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Please come to our business meeting every 2nd Monday of the month at St. John Neumann's Family Center at 7pm



Saint Charles
Knights of Columbus
UNITAS



January 2013 - Volume 14 - Issue 1

Jason's Journal



Hello Brother <<First Name>> ,

Happy New Year! It should be a great year for the Knights. I'm looking forward to it. There are a few things I would like to remind you of.

We are planning our Fraternal Benefits Night/Open House for Feb. 7th. Details will be in the bulletin and Unitas. Please attend and bring a prospect member. This will proceed our 1st degree of the year on Feb. 11th before our general meeting. I will be addressing the church late Jan to ask people to come out Feb 7th to get more info about the Knights and see all what we have to offer.

I would also like to encourage you to wear your name badges to mass. Show how proud you are to be part of this amazing organization. It could spark a future Knight's interest!

Lastly, Frank Positano has offered to lead the Rosary before the general meeting in the Chapel at St. John Neumann. All are welcome. It will start this coming Mon Jan. 7 at 6:15. Please consider joining Frank and your fellow Knights.

God Bless,
Jason

Chaplain's Report

Christ The Light

Message for 1/6/13
The Epiphany (ABC)

Did you ever wonder why the three wise

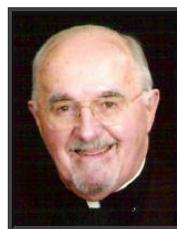


Table of Contents

[Grand Knight Report](#)

[Chaplain's Report](#)

[Ladies Auxiliary Report](#)

[Director of Membership Report](#)

[5K Run Proceeds distributed](#)

[Pub Trivia Quiz Activity](#)

[2013 Golf Committee Meeting](#)

[New Knight Orientation](#)

[Help Wanted!](#)

[Bowling Party Details](#)

[Fraternal Benefits Night](#)

[Bellarmino Retreat](#)

[Pro-Life Report](#)

[Knight of the Month](#)

[New Knight Spotlight](#)

[Know Your Faith](#)

[Field Agent Report](#)

[Other Links](#)

[Our Sponsors](#)

Upcoming Events

January, 2013

01/10 Business Meeting-SJN

01/18-20 Silent Retreat - Bellarmine

01/19 Bowling-Funway

men from the east were the only ones to see the star of Bethlehem? Why didn't Herod's astrologers see it? Why weren't there more star-gazers able to observe this great phenomenon: the star that guided those who were able to see it to Jesus, Mary and Joseph in that little town of Bethlehem? Whenever I look up in the heavens to observe the stars in the night, I often wonder about the star of Bethlehem. How could one of those stars up there ever guide anyone to a particular spot on this earth? It amazed me no end, until I realized that this star of Bethlehem was a very special star, not like all the rest of those zillion stars up there. This star was powered from a very special source, obviously the Holy Spirit, and it rose and hovered low in the sky and moved in itself, not like all the other stars which appear stationary. It had to be this way in order for it to point out the direction one should take in order to follow it. Not only that, but it came to a standstill over the place where the child was, thus showing the Magi where to go. **"They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house, found the child with Mary his mother."**

And what did they do? **"They prostrated themselves and did him homage."** This means that they lay flat on their stomachs as a symbol of honor before the Babe of Bethlehem, the newborn King of all peoples. I remember doing this during my ordination to the priesthood when we who were to be ordained lay flat on our stomachs before the Lord while the congregation sang the Litany of the Saints to the Holy Spirit for us. It was very humbling and a great honor to lay there before the Lord and give him the gift of ourselves.

And what happened next at the manger? **"Then they opened their coffers and presented him (Jesus) with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."** Again, these were symbolic gifts of life: gold, which represents the Kingship of Christ; frankincense, which represents the sweetness of prayer to God; and myrrh, which represents the pain and suffering Christ was to endure for all of us, which is also used for anointing and embalming. They gave of themselves with gifts of great value for their time.

When you stop to think about it, our Lord Jesus, the Babe of Bethlehem, sends out the Holy Spirit to all of us, just as he did to the Magi. The Star of Bethlehem is seen only by believers in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We must look with the eyes of faith for this light in the sky that will lead us to the infant babe in the manger. We must follow this light unreservedly in order to reach our goal: life with Jesus. We must share the "gold" of our being so that others, too, may see the light. Our prayers and adoration before the Lord must rise like the incense of frankincense, an odor of sweetness of the Lord. And our pain and suffering must combine with that of Christ in order to embalm us with his myrrh, his saving grace. May the light of Christ lead you to his heavenly kingdom and may he bless you and yours in every way

Fr. Joe Love and Prayers,

Ladies Auxiliary Report



Hello All!

