



Knight Light Newsletter

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

As we draw closer to the end of the Columbian Year, it's time for us to select a new slate of officers to lead the Council into 2018. While most of the current officers will likely stand for election and move up the ladder, we do have some openings in the lower tiers of the officer corps. If you feel called to lead, please contact me or Deputy Grand Knight, Al Toschi, and we'll explain what's involved. We start new officers out in a position of learning for a few years, so the initial commitment is not great; but we would expect new officers to move up in the ranks each year and eventually lead the council as Grand Knight.

Our annual Lenten Dinners are wrapping up and, as DGK Al Toschi will report in his article, our attendance has been off the charts and the spirit of fellowship amongst our parishioners and guests has been just phenom-

enal. Just as important, the level of activity among our brother Knights has been up sharply as well. These dinners are a lot of work, and it takes many hands to pull them off. So, thank you for answering my call to get involved. Thank you for all for your help and support, especially the dinner chairmen and their families.

Looking forward at the calendar, on April 20th, I will be representing the council at Bishop Stephen Blaire's Annual Seminarian Dinner, at which I will present a check from our council to aid the Bishop in this important work. Next, on Saturday, May 6th we will be cooking for the Parish Blessings Breakfast. Please join in the fun, flipping pancakes and scrambling eggs and report to the kitchen between 6:30 and 7:30 that morning. We'll be done by noon. Finally, we will be co-hosting, with the Parish Health Ministry, a Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, May 13th in JPPI Center, Room 11.

We could use a few volunteers to serve juice and donuts and direct people to the proper room.

Vivat Jesus and see you at the next business meeting.

Tim Keating, Grand Knight



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- The Business meeting will be on April 4th at 7 PM in the parish hall. Don't miss it and bring a friend.
- Also, don't forget the Soup Dinner on the 7th and the Reception for New Catholics on Holy Saturday, the 14th.

April 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 6:30 PM Officers' Meeting in Vatican Council Room of St. JP2 Center	4 7 PM Business Meeting in Father O'Hare Hall	5	6	7 5 pm Soup Dinner	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 5:45 pm Memorial Mass and Rosary for Deceased members	15 8 pm Reception for new Catholics
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Members' Birthdays

Angel Martinez 4-2
 David Evans 4-4
 Scott Fernandes 4-4
 Octavio Lopez 4-6
 Nathaniel Benninger 4-8
 Tom Lucas III 4-12
 Robert Spengler 4-13
 Steven A. Junqueiro 4-15
 Daniel Ryan 4-15
 Pino Truncali 4-15
 Tom Cabrera 4-16
 Daniel Di Rienzo 4-23
 Rev Benny Kottarathil 4-24
 Sean Mullins 4-24
 Robert Nunes 4-24
 James Standart 4-25

Ladies' Birthdays

Carole Ward 4-4
 Sharilyn Nelson 4-8
 Maria Delgado-Braun 4-10
 Wendy Bettencourt 4-11
 Wilma Lee 4-11
 Shaundra Lopez 4-12
 Kim McDoal 4-12
 Suny Di Rienzo 4-15
 Soledad Raya 4-15
 Debbie Ryan 4-16
 Kelly Valencia 4-17
 Piedy Callahan 4-18
 Darlene Tobias 4-20
 Debbie Cavagnaro 4-21
 Theresa Junqueiro 4-23
 Melissa Hoffman 4-24
 Tonya Marmol 4-26
 Sue Gamboa 4-27

Anniversaries

Angel & Jill Martinez 4-4
 Michael & Carlene Pardina 4-10
 Jesus & Lupe Perez 4-10
 Joe & Eva Furtado 4-11
 Brian & Lisa Porta 4-11
 Steven & Theresa Junqueiro 4-12
 Leo & Elvera Alvarez 4-14
 Jason & Melissa Hoffman 4-14
 John & Carol Schaper 4-17
 David & Charlyn Piper 4-18
 Michael & Erin Webster 4-25
 Norbert & Heidi Mendonca 4-29
 Richard & Lisa Dwyer 4-30



FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Lately, I have been on the plaza after many masses selling tickets to our events. I have also sat the table helping collect tickets in the hall and greeting our customers.

I began to notice the goodwill and smiles that came about when I would tell them, **“Yes, we can do that!”**

One lady wanted to get another Crab Feed ticket, but left her credit card at home one Sunday on the plaza. Could she pay later at the door. I replied,

“Yes, we can do that!”

