

The Cross and Compass



St. Joseph Council #7528

Knights of Columbus

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The Knights of Columbus...a Catholic, Family, Fraternal, Service Organization



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December 2002

A Message from the Grand Knight

The holiday season is my favorite time of the year. As Christmas approaches, I begin feeling like a little child all over again. No matter how good or tough things have been, every year always ends for me on a positive note because of the season. There are a few things in particular that make Christmas so wonderful for me.

My first favorite aspect of Christmas is going to the shopping malls and hearing the Christmas music played over the PA system. This is my first indication that Christmas is around the corner, and immediately puts me in the holiday spirit. Hearing the music is even worth the horror of risking my life in traffic and the mall parking lots.

My favorite personal family aspect of Christmas is setting up the toy train around the Christmas tree. This has been a tradition with my children over the last few years. We select one of the three engines to pull the train, one of the four cabooses to end the train, and select approximately thirteen rail cars from the choice of over fifty to be pulled in between. There are usually fifteen cars on the track at a time, which are selected and positioned by color, type and national geography. The last thing we do in setting up the train is to put holiday M&Ms, Peanut Butter Cups, or Hershey Kisses in the open bed cars. This increases the overall railroading experience, as well as satisfies the sweet tooth that we all have. During the holidays we switch out engines, cabooses and rail cars about three times; and the candy about ten times.

My favorite Christmas phrase is "goodwill towards man {and woman}". I like it because during the holiday season people seem to be a little bit more friendlier. It's as if people know that something spectacular is about to happen soon, and everyone is on their best behavior. Even the most devout Scrooge or Grinch can't be unnamable at Christmastime. Christmas is a great time to repair strained or severed relationships and renew our faith in mankind.

My favorite Christmas symbol is the Manger Scene. Viewing the baby Jesus in the manger surrounded by his parents, the wise men and the animals really drives home the basic meaning of Christmas to me. It signifies the true beginning of our enlightenment regarding the ways of the Lord, and the beginning of our opportunity to have everlasting life. This always enhances my commitment to God and Jesus Christ.

Finally, my favorite overall aspect of Christmas is the feeling of love we experience toward our family and closest friends. Because no matter where in the country or the world

we are, or how often we have spoken during the course of the year, we are bound together by the Holy Spirit.

**Wishing you and your family a very
safe and Merry Christmas!!!**

Vivat Jesus!

Marc Gonick, GK

Calling all Ushers

By Alex Plys - Usher Coordinator

CHRISTMAS IS FAST APPROACHING.

And so it is time to request ushers for all of the Christmas Masses. A List will be passed around at the next general meeting for sign-up. Tuxes w/baldric are requested for the Christmas Eve Service and tuxes will be optional for the Christmas Day Services

Recruiting

By Dave Caton - Recruitment Chair, Second Year Trustee

Gents! We had yet another successful First Degree on Tuesday, November 5th where we welcomed three new fine men to our ranks: Steve Gentry, Michael White and Joe Armstrong. Please welcome these new First Degree members when you see them! All three are involved in our parish in different ways and are fine additions to our council. We are almost halfway through the Fraternal Year and we have met 8 out of 9 of our membership quota and thanks to our worthy insurance agent, Ron Scholz, we are also close to our goal of 5 new insurance members. Again, my thanks for the great recruitment support! Remember that things can change rapidly however and we need to keep up our hard work throughout the year to keep our order and council viable for future generations. We need to continue our grand efforts and to continually ask Catholic men who cross our paths to join us in our good works in support of our families, God, Church, Priests, and community. I firmly believe many of our parishioners out there are just waiting to be asked to become a Knight. If we don't ask, how will we ever know?

Our scheduled 2nd and 3rd Degrees for the rest of the year are as follows: February 8th in Port Orchard, on March 22nd both in Marysville and in Tukwila, April 6th in Mt. Vernon, May 3rd in Olympia, May 4th in Bellevue, June 1st in Seattle and June 7th in Poulsbo.

Sponsors-please contact your candidates and let me know which date will work for them. Remember that as mentors, it's important to pick up and drive your candidates to these very special degrees, which make the degrees much more meaningful and memorable for our new Knights! We have too many men in our Council who have not experienced the joys of these very traditional and significant next steps in Knighthood.

Best wishes for a wonderful Thanksgiving and a Joyous Christmas.

The Lecturer's Corner

By Joe Clemens, Lecturer

I have promised to have one of our former Grand Knights make a monthly input to the Cross of Compass or speak at the monthly meeting. The following is a copy of a letter from our 2nd Grand Knight Bernie Price. Bernie lives in Arizona but graciously consented to tell you of his memories of the Knights during our 2nd year as a Council. Bernie writes:

Hi Joe... It was certainly nice to hear from you and fill me in on the activities of the Council. It hardly seems possible that over 20 years have passed since we began Council #7528. I have many fond memories of all our activities since our Council was formed. I am sorry to say that I will not be able to make your meeting on December 3rd but you may use any part of this letter as you see fit.

