



## APRIL 2019

This is Council 9997's First Quarter 2019 newsletter. We want to reach out to Council members routinely—both to keep everyone up-to-date on our many activities and to solicit your feedback on the Council and its direction. We're especially looking for comments from brother Knights who, for whatever reason, haven't been able to participate on a regular basis. This fraternal year is again focused on supporting our parish. As part of that, we're determined to reach out to **every** member of the Council. We need your help to broaden participation in our activities and to bolster the spirit of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism that exemplifies the Knights of Columbus.

**As you read through this newsletter, we hope you'll find something that draws you in for future events. Help us understand what you want Council 9997 to be. We're set on making the Council a place you and your family will enjoy. Also, please let us know if there is some reason that makes it difficult for you to join us for our meetings, socials, and charitable projects—whether it's something as simple as "I need a ride to the meetings and activities", or something more complicated. You can contact any Council officer through our website at [STMKnights.org](http://STMKnights.org), either by email or phone.**

## ACTIVITIES IN QUARTER I OF 2019

### Meals at Our Business Meetings

February Business Mtg Meal - The thirty-two attendees chowed down on Rodney Laurent's famous Louisiana Gumbo. Rodney was ably

assisted in the kitchen by David Sanchez and Larry Payne. Many thanks to Rodney for preparing the meal and to David and Larry for their work. We all always look forward to Rodney's cooking. This was a real treat.

March Business Mtg. Meal - The thirty-one attendees enjoyed a salad and pepperoni pizza dinner courtesy of Grand Knight Dennis Robinson. Many thanks to Brother Dennis for preparing and serving this hearty meal.

April Business Mtg. Meal - The thirty-five attendees enjoyed a salad, pasta and meatball dinner courtesy of Stan Urban with serving assistance from Larry Payne. Many thanks to Brother Stan for preparing and serving this great meal, and to Larry for his assistance.

If you have not been able to get out for a meeting, consider coming out and enjoying a meal and fraternity with your Brother Knights. Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month and start with the rosary at 6:30 PM, dinner follows and the meeting starts at 7:30 PM promptly. We are usually treated to an inspirational homily by our Chaplain, Fr. Andrew, an interesting lecture item from Lecturer Pat Larkin, and are usually finished by 8:30 PM or shortly thereafter.

Habitat for Humanity - Thanks to all who helped with preparing the meal on March 30 for Habitat for Humanity and also to those working on the new house. We had an opportunity to meet the person the house is being built for and she expressed her profound thanks for all the work being done. She was very excited to have a home of her own.





## **Golf Tournament** -

David Sanchez reported that we had a first meeting a few weeks ago. Meetings will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday night at 7 PM at Rudy's. The tournament will again be at Twin Creeks on Columbus day. JW will cook the dinner and Matt Figlin of MLF will bring the truck loaded with lunch.

Help is needed. Gift card contributions from businesses are one item. If you have a business in mind, go talk to them. We have a letter of donation request that Steve Isaacson will get out soon, identifying MLF as a 501 (c3) with their number. Sponsors are also needed. There are many levels, and are listed on a sponsor solicitation letter Steve will also send out. We need a tournament sponsor (\$5,000). In a prior year we had Capital Chevy. We need one like this. Steve Isaacson will be contacting Nissan for a possible car on hole #9. Golfers are needed, so put together your teams (\$130 per golfer).

The tournament will be titled the Michael Kelly Memorial Golf Tournament benefitting Mobile Loaves and Fishes.

## **Chaplain's Report**

February Report - Fr. Andrew reflected on the gospel for the day. Jesus focus is on the condition of the heart being pure and being loving, serving others with priority, serving each other with love. Listening to our debate tonight, he asked us to focus on the condition of our hearts. What does it mean to be a Knight . . . are we doing this because of us or for Christ. Look at the purpose in each day's decision and actions because our heart can be doing it because of our desire/emotions. The Heart of Jesus died for us, putting down his life for

humanity. Is it truly the Heart of Christ or my own heart guiding me. Whatever it might be, is it for common good or for sake of our own good. The human heart is hardened when not focused on the Heart of Christ. Reflect on what is really in our heart now, working with God? Or because I want to be a Knight for some other reason. Let it sink into our heart and see if our heart is united with Christ.

March Report - Fr. Andrew focused on our lenten journey. Pope Francis reminds us that our yearly lenten journey is a process that is a gift of God's mercy. We often are destructive of our neighbors when we Children of God depart from Him. We can be focused on taking the upper hand, wanting it all and wanting it now. Lent remains a time to return to the Sacrament and take time to spiritually renew. The Supreme Chaplain exhorts our Council Chaplains to lead in helping us return to the Sacraments and to our faith. Four things are suggested during Lent: First, Good Friday Family Promotion; Knights attend Good Friday services with Family and work with pastors to promote parishioner involvement at liturgies. Second, Holy Hour; Eucharistic Adoration. Third, Spiritual Reflection; working with pastors to create an opportunity in Lent for prayer and reflection such as retreats. Fourth, Rosary Program; It can involve Knights and Families perhaps leading the parish in praying the rosary.

