

# Knight Life



The Official Publication of Father Rosensteel Council #2169

Vol. 85, No. 10 April 2020

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## **Chaplain's Reflection God the Nurturing Parent**

God intends only good for us. However, the circumstances of life such as the devil, Original Sin, free will and the forces of nature can create the tragedies in life. The current coronavirus outbreak is a global tragedy of truly epic proportions. Not just because people are dying from this disease, but also because of the economic disruption and consequent unemployment that will strip millions of the human dignity of work and the ability to take care of their families.

Times like this force us to face the ultimate question of where is God when tragedy happens? As Christians we believe in a Trinity – three persons in one God. So God is in three places:

- 1. God the Father is the God above us, looking out for us, which we call Providence.
- 2. God the Son, Jesus, is the God who suffers with us, which we call Compassion.
- 3. God the Holy Spirit is the God within us, which we call Grace.

This column will be devoted to God the Father, the nurturing parent.

Naming God as Father is the traditional, creedal statement of our understanding of God. However, in the book of Genesis when God creates man and woman, God creates them "in the image and likeness of God, male and female, God created them." Obviously, then, if male and female are the image of God, there must be both the masculine and feminine within God!

So, we should probably refer to God as both Father and Mother. The term nurturing parent captures the full sense of God as a parent, looking out for His children, virtually involved in caring for them. Thus, while our creedal statements regarding the first person of the Trinity only refer to God the Father, we may consider the possibility of a more inclusive understanding of God that includes the feminine.

Where is God when tragedy happens? God is the Father, apart from us, but still caring about us. God is transcendent, that is above us. The transcendent God can be thought of as the God outside our human realm of distortions and lies and not able to be controlled by them.

(Continued on page 3)

### **Grand Knight's Station**

#### "Preach the gospel and if necessary, use words!"

We had a terrific Past Grand Knights dinner. State Deputy Dale Trott and his wife, Lady Linda, were in attendance as was our District Deputy Andy Michaels. Congratulations to our all of our Past Grand Knights and especially to our newest one, SK Jim Mannion, who was accompanied by his wife, Lady Terry, and their daughter Mary.

We had 13 of our past Grand Knights, including PGK and Past State Deputy Jim Olivarri. In addition, our esteemed Field Agent Brian Graham and all four chair officers attended. PGK Rob Seubert did an outstanding job as our Master of Ceremony, with PGK Wayne "Half Step" Miller providing the music. A delicious dinner was provided by Stan and Jane McLeod along with Matt and Carol D'Antuono and Carol Walper.

Our country, our community and our Council are experiencing an upheaval unequaled since 9/11. It has impacted each one of us on a daily basis. At the Council, we have suspended activities, forced to cancel one of our favorite and most rewarding events, the Nuns Appreciation Dinner, as well as the Beach Party scheduled for March.

Masses have been cancelled throughout the Archdiocese and for the first time that I can remember, the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception has closed the Basilica. This is an unprecedented time for us all. But let us keep in mind that we are a Family – we are Rosensteel Strong. Touch base and keep in contact especially with those living on their own. And let us know if you need any assistance or just want to reach out for someone to talk to. There is a sense of mourning contributing to the daily stress resulting from our "new normal." We will provide Council updates as they develop.

On behalf of the Officers of Father Rosensteel Council, Wishing you and yours a Joyous and Blessed Easter!

