

# The Cross and Compass

Knights of Columbus St. Joseph Council #7528  
Federal Way, Washington



Vince Mansanarez  
Grand Knight

Tim Philomeno, FFS—Editor

## From The Grand Knight

My Brother Knights, we held a new event this year - Oktoberfest!! It was a lot of fun and is an event I hope will continue in the coming years.

This month we will be having our annual Veterans Breakfast to support our wounded veterans. It is a breakfast that requires a lot of Brother Knights to make it a special day for our veterans and members of our parish. Tony Robinson will be sending an email out to all of us, hopefully the response will be overwhelming.

We have started our Council's Wounded Warriors Christmas gift card drive. Our parish community has helped us become the number one Council in the state of Washington to support this extremely special cause. We also make and donate approximately 300 gift card holders/envelopes, my wife Bev has been heading this up for the last few years. If any of your wives would like to join please give me a call. Beth

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## From Your Lecturer

### Mere Christianity by C. S. Lewis

This is the third of the articles which comprise my summary of the book titled Mere Christianity by C. S. Lewis in which he offers his views on then basic tenets of Christianity that led to his own conversion from atheism to belief in Christ. As has been noted, these beliefs were delivered as radio speeches delivered to the people of Britain during the Second World War. In this third article you will find that Lewis gets to the meat of what being a Christian entail.

### Book Three: Christian Behavior

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## FS Notes

The first month of fall felt like an extension of summer. However, as I write this on October 26, the weather has turned wetter in the beautiful Pacific Northwest with cooler temperatures and much less daylight. Daylight savings time ends at 2 am Sunday November 3.

On November 1 the Catholic church celebrates the Feast of All Saints. We are all striving to become saints. On November 2 we celebrate the Feast of All Souls. Please pray for all our departed brother Knights.

The annual dues notices will be mailed to all dues paying members on December 15. If you would like to prepay your dues, and avoid a mailing of the 1st notice, please submit a payment to the FS at either the Nov 5 or Dec 3 general business meetings.

Dues for 2025 will be \$40.00. You are also asked

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Philomeno even sends some from Florida!!

Now that the weather has changed we will begin ramping up our fundraising dinners. We have one of the largest Councils in the state, but yet at our events it's the same members doing all the work. We need to look at ourselves and ask why am I not participating? A few hours of your time makes a tremendous difference in how the event turns out.

Let us go into this time of the year focusing on why we became a Knight of Columbus - Charity, Unity, and Fraternity.

Vivat Jesus,

Vince

GK 7528

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to make a voluntary contribution of \$3.65, a penny a day, to the Pennies for Heaven Fund.

Checks – Payable to St. Joseph Council #7528

Mailing address – St. Joseph Council #7528, PO Box 3753, Federal Way, WA 98063

Paying via Square is available. Contact me as [mwfay@comcast.net](mailto:mwfay@comcast.net) and I will send you the QR code. Thank you.

Please send me a note if you have any changes in your mailing address, email address, phone number, or family.

Vivat Jesus!

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**The Three Parts of Morality.** Lewis points out that to some morality is something that interferes, or stops one from having a good time. But morality is really about having rules to govern human behavior so as to prevent a breakdown strain or friction. Rules that aid us in overcoming our natural inclinations, but do not really work. Though perfect behavior is unattainable for us because we are fallible humans, nonetheless. It is a necessary ideal. We fail when we either cause another person harm, or harm ourselves by compromising our own faculties and desires.

Morality is concerned with three things: fair play, harmonizing things that are inside each individual, and what we are made for. Most are concerned about the first but keep forgetting about the last two. Even when one says he should do anything he wants if it does not harm another, that person is really thinking of the first thing. It is natural to begin with that, but if our morality stops there, and we fail to change what is inside us, we are only deceiving ourselves.

