Council Officers

CHAPLAIN - Fr. Anthony J. Legarski GRAND KNIGHT - Gary Ellis DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT - Allan Duman CHANCELLOR - Mark Sault WARDEN - William Nelson FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Louis Endress TREASURER - Clarence Becker ADVOCATE - Edward Zang, Esq. GUARDS - Bernard Mikesic, Dennis McGeehan RECORDER - Mike Metzgar TRUSTEES - Dan Casey, Dave Karl, PGK George Husick



March 2011

From the Grand Knight

Brother Knights,

This is a special time of the year with Lent starting this month. Let everyone participate strongly in the meaning of Lent and pray as often as we can for a better world.

The bus trip to New Haven has changed due to bus scheduling and the date. We had to secure another bus company and the previous date was Yale University's graduation and the motels were booked. The new date is May 13 & 14. The package includes the bus, hotel, taxes, baggage service, a buffet dinner and gratuity. The price per person is \$250.00 (single), \$200.00 (two per room), \$180.00 (three per room) & \$150.00 (four per room). We will be stopping at Hollywood Casino in Harrisburg on the way home and each person will receive \$30.00 slot money and a \$5.00 coupon. The bus will be leaving the parking lot at the AFSCME Union Hall on Patchway Drive across from Marzoni's at 8:00 a.m.on May 13th.

In order to make sure we have room for everyone, we would appreciate your reservation and payment as soon as possible. You may call me, Gary Ellis at 695-6844 or Lou Endress at 696-0843.

Fraternally Yours,

Gary

Chaplain's Message

"Lent: A Journey with Christ Back to Christ"

If we haven't realized it by now, we will in a few weeks—Lent is coming. This year Lent begins as it does every year, on Ash Wednesday, which is on March 9th this year.

Like so many other traditions and practices within our faith community, if we do not renew and rethink the meaning of things like Lent, they can easily lose their intended meaning and purpose. This begs the question: How are we going to observe Lent this year? We know the basics, but that is precisely what they are—basics. We hear about them ever year: fasting, abstinence, self-denial, alms giving (charity), reconciliation, penance, etc.

The key to a rewarding and spiritually fulfilling Lent is for us to take these practices and traditions and open ourselves up to them transforming our lives not just for Lent, but for the entire journey of our life on this earth back to the Kingdom of God.

If Lent is about refocusing our lives on what is eternal, if it is about realigning ourselves with what is required of us as disciples, then we must look to this experience from the perspective of our own lives. In doing so, we discover the same things in our day and age that tempted our Lord in his: material things, power, and pride.

What can we do during Lent that will take our minds off of the things of this world, and put them on the world that awaits those who follow Christ? What can we do to make God the priority and the life he promises our true objective? Are we reluctant to share the material and spiritual blessings we may have with those less fortunate?

If we are in a position to supervise or lead others, we must examine our motive in the way in which we do so. Whether we are a parent, clergy, older sibling, teacher, boss, whatever capacity in which we find ourselves, humility must be our objective. Do we find ourselves pursuing goals at the expense of others? This will necessarily demand of us a more intense prayer life. This will bring out of us a desire to be open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit and live and act in the right way and for the right reasons in our relationship with others. In the end we will have worked our way back to Christ, who himself became one of us in order to lead us in that direction.

It is often said that "the love of money is the root of all evil." Perhaps there is a great deal of truth in this observation. But the account of the fall of Man in Genesis and the temptation of Jesus teaches us that the love of self, i.e., pride, is truly the root of all evil. Pride traps us into making ourselves the priority. It is all about us. It is obvious how this impacts our relationship with God. Life, because of pride, is all about us-not those around us who are vulnerable, marginalized, or less fortunate. Our Lenten agenda therefore, must necessarily include us taking the initiative to reach out to others, to put the needs of others ahead of our own. In short, Lent demands of us humility and an altruistically driven effort to truly be Christ for others.

If our observance of Lent is approached in this way, we afford ourselves the opportunity and the incentive to confront and conquer the things that we face everyday that hamper our willingness and ability to follow Christ as disciples and as brother Knights. Throughout the course of this journey we must also remember that we have as a model and intercessor our very own patroness and mother— Mary, Star of the Sea.

Sincerely Yours in Christ, Your Council Chaplain

Father Anthony J. Legarski



Happy Birthday

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February Council Meeting Notes

We received a thank-you from Catholic Charities for our \$500 donation.

A motion/carried was made to purchase a ¼ page ad at St. Johns.

A motion/carried by Brother Jim Zimmerman for a \$100 donation to the MS Walk.

A discussion was tabled till the March meeting for a donation to the K of C Golf Outing and the State Council

Annual Meeting.

Deadline for reservations/payment for the Supreme Council bus trip is March 1, 2011. The price per person is \$250.00 (single), \$200.00 (two per room), \$180.00 (three per room) & \$150.00 (four per room). Dates are May 13-14, 2011

Reservations for the K of C Retreat are March 5, 2011 to Father Aaron at St. Josephs, Williamsburg, PA.

March 5, 2011 a Mardi Gras Dinner Dance 7-10pm will be held at Council #8075 Bellwood, PA. \$7.00 inclusive.

A Chicken BBQ will be held March 20, 2011. Volunteer help is needed.

A Ham and Cheese sandwich sale will be held March 18-19, 2011.

A spaghetti social will be held on March 30 for K of C Members and their guests in conjunction with the Jaffa Clown and their guests. Entertainment will be a magician. Social hour from 5-6 pm with dinner and entertainment to follow.

The District Deputy has asked for a focus to be made on recruiting. Our goal is 17 new members for 2011. A discussion was held by Council on the correct approach (es) for this effort, RCIA meetings, open house and others. Brother Benton will spearhead this effort.



Council meetings are held on the **First Thursday** of the month at 7:00 pm. The next meetings are: Thursday, March 3 7:00pm Thursday, April 7 7:00pm March 5, Mardi Gras Dinner, Bellwood Council March 18-19, Ham and Cheese Sale March 20, Chicken Bar-B-Q Hollidaysburg Council March 26-27 Catholic Men's Retreat March 30, Annual Spaghetti Dinner with Jaffa Clowns, 5PM April 25 Blood Drive at Council Home May 6-7 Measure-Up Campaign May 13-14 Trip to K of C Headquar-



ters

Thoughts and Prayers

Please keep in your prayers, Brother Mark Frew on the loss of his mother. Also still pray for Brother Joe Cassidy. He is doing much better with his heart problems but will require one more surgery.



Remember to keep in your thoughts and prayers all brother knights that have passed away.

