THE COMPASS

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CHAPLAIN'S LOG -

Indulgences

- Fr. Tony Gargotta

In recent months, many people have asked me about indulgences. Being a Knight, we should be ready to explain this misconception of our Faith at a given moment, so as to foster more understanding and not allow the attacks that come to us from other denominations as well as misunderstanding Catholics about indulgences. If one truly understands the concept or the meaning, the attacks and misunderstandings that divide us would be lessened, and Catholics would appreciate this awesome gift much more. Let's begin with the actual definition in Catholic understanding: An indulgence is a remission of temporal punishment due to sin, the guilt of which has been forgiven.

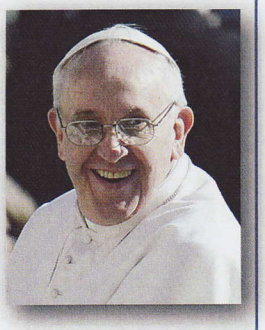
With that in mind, let us look at Matthew 16:18-19: "And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

When Jesus gives Peter the 'Keys of the Kingdom', of course it was symbolic, there were not set of material keys. But if you were Peter, one of the apostles or any of the disciples there when Jesus said this, being good Jews who would know their history and the Old Testament Scriptures, they would have immediately saw that Jesus was referring to Isaiah speaking of Eliakim. In Isaiah 22:22 we read: "I will place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; what he opens, no one will shut, what he shuts, no one will open."
Eliakim was a prime minister in the Kingdom. In the days of the Old Testament, there were many ministers who carried out the work of the kingdom, but there was one prime minister among them who over saw them and often made decisions in the kingdom, in place of the king. He stood in place of the king and what he said was binding. When Jesus gives Peter the keys, he is doing the same thing. The Apostles are congruent to the ministers and Peter congruent to the Prime Minister. Therefore, Jesus is saying, what you decide on earth for the Church will be honored in Heaven for the Kingdom. This is very important when we consider the ongoing roles of the Pope (the office of Peter as Prime Minister) and the bishops (the other ministers).

Now we can focus on Indulgences. We know that although there is forgiveness of sins through confession, some sins require 'a purification.' This is what Purgatory is. The time allotted by God for us to purify what we did not perfect on earth. If Jesus said to Peter, "Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven," then Jesus is giving Peter the authority to make decisions on earth that will be honored in Heaven. Therefore, Peter or the Pope has the authority to set certain conditions to shorten or remove our purification (temporal punishment) in Purgatory.

Indulgences are a most beautiful gift that we have from the Church. We all must admit, that in history there was a misunderstandings and abuse of indulgences, but that was corrected relatively quickly. Just because these decisions are real and true, does not mean that the humans handling them are not themselves sinful.

What we do know is this: The office of the Pope holds the Keys entrusted to Peter; Purgatory is a place for us to purify ourselves for Heaven; and God has allowed our Church to substitute practices on earth to shorten the time in Purgatory. Therefore, use these treasured gifts on your own path to holiness and eternity in Heaven, and defend this beautiful practice to Misunderstanding Catholics, and our other Christian brothers and sisters, so they truly can not only understand indulges, but also understand the true role of the Pope.



https://www.facebook.com/PiusXIIKnights

SEPTEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day	3 Pittsburgh Chapter Mtg Holy Ghost Council # 10812 Duquesne University-7PM	4	5 Bishop's Project Kick-Off St. Joseph's, Verona	6	7 7:15 AM Men's Prayer Group St. Bernadette Church Penny Drive @ St. Jude
8 Penny Drive @ St. Jude	9 Council Regular Meeting Garden City VFD - 8PM	10	11	12	13	14 7:15 AM Men's Prayer Group St. Bernadette Church Penny Drive @ St. Michael/NAM **Men's Retreat @ At. Paul's**
15 **Men's Retreat @ At. Paul's** Penny Drive @ St. Michael/NAM	16	17	18	19	20	21 PENNY DRIVE @ ST. B **CMF "Year of Faith" Retreat**
22 PENNY DRIVE @ St. B	23 Council Regular Meeting Garden City VFD - 8PM	24	25	26	27	28 7:15 AM Men's Prayer Group St. Bernadette Church Penny Drive @ St. Coleman
29 Penny Drive @ St. Coleman	30					

OCTOBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Pittsburgh Chapter Mtg	2	3	4	5 7:15 AM Men's Prayer Group St. Bernadette Church
6	7 Council Regular Meeting Garden City VFD - 8PM	8	9	10	11	12 7:15 AM Men's Prayer Group St. Bernadette Church
13 Columbus Day Dinner	14 Columbus Day	15	16	17	18	19 7:15 AM Men's Prayer Group St. Bernadette Church
20	21 Council Regular Meeting Garden City VFD - 8PM	22	23	24	25	26 7:15 AM Men's Prayer Group St. Bernadette Church
27	28	29	30	31		

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Facts about life insurance - Ed Trizzino, Agent

September is Life Insurance Awareness Month. To help educate consumers about the need for and value of adequate life insurance protection, the Life Insurance Market Research Association (LIMRA) has published the following five facts. These statistics are certainly worth considering.

Fact 1: Nearly 75 percent of North Americans agree that life insurance is the best way to protect against premature death of the primary wage earner.

Fact 2: Twenty-four million households have no life insurance protection at all. Almost one third of adults have no life insurance protection.

Fact 3: Forty-four percent of all households either don't own life insurance and believe they should, or own life insurance and believe they need more. Among those that already own some life insurance, 40 percent believe they don't have enough.

Fact 4: One-fourth of primary wage earners feel they do not have a plan in place to provide a decent standard of living for their family if they died tomorrow. Twelve percent of families would immediately have trouble meeting everyday living expenses and another 15 percent would have difficulty keeping up after several months.

Fact 5: People would like to discuss life insurance with a qualified professional agent. They believe that buying life insurance is an important and complex financial decision. Half find it difficult to decide how much to buy, and 43 percent worry about making the wrong decision.

I'd like to meet with you in your home, at your convenience. I'll work with you to make sure your family is protected. As a brother Knight you can trust, I'll take the stress and worry out of the buying decision. Call me – let's talk.

Contact Agent, Ed Trizzino and receive a free financial newsletter, the Financial Beacon, by providing your eMail.
edward.trizzino@kofc.org
or call 724.799.3750

Annual Picnic: Full of Smiles!

MEN'S RETREAT

This years men's retreat at St. Paul's is earlier than it has been. Hopefully that will make it more popular. The early fall weather and colors, from the South Side slopes are breathtaking. This years theme is **"Walking with Jesus, Empowerment by the Spirit"** The dates are September 13 to 15. If you have questions or comments please contact: Joe Burke at 412.736.3673 or by email jpburkeiii@verizon.net or Clay Bossart at 412.372.6672 or by email claybossart@gmail.com.

CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP PITTSBURGH

CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP (CMF) AT ST. BERNADETTE

A great time to pray, share and grow with other men. A time to become more of the Godly man you were created to be. All men are invited to join men for an hour of prayer and fellowship. This time will not only help you to grow in holiness, but will also help you aid your family to continue to grow in holiness. The first meeting will be September 7, at 7:15AM in Beidenbach Hall. The meeting will only be 1 hour. Come pray and grow with us.

CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP 8th ANNUAL "YEAR OF FAITH" RETREAT—SEPTEMBER 20 & 21

Speakers – Bob Rice, Fr. Joe Freedy, Fr. Jonathan Wisneski, and Fr. Killian Loch, O.S.B. For information please contact Santos Hernandez at (412) 427-2302 or their website at www.cmfgbg.org

https://www.facebook.com/PiusXIIKnights

Share the Knights - Invite MEN to Join

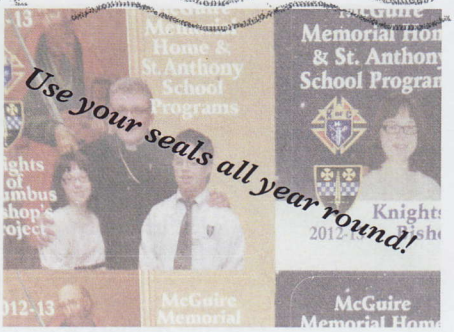
Invite MEN to join the Knights! Always have a form 100 with you (in your car) and talk about the Knights...

