



Knight Life Newsletter



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

Vol 5 Issue 10 **April 2009**

Holy Rosary Council #13579

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

Knights of Columbus Supreme Web site: www.kofc.org
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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Financial Secretary .. Joseph A. Zagar 231-744-8886
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FROM OUR GRAND KNIGHT

My Brother Knights,

Can you believe that we have gone through three quarters of the fraternal year already?

It seems the time is just flying by. Our first Family Social Night went very well; I thank all of you who were able to attend. I plan to have more Family Nights in the coming months. For those that missed it, I really think it's a shame and I feel a little sorry for you; we all had a great time. The opportunity for our families to get together to know each other only strengthens our council and the Catholic community. This is exactly the type of Fraternal AND Family program that we all should be taking advantage of. I think it could also be a great tool for introducing prospective members to the Knights of Columbus. I am a firm believer in attraction combined with promotion, so get involved; it will only help our recruiting efforts in the end.

On that note, I must say that we really need to get working on recruiting new members. We had a Membership Blitz at the end of March and on **April 2nd our Council will host an Informational Meeting at 7:00 PM.** We also will **host a 1st Degree on April 16th at 7:00 PM.** I would like to see as many of our members attend as possible. I have been to many first degrees and it never fails to impress me and give me something to reflect on that I may have missed before.

About eleven families attended the Corporate Communion at St. Mary's last month. Fr. Tony was the celebrant and our very own Deacon Bill gave a great talk

on what the Knights of Columbus stand for. I cannot express how proud I am of all of the members of this Council for the participation level that we have achieved. Every event we do is done with pride and is always fun.

I was able to attend the Diocesan Free Throw Championship. It originally was scheduled at Aquinas College, but was postponed until the next weekend because of weather. Congratulations to the all our District winners who participated, but special honors go to Tyree Jackson who was a Diocesan Champion. The State Championship was held on March 15th in Mt. Pleasant. Tyree made 21 shots out of 25. He and two other boys were tied until the last boy shot 22 and won the competition. This has been a very worthwhile program for our Council. I thanked our Immediate Past Grand Knight Mike Lewis and all the other members who made this possible in my last letter and I think it deserves mentioning again. These Programs are the kind that people remember.

The Gas Raffle was a great success. We notified the winner and we are waiting for his decision of taking the money or the gas. Next Month I will give the report on this project along with the Saint Anthony's Hall project at St. Michaels and the Essay Contest. As all of you know, we are a very active Council so it is hard for me to mention everything in one letter. With your continued support, we will continue to grow and be successful in all of our endeavors.

Yours in Christ

Garret A. Kelenske
Grand Knight





APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Albert Coffee	3 rd
Joseph Bjork	7 th
Deacon William Cook	8 th
Fred A Groendyk	10 th
Dr. David Tomczak	22 nd
Ron Goodey	26 th
Brian Cirner	28 th

***UPCOMING EVENTS*
 MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

BINGO Every Monday night

- George J. McCarthy Council #2975 in Grand Haven**
 April 1st April Fool's
April 2nd Open House /Informational Meeting
Sacred Heart Rectory basement 7:00 PM
 April 9th Holy Thursday
 April 10th Good Friday
 April 11th Holy Saturday
 April 12th Easter Sunday
 April 15th Tax Day
April 15th Business Meeting 7:00 PM
April 16th 1st Degree Initiation
Sacred Heart Rectory basement 6:30 Reg 7:00 Start
 April 17th & 18th 4th Degree Exemplification
 Our Redeemer Parish Burton, Michigan
 April 19th Divine Mercy Sunday
 April 22nd Earth Day
April 26th 2nd & 3rd Degree Initiation
St. Michael's Gym 1:30 PM Reg 2:00 PM Start
 April 28th 4th Degree Business Meeting
 Dan M. Kennedy Council # 706 to Host 7:30 PM
- May 3rd Ascension Sunday**
May 3rd World Day of Prayer for Vocations
 May 10th Mother's Day
May 13th Regular Business Meeting 7:00 PM
Election of Officers for the 2009-2010 Fraternal Year
 May 21st - 23rd Michigan Knight of Columbus
 State Convention at Mackinaw Island
May 24th Feast of the Ascension
Holy Day of Obligation
 May 25th Memorial Day
 May 26th 4th Degree Meeting 7:30 PM
 George J McCarthy Council #2975 to host
May 31st Pentecost Sunday
 Please patronize other council's events if they do not conflict with ours

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF THE NIGHT FOR THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING IN MAY. WE WILL MEET ON MAY 13TH

COMMITTEE EVENTS

Membership Committee

Total Membership	YTD Change						
04/01/2009	in Membership						
60	5						
	Month to Date			Year to Date			
	Quota	Gain	Loss	Net	Gain	Loss	Net %
MBR	5	5	0	0	5	0	0 100
INS	3	3	0	0	3	0	0 100

Membership Committee

Thursday, April 2nd we will be hosting an "Open House." On Thursday, April 16th we will be hosting a 1st Degree Initiation and on Sunday April 26th we will be hosting a 2nd & 3rd Degree Initiation. From start to finish ... from getting new members to helping at the various initiations, your assistance will be needed. We need EVERYONE'S participation to continue to make this a strong and growing council.

