

St. Paul Catholic Church, Austin, Texas



Volume 30, Number 5

The Knight Newsletter

Of S.K. Gerry Gauthier Council 10209

www.council10209.org



December 2010

Grand Knight:

SK Tom Natoli 301-0215

Financial Secretary:

SK Chris Jistel 292-9729

Chaplain:

Rev. Fr. James Martin, CSC 280-4460

Deputy Grand Knight:

SK Gayle Ferguson 291-8463

Chancellor:

Deacon John Pickwell 443-6395

Recorder:

Bill Hoagland 971-6822

Treasurer:

SK Albert Villegas 282-9330

Advocate:

SK Bob Fonseca.....

Warden:

SK Bob Meny 282-9923

Inside Guard:

SK Kevin Russell 282-6863

Outside Guard:

Brian Tuohy 696-0252

1-year Trustee:

Carlos Mendoza 416-7555

2-year Trustee:

Bob Natoli 291-9064

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SK David Moore 416-8731

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SK Lee Jan 291-4809

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MEETING NOTICE

K of C Council # 10209 Meets

Where: St. Paul Church-room 7

When: Monday, December 6th

Time: 7:00 pm

Join the Yahoo Group!

Join the KofC10209 Yahoo Group and get email notices of upcoming events! Simply send an email to kofc10209-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and you'll be signed up!

Grand Knight Report

Brother Knights,

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving.

Let me start by extending a huge welcome to St. Paul's 7 new Knights:

Chris Cancino

Craig Lewis

Anthony Palacios

Rolando Rivera

Miguel Salazar

Bob Sepulveda

Jacob Serda

A big thanks to our first degree team of Louis, Ken, Chris, Bobby, Albert, Mike and Dave for a great ceremony and to Bob F. for heading up the admissions team this year.

We'll have refreshments after the December 6th meeting so we can get to know each other better.

I am also aware of about 6 other men who could not attend last month and will probably join the Knights over

the next few months.

Chris will be taking the annual Knights service survey which lists all the service activities- it is a lengthy and important list of support that the Knights provide to the church. Please send Chris the activities and time that you volunteered for St. Paul this year.

Our biggest fund raiser of the year is the March Golf Tournament. It will be here before you know it. About 70% of all fundraising for the year comes from this event. Please figure out how you would like to get involved. We need sponsors, helpers at the event to cook and setup ,and golfers (foursomes) . Bill and Bob N have forms for you to hand to companies that you patronize to be sponsors. Please plan on visiting with the top 3 to 5 places that you frequent- restaurants, cleaners, banks, grocers, etc. We will advertise these sponsors and hopefully they will receive more business then they spent on the sponsorship.

In the past month we have heard sermons from Father Barry and Father James about surrendering, Christ the King and the first Sunday in Advent. In Advent we are to prepare for the coming of Jesus. This is an extremely busy time of the year and often our priorities and time are spent on stuff or tasks. It is no wonder people are very stressed or depressed. I hope we all get a chance to sit back and reflect this Advent season .

One of my favorite prayers is called The Difference and when I first saw it , many years ago, it most definitely pertained to me:

I got up early one morning and rushed right into the day; I had so much to accomplish, I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me and grew heavier with each task; Why doesn't God help me, I wondered; He answered, "You didn't ask."

I wanted to see joy and beauty, but the day toiled on, gray and bleak; I wondered why God didn't show me - He said, "But you didn't seek."

I tried to come into God's presence; I used all my keys at the lock; God gently and lovingly chided, "My child, you didn't knock."

I woke up early this morning and paused before entering the day; I had so much to accomplish that I had to take time to pray.

If anyone would like to get involved in any of the Knight activities or ministries of the church please let me know and I will connect you to a brother Knight who is involved in that ministry. Maybe in a future newsletter we will list the ministries that Knights are involved in. Seems I learn a new one every month .

At the time of writing this letter I do not have all the

upcoming dates- they will be shared in the meeting December 6th. We will have our Christmas party on Sunday, January 2nd in Grace Hall which will be a great time to get all the families together.

Fraternally,

SK Tom Natoli
Grand Knight

Financial Secretary Report

My Brother Knights,

As we enter the Advent season, I would like to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a joyous holiday season. At our last 1st degree ceremony in November, 7 new members made their first degree and are now members of our Council. Please help me and the officers welcome our New Brother Knights at our next business meeting on December 6th. I want to thank Bob Fonseca for planning and implementing a very successful membership drive. We have a few more candidates that will be making their first degree on December 16th from our Council. Please join us by attending this heart-felt and spiritual ceremony and welcoming our New Brother Knights to our Council.

This is also the season for the collection of our annual dues for 2011. We will again try to save some money by not mailing more billing statements than necessary. I encourage you to pay your dues without having to receive a billing notice. If paying by check, please make out the check to "Knights of Columbus." Dues remain at \$40. You can pay me personally, leave your payment in a sealed envelope with my name on it in our box at church, or mail it to me at 2908 Balfour Falls Lane, Austin, Texas, zip code is 78748. I will be mailing first notices sometime in mid-January, so I ask that if possible please pay prior to that time. If you are experiencing circumstances which make payment difficult or impossible, please let myself or another officer know so that we can make other arrangements. I cannot over emphasize how important it is to pay your dues. Thanks to all of you who take care of this matter promptly.