Another lady asked if she could exchange a crab feed ticket for some fish fry tickets as a schedule conflict had arose. I replied **“Yes, we can do that!”**

On the plaza for the past few weekends selling tickets for our fish fry events after masses, I had more than one person ask me. Do you only take cash? Do you take checks? Can I use a credit card? I replied, **“Yes, we can do that!”**

A Brother who was buying tickets for his family wanted to pay by credit card. Then it dawned on him, can I pay my dues too with a credit card? I replied, **“Yes, we can do that!”**

Our council used several robo-calls to try and recruit members to help or

attend the events. Some members have asked me, “Can I opt out of the robo-calls.” And my reply is, **“Yes, we can do that!”** If you do not wish to receive robo-calls in the future, send an email to me at finsec@kofc10644.com The smiles of surprise and welcoming we get when we are able to say, **“Yes, we can do that!”** leave you with that warm and fuzzy feeling. I will bet they will return.

25 Years Ago Council #10644

Our council celebrated its 25th anniversary last year. I thought I would take a historical look back at what our Brothers were doing in February to April 1992. See if you recognize any names.

The council was asked to help clean-up after the St. Joseph's Church Valentine's Dinner Dance on Saturday, February 8th. The council was going to have a membership drive and breakfast on Sunday March 1, 1992. Brother Gary Humphreys volunteered to be the breakfast chair. Chancellor Tim Keating spoke about his placemat ad drive – selling them for \$20/spot.

Trustee Norm Boucher was pushing the council to form a first degree team and start by purchasing the robes and other materials needed.

In March, Brother Keating reported that 18 ads had been sold and the placemats netted nearly \$500 for the March 1 breakfast. FS Ken Stedfeldt reported that the breakfast netted \$762 in addition to the net from the ads. The council received 8 inquiries to join the Knights at the breakfast.

Brother Boucher moved that the council host the RCIA Reception held after the Easter Vigil Mass. Brothers Richard Lewis and John Gorman put forth the Council's By-Laws, which were passed as amended and sent to the Supreme Council. At the April meeting, Grand Knight Herb Saska appointed a nominating committee to select officers for the coming year. There was no mention of any Fish Fry Dinners.

**Dave Sichak
Financial Secretary**

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Dear Brother Knights,

As we approach Holy Week, we are full of admiration for our heroic leader, Jesus Christ. We “fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.” (Hebrews 12:2) Jesus is the “perfect man” (Gaudium et Spes 22). He is the mature version of what a man should be and of what a Knight of Columbus should be. In the Gospel Reading for the first Sunday of April we see Jesus depicted as a perfectly balanced mature man who was not afraid to show his emotions when his friend Lazarus died. The shortest verse in the Bible is three words: “And Jesus wept.” (John 11:35) We also see, however, that Jesus was very courageous in the face of death. Jesus was not afraid to go to Jerusalem even though the Jewish leaders were planning to kill him. When Jesus heard that his friend Lazarus had died he said: “Our friend Lazarus is asleep, but I am going to awaken him. Let us go back to Judea.” The apostles were amazed at his courage and said: “Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone you, and you want to go back there?” Then the Apostles resigned themselves to follow Jesus back to that dangerous place and Thomas said: “Let us also go to die with him.” (John 11: 4-16) Thomas had his doubts about Jesus and he may have been speaking sarcastically, but he was expressing something that is essential to faith. If we want to follow the way of Jesus we must be prepared to die for the sake of love. We must be willing to take risks, to make sacrifices, and perhaps even the supreme sacrifice.

Willingness to die is a requirement not only for being a good Christian, but also for simply being a mature human being. Maturity means overcoming fear and being willing to be vulnerable. Maturity is fortitude in the face of death. It also means not being afraid of change. Life is full of changes.

One of my seminary professors taught us that the changes of life are like little deaths which prepare us for the ultimate change which is our physical death. I will never forget this class at the John Paul II Institute for Studies of Marriage and Family in Rome given by Polish Professor Stanislaw Grygiel, who was a longtime friend of Pope John Paul II and who is also a Knight of Columbus in the John Paul II Council 14000 in Kraków, Poland.

I would like to give you a brief summary of what Professor Grygiel took an entire semester to teach us. He said that each of us live in a different spiritual “place” called an “ethos.” “Ethos” is a Greek word for “house” which is the origin of our word “ethics”. Every person has an “ethic” or a habitual way of living and thinking. A simpler way of saying this is to say that everyone is “into” something. Some people are “into sports”. Other people are “into” material things. Some people are “into” religion. Each of us lives in a different “ethic” which is a moral space in which we habitually dwell. Sometimes people stay in the same “place” throughout their lives and they never change. They never change

“houses”! Most people, however, “grow out of” the things that they thought were important during their childhood and embrace new things when they are adults. In order to move from one “ethos” to another, however, a person must go through a process of “letting go” of the old thing in order to embrace something new. This is sometimes a difficult and painful process. It is not easy to change. But change is necessary in order to grow and mature and develop as a person.

