



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
HOT SPRINGS COUNCIL 6419

Knights Watch



VOLUME 26, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2014

Inside this issue

Fourth Degree, p. 2

Spotlight on Gil and Karen Gibbons, p. 2

From Father George Sanders, p. 3

Council to Give Third Book at Easter Masses, p. 4

From Our Insurance Agent, p. 5

Bishop McDonald Dies, p. 6

Pray for Our Sick, p. 7

April Calendar, p. 7

April Birthdays, p. 7

“...and a host of others [volunteer workers] have collected donations, cleaned, laundered, organized, arranged, and priced—all tedious tasks in anticipation of the traditional ‘Big Bang’ of the first sale day this Friday.”

Grand Knight’s Article

King Solomon, one of the wisest men God created, taught us a lot about fools and seasons, and we are approaching both. April Fool’s Day and spring! Solomon wrote in Ecclesiastes 3: “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” As we approach this spring season, let us not be foolish in our endeavors. We have been busy throughout the fall and winter months, and even though we may have “spring fever,” we need to continue to do what needs to be done to make the lives of others easier. One of our biggest fund raisers—the Spring Rummage and Furniture Sale—is quickly approaching, April 4-5 and 11-12. To carry this off in grand style, we must have all the help we can get. **Jim Lockwood, Stan DeGruccio, Don Sass, Joe Giompoletti, Dennis Wood, Leonard Buchholz, Gil Gibbons, Luis Rivera, Bob Koch, Dick Smith, Ed King,**

Harold Hager, Sue Wood, Liz Sass, Mildred Giompoletti, Dawn Thompson, Carol Koch, Martha Lockwood, Sue Stephens, Judy Kirton, Sandy Kortenber, and a host of others have collected donations, cleaned, laundered, organized, arranged, and priced—all tedious tasks finally nearing completion in anticipation of the traditional “BIG BANG” on the first sale day this Friday, 8 o’clock sharp! **Carol Andrews** once again has tackled the advance publicity for our sale. Well in advance of the sale, she sent out 256 “save-the-date” postal cards (names and addresses collected at previous Rummage Sales). In addition, she and **Evelyn Enderlin** printed around 200 posters, some of them in Spanish, to post around Garland County. Carol also was successful in getting free coverage by one radio station and collecting \$200 to use toward advertising costs. While the adults conduct the sale, the young men of our inaugural Columbian Squires--the Disciples of the Springs—group will conduct on the first Saturday (and possibly

the second Saturday) a trial car wash. They will also sell their Rosary Bracelets and “Peel-a-Deal” pull tickets for Papa Murphy’s Pizza.

Our council is also fully engaged in the season of Lent, a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice. It is the season of increased almsgiving, atonement, and self-denial. We will forego our April Corporate Communion so that we might focus on family and the holy season. The world will celebrate Palm Sunday on April 13, Holy Thursday on April 17, Good Friday the following day, and Easter Sunday on April 20.

Then **Deputy Grand Knight Andy Anderson** and **I as Grand Knight** will be off to Russellville as delegates to the Arkansas Knights of Columbus annual convention on April 25-27. Accompanying Andy and me will be alternate delegates **Dennis Bosch** and **Rick Sands**, both of them past Grand Knights.

Thanks to St. Mary’s and St. John’s **concluded, p. 4**

And Here We Go!

The spring rummage sale is here! Almost. The week ahead is full of last-minute tasks, including collecting more donations, cleaning furniture, rearranging, in short, getting furniture better organized and presented. *Spirit Hall* is already in good shape with only a few things to shape up.

Tomorrow (Monday) is set for several collections of donations. Several good donations have come in this past week, and others almost certainly will come. So, overall, our status has improved, though not as impressive as for the October sale. A few of our usual workers will be absent dur-

ing this sale, either due to health issues or conflicting plans that will take them out of the area. So we will need some new volunteers to supplement those who always come through for us. The first Friday, of course, is consistently the most frantic day. If true to form, the parking lot and buildings will be packed!



“For 55 years now Fraulein Scheer has been Mrs. Gil Gibbons.”

“And now, through sheer coincidence, they had come together again, 50 years later in another part of the world.”

