

Knight Life

The Official Publication of Father Rosensteel Council #2169

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Chaplain's Reflection Magic of Christmas

Back in 1981, Fr. Andrew Greely wrote this reflection on the meaning of Christmas for *Woman's Day* magazine. "It might be easy to run away to a monastery, away from the commercialization, the hectic hustle, the demanding family responsibilities of Christmas-time. Then we would have a holy Christmas. But we would forget the lesson of the Incarnation, of the enfleshing of God - the lesson that we who are followers of Jesus do not run from the secular; rather we try to transform it.

It is our mission to make holy the secular aspects of Christmas just as the early Christians baptized the Christmas tree. And we do this by being holy people - kind, patient, generous, loving, laughing people - no matter how maddening is the Christmas rush..."

More than 500 years before the incarnation, the prophet Isaiah described the ideal Davidic king as a sprout from the stump of Jesse upon whom the spirit of the Lord would rest. One who would judge the poor with justice, decide fairly for the afflicted, strike down the ruthless, and slay the wicked (cf Is. 11:1-5).

Then Isaiah goes on to describe a magical world of pure love. "Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat. The calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. The cow and the bear shall graze, together their young shall lie down. The lion shall eat hay like the ox. The baby shall play by the viper's den, and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair (Is. 11:6-8)."

Of course, none of this actually exists anywhere on the earth. Yet it describes the world as God intended it from the beginning. It is also the type of world that we wish was real. A place where everyone is at peace because they love God and their neighbor as themselves. Therein lies the real "magic" of Christmas.

Christmas celebrates the Incarnation that God had planned even before He sparked physical creation with a "big bang" some 14 billon years ago. Then, in the fullness of God's time, on one very tiny planet nestled in a vast solar system, within an even vaster galaxy, within a still vaster universe, God breathed a soul into his only intelligent created being.

(Continued on page 4)

Grand Knight's Station "Faith and Family Foremost"

Happy 100th birthday, Father Rosensteel Council!

From our charter date of December 15, 1920, when we were formed as Forest Glen Council, to today's Father Rosensteel Council, we've maintained a level of faith and service that's a model for other Knights of Columbus councils to imitate. And we have no desire to stop our service to Church and Community now that we're 100 years old.

Our founding was a landmark moment for the Knights of Columbus in the State of Maryland. We've championed countless programs that support our goals of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. We've successfully carried out our mission through wars, the Great Depression, civil unrest, political upheaval, religious controversies, economic uncertainty and now a pandemic. We've been both lauded and ridiculed for some of our beliefs. Through our personal actions and collective effort as Father Rosensteel Council we've shown that we have made (and will continue to make) our voices heard. We build better lives for our Church and Community.

Let us thank the wisdom and foresight of our founding Chaplain, Father Charles O. Rosensteel – whose name our Council honors and is proud to be called – for initiating and organizing our Council 100 years ago. Let us continue to do proud the 78 men (and their families) who joined the Council in its inaugural year. We continue to honor the sacrifice of service and hard work to promote our Catholic beliefs.

Let us renew our respect and admiration for our accomplishments these past 100 years as we look forward to an even more productive and successful second century. I'm proud to be a member of such a fine organization.

Congratulations, men and women of Father Rosensteel Council, on our 100th Anniversary. We are Rosensteel strong!

As we celebrate the Advent season and look forward to the birth of Jesus, the officers of Father Rosensteel Council wish you and your family a blessed, joyful and Holy Christmas and a healthy, productive and Christ-filled 2021.

Paul Girolami

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Knight Life

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Knight Life

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Council Needy Food Basket Program

On Saturday, November 22, the Father Rosensteel Council Knights of Columbus passed out 160 Safeway gift cards for \$25 each. Included in the Thanksgiving program was \$500 received from the Maryknights, bringing the total to \$4,000 in gift cards.

This will bring many families a little extra for the holiday during this challenging time. We received positive feedback on our program and many of the families appreciate the gift cards so they can purchase items that are needed.

Our coordinators from Christ the King, St. Catherine Laboure, St. John the Evangelist, St. Michael the Archangel and Holy Cross parishes and the Gabriel Project drove to the Council parking lot and received their gift cards for needy families in their respective areas.

I would like to thank Grand Knight Paul Girolami for helping and for coming up with funds for a few extra cards, Past Grand Knight Gus Gusman in helping to get some cards to a coordinator and, lastly, Margie Cuff and all the wonderful Maryknights for their very generous gift to help make our program a big success. I'm looking forward to our program for Christmas, which will be here before we know it. God bless you and all your families and I wish everyone well.

