



Knights *focus*

FR. EDWARD V. McCULLOUGH COUNCIL #7736
St. Jude Catholic Church
Mansfield, TX
FEBRUARY 2012

Lenten Repentance

by Grand Knight Bill Tillotson

We know that the Catholic Church teaches that, in order to be a practicing Catholic, we should make confession at least once a year, usually during Lent. St. Jude gives us many opportunities to fulfill this requirement. Fr. George hears confessions several nights a week and there are penance services scheduled throughout Lent.

But do we take advantage of these opportunities? For all too many Catholics, the answer is probably no. There are a lot of excuses for why we don't go. *It takes too much time* (you may have plenty of time to contemplate those sins some day) – *I can pray directly to God* (of course you can, but you are not guaranteed the graces you'll receive in the Sacrament) – or the best one – *I haven't really sinned* (really?).

I know that it is tough to make time, but I encourage all of you to make Confession this Lent. I know I will. And I know all of us need it!

Our Catholic Church is wise in requiring us to receive this Sacrament once a year, and I encourage each of you to avail yourself of the graces present in this Sacrament. The importance of regular repentance can be illustrated as follows.

For a moment, imagine your life as an old sailing vessel crossing the Atlantic. Your sextant and compass are your guides. But currents push your ship this way and that. There are inaccuracies in your readings each day. And storms swell up that push you even

further off course. And when you get to the New World, you land not at New York (where you wanted to go), but Florida!

In our everyday life, the Church and our conscience are our guides. But the currents of everyday life (TV, Internet, coworkers) drive us off our path. Our misunderstanding of church teachings and our own shortcomings lead us a bit further astray. And crisis arise, like large storms, that drive us further off the path we want to be on. At the end, will we end up somewhere much further south than where we wanted to be?

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a course correction – a reorienting of our lives back towards New York and away from Florida (no offense, Floridians). And these course corrections are easier to make if we haven't veered too far off the right path!

We all drift off the path (as we all sin). Reconciliation forces us to confront our sinfulness, confess it and receive the healing graces of the Holy Spirit.

What a great gift the Church offers us through this sacrament. I challenge each of you to receive it this Lenten season.

Vivat Jesus!
Bill

Upcoming Events

- DUES ARE DUE
- Feb 4/5 – Turkey and Brauts
- Feb 5 - Family Super Bowl Party
- Feb 7 – Business Mtg
- Feb 11 – District Free Throw Contest
- Feb 13 – 1st Degree at St. Joseph
- Feb 15 – Bishop's Dinner
- Feb 19 – Pancake B'fast
- Feb 20 – 4th Degree Mtg
- Feb 21 – Lady Knights Mtg
- Feb 24 – Fish Fry
- Feb 25 – Abortion Clinic
- Feb 25 - BINGO
- Feb 28 – Planning Mtg

Bishops Dinner

Bishop Vann will be visiting our Council for a dinner and talk on February 15 at 6:30 P.M. Only 100 people are coming, so make your reservation with Bill Tillotson now. Thanks to Larry Evans for donating this dinner to the Council!

Super Bowl Party

Our annual Family Super Bowl Party will be on Sunday, February 5, starting at 4:00 P.M. Bring the whole family and some type of dish to share. Council will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, sodas, beer, wine and a margarita machine!

**Have the Knights
made you a better
Catholic?
Pass on the gift by
asking someone to
join the Knights!**

Pancake Breakfast

Our next Pancake Breakfast will be on the morning of February 19. Please come out and help, even if you can only help cleanup. With Religious Ed started, the crowds are much bigger! We need all the help we can get! First crew shows up at 7:00 A.M.

February Meeting Date

The February meeting is going to be one week earlier than usual. It will be on February 7 – rosary at 6:30 P.M. and meeting at 7:00 P.M. The second Tuesday of February is Valentine's Day and we shouldn't be doing K of C stuff that evening.

