

Volume 4, # 5

NOVEMBER, 2009

MOKENA KNIGHTHOOD

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FIELD AGENT: John Blazeovich
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Richard Ciancio



MEMBERSHIP BLITZ SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1, MEMBERSHIP BLITZ AND PANCAKE BREAKFAST. All Knights are asked to wear their Knights of Columbus shirt to Mass and help pass out flyers to all men who come to Mass. November 1 is Vocations Sunday and Father Masters will be at the Parish and will have a table at the Pancake Breakfast. We will also have a table at the pancake breakfast for membership discussion. The pancake breakfast also needs your help. Let's make this a great Knights of Columbus event!

MONDAY NOVEMBER 2: JOLIET ASSEMBLY MEETS.

7:30 pm at Council 4400 in Joliet
MONDAY NOVEMBER 9 : ROSARY FOR LIFE: At St Anthony Church in Frankfort at 7 PM.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10: COUNCIL MEETING AND FIRST DEGREE: In Burnett Hall. Candidates should arrive at 7PM. The Degree starts at 7:30 PM. The First Degree is dependent on the acquisition of new candidates during our membership blitz.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 11: MEMORIAL MASS. A special Mass to honor the knights who have gone home to our Lord during the past year. At Council 4400, 7:00 PM Mass. See the article

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14: MOTHERS' MORNING OF REFLECTION St Mary Parish will present reflection for mothers on Saturday morning at 9:00 AM in Burnett Hall. Day care will be provided. Register in Burnett Hall after one of the Masses.
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14: FATHERS' DAY OF REFLECTION: The day at St Mary begins with Mass at 7:30 followed by a presentation from Fr. Albert Haase, OFM at 8:30 AM, and then followed by a continental breakfast. Register in Burnett Hall following the Masses.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 17: OFFICER MEETING. In the Bishop Fitzgerald Room at 7:30 PM
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21: POKER NIGHT. At Tim Cosgrove's house at 1026 Stonegate Road, New Lenox. Phone (815) 485 5599



OCTOBER COUNCIL PRO LIFE ACTIVITIES

The picture above shows some of the 250 white crosses placed in front of the Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church on Will Cook Road in Homer Glen. The crosses belong to our council and were placed there by our Pro Life Committee consisting of Rich Ciancio, John O'Reilly, Joe Sluis and Joe's brother Bill Sluis. Each of the crosses represents 100 babies killed each week in the United States by the abortionists. The crosses will remain at the Annunciation Church for the Month of October. The committee will relocate the crosses to a new location after November 1. If any brother can provide a location for display of this important witness to life, please contact John O'Reilly at (708) 479 5907 or Joe Sluis at (815) 469 9204.

On Pro Life Sunday, the council provided 100 signs for demonstrators who stood on Cedar Road in New Lenox from 2:30 until 3:30 PM. A group from our council was joined by many others so that about 95 persons witnessed for life on that day.

Pray to end abortion.



FATHER DENNIS HAS GONE HOME



Father Dennis' new home. He will teach Chemistry and Biology at the diocesan High School Seminary in Kisubi, Uganda, shown above.

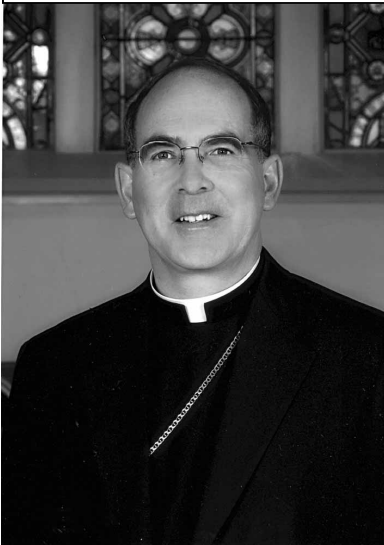


Father Dennis presents sports equipment that he brought with him from the U.S. to some of his new seminary students

As you can see from the pictures he sent us, Sir Knight Father Dennis Kasule is back home. He told us he was surprised to be reassigned to teach at the high school seminary. Before coming to the US, Father Dennis was teaching physics, math and religion but he will now be teaching chemistry and biology. He said he is looking forward to a new adventure but asks for our prayers for his success. Father Dennis brought surprise gifts with him for his students and for family and friends in his village. The pictures give us a little idea of his home. Father's Email address is kadenny@gmail.com and his "magic jack" telephone number (a free call from the US) is (224) 764 9809 Vivat Jesus



