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January 1, 2009



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

**ST. ANGELA MERICI COUNCIL NO. 14617
MISSOURI CITY, TEXAS**

THE KNIGHT RIDER
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

www.kofc14617.org

GRAND KNIGHTS REPORT



My Brother Knights,

I hope you all had a blessed and wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year. Our Council had a successful December in that we had 14 Brothers that helped with the CASA Home Tour in Sienna. The people of CASA were most appreciative of our efforts and even the deputies on duty commented on what a great job we did helping with traffic and parking. So it was a job well done and we got our Council's name out in the community. Also if you drive around the area you can see how successful our Keep Christ in Christmas magnet sales were. It was a great project and one that we will continue in the years ahead. It was also my privilege to represent our Council at the First Degree ceremony at Council 4204, which honored our outgoing DD Dennis Marek. Brother Dennis was a tremendous help in getting our council started. I presented him with a bible from our Council and thanked him for his help and support.

We have a few things this month. First our KC Free Throw contest is coming up on the 17th. It will require some Knights to help with the Council's competition. The location will be announced. This is a fun event and is also an excellent way to get our Council's name out in the community. On the 25th we will have Life Sunday. We will have our quarterly Corporate Communion at 9 AM mass that day, and we will pass out the Roses for Life to all who attend mass. We will also be collecting baby products (diapers, powder, shampoo, wipes, etc) for the Foundation for Life. I would ask each family to bring something to place in the baskets when Father invites us up during mass. Representatives from the Foundation will be at mass to receive our donations and to pass out their information to the parish. *continued on Page 6*

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Points of Interest to all Council Members:

WEBSITE: If you have not already done so, please go to our new website at www.kofc14617.org and login using the password you were sent. You may change your password and also update your member profile to be sure we have your information correct.

INFORMATION CHANGES: If you have a change of address you are asked to contact Brother Ron Frerich so that we can update our records. Email changes to Ron at rjfrerich@earthlink.net.



NEWS FROM SUPREME

Knights of Columbus Launch News and Information Site for Catholics

The Knights of Columbus has launched a brand-new Internet-based news and information service for Catholics everywhere – [Headline Bistro](#). The new Web site provides a quick digest of daily news of interest to Catholics. Whether it relates to world affairs, politics or news specifically about the Catholic Church, you'll find links to the original sources here. You'll also find video clips, detailed state-by-state information about voting and public policy, and recommended books. The Web address is headlinebistro.com.

Fathers for Good Web Site

In keeping with a longstanding commitment to build stronger marriages and families, the Knights of Columbus launched a new initiative at the 126th Supreme Council Meeting, called Fathers for Good. The centerpiece of the ini-



tiative is an interactive Web site, www.fathersforgood.org. The theme for the launch of the Web site is "A Father's Identity," which offers men resources on how to build a strong, loving and confident identity in a culture that often does not value fatherhood or masculine virtues. The Web site also offers sections on male spirituality and building a better relationship with God, topics that are often overlooked on other male-oriented sites.

NEWS FROM STATE

Upcoming Major Degree Ceremonies

In the First Degree ceremony, you learned the lesson of charity.

It is our hope that you will spread that charity through participation in council activities. If you have not continued beyond the First Degree, we encourage you to attain the Second and Third Degrees, which teach the lessons of unity and fraternity. Third Degree members know the honor of full Knighthood and being "Knighted".

Privileges of being a Third Degree Knight include the honor of serving as a local council officer, and admission to state and Supreme Council business meetings. First and Second Degree members can attend the state and supreme Council meetings, but they are not allowed in the business sessions.

There will be several Major Degree ceremonies in the months ahead. It would be great to assemble a group from our council to attend one of the ceremonies. We are blessed with many new Knights and First Degree members. It is important that they continue on their journey to full Knighthood, particularly those who currently hold office in the Council. The next ceremony that is close and on a Saturday will be at St. Thomas More Council 3910 on February 14th. Our council will have a group going on this date including Father John so please try and attend. If you can attend, please let Brother Colin know so he can get you signed up. If you cannot go on that date, please review the schedule and sign up for a ceremony you can attend soon.

INSURANCE NEWS

WHAT IF?

If you knew that today was the last chance you would ever have to buy additional life insurance, how much would you buy? If you had a money-making machine, that once broken, could never be repaired, how much would you insure it for?

If you knew that today was the last time you would have the opportunity to guarantee your family an income if something happened to you, how much income would you give them? If you knew that today marked the end of your ability to buy future retirement security, how much would you buy?

Isn't it safe to say that you would put some additional dollars into more life insurance protection that could be used for family or retirement benefits?

