



Knights Life Newsletter



IN SERVICE TO ONE ... IN SERVICE TO ALL
The Voice of the Membership of Council #13579

Vol 5 Issue 7 **January 2009**

Holy Rosary Council #13579

150 E. Summit Ave
Muskegon Heights, Michigan 49444
Visiting Knights are Welcome

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Michigan District # 2 4th Degree web site: www.kofcmidist2.org

Michigan State Knights of Columbus website: www.mikofc.org
Holy Rosary Council # 13579 web site: www.kofc13579.com

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Grand Knight....., Garret A. Kelenske 231-744-8126
Deputy Grand Knight Wayne J. LaPointe
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Financial Secretary .. Joseph A. Zagar 231-744-8886
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District Deputy Thomas F Ketchum 231-733-2501



FROM OUR GRAND KNIGHT

My Brother Knights

We have had a number of events in the past month. I was surprised to find out that we were about to receive "The Our Lady of Charity" representation. Due to a communication problem, we received the icon on short notice, but I was pleasantly surprised at the number of people who were able to attend our ceremonies. Our council held two different services, one at Sacred Heart Church and the other at Saint Michaels. Approximately 275 people were in attendance for both.

Our council held its Blitz weekend with a lot of literature handed out, but very few Prospect cards signed. I appreciate all the time and effort you men have put into recruitment this year. There was a First Degree held at our council on December 18th and I would like to thank all of you who were able to attend.

The Council Christmas Party was held on December 16th, there were many of our brother Knights in attendance. Everyone started arriving at 6:30 p.m. at the Main Street Eatery. Fr. Thomas Paige, Sr. Agnes Mary and Deacon Bill Cook were able to attend; we also had the State Director for Special Olympics Tim MacGraw with us. Dinner went very well, Fr. Tom said grace and all enjoyed themselves. When the end of the evening came, we raffled of the table settings and some Christmas bulbs that my wife Kathleen and I constructed as a keepsake of our special evening.

I hope that all of your families had a wonderful Christmas and a safe and enjoyable New Year. I would also like to remind you of your obligation to turn in your dues in a timely manner it makes it a lot easier on your officers and your Councils purse strings.

Yours in Christ

Garret A. Kelenske
Grand Knight



New Years Resolutions Suggestions:

1. **Attend a Mass on a weekday as well as Sunday.**
2. **Set time aside to pray as a family.**
3. **Tell my family "I love you" more often.**
4. **Promote the Vocations more in my home, amongst my friends and in my parish.**
5. **Increase my tithing to my parish.**
6. **Volunteer more / be more active at my parish.**
7. **Resist speaking poorly or spreading gossip about my fellow man / woman.**
8. **Have more patience in all I do and with whom I interact.**
9. **Be more active in my Knights of Columbus council**
10. **Sponsor someone as a new member of the Knights of Columbus**



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Wayne LaPointe 4th
 Deacon William Cook 22nd

***UPCOMING EVENTS*
 MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

BINGO Every Monday night

George J. McCarthy Council #2975 in Grand Haven
January 1st New Years Day
January 1st Annual Dues and Fraternal Survey
are due and should be sent to Financial Secretary
January 6th Feast of the Epiphany
January 14th Officer's Meeting 7:00 PM
Rosary making committee to meet afterward
January 17th Annual Free Throw Contest
Morse Gym 10:00 AM Registration 11:00 AM Start
January 21st Council Meeting 7:00 PM
January 21st Martin Luther King Day
January 27th 4th Degree Meeting
Marian Council # 3111 to host 7:30 PM

February 1st 1st Degree Initiation
Council # 706 to Host 1:30 PM Regist. 2:00 PM Start
February 2nd Ground Hog Day
February 7th District Free Throw Championship
Sacred Heart Gym 12:00 PM Reg 1:00 PM Start
February 14th Officer's Meeting 7:00 PM
Rosary making committee to meet afterward
February 12th Lincoln's Birthday
February 14th Valentines Day
February 14th Valentine Dinner /Dance
Sacred Heart School Gymnasium 7:30 PM
February 15th Semi Annual Audit due
February 18th Business Meeting 7:00 PM
February 19th Washington's Birthday
February 20th President's Day
February 24th 4th Degree Meeting
Our Lady of the White Lake Council #12895 to host 7:30 PM
February 25th Ash Wednesday
 Please patronize other council's events if they do not conflict with ours

"Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him "Emmanuel," which means "God is with us."