Father Dennis with some of his students



FROM BISHOP SARTAIN

Our Bishop will accompany members of the Joliet Diocese on the annual pilgrimage to Washington DC to demonstrate and pray for an end to abortion in the United States. The Diocesan pilgrims will depart late evening on January 20 and will return in the early afternoon on January 24. The 2009 contingent consisted of four tour buses of adults and teens. The group was prayerful and focused on the mission. The national press did little to report that three hundred thousand Christians, including several thousand Knights of Columbus had prayed together at the National Basilica of the Immaculate Conception and in front of the Supreme Court. To join this year's pilgrimage contact the Diocesan Life Office at (630) 718 2121

Vivat Jesus

THOMAS BREJCHA



The Thomas More Society

The presentation by Mr. Thomas Brejcha, lead attorney for the Thomas More Society, that was scheduled for October 15, was canceled unexpectedly. Mr. Brejcha is in demand as a speaker and there is no present plan for him to return to St Mary. Those knights and other pro life persons interested in hearing him speak should mark their calendar for December 14. That evening, Mr. Brejcha will speak at St Anthony Church in Frankfort. The evening will feature a rosary for life starting at 7 PM followed by a presentation by Mr. Brejcha. The Thomas More Society is funded primarily by contributions from pro life Catholics. This is a worthwhile event.

FOUR DEGREES OF KNIGHTHOOD

The four degrees of the knights of Columbus are often confusing to members. When a man first enters the order, he does so by completing a short formal initiation called the “First Degree”. Many men do not avail themselves of opportunities to take additional degrees in the order since there is often little emphasis placed on the need to do so. This article tries to explain the need.

Each degree of the order represents a step toward complete knighthood. The degrees are named after the four principles of the order: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. The Charity degree is the First Degree and indicates initiation into the local Council. A first degree knight is similar to an apprentice knight. The Unity Degree is the second degree which indicates membership in the District of the order and the Fraternity degree is the third degree which is conferred by the State Deputy or his designated representative and which confers knighthood in the order and full membership. The second and third degrees are usually given on the same day. The secrets of the order are primarily made known in the third degree initiation which is of such a nature that no one will forget the experience. A man is fully knighted when he has completed the first three degrees. In order to be elected to a position in the order you must be a third degree knight. There is no uniform for third degree knights. All officers and leaders of the Councils of the Knights of Columbus are third degree knights.

The fourth degree of the order is the Patriotic Degree. This degree is voluntary and exemplification into the fourth degree is not a promotion or higher level of knighthood. Fourth degree knights wear a distinctive uniform with a plumed hat and a sword and serve as the recognizable “face” of the order. These men perform as honor guards for official church functions involving Bishops and are seen in parades on important days. Fourth degree knights are members of a local council and also have a separate organization called an “Assembly”. Membership in the fourth degree is by invitation but any knight who has been a member for at least six months on February 21 and who has attained third degree full knighthood is eligible to join the fourth degree assembly.





CARDINAL JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

The Newman Apostolate Program

Cardinal John Henry Newman is revered as a convert from the Anglican persuasion who worked diligently to bring the Church of England back to the Catholic Faith. In his honor, the Knights of Columbus have as their most significant charity the Newman Apostolate.

The Newman Apostolate supports Newman Centers at major universities and Newman programs at smaller colleges. The Newman facilities serve as a “Catholic home” for Catholic students at college and strongly counter the materialistic humanism being taught to them by their schools. The program supports the faith while supporting our young people at school. It is a very worthwhile project.

You recently received a donation request from the Illinois Knights of Columbus for the Newman Apostolate. If you have not contributed, please consider it.

VOCATIONS RAFFLE

Many of our brothers received a raffle booklet used to raise money for vocations with last month’s newsletter. To date, only twenty three booklets have been returned with checks. Please consider buying the booklet of tickets for \$15.00 since almost all of the money you contribute is used for vocations. Father Masters, Vocations Director for the Diocese of Joliet will be at St Mary on November 1. He can explain to you the wonderful benefit that Knights of Columbus vocations money is to his seminarians. To buy the booklet, fill out the stubs and mail the booklet with the front cover still attached to Joe Sluis, 11533 St Vincent Ct., Mokena, IL 60448. We do not need to turn the results in until Christmas or so, but waiting too long might cause the booklet to become lost.



