



The Cross and Compass

St. Joseph Council #7528

Knights of Columbus

PO Box 24763

Federal Way, WA 98093-1763

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

<http://www.kc7528.org>



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A Message from the Grand Knight

The end of November is rapidly approaching and we've already experienced many events. General elections took place on Nov. 2, and the incessant political speeches, analyses, mailings, and vote counts are over, (hopefully election workers will complete the recount of votes in the race for Governor soon!) In Council events, Dave Myers and Ken Baune have done a phenomenal job in selling tickets for our January Crab Feed, and on Nov. 21 we had a strong turnout to assist Tony Robinson and the St. Vincent de Paul Society in preparing and delivering 60 Thanksgiving food baskets to needy families in our community. Ed Sweeney successfully completed the 2nd/3rd degree exemplification on Nov. 14. We also hosted Coffee and Doughnuts on Nov. 7. Finally, just after Thanksgiving we'll have an opportunity to help at the parish Holiday Bazaar by setting up tables on Friday, Nov. 26 at Noon and then taking the tables down on Sunday, Nov. 28 at 2 PM.

We've also had some very sad experiences as well. Mike O'Connell's father passed away in mid November, Jim Judy died on Nov. 18th and Larry Weigel's mother passed away on Nov 21st. These losses hit very hard, and they rudely remind us that our dear friends and loved ones will not be with us always.

I would like our Council to form a small committee that can quickly gather information about our brother Knights or family members who become gravely ill or die. We are a very busy Council, and in the fast pace we keep, we easily lose track of friends who become ill, enter nursing homes, or whom we no longer see at Mass or church activities. I can't think at the moment of a good name for this committee, maybe "The Good of the Order Committee", but its purpose would be to serve as listening posts, the first who would hear news that our brother Knights and family members

are gravely ill. These Committee members would let me and Tim Philomeno, our Financial Secretary, know as soon as possible so we can let everyone know. If you would like to help in this new capacity, just give me or Tim a call.

Perhaps this Thanksgiving, as we gather for a wonderful meal with our families and/or close friends, we'll pause to be thankful for all the goodness and grace that God has bestowed on us during this year. Perhaps we will also think about our brother Knights and others who have left us during this past year. They have left their mark in our lives, and we should keep their memories alive in our hearts.

Vivat Jesus!

Al Larpenteur, GK

From the Deputy Grand Knight

By Kevin Buck, DGK

As we enter the Holiday Season, our council is shifting into high gear. We will be involved in numerous activities and fund raisers over the next several months. I recommend that you bring your family to our upcoming pot luck dinner and join in the camaraderie. It may be our last chance to relax for a while, as we will be working hard to make the Crab Feed another success.

Also in January we have the Right to Life Poster and Essay Contest which culminates at our annual spaghetti dinner. The council will be conducting the Free Throw Contest and the Lenten Fish Fry's kick off on February 11th.

These are just some of the activities we will be involved in, so get ready and come on down! And we are entering the new Columbus Charities season. As Deputy Grand Knight, it is my pleasure to coordinate our raffle ticket sales and I will be talking more about this later.

What I would like to mention now, is that Tim Philomeno provides us with an opportunity to really start this program with a bang. When he sends you your annual dues reminder, he will include an opportunity for you to purchase a book of tickets and he does all the work of filling in the information for you. I urge each of you that can afford it to take advantage of this opportunity.

See you at the Pot Luck!

The Chancellor's Corner

By Mike Fay, Chancellor

Each month I am focusing on an area of service that the brother knights of this great council are involved in. This month the area of service is Community.

The community that is served by the knights includes the community of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, the local area of Federal Way, including other faith communities, and service organizations that are serving the poor and needy. The activities are very numerous – Donating Blood, care giving to others in need, serving coffee and donuts after mass, working at one of the three community suppers in Federal Way, distributing flowers and food baskets, working at a food bank, volunteering as an ESL (English as a second language) tutor and working with the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Knights are serving as Franciscan Hospice Volunteers, working for Habitat for Humanity, serving at Hospitality House and with Kairos Prison Ministry. The council members are Library and VA Hospital Volunteers, volunteers for the Master Gardener Foundation, and serve with the local Rotary/Kiwanis groups. Brother Mark Miloscia is returning for another term as an elected public official serving the needs of our community at the state level.

