



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
SAINT POLYCARP CHURCH
BROTHER VINCENT COUNCIL 7517 NEWSLETTER
*January-February 2021***

**ADDENDUM TO NEWSLETTER
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2021**

Technology is a wonderful thing -- when it works. The Brother Vincent Chaplain, Father James Hreha submitted an article for the current newsletter, which unfortunately got lost in email limbo and was not received until after the newsletter was published. Our Chaplain's spiritual message and participation in the newsletter is very important to the Council, so we are sending it as an addendum to the newsletter. Thank you, Father.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

Dear Brother Knights,

I hope and pray that all is well with you and your loved ones as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Certainly, 2020 has been a year like none other. We have changed our lives in ways that we could never have ever dreamed of. Making reservations to attend Mass, Spiritual Communion over the internet, virtual meetings and a host of others measures to slow the spread of the Pandemic, have all become over new normal.

Yet, while we might not realize it at first, all of these safely measures are part and parcel of the ideals of our faith. One of the most basic tenants of our Catholicism is Respect for Life. We hold dear that all life is sacred---from conception to natural death. In the midst of the pandemic, all of our actions reflect our belief in and support of the sacredness of life. Masks, sanitizations, and social distancing are all opportunities to lead the world by example and proclaim our faith!

In this, our Council has made many sacrifices to their normal operations to keep each other safe and healthy. All are to be commended for their willingness to be models of how to respect the sanctity and dignity of all human life!

Perhaps the biggest challenge that we have faced lies in translating our normal personal interactions that builds a sense of community so well into a digital venue. Certainly, this happened with the Rada fundraiser to support our charitable works. A bigger challenge lies in attendance and participation at our Council meetings. Few find digital meetings easy. They require discipline and charity. This is not a bad challenge. In fact, it too is in perfect alignment with our faith.

Brother Vincent Council has recently welcomed our Lady of Guadalupe Council to merge with them. In what was normal, this was also a challenge. Yet, this is one of the trademarks of our Council. I felt your welcome years back, and have watched it be extended time after time as others joined our order. Please consider the opportunities, especially by attending our meetings virtually, to welcome and get to know our new brothers.

May God continue to bless you and keep you safe in the coming year!

Faternally,

Rev. James D. Hreha, Chaplain