

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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Chaplain's Message



Do you remember when putting up the Christmas tree was something you did on Christmas Eve? Probably not! Well, I guess it was a time long, long ago and only we older folks remember it. There was a lot of anticipation waiting for that evening. We were focused on the excitement of decorating and getting ready for a Christmas gathering of family. It took a lot of work and drew everyone into the commotion and fostered a lot of laughs. Now Christmas begins before Thanksgiving has even taken place, and you can get bored of Christmas songs on the radio and the decorations look tired by the time the feast arrives. More time hasn't led to more focus.

As Christians, though, we should still give it our best shot. Getting the tree up early can give us a little time, closer to Christmas, to actually step back, relax and think. The ancients called it meditation.

Grand Knight's Message

Brothers,

The rush to Christmas is on.

The decorating, shopping, and entertaining have begun to such a level that may seem a bit frenzied. Amidst all the "fun," we need to take a break and a deep breath and bring into focus the spirit of the season. A season that says, "Christ the Savior is Born".

As brief as it may be, I hope we can each find that quiet moment of tranquility and peace. Who knows - it may be just what others need to see to return to the meaning of the season!

Peace on Earth...Merry Christmas!

Joe Laquidara

Grand Knight

(Chaplain)

Taking time to think about who we are, what life is about, the blessings of love and the source of our strength can put the whole event into better focus. Certainly the gift-giving reminds us of the gift we have received from God. The birth of the Messiah put a different spin on life for those living in that first century of Christianity. Being offered God's love, receiving his Son's teachings, re-ordering relationships with an emphasis on forgiveness and mutual respect all helped to transform the then known world. It can happen again. Our world needs it and we can bring the power of God's love to the task at hand.

The Knights of Columbus have striven over the years to be a source of God's blessing. All who have been a part of that effort should be proud to have had a role. Whether assisting the poor, feeding the hungry, fostering faith, nurturing the family or any of the other faith efforts that have been made by the Knights, it is important to realize that they are all God's work and He trusts us to do it well!

Many people today have lost the connection between faith and life, yet they are so integral that we can't live successfully unless we grasp both. On Christmas morning when children rush to see what "Santa" has left, we need to help them see beyond the "things" they get to the reason that they are getting them. Those gifts are an expression of love. Love has its origin in God. His love brought us and them into being. We have been given to one another to bless each other's lives. We give because we care. We care because God touches our hearts with feelings for one another. It really is so basic that it is often not mentioned, yet children need things spelled out for them. That is the role of the loving parent. Parents provide the framework within which their children experience life.

The greatest gift we can give one another is to love each other. It's what Jesus asked; it's what we want deep down inside. No gift can take the place of the giving of oneself. That is the true focus of Christmas. The trees, the tinsel, the gifts, the carols should all feed our introspection. They should make us grateful

(Chaplain)

That we have life, love and God.

May this season of joy fill all of you with a deep realization that you are loved. Even with our imperfections, God reaches out to us and asks that we do the same for one another. Let this Christmas be a celebration of the fact, not only that the "Word was made flesh and dwelt among us" so many years ago, but that the Word is made flesh in each of us when we love each other and let him dwell among us now.

Merry Christmas to all.

Joseph F. Lamb Newsletter

December 6th 2014..... Memorial Mass at St. Ann's Church 12 noon

December 7th, 2014.....Christmas Party, Le Neves Restaurant, 2:00 PM

Gifts for Vets @ Paramus Home (requested)

No Business Meeting in December. January 2015 TBD.

In closing, please consider the quote of St. John XXIII.

"O, Jesus come back into our society, our family life, our souls and reign there as our peaceful sovereign.

Enlighten, with the splendor of Faith and the Charity of your tender heart, the souls of those who work for the good of the people, for your poor. Impart in them your own spirit, preserving the flame of enthusiasm ever alight in their hearts."

Fraternally,

Al Lukievics, PGK, PFN

Christmas Canteen

The Christmas Canteen for Spectrum will be held on December 8th at 7:30 PM. As usual, we shall be grilling hamburgers, hot dogs and oven fries for our guests.

Your help is always welcomed and appreciated.

Mike Carpenter.

Calendar for December 2014 and Jan.

2015

December

12/03	Memorial Mass.....	8:00 PM
12/04	Business Meeting.....	8:00 PM
12/07	First Degree (Host 7784)	
12/08	Immaculate Conception	
12/08	Spectrum Canteen.....	6:30 PM
12/09	First Degree.....	7: 00 PM
12/11	Columbian Club.....	8:00 PM
12/18	Officers' Meeting.....	8:00 PM
12/25	Christmas Day	

January

01/03	Members Christmas Party.....	6:30 PM
01/08	Regular Business Meeting.....	8:00 PM
01/13	First Degree.....	7:00 PM
01/15	Columbian Club Meeting.....	8:00 PM
01/17	Baby Bottle @ St. Andrew's	
01/18	Baby Bottle @ St. Andrew's	

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

Dear Brothers,

I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2015.

As 2014 comes to a close, a new fraternal year begins for the Knights of Columbus. All Brothers will shortly be receiving the 2015 dues notice and annual survey of fraternal activity. The future of our council is dependant of this survey being sent back with your dues before the January 31, 2015 deadline. Please be prompt in getting this back to me.

Again you will notice on the form, a request for your current home phone number *and* email address. To date, I only have about 70% of this information and I hope you can find the short amount of time, to fill this out so I can keep the most up to date information on all members. **Please carefully and clearly provide this information.** This personal information will only be used for the "allbrothers" group email for our monthly Chancellor newsletter, reminders, special events and if you are needed to be contacted by an officer of our council.

Although our economy has picked up in 2014, if you suffer a hardship in paying your 2015 dues, please contact our Worthy Grand Knight, Joseph Laquidara at: laqgang@verizon.net.

God Bless you all and I look forward to my continuing service as your Financial Secretary.

Angelo Restivo,

Financial Secretary

agrestivo@aol.com



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