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August 2015

### From the Grand Knight

Dear Brother Knights,

I don't know about you, but this summer is flying by quickly. My mother always says that the older you get the faster time goes by. I am finding that to be true more and more each day. Between having a wife, a three year old daughter, and performing the duties as Grand Knight, a month doesn't seem to last as long as it used to. On top of my everyday life, I have had a friend of the family and an aunt both die from cancer recently. The friend of the family was close to home. My aunt, however, lived in Ohio. The trip to Ohio was obviously a further drive and required more time off work. No sooner did I arrive home from Ohio and then have to wake the next morning and leave again. This time I was bound for Greensburg in order to celebrate my wife's aunt,

Sister Sara Marie Wojcik, at her Golden Jubilee Celebration in honor of her being a Sister of Charity for 50 years.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not trying to complain about all the hustle and bustle. I'm merely trying to point out how busy and sometimes depressing our lives can be. Some moments are happy. Some moments are sad. Some moments are embarrassing. Some moments, on the other hand, I'm not exactly sure how to classify. An example of this would be when my daughter had started to get restless during mass at the 50 year Jubilee. The whole chapel was quiet as my wife proceeded to take my daughter outside. As she is doing so, and at the moment of perfect acoustic resonance for everyone to hear, my daughter says, "Mommy, where are you taking me?" Everyone in the chapel chuckled, and one of the sisters who was also celebrating her Golden Jubilee said, "Sometimes that is exactly what we say to God."

As you already know yourselves, not every day is a particularly good one. At the same time though we all need to remind ourselves that God loves us and that we have friends and family who love us as well.

Fraternally Yours,

Lee

### Chaplain's Message

### **In the Wake of Obergefell v. Hodges**

*By Father Anthony Legarski,  
Chaplain*

Shortly after the attack on United States Naval Base Pearl Harbor by the empire of Japan, President Franklin Roosevelt deemed the day of the attack (December 7, 1941) "a date that will live in infamy." It would appear to us as Catholics in general and Knights of Columbus in

particular that June 26, 2015 will be seen in the same light.

This of course is the date when the United States Supreme Court held in Obergefell v. Hodges that the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution requires a State to license a marriage between two people of the same sex and to recognize a marriage between two people of the same sex when their marriage was lawfully licensed and performed out-of-State. Despite claims or observations to the contrary, this horrible decision will continue to challenge the traditional and divinely revealed truth of marriage being a union between one man and one woman. It will challenge our values as a society, our values as a nation and our values as a Church. All of this requires us as Catholic Knights to do two things: (1) Know the position of the Church in response to the decision and (2) Follow the advice and direction of our Bishops as we move on.

In a statement released Shortly after the attack on United States Naval Base Pearl Harbor by the empire of Japan, President Franklin Roosevelt deemed the day of the attack (December 7, 1941) “a date that will live in infamy.” It would appear to us as

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In a statement released by Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and

speaking in their behalf, Archbishop Kurtz states:

***“...The law has a duty to support every child’s basic right to be raised, where possible, by his or her married mother and father in a stable home.”***

***“Jesus Christ, with great love, taught unambiguously that from the beginning marriage is the lifelong union of one man and one woman. As Catholic bishops, we follow our Lord and will continue to teach and to act according to this truth.”***

***“... I call upon all people of good will to join us in proclaiming the goodness, truth, and beauty of marriage as rightly understood for millennia, and I ask all in positions of power and authority to respect the God-given freedom to seek, live by, and bear witness to the truth.”***

This is and will remain the position of the Church in this matter. Although the Church does not believe that same sex couples should be ostracized, mistreated or even discriminated against in matters of civil law or rights, she nonetheless believes that

no Court of Law or contemporary social behavior is within its rights to re-define marriage, the properties and nature of which are held to be divine; i.e., that marriage is a union between one man and one woman.