Matthew 1:23

DUES NOTICES

Dues notices will be sent out at the end of this month, I trust you all will remember the importance of keeping your dues current. You dues not only help to keep our council functioning, but are also the basis for any donations we as a council will make during the year.

Dues may be sent to:

Joseph Zagar
Financial Secretary
422 Westwind Dr.
N. Muskegon, MI 49445

Dues are \$36.00, there optional donation of \$5.00 that can be made for HCCS and Take 5. Checks can be made out to Knights of Columbus Holy Rosary Council

COMMITTEE EVENTS

Membership Committee

Total Membership 12/01/2008	YTD Change in Membership			Year to Date				
	Month to Date	Gain	Loss	Net	Gain	Loss	Net	%
60								
MBR	5	6	0	0	6	0	0	100
INS	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	67

Essay Contest Committee

We are looking for volunteers to help run it again this year. We will need people to read and score essays. Anyone interested in helping should contact Wayne LaPointe at 744-1017

Free Throw Contest Committee

This years Free Throw contest will be held on Saturday, January 17th at Muskegon Catholic Central Middle School in the Morse Gymnasium. Currently we are looking for volunteers to help again this year. We will need people for registration, count scores and to chase balls. Please contact Mike Lewis at 780-8086 to volunteer you help.

District Free Throw Contest

The District Free Throw Championship will be Saturday January 29th. District Deputy Tom Ketchum has asked that our council host the event again this year. We will need people for registration, count scores and to chase the balls. Registration will be 12:00 PM and the competition will begin at 12:30 PM. Volunteers should be at the Sacred Heart Gymnasium by 11:00 AM. We will need to take down tables and chairs or this event and then set them back up afterwards.



KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

January Larry Bozik

Larry Bozik has been chosen Knight of the Month for January 2009. Larry was born in Traverse City, Michigan to Paul and Ida Bozik. He has lived in Muskegon since the age of three. Larry has two younger brothers Paul and Steve and two younger sisters Pat Vendal and Deborah Bringedahl. Both Larry and his parents are members of Sacred Heart. As a child, Larry attended Sacred Heart School and Beach schools. A graduate of Muskegon Catholic Central High School in 1960, he played football and ran track.

Larry attended Ferris State before being drafted into the US Army. Larry was a 25C (25 "Charlie") radio operator assigned to a crew of a "deuce-n-a-half" truck. Larry is now retired from SPX and enjoys playing golf with his dad, his two brothers and his brother-in-law Jim Vendal. In the past he also has raised and showed Arabian Horses.

Larry has known of the Knights of Columbus most of his life and was influenced by his brother in law in joining the Knights. He is new to our council and we welcome Larry and know that he will become a valuable assist to us.

Respectfully Submitted By
Joseph M. Tackx

FAMILY OF THE MONTH



January Scott and Ruth Houghtaling

The Scott Houghtaling Family has been chosen as our councils Family Of The Month for January 2009. Scott and his wife Ruth have three daughters, Jessica (21) Ann (19) and Tori (16). The Houghtalings' have been married 21 years. Ruth operates a successful daycare business and Scott is the Housing Inspector for the city of Muskegon. Their daughter, Jessica, recently obtained her state license for Cosmetology and is employed at JW & Co. Hair Studio on Harvey St. The family took a wonderful camping trip into the Smoky Mountains last summer for two weeks. Scott enjoys golfing, hunting, hiking and general fitness.