By the way, I have become active in the Council and Assembly here. This past year, our Holy Family Council #11675 was voted the outstanding Council in the State of Arizona. We have a great bunch of Knights here that are willing to work to make it a success. I am Captain of the First Degree team and still do the Grand Knights part.

As for my memories of Council 7528, there many but I am sure you have covered some already... The main ingredient in all our projects was the Knights themselves. Without their dedication to the principle of our Order, most of these projects would not have been as successful... You mentioned that Wayne Moritz spoke about our First Degree Team and our success. That was really fun and I think of the late Ray Brown as Inside Guard, Jim Miles as the music man, the late Frank Hogan as Financial Secretary, the late Bob Fisher as Guide, Bob Hitchcock as Warden, Horace Suinn as Chancellor, and Wayne Moritz as Deputy Grand Knight... They are the ones that made this a huge success.

We had other projects such as the Flowers to the Convalescent Homes for about 20 years on Mothers Day.. We started out giving out a long stem rose to each lady in the home but, the last few years, we gave them Carnations so the stickers would not hurt their hands.. Some of the women there never receive a visit, a card, or phone call on that day and our flowers really made them feel good. I saw many of them with tears in their eyes; they were so appreciative. One time, one lady said she didn't want a rose but would rather have a kiss so Roy Nelson planted one on her which really made her day. There was so much joy for

those of us who passed them out as well as the Ladies.

I remember other projects that helped so many people, like the paving project on 308th. It was called to our attention that the students of FW High School had to walk in the street to keep from getting hit by cars. Our council petitioned the County to lay an asphalt walk on the south side of 308th for safety sake and they responded by doing this. Now, they can walk freely along that street as well as other people in that area.

The Christmas project back in the beginning had the total support of our Council.. Wayne Moritz and I chaired this for many years and we worked through the Catholic Community Services as "Adopt a Family Program". They would assign us a family and then we would purchase gifts for each member of that family. Then, we would deliver them just before Christmas. I can remember one family in particular that had a tree up when we got there but there were no presents under the tree so our donation was very special. Many Knights from our council donated money for this very worthy cause.. As a sidelight, we received a National Award from Supreme for this project.

There were so many other projects such as moving Father Vannesse's Church in Buckley and painting it under Bob Hitchcock's direction.

As you know, our main goal has always been to support our Priests and there is no more crucial time than now to do just that. They, in turn, support all of our projects.

The fish-fries, potlucks, etc. were a main source of our enjoyment over the years.

The most gratifying reward from being an active member of the Knights is how you learn to work with all members and appreciate them individually.. I remember when we were having our 25th anniversary of the Parish and Father had one Mass for the entire parish in the gymnasium at FW High and the Knights were asked to move some chairs tables to the gym, put up banners, etc.. I borrowed a truck from work and we made several trips but that is when I met Arnie

Luvtosky as he rode shotgun with me in the truck. He really helped and I am sure he's still a good member of Council 7528!

I have rambled on but, when I think of all the benefits I have received from the Knights, I can't understand why all Catholic gentlemen wouldn't want to join. I was looking through some of my old memories of the Knights and ran across the program for the State Convention in 1983 and saw your picture as District Deputy and also mine was in there as State Family-Life Director. That brought back some great memories. Say hello to all my friends and Brother Knights. Hope to see you on our next trip up North.

Vivit Jesus,

Bernie Price, PGK...pricefw@aol.com

Knights Family Potluck - A Success!

By Chris Andersen - Family Director

The Council had a wonderful Potluck Dinner on Saturday, November 16. There were more than 30 folks that enjoyed a great evening of family fun and fraternalism not mentioning a lot of great food. I want to thank all of you that made the potluck a big success. I am sure that we will do it again. GK Marc and I talked about in the springtime, after a softball game, to have a picnic type affair. We have time, so if any of you have some ideas for this please share them with me and we can organize an enjoyable time for all once again.

1st Degree Team

By Joe Penwell - Degree Team Captain

The team is still looking for a volunteer to be the Warden's aide (non speaking part) and backups for all other positions on the degree team. Please call me at 941-6339 if you are interested.

Rosary

Please note that we say the rosary before each General Meeting of the year. This month, we will be starting 30 minutes early, at 6:30pm, in the Chapel.

