

Volume 1, Issue 5

April 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,

As we prepare for the end of Lent and the celebration of the death and resurrection of our Lord, we also prepare for our council's activity level to increase. Lent is a time of reflection and strengthening our relationship with God and so we purposely slow down our activities in order to give our members the time to accomplish that. But as soon as Lent ends, we get back in the swing of things. We begin on Easter Sunday with our Easter Egg hunt for the children. We have so many small children in this parish I can't wait to see them hunting for eggs at the PLEX. It should be fun. And then the next Sunday our council is hosting a family picnic for the parish at Camp Sienna. We had thought we may have 250 people or so. When we collected the RSVP cards at mass, we have around 450! I think that is a strong indication of this congregation's strong desire to become a parish and to enjoy all of the community things a parish can offer. So while it is a bigger event than we had figured on, I am very proud that it is our council that is affording these parishioners this first opportunity to gather and get to know one another. Hopefully we will attract a few new members for the council and the parish, but if we don't this will still be a great day for everyone. Please help out where you can, but if you have children and want to enjoy the picnic with your family, please do. We'll manage to get this done. Contact Brother Matt Sasso if you want to assist in some way.

March 25th was the Day of the Unborn. To commemorate the day, Father John and I met Brother Jerry Tomasello at the offices of the Foundation For Life on NW Freeway. Brother Jerry provided lunch for everyone there and we were able to tour their facilities and meet the ladies who work there. It was a wonderful day. Right after we arrived, Veronica (the lady who came to our mass) came to us and told us of a lady who was there for an ultrasound. She had decided to have her pregnancy terminated and Veronica asked us to pray for her. Father immediately gathered us together and he prayed for her and the baby. Before we left Veronica came in all excited and told us the lady had changed her mind and was going to keep her baby! The power of prayer. And the work of these people! It was a great day. And again if you want to visit their facility contact them and set up a tour. They will gladly show you around.

Founders Day was March 29. It was the 127th anniversary ***continued on Page 7***

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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

An excerpt from the Homily of His Excellency Bishop William Lori Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus Fifth Sunday of Lent Founder's Day Mass - St. Mary's Church New Haven, March 29, 2009

"The Legacy of Father McGivney

Daily we pray for the beatification of the Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, the founder of the Knights of Columbus. His cause for canonization has been advanced because we are convinced he deeply contemplated the face of Christ and truly knew the Lord by entering into his sacrifice of love. In imitation of the Lord who came 'not to be served but to serve,' Father McGivney poured out his life, "in service to one, in service to all." He was that priestly grain of wheat, which, like the Lord died and was buried, and then in the power of the Holy Spirit produced abundant fruit.

By being with his people in their need – the people of this very parish – Father McGivney followed Christ; where Christ was, there was Father McGivney.

Our founder saw Christ in the multitudes that packed this Church each Sunday, and especially in the hardworking men whose faith he strove to bolster. He found Christ in families bereft by the death of husbands and fathers and indeed in a man condemned to die.

He sought the Lord in the lay leadership he raised up in the basement of this Church, men to whom he entrusted his fledgling organization conceived in the genius of holiness. In the power of the Holy Spirit, Father McGivney sought to write the law of love on the hearts of those first Knights of Columbus by creating an Order whose first and more enduring principle was charity. His love for Christ, and for his Church, and for the beloved Knights of Columbus did not diminish when he moved to Thomaston to serve as a pastor. He was merely 38 years of age when he died having poured out his life in acts of love for his people that replicated the mystery of Christ's sacrificial love that he celebrated each day in the Mass.

The Year of St. Paul and the Year of the Priest

We celebrate this Founder's Day of the Knights of Columbus as the Year of St. Paul begins to give way to the Year of the Priest, both precious gifts to the Church Universal from Pope Benedict XVI. In his lively preaching and relentless pastoral activity, Father McGivney imitated St. Paul whose preached Christ in season and out of season, Christ, the power and the wisdom of God! Father McGivney also imitated St. Paul in moving about the parish – not waiting for visitors but going out to see his people – and in traveling from place to place to establish and spread the Knights of Columbus.

His missionary journeys did not take him as far afield as St. Paul but they were undertaken with same earnestness of purpose. There is yet another parallel between Father McGivney and St. Paul, namely, his outreach to the wider community in New Haven and beyond. Just as Paul brought the message of Christ to the Gentiles, so too Father McGivney brought his Catholic faith into the public square. Today we must continue doing just that with renewed vigor and courage!