Locally: Bishops project. Support community with food for the needy. Support member parishes' needs!

Internationally: We Brother Knights are ready to stand side by side to protect Mother Church!

Individual Magnets
$4.00 each
5 to 49: $3.00 each
50 to 99: $2.50 each
100 or more: $2.00 each

http://www.kcnativitysets.com/council4925/



Don't forget to sign up for the penny drive!!

September 7-8 - St. Jude's (very easy only 3 masses)- same day as St. Bernadette's parish picnic
September 14-15 - NAM/St. Michael's
September 21-22 - St. Colman
September 28-29 - St. Bernadette

Contact Matt Valentine, Chair, to sign up:
mjvalentine8@comcast.net (412) 600-4414

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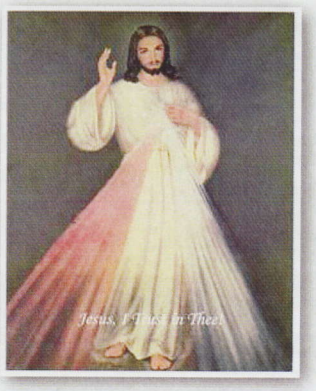
Thanks for making the Tootsie Roll Drive a SUCCESS! WELL DONE!

Prayers for our sick, and deceased,(+)

Len Damratowski
Fr. Chuck Baptiste
Emma Klein
Ray Ankenbrandt
Fr. Michael Deciewicz
Sara Cran
Tom Hajdukiewicz
Jaxon Hajdukiewicz
Beatty Ringer
Alicia Marney
Debbie Meziutch
Tom Cook
Amie Angelas
Lori Sepp
Angelo Labertto
Chris Schnelbach
Sister Kamella Marny
John Marny
Bob Gartz

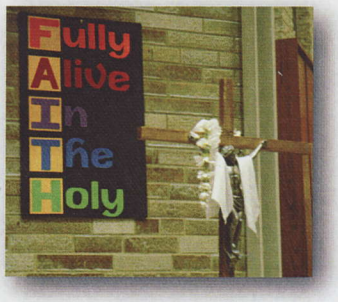
The Unborn, and for Vocations!

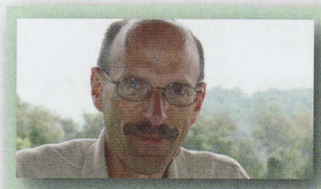


The upcoming **Year of Faith** is a "summons to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord, the One Savior of the world" (Porta Fidei 6). In other words, the Year of Faith is an opportunity for Catholics to experience a conversion – to turn back to Jesus and enter into a deeper relationship with him. The "door of faith" is opened at one's baptism, but during this year Catholics are called to open it again, walk through it and rediscover and renew their relationship with Christ and his Church.

Videos On-Line:

http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/year-of-faith/videos.cfm





After a hiatus of about 8 months in which 3 candidates decided not to use Rosebud, Birthright has identified 3 other candidates. The first (Mom #15) delivered a healthy son on August 1 via C-section and has been visited twice, the second time to provide her a twin bed and dresser (and some baby items). The next two candidates have expected due dates of November and December. Initial phone contact has been made with one and a face-to-face meeting will occur in October. The third candidate will be contacted by the time this is published and if interested, will be met in September. Tom, on behalf of this program (and personal reasons) is looking for a used 5 ft X 8 ft (or so) titled trailer for under $450. If you see one or are interested in further details of Rosebud (including volunteering), please contact Tom at TomBehrmann@reagan.com (cell: 724-422-7136, 6AM 8:30PM).