The Fourth Degree Assembly met at *Giampoletti Hall* at 6:30 p.m. on March 20. Approximately 15 men were present to enjoy the special treat of duck gumbo made by **Bob Koch** with his special recipe and ducks donated by **Bob Kortenber**. Delicious!

The April meeting will be a social, including wives and other friends, at 6:30 on Wednesday evening, April 16 at Fisherman’s Wharf on Central Avenue. Note that the Holy Thursday Mass is on the following day, necessitating a change from the regular date. If the

weather is favorable, we may sit on the deck.

The rest of the meeting was spent planning the meetings for the remainder of the year, including who will prepare the dinners for each business meeting and the restaurant for each social.

Spotlight on Gil and Karen Gibbons



The account of **Gil and Karen Gibbons’ relocation to Hot Springs** from Chicago in 1993 sounds more than vaguely like a re-run of a common theme. “We were just passing through.....and liked what we saw.” At the time Gil had been retired a few years, enabling Karen and him to spend winters in Texas. On their trips from Chicago to Port Aransas, they would stop off in Hot Springs. Karen came to look forward to the famous Hot Springs baths. At some point, they decided they liked more about the town than the hot baths. So here they are. And here they have been for 21 years now.

Gil, who celebrated his 86th birthday on March 25, was born in Gillespie, Illinois, a small town near the Mississippi River in the southeastern part of the state. After graduation from Gillespie

High School he enrolled for a short time in St. Louis University. Facing a sure and imminent draft into military service, he left school to enlist in the Army. Soon he found himself in Korea on Occupation, a stint that would last

two years. He was recruited and served as Foreign Claims Investigator. Soon after his discharge from the Army, he enrolled at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in 1951. One year later he had earned a master’s degree in Economics. His first professional job found him in charge of Inventory Control with Alton Boxboard (a paper company) before later moves with the same company to St. Louis and a promotion to Assistant Plant Manager in Kansas City. Eventually, a new company and a new title placed him in Chicago. His new company was Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, and his new job was as Materials Manager. When the job transferred him to Clinton, Iowa, his life would make a big change, a change only loosely related to his job. One day in his new job ca-

capacity he hired a beautiful young lass—er..uh..fraulein actually—whose name was **Karen Scheer**. Though such things probably wouldn’t be allowed today, Gil and the fraulein began what was much more than a professional relationship. For 55 years now Fraulein Scheer has been **Mrs. Gil Gibbons**. (To get her present age, tack 21 onto 55.) They would become the parents of two daughters, one presently living in Dallas, the other in Raleigh. They also have two grandchildren, one in Florida, the other in North Carolina. Though remaining with Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, Gil would complete his career in Chicago as Assistant Vice President Purchasing Materials.

Before their winter sojourns began in Port Aransas, Texas, Gil and Karen and Gil spent a couple of winters in Corpus Christi. Most of the residents, like them, had fled the harsh winters of the Midwest for the milder Texas climate. Gil likes to recall one incident from that experience, one that introduced a remarkable, even bizarre, coincidence into his life. The beginning of this story dates back to Gil’s 1946-48 Korean assignment—a **continued, p. 8**

Knight Watch Sponsors

Tom & Barbara Gilleran*
 Scott & Sessie Hrdlicka
 Bob & Mary Ann Fiedler
 Zack & Stephanie Nehus*
 Randy & Marty Schnoebelen*
 Bob & Sandy Kortenber*
 Mark & Stephanie Layton*
 Mike & Mary Schnauer, Sr.
 Joe & Mildred Giompoletti
 Stan & Gwen DeGruccio
 Dawn Thompson
 Mike & Cathy Tucker
 Mike & Nancy Schnauer, Jr.
 Dick & Becky Antoine*
 Ed & Cheyl King
 Steve & Mary Gallimore

Joe & Janet Kanopsic*
 Joe & Peggy Palmere
 Hugh & Pat Truesdale
 Wally & Lucy Marroy*
 Rick & Pam Dwyer*
 John & Millie Connell
 Charlie & Carole Cook*
 Newton & Linda White
 Don & Elizabeth Sass*
 David & Darla Myers*
 Dennis & Chris Bosch*
 Hans & Ilse Purkott*
 Bob & Carol Koch*
 Joe & Sandra Cenac*
 Merlin & Vida Ratzlaff
 Brian & Susan Charles*
 Bob & Ethel Kness*
 Joe & Agnes Petruk*

