

Reflection by Lindsey Simmons

Can Strangers be God-Sent?

Sometimes encounters with certain people—even strangers—can leave you wondering if God was reaching out to you through them.

Have you ever had an encounter so intriguing, so profound, that the message or lesson stays with you for years to come? I have.

While working at my previous job several years ago, I got to talking to an older gentleman during a phone interview. As was often the case, those interviews would deviate from work to more personal subjects after business was over.

The Revelation

We started talking about things that we wanted in our lives. I confessed to him that I was missing something in my life, but no matter how concentrated or pragmatic I was in my approach, I still couldn't attain it. "Well," he said gently, "have you asked God for it?" Um, no. I hadn't. I hadn't even thought to ask God, and I told him so. I didn't want to bother God with my silly desires. Weren't there more important things to pray for?

The simplistic wisdom in his response shocked me: "How in the world do you expect to get something if you don't ask for God's help?"

It hit me like a ton of bricks. It probably wouldn't have caused an epiphany of any sort in others, but for me, at that point, it did. How could I have consistently missed the most important ingredient in the recipe for success? I'll never forget that line, and it often comes to me when I start thinking that I'm tough enough to handle something on my own, or that I'll just take something on without asking for help.

Apparently somewhere along the way, even amidst my Catholic schooling and upbringing, I had forgotten that God wants us to come to Him and cling to Him with childlike trust. And maybe it was time I was reminded of that. What a wonderful, simple lesson from that man, or maybe, directly from God...

"Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive." – Matthew 21:22

"...unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven." –Matthew 18:3

By Lindsey Simmons:

Lindsey Simmons is the Publicity, Social and Digital Media Manager at *St. Anthony Messenger Press.*

Fourth Degree Officers Installed

Fourth Degree members and spouses enjoyed an evening filled with a dignified installation ceremony, social time, and a delicious dinner on Saturday, July 16. The officer installation ceremony was held at St. Joseph Church, after the 4:00 p.m. Mass. The conferring officers were District Master Bob Mathewson and District Marshal Marc Peters. The social hour and dinner were held at the KC Hall.

2011-12 Fourth Degree Officers

Faithful Friar	Deacon Pat Fagan
Faithful Navigator	
Faithful Captain	
Faithful Pilot	Lynn Becker
Faithful Comptroller	Terry Evans
Faithful Purser	Dave Fandel
Faithful Scribe	Duane Ludewig
Faithful Inner Sentinel	
Faithful Outer Sentinel	
Faithful Admiral	
Faithful Trustee (1st term)	
Faithful Trustee (2nd term)	Glen Meger
Faithful Trustee (3rd term)	Walt Spindler

Grand Knight's Message by Randy Balausky

August is here already and we are reminded of our next holiday; "The Steele County Free Fair". I am not sure if Hallmark is working on any cards for this one, but it is a good time when the Knights have an opportunity to spend time with family and friends, to meet up with past acquaintances, and of course to help with the beer garden, grand stand, and food stand. This is a great opportunity to bring in those people you know and always say "I should get him into the Knights". This year, write down their names as a reminder, and get them involved.

As the summer quickly passes us by, don't forget to keep an eye on all our upcoming events. One in particular that I want to point out will be the Family Picnic on September 18th. We will be planning on more activities for the kids, so mark it in your calendar now. And, by the way – it's free! More details will be in the next issue of *The Key*.

Congratulations to Father Sauer for his Knight of the Month award and for all that you do for our faith community.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Steele County Fair and I urge you to be sure to help support the KC's. Be safe for the rest of this summer and God Bless!!!

Membership by LaVerne Klecker

We appreciate all the efforts which have been made toward our membership this past year. We are planning on having a first Degree on August 10 before our General Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Please bring your new members to this meeting, this would be a perfect opportunity for any college student to sign up before they leave. Candidates should report at 6:30 p.m. We are planning a Major Degree in November.

Our Council's goal is to achieve Star Council this coming year. To make Star Council our quota is 35 new members.

If you have any questions or need help signing up new members, please call me at 451-4102 or 456-6738.

Also, I would like to remind anyone who has not paid their dues for 2011 please get them paid. Our Council needs the money we collect from dues to make ends meet and to pay our Council's expenses.

Aid & Assistance by Greg Nelson

Please remember in your prayers and thoughts all of our sick or injured members of the Knights of Columbus and their families. Let's also offer up prayers for all deceased members and their families.

