

## Council Officers

CHAPLAIN - Fr. Brad Baldwin, T.O.R. GRAND KNIGHT - Barry Lindsay DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT - Allan Duman  
CHANCELLOR - Mark Sault WARDEN - William Nelson FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Louis Endress TREASURER - Clarence Becker  
ADVOCATE - Edward Zang, Esq. GUARDS - Bernard Mikesic, Dennis McGeehan RECORDER - Mark Frew  
TRUSTEES - PGK George Husick, Wilbur Henry, PGK Brian Drum



## December 2009

### From the Grand Knight

Brother Knights,

Christmas is one of the most important days on the Christian calendar. His holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, reminds everyone of Christ's messages of love and brotherhood, which is by the Christmas holy day. It is one of those holidays that bring the whole world out on the streets celebrating, visiting one another, exchanging presents, and mailing Hallmark Christmas cards to family and friends. Everyone prepares with excellence when hanging decorations in their homes, such as, the Christmas tree, which is decorated with lights and colorful ornaments, and an angel or star at the top of the tree.

It is also the time for Christmas shopping which generally begins on black Friday the day after Thanksgiving. Though many American stores begin selling Christmas items as early as Oct. to show that two thirds of their yearly income is earned during the last month or so. This continuous earlier starting by business owners to get people to buy Christmas gifts and almost anything they feel is needed to help with what they feel makes the celebration more memorable. Nowadays, despite the ever growing commercial hassle that has replaced what used to be a simple celebration of the birth of Jesus. The Christmas season has managed to hold onto its spirit of holiness.

Finally, who can forget the children. It is for them Santa comes from the North pole carrying gifts in little stockings, and music is played around the world from house to church. When the smell of freshly baked cookies joins in the families joy, we know it for certain it is Dec. 25th. Joy, happiness, and hope bursts forth in a spirit that can only be best described as a Christmas celebration.

Fraternally Yours

Barry L.

### Chaplain's Message

Greetings to all of my Brother Knights and your families, and a Blessed December and Christmas season to you all. As I write to you now, I am coming to the end of my retreat and school time, and am looking forward to returning home. Please pray for my safe travel in these days ahead, and know that I have kept you in my prayers throughout these last four months. I have learned and studied much in the areas of theology and spirituality, and will have lots to share with you in these months ahead.

For now, I share with you this brief reflection. In Pope Benedict's Homily for His First Mass as Pope, he spoke personal words that can be meaningful to us all: "In my soul, there are two contrasting sentiments. On the one hand, I feel a sense of inadequacy and human turmoil for the responsibility entrusted to me as the successor of Peter in the See of Rome. On the other hand, I sense within me a profound gratitude to God who never abandons His Flock, but leads us through time." In these last four months, I have reflected on the struggles of inadequacy within me; but, I have also felt gratitude to the God who has blessed and protected me, for nearly 56 years of life. My brothers, do we feel personal struggles and gratitude in our own life, whether as parents, business people, or Catholic leaders in today's church?

The Christmas season is all about celebrating the Incarnation, God's great of love for us, when He took on our humanity in Jesus Christ. We are grateful for this gift; but, at times, we feel unworthy of this love, because of our sinfulness. During this

blessed season, I am focusing my daily prayer on four areas of my life, and I pray each of you will do the same. First, I pray for a greater patience with family and others, but especially with myself. After all, God does not call us to perfection, but rather to holiness. Second, I will look at the sacrifices of my life as gifts that will challenge me to deepen my faith and dependence on God, especially in moments of personal and family trials. Third, my brothers, I believe that I can change the history of my family, community, and fraternity, by a willingness to offer my life to God each day.

And fourth, I will remain a person of hope. As Saint Francis reminds us: "Love will always live; God will always be; and peace will always be possible." To these, I would add: "And, Christmas comes every year." The Incarnation calls us to new possibilities of faith, hope, and love, now and in the year 2010. May we continue to believe in the good work God can perform within us, provided we trust in Him. We are inadequate, brothers; but, we are also grateful and faithful to the God who will help us build a strong and unified Church in the years ahead: a church which believes that patience, love, sacrifice, and hope, begin with us.

