

Grand Knight's article, continued

manifested an anti-Catholic animus. The celebration was dimmed by realization of the antihuman character of the European domination of the native people of the Western Hemisphere. Our celebration is always tempered by a certain lamentation for the imperialistic injustices of the age. Columbus included, it is necessary to expose the clay feet of all heroes, lest they become idols.

This season's frankincense wafts into our memories for the promise of a star, the warning of a dream, the wise magi and an evil king. Alas, leading finally to the River Jordan where an incredulous profit finds conviction by the words "to fulfill all righteousness." Brother Knight, the fulfillment of righteousness is in your baptism and walk with Christ./Iturba Percefull, Grand Knight



Fourth Degree—Footnotes

The 2007 Christmas Dinner/Dance, held at the Knights of Columbus Hall on December 9, was an evening of good entertainment and good food. The success of this annual event is attributed to several people who worked hard to ensure a memorable evening. Thanks to **Joe Palmere**, Assembly Faithful Captain, who served as chairman of the event. Thanks to **Louis Kosarek** not only for ticket sales but also for his work alongside his wife **Violet** in collecting the fine door prize and items for raffling. We also recognize **Ed McManus** and **Joe Palmere** for ticket sales. I express appreciation to those who helped with setup and cleanup. These include **Vicki Stanley**, **Tony Torres**, **Louis Kosarek**, **Joe Dierks**, **Robert Rowe**, **Iturba Percefull**, **Dennis Bosch**, **Joe Palmere**, and **Bruce Crane**. We are also grateful to **Vicki Stanley** for washing the dish towels and to **Mary Jo Selig** for laundering the table cloths and napkins.

One hundred and five people were present for the prime rib dinner prepared by *Home Plate Catering Service*. Those present included **Father Erik**, **Father Hart**, **Father Linus**, **Father Chris**, **Father Burkus**, and **Deacon Joe Harrison** with his wife **Betty**.

Our next Fourth Degree Exemplification is scheduled for January 27 at our own council hall. For potential inductees, the setting will never be more convenient. Registration will begin at noon and close at 12:30. The charge will be \$10 for each candidate. Following the ceremony a light meal will be served at a cost of \$5 per person, except for candidates and degree team personnel whose meals will be provided at no cost to themselves. Each candidate should have his 2008 Third Degree membership card with him at registration.

Our next Assembly meeting will be at the K. C. Hall on January 17. We will begin at 6:30 p.m. **That will be a good time to pay your 2008 dues to the Assembly. Once again, the assessment is \$15.**

Commander of the Guard Robert Kness wishes to recognize those who served so well, with no prior practice, at St. John's Midnight Mass. For some of those in the Honor Guard, it was their first time to serve. They did a great job. We could not practice as a result of the Parish Hall being closed. Thanks to all who braved the cold for this service to our Church. **Jim Reiter**, **George Marshall**, **Iturba Percefull**, **Robert Rowe**, **Steve Gallimore**, **Bob Kortenber**, **Bill Wavering**, **Randy Schnoebelen**, **Mike Tucker**, and **Bob Kness** served. The next presentation of the Honor Guard will be for the March for Life from St. John's to Calvary Cemetery on January 20 following the 10 a.m. mass./**Newton White/ Faithful Navigator**

From Our Chaplain



For my comments at the beginning of this New Year, I am taking requests. I have a quote that was shared by one of our fellow knights from a book called *Life in Christ* and is a response to the question "What did Jesus mean when he said that he came that we might have life more abundantly"?

Since God has become man, we have been honored and exalted more than the angels. We have Jesus Christ as our head, teaching us and sanctifying us through the Church. We have the sacraments, through which the divine life flows into our souls. We eat and drink the body and blood of Christ in the Eucharist. We have the Mass, the re-offering of Christ's death, in which we now have a part. We have as our mother and model the greatest of all God's creatures, the only human person who was conceived without original sin, Mary, the Mother of God.

That is a good and succinct description of the Catholic life. The New Year begins with the conclusion of the Christmas season. We have celebrated Christ born as our Savior. We have gathered with family, we have exchanged gifts and we look ahead to what comes next, knowing that each year passes by very quickly. But celebrations in the Church should be understood differently.

When we celebrate the events in the life of Jesus, we look back to the time of the gospels and what Jesus did to fulfill God's plan. The work of Jesus is not limited, however, to the time of the gospels. The incredible reality of our Catholic lives is that Jesus makes himself present in our own time and place as well. We celebrate Jesus' birth knowing that he is still very much alive. As the quote above states, we share the fullness of Christ's life through the sacraments. We do more than remember the past. We celebrate the present and look to the future.

