



The Tar Heel Knight

March 2007

Volume 30, Number 7



State Deputy's Report

Worthy Brothers All,

Vivat Jesus!

On Friday, February 23rd, 2007, Sgt. Howard J. Plouff, a veteran police officer in

Winston Salem, was shot by an unknown assailant when he responded to a fight in the parking lot of a club. Twenty three hours later Sgt. Plouff died from the injury, leaving behind a wife and two young daughters. Sgt. Plouff was Catholic and a member of Holy Family Church in Clemmons. Unfortunately, he was not a Knight of Columbus. Please pray for the repose of his soul and strength, peace, comfort and healing for his family.

The point of relating this tragedy is that if Sgt. Plouff had been a member, his spouse would shortly be receiving a check from the Order because he was killed in the line of duty. His children would have been eligible for a college education paid by the Order as well. He would not have to have been an insurance member to qualify for these benefits! We all have an Accidental Death policy which is free! **Just for being a Knight of Columbus!**

We all have and know parishioners in our respective congregations who are employed as police officers, firemen, rescue workers or military men and constantly run the risk of being killed in the line of duty. I am challenging every Knight in the state to actively seek men who are employed in career where they put their life on the line, explain the benefits described above, at no cost to them, and recruit them to join! **I Believe** we owe it to them and their loved ones to offer these outstanding benefits, among many others. Contact your Field Agent for more information.

The fraternal year is coming to an end quickly and there is so much to be done. By now, every Grand Knight has received a copy of the Grand Knight's Checklist. If you follow the outline, you will have no problem completing council requirements. If a Grand Knight has not received a copy, please contact State Secretary John Gouldie for another. John's contact information is in the State Directory.

March is the month to form a Nominating Committee to prepare a slate of officers for the next fraternal year. Elections, according to Supreme By-Laws, can and must be held at a regular business meeting, between May 15th and June 15th. There are no exceptions. The candidate list must also be published 30 days prior to the date of elections.

Please remember when voting for any candidate, your vote should be cast for those members you feel would be an asset to the council and be a good Grand Knight eventually. This is also true when voting for a candidate for the State Council. You are not voting for a man to only fill a vacancy, but for a future State Deputy.

The State Convention is also fast approaching. Have you elected your delegates/ alternates, completed and sent your registrations, sent in your ad to assist with the costs and made your hotel reservations? Is your council submitting any resolutions? How about a Scrap Book entry? Submission deadlines are also fast approaching. Please don't be delay.

If you have misplaced your convention registration package, please contact your District Deputy. He has copies available for your use.

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The Official Publication of the Knights of Columbus of North Carolina





Raffle ticket sales should be well under way. Your council keeps 50% of the sales price for their treasury. That's \$2.50 for every ticket sold by the council! This is easy way to help your council and the state. Have you sold yours?

I have been in contact a number of times with Supreme on the situation of electronically submitted forms. It appears there is a major problem with their system. I am asking that any electronically submitted forms be printed before sending them and a copy be sent to the appropriate officers designated at the bottom of the form. We then have recourse for those forms Supreme advises they have not received.

Finally, let me thank all of you for attending Third Degrees as observers. At all of the past Third Degree's we have had an outstanding number of observers. This shows great support for the candidates and truly lends a great deal to the exemplification.

God Bless You All.

I BELIEVE!

State Deputy Bob Grabasky

Bob Grabasky,
State Deputy



40 for the BIG 3

There are as many ways of keeping these forty days of Lent as there are Catholics. Some people will try to avoid something or to do less, while others will try to begin a practice or do more. I think it's helpful to put what we are going to do or not do in the proper context and give it a spiritual focus. Giving up meat on Fridays to eat lobster and shrimp is not a sacrifice. The keeping of Lent is not for show, nor are we to embrace some Lenten discipline for bragging rights. I know a priest who gave up chocolate and Coca-Cola for Lent one year. His sacrifice seemed more for physical than spiritual reasons but he looked good. By Holy Week he had lost ten pounds and to most of his congregation, he was so miserable to be around. Whatever we decide to embrace during our observance of these forty days should some how grow our Faith, our Hope and our Love (The Theological Virtues – The BIG 3).

Making a commitment to read scripture, pulling a book from your parish library or going to an adult education event or bible study will build our Faith. Taking the time to visit the sick, giving of your talent through a ministry or taking part in a program that benefits your community manifests our Love. Pausing to pray during your day, meditating on the meaning of Easter and contemplating Christ's resurrection strengthens our Hope.

Remember not to get caught up in what others are doing. This Lent is meant for you. It is not meant for you to grow miserable, but to grow in the Spirit of Christ. "So faith, hope and love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love." 1 Corinthians 13:13 You've got 40 days for the BIG 3. Be creative and build our Faith, strengthen and share our Hope as you manifest our Love.

Msgr. Anthony J. Marccacio
NC State Chaplain



PROTOCOL CORNER

From Fr. Bob Kus

In this article, we will discuss the proper use of invitations.

Guests should be sent proper invitations in writing well in advance. They should be mailed at least six weeks before an event.

All invitations should be sent in the name of and signed by the Grand Knight, although he may request that replies be directed to a chairman or committee member. The District Deputy, Regional District Deputy, and the State Deputy should be invited to all council functions. It should be understood that their schedules may not permit them to attend every affair, in which case they would notify the Grand Knight in ample time.

Never give a “*Blanket*” invitation to anyone. Always send each guest a personal invitation. If tickets are being used for a function, they should be forwarded, suitably marked, along with the invitation.

Invitations should be in the form of a letter and addressed to a specific person. However, follow up can be done in the form of an e-mail by the Grand Knight, Chairman, or event committee. This also is true for sending out communications on 3rd degrees. Printed cards or general invitation notices may be used if the occasion warrants. A bulletin may be enclosed with the invitation if it gives more detailed information. It should not be used in lieu of an invitation. Such bulletins should never show the name of the person invited unless he has agreed to be present.

When an invitation is extended to anyone it should contain all details, such as dress, extent of participation, etc. It is embarrassing for a guest to appear and find that he is the only one at the head table not in a tuxedo, or visa versa. If you would like a guest to speak at the event or function, let him know well in advance. Do not surprise him at the event, by asking him to get up and say a few words.

Fraternally,

Dave Onofrio,
Immediate Past State Deputy

Legend has it that when St. Patrick, an English slave-boy-turned-bishop, brought the Catholic Christian faith to Ireland, he used a shamrock to teach the people about the Blessed Trinity.

He tried to show that although we believe in just one God, there are three Divine Persons in this One God - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

God the Father is the “star” of the Old Testament. He is the grand creator of the universe—the galaxies of stars and planets. His most awesome creation, made in his own image, was the human being. God promised human beings that he would always love them and be with them.

God the Son, the “star” of the New Testament, took the form of a human being named Jesus. He came to the Earth as a poor child born in a manger and grew up to be a great storyteller, miracle-worker, and champion of the “underdogs” of society. To do his Father’s will, he allowed himself to be crucified to make up for the sins of humanity. By doing this, he opened the gates of heaven for all humanity. In time, the Church came to believe that Jesus was 100% human and 100% divine.

Finally, we have God the Holy Spirit, the “star” of the Acts of the Apostles who came upon the early disciples to fill them with courage and zeal and knowledge and wisdom and enthusiasm and many other things. This gift-giver walks with us on our life journey, dwells within us, and helps us be joyful people. The Spirit helps decide what is right and what is wrong in our daily lives. The Spirit never leaves us.

What an awesome God we have—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

Let us rejoice and be glad!

Fr. Bob Kus
St. Mary’s Parish
Wilmington NC





Meeting the Needs of Special Olympics

One of the best examples I have heard of recently of our brother Knights stepping up to fill a specific need for a local Special Olympics program comes from Donat Roux, GK of Council 5487 in Goldsboro. I'll let GK Donat tell the story...

"Last year during the track and field events for Special Olympics Wayne County the wind was blowing and the coordinators were trying to communicate using megaphones. Obviously it was very hard to hear and we decided then that a PA system was in order. We, along with Special Olympics local director, Rich Walderman, started shopping around and gathering opinions, etc. and the rest basically is history. We found a music dealer, Frederick's Music Co. and Rick Frederick, in Goldsboro who holds Special Olympics in almost as high a regard as we do. He gave us a good deal on a brand new wireless unit".



In truly capturing the spirit of Special Olympics, GK Donat Roux says "it's another example of just what is possible when several strands of thread are grouped together into a rope. Together we can move mountains". You can't say it any better than that!

I would add that this contribution by Council 5487 was particularly significant because last year was not an especially good year for the LAMB program in their council. But they were determined to handle this purchase. In addition to working with Special Olympics in conjunction with LAMB the Knights of Council 5487 participate in all of the local competitions.