About to dawn upon us is the Year of the Priest and how we should rejoice in the priestly ministry of our great Founder. By every measure he was an exemplary priest, a devoted shepherd of souls, who reproduced Jesus' sacrificial love by Word, Sacrament, and personal witness.

He championed the people he served and was far ahead of his time in stressing the calling to holiness that addressed to every member of the Church and in raising up lay leadership within the Catholic Church. The legacy of Father McGivney shines on in the devoted service of our K of C chaplains in the solidarity of the Knights of Columbus with priests, and in the prayer and work of the Knights and their families for priestly vocations. What a grace it would be if Father McGivney were to be beatified soon, a parish priest from the State of Connecticut! What encouragement to us all!

Conclusion

By living faithfully the principles of the Order, may the Knights of Columbus and their families help us all to meet Christ, to gaze upon his face in love and to find in him the source of salvation and joy. May this 128th year of the Knights be a time rich in many graces!

May God bless us and keep us in his love.

INSURANCE NEWS

WHAT ARE YOU BUYING?

Sometimes, we can have wrong impression of what we are spending our hard-earned money for.

For example, you do not spend 50¢ to buy a paper; you spend that money to buy news. You do not buy glasses; you buy vision. You do not buy an awning, you buy shade.

See what I mean? The same holds true for life insurance. You are not just buying life insurance in case you die.

You buy an education for your children, or a life income for your wife, or a pension plan for the old man you will eventually be. (It is been said that the difference between an "old man" and an "elderly gentleman" is money!) You buy peace of mind, happiness, and more than a little contentment when you buy life insurance.

Call me today to arrange an appointment. Your future is my first concern. Leo Lowdermilk at (832) 338-6269 cell or (800) 460-2706.



COUNCIL NEWS

- At our March meeting on the 4th, we awarded out Knight of the Month award for February and March. Our February winner was Brother Dennis O'Driscoll and the March winner was Brother Rene Broussard. Both of these Knights have been very active in the parish and council and we appreciate all of their efforts.
- March 8th we presented our Family and Lady of the Month awards to the Scranton Family and Molly McCarthy at 9 AM mass. Both of these awards are to very deserving people who donate their time to the parish. Again if you know of someone that you feel deserves consideration for one of these awards, please drop me an email and give me their information. See pictures below
- The picture to the right is from our April 1 meeting but I wanted to include it in this issue. It is a picture of our Worthy District Deputy Brother Gary Blanchette presenting our council it's very first award for meeting our State Charity goals before January 1. This **QUICK START AWARD** is on display in the office.



DD Brother Gary presents council with our first council award, The Quick Start Award. **This will be the first of MANY!**



Our February Knight of the Month Dennis O'Driscoll



Our March Knight of the Month Rene Broussard



March's Lady of the Month Molly McCarthy



March's Family of the Month The Scranton Family



FATHER JOHN'S CORNER



HE IS RISEN!! HE IS TRULY RISEN!!!!

Happy Easter! You and I – our Church – have celebrated the most joyful and holy day, EASTER. In the early church, the Christians when celebrating this great day, would have a dialogue. When they would meet one another they would say, “**He Is Risen!**”, and the other would respond, “**He Is Truly Risen!**” They were on fire by the power of Easter. (The next time you meet another Christian why not share with them this greeting!)

The good news, the wonderful news of Easter, is that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead! The Resurrection, the Easter celebration, offers us an invitation. It invites each of us to let Jesus help us to trust again. Even when we have lost the ability to trust.

Easter invites you and me to let Jesus help us to hope again. Even when we have lost our ability to hope. Easter, this celebration of the Lord’s Resurrection, invites you and me to let Jesus help us pick up the broken pieces of our lives and to start over again.

That is the story of Easter. The stone in front of the tomb has been rolled away. Easter invites us to hear again that call to roll the stone away from our hearts. To hear the invitation of Easter, the invitation of the Resurrection, means that you and I are willing to get out of our tombs. It means coming into the light.

Easter proclaims the good news. Jesus has triumphed over sin. Jesus has triumphed over death, over brokenness, over loneliness, over depression and over pain. Jesus has conquered it all! If Jesus has indeed conquered it, you and I can have the faith and trust that Jesus desires to conquer it within each of us. Jesus desires to free each of us from the tomb. Jesus desires to bring us into the light.

