

# 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

This letter will be short, I am writing this poolside in Cabo and the Captain and cokes are coming quickly.

Gentlemen, we are entering our second month of the fraternal year and on October 5th we will be having an Oktoberfest dinner. Hope to see you and your family, along with your friends. This is our first dinner of the year to raise money for our charities.

The Greenery sale starts on October 1st running until October 29th. This is an easy fundraising opportunity for our Council. If you do not need anything from this fundraiser, the church can always use poinsettias for the Christmas season.

The Parish Rosary will be held before the meeting on October 1st at 7:00 pm in the church. Please plan on coming along with your family.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

GK Message	1
Birthdays	6
Good of the Order	6
KOM/FOM	7
Nativity House	7
Council Leadership	7
Council Events	8

## From Your Lecturer

### Mere Christianity by C. S. Lewis

This article continues my summary of the compilation 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.

### Book Two: What Christians Believe

**The Rival Conceptions of God.** Before pointing out what Christians believe, Lewis explains what Christians do not need to be-

*(Continued on page 3)*



## FS Notes

The proposed council budget for the 2024 - 2025 fraternal year was presented to the members attending the September 3rd council meeting. The proposed budget was emailed to all members by the FS from Member Management.

The vote to approve the budget will take place at the October 1 general business meeting.



*(Continued from page 1) GK*

Forty Days of Life begins on October 5th. Plan on joining our Faith Director Bill Schell for this worthy cause.

Wounded Warriors collection starts on October 9th. Our Council is one of the biggest contributors in the state. Let us continue with this tradition of giving to this worthwhile cause.

Again I would like thank the Council for your support.

Vivat Jesus,

Vince  
GK 7528

*(Continued from page 1) Lecturer*

lieve. He states that as a Christian you do not have to believe that all other religions are simply wrong all through. As a Christian you are free to believe that all other religions have some hint of the truth. But being a Christian does mean that where Christianity differs from other religions, Christianity is right and they are wrong. Christianity lines up with the majority who believe in some kind of God or gods vice the minority who foster Western materialism.

Those who believe in God also can be divided into those who think that God is beyond good and evil, so-called Pantheism; and Christians who believe in “a God who takes sides, who loves love and hates hatred, who wants us to behave in one way and not another”.

Pantheists also believe that the universe is almost a God. That anything one finds in the universe is a part of God. Christians believe that God formed the universe, but He is separate from the universe and some of the things we see in it are contrary to His will, and God insists that we put them right again.

But why has this world without question gone so wrong? How would we know that something is wrong unless we have an idea of right and wrong, of just and unjust. There are absolutes which we can agree on are not simply the fanciful notions of individuals but a sensible belief in true justice. Consequently, atheism turns out to be too simplistic. If the whole universe has no meaning, then we should never have found out that it has no meaning.

**The Invasion.** Lewis goes on to explain that Christianity is not a simple religion. It is complicated by doctrines concerning sin, hell, the devil and redemption. Those wanting a simple religion where there is a good God in Heaven and all is well consciously or unconsciously want to destroy Christianity. He states that “... their idea of God ‘making religion simple’; as if religion were something God invented, and not His statement to us of certain unalterable facts about His own nature”. Reality also is usually something you could not have guessed. Christianity offers us a universe that we would not have guessed, and not the sort of thing that someone would make up. Christianity’s view is that this is a good world that has gone bad, but knows what it should have been.

Another view at odds with Christianity is called Dualism. This notion is that there are two independent powers i.e. gods, one good, one bad which battle in the universe in an endless war. But this means that we follow whatever we prefer at any given moment. We would be picking a side. But this means that there is a higher standard by which we measure good or bad. We call the author of this standard the real God. Moreover, if Dualism is true, then there is a being who likes badness for its own sake. But this means that such a being is getting its existence, will and intelligence, which are good from the good power. Isn’t this what Christianity calls the devil, a fallen angel. “It is a real recognition that evil is a parasite, not an original thing. The powers which enable evil are powers given to it by goodness”. However, Christianity does admit that there is a dark power in the universe at battle with good. But it was created by God, and was good when created.