01/25 March for Life - Washington DC

February, 2013

02/03 Spelling Bee-SPCR
02/04 LA Meeting-Fr. Carse
02/07 Benefits Night
02/10 Pub Trivia - McNallys
02/11 1st Degree 6pm-SJN
02/11 Business Meeting-SJN
02/16 Knight Olympics-SPDT Gym

Don't forget to see and sign up for activities at:

http://kofc12497.com/wordpress/?page_id=318

Access past issues of this newsletter:

http://kofc12497.com/wordpress/?page_id=764

Knight of the Month



October- Frank Positano for his continuous efforts to bring in new members and to promote the advancement to further degrees



November- The Ladies Auxiliary for their work on Christmas Poster Contest with over 30 kids participating

December Knight of the Month will be announced at the January Meeting



Happy New Year!

We wrapped up 2012 on a high note! Working with the Knights to bring Breakfast with Santa to the parishes was a huge success! Thank you to Melissa Rothengass for her leadership again this year. The crafts for the children were a hit as well as the completion of 12 fleece blankets to be donated to Fox Valley Pregnancy Center! The blankets were blessed during assembly and will be delivered soon. A big thank you to Jon Mielke and Joanne Droho who took the photos with Santa. Completed photos were e-mailed to families which seems to be favorable with everyone! This event was a success because of the cooperation of all those who helped in any way. Thank you all!!



Diane Murray supervised the "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. The winning posters from our council were sent to the next level. All posters were on display during Breakfast with Santa. Thank you to all those who participated!

The Keep Christ in Christmas entry by Josephine Lynch, one of four winning entries

We are planning to serve ice cream and toppings at the Knights Family Olympics next month. Be sure to join in the fun of the games and then

enjoy ice cream while the results are tallied!

Here I Am Lord is coming soon! Once again the Ladies will be preparing and serving the Friday evening meal to the Religious in attendance. We look forward to reconnecting with those attending HIAL this year.

Gabby's in St. Charles is still supporting the Ladies Auxiliary! All day Sunday, January 13th and Saturday, January 12th after the 4:00 mass, anyone who dines at Gabby's (on Rt. 64 in St. Charles) can put their paid receipt in the "KC Ladies Auxiliary" container near the register. The receipts will be totaled and the Ladies Auxiliary will receive 10%! If you will be dining at Gabby's on one of these dates, please drop in your receipt! We appreciate your support and thank Gabby's for this opportunity!



In an ongoing effort for parish community involvement and spirituality, a few event reminders from the Ladies Auxiliary:

Recitation of the Rosary on the First Saturday of the month
3:30 p.m. (Before 4:00 Mass) at St. Patrick – Crane Rd. and after 5:15 Mass at St. John Neumann

New Knight Spotlight



Jeff Ricketts is a member of St. Patrick Parish. He and his wife Julie and their family have been parishioners for 15+ years. Jeff has been in various Information Technology management roles for 25+ years. He is actively involved in Boy Scouts, and has been an usher and member of the Baptism Ministry at St. Pat's for several years. Jeff's interests include following his kids' activities, his wife :-), camping, hiking, photography, and motorcycling.

Know Your Faith

By Sir Knight Ken Konetzki

Manicheanism

Have you ever been frustrated by your own concupiscence? Consider Romans 7:17-20 "So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. For I know that good does not dwell in me, that is, in my flesh. The willing is ready at hand, but the doing the good is not. For I do not do the good I want, but I do the evil I do not want. Now if [I] do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me."

Reflecting on this, one might be inclined to think that our spirit, that part of us that is good, is trapped within a material body that is incapable of good. A body, in short, that is evil and suppresses our spirit. To set our spirit free, therefore, would be to abstain from those earthly desires, such as food, sex, and possessions, because they are only manifestations of our imprisonment. On the other hand, being thus imprisoned, we should recognize that in our human frailty, most of us simply cannot help but to give in to those desires, however evil they may be. If one were inclined to think along these lines, one could find a home amongst the Manicheans.

Manicheanism is a heresy that first took root in Persia in the third century and attracted even the likes of St. Augustine before his conversion to Catholicism. A form of religious dualism, Manicheanism held that the universe was the outcome of two equal and competing forces, light and darkness; and more specifically that the universe is the result of the darkness invading the realm of the light. Whereas the realm of light lived in peace, the

Our Blessed Mother asks us to pray the Rosary - Please join us in this beautiful First Saturday Devotion!