One of the biggest events of the year is the Special Olympics North Carolina Basketball and Cheerleading Competition. This state level event, held recently in Cabarrus County, attracted more than 1100 athletes and their coaches from all across the state. They had a great need for volunteers and preferably groups that could handle major tasks. Enter the Knights from Councils 7450 in Concord and 12167 in Kannapolis. For the second consecutive year these Brother Knights, with an assist from wives and other family members, very efficiently handled the awards presentations, at some 10 venues throughout the county. Anyone who has ever attended a Special Olympics event knows how eagerly the athletes anticipate the moment when they will receive their medals and how important it is that the ceremony runs smoothly. The Fourth Degree Honor Guard opened up the competition and we thank them for their participation. (See photo below.)

Among the others expressing gratitude for the assistance they get from the Knights was Lorrin Brown, director of the Mountains of Opportunity area, who told me she and her staff have been amazed at how easy it has been working with the councils in the western part of the state and how much they contribute to the success of their programs.

If your council is not working with the Special Olympics program in your area either you, your DGK, or someone you designate might look into finding out about the local program and see how you can get involved. And you too might experience what I hear all the time from Brother Knights "we get more out of this than the athletes do."

Al Tinson,
NC Special Olympics Chmn.





I BELIEVE

In my 40 plus years of living, I can say that I have believed in many things in my life. I believe in the importance of Catholic education, its profound impacts on our society and my personal life, and now its impact on my children's lives. I believe in our youth and all they have to offer. I believe in the service of our country as I spent most of my adult life defending her. I believe in the love of a woman and the unbreakable bond of marriage. I believe in the Knights of Columbus, its entire works, and all it does in defense of our faith. Moreover, I believe men join the Order for a reason. I believe that nothing can replace the nurturing love of a parent, the sage advice of an old friend, the intercession of a saint, especially Father McGivney, or the impact of a personal relationship with our Creator. I believe in the words of our Profession of Faith and I believe that God speaks to us daily, if only we have the courage to listen to Him and to respond. In short, **I BELIEVE**.

I BELIEVE has become our state theme for this fraternal year. In as much, we have many examples across this state that illustrate the theme is alive and well in council life. For the first time, we have councils looking at Retention as something more than just sending a man a letter requesting dues. We have Grand Knights who are holding monthly meetings to determine the status of membership: who have we contacted, what is their status, and what can we do to help are just some of the questions being asked at these meetings. Some of the answers include: men are losing their jobs, family illnesses are draining finances, men have moved away but still want to be knights, men are out of the country doing Charity work... and the list goes on. On the other hand, we are also learning that men are disgruntled with their councils and they want out of the Order: listening to these men creates opportunities for change and a time to reevaluate what we do

locally as well as a state council. It gives us the opportunity to adapt to changing needs and to look at our processes and a means to improve how we do business.

I BELIEVE that every catholic family should want to join our ranks. I believe it is up to us as Knights to invite every catholic family in the state of NC to aide us in living the Gospel and making it a better world for those around us. We have been doing great things this year. An active membership program rejuvenates councils with new ideas and new perspectives. Moreover, membership programs do not end with meeting your annual Supreme goals. Membership is a continuous activity throughout the year, it never ends.

As we prepare for our Spring blitzes and membership drives, please remember why we are asking our fellow Catholics to join. We are asking them to join because **WE BELIEVE** and we want to share everything our order has to offer with our fellow brothers and sisters.

Fraternally,

Mike Durbin,
North Carolina Membership Director





LAMB Foundation of NC, Inc.

2007 Training Agenda

Our Theme is to learn from each other, sharing ideas.

Deposit all Corporate Checks
Donations over \$250 IRS Receipt

OP LAMB Due Dates
Deposits in by 12/31/07
Disbursements in by 2/1/08

Fund Raising – Candy/Corporate

Forms: Candy, Apron, OP LAMB
Available Web site <http://kofcnc.org/>
(Programs; OP LAMB; LAMB PROGRAM)

How Can We Improve Our Income for
LAMB Knights in each area know best

Tootsie Roll drive, Corporate Giving
Direct Mail

Thinking out of the box

Have Assistant Directors for candy drive,
corporate giving, direct mail, new programs.
Food Lion and Share Programs

IV LAMB Treasurer
I Mechanics of LAMB Reporting
Handling The Money
Money raised in the name of LAMB is not K
of C money. Deposit Money only in Wachovia
branch office. Use only pre numbered depos-
its slips

Dates to remember
DUE FORM

As Soon As Possible
OPLAMB-1 Designation of LAMB Director

At the same time the order is placed.
Copies of Apron and Candy Orders

No Later Than December 31st.
OP-LAMB-2 Final Report

No Later Than February 1st
OP-LAMB 3 Disbursement Request

No Later Than December 31st
OP-LAMB 4 Squires Participation

Angelo Gibilaro, Director,
LAMB Foundation of NC, Inc.
E-mail: angelo@cc.rr.com,
Tel. No. 910 201 1048



Historical Moment

Recently I was given 4 boxes of KofC papers and memorabilia from PSD George Wahl and before that, I received 3 boxes of KofC papers and memorabilia from PSD Bill Scott. I would like to personally thank both of these fine NC men for their donations.

With these acquisitions, I now have a enough material to create a database of the leadership in North Carolina from the early 1960's to the present day. This includes Grand Knights, District Deputies, and all the State Officers and Directors.

In 2021, the NC State Council will celebrate their 100th Anniversary as a independent State Council and I hope by then a written history will be available.

It is imperative that each individual council and assembly maintain a council historian to record their history and not let it slip through and be lost. Maintaining a scrapbook is a easy way to record your council's history but make sure that you label all pictures so the names are remembered too.

As we celebrate the 125th Anniversary of our beloved Order on March 29th, say a prayer for the canonization of Fr. Michael J. McGivney. Without his dream, we wouldn't be here.

Greg Ciesielski,
NC State Historian



A Lenten Message from Fr. Frank

As Knights of Columbus, as Christian gentlemen, how well have we been preparing for Easter, through the Spiritual Journey in the desert of Lent? Palm Sunday is on April first this year and it is the beginning of Holy week which will lead to the culmination of our Lenten preparations for Easter Joy. How well are we doing? The time for preparation is running out.

The Gospel for the fifth Sunday of Lent can reveal much about ourselves, and what we may have discovered so far in our Lenten journey. For those of us who have attended one of the many penance services during the season, or have made a worthy confession, we have discovered a reality about ourselves to the deepest recesses of our hearts. We have discovered that we are sinners, and without Jesus Christ in the center of our lives, present in our hearts, present in our minds and present in our hands, we can do nothing at all.

The plot of the gospel is clear and easy to remember. The woman caught in adultery was not brought to Jesus, because the Scribes and the Pharisees wanted to save her eternal soul, they overpowered and dragged her to Jesus in order to entrap him. "Moses commands us to do this, so what do you say?"

Jesus first seems to ignore the questioners, knowing the hardness and the darkness of their hearts. He had been teaching, he now bends down to the ground and begins to write in the sand with his finger. His accusers have a clever trap set, they will not let this opportunity pass by, so they persist with their question. "So what Teacher, what do you say?"

"The one without sin, throw the first stone."

Each, beginning with the wisest, walk away, knowing their own sins. But they, who are in sin, walk away from Jesus, one by one, they walk away from the source of mercy and forgiveness, one by one they walk way to return to their lives of ignorance, darkness and sin. They leave the woman alone, she is the only one to remain, trusting, perhaps a bit fearfully,

prepared to accept her punishment from the Teacher.

Does the woman get off, with Jesus condoning her behavior, simply accepting it? No, by the power of God, Jesus forgives her. He does not condemn her, but instructs her to commit that sin so more. The woman has her human life here on Earth saved from the angry mob by the presence of the gentle Shepherd, Jesus, and the woman receives full forgiveness from God in the mercy and compassion of Jesus.

As Knights of Columbus, as Christian gentlemen, how well have we been preparing for Easter, through the Spiritual Journey in the desert of Lent?

Rev. Frank J. Seabo
St. Margaret Mary Catholic Rectory
Black Mountain, NC

From the State Secretary....

The 2007 State Convention is in May, but there are things that every council needs to have done to prepare for this annual event. Please review the **Grand Knight's Checklist on Page 8** to ensure you have everything taken care and prepared as required.

Fraternally,

John C. Gouldie,
NC State Secretary





CONVENTION CHECKLIST FOR GRAND KNIGHTS

NOW

COUNCIL CHAPLAIN: Invite your Chaplain to attend. He will be the guest of the State Council for the Men's Luncheon and the Banquet. Advise State Secretary John Gouldie of his attendance so the proper arrangements can be made. Council is to arrange and pay for his room.

DEADLINE: MARCH 1 through 31

ELECTION OF COUNCIL DELEGATES: Councils must hold elections for delegates and alternates at their March business meeting.

DEADLINE: March 15

RESOLUTIONS FROM THOSE RUNNING FOR OFFICE: Must be typed and send to State Advocate Greg Kent.

DEADLINE: April 2

CREDENTIALS: Send one copy to State Secretary John Gouldie (can be done from www.kofcnc.org)

SUPREME & STATE PER CAPITA: Must be paid to be seated at the convention.

RECOGNITION PROGRAM REPORTS: Council 2nd semi-annual reports are due to State Advocate Greg Kent.

SERVICE PROGRAM AWARDS: Submit to State Secretary John Gouldie using forms from the Supreme Report Forms Booklet Guidelines are in the Council handbook.

ALL OTHER RESOLUTIONS: Must be typed and send to State Advocate Greg Kent.

KNIGHT OF THE YEAR: Must be typed and sent to State Secretary John Gouldie. Guidelines are in the Council handbook.

FAMILY OF THE YEAR: Must be typed and sent to State Secretary John Gouldie. Guidelines are in the Council handbook.

GOLDEN KNIGHT OF THE YEAR: Must be typed and sent to State Secretary John Gouldie. Guidelines are in the Council handbook.

HOSTING STATE ATHLETIC EVENTS: Council bids are to be typed and sent to State Council Director & Athletics Chairman Tim Whelan.

DEADLINE: APRIL 9

COUNCIL NEWSLETTER CONTEST: Submit last 4 issues and your mailing list, bound, to Tar Heel Knight Editor Greg Ciesielski. Guidelines are in the Council handbook.

COUNCIL FRATERNAL YEAR SCRAPBOOK: Must be in the hands of ANY State Officer by this deadline. Guidelines are in the Council handbook

DEADLINE: APRIL 20

CONVENTION AD: Last day to send in ads for the convention booklet. See registration packet for details.

DEADLINE: APRIL 27

STATE CONVENTION PRE REGISTRATION: Last day for pre-registration to the convention.

See registration packet for details.

HOTEL RESERVATION: Last day to register with the hotel for a room reservation. See registration packet for details.

DEADLINE: APRIL 30

NECROLOGY: Send typewritten list of all brothers who died during the year (May 1, 2006 through April 30, 2007) to State Secretary John Gouldie. Indicate highest position held (i.e. PGK, FDD, State Officer, etc., do not use 4th Degree titles)

DEADLINE: MAY 11

STATE RAFFLE TICKETS / MONEY: Unsold tickets, ticket stubs, and money are due to your District Deputy.

DEADLINE: STATE CONVENTION

CREDENTIALS: Signed copy to be turned into the Credentials committee on Friday night May 18th.

COLUMBIAN AWARD REPORT: Submit to State Warden Jack Murray using SP-7 form from the Supreme Report Forms Booklet.

GRAND KNIGHTS REPORT: Submit a 1-2 page summary of your council's yearly activities to the State Deputy (Typed and on council letterhead).

BISHOP'S FUND: Councils are asked to contribute to either the Diocese of Charlotte or Raleigh for their use related to Seminarians or Priests Retirement. Checks should be made out to the North Carolina State Council and indicate the Diocese in the memo section of the check.

RIGHT-TO-LIFE FUND: Councils are asked to make a donation. Make checks out to the North Carolina State Council and indicate "Pro-Life" in the memo section of the check.

COUNCIL BANNERS: Bring and display your council banner at the convention.

4TH DEGREE REGALIA: 4th degree Knights are asked to bring their regalia and participate in the Color or Honor Guard during the convention Mass.



PRO-LIFE

Brother Knights,

Another busy month! My wife, Joyce, and I are on the St. Matthew Parish Worship committee. The committee planned a retreat for February 10th and we provided both breakfast and lunch. About 125-150 attended. All were invited. It was great fun.

Pro-Life news – For a great film on stem cell research, visit the following on-line sites:

KCC Stem Cell Video:

http://www.dhtvclients.com/images/KCC_Video_2.1350_KB.wmv

Cardinal Rigali's Message to Knight of Columbus <http://www.dhtvclients.com/images/Rigali.wmv>

The film was produced with the help of the Kansas State Council. It's the site I mentioned at the February council meetings.

Additional information on Stem Cell and the Church's views will be posted on the State Council's web site shortly.

It's official! The US has now murdered over 48 million of the unborn by abortion since Roe vs. Wade.

Annual Baby Bottle Program – Each Council has received a Baby Bottle Step by Step Guide. They were handed out to each Council at the Mid-Year Meeting last year. So no excuses, each Council can lead in their parish to distribute baby bottles (with their pastor's permission) after Mass. Have the parishioners take the bottles home and put change, bills, checks in them and return them in a couple of weeks. The money will be turned in to the K of C State Secretary and deposited in an account for K of C Pro-Life Programs and NC RTL. The Councils can specify where they or the parish want the money to be distributed. The top five Councils will be awarded the "Mary, Mother of the Life Within" award (statue). It will be awarded at the Annual State K of C Convention.

Day of the Unborn Child -This international program is held annually on March 25th, the feast of the Annunciation of the Lord. Focusing on the pro-life meaning of the Annunciation, councils hold pro-life prayer services.

