

**Knights of Columbus Council 6419**  
**P. O. Box 22927**  
**Hot Springs, Arkansas 71903-2292**

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# Knight Shift

**Hot Springs Council 6419**  
**Hot Springs, Arkansas 71903-2292**  
[www.hotspingsknights.org](http://www.hotspingsknights.org)



**Christmas Dinner/Dance: Last Call!...  
 Get Your Tickets"....Now!**



You don't want to miss this once-a-year festive event! The \$25 tickets **secured in advance** for this Saturday, December 8 celebration **will be a special favor to the planning team, enabling them to ensure ample dinner supplies.** That said, tickets, if absolutely necessary, may be purchased at the door. **Bill and Dawn Thompson** have taken the lead in the planning and organizing of this holiday dinner and dance party, so we are assured that it will be a very special evening. Dawn has worked long and hard on the details of her Winter Wonderland theme. She and special friend **Liz Sass** have done so many things to enhance our council building and the special events held there. They never disappoint!

The evening menu, prepared by **Chef Joe Giompoletti** and his assistant **Larry Stamps**, will feature a thick pork chop, candied yams, sweet peas with onion pearls, a garden salad, fresh homemade rolls prepared by council wife **Carol Koch**, cheesecake, coffee, and complimentary wine. Once again, **St. John's Youth Director Donna Rivard** will be on hand with her youth group who will serve food at the tables.

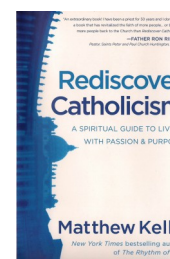
**Knight Shift is published monthly by Knights of Columbus Hot Springs Council 6419 Editor, Jim Lockwood**

For the first time ever, council member **Larry Womack** and his **Salt and Pepper Band** will provide the music. Several knights heard this group perform at the St. John's

Mardi Gras Festival back in February. They were fabulous! That night the knights resolved to try to get them for our Christmas Dance. And it's happening.

Faithful Assembly member **Louis Kosarek** once again has secured several nice prizes to raffle. So....the food, the music, the decorations, the raffle....and, yes, the companionship will be first class. Don't miss out on this fun evening! The social will begin at 5:30 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres, the dinner at 6:30, and the dancing at 7:30. Get your tickets from **Bill Thompson, Grand Knight Newton White**, his assistant **Vicki Stanley, Dennis Bosch, Joe Kanopsic, Jim Lockwood, Bob Koch, Don Sass, or at the office of either St. John's or St. Mary's.**

**Council to Distribute Free Books at Christmas Masses**



When would be the best time of the year for outreach to occasional Catholics and non-Catholics as well? Matthew Kelly of Dynamic-Catholic.Com believes it would be either the Christmas Masses or those at Easter. The Council Charity Committee agrees. So with that in mind, the Committee recently voted to buy 1000 copies of Kelly's book **Rediscover Catholicism** to hand out to targeted attendees at the Christmas Masses at St. John's and St. Mary's Churches.

.....continued, p. 2



**Grand Knight's Report**

Council 6419 has scheduled a Second and Third Degree Exemplification for Sunday, December 2—tomorrow if you get this on Saturday as intended. That means if you act quickly, you can encourage your sponsored First Degree knights to be present at *Giompoletti Hall* no later than 11:30 a.m. for registration, which closes at 12:30. The Hall will open at 11 a.m. A sandwich, chips, and soda (or water) will be served to candidates in the ante chamber and to observers and team members in the Hall chamber. Exemplification will begin at 1 p.m. and will end by 3:30. We can certainly use your presence and your help at the Exemplification. So please let me know whether you will attend so we will have food for you.

As you know, the recent Hurricane Sandy left a devastating impact on many people and their homes in New York and New Jersey. With that devastation in mind, our council is planning a fund-raiser to benefit our brother knights in that area. We will sponsor a Night of Magic, featuring master illusionist Maxwell Blade and Company on Thursday evening, January 17 in *Giompoletti Hall*. The evening activities will begin with a social period at 6:30 p.m., followed by a dinner prepared by **Chef Joe Giompoletti** at 7:30 p.m. Maxwell Blade will begin his program at 8:30, performing for 60 to 75 minutes. The admission fee is \$20 per person with a table for 8 for \$160. Proceeds will be split equally to the New York and New Jersey State Councils.