First Degrees

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

2/13 – St. Joseph in Arlington

3/12 – St. Matthew in Arlington

Contact

Speedy Gonzales at 817-680-8240

or e-mail at speedyg@hotmail.com

if you have a lead on a new member

Turkey and Brauts

We are cooking our world famous turkey legs and bratwursts after 5:00 P.M. Mass on February 4 and all Masses on February 5. Please come out and help when you can, especially after the mass you attend to help sell. This is a big fundraiser for us so please come out and help. New guys especially welcome!

Fish Frys

Our Lenten Fish Fries start early this year on February 24. Please pencil in the Fridays of Lent on your new calendar. As a heads up, we WILL NOT be doing a Fish Fry on Good Friday this year.

January First Degree

We had a successful First Degree in January with 11 men joining the Order. Thanks to our Degree Team for doing another stellar job. The new Knights are:

Mike Duke

Charles Gonzalez

Nick Gravois

Gregg Ipock

Bryan Landin

Tony Martin

Don Mayo

Carlos Mendez

Matt Schumann

Cliff Vittorio

Tom Wilson

Monthly Awards

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH – Speedy Gonzales – It would be hard to recognize anyone OTHER than Speedy Gonzales for the February Knight of the Month. Speedy coordinated a successful membership blitz and got 11 guys to our First Degree last month. What a great job! And he still has leads he's working for February!

FAMILY OF THE MONTH – Pete and Margret Vasquez - These two are active parishioners who serve as an inspiration to many around them. Pete is an active Knight who is always ready to give a helping hand. And Margret is active in the parish as the editor for the weekly mass bulletin. Thank you for all you do for the parish Pete and Margret!



Find out everything going on with Council 7736 by going to our website:

www.kofc7736.org

**DUES ARE DUE! PAY
MARVIN SULAK ASAP!**

Council 7736 Upcoming Events

- February 4 – Turkey and Brauts after 5:00 P.M. Mass.
- February 5 – Turkey and Brauts after ALL Masses.
- February 5 @ 4:00 P.M. – Family Super Bowl Party at Parish Center
- February 7 @ 7:00 P.M. – Monthly Business Meeting at Parish Center
- February 11 @ 6:30 P.M. – District 14 Free Throw Contest at St. Maria Goretti
- February 13 @ 7:00 P.M. – First Degree at St. Joseph, Arlington
- February 15 @ 6:30 P.M. – Bishop’s Dinner at Parish Center
- February 18 – St. Joseph Casino Night
- February 19 @ 7:00 A.M. – Pancake Breakfast
- February 20 @ 7:00 P.M. – 4th Degree Meeting at Council 6269
- February 21 @ 7:00 P.M. – Lady Knights Meeting
- February 24 @ 3:00 P.M. – Fish Fry
- February 25 @ 8:15 A.M. – Pray at Henderson Street Abortion Clinic
- February 25 @ 6:30 P.M. – BINGO at the Parish Center
- February 26 @ 9:45 A.M. – SK Peter Henz Memorial Mass at St. Matthew
- February 28 @ 7:00 P.M. – Council Planning Meeting at Parish Center
- February 29 @ 7:00 P.M. – Chapter Meeting at Council 4771 in Denton
- March 2 @ 3:00 P.M. – Fish Fry
- March 3 @ 5:00 P.M. – Corporate Communion
- March 9 @ 3:00 P.M. – Fish Fry
- March 12 @ 7:00 P.M. – First Degree at St. Matthew
- March 13 @ 7:00 P.M. – Monthly Business Meeting at Parish Center
- March 16 @ 3:00 P.M. – Fish Fry
- March 17 @ 2:00 P.M. – St. Patrick’s Day Parade
- March 19 @ 7:00 P.M. – 4th Degree Meeting at Council 6269
- March 20 @ 7:00 P.M. – Lady Knights Meeting
- March 23 @ 3:00 P.M. – Fish Fry
- March 24 @ 8:15 A.M. – Pray at Henderson Street Abortion Clinic

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