



Knights of Columbus

St. Joseph Council, No. 8417
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December 2012

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Merry Christmas

Brother Knights,

I hope that everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Is there a more hopeful time of year than Christmas? Even with the heavy commercialization of this noble time, our hearts still reach out to others in generous and loving ways. I pray that your hearts are full this blessed time of year...full of hope, full of peace and full of joy. God so loves us that He sent His only Son to give us the new commandment, "love one another as I have loved you." Let us love each other, showing patience, kindness and gentleness as evidence of that love.

FYI: "Christmas" is a compound word originating in the term "Christ's Mass". It is derived from the Middle English Cristemasse, which is from Old English Cristemaesse, a phrase first recorded in 1038. Crist is from Greek Khristos, a translation of Hebrew Masiah, "Messiah"; and maesse is from Latin missa, the celebration of the Eucharist. So don't forget to attend Christ's Mass this year.

The First Degree Ceremony on December 13th went very well. A big thank you goes out to the outstanding team that conducted the ceremony, great job. We are grateful for you, our brothers, who put so much time and effort in to ensure these events are successful and meaningful to the new candidates. I hope we all are reminded of our founding principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism.

If you get a chance, go to our website www.kofc8417.org and check out the pictures of our Christmas party which was December 2nd. We had a good turn out and the little ones really enjoyed Santa's visit. A special thanks goes out to all those who helped with setting up, cooking and serving to make this a success.

Other brief news items:

We will be helping host a Texas Hold'em tournament in February, details to follow.
The Building Committee is proceeding with the fence across the front of our property.
The fall schedule of casinos are over for now, there will be more coming in the spring.

The council's annual championship barbeque cook-off will be held March 1st and 2nd at the Texas Motorplex, make plans now to help or participate and don't forget we need corporate sponsors if you can help with that also.

Our council's "Free Throw Contest" will be on January 27th.

I've gotten some good feedback on the jokes I have been putting in the newsletter, with that being said here's this months:

Christmas Angel

One Christmas, a long time ago, Santa Claus was getting ready for his annual trip; but there were problems...everywhere!

Most of his elves were on strike wanting a dental plan as part of their compensation package and the replacement elves did not produce the toys as fast as the regular ones. So, dear Santa was beginning to feel the pressure of being behind schedule.

Then, Mrs. Claus popped in to tell Santa that her mother was coming to stay for Christmas; which stressed him even more.

After a while, he went to harness the reindeer, he found that three of them were sick with distemper and two others had jumped the fence and run away, heaven knows where to. Then, when he began to load the sleigh one of the floor boards broke and several large toy bags fell to the ground, scattering their contents all over the place. Needless to say, Santa was not in the best of moods.

Suddenly, the doorbell rang and he went to the door expecting another problem. But when he opened it, there was a little angel with a great big Christmas tree that she had brought especially to cheer him up.

The angel greeted him cheerfully, "Merry Christmas Santa Claus. Isn't it just a wonderful day? I have a beautiful tree for you. See, isn't it just the loveliest Christmas tree you've ever seen? Where would you like me to put it?"

Thus began the tradition of the little angel stuck on top of the Christmas tree.

Happy December Birthdays to the following Brothers!

Michael Bryant	December 2
Anthony Kriska	December 4
Raul Garcia	December 6
Thomas Bugg	December 6
Mark Keaten	December 7
Stan Franco	December 8
Michael Bernard	December 8
Steven McKinney	December 8
Hilyard Tallett	December 9
Richard Due	December 10
James Arline	December 13
Rogers Sonnier	December 13
Greg Fitzhugh	December 13

Eliseo Coronado	December 13
Espiridion Pineda	December 14
Joseph Trausch	December 14
Michael Moriarty	December 15
Larry Otterson	December 18
Jeffry Lincks	December 19
Steven Bonds	December 20
Charles Gary	December 23
Carl Wessels	December 26
Stanley Robak	December 28
Mark Fletcher	December 29
David Thomas	December 29
Edward Maher	December 31
Harry Cheney	December 31
Bruce Kling	December 31

Your Worthy Recorder

Keith J. Schumacher