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Patriotism



Unity



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PIUS XII COUNCIL 4925

The Compass

MARCH 2016 ISSUE

FR. GARGOTTA'S GALAXY

A mother camel and her baby are talking one day and the baby camel asks, "Mom why have we got these huge three-toed feet?" The mother replies, "To enable us trek across the soft sand of the desert without sinking." "And why have we got these long, heavy eyelashes?" "To keep the sand out of our eyes on the trips through the desert" replies the mother camel. "And Mom, why have we got these big humps on our backs?" The mother, now a little impatient with the boy replies, "They are there to help us store fat for our long treks across the desert, so we can go without water for long periods." "OK, I get it!" says the baby camel, "We have huge feet to stop us sinking, long eyelashes to keep the sand from our eyes and humps to store water. Then, Mom, why the heck are we here in the Toronto zoo?" Modern life sometimes makes one feel like a camel in a zoo. And like camels in a zoo we need sometimes to go into the desert in order to discover who we truly are. Lent invites us to enter into this kind of desert experience.

The desert was the birthplace of the people of God of the first covenant. The Hebrew people who God led from Egypt spent 40 years in the desert or wilderness until they arrived the Promised Land as one nation under God. It was in the desert that they become a people of God by covenant. In the course of their history, when their love and faithfulness to God grew cold, the prophets would suggest their return to the desert to rediscover their identity, their vocation and their mission as a way of reawakening their faith and strengthening their covenant relationship with God. The great prophets Elijah and John the Baptist were people of the desert: they lived in the desert, ate desert food and adopted a simple desert lifestyle. The desert is the university where God teaches His people.

Jesus was in the desert / wilderness for 40 days, tempted by Satan. Where else but the desert could you have such a meaningful encounter of the Holy Spirit as well as Satan,

of the wild beasts as well as the holy angels? The desert was the school where Jesus came to distinguish between the voice of God, which he should follow, and the voice of Satan which is temptation. How many voices do we hear from the moment we get up in the morning till the moment we go to sleep at night? The countless voices in the daily paper, the soliciting voices on the radio and the television, the voices of those who live and work with us, not forgetting our own unceasing inner voices. We need the desert so we are able to leave most of these voices behind so that we are able to focus on distinguishing between the guiding voice of God and the tempting voice of Satan.

In the desert we come to know ourselves, our strengths and weaknesses, and our divine calling. In the desert Jesus encountered beasts and angels. There are wild beasts and angels in every one of us. In the silence and recollection of the desert we come to terms with ourselves as we really are, we meet the beasts and are reconciled with the angels in our lives. Lent is the time for the desert experience. We cannot all afford to buy a camel and head off for the desert. But we can all create a desert space in our overcrowded lives. We can set aside a place and time to be alone daily with God, a time to distance ourselves from the many noises and voices that bombard our lives every day, a time to hear God's word, a time to rediscover who we are before God, a time to say yes to God and no to Satan as Jesus did. If you have not, use the rest of Lent as the desert you are longing so that Easter is a glorious reflection of the Hebrews entering the Promised Land.

GRAND KNIGHT'S GALAXY

Dear Brothers,

Spring is almost here and Easter is right around the corner. I hope all is well with you.

We will not be hosting "Fellowship Sunday" as mentioned. It will be re-scheduled in the fall. We have several activities in March. On Saturday March 19, 2016, beginning at 9 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., we will be volunteering at the Light of Life Mission on the North Side. We will meet at St. Bernadette in the lower parking lot by the Lourdes Center at 8:15 am. I urge all who can, PLEASE participate! I cannot think of a better time than during Lent to do this charitable work.

On Monday, March 21st, we will have the installation of Officers. We will attend the 7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Bernadette. Following Mass, we will be installed in church by Fr. Tony. Brother Joe Gurski will do the installation. All Knights are encouraged and invited to attend. Do not eat dinner as pizza, wings and tossed salad will be served.

On April 17th, we will be preparing and serving the dinner in celebration of St. Bernadette's Feast Day. Dinner will be served at 3:00 p.m. in the Lourdes Center. Keep this date open, we will need many, many hands. More details to follow.

Meeting Dates;

Monday, March 7 7:30 p.m.
Monday, March 14 7:00 p.m. Officers
Monday, March 21 Installation of Officers 7:00
Mass St. Bernadette

I want to wish you and your loved ones a very Blessed Easter!

