

THE FATHER PEREZ SMILE

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DATED MATERIAL



PEREZ SMILE



A Publication of Father Perez Knights of Columbus Council #1444

No. 14

May/June 2019

Volume 110

Grand Knight's Message ~

Brothers,

Please give a Father Perez welcome and a vote of thanks to Dan Conwell for accepting the position of publisher of The Smile. Dan takes the reins from Worthy Deputy Grand Knight and new father Nate Smith who will likely be elected to serve the Council as Grand Knight for the next two fraternal years. Thanks for your years of service as editor, Nate.

In other breaking news, Brother Knight Brian Larkin has agreed to chair the Council's Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities, of which the Tootsie Roll Drive is the most significant aspect. He succeeds Sir Knight Kevin O'Ryan, who rejuvenated the Council's campaign which topped the \$50,000 mark under his leadership. O'Ryan has munificently agreed to mentor Larkin through the process.

Due to the efforts of many of our Brother Knights, forty-six Catholic gentlemen joined the Council during the 2018-2019 fraternal year via the Admission Degree (formerly known as the First Degree); eighteen advanced through the Formation Degree (formerly known as the Second Degree) and the Knighthood Degree (formerly known as the Third Degree), and fourteen progressed to the Fourth Degree. Kudos to Worthy Chancellor and Membership Chairman Matt Stevens for these accomplishments.

For our newest members, I would like to explain the relationship between the Council and the Clubhouse. Each is a separate entity. That is to say that the Council and the Clubhouse are legally separate units enjoying separate EIN numbers for

tax purposes. The Council is led by annually elected Council officers. The Clubhouse has a separate set of officers, although there are some Brother Knights who are officers in both. Each Council member is entitled to vote on Council affairs and is also a stockholder in the Clubhouse and is entitled to attend Clubhouse officers' meetings, and, during the annual meeting, receive the annual report and vote for officers. The Clubhouse generously supports the activities of the Council by contributing financially to the Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities, the wheelchair fund, and other activities and by providing \$1,000 annually to back the scholarship program. The Clubhouse and the Council manage their own income and expenses through their own bank accounts and submit separate reports to the IRS. Those Brother Knights instrumental in the opening of the Clubhouse made it abundantly clear that the finances of the Clubhouse and the Council remain distinct and detached. The Clubhouse and Council have a symbiotic relationship to the benefit of all. Access to the Clubhouse and to all it offers is certainly an enormous benefit of being a member of Father Perez.

Brothers who have children matriculating to Catholic high schools from eighth grade this fall are encouraged to have them take the scholarship exam on Saturday, May 11th at the Clubhouse. Doors open at 8:15 AM and no one will be admitted after 9:00 AM the start of the exam. Sean McLaughlin will proctor the exam while Karen Lynch will assess the exams.

Roll up your sleeves and give a pint on Saturday May 18th's blood drive at the Clubhouse kicking off at 9:00

AM. Please call Worthy Deputy Grand Knight and Blood Drive Chairman Nate Smith to schedule an appointment. The goal is to have more than 35 individuals donate.

Later that same day, Father Perez members are encouraged to participate in the Trivia Night to support the Chicago Police Department Chaplaincy.

Thanks to each one of you and the current officers for making my tenure as Grand Knight enjoyable. It has been an honor to serve as your Grand Knight and I only hope I have earned the descriptor, "Worthy."

Vivat Jesus,

Bob Szyman
Grand Knight

IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday, May 11

8th Grade Scholarship Test
8:30am - Clubhouse

Monday, May 13

Council Meeting /
Stockholder's Meeting
7pm - Clubhouse

Saturday, May 18

Blood Drive
9am-3pm - Clubhouse

Monday, June 10

Council Meeting /
Election of Officers
7pm - Clubhouse

Monday, June 17

Board of Governor's Meeting
7pm - Clubhouse

Monday, June 24

Council Meeting
7pm - Clubhouse

COUNCIL NEWS

2018-2019 INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES DRIVE —

Even after a tremendous weekend last September, donations from the Bowling League and several area restaurants continue to come in. The ID Drive leaders decided to conclude the current drive and are progressing toward making donations to local charities. The final total collected set a new record of \$55,639. Many people contributed time, effort and cash, and whether that contribution was large or small, we want to thank you for helping better the lives of so many special needs individuals in our own community.

2019-2020 INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES DRIVE —

As we start the new drive for the upcoming year, we need to remember how important our First Degree of Charity truly is to our brotherhood. This year's drive will take place September 20-22. We ask that everyone volunteer 3 hours during these days or make a donation of \$75. Sign up information will become available closer to these dates. We will also need help before the event. Anyone interested in being a corner captain or helping in anyway is asked to contact Brian Larkin at 773-343-9841 or Bill Donnelly at 773-914-2635

GLOBAL WHEELCHAIR MISSION —

Over the past year, many Split the Pot winners donated a portion of their proceeds to the "Wheelchair Fund" raising approximately \$800. Along with a \$100 donation from the Clubhouse, Council members voted to round the total to \$1,000 and make a donation to the "Global Wheelchair Mission." Thanks to significant purchasing power, Supreme is able to obtain wheelchairs at deeply discounted prices, resulting in many in need gaining independence and dignity from a new wheelchair.

