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CHAPLAIN - Fr. Anthony J. Legarski GRAND KNIGHT- Tim Surkovich DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT – George Husick
CHANCELLOR – Dennis McGeehan WARDEN – John Longenecker FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Louis Endress TREASURER – Dave Karl
ADVOCATE - Edward Zang, Esq. GUARDS – Dan Moringiello, Tom Matthews RECORDER – Mike Metzgar
TRUSTEES - Ron Harella, Rich Moyer, Jerry Kovach



Our Lady Star of the Sea

STAR OF THE SEA COUNCIL 4245

STAR



NEWS

Council meetings are held on the FIRST THURSDAY of the month

Tel. 814-695-4752

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**November
2014**

From the Grand Knight

Brother Knights,
I am thankful. As November approaches, our thoughts turn to colorful leaves, elections and of course, Thanksgiving. I know I am a truly blessed person and have a great deal for which to be thankful. I encourage all of you to reflect on those things that you are thankful for in your own lives. Especially when things are discouraging, it is even more important to give thanks to the good things God has given us. I know I am thankful for my patient and loving wife. If you are also thankful for a special lady in your life, please consider attending our annual ladies night. Details can be found in the newsletter. Although I have health problems, I am thankful that God has still given me the ability to do so much. My health issues can seem insignificant next to those of a child with cancer. Our next ham and cheese sandwich sale will benefit St. Jude's Children's hospital. These sick children need our prayers and our help. I encourage all of you to sell as many sandwiches as possible. Finally, I am thankful for my brother Knights. Our order has so much for which to be thankful. Remember this and keep us all in your prayers throughout November and each and every day.

Faternally yours,

Tim

Chaplain's Message

The Faithful Departed

By

*Father Anthony J. Legarski,
Chaplain*

Brother Knights:

In the 31 years that I have been a Priest, I have found that one of the most frequently misunderstood teachings of the Church by the faithful, as well as non-catholics, is without question, the teaching of Purgatory. The misunderstandings range anywhere from confusing it with "limbo" to some sort of a "third option" when we pass from this life. Fortunately for us, neither is the case. That is a good thing.

A more theological treatment of Purgatory, as well as the scriptural basis for it, is given in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Numbers 1030-1032.

Actually, Purgatory is not a very complicated dogma of our faith. Unlike Heaven or Hell, Purgatory is not eternal. It is temporary. It is not a place so much as it is a process of purification that is experienced by those who will eventually enter Heaven, but must first be cleansed of imperfections and transgressions which they incurred in this life, not sufficient to put them in Hell. The Church refers to this as temporal punishment, or punishment for a time. The anguish, the longing, the intense desire to finally enter eternity with our Lord is the "punishment" that is being referred to.

So, how can we help the faithful departed? We can do so by lessening that time of purification, that time spent in Purgatory. We do this by prayers and good works on their behalf. We remember them daily and every time we participate in Mass. We offer Masses for them. It is never a frugal or ineffective thing to pray for the faithful departed. If they have already entered into the Kingdom of God, others will benefit from our prayers and good works; especially those who have no one to pray for them, or those to whom we refer to as: "the poor souls in Purgatory".

During this month of November particularly, the Church asks us to focus on the faithful departed. We celebrate those we believe to be in the presence of God by the lives they lived on this earth on November 1st, the Feast of All Saints. We remember those who are in Purgatory—particularly those who have no one to pray for them—on November 2nd, the Commemoration of All Souls.

As Knights we give tremendous witness to our belief in a merciful and loving God by remembering in our thoughts, words, and deeds "...those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith." May all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. And may all those who have gone before us be assisted by our prayers and the intercession of our patroness and mother—Mary, Star of the Sea.



October Council Meeting Minutes

Grand Knight Report:

The GK still has one rosary picture on the Deputy Grand Knight's table. They are \$35 each and \$5 goes back to the council. Picture taken by Todd Surkovich who is a second degree member. The rosary is the one he received during his 1st degree. Orders can still be placed and again the order sheet is on the Deputy Grand Knight's Table.

