



Volume 1, Issue 10

KNIGHT TALK

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Clare of Assisi Council 12963



October 2002

Orate Pro Pace

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GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE:

By Jim Adams

For such a small Council - 44 and counting - we are extremely active. And, thanks to the Herculean recruiting efforts of our Chancellor, George Seiler, we expect membership to jump to approximately 125% of our current size later in October, when we host our first 1st Degree on October 24th.

It is indeed gratifying to see the scope and diversity of our Knight's involvement with our Parish, families and youth. Wherever one looks there is a Knight: Extraordinary Ministers, CCD, Ushers, Parish Youth Committee, Parish Social Committee, Legion of Mary, Lecturers. We are assisting the Social Committee with their refreshments after Mass the first Sunday of each Mass, all Committees on Commitment Sunday on September 29th, and now leading parishioners in reciting the rosary after weekend Masses. And we look forward to a number of other wonderful events and opportunities to serve discussed elsewhere in this Newsletter, including Keep Christ in Christmas cards, a Parish

family pancake breakfast and Thanksgiving food drive.

***August Family of the Month.** Our Council Family of the Month for August recognizes a model family who continuously supports our Church, Community, Council, Youth and other families, so vividly demonstrated in the organization and execution of our first Parish Family Picnic. We know these type events are so well conducted only when the entire family lends their support. And we are extremely thankful to the Welsh family for their kind, generous efforts.

***August Knight of the Month.** Bill Ossenfort is our Council Knight of the Month for August, though, truly, he could be so recognized every month for all that he does. Bill can always be counted on to be involved: clean up around the church grounds, help with the picnic, help with Social Sunday, Commitment Sunday, Membership Drive, shed construction, meeting preparation, assisting the lecturer and so on. And he's always smiling. Thank you Bill for all that you do.

In addition to the other activities I've already mentioned, there is one other important area I strongly encourage you to support, an area of infrequent but monumental significance - the opportunity to vote. While we Knights of Columbus are an apolitical order, we are not unaware of our freedoms and our prerogatives to advance our beliefs in every forum to include the voting booth.

So I urge you; know your candidates, understand their position vis-à-vis your own; and vote your conscience on November 5th.

Orate pro Pace,

Jim

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER:

By Reverend Paul Dudzinski, St. Clare Knights of Columbus Council Chaplain

It was in 1571, when Christianity was besieged by the Moslems at the port city of Lepanto that Pope St. Pius V asked the Christian faithful to beseech the Blessed Virgin Mary to intercede for the Church in the hour of need. What was needed – a Christian victory over the Turkish infidels who sought to conquer the West. That day, October 7th, the Christian army accomplished the impossible – they defeated the Moslems, and turned them back whence they came. Thus, in order to pay tribute to our Blessed Mother for her special intercession to her Son on behalf of her children St. Pius V (in 1572) inaugurated October 7th as a special feast day honoring the favorite prayer of the Blessed Virgin Mary – the Rosary.

As you know, the Rosary is a prayer structured around 15 mysteries that focus on the life, death, Resurrection and Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of Mary's role in this work of salvation, and her consequent sharing in the glory of her Son in heaven. Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, has recently added 5 new mysteries that may be used in our meditation. Besides the traditional Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious mysteries, Pope John Paul has also added the "mysteries of light". These mysteries revolve around our Lord's baptism in the Jordan River, His Self-

revelation at the wedding feast in Cana, His announcement of the Kingdom of God and the need for conversion, His Transfiguration on Mount Tabor, and the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper. While all of the mysteries of the Rosary are "Scripturally based", these latter additions are even more so. For those who enjoy using the Scripture passages as they meditate on the mysteries of the Rosary, these added mysteries enable such a one to meditate on the Gospel passages related to the mysteries.

For those who may be shocked by what our Holy Father did (if there is anyone out there who may be), the Holy Father in his office as the visible vicar of Christ on earth does possess the authority to present this innovation. Also, these additional mysteries jive with the "inner logic" of the Rosary by which the one who prays this prayer to Mary are led by her to her Son. Her greatest desire is that her Son be honored and glorified by all peoples. She continues to sing her Magnificat throughout eternity before the Blessed Trinity making manifest her humility in praising God for all that He has done through her, His lowly handmaid. "Holy is His Name." In praying the Hail Mary we are led in wonder to contemplate the mystery of the Incarnation; from there she leads us closer to get to know her Son. The Rosary is indispensable for those who want to have a more personal knowledge of Jesus. Our Blessed Mother will continue to lead her children to her Son through meditation on these new mysteries. May we all join in the echo of Mary's praise of God. May her praise *Holy is His Name* be our prayer when we pray the Rosary.

