



Knights *focus*

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

Lent

by Grand Knight Dave Tomlin

*"Remember, man, you are dust,
and unto dust you shall return."*

These are the words which the priest says to us as he makes the sign of the cross on our foreheads with ashes derived from burning the blessed palms from last year's Palm Sunday. This should be a vivid reminder of our mortality and the fragile nature of our lives. The ashes give us a reminder of death. As Knights, this symbolism should have special meaning, as we are ever watchful for the hand of death. This ensures that we strive each day to be more Christ-like in the way we treat our fellow man.

The ashes also remind us of our sins. In early centuries, placing ashes upon the forehead was used for public sinners. However, around the year 1000 AD, the practice was adopted by all of the faithful as a sincere and external token of our sinfulness.

As we approach Lent this year, I encourage each of you to take some time to reflect on your life over the past year. Examine what you can do to improve the relationships that you have with your family, co-workers, and

friends.

Moreover, what is your relationship like with God? Think about the things that you can personally do to bring you closer to God. Perhaps, it's helping the less fortunate. Or, maybe, it's an extra reconciliation to help wash away the stain of sin from our souls. That same stain that is represented in the ashes that we receive at the beginning of the Lenten season. Whatever it is, let the ashes of Lent remind you to draw closer to God.

Our lives are fleeting on the scale of eternity. Let's make sure we use our time here to prepare ourselves for eternity with God.

Vivat Jesus
Dave Tomlin
Grand Knight

**MAKE
LENT
COUNT**
PRAY • ACT • GIVE

February 2013

Upcoming Events

- Feb 2 – District 14 Free Throw Contest
- Feb 2 – Scholarship Applications Open
- Feb 2/3 – Turkey & Brauts
- Feb 3 – Super Bowl Party
- Feb 6 – Pro-life Rosary
- Feb 9 – Abortion Clinic
- Feb 9 – Major Degree in Arlington
- Feb 10 – Pancake B'fast
- Feb 12 – Monthly Mtg
- Feb 13 – Ash Wednesday
- Feb 15 – Fish Fry
- Feb 16 – Diocesan Free Throw Contest
- Feb 18 – Assembly Mtg
- Feb 22 – Fish Fry
- Feb 23/24 – Knights CAN

Turkey & Bratwursts

The annual Super Bowl Turkey and Bratwurst sale will be held the weekend of February 2nd and 3rd. We will start around 4:00 P.M. on Saturday and go until after 7:00 P.M. Mass. We then will start on Sunday at 7:00 A.M. and go until we're done. This is a major fundraiser for our Council and we need LOTS of help. Set aside time to work or at least just help sell after the Mass you attend.

Family Super Bowl Party

Our Family Super Bowl Party will be held on the afternoon of February 3rd starting at 3:00 P.M. Bring a dish to share and BYOB if you're picky about what you drink. Council will have margaritas, beer, wine and sodas. We've invited the whole parish, so come on out and enjoy!

Major Degree

There is a Major Degree (2nd and 3rd Degree) here in Arlington at the Council 6269 Hall on Saturday, February 9th. If you are a First Degree member, this is a great time to make your Major close to home. Watch for e-mail for more details on signing up to attend.

Lenten Fish Frys

Our Council Fish Frys start on Friday, February 15th, and goes on for six Fridays. This is our "All Hands On Deck" event each year – we need lots of guys to help. We'll start cooking every Friday around 3:00 P.M. Dinner starts at 5:00 P.M. and goes until 7:00 P.M. We are out of there by 8:00 P.M. Please plan on setting aside a few Fridays and helping out, even if it's only with cleanup. Many hands makes the load light!

KNIGHTS CAN!!!

Our next KNIGHTS CAN Weekend is February 23rd/24th. 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!!!

Matlock Street Cleanup

Our next Matlock Street Cleanup will be on March 2. We will meet in front of the Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market at Matlock and Debbie at 9:00 A.M. (Note the time change). We are usually done by around 10:30 A.M. Bring the whole family and help keep Mansfield beautiful!



Gary Marcucci Family – Council 7736 2012 Family of the Year

Prolife Rosary & Prayer

We will be leading a Prolife Rosary before Mass on Wednesday, February 6th at 6:30 P.M. We then will be going to pray at the Abortion Clinic at 8:15 A.M. on February 9th. Please come out and help us pray. Help make a statement that abortion is murder.

Pancake Breakfast

Our next Pancake Breakfast will be held on Sunday, February 10th. We start around 7:00 A.M. over in the Parish Hall. Please come out and help, even if you can only help cleanup. This is a fun and easy way to get involved with the Council, so we hope to see you there!

**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)

2/9 – Council 759 in Keller
2/11 – Council 13470 in Arlington
2/17 – Council 2813 in Fort Worth
3/11 – Council 8895 in Arlington

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 – Kevin Henry – Kevin's passion centers on helping the youth of our community. Kevin teaches the game of basketball to many children each year in an effort to pass on the love he has for the game. We consider ourselves lucky to have Kevin organize our council's Free Throw contest. Thanks Kevin!

FAMILY OF THE MONTH – Bill & Liz Bellman – If you don't know Bill and Liz, you probably should. These two have been the backbone of our St. Jude's community. They have spent countless hours in the spiritual development of our future Catholic leaders, as well as, organizing the many individuals who use utilize our church facilities. Thank you for all that you do!



