

Volume 2, Issue 2

August 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 KNIGHT'S REPORT



My Brothers,

August is upon us and while Summer is about to be over the weather has not exactly cooled off any. I think we're all looking forward to that first cold front. These 100 degree days take a toll on the body and the pocketbook. But if this hot weather is part of the reason there have been no storms forming in the tropics, I'll take the heat!!

I want to talk about our Charter Dinner we had on July 17th. What a great evening we had together. The food was good, our guest speakers were terrific, and we had over 70 people in attendance. I am sorry several of our charter members were not able to attend. I wish everyone could have made it but of course, work and family obligations come first. And while you were missed, we partied ahead anyway. We owe thanks to St. Laurence for letting us use their hall. It was great. And thanks to Bro. Ron for getting the hall and the food lined up. And thanks to everyone who came and helped set up and clean up after. It was a fun evening. Father John and Father Roy gave wonderful talks as always, and of course Brother Cruz and Brother Gary did also. It was an honor to receive the council's charter from our DD Brother Gary on behalf of our council, and particularly on behalf of the 44 charter members whose names are listed on the certificate. All of that was great. But you know what I took away from that night that made the biggest impression on me? It was standing up at the podium and seeing all of you interacting and having a really good time. We've all been to events where people sit politely and listen to speeches and eat their meal and go home. This wasn't like that at all. I think everyone really enjoyed the time we all spent together as family, and as a council. I can't think of anything that is a better example of what this council is about. So thanks again to all who attended and made it a fun evening. I can't wait until we have our own place and we can do things like this several times during the year.

And speaking of having our own place, we were honored to have his Eminence Archbishop Daniel Cardinal DiNardo visit us and say mass on July 26. He spoke about our new parish and our plans to break ground in Sienna very soon. It was a wonderful mass, very well attended and made even better by our 4th Degree Brothers who turned out in full regalia. It was very surprising to walk into the PLEX for mass and be greeted by the Cardinal in the lobby! And as I had on my council shirt and badge, he remarked about our council and how great it was we had gotten one started in the new parish. The Cardinal is a Brother Knight and in fact is a 4th Degree Sir Knight. So his remarks came from not only a Cardinal, but a Brother Knight. **Continued on Page 11**

Points of Interest to all Council Members:

WEBSITE: If you have not already done so, please go to our website at www.kofc14617.org and login using the password your were sent. You may change your password and also update your member profile to be sure we have your information correct. If you don't have a password, login and check the don't remember box and one will be emailed to you.

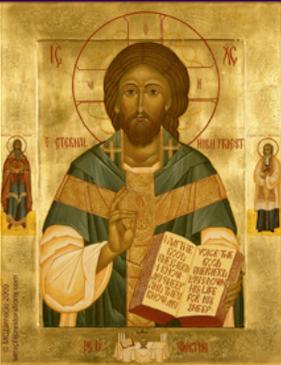
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NEWS FROM SUPREME

The 'Year for Priests'



The 'Year for Priests' In keeping with the Order's longstanding "In Solidarity With Our Priests" campaign, the Supreme Knight has called upon all Knights to actively participate in the "Year for Priests" declared by Pope Benedict XVI. The centerpiece of the Order's program for this yearlong celebration (June 19, 2009 – June 19, 2010) is a new [holy card](#) featuring a prayer for priests. The card features an icon, written by Marek Czarnecki (www.seraphicrestorations.com), showing Christ in Mass vestments with a gold pelican over his heart, the ancient symbol of self-sacrifice. At the bottom of the icon is an altar prepared for Mass, and at the sides are Melchizedek, whose sacrifice of bread and wine prefigured the Eucharist, and St. John Vianney the patron of parish priests. The back of the card includes a prayer for priests.

Please visit the "Action Steps" link on the Supreme website at www.tkofc.org for more information on the holy card as well as other activities that your council and its members can undertake to honor our priests during this celebration. Our council has these prayer cards and will distribute them to our members at our monthly meetings.

NEWS FROM STATE

2009 FOOTBALL SWEESPTAKES SALES UNDERWAY!

The 2009 TEXAS KNIGHTS Football Sweepstakes games will start on Sunday, Nov. 1, 2009 and plays for ten weeks ending on Sunday, Jan. 3, 2010. This is our 6th year playing the games which sales have continue to improve each year reports Joe Marusik, Football Sweepstakes Chairman. \$1,000 is given away each week for ten weeks for a total of \$10,000 going to winners during the entire 2009 season. The top prize each week of \$400 is awarded to the coupon holder who has the highest combined score for the four randomly preselected weekly pro football teams listed on the coupon. A total of \$900 is awarded to the top 7th place winners plus \$100 is awarded to the lowest two scores with the lowest (worst) score for the week winning \$80. The coupon holder replays the card for each week giving the coupon holder 9 chances a week, 90 chances over 10 weeks all for the \$10 cost of the discount coupon. That's only \$1 a week!