Family Mass: January 13th – 8:00 a.m. at St. Patrick’s Crane Road Church

Mystic Monk Coffee and Tea Sales

Sold during Donut Sunday at St. Pat’s Crane Rd. an Downtown Church! To place an order, please contact us at 630-513-0580

Doris Braddock

President, Ladies Auxiliary

STRIKING FOR 300

We have our work cut out for us if we are going to reach 300 members this Fraternal year.

The number of men Proposing new members has increased this year which is what we need to do to keep membership on the rise. Remember, our goal is not to increase the number of Knights we have in our Council, but to present the opportunity to those who are searching to serve God in some manner. Being a Knight is the vehicle for them and you are just the individual to expose this wondering Fraternity of Knights to them.

Invite a guest to the Fraternal Benefits (K)night. See the article from Greg Paul encouraging you as a Brother Knight to attend this event and also encouraging you to invite someone to come with you.

The next First Degree is going to be held on: Monday evening, February 11, 2013 prior to our Business Meeting Please present the contact information to me of individuals interested in learning more about the Knights or who are interested in becoming a Knight.

Let's reach 300 quickly so we do not have to cram to get members in June.

Paul Braddock
Director of Membership

5K Run Proceeds distributed

St. Charles, Illinois, Council #12497 recently distributed over \$4,000 in checks to 10 local charities with funds raised at its inaugural Fall Classic 5k Run/2K Walk held on September 29, 2012, at Pottawatomie Park along the banks of the Fox River. Over 150 people participated, aided by Knights, their families, and friends.

realm of darkness was in constant conflict with itself.

The Manicheans came to see matter as evil and the objective of Manichean life was to free the light-substance from the pollution of matter. One consequence of this line of thinking was that Manicheans repudiated marriage because it led to the continual imprisonment of light in matter, i.e. children. Maternity was a sin.

Of course there is more to the Manichean view of things than what can be summarized here. Augustine was attracted to it in part because its construct of evil seemed to explain, and excuse his own sinfulness. Though his probing mind did generate questions the Manicheans could not answer, it wasn't until he met (St.) Ambrose that he finally dispensed with this heresy. Making reference to Bishop Ambrose of Milan, St. Augustine wrote in book 5 of Confessions, "First of all, his ideas had already begun to appear to me defensible; and the catholic faith, for which I supposed that nothing could be said against the onslaught of the Manicheans, I now realized could be maintained without presumption."

Apply Your Faith

Catholics do not view light and darkness as coeternal and coexistent forces. Darkness never invades light. Darkness in fact is the absence of light. Evil in the world is the result of the fall; a rejection of the light that is God. True we are concupiscent, but sin involves our will; and God granted us a free will that can choose the good and avoid evil with His help when we allow His grace to penetrate our darkness.

What is more, matter is not evil. God created matter and pronounced it good. Our desires, when properly ordered, are likewise good. Consider marriage, so reviled by the Manicheans. John Paul II's Theology of the Body should put to rest any notion that our sexuality is evil. Marriage is a sign that helps reveal to us the blessed Trinity.

We are not spirits imprisoned within a material shell and awaiting release therefrom. That is a false dichotomy. We are in fact incarnate spirits. Our body and spirit are one unified entity that, though separated for a time at death, will ultimately come together again in the resurrection. What we do with our bodies, therefore, we do with our spirit.

Thus when we give our body over to sin, our spirit commits sin. Fortunately, it is also true that when we kneel in prayer seeking God's grace, our spirit kneels and seeks grace. And when we give our body to our spouse without holding anything back, our spirit emulates the free, total, faithful, and fruitful love of God.



Grand Knight Jason Lynch (center) and race chairman Steve Hill (right) present the Council's largest check to Ms. Sandy Hutchins of the Illinois Special Olympics Far West Suburban Area #2.



In this picture, chairman Steve Hill (center) and Grand Knight Jason Lynch (right) presenting a check to Bill Clancy of the Hope for Haitians charity in the Rockford, Illinois, Diocese. In addition, seven other local organizations that help persons with Learning Disabilities and the East Coast disaster relief fund also received checks from these proceeds.