Dick & Jackie Smith*
 Gil & Karen Gibbons
 Rusty & Phyllis Baltz
 Dennis & Sue Wood
 Lou & Vi Kosarek*
 Joe & Jayne Dierks*
 Jody and Shelly Dvorak*
 Larry & Dianne Nieman*
 Frank & Lynn Janaskie*
 Harold Hager*
 Bill and Jenetta Ables*
 Audrey McDonald*
 Leonard Buchholz
 Marge Knoth
 Conrad Stein*
 Beverly Priest
 Julian and Kay Post*

Steve & Mary Gallimore
 Ray & Rose Kukuk
 Paul & Evelyn Enderlin
 Paul Myers
 John & Denise Steinhaus*
 Paul and Mary Jo Selig*
 Jack & Carol Andrews
 Jim & Frankie DeGeorge*
 Joe & Betty Harrison
 Larry & Sandy Stamps
 Kevin & Lisa Coakley
 Jim & Martha Lockwood*
 Carol Ecklund*
 Mabel Larseinque
 Lorraine McManus*

From Father George Sanders: It's Between Me And My God



This famous statement came from one of our better known Arkansans, who at the time of the quote was President of the United States. The

context was in reference to an inappropriate relationship with an aide that could only be construed as sexual if you were able to determine what the meaning of "is" is in his testimony. Though a consummate politician and lawyer, he has no claim to being even an average grammarian. That being as it may, the idea that my sins are a personal matter, only between me and "my" God is a clear misunderstanding of normal social relationships and a blinding myth from our age of hyper-individualism.

Like a social tsunami, public moral weakness or failure is never a personal matter and affects everyone associated with the individual or is touched by his moral collapse in some way. Mortal

sins (sins that are substantial in nature and willfully and knowingly committed by the individual) ripple through the immediate world of the individual in predictable and devastating patterns and continue to reverberate across the otherwise still w a t e r o f a person's life often having long-term concentric circles of implications. Take adultery for example. When this secret act is made public, the damage from this moral tsunami can be both deep and wide and leave multi-generational devastation in its path. There are plenty of examples of other failures that have a like effect on the individual's life and those around him., but I believe that the case is made that mortal sins or major moral collapses are never only personal, something between us and God alone.

Our Catholic faith recognizes the communal and societal nature of our actions and provides a remedy for our failures, broken relationships and wounded faith: the Sacrament of Penance. As one who has only relatively

recently found the Catholic Church, I have a deep appreciation for Confession. Many non-Catholics are unknowingly swimming in the waters of rationalistic hyper-individualism, which has greatly colored even their religious thinking. Owing to their birth from the Age of Reason and heir of the Era of Enlightenment (so called), they hold to no ecclesiology, per se, that would point to a physical presence of the (Catholic) Church as a visible and tangible reality here on earth. They tend to see salvation as an individual matter, between the individual and God, and one that is based solely on the intellect, spirit and mind. Because of this overemphasis on the intellect or mind, faith was unnaturally bifurcated from "works" or actions **concluded, p. 8**



SCOTT'S
 HOME IMPROVEMENT, INC.

Lic. # 0113310708

Roofing • Painting
 Fire & Water Restoration

Home 501-463-9114
 Cell 501-617-1537

Owner
 Scott Hrdlicka

Grand Knight's article, concluded

Churches for their roles in our March 25 Vocations Day. The presence of **Bishop Anthony Taylor, along with former St. John's pastor Father Erik Pohlmeier, Father James West, and Father Elijah from Subiaco, Sisters Glorea and Mary Clare** helped make this a successful event attended by young men and women introduced to the possibility of a religious vocation in their futures. Council 6419, led by **Joe Giompoletti, George Schwass, and Robert Rowe** fed hamburgers and hot dogs to about 145 people. Thanks to St. John's School and the Sisters of Mercy for allowing us to use their facilities for this important event.

