



The Knights' Time

ST. ROBERT BELLARMIKE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
BLUE SPRINGS, MO
(2013-14 Missouri State Newsletter Champion)

St. Robert Bellarmine
Knights of Columbus
Council #14745

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The Grand Knight's Corner

My Brother Knights:

In the next four weeks we will be celebrating Advent. I'm not a biblical scholar, so I will leave that up to Fr. John. All you have to do is listen to the scripture readings and to Father's Homilies in anticipation of the coming of Christ. This year, I had a jump start by going to the Holy Land with our parish parishioners. I promised a small report to you for this month's newsletter. I'll try to keep this as short as I can.

I'll begin with the flight over. Sure it was long, but I got to see a lot of movies that I found myself sleeping through. We landed at Tel Aviv and hopped our bus to Nazareth. Our Guide's name was Romi. He is a Palestinian Christian from Bethlehem and very good at helping us understand the cultures, sites and biblical references. He was always giving us a short quiz to keep our interest. The first day we visited Mary's Well, The Church of The Annunciation, the Synagogue where Jesus spoke, at a picnic lunch overlooking the Jezreel Valley (Armageddon) Mt. Tabor, (the place of the Transfiguration), and a wine tasting event to end the day.

The second day I stayed at the hotel because of a stomach infection, (pretty common for traveling) but the group traveled to Capernaum and Galilee. The following day I was fine and was excited to see more Holy sites. The rest of the tour I probably don't have in order - it was a whirl wind of one Holy site after another.

We visited Ain Karem, a place just outside Jerusalem. Where John the Baptist was born and Mary's spring is located. Mary's spring is near the foothills where she fled fearing for her life. We went to The Ascension which tradition tells us the foot print of Jesus is preserved in stone housed in a chapel. We had Mass in a cave near the Mount of Olives, where Jesus and his the Disciples gathered. We continued to Mt Zion, visited where traditions says is King David's Tomb. We also visited the upper room where Christ shared his Last Supper. It was surprisingly larger than I pictured it. We walked a short distance to Caiaphas house where Jesus was held as a prisoner. We spent a day traveling to Jericho to see Mt Temptation. I don't know how Jesus got up there. The Jordan River site was believed to be near the location of Jesus' baptism. The Dead Sea scroll caves had some interesting stories of what happened to them after they were found and to end the day a nice refreshing fun float in the Dead Sea.

The Church of the Nativity roof was being replaced, which houses the Grotto. Had to be very quiet because worship was going on at the same time. On my knees and kissing the Star of Bethlehem I wanted to stay but hundreds more wanted to come through. We had Mass in one of the caves that the shepherds and sheep stayed near where the Angle appeared The Western Wall was a much protected site. So many young people carrying automatic weapons. Right before we went into old Jerusalem the Muslims were coming out from there worship time and all kinds of Israeli soldiers were in force in case something would happen. Our guide said something always happens right after they come out. So far so good.

Entering old Jerusalem at the Lions Gate was quit an experience as I tried to

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*******—Council Activities Dir.**
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Officers & Directors

Meeting

Jan. 7th, 7:30 p.m.
(1st Wednesday)
St. Robert's Parish Hall

Next Council

Meeting

Dec. 10th, (2nd Wed.)
St. Robert's Parish Hall
KofC Rosary - 7:00 PM
Business Mtg. - 7:30 PM
(Refreshments following the Meeting)

take it all in. St. Ann's Church was the first stop and right there were the ruins of Bethsaida where Jesus cured the blind man. I'm getting to the most important part of my pilgrimage. We stopped at the place the Romans played a game scratched into the stone floor. The winner would get to do anything to torture the prisoner before crucifying them. Via Dolorosa, way of the Cross. Fr. John led the stations as each of us carried the Cross. We got to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. The wait was long because the Franciscan Monks came through about the time we were there. It was worth the wait. All my life I've been hearing about this Holy place. A little longer was not in my thinking but it was hard to wait. We had Mass in the Chapel of the Church and in the chapel was the column that Jesus was scourged at.

The end of our pilgrimage come to an end and it was time to travel back home. When I got back home I told my wife all about the pilgrimage. She wasn't physically able to go so she wanted to hear everything. I got to the part where I touched Calvary, I broke out into tears. She of course held me. I'm sharing this with you because men don't cry. Jesus cried for Jerusalem, so it's ok!

I want to thank all of my fellow parishioners that went on the trip of a life time who treated me like family. Peace be with you and Thanks be to God for you.

One of the Knights that went on the trip I thought at times was almost physically unable to walk the hills, particularly with all the uneven stones. He just kept on going. Quite a few times he refused help. I have to give it to the man, he was determined. His wife I think talked him into a wheelchair once. He always wants to volunteer for all the events the Knights have and will not say no. He also heads up the group that goes to the Convent on Wednesdays to sort cloths and other items for the shipping containers. Congratulations James Duncan you are our Knight of the Month.

Tommy, Grand Knight



Christmas Project for the Homeless



My Brother Knights:

For the past four Christmas seasons we have helped a Kansas City, Kansas Church that ministers to the homeless in downtown Kansas City, Kansas: The Floods of Joy Missionary Baptist Church. Originally we were helping with toy and clothing drives.

