



KNIGHT LETTER

March 2016

COUNCIL 816 MARY QUEEN OF THE KNIGHTS

Grand Knight's Report

Brothers...

EASTER

Easter, which celebrates Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead, is Christianity's most important holiday. It has been called a moveable feast because it doesn't fall on a set date every year, as most holidays do. Instead, Christian churches in the West celebrate Easter on the first Sunday following the full moon after the vernal equinox on March 21. Therefore, Easter is observed anywhere between March 22 and April 25 every year. Orthodox Christians use the Julian calendar to calculate when Easter will occur and typically celebrate the holiday a week or two after the Western churches, which follow the Gregorian calendar.

The exact origins of this religious feast day's name are unknown. Some sources claim the word Easter is derived from Eostre, a Teutonic goddess of spring and fertility. Other accounts trace Easter to the Latin term hebdomada alba, or white week, an ancient reference to Eastere week and the white clothing donned by

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people who were baptized during that time. Through a translation error, the term later appeared as esostarum in Old High German, which eventually became Easter in English. In Spanish, Easter is known as Pascua or Pasch; in French, Paques. These words are derived from the Greek and Latin Pascha or Pasch, for Passover. Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection occurred after he went to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover (or Pesach in Hebrew), the Jewish festival commemorating the ancient Israelites' exodus from slavery in Egypt. Pascha eventually came to mean Easter.

Easter is really an entire season of the Christian Church year, as opposed to a single day observance. Lent, the 40 day period leading up to Easter Sunday, is a time of reflection and penance and represents the 40 days that Jesus spent alone in the wilderness before starting his ministry,

a time in which Christians believe he survived various temptations by the devil. The day before Lent, known as Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday, is a last hurrah of food and fun before the fasting begins. The week preceding Easter is called Holy Week and includes Maundy Thursday, which commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples; Good Friday, which honors the day of his crucifixion; and Holy Saturday, which focuses on the transition between the crucifixion and resurrection. The 50 day period following Easter Sunday is called Eastertide and includes a celebration of Jesus' ascension into heaven.

In addition to Easter's religious significance, it also has a commercial side, as evidenced by the mounds of jelly beans and marshmallow chicks that appear in stores each spring. As with Christmas, over the centuries various folk customs and pagan traditions, including Easter eggs, bunnies, baskets and candy, have become a standard part of this holy holiday.

One other note: March 29 is the anniversary of the Knights of Columbus founded by Father Michael J. McGivney.

Happy Easter to all my Brothers and their Families!!

Vivat Jesus

Herbert D. Hagmann

Grand Knight

The Spiritual Corner

by Deacon John Kopcak PGK

- If we take the time to think about it we will realize that throughout Jesus' ministry He was always breaking down barriers of fear, hatred and prejudice. John's Gospel about Jesus and the Samaritan woman is no exception. While it is true that the shortest way from Judea to Galilee is to travel through Samaria it was a way that was avoided by most Jews. In 722 BC the Assyrians conquered the northern part of Israel. They exiled their leaders and colonized the area. In time the colonists inter-married with the remaining Israelis and adopted parts of the Jewish religion. The Jews considered the Samaritans to be an inferior half breed race to be avoided by respectable people. But what does Jesus do? He travels through Samaria and stops at Jacob's well. He then breaks religious and social convention put in place by the Pharisees. He engages in a conversation with a woman who was alone. Not only that but she was a Hated Samaritan. Having no jug or cup He asks the Samaritan woman to give Him water. To drink from a Samaritan cup was considered unclean. Even the Samaritan woman is shocked. He tells the woman about "living Water." At first she doesn't understand that the "living water" is the revelation of who Christ is and the dwelling of the Holy Spirit within us. When Jesus, without judging, reveals that he knows about her promiscuous life a conversion begins to take place. At first she addresses Jesus as sir, then prophet. She finally recognizes Him as the Messiah. She experienced the life giving flow of Jesus healing energy. The result is that this sinful outcast evangelizes and brings other Samaritans to believe in Jesus.