What good is it to have rules for social behavior, if by not changing ourselves we cannot keep them. Unless we have the courage and unselfishness to change then we will never make our system work properly. We cannot create good by law. That is why we must strive for morality inside the individual. That is why religion is important for it seeks to direct changes in our individual behavior. Christianity asserts that every individual will live forever. If true, then he is more important than the state because he is everlasting. The main difference between Christian and non-Christian morality though lies in the third thing – for what purpose have we been created. That is what Lewis discusses in the rest of this book.

**The Cardinal Virtues.** These four virtues are called “cardinal” because they come from a Latin word meaning “the hinge on the door”. That is, because they are pivotal. They are Prudence, Temperance, Justice and Fortitude.

Prudence means practical common sense. Christ wants us to have a child’s heart, but a grownup’s head. He wants us to be affectionate and teachable as children are, and at the same time have the intelligence to be alert in our duties as humans.

Temperance does not mean to abstain, but to enjoy pleasures with moderation and for a good reason. Many pleasures are not bad in themselves but in the excess are intemperate.

Justice is what we understand as fairness, honesty, give and take, keeping promises, truthfulness.

Fortitude means to not only have courage in the face of danger, but also to endure when under pain.

These four are called virtues because if they reside in an individual, it represents a certain quality of character. It is that quality rather than specific actions which determine these as virtues. Thus, we cannot simply be virtuous because we simply do the right things. Or we might think that God wants simply obedience to a set of rules rather than people of a particu-

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lar sort, or that we these virtues were only necessary for the present life. For is we do not have at least the beginnings of these qualities, no external conditions could make a "Heaven" for them.

**Social Morality.** Lewis writes, "The first thing to get clear about Christian morality ...is that Christ did not come to preach any brand new morality." We are reminded time and again how we should relate to our fellow humans. The second thing is that Christianity has not and does not have a particular political bias for applying moral certitude. It is meant for all humans at all times. Many want the clergy to put out a specific political agenda. But the clergy are trained to look after what concerns us who are going to live forever. It is up to us, the laity, to make sure that Christian principles are applied to societal activities. For example, while giving to the poor is in accordance with Christian morality, we should be creating a society where there is no poor. Lewis writes, "A Christian society is not going to arrive until most of us want it; and we are not going to want it until we become fully Christian."

**Morality and Psychoanalysis.** Christian Morality claims to be a technique for putting human society right, but so does psychoanalysis. According to Lewis, psychoanalysis is not contradictory to Christianity. But the two techniques are doing rather different things. Psychoanalysis undertakes to remove abnormal feelings, that is, to give one better material for making choices. Christian morality is concerned with the acts of choices themselves. Free choice is the only thing that morality is concerned with. Bad psychological material is not a sin but a disease to be cured. God judges us by the moral choices that we make. Man cannot judge others because we see only the result of choices made.

Christian morality is not a bargain with God where we are rewarded if we follow the rules, or suffer if we don't. Rather our choices turn us into something different than what we were before. And taking our life as a whole, we turn into either a creature in harmony with God and ready for Heaven, or one at war with God and destined for Hell.

**Sexual Morality.** Christian morality teaches the virtue of chastity. But that should not be confused with the social rule of modesty, also termed propriety or decency. These latter terms are based on customs of a given society. These change over time and circumstances. Chastity is the most unpopular of Christian virtues. It is deemed wrong and contrary to our sexual instincts. But it is the instinct that has gone wrong. To indulge our sexual appetite whenever inclined leads to a preposterous excess of its function.

Christianity is almost the only one of the great religions which thoroughly approves of the body; which believes that matter is good; that God once took on a human body; that some kind of body will be given to us even in Heaven. Christianity has glorified marriage more than any other religion; and nearly all the greatest love poetry in the world has been produced by Christians. Christianity contradicts those who say sex, in itself, is bad. But the Christian will adhere to principles which, while stricter than others, will get one help toward applying those

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principles which others do not. We may not achieve perfect chastity but we can do the best we can. One must ask for God's help for we cannot attain it by merely human effort.