2019 MEMBERSHIP DUES —

If you have not paid your \$50 annual dues, please bring to the next council meeting or send a check to:

Father Perez Council #1444
Knights of Columbus
P.O. Box 558195
Chicago, IL 60655

Thank you to all that have paid their dues — if you have not received your membership card or have any questions, please contact Ron Hrad at FrPerezFS@gmail.com or 773-445-4258.

NATIONAL WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION —

The National Wheelchair Basketball Association Championship Series was held on March 29th in New Lenox. According to Tom Marren who attended the event, "The competitiveness, skill, determination and professionalism of these athletes was an inspiration for all of us. I would encourage anyone who has the opportunity, attend a wheelchair basketball game, it will be a worthwhile and enjoyable experience". Our Grand Knight Bob Szyman was also a 2019 inductee into the NWBA College Division Hall of Fame, an award he richly deserved for his many years of service to wheelchair basketball. Congratulations Bob!

HELP NEEDED TRACKING DOWN LOST BROTHER KNIGHTS —

We are looking for a volunteer to help in the efforts to find the current addresses of Knights that have moved, but not provided updated information. Please contact FrPerezFS@gmail.com if you have relevant detective skills.

PALM SUNDAY MAJOR DEGREE —

Father Perez conducted a Major Degree on Palm Sunday, which included 1st, 2nd and 3rd degree ceremonies in the St. Christina School Hall. Ten Catholic gentlemen joined our council and received all three degrees, with another eleven brothers advancing through the achievement of their 2nd and 3rd degrees.

Our new brother knights are: Brian Cezak, Christ The King; Patrick Moriarty, Incarnation; Daniel Burns, Old St Pat's; James Connell, Queen Of Martyrs; Marty Kirkel, St Barnabas; Daniel Galeher, Marty Loughney and Sean McMullin, St Christina; and Larry Tello, St Christopher; and Mike Andretich, St. John Fisher.

Our advancing brother knights are: Tim Loughney, Michael Loughney, Craig Levins, Sean McLoughlin, John McLoughlin, Kevin Paruszkiewicz, John Siedlecki, Mike O'Connell, Mike Chausse, Robert Pavesic, and Benjamin Brockschmidt.

Chancellor and Membership Director Matt Stevens said "I would like to join Council #1444 in both welcoming our newest Brother Knights to Father Perez and congratulating our existing members who strengthened their commitment to the Father Perez Council. That said, it's not too late to

recruit a friend that you know would fit in well with our interests. Father Perez will be hosting a 1st Degree at the clubhouse sometime in the late summer or early fall, stay tuned for more."

3RD ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE —

Sign up is now open for our 3rd annual Blood Drive! This year's Blood Drive will be held Saturday, May 18th from 9am-3pm. Vitalant (formerly LifeSource) has been very impressed by our turnout the last couple of years with close to 70 pints of blood donated, so this year they will be again sending two coach buses as well as more nurses so as not to inconvenience donors with a long wait time. Blood is one thing money cannot buy, so we invite all of you to become 45-minute heroes! Just one pint of blood can save up to 3 lives and barring any major disaster all donated blood will stay local. For more information or to sign up, please call Deputy Grand Knight Nate Smith at (708) 256-5112. You may also sign up through the app or online at vitalant.org, using group code 323G.

8TH GRADE SCHOLARSHIP TEST —

The date of our annual 8th grade scholarship test will be Saturday, May 11th at the clubhouse. Doors open for registration at 8:30am, and the test will start promptly at 9am. To be eligible to take the test, the student must be the child of a member who is in good standing through 2019, they must be graduating 8th grade this year, and must be attending a Catholic high school in the fall. At least 3 \$1000 scholarships will be handed out. For further information or to register your child, please call BK Sean McLoughlin at (708) 785-1255.

FR. PEREZ AWARDS —

District Deputy Mike Marth delivered two awards to Fr. Perez on April 8th. The Father Michael McGivney Award for Membership was accepted by Chancellor and Membership Chairman Matt Stevens and Grand Knight Bob Szyman. This award recognizes excellence in your council's membership growth.

After that Past Grand Knight John Curtin and Chancellor and Membership Chairman were presented with the 2017 Contest of Champions Award. Under their leadership, the Council had a net gain of 43 members for the fraternal year. Kudos to John and Matt for this achievement!