> Respectfully, Chancellor Timothy Stocker



Sick:

Mrs. Lois Devlin

Pete Hanson

Summer Hanson

Shiela McKevitt

Parents of George Carter

Mrs. Marion Mannion

Tony Durso

Swan Le

Helen Kirkpatrick

Todd Kirkpatrick

Bob Ward

Emily and Josh Tinsley

Deceased

Sister Janice Heisey

Thomas F. Devlin

Deacon Roberto Salgado

Susan Young

Members of the Council Who Died During 2020

Lawrence J. Kalench

Thomas J. McCabe

Brian D. Arvedlund

William J. Draize

John Gresh, Jr.

Joseph B. Glover

Robert J. Dompka

John W. Monday

Frank M. Smith

Thomas A. Glennon

George W. Martin

John A. McKeon

Continued prayers for Fr. Calis and all of our clergy, and for our Healthcare Providers and all those affected by Covid-19

In case of illness or death of a member, please contact Financial Secretary Kevin Carey.

Council Trustees Report

100 years ago on December 15, 1920 the first Trustees of the Father Charles Oscar Rosensteel Council #2169 were elected. Their names James P. Raney, Robert M. Curran and William J. Jouvenal. This past June you elected the current Trustees, SK Bruce Cotting PGK, SK James M. Mannion PGK and SK Gus Gusman PGK.

The word trustees is a noun. Its meaning: an individual person or member of a board given control or powers of administration of property in trust with a legal obligation to administer it solely for the purposes specified. The Knights of Columbus defines the duties of its Council Trustees and these are read to the installed Trustees each year at the Council Installation by the district deputy:

Trustees (3) - The trustees advise the grand knight, supervise the Council's financial matters and conduct the semiannual audits. The Board of Trustees consists of grand knight and three other elected members, supervises all financial business of the Council and conducts the semiannual audits. Trustees are elected for terms of three years. At the first election of a new Council, three trustees shall be elected, one to hold office for one year or until the next regular election, one for two years or until the second next regular election and the other for three years or until the third next regular election, as determined by lot among themselves. Thereafter, at each succeeding election, one Trustee shall be chosen for a term of three years.

At Rosensteel we ask the Trustees to act as a check on the Forest Glen Building Association Committee and the Clubhouse Committee. Each month a committee president or representative attends the Trustees meeting and reports on activities and issues. Whereas these organizations are not under the Knights of Columbus, the trustees are Council members just as all members in good standing are members of the Building and Clubhouse.

We welcome members to join us at our monthly trustees meeting which is normally held the fourth Monday of each month, ready to walk the next 100 years.

Your current Trustees congratulate the Council and its members on the occasion of its platinum jubilee.

The Best of Rosensteel

Knight of the Month - He's a well-known fixture at the Council. He joined the Knights and Father Rosensteel Council in 2005. Among his many accomplishments: bartender, cook, griller, kitchen crew member and stand -in for other crews, Steelers fan, bartender manager, Clubhouse Association member and current financial secretary.

He has a cool head, sharp wit and usually has a smile on his face. Of course we're talking about Kevin Carey, one of the hardest workers at Father Rosensteel Council. Thank you, Kevin, for the countless hours you devote to the Council each year. You make our Council better by being with us. And thank you to your wife, Mary, and sons for letting us have your time, energy and wisdom.

Family of the Month - It is a tireless family – working every program, being very involved in parish activities, supporting their priests, reaching out into the community, sharing their faith and selflessly serving others. It continually looks for new programs and people to help. It has developed a legacy of service and commitment that's difficult to imagine in other Councils – and it has been doing it for 100 years. It is a true family to each other and our greater community.

Our Family of the Month is the dedicated thousands of men, women and children who have worked at, attended and/or supported our Council since 1920. Our Council couldn't be where it is today without the strong Knights, Maryknights and Squires who have graced our halls for the past century. The officers of Father Rosensteel Council thank our large family for the many thousands of hours of service to Church and Community this past century and look forward to continuing this strong Rosensteel family for another 100 years.

Fraternal Insurance

In previous years this is the time we may have been shopping for that special present, getting a tree and preparing to cook the traditional Christmas meal. This year will be different. Many will be reluctant to travel, so many may be celebrating with just the household instead of a house-full!

We turn our thoughts to themes of "Peace on Earth" and "Goodwill to Men!" We think of our Savior's birth in Bethlehem and the beginning of this chapter of salvation history. We think of family, both the ones we celebrate with this year in person and those who might only be present on Zoom. But we'll make it through the season; we'll have even more to celebrate next year.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us be thankful for all the graces God has showered on us, especially the gift of his Son, our Savior! "For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:5

Vivat Jesus!



Chaplain's Reflection - Magic of Christmas

(Continued from page 1)

God so loved this created being, man, that He wanted to share in our humanity, in the most intimate possible way, by becoming one of us. To live like us, and to die like us. But even more than that, God wanted all humanity to share in His divinity by becoming a holy people in order to establish the Kingdom of God right here, in this life, on earth. As the Psalmist observed, God made man little less than a god, crowned man with glory and honor, gave man rule over the works of God's own hands, and put all things at the feet of man (cf Ps 8:6-7).

