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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,



Well you've heard about it. It's been promised. You've been patiently waiting. And now here it is. Our first Council newsletter. As you may know, I am no webmaster so this first attempt is subject to changes, revisions and whatever else needs to be fixed after you all have looked it over and offered your suggestions. So please feel free to give me your ideas.

Let me begin by saying what a privilege it has been to work with all of you and to get to know you. We have some great Knights in this Council and that is the primary ingredient in having a great Council. The slate of officers we have put together in this Council is second to none. They have diverse backgrounds in business, and go from past state officers, to Past Grand Knights, to brand new Knights who have just joined our Order. It has been an honor to work with them as we begin our journey. We are blessed with such great support from our Parish. Starting with Father John, and also all of the staff. Our State and District officers have been very supportive and have lent assistance every time we have asked for it. And of course our Supreme Council has been with us all through the process of getting this council started. And so with all of this in our favor, we cannot possibly fail to be a great Council.

And we are off to a great start! I will try to document our Council's works in this newsletter. If you have worked on a project and have pictures, please forward them to me and I will try to use them. May God bless you and your families and our Order. And Have a Merry Christmas.

PRAY THE ROSARY. Gary

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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



ADDRESS OF HIS HOLINESS BENEDICT XVI TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS *Clementine Hall Friday, 3 October 2008*

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to welcome you, the Board of Directors of the Knights of Columbus, together with your families, on the occasion of your pilgrimage to Rome in this Pauline Year. I pray that your visit to the tombs of Saints Peter and Paul will confirm you in the faith of the Apostles and fill your hearts with gratitude for the gift of our redemption in Christ.

At the beginning of his Letter to the Romans, Saint Paul reminds his hearers that they are “called to holiness” (*Rom 1:7*). During my recent Pastoral Visit to the United States, I wished to encourage the lay faithful, above all, to recommit themselves to growth in holiness and active participation in the Church’s mission. This was the vision that inspired the foundation of the Knights of Columbus as a fraternal association of Christian laymen, and it continues to find privileged expression in your Order’s charitable works and your concrete solidarity with the Successor of Peter in his ministry to the universal Church. That solidarity is manifested in a particular way by the *Vicarius Christi* Fund, which the Knights have placed at the disposal of the Holy See for the needs of God’s People throughout the world. And it is also shown through the daily prayers and sacrifices of so many Knights in their local Councils, parishes and communities. For this I am most grateful.

Dear friends, in the spirit of your founder, the Venerable Michael McGivney, may the Knights of Columbus discover ever new ways to serve as a leaven of the Gospel in the world and a force for the renewal of the Church in holiness and apostolic zeal. In this regard, I express my appreciation of your efforts to provide a solid formation in the faith for young people, and to defend the moral truths necessary for a free and humane society, including the fundamental right to life of every human being. With these sentiments, dear friends, I assure you of a special remembrance in my prayers. To all the Knights and their families, I cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing, as a pledge of lasting joy and peace in our Lord Jesus Christ.

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NEWS FROM STATE

CONGRATULATIONS TEXAS!!!!!!!!!!

Texas has reached that milestone of 90,000 members. WOW!!!! I don't know what to say other than Thank You to all of you. It is through your hard work, your dedication and your efforts that Texas has reached this goal. I am in the process of locating the form 100 from Lou Barbour for that 90,000th member and his recruiter. As soon as that is determined, I will announce it and present both of them with an award.

Now Texas has a new goal, 91,000. With your "can do" attitude Texas will reach this milestone and soon.

Thank you again gentlemen for you dedication to the Order. Keep up the good work. Remember One More Knight. That's what it will take. Just that One More Knight.

Marietta and I wish all of you and your families a very happy Thanksgiving.