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT:

By Mike Dash

As our Grand Knight mentioned in his article, we have a number of important Council events taking place this month and in November. First, of course, will be our 1st Degree next week. This is truly an important date for our Council, as we will welcome new members. So mark your calendars and make an effort to attend this important event. If possible, arrive by 7:00 PM and join your brother Knights in praying the Rosary.

For both the pancake breakfast and food drive, we'll need some knights to help. We'll have signup sheets available during our next meeting; please consider giving a little of your time to these important events.

Wanted – 2 Committee Heads!

Brothers, we really do need 2 knights to lead a couple of key committee chief positions –Community and Council. Your time commitments will be minimal, but you'll be providing a valuable service by providing leadership and support to your committee officers. If interested and willing, please contact the grand knight or myself.

UPCOMING COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

* **Pancake Breakfast.** Our Council will be conducting a family pancake breakfast in the Church basement after the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Masses on Sunday, November 10th. Proceeds are to be donated to the Knights of Virginia in support of the mentally retarded (KOVAR).

Last year the statewide KOVAR campaign collected over \$533 thousand, all of which goes to assist and support the mentally retarded, primarily in the Commonwealth of Virginia. So come out on the 10th, bring your family and friends, enjoy a fun meal and support a great charity.

***Thanksgiving Food Drive.** Once again this year our Council will join with Sts Andrew & Clare Council to conduct a Thanksgiving Food Drive in support of local, needy families. The food drive will be after all Masses on the weekend of November 23/24. Look for more details in the Church Bulletin as we approach that date.

* **Orate Pro Pace.** When we decided on a theme for our Council for this Columbian Year last July, Pray for Peace, and more specifically pray the Rosary for peace, little did we know that a few month's later His Holiness Pope John II would endorse a similar theme.

At Castle Gandolfo, Italy, September 29th, the Pope encouraged this prayer: "I wish to entrust once again the great cause of peace to the prayer of the rosary. We are faced with an international situation full of tensions of incandescent dimensions... It is more necessary than ever that prayers for peace be raised.... Precisely in this perspective, the rosary reveals itself as a particularly appropriately prayer."

We initiated our program formally on the weekend of 5/6 October, the first weekend in the Month of Our Lady, by having a Knight lead parishioners in reciting the rosary after the vigil Mass on Saturday and the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Masses on Sunday. Parishioner participation was extremely gratifying.

Look forward to continuing to pray the rosary as often as possible, ideally daily, and joining, perhaps leading the recitation after weekend Masses. If you are interested and willing to lead, please contact Jason Seiler.

Council Christmas Party. Mark your calendars now for Sunday, December 8th for our second annual Council Christmas Party. Details and a flyer will be in next month's newsletter.

CHARITABLE GOINGS- ON:

Keep Christ in Christmas. We have beautiful, religious Christmas cards for sale at very reasonable costs. They will be available for purchase outside Church after Mass on the weekends. These cards are not only extraordinarily lovely, but their sales are particularly helpful. All proceeds are contributed to support vocations. Last year over \$600,000 were collected and contributed. Look for your opportunity to purchase cards and encourage your friends and families.

Redskins Tickets. The Grand Knight has raffle tickets for the Redskins/Cowboys football game, December 29th, 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The proceeds will go to the Virginia Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc. (VKCCI).

VKCCI provides support for persons and families in need. Last year VKCCI disbursed \$265,000 in grants in response to 37 requests for help throughout the Commonwealth. If you know of someone in need contact the Grand Knight who will then refer the issue to

VKCCI in a request for financial assistance. For raffle tickets call Jim Adams at 703-803-8887.

Entertainment 2003 Books. The Entertainment 2003 books are again for sale by our Council. Sale of these books is one of our Council's primary fundraisers to support our internal Council operating expenses and other charitable opportunities presented to us by our Trustees.

For each \$35.00 book sold, the Council receives \$7.00. And with the excellent values contained, the book largely sells itself. The Entertainment 2003 Books are available for purchase outside Church after Mass on the weekends, or call Jim Adams at 703-803-8887.