Great Coupon Offer can save you \$\$\$'s. For \$10, you receive a coupon with access to a website that has over 500 discount coupons with some redeemable in stores, on line, and special sales offer. Purchase of this coupon automatically enrolls the purchases into our TEXAS KNIGHTS Football Sweepstakes game. This free added attraction to those coupon shoppers wanting to save extra \$\$\$'s is a great combination. Our Council has 25 tickets to sell to make our quota, but more are available. See the Gary for info.

INSURANCE NEWS

GOOD MONEY MANAGEMENT

If the living room of your home is on the far corner of your lot, the dining room on another corner, the kitchen in the street and the bedrooms scattered all over the neighborhood, your home would not be very livable, would it?

It is the same with your life insurance. Unless the individual policies you own are fitted together to form a balanced, well-planned program, they cannot possibly do what they should for you.

Good money management calls for having the life insurance you own reviewed at regular intervals. In order to be financially sound, you should know exactly where you are going.

My review is not designed only to get you to buy more life insurance. Instead, I work your ideas and ambitions into a plan, and then organize it with your budget in a way that will bring you closer to your goals.

Call me today to schedule your review Call Leo Lowdermilk at (832) 338-6269 or (800) 460-2706



COUNCIL NEWS

- At our August 5th meeting, we presented our Knight of the Month Award to Brother Chris Agostinelli for all that he does for the council and the parish. Chris is a reader, an usher, and helps out wherever needed. He is active in the council including our coin collection day and supports all of our activities. [See pictures below.](#)
- We also gave Bros. Meco and Will their 2nd and 3rd Degree Certificates they earned by attending their Major Degree Exemplification on August 1 at St. Francis de Sales. Let these Brothers be an example to all who have not been through their major degree ceremonies. While a 1st Degree member is just as much a Knight as all of us, you can not hold office, and you have not finished your journey to Knighthood. While 1st Degree teaches our Order's lesson of Charity, the other principles of Unity and Fraternity are taught in the 2nd and 3rd Degree ceremonies. It is a great day which you will always remember. Although mine was 40 years ago, I still clearly remember several of the events of that day. My dream is to have a council of 54 fully Knighted Brothers of the 3rd Degree. Of course the 4th Degree is the visible arm of our Order and focuses on Patriotism and you must be a 3rd Degree member to apply to the 4th Degree. So please consider signing up for a ceremony. Check with Brother Colin or the state website for the dates. [See pictures below.](#)
- At the 11 AM mass on Aug. 9, we were able to present the Lady of the Month Award for May to Mary Crochet. She is a very active volunteer for the parish in the office, altar guild, Ladies Guild, and many more projects she has done for us. We finally were able to present her with her award this month. [See picture below.](#)



Our August Knight of the Month Chris Agostinelli



Bros. Meco and Will received their 3rd Degree Certificates



Our Lady of the Month for May, Mary Crochet



Here is our original Council picture taken on October 12, 2008 at the PLEX



FATHER JOHN'S CORNER



TOMORROW

During the month of August we celebrate the feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven. It is an important feast for all of us Knights of Columbus. This feast is a sign of hope for us. It is a comfort for you and for me. Mary's Assumption is a symbol of the hope that you and I will also be raised to Glory with God.

Do you remember the movie musical **ANNIE**? Remember the words from the song ... **"Tomorrow... Tomorrow...The sun will come out tomorrow, bet your bottom dollar that Tomorrow, there will be sun."**

Sometimes you and I only live for tomorrow. Placing all our trust and hope in the many tomorrows that lie before us. At times **today** is only bearable, it is only livable because there is a tomorrow. And maybe, just maybe that tomorrow will be better. Just maybe that tomorrow will make things different.

Tomorrow can be my vision of hope! Yet, tomorrow can also become a means of escape. Living for tomorrow can become a way of not dealing with my life. Not dealing with the struggles, and the difficulties that come with each day. Living for tomorrow can be a way for me not to care. Not to take action. It is like burying my head in the sand.

The celebration of the Feast of the Assumption is a celebration of God's tomorrow. God's tomorrow is where the Kingdom is fully realized. God's tomorrow is where you and I are headed!