A couple of years ago we had to redesign our program to meet their needs. Their building was robbed of its copper electrical wire and plumbing causing a great deal of water damage and the building was considered unusable. But rather than suspend their ministry, they began working out of a vehicle. Of course this meant they had no storage. So rather than toys and clothing we requested our membership donate \$10 per KofC family.

According to their Pastor this has been very successful in helping meet the individual needs of their parishioners. That being said, they do now have a little storage space and they have a need for blankets, (slightly used and new), and Youth Hygiene products: Tooth brushes, tooth paste, floss, soap, deodorant, combs, hair picks, hair brushes, lip balm, etc., for both boys and girls. for there large percentage of homeless parishioners. So, for those of you that would rather give a gift rather than money, here is your chance!

If you wish to participate, you can make your \$10 (or whatever you can afford), tax-deductible contribution to our Council (either check or cash) to Mike Meyers, or myself by **Tuesday Dec. 16th**. If you would rather drop off blankets, etc. please have them to the Parish Hall no later than 7:30pm—there will be a marked box by the exit door.

God Bless,

Frank Hays
Church Activities Director



Our Pastor, our Chaplain, our Sheppard celebrating Mass in the Holy Land for the special intentions of the Knights of Columbus!

Thank you, Father!

Parish Penance Service—Dec. 18th, 7pm

As in the past, our council will be handing out the “Examination of Conscience” pamphlet, if you are going to attend, please come a few minutes early and help.

Christmas Gift to our Parishioners

Once again this year, the Knights and Men’s Ministry purchased a books for our Parish. We will have enough “**4 Signs of a Dynamic Catholic**” books for each family in the Parish. We plan on passing these out after all the Masses on Christmas Eve and after the 10am Mass on Christmas Day. Because of the large crowds I need approximate 6 Brothers at each Mass. **Please** make yourself available right after communion and for about 10 minutes after Mass to help pass out books.

Yours in Christ,
Frank Hays, Church Activities Director

Family Activities

Breakfast With Santa

My Brother Knights,

Saturday, December 14th, we will be cooking and serving the breakfast for our Parish youngsters as they come to visit Santa. I will need 5 or 6 Brother Knights to help. Brother Portz will be cooking up his famous pancakes and we begin serving at 8:30am, so please try and arrive around 8:00am.

Blessings,

Chris Bamman,
Family Activities Director

Council Activities



St. John Lalande KofC Council 6506 Trivia Night



My Brother Knights,

Are you interested in an evening of Trivia fun where you are not working the event? Well, St. John’s Council is hosting a Trivia Night on Saturday Evening - January 17, 2015—doors open at 6, games starts at 7pm. You might even get some ideas on how we can improve ours.

You can either go to their Trivia Night link directly at: www.triviaknight6506.wix.com/kofc.

DECEMBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Officers' Meeting, 7:30pm, Parish Center	4	5	6 TMIY, 6:30am, SRB Parish Center Men's Ministry Prayer Breakfast, 8am, Parish Center Feed the Homeless 4:45pm
7 Rosary Before Mass 8:30 & 10:30am	8	9	10 Council Rosary, 7pm Council Mtg, 7:30pm, Parish Center	11	12	13 TMIY, 6:30am, SRB Parish Center Breakfast w/ Santa, 8:30-11:30am
14 Rosary Before Mass 8:30 & 10:30am	15	16 Floods of Joy Christmas Project Last day to drop-off donations	17	18 Penance Service, 7pm St. Robert Bellarmine	19	20 KofC District 55 Mtg. 8am, SRB Parish Center
21 Rosary Before Mass 8:30 & 10:30am	22 Respect Life Mtg. 7pm St. John's in the Lalande Rm.	23	24 Christmas Eve Knights to pass out "4 Signs of a Dynamic Catholic" after 4pm, 6pm, & Midnight Masses	25 Christmas Day Knights to pass out "4 Signs of a Dynamic Catholic" after the 10am Mass	26	27
28 Rosary Before Mass 8:30 & 10:30am Parish Breakfast, 9 & 11am Masses	29	30	31			



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"Scrooge Didn't Believe"

We can all remember the story of Scrooge and his failure to believe in the spirit of Christmas. To all but the Scrooges of the world, the celebration of the birth of Christ brings with it warm feelings of family ties, and joy and pleasure that our faith brings to others. That same warm feeling comes from owning life insurance. Just knowing that, because of what you have planned, your loved ones will have joys and comforts for years to come if something

should happen to you.

I don't think Scrooge would have believed in life insurance either, but men of good will do. And the world is a better place because of them. Through life insurance, they know that comfort and security will not be for only one day, but, instead, a gift that will provide for their loved ones for years to come. This Christmas, give a gift of security and protection.

Happy and Holy Holidays to all of you!

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For the Good of the Order

We pray for

- ...all the unborn and especially the aborted.
- ...an increase in vocations.
- ...our brother Knights and their families that are ill or in distress.
- ...the families of all our fallen brothers.

Grand Knight

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