MEMORIAL MASS

The Joliet Assembly has held a Mass every year for a long time to honor the Sir Knights who died during the preceding twelve months. Starting last year, the Mass was modified to honor all knights of councils that make up the Joliet Assembly, regardless of their degree in the order. This year, all knights who died will be remembered at Mass on November 11 at the Council Hall of Council 4400, 1813 E. Cass Street, Joliet. All knights and their families are asked to attend to honor those who have returned to our Lord. Fourth Degree Knights with regalia are asked to arrive at 6:30 PM to form an honor guard. The Mass will begin at 7:00 PM. Council Grand Knights will be providing lists of those who will be remembered. A meal will be served after the Mass.



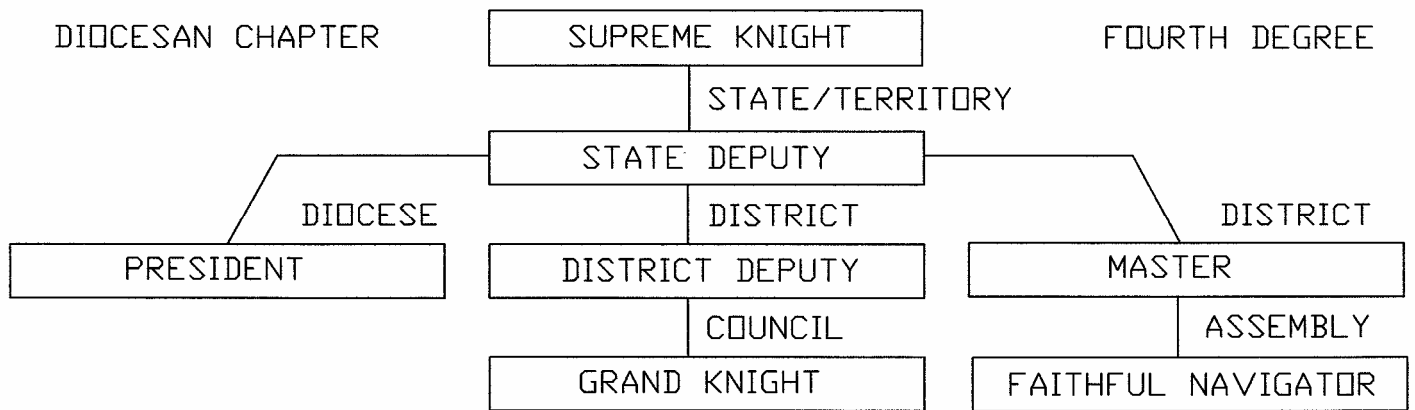


HAVE YOU SEEN THIS MAN?

Introducing our new Field Agent, Mr. John Cinkus. John is presently being “brought up to speed” by our General Agent John Blazevich. Mr. Cinkus will be available to the council in the near future. In the meantime, any insurance or benefits questions should be directed to:

John Blazevich
 General Agent
 (708) 746 5186 (office)
 (708) 646 6705 (cell)

Knights of Columbus Organization



In response to several requests, the following is provided:

The Knights of Columbus is headquartered in New Haven, Connecticut. The Supreme Knight is elected at the annual international convention. A Supreme Master for the Fourth Degree is appointed by the Supreme Knight. States and Territories in the Philippines, Poland, Mexico, Canada, Cuba, and The United States of America are represented. Each state or territory has an annual convention to elect the State Deputy who is subordinate to the Supreme Knight. The State Deputy appoints a Master for the Honor Guard, also known as the Fourth Degree and he appoints a District Deputy for each district of the state. Each District Deputy represents the State Deputy to five or more Councils. Local organizations are the Chapter which represents the Knights to the Bishop and which encompasses the diocese; the Assembly which is the Fourth Degree Honor Guard component and the Council which is the regular organization of the Knights of Columbus. Each of these local organizations has a full slate of elected officers. The diocese of Joliet has about 58 Councils, several Assemblies and one Chapter. There are over 1.7 million Knights in the world to make the Knights of Columbus the largest evangelical organization of laymen in the world.