The Grand Knight reflected upon something near and dear to his heart: "The basic premise of the reflection was "As I Am". As most of you know I've had MS for almost 25 years now. I am by no way complaining or upset by this fact. You see in many ways I feel blessed by being diagnosed by this disease. Yes I said blessed. It is because of my condition that I have made many friends that maybe I wouldn't have made because of my diagnosis. It has also opened my eyes to so much more that I didn't see clearly before my diagnosis. You see I had a father that had medical problems all his life. As a child and teen I can remember resenting the fact that he couldn't do all the things the other fathers could do. As I grew older and was diagnosed I became aware of how misguided those feelings were. Because of the diagnosis I was blessed to grow closer to a father/dad that had so much to offer. Later I was blessed with twins. My twins have never known a father without MS and instead of being embarrassed or resentful the joined the force to bring awareness and help raise funds. Later on in my life I met and married a beautiful loving wife of 9 years as of yesterday. I can clearly remember our 3rd date when I told her I had MS and her response was "Oh is that all", at that point I knew she was the girl for me. Throughout the years I've run into countless friends who've accepted me "As I Am" and that includes the members of this council who helped me with fundraising, awareness and probably the most beautiful memorial service I ever attended

which was for my service dog Painter. Each and every one of you have accepted me "As I Am" and that is why I say having MS is a blessing not a sentence".

So what am I driving at? I'm not up here trying to just talk about myself when I say "As I Am". As brother knights and catholic gentleman we should strive to accept each and every person just as they are no matter what the issue. In fact it is one of the main reasons I joined the Knights and because of our core values".

So as I wrap this up some of you are aware of my foundation and maybe some not, but that is not what I'm up here to promote. Some of you and again some not, aware of the musical CD I was a part of writing about my MS, again not what I'm trying to promote, but then well than again sort of. You see Tuesday the foundation released a musical video for one of the songs of the CD called you guessed it "As I Am". After the meeting for entertainment I would like to share that video with you as a way to thank you for accepting me and everyone just as they are and if you are on Facebook maybe you'll go to our page and share the video with your friends as a way of spreading awareness. As we say an act of charity does not have to include giving money but can be as simple as accepting someone As they Are".

Chaplains Report:

November 1 is the feast of all Saints Day. Although it was **not** a holy day of obligation this year because it is on a Saturday, everyone is to encouraged to participate in mass for all Saints Day, even though they have no obligation to do so.

Bills and Communications:

We received thank you notes from:

- US Armed Forces Mom's for our donation
- From the Mary's Day Committee for the presence of the color corps
- St Patrick's School for providing transportation to Mary's Day
- We received a \$10 donation from Jesse Baker, she's on Ron Harella's Sandwich route

Donation Requests:

Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. Commercial during the super bowl to promote a positive image of the Catholic Priesthood with hopes of inspiring a man to become a priest. Asking for \$1,000 but also says give within our means. Motion for \$150.00 donation by Deputy Grand Knight HusickMotion Carried.

Care for Creative Initiative Monastery Community Gardens. This is the volunteer project we discussed last month. They produce food for the local food pantries, churches and nursing homes. Now they are ready expanding their project with a high tunnel to extend the growing season. The project estimate is \$1,100. Motion for \$150.00 by Brother David DiPastina Motion Carried.

Motion for a donation ad from the Holidaysburg Community Chorus program, Motion by Treasurer David Karl for \$100.00 ad..... Motion Carried.

Unfinished Business:

The laminated K of C Event signs designed by Recorder Mike Metzgar were on display for all to see. The signs will have Velcro attached for use with the easels built by Brother Jim Hodge.

