

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

Brothers our fraternal year is coming to an end and now is the time for election of officers for next year. At our April meeting on Tuesday, we will begin the nomination process. If you would like to be part of the leadership of the Council, now is the time to step up.

The Fish Frys are coming to an end. There are only two left in April. If you and your family have not attended one yet, the next two Fridays will be your last chance to see how we have improved.

I want to thank all of the Brothers who have volunteered at the fish frys and those that have attended. It is not too late to help out. Two weeks are left.

Before our General Meeting on Tuesday April 1st, we will be hosting a parish rosary. The rosary will be at 7:00 pm in the church. Please bring your family and friends to attend our final parish rosary.

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From Your Lecturer

And God Said, "PLAY BALL" ***Amusing and Thought-Provoking Parallels*** ***Between the Bible and Baseball***

At least some of the language and many of the ideals are similar in baseball and Christianity. After all, we frequently refer to the place where the game is played as a cathedral. We all admire a skilled player who is willing and able to make a sacrifice for the team. We engage in fierce debate about the origin of the game of baseball, and we find some differences in the Creation stories in the Bible. God must appreciate the passion that goes into playing the game well -at whatever level- just as he admires the passion, we pour into pursuing his will for us. Baseball has its rulebook; God handed down his rule book... and both are open for interpretation in many places. OK, I'll acknowledge one substantial difference: In baseball, a hitter who fails 67 percent of the time is considered Hall of Fame material. I'm pretty sure God has a higher standard for us in his field of play.

The above paragraph is from the Foreword of the book *And God Said, Play Ball* by Gary Graff. With the baseball season upon us, I decided to provide excerpts from one of my favorite books. As we all know, baseball is the best sport ever created. Over the next three months I hope to entertain by illustrating

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FS Notes

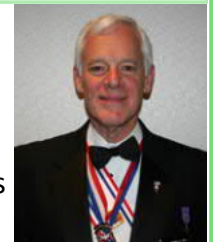
Dear Brother Knights of St. Joseph Council #7528,

The Affiliate Member Initiative was developed by Supreme in the spring of 2022 to transfer members who had not paid their annual membership dues to the AMI roster. Transferring to the AMI roster will remove a member from the active council roster, and from the associated 4th degree roster, if applicable.

Four active members of St. Joseph Council #7528 are being considered for assignment to the AMI by the council's Retention Committee.

If a member is transferred to the AMI roster and later pays their dues, the financial secre-

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tary will reinstate the member to the active roster through Member Management.

Thank you for paying your annual membership dues.

Fraternally,

Mike Fay, FS, PGK

HELP WANTED

Need 1-2 Knights to help 2-3 times with breeding for our fish fry-fun for all. Please contact me.

Ralph Osman

rhusky1@gmail.com

253 735 6035

KNIGHTS NIGHT 2025

Brother Knights we are attempting to schedule a night at the Tacoma Rainiers game on Thursday June 19th @ 7:00 PM. We would. This year we only have GA tickets, because the cost of a suite is VERY expensive.

The GA is \$15.50 & includes a hot dog, chips & a bottle of water.

Please contact me @253 735 6035 (this is an old fashion landline-no texts) or rhusky1@gmail.com. With your interest ASAP as we need to make our reservations ASAP. If you write a check make it payable to Kof C 37528. Also let me know if you need handicap seating.

You may also contact Mike Fay with your reservations. Payment is due May 1.

Ralph Osman

31425 49th ave S

Auburn WA 98001

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the many parallels between baseball and the bible.

Innings 1 through 3

Top of the 1st (Play Ball): And God saw that it was good (Gen 1:10). Just as there are two seemingly contradicting accounts of the Creation of the Universe in Genesis, there are contradicting accounts for the creation of baseball. According to popular belief, baseball was invented by Abner Doubleday on a bucolic summer afternoon in 1839 at Cooperstown in upstate New York. In their book, *Baseball: An Illustrated History* by Geoffrey Ward and Ken Burns, Doubleday was at West Point, not Cooperstown, during the summer in question. While certainly a Civil War hero, “He (Doubleday) never claimed to have anything to do with baseball, and may never have even seen a game.” What has become the game we play today had its true beginnings during the summer of 1842 in New York City.

In the book of Genesis, one account (Gen 1:1-5) has God creating the world in seven days with male and female created on the sixth day. In the second account (Gen 2:4-7, 18-23) God creates Adam then the creatures of the earth then Eve in an instant. *“Creation is such an incomprehensible concept that cultures have long tried to grasp it by putting form to a story that we can relate to on a human level. We do this not to diminish the glory or wonder of creation, but to praise it ... What’s significant is that in its logical, illogical, and mythical form, the Bible can teach us, guide us, and inspire us to grow closer to God and one another.”*

Bottom of the 1st (Pair Up in Threes-Yogi Berra): He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two (Mk 6:7). Twenty-eight gentlemen formed the first bona fide baseball team in 1845 brought together by Alexander Cartwright, Jr. A New York Mercury sportswriter referred to the game as, “the National Pastime” in 1856, even though the game had not ventured very far beyond the East or Hudson rivers. Similarly, the early followers of Christ referred to his teachings as “The Way” despite being confined to small areas of the Middle East and Mediterranean.