Pray the Rosary

Javier S. Martinez, State Deputy



COUNCIL NEWS

- Our Council had its first meeting on September 3rd. It was an open meeting and all Knights and persons interested in becoming a Knight were invited to attend. In addition to 21 Knights that attended, we were honored to have our District Deputy Dennis Marek, our District Warden Gary Blanchette, Our General Agent Rich Lesak, and our Field Agent Leo Lowdermilk join us. [See picture on page 6.](#)
- Our second Council meeting was on October 1st and was our first closed business meeting.
- On October 3rd the Council participated in the Annual Foundation for Life Gala held at the Sugar Land Marriot. Our Knights helped with the morning set up and helped in the evening with packing and loading auction items for the silent and live auctions.
- On October 11th the Council was part of a group of Knights that unloaded bibles at St. Peter the Apostle Parish for the Archdiocesan bible program. There were 17 Knights there and 7 of those were from our Council. The KCs unloaded two 18 wheel trucks loaded with 45,000 bibles and stacked them in a classroom for distribution throughout the Archdiocese. [See pictures on page 6.](#)
- On October 12th, we had our first Corporate Communion. Most of our members attended with their families. We were honored by the presence of our State Treasurer Jim Collins, our District Deputy Dennis Marek, our District Warden Gary Blanchette, and our 4th Degree Brothers. After mass, our District Officers conducted our first officers installation ceremony. Many people from the parish stayed and were greatly impressed by the ceremony. Many Knights who have attended many installations were saying after ours that it was the nicest installation they had ever attended! [See pictures on page 6.](#)
- On October 13th and 14th, several of our Council participated in the St. Laurence Parish annual bazaar. Our Brothers with Council 11343 are in large part responsible for the set up, take down, and much of the food at the bazaar and they were very appreciative of our Council's support of the event.
- On October 25th several of our Knights joined in the Diocesan Chapter's effort to assist our neighboring councils on Galveston Island that were devastated by Hurricane Ike. The Knights cleaned the 2 KC Halls on the Island and after lunch, went to several of the homes of the Knights and helped them clean and repair their homes. It was a long day of dirty and hard work but those that went reported it was a very rewarding experience and they were proud to be part of the effort.
- Our First Monthly Awards were presented at our November 5th meeting. The Knight of the Month was Brother Chad Quick and The Family of the Month was the Frerich Family. Both were very well deserved and we thank them for their service. We also began our Keep Christ In Christmas magnet sales and scheduled our pre sale effort for our Thanksgiving turkey sales. Both of these fund raisers are wonderful ways to reach out to our community and to raise funds that support our charitable goals.



Brother Chad Quick is Knight of the Month



Ron and Debbie Frerich receive Family of the Month

- At their November meeting, St. Laurence Council presented our GK with a check to pay for our Council's officers jewelry. We are so grateful to our Brothers at St. Laurence for this gift! We hope one day to continue this tradition with another new council.



THANKSGIVING TURKEYS—Along with our Brothers at St. Laurence Council, we smoked turkeys for Thanksgiving after having pre-sales. We were able to sell 49 turkeys!! Thanks to those Knights that sold after masses and those that came over to St. Laurence and helped bag and clean up. It all went really smooth and the birds were delicious. Again we impressed our Brothers at St. Laurence with our turn out and our effort. It went so smoothly that many of their Knights paid our Council complements and said how they are looking forward to cooking Super Bowl briskets with us! Good work!



FATHER JOHN'S CORNER



Dear Brother Knights,
Advent calls us to live in hope. God hears us and answers us. As we are invited to live in hope we also know that we must cooperate with God's grace. To the Corinthians, St. Paul wrote that we "are not lacking in any spiritual gift" as we await Christ. So the question is: Are we using our spiritual gifts to draw closer to God and one another?

