

KNIGHT LIGHT NEWSLETTER

March 2015

St. Joseph Council #10644, Division 5 Volume 19, Issue 9

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE



Brother Knights,

"May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you! May the hand of a friend always be near you." (Irish Proverb, unknown). I thought that I would start the newsletter with a couple of my favorite Irish sayings in honor of St. Patrick's Day: the 17th of this month. The root of this tradition is that St. Patrick was a missionary who brought Christianity to the Emerald Isles, also known as Ireland, in the 400's. It is said that St. Patrick used the shamrock to explain what the Trinity was to Ireland's non-Christian citizens. The shamrock leaves symbolized Catholicism's belief of the holy Trinity: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

This month we also roll into spring and prepare ourselves for Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter. The Easter Vigil reception will be hosted by the Knights in the St. John Paul II Center. Brother Tim Keating stepped up to chair this event, and I will be there to help as well. If anyone would like to come help: the more hands the merrier. We also have been tasked to step up and help out with the 40 Days event by covering the last hour between 6 and 7 PM, so that it is men covering the darker evening hours.

By the time this letter reaches you, we have will have a few Fish Fry dinners under our belts; and, with some luck, enjoy the same

successes as last year. I would like to request that all Brother Knights pitch in and help at our Fish Fry dinners and to help it be successful by promoting it with your friends and family. This event is open to non-parishioners, and I've had several people outside our parish come up to me and tell how much they've enjoyed the dinners and look forward to coming back. These dinners turn out to be "all-hands-on-deck" with the motto of "the more the merrier" really showing how true it is. The more people that show up, the easier things transition into successful events. Chores for the dinners include set up each Friday at 2 PM, working in the kitchen, cleaning up the hall the dinner is over, and, my personal favorite, cleaning the tanks on Saturday morning. Please, come join in the fun!

Another important date to remember this month is the 19th. This is our namesake's day: St. Joseph's day. St. Joseph is the patron saint of the dying and of carpenters. He is also celebrated on May 1st as a worker. He was declared to be a patron saint and protector of the Catholic Church by Pope Pius IX in 1870. He is a father figure that all Brother Knights should look up to for guidance as he helped raise Jesus as his own son. The feast commemorates Joseph, the

husband of the Virgin Mary and Stepfather of Jesus.

It has been brought to my attention that there are older Brother Knights that may be in need of a ride to our monthly meetings due to health or vision issues. Other Brother Knights have stepped up to assist in this in the past. If anyone else would like to volunteer, please contact me at (209) 918-2847.

Just a reminder regarding the degree exemplifications: our Council will be hosting a Second and Third Degree in May. More information on this will follow in next month's newsletter. In closing, I'll leave you with these thoughts: St. Patrick was a brave and humble man. Have you been putting something off because you're afraid to do it? Do it this month in honor of St. Patrick. "May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back!" (Irish Proverb, unknown). God Bless you and yours,

**Grand Knight
Mike Glendon**

grandknight@kofc10644.com
209-918-2847



Knight Light Editor: Richard Braun

Send your letters, stories, ideas, typed with your name and phone # no later than the 15th of each month.

Please, note, all submissions are subject to editing and space availability.

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Next Meeting: NOTICE LOCATION

Date: 3/3/2015

Location: **Room 6 of St. JP2 Center**

Don't forget the Lenten Fish Dinners continue through this month. We need you to make these events successful!

Dear Knights,
 Lent is a special time to toughen us up for spiritual battle by means of penance and self-denial. A good model for us in this time is, ironically, a small woman who was a princess. Her name was Kateri Tekakwitha, who was a Mohawk Princess because her father was a chief of their tribe. In Native American Indian culture there is a lot of emphasis on being able to endure painful tests, which were rites of passage into adulthood. Accustomed to this, Tekakwitha later became famous for her fasting and acts of bodily penance, which she did in imitation of Christ and in reparation for the sins of her people. Tekakwitha was raised among the pagan Mohawk (Iroquois) Indians; but she knew about Jesus Christ, because her mother had been a Christian. The Mohawks captured her mother during the savage Iroquois invasions in 1655. She was beautiful, and so she was wed to a non-Christian Mohawk chief, which allowed her to escape torture and death. In 1656 they had a daughter who was named Tekakwitha, the "One Who Puts