What does this gospel mean to us. It means that we are challenged. We are challenged because as Christians we are both the recipients and the givers of this living water. We are called to break down the barriers that isolate us from others. Those barriers can be our own hatred, prejudice, anger, jealousy, envy, cutting remarks or innuendo. It could also be those same barriers put up by others. We are called to break down the barriers of the marginalized by seeing the face of Christ in their suffering. And we are called to do it as Jesus did, **WITHOUT JUDGING**.

Council 816

March 13th

Annual Communion

Breakfast/Brunch

at the Council Home

after the 12 PM Mass at

Holy Innocents Church.

**All are invited to receive Communion in body at Mass
and go back to the hall for a delectable Brunch.**

Our guest speaker will be

**Monmouth County Surrogate Rosemarie D. Peters
Speaking on "The Many Costs of Not Having A Will"**

March Birthdays
Brothers,
Happy Birthday!
Robert Carroll
Ron Desposeto
Gary Duverney GK
Vincent Gifford
Patrick Glynn
Charles Keenan
Mike Mangeri
Sebastain Vaccaro

March Events

March 3 Officer's Meeting 7:30
March 5&6 Membership Drive, Ascension
March 10 Business Meeting 8PM Dinner @ 7
March 12&13 Communion
Brunch after the 12PM Mass
March 20 Breakfast Buffet and 3rd Raffle Drawing
March 25 Good Friday
March 27 Easter Sunday
Upcoming Events
April 7 Officer's Meeting
April 14 Business Meeting
April 16 Birthrite Dinner
April 23 Sitdown Dinner for Madonna House
April 24 Breakfast Buffet & 4th Raffle Drawing
April 28 Pride in Priests Dinner

April 23, 2016

Dinner to Benefit Madonna House.

Details and menu will be published next month.

Please note: Tickets will be sold and reservations are necessary as this will be a sitdown dinner.

**Why aren't all
Catholic men
Knights?
They weren't asked!
Ask a fellow
Parishioner,
You'll be surprised!**

2016 Council Dues

The notices for your 2016 dues have been mailed out. . If you have received the notice, please send in your dues as soon as possible. These funds keep our Council and home operating. Did you know that you can apply for financial relief from your dues if you are physically handicapped or challenged? Please contact you Financial Secretary for information.

Dinner Alert!
Pasta and Meatballs,
Salad & Bread
7 PM before the meeting

February Raffle Winners

1st Prize Arthur Petz \$89.17
2nd Prize Betty Burkhardt \$44.58
3rd Prize Olivia Brangan \$44.58
4th Prize Ed Goralski \$22.29
5th Prize Vince DeBari \$22.29

Good of the Order

"As a reminder, it is the responsibility of all Brothers to inform either the Grand Knight Herb Hagmann 732-245-5388, or the Financial Secretary Ray Barnes (732-998-0882) upon the learning of the death of any K of C Brother, so proper actions can be taken. Don't assume that the GK or FS automatically know about all Brother's deaths, sometimes they need your help!"

Troop Morale-Soldier Boxes

Council #816 is dedicated to supply our troops with "care packages". These donations are collected year-round and are sent to our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan four times a year. Unscented toiletries and personal care items are needed, individual snacks and entertainment items or anything that shows them that we care. We will be shipping the next collection in February, which is also Girl Scout Cookie month. Donations of cookies and care items are on the list. God Bless our Troops.

Editor's Note

Our Communion Breakfast is a time honored tradition where we as a body attend Mass and receive Holy Communion, followed by a breakfast (now brunch) at the Council Home. It was so important to the Council that it is stated in the by-laws that it **must** be held on the Sunday before Palm Sunday. Please consider adjusting your Sunday schedule to attend the 12PM Mass at Holy Innocents and the wonderful brunch at the Council home. Our guest speaker will have very important information on having a will. Let's impress the congregation at Holy Innocents with the Unity of the

Knights of Columbus Council 816.

God bless, Joe Lynch PGK