Trivia Pub Quiz



Join your fellow Knights and their spouses for some fun and fraternity at our council's Trivia Pub Quiz on Sunday afternoon, February 10, 2013, upstairs at McNally's Pub in St.Charles. The quiz starts at 2:30 pm, but feel free to arrive at 2:00pm to get

a table with your friends. Area pub quiz host Bill Margeson will run the quiz so there should be lots of fun and frivolity. The quiz will last for about 1 1/2 hours. There is no charge to attend, but drinks and food is available for purchase from McNally's well

From the Field Agent



Cover two people with one policy

In this month's article, I want to discuss a type of life insurance product with which you might not be familiar. This product offers a way for you to help your heirs meet estate settlement costs without subtracting from the total value of your estate. After all, you've worked hard to accumulate wealth or build a business over the years and you want to pass along that value to your family, charity or church in its entirety.

To this end, the Knights of Columbus designed a Survivorship Universal Life (SUL) product. SUL is a second to die, or survivorship, life insurance program that covers two people, (usually husband and wife) and the death benefit is paid upon the death of the surviving second person — which is normally when an estate would be taxed. This can be an important part of an estate plan.

Keep in mind, an SUL policy is one policy that covers two people. This has advantages, including a lower cost than two individual life insurance policies. It is a great option for a married couple with children. It can provide funds for the legal guardians chosen to care for children in the event both parents die, which is especially attractive to parents of a special needs child.

If you have a child or children, you need life insurance. If you intend to pass on any property or wealth, you need life insurance. A SUL policy is one option that we can discuss when we meet for an insurance review.

Gregory Paul
(708) 601-5489
Gregory.paul@kofc.org

Council Officers

Grand Knight [Jason Lynch](#)

Chaplain [Fr. Joe Lutz](#)

Deputy Grand Knight [Fred Karl](#)

Chancellor [Jim Gebhardt](#)

stocked bar and fine pub food. Let's take the opportunity to spend some fun time together as brother Knights and our spouses, and beat a cold Winter afternoon with some heated libations and gamesmanship!

2013 Golf Committee Meeting

Planning for the 14th Annual Chuck Hollenbach "Never Give Up on Life" Memorial Golf Outing will begin with a kick-off meeting on Thursday Jan. 17th, 7pm at the St. Pat's Crane Road Church. 100% of the outing profits will continue to support the Pro-Life mission of the Fox Valley Pregnancy Center. New members are welcome to join the committee. Please RSVP to Fred Karl, ftkarl@sbcglobal.net or cell: 847-373-2922.



Orientation

Orientation for our new members was held on Sunday, January 6, 2013. See the picture of those in attendance. Our guest for the evening was Sean Morgan who captivated his audience with pearls of wisdom. Paul Kreiner is recuperating from surgery and was not able to be in attendance. We look forward in anticipation for these new members being welcomed at our January business meeting.



Help Wanted



Individual to assist the Director of Membership by accomplishing (1) of the below items or all (3):

- Write and submit Bulletin Announcements and Pulpit

Recorder [Bill Whelan](#)

Financial Secretary [Greg Krispin](#)

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Trustee (3 Year) [Paul Herrmann](#)

Trustee (2 Year) [Tim Cooper](#)

Trustee (1 Year) [Sean Morgan](#)

District Deputy [Chris Brazas](#)

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(708) 601-5489

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Membership Director [Paul Braddock](#)

Church Director [Jeff Holmgren](#)

Community Director [Bill Roth](#)

Council Director [Bob Gilmartin](#)

Family Director [Burt Brown](#)

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Pro-Life Director [Jon Mielke](#)

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Announcements to St. Patrick and St. John Neumann Churches on a bimonthly basis.

- Update the Posters at St. Patrick and St. John Neumann Churches on a bimonthly basis.
- Create a Flyer periodically and post at St. John Neumann and St. Patrick Churches.

No experience required. All applicants will be considered. To express your interest or request further details contact:

Paul Braddock
trombone_55@yahoo.com
630-901-3164

Bowling Party



The 5th annual Family Bowling event is scheduled at Funway in Batavia on Saturday, January 19, from 10:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. The bowling will be from 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. and lunch supplied by the Council will be from 12:30 to 1:30 P.M., bowling fees are to be paid by the bowlers. Please wear any logo K of C clothes that you may have,

bring a friend or prospective member with you. Let's turn this event into a way to recruit new members and show them what we do for our families. If you have any questions, please contact Brother Burt Brown at 630-940-4243 or email at burtonbrown@sbcglobal.net. You may [sign up on our website](#). Hope to see you all there.