Blood Drive

By Dave Caton - Blood Drive Coordinator

Folks, our next blood drive for the Fraternal Year will be hosted by the Puget Sound Blood Center and supported by the Knights on Thursday, December 12th in our own Parish Hall from 2-4:15 and 5-8 PM. Sign-ups will be after Mass on the weekend of December 7th and 8th. As Knights, if you are able to give blood, please consider contributing a pint as our supply is precarious and more limited than ever! I could also use help signing up parishioners at the Life Teen Mass, if you happen to attend that Mass. This is an easy, yet wonderful way to serve your community; one pint of blood can help up to 5 patients!

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Have you seen your birthday or anniversary in recent issues. If not, please call or email Tim Philomeno with those dates. We like to recognize birthdays and anniversaries of our members and their spouses.

Still looking for email addresses

Please call or email Tim Philomeno with your email address. This is the very best way to keep in contact. We want to send you the Cross and Compass via email and save postage \$\$\$\$.

Poster & Essay Contest

By Al Larpenteur - Pro-life Chairman

Our council will sponsor the Respect Life Poster & Essay contest this year on the weekend of January 25, 2003. Students at the St. Vincent de Paul School will turn in their posters or essays on January 24 and volunteers from our council will judge each entry. Since we will also offer a Spaghetti Dinner on January 25, we will be able to display the posters and provide a table announcement as well. Tim Philomeno will prepare certificates for each participant and we will provide these to the students after the 9:30AM Mass on January 31. If you would like to help in judging either the essays or posters, please contact Al Larpenteur at 941-8539.

Setting Up Christmas Trees at St. Vincent de Paul Parish

By Al Larpenteur - Church Director

Our pastor, Fr. Tom Vandenberg, would like the council to set up the Christmas trees at our church this year, as we have done many times before. We have three days to choose from: Sunday, December 22, Monday, December 23, or Tuesday, December 24. Sunday will be difficult because we already have a commitment to prepare and distribute food and gifts for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. If you have time during the day or evening on Monday, December 23, or during the day on Tuesday, December 24, please call Al Larpenteur at 941-8539. Thanks.

Vocations

By Juan Lezcano - Vocations Chairman

My brothers, our Council has chosen to sponsor five seminarians this fraternal year. They are Vu Tran, Thomas Nathe, Peter Mactutis, James Thurman and Anthony Lezcano. Throughout the coming year, we will feature an article on each of these seminarians. This month we start with Thomas Nathe at Mount Angels Seminary in Oregon. Thomas writes:

I would say that I have sensed a call to the priesthood since my first memory of seeing a priest. Perhaps I was about six or so, and from that time until I was 27, I fought against the idea. Being a spiritual and moral guide meant that I would have to be different than everyone else and that was a way of being different that I was just not interested in being. Of course, from the adolescent years on, celibacy seemed to be an insurmountable obstacle as well. When I was 26 going on 27, I had a supernatural conversion experience. Of course all conversions are supernatural by their nature; ultimately, mine would lead me to say, "yes" to the Lord's desire for me to be one of His priest's. At the core of it all, I came to know the Lord Jesus Christ personally. And what of the Lord specifically did I come to know? I came to know, with the conviction of my life, that Jesus existed, was God, was infinitely powerful, and was infinitely good, loving and merciful. Having been in love at one time in college, I certainly understood how powerful love could be. The

Lord blessed me with His grace of love. An infinite and perfect love was simply more than I could say "no" too. I could finally give the Lord what He had wished for me from the start. Within a year and a half of the start of my conversion, I was accepted as a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Seattle and sent to Mt. Angel.

Four and a half years have passed since first coming to Mt. Angel. They have been the most spiritual & matriculating years of my life. I am now in my third year of Theology (second to the last). By the grace of God, I will be ordained to the transitional diaconate sometime next summer and to the priesthood in the summer of 2004.

I want to thank the Knights of Columbus for the incredible support that you give to the seminarians. Your support through prayer and almsgiving truly does make a difference. May the Lord continue to bless all of you and your families. May the Lord be with you.

In the Peace and Service of Our Lord Jesus Christ,
Thomas Nathe

What a wonderful testimony of faith and dedication. Thank you brothers for your ongoing support of our seminarians.

Paz y Bien,
Juan F. Lezczano, sfo

General Meeting Raffle - \$\$\$\$\$

As you may know, each meeting we hold a raffle for all attending members. The last thing we do is draw a name from the hat (all current paid up members). If that member is present at the meeting, he wins the fraternal year pot (you must be present to win). This month the name

Brian Cummings

was drawn. Sorry to say the Brian was not at the meeting so he did not win the \$35.00 for that meeting. The winner must be in attendance. Another \$5.00 will be added to the pot for next month. A great reason for coming to our General Meetings....

