

JANUARY  
2010

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Bishop Britt Council #8117

www.kofc8117.com



IN SERVICE

TO ONE.

IN SERVICE TO ALL.



## Upcoming Events

- Coffee and Donuts at St. Robert on January 10
- Pancake Breakfast at St. Robert on January 24
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## GRAND KNIGHT REPORT

Brother Knights,

In looking back on 2009, it is very heartwarming to see how our council has grown and how our brothers have joined together to make our many undertakings successful. I am so grateful for your continued dedication and commitment and look forward to working with you this upcoming year.

Just as we look to 2010 to review our own personal goals and resolve to refocus on those that can help us succeed, we as members of Bishop Britt Council #8117 will be reviewing our council's goals and plans for 2009-2010 to see what we need to refocus on to succeed with our plan. This can only be done, however, with the help from all of our members. I ask that our 3rd and 4th degree members reach out to our 1<sup>st</sup> degree members and encourage them to advance in the order of the Knights of Columbus. Above all, please continue the good work you are doing . . . the reward is immeasurable!

We are also so blessed to have officers that whole heartedly embrace the important mission of Father McGivney and are enthusiastically working together for the good of the council, church family and community. Without this leadership we could not accomplish our goals and good works.

In closing, I wish to thank all the Knights that helped in December with the Poinsettia Sale, Donut Sunday, and the installation of our 1<sup>st</sup> degree brothers. My prayer for you and your family is that your upcoming year be filled with much joy and many blessings!

Vivat Jesus!

Your Grand Knight,

*Arnold C. Zueger*



New 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Knights (L to R) Bill Zuidema, Chris Apel, Dave Martin, Dave Snyder, and Steve Prevost

On December 15, at 7:00 p.m., I was pleased to take part in welcoming those who entered membership in the Knights of Columbus through the First Degree Exemplification Ceremony. I had not been able to attend many meetings of the Knights since my arrival at St. Robert's. Tuesday evenings had been taken with Inquiry Classes for those looking to enter the Catholic Church. My role at Inquiry was more instrumental than my role at a K of C meeting. But Inquiry has ended, so that Tuesday was free.

I have not been a member of the Knights for a very long time. In fact, I became a Fourth Degree Knight in DeWitt, Michigan at the same time as Fr. Lou Stasker. Therefore, I have only attended a couple of First, Second & Third, and Fourth Degree Exemplifications. However, after the ceremony on the 15<sup>th</sup>, I couldn't help but comment how impressed I was with the way the ceremony was carried out. We all are people of rituals. The Catholic Church is filled with rituals. Each Sacrament has its rubrics, which are rules and guidelines for how the ceremony is to be carried out. We all have other rituals: ethnic, national, or family customs and ceremonies. They speak to our hearts, our emotions, and the values that we hold dear. When they are done well, they move us to tears. Think of military honors after a funeral. When they are not done well, we are embarrassed.

The Knights of Columbus have many rituals that speak of our catholic identity as men of faith. My compliments to those who led the exemplification. And a warm welcome to our new members.

### FROM YOUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY...MEMBER BILLING – ANNUAL DUES

Yes, it is that time of year again, annual dues have been assessed and are due. To those of you that have paid, thank you! To those that have not, please do! When I receive your payment I will mail out your 2010 membership card. If you have any questions, please let me know. Thank you.

~ Dan Baas

### HELP WANTED!

A reminder that we need volunteers to serve **donuts** after Sunday Mass at St. Robert's. Upcoming dates are **January 10** and **February 14**. Remember that February 14 is St. Valentine's Day.

The Knights of Columbus will be serving **breakfast** on Sunday, **January 24** after the 9:00 and 11:00 Masses. If you can help with this event, send an e-mail to me at [rowe.curtis@comcast.net](mailto:rowe.curtis@comcast.net).

Send a message to me if you are willing to organize this activity.

Once again I would like to thank the men who helped with the poinsettia sale. We profited \$820.00 for our charities from that event. We could not have done that without your help. Thank you.

~ Curtis Rowe, Program Director

## WELCOME FIVE NEW CATHOLIC GENTLEMEN!

Our Council welcomed five new first degree Knights at a very special ceremony on Tuesday, December 15, 2009 at St. Robert. The ceremony was named and celebrated in honor of our Chaplain and fourth degree Knight, Father Len Sudlik, during this special year recognizing him and commemorating "The Year of the Priest."

A total of six men became Knights, with five joining our Council. Please welcome Christopher Apel, David Martin, Stephen Prevost, David Snyder and William Zuidema. I wish to give a special thanks to Greg Apel, Tom Heintzleman, Mike Terwilliger, and John Willemin for introducing these men to the Knights and our Council.

The next First Degree at St. Robert is not until March 16, but there are many in the Grand Rapids area in January. If you know of someone interested, please direct them to me or contact me about locations. We have hit our membership goal of eight new Knights for 2009-10, however, Supreme's target is new additions, minus subtractions. Hopefully, we will not have any brother Knights not decide to renew membership, but with these tough economic times, it is certainly a possibility.

My target for 2009-10 is sixteen new Knights, qualifying us to become a Double Star council, so there is still a lot of work to do. As of right now, there is only one major degree scheduled in the Grand Rapids Diocese for the last half of our fraternal year. It will be held at Council #4362 - on Clyde Park on February 14th, 2010. (I know, great date.)

Lastly, thanks to everyone who is active in our Council. Your participation makes a huge difference to both parishes, to both priests, and to your own spirituality. It is my 2010 wish that everyone in our Council can find at least one activity we do and become passionate about it... even if that activity is one we're not doing yet. I think of things like what Jack Crandell did on the St. Robert parish grounds and what Greg Apel is doing with blood drives as new Knight activities that we didn't even consider one year ago.