Baseball grew in major cities such as Cincinnati, Boston, and Chicago. The early churches of Christianity also emerged in large cities such as Rome, Corinth, Antioch, etc. Many teams were begotten (moved) from teams in other cities. Graf writes, *“Sort of like Christianity. my religion, my faith tradition -Catholicism- had its start ... with the formation of a team, the Galilee Apostles of the old River Jordan League.”* Jesus drafted a group of men to accompany him. After Jesus miraculously blessed Jesus, James and John with a large catch of fish, Luke writes, *“For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch”*, no doubt referring to Willie Mays incredible catch of Vic Wertz’s smash to deep center field during the first game of the 1954 World Series.

Top of the 2nd (Runs, Hits, Errors): Who can detect their errors? (Psalm 19:12). The worst team in the history of baseball were the Cleveland Spiders 1899 edition, who lost 134 games and won only 34. They just didn’t have any skill for the game. Likewise, when Jesus assembled his “team”, there were times when they just didn’t get it. So Jesus resorted to parables to impart wisdom to his followers. Likewise, baseball has its fair share of stories with lessons about life. The famous poem *Casey at the Bat* teaches us that it is not enough to talk the talk, you must walk the walk. *City Slickers* portrays how baseball serves as a thread binding father to son. *Bull Durham* shows us the value of passing our knowledge to others. *Field of Dreams* reveals a tale of a son wanting to reconcile with his father. *The Natural* tells a story of redemption, death and resurrection.

Many baseball greats had humble starts to their careers. So too Peter, the rock upon whom Christ built his church, had his moments of doubt in faith. Peter had times when he tried to impose his own will over Christ’s (Mt 16:21-23). Peter struck out three times (a hat trick) when he denied Christ (Mt 26:69-75). But Peter emerged to become one of the first to realize Jesus was the Messiah. The 1962 NY Mets lost 120 games but emerged to become the Miracle Mets of 1969 and win the World Series.

As Graf says in his book, *“There is something of faith and baseball that touches the soul, that forgives human error, that gives many of us a reason for being, that without faith and baseball, a good amount of joy would be taken from the world.”*

Bottom of the 2nd (Babe Sold to Yankees): You ... came to a people that you did not know before (Book of Ruth). Was not the Christ child called a babe? Did not Babe Ruth perform god-like feats on the baseball diamond? Did not Luke write (Lk 2:12), *“This will be a sign to you: you will find a child (a Babe) wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger?”* And could it not be written of Babe Ruth, “You will find the Babe in rumpled clothes, lying to his manager?”

The Book of Ruth details how Ruth migrated to Judah with her mother-in-law, Naomi after their husbands died. They lived hand to mouth because women were denied protections at that time in history. Eventually, Ruth marries Boaz and they raise a son, Obed, who became the grandfather of King David, from whose lineage Jesus is descended.

George Herman (Babe) Ruth was born in Baltimore on Feb 6, 1895. He was separated from his family and deemed incorrigible by his parents because of his rebellious behavior. He was sent to St. Mary’s Industrial School for Boys where he found favor with the school’s disciplinarian, Brother Matthias, who inspired him to give baseball a try. After a stellar start of his career with the Boston Red Sox, he “migrated” to New York City after he was sold to the Yankees. In 1923, the New York Yankees moved into a new home, Yankee Stadium, which became known as “The House that Ruth Built.” Just as Jesus can be considered from the House of Ruth because of his lineage.

Writes Graf *“God brings about great works through the lowly and exalted.”* Babe Ruth had once been incorrigible, but eventually

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brought glory to two storied franchises. Biblical Ruth in a male-dominated culture was husbandless, poor and without prospects. She became the great-grandmother of David of whose house came Jesus Christ, the savior of the world.

Top of the 3rd (Where Have You Gone, Joe DiMaggio): And They took Joseph to Egypt (Gen 37:28). In the story of Joseph in Genesis, his brothers conspire to rid themselves of Joseph out of envy for his braggadocio and seemingly favoritism by their father, Jacob. They sell him to a band of wandering traders for twenty shekels of silver. Joseph is taken to Egypt as a slave, sold to an official of the royal court where he surprisingly rose to become the overseer of the official's estate. Catching the eye of the official's wife, he nonetheless rebuffed her advances but was wrongfully thrown into prison.

Due to his reputation for interpreting dreams, Pharaoh summons Joseph to interpret his own troubling visions. Joseph advises the king to store up in the time of plenty for a great famine was coming. Proven right, Pharaoh honors Joseph by giving him the keys to his kingdom. While Egypt survived the great famine, the land of Jacob was unprepared. Jacob sent his sons to Egypt for provisions where they encountered but did not recognize their brother. Eventually, Joseph forgave his brothers and the family was reunited.

