

The Silver Knight News

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State Deputy's Message

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May our hearts be filled with love, joy and peace as we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

There is a tough and winding road ahead of us but it says in John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

To our State Officers, District Deputies, Chair/Directors, Insurance Agents, Chaplains, Grand Knights and Council and Assembly officers and members, thank you for everything that you do in your parish, family and community and most of all, for the order of the Knights of Columbus, founded by Blessed Michael J. McGivney. We also thank our wives and families for their endless support.

May you receive the blessings and graces from above this coming Christmas and may our Lady of Guadalupe guide and protect us from harm.

Meynard Infantado, State Deputy



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In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

State Chaplain's Message

Dear Brother Knights,

Merry Christmas and a Grace-filled New Year 2024!

The Christmas message I want to share with you comes from the gospel of St. John which tells us "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1.) The Eternal Son of God is the Word to us Who self-communicates His love and salvation for us. Until this time, as we gather at every Mass, the Word of God continues to come down from heaven to take flesh in the form of the Eucharist. The priest makes the mystery real by making Christ's sacrifice present, not only sacramentally in the Body of Christ present on the altar, but truly, really, and personally present.

As your humble servant and State Chaplain, I cannot make miracles happen to be able to perform all the duties that I have been expected to do. I am not a miracle-worker, but the accomplishment of task and mission of St. John the Baptist to prepare the way of Christ as the Precursor, was not by way of doing the whole task. However, St. John the Baptist just did his part. Likewise, I know that some of you are losing the hope for getting into the "Star Award Council" or any other kinds of awards or recognitions. We are doing our share to make things happen. Some of us work too hard for our council at the expense of our families, work and even personal priorities; however, we take comfort in the extraordinary presence of God during this season of Advent and Christmas which utterly gives us joy and comfort.

We live in a world with lots of expectations and are result-oriented in the attitude of "Getting the work done." This is the path that leads to misery. This Christmas reminds us that God chose to dwell among us, to save us and to recognize our own total dependence upon Him and to encounter His eternal love through

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State Chaplain's Message (continued from page 2)

our "Cor Brotherhood." Initiating this "Cor Brotherhood" is indeed the answer to our longing to be appreciative of our Fraternal Brotherhood as Knights, to live a life of utter simplicity and set out on the path to holiness together with your whole family and to attain holiness and authentic lasting happiness in all circumstances of our lives, all of which lead us to be in the right relationship with God and our fellowmen.

I believe this boils down to bringing out from within ourselves the interior attitude which is "Gratitude." In every human fraternal organization, gratitude opens the door for the most cordial and loving relationships.

What can we give this Christmas? We could simply give our "gratitude." This makes everyone happy and pleases Him which is what makes us happy. As Knights of Columbus, our life is always giving, and now participation in "Cor" is the time for "getting" for ourselves so that we may share His life in heaven. Through our good works and witnessing, we would encourage other men to join the Order. May this Christmas bestow upon you God's blessings!

Fraternally yours,

Fr. Arlon M. Vergara, OSA

*In him was life, and
that life was the light of
all mankind.*



Lecturer's Refection

Matthew's genealogy in Chapter 1 of his Gospel is unique among all the others in the Bible. It contains the names of four women. Who are these women and why are there included? Let's take a look.

The first woman mentioned (in Mt 1:3) is a Caananite named **Tamar**. (You can read her story in Gen 38.) She was married to Judah's first son Er who later died. Then according to Jewish law, she married Judah's second son Onan and he died. She was promised Judah's third son Shelah. However, Judah did not fulfill this promise, So Tamar dressed as a prostitute and tricked her father-in-law into making her pregnant. Upon learning this, Judah said ""She is more righteous than I, since I wouldn't give her to my son Shelah." (Gen 38:26) Later she gave birth to twins, Zerah and Perez. Perez is in the genealogy of Jesus.

The next woman (in Mt 1:5) is another Caananite named **Rahab**. (You can read her story in Joshua 2.) Rahab was a prostitute who lived in Jericho and hid the two spies that Joshua had sent to reconnoiter the city. Later she married Salmon, an Israelite from the tribe of Judah. Their son was Boaz, the husband of Ruth.

Ruth is a Moabite woman, who stubbornly decides to accompany her mother-in-law, Naomi, back to Israel after both of their husbands died. In order to secure their future, Ruth takes matters into her own hands and "lies at the feet" of a kinsman redeemer, a wealthy older relative named Boaz, whom she ultimately convinces to marry her. Boaz and Ruth have a son named Obed. He has a son named Jesse and Jesse's eighth son was David, the King of Israel.

The last woman in the genealogy is "the former wife of Uriah." We know her as **Bathsheba**. David and Bathsheba's second son Solomon, became the heir to David's throne.

One might think that the women in the genealogy of Jesus would be Jewish women from the finest families, but they weren't. Three of them weren't Jewish at all. They were ordinary women, trying to get life right, and at times missing the goal. These women were mostly poor, unknown and unimportant. Three of them were widows. But they changed the course of history by believing God's promise. They are in the Savior's genealogy to foreshadow the kind of people Jesus came to save.

*The Word became flesh
and made his dwelling
among us.*