Unborn Child Memorial Dinner

On Saturday October 12th, we held a spaghetti dinner to help pay for the Unborn Child Memorial. Even though the turnout was relatively low, this was still a successful event. Thanks to all who participated. The following was the write-up that was placed on every table written by Jim Bianchi:

MEMORIAL TO UNBORN CHILDREN

Launched in 1992, at the suggestion of Cardinal John O'Connor of New York, this program has rapidly resulted in more than 2,000 memorials to unborn children being erected in the United States and around the world.

Our own St. Joseph Council #7528 has long desired to place a Memorial to Unborn Children someplace on the St. Vincent de Paul parish campus. After consulting with Fr. Tom, a committee was formed and locations are now under consideration.

One such location would be the plaza area adjacent to the South Narthex. The actual design of the Memorial is still being developed, however, a bronze statue of some type and the original baptismal font from the old church will be components of the design. An example is on display tonight in the hall.

The Knights wish to thank the St. Vincent de Paul parish for their support of this Memorial. It is our hope that it will be a visual reminder in a public way of the sanctity and dignity of all human life from its earliest moments.

PRAYER FOR THE UNBORN

Jesus, Mary, Joseph,
I love you very much.
I beg you spare the life
of the unborn child
that I have spiritually adopted,
who is in danger of abortion. Amen.

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

THE 365 CLUB BY MAIL

Supporting Vocations is simple! All you have to do is join The Pennies For Heaven Crusade. The best way to do this is by becoming a member of The 365 Club. Donate a penny-a-day for a year (\$3.65 or more if you can) and offer a prayer a day for a year for Vocations! Pennies add up quickly and the prayers help. For Brothers who cannot always join us at our meetings, here is your chance to stand up and be counted as a supporter.

CLIP AND MAIL

To: Dave Myers, 365 Chairman

Yes, count me in as a Member of The 365 Club! I want to do my part to support Vocations.

Here is my contribution of \$ _____ Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Mail your check to:

The 365 Club
Knights of Columbus, Council #7528
PO Box 24763
Federal Way, WA 98093-1763

Happy Birthday!

Date	Birthdays for Dec	Date	Birthdays for Dec
4 th	Tim Pinney	11 th	Brian Cummings
4 th	Joseph Langlois	11 th	Joseph Phillips
6 th	Jim Ellingson	14 th	Todd Hauge
6 th	Gerald De LaFontaine	15 th	John Nowicki
6 th	Juan Lezcano	23 rd	David Myers
8 th	Fr. Clarence Jones	24 th	James Young
9 th	Edward Novak	27 th	Franz Hernandez
10 th	Kevin McGillis	31 st	Christopher Vaughan
6 th	Kimberly Agostino	24 th	Carol Robinson
7 th	Pam Ross	25 th	Mary Bolanos
12 th	Tina Gonzalez	28 th	Christine Andersen
14 th	Elinore Alvarado	30 th	Teresa Duhamel
19 th	Maureen Vaughan	31 st	Peggy Novak

Happy Anniversary!

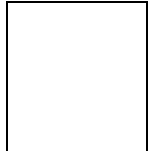
Date	Anniversaries for Dec
6	Richard and Tina Gonzalez
6	David and Mary Caton
18	Steven and Sue Drake
19	John and Joyce McMahon
27	Melvin and Vicki Studley
27	Jaime and Dolores Arzadon
27	Jerry and Stella Nnanabu
31	Pete and Dail Anderson

2002-2003 Officers and Program Chairmen Directory

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Calendar of Events		
December 2002		
3 rd	General Meeting	St. Vincent de Paul Narthex @7:00pm with the Rosary in the Chapel at 6:30pm
12 th	Blood Drive	St. Vincent de Paul Parish Hall
17 th	Planning Meeting	Room "A" @7:30pm
22 nd	Deliver Christmas Baskets and Presents	Plan to meet in the Parish hall at about 1:00pm
25 th	Merry Christmas	
29 th	Coffee and Donuts	Support RSVP
January 2003		
TBD	Pancake Breakfast to Commemorate the new Kitchen	St. Vincent's Parish Hall Stay- Tuned.....
7 th	General Meeting	St. Vincent de Paul Narthex @7:00pm with the Rosary in the Chapel at 6:30pm
21 st	Planning Meeting	Room "A" @ 7:30pm
25 th	Pro-life Poster/Essay Spaghetti Dinner	St. Vincent's Parish Hall after 5:00pm mass....
February 2003		
4 th	General Meeting	St. Vincent de Paul Narthex @7:00pm with the Rosary in the Chapel at 6:30pm
9 th	Free Throw Competition	Parish Activity Center
18 th	Planning Meeting	Room "A" @ 7:30pm

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