

your calendars for that weekend and be ready to support Chris with a three-hour stand to help those county residents who are mentally challenged.

MONTHLY HONORS FOR BROTHER KNIGHTS were awarded by GK Gary Tadvick. A VIP award was present to Dave Conklin for his membership activities and Jack Madey was selected as Knight of the Month for his work in coordinating the Lenten Fish Dinners. The Family of the Month award went to Sue and Mark Daly for their various support activities in the parish and the Knights.

THE BY-LAWS COMMITTEE REPORTS it is continuing its efforts to update the current by-laws. Further meetings are scheduled into April with coordinator Sir Kevin Powers stating "the end is in sight." After finishing the by-laws in draft form, the document will be presented to the Grand Knight who, in turn, will present it to the full membership for approval.

COUNCIL OFFICERS

- † Grand Knight - Gary Tadvick
garytadvick@redblue.com
- † Deputy Grand Knight - Stewart McLamb
stewartm@famsworthlogistics.com
- † Chaplain - Joseph Kappes, S.J.
jkappes@saintherese.net
- † Chancellor - Jim Kiger
papajimk@alltel.net
- † Finance - Steve Wise
pantherfan40@juno.com
- † Treasurer - Phil Bischoff
THEBISCHOFFS@AOL.COM
- † Secretary - V Don Mayer
DMAYER5@JUNO.COM
- † Advocate - Mikawator Red Arrow
MREDARROW@HOTMAIL.COM
- † Warden - Steve Liseski
liseski@adelphia.net
- † Lecturer - Dave Koenders
DAVEKOENDERS@MSN.COM
- † Inside Guard - Hank Brzoska
junehankb@yahoo.com
- † Outside Guard - Ron Cortopassi
rjcorto@aol.com
- † First Year Trustee - Matt Reilly
skma39@windstream.net

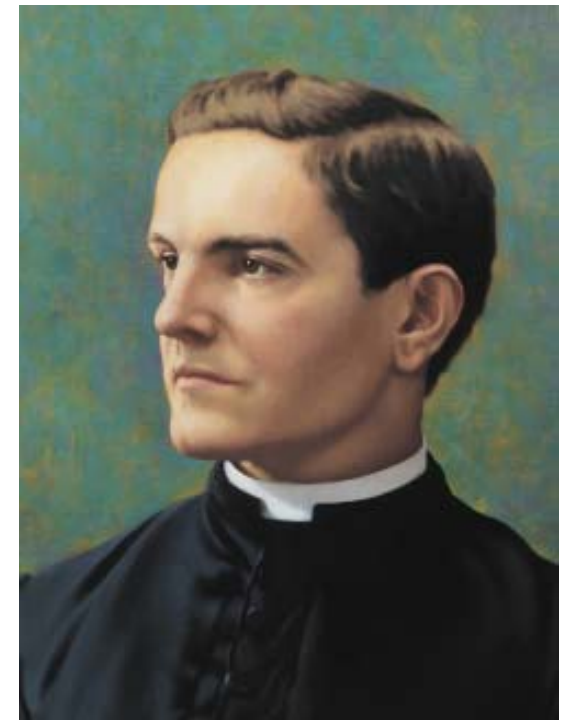
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - COUNCIL 7406
217 Brawley School Road
Mooreville, NC 28117



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST. THERESE COUNCIL 7406
MOOREVILLE, NC

APRIL 2009 NEWSLETTER

Mark Daly, Editor
Tim Vogel, Publisher





KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



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THE GRAND KNIGHT'S CORNER

Lent is almost over, how are you doing with your Lenten commitments? If you haven't started, it's not too late. Lent is a time to make changes in our lives that will be long lasting -- changes that make us better Christians, Fathers, Sons, Friends and good Samaritans to our fellow man.

There were five Knights that took time out of their busy lives to pray for the unborn on March 21 at the 40 days for life and I guarantee each of these men is a better Christian because of that experience.

This is a non-violent event where we pray the Rosary and say other prayers for the unborn children, their moms and dads, and those that work at the clinics. Many men feel the need to say something but few do, fear is what keeps many Brothers away from an event like this. They do not want to be put in a situation where they are made to feel uncomfortable. What if a day arrives where their life is on the line and it is no fault of their own, and what if no one showed up to pray for them or even speak for them? That would be a lonely and tremendously scary position to be in. The young children have no voice to be heard, yet we allow them to be killed. In the State of NC if a pregnant woman is hit by a drunk driver and she and her baby is killed, the drunk driver will be charged with two murders. So if the child in the womb is recognized as a human being in this case, why do we allow the killing of the child under the guise of "choice"?

