

THE COMPASS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POPE PIUS XII COUNCIL 4765

Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish

January - February 2012

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

Rich Blinn G.K.

Since the last newsletter in September, there have been a lot of activities that the Council has been part of. Halloween brought the Ladies' annual Soup and Conversation. November brought the distribution of Thanksgiving meals to the needy. Although a little disorganized, it went off quite well. Shortly after Thanksgiving, there was a large turnout of both Knights and Ladies' to support; Sean and Rich Powell along with the entire Powell family on the passing of Joe Powell. The Keep Christ in Christmas sign went up and took itself down twice, the second time being the night before it was due to be taken down. December also brought the Spaghetti dinner, which was a great success. Then there was the decorating of the Church for Christmas, a First Degree and the Christmas food baskets, (better organized than the Thanksgiving baskets). All of these activities were due to the hard work and dedication of the Knights of this Council. My thanks go out to all who helped and also those that supported the activities held by the Ladies'. The success of this Council and Parish can be directly attributed to the hard work of our brother Knights.

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

Jim Vaughan D.G.K.

The hard work done by this Council is not only shown in what is easy to see, but in the thanks we receive from those we help. Being a Knight is not about being recognized for what you do, but for the satisfaction that the work we do brings. Yet, each month it seems that we have one or two thank you notes from the members of the community that we have reached out to.

CHAPLIN'S REPORT

Rev. Michael Davis Chaplin

The changes to the Mass as dictated by the new Roman Missal are occupying a lot of time. We will all have a period of adjustment getting used to the new prayers and responses. Don't become disheartened though; remember that there was a time that our current prayers and responses were new and difficult to adjust to.

UPCOMING EVENTS

First Degree @ Pius XII	24 Jan
Semi-annual audit	30 Jan
Officer's Meeting	2 Feb
Second Degree @ Pius XII	6 Feb
February General Meeting	7 Feb
Ladies' Valentine's Dinner Dance	11 Feb
Officer's Meeting	1 Mar
General Meeting	6 Mar
Third Degree @ Pius XII	11 Mar
St. Patrick's / St. Joseph's Dinner Dance	17 Mar

(First and Second Degrees begin at 7:30; report time is 7:00. Third Degree begins at 2:30; report time is 1:45)

REPORTS

Financial Secretary Report: (Jim Berna), Aside from preparing for the semi-annual audit and report of Council activities, 2012 Dues are a prominent issue. If you are currently behind in your dues, you can clear past amounts by paying your 2012 dues in full on or before the March 2012 General meeting. Father McGivney would surely roll over in his grave if he thought that his institution was dismissing members over dues. However, he and we are interested in seeing active members. If dues are keeping you from being active, contact Jim Berna to discuss your concerns. All discussions are confidential between you, the Council F.S. and if necessary the Council G.K.

Treasurer's Report: (John Brochon) Account balances were read at every meeting along with a full accounting including outstanding amounts.

Degree Team: (Al Scheck) There are dates of all three degrees listed above. We are still in need of Council members to be on the First Degree team as primary and/or back up members. Please let me know if you are interested in any part on a Degree Team.

COAL: Team DiTomasso once again did a stellar job with running the COAL program for the Council. Final amounts will be available shortly.

District Deputy: (Steve Sannelli)

Updated the Council as to District activities and reporting requirements as necessary

Rosaries: (Bill Kane) Bill continues to amaze everyone with his dedication to making these rosaries on his own for those that serve to protect us.

Discount Cards: (Mike Fratantaro), The new discount cards are available again. Please support this important fundraiser for the Council.

Membership: (Al Scheck); there are two parts to membership. First and most important is new members and getting them active. If you are the sponsor of a new member, do your best to get and keep him involved. New members, don't be afraid to volunteer to help out with upcoming projects. The second part of membership is retention. While no one wants to dismiss a brother for non-payment of dues it is a reality. If for some reason you are unable to be an active member at this time, don't let unpaid dues be your reason. Instead, submit a letter to the Council Financial Secretary and your name can be removed. Doing it this way allows for easier re-enrollment in the future if your situation should change.

Public Relations: (Jim Berna) Nothing to report

Insurance: (Mark Pennington):

Blessed Father McGivney's Vision

76% of men surveyed recently did not have a personal financial advisor. 68% said the economy was somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable. In other words, a majority of those surveyed were uncomfortable with the economy and the uncertainty it brings, yet they did not seek professional assistance.

Maybe they spoke with their friends and family. Maybe they hoped the instability would go away on its own. Maybe they did not know to whom to turn. If you fall into this category, please remember Blessed Father McGivney's Vision of the Knights of Columbus is that Catholic men and their families have financial services protection. My primary responsibility is the care and service of your family's financial service needs.

Another LIMRA statistic said 43 percent of people did not pursue the answers they wanted because they worry about "making the wrong decision." Talk with your Knights of Columbus Financial Planner free of charge, and, afterwards, you'll understand that the

only wrong decision was not "changing your financial oil sooner" and verifying your long-term plan to protect your family's future. Remember: we get our cars inspected annually and every so often something actually needs to be fixed on them. It's a good idea to meet with your Knights of Columbus Financial Planner and review what you have, making sure your long-term plans are truly protected the way you want them to be.

You can reach our council's Knights of Columbus Financial Planner, Mr. Mark R. Pennington, by telephone at (484) 213-2467 or by email at Mark.Pennington@kofc.org and course you can see him at many of our council meetings and parish activities.

PRAYERS LIST

During the last several months many have benefited from the prayers of the Members of the Council. Even when a prayer at first seems to be answered in a way we don't like, we know that all prayers are answered by Jesus in the way that He knows is best for us.

BAPTISM SCHEDULE

January
February
March

DID YOU KNOW?

What is Candlemass?
What is celebrated during Candlemass?
Of the various Christian holy days that take place throughout the year, Candlemass (or Candelaria), on February 2nd, may be one of the least well-known ceremonies in the Christian world. Evangelical Protestants do not count it as a major observance, while Anglican, Roman Catholic, and Greek Orthodox churches hold it in high esteem. Regardless of how your church celebrates or does not celebrate Candlemass, Sharefaith is prepared with a media selection perfect for the event. Visit our site or find out more.

History of Candlemass

The celebration of Candlemass originated in the late fifth century as a tribute to the light of God's glory that was manifested in Christ Jesus. The earliest known observance within the Church was in the year AD 496, during the time of Pope Gelasius. In AD 542 the Emperor Justinian ordained that the Eastern Church celebrate the festival, which he called

Hypapante, or "Meeting". The name was derived from the Gospel of Luke 2:22-40, wherein Simeon the priest and Anna the prophetess met the infant Jesus in the temple at the time of his consecration. Simeon's prophecy declared Jesus to be the Lord's salvation and "a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." This passage continues to be the focus of the celebration.

During Candelaria, candles are blessed, lit, and borne in a procession in celebration to Jesus being the light of the world. In AD 638, Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem, proclaimed the importance of the celebration in his sermon to the church, stating: "Our bright shining candles are a sign of divine splendor of the one who comes to expel the dark shadows of evil and to make the whole universe radiant with the brilliance of his eternal light. Our candles also show how bright our souls should be when we go to meet Christ." The candles are generally considered to represent the inner light of Christ, which he brought to share with the world.

The timing for Candlemass is also in accordance with the Mosaic Law, which required that a woman should purify herself for forty days after giving birth, and, at the end of her purification, should present herself to the priest at the temple and offer a sacrifice (Leviticus 12:6-7). The Roman Catholic Churches seem to devote greater focus to this aspect of Candlemass, as evidenced by their ritual of the Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin, while the Anglican Churches celebrate the Wives' Feast, which is a time when women gather with feasting and socializing.

Candelaria on February 2nd

The date of February 2nd places the Candelaria celebration forty days after Christmas and continues the religious cycle that leads up to Easter Sunday. Additionally, it is also the mid-point between the Winter Solstice and the Spring Equinox, which is the basis for various ancient European celebrations that commemorate the annual beginnings of the agricultural season.

Also of note concerning Candlemass is its connection to Groundhog Day, which occurs on the same date. This tradition also finds its origin in European folklore, as a prediction for the coming spring.