Happy Birthday to Council 6419. Our council celebrates its 40th anniversary December 3. The council's first Grand Knight was **Joe Giompoletti**, who served in that role again in the 2005-06 council year. He has served the council faithfully in many roles, including chief chef, carpenter extraordinaire, and master dozer/backhoe operator. Of course, in recognition of all that he has done and is doing for our council, *Giompoletti Hall* honors him by carrying his name.

On November 29 Tootsie Roll Chairman **Joe Kanopsic and I**, as Grand Knight, presented a check for over \$4,700 to Nancy Baxter, Executive Director of First Step School. These funds were derived from donations collected as many knights, their wives, and other council friends handed out Tootsie Rolls in front of several major Hot Springs businesses. In addition, 15 percent of the net proceeds from this undertaking was directed to the State Council's charity, Special Olympics.

In the planning stage is another charitable undertaking: A Baby Bottle Campaign to raise money to support our Pro-Life efforts in January. Details are forthcoming.

Wishing all a Merry, very blessed Christmas! Remember to display your "Keep Christ in Christmas" message on your vehicle(s). These magnetized messages continue to be available from our council at a cost of \$5. each. /**Newton White, Grand Knight.**

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**Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you.**  
**Psalm 122:6**

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**Rediscover Catholicism, continued from p. 1**

[Please see Insert]. The list price of this book is \$27.95, but a special book program in progress at Matthew Kelly's website offers these books for widespread distribution—minimum of 500 copies—at \$2.00 each. Kelly's great concern is that large numbers of Catholics are leaving the Church, most of them young people. Some leave for other churches; some abandon church affiliation altogether. Surely we all are saddened by this all-too-common abandonment of the Church that has seen 2000 years come and go.

Kelly's mission is to reverse this mushrooming problem. But he can do so only with the help of faithful Catholics. *Rediscover Catholicism*, addressing the current problems head-on, seeks to reclaim those Catholics who have left the Church. We all know only too well that the problem about which Kelly eloquently writes is real because it has affected our own families.

Who but God can say how successful our mission will be? But if our efforts should create even one dynamic Catholic, it would justify our present undertaking. Depending on the response to this outreach, our council conceivably could come forth with another book for distribution in the parish, possibly Kelly's more recent book, *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*. In the meantime, you are urged to discover Matthew Kelly's website: [DynamicCatholic.Com](http://DynamicCatholic.Com). There, among other things, you'll be able to get free copies of the two books mentioned as well as *Mega Church Pastor (Allen Hunt gives up his role as pastor of Atlanta's largest Methodist Church serving more than 15,000 members to become a Catholic)*, the only charge being a \$5.95 shipping and handling cost. You may also order multiple copies of the same titles for \$3 a copy with free shipping and handling. They could be great gifts for those you believe could benefit from reading them.

Finally, on the fourth Saturday/Sunday of Advent (December 22-23), we will need at the end of each Mass (at both St. Mary's and St. John's speakers to alert the parishioners of our plans following the Christmas Masses. And, of course, we will need several people to help distribute the books at those Masses.



**Footnotes: Fourth Degree**

Eleven knights with their wives enjoyed a great dinner at Back Porch Grill at the Assembly November 11 social. Skipping a December meeting, we will gather for our next meeting at *Giampoletti Hall* at 6 p.m. on January 18. The Fourth Degree-sponsored December 8 Christmas Dinner/Dance [See article, p. 1] always takes the place of our December meeting.

Once again, the Fourth Degree Assembly will provide an Honor Guard for the Christmas Midnight Mass at St. John's Church. We hope to have a good number of knights in regalia. If you can serve, please contact in advance Commander of the Guard **Zack Nehus** at 501-681-9335.

**Oh, Yes!**

At the December 13 council meeting, District Deputy **Roy Anderle of Mena** will be present to certify our new council First Degree Team. With that in mind, all members of the Exemplification team should be present at this meeting to be certified. Very important!

**Looking Ahead**

On Sunday, January 20, the annual Right to Life March will take place in both Little Rock and here in Hot Springs. On February 2 we will once again have our Vocations Dinner at *Giampoletti Hall*. **Bishop Taylor** will be present.



**A Message from Seminarian George Sanders:**

I watched as the tea bag settled silently into the cup of hot water. The caramel-colored flavors from the bag began to effuse the water engulfing it and appeared to swirl magically around the cup by its own will and self-motion until all had turned a bronzed hue. I grasped the bag and jiggled it a couple times and a deeper brown bellowed from the bag.

It was tea time. I smiled as I thought that if Brenda were having a cup with me, we would have to cover it, set the kitchen timer for three minutes and then wait for it to seep until we had a "proper cup of tea." I mused that since she was not here, I would be having "man tea," and in a real mug to boot, so I jiggled it once more as a salute to manhood, discarded the used tea bag, sensed the savor of a good cup and raised it to my lips...Ahhhhh.

As I enjoyed my cup (mug), the image of the tea oozing from the bag into the water impressed me. It seemed so effortless and natural, like the tea was releasing itself from the leaves to embrace the water. A few seconds before, it was dried leaves imprisoned in a bag, but when it entered the water it rushed to join it, to become one with it. "Potential because potency," St. Thomas whispered. What was latent, what was there all along became actualized when it hit the water. It was tea when it was a leaf, and it was tea when it mixed with the water. But in the latter state, something marvelous had occurred; when it met the water, the water was changed. It assumed the character of the tea. It would no longer be recognized as what it used to be, heated water but what it had become, tea. I marveled again. It had been so completely changed that it became the thing that infused it.

It is this intimate union, this communion, that we experience every time we come to the Lord's Table. Like the tea that so willingly is released when it is submerged in the water, so Christ enters us. Like the lover, he rushes to embrace us, to be a part of us, to fill every once of our being with His Presence. And we are changed by it. We can no longer call ourselves ordinary. Because He is there, we are no longer what we were. We have been changed into Him. St. Paul says that "it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. (Gal: 2-20). In his sermon 272, St. Augustine famously said, when you come to the Eucharist, "be what you receive and receive what you are."

Sometimes I believe we come to the Table of the Lord and genuinely wonder whether this could really be so. How could a Holy God really want to be plunged into this ordinary, unworthy body? I have heard it described as the ludicrous love of God. His love for us is so extravagant that we could never be worthy of it or earn it. Like a father's love, it's unmerited. So the next time you come to the Table, remember the tea bag. As He begins to infuse your heart with Himself, ask Him to give the bag another jiggle.



**Veterans Day Recognized with Flags**

Several council members were on hand for the November 12 flag raising at Calvary Cemetery. Gathering at 7 a.m., the knights present first enjoyed coffee and donuts furnished by **Dick Smith** and **Harold Hager**. Besides Smith and Hager, those participating were **Joe Dierks, Jim Reiter, Dennis Bosch, Stan DeGruccio, Bill Thompson, Dennis Wood, Mike Tucker, Bob Koch, Ed King, Mark Chunn, David Meyers, Leonard Buchholz, Ray Kukuk, Julian Post, and event chairman Tom Gilleran**. Also present was trumpeter **Ross Rumore**, who played the stirring music *Taps* as knights stood at attention. Rumore, is the trumpeter for the local VFW Honor Guard who frequently serve at military funerals throughout the area. He serves along with council member **Dick Smith**.

**The next flag raising at Calvary will be December 7, Pearl Harbor Day.**

- Tom & Barbara Gilleran
- Scott & Sessie Hrdlicka
- Bob & Mary Ann Fiedler
- Zack & Stephanie Nehus
- Randy & Marty Schnoebelen
- Bob & Sandy Kortener
- Mark & Stephanie Layton
- Mike & Mary Schnaufer Sr
- Joe & Mildred Giampoletti
- Stan & Gwen DeGruccio
- Bill & Dawn Thompson
- Mike & Cathy Tucker
- Mike & Nancy Schnaufer Jr
- Dick & Becky Antoine

- Joe & Janet Kanopsis
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- Leonard Buchholz
- Carol Ecklund
- Lorraine McManus
- Kenn Heithaus

**Pray for our Sick**

Please pray for the following council members, wives/relatives, and council friends who struggle with health problems: **Father James West, Tony Pultz, Lorraine McManus, Dick Smith, Jerry Hawley (Arkadelphia), Bob Kortener, Lee Myers, Frankie DeGeorge, Charles Smith, Hayley Glory, Stephen Stoddard, Valerie Poe, Deacon Dave Briselden, Rick Sands, Conrad Stein, Jolene Sharkey, Jim Maguire, DeDe Robbins, Sue Marshall, and Laura Mazzia**



**December Calendar**

<b>December Birthdays</b>	
1 Brad McClintock	2 Second and Third Degree Exemplification, <i>Giampoletti Hall</i> [See Grand Knight's article]
1 Todd Shiver	7 Flag Raising, Calvary Cemetery, 7 a.m. (Pearl Harbor Day)
3 Thomas Baltz	8 Christmas Dinner/Dance, <i>Giampoletti Hall</i> ; 5:30 social, 6:30; dancing, 7:30
6 Dick Antoine	13 Council Meeting, 6:30 (No Officers Meeting)
7 Bob Ward	24-25 Free Book Distribution, Christmas Masses [see article, p. 1]
13 Mike Schnaufer, Jr.	
15 Charles Failla	
26 Jim DeGeorge	
26 George Schwass	

**More Improvement for the Hall**

Next time you're at *Giampoletti Hall*, be sure to check out the smart-looking new recessed overhead lighting. Having replaced the antiquated lights, it really looks great! Thanks to our resident electrician **Don Sass** and his worthy assistant **Dick Smith** for this nice change.

From Our Insurance Agent:  
**Keep Christ in Christmas**

At Christmas we honor the birth of Jesus Christ. At times Our Savior is forgotten in the commercialization of the season and the rush to get ready for holiday festivities. Each year Knights of Columbus takes a leading role in reminding society that Christmas is first and foremost a holy day. Keeping Christ in Christmas is keeping the very heart and meaning of the Christmas celebration alive.

Randy Schnoebelen  
501-204-9486  
[randy.schnoebelen@kofc.com](mailto:randy.schnoebelen@kofc.com)

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

**The following is the Introduction to *Rediscover Catholicism* by Matthew Kelly, described in the article on page 1 of this newsletter.**

Two thousand years ago, a very small group of people captured the attention and fascinated the imaginations of the entire western world. At first they were thought to be of no consequence, the followers of a man most people considered to be nothing more than an itinerant preacher. But when this man was put to death, a dozen of his followers rose up and began telling people about his life and teachings. They began telling his story. They were uneducated men who had no social status, no money, and no worldly authority; and yet, from the very beginning, people were joining this quiet revolutionary group a hundred at a time. As their popularity soared, the prevailing authorities grew fearful of their power, just as they had been afraid of their leader. In some places, the authorities tried to put an end to this new group by randomly killing some of its members, but those chosen considered it the highest honor to die for what they believed. This only intrigued the hearts and perplexed the minds of the people even more.

This small group of people were the first Christians. They were the original followers of Jesus of Nazareth and the first members of what we know today as the Catholic Church.

As the centuries have passed, much has changed. Today, Catholicism is the largest faith community in the world with more than 1.2 billion members. In every time and place for two thousand years, the Catholic Church has fed, clothed, and housed more people in need than any other group or institution in history. The Church was responsible for the birth of both the education system and the health care system that stand as pillars in our modern society. Throughout the centuries, the Church has also been the largest benefactor of the arts, nurturing these elements of cultural life that have the ability to elevate the human heart, mind, and spirit so effortlessly to the things of God. Today, the Church is the largest landowner in the world, owning land in almost every community from the most remote and rural locations to the most sophisticated cities. In this modern day and age, the Catholic Church remains the world's premier institutional defender of human rights.

And yet, as great as our achievements may be, as good as our numbers are today, we seem unable to capture the attention and intrigue the imagination of people the way our ancestors did.

The story of Jesus Christ is the most powerful story in history and has directly or indirectly influenced every noble aspect of our modern civilization. But amidst the hustle and bustle of our daily lives, it is easy to become distracted and distance ourselves from this story. From time to time, someone comes along who reminds us of the spellbinding power the Gospel has when it is actually lived. There is something ultimately attractive about men and women *striving* to become the-best-version-of-themselves. It is this *striving* that we need to rediscover as a Church. We have become too comfortably a part of the modern secular culture, and this comfort has resulted in a complacency toward the life-giving words of the Gospel. Too often, we listen to these words but do not allow them to transform our hearts and our lives.

I pray with all my heart that we can collectively rediscover what it means to live a Christian life. And with this knowledge, I hope we can embrace this *striving* that causes the human person to thrive and bloom. If we can get that *striving* back, we will once again capture the attention and intrigue the imaginations of all people everywhere.