



The KNIGHT'S FLAME

Holy Spirit Council 11460 • Rochester MN

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Grand Knight Message

It was good to see many of you at the February Light Night with the Knights! Thanks again to Mike Riestler (and wife Pat!) for organizing this, to Jeff Swantko for setting up a great wine-tasting spread, and for all others who helped in any way. Thanks also to Berry Hobbs for arranging to have Fr. Tom Melvin be with us to give us real insights into the vocations program of our diocese.

I'd like to focus the rest of my column this month on membership items.

I'll repeat my standard answers when I am asked if a man at Holy Spirit is a Knight - either YES, or NOT YET! Let's convert a few more of those NOT YET's to YES's this next month!

We'll be holding an informational open house on Monday, March 26. What an easy way to recruit a friend - invite them to join us for a free pizza buffet at Valentino's, and then you can sit back and let us give them information about the Knights. You can support him as he asks questions - no pressure on you - you don't need to do the selling. And bring your sons and their friends! See the article in the newsletter for more details!

There will be major degrees held in Rochester on Sunday April 15. If you haven't gone through the 2nd/3rd degree ceremonials yet, please make this the year you do! And if you are already a 3rd degree Knight, mark your calendar to come and observe the degrees - I've seen them more than 10 times, and I still get a tremendous amount out of them! For more info, see the article in the newsletter.

And it's time to start preparing for our next fraternal year. Deputy Grand Knight Greg Kapraun is starting to line up officers and directors to serve with him for the next fraternal year that begins July 1, and I invite all of you to give some thought as to how YOU can contribute to the future success of our council. Please read Greg's article in the newsletter.

Vivat Jesus!

Dave Hubka, Grand Knight

Get-to-Know-a-Knight

GTKAK will return next month!

Milestones

The following Knights have birthdays in March: Jim Buntrock, John Devlin, Chris Guibert, Steve Hansen, Bernard King, Greg King, Dave Loechler, William Medlyn, Jim Owens, Duane Price, Jim Rogers, Andrew Streit, Ken White, Raymond Wiest, Paul Weiland, Sean Valentine, Jeremy Bodensteiner, and Mark Stopyro. Wish them a Happy Birthday and buy them a cup of coffee at the next Donut Sunday.

March Pancake Breakfast

First, a big THANK YOU to all the Knights who helped with the February 18 pancake breakfast! It was a great crowd and fun event. We have just one more to go this season, on Sunday, March 18. This breakfast is for the benefit of the Holy Spirit Youth Mission Trip and retreat this summer. We need workers to help with the set-up, kitchen work, serving and clean-up. If you can help anytime between 6:30 AM and 12:30 PM on Sunday, March 18, please contact Gary Moore at 269-2818, or gmoored@charter.net. THANKS!



Calendar

Officer Meeting	Holy Spirit School Library..	Thursday, March 8.	7:15 PM
Council Meeting	Holy Spirit School Library..	Thursday, March 8.	7:30 PM
Pancake Breakfast	Holy Spirit Gym	Sunday, March 18	after morning Masses
Membership Open House	Valentino's	Monday, March 26	6-8 PM
Men's Choir Sing		Sunday, April 1 (Palm Sunday)	at morning Masses
First Degree	Lourdes HS.	Sunday, April 15.	11 AM
2nd & 3rd Degrees.	Lourdes HS.	Sunday, April 15.	12:30 PM
Youth Choir Appreciation		Sunday, April 22.	after 10 AM Mass
Tootsie Roll Drive		April 27-29	
State Convention	St. Paul	May 18-20	

From the Deputy Grand Knight

Brother Knights,

Most of you know that our Fraternal year transitions on the June/July boundary. In order to make this transition as smooth as possible I have already begun talking with many of you in order to fill our Officer and Director positions. I appreciate all the positive responses I have received so far. I also appreciate that some others are considering stepping up to either a new responsibility or those considering a position for their first time. For those of you that I have not spoken with, please don't hesitate to contact me if you are interested in providing some leadership in the Council - the more the merrier! I'm sure we will also be making a push for those 1st degree members to attend the April 15th 2nd/3rd degrees at Lourdes. This will enable (but not require) you to become an officer in the council if that is a path you choose. We need more of our members to complete these degrees as we have lost some members to Pax Christi and other councils that have begun in Rochester as well as members moving from the area. We are especially looking for a new Youth Director and Chancellor as Paul Daley is currently doing both, but will be advancing to Deputy Grand Knight next year. If you are interested in either of these positions you can talk with Paul, Dave Hubka or myself to understand the activities involved. Our Chancellor position places you in line to eventually become Grand Knight and we need to find additional members who are interested in this important role to maintain continuity and growth of our Council. Again, I would like to appeal to you to pray and discern if you are ready to expand your wings as a Brother Knight. I know from experience that the rewards are far greater than what you have to put into it.

Vivat Jesus!