The abundant life is God's gift to us, and the great feast days are to remind us of that gift. Christ is born for us. He reveals himself through his life, and he calls on us to make an act of faith in him. He gives us everything and only asks that we receive it well. As many in our country think about New Year's resolutions, let us renew our commitment to life with the Church, to Jesus' abundant life./**In Christ, Fr. Erik**



Flag Raising Commemorates Pearl Harbor

An even dozen council members were present on December 7 to raise flags at Calvary Cemetery in memory of those who died on that fateful day at Pearl Harbor in 1941, the day that President Franklin Roosevelt declared "shall live in infamy." Those present for the flag-raising were **Buddy Gloor**, **Earl Robbins**, **Ray Kukuk**, **Harold Hager**, **Ed McManus**, **Newton White**, **Julian Post**, **John Macchietto**, **John Steinhaus**, **Iturba Percefull**, **Joe Van Hout**, and **Dennis Bosch**. The previously ever-present **Tom Gilleran** was home only because of his bout with pneumonia. (Fortunately, though he had a bad December, he is now almost mended.)

Thanks to **Buddy Gloor** and **John Macchietto** for supplying the coffee and fresh donuts for the men's 7 a.m. social.

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coming fast. And that's actually the good news. Let me share with you some tidbits that may be of interest.

The trend by companies to freeze or end their employee pension plans may have a big impact on baby boomers now on the cusp of retirement. Boomers with pension plans have counted on monthly retirement checks at the end of their careers,

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Jim & Martha Lockwood	Ray & Rose Kukuk	Larry & Diane Nieman	Dick & Jackie Smith	

January Birthdays

- 1 Louis Kosarek
- 1 Joe Mangialardi
- 3 Larry Heisserer
- 4 Larry Archer
- 6 Floyd Sherfield
- 7 Joe Dierks
- 7 Charles Elias
- 9 Jim Lockwood
- 17 Newton White
- 19 Joe Cenac
- 21 Dick Smith
- 23 Francis Klein
- 25 Paul Bachmann
- 26 Hugh Truesdale
- 27 Joe Farrell
- 29 Larry Stamps

Pray for our Sick

Please pray for the following council members, wives/relatives, and council friends who struggle with health problems: **Val Poe**, **Tom Gilleran**, **Ken Schmitz**, **Sharon Maxwell**, **Sandy Kortenber**, **John Harris**, **Rita Farrell**, **Louis Turala**, **Joe Salemi**, **Catherine Smart**, **Mary Anne Honeycutt**, **Stretch Ecklund**, **Sue Marshall**, **Ann Lee**, **Mary Ellen Kagel**, **Al Reis**, **Emily Kostka**, and **Emil Wencel**

January Calendar

- 3 Officers Meeting, K. C. Hall, 7:00 p.m.
- Council Meeting, K. C. Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- 10 6:30 Dinner prepared by **Randy and Marty Schnoebelen** (See article below)
- Potluck Dinner and Lives of Saints Presentation by **Fr. Erik**, K. C. Hall, 6 p.m. (see article, p. 1)
- 15 Fourth Degree Meeting, K. C. Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- 26 Hoop Shoot Contest, St. John's Gym, 3 p.m. (See article below)

Council Meeting to be Preceded by Dinner

Insurance Field Agent **Randy Schnoebelen** and his wife **Marty** have generously announced plans to serve dinner to council members and their families at 6:30 p.m., an hour before our January 10 council meeting. The menu will consist of meatballs with bowtie pasta, green beans, salad, and dessert. **Please note the inclusion of family members!** Thanks, **Randy and Marty**. This will be a special treat.



K. C. Hoop Shoot Contest

Council Youth Director **Mark Layton** needs volunteer help for the January 26 Hoop Contest to be held at 3 p.m. at St. John's Gym. There will be different age categories for both boys and girls, ranging from ages 10 to 14. Advertising is being done at different schools as well as at Boys and Girls Clubs. Please call **Mark** at **545-9830**. Several people will be needed to help with registration, tallying scores, etc.

Field Agent's Notes, continued

but more employers are ending their plans or halting future benefits accruals. Those at greatest risk include boomers in their late 40's and early 50's who are still at least a decade from retirement but too old to save enough to make up the difference in their pension plans.

An August 2005 survey by PricewaterhouseCoopers showed that nearly half of companies that expect to change their pension plans in the next year are considering freezing benefits for all employees. More than a third that offered pensions have already pared back these benefits over the last three years.

This will definitely be a problem for baby boomers," says **Karen Friedman** at the Pension Rights Center. "You've been at a company under the plan and worked for years with the expectation, and then it's taken away."

What better place to check out how you can secure your and your family's FUTURE than **Father McGivney's** vision for Knights!! It's just for you and your family. Take advantage soon.

I'm at 501-204-9486. Call me. Let's talk.

Randy Schnoebelen
Field Agent

A Brother Knight helping protect you and your loved ones.