Fraternal Benefits Night

The St. Charles KofC will be hosting a Fraternal Benefits Night/Open House in the Fr. Carse Center on Thursday, Feb 7 from 7-8pm. The primary goal of the evening is membership recruitment. Here is an opportunity to invite potential new members to learn what being a Knight is really all about. All members and their wives are encouraged to attend and to bring a guest(s). There will be a special presentation for the ladies by the Ladies Auxiliary. Refreshments will be served immediately following the program.

Call Greg Paul @ 708 601-5489 with any questions.

St. Patrick and St. Charles Knights of Columbus Retreat January 18-20

To reserve your room call Chuck Jaeger at 847-488-0013 or email prdonearth@aol.com



Sponsorships available in this space.
Contact [Jon Mielke](#) for more details.

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Email: Bellarmino@bellarminohall.org
Website www.bellarminohall.org

Retreat Master Bio

Father Paul B. Macke, S. J. will be the guest speaker at the September 8, 2012 Men Walking With Christ Meeting. Fr. Macke will also be the Retreat Master for the Bellarmine Retreat for the St. Charles Nights of Columbus and Mew of St. Patrick Church on January 19-20, 2013. MWWC starts with a Mass the Crane Road Church at 7:00 followed by a Rosary and then breakfast and the presentation. Usually we are done by 9:00-9:15.



Father Paul B. Macke, S. J. served as the Secretary for Pastoral Ministries & Jesuit Life for the Jesuit Conference of the United States in Washington, D.C. since August 2005. Prior to joining the Conference, Fr. Macke worked in Alaska for 17 years, where he served as Executive Director to the Holy Spirit Center in Anchorage for six years.

He entered the Society of Jesus in 1963, earning a BA in classics and a Masters of Divinity, both from Loyola University of Chicago. After he was ordained in 1973 he went on to receive a MA in counseling psychology from Loyola and a D.Min. in pastoral psychotherapy from the Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois.

As the Secretary for Pastoral Ministries and Jesuit Life, Father Macke worked to promote the ministries involved with the over 100 Jesuit parishes and missions in the USA, plus 28 Jesuit retreat and spirituality centers throughout the United States, Christian Life Communities, and the Apostleship of Prayer. He was also involved in all areas concerning Jesuit community life, such as training for new Jesuit Superiors and the Health Care Coordinators for the Jesuit Provinces in the United States. He recently developed the Educational Component for Ethics in Ministry—a series of four video cases concerning boundaries with adults in ministry and the use and abuse of the internet. The program is now being used for religious men in the USA and in other countries as well as a number of Catholic Dioceses in the USA.

As of November 21, 2011, Fr. Macke has been the Executive Director of the Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House in Barrington, Illinois.

Pro-life Update

January 22 – Day of Penance

OVER 55 MILLION

The Catholic bishops of the United States have designated January 22 as a special day of prayer and penance in reparation for the massive killing that has resulted from the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision (handed down January 22, 1973) which permitted abortion throughout pregnancy. Please consider some form of penance on Tuesday January 22nd.



Possible actions are fasting, abstaining from meat, spending time with Jesus in adoration (Tuesdays from 7:30AM to 10:00 PM at St. Patrick Crane Road Church), or other form of penance.

There will also be a prayer service at the St. Patrick Downtown Church at from 7:00-8:00 on 1/22. If you would like to join the Bishop, he will preside over a Mass at St. Mary in Huntley on 1/23.

Please also consider a 9-day novena from 1/14-1/22.
Below is a prayer copied from the Priests for Life website:

Prayer of Reparation

God and Father of Life,
You have created every human person,
And have opened the way for each to have eternal life.

We live in the shadow of death.
Tens of millions of your children have been killed
because of the Roe vs. Wade decision legalizing abortion.

Father, have mercy on us.
Heal our land
And accept our offering of prayer and penance.
In your love for us,
Turn back the scourge of abortion.

May each of us exult in hearts full of hope
And hands full of mercy
And work together to build a culture of life.

We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jon Mielke
Pro-Life Program Director

Other Links

KofC Supreme
Council

 [Click to browse to Knights of Columbus Supreme Council \(link opens in new window\)](#)

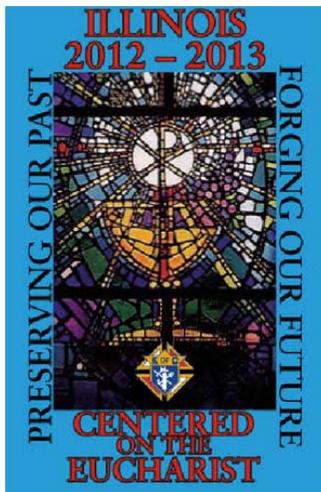
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