Greg Kapraun, Deputy Grand Knight

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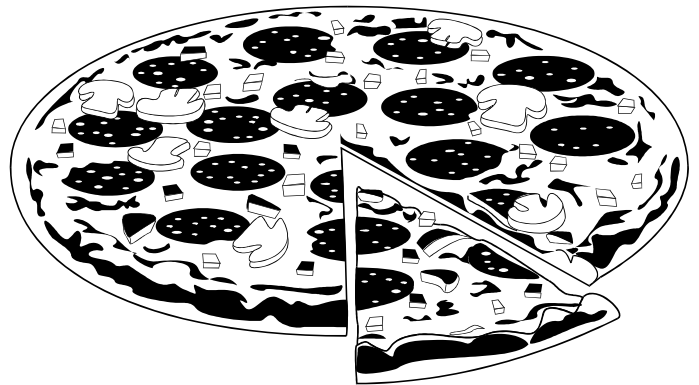
2nd Annual KC Informational Open House - Free Pizza and Pop!

Dave Hubka

We'll be having an information open house to let potential members know all the good things about the KCs, and especially about our council, and it will include a free pizza and pop buffet at Valentino's! Mark your calendars now for Monday, March 26, 2007, 6:00-8:00pm at Valentino's (130 Elton Hills Drive).

If you've been thinking about asking someone to join, what better way to bring up the topic than inviting them to join you for a free meal! Besides the meal, a few of us will share some thoughts about the KCs, and then we'll do informal discussions while eating. If anyone wants to sign up to join during the course of the evening, that will be fine, but coming to the open house does not commit them in any way. It is truly an invitation for them to get to know us better, with a free meal thrown in. And to make it even better, offer to pick them up or to drive!

One special focus - I would like you Knights with sons to come and bring them along. They've seen you involved - now bring them to hear the rest of the story about the Knights and our



council. Even if they are a few years too young to join now, I'd like to treat them to a meal and have them get to know us so they are ready to sign up when they turn 18. Please bring them, and don't forget to bring along a friend or two of theirs that you also think might be open to joining! (And remember, our council offers reduced annual dues of just \$10 for students.)

I'd like to see a great turn-out for this. Given the free meal and the focus on bringing sons and other young men, I'd like to see at least 20 candidates there! Let's make it happen! See you at Valentino's on Monday March 26th. Please plan to arrive by 6:15pm.

1st/2nd/3rd Degree Ceremonials in Rochester on Sunday, April 15

Dave Hubka

It's that time of the year again to hold the full set of ceremonials here in Rochester. On Sunday, April 15, 2007, at Lourdes High School, we'll hold a 1st degree at 11:00am for new members, and then at 1:00pm will hold the 2nd/3rd degree ceremonials. A meal will be provided afterwards. Please use the school entrance on Center Street.

All 1st degree members are reminded that they are expected to go through the advanced degrees soon after joining - we have a number of members who need to take care of this requirement yet! Those taking the 2nd/3rd degrees should plan to arrive by 12:30pm. There are no fees for these advanced degrees, but you should have paid your 2007 dues and have your current membership card with you!

All current members are welcome to observe the 1st degree, and all current 3rd degree members are welcome to observe the advanced degrees. It's always nice to have a good showing of current members to support our members going through the degree ceremonials. Hope to see you there!

4th Annual Youth Choir Appreciation

Dave Hubka

The Holy Spirit Youth Choir will sing for the final time of the season at the 10:00 Mass on Sunday, April 22, 2007. Immediately following that Mass the Knights will be serving them a brunch as a "Thank You" for all their efforts. Format and menu will be similar to past years. Pete Schommer will be head chef, Joe DiCecco will be in charge of the waffle bar, and for the pool of workers I plan to primarily ask the Knights who have a daughter or son in this year's Youth Choir - but I'll gladly accept other volunteers as well. We'll need some workers to start food preparation about 8:00 that morning, and then we will need many more workers to help serve and clean-up. I'll be contacting potential workers soon, but if you know you would like to sign up to help, please take the initiative to send me an email (dhubka@magnaspeed.net) or call me (282-6090) and mark your calendar!



Men's Choir invitation

Frank Vondrashek

Do you have a musical talent that you haven't been sharing? Interested in Singing? Consider joining the Men's Choir. We are always interesting in new members who would like to sing with us.

The Men's choir sings about once every three months or so, and usually has rehearsals 2-3 times beforehand. We'll be singing next on April 1st and practicing after the Sunday evening Masses in March. If interested, contact Frank Vondrashek (Frankvo@magnaspeed.net or 281-3051) or Neil Stiller (nstiller@rpu.org).



New High Chairs

Phil Germann

The Knights donated \$130 to the church for the purchase of 4 new high chairs. These chairs are stackable, restaurant-style wooden chairs that take up very little space in storage (currently by the rack for storing the extra round tables in the Commons). We hope that they will find frequent usage at pancake breakfasts, FiRE, the parish picnic, and a host of other family-friendly activities. Please encourage their proper use (by not flipping them over to use with infant seats) in order to keep them safe and in good condition, and make sure that they are placed back in the storage location so others can find them easily. Thanks to Grand Knight Dave Hubka for approving the finances, and to everyone who helped in the decision-making process!

