



knights of columbus

Msgr. Weis Council #10596

• 8501 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN 46321 • 219-836-8610 •

January 2012

From the Grand Knight

Brother Knights,

Greetings as we enter 2012! I hope you had a Merry Christmas with your family, and wish you a Happy New Year. As we welcome the new year, we are also entering the second half of our fraternal year, which runs through June 30, 2012. Here is a brief summary of our activities (mark your calendar):

January: January 8 through January 14 is Vocations Awareness Week.

Our annual Free Throw Challenge will be held on Saturday, January 21, starting at 7:30am. The second round will be held on Saturday, January 28 at 6:00pm. Brother Gregg Blocher is looking for volunteers to help with the contest.

A Squires Installation will be held on Saturday, January 21, after the 5:30pm mass.

We are hosting a first degree on Monday, January 23, during our regularly scheduled meeting. Please submit any 100 forms that you have on candidates as soon as possible. First Degree Team Captain Gregg Blocher will have a rehearsal for any brothers interested in joining the degree team on Monday, January 16, in the solar room, starting at 6:30pm. Current team members are asked to attend.

The annual March for Life in Washington D.C. will take place on Monday, January 23. The Indiana State Council is sponsoring a bus trip that will leave on Saturday evening, January 21, and return on Tuesday evening, January 24. Please let me know if you are interested in representing our council.

We will join the Respect Life Committee in church at 1:00pm on Sunday, January 22, to pray the rosary in unity with the March for Life mentioned above.

Monday, January 23 is also a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.

February: Our Squires Counselor Gregg Blocher has announced an outing to South Bend IN on Saturday, February 11, for a Notre Dame v DePaul basketball game. Tip-off is 12 noon. More details will be forthcoming.

The 40 Days for Life Campaign (in Merrillville) begins on February 17 and continues through March 28. Four of us attended the Fall Campaign in 2011. Please consider setting aside a few hours to walk for the unborn children. More information will be forthcoming.

The State Bowling Contest runs the weekends of February 18-19 and 25-26.

Ash Wednesday is on February 22.

Our annual Lenten Fish Fry will be held on Friday, February 24, in the gymnasium. This is the First Friday of Lent. Please volunteer your time and talent when the sign-up sheet is passed around at our meeting.

March: Founders Day is March 29 (1882).

April: Easter is April 8.

State Convention begins on Friday the 27th and ends on Sunday the 29th.

May: Mother's Day is May 13 (we pass out roses after the masses).

Tootsie Roll Drive--weekend to be announced.

June: Father's Day is June 17.

Our annual St. Thomas More Parish Fun Festival runs from June 20 through June 24. As always, we will be assisting at the Corn Booth. Only 171 days til corn!

Vivat Jesus!

Brother Goz

From the State Deputy

January 2012



What's going on January 2012?

All have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Half the year is just about over and I'm disappointed with the lack of new councils and membership growth. For the state to attain Circle of Honor this year, we need a much greater effort than what has occurred so far this year.

Without membership growth, not only is your Council in trouble, but the State also doesn't see enough members stepping up to fill all the needed positions of District Deputies.

As of January, 2012 we will be establishing Regional Directors in the 6 regions on the State. Each Director will have a New Council Chairman, a Membership Chairman, and a Warden to help him. The Regional Directors will report back to the State deputy, and he will help oversee the District Deputies in that region; promoting both membership growth and new council development and assist the District Deputies in developing the councils in their region.

Some will look at this as just another layer of bureaucracy, and fight it. But hopefully, most will see this as a means to get immediate, individual help close at hand. These individuals will there for you, but are not going to do the job of the GK or DD.

Change is often hard, but....Be positive, and always do what is right!

God Bless All,
F.R.O.G.

Thomas Gawlik
State Deputy
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From Your State Chaplain

January 2012

Happy New Year to all of you! Each New Year affords us the opportunity to start afresh. Some make resolutions to lose weight and to exercise more. Others resolve to strengthen ties among family members. Our world recommits to establish greater justice and peace. We mark each year with the letters "A.D." (Anno Domini, in the Year of Our Lord). Being the Lord's disciples, we recognize that each New Year is "his time," his gift to us. As brother Knights, let us live the days of this new year drawing closer to him and giving witness to his name.

January 22 is the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision Roe vs. Wade. As Catholics we are to observe this day as a day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life. The Knights of Indiana have been strong witnesses to life issues. I applaud those of you who will be traveling to Washington, D.C. this month for the March for Life. I encourage you to continue to raise funds so that we can provide many more ultra-sound machines throughout the State to help save lives.