Life Related legislation - According to the Catholic News Service, The last pro-life bill to be considered by the 109th Congress became one of the first introduced in the 110th Congress when Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kansas, reintroduced the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act.

"It's a scientific, medical fact that unborn children feel pain," said Brownback as he reintroduced the bill January 22.

Deirdre McQuade, director of planning and information in the bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, said the pro-life secretariat will be working for passage of legislation that would make "truly constructive changes in the lives of women and their unborn children."

One such proposal is the Pregnant Woman's Support Act, to be introduced by Rep. Lincoln Davis, D-Tenn. The USCCB also supports the Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act, the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Pregnant and Parenting Student Support Act, and the Abortion Non-Discrimination Act.

The USCCB will oppose efforts to expand federal funding of stem-cell research involving embryonic stem cell and will support the Alternative Pluripotent Stem-Cell Therapies Enhancement Act. Lastly they will support the RU-486 Suspension and review Act, also known as Holly's Law, which would take the pill off the market until its safety can be reviewed by the Food and Drug Administration. Holly Patterson, 18, died in California in 2003 after taking RU-486.

If we hope to defeat the holocaust of abortion, then we must keep ourselves both informed on all the issues and remember the most powerful weapon against abortion is Prayer, so Pray, Pray, Pray!

John Wigger, Pro-Life Chairman



Lenten Reflections from a Seminarian

For Catholics everywhere Lent is a time of prayer and penance in preparation for the coming Easter season. Along with the obligatory days of fast and/or abstinence many people will also either give something up (like junk food) or add additional prayers and charitable works during this season as an outward sign of their love of God as well as, at least in a small way, uniting themselves with Christ in his suffering on Calvary.

Here in the seminary we, like everybody else, try to strike a balance between the hectic schedule of everyday life and the contemplative and sacrificial nature of the season. The beginning of Lent typically falls right near our midterm exam time and the demands of tests, papers and the like can sometimes make it difficult to truly embrace the contemplative aspect of the season. However, we are very fortunate in the seminary to have certain scheduled events and practices which, in a sense, force us to stop and observe this season as carefully as possible.

One of the most loved traditions associated with Lent is the Stations of the Cross. This devotion, which began as a means of giving people who were unable to make a pilgrimage to the holy land an opportunity to walk, at least spiritually, the Via Crucis or Way of the Cross walked by Christ, is offered publicly during Lent by many parishes throughout the world (Fridays after the morning Mass and 7 p.m. at Holy Family). Although it is good to practice this devotion throughout the year, indeed it has been common to place the “stations” on the walls of our churches year round since at least the seventeenth century, it is given special emphasis during this season since it allows us to enter into the passion and death of Jesus in a very profound way. At the Josephinum we pray the Stations of the Cross together every Friday in Lent after dinner.

Another aspect which is important to the reflective spirit of this season is silence. In the course of our daily lives we seem to be constantly running from one thing to the other and rarely have time for silent prayer before God. The seminary allows us the luxury to experience this silence on two dif-

ferent occasions during Lent. First, every Friday in Lent we eat dinner in silence. It is truly amazing to see roughly 100 men sitting and eating together in near total silence. The other time when we are given this gift of silent contemplation is on our annual Lenten retreat, which is held in silence for three days (there are, of course, exceptions for the Liturgy of the Hours and Mass). While both of these periods of silence are somewhat challenging at first, it really does become a profound time of prayer and spiritual growth.

As I said above, we are very fortunate in seminary that these times are given to us on this regular basis. I know that most people simply are, due to family, work or other obligations, unable to make a three day long silent retreat or even to attend the public Stations of the Cross at Holy Family, however, since I have found both of these practices useful, I would like to suggest a couple of ways in which some people may be able to take part in them. 1) While it is preferable to make the Stations of the Cross in a church it is not absolutely necessary. Most Catholic prayer books will have a section with meditations on the stations which can be added to someone’s private prayer at home once a day, week, or whenever convenient. 2) While it may be difficult, if not impossible, for most people to spend extended periods in silence I would suggest taking a brief period of time before bed or even waking up 15 to 20 minutes earlier in the morning and spending that time in quiet prayer and reflection. It is amazing how quickly this time can become a tremendous source of grace and a cherished part of one’s daily life.

May you all have a prayerful, peaceful Lent.