The KCs' prayers and good wishes go out to:

Brother Knight James Berning is recovering from a heart attack. Brother Knight John Berning is facing a challenging illness.

Let us be united in prayer for those facing ongoing challenges...

Lois Doyle, Mary Floersch, Gene Gallea, Rose Hoffman, Erlis Kelzenberg, Renee Kern, Marlys Knight, Mary Ann Lammers, Bev Macht, Father James McCauley, Gil Mamer, Mary Mamer, Mary Meixner, Bob McDermott, Suzanne Miedema, Father Ed Mountain, Dorothy Mulert, Terry Nelson, Terry O'Brien, Karen Pirkl, Sylvia Prokopec, Sharon Rohwer, John Schmidt, Howard Snyder, Jeanine Snyder, Walt Spindler, Becky Walsh, Gary Wandrey, Jerry Weber, Rownell Weber, Phyllis Wheeler, Irene Wierzbinski, and Jim Wierzbinski.

IN MEMORY

Please remember in your prayers the following individuals and their families:

Pearl Nicklawske passed away on June 26. She was the widow of Past Grand Knight, Eugene Nicklawske.

If anyone knows of a Brother Knight who is sick or injured, please call Greg Nelson at 455-3976.

Awards & Installation Banquet - June 25

he Council 945 annual Awards and Installation Banquet was attended by a large number of members and their spouses. Officers for the upcoming term beginning July 1 of this year were installed by District Deputy Joe Elbert, following the 5:00 p.m. Mass at Sacred Heart Church. He was assisted by Chaplain elect Rev. Andrew Vogel and Warden Glen Meger. The banquet was the culmination of a very successful fraternal year for the Council.

The Officers installed for the 2011-12 Council year are as follows:

Chaplain - Rev. Andrew Vogel Grand Knight - Randy Balausky **Deputy Grand Knight - Wade Schroeder Chancellor - Dustin Reese** Advocate - Steve Graff Warden - Dan Wolfe **Inside Guard - Pete Schneider Outside Guard - Harlan Kern Recorder - Scot Berkley Treasurer - Tom Eichten Financial Secretary - John Ahlberg**

Following the Installation, activities moved from Sacred Heart to the KC Hall. Attendees enjoyed fellowship during the social hour and then were served an excellent meal prepared by Columbian Center Manager Mark Cunningham. He was assisted by Brother Knight Tom Burke. Serving was handled by the Council's sponsored Boy Scout troop, assisted by a number of adult volunteers.

Master of Ceremonies' duties were conducted by Trustee Bill Lawrence. One of the highlights of the evening was a special presentation to Rev. Ed Mountain, celebrating 68 years as a Knight and almost 65 years as a priest. Brother Knight Jack Dillemuth, on behalf of the entire Council, presented Father Mountain with a table emblazoned with the logos of the KC's and the University of Notre Dame, made by Joe Elbert. Father Mountain shared some memorable moments of his experiences and memories as a priest and as a Knight.

Also featured was the K of C Chorus under the direction of Stephen Nelson. Their excellent program is always appreciated.

The membership and Oak awards were presented by Steve Dornquast and Randy Balusky. The Trustee Service award was presented to Brian Carlson by Trustee Joe Elbert. The prestigious Knight of the Year Award for 2010 - 11 was presented by Stephen Nelson to Jim Gleason.

odd Edal John Disham		
Todd Edel John Rishavy Myron Kaplan Jeffrey Salmonsen Dennis Kelm Adrian Seykora Robert Krauth Mark Wanous		
Ionorary Life Members		
oseph Breckner James Kenney David Dombrock Leroy Meier Daul Hudrlik Lyle Snider Ayron Kaplan		

Grand Knight Steve Dornquast and Program Director Randy Balausky presented the following Owatonna Active Knights

