



THE SHIELD



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Official Publication of Fr. James B. Heary, O.P. - Council 7239 Knights of Columbus

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FEBRUARY, 2014

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THE GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

By Darren Gray

Brother Knights, hang in there, Spring is right around the corner!!! I want to thank the brave men that made it to the January 6th Meeting. Due to the weather, however, we had to postpone it to the following week. Thank you to everyone who made it out to THAT meeting. As I have mentioned, my goal for the next month or so is to get the documentation put together in regards to the work that we do with the MRAW and the Mentally Impaired.

If anyone has something (pictures/articles/stories) that they would like to add in regards to the MRAW events, please email me. Aside from that, I hope to see a good turnout for our Anniversary Dinner on February 8, 2014 at Fr. Kramer Council.

CALENDAR FOR FUTURE EVENTS

Coffee & Donuts will be Sunday, February 2, 2014

NO FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER THIS MONTH

Membership Meeting - Monday, February 3, 2014

ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Saturday, February 8, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.

Father Kramer Council - Center Line

Contact Norm Podgorski for Tickets

Ladies Auxiliary Meeting - Thursday, Feb. 13, 2014

Pancake Breakfast will be Sunday, Feb. 16, 2014

Officers Meeting - Monday, Feb. 24, 2014 - 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

By Ron Bertolini

Brother Knights, we still have some time to get new members in for this fraternal year, which ends in June. We did get a line on some potential transfers. This came about from a conversation that a couple of our members had with fellow parishioners over breakfast after mass. Proof that a little conversation can go a long way to recruiting new members.

FEBRUARY MEETING ELECTION

At the February Meeting, we will be electing Delegates for the 2014 Michigan Convention. This is a very important election as these delegates are OUR voice at the State Convention. Vivat Jesus!

ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Fr. Heary Council 7239 is holding their 35th ANNIVERSARY DINNER on Saturday, February 8th, 2014, from 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. at Fr. Kramer Council located at 7900 Bernice in Center Line. (First stop light about three blocks south of I-696 on the West side of Van Dyke). Ticket price for all over 18 is \$27.50 per person, (under 18 \$25.00). Includes meat buffet, dessert, alcoholic beverages, juice, soda pop, and a DJ for your dancing pleasure. It is okay to B.Y.O.B. if you desire.

**PLEASE RESERVE THIS DATE
AND HELP US CELEBRATE.
FOR TICKETS CON-
TACT: NORM PODGORSKI
at 248-546-3730
or normpod@wowway.com**

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Ronnie Thompson, DGK

Brother Knights, due to the weather, the Free Throw event had to be changed to Jan. 24th. Tony was still hoping for a big turnout and we will hopefully have an update at the February meeting. It is not too late to get your tickets for the Anniversary Dinner. I understand that our State Deputy, Michael J. Malinowski will be in attendance this year. See Norm Podgorski for tickets. Lastly, while we are not having a Friday Night dinner in February, we are looking for cooks for the March Dinner (this is the St. Patrick's Day Corn Beef and Cabbage Dinner, to be held on Monday, March 17th) and cooks for the dinner in April and beyond. Please let me know if you are interested in cooking.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 07 Ralph Merkel
- 08 Louis Longo II
- 10 Joseph Marchesi
- 10 Edward Novak
- 10 Craig Massman
- 11 Frank Marchesi
- 13 Timothy Morton
- 21 John Brehmer
- 23 William Hughes
- 24 Kevin Gruse
- 25 Scott Wesierski

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 04 Mike Niemasz
- 04 Peter Miles
- 06 William Rearick
- 08 Glain Guilmette
- 10 Glain A. Guilmette
- 18 Robert Casman
- 22 Patrick Allen
- 27 Richard King
- 28 Rev. Lee Acervo
- 31 Adam Wittmer

LADIES AUXILIARY

By Janice Polan, President

Good-bye to our January snows and hello to a new month filled with love and prayers for peace. A quick thank you to Gene Polan for bringing his "mighty" snow thrower to clear away the mounds of snow and ice on the sidewalks and ramp at the council. Your help and equipment was greatly appreciated.