Recorder Mike Metzgar spoke about the success of the '**Hospitality Volunteer Program**' for 2014 and asked for volunteers to sign up to provide after meeting hospitality for the meeting attendees. Volunteers agree to provide a light meal or snacks for after the meeting fellowship. Expenditures are capped at \$50 per meeting and are reimbursed by the Council. (**After the Meeting:** 8 months of 2015 were filled. Remaining available months are: May, July, November, December) **Please contact Recorder Mike Metzgar if you are willing to volunteer hospitality for any of these open months: Phone 814-224-4761, Email MikeMetzgar@atlanticbb.net.**

Respect for Life Dinner Patron Sign Up On Deputy Grand Knights Table

Unfinished Business Cont.:

Ladies night dinner at the Council Home. Social, appetizers and beverages 6-6:30 pm. Sit down, round table dinner, choice of Stuffed Chicken Breast or Beef with potatoes, green beans, green salad bread and dessert. Murder mystery to follow at 7:30. Cost \$36 a couple or \$20 individual. Will cover dinner, gratuity, cost of production company. Need a minimum of 25 people. **Reservations and payment by October 31st**. Must let theatre company and caterer know. Sign up with or contact GK Surkovich. Checks can also be mailed to the council home. Please be sure to indicate how many chicken and how many beef meals. You are welcome to bring another couple with you to enjoy the evening.

District Deputy Report:

The area is still in need of a District Deputy. If interested contact Bill Erbeck at 814-684-1327 or Grand Knight Tim Surkovich at 814-696-1209

New Business:

Brother Guy Luciano asked for Council approval to renew the '**Keep Christ in Christmas' billboard** for 2014. The billboard will be on US Route 22 in the same location as in 2013.

.....Motion Passes

Brother Baker reminded us of the need to sell '**Keep Christ in Christmas' magnets**. A good idea is to ask your Pastor for permission to sell them in the front of the church after Mass in late November or early December. (Recorder adds that almost 150 were sold at St. Mary's in early December 2013. Ask your Pastor to announce after each Mass and put in their bulletin in advance, plan to have \$50 in change)

Reminder: Council shirts can be purchased at New Look Uniform Shop (across from Health South in Altoona). **K of C hats**, pins and other items can be purchased at the council home ... Contact Financial Secretary Lou Endress.

4th Degree:

Fourth Degree meeting will be held on October 23, 2014, 7pm, at Altoona Council #551.

Report of Standing Committees:

Ham & Cheese Sandwich Sale. Remind-er the November sale is for St. Jude Hos-pital. Delivery date will be November 21st. Reminder: If every member within the area would sell just 10 sandwiches we would sell approx. 2,500 which would net us approx. \$2,500 Form included in the newsletter.

Financial Secretary Report:

Football Tickets are available and have a short return date of October 12, 2014 - Cost is \$10.00..... Contact Financial Secretary Lou Endress

Other Communications: Degrees:

First and Second Degree being held at the State College Council on November 9th, 1Pm and 2PM respectively. See Lou Endress for details.

Chaplains Summation:

Father read and discussed an article entitled "Guardian Angels" by Father Damian Towey, CP. October 2, 2014 is the feasts day of Guardian Angels.

I guess that a lot of people think that guardian angels rank right up there with Santa Claus and the tooth fairy – fine for children, but not for grownups. And yet Saint Thomas Aquinas, a Doctr of the Church, thinks otherwise. He is known as the Angelic Doctor for the considerable amount of space he devotes to angels in the Summa Theologica. He certainly believed that God assigns a guardian angel to each person - and he cited today's gospel passage as proof that on our behalf, this angel prays for us and protects us from evil. (Mt 18:10).

Angels are pure spirits and exalted beings. And yet they are like children! What other type of being exerts a greater pull on our heartstrings than a child? "Guardian Angel" could be a grim concept, conjuring up the picture of a stern-faced prison guard. Instead our Guardian Angel remains forever the companion with whom we shared a seat in the First Grade. That is appro-

priate, for angels are the ministers and representatives of the One who made himself a child

so that we might better comprehend the true nature of God, a nature that is lovable, approachable, unpredictable, full of surprises..... The late Saint John XXIII was a great believer in his Guardian Angel. When he had a meeting scheduled where there was likely to be a conflict, he would ask his Guardian Angel to precede him and in conjunction with the other party's angel smooth the way for a more successful dialogue. That's a practice we might consider adopting.