For the Church, however, Candelaria remains a day of hope and light. It is a time to honor the Lord as the Light of the World and to remind us that we too have that light within us.

Taken from:

<http://www.faithclipart.com/guide/Christian-Holidays/candlemass.html>

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

By the Ladies of the Knights

January Meeting	30 Jan
Valentine's Mass & Dinner Dance	11 Feb
February Meeting	27 Feb

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Please wish the following brothers a Happy Birthday:

January Birthdays:

Russ Andrews and John Brewerton on the 1st
Owen Logan, PGK, on the 6th
Rich Rosenblatt on the 8th
Mike McCormick on the 12th
Al Wolf on the 26th

February Birthdays:

Mike Riccardi on the 1st
Lou Balot on the 3rd
Mike Winstanley on the 4th
J.R. Ojeda on the 10th
John Reilly on the 16th
Dan DiTomasso on the 25th

ANNIVERSARIES

The following brothers are all celebrating important anniversaries in January and February:

- Al Scheck is celebrating 35 years in February
- Paul Kerins is celebrating 30 years in January
- Joe Cochran is celebrating 10 years since he re-entered in January
- Mark Kintzel is celebrating 5 years in January

Congratulations all!

K of C APPAREL

You have undoubtedly seen brothers wearing; shirts, jackets and hats with the Knights of Columbus logo and Pope Pius XII Council. Ever wondered where

they got them? You can get them to, just talk to Rich Powell at a meeting to place an order.

BREAKFAST SUNDAY

Rich and Eileen Brown have taken over the helm of the Parish Sunday Breakfast, giving John Brochon a much needed rest. Please, don't feel bad for John because although he was looking for a break, he is just as involved as ever. Please continue to give Rich, Eileen, and the STA Parish your continued support of this familiar way of keeping in touch with one another.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place each and every Monday in the Chapel. Please remember this valuable time and resource for finding peace and answers.

WEB SITES

Looking for information on the Knights of Columbus? Try these web sites for; information forms, etc.

Main Site www.kofc.org

State Site <http://www.pakofc.us/>

Council 4765 <http://kofc.buxcom.net/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KofC4765/>

To join the yahoo group for the Council, you can sign up through the web site. Those without a Yahoo account simply need to establish an e-mail account. This is totally free.

IN MEMORIUM

Fortunately; while some are sick, none have returned home to Jesus. However, several families have lost loved ones including: The Powell Family, The Cochran Family and The Kelly's , (Rick & Marie).

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Recently we have come across several brothers that have changed their; e-mail, home address and / or phone number. Please keep your Financial Secretary informed of any and all changes in your contact information. Your help is greatly appreciated.

COLOR CORPS EVENTS

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the St. John Neumann Assembly Color Corps should Contact Dave McGovern at the next 4th Degree Assembly Meeting, (Conclave).

THANK YOU

You may or may not know of the business that help; the Knights, the LOK and our parish.

Here is an opportunity to let you know who they are in hopes that you might re-pay their kindness and generosity:

- Schmidt's Flowers in Bristol
- Old Croydon Café
- Cesares Restaurant in Bristol
- Martin Exteriors
- Wal-Mart, Bristol Commerce
- ACME Woodhaven & Bensalem
- Shop-Rite Bensalem
- Richard S. Brown Electrical Contractors
- B & B True Value Hardware

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are in order for; Our new First Degree Brothers:

- Ryan Kushnerock
- Mike Winstanley
- Mike Embrico

Ryan made his First Degree in August; the two Mikes made their First Degree in December. Their formal membership cards will be available at the First Degree and the next general meeting.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 General Mtg	4	5	6 First Friday	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 First Degree	25	26	27	28
29	30 Semi Annual Audit	31	1	2 Officer's Mtg	3	4

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Candlemas Officer's Mtg	3 First Friday	4
5	6 Second Degree	7 General Mtg	8	9	10	11 Valentine's Mass & Dinner Dance
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Ash Wednesday	23	24	25
26	27	28	1	2	3 First Friday	4
5	6	7 March General Mtg	8	9	10	11

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament occurs each Monday in the Chapel