First Degree

Jerome Lensing

On February 8th the Holy Spirit First Degree Team provided the opportunity for 6 gentlemen to become members of the Knights of Columbus. They are Sterling Hansen, Eric Mikkelson, Kevin Nigon, Timothy Swatosh, Timothy Fink and William Dorsey. The Holy Spirit First Degree Team includes Larry Burgart, Paul Daley, Jim Decker, Jeff Block (filled in for Joe Kluck), Berry Hobbs and Jerome Lensing. If you are interested in joining the Holy Spirit First Degree Team, please contact Jerome Lensing at 507-251-5626.

We encourage all of you that have not completed your 2nd and 3rd Degree's to attend the Major Degree that will be held at Lourdes on April 15th. See the related article.

Light Night

Mike Riester

The Annual Light Night was held Feb. 8th in the Holy Spirit Commons. It was preceded by a 1st Degree Program for area councils. Turnout for Light Night was good; those present enjoyed fellowship and sampling of wines, cheeses, and various other snacks.

The program highlight was Fr. Tom Melvin, Diocesan Vocational Director, who spoke on the topic of exposing young men to the vocation of the priesthood. Fr. Melvin is a native of Rochester.

Winners of door prizes were Larry Burgart, Jeff Swantko, Deb Price, and Janela Hubka.

A special thanks to Jeff Swantko, who again furnished, served, and provided expertise, on the various wines offered.

Thanks also, to Alyssa Daley and Anna Riester, for providing babysitting.

Free Throw Contest News

Paul Daley

The District Free Throw competition results held at Lourdes on Sunday, Feb. 11th. The champions are:

Girls

- 10 yr. Madaline Talamantes (11460)
- 11 yr. Shelby Stewart (1013)
- 12 yr. Carly Bjork (11460)
- 13 yr. Ashley Gergen (1013)
- 14 yr. Laura Melquist (1013)

Boys

- 10 yr. Jarid Andrist (14145)
- 11 yr. Michael Painter (14145)
- 12 yr. Brian Burroughs (14145)
- 13 yr. Brian Bellrichard (11460)
- 14 yr. Joe Glaser (13027)

The Regional competition was held at Lourdes on Saturday March 3rd. The champions from that event are:

Girls

- 10 Elizabeth Johnson (Spring Grove 1198)
- 11 Shelby Stewart (Rochester 1013)
- 12 Taylor Meyer (Farmington 2400)
- 13 Ashley Gergen (Zumbro Falls 1013)
- 14 Megan Nash (Owatonna 945)

Boys

- 10 Jarid Andrist (Rochester 14145)
- 11 Aaron Grad (Rochester 11460)
- 12 Joel Oxton (Lakeville 8367)
- 13 Matthew Jergenson (Caledonia 1198)
- 14 Joe Glaser (Rochester 13027)

All of these competitors move on to the state competition. Congrats to Aaron Grad from Holy Spirit!

A big thanks to all the Knights and parents who helped out at these events.

Download the Newsletter and Save a Tree

David Dykstal (dykstal@acm.org)

My thanks to all those Knights who responded with their email addresses and are now downloading the newsletter. I thank you and my stapler thanks you.

Words from the Lecturer

Dave Rossman

Fellow Knights - We have returned from the Annual Men's Retreat renewed in mind, body and spirit. This year the number of men traveling from Rochester doubled even though one person became ill at the last moment and had to cancel out. We joined with over 40 other men from across Minnesota at the Christ the King's House to hear the message about recognizing and responding to God's Call. If you are interested in attending the retreat next year, please call as we have found out that men from the other Rochester Councils attend on a different weekend.

Little Known Saint of the Month

Dave Dykstal

This month we are located in Bohemia, Prague to be exact, where we find the princess (and Saint) Agnes of Bohemia. Born in 1205, Agnes was the daughter of King Ottokar I and Queen Constance of Bohemia, sister to King Wenceslaus I (no, not THAT Wenceslaus), and a relative of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary.

Educated by Cistercian nuns she early perceived a call to religious life. However, being royalty meant Agnes was for years promised to others in a series of arranged marriages for political reasons. Her first betrothed died young; the second chose to marry another; and the third, Emperor Frederick himself, reluctantly acknowledged that he had lost her when Pope Gregory IX intervened.

Agnes was born to wealth and she was not reluctant to use it for the Church, building a Franciscan hospital on land donated by her brother, King Wenceslaus. She then established a series of clinics, a friary, and in 1234, the Poor Clare convent of Saint Saviour in Prague with the aid of five nuns sent by Clare of Assisi herself. Agnes entered the convent of Saint Saviour on Pentecost Sunday 1234, eventually became its abbess, and spent 50 years in the cloister.

Agnes enjoyed cooking for the other sisters, and mending the clothes of lepers. She had the gifts of healing and prophecy, and was given to ecstasies. Though they never met, she and Saint Clare of Assisi kept up an extensive correspondence for two decades, and some of the letters have survived to today.

We remember Agnes on March 6.