Our Community Director, Bill Martin, is the council representative on the Parish Council. It seems that Brother Bill is never without a cause to support. Bill is available to discuss how you can help out in the community.

Look for an upcoming email requesting your service hours for the month of November. The list of activities that will be attached has been expanded. You can report your service hours on the form provided or just list them as you find best works for you. I thank all who have taken the time to report any and all service hours.

You can contact me at mwfay@comcast.net.

Rosary

Please note that we say the rosary before each General Meeting of the year. This month, we will be starting at 7:00pm in the Chapel before the General Meeting on December 7th, 2004.

Family of the Month

October – The Kevin Buck Family

Knight of the Month

October – Tony Robinson

WWW.KOFC7528.ORG

When was the last time you visited our website?

Many thanks to Dan Reeb for maintaining an accurate and up-to-date calendar. Check it out!

Blood Drive

By Dave Caton - Blood Drive Chairman

The next Knights-sponsored blood drive will be on February 17th, 2005. I'd like to urge you all to give blood at other local drives at or around December 10th as this is the date you would be eligible to give blood after the October 14th blood drive last month. (every 56 days). To find drives in our area, go to psbc.org. Thanks for your help in the past, but remember that giving the "Gift of Life" is an on-going and constant, essential necessity in our community, especially around the holidays.

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER 12/11/2004

Come and enjoy Christmas Potluck Dinner with Santa on December 11, 2004 after 5:00 p.m. mass. We will once again have Santa to take pictures with everyone present. If interested in helping setup for the potluck, give Eddie Cooper a call @ 253-946-9067. Please bring the following dishes according to your last name:

A-E: Salads; F-I: Breads; J-N: Vegetable Dish; O-S: Meat Dish; and T-Z: Desserts.

Soft drinks and coffee will be provided. See you there.

Membership

By Dave Caton - Membership Chairman

I'd like to welcome Ed Sweeney into our 3rd degree ranks who braved the 2nd and 3rd Degree alone last weekend in Tacoma. Ed actually went to Tacoma with GK Al Larpenteur both Saturday AND Sunday due to a mix-up on the dates. Congratulations, Ed!

Our next semi-local 2nd and 3rd Degree opportunity will be at Council 626 K of C Hall in Seattle on February 20, 2005. Sponsors and candidates, please mark your calendars! Let's plan on sending a big class to that exemplification.

Folks, we need to continue recruiting to continue the wonderful legacy started our founder Fr. Michael J. McGivney. Our ranks need to be continually replenished with new Knights with youthful leadership, fresh ideas, with a zeal for Catholicism and for the Knights. Please take the time to ask your fellow parishioner at Mass in the next pew to join us! We are now at only 45% of our quota for membership for this Fraternal Year.

May you and your families all have a joyous holiday season!

Think About It!

A dog had followed his owner to school. His owner was a fourth grader at a public elementary school. However, when the bell rang, the dog sidled inside the building and made it all the way to the child's classroom before a teacher noticed and shoo'ed him outside, closing the door behind him.

The dog sat down, whimpered and stared at the closed doors. Then God appeared beside the dog, patted his head, and said, "Don't feel bad fella'.... they won't let ME in either."

Thank You!! Council #7528

To all who were able to help with the Thanksgiving baskets a great BIG THANK YOU. We did 72 baskets and moved the food collected for Christmas by the St. Vincent School in record time 1 1/2 hrs.

They say many hands make light work and we had so many, over 40 people that it was great. The efforts of the Knights and our Mission Trekkers was outstanding. You truly made this Thanksgiving for so many who are less fortunate. Again, Thanks and may your Thanksgiving be Blessed and your hearts warmed with the good deeds you have done. See you on December 19th for the Christmas Baskets

Tony Robinson....

Here are some pictures of the event to enjoy. Thanks to Glen Martin for the photography work.



ready - set - go...



tote that bail...



load-um up, move-um out...



Fr. Clarence (the boss)...



I have your turkey here somewhere...



now, go down here and turn left.....or is it right

Hands

An old man, probably some ninety plus years, sat feebly on the park bench. He didn't move, just sat with his head down staring at his hands. When I sat down beside him he didn't acknowledge my presence and the longer I sat, I wondered if he was ok. Finally, not really wanting to disturb him but wanting to check on him at the same time, I asked him if he was ok.