Vivat Jesus
Pete

TREASURER'S GALAXY

The report that will be given at the Mar. 7, 2016 meeting by Brother Marshall will indicate the following: \$10,288.83 bank balance, \$5,345.89 committed funds, \$4,942.94 funds available.

During the 2015-16 Bishop's Project campaign, Council 4925 raised \$1,523.70 at four Tootsie Roll Drives, \$3,815.38 at five Penny Drives, and \$341

in donations from members. There was a total of \$5680.08 raised this past year. The funds have been forwarded to the Bishop's Project.

So far in the 2015-16 fiscal year, Council 4925 has donated \$8,669.80 to various charities and individuals that are not part of the Bishop's Project.

BISHOP PROJECT TEE SHIRTS

There is now an official Bishop's Project tee Shirt that can be worn when doing the Grocery Store and Penny drive collections. Brother Clay Bossart bought one and wore it at the Penny Drive at St. B's and he says it had a positive response. In fact, he felt it increased the collection total for that mass. If you would like to order one, please go to <http://www.cafepress.com/Bishop's> Project Tee Shirt The cost is \$23 for the shirt and \$6.49 for shipping.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

If you have a child or grandchild who will be entering college in 2016, please consider applying for the Knights of Columbus Scholarship. An application can be found at <http://www.pakofc.us/images/Docs/programs/2016scholapp/pdf>

FUTURE DEGREE SESSIONS

There will be a 4th degree session held at St. Paul's Cathedral in Oakland on Sunday, June 5, 2016. Further details will be in a future Compass issue.

INSURANCE INFORMATION

Brother Knight,

Please welcome Fred Kernisky as the new Field Agent that will be serving your council. Fred recently left the U.S. Navy and joined our team as an agent. Fred is a Penn State graduate who grew up in Port Vue. You will be seeing Fred at your council events and he will be contacting you to meet with you and your family.



BISHOP'S PROJECT
Knights of Columbus Bishop of Pittsburgh Diocese Project - Pittsburgh, PA
Serving intellectually disabled and/or physically challenged youth and adults in the Saint Anthony Schools and McGuire Memorial Homes and School.

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

Fred's Phone: 412-773-1397
Fred's Email: Fred.Kernisky@KofC.org

Fred joins the Field Agent ranks knowing:

The Knights of Columbus is not just an insurance company. It's a brotherhood, and so we do things differently. If we were just another insurance company, you'd be nothing more than customers or potential customers who only add value based on the products you purchase. But you're not. You are brothers, and so are we. After all, Father McGivney founded the Knights 132 years ago so that we could help each other that's what insurance for brother Knights by brother Knights is all about. So we offer you products and services that are rare in our industry because we care deeply about you and your families, and your well being.

Fraternally Yours,
Ken Scott

Ken Scott, FIC, FICF

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GOOD AND WELFARE

Please pray for our seminarians Alex Schrenk and Steve Casmus as they continue on their journey to the priesthood.

SICK LIST: Ray Sasselli, Dr. Phil Buzzelli, Ray Ankenbrandt, Dom DiNinno, Fr. Mike Deciewicz, Fr. Naos McCool, Deacon Mike Kelly, Marty Kelly, PJ Bobich, Parris Westbrook, Peggy Westbrook, and Stephanie Fabrizio

DECEASED: Fr. Tom Smith, Fr. John Vojtek, Leon Panella, Ruth Curl, Rosemary Mellick, Thomas Balestriere and James Matthews.

That's it for now brothers. If you have any information you would like to share with the brotherhood, please send it to me at the address in the header.

Vivat Jesus, Paul

A PRAYER FOR YOU

Father, thank you for each and every day you have blessed us here on Earth. Thank you for your tender mercies.

Thank you for giving us friends and family with which to share joys and sorrows. I ask you to bless my friends, relatives, brothers and sisters in Christ and those I care for deeply, who are reading this right now. Where there is joy, give them continued joy. Where there is pain or sorrow, give them your peace and mercy.

Where there is self-doubt, release a renewed confidence.

Where there is need, fulfill their needs. Bless their homes, families, finances, their goings and their comings.

In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Brothers, I received the above prayer from a fraternity brother of mine and I thought you would find it meaningful. If you have any information to share with the brotherhood, please send it to me at the address in the header.

That's it for now brothers. Happy Easter to all!



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