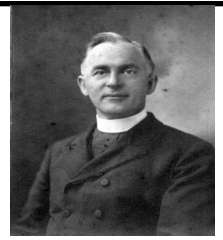




Knights Life

The Official Publication of Father Rosensteel Council #2169



Vol. 86, No. 9 March 2021

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Chaplain's Reflection Trying to be Like God

The creation story in the Book of Genesis tells how the devil successfully tempted Adam and Eve to try to be "like" God. The three temptations of Christ as presented in the Gospel of Matthew shows Jesus rebuffing this same devil who wanted him to use His divinity and be "like" humanity and use His personal power on earth.

In the Genesis story, God tells Adam and Eve that they can eat of all of the trees in the garden except for one, the tree of knowledge of good and evil. A big permission, considering that God surely knew that they would fail. But, in giving that permission God shows us the degree of freedom he allows us even though we make all kinds of mistakes.

The problem was that if Adam and Eve ate of this tree they would be "like" God and all of us have "inherited" this trait. But we are creatures, being "like" God can never be the same thing as actually "being" God. We can never be God. Only God knows what's really good and what's really evil. Whenever we try to be "like" God, we come to manifest the prideful and arrogant attitude that comes from "thinking" that we know.

But, it is this "knowing" that characterizes evil. Evil is always absolutely certain. Evil suffers no self doubt. It allows no criticism. I am right and I know. This is the mantra of enlightened despots. But, it is also the mantra of anyone who tries to control others in all kinds of other settings, including families.

Jesus also observed this in the local religious leaders who were in it for themselves. However, for we who are trying to live what we hope is a good life, we have to live in the hinterlands called faith where we can never be absolutely sure we're right. Any thinking that we may have an absolute knowledge of good and evil is a sure path to discord and even death.

All three of the temptations of Christ have their root in the misuse of power. The need for power in all of its multitudinous forms is deep in all of us. And that demon does not die easily. It keeps coming back and tempting us in new forms. It's scary how subtly these temptations can invade our personas. We might not even recognize our actions as efforts to control.

(Continued on page 3)

Grand Knight's Station "Faith and Family Foremost"

Dear All,

We continue to meet behind computers and masks. Although it's hard not being able to shake hands with a friend, sit comfortably at table with others while not wearing a mask, and keep the proper social distance, we've accomplished quite a bit as a Council over the past few months.



to a

Periodically, I have to send in activity reports of Council activities in the categories of Faith, Community, Family and Life. I was extremely pleased to report several activities involving Council participation from mid-December to early February. I did not include our Friday Night Rosary and family dinners; those were proudly reported earlier last year.

What we did accomplish includes:

- Donations to the Knights Coats for Kids program and to the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless
- Providing rosaries and prayer cards along with a \$200 check to each of our three parishes to sponsor their Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) program
- A very successful grab and go Family Breakfast with Santa that was quickly arranged when our parishes cancelled their programs
- Our equipment loan closet, in which we provided a wheelchair and walkers to families in need within the Rosensteel family
- Donation of infant socks and \$200 to Gabriel Project of Montgomery County
- A Novena for Life
- A \$200 donation to Maryland Special Olympics that included a January 2021 plunge into the Chesapeake Bay by our Brother Knight Geoff Conway (what was he thinking?)
- Delivering to different families a refrigerator and a chair that can lift a person to a standing position, delivering a full-size sofa to A Wider Circle and removing a sleep sofa and other items from a 4th floor apartment that didn't have an elevator
- Providing scholarships of \$500 each to four seminarians
- Donating \$100 to buy and inscribe with the Council name and number a chalice for the Missionaries of Charity, to be used at home and traveling Masses
- Serving as the drop-off and distribution center for the Tootsie Roll program serving Councils throughout Montgomery County.

(Continued on page 4)

Knight Life

Published Monthly

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at 7 p.m.**

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Fraternal Insurance

This month marks one year under COVID-19 restrictions. I remember when the news of shutting the Supreme Office was announced. I, like many I think, thought this would last a couple of months and all of us would get back to normal. The reality is much different. As restrictions were put in place, we were provided with a new way to meet with members virtually on our computers and we were given a number of tools to ensure that you, our members and your families, were served.

Using these new tools I have found that I am more efficient. I save travel time and can have more meetings in a day. I've found that many of you like the idea of meeting virtually. It's less stress for you to simply sit down in front of your computer, click on a few buttons and we can have a confidential conversation about your needs, wants and desires.

Now we've come full circle into 2021. The vaccine is on the way. Some of you have already received it. Looks like light at the end of the tunnel, but we still have to be vigilant and still have to protect each other.

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Dolly Hammer

Deceased

Esther Conlon
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Continued prayers for Fr. Calis and all of our clergy, and for our healthcare providers and all those affected by Covid-19

*In case of illness or death of a member,
please contact Financial Secretary Kevin Carey.*

Financial Secretary Update

- Membership cards have been sent to all members in good standing.
- Cards should be received by March 5
- Any corrections or degree errors needed?
- Have you misplaced or lost your dues notice?
- Have you paid your dues and have not received card by March 7?