This Easter, the good news is that every Good Friday in our lives, can be turned into an Easter Sunday. Our Good Fridays can be turned into Easters if our hearts are open and we are willing to leave our tombs.

No matter what has gone on in our past, Easter is the day that the Lord has made. You and I in celebrating the Easter Mysteries have been given a new lease on life. Let’s celebrate! Let’s you and I proclaim to each other to our world “**He Is Risen! He Is Truly Risen!!!**”

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’s soul. May he rest in peace with the Lord

Bud and Sandye Reed

Our Men and Women in Uniform both living and deceased especially Gabriel Machado deployed in Afghanistan

Our Holy Father and all of the clergy

The innocent unborn

St. Angela Merici Parish



- April 1—Regular Business meeting at 7:30 PM
- April 10—Good Friday—Adoration of the Cross services at 7:00 PM at the PLEX
- April 12—Easter Sunday and Easter Egg Hunt
- April 14— Archdiocese Galveston/ Houston Chapter meeting at Council 3077 at 7:00 PM
- April 14—4th Degree meeting at KC Hall at St. Theresa’s at 7:30 PM
- April 15th—Officer’s meeting at 7:30 PM
- April 19th—Family Picnic for parish at Camp Sienna from 2 PM to 5 PM.

April 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Business meeting 7 pm	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Adoration of the cross	11
12 Easter Sunday	13	14 AGH Chapter meeting	15 Officer's meeting 7 pm	16	17	18
19 Family Picnic	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

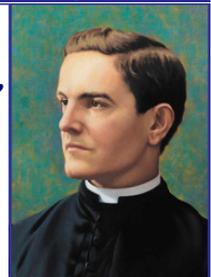
- May 2—The Special Olympics Spring Games are held at Strake Jesuit High School at 9:00 AM
- May 6—Our First Social meeting at the church office after 7 PM mass will feature a program by our Lecturer Deacon Kevin.
- May 12—AGH Chapter meeting at council 3077 at 7:00 PM.
- May 20—Councils Regular business meeting follows 7 PM mass at 7:30 PM
- May 29—31 Texas State Convention will be held at the Hilton of the Americas in Houston. Check the newsletter for a list of activities.
- May 30—The Impact A Hero fundraiser run. It is in Sugar land and set up begins at 4 AM. More details will follow or check with Brother Ron Frerich for information.

May 2009

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



When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so they might go and anoint Him. They were saying to one another, "Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw the stone had been rolled back; it was very large. On entering the tomb they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe and they were amazed. He said to them, "You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified, He has been raised; He is not here." Mark 16:1-6

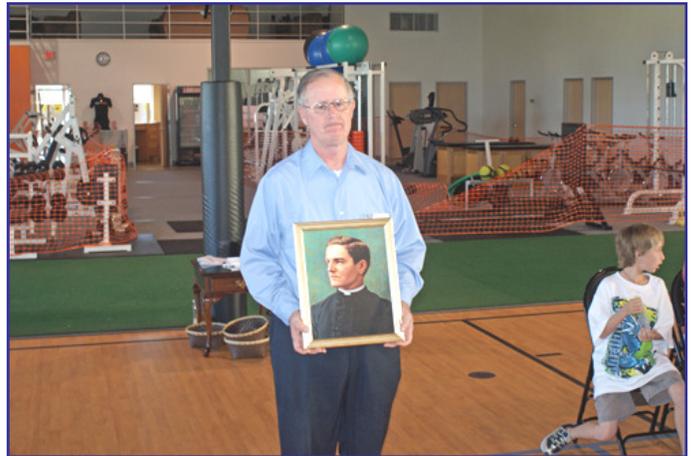




FOUNDER'S DAY MARCH 29, 2009



Brother John Hopkins and family present the gifts at mass



Brother Colin carries Father McGivney's picture to the altar



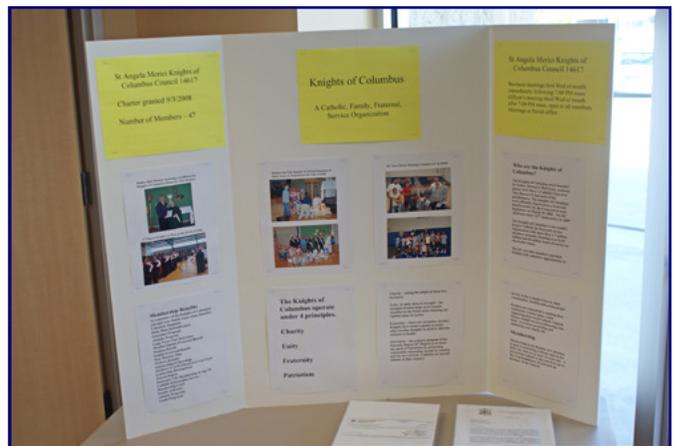
Father John celebrates mass on Founder's Day with Father McGivney's picture displayed at the altar