He raised his head and looked at me and smiled. "Yes, I'm fine, thank you for asking," he said in a clear strong voice. "I didn't mean to disturb you, sir, but you were just sitting here staring at your hands and I wanted to make sure you were ok," I explained to him. "Have you ever looked at your hands?" he asked. "I mean really looked at your hands?"

I slowly opened my hands & stared down at them. I turned them over, palms up & then palms down. No, I guess I had never really looked at my hands as I tried to figure out the point he was making.

Then he smiled and related this story: "Stop and think for a moment about the hands you have, how they have served you well throughout your years. These hands, though wrinkled, shriveled & weak, have been the tools I've used all my life to reach out & grab & embrace life. They braced & caught my fall when as a toddler I crashed upon the floor. They put food in my mouth & clothes on my back. As a child, my mother taught me to fold them in prayer. They tied my shoes & pulled on my boots. They dried the tears of my children & caressed the love of my life. They held my rifle & wiped my tears when I went off to war. They have been dirty, scraped & raw, swollen & bent. They were uneasy & clumsy when I tried to hold my newborn son. Decorated with my wedding band, they showed the

world that I was married & loved someone special. They wrote letters home & trembled & shook when I buried my parents & spouse & walked my daughter down the aisle. Yet, they were strong & sure when I dug my buddy out of a foxhole & lifted a plow off of my best friend's foot. They have held children, consoled neighbors, & shook in fists of anger when I didn't understand. They have covered my face, combed my hair, & washed & cleansed the rest of my body. They have been sticky & wet, bent & broken, dried & raw. And to this day, when not much of anything else of mine works real well, these hands hold me up, lay me down, and again continue to fold in prayer.

These hands are the mark of where I've been & the ruggedness of my life. But more importantly, it will be these hands that God will reach out & take when he leads me home. And He won't care about where these hands have been or what they have done. What He will care about is to whom these hands belong & how much He loves these hands. And with these hands, He will lift me to His side & there I will use these hands to touch the face of Christ.

No doubt I will never look at my hands the same again.

I never saw the old man again after I left the park that day but I will never forget him & the words he spoke. When my hands are hurt or sore or when I stroke the face of my children & wife I think of the man in the park. I have a feeling he has been stroked & caressed & held by the hands of God. I, too, want to touch the face of God & feel His hands upon my face.

Thank you, God, for hands.

New Feature!

Gentlemen, we are going to begin recognizing our brother knights and family member who are sick or in distress each month. Please email or call me with requests for the Good of the Order each month. Tim Philomeno, Editor (tphilomeno@sparling.com or 253.661.2296

Good of the Order	
Listed are all of the those Brother Knights or family members who are Sick or in Distress	
Sick	Deceased
Mike Fay (wife Maureen recovering from knee surgery)	Jim Judy
	Larry Weigel (Mother)
	Mike O'Connell (Father)
Please keep these Knights and family members in your prayers. Thanks!	

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: Kevin Buck, 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:

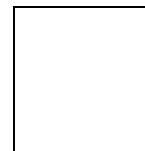
The 365 Club
 Knights of Columbus, Council #7528
 PO Box 24763
 Federal Way, WA 98093-1763

Calendar of Events

December 2004		
7th	General Meeting	St. Vincent de Paul Hall @7:30pm with the Rosary in the Chapel at 7:00pm
11 th	Potluck	Parish Hall after 5:00 mass (see above)
19 th	Christmas Basket Delivery	After 11:00 Mass in the Parish Hall
21st	Planning Meeting and 1st Degree	Room "A" at 7:30pm...1st Degree starts at 7:00pm sharp!
25 th	Merry Christmas	
January 2005		
1 st	Happy New Year	
4th	General Meeting	St. Vincent de Paul Hall @7:30pm with the Rosary in the Chapel at 7:00pm
15 th	Crab Feed	Parish Hall
16 th	Free throw Contest	St. Vincent de Paul Gym
18th	Planning Meeting and 1st Degree	Room "A" at 7:30pm...1st Degree starts at 7:00pm sharp!
22 nd	Spaghetti Dinner - Poster/Essay Contest	Parish Hall after the 5:00pm mass (plan to help setup, server and cleanup)
30 th	Marriage Renewal Retreat Breakfast	Parish Hall

Check out our website at <http://www.kc7528.org> for all of these events and more!

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED