



Knight Talk
Orate Pro Pace
Knights of Columbus
St. Clare of Assisi Council 12963

Volume Nr. 6, Issue Nr. 7

January 2007

Past Grand Knights

Ron Vincoli	James Adams	Michael Dash	Dick Nadolski	Jason Seiler
2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006

Grand Knight's Article:

Worthy Brother Knights;

There are a number of religious days of remembrance this month. One has passed, but caught my attention this year as I remembered having visited the Baptism of Jesus site in the Jordan River. It is a pleasant place and the same now as it was for the baptism. I went looking for a theological/historical item regarding the date, which I actually found close to home. It is a sermon that focuses on Jesus Baptism, presented a few years ago by our Bishop. I hope it is of interest.

I suspect by now we have all made our allotted resolutions for 2007, but if there is room for one more, why not commit to some involvement with your Knights of Columbus that is more than in the past? Ask a fellow parishioner who is not in the Council to become a Knight. Also, please make time this year to help with KOVAR, the tootsie roll related collection for those who are mentally retarded, which comes up in a couple of months.

The beautiful decorations for the Christmas season in the Church were a highlight for all who attended Masses this year. Thanks to those

Knights who volunteered to help put them up and take them down; Bill Ossenfort, Hank Heim, Rich Stretton, Russell Bogacki, Chris Grecick, Chris Jones, Mike Gogoel, Bob Strzlecki, Charlie Groom, and John St Germain who volunteered and was exempted. John Rulison coordinated the volunteer effort for the Knights. Thanks to all!!

Thanks to Bill Ossenfort for the year of selling Keep Christ In Christmas (KCIC) cards which netted some \$190.00 for our council. This is a fundraiser which Bill handles on his own, essentially and always has good results.

Our Deputy Grand Knight, John Weldon, has volunteered to be the lay leader to support Father Lehning this year with the Bishop's Lenten Appeal announcements. Each year, a member of the parish is asked to assist in this regard.

The auto raffle is a major fundraiser for our Council and Jim Adams is gearing up for yet another year of letters, tickets, display autos, announcements, reports and counting!! Letters are ready to go out the first of February to kick off the effort, which will represent a major portion of the charitable donations for 2007. Please help get the word out to help support the raffle this year, and set

aside a few bucks to kick in on the ticket sales.

Here is wishing everyone a healthy and profitable New Year in 2007.

Skip Coffman
Grand Knight
St. Clare of Assisi Council #12963

Baptism of Our Lord

***By Bishop Paul S. Loverde
Special to the HERALD, (From the
Issue of Jan. 16, 2003)***

(The following homily was given by Arlington Bishop Paul S. Loverde on Jan. 12, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington.)

Today's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks a turning point: a turning point in the Lord's life, a turning pointing in our lives as members of His Body the Church and a turning point in the lives of our parish catechumen and candidates, who will enter the Church at the Easter Vigil.

The sacred liturgy we celebrate today recalls the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist. The Gospel account just proclaimed in our midst describes this event. Jesus' baptisms truly marked a turning point in His life as the Son of God made man. After years of quiet, ordinary living at Nazareth, unknown except to His mother, relatives, friends and townspeople, He was becoming a public person — "The Servant of the Lord." In Him was now beginning to be fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah heard in today's first reading: "Here is my servant ... my chosen one ... upon whom I put my spirit ... I have called

you for the victory of justice ... I formed you, and set you... as a light for the nations...."

When St. John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the Jordan, Jesus formally and consciously committed Himself to begin His public life — His ministry and mission as the Beloved Son of the Father and the Savior of all peoples. His was a ministry of preaching and healing, proclaiming that God's kingdom or reign has come. His was the mission to invite all people to union with God, to authentic holiness, in a word, to salvation. The antiphon for Evening Prayer on the Vigil of the Feast of the Lord's Baptism sums up so well the Lord's ministry and mission, which began with His baptism. "Our Savior came to be baptized, so that through the cleansing water of baptism he might restore the old man to new life, heal our sinful nature and clothe us with unfailing holiness." Yes, the baptism by St. John the Baptist truly marked a turning point in the life of Jesus.

Today's observance of Jesus' baptism reminds us of our baptism, that turning point in each of our lives whereby we become disciples of the Lord and members of His Body the Church. Whether it was many years ago or only recently, whether we were infants or adults, through the Sacrament of Baptism, you and I were born again through water and the Holy Spirit — born into a new way of life: a life of worship and of service.

Before baptism, we were creatures of God; after baptism, we became and remain real, though adopted, sons and daughters of God, sharing His very life — sanctifying grace.

Once baptized, we call God our Father in the community of the Church, with both the privilege and the responsibility to worship Him through daily prayer and through the celebration of the sacraments, especially the celebration of the Eucharistic Sacrifice. The Eucharist is at the heart of our prayer life. Receiving the Lord Jesus in Holy Communion enables us to become one with Him in a unique way and, through Him, one with each other. I remind us to come forward in a reverent manner, bowing just before receiving the Lord Jesus, to signify our adoration and respect.

Before baptism, we were members of the human family; after baptism, we became and remain united with one another as members of the Church established by Jesus Christ as a visible organized community and willed by Christ to be His Other Presence in the world as a sign uplifted among the nations.