Now what I am about to say will be tough to take for some, but I believe it needs to be said. I want you to know I am making a generality here and many men do not fall into this category, but sadly many do. Men in the United States have ceased to take a leadership role in the family and in society; they do not boldly defend the helpless. Women on the other hand are bold in their faith, outspoken and willing to stand for the truth. This is one of the reasons this country is in so much trouble; men have not been involved in family leadership for about four to five decades. They know what is wrong but do not stand for justice. Now not all men are this way but many approach life with an attitude of "it is none of my business or that doesn't affect me". This is the same attitude during Christ's time, standing in front of

Pontius Pilot and yelling "Crucify Him!" None did not have the guts to say "No, this man is innocent, leave him alone, and he has done nothing wrong".

On Thursday evenings at 7, there is a group that meets to pray for the Unborn and the prayers they pray are inspired by the Visionary, Maureen Sweeney-Kyle. The below mystery comes from the "Sorrowful Mysteries" in the Prayers for the Unborn book.

The Carrying of the Cross: Jesus was not condemned by the power of the wicked people. He was condemned because of the silence of good people. Silence always helps the oppressor, never the victim. Let us pray that we may never be silent about abortion, but rather will clearly speak up to save babies from death".

Be bold in your faith, live it and enjoy life.

Vivat Jesus, Gary Tadvick

SPRING IS HERE AND WE NEED MORE GOLFERS for our second Annual Golf Classic. Brother Vince Greco reports that approximately 70 golfers are signed up for the event, to be held at the Birkdale Golf Club in Huntersville. Sponsors are lined up (but we can always use more, says Vince) and the hole-in-one prize is a luxury automobile, courtesy of the Keffer Auto Group. The entry fee of \$90 includes a continental breakfast, green fees, cart, driving range, beverages and a \$10 coupon good for a future round at Birkdale. We have two ladies' foursomes signed up and we'd welcome more ladies and gentlemen to enjoy this fantastic event. To sign up, call Vince at 704/662-3930, Larry Paffrath at 704/892-6853, or Mark Daly at 704/987-4316.

OUR RECENT BLOOD DRIVE WAS ANOTHER SUCCESS according to Brother Clayton Brown, who reports that 52 pints of blood were donated. Helping out with the success were Brothers Aldo Martinez, Tracy Neuman, Pat Naso and Will Campagna. Thanks to all of the volunteers who gave a great example of practicing the first and foremost principle of our order - charity.

THE LENTEN FISH DINNERS CONTINUE TO BE A BIG HIT with members of the parish, Knights and community friends. Brother Jack Madey reports "we're still in the black" and crowds have been in the 150s range. You have one more week to enjoy the delicious meals put on by your Brothers and their wives. Fried or baked fish, hushpuppies, French fries or baked potatoes, mixed

vegetables and pizza make up your choice for a great Lenten dinner. The dinner price for an adult is \$7, children feast for \$4 and families of two adults and two children eat for \$20. Got more than two children? They eat for \$2 each and all children under three are free.

A FIRST DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION will be held on April 13. As always, our First Degree Team will be administering the initiation rites. Then, for those aspiring for the higher degrees of the order, the Bishop Greco Council in Clemmons will conduct a second and third degree on April 18. Any one interested in attending the Clemmons initiations should contact Sir Matt Reilly at 704/663-4011.

MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES TO RISE but it seems that the economy downturn has taken its toll on members ability to pay dues for the coming year. Forty members have not paid their dues as yet and in a discussion at the March 23 business meeting it was decided that each of those members would be contacted asking them to maintain their active status. If the cause for not re-newing is because of the economy, financial arrangements will be made to help those members. Sir Ed Kane made a motion, approved by the Council that no March contributions be made to the Building Fund, using that money instead to support those Brothers who have been affected by loss of income. Further, the amount of money involved should be placed in an interest-bearing cash account so it will be available to those who might need it.

FIVE COUNCIL BROTHERS RECENTLY participated in an anti-abortion rally in downtown Charlotte. Security concerns dictate their names not be published. However, at the March 23 meeting, they discussed their feelings and reactions to this moving experience. More on this can be found in this issue's Grand Knight's Corner.

OUR FIRST SUNDAY PANCAKE BREAKFASTS continue to be popular with the earlier Mass-goers. Brother Don Mayer reports that the next breakfast will be on Palm Sunday and an unusually large crowd is expected. He's asked for additional volunteers to help from 7 until about 10:30 on that day. Call Don at (704) 663-7593 or e-mail him at donmayer5@juno.com to let him know you're available.

LAMB IS SET FOR MID-OCTOBER THIS YEAR according to Brother Chris Baker, this year's director. Dates have been set for October 9-10 and 11 with Wal-Mart and Harris-Teeter October 10 and 11. Lowe's has been approached, but has not responded yet with a confirmation. Unfortunately, Harris-Teeter has put a new corporate directive into effect limiting all charitable organizations to just two collection days per store each month. This will prevent us from our usual four days at this usually very productive site. Clear