Vivat Jesus! Gus

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Knight Life** 

Published Monthly Fr. Rosensteel Council #2169 9707 Rosensteel Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 (301)588-2404 Catering (301)588-3303 Hours of Operation: Sun-Thurs. 2 -11 PM Friday & Sat: 2 PM-Midnight

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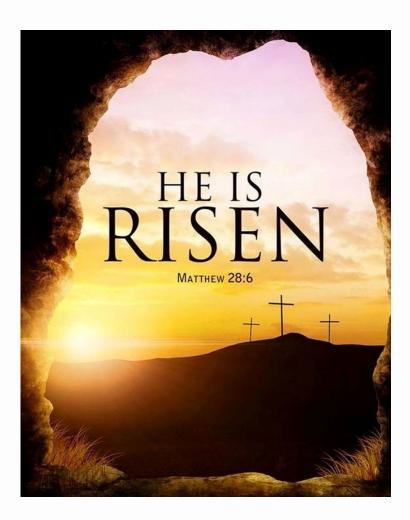
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#### Remember in your prayers:

## **Chaplain's Reflection God the Nurturing Parent**

(Continued from page 1)

#### Sick:

Ferdinand Sasse, father of Elizabeth Cavaliere; Lexi Thomas, Tom Ryan Sr., brother of Tom Ryan; Joe Comello, Donald Giampetroni, Dick Winkler, Elaine Carey, Marge Fait, Cecile Fecteau, Marie Dunkle, Mark Borkowski, Helen Borkowski

#### Deceased:

John Gresh, Jr., Bob Praskievicz

In case of illness or death of a member, please contact Financial Secretary Michael Koon.

#### **State Council News**

Brother Knights,

The Supreme Knight does not feel the situation with the coronavirus outbreak will end anytime soon. Per our Supreme Knight, the Supreme Office and states should prepare for a long period (3 - 4 months) of limited contact events. The Supreme Council has established a fraternal working group in New Haven whose job it is to review all facets of this situation on a daily basis. The Supreme Office will be operating with a skeletal staff with most of its personnel working from home.

In addition to keeping tabs on the daily situation around the country, the fraternal working group will be working on new guidelines for meeting such things as the Circle of Honor and the Star Council Awards. There will be weekly meetings held between the regional growth directors (RGD) and the home office to better assist councils through this period. RGD's will continue their regular calls with state officers and inform them of any updates.

God the Father is separate from us, separate from being controlled by the powers of evil. While God may be separated from us by a physical distance much as a parent in the United States is separated from a child living on the other side of the globe, God is still actively caring about that child's life. Jesus said, "The sparrow does not fall to the earth without the Father's noticing it. Aren't you not worth more than many sparrows?"

The Father has sent his Son, has given his Spirit and continues to encourage, to inspire, to draw all things to himself through his Son. The Father sees how His intention for good is altered by the power of evil, but the Father will not let evil prevail. When darkness seems to have won, when evil seems to have triumphed, when we lie dead, seemingly defeated, the Father will raise us up just as he raised his Son up!

The power of the Father is the ultimate power of life over death. The resurrection of the body is the ultimate and eternal miracle. The intentional will of the Father is always for good. However, God does not control circumstances of life, out of respect for the free will of His creation. Thus, in the present age, the forces of evil coexist with God's intentional will. However, in the fullness of time at the end of this present age, darkness and death will not prevail.

When evil closes the window, God will open the door. When sin seems to have triumphed, God the Father will forgive the sin. When death seems victorious, God will see that life triumphs. God the Father wills good for us and good will prevail – if not in this life, surely in the next.

Deacon Alan Jeeves

(Continued on page 4)

#### **Past Grand Knights Dinner**

Last month's Past Grand Knights Dinner was a rousing success, as evidenced by the smiles on, from left to right, Jim Olivarri, Jim Mannion and Bruce Cotting, who apparently felt the occasion warranted whispering sweet nothings to Mr. Mannion.

For more on the event, see the Grand Knight's column on page 1.

Photo courtesy of Mary Mannion



#### The Best of Rosensteel

Knight of the Month - This Father Rosensteel April Knight of the Month joined in 1983. He has been active in many facets of the Council. He has worked in the kitchen, at the bar and pitched in wherever needed. And he has a knack for drawing a crowd. He recently chaired the Father-Daughter Dance with Geoff Conway and his daughter Sara shared front desk concierge duties with him. There were over 50 fathers and grandfathers and over 80 daughters and granddaughters in attendance! He is well spoken and a very gracious man with a huge heart.

