



THE SHIELD



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APRIL, 2013

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THE GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

By Darren Gray

Happy Spring to you all! Hopefully, by the time that you read this, the weather will be warmer and the snow will be gone. As we move into April, I can't help but think of this as a time of renewal. And our Council could use a little "renewal". The Building Corp has formed a 'maintenance' committee to help with some of the updates that it needed around the Council. Thank you, Jim Morrison, for already painting the upstairs meeting area. Another part of renewal is getting new members. To do that, we will be hosting a **Fraternal Benefits Night on Monday, April 22, 2013** that will be open to the public and promoted to the members of St. Vincent/St. Dennis. I would like to use this night also as an Open House for our council. If you know anyone that might benefit from this event, please bring them along. And just a reminder that during the April meeting, we will be voting on the Resolution 2013 that is listed in the Shield.

CALENDAR FOR FUTURE EVENTS

(No Friday Night Dinner this month)

MEMBERSHIP MEETING - Monday, April 1, 2013 - 8:00 p.m.

Texas Hold 'Em Poker Event
 April 1-4 - 3:30 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. - Big Beaver Tavern

COFFEE and DONUTS at St. Vincent Ferrer
 Sunday, April 7, 2013 after 8:00 a.m. Mass

LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING - NO MEETING
 INSTEAD The Crash Landing on Thurs., April 18, 2013 - 6:00 p.m.

SHIELD DEADLINE: Wed., April 19, 2013: scm04@wowway.biz

PANCAKE BREAKFAST - Sunday, April 21, 2013
 After 8:00 and 10:00 Masses - St. Vincent Ferrer

Corporate Communion
 Sunday, April 21, 2013 - 8:00 a.m. Mass
 NOTE THE MASS TIME!!! - St. Vincent Ferrer Church

Fraternal Benefits Night - (Wine/Cheese Tasting also)
 Monday, April 22, 2013 - 7:00 p.m. - at the Council

OFFICER MEETING: Monday, April 29, 2013 - 7:30 p.m. at the Council

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Ron Thompson

Brothers, Vivat Jesus!

I want to thank everyone who helped with The M.R.I. Drive. I was not able to help on Friday and Saturday, due to my work schedule. At the time I am writing this article, I plan to help out on Sunday.

I was touched after our new Pope was announced. Pope Francis is his chosen name, He wants to be the Pope for the poor. He has asked everyone to pray for him. I want to ask that we continue to help those in need. Let's make serving our parish and growing in our faith a top priority in our lives. I also would like to remind everyone that we have our K. of C. Insurance Agent Dave Parker back with us to help with our insurance needs giving us access to top-rated protection products for our families and prospective members.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

By Ron Bertolini

Brother Knights - Vivat Jesus! The Tootsie Roll Drive is over for the spring. Time to move onto other things. We have a couple of things going on this month. Aside from the Pancake Breakfast on the 21st, we also have the Corporate Communion scheduled for the 21st at the 8:00 a.m. Mass. I understand that the Grand Knight scheduled it for the 8:00 a.m. Mass because the last few have been at 10:00 a.m. and he wanted to make sure that the other masses knew about the Knights. Then, to follow that up, we will have holding a Fraternal Benefits Night on Monday, April 22nd. At the time of this writing, there were no volunteers for the April Friday Night Dinner, so we will skip the month of April. If you didn't sign up to help with the Texas Hold 'Em at Big Beaver Tavern, but would still like to help, please contact our Grand Knight by April 2nd.

There will be another Texas Hold 'Em in May.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Ron Thompson, DGK

Brothers, Vivat Jesus! Membership of our order is always an ongoing job for all of us. I want to share some important Questions & Answers about the Knights of Columbus.

1. I don't have time to join another organization; why should I join the Knights of Columbus?

As a Knight you can choose the projects with which you wish to be involved in within your own community. What is more, the Order is dedicated to family life and the many benefits it offers. From insurance to scholarships to service and social activities and programs, all are open to the whole family. Don't forget the (24 hour Knight). The new member does not by any means have to drop everything to become a Knight. (24 hours per year of service time, includes helping with charitable events, reading the newsletters, attending meetings, family gatherings at service projects, helping with our annual yard sale, ice cream social, vocation breakfast, helping with our parish needs.

2. What are the requirements?

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practical (that is, practicing) Catholics in union with the Holy See.

3. What is a practical Catholic?

A practical Catholic accepts the teaching authority of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals, aspires to live in accord with the precepts of the Catholic Church, and is in good standing in the Catholic Church.