And when our lives come to completion may we be laid to rest with the beautiful prayer of the Church: "May the angels lead you to paradise; may the martyrs welcome you and take you to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem" (Rite for Christian Burial)

Happy Birthday

November Birthdays

David P. Andrews	11/7
Bob T. Bucknell	11/9
Joseph R. Dodson	11/1
Allan F. Duman	11/7
Michael J. Ercole	11/1
Richard G. Fleegle	11/1
Dale T. Frank	11/26
David C. Gehret	11/23
John J Hazenstab III	11/26
Jim L. Hodge	11/27
John S. Lord III	11/22
Mark D. Mielnik, Jr.	11/4
Gary C. Ray	11/11
Robert P. Reed	11/13
William D. Rossman	11/19
Donald M. Servella	11/5
Edward J. Shrift	11/6
Rev. John J. Slovikovski, Jr.	11/6
David P. Smithmyer	11/9
Edward W. Vaniel	11/15
Jesse J. Weyant	11/28
Scott A Zimmerman	11/9



Council Calendar

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

Next Meeting: 11/6/14

October 14, 2014: Hand In Hand Volunteers Steak Dinner, 5-5:30 Social, Dinner at 6-6:30 - Strip Steaks with all the trimmings

October 25, 2014: Patriotic Rosary at the Cathedral in Altoona.

November 15, 2014: Ladies night dinner at the Council Home. Social, appetizers and beverages 6-6:30 pm. Sit down, round table dinner, choice of Stuffed Chicken Breast or Beef with potatoes, green beans, green salad bread and dessert. Golden Girls Murder mystery to follow at 7:30. Cost \$36 a couple or \$20 individual. Will cover dinner, gratuity, cost of production company. Need a minimum of 25 people. **Reservations and payment by October 31st**. Must let theatre company and caterer know. Sign up with or contact GK Surkovich. Can also mail checks to the council home. Please indicate how many chicken and how many beef meals. Please feel free to bring along another couple and enjoy the evening.

November 16, 2014: Departed Knights of Columbus Mass at St. Mary's Church, Hollidaysburg, 8am, Breakfast provided by the Council after Mass, Location TBA

November 20, 2014: Ham & Cheese Sandwich Sale. Reminder the November sale is for St. Jude Hospital. Delivery date will be November 21st. Reminder: If every member within the area would sell just 10 sandwiches we would sell approx. 2,500 which would net us approx. \$2,500 Form included with newsletter.



Pray for the following:

Pray for Brother Jim Zimmerman's daughter in her fight with Cancer. Pray for the return to good health for Brother John Moore, Brother Tom O'Leary, Deputy Grand Knight George Husick's son and Chancellor Dennis McGeehan's son.

Pray for Brother Guy Luciano on the recent loss of his brother, and Brother Jim Zimmerman as he supports his daughter through her illness.

Please remember to keep in your thoughts and prayers all brother Knights and their families that are ill.



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Eligibility for participation in this program is open to Knights of Co-

lumbus long-term care insurance policyholders, their spouses, dependent children, parents and parents-in-law. All providers are fully credentialed and meet state licensing requirements.

If you haven't yet spoken with me about long-term care insurance, you owe it to yourself to do so. There are a few decisions to make in choosing a "plan" — a comprehensive plan that covers care whether you're at home or in a facility, or one that covers facility only; daily benefit amounts and benefit durations (how much and how long it will last); and the length of the elimination period (waiting period) before benefits kick-in. Having a professionally trained agent — and a brother Knight you can trust — to help guide you through the process is yet another valuable benefit that comes with your membership. Take advantage of it; contact me today.

Ken Scott

(724) 719-2324

kenneth.scott @kofc.org

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