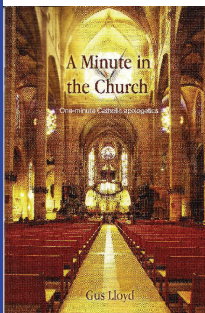
Immediately following the Mass that closed out Vocations Day, many of us, including Bishop Taylor, headed to Knights of Columbus' *Giompeletti Hall* to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Chairman **Joe Kanopsic, his wife Janet,**

Chuck and Darlene Pavlovich, Stan and Janie Kowalkowski, Janice Callahan, and Wally Frazee provided a traditional but extraordinarily delicious dinner of corned beef and cabbage with potatoes, bread, and dessert. About the bread: Altogether, 12 loaves of rye bread were baked by Janice Callahan and a half-dozen loaves of brown Irish soda bread by Joe Kanopsic. Absolutely delicious! Thanks to **Ben Van Wagner** for his help with our meat order. A special note of appreciation to **Don and Liz Sass** for the festive decorations. During the social hour Council member **Larry Lin-teau** entertained on the piano with a nice collection of easy-listening tunes. Finally, completing a lovely evening were the Irish traditional songs sung by the Fun City Chorus including our own **Rick Sands**. About 100 guests were present for this memorable evening. **Editor's humble opinion: This was our best-ever St. Patrick's celebration. Those who opted not to come might reconsider next year!**

As we advance into another season, I would like to leave you with this thought: Each season has its own distinct character and purpose—dormancy in winter, budding in spring, growth in summer, release in autumn. Each season is dependent on the others occurring in their natural order. Our lives have seasons too. We move through infancy, childhood, adulthood, and maturity, experiencing constant change. Each season brings its unique joys and challenges, and each builds on the one before it. I am grateful for this season of my life, for the changes and growth it brings, for the rest and activity. With each season, I grow into the fullness of my humanity.

"They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season...In all that they do, they prosper."—*Psalm 1:3.*/**Newton White, Grand Knight**

Council to Present Gift of Third Book at Easter Masses



will be the third such Council 6419 gift as part of our commitment to apologetics (evangelism), the first two at the Christmas Masses of 2012 and 2013.

This book, perhaps more appropriately called a booklet (46 pages), was recommended by council mem-

ber **Mark Layton**, who made a sizable contribution to the purchase price of \$1.00 per copy. Several other members made similar monetary contributions—enough to order 1100 copies and cover postage. **The order includes 250 copies in Spanish.**

A Minute in the Church presents 36 controversial topics that often are points of dispute between Catholics and those of other churches. And it does so in no more than one-half page each. These topics are intended to equip those Catholics who find themselves on shaky ground when they try to defend the Faith. One feature that we find appealing is that the discussions are so

brief, thereby placing minimal demand on the reader.

Gus Lloyd has published a second book, *A Minute in the Church, Volume 2*, which also sells at this time for \$1.00. The second book presents additional topics of controversy. Depending on the reaction to *Volume 1*, a later purchase of *Volume 2* is conceivable.

With a mission of turning the tide in the current widespread drift of membership from the Church, we believe there is no better time than Easter and Christmas to reach the maximum number of people—Catholic and otherwise.



Time to Reclaim Our Property!

Our opportunity to reclaim comes on May 24. Let our new council members know that Council 6419 was the proud champion for two years in a row! Last year a team of Flat Bellies from Morrilton took the trophy away from us. Come help us regain what we lost. We can do it, even though we will play on the enemy's turf—the Morrilton Country Club. Tee-time is 8:30 a.m. The format is a 3-knights scramble. Awards will be presented to first, second, and third places, a point of only minor interest because we're settling for nothing under #1.

to see 12 to 15 golfers from our council. We can have as many three-men teams as we can put together. Talk it up and call me at 501-623-8263 or e-mail me at hdpurkott@aol.com

The \$60 Greens fee includes lunch. We will meet at St. John's Church at 7 a.m. and ride together in the church bus. Be with us when we bring that beautiful trophy home and return it to its lofty perch in Giompoletti Hall./**Hans Purkott, Chairman**

After fretting for the past year over the loss of OUR Knights of Columbus State Championship Golf Trophy, I'm throwing down the gauntlet....Today! Are YOU ready? Let's do it! I want our trophy returned to its original home: **Giompoletti Hall.**

So far, I have commitments from five knights to play. I want more. I would like

From Our Insurance Agent: "Put It Off Until Tomorrow? Can You Afford To?"

Buying life insurance is something that's easy to put off until tomorrow. And with the busy lives we all lead, tomorrow can easily become next week, next month, or even next year. For the sake of those you love, don't let that happen. I consider it my fraternal obligation to make sure that every Knights of Columbus member has the opportunity to protect his family with the Order's top-rated insurance products. I'll work with you to put a plan in place that will help your family when that help is most needed.

We all know someone whose health, instantly and seemingly out of the blue, changes. You may think that can't happen to you. Think again. And keep in mind that no one will

ring a bell warning you that your health is about to change. Medical technology has turned many diseases previously termed "death sentences" into very treatable conditions. What medical advances haven't changed, however, is that being diagnosed with one of these diseases will dramatically affect your ability to purchase life insurance coverage. Don't wait until it's too late.

Your Knights of Columbus insurance program is second to none. Knights of Columbus life insurance represents a safety net for Catholic families that's unsurpassed, and I'm proud of that. I'm also concerned. Why? Because so many of our brother Knights have no life insurance with the Order. I suspect that, for

many of them, tomorrow has become next week, next month, next year. Don't be one of them. Don't wait for the bell to ring. It isn't going to ring.

I'm at **501-204-9486**. Call me. Let's talk.

Randy Schnoebelen, FICF
Field Agent

A Brother Knight helping protect you and your Loved Ones!

Welch Funeral Home

202 South Fourth Street
Arkadelphia, AR 71923
870-230-1400
www.welchfh.net

Joe Palmere



Funeral Assistant

COAKLEY COMPANY INC.



KEVIN COAKLEY
PRESIDENT

Underground Utilities:
Sewer • Water • Cable

Excavating Construction:
Storm Drains • Site Work • Clearing

6822 Albert Pike Road
Royal, Arkansas 71968
Phone (501) 767-5800
Fax (501) 767-0070
Email: coakleyk@aol.com

The annual meeting of Hot Springs Knights, Inc. Will immediately follow the April 10 Council meeting with Dennis Bosch directing the order of business.

Officers & Directors 2013-14

Chaplain	Fr. Innocent Okore
Grand Knight	Newton White
Financial Secretary	Joseph Dierks
Deputy Grand Knight	Andy Anderson
Chancellor	Robert Koch
Advocate	Mike Tucker
Recorder	Charles Cook
Treasurer	Zack Nehus
Warden	Hans Purkott
Lecturer	James Reiter
Inside Guard	Ed King
Outside Guard	Doug Bolwelk
TRUSTEES	
One-Year	Dennis Bosch
Two-Year	Dennis Wood
Three-Year	Randy Schnoebelen
APPOINTED	
Membership Chairman	Joe Kanopsic
Retention Chairman	Joe Kanopsics
Program Director	David Myers
Family Director	Mark Layton
Church Director	Todd Shiver
Youth Director	Open
Council Director	Dennis Bosch
Pro-Life Director	Joseph Cenac, MD
Outreach Chairman	James Reiter
Publicity	Charles Cook
Building & Grounds Care	Richard Smith
Bar Manager	Richard Smith
Webmaster	Dennis Bosch

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you." Psalm 122:6



Alecia W. Stecks
REALTOR®

Cell/Text 501-831-7143
Office 501-623-2511 • Fax 501-623-3536
Alecia.Stecks@era.com

ERA Rushing McAdams Polychron REALTORS®
4039 Central Ave.
Hot Springs, AR 71913
erahotspings.com



Bishop Andrew McDonald Dies

Bishop Andrew J. McDonald, Bishop Emeritus of Little Rock, died at the age of 90 on April 1 at the St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly in Paladine, Illinois, where he relocated after his retirement in 2000. He had been in ill health for some time.

Bishop McDonald, the 11th of 12 children, was born in Savannah in 1923. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1948 and served the Church for 62 years. He was ordained as Bishop on September 5, 1972, and two days later became the fifth Bishop of Little Rock, succeeding Bishop Albert Fletcher.

He will be remembered for his gentle nature, his staunch defense of the poor, his strong advocacy of the rights of the unborn, and his great sense of humor. His flock will remember him in part for his love of corny jokes and for taking advantage of his opportunities to tell them.