February begins with the Knights' annual anniversary dinner/dance on Saturday the 8th. If you have not purchased your tickets, please contact Norm Podgorski. It will be an enjoyable night of good food, dancing, raffle prizes and camaraderie of friends and family of our Council.

Our ladies meeting is on Thursday, Feb 13th, at 7:00 pm. Hostesses are Anna Neil, Marian Welsh and Helen Zolna. Bring ideas for our upcoming birthday celebration, and a contribution to our "cash cow" bank for the Mackinac Island raffle for Holy Cross Children's Services. Due to inclement weather at the January meeting, the attendance was minimal, so we will be combining both meetings, in case you missed.

Check the shield for upcoming Knights events/dinners, coffee/donuts and breakfasts at SVF. Your support is needed to keep our activities a success.

Happy February birthday to: Mary-Lou Stema, Cindy Podgorski and Stephanie Olszewski

Happy Valentine's Day to all the ladies and their families. May your hearts be filled with love!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST NEWS

Many, many thanks to all those who worked on the Pancake Breakfast and to those who came and supported it this past year. If you are coming to the Anniversary Dinner, we will present a \$500.00 check to each of our seminarians: Tim Wentzer and Craig Marion. I hope you will come to the Anniversary Dinner to show your support for our seminarians. The next Pancake Breakfast will be February 16.

The next Coffee & Donuts will be February 2.

No Church, No Jesus

By Gary Lauenstein, CSSR

In recent decades, church attendance has fallen off in Western Europe, North America, and Australia. People are often quoted as saying they're for Jesus, not the institutional Church. In his 2012 Holy Thursday homily, Pope Benedict said we cannot say yes to Jesus and no to the Church.

The greatest proof that such a division is false is that Jesus founded the community of the apostles to carry on his work after his ascension. And ever since, the Church has tried to call its members more deeply into living a community life.

Why do Christians put so much emphasis on community? Because God is communal. The Gospel of John tells us Jesus came into the world to reveal to us who God is, and God is a community of persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In the second century, the Christian writer Tertullian gave a term to that: Trinity - unity of three.

He was drawing on our experience of family life. A family is one entity that consists of several persons. God is one divine being who consists of three persons. The Father and Son are bound in the Holy Spirit of love. Tertullian tried to give another example: God is like a plant, he said, in which the Father is the root, the Son is the shoot, and the Spirit of Holiness is the fruit.

And so humans, made in the image of God, are also by destiny communal. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "God has revealed his innermost secret: God himself is an eternal exchange of love, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and he has destined us to share in that exchange" (221).

Our sharing in this Triune divine life does not limit itself to sharing in God's family only with God. Christ invites us to share in God's family with our brothers and sisters. We cannot say yes to Jesus without saying yes to the rest of his family.

We cannot say yes to Jesus without acting positively in service to the Church and on behalf of the Church.

Let Yourself Get Caught

By Kathleen M. Basi

Silly me, I thought I was going to have to cook right after my first child was born. I didn't know about the Postpartum Food Network. You know, the parade of adorers bringing buckets of pasta and trays of brownies - meals dripping with caloric goodness accompanied by miniature outfits in baby blue. I thought we were getting special treatment because we were highly visible in the parish and had just come through a public battle with infertility. But when our second baby was diagnosed with Down Syndrome, our community outdid itself. Within a week, we were inundated with clothes, offers, help, meals, and spiritual bouquets. That outpouring of love was a lesson in the power of community to bring Christ close enough to touch, eloquently demonstrating what Saint Teresa of Avila meant when she said Christ has only our hands and feet to do his work on the Earth.

But we have soccer tournaments, work obligations, and yards to mow. Who has time to change the world? That's where community comes in. One person may not make much impact, but a community of believers "of one heart and mind" (*Acts 4:32*) packs quite a punch. And yet that's the tough part: one heart and mind. How many communities can claim that distinction?