Find out everything going
on with Council 7736 at

LENT 2013

The Sunday Gospels of Lent 2013 invite us to be reconciling people who cultivate new life in the family, work, church, and civic relationships in which we live. What can we fertilize one more time? Where can we welcome the prodigal or embrace the haughty righteous? How can we help those who survive on the husks of others' leftovers?

Do an activity each day of Lent.

☺ Try to understand another's point of view ☺ Make someone laugh ☺ Praise someone honestly ☺ Say, "I'm sorry" Mean it ☺ Act like Jesus ☺ Clean up an eyesore in your neighborhood ☺ Respond the first time someone calls you

☺ Send a crocus to someone from whom you are estranged ☺ Ask God to do what is best for the public person you dislike most ☺ Help someone realize his or her self-worth ☺ Cement a friendship ☺ Try not to waste anything for one whole day ☺ Call someone who is lonely ☺ Drive patiently today ☺ Resist trying to be the center of attention ☺ Be a shoulder to cry on ☺ Expand your horizons—go to a lecture, read a book, see a play ☺ Be patient with others ☺ Refuse to gossip ☺ Refuse to whine ☺ Readily forgive anyone who hurts you ☺ Surprise yourself ☺ Make someone else the center of attention. ☺ If you love someone, say so ☺ Advocate on behalf of social issues such as affordable housing ☺ Thank God for the gift of life ☺ Pray for a friend ☺ Pray for an enemy ☺ Start something good. ☺ Visit a shut-in ☺ Give away all your "extras"

☺ Resist judging coworkers ☺ Examine your conscience ☺ Stop a label or stereotype in your workplace ☺ Refuse to judge or categorize others ☺ Be a sign of hope for someone who is depressed ☺ Spend some silent time alone ☺ Be a peacemaker at work or school ☺ Recognize the truth about yourself—no matter how good it is ☺ Drive with patience ☺ Participate actively in Holy Week worship.

Time apart to pray can restore resilience to our productive selves and give us a chance to breathe air and smell cherry blossoms for free.

We fast to break our routines and test how life-giving they are. We fast from what dulls and drags us in order to feast on friendship and reflection.

Each Lent we turn again to the Church's ancient practices for awakening our often-complacent spirits. We pray, fast, and give alms. We seek to deepen our faith in Jesus' promise of new life and his claim on us for the transformation of our world.

In giving alms we learn the needs of others, stretch our resources to contribute to their well-being, and work for just public policies.

Lent is a season for winter hearts to melt, regenerate, and renew our commitment as Easter people. We believe that like Jesus' love, our love gives life.

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SUNDAY
BY **SUNDAY**

Council 7736 Upcoming Events

- February 2 – Scholarship Applications Open
- February 2 @ 7:00 P.M. – District Free Throw Contest at St. Maria Goretti
- February 2/3 – Super Bowl Turkey and Bratwurst after masses
- February 3 @ 3:00 P.M. – Family Super Bowl Party at Parish Center
- February 6 @ 6:30 P.M. – Pro-life Rosary at St. Jude
- February 9 @ 8:15 A.M. – Pray at Abortion Clinic
- February 9 @ 10:00 A.M. – Major Degree at Council 6269 in Arlington
- February 10 @ 7:00 A.M. – Pancake Breakfast
- February 11 @ 7:00 P.M. – RCIA Ministry Fair
- February 12 @ 7:00 P.M. – Monthly Business Meeting; Rosary at 6:30 P.M.; Meeting at 7:00 P.M.
- February 13 – ASH WEDNESDAY
- February 15 @ 3:00 P.M. – Fish Fry
- February 16 @ 1:00 P.M. – “Taking Care of Business” financial seminar at Council 9868
- February 16 @ 1:00 P.M. – Diocesan Free Throw Contest at Nolan High School
- February 18 @ 7:00 P.M. – Mary, Queen of Peace Assembly Meeting at Council 6269 Hall
- February 22 @ 3:00 P.M. – Fish Fry
- February 23 @ 8:00 A.M. – Knight in a Day in Mineral Wells
- February 23 @ 10:30 A.M. – Special Olympics Basketball Tournament in Grand Prairie
- February 23/24 – KNIGHTS CAN Weekend
- February 24 @ 2:00 P.M. – Flag Retirement Ceremony at Council 2813 in Fort Worth
- February 26 @ 7:00 P.M. – Council Planning Meeting
- February 27 @ 8:00 P.M. – Chapter Meeting at St. Maria Goretti in Arlington
- March 1 @ 3:00 P.M. – Lenten Fish Fry
- March 2 @ 9:00 A.M. – Matlock Street Cleanup
- March 3 @ 2:00 P.M. – Family Bowling
- March 8 @ 3:00 P.M. – Lenten Fish Fry
- March 9 @ 6:30 P.M. – BINGO!
- March 12 – Monthly Business Meeting; Rosary at 6:30 P.M.; Meeting at 7:00 P.M.
- March 13 @ 6:30 P.M. – Pro-life Rosary before Mass.
- March 15 @ 3:00 P.M. – Lenten Fish Fry

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