

The Good Knight

*“In Service to One,
In Service to All”*



Issue 13

March 2024

In this issue:

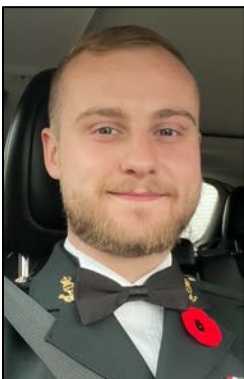
- Saint of the Month: St. Joseph
- The Role of the K of C Financial Secretary
- Knight of the Month / Family of the Month
- The Nicene Creed – I believe in the Holy Spirit
- Liturgical Matters: Eucharistic Prayer
- Word of the Month: Conscience
- Spaghetti Dinner & Horse Races
- Silver Rose Prayer Service

Greetings! As March arrives, we find ourselves in the midst of Lent. The word, Lent, comes from a word that means 'lengthen'. As days lengthen, thoughts of spring come to mind. Like spring, Lent is a time for growing. Just as we engage in spring-cleaning around the house, Lent is a time for spiritual spring-cleaning. It's a time to 'turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel'. It's a time to throw out any habits and behaviors that may hurt our relationships with God and with others. It's a time to change our hearts of stone to hearts of flesh. It's a time, through reconciliation, to tear down any walls we have built between ourselves and others and, through service and kind deeds, to build bridges. It's a time to reflect upon who we are and who God is calling us to be. Let us embrace this challenging but rewarding season.

Thank you for reading *The Good Knight*.

Louis Kloster, Editor and Current Grand Knight

Knight of the Month



In February we honored Bro. Vincent deRuiter as our Knight of the Month. Vincent is our good-natured and worthy recorder on the council executive, efficiently keeping the minutes of our executive and general meetings. Vincent is a willing volunteer, often serving at pancake breakfasts. Although a Knight for less than two years, he has already received his fourth degree, fully embracing who we are as Knights of Columbus. Thanks, Vincent!

Important Dates

March 2024

- 1 World Day of Prayer
- 10 Laetare Sunday
COR gathering (See p. 2 for info.)
- 13 Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting by Zoom
- 17 Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast
- 19 Feast of St. Joseph, spouse of the Virgin Mary
- 20 Knights of Columbus General Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 24 Palm Sunday
- 28 Holy Thursday
- 29 Good Friday
- 31 Easter Sunday



Family of the Month

Each month, our council recognizes a family in the parish that serves the faith community in significant or special ways. In February we honored the family of Jordan and Theresa Robinson. As principal of Mother d'Youville Catholic School, Jordan works closely with the parish to create a partnership in Catholic education. He was a great help in organizing the students who participated in the Basketball Free Throw contest. Jordan is a brother Knight and a trained MC for Mass. Recently, both Jordan and Theresa were very involved in leading the Alpha program in the parish.



This spring Theresa will be giving a couple of presentations to the Young Adult group in the parish. They have five children who, over the years, have been involved in The Rock and have been involved in liturgical ministries. Thank you to the Robinson family for your commitment to parish life at St. Vital.

The Good Knight

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Basketball Free Throw Contests

On January 30 the Knights held their basketball free throw contests in our Beaumont Catholic Schools: Saint-André Academy and Mother d'Youville. Below is a photo of the Grade 4 participants from Saint-André Academy.



Many thanks to Bro. Paul Weisenberger (and wife, Sheree), who organized these contests as well as to the Knights who assisted him, including: Jordan Robinson, Joe Lauer and wife Dale, Gary Fisher, Kenton Crook, Dennis Madu, Wilbur Collin, and Sid Eriavaz.

Shrove Tuesday Pancakes

On Tuesday, February 13, the Knights prepared pancakes for the students and staff of Saint-André Academy. Thanks to our pancake mixers and flippers from L - R: Bros. Dennis Madu, Gary Fisher, John deRuiter, Louis Kloster, and Joe Lauer.



COR Initiative



The second COR gathering was held on Sunday, February 4. COR is a time for men in the parish to pray, engage in a scripture program called *Men of the Word*, and enjoy fellowship with each other. COR gatherings will usually – but not always – take place on the first Sunday of each month, from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

The next COR gathering is scheduled for **Sunday, March 10** at the home of Louis Kloster (100, 50511 Range Road 234), beginning at 7:00 p.m. Come and see what COR is all about.

**GOD PROMISES A SAFE LANDING,
NOT A CALM PASSAGE.**

Spaghetti Dinner & Horse Races

Our spaghetti dinner took place as scheduled on Sunday, February 18. There were 150 people in attendance, and \$1086.16 was raised for the Mustard Seed. Thanks to all the parishioners who supported this event.

We are very grateful to Bro. Joe Stack who once again organized the preparation of the food and the volunteers, and to Bro. Tim Morris and Bro. Michael Bilodeau, who facilitated the Horse Races that followed the spaghetti dinner.