Parish communities are a lot like families: bonded, but not necessarily one, in heart and mind. Within them are leaders (*priests*) we adore and those who drive us crazy. Members who pull their weight and those who show up just in time for dinner (*and never help with the dishes*). People you look forward to visiting with and those you secretly hope won't show up.

In a family we're obligated to love everyone, even those we don't particularly like. We bend over backward to help even our least favorite relative, but the same isn't always true at church. There's always more to do than time to do it. It's simpler to keep your head down and get out the door. Otherwise, if you might discover that the person who passed you the collection basket has a hospitalized child and three more at home. And then you

PRAYER LIST

Gerri Andry, Gerard Beau-champ, Ettore Bignotti, Gerald Bliss, Lawrence Bliss, Mike Bliss, Mary Bliss, Connie Boguth, Bea Boutillier, Nan Brown (Lynn Figg's Aunt), Paige Chamberlain, Ray Dulecki, Jennifer Fisher (Lynn Figg's Daughter), Wallis Flynn (Randy's son-in-law), Charlie Hamilton, Rose Halkey, Larry Huddleston, Earl Kaszubowski, Dana Kaszubowski, Mary Kline, Cathy Krenzer, Joann Kuester, Pete Kuester, Patty Lobos, Pete Malega, Steve Mall, Pat Malley, Mimi Marchesi (Frank's Sister-in-law), Edda Marchesi, Emory Massman, Sharon McCoy (Richard Witkowski's daughter), Roger McCoy, Frank McFall, Beth Menard, Ralph Merkel, John O'Neal, Diane O'Neil, Nancy Oparka, Jim Palmer, Charlene Pasternak, Leona Peklo, Gus Peklo, Helen Piana (John Turchin's Mother-in-law), Stella Ploskonka (Ron's mother), Bill Rearick, Joanne Rearick, Joe Schanbeck, Patricia A. Scheid, Patricia M. Scheid (Ernie's daughter-in-law), Brenda Schrade (Mike Studebaker's Mother-in-law), Betty Shaw, Caroline Sobas (Lynn Figg's Sister-in-law), Jess Sobas, Lori Stack, Robert Stack, Robert Stack Jr., Paul Szeliga (Tony's Brother), Dennis Szlag, John Turchin, Lee Ventimiglia, Matt Ventimiglia, Jerry Waligora, Regis Welsh, Marian Welsh, Jean Witkowski, Richard Witkowski. And please pray for all of the men and women of our Armed Services. Please keep Lewis Bertrand your prayers. Lewis passed away December 30th.

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

might feel obligated to help.

We each have some gift to share, some charisma or skill that strengthens the Church for its work on earth. Community is the base on which all other work is built. Ministries, after all, are only successful when people show up and work together.

So next Sunday, allow yourself to get caught. Does someone seem uncomfortable, unsure of welcome? Is there someone you've never taken the time to get to know? Take a risk. You never know whether God is going to use your relationship with a family member - or a perfect stranger - to change the world.

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THE SHIELD - FEBRUARY, 2014

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Happy Birthday Frank Meister, PGK
2 Coffee & Donuts	3 MEMBERSHIP MEETING	4	5	6	7 Happy Birthday Ralph Merkel	8 Anniv. Dinner Happy Birthday Louis Longo II
9 PANCAKE BREAKFAST	10 Happy Birthday Joe Marchesi Edward Nowak Craig Massman	11 Happy Birthday Frank Marchesi Mary Lou Stema	12	13 Happy Birthday Timothy Morton Ladies Auxiliary Meeting	14	15
16 Happy Birthday Cindy Podgorski	17	18 Happy Birthday Stefanie Olszewski	19 SHIELD DEADLINE	20	21 Happy Birthday John Brehmer	22
23 Happy Birthday William Hughes	24 Happy Birthday Kevin Gruse OFFICERS MEET	25 Happy Birthday Scott Wesierski	26	27	28	