Professor Grygiel taught us that each time we move from one “ethos” to another it is like dying. It is a little death. We must die to one thing in order to embrace another thing. We must let go of the old in order to enter into something new. When you move from one place or one activity to another you often have to develop new habits, find new friends, and perhaps even wear different clothes. For example, it was not easy to graduate from your elementary school or your high school and move on to another campus. It was not easy to make the transition from college to working in “the real world.” It is not easy to change majors, change jobs, change careers. It is not easy to make ethical decision to disassociate oneself from old friends who do bad things. Those who are addicted to drugs or alcohol or lust cannot easily break free without experiencing intense withdrawal symptoms which they must deal with “one day at a time.” They must endure a thousand little deaths in order to discover a new life.

Those who learn to let go of the old things and “die” to the things of the past are the ones who are able to change and become successful and heroic leaders. They are not even afraid of dying which is the ultimate “change.”

Next, our professor explained to us that people usually cannot make any transition to a new kind of life without help. We need someone who is already living in the other “ethos” to invite us to come over. We need someone on the other side to tell us that “the grass is greener on the other side of the fence”! We need someone who has already made the plunge to encourage us by saying “Come on in, the water’s fine!” At this point, our professor introduced a new term into the discussion. He explained that the word “martyr” comes from a Greek word that means “witness.” A martyr is like a witness in a court of law who “gives testimony” to the truth of his or her belief by dying. Professor Grygiel explained that people cannot change without a “witness”. Before we can make a change, we need to know someone “from the other side” to convince us about the new way of life. We will never be willing to change unless someone is there to give testimony that life is good on the other side. Examples of this would be: a friend who attends a certain university and assures you that it is good, or a man who seems to be happy working for a certain business, or a person who is healthier after they overcome an addiction to drugs, etc. We have the canonized saints as “witnesses” that we can find fulfillment by following

Christ. The saints reassure us that it is OK to let go of this world because we will gain something even greater in heaven! Each of us needs to find and to get to know people who can inspire us to move into a new “ethos.” We usually cannot grow in maturity or in holiness guidance and inspiration from a counselor, or a personal trainer, or a spiritual director. This is because of the fact that we are communal and relational beings. As Pope John Paul II tells us, we are created in the image of God who in his Trinitarian life is a relationship of three persons. We will never grow or change if we remain alone and isolated.

We who are Knights of Columbus should always make sure we are connected to the other members of our fraternal order, attend meetings when we can, and seek guidance from clergy and other spiritual leaders. Of course, we must encounter Christ by approaching the priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Only in this way can we grow in personal maturity and holiness so that in turn we can be “witnesses” to others of a better way of life! Sincerely in Christ,

**Father Mark Wagner
Chaplain and Pastor
St. Joseph’s Catholic Church**



LECTURER'S MESSAGE

Welcome to end of the Lenten season again, my brothers. Hopefully all is well in your spiritual cleansing. The fish fry dinners have been great, very successful, and all the parishioners have seemed to enjoy them. Stations of the Cross have been wonderful as well, and it's nice to see many other Knights there as well. If you haven't attended one yet, it's not too late. They happen on Fridays at 7:30 PM. They have been switching up the illustrations used at the Stations to help us meditate and maybe see His passion, His agony, and His glory in a new way that we have not experienced before. But the true author is still the same.

I have had a few a-ha moments, I hope you have also. I'm so in love with all of you who attend. The humility, the unity, and the spirit of the season when we are all together there before God. Is it wrong to want that same feeling for all? All Knights, all friends and family members that are struggling with their faith or don't attend mass any longer or maybe even express they do not feel the need or see the point. How about those who do not know him at all? I too once did not feel the need or the point: I am no better than anyone! But I remember a longing that I couldn't explain, even though I knew exactly what it was that was missing. I had the knowledge gifted to me from my past. Many don't have that knowledge though the gift is there for them also. We are very fortunate. Looking back I feel I missed out on a lot of wonderful moments. Some of those moments were Friday night Stations of the Cross.

I used to smoke cigarettes.

When I see others smoking I admit I want to save them. I think, "If they could only be free of that as I am now." But at what cost? I also look back and think how foolish I was. "What a waste of time!" as Father Juniper Adams said in his mission! In one of his speeches he made that statement: "Well that was a big waste of time," and reflected on stories in his life where he thought it was a waste of time, only to have that situation change for the greater good of God if we listen, pray, believe and allow him to work through us. Cigarettes? Maybe not! I think of all that time, money, and life I spent smoking and how foolish it was for my mind, health, and, yes, my spirit. It is a reminder of the past time spent away from mass, daily mass, confession, prayer, Stations of the Cross, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, parish festivals, etc.

When I'm out in the world, I try my best to see Him in everyone. Sometimes I fear we are the minority. I look around and it seems fewer and fewer are aware. Or am I becoming aware for the first time? This is how the Lord Jesus Christ feels. This is how Mary and Joseph feel. They want it for us. Jesus even came and showed us the perfect example.

