



Knights *focus*

St. Jude COUNCIL #7736

St. Jude Catholic Church, Mansfield, TX

DON'T GET KNOCKED OFF YOUR HORSE

By Grand Knight Dave Tomlin

Every January, it's common for people to make resolutions on how they will change their lives for the better. If you are like me, these resolutions center around weight loss, stopping bad happens, or creating good habits. My usual Modus operandi is to have this resolution falter before January 15th. This year, however, when I think about resolutions, I think of conversion. Conversion to me is more definitive than the resolutions that seem so easy to break. This makes me think of St. Paul whose Feast Day is January 25th.

Paul was born with the name Saul, at Tarsus, the capitol of Cilicia. His father was well off, Jewish; a member of the tribe of Benjamin, and a Roman citizen, and Saul grew up with a fierce loyalty to Jewish law and tradition. Consequently, he enthusiastically opposed the "heretical" new sect of Christianity and joined in the persecution of St. Steven and other followers of Jesus. While he was on his way to hunt down suspected Christians in Damascus, Saul was struck blind and knocked off his horse as he heard the voice of Christ saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" Saul was so convinced that Christ himself had appeared and spoken to him that he devoted the rest of his life to serving Christ. He converted from being intent on Christianity's destruction to turning it into a world religion. This conversion, after which, he was known as Paul, took place in AD 34, about a year after the crucifixion.

Paul had to endure a great deal of persecution himself as he pursued his mission. He told the Corinthians that he had been given 39 lashes five times, been beaten with sticks on three occasions, and even been stoned. Paul was

eventually taken to Rome as a prisoner about AD 60. Though chained to his guard, he was able to write inspirational letters to the Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon. He was acquitted and released two years later. Then he was imprisoned once more and was entirely alone when he came to trial. He knew his time had run out. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith." Paul was beheaded in Rome probably in AD 67.

Paul's commitment to his conversion took a lifetime of effort and fortitude. But even at the end he remained steadfast to the goal of spreading the Christian faith. This year when I think of breaking off my resolution, perhaps a quick reflection on the life of St. Paul will help me remain firm. Maybe you too, my brothers, will turn to St. Paul for help when your own resolutions are on the brink!

I wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year!

**Vivat Jesus
Dave Tomlin
Grand Knight**

January 2014

Upcoming Events

- January 8 - Prolife Rosary
- January 11 - Biannual Planning Meeting
- January 11 - Bingo
- January 14 - Council Meeting
- January 18 - Membership Blitz
- January 19 - Membership Blitz
- January 19 - Pancake Breakfast
- January 25 - Pray at the Abortion Clinic
- January 25 - Knights Can Weekend
- January 28 - Council Planning
- January 30 - First Degree Mansfield

Bingo!!!

Come out and help with BINGO Saturday January 11th. This is a BIG fundraiser for us so please come and help, or just bring the whole family and play!

Food prep starts around 4:00 P.M. – gaming at 6:30 P.M



Membership Blitz

We will be conducting a membership blitz the weekend of January 18th -19th after all masses. If you know someone you would like to join the council, please mention it to them.

Come back to the North exit after communion to help sign up new members. Please, wear KOFC name badge.



First Degree in Mansfield

Our council will be hosting a First Degree January 30th. As a fellow Brother, please make every effort to attend and support the candidates who will join our brotherhood at this time.

Knights Can Weekend

Our next KNIGHTS CAN Weekend is January 25th. On this weekend, the Knights all make an effort to remember to bring in canned goods for the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

2013 Christmas Party



**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)

1/28 – Council 8157
Duncanville

1/30 – Council 7736
Mansfield

1/31 – Council 11423
Ft. Worth

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- Tim Henz

Tim, who is currently serving as our Faithful Navigator for our 4th Degree Assembly, always makes time for his council. On an icy day in December, Tim and his boys answered the call to clear the walkways in front of St. Jude for the Saturday evening Mass. Tim's charitable spirit should be emulated by all of us.

Family of the Month- Eddie and Ramona Jackson

Eddie and Ramona continue to improve upon past success. While it is sad to see so many families in need, the preparation of Eddie and Ramona ensure that our St. Vincent de Paul Society fulfill the needs of each and every individual. Thank you Eddie and Ramona for your tireless efforts.



Find out everything going on with Council 7736 at
www.kofc7736.org

Council 7736 Upcoming Events

January 8 @ 6:00 P.M – Prolife Rosary

January 11 @ 9:00 A.M. – Biannual Planning Meeting

January 11 @ 6:30 P.M – Bingo

January 14@ 7:00 P.M – Council Business Meeting

January 18-19 – Membership Blitz

January 25 @ 7:00 A.M – Pancake Breakfast

January 25 @ 8:00 A.M – Pray at Abortion Clinic

January 25-26 – Knights Can Weekend

January 28 @ 7:00 P.M – Council Planning

January 30@ 7:00 P.M – First Degree Mansfield

Knights of Columbus Council 7736
P.O. Box 1416
Mansfield, TX 76063