Last November State Deputy Tom Gawlik and I attended the first ever joint meeting of State Chaplains and State Deputies. The meeting was held in Nashville, Tennessee. Tom and I are committed to help Council Chaplains and Grand Knights promote prayer and spiritual development at the local level. We will model this at the State Convention as well as at the Planning Meetings.

At a separate meeting in Nashville, the State Chaplains identified four strategies: 1) To continue to meet on a regular basis; 2) To strengthen communications and build relationships on all levels (examples: between State Chaplains and State Deputies, between State Chaplain and Local Chaplains, between State Chaplains and pastors); 3) To communicate new emphasis on prayer/spirituality/faith formation; and, 4) To develop resources for faith formation program.

Quote: "We are the religion of 'incarnation' (enfleshment or embodiment) not spiritualization. Once God became flesh, it is in the material world that we find God. The Incarnation keeps Christianity grounded, honest, and saving others instead of just saving ourselves" (Richard Rohr).

God bless you and all you love this New Year!

State Chaplain
Fr. Stephen Jarrell
statechaplain@indianakofc.org

January Birthdays

- 3 Joseph Bularzik
Ralph Konkoly
- 4 David Slamkowski
- 6 Arthur Halpin
John Rybicki
- 7 Richard Giba
- 8 Kenneth Macak
- 9 David Blocher
Daniel Karulski
Joseph Peters
- 10 Thomas Bolanowski
- 11 John Kennedy
Rev. Kevin McCarthy
- 12 William Carraher
Dennis Perz
- 14 Samuel Sadlen, Jr.
- 15 Robert Bogumil
- 16 Christopher Sipes
- 17 Caleb Chastain
Edward Mish
- 18 Don McGill
- 20 William Burke, Jr.
- 21 Michael McIntyre
- 22 John Malayter
- 24 Gust Georgelas
- 25 Donald Kopenec
- 29 Dale Slosser
- 30 Kenneth Jania
Patrick Maloney
- 31 Paul Tucker

February Birthdays

- 1 Antonio Cisneros
- 2 William Jarvis
- 3 Michael Jasinski
- 5 James Wachel
- 7 Joseph Liszka
Fredrick McCraw
Barney Zagrocki
- 8 Sam Maravilla
- 9 Paul Capriglione
William Zematis
- 10 Norman Bajda
- 12 James Marmalejo, Jr.
- 14 Arthur Giannini
Clement Kobus
Adam Kocal
- 15 James Schaum
- 16 Edward Strbjak, Jr.
- 18 James Pietraszak
- 20 Michael Martinelli
- 23 Joseph Cwiok

From Your Council Chaplain

[I received this via email last week. It makes the rounds of the internet every so often. I thought it was worth sharing with you. I do not know the source; so, let's chalk it up to anonymous.]

Once upon a time, two brothers who lived on adjoining farms fell into conflict.

It was the first serious rift in 40 years of farming side by side, sharing machinery, and trading labor and goods as needed without a hitch.

Then the long collaboration fell apart.

It began with a small misunderstanding and it grew into a major difference, and finally it exploded into an exchange of bitter words followed by weeks of silence.

One morning there was a knock on John's door.

He opened it to find a man with a carpenter's toolbox. "I'm looking for a few days work" he said. "Perhaps you would have a few small jobs here and there. Could I help you?"

"Yes," said the older brother. "I do have a job for you. Look across the creek at that farm. That's my neighbor, in fact, it's my younger brother. Last week there was a meadow between us and he took his bulldozer to the river levee and now there is a creek between us. Well, he may have done this to spite me, but I'll go him one better. See that pile of lumber curing by the barn? I want you to build me a fence -- an 8-foot fence -- so I won't need to see his place anymore. Cool him down, anyhow."

The carpenter said, "I think I understand the situation. Show me the nails and the post-hole digger and I'll be able to do a job that pleases you."

The older brother had to go to town for supplies, so he helped the carpenter get the materials ready and then he was off for the day.

The carpenter worked hard all that day measuring, sawing, nailing. About sunset when the farmer returned, the carpenter had just finished his job.

The farmer's eyes opened wide, his jaw dropped.

There was no fence there at all.

It was a bridge -- a bridge stretching from one side of the creek to the other! A fine piece of work -- handrails and all -- and the neighbor, his younger brother, was coming across, his hand outstretched.

"You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I've said and done."

The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and then they met in the middle, taking each other's hand.

They turned to see the carpenter hoist his toolbox on his shoulder.

"No, wait! Stay a few days. I've a lot of other projects for you," said the older brother.

"I'd love to stay on," the carpenter said, "but, I have many more bridges to build."

I hope that you can build a bridge or two in your own life!

Fr. Mike