Fr. Andrew concluded by prompting us to ask ourselves four questions as Catholic Men of Faith. Are you doing anything different for Lent from the rest of the year? Are you prepared to pick up the cross and follow Jesus? Are you attending Mass more often and are you attending the Stations of the Cross? And finally,





have you changed your way of life? The Pope notes that Lent calls us to participate in the Passion of Christ. We need to ask ourselves if we are doing anything different compared to ordinary time.

**Awards** - DD Richard Skrok presented the Council with the Quick Start Honor Roll Award from State. Jim Ferguson was presented a VIP Pen for "Letting Your Light Shine" in obtaining new membership.

### **A Special Couple Honored at Valentine's Dance -**



Although the Valentine's Dance was sponsored by another ministry (The Love Ministry), it was a very special night for one of our Brother Knights and his Lady. Glenn Rust and his bride Betty were honored for reaching their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They shared a special dance that was wildly applauded by all the couples in the room. Thank you Glenn and Betty for your fine example; role models for us all!

### **Upcoming Events -**

**Special Olympics** - Paul Gelencser has been doing a great job keeping us informed as our new Special Olympics Coordinator. Please see his emails as upcoming events and opportunities

to volunteer become available.

Jim Ferguson and Steve Isaacson reported on their involvement in the recent State Special Olympics Bowling Tournament. There were about 10 Knights from various councils involved and everyone had a great time.

**Ethics and Integrity in Ministry** – It is a requirement that any Knight working with children (including teens) or the elderly have completed a background check and safety and environment training. Please see the diocesan website (<https://austindiocese.org/eim>) for more information and to sign up for training. Brother Jim Ferguson is our contact if you need to discuss this, and he is keeping us up to date on the times and locations for training via emails.

There is a workshop end of the month (April 29 at 7 PM) at STM and more to come in May (May 21 at 10 AM and 7 PM). Father Michael is asking for 100% participation from all ministries.

**Volunteer Hours Posted** – Few have been posted to date for the year; only 600 hours from 6 people. Jim is pleased to help you post the hours; just send him an email.

**Easter Luminaries** – We need 4 or 5 volunteers for 10 AM Holy Thursday to set up, and at 10 AM Good Friday to take them down.

**Easter Parking** – We start at 5:30 AM and need 16 volunteers. If you can help, contact Steve Isaacson or Dennis Robinson.

**Fourth Degree Fallout for Holy Thursday**. Stan Urban will send out details. Next week the





fourth degree meeting will be held at Lago Vista, not at STM.

Fourth Degree Exemplification will be Saturday, June 15 at St Albert the Great. \$70 must be paid by May 15 if you are participating. See Michael Yarberry.

Council Retreat – After some discussion, Deancon Dan will look into current options as well as lay out one he could develop for us. This is anticipated to be a half-day retreat.

New to Our Council - We welcomed two new transfer members, Gilbert Joseph and Darren Furgeson. As you have the opportunity to encounter these members please give them a hearty welcome. Brother Gilbert is a 40 year member and new to STM since last December, and is a professional singer available for weddings, funerals and all occasions. Brother Gilbert gave us a marvelous rendition of Ave Maria during the evening meal. Brother Darren is from N. California, originally is from Western Pennsylvania and is a Past Grand Knight.

Religious Education Appreciation Dinner - Thursday May 9 is the Religious Education Appreciation Dinner and with Brother Rodney Laurent as the lead we will again prepare and serve this meal. Dinner is usually served at 7 PM to about 100-120 people. This is a good service to the parish and our number of hours pales in the face of the person-hours put in by these good folks to teach our children. Rodney needs from 5 to 7 volunteers, with most of the work being from 4:30 to 8 PM. Some help of course will be required earlier in the day and Rodney will probably start around 6 AM. When he has worked out some details on the menu, and we approach the date, Rodney will email us to

further detail the volunteer requirements.

Annual Special Meal for the Homeless – Rodney Laurent will lead us again in preparing a special meal for MLF to take downtown to the homeless. The event will be the day after Easter (Easter Monday). Look for emails on details for help needed.

Election, Nomination of Officers – Nominations continued in April with the following slate at this point. Election will be in June, but nominations continue to be taken:

Grand Knight – Nominees are Stan Urban and Kevin Brinkman

Deputy Grand Knight – Steve Isaacson is current; D. McLennan will ask if he is willing to continue serving. Nominee Darren Furgeson

Chancellor – Nominee Jim Ferguson

Warden – Nominee Louis Ramero

Treasurer – Nominee Brian Stranczek

Recorder – Nominee Tony Lioi

Advocate – Nominees are Frank Kelly and Gilbert Joseph

Outside Guard – Nominee Larry Payne

Inside Guard – Nominee John Smith

Yr 3 Trustee – Nominee David McLennan and Bob Hardy

Yr 2 Trustee – Nominee David Sanchez, Sr

Yr 1 Trustee – Nominee Larry Carpentier