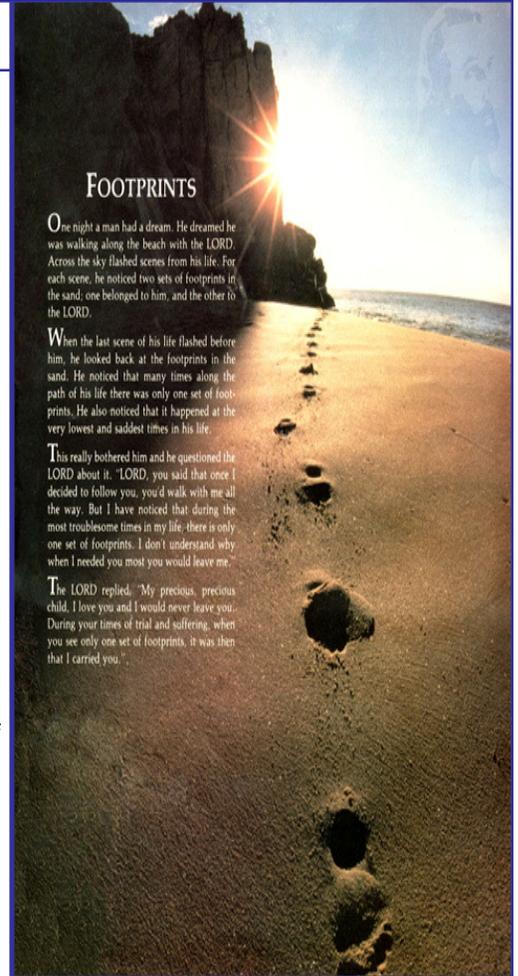
Isaiah prays, "You are our father, O Lord; we are the clay and you the potter." Well, what kind of clay are we? Will we let our sometimes hardened spirits be molded by God who is attempting to shape us into the people he wants us to be? These are the Advent questions.

Some of the Church's greatest heroes will be brought before us in the month ahead. John the Baptist is given a special prominence, for it was his task to make way for the Savior who had already come but was still unknown. In imitation of John, we "prepare the way for the Lord" - by reading the scriptures - celebrating the sacraments - taking seriously those friends who show us the way to him, and being faithful to our call as KNIGHTS.

Another hero of the season is the Blessed Virgin Mary - she who was attentive to the word of God and was also one of the poor and lowly. In Advent we will twice hear her say to Gabriel, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your Word." Can we offer those same words to God? It's a time for changing hearts in order to welcome the Lord - the loving Savior who is of our own flesh and blood.

Advent's hope speaks with a gentle reminder that God often comes to us not in the brightness of noonday, but under the cover of darkness, when we're in exile, or living in the desert or in poverty, God sends light into the darkness...and this is a time to grasp the ancient paradox that God is often closest to us when he seems far away.

Peace, Fr. 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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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
- 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
- St. Angela Merici Parish
- Please remember in prayer all of those family members that have gone home to God.



Schedule of Events

- December 3—Regular Business meeting at 7:30 PM
- December 12 and 13—CASA Christmas Home Tour in Sienna Plantation
- December 15—First Degree at St. Basil Council 4204
- December 16—4th Degree meeting at KC Hall at St. Theresa's at 7 PM. This is an open meeting with dinner to follow.
- December 17—Officers' meeting at 7:30 PM

December 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Business meeting 7 pm	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 CASA Home Tour	13 CASA Home Tour
14	15 First Degree at 4204	16 4th Degree meeting	17 Officers' meeting 7 pm	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- January 7—Regular Business meeting at 7:30 PM
- 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 9 AM 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
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



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
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Knights of Columbus insurance has been "Making a Difference for Life" for more than 120 years. Since our founding in 1882, our primary mission has been to protect families against the financial ruin caused by the death of the breadwinner. Today we do this, and help families secure their financial futures, through our top-rated portfolio of life insurance, long term care insurance and annuity products. If you have any questions concerning our products, please contact me today—Leo Lowdermilk (832) 338-6369 cell or (800) 460-2706. Leo.Lowdermilk@KOF.C.ORG



Our Council's first meeting September 3, 2008



Bibles unloaded at St. Peter. Not pictured Wes Kubesch.



Unloading 45,000 bibles



Stacking some of the 2,250 boxes of bibles



Our District Deputy Dennis Marek and our District Warden Gary Blanchette lead the officer candidates at installation



Members of Council 14617 at our first Corporate Communion and our officers' installation ceremony October 12, 2008

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.