**Christian Marriage.** The Christian concept of marriage is based on Christ's words that a husband and wife are to be regarded as a single organism (one flesh). He is telling us that male and female are made to be combined together in pairs, not simply on the sexual level, but totally. This leads to the conclusion that sexual relations outside marriage isolates one kind of union from all other kinds of union which were intended to go along with it and make up the total union. Christianity teaches that marriage is for life with some disagreement among churches on when divorce is allowed. However, they all disagree with the modern view that a "simple readjustment of partners" can be made whenever one feels like it.

But Christian Marriage involves a promise that has no special connection to sexual morality. Thus, there is a question of justice. According to Lewis, if people do not believe in permanent marriage, it is perhaps better that they should live together unmarried rather than make vows they do not mean to keep. It is not sufficient to claim to "be in love" for love is a feeling and does not involve a promise. No feeling can be relied on to last in its full intensity, or even to last at all. The marriage promise foretells a deep unity, maintained by the grace that both partners ask, and receive, from God.

**Forgiveness.** While chastity is an unpopular Christian virtue, forgiveness is even more unpopular. The Christian rule, Thou shall love thy neighbor as thyself is even more unpopular. Because the term "thy neighbor" includes "thy enemies". And so, we have a duty of also forgiving our enemies. It is made perfectly clear that if we do not forgive, we shall not be forgiven. If we really want to learn to forgive our enemies, we should begin by forgiving those closest to us such as our spouse, our children, our parents.

But what does it mean to love your neighbor as thyself? How do we love ourselves? We do this by hating what we do that is wrong but not hating ourselves, Christianity does not want us to reduce the hatred we feel for cruelty or treachery. But it does want us to hate what others do, while hoping that somehow, somewhere, at sometime the other will be cured and made human again. Perhaps it can be made easier if we remember that is how He loves us.

**The Great Sin.** The one vice that all seem to discount for themselves is Pride. The Christian virtue which opposes it is Humility. It was through Pride that the fallen angel became the devil. Pride leads to every other vice. Pride is essentially competitive by its very nature. Pride gets no pleasure out of having something, only out of having more than others. It is the comparison that makes you believe that you are above the rest. According to Christians, Pride is the chief cause of misery in every nation, and indeed, in every family since the beginning.

Pride leads to not only enmity to fellow man, but also enmity to God. For God is immeasurably superior to us all. Unless you know God as that – you do not know God at all. While we can profess to believe in God, if we imagine that He approves of us and thinks us far better

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than others, we are believing in a false God. The real test of being in the presence of God is to forget about yourself altogether.

**Charity.** The three Theological virtues are Faith, Hope and Charity. While forgiveness is one aspect of charity, charity means to Love in a Christian sense. It is not a feeling but a state of the will to have about other people. The rule for us is perfectly simple. Do not waste time bothering whether you love your neighbor, act as if you did. This will presently lead to loving your neighbor. The worldly man treats others kindly because he “likes” them. The Christian trying to treat all kindly, finds himself liking others more and more.

**Hope.** Looking forward to the eternal world is not a form of escapism or wishful thinking, but one of the things a Christian is meant to do. The Apostles who set out for the ends of the Roman Empire, the great men who built up the Middle Ages, those who abolished the slave trade left their mark because their minds were occupied with Heaven. Most people, if they really looked into their own hearts, would know that they want something that cannot be had in this world.

**Faith.** Faith in one sense means Belief – accepting or regarding as true the doctrines of Christianity. Faith is considered a Christian virtue for it is not merely based on reason, but is the act of holding onto things that your reason once accepted even when your mood changes. Daily prayer, religious readings and going to church are necessary parts of Christian life so as to continually be reminded of what we believe.