Joe DiMaggio grew up in San Francisco, was purchased by the New York Yankees and immediately began a storied baseball career. His own "imprisonment" came when he served in the military during the 1943-1945 seasons. Joe was regaled in New York and wherever he played. He caught the eye of Marilyn Monroe. They were married and subsequently divorced which provided Joe his greatest joy and deepest sadness.

Joe's brothers, Dom and Vince, became professional ballplayers themselves. When Dom caught a ball hit by Joe, he took it personally and their relationship was strained for the rest of their lives. In his desire for privacy, Joe detached himself from much of the world.

Both Josephs were not immune to joys and sorrows of life. Graf writes, *"Not surprisingly, none of us are. But the constant for each of us is no matter if we are happy or sad, have hit a homerun or struck out, have a surplus of riches or are in need. God is with us."*

Bottom of the 3rd (162 games): For everything there is a season (ECC 3:1). The Bible is replete with phrases that can also be applied to Baseball. Here are just a few:

Let there be light (Gen 1:3) likened to May 24, 1935 when FDR pushed a button in Washington, DC which lit up Crosley Field in Cincinnati allowing the first baseball game to be played at night.

Cover it inside and out with pitch (Gen 6:14) may have been the instruction to Noah to waterproof the ark, but also was the instruction of a pitching strategy to paint the corners of the plate.

How awesome is this place (Gen 28:17) not only was Jacob's cry about the location of Jacob's Ladder but also a number of "holy" baseball places.

Strike the rock (Ex 17:6) was God's instruction to Moses on how to bring water to the wandering Israelites, and is a key phrase in baseball to swing at the ball. It also describes water features in ballparks such as the Kansas City fountains, McCovey Cove in San Francisco, the swimming pool in Phoenix, the views of Elliot Bay in Seattle, and the Manta Ray pool in Tampa. It also quenches our thirst to come together as community.

Is the Lord's power limited? (Num 11:23) was God's rhetorical question to Moses when he questioned God's power to provide meat for the entire people of the Exodus. It is also a statement about the finite nature of a baseball career. Though God-given, our talents do not last forever.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil (Ps 23:4-5) is often quoted when describing God's protection and love. But it also describes Carl Hubbell's feat of consecutively striking out Lou Gehrig, Babe Ruth, Jimmy Foxx, Al Simmons and Joe Cronin in the 1934 All Star game.

There will be earthquakes (Mk 13:8). Jesus refers to events that will happen before the Second Coming of Christ. But it also predicts the earthquake that struck San Francisco prior to the first pitch of the third game of the 1989 World Series between Giants and the Oakland A's.

Chase concludes this chapter, *"As we've seen, there are many connections we can make between the Bible and baseball. But perhaps all we really need to know can be found by visiting chapter 3 of Ecclesiastes. There we find some of the most beautiful verses in the Bible from which comes a valuable lesson about baseball ... and life."*

For everything there is a season ... a time to seek, and a time to lose. (ECC 3:1-6)

Next month the middle innings.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for March

Member		Member Cont.	
2nd	David Szabo	20th	Dale Dietrich
3rd	Khanh Nguyen	25th	John Patrick DePalma
5th	James Brown	27th	Daniel Luu
6th	Casey Stiles	29th	Millard Longley
10th	Tom Korbuszewski	Anniversaries	
11th	Felipe Salazar	14th	Ralph and Donna Osman
13th	Glen Knowlton	16th	Anthony and Betsy Robinson
19th	Mark Czaplewski	26th	Raymond and Mary Garcia
		28th	Vince and Bev Mansanarez

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, 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,
 Dave Myers, Katherine Myers mother of Dave Myers, Larry and Ann Neville,
 Paul & Marianne Savino, Anita Spicer Mother of Frank Spicer
- 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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Financial Secretary	Mike Fay	fs@kofc7528.org	206-697-8252
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Knight of the Month February

Joey Romero

Nativity House!

Come help feed the homeless Saturday February 15th. We now meet at Nativity House. 6:30 to cook (and can always use a second shift at 8 am to serve at 8:30) and we are generally cleaned and out the door by 10 am This is a great opportunity to help those in need!

Contact Ted Colby at nhb@kofc7528.org for any additional information.

Family of the Month February

Craig and Anna Patrick

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!

April

1st	Council Rosary
1st	General Meeting
4th	4th Fish Fry
5th	40 Days for Life
11th	5th Fish Fry
12th	40 Days for Life
15th	Planning Meeting
19th	Nativity House
20th	Easter

May

2nd—4th	WA State Convention—Lacey
6th	General Meeting
6th	Council Rosary
11th	Mother's Day Breakfast
17th	Nativity House
20th	Planning Meeting

Knights of Columbus

PO Box 4097

Federal Way, WA 98063

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