My choosing to live with the kingdom of God as my vision means to live God's promise of tomorrow now, to live it today. That is the key to understanding what this feast is all about.

The Feast of the Assumption of Mary celebrates that she shares with us our destiny. She shares with us our future. Mary touches our deepest longings and desires for union with God in the here and now. And she does it as well in that final tomorrow. All of this is brought together for you and for me in the mystery of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The focus of this feast day is really on God's activity. The focus is on what God has done. The focus is on what God is doing right now...TODAY!

God has raised Jesus from the dead. Because of her obedience, because of Mary's yes to God's call in her life, Mary shares now in the fullness of God's presence. Mary in this feast becomes the symbol of all that you and I will be in Christ. This feast of Mary's Assumption into heaven proclaims that God's Kingdom is at hand. That God's tomorrow has come, and it has come TODAY!

Mary's greatness lies in her faith response to God. Mary's faith caused her to first conceive in her heart. Long before, she conceived in her womb!

We read in the gospel how Elizabeth cried out, "*Blessed is she who trusted.*" Who trusted first in the announcement made by the angel Gabriel. Who also trusted in the whole adventure, which unfolded each and every day of her life. Mary continually was challenged to renew and to deepen her act of faith. Her yes to the Lord was renewed every day of her life. And that YES led here to the foot of the Cross. It was there at the foot of the CROSS, as well as in all her daily crosses that Mary's greatness was revealed.

This feast, as well as the other feasts of Our Lady, proclaims to you and to me that Mary is our model. And her Assumption into heaven is our hope for tomorrow. As well as our hope for TODAY!

Peace,

Fr. John



COUNCIL PROGRAM INFORMATION

PROGRAM DIRECTOR - Jerry Tomasello

CHURCH ACTIVITIES - Randy Yackley Director

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES - Matt Leyden Director

PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES - Fernando and Rosa Hess Chair Couple

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES - Wes Kubesch Director

FAMILY ACTIVITIES - Matt Sasso Director

YOUTH ACTIVITIES - Victor Villarreal Director

MEMBERSHIP - Colin Kiernan Director

If you have questions or want to participate in one or more of these committees, please contact the director and make arrangements to attend the groups next meeting. Their contact information is listed below.

Council Officers Contact Information

Grand Knight	Gary Bentz	gsbent@flash.net	281 778-9632
Deputy Grand Knight	Jerry Tomasello	jtomasello@rectorseal.com	281 778-7022
Chaplin	Fr. John Rooney	rjrmerici@entouch.net	281 778-0400
Chancellor	Matt Leyden	mleyden@comcast.net	281 208-4593
Recorder	Fernando Hess	fehess2@gmail.com	
Advocate	Tim Alcorn	tpalcorn@yahoo.com	
Lecturer	Kevin McCarthy	mollkev@aol.com	
Warden	Rene Broussard	tandpfan@aol.com	281 565-6661
Outside Guard	Mark Montalbano	mmontalbano@entouch.net	
Outside Guard	Jerry Bishop	j-bishop@msn.com	
Inside Guard	Matt Sasso	sassofamily@entouch.net	281 778-7703
Inside Guard	Victor Villarreal	vvillarreal12@sbcglobal.net	
Trustee 1 yr	Randy Yackley	ryackley@hotmail.com	
Trustee 2 yrs	Wes Kubesch	weskub@hotmail.com	
Trustee 3 yrs	Ed Petru	epetru2921@aol.com	
Treasurer	Mark Dixon	markdixon12@hotmail.com	281 778-3433
Financial Secretary	Ron Frerich	rjfrerich@earthlink.net	
Membership Director	Colin Kiernan	cmkiernan44@comcast.net	281 499-4067
Insurance Agent	Leo Lowdermilk	leo.lowdermilk@kofc.org	800 460-2706

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Frank Simoneaux—8/17, Rev. John Rooney—8/19,

Willie Session—8/23

Our Prayers Are With You

Please remember the following in your prayers:



The soul of Luis Hess, the father of Brother Fernando Hess who went home to the Lord. May he rest in Peace.

Jared Eggemeyer suffering with cancer.

Richard Hogan

Our Men and Women in Uniform both living and deceased especially Gabriel Machado deployed in Afghanistan and Corp. Casey Owens

Our Holy Father and all of the clergy especially Fr. Roy for his back procedure

The innocent unborn. St. Angela Merici Parish

The intentions of all our Brother Knights



- August 5—Open Social meeting at the church office after 7 PM mass.
- August 11—AGH Chapter meeting at Council 3077 at 7 PM.
- August 19—Regular Business meeting at church office after 7 PM mass. All Knights are welcome.

August 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 Open meeting 7PM	6	7	8
9	10	11 AGH Chapter meeting	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Business meeting	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- Sept. 2—Regular business meeting at the church office after 7PM mass.
- Sept. 5—Catholic Night at the Astros game.
- Sept 6—VA Hospital visit. Meet at the office at 7:30 AM.
- Sept 8—AGH Chapter meeting at Council 3077 at 7 PM
- Sept 16—Officer's meeting at church office after 7 PM mass. All Knights are welcome.

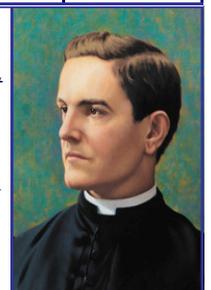
September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Regular Business meeting 7PM	3	4	5 Astros Game
6 VA Hospital visit 7:30 AM	7	8 AGH Chapter meeting 7PM	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Officer's meeting 7PM	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



School Bells

The summer vacation is almost over. School will be starting soon. For me it is a difficult time as my "baby" is leaving for college. I would ask you to keep all of our students who are preparing to go back to school in your prayers. Particularly those students that are leaving home for colleges. Pray for their safety and success. And pray for their parents who will be left behind to worry.





COUNCIL PHOTOS - CHARTER DINNER



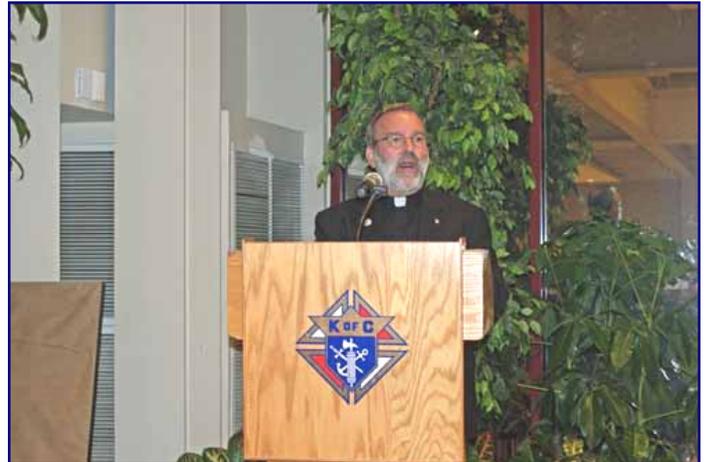
Our Charter members who were able to attend dinner



Our DD Gary Blanchette presents council with it's charter



Father John blesses our council's charter



Our Worthy Chaplain Fr. John speaks to the council



It was a great honor to have Father Roy as our guest



Our Worthy ADD Brother Cruz speaks to the council and guests

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.



COUNCIL PHOTOS - CHARTER DINNER



Our Worthy DD Bro. Gary speaks to the council



Brother Paul receives his Charter Certificate



Brother Mark receives his Charter Certificate



The Viro and Kubesch families



The Bishops and photographer Debbie Spera



The Hess, Simoneaux, Yackley and Yasilli Families

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COUNCIL PHOTOS - CHARTER DINNER



The Scranton, Sasso, Petru, Hopkins and Montalbano families



The Choates, Giannetti, Frerich and Agostinelli families



The Corbett, Diez, and Tomasello families



The White, Bentz and Villarreal families



Sally, Fr. John, Bro. Cruz, Fr. Roy, Bro. Gary and wife, and Bro. Leo



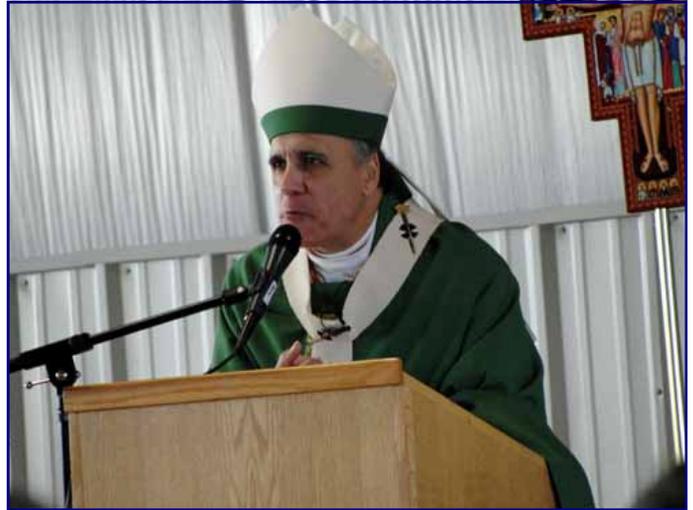
The Dixon and Broussard families

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.