May each of you have a blessed Advent, a Merry Christmas, and a safe and joyous New Year with your family and friends. Please remember all who are sick, depressed, and/or grieving during these holy days. I look forward to seeing all of you in the New Year, and I am:

Sincerely Yours in Christ,  
Your Council Chaplain

*Father Bradley C. Baldwin, T.O.R.*



## Happy Birthday

Robert J. Baker	12/28
John D. Burk	12/27
Frank M. Clark	12/5
Joseph F. Daus	12/17
Louis J. Endress	12/16
Rick B. Gallagher	12/4
Lucas A. Harella	12/21
Ronald A. Hileman	12/19
William J. Hooten	12/20
Thomas O. Hoppel	12/14
George G. Husick	12/3
David T. Karl	12/21
Jason N. Kovach	12/25
Rev. Anthony J. Legarski	12/24
Nicholas S. Luciano	12/31
Daniel T. Moringiello	12/23
William M. Moyer	12/20
Keith A. Natoli	12/4
John C. Pavlic	12/5
Frank R. Schachtner	12/20
Matthew P. Smithmyer	12/17
Tim J. Surkovich	12/20
Andrew J. Weyant	12/10



## November Council Meeting Notes

The November council meeting was very busy. A great deal of requests came in for our help. Council voted to help these charities in need. So that we can continue to help those in need we need Brother Knights to help in any way they can at our fundraisers. Lou Endress reminded everyone about our Ham and Cheese sales. This is our biggest fundraiser. Sandwiches are \$2 and for everyone we sell we make \$1.

We received a letter from our State Deputy in regards to the marriage protection amendment. So that the Knights of Columbus can keep pressure on our legislators to get the

bill passed they are in need of \$25,000. They are asking \$100 from each council. Our council contributed the \$100.

We received a letter from Gary Nolan, Director of Ceremonials of Supreme Council, with a sample certificate that will be given to all 1st degree candidates this year in honor of the priest.

We received a letter of thanks from the ARC of PA for our contribution of \$5,000 towards the Measure Up Campaign. For 2009 they raised \$163,349.

We made a donation of \$50 to Mom's House of Johnstown.

We received a thank you from St. Thomas Council of Bedford for our 1/2 page ad for their 100th anniversary.

We received a letter of thanks from Catholic Charities for our \$500 donation from their emergency appeal.

We made a \$300 donation to the Ecumenical Conference of Altoona, to help with religious classes for students that are mentally challenged.

We made a \$125 donation to the United States Armed Forces Mothers to help with their Christmas box program for our military personnel.

We made a \$100 donation to the Sons of the American Legion for their program for less fortunate families.

We made a \$150 donation to the VA Medical Center Christmas Shop Program. It enables patients to purchase presents for their families.

Council will be picking up the tab for all Knights that attend the pancake breakfast at St. Michaels Church, November 15 after the Memorial Mass.

## Council Calendar

Council meetings are held on the **First Thursday** of the month at 7:00 pm.

The next meetings are:  
Thursday, December 3 7:00pm  
Thursday, January 7 7:00pm

Thursday December 10, 4th Degree Meeting, Our Council

## Degree News

The State College council will be holding a 4th degree ceremony this April.

### **Fourth Degree**

State College, April 18  
\$70 per person plus either a purchase or rental of tux.

If interested in any of the degrees, please see Lou Endress.

## Third Degree Congratulations

Congratulations to the following members of our council that are now Third Degree Knights:

Mike Metzgar  
Robert Walters  
Thomas Matthews  
Walter Brumbaugh  
Daniel Moringiello  
Lucas Harella



## Thoughts and Prayers

Keep in your thoughts and prayers these Brothers that are in distress or ill:

Stu Lord	Ray Malone
Jim McTigue	Bill Moyer
Tom King	Ron Hileman
Phil Baker	
Charles Hauser and his wife	

Keep Father Brad our chaplain in your prayers during his sabbatical.

## In Memorium

Please keep in your prayers all Brother Knights and their family members that have passed before us, especially Deacon Merle's son.