Brother Colin leads others at our Membership Blitz



Brothers Matt, Colin, Victor and Jerry prepare for the Blitz



One of the Blitz displays showing our council activities and info

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

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES: Adoration of the Cross Services will be held at the PLEX starting at 7:00 PM. Father has asked our council to carry the cross during the services. Contact Gary Bentz to volunteer.

EASTER EGG HUNT: The Knights of Columbus #14617 are sponsoring an Easter egg hunt following the 9:00 am Easter Sunday Mass. Bring your Easter baskets and a camera!! Details are in the bulletin. Contact Jerry Tomasello to help.

PARISH PICNIC: Our first parish picnic will be Sunday, April 19th from 2-5 pm. The Knights of Columbus will cook hamburgers and hot dogs. Look for the flyer in this weekend's bulletin. Contact Matt Sasso to help.

CAMP FOR ALL : Camp For All is a unique camping and retreat facility that works in partnership with special needs groups to enrich the lives of both children and adults with chronic illnesses and disabilities. They are in great need of volunteers on Sunday, April 26th . The campsite is located near Burton, Texas north of Houston approximately 100 miles from Sienna Plantation. For more information contact Matt Leyden or go to their website at <http://www.campforall.org/index.cfm>

SPECIAL OLYMPICS : The Greater Houston Special Olympics will hold its Spring Games on Saturday, May 2 at Strake Jesuit Field starting at 9:00 AM. These games will host teams from the Greater Houston and Beaumont/Golden Triangle areas participating in track and field and soccer. Volunteers are needed. If you can volunteer contact Gary Bentz by email and he will put your name in. You can get additional information about this event by going to the Special Olympics website at <http://www.sotx.org/news-events/calendar/area4/greater-houston-area-spring-games.html>

IMPACT A HERO : The 5th Annual 5k Run/Walk/Wheel event will take place in Sugar Land on Saturday May 30th. Volunteers and donations are needed for this very special event to honor our men and women in uniform who have sacrificed so much for our freedom. Set up begins at 4 AM and many are needed to help with the event. Contact Ron Frerich for information or go to their website at <http://www.impactahero.org/>

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT...from Page 1 of the founding of our Order by Father McGivney. Father John talked about the Knights and Father McGivney in his homily and even allowed us to carry his picture up and place it before the altar. Brother Colin had put together 2 great poster boards with pictures from our council and information about the works of our Order. This was for our March Blitz and we had many people come to the table after mass and ask about the Knights. We gave out 12 Form 100's and have signed 3 new Knights so far and have several transfers in the works. So it was a great day for us. We owe a huge thanks to Father John and Brother Colin. Having been in other councils where the pastor was not supportive of the KC's, I can't tell you how much it means to have Father John and all of his help. We just need to get him to a Major Degree! There's one coming up on a Saturday so when he goes, we're all going!!

I've included an excerpt from our Supreme Chaplain Bishop William Lori's homily given on Founders Day at St. Mary's Church in New Haven. It's an excellent sermon about Father McGivney's life and the Knights of Columbus given at his old Church. I encourage all of you to take the time to read it. It's not as good as Father John's, but a good second.

And finally on a personal note, thank you all for your prayers for our friends The Reeds. Thankfully they continue to improve. Please keep them in prayer as they still have a long way to go. They had a motorcycle accident on our Spring Break ride as Sally and I followed them. As we witnessed the accident, it had a huge impact on us, and all who were with us. It made me realize how precious and fragile life is. And how your entire life can change in an instant. Bud and Sandye are remarkable Christian people that love and trust God and do a lot for their church. And God protected them from more serious injuries and continues to heal them. It's one more example of how very important prayer is in life. Many things have happened in my life that I don't understand. But I know God listens to prayer. So ask Him, and ask again. May God bless you all and may He bless our parish and council. And have a Happy Easter. Gary