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Things In Order". At the age of four, smallpox attacked her village, taking the lives of her parents and baby brother, and leaving Tekakwitha an orphan. Although forever weakened, facially scarred, and partially blind, Tekakwitha survived the dreaded disease. Following five years of being ravaged by the disease, the survivors moved the village to the North bank of the river to begin life anew. Two aunts and an uncle, also a Mohawk chief, adopted Tekakwitha. They took her with them and moved to a Turtle Clan Village called Gandauoque (Caughnawaga). Although her mother had been baptized, Tekakwitha had not. In her heart she was a Christian. She had vague memories of her mother's stories about Jesus and Mary. She was unhappy with her life and sought much solitude, both because of her poor eyesight and because she felt in her heart that much of the life of the Mohawks was wrong. She would go into the woods alone and pray, making small crosses with sticks for her prayer. She only gradually learned about Christianity from what she was able to understand from the Jesuit missionary priests who would

occasionally come to her village and who eventually baptized her. Her people hated her for her conversion to Christianity, as well as her refusal to marry and to work on Sundays. They insulted her, children threw rocks at her, and she was given the hardest chores. Kateri made it clear to all that she wished to be a bride of Christ, to remain forever a virgin and to never marry among mankind. Because of increasing hostility from her people, Kateri had to escape from her village and go and live in a village of Christian Indians in Canada. It was there that, for the first time, she saw a church. Before this, she had always prayed in the forest. After she loved to spend long hours praying in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. She led a life filled with prayer, penitential practices, devoted to teaching the young, and to the care of the sick and elderly. She ate little, and sometimes mixed what she did with ashes first. She stood for hours barefoot in the snow before the cross,

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SUNSHINE COMMITTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Prayers are requested for the following Brothers: Matt Bettencourt and his wife, Wendy; Robert de Villiers; Dan Dwyer; Ed Fernandes and his wife, Beverly; Mike Glendon; John Gorman; Matt Iorns and his family and their newborn son; John Karaz; Tony Lee; David Malsom; Mike Miranda & his wife, Nicky; Val Nolan; Jerry Oftring & his wife, Ruth; Don Reed; Loy Sagrado; and Dave Tacchini. Pray also for the following individuals: Kathy Anderson; Stephen Harker, son of Kent

Harker; Carlos Chavez, brother of Alfonso Chavez; Patricia Dinubilo, mother of Rick Dinubilo; Phyllis Edwards, niece of Frank Holmes; the family of John Gorman; Jeremy, son of Robert Hemsley; Mary, mother of Ed Hough; Sharon Iorns, mother of Matt Iorns; Wayne Michael, father of Stephen Michael; Carol Lynne Moraca, wife of Sam Moraca; Helen Moya, wife of Gary Moya; Darlene Nielsen; Dawn Powers, wife of Chris Powers; and Maryann Powers, mother of Chris Powers. Let us also pray for the repose of the souls of the Mingham family at the request of Brother Ed Ibarra.

Offer prayers for all of our priests and religious so they gain strength and wisdom from the Holy Spirit to serve the Church in the image of Jesus Christ! If you know of any updates or other prayer requests, please let me know. Contact information is 209-551-9534 or prayers@kofc10644.com



~ March 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Officers' Meeting 6:30 PM Meeting Room in Main Office	3 Business Meeting 7 PM O'Hare Hall	4	5	6 Fish Fry Dinner 5 PM O'Hare Hall	7 Clean up Patio O'Hare Hall
8	9	10	11	12	13 Fish Fry Dinner 5 PM O'Hare Hall	14 Clean up Patio O'Hare Hall
15	16	17	18	19 St. Joseph's	20 Fish Fry Dinner 5 PM O'Hare Hall	21 Clean up Patio O'Hare Hall
22	23	24	25 Annunciation	26	27 Soup Dinner 5 PM O'Hare Hall	28
29 Palm Sunday Founders' Day	30	31	Notes: Brothers Carlos and Eddie Torres are the Chairs on March 6. Brother Dave Sichak is the Chair on March 13. Brother Ruben Sanchez is the Chair on March 20. Brother Don Baker and Kwei-Cee Chu chair on March 27.			

MARCH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

MEMBERS' BIRTHDAYS

Ben J. Laura 03/02
 Alonzo J. Castillo 03/04
 Michael T. Callahan 03/07
 Henry L. Ficken 03/07
 Julian A Ortiz PGK 03/10
 William P. Willette 03/10
 Richard H. Goeken 03/10
 Ron S. Martorana 03/12
 Derrick J. Serpa 03/13
 Kent M Harker PGK 03/16
 James L. Wilson 03/20
 Benito Ramirez 03/21
 Chris J. Powers 03/25
 John F Mullins 03/28
 Roger R Farias Sr. 03/28
 Cirilo O. Sagrado 03/29
 Everett Hough 03/30
 Richard C Ward 03/31

LADIES' BIRTHDAYS

Kristine Rocca 03/02
 Camille Iorns 03/04
 Pat Boucher 03/06
 Annette Dedini 03/06
 Joan Castagna 03/08
 Maria DeQueiroz 03/08
 Mara Mullins 03/10
 Rosanne Yanko 03/12
 Edith Awuah 03/13
 Susie Dickert 03/18
 Mona Wildt 03/18
 Cathy Ochinerio 03/26
 Lisa Dwyer 03/26