PAX
Seminarian Josh Voitus
Diocese of Charlotte NC





The Year Ahead for the Chorale

Starting with the Mid-Year Meeting in Charlotte, the Chorale is looking forward to a full and exciting year of engagements. Being chosen to assist in the celebration of the Mass by singing in the presence of the Lord is one of the highest honors of being a member of the KofC Chorale. Living far apart with no practice time, the men must come up to speed for each engagement. They arrive early Friday morning to begin practice for the weekend of Masses.

On April 20-22, the Chorale journeys to Hickory for a very full weekend. On Friday, there will be a concert at the prison at Taylorville. On Saturday and Sunday Masses, the Chorale will support the membership drive of Council 6451 at St. Aloysius Church.

On May 18-20, the Chorale returns to the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Durham RTP for the 2007 State Convention. The Sheraton will also be the site of the Organizational Meeting on July 20-22. Both meetings include the celebration of the Mass.

On September 14-16, the Chorale joins Assembly 2490 in the celebration of its 10th Anniversary at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Newton Grove. This special weekend will include a spaghetti supper hosted by the Assembly on Friday evening, a Saturday Mass followed by a banquet in the Drexel Hall where the Chorale will provide a short concert and Sunday Mass.

The Chorale will help celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Bishop Hafey Council 4507 in High Point at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on the weekend of October 5-7. This will be the Chorale's second visit to Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Later on October 26-28, at the Embassy Suites in Concord Mills, the Chorale will support the Exemplification of the Fourth Degree and the Mass that follows. Joining with

Knights who are attaining the highest level of Knighthood is a true privilege.

The year concludes with Masses at St. Bernadette's Church in Fuquay Varina on December 1 in support of Council 12119 10th Anniversary.

Eight engagements are a full year and a true ministry for the Chorale. Joining with fellow Knights at Mass in their home parishes promises to be a memorable time. Perhaps other Knights would like to share in this rewarding experience by joining their dedicated band of traveling troubadours.

If you would like more information about the Knights of Columbus Chorale of North Carolina, including joining the Chorale, please contact Chorale Public Relations at: birdlady@buggs.net Copies of the Chorale CD "Mary's Child" can be purchased from Angelo Gibilaro at angelo@ec.rr.com.





District Master's Message

First I want to correct an error I made in the February Edition. I stated that we had not had any important activities going on. This was an error. The Asheville Assembly, #781 Celebrated

their 60th Anniversary on January 20, 2007, with a Party at the Best Western Asheville Biltmore Hotel. This was attended by Most Reverend William G. Curlin, Bishop Emeritus, the State Deputy and wife, State Secretary and wife as well as many other notable attendees. A total of 57 were present. The only reason I did not attend, is that my wife was not able to travel that distance, due to here back surgery.

I want to belatedly congratulate the Asheville Assembly on their 60 years.

Now for February news:

As many are aware, we are preparing for a Mini-Exemplification to be held at New Bern on April 28, 2007. Due to some of the Degree Team Members not being available for that date, we have four Sir Knights learning parts for this Exemplification. I want to publicly thank these Sir Knights for coming forward and taking a lot of time to memorize these parts and assist with the Exemplification. I also want to thank SK Ron Carney and his TEAM for their participation in this Exemplification. These Sir Knights put a lot of time into these exemplifications and we need to keep them in our prayers and give them thanks when we see them.

On the weekend of February 24 – 26, my wife and I were the Guests of the South Carolina District for their large Exemplification. What a magnificent Exemplification. Their Team did an excellent job. South Carolina conducts their activities a little different that we do, here in North Carolina. Every Assembly in South Carolina hosts a Hospitality Room, very similar to the Supreme Convention hospitality rooms. These start on Friday and continue throughout the weekend. There are 20 Assemblies in South Carolina, so you can see they have a lot of fractionalization.

There were 132 candidates for this Exemplification, and at least that many observers, not counting

some 70 or more Honor Guard members. They started Saturday off with a Mass, officiated over by their District Friar and seven priests. At noon they had a Ladies Luncheon, attended by over 225 ladies. The Exemplification started at 1:30 PM. The Hospitality Rooms were open from the end of the Exemplification until the Banquet, at 7:30 PM. There were over 700 in attendance at their Banquet. Following the Banquet, in a separate Room, They had a Dance, with a live band.

On Sunday morning at 9:30 AM, another Mass was held in the Hotel before everyone prepared to leave. Again there were the Celebrant, District Friar and five additional priests.

For a District of only 20 Assemblies, one would have to say this was a terrific success.

I only hope we can mach this Exemplification with ours in October. I challenge each of you to start NOW to prepare for a class of 200 candidates and the Best Ever Exemplification held in North Carolina. We have the top location in the state for this exemplification, with resort style amenities for both the Sir Knights and their wives. We will also have our Dance in a separate ballroom, so we will have plenty of room. Remember the Date, October 20, 2007 at the Embassy Suites Hotel at Concord Mills. Recruit, Recruit, Recruit.

