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Patriotism



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PIUS XII COUNCIL 4925

The Compass

DECEMBER 2016 ISSUE

FR. GARGOTTA'S GALAXY

We live in a world where we do not truly know how to wait. We have fast food, convenience stores, fast internet, and many other things in an instant or in a very short amount of time. Advent is a time of waiting.

Waiting is so important, because waiting is preparation. Imagine if Jesus came right after Adam and Eve's sin? It would not have made sense, we would not have understood Him fully. We had to come to appreciate the savior. We had to prepare by learning about God and the Messiah, through all the events of the Old Testament. Without preparation for the Savior, we would have taken Jesus for Granted. Without the prophets, King David, Abraham, Noah and the whole Old Testament, we could have never understood His love, His saving action.

Just as Advent represents the waiting for Jesus to be born, we must do the same in order to prepare to be born into heaven. Zachariah is an example for us. First, Zachariah spent his whole married life with Elizabeth praying for a child. They were childless and that was a disgrace in those days. Yet when the angel appeared to him, he doubted that Elizabeth could be pregnant. He did not use his time of marriage and his time as high priest preparing for an answer to his prayer. He had so many years to prepare for the day God would give him a child. He did not prepare in Faith to accept this miracle. Therefore, he was left speechless for nine months until John the Baptist was born. During those nine months, he did the opposite. He used that time of waiting to prepare for the birth of this miraculous child. When John was born, Zachariah was able to speak again and first thing he did was utter a prayer of praise to God for the Old

Testament events that prepared us for this time, and he acknowledged in Faith what and who John the Baptist will be.

Zachariah is an example for us on how to use Advent, and all time to prepare to be with Jesus forever. Zachariah's preparation was nine months of reflecting in silence. During that silence, he was able to grow more deeply in understanding and in relationship with God in his heart. During this Advent, use some time reflecting on Jesus and His ultimate selfless love, and in that way, prepare your hearts to be with Him forever.

GRAND KNIGHT'S GALAXY

Dear Brothers:

I want to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas.

In the next several weeks we will be passing out Christmas Seals for the Bishop's project at all parishes in our district. Please volunteer, your help is needed.

There is still time to sign up for the Advent (Christmas) Party being held at Pugliano's Restaurant on Saturday, December 3 beginning at 6:00 pm. I have until 4 p.m. Friday, December 2nd to give a final count.

On Tuesday, December 13th we will be at Biedenbach Hall at 6:30 until? to hang all of our awards, pictures etc. Please come and help. Refreshments will be served.

On Sunday, December 18th, Brother Adam Johnston was asked to prepare breakfast for the St. Bernadette “Volunteer Appreciation” event. He needs our help. Please contact Adam so he can get you on the schedule.

We will be preparing our “Gift Baskets” on December 14, 15, and 16th with delivery on the 17th. PLEASE DO NOT FORGET. For times, contact Bob Condrac.

Meeting schedules for Dec. and Jan. are as follows:
There will be only 1 meeting in December, it is December 5th (regular mtg.) at 7:30 p.m.
January 2nd regular mtg. at 7:30 p.m.
January 9th Officer’s mtg. at 7:00 p.m.
January 16th regular mtg. at 7:30 p.m.
PLEASE ATTEND MEETINGS, YOU INPUT IS VERY IMPORTANT!!

May God bless you with peace and happiness.

Vivat Jesus

Pete

TREASURER’S GALAXY

Our treasurer, Bro. Paul Fabrizio will present the following report at the Dec. 5, 2016 meeting: \$11,226.67 prior bank balance, \$12,883.89 income, \$3,128.03 expenses, \$20,982.53 balance, \$7,392.96 committed funds, \$13,589.57 funds available.

The Bishop’s Project fund stands at \$2,708.47 – with \$2,950.41 income from the Penny Drives added to our prior balance of \$258.06 minus a \$500 donation made to the project that was approved at the last meeting.

Over the past two month, the Council has made donations to: Christmas baskets - \$1,000; Tyler Zeik Eagle Scout Project - \$200; Booklets for churches - \$389.75; Gr. Pgh. Food Bank - \$25; Catholic League - \$100; and Guest House - \$100. This makes our total for the 2016-17 fiscal year \$4,320.75. This total does not reflect any

Bishop Project funds.