There is NO doubt that everyone knows who I am talking about, so when you see (or speak with) the Father Rosensteel Council April Knight of the Month, Robert F. Wigmore, better known as Wig, congratulate him and thank him for all that he does for our Council.

Family of the Month - The Father Rosensteel April Family of the Month has a long history with the Council. You will find these family members participating at the Council Picnic, Friday night dinners and most all of the dinners and events. Most recently, they attended the Past Grand Knights' Testimonial Dinner. They are stalwarts of our Council and to be commended for their participation.

So, when you see or talk to "Table 21," congratulate them on being the Father Rosensteel April Family of the Month: Nancy and Ray Koski, Bob and Ann Brown, Harry and Marie Dunkel, Dave and Marge Fait, Betty Beltz and Tom Hawes.

#### **State Council News**

(Continued from page 3)

The Supreme Council will also be sending updates to everyone via e-mail on a regular basis.

That being said, it is with a very heavy heart that for the first time in all the years I can remember, I have the sad duty of announcing that we will not gather to hold the 122nd Maryland State Convention at the Princess Royale in Ocean City, MD, this year. In lieu of our normal gathering and meeting at the ocean, the Supreme Knight has directed that all state conventions shall be "Virtual Conventions" for this year. Supreme will be providing guidelines to the state deputies as soon as possible. Once received, the state officers and I will begin preparing for our upcoming "virtual" state convention. Once all details have been finalized, the State Council will issue written guidelines to everyone, most especially to grand knights, delegates and alternates pertaining to voting.

Lastly, I have been in contact with the Convention Committee chairman and the committee members will begin the process of issuing refunds and, unless otherwise instructed, they will also request that the hotel cancel and refund all room reservation charges.

Fraternally,
Dale W. Trott
State Deputy, Maryland State Council

#### Fraternal Insurance

Over the 30 years that I have been assigned to Fr. Rosensteel Council I have met with literally thousands of members. One of the things recommended is to always have an emergency fund set aside because you do not know what life will bring. The importance of this cannot be more apt than now. No one saw this coming, but those of you that did set aside money into a K of C account are safe and have access if needed.

The mission of the Knights of Columbus today remains the same as when it was founded in 1882: to protect Catholic families financially and to help strengthen the Catholic faith of our members.

While the current medical, social and economic issues we face are unsettling, it's not the first time we have risen to meet such challenges. Our Order has stood strong through past crises such as the Spanish flu in 1918, the Great Depression and the financial crisis of 2008.

Just as we stood together during those times, we stand ready in our own difficult times to provide life insurance, annuities, long term care and disability insurance. Knights of Columbus insurance agents are fully equipped and eager to help you understand how the current climate may affect your personal finances and how our products can help.

Our agents can meet with you in person, talk to you over the phone (when appropriate) or through a virtual meeting using Skype or similar software. Agents are ready to answer questions, assist with service-related issues and help show you how you can reduce your financial risk.

As the Knights of Columbus turns 138 years old, it is an opportune moment to thank our founder, Father Michael McGivney, for his foresight in founding an Order that consistently provides reliable financial protection for Catholic families. You do not face the current challenges alone. Our commitment to helping you and your family remains strong.

Vivat Jesus



Our hearts are infected with countless fears of death. A great and fearful silence now burdens far too many hearts, minds and spirits. Death resulting from a seemingly unknown and untested illness has destroyed thousands of lives around the world. This burdensome illness has wracked far too many lives throughout our modern world.

Lord, we plead You will enable the world's greatest researchers, innovators and men and women of great faith to pursue courage, greater faith, greater hope, perseverance and tireless determination to use the boundless knowledge already here in our modern world. These men and women persevere in pursuit of the knowledge, and their research efforts needed to uphold and sustain human dignity, human life and human knowledge. May faith, knowledge and life prevail over suffering and death.

