of Wife & Child
 Those Separated from Family during Holidays
 Loren Wilson * Parish Family - Serious Challenges
 Margaret Siemiantkowski - Ongoing Health Issues
 Geri Brzezinski - Heart Surgery Recovery * JT & Husband - Both Serious Illnesses
 Ron Novak - Leg Injury from Accident * Sr. Aquinas Weber - Continued Healing
 Laurie Plichta * GF - Serious Stress Issues

For the recently deceased & their families

- * Clarence Stachnik * Raymond Weber (Hannah) *
 * Kevin Nemitz * Jean Ann Grant * Chuck Leachman *
 * Thomas Witkowski * Sean Barr * Joan Skipski *
 * Anne Marie Tondreau * Esther Tondreau *

Cancer Patients:

Ben * Leonard Couturier * Peter Freundl * Martin Gallagher
 Tim Keilty * Christopher McGlynn * Arthur McCormack - stage 4 lung
 Chris Napolillo - Continued progress * Jan Novak - Continued progress
 Janet R. - BC * Erin Richards Rashy * Shelby Richter
 Francis Rosinski * Therese Rosinski * Tom Savage * Craig Stallman
 Herbie S. - Kidney & bone * Ruth Trotsky - Cancer & Parkinsons
 Kelly Winowiecki Florip * Mark VanderWeurff - Pancreatic
 Tina VanderWulp * Ben * Christi
 Danielle - breast cancer * Dan S. * Gabby - melanoma * Kathleen
 Lori * Marissa * Patricia - lung cancer * Randy * Steve

* Ongoing Prayer Intentions *

- * Chris Berkey - Neurological issues *
 * Ed Budd - Diagnosed with Agent Orange Complications *
 * Delores (Ditto) Couturier - stroke recovery *
 * Toddler Henry Gauthier - Continued progress in mobility & normal development *
 * Lucas P. - teen - serious food allergies and EOE *
 * Conor Rigan - age 5 - rOn special diet to hopefully avoid cancer recurrence. Prayers for clear brain scan on Dec 18.
 * Hailie Tondreau - Hypermobility Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome *
 * Randy W. (Buckley) - Parkinson's *
 * Rich Zywicki - healing from serious head injuries (accident) *

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Call Rita Wilson 231-228-5838 * Judy LaCross 231-883-1212