ANNIVERSARIES

Patrick PGK & Linda Laubacher 03/06
 Daniel & Suny Di Rienzo 03/10
 William & Michelle Frey 03/11
 Victor & Margaret Mayoral 03/21
 Owen & Marietta Kummerle 03/25
 Tim & Gloria Benavidez 03/26
 Jose & Sara Barajas 03/26
 Kurt & Sonita Saalfeld 03/28
 Daniel & Rosario Hernandez 03/31



FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

My Brother Knights, How would you like two tickets to an upcoming Fish Fry or Soup Night after this column is published? Read on and I will tell you how. By the time you read this, Lent will have begun, and the first couple of Fish Fry events will have been held. It's one of my favorite times of the year: Easter. One of my favorite movies of the season is "King of Kings." I finally snagged a DVD copy of it and watch it every year this time. Another Knight told me he had a copy of the original silent version of the movie. It resonates with him as well. It's a rather simple story, but you know, it never gets old. My childhood memories of Easter flash by me as well. I remember one year, Mom and Dad did this elaborate thing where they tied a

string to our bedroom doors that led to where our Easter baskets could be found. Another year was going to a local city park for an Easter egg hunt. And, of course, Easter Sunday was a day when we would get dressed in some new outfit for our wardrobe, a new beginning of sorts. Spring was in the air. This year I'm giving up a couple of my bad habits during Lent. One is popcorn. For me, it's almost like chocolate. And the other is fast-food burgers. You see, about once or twice a week, a co-worker and I go out to lunch together and it's usually one of those fast-food burger joints. Well, this year, I'm going to give up those burgers and try for something else for those lunches. And now, for some trivia: did you know it was 65 years

ago in a New York City recording studio for Decca Records in January that a fellow recorded the Easter classic tune, "Peter Cottontail?" That fellow actually left me a voicemail one year singing his classic tune. I get the pleasure of talking with him about once a month. If you want a couple of fish fry tickets, be the first person to write me an email at dave@cheerywood.com to tell me who recorded that tune. I'll let you pick the Friday you want the two tickets and they will be waiting for you at the door.
Financial Secretary,
Dave Sichak
finsec@kofc10644.com



JOHN'S JOKES

This month instead of written jokes, there is a humorous video to watch which focuses on aging. Watch and be careful to not fall over while watching it.
<http://youtu.be/LR2qZ0A8vic>

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

praying the rosary, and spent more hours inside the mission's unheated chapel on bare knees on the stone floor. She reportedly slept on a bed of thorns for three nights and even arranged to be flagellated. Such ascetic practices were part of Catholic tradition at that time, but they were also part of her Indian culture. In the end, Tekakwitha's punishing penances were

debilitating, and so she died young. Moments after dying, her scarred and disfigured face miraculously cleared and became beautiful. She was canonized as a saint on October 21, 2012. Her Feast day is July 14th.
 Sincerely,

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



LECTURER'S NOTES

People are confused sometimes when they ask me, "Where are you going?" or "Where have you been?" and I say, "Church," or one better, "Mass!" They make statements like, "I thought church was on Sunday," or "Your church has church sessions everyday?" or they simply say, "Why?"

The answer is simple for me: because the Catholic Church is where the body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ is; and it's available everyday.

I worked in Stockton for 11 years and spent 2 hours a day on the road. Sound familiar to anyone? I told myself, "If I didn't have this commute, I would go to daily mass every day and have an extra hour in my day to spend at the gym." Once I did land a job at Mercedes Benz of Modesto, I was only 15 minutes from church and home and 5 minutes away from the gym. I ended up not doing either at first. It took me about 8 years to figure it out.

Here are some of my fond memories of home (St. Joseph's). I couldn't make daily Mass in the morning, but, for the first two months of my new job, I would get up early and go spend 1/2 hour in the blessed sacrament chapel in pure thanksgiving for my new position and pray that I would do a great job for my customers and employer. I would always marvel at the dedicated parishioners, some professionals and a lot of retirees and even a few Knights of Columbus preparing for morning daily mass.