PENNY DRIVES

The Council has completed the Penny Drives for this year. A special Knights thank you to Bro. Matt Valentine who chaired the collections. Also, many thanks to the following brothers who took the time and effort to collect donations at the various churches: Jim Marshall, Ed McDermott, Mark DeFabio, Clay Bossart, Tim Jacob, Bill Syrek, Ron Morra, Pete Bobich, Dom DiNinno, Bernie Alfer, Matt Valentine, Keith Brown, Joe Burke III, Pete Walker, John Yakim, Joe Balcik, Brian Zeik, John Prazenica, Paul Fabrizio, Rollo Vecchio, Kurt Kmetz, Bill White, Lou Vecchio, Cory Bulger, and John Webster. Some of these brothers did double, triple and quadruple duty. You know who you are and a very heartfelt thank you is extended to you.

BISHOP’S PROJECT – AMAZON SMILE

The Bishop’s Project serves intellectually disabled and/or physically challenged youth and adults in Saint Anthony Schools and McGuire Memorial Home and Schools. If you shop at Amazon, please consider using the following to help, especially during this busy on-line shopping season. Here is how you can help. Go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-6049524> Log into your Amazon account. When you see this page, type in “Knights of Columbus” in the search bar at the bottom right. Select the “Knights of Columbus Bishop of Pittsburgh Diocese Project.” Check the box and start shopping! So, whenever you shop for anything on Amazon, be sure to go to smile.amazon.com so that a portion of your purchase (.5%) will go to the Knights of Columbus Bishop’s Project.

FUTURE FOURTH DEGREE SCHEDULED

A 4th degree ceremony has been scheduled for June 4, 2017 (time and location to be determined). While this is a long time from now, we encourage all of our 3rd degree brothers to consider receiving the 4th degree of Patriotism. Put this date on your calendar.



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This logo is meant to remind us to mail our member donations NOW!

KNIGHT AT THE RACES

Pius XII Council 4925 has set the date for our inaugural Knight at the Races event. It will be on Friday, January 27, 2016 at St. Bernadette's Lourdes Center. There will be a \$10 a person admission fee which will include food, beer and mixers. The food will be: hot & sweet sausage in peppers & onions; meatball hoagies; green bean casserole; macaroni salad; and desserts. There will also be snacks at each table. You may bring your own bottle, if you prefer. Horses will be sold for \$10 each and we need to sell 100 horses. Program ads are being sold for \$100 for full page, \$50 for a ½ page and \$25 for ¼ page. We will also need about 19 volunteers to help with the event to make things run as smoothly as possible.

Bro. Tim Jacob is the chairman of this event. He can be reached at 412-387-2680 or tjacob@stbrnadet.org Please mark your calendars for this event that will help us to raise funds for our various charities. The event is only 58 days away as I type this letter. It is not too early to begin selling those ads and horses as well as asking people to attend.

FOOTBALL SWEEPS

Thanks to the efforts of our chairman, Bro. Kurt Kmetz the Council was able to sell 175 football sweeps tickets. The profit to the Council will be \$1 for the 1st 100 tickets and \$5 for the next 75 tickets. This garnered us a profit of \$475 to help with our various charities. A big Knights thank you is extended to all those brothers who sold or bought tickets and to Br. Kmetz for his fine efforts.

ADVENT PARTY

According to Fr. Tony and the calendar, Christmas starts on Dec. 25th. Thus, anything held before that can-not be a Christmas Party, but, rather, an Advent Party. The Grand Knight's section above provides all the details you need to know regarding this year's party. Please make you reservation with Bro. Bobich by 4:00 pm on Dec. 2, 2016. We look forward to seeing many brothers and significant others at the party. It is always a fine time with very good food and great fellowship.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Bro. Robert Condrac is once again the chairman for our Annual Christmas Basket effort. The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, December 13, 2016 – food items stored at St. B's moved to St. Michael's
Wednesday, December 14, 2016 – 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm – boxes assembled and numbered
Thursday, December 15, 2016 – 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm – canned goods packed
Friday, December 16, 2016 – 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm – bread and produce packed
Saturday, December 17, 2016 – 7:00 am – Noon – turkeys and chickens packed and boxes delivered. Drivers are needed to deliver the goods.

Please consider donating a few hours of your time to make the event a success. The more hands who pitch in, the easier it is or all.

COAL RAFFLE

Our chairman, Brother Jason Jeung, has collected all of the ticket stubs that will be forwarded to the State Office for the raffle on December 8, 2016. We stand to make a profit of around \$400 from the ticket sales. A special Knights thank you to Br. Jeung for his fine efforts.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Effective September 1, 2016 the Knights of Columbus has renamed the degree process from 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th to Admission, Formation, Knighthood and Patriotic.