Moreover, this recalling of our baptism becomes the occasion for us today to recommit ourselves to living a new way of life, to living life differently because baptism truly marked a turning point in our lives. From then on — from now on — in ways proper to our individual vocations and to the various roles of service we exercise, roles that are not identical but complimentary, we must make holy, teach and serve in and through Christ Jesus.

The turning point which baptism marked and caused in our lives means from now on that we live life with all its problems and uncertainties in a spirit of faith, hope and love; that we inject into our society huge

dosages of compassion and forgiveness, of justice and peace; that we be the catalysts — agents of change — for a renewed morality in the personal, civic, political and social arenas of life; that we respect and protect human life from its beginning at conception all the way through to its end at natural death; that we live, united in faith and practice, in union with our Holy Father and with our bishops; that we find in our union with Jesus the strength to go about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil (cf. second reading) as we cling to the hope of one day sharing eternal life in heaven.

Today also marks a turning point for our parish catechumen and candidates. Glenn Davey will be received into the order of catechumens, preparing for his initiation into the Christian faith by Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. Cynthia Campbell, Kevin Reich and Sarah Reidy, already baptized, wish to complete their Christian initiation through Confirmation and Eucharist, likewise at the Easter Vigil. As we welcome them, we assure them of our prayer-filled support at this turning point in their lives.

Finally, today's feast also marks a turning point in the Church Year; today we end the Christmas season and tomorrow we begin "ordinary time." As we journey together through this turning point into the days and weeks ahead, may we make of "ordinary time" an "extraordinary time" of fidelity to God's Word and Will. Holding one another in prayer and encouraging one another to do good, may we deepen the turning point of our baptism, so that we

will live as God's beloved sons and daughters in whom He will be well pleased (cf. Gospel).

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(Note: Contributed by Skip Coffman).

Annual Auto Raffle. We are about to kick off our annual auto raffle. In a few days you, along with every family in the Parish will receive in the mail a letter from our Grand Knight announcing the raffle, and ten tickets. Each ticket is \$5.00 and each represents a chance to win five 2007 automobiles and cash drawings totaling \$20,000. The automobiles include a Honda Odyssey Van, Honda CRV SUV, GMC Sierra Truck, Pontiac G5 and Honda Civic. Because after each drawing the winning ticket is returned to the barrel, it is conceivable that a single ticket can win more than one prize! Your letter will include a self-addressed return envelope. So, if you want to play make out a check payable to the Knights of Columbus and return it with your ticket stubs legibly filled in. The Council will be remitted 60% of every ticket sold. So you'll be having fun, might win a new car and will be helping your Council. Good luck! If you have any questions please contact Jim Adams, 703-803-8887 or jameslawrenceadams@yahoo.com.

Council Officers Fraternal Year 2006-2007:

Grand Knight	Skip Coffman
Dep Grand Knight	John Weldon
Chancellor	Rich Stretton
Warden	John Rulison
Recorder	Anthony Cavallaro
Treasurer	Bill Ossenfort
Advocate	Raul Al-Meida
Inside Guard	Chris Grecek
Outside Guard	Robert Strzelecki
Trustee-3 Year	Jason Seiler
Trustee-2 Year	Richard Nadolski
Trustee-1 Year	Michael Dash
Financial Secy	Brian Turner
Lecturer	TBA by GK
G K Delegate	Skip Coffman
Alternate GK Delegate	John Weldon
Past GK Delegate	Jason Seiler
Alternate PGK	John Weldon
Committee Chairmen	
Fraternal Year 2006-2007:	TBA

Reflections on the Lives of the Saints.

(Editor's note: This article is the first in what I expect to be a short monthly reflection on the life of one or more of the Saints. If you would like to have a particular saint featured, please let me know.)

St. Vincent Pallotti, Priest

(Feast - January 22) Born in Rome in 1795, St. Vincent became a priest and dedicated himself completely to God and cared for souls. He dreamed of gaining for Christ all non-

Catholics, especially the Mohammedans. To this end he inaugurated a revolutionary program that envisaged the collaboration of the laity in the apostolate of the clergy. But St. Vincent was also well aware of the many deprivations in the natural sphere that hindered the spread of the Faith. He thus obtained and spent huge sums for the poor and underprivileged. He founded guilds for workers, agriculture schools, loan associations, orphanages and homes for girls - all of which made him the pioneer and precursor of Catholic Action.

His great legacy was the congregation, which he founded for urban mission work, known as the "Society for Catholic Action". This indefatigable laborer for Christ died in 1850 from a severe cold, which he most likely caught on a cold rainy night after giving his cloak to a beggar who had none.

From The Editor: The editor will gladly accept articles for the newsletter. Just send them to (MEDSR@Cox.Net) anytime, but preferably during the first half of each month for inclusion in that month's newsletter.

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February 2007 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					2 First Friday Services	3 First Saturday Services
4	5	6	7	8 7:00 PM: Rosary 7:30 PM K of C Meeting.	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Ash Wednesday	22 7:00 PM: Rosary 7:30 PM K of C Meeting	23	24
25	26	27	28			