2009 - 2010 Election of Officers

This is the slate of officers as nominated by the Election Committee. All other officers not listed are appointed by the Supreme Knight or Grand Knight. We will hold elections for office during the regular business meeting in May. All those interested in running for office should attend this meeting; additional nominations will be accepted from the floor. All persons nominated from the floor must be present to accept the nomination.

Grand Knight	Garret A Kelenske
Deputy Grand Knight	Wayne J. LaPointe
Chancellor	Michael "Mickey" Lewis
Treasurer	Roger Routt
Recorder	Gregg Andersen
Warden	Brian Cirner
Advocate	Michael L. Lewis
Inside Guard	Jason Andree
Outside Guard	Scott Houghtaling
1st Year Trustee	John Gappa
2nd Year Trustee	JF Harris
3rd Year Trustee	Fred A. Groendyk

"Jesus said to her, "Stop holding on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

John 20:17



***KNIGHT OF
 THE MONTH***

April Wayne LaPointe

Our Knight of the Month is Wayne LaPointe. Wayne has been a Knight for several years. After a time of inactivity, Wayne reinstated as a Knight and joined the newly formed Holy Rosary Council.

Wayne is married to Irene and they have two sons and eight grand children. He has a BS degree in Education and an MA in Guidance Counseling from Central Michigan. He also has an Education Specialist degree from Michigan State University. Wayne spent most of his career in education where he has been a guidance counselor, teacher, principal and school superintendent. Wayne is currently semi retired and works for Potentia, a company that works with people to re-map their brain processes to reverse the effects of aging.

Wayne and his wife are active members of Prince of Peace Parish. Wayne works on the committee to provide support for Haiti missions. He is also very active with our council where he serves as our Deputy Grand Knight and Programs Director. He has chaired the essay contest program the past three years, and works hard on the Rosary Committee.

Wayne's commitment to the Knightly virtues of Charity and Fraternity are exemplified in all he does. His involvement in the Younker's fundraiser, pancake breakfasts, free throw contest, rosary committee, and various activities to help at the churches, Gleaners Food Truck and in the various offices he has held shows he leads by example and always is willing to take time to be of service.

We are proud to name Wayne LaPointe as our Knight of the Month.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Joseph M. Tackx

RAFFLE

\$500.00 in CASH
 Or
\$500.00 in GAS



**The Winner is:
 Steven Hutchison**

**The winning Ticket was sold by
 Jason Andree'**



***FAMILY OF
 THE MONTH***

April Michael and Kathy Lewis

This month we honor Mike and Kathy Lewis, as the family of the month. They are both retired teachers from the Muskegon Public Schools. They have two married sons and three grandchildren. Mike and Kathy are members of St. Jean's Parish, where they are very active.

They have coordinated the Sacristans, Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers and annual parish chicken dinner. They have been involved with the St. Jean's CCD Program, the MCC Board of Education and as presenters in Marriage Encounter. Both sons graduated from Muskegon Catholic Schools and their grandson, Kayden, is attending Catholic school as well.

Mike and Kathy are very proud of their son, Mickey, who is active in our council. He does a great job serving as our Worthy Chancellor. Mickey and his wife, Jennifer, recently gave birth to a beautiful baby boy.

Mike chairs our Rosary Committee and the "Living Rosary." He has also headed up our pancake breakfasts, our golf outing for the summer picnic and the council Free Throw Contest. Mike is an active 4th Degree Knight. Mike has also agreed to become the District Warden. This position will give him the training to become the next District Deputy.

For all of these reasons, we have chosen the family of Mike and Kathy Lewis as our council's Family of the Month.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Joseph M. Tackx



***NEWS FROM
 THE 4th DEGREE***



The Knights of Columbus 4th Degree, Fr. Hennepin Province, Michigan District # 2, 57th Exemplification will be April 17th & 18th in Burton, Michigan.

We are very proud to announce that **Fr. Tom Simmons of St. Francis de Sales Parish and our very own Fr. Tom Brown of Sacred Heart and St. Michael the Archangel Parishes became Worthy Sir Knights** in a 4th Degree Exemplification on Thursday March 24th.

Please take a moment to offer them your congratulations on achieving the rank and titles of Worthy Sir Knights of the 4th Degree.

*The Bishop Frederic Baraga Assembly #474
 More than 50 Years of Serving God and Country
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Right to Life Issues

The Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) would eliminate every restriction on abortion nationwide.

President Obama has already signed legislation to provide funding for abortions overseas, he has repealed the ban on Federal spending for Embryonic Stem Cell research and he has stated that when the FOCA legislation reaches his desk HE WILL SIGN it into law.