Admittedly, the Court did seem to protect the rights of the Church in this matter by stating in the majority opinion: ***“Finally, it must be emphasized that religions, and those who adhere to religious doctrines, may continue to advocate with utmost, sincere conviction that, by divine precepts, same-sex marriage should not be condoned. The First Amendment ensures that religious organizations and persons are given proper protection as they seek to teach the principles that are so fulfilling and so central to their lives and faiths, and to their own deep aspirations to continue the family structure they have long revered.”***

Our challenge as Catholic Knights in the wake of this issue, is very simple: Know the position of the Church and give witness to it by (1) prayer, (2) example, (3) speaking in

support of the truths of our faith; particularly in regards to family and marriage, and (4) vigilance that what the Supreme Court states about religious freedom in this case is in fact a sacred right that it stands ready to protect and not simply some sort of Orwellian rhetoric.

In all of this we must seek the example of the Holy Family and the powerful intercession of Mary, Star of the Sea.

### July 2, 2015 Meeting Minutes



Star of Seal Council #4245  
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648  
Council Phone: 814-695-4752  
July 2, 2015 Monthly Meeting Minutes

The council was called to order at 7:00 PM by GK Lee Zimmerman with 35 members present.  
Officers absent: Ron Harella, Rich Moyer, Dan Moringiello, Fr. Legarski

Meeting Minutes for the previous month were read and accepted without changes.

Application for membership: NA

Degree Ceremony: NA

Grand Knight Report: GK Lee Zimmerman shared his thankfulness for the success of the Hand-in-Hand chicken barbeque as well as the appreciation for all of the related help.

Chaplains Report: NA

New Business: □ K of C night will be held at Peoples Natural Gas Field on August 2, 2015 to see the Altoona Curve in action at 6:00 PM. Sign up was offered at the meeting. Lou Endress reiterated that the new version of the membership forms are available (older forms are now obsolete); forms are available as part of the recruitment process.

Report of the 4th Degree: George Husick presented information on a 4th degree exemplification to be held at the State College Council, Sunday, October 25, 2015. A minimum of 30 Knights are needed. Applications will be available at the next meeting.

Good of the Order: NA

Chaplains Summation: NA

Announcements: George Husick has been appointed to

the District Deputy position - congratulations!

Jim Hodge will be visiting the parishes affiliated with our council and offering the baptismal roses.

Mass celebrated by Bishop Bartchak will be held in Loretto, PA, Sunday, October 11, 2015 at 2:00 PM in the Basilica of St. Michael. The theme of the gathering is "Witness of Mercy of Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney". Dinner will be served following the Mass in Our Lady of Loretto Community Hall at a cost of \$15.00/adult; \$7.50/child, 7 years old and younger. Sign up is required in advance with money submitted by September 30, 2015 (no money exchanged at the door). Council sang the closing ode and the meeting was adjourned at ~7:46 PM Note - hospitality meal to be provided by Gary Nocek at the August 6, 2015 meeting.

Reminder, council reimburses up the \$50.00 for these meals; Roasters are available for use, see Jim Zimmerman.

Ed Dunning, Recorder

Star of Sea Council #4245  
eedunn6@gmail.com

814-695-3998

#### August Birthdays:

MRV	Joseph	Adamec	08-13
Mr.	Paul	Andrews	08-12
Mr.	Robert	Baker	08-08
Mr.	James	Folcarelli	08-20
Mr.	Mark	Frew	08-27
Dr.	Paul	Gallagher	08-13
Mr.	Robert	George	08-09
Mr.	Richard	Gildea	08-23
Mr.	William	Hiergeist	08-11
Mr.	Stephan	Janosik	08-23
Mr.	James	Letcher	08-27
Mr.	James	Lytle	08-07
Mr.	Carmine	Fedesco	08-29
Mr.	John	Brown, Jr.	08-02
Mr.	John	Despot	08-01
Mr.	Arthur	Ollinger, Jr.	08-01
Mr.	Frank	Roscia	08-09
Mr.	Robert	Spinazzola	08-05
Mr.	Robert	Spinazzola	08-16
Mr.	Michael	Syroid	08-09
Mr.	David	Depastina	08-07
Mr.	Joseph	Schenk, III	08-02
Mr.	Kyle	Surkovich	08-30
Mr.	Todd	Surkovich	08-30



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