



Knights *focus*

St. Jude COUNCIL #7736
St. Jude Catholic Church, Mansfield, TX

Realizing the Autopilot Was On the Entire Time
Destination Unknown? *by Grand Knight Dave Tomlin*

August 2013

Control Freak? Maybe.
Detail Oriented? Definitely.
Chronic List Maker? Absolutely.
I have to leave myself clues to the next Thing To Do.
The last time I did an emotional inventory; these were all phrases I used to try to check myself. In other words, as I was looking at the ways I tried to have control in my world. Whether work or Knights of Columbus related, I thought I was at the helm of my own ship, steering it toward the destination of my goals. Ok, without waxing too philosophical, I was a virtual Christopher Columbus sailing out over life's ocean to conquer the greater seas.
(By the way, I bet many of you are trying to envision me in the traditional 1492 garb right now, aren't you?)
And, just when I thought I had this trek mastered, something reminded me that on this journey, I was no more than a crewmember. The autopilot had been set and coordinates programmed for the trip. The Captain was Christ.
There are many ways that God does this with us. Sometimes, it is a function of personal difficulty that forces us to become more introspective. Other times, it may be more subtle like listening to a homily at Mass on Sunday. In this case, it was both.
In the midst of solving some personal challenges, Father George's talks over the last three Sundays have awakened a dormant part of my spirit that had been compartmentalized for a period of time. It is a yearning to draw closer to God in all of my works. While I may not agree with how this evolution manifested itself, it is present none the less.
St. James says, "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you." But how do

we do this? This is an age old question, but I believe that Fr. George has given us clues to this answer in his recent homilies. First, we must humble ourselves before God. This is the realization that we need to recognize our failures as mortals, and humbly confess those short-comings before God. Next, we should turn to sacred scripture with a prayerful and contemplative mindset. If we recognize that the scriptures were written by God, and that he is personally present in the words of Scripture, then we can read the texts with our hearts as well as our minds. Prayer and contemplation are the final pieces to this equation. By coming to visit Jesus, present in the Eucharist, we are allowed to meditate on our needs and yearnings while in close proximity to the living God.

In conclusion, my brothers, we all have one destination- to be present with the Master in eternity. All we have to do is humble ourselves and get out of the way. God is in control. Listen to what God says to the prophet Jeremiah: "For I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me; when you seek me with all your heart" (Jeremiah 29: 11-13).

Vivat Jesus
Dave Tomlin
Grand Knight

Upcoming Events

- August 10 – St. Jude Casino Night
- August 11 - Pancake Breakfast
- August 13 - Religious Appreciation Dinner
- August 14 - Pro-life Rosary
- August 20 - Monthly Council Business Meeting
- August 24 - Pray at the Abortion Clinic
- August 25 – Corporate Communion
- August 31 – Knights Can Weekend

St. Jude Casino Night

2nd Annual Casino Night "Denim & Diamonds" Gala will be held Saturday, August 10, 2013 at the Classic Oaks Ranch in Mansfield benefiting the St Jude Church building fund. This event will feature a casino with silent and live auctions and a great array of casino prizes.



Pancake Breakfast

Come out and help or bring the whole family and enjoy breakfast! Food prep starts 7:00 A.M.



Ft. Worth Religious Appreciation Dinner

18th Annual Priest and Religious Appreciation Dinner

Come enjoy this opportunity to show our Appreciation to all our Priest, Sisters, Deacons and Brothers.

Tickets will need to be purchased NO LATER THAN MONDAY, AUGUST 5th

5:30pm – Social & Silent Auction 7:00pm – Dinner

KNIGHTS CAN!!!

Our next KNIGHTS CAN Weekend is August 31st. On this weekend, the Knights all make an effort to remember to bring in canned goods for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. This is the time of year Christmas charity plays out for many, so this is when we STEP UP!!!

Posting the Colors at the Airhog's game.



Ask a good Catholic man to join the Knights today!
It'll make him a better Catholic – just like it did to you!!!

First Degrees

(all at 7:00 P.M. unless noted)

8/6 – Council 5052 6:15 PM
Farmers Branch

8/27 – Council 8157
Duncanville

8/30 – Council 11423
Ft. Worth

Contact George Kimmel at
817-584-1798

or e-mail at
kimmel_george@yahoo.com
if you have a lead on a new member

Monthly Awards

Knight of the Month – Chris Heath

Without a doubt, our Family Event at the Air Hogs game was one of the best in recent memory. Chris worked for several months putting the program together with the Grand Prairie Air Hogs, and they truly made us feel like VIPs! Thanks Chris for all you continue to do for our council!!

Family of the Month – George and Barbara Kimmel

George and Barbara give so much of their time and talents to the organization and to the church. Whether its making baskets for the Religious Appreciation auction, or baking for the council Bingo, these guys can always be counted on for tremendous support. Couples like George and Barbara are what make our council shine!!



Find out everything going on with Council 7736 at

Council 7736 Upcoming Events

August 10 @ 7:00 P.M. – St. Jude Casino Night

August 11 @ 7:00 A.M. – Pancake Breakfast

August 13 @ 5:30 P.M – Fort Worth Religious Appreciation Dinner

August 14 @ 6:30 P.M. – Pro-life Rosary

August 20 @ 6:30 P.M. – Monthly Business Meeting of the Council - Rosary at 6:30 P.M. and meeting at 7:00 P.M.

August 24 @ 8:15 A.M. – Pray at Abortion Clinic

August 24 @ 5:00 P.M – Ministry Fair

August 25 @ 8:30 P.M – Ministry Fair

August 27 @ 7:00 P.M. – Council Planning Meeting

August 31 – KNIGHTS CAN Weekend

Knights of Columbus Council 7736
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