

Volume 3, #7

January, 2009

MOKENA KNIGHTHOOD

BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

JANUARY



OFFICERS 2008-2009

CHAPLAIN Fr. James Dvorscak
 GRAND KNIGHT Peter Baker
 DEPUTY GK James Peppmuller
 CHANCELLOR Joseph Kral
 ADVOCATE Jason Stetz
 RECORDER Paul Waiztoni
 TREASURER Donald Bauc
 FIN. SECRETARY Dan Michalak
 WARDEN Frank Borich
 OUTSIDE GUARD Donald Zich
 INSIDE GUARD Mark Weich
 INSIDE GUARD Michael Doyle
 TRUSTEES:
 3 YEAR George St Marie
 2 YEAR Joost Sluis
 1 YEAR Robert Strezo
 FIELD AGENT: Cliff Peloquin
 KNIGHT OF THE QUARTER:
 Mario Carreon

**MONDAY JANUARY 5:
JOLIET ASSEMBLY MEETS..**

At Council 4400, 7:30 PM

**TUESDAY JANUARY 13:
COUNCIL MEETING AND
FIRST DEGREE.**

In The Franciscan Room at 7:30 PM. Bring candidates to the meeting at 7:00 PM

**WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14:
MANGER TAKE DOWN.**

The parish manger is taken down right after Epiphany. Come at 9 AM outside St Mary School for an hour or so of effort to store the manger.

**SATURDAY JANUARY 17:
POKER NIGHT** At Greg Quinn's house, 19938 S. Patricia Lane, Mokena. Phone (708) 479 4864, 7 PM.

**SUNDAY JANUARY 18: PAN-
CAKE BREAKFAST:**

Come and help with this great fund raiser in Burnett Hall. Help is needed all morning and the knights have a great time together. The membership table will be manned, also.

Bring a friend/prospect for the knights! Call Joe Kral at (708) 478 4543 for information about volunteers, etc.

**SUNDAY JANUARY 18: MASS
FOR THE UNBORN.**

At St Raymond's Cathedral, Joliet, 2 PM. Come and give support to the group going to Washington to demonstrate for life on January 22. Bishop Sartain will preside and bless those going to DC.

**TUESDAY JANUARY 27: OFFI-
CERS MEETING** In the Bishop Fitzgerald Room of St Mary School at 7:30 PM.

**FRIDAY JANUARY 30: MAJOR
DEGREE.**

Numerous men will be invited to complete their initiations. Come and renew your commitment to the order while supporting new candidates for the second and third degrees. All First Degree knights should come to this important event. At St Anthony Church, Frankfort, 7:00 until about 10:30 PM. St Anthony's is on Sauk Trail about 1/4 Mi. West of Harlem Avenue.





COOK'S ...CORNER

Our MASTER CHEFS will serve pulled pork sandwiches and the required condiments for our January meeting



THE NUN'S BINGO WAS FUN!

The "Nun's Bingo" is an old tradition of our Council and of St Francis of the Woods. We visited the convent starting at 1 PM on December 13. About thirty retired sisters came along with about twenty five knights and their families. Bingo callers Rosemary Quinn and Megan Cosgrove were superb. The sisters won very nice prizes that were purchased by Dan Michalak, Carolyn Michalak and John O Reilly. After the Bingo, the sisters and their guests enjoyed cookies and punch while singing Christmas Carols using the new Council song sheets. The party broke up at about 3 PM.



INSURANCE RIGHTS FOR WIDOWS

The laws and rules of our Order, as well as state (provincial) laws, specify that the Knights of Columbus may accept insurance applications only from Knights of Columbus members. As a member, you may apply for insurance on yourself, your wife and your dependent, minor children.

The Order's Board of Directors has taken action, though, to assure that a brother Knight's widow maintains the right to purchase additional insurance for a limited time. This can be of great benefit and comfort to those we leave behind.

This "right to apply" is available only to the widows of insured members. If a member has not availed himself of our top-rated life insurance program, or purchased an annuity or long-term care policy, this benefit is not available to his widow.

But if the member was an insured member, his widow has the right to apply for additional insurance on her life and on the lives of the member's minor children. This right can be exercised for up to one year following the Order's receipt of proof of the insured's death.

Know two things. First, I'll assist your widow and children in any way possible if you should die, both with your Knights of Columbus insurance and any other life insurance you may have. Second, I'll provide them my best professional advice and service, to assure that they continue to have adequate insurance protection.

As a professional agent and a brother Knight, I have no greater responsibility.

I'm at 815-464-7242 or Clifford.Peloquin@kofc.org Call me – let's talk.



A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS PARTY!