The 50/50 raffle winner at the Nov. 21, 2016 meeting was Bro. Bill Syrek. He took home a tidy total of \$50.

SICK LIST: Sally Hovan, Jeff Otte, Lois Lewis, Ari Valerezzo, Fr. Mike Decewicz, Sean Prosser, Chuck Tabone, Ray Sasselli, Pat Bols, Marty Kelly, Jim Boehm, Scott Lamb, Carol DiBiase, Ray Jones, Fr. Naos McCool, Ray Ankenbrandt, Stephanie Fabrizio, P.J. Bobich, Tom Hajdukiewicz, William Syrek, Lydia Corrado, Skylar Scott, Henry Stough, Trish



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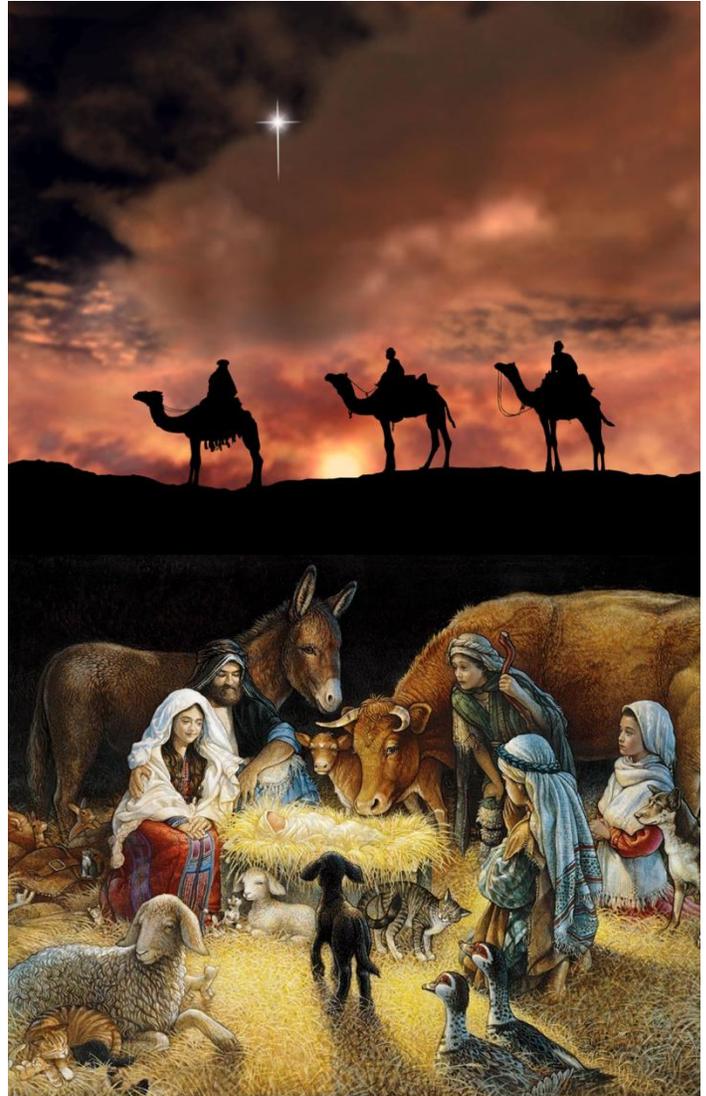
Stevens, Ed McDermott, Sr., Dave Herd, and Gene Buccelli.

DECEASED: Guy Caranfa, Walt Jancewski, Jacob Lorerfito, Ruth Curl, Pat Boccardi, Mark Wojton, Marie Wiehagen, Mary Papso, Angelo Liberto, Germaine Benkart, Len O’Connell, Dan O’Connell, Msgr. Paul Panza, John Gizzi, Kathleen Valentine, Florence Zemba, Paul Zemba, Harold Becker, Rege Reinersmann, Ray Wengrzyn and August Damian.

Well, that’s it for this month, brothers. I hope you enjoy reading the letter and that you will come to our meetings as well as participating in doing Christ’s work. Do not forget the Advent Party on Dec. 3, 2016 at Pugliano’s on Rt. 286. As Fr. Tony would have us say, “Christ has no hands or feet on earth, but mine!”

A very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year to all brothers and their families!

Vivat, Jesus – Paul



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