



KNIGHTS'

Communiqué



Knights of Columbus
Vol. LIV, No. 9

St. Joseph Manyanet Council No. 5567
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Grand Knight's Message

The Grand Knight recommends that you read this month's Reflections article by Larry Grayson, called *If "Catholics" Were Catholic*.

Because of its length, and the size of our newsletter, it is not possible to include it in the print edition of the Communiqué. However, it is included in full in the electronic version of the newsletter, which will be emailed out soon.

Cesar Sanchez Luna
Grand Knight, Council 5567

Chaplain's Reflection

Cheerful Giver

Jesus tells us, "Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all." However, many of us struggle to be "cheerful givers" (2 Cor 9:7). This can happen to anyone who gives of himself in service to others. But it can be especially challenging to minister to members of our own families who may require more time, resources, and patience than we can give.

St. Francis of Assisi reminds us that it is "in giving that we receive." However, we cannot give what we do not have. An unwillingness to say "no" when we must, eventually wears us down to the point that ministry becomes a burden and not a joy. So, we must learn to be like Jesus, set limits and recognize that we cannot "fix" everything.

Usually people who minister to others are kind-hearted and prone to taking on other people's problems. But if they don't have clear personal boundaries and limits they will quickly be overwhelmed.

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Chaplain, from Previous Column

They will become more readily drawn into trying to "rescue" others by "fixing" their problems. Without intending to, they may end up enabling selfish or irresponsible behavior in others that impedes their personal growth.

We do not have to say "yes" every time to what people feel that they need from us. We should not feel guilty about saying "no." Like Jesus, we cannot fix everything. And, whether due to circumstances beyond the control of those we minister, or the result of poor life choices on their part, some things cannot be fixed.

Jesus did say, "There is more happiness in giving than receiving" (Acts 20:35). However, if we are giving out of a sense of obligation, we will not experience the same grace of God that comes to a cheerful giver (2 Cor 9:7-9). Jesus, in his humanity, recognized his limitations such as being in a human body that needed nourishment and rest, and that He could only be in one place at a time. Jesus did not attempt to be available 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Jesus had personal needs that He put priority on, such as retreating to pray to His heavenly Father. That way, He could be refreshed, ready, and able to be compassionate and generous in his response to people. Recognizing that Jesus lived with the limitations of His human nature should help us appreciate that sometimes, even though we wish we could do more, we also have to sometimes say "no" to people, speak the truth, and live within our personal limitations.

Rev. Mr. Alan Jeeves
Associate Chaplain, Council 5567

In Memoriam

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Jack Pettit and Claire Gargano who recently passed away. Jack served as our Treasurer for a number of years, and Claire was the wife of PGK Daniel Gargano.

Council Officers

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Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday to our Brother Knights who celebrate a birthday in March!

Joseph Kotvan – 1	Andrew Baines - 18
Theodore D. Dang – 2	Federico Knight - 21
Pushparajam Arokiaswamy - 3	
Rolando R. Cobarrubias – 7	Genesis Davison - 26
Daniel P. Sullivan – 11	Andrew Rudiman - 27
John P. Doherty – 15	Clement Monsini - 28
M. Kelly Manders – 17	Ferdinand Payabyab - 28
	Timothy DeShetler - 29

Please Remember in Your Prayers:

Luke Barr, grandson, and Bernadette Barr, daughter of Bernard Wikramanayake ❖ Connie Berens, mother of Pattie Kane ❖ Harry Canter ❖ Christina Cooper ❖ David V. Dube, Jr. ❖ Patrick J. Freimuth, PGK ❖ Chris Glaser, Jr. ❖ Thomas Strobel ❖ Charles Hudson ❖ John Kominski ❖ Alfio & Rosemary Mazzaglia ❖ Gloria Pelletier ❖ Roger Vales ❖ Mary Wells (Bob Kane's Sister) ❖ William Cooper ❖ Nimal Perera's Daughter Savini ❖ Fr. Val Keveny ❖ Ron Dunn ❖ Jack McCue ❖ Bill Hanna ❖ Maria E. Cooper, daughter of Christina Cooper (widow of George Cooper) ❖ Carl Dabbs, PGK ❖ Orlando Lau ❖ Marlene Trimble ❖ Chris Glaser ❖ family of Ted Sintetos ❖ Mary Masto ❖ Sharon Kassel ❖ Peter Latora ❖ Dawn Szabo ❖ Alice Clair ❖ Aristotle Prado's Nephew ❖ B.G. Thompson, PGK and his wife Caroline ❖ Fr. Alphonso Carew ❖ Joe Fantom's daughter ❖ the Grandfather of Danny Grant ❖ John Naughton ❖ Wally Stack, PGK ❖ John Pettit ❖ Melba Aquedulo, grandmother of Alex Lopez-Bueno ❖ Roger Szabo ❖ James Stack ❖ Elvira Oriño ❖ Oliva Bell Monte, grandmother of Cesar Sanchez-Luna ❖ Bob & Carol Kammer ❖ Ed Nedimala ❖ Martha Gomez ❖ Pedro Esteban, ❖ Dale Trotz, State Deputy ❖ Dan O'Conner

March Upcoming Events

- 2 Pre-Lenten Retreat** – at St. Jude from 7-10am. Includes Mass, breakfast, talks, and discussion. Cost \$10 – you must register for this event at <https://membership.faithdirect.net/events/details/2755>
- 14 Initiation Degree** – degree begins 8pm. Report Time for candidates is 7:30pm. Contact Roger Szabo on 301-466-3831 to make arrangements.
- 20 Shepherd's Table** – Volunteers are welcome starting at 5pm. To volunteer, please register at <https://shepherdstable.volunteerhub.com>. For more info, contact Bill Trimble: 301-598-4359
- 24 Fellowship Sunday** – After the 8:30, 10:30 and 12:30 Masses at St. Jude's.
- 28 Business Meeting** - Room 11 at 8pm
- 30 Lenten Pilgrimage** – Shrine Grotto of Lourdes, Emmitsburg, MD. Bus departs St. Catherine at 10:00am, returns by 8 pm. Program includes Mass, Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and a buffet dinner in nearby Thurmont. Cost is \$60 per person. Contact Roger Szabo at 301-466-3831, or via email at rogerns@aol.com.

From the District Deputy

One of the most enjoyable tasks assigned to any District Deputy, is the honor of welcoming new members to our Order. And during my “Welcome to the Knights” remarks at the end of each 1st degree, I issue a challenge to each new member. I ask them to educate themselves with regard to the history and good works of the Knights of Columbus. I know that in my own journey as a Knight, a fuller understanding of this history and an appreciation of the charitable works of the Knights has challenged and strengthened my resolve to serve others by putting my faith into action. Part of the education process of any new Knight should include an appreciation and greater understanding of the life of our founder Fr. Michael J. McGivney.

Especially during the month of March in which we celebrate “Founder’s Day” – the day on which the Connecticut state legislature approved the Knights of Columbus Charter on March 29, 1882, we should celebrate and honor the life of this holy priest. This year the Maryland State Council will celebrate Founder’s Day on March 31 at Mt. Calvary Catholic Church 6700 Marlboro Pike Forestville MD at 2 pm.

For any student of the life of Fr. McGivney, I suggest 3 resources: 1) the Supreme website www.kofc.org that lists many important facts of the life of Fr. McGivney 2) The Father McGivney Guild website at www.fathermcgivney.org and 3) and the book “Parish Priest – Father McGivney and American Catholicism” by Douglas Brinkley and Julie Fenster. I cannot overstate the importance and value of this amazing work by two nationally recognized award-winning historians. In reading an interview with Doug Brinkley following the publishing of the book, I was intrigued by his statement “**He is a priest you would want to know today.**” Author Julie Fenster then goes on to say “Father McGivney lived for others. That is his story - he lived with a sense of balance, which is well worth pondering. **He knew just where all that was within him belonged, in relation to all that was around him.**”. I love that line.