John Steinhaus

Commercial Cleaning Services

ServiceMaster Commercial Cleaning
3655 C Malvern Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71901-6709
501/262-4390
501/360-5558 Beeper



Knights of Columbus 6419

P. O. Box 22927
Hot Springs, Arkansas 71903-2292

Phone: 262-2228 (K.C. Hall)
622-0191 (Grand Knight)

Charity, Unity, and Fraternity
"In service to one, in service to all"



INSTRUMENT & SUPPLY, INC.
P.O. Box 1679, Hot Springs, AR 71902
501-262-3282 Phone 501-262-4847 Fax
501-622-0191 Cell
Email: nwhite@isiequip.com
www.isiequip.com

NEWTON WHITE, P.E.
President/Owner

Water & Wastewater Treatment Equipment & Controls

April Calendar

- 4-5 Spring Charity Rummage Sale (see, articles, 11-12 p. 1)
- 10 Council Meeting, Giompoletti Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- 10 Hot Springs Knights, Inc., Giompoletti Hall, Immediately following Council Meeting
- 16 Fourth Degree Social, Fisherman's Wharf, 6:30 p.m. (Please note date is one day early)
- 20 Easter Sunday
- 25-27 Arkansas Knights of Columbus Convention, Russellville
- May Intra-Council Golf Tournament, Morrilton,
- 24 Tee-time, 8:30 a.m. (See article, p. 5)

Pray for Our Sick

Please pray for the following council members, wives/ relatives, and council friends who struggle with health problems: Carole Ecklund, Carol Koch, Danny and Mary Morrison, Father Alan, Karen Gibbons, Dick Smith, Larry Heisserer, George Schwass, Barbara Gilleran, Ilse Purkott, Beverly Priest, John Andrews, Frankie DeGeorge, Hayley Gloria, Stephen Stoddard, Matthew Stoddard, Valerie Poe, Deacon Dave Briselden, Rick Sands, Conrad Stein, Laura Mazzia, Deacon John Connell, Jeanette Mace, Barbara Meggers, and Fr. Raymond Rossi

April Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Jim Reiter | 18 Dcn. Lee Lechner |
| 2 Bart Newman | 22 Paul Enderlin |
| 4 Jimmy Bolt | 22 Vincente Gonzalez |
| 12 Don Sass | 25 Noland Bramlett |
| 14 Brian Charles | 26 Joe Kanopsis |
| 14 Joe Petruk | 27 Mark Chunn |
| 16 Evan Archer | 29 David Meeks |
| 17 Robert Bournwal | 29 Leonard O'Donovan |



**THE WINE RACK
& SPIRITS SHOPPE**

**1910 ALBERT PIKE
HOT SPRINGS**

"We offer
Great case
pricing"

(501) 624-2080



P. O. Box 22927
Hot Springs, Arkansas 71903-2292

Phone: 262-2228 (K.C. Hall)
622-0191 (Grand Knight)


Charity, Unity, and Fraternity
“In service to one, in service to all”



Office: 501-915-0313
Cell: 501-204-9488
E-mail: randy.schnoebelen@kofc.com

Randy Schnoebelen
Knights of Columbus

Field Agent
P. O. Box 8790
Hot Springs Village, AR 71910



Phone 501-623-3306
Fax 501-623-3538
24 Hr. Emer. 501-520-1300

217 Hicks Circle
Hot Springs, AR 71913
www.arkansasglass.com

LARRY NIEMAN

Store Fronts	Glass	Overhead Doors
Hollow Metal Doors	Mirrors	Shower Doors
Automatic Entrances	Plexiglass	Solariums
Hardware	Windows	Porch Enclosures

Serving Hot Springs & Surrounding Counties Since 1945

our sins, since God already knows what we have done (contrarily, in confession, we must disclose to the priest our actions and possibly be questioned about our motives). Gone too, the tangible assurance of forgiveness embodied in absolution of the priest or reconciliation with the Church, The modern form can occur while I sit in my easy chair and keep up with the news on TV, since it is all in my mind.