God became incarnate in His Son, Jesus, and he has called us to be a holy people that reflect His divinity in the present age. So our celebration of Christmas is not only a remembrance of Christ's birth, but also of the establishment of God's kingdom. The message of Christmas is about the love that God has for each of us that he calls on us to share with our neighbor. The kingdom of God is to embrace the entire community of man.

That is why Christmas is about people. That is why Christmas is more than Advent spiritual preparation, going to Mass and opening presents. Christmas is about family, starting with our own and extending across the entire human community. Christmas is about embracing everything that is good and transforming everything that needs to be better.

Deacon Alan Jeeves

Maryknights Officers 2020- 2021

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Chaplain Emeritus: Rev. Gerard Trancone 301.577.3527(deafmindc@aol.com)

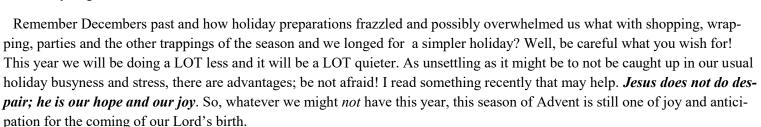
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Dear Maryknights,



Kudos and many, many thanks to our Therese Sammartino. Since the pandemic began Therese has completed nine blankets for the Christ Child Society! And she is still going! Also thank you to Nancy Koski for providing pillows to patients following breast surgery. Although the Pillow Project is suspended due to the pandemic, Sarah Warner is busy making pillows and they are still available to those who need one. Please contact Nancy and she will be happy to help. Our thanks to Helen Vallone for braving the cold and rain for the Shepherd's Table collection. Thanks also to Sue Wiant for doing the same for our collection for the Apostleship of the Sea. Well done!

At this time, no decision on when that will happen, but we'll keep everyone posted. Also, it bears repeating, yay Carol Walper! The final tally on the Boxes of Joy collected in October came to 44! And thanks to donations we were able to pay for the shipping. Maryknights are awesome!

The opportunity to continue being awesome is December's collection for the Apostleship of the Sea. Collection will be on December 11 beginning at 5 p.m. and is being coordinated by Sue Wiant. Needed items include rosaries, prayer cards, small bottles of hand sanitizer, calendars, puzzle books, scarves, hats, candy and toiletries. You may provide a box of items or drop off individual items for assembly. Contact Sue Wiant if you would like to help assemble complete boxes. We will keep you up to date on any changes that may occur due to the pandemic.

Acknowledgements: Congratulations to Marie Dunkle and Marge Fait on becoming Maryknight Lifetime members. Well done ladies and thank you for your lifetime of service to the Maryknights and Rosensteel Council.

For Your Reflection: In his book, *Make Straight the Crooked Ways: Daily Reflections for Advent*, Father Edward Hays suggests that as our Advent theme song we use Disney's seven dwarves' "Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to work we go." Think of St. John the Baptist as Advent's foreman, urging us to "shoulder your pick and shovel, and go make straight your crooked ways; fill your valley's and level your mountains – prepare the way of the Lord."

I hope this prayer inspires you on your Advent journey.

Where should I begin, Jesus, to unclutter my life? I have yielded to temptation and filled my days with more commitments than I can comfortably manage. Help me make myself a little less busy, **FREE MY TIME**. I have crowded my space with too much baggage: with gadgets and conveniences and possessions. Help me to let go of whatever I cling to, **FREE MY HANDS**. I have filled my head with trivial distractions: News, and weather, gossip and prejudices. Help me to refocus on more important concerns, **FREE MY MIND**. Jesus, my life is cluttered with more idols than I realized. I have given them a reverence they do not deserve. Teach me to renounce their claim on me, and end my divided allegiance. Guide me to a simpler life and more generous service. Amen. (Bishop Ken Untener)

God Bless us all. Wishing you a safe and joyful Christmas - Peggy Seleski





Timothy Stocker

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JANUARY 2021

- 1 New Year's Day
- 5 Membership Meeting

DECEMBER 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1. Council Membership Meeting	2.	3.	4. Team 4, Marks	5.
7.	8.	9.	10.	11. Team 3, Neff - fried shrimp	12.
14.	15.	16.	17.	18. Team 5, Girolami	19.
21.	22.	23.	24. Christmas Eve	25. Christmas Day	26.
28.	29.	30.	31. New Year's Eve	January 1	
				3 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	
	7.	1. Council Membership Meeting 7. 8. 14. 15.	1. Council Membership Meeting 7. 8. 9. 14. 15. 16.	1. Council Membership Meeting 7. 8. 9. 10. 14. 15. 16. 17. 21. 22. 23. 24. Christmas Eve	1. 2. 3. 4. Team 4, Marks Council Membership Meeting