FOCA will authorize taxpayer-funded abortions. FOCA will force Catholic hospitals and healthcare facilities to perform abortions. FOCA will force Doctors and Nurses who morally object to abortions to participate in the abortion procedure or be fired.

FOCA will remove states rights to individually tailor restrictions as to how and when abortions may be performed as per the will of the voters of that state. It dangerously erodes not only states rights but also the rights of free men and women to practice their religious beliefs without government restrictions.

Our council will be assisting Right to Life of Muskegon County in collecting petition signatures after Mass on Divine Mercy Sunday in April. We will be in all parishes and for all Masses. When the Round Table Coordinator contacts you asking for you to help in your parish, please make yourself available.

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

Essay Contest

This year's essay contest is complete, the winners have been chosen and the essays have been submitted for the next level of competition. Our Essay Committee had their jobs cut out for them this year. The theme for this year's contest is "Who I look up to and why." The participants provided thought provoking, intelligent and inspiring papers for the committee to sort through. We would like to thank all the students who submitted essays and the committee members for all their efforts.

We are proud to announce this year's winners:

Level I:

Morgan Rudholm and Trevor Boukamp

Honorable mention: TeAnna Friday, John Daniel and Audrey DeVries

Level II:

Lydia Hansen and Michael Trier

Honorable mention: Steve Mitchell Jr., Amy Alexander and Jessica Sessleman

The winners will receive a \$50.00 gift card and award certificate.

The Catholic Church Under Attack

On Tuesday, March 10th, something extraordinary happened that everyone should know about. Legislators in Connecticut (the Constitution State) declared war on the First Amendment and the Catholic Church. The First Amendment couldn't be clearer in its guarantees. It states: "**Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof**" ... That protection was extended to every citizen of the United States, in every state, with the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment in 1868.

Written and then rushed before committee, **Bill No. 1098 exclusively targeted the Catholic Church.** Sponsored by **State Representative Michael Lawlor and State Senator Andrew McDonald (both are proponents of the Connecticut civil union statutes for gay couples and a gay marriage bill)**, this bill would have stripped bishops and priests of their ability to administer dioceses and parishes. This bill would have wrested authority over Church affairs from pastors, bishops and dioceses and instead turn over control to a series of elected boards, explicitly excluding the bishops and pastors from voting. Some denominations prefer such a set up, **but the point is that every denomination must remain free to choose.**

For this reason, it is precisely the free exercise of religion that is at stake in this bill. Though this attack is surprising, it was not unprecedented. Many states, including Connecticut, once had anti-Catholic laws. In Connecticut, Catholics were legally forbidden from holding public office, or owning land into the 19th century. In fact, it took Connecticut nearly 30 years after ratification of the U.S. Constitution to grant something resembling First Amendment religious freedom to Catholics.

There has never been any doubt that government-mandated trusteeism was simply a tool to impose severe, unconstitutional limits on the Catholic Church. **THIS BILL WAS MEANT TO PUNISH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH FOR IT'S MORAL STANCES AND IT'S STANCE AGAINST GAY MARRIAGE.**

It has been more than 150 years since a state attempted such legislation, and for good reason. In 1855, in the state of New York, the Know-Nothings passed the Putnam Bill in that state's legislature. This bill forced trusteeism on the Catholic Church, and created serious legal problems for its administration. It also presented the same proposition as the current bill: priests and bishops should focus only on matters of faith. The Putnam Bill was repealed in 1863.

But **Bill No. 1098** would have turned the clock back more than 150 years, returning us to the darkest period for

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religious freedom in our country’s history – a time marked by bigotry and intolerance.

As New York’s Bishop Hughes said in 1842: **“Every religious denomination in this country ... has a right to regulate, according to its own rules, the questions of ecclesiastical discipline pertaining to its Government. Deny this right, and you destroy religious liberty.”**

If a state can brush aside the First Amendment and tell one church how it must be organized and operated today, it can easily do the same to any other religion tomorrow.

It is unfortunate that many good and well-meaning people stand silent for fear of being called "intolerant", or even worse, for some misguided reason they feel morally superior for not taking a side in this issue.

"All that is required for evil to prevail is for good men to do nothing" -E. Burke.

The Catholic Church dodged a bullet that day. If it were not for those who still believe in standing up for what is right, those who still believe in the Freedom of Religion and those who raised their voice loud enough that they had to remove the Bill, I fear to say what might have happened.

Never be afraid to take a stand against evil, never be afraid to celebrate your faith and **NEVER BE HESITANT TO SPEAK OUT FOR YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH!!**

***PICTURES FROM
OUR PROJECTS***



Sue Oakes, principal of Wesley School, accepts a check for a donation to the school.



Students of MCC Elementary show off their rosaries



(Above and Left) MCC Elementary students pray during the “Living Rosary” program



(Below) John and Shirley Stoner stand next to Kathy and Mike Lewis after the “Living Rosary” program at MCC Elementary School.



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