On one such morning, my employer had informed us the night before that we would be required to come to work with ties from now on. I had plenty of ties, but, being a casual sort, I needed a refresher course in tying my tie. You guessed it, or maybe you didn't, but Herb Saska and another Knight came to my rescue. Now tying a tie is easy, when you're tying your own, but

you should have seen the three of us in the vestibule trying to figure it out. After a while, we finally got it. I was relieved, because I was afraid to show up to work without that tie on, but I wasn't afraid to ask my Brothers for a hand. And they were eager to help! I was at home. More recently, I was on my way to daily mass and was reflecting on some of the negative changes I had experienced in the last two years. Everybody loves change, right? In other words, I wasn't quite feeling the Holy Spirit. I got to daily mass, and it was packed. I walked in and realized, "Oh yeah, it's the funeral for that priest with the cool name, 'Tony Chocolate' or something." Two things crossed my mind: I wasn't feeling too up! And I really didn't know if I could handle the funeral of a priest right then or ever. Not much humility in those thoughts. And the other thought was, "I didn't even know him very well. I might as well just skip this one and go home and pray." I am so glad I stayed. I never thought a funeral could be so up lifting. What an incredible priest! What an incredible gift to the Church! What a beautiful celebration of life! His story is incredible, if you haven't heard it. It is down right saintly. And his story, delivered by Father John Paul, Father Chacko's family, the Deacons, and Bishop Stephen Blaire was powerful, funny, and uplifting. I now remember the few masses I caught with him. By the time I left, I knew the boy, the man, the priest; and I was better because of it. Suddenly, my selfish heart seemed very small. Father Tony left a comfortable life. His parents thought he was leaving for medical school and instead he went to Calcutta to work with the poorest of the poor with St. Mother Teresa. When his parents saw a picture of him helping sick people on the cover of a magazine with Mother Teresa, they thought he was finally using his medical training. He ultimately became a priest and eventually

ended up in a small parish in Brazil and started an orphanage. The same children for whom he was providing a home were being used by the drug lords as mules to move their poison. Father Tony was threatened, attacked and shot several times on the church grounds once in the leg and once in the head. He survived this attack and was prepared to go back to work but was moved elsewhere for his own safety. That made me realize just how much our priests give for us and sacrifice.

Daily mass is not required, but is available for everyone just as is His word in the daily readings. I apologize for missing my first meeting as Lecturer. I had the stomach flu: not a good time. I want to remind everyone about Lenten Mission February 22-24th. I hope you went and enjoyed it. I also want to reinforce Father's recommendations on "How to go to mass."

I love you all!

Stephen Edward Michael
Lecturer
lecturer@kofc10644.com



DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

My dear Brother Knights,
We are right in the middle of the season of Lent. In addition to being a time when we are, as a Council, very busy with Fish Fry dinners, it is also a time in which we should be working at changing our lives. During these six weeks, we should be turning our lives back to God through prayer, penance, almsgiving, and self-denial.

Even the word "repentance", a word that we hear a lot through the days of Lent, means making a 180-degree turn in your life. The true point should be that what we give up does not just help us during Lent, but leads to a true change in our lives, so that we can grow stronger and eventually get to heaven. So, what are you doing to change your life?

For many, Lent is a time to "give up" candy, dessert, or some other food. But in truth, how does giving up candy help us to turn to God? What we give up should be the things that keep us from God, shouldn't it? Are those candies keeping us from God? Wouldn't giving up some of the things that we watch on television help us more? Don't some of the things that we look at on the Internet keep us further away from where we should be than a chocolate bar? Can you picture people that give up chocolate for Lent, but still argue, lie, steal, curse, and watch inappropriate videos? They are kind of missing the point, aren't

they?

In addition to "giving up" something, the Church has encouraged us over the past decade or so to add something to our lives during Lent to bring us closer to God.

Unfortunately, many have not followed through with this worthwhile suggestion. Adding additional prayer, beginning a set Holy Hour during Lent, beginning to read about the lives of the saints (the true superheroes) can actually help us get where we need to be.

But are we doing it? Or are we continuing our lives as they always have been? Regardless of whether our current state of life is good, bad, or otherwise. All too often, our vices have us in a vice grip. We have been doing the same things that are harmful to our souls for many years. It is different vices for each of us and we all know what our own is. But, do we do something about it or just continue justifying our faults? "I don't have time to read about the saints," we tell ourselves after turning off the TV after four hours of the latest reality shows. "I don't have time for daily mass," we think after closing whatever app we use to connect to the Internet. "My budget doesn't allow me to give to charity," we justify while driving to another football game where we pay \$30 just to park. I know well what my weaknesses are and what I do to justify them. Hopefully, you do too, as recognition is at least the first step. The hard step, however, is that next one.

What are we going to do about

it to clean ourselves up and get ourselves back to where we need to be? Many women do an annual spring-cleaning of the house (with the honey-do lists growing longer). We should do the same during these six weeks of Lent, especially since the word comes from the word in Old English, "*lencten*," which means springtime. Usually, the only way to replace bad habits (vices) is to replace them with good ones (virtues). That is exactly why the Church suggests we add positive habits during Lent. Think about all what I have included here and decide what you are going to do for the remaining days of Lent. God bless,

Richard Braun
Deputy Grand Knight
dgk@kofc10644.com

