

The Good Knight

*"In Service to One,
In Service to All"*



Issue 7

September 2023

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Greetings! Welcome back, after a summer break.

This year, you will continue receiving a monthly issue of *The Good Knight*. What you will read is intended to be both informative and inspiring, not just for Knights and their families but for all parishioners. Feel free to share it with others.

You will continue to find some of the types of information that were featured in the past, such as a Saint of the Month, a Word of the Month, and the popular joke. This year, we will also examine the various tenets of our Nicene Creed, one at a time.

Thank you for reading *The Good Knight*.

Louis Kloster, Editor and Current Grand Knight

Liturgical Matters

What is the purpose of the homily at Mass?

The homily is usually based on the readings of the day. The priest speaks to us about what we heard in the Scripture readings and relates it to our own lives. Early in the week, a priest spends hours reflecting upon the upcoming Sunday readings and preparing a meaningful reflection for the faith community. We hope that the Holy Spirit will inspire the priest, so that we can better understand God's Word in Scripture and learn more about our faith.

Catholic evangelist and author, Matthew Kelly, encourages us to bring a small notebook to Mass each week and to record one idea presented in the homily that we can apply or 'live' during the next week. He suggests this would be a 'game-changer' for Catholics.

Important Dates

September 2023



- 1 World Day of Prayer
- 4 Labor Day
- 8 Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 13 Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting by Zoom
- 14 Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- 20 Knights of Columbus General Meeting
- 21 Feast of St. Matthew
- 23 Feast of St. Padre Pio
- 27 Feast of St. Vincent de Paul
- 29 Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

You Asked Us...

What is the role of the Treasurer on the council executive?

The current Treasurer of Our Lady of the Hill Council #13064 is Sid Eriavaz. Brother Sid replaces Bro. Joe Lauer, who served in this capacity for twenty years. As our Treasurer, Bro. Sid:

- Handles all council funds
- Receives money from the financial secretary and deposits it in the proper council accounts
- Maintains all of the council's chequing and saving accounts
- Is responsible for paying all council expenses, including assessments from the Supreme Council

The jewel of the treasurer is crossed keys suspended from a ribbon of blue. The keys symbolize the guardianship of the funds of the council. The ribbon of blue represents truth and loyalty.

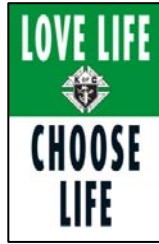


EGO = Edging God Out

The Good Knight

Pro-Life Corner

The Knights of Columbus are strong pro-life supporters, and so we are introducing a new column to this newsletter that will address pro-life issues and promote the sanctity of life. Our current culture supports abortion, at least to some degree. Perhaps that is because the information they receive may be one-sided, misguided or, even, false.



In this first article, we borrow material from the Campaign Life Coalition Canada newsletter. Each month they address a pro-abortion claim and challenge it with facts ... with truth.

Pro-abortion claim: Abortion is a right.

Pro-Life response: There exists no court-defined or Charter right to abortion in Canada. In fact, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms states that "Everyone has the right to life". "Everyone," tragically, does not apply to the preborn child who is unscientifically defined as only becoming human when he or she has "completely proceeded from the body of its mother." This legal fiction allows for the slaughter of some 100,000 preborn Canadians annually.

There is also no right to abortion in international law. In fact, two major international agreements that are both legally binding enshrine protection for preborn humans. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Right states in article six that "Every human being has the inherent right to life. This right shall be protected by law." The Convention on the Rights of the Child states that "Parties shall ensure to the maximum extent possible the survival and development of the child," making it clear that "the child, by reason of his physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth."

Have You Heard This One?

A Catholic priest and a Jewish rabbi were chatting one day, when the conversation turned to a discussion of job descriptions and the future.

"In what position do you see yourself in a couple years from now?" asked the rabbi to the priest.

"Well, actually, I'm next in line for the Monsignor's job," replied the priest.

"Yes, and then what?" asked the rabbi.

"Well, I could become Archbishop," said the priest.

"Yes, and then?" asked the rabbi.

The priest, now a bit exasperated, replied, "With some luck and real hard work, maybe I can become a cardinal."

"And then?" continued the rabbi.

The priest was really starting to get frustrated, but replied, "With lots and lots of luck and some real difficult work, and if I'm in the right place at the right time and play my political games just right, maybe, just maybe, I can get elected Pope."

"Yes, and then what?" continued the rabbi.

"Good grief!" shouted the priest. "What do you expect me to become, God?"

"Well," said the rabbi, "One of our boys made it!"