*(Continued on page 4)*

*(Continued from page 3) Lecturer*

**The Shocking Alternative.** But is the existence of an evil power in accordance with God's will or not? If it is, then He is a strange God; not how can anything happen contrary to the will of Him who has absolute power? But that is the consequence of free will. What God may will to be His creatures can choose right or wrong. But why did God make creatures with free will? Because free will is "also the only thing makes possible any love or goodness or joy worth having. A world of creatures that worked like machines would hardly be worth creating". The sin of Satan was that given free will, he wanted to be God. And that was what he offers to the human race, to create their own happiness outside of God. Out of this has come all that is wrong with human history: selfishness, poverty, ambition, war, slavery and class struggle. But this cannot succeed because "God designed the human machine to run on Himself". As a result, God gave us a conscience, the sense of right and wrong. He also sent us stories of god's who die, come to life again and give men new life. And finally, He selected one particular people who received knowledge about who He was, that there was only one of Him, and that He cared about right conduct. Then from the Jewish people there arose a man who said what was the most shocking thing ever uttered by human lips. Jesus claimed that he could forgive sins. He forgave those offenses that others committed against their fellow man. "This makes sense only is this man was really God whose law is broken and whose loved is wounded in every sin", writes Lewis.

**The Perfect Penitent.** With such a claim Jesus is who he says he is or is a lunatic. But does one really believe that Jesus was a lunatic? Then he must be God. God has come to this world in human form. But for what purpose? The central Christian belief is that Christ's death has somehow put us right with God and given us a fresh start. But how is the matter of conjecture. Lewis' view is that the fact that it is not understandable, shows us that it beyond our nature. Christ died for us, it cleansed our sins, and destroyed the power of death. That is Christianity. If God merely wanted to let us off, He could have without punishing an innocent person. But like a debt that must be repaid, so too our sins have a cost that sometimes falls on others to fulfill. But our part is to admit our faults, saying we are sorry and promising to change our behavior. This is what Christians call repentance. The catch is only a bad person needs to repent; but only a good person can repent perfectly. The only person that can repent perfectly is a perfect person. Jesus was that perfect person because he could suffer and die as a human, but do it perfectly because he was God.

**The Practical Conclusion.** If we share in the suffering and humility of Christ we also share in his conquest of death. In the Christian view a new kind of man appeared. A new kind of life appeared which began in Him is to be put in us. There are three things that spread the Christ-life to us: baptism, belief and Holy Communion. For we Catholics, Holy Communion is the focus of Mass. When Christians say the Christ-life is in them, they mean that Christ is actually operating through them. We are his hands and feet. It explains why this new life is spread not just through mental acts, but by bodily acts like baptism and Holy Communion. God never meant man to be a spiritual creature, but uses material things like bread and wine

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued from page 4) Lecturer*

to put new life in us. Someday (we don't know when) God will come and bring a reckoning to all. For now God is giving us the chance to choose which side we fall on. Now today, God is giving us a chance to choose the right side.

### Birthdays and Anniversaries for October

Member Birthdays		Member Birthdays cont....	
1st	Julius Rabara	24th	Michael Rutland
1st	Joseph Conner	26th	John Mills
7th	Paul Savino	28th	Rey Pena
11th	Terance Toensfeldt	29th	Richard Peterson
12th	Frank Zink	30th	Arthur Depalma
16th	Martin Rewa	31th	Dennis Robb
16th	Timothy Philomeno		Anniversaries
19th	Reuben Morales	4th	Michael and Marilyn Courtney
20th	Joseph Armstrong	5th	David and Gina Sakamoto
21th	John Schuster	12th	Garnett and Sharon Beadle
22th	Nathaniel Berry	19th	James and Kimberly Freyberg
23th	Dennis De Vera	20th	Tito and Lisa Alfiler
24th	Donald Hall	20th	Nicholas and Teenamarie Callahan

### 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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Chaplain		<a href="mailto:chaplain@kofc7528.org">chaplain@kofc7528.org</a>	
Grand Knight	Vince Mansanarez	<a href="mailto:gk@kofc7528.org">gk@kofc7528.org</a>	253-973-2842
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Retention Chairman	Joey Romero	<a href="mailto:retention@kofc7528.org">retention@kofc7528.org</a>	253-334-6110
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#### Knight of the Month September

TBA

#### Nativity House!

Come help feed the homeless Saturday September 21st. 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!

October		November	
1st	General Meeting—South Narthex 7:30pm	2nd	40 Days for Life
1st	Respect for Life Parish Rosary	5th	General Meeting—South Narthex 7:30pm
1st	Greenery Sale Starts	5th	Council Rosary
5th	40 Days for Life	9th	Wounded Warrior Stocking Collection
5th	Council Dinner	9th	Veteran's Parage—Auburn
9th	Wounded Warrior Stocking Collection	9th	40 Days for Life
12th	40 Days for Life	10th	Breakfast—Knights 4 Military Support
15th	Planning Meeting—South Narthex 7:00pm	16th	Nativity House
19th	Nativity House	17th	Coffee and Donuts
19th	40 Days For Life	19th	Planning Meeting—South Narthex 7:00pm
		25th	Greenery Delivery

Knights of Columbus  
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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Member One