COUNCIL 12963 OFFICERS:

Grand Knight	Jim Adams
Deputy Grand Knight	Mike Dash
Chancellor	George Seiler
Warden	Jason Seiler
Recorder	Dick Nadolski
Advocate	Pete Caylor
Treasurer	John Rulison
Outside Guard	Bill Ossenfort
Inside Guard	Marvin Mikeska
Trustee 1 year	George Alexa
Trustee 2 years	John St. Germain
Trustee 3 years	Ron Vincoli

Delegates:

Grand Knight	Jim Adams
Past Grand Knight	Ron Vincoli

Alternates:

Grand Knight	Mike Dash
Past Grand Knight:	Jason Seiler

**COMMITTEE HEADS, COUNCIL
12963**

Church	George Alexa
Community	
Council	
Youth	Jason Seiler
K of C Insurance	Jim Bertine

FIELD AGENT’S REPORT:

By Jim Bertine

The “If” Factor: When the word “insurance” is mentioned in casual conversation, seldom are people talking about life insurance. Usually, the talk is about car insurance or property insurance. There is a reason for that. We are all aware that life insurance is not a product most people actively seek. No one likes to think about his or her mortality, and most of us think we are in one phase of a very long life.

Let us consider the “If Factor” of insurance. The institution that is lending you the money for your mortgage, for example, generally requires fire insurance. They promise to pay you if your house burns down. Car insurance is required by states and provincial regulators; provides will pay a claim if you have an accident. The same general principle holds true for health insurance too.

Compare these with life insurance. Life insurance protects us against inevitability: It will not be “if” we die, but when. It is designed to protect against the loss of earning power in the event of a sudden death and, in my experience, it always seems to be untimely. That earning capacity is what enables us to pay for the entire “if” insurance mentioned before.

Your greatest financial asset is your ability to earn an income, and our product is designed to replace that income when death occurs. Therefore, the next time someone asks you, “Who is your insurance with,” answer, “My life insurance is with the Knights of Columbus.” God bless.

Jim Bertine, PGK FIC

(703) 845-3402

Agent www.kocfanva.com

(Editor’s Note: Jim is no longer providing field agent support to our council; therefore, this will be his last article. We hope to have our new field agent provide a monthly article, starting in November.)

MEMBER INVOLVEMENT:

By George Seiler

We know that many of our members do not make the meetings, but we need to keep them actively involved. Getting them on a committee best does this. I spoke with many at church trying to get them to sign up, and they told me they were already members, but didn’t know what was going on. Most said they would be happy to help when able. Committee chairman should huddle and ensure every member is on one committee.

When we have our in house initiation next week, one thing we must be prepared to do is get the new people to sign up for a committee before they depart. Otherwise, we may never see them again. Committee chairman should be ready to discuss their activities to inspire the newcomers to commit.

A PRO LIFE THOUGHT:

“As far as the right to life is concerned, every innocent human being is absolutely equal to all others. This equality is the basis of all authentic social relationships which, to be truly such, can only be founded on truth and justice, recognizing and protecting every man and woman as a person and not as an object to be used. Before the moral norm which prohibits the direct taking of the life of an innocent human being, there are no privileges or exceptions for anyone. It makes no difference whether one is the master of the world or the “poorest of the poor” on the face of the earth. Before the demands of morality we are all absolutely equal.”

---Pope John Paul II, the Gospel of Life, no. 57

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FROM THE EDITOR:

By Mike Dash You can notify me via e-mail at: MEDSR@AOL.COM.

The next monthly officers’ meeting will be held on November 4th at 7:30 P.M. The location will be announced at a later date.

This newsletter is published by and for the membership and spouses of the Knights of Columbus, Council 12963. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Knights of Columbus and cannot be interpreted as the official position of the Knights of Columbus

October/November Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			24 1 st Degree @ ST. Clare	25	26 Rosary After Mass	27 Rosary After Masses
28	29	30	31	Nov 1	2 4 th Degree Exemplification	3
4 Officers , Meeting @ 7:30 PM	5	6	7	8	9	10 Council Pancake Breakfast
11 Veteran s Day	12	13	14 Rosary & Council Business Meeting	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 Council Food Drive	24 Council Food Drive
25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving- No Meeting	29	30	

Knights of Columbus
ST. Clare of Assisi Council 12963
PO Box 80218
Clifton, VA 20124