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Installation of Officers

On Thursday, June 29, the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, the newly elected executive members were installed at a special ceremony following the 7 p.m. mass. District Deputy Florent Duguay orchestrated the commissioning of officers.



Rural Routes Fair

For the last several years, our council has provided parking attendants for the Rural Routes Fair at the Agriculture Grounds just west of Beaumont. This year the event took place on Saturday, August 26. Many thanks to Bro. Sid Eriavaz for organizing this project and to his team of volunteers, including Jam Abello, Kenton Crook, Gary Fisher, John Hendriks, Louis Kloster, Joe Lauer, and Joe Mahe.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Birthdays in September

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

- September 5 Mike McAllister
- September 9 Jacques Goudreau
- September 12 Vern Reichert
- September 13 Nelson Morris
- September 16 Thomas Clark
- September 19 Dennis Madu
- September 20 Denis Charbonneau
- September 25 Brian Magee
- September 28 Gabriel deRuiter



Wedding Anniversaries in September

- September 5 Perry & Jo-Anne Hendriks
- September 12 Joe & Colleen Mahe
- September 30 John & Pebbles deRuiter

May they be blessed with many more years of enduring love and happiness.

The Good Knight

Saint of the Month: St. Vincent de Paul



Vincent de Paul was born to a peasant family in France in 1581. While he enjoyed reading and writing, Vincent spent much of his time herding the family's livestock. At the age of 15, his father sent him to the seminary, where he was trained for the priesthood. As a young priest, Vincent was captured by North African pirates who sold him into slavery. For two years, he worked hard for his masters. After converting his last master to Christianity, he was set free.

Upon returning to Paris, Vincent became a village pastor as well as a tutor for a rich and influential family. However, he then had a change of heart. Through his life experiences, Vincent had become increasingly aware of poverty, and he realized that God was calling him to be a true friend to the poor and to care for the needy. He left the palace and went to work with the poor.

Vincent de Paul was a priest who was most remembered for his kindness. It is said that poor children were always hanging on to his coattails. To them, he gave food, clothing, toys and all the love that was in his heart.

'Give' was the word that described his daily life. He worked hard to earn money and then gave it all away to the poor. To help his work with the poor, Vincent gathered a group of men and women who were dedicated to God. They established orphanages, hospitals, and educational institutions. He sent these missionaries throughout Europe. In North Africa, they ransomed 1200 slaves. Today, these men (the Vincentians) and women (Daughters of Charity) continue the work Vincent started. As well, there are numerous chapters of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, all run by laypeople who are dedicated to serving the poor in their communities.

Throughout his life, while asserting a preferential option for the poor, Vincent remained a very humble man. Apparently, the queen of France came to visit him when he was on his deathbed. The year was 1660. She said to him that God must be very pleased with him. To her surprise, Vincent shook his head and replied, "I should have done more."

During his life, Vincent had organized groups of people to serve the needs of the poor. He worked hard to improve living conditions for the prisoners he visited. In light of these acts of service, Saint Vincent de Paul – depicted in the stained glass window on the right – is the patron saint of charitable societies, prisoners, volunteers, and hospital workers. His feast day is September 27.



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. A list will be compiled at our next general meeting on September 20 and shared at month's end.

Word of the Month

In order to communicate our faith to others, we need to develop a certain vocabulary ... a faith vocabulary. Each month we will dissect and investigate one faith-related word.

Virtue

The word 'virtue' dates back to the 13th century. It is derived from the French word, *vertu*, which means 'moral life and conduct' or 'moral excellence and high character'. It has been used in reference to specific qualities or standards of right conduct, such as bravery and chastity.

Generally, a virtue is a good habit or skill. We are not innately virtuous; rather, virtues are learned and developed through practice. We become more virtuous through repeated good deeds. We acquire the virtue of self-discipline, for example, by continually exercising it. Nonetheless, even virtuous people will err at times.

The Church identifies three theological virtues, which St. Paul recognized in his first letter to the Corinthians: "And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love" (1 Cor. 13: 13). Known as theological virtues, they are given with grace by God, and are, therefore, *supernatural*.

There are also four cardinal – that is, fundamental – virtues: *prudence*, moderation or *temperance*, *fortitude* or self-discipline, and *justice*. All other virtues hinge upon these four. For example, fortitude requires patience and perseverance, and prudence is essential to all other virtues.

Emblem of the Order

The emblem of the Order dates from the second Supreme Council meeting, held on May 12, 1883. It was designed by then-Supreme Knight James T. Mullen.

The emblem is composed of a shield mounted upon the Formée Cross. The shield is associated with medieval knights. The Formée Cross is a traditional artistic design of the Cross of Christ and represents the Catholic spirit of the Order.