The Council Christmas party on December 13 was a great success. 47 children and about 90 adults filled Burnett Hall with food and fun. The Council committee led by Joe Kral provided chicken, mostaccioli, wine, coffee and milk while everyone brought a dish for the potluck meal. The food was wonderful! After dinner, Santa Claus came to pass out a gift to each child. While Santa was still busy Al Sparks played Christmas music on his electronic keyboard. New Council song sheets that were produced by Joe Sluis and assembled by Don Bauc were handed to every table as caroling began after dinner. When caroling got off to a slow start, a group of singers that included Lino Sbragia, Cookie Halaby, Art Wilson and others came forward to lead the Council in song. As usual, council members pitched in without being asked to clean up and manage various tasks. Once again we all saw that the Council is a band of brothers and not a club.



MAJOR DEGREES!

The Degree Team that performs the official State initiations for the Knights of Columbus is only in this area once or twice per year. The wonderful ceremonies that initiate men into the Second and Third Degrees of their Knighthood are never forgotten by those who partake. All Council members are urged to attend the Major Degree Ceremonies. First Degree Knights should come and finish their formal initiations into the Knights of Columbus. Third Degree Knights should come to support the candidates and to renew the pledges they made when they partook of the Second and Third Degrees.

Men initiated into the First Degree in January are eligible and should also attend.

The Major Degrees will take place at St Anthony Church in Frankfort on Sauk Trail at 7:00 PM on January 30. A meal will be served after the ceremonies. Come and meet brothers from various councils as well as District and State functionaries of the Knights of Columbus.

Vivat Jesus



THE FIRST DEGREE

To become a member in the Knights of Columbus, a candidate must regularly attend Mass, must go to Confession at least once per year, must actively support the teachings of our Holy Church, and must be formally inducted into the Order in a ceremony called "The First Degree". This ceremony is locally given, often by the council the candidate is joining. It is a very old ceremony, now over 130 years old, that sometimes seems archaic.

While completion of the "First Degree" is mandatory and makes a candidate an official member of the Knights, the initiation of a member is not complete until three "Degrees" are completed. The Second and Third Degrees are conferred by the District and State offices of the Knights. The Second and Third Degrees are more memorable and sometimes much more impressive than the First Degree and are conferred by special "Degree Teams". Completion of all three of these degrees is a must to become a true Knight of Columbus. This January, St Mary Council will be installing new members at the January 13 meeting. Candidates wishing to join the knights must present themselves at the "Franciscan Room" of St Mary School at 7:00 PM that evening for induction. If you know a worthy person, bring him to the ceremony.



**SANTA BOB STREZO FOR
"PICTURES WITH SANTA"**

PICTURES WITH SANTA

The December "Doughnut Sunday" was a memorable event for the Parish. Santa Bob made himself available for pictures with parishioners' kids. Gene Satrun brought a computerized photography system that he and Joe Kral put together. Joe Sluis made a throne for Santa. Mark Welch, Jim Peppmuller, Eileen Peppmuller and Elf Virginia Strezo helped with the project. At the nine O Clock Mass, Father McGrath of Providence High School announced that "I now know that Santa is Catholic because the Knights of Columbus are selling pictures with him for only \$3." The project was a great success with about \$200 worth of pictures sold. A wonderful precedent for the future. The knights, including George St Marie and other volunteers also helped with doughnut Sunday selling the doughnuts, etc.

SANTA'S VISITS

Last year, Joe Kral and Bob Strezo came up with the idea of raising money by renting Santa to families and others. The project did well last year and started to become a really great success this year. In order to lessen the strain on Santa (Santa is getting old), several assistant Santas performed their duties this year. Brother knight Cliff Peloquin prepared advertising and did the scheduling. Harris Bank on Colorado Street in Frankfort and Nancy's Pizza at 198th and LaGrange Road in Mokena provided pictures with Santa for their customers. Santa Bob Strezo and Santa Jim Peppmuller made eleven visits to raise over \$1000 for Council charity work. A wonderful result—thanks to all who helped.



SANTA JIM PEPPMULLER AND ELF LORRAINE

BUSINESS CARDS

Last year members of the council sent business cards for publication in this newsletter. The February issue will show the cards again for the edification of all. If Joe has your card from the past year, it will be printed unless you send a new replacement. If you have not sent in a card so far, please do so before January 20 and your business card will be printed. The cards will be printed as information—not advertising. Send your card to: Joe Sluis, 11533 St. Vincent Ct., Mokena, IL 60448



**CHIEF
ELF
JOE KRAL**

**SCHEDULING
ELF
CLIFF PELOQUIN**