And as the great grandson of Irish immigrants and a great grandmother who lost her husband in the largest mining disaster in our nation’s history, I can tell you that what was around young Michael McGivney was hard times. The lives of many Catholic immigrants of the mid to late 19th century were fraught with dangerous working conditions, poor health and institutionalized prejudice. For instance, in the 1800’s Catholics could not purchase land in Connecticut. And they were expected to pay the tax that supported the Congregational Church – the official church of the state at that time. Episcopalians, Baptists and Quakers were exempt from this tax. **-Continued Next Column**

District Deputy, Continued

As the eldest of 13 children born to two poor Irish immigrant parents, Fr. McGivney’s life was not easy. His father worked as a molder in a Conn. brass mill. Michael left school at 13 to work in a local spoon factory to help support his family. Even his path to holy orders was difficult.

He entered seminary at 16, joining the Jesuits at St. Mary’s College in Montreal, Quebec. However, following the death of his father in June 1873, he was forced to leave seminary to help raise his siblings. He later resumed his studies at St. Mary’s seminary in Baltimore MD and was ordained a priest by Archbishop James Gibbons on December 22nd, 1877 in Baltimore’s Basilica of the Assumption. By this time, the young Fr. McGivney had learned a number of hard lessons. He learned that the untimely death of a parent and bread winner can be devastating to a family. He understood the importance of the family as the very foundation of the Church and Community. His first priority was to strengthen families – both spiritually and financially. In a sense, he was far ahead of his time, relying on the laity to advance his vision of compassion and Christian charity.

During the celebration of the 134th anniversary mass honoring the founding of the Knights of Columbus, Fr. John Paul Walker, pastor of St. Mary’s Church in New Haven Connecticut said “He saw untapped potential and provided leadership. He encouraged others to live for the Lord Jesus and his Church. He led them to be outward looking, encouraging these men to live their lives for others - the most needy.” The Supreme website goes on to say “Beyond charitable works, Father McGivney wanted each Knight’s heart and mind attuned to greater love of God and his Son, both within the Church and within the family. This emphasis on love of God is Father McGivney’s spiritual legacy. Through the Knights, Father McGivney sought to form Catholic men into good spouses and fathers. He has become known as Apostle to the Young and Defender of Christian Family Life. He saw strong families as the foundation of his parish, of the Church and of society at large.

He was convinced that the Catholic layman had a unique role in influencing society and promoting the values found in what Pope John Paul II has since named the Culture of Life and the Civilization of Love.” May we ever honor and follow the example of this holy priest, Fr. Michael J. McGivney. Vivat Jesus! -Bill Newbrough, DD 18



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“When people ask what Knights do, say, ‘We help people, change lives, and save lives!’”
 Mark McMullen, Vice President, Membership and Fraternal Mission Department, K of C

March, 2019 Edition

Discontinuation of Print *Communiqué*

Thank you for your continued patronage of the *Communiqué*. The Council plans to discontinue printing and mailing out of hard copies of the *Communiqué*. Members would receive a monthly email with a link to the *Communiqué*. It would also be available, along with previous editions, on the Council webpage which is at www.kofc5567.org.

March, 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Pre-Lent Retreat - SJ
3	4	5	6 Ash Wednesday	7	8	9
10 Daylight Time Begins	11	12	13	14 Initiation Degree 8pm	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Shepherd's Table 5pm	21 Spring Begins	22	23
Fellowship Sunday @ SJ 24 31	25	26	27	28 Business Meeting 8pm	29	30 Lenten Pilgrimage

REFLECTIONS

Lawrence P. Grayson

If Catholics Were Faithful

"All the evils of the world are due to lukewarm Catholics," said Pope St. Pius V. While the events of the past several weeks demonstrate the truth of this statement, it may be more accurate to say they are due to apostatizing Catholics, that is, to those who abandon, reject or stray from the tenets of their faith.

With actions in several states to legalize late-term abortion, the *Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act* was recently introduced in the U.S. Congress. The bill would not restrict a woman's ability to have an abortion nor affect any health care she may require. Rather, it states that if a child is born alive following an abortion – and is now an independent human being outside of its mother's womb -- that it be given the same degree of medical care to preserve its life and health as would be given to any other newborn.