4. Explain what Degrees are?

There are four degrees within the Knights of Columbus. Each degree ceremony imparts a lesson on the Order's core virtues of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

5. Do I have to purchase Insurance to become a member?

No; unlike many fraternal organizations one does not become a member by purchasing insurance. In the Knights of Columbus a man has to be a member before he may avail himself of the insurance benefit.

LADIES AUXILIARY

By Janice Polan

Spring time is here. Just a couple of reminders for the month of April. No regular meeting on the 2nd Thursday of this month in lieu of our annual ladies birthday celebration, to be held on Thursday, April 18th, at 6:00 p.m. at The Crash Landing restaurant (located on Dequindre just south of 11 Mile Road). Cost is \$5 per member to attend. We are still collecting donations of gift cards, instant lottery tickets or a cash donation for the Holy Cross Mackinac Island raffle basket.

Nominations for officers for our May election can be directed to Yvette Ploskonka, Nominating Committee Chairperson.

Thank you to all the ladies that contributed to the Palm Sunday Tootsie Roll drive dinner for the Knights.

Purchasing insurance is optional, however; the life insurance and long-term care insurance products offered by the Order are not only competitively priced, they are among the most solid and highly rated products available anywhere. Standard & Poor's and A.M. Best, the leading independent agencies that rate insurance companies, give K. of C. insurance their highest ratings.

I hope this helps when you are talking to prospective candidates who want more information on becoming a Knight.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Jeffrey Scott**
- 02 John Turchin, PGK, FDD**
- 04 Thaddeus Zakrzewski**
- 04 Robert Pasternak**
- 05 Richard Witkowski**
- 14 Marion Craig**
- 17 John Lamerato**
- 17 Francis McFall**
- 19 Timothy Kujawa**
- 21 Lewis Bertrand**
- 22 John Hanser**
- 30 Silvio Marchesi**

Moments of Truths

Gary Laurestein, CSsR

Before a funeral Mass, a parishioner told the priest, "Father, I know the pallbearers are baptized, but I'm not sure whether they're confirmed." Puzzled, the priest asked, "Why do you want to know that?" The parishioner replied, "The funeral director said I should make sure the pallbearers are confirmed."

Of course, the funeral director was talking about verifying the pallbearers' commitment to be at the Mass. The parishioner, having a Catholic mentality, thought the pallbearer was speaking about the sacrament of confirmation.

Some of us begin learning about Catholicism from birth. Perhaps we were blessed with parents who set a good example and a childhood religious education that had a great impact on us. As adults, our education continues. We regularly attend Mass. We take religion classes at our parish or watch Catholic programs on TV or on the Internet. Maybe we read Catholic books, magazines, newspapers, blogs, and websites.

Such things help us to know more about our faith, but there's another-step-internalizing our Catholic faith, drinking it in deeply. This happens only through meditation.

One way to do this is to meditate on the Catechism of the Catholic Church one article at a time. Each meditation is a conversation with the Lord about how an article of faith applies to everyday life. Meditating on the Catechism offers an opportunity of petition for humility and faith. Granted, going through the whole Catechism is a very long exercise, but the Catechism is the most authentic source of our faith. If it's too much, have a conversation with the Lord over a source of Catholic teaching you find more accessible. But do have the conversation.

If we don't read and meditate on the truths of our faith, we risk being like the man who was asked whether he believed that people today are more ignorant and apathetic than those of previous generations. He said, "I don't know, and I don't care." □

How one generation compares to another doesn't matter. What matters is that the truths of our faith become part of us and of how we live.