COUNCIL PHOTOS - CARDINAL DINARDO'S MASS

HIS EMINENCE DANIEL CARDINAL DINARDO SAYS MASS ON JULY 26 AT THE PLEX



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.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Catholic Night at the Ballpark: September 5th we have chartered a bus and purchased tickets to go to see the Houston Astros play Philly at Minute Maid Park. We will board the bus at the St. Laurence parking lot in the evening and ride to the game. Details will follow soon.

VA Hospital Visit: Our council visits the VA Hospital on Sept. 6th. We will leave the church office at 7:30 AM. If you can attend please contact Bro. Dennis O'Driscoll and get on the list. We need at least 5 Knights to go.

Council Program Activities and Committees: Our various standing program committees are forming, meeting, and planning our upcoming events for the year ahead. If you want to be a part of the selection and planning of activities for our council in the areas of Church, Council, Community, Family, Youth, Membership or Pro-Life, contact the director listed on Page 5 of this newsletter and sign up today. They need your help.

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT *Continued from PAGE 1* So the day went very well and it was good to hear the Cardinal talk about our new parish.

Our August 5th council meeting was an open social meeting. It was very well attended and our Field Agent Leo Lowdermilk made an excellent presentation on the formation of the Knights by Father McGivney, and the origins of our fraternal benefits programs. He spoke about the strength of our insurance and other programs and how we are ranked ahead of all 1800 other domestic insurance providers by the various organizations that rank insurance companies. We also were addressed by our Program Directors and briefly discussed what the council is planning this year. Please contact one of these Knights listed on page 5 for more information and how you can help. We were also honored to have the 4th Degree represented by their Faithful Navigator SK Duke Marasigan who spoke about the upcoming exemplification in Humble on the weekend of August 17th. And finally our Worthy District Deputy Brother Gary Blanchette addressed council on several items. But the big announcement he brought to us was the fact that our new council has been awarded a Double Star Council Award by Supreme. Brothers this is a remarkable achievement for any council. But for a new council this is a very rare occurrence. There are a number of criteria a council must meet to qualify for the Star Council Award. We not only meet the criteria but exceeded them by so much that we won "Double Star". So everyone should take a great deal of pride in this accomplishment as each of you has been a large part of this. So congratulations Brothers. Now we have to do it again in the new fraternal year. So keep up the great work. Recruit some new Knights. Proudly wear your council colors and boast about your council's works. The best recruiting tool we have is YOU!

We have Catholic Night at the Astros game on Sept. 5th. Those who bought tickets be looking for times and information as to when the bus will load up at St. Laurence. On Sept. 6th we are scheduled to visit the VA Hospital. This is a very rewarding program and I hope many will contact Bro. Dennis O'Driscoll and sign up. The District is holding a golf tournament on October 12 at Sienna Plantation Golf Club. The funds generated by this event will go towards our State Charity goal. Several other councils have already put together teams to enter. I would like to see our council be well represented as it is in our neighborhood. You don't have to be a Knight to play. So start thinking about your foursomes and hole sponsorships. Information will be coming out soon. We will tee off in the morning and conclude with awards and lunch. It will be on Columbus Day so where else would you rather be but on the golf course with your Brother Knights raising money for our State charities. And of course it helps our council meet its goal and earn the Quick Start Award again this year. So let's tee it up on October 12th. We have many other projects coming together through our program committees. We are putting together a council calendar which will show all of the upcoming events so you can be aware of them and schedule them in. As soon as it's complete, we will make it available.

And finally we distributed prayer cards at the meeting with the Prayer For Priests on them. These cards were ordered from Supreme and are available to all. We will have them in the back of mass so pick one up. The story about these cards is on Page 2. This year has been named the Year of Priests by our Holy Father. The card has a beautiful picture of Jesus in priestly vestments and has a beautiful prayer on the back. As Knights it is our duty to support our priests in every way we can. Our Order was founded by a parish priest. And our council was formed with the help and tremendous support of Father John. It is our obligation to support him and all priests. I know our council has always stepped up for Father and our parish. As we move forward with building our new facilities the needs of the parish may change, but we as Knights will always be here to support Father and St. Angela Merici. Pray for our priests. Vivat Jesu! Gary