The bill faced severe opposition. First, Patty Murray, a Catholic, blocked a vote in the Senate. Then, under the leadership of Speaker Nancy Pelosi, a Catholic, a vote on the measure was blocked seven times in the House of Representatives. When a vote finally was taken in the Senate on February 25 to break a filibuster, it was defeated with 10 Catholics voting against the bill.

One of those Catholics was Sen. Tim Kaine of Virginia, who was quickly criticized by Bishop Barry C. Kestout of the Diocese of Richmond and Arlington Bishop Michael F. Burbidge. They said that the outcome was "appalling and beyond comprehension," and that they were "outraged" that the state's two senators "voted against this critical lifesaving legislation."

These are not the only high-profile political office holders who profess to be Catholic, while opposing the Church's teachings. They are only the latest ones who have taken prominent action.

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, a professed Catholic, recently signed *The Reproductive Health Act* into law, which allows abortions to be performed throughout a woman's entire pregnancy, permits non-physicians to perform them, and removes all criminal penalties for the procedure. In a display of arrogance, Cuomo signed the act on January 22, the anniversary of the enactment of *Roe v. Wade*, and celebrated by having the World Trade Center bathed in pink lights.

Rhode Island Gov. Gina Raimondo, who identifies as Catholic, is supporting an abortion bill similar to that of New York, which recently was introduced into the state's House of Delegates.

In Maryland, where abortion is already legal throughout a woman's pregnancy, the speaker of the state's House of Delegates, Michael Busch, introduced a bill to enshrine abortion as a woman's right in the state constitution, which would preclude any laws to restrict abortion from being passed in the future. Busch is a cradle Catholic who left the faith a few years ago. With strong public opposition, Busch withdrew the bill on February 23, but said he would reintroduce it next year when the reaction to the New York law diminishes.

In Virginia, Delegate Kathy Tran, a proclaimed Catholic, introduced a bill to allow abortion, even, she said, when a woman is in labor and about to give birth. The state governor, a non-Catholic and pediatric neurologist, commenting on the bill, said that if a "severely deformed or otherwise non-viable" child was delivered "a discussion would ensue between the physicians and the mother" to consider possible termination options. Hence, even infanticide would be allowed as a medical option under a bill proposed by a Catholic.

Reflections, Continued from page 5

But this is no less draconian than a child who survives a failed abortion, is not given medical care and allowed to die. Abortion is a violent and brutal act, conducted by people who are willing to kill children, not only in the womb, but increasingly after being delivered alive.

Pope Francis recently said, “Last century, the whole world was scandalized by what the Nazis did to purify the race. Today, we do the same thing but with white gloves.” How has humanity become so degraded that children in the womb are routinely killed and treated as disposable? How can physicians who have taken the Hippocratic Oath to do no harm ignore the cries of a newborn infant who needs their attention? How have mothers gotten to the point where the quality of their lives is more important than life itself for their children?

Nancy Pelosi typifies the attitude of too many Catholic politicians. In an interview a few years ago, she stated: “I grant the Church where they are on abortion. That’s where they are, that’s where they have to be. But my faith isn’t about what their position is.”

Sen. Tim Kaine expressed a similar view, stating: “I’ve taken a position which is quite common among Catholics. I’ve got a personal feeling about abortion, but the right role for government is to let women make their own decisions.” This attitude of misguided toleration that too many Catholic politicians express is embraced because it imposes no obligation on them to publicly live the faith, and does not interfere with their drive for political success.

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson recently wrote, “I do not see how it is possible to build a culture of life in America as long as our elected officials harden their hearts to the cries of unborn children.” The way forward is clear.

Pope Francis in his exhortation, *Gaudete et Exsultate*, stated, “Our defense of the innocent unborn needs to be clear, firm and passionate, for at stake is the dignity of a human life, which is always sacred.”

Responding to that call, Carl Anderson declared: “You will not see a reed bending here...On this issue [of life] we will not yield. We will never give in. The Knights of Columbus will never abandon the field.” Neither should any faithful Catholic.

* * *

March 2019