In another higher sense, Faith is getting in right relationship with God. We soon learn that we cannot offer to God anything that is not already His own even our failings. We cannot discover our failure to keep God’s law unless we try our hardest and fail. The road back to God is a road of moral effort, of trying harder and harder. But in another sense, it is not trying that is ever going to bring us to our Heavenly home. “It is turning to God. It is the change from being confident about our own efforts to the state in which we despair of doing anything for ourselves and leave it to God.” This means that we put all our trust in Christ, sharing with him perfect obedience. Christ will share His sonship with us and will make us like Himself, Sons of God. Christ offers us something for nothing. He even offers us everything for nothing. The whole of Christian life is accepting this remarkable offer.

### Birthdays and Anniversaries for November

Member Birthdays		Member Birthdays cont....	
1st	Garnett Beadle	20th	Christopher Andersen
1st	Richard Henderson	20th	Walter Anderson
3rd	David Lesinski	25th	David Romero
4th	Matthew Robic	28th	Jason DoRego
5th	John Luu	29th	Rick Lowman
6th	J Robert Ward	29th	Michael Weber
6th	Leonardo Herrera		
9th	Maurice Tessier		Anniversaries
10th	Vernon Johnson	2nd	Jerome and Mary De Gagne
11th	Leo Fanene	17th	Michael and Maureen Fay
12th	Duc Nguyen	20th	William and Linda Herbert
16th	Igor Balaba	21th	Michael and Pam Ross
18th	William Shell	28th	Juan and Karen Lezcano
18th	Michael Rutland	29th	Lawrence and Linda Weigel

### Good of The Order

The following is a list of those Brother Knights or family members who are sick or in distress that we have been asked to pray for:

Pete Anderson, Richard Coe, Dale Dietrich, Aurther DePalma father of Fr. John Patrick, Margie wife of Gary Fredrickson, Ray & Mary Garcia, Leo Herrera, Ralph & Peggy Horner, Kathy Koch wife of Departed Brother Jerry Koch, Bill Miller brother of Don Miller, Katherine Myers mother of Dave Myers, Larry and Ann Neville, Ralph Osman, Paul & Marianne Savino, Dean Smith, Anita Spicer Mother of Frank Spicer, Jim Yokum

- Pray for all people that are victims of war and persecution throughout the world especially Israel, the middle east and Ukraine and pray for a peaceful resolution to the hostilities.
- Pray for our Brother Knights of Columbus, Church members and families that we remain strong in our faith and pray that the Holy Spirit guides and protects us during these troubling times.
- Pray for all priests and clergy that the Holy Spirit strengthen them and help them cope with all the changes as they minister to the faithful.
- Pray for Our Country and leaders that the Holy Spirit descend upon us and lead us back to One Nation Under God for without Him we will not survive as a nation.

### 2024-2025 Council Leadership

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#### Knight of the Month September

TBA

#### Nativity House!

Come help feed the homeless Saturday November 16th. Everyone will be meeting in the church parking lot at 7:45 and leaving promptly at 8AM. From there everyone will be heading to the Tacoma Nativity House to feed the homeless pancakes and sausage! This is a great opportunity to help those in need! Contact Ted Colby at [nhb@kofc7528.org](mailto:nhb@kofc7528.org) for any additional information.

#### Family of the Month September

TBA

#### Pennies for Heaven

Our goal for this year, as always, is a penny a day for Vocations, \$3.65/yr. Please support our priests!  
Contact [FS Mike Fay](#)



## Upcoming Events!

November		December	
2nd	40 Days for Life		
5th	General Meeting—South Narthex 7:30pm	3rd	General Meeting—South Narthex 7:30pm
5th	Council Rosary	3rd	Council Rosary
9th	Wounded Warrior Stocking Collection	7th	Respect Life Vigil
9th	Veteran's Parade—Auburn	14th	Christmas Potluck
9th	40 Days for Life	15th	Breakfast
10th	Breakfast—Knights 4 Military Support	16th	Christmas Tree Lighting
16th	Nativity House	17th	Planning Meeting—South Narthex 7:00pm
17th	Coffee and Donuts	21st	Nativity House
19th	Planning Meeting—South Narthex 7:00pm	25th	Christmas
25th	Greenery Delivery		

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