May every man, woman and child come to discover that their own life and every human life is already sacred, precious and holy. This is precisely because God created human life out of Divine Love and in His image and likeness.

Death is no victor over life. Even lives lost still hold a place in the unfolding story of God's kingdom here at hand.

Never allow the devil's tool of fear to dominate your heart, mind or spirit. Rather, pray throughout each passing hour and day. Ask our dear Lord to sustain all human life. Ask our dear Lord to pick you up when you fall down. Know our Lord is with you now and forever.

Pray from the very depths of your own being with the trusting simplicity of an innocent child and the wisdom of our elders. Always know our good Lord has been, is now and ever shall be our one True Lord. Lord, we ask you to send forth Your Holy Spirit and divine mercy and justice. We are Your people and You are our God. Holy is He who comes in the Holy Name of our dear Lord and brings us greater faith, greater hope and greater love as well as, healing, consolation and renewal. Amen.

Fr. Michael Briese

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Dear Maryknights,

Spring has arrived! The weather is improving, the Cherry Blossoms have bloomed! We are hopeful for new beginnings. Easter is around the corner. Thank God we are all still here to celebrate!

What have we learned from our trials this Lent? These few I have known but have come to realize more fully: Family time is precious, our health should not be taken lightly or for granted. Life can change drastically in an instant, there are many things we can do without (but I do miss bowling!); communication is vital to our well-being; trusting God's will is hard but necessary and the Knights of Rosensteel Council are some of the best people on earth!

We should thank our officers for keeping safety as a #1 priority. We are especially thankful for your common sense

in these trying circumstances and your commitment to our spiritual lives. Bringing the Rosary to Facebook was a brilliant idea! Praying for each other is important. We are a close-knit Council and what happens to one affects us all. So thank you!

Some of these dedicated Knights helped our MK vice president recently with a potentially dangerous situation. Jeanne had an old, dilapidated shed in her yard that PGK Cavaliere discovered when he borrowed her lawn mower. Frank was determined to correct the situation and called for help. GK Gusman, John Kennedy and PGK Cavaliere arrived early one Saturday morning, tore down the shed, cut it into pieces and carted it off to the dump! Jeanne tells me that without their help she is not sure how long it would have taken to find a solution. (At right, John Kennedy with saw along with Gus Gusman dismantle the shed while Frank Cavaliere perfects the art of doing nothing while appearing busy. It should also be noted that household watchdog Coco secured the perimeter in advance of the demolition.)

We thank Deacon Jeeves for his inspirational Lenten Reflection at our March meeting. Who could foresee what was to come? The potluck supper was a delicious, abundance of riches! Thanks to all who came and brought a dish.



I'm not sure if we will be able to hold our April meeting. It all depends on the resolution/ containment of Covid-19 and what safety measures are still in place. It doesn't change the fact that we will need new officers for next year, so please consider volunteering for this important part of our organization's survival. Luanne Flanigan has graciously agreed to chair the Nominations Committee. Unlike the men's tradition of "going through the chairs," our term of office is one year with no more that two consecutive years allowed in the same office. The treasurer, however, is allowed up to four consecutive years. PLEASE contact Luanne at <a href="mailto:flanigan22@gmail.com">flanigan22@gmail.com</a> if you are interested in running for office. Listen and speak to her when she calls or e-mails you. Keep an open heart about all the good that our organization contributes not only to the Council but the community at large. And choose to say "YES"!





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				Mannion	Pistol Pete and Dassing Hardman	
5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
Palm Sunday	D'Antuono Happy Hour		Dollymore, Bromley and Mullaney	Cassognol	Good Friday *Council Closed	
12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
Easter	D'Antuono Happy Hour		Cavaliere	Dassing	Diane and Nick Sullivan	
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.
	D'Antuono Happy Hour Langley	Culkin and DeVol	Maddox	Colburn and Nick	Eddie McCaw and Campitelli	
26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	May 1.	
	D'Antuono Happy Hour		Hozdic			