Answer to all is to contact FS Kevin Carey at kdcarey@loyola.edu

**Chaplain's Reflection
Trying to be Like God**

(Continued from page 1)

The first temptation of Christ is a religious one, to use the word of God for your own empowerment, such as by changing stones into bread. The second one is a temptation to the misuse of religion itself, standing on the top of the Temple and trying to use the word of God, not for the freedom of anybody else, but to be right. The third one can rightly be seen as a temptation to political power, all the kingdoms of the world. And we see how much our world wants that power. They'll do anything, they'll tell any lie to get political power. When Satan sees that he cannot seduce Jesus by a misuse of power he simply gives up.

The first step in any spiritual journey is to face the reality that you are not as powerful as you think you are. There are some things that you cannot do, there are some things that you cannot change. The world is what it is and reality is always broken. Thus, there is a tragic sense to life. And what Lent is about is somehow asking for and, hopefully, receiving the grace to accept the essentially tragic nature of human existence.

Our existence is contingent. We are born and we will die. Everything in between is like a journey through the school of life. Growing up, waking up, showing up, cleaning up, becoming the full image that we were created in, which is always and forever the image of God.

Deacon Alan Jeeves

The Best of Rosensteel

Family of the Month - Our Family of the Month is celebrated throughout our Council and throughout the world. The Holy Family of the infant Jesus, Virgin Mary and St. Joseph serve as a role model for Christian families and individuals. The Holy Family is a symbol of love of family and that we should be open to whatever God's will might be. February is the month dedicated to the Holy Family, but we should pray for their guidance throughout the year.

During this month, please say this short prayer to renew our dedication to the Holy Family:

"Lord, You intended for the Holy Family to be an example for all, and for the Holy Spirit to enlighten our homes. May we, like them, be able to live according to the family virtues and stand united by the strength of Your love before meeting again for eternity in the joy of Your House. Amen."

Knight of the Month - He took his first degree in September 1993 and has been contributing to Father Rosensteel Council since then. Softball team captain, member of the Clubhouse Association and current president, one of the volunteer renovators of the Knights Room, bartender and kitchen worker – just some of the activities he does at our Council. When there's a call for volunteers, he's there whenever possible. He also volunteers at St. Andrew Apostle Parish, where he, wife Joy and son Bobby attend Mass. He's also known for his big laugh. Yes, our Knight of the Month is our own Dobie "Spike" Holmes, one of the best volunteers our Council has.

Please congratulate Spike for being our March Knight of the Month.

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Grand Knight's Station
"Faith and Family Foremost"

(Continued from page 1)

- Serving as a collection point and delivery service for monthly donations to the Little Sisters of the Poor
- A Consecration to the Holy Family program, and
- A most unique, first-of-its-kind "Living Rosary" in which each bead of the Rosary was said by a different individual. For this project I enlisted the Sedes Sapientiae Council at the University of Maryland and students at the University's Catholic Student Center. Several Maryknights also participated in this touching, personally enriching Rosary.

That's quite a list of activities for any Council for a year and we did this in less than 90 days. As I've said before, COVID can't keep our Council down. It's not what we can't do, it's what we can do.

As we head into the final four months of our Council year, we have our Easter food gift card donation distribution in late March and are planning an April virtual Nuns Appreciation Night Zoom meeting followed by food and wine delivery to their local houses and centers. This will be our 50th year of Nuns Appreciation Night. Thank you, Gerry Horner, for arranging this program that is a hallmark of our Council and recognized for its excellence throughout the Maryland Knights of Columbus.

We'll continue to collect items for the Little Sisters of the Poor on the third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. Greatly appreciated are disinfectant sprays and wipes, protective masks and gloves, packaged food items such as applesauce, fruit cups or granola bars, juice boxes, cleaning supplies and financial donations.

Congratulations and best wishes to Patrick Kelly, our new Supreme Knight, who started in that role on March 1. He has an incredible legacy of excellence in service to follow that was set by Carl Anderson, who reached the maximum retirement age of 70 years.

You may have heard the annual Maryland State Council Convention in late April/early May will now be virtual. It was properly decided that it was not possible to keep so many people socially distant and the risk of COVID-19 is too high. Immediate Past Grand Knight Gus Gusman and I will be participating on your behalf by sitting at a computer for at least one day.

During this time of Lent, we observe a period of repentance and spiritual self-discipline. We also remember the month of March is dedicated to St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus and role model for all fathers. A plaque of the Holy Family was donated to our Council by a very generous member and will be proudly displayed in the Knights Room upon our reopening, which we hope is soon.

Continue to join us every Friday night for our virtual Rosary on Facebook Live – watch it on the Father Rosensteel Council Facebook site – and continue to support our grab and go Friday Night family dinners. Currently, we're allowed to have about 25 diners inside the Emerald Room on Friday nights and hope the weather turns warm soon so we can enjoy each other and our meal inside the tent located behind the Council. Be sure to tell your neighbors, families and fellow parishioners about our dinners.