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND IN DISTRESS

By Darren Gray

Don Adams (Randy's brother-in-law), Glen Bessler (Don's nephew), Lawrence Bliss, Bea Bouttillier (Tony's Aunt), Carolyn Bree (Tony Szeliga's Cousin), Bob Brunk, Ariel Chaillou (Dennis Menard's niece), Cassy DeClercq, Ray Dulecki, Lorraine Dulecki, James Fisher (Ron Thompson's father-in-law), Wallis Flynn (Randy's son-in-law), Benny Guc, Rose Halkey, Larry Huddleston, Bob Keyse, Bill King (Randy's brother-in-law), Marian King (Randy's sister-in-law), Mary Kline, Sue Landry, Pete Malega, Steve Mall, Charley Malloney, Mimi Marchesi, Daniel Marchesi, (Frank's sister-in-law and his brother) Sharon McCoy (Richard Witkowski's daughter), Roger McCoy, Frank McFall, Jerry Meicer, Dennis Menard's niece & Baby Alexander, Catherine Meadows (Tony's sister), Diane O'Neil (Maggie's sister-in-law), Joe Palazzola, Jim Palmer, Janice Pasternak, Charlene Pasternak, Leona Peklo, Gus Peklo, Rob Persinger, Stella Ploskonka (Ron's mother), John Pollock (Ron Thompson's brother-in-law), Bill Rearick, Patricia A. Scheid, Patricia M. Scheid (Ernie's daughter-in-law), Caroline Sobas (Lynn Figg's sister-in-law), Jess Sobas (Lynn Figg's brother-in-law), Lori Stack, Robert Stack, Lee Ventimiglia, Matt Ventimiglia, Rick Waligora, Regis Welsh, Marian Welsh, Deacon Gerry. Please pray for all of the men and women in our Armed Services. Please also say a prayer for Wanda Meadows (Tony's brother-in-law's mother) and Thomas Adams (Randy's brother-in-law), who have passed away.

Let us please also remember those that have lost their jobs or have been hit hard by the flustering economy. Let them be touched by God's welcome hands so that they may get back on their feet and look forward to a prosperous future.

NOTE: Just a reminder. Please make sure to write names clearly so that I can add them correctly to the sick and deceased list.

RESOLUTION 2013

Be it resolved that Fr. James B. Heary Council 7239 appropriate \$600.00 for the First Delegate and \$600.00 for the Second Delegate to offset expenses at the 2013 Michigan State Convention.

**Signed, James Morrison, PGK, FDD
Ronnie Thompson, DGK**

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

By Jim Morrison

The next K. of C. Coffee & Donuts is Sunday, April 7 and the next Pancake Breakfast will be Sunday, April 21. Many thanks to the many families who attended our breakfast. This past breakfast had the best turnout so far. Thank you.

Roots of Devotion

Did you know that May is the month of Mary? Throughout the centuries, the Church has set aside the month of May to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in a special way. This custom has been strongly endorsed by popes as far back as the thirteenth century.

During the Second Vatican Council, the bishops proclaimed Mary to be Mother of the Church and asked for her intercession as they gathered and formulated documents. Before the council's final session in 1965, Pope Paul VI issued the encyclical *On Prayers During May for Preservation of Peace (Mense Maia)*, in which he asked world leaders to embrace peace. Specifically, he spoke out on crimes against the dignity of the human person, warfare, terrorist activities, hostage-taking, and other acts of violence. The pope called for every parish and diocese to pray, especially during May, for the Blessed Mother's help and protection. Mary-related liturgical celebrations also occur in May. The Feast of the Visitation (May 31) commemorates the day Our Lady hurried to the aid of her elderly relative Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John the Baptist. Before 1969, the Saturday after the Ascension of Our Lord celebrated as the Feast of Our Lady, Queen of the Apostles, to recall the day the apostles gathered in prayer with Mary and the women in the Upper Room. This year the month of Mary falls during the Easter season. Vatican II documents instruct the faithful that all devotions must ultimately flow, harmonize with the Church seasons, and lead us back to the liturgy. Thus, this May our Mary devotions will emphasize Our Lady's participation in the paschal mystery and recall Pentecost, the event that gave birth to the Church. During Mary's month in the Easter season, all of nature rejoices with the Queen of Heaven at the resurrection of the Lord. During the remainder of this Easter season, may our devotion to Mary and our participation in the liturgy deepen our gratitude for the mystery of our baptismal rebirth in Christ Jesus.

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THE SHIELD - APRIL, 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Texas Hold 'Em Membership Meeting Happy Birthday! Jeffrey Scott	2 Texas Hold 'Em Happy Birthday! John Turchin, PGK, FDD	3 Texas Hold 'Em	4 Texas Hold 'Em Happy Birthday! T. Zakrzewski Robert Pasternak	5 Happy Birthday! Richard Witkowski	6
7 Coffee & Donuts 8:00 a.m. Mass	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Happy Birthday! Marion Craig	15	16	17 Happy Birthday! John Lamerato Francis McFall	18	19 "Shield" Deadline! Happy Birthday! Timothy Kujawa	20
21 HBI Lewis Bertrand Pancakes After 8:00 & 10:00 Corporate Comm. 8:00	22 Happy Birthday! John Hanser Wine & Cheese Tasting	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Officers Meeting 7:30 p.m.	30 Happy Birthday! Silvio Marchesi				