Scott has been a Knight for a little more than a year and is the Outside Guard, chaired the Keep Christ In Christmas card sale and is a roundtable coordinator for St. Mary's Parish. Scott brings with him the values of being a Knight and the gift of giving into his family as to set an example of what it is to be a Catholic. We are thankful to have Scott and his family as part of our council.

Respectfully Submitted
Joe M. Tackx

Right to Life Issues Prayer to End Abortion

My Heavenly Father, thank you for Your Gift of Life, for my life and for the lives of all my brothers and sisters. I know there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion, yet I rejoice that you have conquered death by the Resurrection of Your Son.

I am ready to do my part in ending abortion. Today I commit myself never to be silent, never to be passive, never to be forgetful of the unborn.

I commit myself to be active in the pro-life movement, And never to stop defending life until all my brothers and sisters are protected, and our nation once again becomes A nation with liberty and justice not just for some, but for all.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

You CAN'T be BOTH a Practicing Catholic AND Pro-Abortion!



NEWS FROM THE 4th DEGREE



Do you know of the role the Catholic Church played in the history of the United States?

Christopher Columbus, a Catholic, discovered the Americas. Amerigo Vespucci is the Catholic who the Americas are named for and it was the Catholic Governors of Maryland and New York who first declared the freedom for anyone to worship any religion they chose. We are the first country in the history of the world to openly declare that you have the right to practice any faith. Catholic priests and monks explored this country leaving Catholic names for cities, rivers and lakes. Catholic France and Spain were the first to recognize us as a country and supplied arms and men for the revolution. Catholic explorers / missionaries like Fr. Pere Marquette and Bishop Frederic Baraga should have special meaning for us here in Michigan. Catholic men volunteered at double our numerical proportions during WWI. Even the words "One nation under God" were added to the Pledge of Allegiance by a Catholic (and a member of the Knights of Columbus from Michigan)

As Catholics, we should be proud of the role our faith has played in the history of the United States. **And as Catholics, we should NEVER forget that we have a Freedom of Religion ... NOT Freedom FROM Religion!**

*The Bishop Frederic Baraga Assembly #474
More than 50 Years of Serving God and Country
1957 - 2007*

The 12 Days of Christmas

In Western Society, Christmas conjures up many images in people's minds, most of them probably secular and having only a remote connection to the original feast. Modern society and much of modern Protestant Christianity have, to a large degree, taken Christmas outside of its place within the Catholic Church year, where it follows the expectant season of Advent. Liturgically (i.e. within the Church Year), Christmas does not even begin until December 25th, although in the secular world, the Christmas season practically starts before Halloween, at least according to major retailers.

Christmas is the feast of the Incarnation, a celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, true God and true man, as a little baby in Bethlehem, within the realm of history. While many Christians recognize Christmas as a celebration of Jesus' birth, the solemnity is also a festival of his Incarnation. Outside of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches and a few others, the idea of Christmas as a season has nearly disappeared. Although secular traditions are fun and endearing, Christmas is primarily a Christian holy day. Even the term itself is an abbreviation of the phrase "Christ mass," which reflects the primary understanding of Christmas as a feast day within the Church year, connected to the Eucharist. Unfortunately, in recent times, celebrating Christmas with the Church has taken a backseat to food preparation, gift opening, and other festivities that, while good, are only secondary activities that should not replace the primary "reason for the season": celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. While many mention the need to put Christ back in Christmas, the need is greater than that. As an Anglican priest once noted: we need to put the "mass" back in Christmas too.