I was in the gym the other day and a guy struck a conversation with a girl went something like this. "S*&t girl, i saw you at planet f*&%ing fitness for four f&,\$%#ing hours on every f*%\$ing machine in the place." She continued to talk to him as if it was nothing. A simple: "Excuse me!" would put me in my place 20 years ago. I thought: "What planet am I on anyway?" By saying nothing

what does she say for herself? By saying nothing what do we say for ourselves? What I should be doing is praying for them at that moment. "Forgive them, Lord, for they know not what they" say. Let's raise our level of consciousness. Yes, we are all sinners, but we are a Catholic men's organization, whose example should not be stained by this. Let's hold each other accountable, through example. Let's remember to greet our fellow parishioners at church. Let's smile a lot. Let's make room for others in the pews and not ignore them or snarl.

I love you all so much, and I'm proud of each and every one of you continue in your greatness and encourage others.

Stephen E Michael, Lecturer

P.S. Father Leo always says, "Now is always the time to do good." I say, Yes, let's do it!" Thank you, Father Leo.



SUNSHINE COMMITTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Prayers are requested for the following Brothers:

Tomas Mesta: Jim Galuppi; David Perez; Roy Gordon; Merno Stadler; John Karaz and the repose of the soul of his wife, Eleanor; Douglas Rider and his wife, Kristi; Dave Tachini; Daniel Hamilton and his wife, Susan; Ron Martorana; Matt Bettencourt and his wife, Wendy; Leonard Churilla and his wife, Belen; John Gorman and his family; Fred Ibarra; Tony Lee; David Malsom; Mike Miranda and his wife, Nicky; Michael Staud; Stephen Harker; Jeremy Hemsley; and Don Reed.

Prayers are also request for:

Marty Reis' mother, Eloise Reis, and his aunt, Lucretia Brant; Lita Selover, wife of Bob Selover; Roger Mittall; Monica Woods; Al Toschi's brother-in-law, Charles; Ana de Villiers, the widow of Roberto Gutierrez; the Keating family; Kathy Anderson; Carlos Chavez, brother of Alfonso Chavez; Phyllis Edwards, niece of Frank Holmes; Mary Kitcher, wife of Keith Kitcher; Mary, the mother of Ed Hough; the repose of the soul of Ed Hough's father; Helen Moya, wife of Gary Moya; Darlene Nielsen; Dawn Powers, wife of Chris Powers; and Maryann Powers, mother of Chris Powers.

If you have, or know of, any updates or other prayer requests, please let me know at (209) 918-2847 or prayers@kofc10644.com

Mike Glendon, PGK



Pray for the Church and the whole world as we continue in our 50th anniversary year as a parish! Lord, grant us Your blessing as we show that mercy to those in the world, so that they will come to know the love and grace You give to all freely.

INSURANCE REPORT

A FOUNDING NOTION: PROTECTING THE BREADWINNER'S INCOME

While jobs may be safer in 2017, accidents, injuries, and illnesses that can impact your ability to work still happen. Most, in fact, do not happen on the jobsite or place of employment. Did you know that a 2011 study revealed that more than 95 percent of the long-term disability claims on file were not work related?

The Knights have always sought to protect members' families from the "loss" of a breadwinner. I'm sure you know all about Father McGivney's vision for our insurance program. But you may not know that Father McGivney also wanted to find a way to help members who couldn't work because of an illness. After all, the "loss" of the breadwinner does not have to mean that person's death; it can also mean the loss of the breadwinner's income.

How would your family fare if a source of income suddenly stopped?

Consider that loss for a moment. How would your family fare if a source of income suddenly stopped? Could a dual-income family manage on one income stream? What about young families with a working father and a mother who cares for the children? What if his income halted due to an accident or illness?

I've heard some people say they have coverage at work, but too many aren't sure what this coverage entails, how much income it would provide or for how long. Having this protection counts for something, certainly, but it isn't "yours"; it's provided by the company for which you work at their discretion. It could be eliminated tomorrow.

That's where a personally-owned disability income insurance product, like Income Armor, comes into play. It can offer valuable income replacement in the event of an injury or illness. If you have a job, you must know about this coverage.

JOHN'S JOKES

Hold Up Your Credit Cards!

Back in the days of the Mattel Cabbage Patch Kid craze it was usually very hard to get one for the kiddies.

A radio station (I don't know where) announced that Mattel was going to get Cabbage Patch Kids out to the people of this particular city.

The plan was that they had to go to the football field of the local university and wait. An airplane would fly overhead and the dolls would be dropped onto the field.

People were supposed to hold their credit cards up so that a

photographer with a telephoto lens in the airplane could get the credit card numbers and charge the price of the dolls to the recipients' accounts.

People actually showed up, waving American Express cards in the breeze. It was April Fools Day!

Happy Fools Day - Don't hurt anyone!



Knight Light
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