Some of our volunteers are shown in the photo below. From left to right: Gabriel deRuiter, John deRuiter, Vincent deRuiter, Caelam Stack, Larry Rowan, Elaine Rowan, Angelica Eriavaz.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Silver Rose Prayer Service

The Our Lady of the Hill council is once again hosting this special event. On Thursday, March 7 at 7 p.m. gather for a prayer service in the presence of relics from Our Lady of Guadalupe. Accompanying the rose, which is fashioned out of silver, is a picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe that was blessed by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI when he was pope. A couple of other relics will also be present: a thread from Juan Diego's tilma and a soil sample from the place where the apparition took place. Everyone is invited.

The forty-five minute prayer service includes the Holy Rosary, a Liturgy of the Word, and an Act of Consecration to Mary.

Birthdays in March

We send our best wishes to the following Knights who are celebrating birthdays this month:

- March 1 Blair Corbeil
- March 1 Urbain Laboucane
- March 4 Stephen Huska
- March 5 Todd Yakimoski
- March 15 Colin Molinski
- March 16 Paul Pritchard
- March 17 Gerry Goudreau
- March 19 Philip Berube
- March 20 Andrew Chatelaine
- March 21 Vincent Coulombe
- March 23 Jesus Rodal-Hernandez
- March 27 Vincent deRuiter
- March 30 Paul Walsh



The Good Knight

Word of the Month:

Conscience

The word *conscience* derives from an Old French word that can be broken into two parts 'con' and 'science', which literally means 'with knowledge'. It refers to knowledge within oneself ... a moral sense of right and wrong.

The Second Vatican Council teaches:

"Deep within our consciences we discover a law which we have not laid upon ourselves but which we must obey. Its voice, ever calling us to love and to do what is good and to avoid evil, sounds in our hearts at the right moment. For we have in our hearts a law inscribed by God. Our conscience is our most secret core and sanctuary. There we are alone with God whose voice echoes in our depths" (Gaudium et Spes, 16).

Ultimately, we must follow and obey our own conscience. However, in order to make moral decisions, one must have an *informed* conscience. We gain wisdom and guidance from Sacred Scripture and Church doctrine. We also have the good example of others who choose to do what is good, right, and holy. Of course, the Holy Spirit is always there to help us. The Catechism of the Catholic Church also speaks of the importance of 'self-criticism', as we tend to justify a poor decision or judge things in our favor.



Liturgical Matters

Why is the Eucharistic Prayer so long?

Indeed, the Eucharist Prayer is the longest prayer of the Mass, but the most important or central one as well. It is a great prayer of thanksgiving and praise to God, but also one of petition. There are four Eucharistic prayers that the priest normally uses at Sunday mass, but there are others used on very specific and special occasions.

The Eucharistic Prayer tells the story of our faith, and it is very meaningful, especially when we make a serious effort to listen to the words. The Eucharistic Prayer is broken into several smaller prayers. The first part praises God and thanks Him for



all His blessings. During what is called the *epiclesis*, the priest calls the Holy Spirit to come

upon the gifts and to transform the bread and wine into Jesus' Body and Blood. We also recall the words of Christ at the Last Supper, when the Eucharist was instituted. In the words of *consecration*, we remember that Jesus died for us and rose from the dead so that we would have eternal life with Him in heaven. We offer praise to God for this sacrifice but also offer ourselves as living sacrifices. At one point we pray for those who have died. We want all the saints and angels to join us in our sacrifice. We pray for the Church to spread across the world. Finally, we respond to the Eucharistic prayer with a resounding Amen, known as the Great Amen.

Dissecting the Nicene Creed

As Catholics, what really do we believe? In each issue of *The Good Knight* this year, we will explore one of the tenets of our faith, as expressed in the Nicene Creed. Here's the next one:

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.



- The Holy Spirit is one of the three Persons of the Trinity.
- The Holy Spirit was revealed in its fullness to the disciples at the Pentecost in the form of a mighty wind and tongues of fire. He is also evident in the fruits of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, etc.) and the seven gifts of the Spirit (courage, knowledge, reverence, etc.)
- The Spirit was at work long before that, however. In the Genesis 1: 1, "a wind from God swept over the face of the waters". In the story of creation, God breathed life into human beings that he had formed from the dust of the earth. This wind and the breath of life are the Spirit of God.
- As well, the Spirit spoke through the prophets like Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel. The prophets were merely obedient servants and messengers of God. The Spirit inspired them and gave them the words to write and the courage to speak on God's behalf.
- David, the great king of Israel, who wrote many of the psalms in the Bible, was prompted and inspired by the Holy Spirit as well. See 1 Samuel 16:13.
- The Spirit and Jesus share the same mission, and whenever God sends His Son, He sends the Spirit. The Holy Spirit is also referred to in Scripture as the Paraclete. At the Last Supper, Jesus promises His disciples that He will send a Helper. That is the Holy Spirit.
- Jesus pours the Holy Spirit out on his disciples and on the Church. The Spirit 'dwells' in the believers – us – now while the Lord will only return in the future.
- The Holy Spirit works in a unique way in believers through various gifts such as wisdom and knowledge, courage and right judgment. In this way, he is the 'giver of life'.