Our sins are not just between us and “our God,” but also involve in a real way our families and communities in which we live. Christ provided a more complete remedy for major moral failures in the Sacrament of Penance. Because we as Church are family, we are all affected by the sins and shortcomings of our brothers and sisters in Christ, much like their nuclear and extended family members are affected when one of them experiences a moral meltdown (Remember our presidential example?) In the act of absolution, the priest, in the person of Christ, pardons and absolves the penitent from his sins, but he does one more important and far-reaching thing. In the name of the Church he forgives the penitent for the pain and suffering experienced by the Church because of his sins. The penitent is forgiven by God and by the physical presence of God on earth, the Body of Christ, being reconciled to both God and the Church. **[This is the first of two installments.]**

Spotlight on Gil and Karen Gibbons, continued



A good 40 years before the event that was about to unfold. Residents of neighboring condos had together to socialize at a potluck dinner. In a conversation between Gil and Karen and new acquaintances Jack and Ruth Whipple of Clinton, Iowa—the town where Gil and Karen had met each other and where for a time they lived. As they exchanged conversation for a while, Jack Whipple suddenly began to register with Gil on a different level. Whoa! He believed he had one time known Jack. A long time ago. In Korea from 1946 to 1948. When Gil was there in Occupation of South Korea following the War, baseball teams had been formed about the area. Gil was his team’s catcher. Following a few questions about Jack’s whereabouts during that period, Gil learned that he indeed had been in Korea at the same time and that they had actually been friends! On the same baseball team! Jack and Gil had been the pitcher-catcher combo. Gil says Jack was a real crackerjack of a pitcher who, he believed, could have played in the Big Leagues. Following their time in the Occupation, they went there separate ways and, as happens so often, they

concluded, p, 9

Fr. George Sanders, concluded

as if they were not a part of faith and the motto of the Reformation was formed: *sola fides*, intellectual faith alone is necessary for salvation. Adding to this chasm with the ancient faith, the idea that the Church is necessary for salvation would have never appeared on their radar screen, since they view the Church as a community of the “saved” and not an incarnational reality at all. Following this Reformed logic, confession of sins is made directly to God and forgiveness is a personal matter between the individual and God alone.

One of the difficulties with his line of thinking (and there are others) is that the whole process is an exercise in mental assent that occurs completely within the individual intellect: if I confess my sins, God will forgive me (because the Bible tells me so), I have mentally confessed my sins to God; therefore, I am now forgiven. All done... Gone are the need for contrition and firm desire for amendment of life. Gone the need to disclose

Gil and Karen Gibbons, concluded

had come together again, 40 years later in another part of the world. When they parted at end of winter, they never saw each other again. Two months later, Ruth called Gil to tell him that Jack was to receive one of the first ever heart transplants. His pulmonary tests, however, would not sustain a new heart. A month after that, Jack was dead.

Upon their move to Hot Springs, Gil and Karen involved themselves with St. John's Catholic Church. Karen was soon a member of the Catholic Women's Organization and Sacred Heart Circle. Just as quickly Gil transferred his Knights of Columbus membership to the Hot Springs Council

and a short time later began the first of several terms as Council Recorder. His minutes of meetings were as meticulously detailed as those financial records of Hot Springs Knights, Incorporated after Gil began a long stretch as vice-president and treasurer of the organization that managed the council's properties and its investments. He also was financial secretary of an early 1st Degree team. For many years he has provided invaluable service to the council, only recently resigning from his position with Hot Springs Knights, Inc.

In recent years, as the council's twice-a-year Charity Rum-

mage Sales have mushroomed in size and scope, Gil has organized and managed the donations of tools, other garage-related items, and sports equipment. Long before the sales begin, Gil appears at *Spirit Hall* to get his station organized and priced, sometimes being the only one in the building, sometimes in the heat of summer, sometimes in the cold of winter. This year being the exception because of some health issues, Karen has also contributed to the success of our sales from their beginning in the early 90's. To both Gil and Karen we are grateful for their long-time support of and contribution to the workings of our local council.

TRUSTWORTHY HOME INSPECTION SERVICES

Joe Kanopsic

*Licensed Home Inspector
Arkansas license number: 1606*

115 Westminster Pl
Hot Springs, AR 71901
Phone: (501) 262-5829
Cell: (501) 276-1670