COUNCIL NEWS

SOUTHSIDE RALLY 2019 —

Fr. Perez Knights of Columbus Council #1444, Parkwood Baptist Church, Southside Pregnancy Center, and Mt. Greenwood Community Church recently organized and participated in the annual Southside Rally for Life, Family & Faith (SRLFF). The Rally, that included a procession of parents and their children down 111th Street from the Mt. Greenwood Community Church to Kedzie Ave. to give visible witness of the importance of the biblical foundations for family, marriage and the sanctity of all human life and also provided the opportunity for SRLFF to recognize the winners of its essay contest.

SRLFF had solicited essays from several homeschoolers and neighborhood school students that addressed the topic, "why is your conscience important?" Students' submissions made clearly demonstrated that they are learning that human life is unique from all other life, that human's free will is open to good and evil and therein lies the essential role of a well-formed conscience.

The authors of the winning essays received cash prizes awards at the recent Southside Rally: Iziah Agee, Southside Baptist School 6th grade, award: \$250; James Czoski, St. Catherine of Alexandria School 7th grade, award: \$500; Kevin Kendziora, Southside Baptist School 11th grade, award: \$1,000.

In addition, Kathy Bozyk the Executive Director of the Southside Pregnancy Center, reviewed legislation currently pending in the Illinois General Assembly. She urged opposition to HB 2467 which proposes a revocation of the Parental Notification Act of intent to abort by a minor, and HB 2495 which would revoke the ban on partial birth abortion, compel participation in and referral for abortion by medical institutions and professionals without protection for rights of conscience, and exempt abortions from public policy that demands Ambulatory Surgical Treatment Centers to assure all medical procedures "are performed under circumstances that insure maximum safety."

The Southside Rally for Life, Family & Faith is a collaborative effort of the Knights of Columbus Fr. Perez Council 1444, Parkwood Baptist Church, Southside Pregnancy Center, and Mt. Greenwood Community Church. Community involvement and individual and corporate sponsorships are desired. For more information contact Joe O'Connor at freiherr@sbcglobal.net.

NEWMAN CENTERS —

Our Council will be spearheading an effort to raise funds for the Newman Centers, which are Roman Catholic Ministry centers at non-Catholic universities. Our effort will be centered around the St Christina masses and we will be looking for

volunteers to read a preprinted announcement at upcoming masses there during a weekend in the near future. Please consider volunteering for this worthy cause and look for an announcement on this in the very near future.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS —

Brother Knights, on May 4th at Mount Greenwood park, the Special Olympics will be hosting Super Saturday, a softball event for Chicagoland athletes. Father Perez is looking for volunteers to cook coach and/or umpire. Please consider spending some time at this great event that will be held right here in our backyard. We will have an email out with more details soon but mark this day on your calendar.

Other Special Olympic events on the horizon: May 2nd are the Special Olympic Opening Ceremonies at Soldier Field with the Spring games running May 6-10 at Eckersall track located at 2423 E. 82nd Street, Chicago, IL 60617. The Bowling event will take place May 18 at Arena Lanes in Oak Lawn. Finally, the summer State Games will run June 7-9 on the campus of Illinois State University. We hope to see you at event or two, your support means a lot to the athletes.

EMAIL ADDRESS UPDATES —

If you did not receive this Smile via email – we do not have your correct email address. Please send your name and email address to FrPerezFS@gmail.com.

We also communicate council events and gatherings via email, so please let us know if your email has changed.

CLUBHOUSE ACTIVITIES

STOCKHOLDER'S MEETING —

As a member of Father Perez Council 1444, you are also automatically a stockholder in the Father Perez Clubhouse Association. Our annual stockholders meeting will be held immediately after the general council meeting on Monday, May 13th. Please make sure to attend to hear the state of your clubhouse, as well as for the elections of your Board of Governors.

CLUBHOUSE HAPPENINGS —

If you have not been around the clubhouse lately, make sure to stop in and meet some of our new bartenders! Thank you to Keith B., Mike C., Chuck K., and Pat S. for stepping up as well as Pat E., Drew F., Dealer, and Marcus W. who continue to serve you. We especially want to give a BIG thank you to Denis McNamara who will be stepping down after many years of slinging drinks behind the bar. You

will be missed! Remember, this is your clubhouse, so make sure to stop in this summer as all Sox and Cubs games will be on one of our 6 TVs, with domestic beer continuing to be \$2 a bottle!

TRIVIA NIGHT —

On May 18th, Father Perez Clubhouse will be hosting a Trivia night fundraiser with proceeds being donated to the Police Chaplain Ministry. The trivia will mainly focus on music, tv, films, sports, and a wild card or two. The Police Chaplains Ministry is a great organization that counsels and ministers to the Police community and supports Gold Star Families, making sure they know the sacrifice their loved one made was not in vain. Please consider coming out for a night of fun and meet our special guest and Brother Knight Father Dan Brandt.

OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION

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Dr. Karina Langle is the wife of Brother Knight Ed Langle.

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