Mounted on the shield is a vertically-standing fasces (a bundle of rods) with an anchor and short sword crossed behind it. The fasces dates from the Roman Empire and is symbolic of authority, which must exist in any tightly bonded and efficiently operating organization. The anchor is the mariner's symbol, symbolic of Columbus, patron of the Order. The short sword was the weapon of the knight when engaged upon errands of mercy. Together with the shield and the letters K of C, these symbols express Catholic knighthood in organized, merciful action.



The colors of red, white and blue in the background of the shield and the foreground of the Formée Cross are colors that represent noble aspects of the Order. Red is symbolic of stout-hearted courage, of pulsing activity, and a full measure of devotion. Blue is symbolic of hope, of calm tranquility under God, and of confidence in the protection of one's country. White is symbolic of nobility of purpose, of purity of aim, and of crucible-tried ideals to be carried out.

The Good Knight

The Feast of the Archangels (St. Michael, St. Gabriel & St. Raphael)

The three saints we learn about this month do not have physical bodies. They never need to eat or sleep ... never have. You may already have concluded that the saints being featured this month are not human ... never were. They were created by God to protect His people ... to protect us. They are spiritual beings that we call angels. In fact, these saints are called 'archangels' because they are very powerful angels, leaders amongst angels. They are the only angels that are named in the bible: St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael.



Gabriel was the angel that appeared to Mary and announced that she would give birth to the Son of God. As for St. Michael, when some of the heavenly angels turned against God, there was a great battle and he led the army of good angels in chasing Satan and the bad angels out. Michael means 'Who is like the Lord'. Finally, in the Book of Tobit in the Old Testament, we read about Raphael healing Tobit of his illness.

The feast of the Archangels reminds us that, on this journey through life, we are vulnerable to temptation and to hurts. In His infinite wisdom, God knows that we will need help in staying on the path of holiness. Every year on September 29, we remember all three of these archangels. We can pray to St. Michael at any time, particularly when we need protection from temptation or anything that is evil. The prayer goes like this:

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.

Be our protection against the wickedness
and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou,
O prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan and all evil spirits
who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Save me!

Have you considered saving each issue of *The Good Knight* newsletter for future reference? They are also archived on the Knights of Columbus webpage on the Parish website.

Knight of the Month / Family of the Month

A Knight of the Month and a Family of the Month for September will be decided at the executive meeting on September 13. The honorees will be featured in the next issue of *The Good Knight* at the end of September.

What is Ordinary Time?

There are five seasons in the Church year: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum, and Easter. The time in between seasons is called Ordinary Time. There are two blocks of Ordinary Time: a short time between Christmas and Lent, and a long period between Easter and Advent.

- Ordinary Time is not regular, uneventful, or ordinary. The word *ordinal* means 'counted'; we count the 34 weeks of Ordinary time (e.g. the 1st week of Ordinary Time)
- The color for Ordinary Time is green; even the priest wears green vestments at Mass.

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 a summary:

- A creed is an expression of what we believe in, of what we believe to be true.
- We have a creed that summarizes what we believe about God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit; about what we believe as Catholics.
- The Church's earliest profession of faith was "Jesus is Lord." Plain and simple.
- By the fourth century the western Church developed a Trinitarian profession of faith that was known as the Apostles' Creed. At the same time, at the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D., Church leaders and theologians met and developed the Nicene Creed, which is the profession of faith we recite in many of our parishes. Either creed is a statement of the essentials, a profession of the most significant aspects of our faith.
- God is three persons in one: co-equal, co-eternal (always have been and always will be), yet distinct from each other, and yet not so distinct that they are different gods.
- The Holy Trinity, depicted in Andrei Rublev's famous icon to the right, is a difficult concept to comprehend. St. Patrick used the shamrock with its three lobes to teach about the three Persons, but one God. Other analogies have been used to enhance our understanding. The Trinity has been compared to an egg (shell, yoke, egg whites), bread (flour, water, and yeast), an apple (peel, core, and flesh'), and a candle (wax, wick, and flame).
- Simply put, the Trinity is a mystery; it is beyond anything we can experience. Through the Father, we see the greatness of God; through the Son, we recognize the humanity of God' and through the Spirit, we experience the Spirit of God.
- Our faith is Trinitarian. You can't believe in only one or two persons or parts of the Trinity. We ourselves are triune beings, having a body, a mind, and a soul.
- In the scriptures, Jesus says that 'no one comes to the Father except through me.' The Father is revealed to us through His Son, Jesus. We know Jesus because the Spirit of God leads us to that knowledge.