I again want to thank all those who donated to the Military Order of the Purple Heart, to send our wounded warriors home for Christmas. This was huge success. I have been notified that some Assemblies are already preparing for next year to do the same.

We are again in process of looking at the possibility of starting another New Assembly. This is due to the distance Knights have to travel to belong to existing Assemblies. If you know of a need for a New Assembly, please let me know so I can assist in correcting these needs.

SK Robert J. Singer, PSD
North Carolina District Master





STATE DIRECTORY NEWS

My Brother Knights of the North Carolina jurisdiction:
Vivat Jesus.
Greetings from Elizabeth City. If you have any changes to your respective data, please update through our state web site, www.kofcnc.org.

Fraternally,
Gene Tortone

Page 4 - DD 7 Delete Wayne Hammerberg replace with:
Larry Barefoot Jackie
713 Queens Ave.
Dunn, NC 28344-2610
H-910-892-3776
wbarefoot@nc.rr.com

Page 4 - DD 10 Pat Love
Change e-mail to: plove001@triad.rr.com

Page 8 – Retention Chairman
Pasquale Wojciechowski
Change address and phone number to:
108 Sleepy Ct.
Morehead City, NC 28557-8967
H-252-622-3573

Page 14 – Council 4507
Delete entry for Financial Secretary

Page 14 - Council 4600
FS Fred Winner
Change e-mail to: ke4lxw@touchnc.net

Page 24 – Council 8857
Change meeting info to:
“Meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays”

FS Steve Graybill
Change e-mail to: sgraybill@nc.rr.com

INSURANCE THOUGHTS

How is your retirement planning going? Do you have a plan? Think of retirement as a three legged stool. In order to maintain balance, you need all three legs...or there is a real possibility of a crash!

One leg consists of the benefits your government offers you. Make sure you are aware of what is planned for those benefits. Any change in future promises should be accounted for when funding the third leg.

The second leg is your company’s pension plan, either a defined benefit (you work so many years and the company provides you with so much monthly benefit) or defined contribution (such as 401K plans). Learn how your plan works; read the plan description; stay on top of the news coming from the company. On the 401K side, become a good investor. Teach yourself the fundamentals of good diversification and know how much you have and when you will need it.

Finally, the third leg, and the one that you can exercise the most control over. The saving you do yourself. Everyone – everyone – needs this third leg. It consists of the money you yourself set aside on a disciplined basis to help in retirement. You don’t directly control government benefits and you don’t directly manage your company’s pension plan. But you do manage your own life.





Thanks to hard work and dedication of Membership Director Richard Scalise, DGK Jim Humphrys and all the degree teams, **Council 2546** sponsored a 1st, 2nd and 3rd degree in a two week span.

On January 20th, 12 new members joined the order from various councils and 21 members received the honors of the 2nd degree immediately following. There was plenty of support not only from our council, but from the other councils who brought candidates as well.

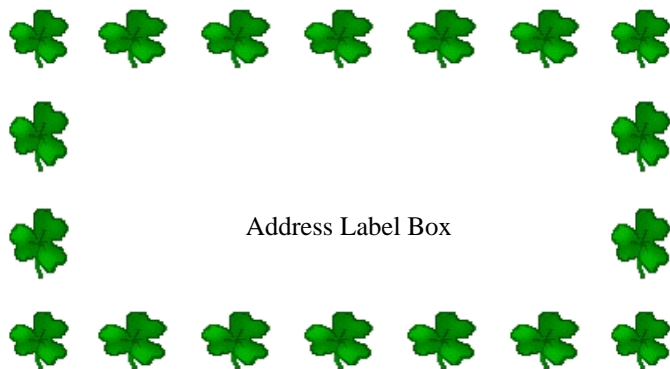
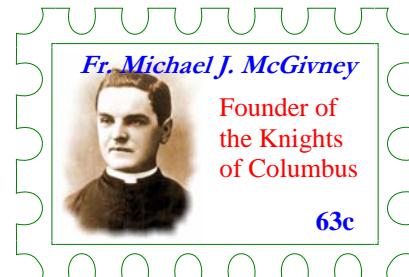
Then, on February 3rd, we hosted a 3rd Degree and had a spectacular turnout. Over 40 candidates from several Councils took their 3rd Degree while over 50 members observed.

GK Rich Ferraro, Council 2546



Greg O'Ciesielski

THK Editor
333 Miller Blvd
Havelock, NC 28532



Address Label Box