The Good of the Order

Every month the Knights pray for the sick in the parish as well as relatives and friends who are in need of God's help. We call this the Good of the Order. Please join us in praying for:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| • Joe Lauer | Stroke recovery |
| • Linda Ritchie | Illness / Family |
| • Larry Rowan | Prostate Surgery Recovery |
| • Paula Vogstad | Illness / Family |
| • Robert Weisenberger | Stroke/heart attack recovery |

**MAY ST. PATRICK GUARD YOU WHEREVER YOU GO,
AND GUIDE YOU IN WHATEVER YOU DO,
AND MAY HIS LOVING PROTECTION
BE A BLESSING TO YOU ALWAYS.**

~ AN IRISH BLESSING ~

The Good Knight

Saint of the Month: St. Joseph

Joseph is such an important saint that, in the Church calendar, two days – March 19 and May 1 – have been dedicated in his honor. Joseph was the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus. Everything we know about St. Joseph comes from Scripture, yet not one spoken word of his is included. We know that Joseph was a carpenter, a working man. In Matthew 13:55, the Nazarenes ask about Jesus, "Is this not the carpenter's son?" Luke and Mark both mark Joseph's descent from David, the greatest king of Israel (Matthew 1:1-16; Luke 3:23-38).

The painting to the right, by 17th century Spanish painter, Bartolomé Estebán Murillo, is entitled *St. Joseph and the Christ Child*.



Joseph is also known as a caring and compassionate man. When he discovered that Mary was pregnant and he knew the child was not his own, he planned to divorce her according to the Law. He showed great concern for Mary's safety and her suffering. He knew that she could be stoned to death for being accused of adultery, so he decided to divorce her quietly and not expose her to shame or cruelty (Matt. 1: 19-25).

Joseph was known as a man of faith. He was obedient to God without knowing the outcome. When an angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him the truth about the child Mary was carrying, Joseph took Mary as his wife without question. When the angel told him that his family was in danger, he left everything he owned and fled to safety with his new family. He then remained in Egypt until the angel told him it was safe again to go back (Matt. 2:13 – 23).

We know that Joseph loved Jesus greatly. His major concern as a parent was for the safety of his child Jesus – whom he treated as his own son. Over and over the people of Nazareth say of Jesus, "Is this not the son of Joseph?" (Luke 4: 22).

We know that Joseph respected God. He followed God's commands throughout his life and put his trust in him. Upon learning that Mary was with child, Joseph had good reason to divorce her but, being a righteous, God-fearing man, he listened to and obeyed God's messenger and chose to do what would bring honor to both God and to Mary.

Since Joseph doesn't appear in Jesus' public life or at his death or resurrection, many historians believe he probably died before Jesus entered public ministry.

Although we know not where and when Joseph was born, how he spent his days, and when and how he died, Scripture *does* leave us with the very important knowledge of who he was: "a righteous man" (Matthew 1:18).

St. Joseph is the patron saint of the Catholic Church around the world, of our country Canada, and of fathers, carpenters and social justice. He is also the patron of a happy death. Indeed, Saint Joseph is a protector and model for us all.

Have You Heard This One?

The elderly priest speaking to the younger priest said, "You had a good idea to replace the first four pews with plush bucket theatre seats. It worked like a charm. The front of the church always fills first now."

The young priest nodded, and the old priest continued, "And you told me that adding a little more beat to the music would bring young people back to church, so I supported you when you brought in that rock 'n roll gospel choir. Now our services are consistently packed to the balcony."

"Thank you Father," answered the young priest, "I'm pleased that you're open to new ideas."

"All of these ideas have been well and good," said the elderly priest, "but I'm afraid you've gone too far with the drive-through confessional."

"But Father," protested the young priest, "my confessions and donations have doubled since I began that."

"Yes," replied the elderly priest, "and I appreciate that, but the flashing neon sign, 'Toot 'n Tell or Go to Hell' cannot stay on the church roof!"

**TO FORGIVE IS HUMAN,
TO FORGET IS DIVINE.**

James Grand

You Asked Us...

What is the role of the Financial Secretary on the council executive?

Every Knights of Columbus council has a financial secretary. This individual is not elected but is appointed by Supreme Council upon the recommendation of the Grand Knight and the Trustees. We are blessed to have Bro. Paul Weisenberger in this role. His duties are many and varied, but include:

- Collects dues from members through the timely sending of billing notices,
- Files various reports and membership/insurance transactions with Supreme Council,
- Has a working knowledge of the Knights of Columbus website and all it offers, and
- Ensures that the council's membership records are kept updated.

The jewel of the financial secretary is a key and quill surrounded by a laurel wreath, suspended from a ribbon of yellow and white. The key is associated with guardianship, while the quill is the symbol of a 'scribe', that is, one who writes and keeps track of various letters and documents. The laurel wreath acknowledges the special service of the financial secretary to his council. The ribbon of yellow and white represents intellect and goodness.