200 - 249 hours	250 - 299 hours	Over 300 hours Frank Conley Steve Dornquast Joe Elbert LaVerne Klecker Tim Rice	
Tom Burke Brian Carlson Lyle Coleman John Hammer Wade Schroeder	Randy Balausky Al Nelson Stephen Nelson		
100 - 14	150 - 199 hours		
John Carlson Tom Elbert Michael Goddard Steve Graff Al Jirele Mark Kearin Dennis Kelm Tom Knight Terry Kuck William Lawrence	Dave Lax Will Pieper Brandon Pofahl Pete Schneider Lee Staupe Dan Walsh Ray Willmott Ron Wolf Dave Wunderlich	John Ahlberg Steve Fisher Tom Gebur Harlan Kern Wayne Kubicek Lloyd Mans Dustin Reese Walt Spindler Chuck Walerius	
	50-99 Hours		
Conrad Bahe Lynn Becker Gerry Berry Scot Berkley Don Boesen Keven Boettcher Tim Chicos Tom Docksey Tom Eichten Bill Foreman Kevin Gallagher Jim Gleason Roger Green	Ron Heim Dennis Heimerman Ryan Heimerman John Henry Lee Jardine Matt Jessop Jim Kaplan Tom Kingsley Doug Kloos Duane Ludewig Jim Nelson Sam Nelson Tony Nguyen	Dave Pfeifer Doug Phillips Mark Phillips Dan Ruiter Paul Schneider John Schulz Lyle Snider Lavern Soukup Curt Supalla Richard Thamert Eric Tucker Earl Wheeler John Wheeler	

Knight of the Month Recipients in 2010-2011

	-
July	John Hammer
August	Lyle Coleman
September	Tony Nguyen
October	Eric Tucker
November	Josh Klecker
December	Gary Nelson
January	Lee Jardine
February	Dave Fandel
March	Lloyd Mans
April	Harlan Kern
<i>May</i>	
June	

Owatonna K of C Chorus Members

Lynn Becker Don Boesen John Carlson John Degner Steve Dornquast Tom Gebur Mike Goddard Dennis Heimerman Stephen Nelson (Director) Frank Conley (Administration)

Ryan Heimerman Matt Jessop Harlan Kern LaVerne Klecker Wayne Kubicek David Lax Lloyd Mans Jim Nelson

Johnathon Nelson Sam Nelson Brandon Pofahl Pete Schneider John Schulz Lee Staupe Dan Walsh Chuck Walerius

OFFICERS FOR 2011



Officers for 2011 — 2012, Owatonna Council 945 The officers pictured were installed on June 25 following the 5:00 p.m. Mass at Sacred Heart Church. From left to right, Glen Meger, Past Grand Knight Steve Dornquast, Chaplain Father Andrew Vogel, Warden Dan Wolfe, Grand Knight Randy Balausky, Deputy Grand Knight Wade Schroeder, Chancellor Dustin Reese, Outside Guard Harlan Kern, Inside Guard Pete Schneider, Trustee Bill Lawrence, Financial Secretary John Ahlberg, and District Deputy Joe Elbert.

Special Recognition for Father Mountain



Father Mountain (right) received two special recognition awards, presented by PGK Jack Dillemuth on behalf of Council 945. The first presentation was a custom designed end-table, the top of which contained a large KC and Notre Dame University logo and the inscription, "Knights of Columbus and University of Notre Dame #1 Fan". A framed "Resolution of Appreciation & Respect" certificate was also presented to Father Mountain. Jack read the resolution which noted Father has been a KC member for 68 years and is our longest tenured member; a priest for 64 years; a dedicated Notre Dame University fan; and the future namesake of Council 945.

Knight of the Year

Trustee's Service Award

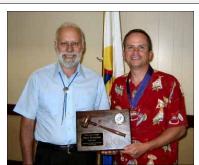


Jim Gleason is our 2010-11 Knight of the Year. Jim was out-of-town for the weekend attending a family reunion and was unavailable to receive the award. In making the presentation of this prestigious award, 2009-10 Knight of the Year recipient, Stephen Nelson, noted Jim's many accomplishments after joining the Knights of Columbus in 1991 and becoming a very active member, including: Community Director for 18 years; I-35 Cleanup Chairman for 17 years; active in the Kids Halloween Party; a member of the Benefit Breakfast Crew; a participant of the Wildlife Benefit Banquet & Auction; Coordinator of the Boy Scouts Spaghetti Supper; and Knight of the Month in 2001. In addition to these activities, he also participates in the Andrew Lawrence Annual Chili Cook-off, has been a member of the Park and Recreation Board, and is active in the Heart Association.



Brian Carlson is the proud recipient of the 2010-11 Trustee's Service Award. Trustee Joe Elbert presented the award and noted that Brian's accomplishments are coordinating the volunteers for all KC Benefit Breakfasts, Smokin' in Steele, participating in Tootsie Roll fund raiser, and the KC Fair food stand.