Last year the Knights of Columbus donated more than \$144.9 million to charitable causes and more than 68 million hours of volunteer community service to aid the less fortunate. To help us prepare this 2010 report for our Council, I will be asking all members to complete an individual member worksheet at our next business. Some of the categories include number of visits you made to the sick, number of times you donated blood, number of community volunteer service hours such as church or youth activities, and number of fraternal service hours for a sick or disabled members and their families.

If you need to get in touch with me please use the following e-mail account for Knights business at jistelc@yahoo.com or you may call my cell phone at 826-1754.

Fraternally,
SK Chris Jistel FS

Insurance Agent Report

Happy Advent! As the violet vestments and the Advent wreath told us, last Sunday was the beginning of our preparatory season before the coming of Our Savior. The readings last Sunday and next Sunday will teach us about the return of Jesus in His second coming and reminding us that we know not the day nor the time. Every year, this reminds me of the words of the First Degree. Can't quite remember what in the First Degree I may be referring? You're always to attend a First Degree ceremony to support the team and our candidates and get a refresher yourself on the core value of our Order.

Just as we do not know when Jesus will return, we do not know what life will throw our way. In these next couple of weeks, if there has been something you're putting off, take time to do it now. Don't wait for "New Year Resolutions". Whether it be starting a new exercise routine, getting around to that home improvement project, taking our wives out on a date we keep putting off—doesn't have to be big, but take the first step.

With our Order's commitment to your family through the benefits of our insurance program, if you know something has changed in your life—retired, changed jobs, married, had a baby, promoted, taken on care for an elder parent—and have been putting off calling your agent to have a check-up, this is a great time to take the first step. Call me at 476-3761 or e-mail me at brandon.kraft@kofc.org

The last two weeks of Advent, we turn more toward preparing ourselves for celebrating the first coming of Christ—Christmas. With all of the preparation for family, finding the perfect presents, or rushing to "finish out" the year at work, sometimes we can forget what Advent and the upcoming holiday season is all about. There is a great site at <http://www.adventconspiracy.org/> that I suggest spending a few minutes enjoying.

May you and your family be blessed this Advent and have a Merry Christmas. God bless!

SK Brandon J. Kraft, FA
Field Agent
512-476-3761
brandon.kraft@kofc.org

District Deputy Report

Brother Knights,

As we begin Advent, please make a special effort to prepare for a joyous Christmas season, by attending daily mass, praying the rosary or reading the bible. Glenda and I hope you and your families enjoy a Spirit filled Christmas Season and a Blessed New Year.

Important dates for December and January:

Holy Days of Obligation

- Wednesday, December 8th: Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- Saturday December 25th: Christmas
- Saturday January 1st: Mary the Mother of God

Degrees

- Tuesday December 14th: 1st Degree at St. Ignatius 7pm
- Thursday December 16: 1st Degree at St. Paul 7:30pm
- Wednesday January 5th: 1st Degree at St. Catherine 7pm (**Moved to support Major Degree**)
- Saturday January 8th: Major Degree at St. Catherine: Registration: 7:45am, Mass: 9:00am, 2nd Degree: 10:00am, 3rd Degree: Immediately following 2nd Degree, Lunch: Immediately following 3rd Degree

John Massey
District Deputy 127
Council 8156
Assembly 1099

For the Good of the Order

Happy New Year! Yes, I am wishing each of you a happy new year. We begin our church year with the first Sunday of Advent, and as one liturgical year comes to a close another year begins the cycle anew. Advent is a new opportunity for us to repent and prepare for the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We anticipate celebrating Jesus' coming as the Savior some two thousand years ago (a birthday celebration), but we also anticipate the coming of Jesus at the end of time. Jesus warns that we will not know the day or the hour, but we must be prepared always.

The idea of repentance means turning one's life around in a completely new direction. We all have weaknesses and faults and this time of Advent is a good time to reflect on

that one thing, or perhaps two, that keep tripping us up and reflect on how we can turn away from that wrong direction. During Advent, as we begin our spiritual journey for another year, we want to be sure we are headed in the right direction. Just as if we were to take a journey to a new vacation destination, we would want to get the directions by consulting a map, a GPS, or the Internet to be sure we do not get lost, we should seek directions to our ultimate spiritual destination. So where do we go to get direction for our spiritual trip?

We can learn the direction through conversation with prophets like Isaiah, or John the Baptist, St. Paul, or our Blessed Mother by reading the Scriptures every day. We also learn the way through the sacrament of reconciliation. Through frequent use of this sacrament, we continuously redirect our lives toward our ultimate spiritual destination and we receive guidance from the Holy Spirit, who gives much better directions than does TomTom or Garmin. The Holy Spirit speaks to us through the priest as he gives us spiritual guidance during confession, so take advantage of this special gift of grace often.