### What will you become passionate about in 2010?

God's Peace and Blessings,

*Mike*

Michael Terwilliger, Membership Director

mterwilliger4@comcast.net - 616-901-8944



Poinsettia Sellers: Knights Sean Gibbons, Phil Wosinski, Curtis Rowe, and Jack Crandell (left to right)



December Donut Sunday - Pictured left to right: Arnie Zueger, Ron Carlotti, Curtis Rowe, Tom Scannell, and Jerry Sutter

## WHAT'S NEW

### **New Point of Contact**

Tom Heintzleman has officially stepped down as Retention Chairman, and Priest Point of Contact. (POC) Tom did an excellent job of communicating with Father Len Sudlik, our goals and communications. Greg Apel will be replacing Tom in this position as of December 15, 2009. Many thanks to go out to Tom Heintzleman for all of his hard work. Mike Terwilliger, our Membership Director will wear both hats as he will also oversee the retention committee.

### **New Look for the Newsletter**

Mike Terwilliger has put much time and effort building our website and continuing on with the newsletter. Father Len Sudlik, and Staci Stroud have offered to oversee the Newsletter including planning, designing, printing, folding, and distributing. They have committed to do this monthly for no charges for materials used. This includes mailers going out to all Knights, unless you want to "opt out" and only receive an electronic copy. This edition is one example of things to come. This is a significant change for us, as we continue to grow and strive to follow the original concepts of Father McGivney.

### **November 2009 Knight and Knight Family of the Month**

The month of November was also the month to recognize Knight and Knight Families who gave a little extra to obtain these awards. Our November Knight of the Month is Robert Walters, and Knight Family of the Month is the James E. Kuevelaar family. Worthy Knight Robert Walters used his years of knowledge and poinsettia expertise to assist in making a very successful poinsettia sale. The James E. Kuevelaar family picks up and stages our donuts for every Donut Sunday. Congratulations to both Knight and Knight Family for a job well done!

## IMPORTANT DATES

**January 10:** Donut Sunday at St. Robert

**January 12:** Officer's Meeting, St. Robert, 6:30pm

**January 19:** General Membership Meeting, St. Robert, 7:30pm

**January 24:** Pancake Breakfast, St. Robert, 10 am to 12:30 pm

**February 7:** Monthly Rosary at St. Robert, Chapel, 10:30 am

**February 9:** Officer's Meeting, St. Robert, 6:30 pm

**February 14:** Donut Sunday at St. Robert

**February 16:** General Membership Meeting, St. Robert, 7:30 pm

**February 21:** Blood Drive at St. Robert; Breakfast at St. Thomas



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and  
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## Your 2009-10 Officers

Chaplain	Fr. Len Sudlik	<a href="mailto:LSudlik@StRobertChurch.org">LSudlik@StRobertChurch.org</a>	(616) 676-9111 x.22
Grand Knight	Arnold Zueger	<a href="mailto:arnoldzueger@sbcglobal.net">arnoldzueger@sbcglobal.net</a>	(616) 676-0827
Past Grand Knight	Michael Herdegen	<a href="mailto:mikeherdegen@sbcglobal.net">mikeherdegen@sbcglobal.net</a>	(616) 245-7767
Deputy Grand Knight	Sean Gibbons	<a href="mailto:sean.gibbons@comcast.net">sean.gibbons@comcast.net</a>	(616) 682-5355
Chancellor	Gregory Apel	<a href="mailto:greg.apel@att.net">greg.apel@att.net</a>	(616) 957-1951
Recorder	Scott Baldwin	<a href="mailto:baldwinscott@comcast.net">baldwinscott@comcast.net</a>	(616) 285-6138
Financial Secretary	Daniel Baas	<a href="mailto:bdodan@sbcglobal.net">bdodan@sbcglobal.net</a>	(616) 949-9555
Treasurer	Paul Allie	<a href="mailto:famallie@comcast.net">famallie@comcast.net</a>	(616) 676-3027
Membership Director	Mike Terwilliger	<a href="mailto:mterwilliger4@comcast.net">mterwilliger4@comcast.net</a>	(616) 676-8944
The Advocate	Greg Gilmore	<a href="mailto:clarajgilmore@hotmail.com">clarajgilmore@hotmail.com</a>	(616) 942-9676
Warden	John Fuhs	<a href="mailto:jncfuhs@yahoo.com">jncfuhs@yahoo.com</a>	(616) 942-2884
Inside Guard	Paul Troutwine		(616) 774-3901
Outside Guard	- - - vacant - - -		
Trustee One Year	Jay Huston	<a href="mailto:wjhuston1@sbcglobal.net">wjhuston1@sbcglobal.net</a>	(616) 942-2503
Trustee Two Year	James Milanowski	<a href="mailto:jmilo24@cs.com">jmilo24@cs.com</a>	(616) 774-8471
Trustee Three Year	Phil Wosinski	<a href="mailto:wosinski@sbcglobal.net">wosinski@sbcglobal.net</a>	(616) 667-6213
Program Director	Curtis Rowe	<a href="mailto:rowe.curtis@comcast.net">rowe.curtis@comcast.net</a>	(616) 942-9388
District Deputy	Douglas Kokot	<a href="mailto:ddkokot@catholicweb.com">ddkokot@catholicweb.com</a>	(616) 891-6922
Benefits Representative	J. Michael Taylor	<a href="mailto:taylorgr@tds.net">taylorgr@tds.net</a>	(616) 356-1186