PAST GRAND KNIGHT AWARD



2010-11 Grand Knight Steve Dornquast is pictured here with the Past Grand Knight Award presented by 2011-12 Grand Knight Randy Balausky. Under Steve's leadership, participation in all our projects showed an increased level of participation.

- MEMBER RECRUITMENT -

New First Degree Members

MEMBER William Ahlberg John Degner Nathan Graff Lucas Kaplan Kyle Kozelka Donald Kramer Todd Supalla

Reinstatements

MEMBER Michael Goddard Peter Guenther Ronald Segner SPONSOR John Ahlberg LaVerne Klecker Steven Graff James Kaplan Scott Kozelka LaVerne Klecker Aaron Jelinek

SPONSOR LaVerne Klecker LaVerne Klecker Mark Cunningham

New Third Degree Members

MEMBER Sean Benz James Gaulrapp Joel Gaulrapp Kevin Gallagher Chris Herzog Lee Jardine Keith Martin Brandon Noble Michael Schneider

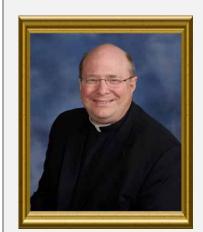
Dustin Reese Paul Gaulrapp Paul Gaulrapp Emmett Gallagher James Herzog Deacon Pat Fagan Allen Martin Terry Kuck Paul Schneider

SPONSOR

2011-12 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain: Rev. Andrew Voge
GRAND KNIGHT: Randy Balausky
Deputy Grand Knight: Wade Schroeder
Chancellor: Dustin Reese
Advocate: Steve Graft
Warden: Dan Wolfe
Inside Guard: Pete Schneider
Outside Guard:Harlan Kerr
Financial Secretary: John Ahlberg
Treasurer:
Recorder: Scot Berkley
Trustee (3 year): PGK Joe Elber
Trustee (2 year): PGK Bill Lawrence
Trustee (1 year): PGK Steve Dornquas
DIRECTORS AND CHAIRMEN
Program Director: Wade Schroeder
Adv/Publicity Director: Dan Ruiter
Church Director: Pete Schneider
Community Director: Jim Gleasor
Council Activity Director: PGK Kevin Raney
Family Director:Stephen Nelsor
Health Director: Dr. Mark Nelsor
Recruit Director: PGK Mark Cunningham
Youth Director: Will Pieper
Membership Director:PGK LaVerne Klecker
Aid & Assistance: Greg Nelsor
Lecturer: PGK Mark Cunningham
Historian: Oper
Retention Chairman:PGK LaVerne Klecker
KC Chorus DirectorStephen Nelsor
Building Comm Chairman:
Gambling Manager: Josh Klecker
District Deputy: PGK Joe Elber
KC Hall Manager: PGK Mark Cunningham
Benefits Advisor: Kevin Gallagher - 213-9410

Knight of the Month



Rev. John Sauer

Council 945's Knight of the Month for June is Rev. John Sauer, Pastor of Sacred Heart and Holy Trinity of Litomysl. The announcement was made at the regular July Council meeting by Deputy Grand Knight, Wade Schroeder. In making the announcement, Wade shared that, "It is fitting to honor Father Sauer as our Knight of the Month. He has just completed the year as Council 945's Chaplain and Brother Knights have enjoyed his articles in *The Key*. In addition, his work with Sacred Heart and Holy Trinity, and especially his work on the New Missal, all make Father Sauer deserving to be our Knight of the Month for June." A native of St. Cloud, Father Sauer was ordained in 1985, and celebrated his 25th anniversary of his ordination in June of 2010. His first assignment was as associate pastor at St. Stanislaus Parish in

Winona and religion teacher at Cotter High School. He has since served as associate pastor at St. Francis in Rochester and St. John the Baptist in Mankato, taught at Lourdes and Loyola High Schools, and his first pastorate was at St. Edward's in Austin and Our Lady of Loretto in Brownsdale.

He was then was asked by Bishop Vlazny to become rector of the Cathedral in Winona, while also serving as pastor of Immaculate Conception in Wilson and St. Casimir in Winona which are linked with the Cathedral at various times. Prior to arriving in Owatonna and Litomysl in 2008, Father Sauer spent time at the American College in Louvain, Belgium, on sabbatical. In addition to his work as a pastor, he has recently been asked by Bishop Quinn to serve the Diocese as Director of Worship and Liturgy.