Chances are that you will be around for a long time, but life is full of "ifs" and surprises, isn't it?

Let me help you plan for the future. Call me today. Leo Lowdermilk at (832) 338-6269 cell or (800) 460-2706.



COUNCIL NEWS

- At our December meeting on the 3rd, we were honored to have our new District Deputy Brother Gary Blanchette join us and he presided over the installation of our new Chancellor Brother Matt Leyden.
- Our wearables Chairman Brother Dennis O'Driscoll has found some very nice tee shirts, hats and other products with our Council name and number and the KC logo embroidered on them. He should have the hats and tee shirts available for sale at the January meeting and will have samples of other products that our Knights can order. These wearables are very important in promoting our Council and our Order. So please be ready at the January meeting to purchase some of these items and place an order. Thank you Brother Dennis for your hard work in finding and securing some quality wearables for our Council.
- We were asked by the Child Advocates of Fort Bend to assist them with their CASA Home Tour in Sienna on December 12th and 13th. This event is a large fund raiser for their organization which supports neglected and abused children in our area. We were asked to help the deputy sheriffs with parking and traffic control, and basically whatever needed to be done. We had 14 Knights that were able to volunteer and we were able to provide 54 man hours of assistance to the event. The ladies that ran the event were very appreciative of our help. Even the deputies told me how our Knights were a huge help to them and it would have been very difficult for them if we had not been there. So it was a job very well done for a great cause and our Council is getting known in the area. So great job to all who helped!!



Our new Chancellor Brother Matt Leyden with DD Gary



Our Knight of the Month Brother Paul Yasilli



Jerry and Brenda Tomasello accept their Family of the Month Award from Brother Ron



Rosa Hess is our Lady of the Month



FATHER JOHN'S CORNER



Praying with the Aftermath of Christmas

Instead of the Light of Christ filling our Christmas, we sometimes just experienced *lightning*. It is a very common experience. We were tired. We were out of our patterns. There was lots of emotional baggage there. Everyone seemed on edge, a bit testy, and sparks just seemed to fly. And, instead of re-

sponding out of the graces of the Christmas, all we seemed to have been able to do is regress. We acted like children - badly disciplined children at that. We said things we shouldn't have said. We got hurt by sharp things others said. How do we pray in the aftermath of a day like that?

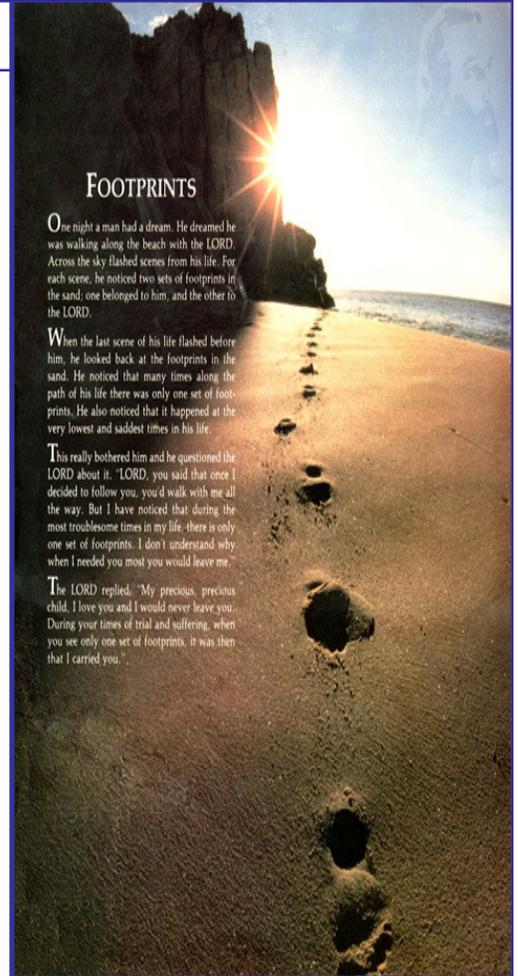
Jesus comes to be our Savior - but, not saving us once and for all, so that we get it and we've got it for good. By His coming and His death, resurrection and gift of the Spirit we are surely saved. But, we need continual saving as well.

Right after Christmas is the perfect time to look back and examine our hearts. What is Jesus saying to me these days after Christmas? What is He asking me? What is He inviting me to do? Jesus will always draw us to Himself, always inviting us into the mystery of the power of surrender.

This is the time we need to let the Lord's love for us heal us. That is the deepest healing. As Paul says, this is how God dealt with sin. He nailed it to a tree. Jesus takes away the sin of the world and He gives us a peace the world can't give.