We're still selling tickets to the Car Raffle, with the grand prize being a 2021 Ford Mustang. Tickets are \$1 each, and 60 cents from each ticket sold stays at the Council. If you haven't turned in your tickets, please do so in the next few weeks. You can contact any of the Council officers for additional tickets.

Finally, it's now time for nominations for next Fraternal Year's Council officers and officers of the Clubhouse and Building Associations. We always can use people; please seriously consider running for one of these positions. More information will be available in April but start thinking about it now.

I've rambled on long enough for one article. I thank each of you for being members of the Father Rosensteel Council family. As I continually tell our state officers and other Councils, the Rosensteel family is the best in Maryland and has the biggest heart. It's through your hard work, prayer, self-sacrifice and giving that we've made it into our second century of service to Church and Community.

Take care and remain prayerful and safe.

Paul Girolami

Maryknights Officers 2020- 2021

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Dear Maryknights,

Welcome to March! Spring arrives in a few short weeks on March 20 and all the snow and ice coming down as I write this will be a happy memory. It's cheering to some, but, if you are an early riser like me the dreaded Daylight Savings Time also returns on March 14, ugh. Hope your Lenten plans are going well, too!

KUDOS - WOW! Last month we did not have a total for the January collection for Sacred Heart Home, but I am thrilled to report that we collected \$2,000 for the sisters' new building fund! Thanks to everyone who contributed to the collection! Thanks are also due to Polly Seleski and Carol Walper for coordinating our February Women to Women collection. Due to the unforgettable snow/sleet/ice storm that hit the same week as the originally scheduled date, the collection was moved to February 26 and 27, so a final total was not available by publication time. We will report the amount collected and distributed to SOME, I Support the Girls and House of Ruth in April.

Kathy Arvedlund and Sue Wiant are coordinating our March collection for The Gabriel Project. Kathy will be holding the drop off collection at the Council on Friday, March 26, from 5 to 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 27, from 10 a.m. to noon. Alternatives for pickup of donated items and a more extensive list of needs will be provided at the next meeting; but most in need are diapers of any size, baby wipes, formula, clothing for babies and small children. Financial contributions are also welcome and information will be provided at our meeting on that as well.

Don't forget the next Executive Board ZOOM call will be March 3 at 7 p.m. The Maryknights general meeting will be March 8 at 7 p.m. please watch for the ZOOM details from Margie Cuff and Luanne Flanigan.

NEW PROJECT - Start thinking of a recipe or two or three that you might like to share as part of our new cookbook project. (YUM!). Jeanne Berman is coordinating and more details will follow shortly.

FOR YOUR REFLECTION - Many thanks to Franciscan Media's Pause + Pray meditations for this timely posting. Forgiveness is one of the most foundational principles of Christianity. However, it is not a one-time event or even a quick remedy. Forgiveness is a choice, a process and a desire we can ask Jesus to grow in us more deeply.

Pray: Dear God, I know I cannot forgive other people by my own strength or striving. I can only forgive with the help of your grace and by asking for the desire. When I struggle with forgiveness, give me the desire to forgive as Jesus. Amen.
 Act: Is there a person in my life I need to forgive? I will ask God to give me the desire to forgive.

Hoping you enjoy a blessed and fruitful Lenten season, a Happy St. Patrick's Day and a safe month,

Peggy Seleski

Rosensteel Oyster and Bull Roast Saturday, March 20 - 5 to 7 p.m. - \$35 per person

Fresh Raw Oysters, Smoked Oysters, Pit Beef and all the fixins.

This will be pre-registration only with limited seating in the Columbian Room. Please note that this is not all you can eat and there is no take out or carry out, but there will be plenty of food!

We will be safe and we will enjoy ourselves while having a great meal. Please stay tuned for more details.

***Volunteers needed; please contact Terrence Moore or Tim Stocker
tpmoore927@gmail.com.***

Council Money Motion

Please make every effort to attend, either in person or online, the March 2 Council Meeting when a vote is scheduled to take place on a money motion to use up to \$1,750 from the Council general fund to purchase Safeway gift cards for needy families for Easter.



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COMING EVENTS...

APRIL 2021

2 - Good Friday
4 - Easter
6 - Membership Meeting
22 - Earth Day

MARCH 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1.	2. 7 p.m. - Membership Meeting	3. Wild Wing Wednesday - wings and fries basket, \$7	4. 7 p.m. - Maryknights Executive Board Meeting	5. Fried shrimp	6.
7.	8. Maryknights Monthly Meeting	9. Taco Tuesday - Three Taco Basket, \$7	10.	11.	12. Aggies crab imperial (if in season; if not, seafood gumbo)	13.
14.	15.	16. 6 p.m. - Council Officers Meeting	17. St. Patrick's Day, corned beef and cabbage	18.	19. Girolami fish & chips	20. First Day of Spring *Council Coat Drive (contact Gus Gusman for information)
21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26. Batter fried shrimp and calamari	27.
28. Palm Sunday Children's Easter Party	29.	30.	31.	April 1.		