Father Sauer loves music and enjoys singing. He is part of a choir in the Twin Cities, Kantorei, which began as alumni of St. John's and St. Ben's, but now have singers from a variety of backgrounds. He also enjoys traveling and reading – he usually has two or three books going at any one time and loves to cook.

Father Sauer became a Knight on October 31, 1995 and joined the Fourth Degree last year.

Congratulations to our June Knight of the Month, Rev. John Sauer.

KC Chorus continues busy Summer schedule



KC Chorus members who entertained at the Steele County Historical Society Extravaganza are: Director Stephen Nelson, John Schulz, David Lax, Wayne Kubicek, Steve Dornquast, John Degner, Harlan Kern, Brandon Pofahl, LaVerne Klecker, Chuck Walerius, Dan Walsh, Tom Gebur, Matt Jessop, Lynn Becker, Lloyd Mans, Dennis Heimerman, and Lee Staupe. The 45 minute performance was appreciated by all. The audience especially enjoyed Director Stephen Nelson's introduction to the Beatles' song, "When I'm 64," as he mentioned the song title is becoming fitting for some of our Chorus members.

Members of our Council 945 KC Chorus have provided a wide range of outstanding vocal performances this summer, ranging from patriotic and popular, to sacred music. The Chorus participated in the Memorial Day parade on May 30; the officer installation program and banquet on June 25; the Steele County Historical Society Extravaganza at the Village of Yesteryear on July 10; and the *Relay for Life* event on July 15. The original *Relay for Life* program scheduled for Friday, July 15 was rescheduled for Saturday, July 16 because of severe thunderstorms. Through a terrific effort by Director Stephen Nelson and many of the Chorus members, the opening National Anthem was rescheduled and performed on Saturday.

Thanks to all our Chorus members for their extra effort with chorus practice and a full performance schedule. The Chorus includes Director Stephen Nelson, Lynn Becker, Don Boesen, John Carlson, John Degner, Steve Dornquast, Tom Gebur, Mike Goddard, Dennis Heimerman, Ryan Heimerman, Matt Jessop, Harlan Kern, LaVerne Klecker, Wayne Kubicek, David Lax, Lloyd Mans, Jim Nelson, Sam Nelson, Brandon Pofahl, Pete Schneider, John Schulz, Lee Staupe, Chuck Walerius, and Dan Walsh.

The Chorus and the Fourth Degree Honor Guard will participate in the Polka Mass at the Litomysl Summer Festival on Sunday, July 31. The Chorus will also sing at 9:30 a.m, before Mass.

The Chorus will perform twice at the Steele County Free Fair this August. They will be part of the opening ceremony on Tuesday, August 16 in Fair Square, and at the Village of Yesteryear stage at 5:45 p.m. on Friday, August 19.

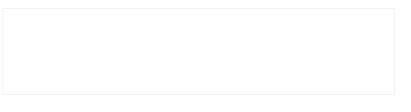
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Council No. 945 P.O. Box 945 Owatonna, MN 55060

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Steele County Free Fair Steele County Fairgrounds August 16 - 21 Enjoy a brat at the KC Food Stand. Nonprofit Organization U.S. POSTAGE **PAID** Owatonna, MN Permit No. 202

Litomysl 40th Annual Summer Festival Sunday, July 31 Mass - 10:00 a.m. Festival - 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



AUGUST 2011							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	1	2 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	3 Officers' Meeting and Gambling Meeting - 7:30 pm	4	5 Summer Steak Fry KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	6	
7	8 Bldg Mtg - 7:00 pm	9 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	10 General Meeting First Degree Exemplification 7:00 pm	11	12 Summer Steak Fry KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	13	
14	15	16 KC Chorus 4:15 pm Steele County Fair Fair Square	17 Enjoy a Brat at the KCFood Stand	18 Play a game of Bingo at the St. Mary's Home & School Assn. stand	19 KC Chorus 5:45 pm Village of Yesteryear	20 Enjoy a Holy Mojo sandwich at the KC Food Stand	
21 Last day of the Steele County Free Fair	22	23 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	24	25 Fourth Degree Potluck Picnic 6:30 - 8:30 pm Gainey Park	26 Summer Steak Fry KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	27	
28	29	30 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm	31				