We may not see the fruit of our efforts at reconciling love, right away or ever. Jesus understands. We can be assured that our attempts at healing love will set in motion a process of healing. We can be assured that the Redeemer of the world can redeem even a rough Christmas day.

Peace, Father John



FOOTPRINTS

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the LORD. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand: one belonged to him, and the other to the LORD.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the LORD about it. "LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The LORD replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Council Officers Contact Information

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Deputy Grand Knight	Frank Simoneaux	fsimoneaux@yahoo.com	281 778-6807
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Chancellor	Matt Leyden	mleyden@comcast.net	281 208-4593
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Trustee 2 yrs	Randy Yackley	ryackley@hotmail.com	
Trustee 3 yrs	Wes Kubesch	weskub@hotmail.com	
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Financial Secretary	Ron Frerich	rjfrerich@earthlink.net	
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Insurance Agent	Leo Lowdermilk	leo.lowdermilk@kofc.org	800 460-2706

Discover a World of Good Things
in the Knights of Columbus

Our Prayers Are With You

Please remember the following in your prayers:



Father John Weyer's soul. May he rest in peace with the Lord

Brother Bill Copenhaver

The father of DD Gary Blanchette

Our Men and Women in Uniform both living and deceased

Our Holy Father and all of the clergy

The innocent unborn

St. Angela Merici Parish



Schedule of Events

- January 7—Regular Business meeting at 7:30 PM
- January 17—K of C Free Throw Contest at 4 PM. Location TBA.
- January 20—4th Degree meeting at KC Hall at St. Theresa's at 7 PM
- January 21—Officers' meeting at 7:30 PM
- January 25—Rose For Life Sunday
- January 25—Corporate Communion at 9 AM mass
- January 25—Collection for Life Advocates at mass
- January 30—Clergy Night

January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Happy New Year	2	3
4	5	6	7 Business meeting 7 pm	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 KC Free Throw Contest
18	19	20 4th Degree meeting	21 Officers' meeting 7 pm	22	23	24
25 Roses For Life, Corp.	26	27	28	29	30 Clergy Night	31

- February 4—Regular Business meeting at 7:30 PM
- February 14—Major Degree at St. Thomas More Council 3910
- February 17—4th Degree meeting at KC Hall at St. Theresa's at 7:30 PM
- February 18 - Officers' meeting at 7:30 PM

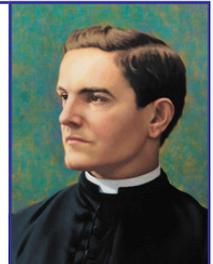
February 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Business meeting 7 pm	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Major Degree
15	16	17 4th Degree meeting	18 Officers' meeting 7 pm	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28



May all of our Brother Knights and their families, as well as all of the parishioners of our Parish and their families enjoy a Happy New Year, and may 2009 be a year filled with many blessings and successes and joy.

St. Angela Merici and Father McGivney, Pray For Us





Our new DD Gary Blanchette prepares to install our Chancellor



GK presents gift of a Bible from Council to PDD Dennis Marek

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT—*continued from page 1*

If you want to find out more about this group go to their website at www.lifeadvocates.org. They do great work promoting life and supporting young mothers and their newborns. I also hope to have a professional photographer there to take our Charter Picture (Again) before mass. Hopefully we can have all attend and we can take a great photo that we can frame and display. I would ask all Charter Members to wear a coat for the picture. And on the 30th we will celebrate the annual Clergy Appreciation Night at the Stafford Center. If you have not signed up for this evening of fun, please contact Brother Ron Frerich. Seating is limited for the event. We hope to have our seminarian join us for the evening as well. This is the young man that our council will support while he attends classes at St. Mary's Seminary.

And finally I can't end without mentioning our departed Brother Father John Weyer. Father passed away on December 4th during a mass that several priests were offering at his bedside. Father was the Founding Chaplin of St. Laurence Council and served as Chaplin of his 4th Degree Assembly. His faith in God and his love of the Knights of Columbus was always on display. His funeral services were clear evidence of how much he was loved and respected. Our Brothers of the 4th Degree provided a round the clock honor guard at the church. The funeral mass was said by the Cardinal and attended by all of the Bishops and at least 50 priests. Our Knights were present in great numbers and the church was filled and people stood on both sides. It was both a sorrowful and a joyful event. Sorrow for losing such a holy man and friend and Brother. But joyful knowing his pain has ended and he is in heaven with our Lord.

May you all have a very blessed 2009.

Jesus I Trust In You.

Gary

Remember: If you participate in any Knights of Columbus events or activities and have pictures, please forward them to Gary Bentz at gsbent@flash.net so we can have them for our Council records and also so that they may be published in the newsletter.