

CARDINAL RITTER BIRTHPLACE FOUNDATION INC

A RITTER MOMENT

Small Miracle From Rome

On Holy Saturday 2020, David Hock (CRBF-INC Chairperson) received a totally unexpected “cyber-miracle” from Raniero Salvaggi, a resident of Rome, Italy. Salvaggi’s email contained an attachment - “a photo in his possession” - unlike any we have seen.



The photo was taken during the January 18, 1961 Consistory (the council of cardinals called by the Pope to name new Cardinals) at which New Albany, IN native Archbishop Joseph Ritter (of St. Louis) was elevated to the rank of Cardinal. Salvaggi explained that the elegantly dressed “gentleman” holding Ritter’s berretta is his father. He appears to play a significant role in the rituals of the day and Salvaggi seems quite proud to share that fact. Also with the new Cardinal are several officials and a contingent of Swiss Guards.

It appears Salvaggi discovered our website and enjoyed the Ritter history presented there. He thought we might enjoy seeing the photo. It is the only image in our archive of Cardinal Ritter on the day of his investiture, apart from those found in newspaper accounts of the day.