Christmastide is the name given for the time surrounding Christmas Day. In the current Catholic calendar, Christmastide lasts from Christmas Day until the Baptism of Christ, which is the Sunday following January 6th. This time includes many other important Christian Holy Days. The 12 days of Christmas, the time from December 25th until the Epiphany, have often been recognized as a time for special feasting. In fact, Christmastide used to refer to the 12 Days of Christmas, and some still use "Christmastide" to refer to this period. In the past, the season of Christmas lasted from Christmas until Candlemas, and superstitions developed, e.g. that there was bad luck ahead for those who left Christmas decorations up after Candlemas. The octave of Christmas lasts from December 25th until January 1st, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Christmas falls exactly 9 months after the Feast of the Annunciation, the feast day commemorating Jesus' conception

Even though the Bible does not record a specific celebration of a feast of Christ's birth, the Infancy narratives of St. Matthew and St. Luke form the basis of

the Christmas celebration. The history of Christmas goes back to the miraculous virgin birth of Jesus Christ around 4 BC. At least by the time of St. Matthew and St. Luke's Gospels, Christians began to reflect on the birth of Jesus Christ, and its significance. A few of the early Church Fathers speculated about the birth of Jesus, but the actual liturgical celebration of Christmas cannot be fixed with certainty before the very early 4th century. Some scholars think that the celebration of Epiphany, which included the nativity and modern Christmastide themes, was celebrated much earlier. The celebration of Christmas uniquely as the nativity of Jesus Christ, however, originated in the West, probably in North Africa. While various 3rd century Church Fathers (including St. Hippolytus of Rome and Sextus Julius Africanus) believed Jesus was born on December 25, the earliest surviving reference to December 25th as the liturgical celebration of Christmas is in the Philocalian calendar, which shows the Roman practice in AD 336. The Apostolic Constitutions (c AD 380) mandate the celebration of Christ's birth on December 25th, and his Epiphany on January 6th. The celebration of Christmas spread throughout the whole of the East and the West in the 4th century. By the fifth century, almost all of the Church was observing December 25th as the Feast of the Nativity and Epiphany on January 6th, although some Christians still kept January 6th as a holy day which included the nativity. The West was slower to embrace Epiphany, but by the fifth century Rome included it as a feast. Today, in the Western Church, the season of Christmas, called Christmastide, includes the Epiphany (the manifestation of Christ to the wise men) and the baptism of Jesus. Also, in the Catholic Church we remember and celebrate the divine Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, which falls on January 1st.

Christmas was universally celebrated until the Reformation, but many Protestant reformers rejected Christmas. The English Puritans were particularly hostile to Christmas and went to absurd lengths to suppress it. During the brief Calvinist reign in England, parliament forbade the celebration of Christmas, even going so far as to force shops to be open. This attitude carried over into the Americas where Christmas was outlawed or criminalized in Puritan states. For example, in Massachusetts, until the 1830s, anyone who missed school or work on December 25th was subject to a fine. During the earliest days of the USA, with the exception of Catholics, Anglicans, and Lutherans, the religious and secular celebration of Christmas would have been quite rare. Even in the 21st century, many people, for a variety of reasons (all suspect from a Catholic viewpoint), reject the celebration of Christmas. The contemporary concern is not so much how to get people to celebrate Christmas, but rather to re-orient them to the original purpose of celebrating Christmas: Christ and the Mass.

***PICTURES FROM
OUR PROJECTS***



A view of the many guests for the Annual Christmas Dinner



This year's Annual Christmas Dinner was the best attend dinner thus far



(Left) The Christmas tree was a beautiful back drop for dinner.

(Below Left) GK Garrett Kelenske takes a moment to greet everyone.

(Below Right and Bottom) Christmas Tree Ornaments were given as gifts to those who attended the dinner.



Students from MCC Elementary pose for a photo after the "Living Rosary"

(Right) John Stoner, Rich Eller, DGK Wayne LaPointe and PGK Mike Lewis also pose for a photo after the "Living Rosary"



(Below) GK Garrett Kelenske, DD Tom Ketchum & PGK Mike Lewis pose for a photo after the 4th Degree Christmas Dinner



(Above Left) Fr. Tom Page celebrates the first Mass of St. Jeans with a Mass in the original location

(Above Right) Steve Gawron offers the 2nd Reading at that Mass



Deacon Bill Cook, Fr. Tom Page. Bishop Hurley and Deacon Jim Schiltz celebrate Mass and the 125th anniversary of St. Jean de Baptiste Parish

Knights of Columbus
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