There are only a few more days to stop, reflect, and prepare for the coming of Jesus on Christmas day, there may be a few more or a few less for preparing for the second coming of Jesus. But whatever the hour, be sure your candle is lit, reflecting Christ's light through you so that you and others may see the way.

God Bless you
SK Lee Jan

Prayer Box

Please Pray for: Henry Casas and Ishmael Gonzalez who are recovering well. Fr. Barry, Fr. James, Louis Palacios, Joe Reschman, Marilyn Pickwell, Herman and Agnes Bunn, Our Military, the sick members of St. Paul Parish, Deacon John Pickwell's Niece Katie Thereault, Vernon Haddock, Vicki Jan's Mother (Alzheimer's).

2011 Passbooks Sale is Finishing Up

The 2011 passbooks sale is at an end! Thank you for your efforts to sell books. If you have books remaining they need to be returned to me at the Council meeting. If you cannot make the council meeting please make other arrangements to get me your unsold books. All unsold books need to be returned to Entertainment by mid-December.

I will also be collecting any remaining money for sold books at the meeting. We would like to settle all accounts in December so please do your best to get everything in.

Thank you for your support. Please contact me if you

need books right away for any last minute sales and I will do my best to get some to you.

-SK Sean McGee – seanmcgee@yahoo.com 680-0367

Knights on Bikes and the Silver Rose

Last Year's Worth Master Joe Moreno marveled about his trip to Monterrey Mexico following the path of the Silver Rose from Canada to Mexico in a symbol of "Unity" among the nations of the Americas.

This year one for the Silver Roses is being escorted across the country by Knights of Columbus members on motorcycles. The Rose has made it across Canada and through Oklahoma. It is now in Ft. Worth and will be traveling to through Austin to San Marcos on Friday.

Any Knights that would like to meet the group in Round Rock and continue the escort to San Marcos can contact the leaders of the Austin Diocese Knights on Bike Group.

The Knights on Bikes fraternal members enjoy recreational riding, and includes all makes, models and sizes of motorcycles. These members are dedicated to improving the biker's image, promoting safety, and Christian values. A member of any Knights of Columbus council throughout the world may join; you just must own a motorcycle (of any kind) or anticipate owning a bike within 6 months. If you are interested in getting more information about the Knights on Bikes group, please contact as well.

SK Kevin Russell

Knights on Bikes

www.knightsonbikes-usa1.com

John Obst, President of Diocese Austin

Kevin Russell, Vice POD Austin

512-573-3820

jkruss@austin.rr.com

Community Corner

Christmas at Marbridge

Every year at this time, the Marbridge Family puts on a Christmas play. It is a site to behold and very uplifting. This would be an excellent event to take your family and witness what Christmas is all about. The play begins at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, December 17th at the Marbridge Ranch located at 2310 Bliss Spillar Road in Manchaca. It is past the Manchaca Fire Hall and right off FM 1626. Also, the Marbridge Foundation will have a reception following the play in the senior dorm where many of our fellow Marbridge parishioners live. Hope to see you there.

-SK Mark Majek

Coats for Kids

The annual Coats for Kids event sponsored by the Junior League Austin is taking place this month with opportunities to participate throughout early December. The main distribution day is Saturday, December 11th from 8am-3pm at the Palmer Events Center. This is always an event where several members of our Council participate and it is a great way to show your support for others in the community. To register for the event please visit the Junior League website at http://www.jlaustin.org/?nd=cfk_help.

-SK Rene Gaytan

Newsletter Articles

The next Newsletter Articles are due by Monday, December 27th. Submit your articles to Sean McGee at sean@mcgeeclan.us or by calling 680-0367.

Calendar Review

December 2010

- ☐ Fri-Sat, December 3rd-4th Adoration in Chapel
- ☐ Monday, December 6th – Council Meeting at 7pm in Room 5
- ☐ Tues-Fri, December 7th – 10th Coats for Kids Sorting week. See the jlaustin.org website for more info
- ☐ Wednesday, December 8th – Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- ☐ Saturday, December 11th – Coats for Kids Distribution Day, 8am at Parmer Events Center
- ☐ Sunday, December 12th – Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- ☐ Thursday, December 16th – Golf Tournament Committee Meeting 7pm
- ☐ Thursday, December 16th – First Degree Ceremony at St. Paul 7:30pm
- ☐ Saturday, December 18th – Men's Club Workday at St. Paul. Meet at BBQ Pit at 8am
- ☐ Monday, December 20th – Officer's meeting in the Kitchen 7pm.
- ☐ Saturday, November 27th – Men's Club Workday at 8am by BBQ pit
- ☐ Monday, December 6th – Council meeting at 7pm in Room 5&7

January 2011

- ☐ Sunday, January 2nd – Council Christmas Party in Grace Hall. Time TBD
- ☐ Monday, January 3rd – Council Meeting in room 5 at 7pm