

Knights of Columbus  
Joseph I Driscoll Council 4497  
El Paso, Texas



## The Word

January 2010

**FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT** - The New Year is upon us and it is time to get a fresh start in all we do. Looking back we sometimes wish things could have been different – more productive, with better health and more time to do the things we weren't able to. What is important, though, is that we let the past be the past and resolve (there is that word) to make this new year the best year ever. As Knights that means serving God, Church and Community to the best of our abilities. As has been the case for the last few years, we have plenty of activities to get involved in. There have been a lot of new faces at the Sunday masses the latter part of this year and quite a few of them younger men whom we should interest in becoming Knights. Our ability to function and grow will come from those men we recruit and mentor into the great vision of Father McGivney and the organization he founded called the Knights of Columbus. A big thank you to each of you that lent a hand this past year and a happy New Year to you and your families. *Vivat Jesus, Jose Ortiz*

**The Program Director Notes:** January is THE most important month for pro-life programs. On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court issued its infamous 'Roe v Wade' decision. To date & with cowardice, it has not defined what constitutes life. God has! On Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup> after the Corporate Communion 10 AM mass, the Council, in its capacity as the Parish Pro-life Ministry, will lead a march to the Grotto where the Rosary Altar Society will lead us in prayer to end abortion. We also hope to dedicate our new Memorial to the Unborn. I urge every Knight, their family members and friends to join us and march for life in remembrance of the Courts vile decision. A Diocesan march will be held at 2 PM the same day starting at Houston Park and ending at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

*A PRAYER FOR OUR SERVICE  
MEMBERS*

*Lord, Defend us in battle and be  
our defense against the devil and  
our enemies. We ask this in your*

*Name.*

*AMEN*



### January Birthdays

- 4 – David Burger
- 5 – Eric Cole
- 19 – Charles Noerr
- 23 – Joe Fortin
- 27 – Ed Garcia
- 27 – Andre Aragon

**Council Contacts:** *GK Jose Ortiz, 490-9546 – DGK Charlie Noerr, 821-9537 – Membership/Retention John Bayer, 759-0862 Program Director David Burger, 821-0243 – FS Roger Strong, 751-8596*

**Website address** <http://www.Council4497.org>

**KEEP CHRIST IN THE NEW YEAR!!!**

# Coming Events

## January

- 1 = *Happy New Year, First Friday & Holy Day*
- 5 = *Knights business meeting, 7:00pm, rosary 6:40*
- 12 = *First Degree, St Raphael Council, 7:00pm*
- 17 = *Corporate Communion, MHT, 10:00am  
Mass. Pro Life March and Rosary after  
the 10:00am mass*
- 17 = *Diocesan Pro Life March, 2:00pm Houston  
Park, with mass @ St Patrick's Cathedral*
- 18 = *Martin Luther King Birthday*
- 19 = *Council Officer's Meeting, 7:00pm, Rosary  
6:40*
- 21 = *MHT Science Fair Judging, 9:00am, Father  
Tom Hall, Volunteers Needed!!!!*
- 28 = *Fraternal Breakfast, 9:00am, LaDona  
Restaurant, Trans Mountain & Rushing*

## February

- 2 = *Repose of the Soul of all deceased Knights  
and Parishioners, 5:00pm MHT Chapel*
- 2 = *Knights business meeting, 7:00pm, rosary  
6:40*
- 6 = *Mass, Repose of the Soul, Brother Joe  
Lorkowski, 5:00pm*
- 9 = *First Degree, St Raphael Council, 7:00pm*
- 15 = *President's Day, Fly you Flag*
- 16 = *Council Officer's Meeting, 7:00pm, Rosary  
6:40*
- 17 = *ASH WEDNESDAY*
- 20 = *4<sup>th</sup> Degree Exemplification, in honor of  
SK Joseph Lorkowski, St Joseph School  
Auditorium, more info to follow*
- 21 = *Corporate Communion, MHT, 10:00am  
Mass.*
- 25 = *Fraternal Breakfast, 9:00am, LaDona  
Restaurant, Trans Mountain & Rushing*
- 28 = *Mass, Repose of the Soul, Brother Joe  
Lorkowski, 8:00am*

### Please Pray for;

*All Clergy, The Unemployed, All Military Personnel (especially those in harm's way),  
CPT Ramon Coote, Joe Britt & wife Irmgard, LJoe Torcoletti, Consuelo Cedillo, Delorse Jurrens, Clorice Ortiz,  
Jimmy L'Ecuyer, Jim Thomas, Joe Manna, Harry Rankin, Ruth Kaylor, David & Mary Burger  
Father Louis Acevedo, Delma Sandoval, Blas Herrera, John Salazar, Larry Bayer,*

### [Repose of the Soul of Deceased Brothers during the month of January \(past years\)](#)

01(72) – Andrez Garcia    01(83) – James McDonald    05 (03) – Malcolm Greenough    10(75) – Joseph Sparti  
10(88) – Diego Morales    24(66) – Thomas Quinn    24(81) – Ernest McKinney  
24(88) – Dominic Bonfiglio    20(89) – Joseph Monteilh    21(84) – Marshall Santy    27(81) – Virgil Brutte  
31(65) – Joseph Mitchell

# CHAPLAINS CORNER

At the apparition of Fatima, the Archangel Michael prayed these words, "I believe, I adore, I hope, I love you, Lord." Prayer is not only important in our lives, it is essential. When we pray, we do it with many things in mind. Such a simple prayer expresses all that the Catholic Church teaches us we should have in mind when we pray to God. First we must believe. Without belief we will not have the strength to continue to depend on God at the most difficult times of in our lives. With belief as a foundation, we cannot help but praise, worship and adore the Creator of the immense universe. There is no one else that has such unlimited power and yet happily listens to us when we talk to Him.

We live in hope – hope for a healthy life, financial success, happy family life. We ask God to give us these but, we should hope most to be with Him eternally when this life is over. Lastly, we love God. He has given us all, beginning with precious life. The prayer is so simple, so direct and so easy to remember. If the Angels pray this way to God, how could we go wrong?

## FROM THE MEETING – January 5TH

**The drawing was won by Ed Garcia which he donated to the Wheel Chair Fund.**

**A donation of \$100.00 was made to Seminarian Allan Oluoch.**

**Over \$500.00 has been taken in and passed on to Most Holy Trinity for the Church Pro Life Fund.**

**It is envisioned that those funds, in part at least, will be used for the Family Memorial Park which will be built on the left side of the sidewalk as you are going into the grotto.**

## MHT School

The Most Holt Trinity School Science Fair judging is scheduled for Jan 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00am in Father Tom Hall. Volunteers are needed to judge the entries. If we can muster 6 to 8 judges, it will only take a couple of hours. Please contact Roger Strong, 751-8596, if you can help.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Graders of Most Holy Trinity School will once again participate in the annual KofC Essay Contest. Entries will be turned in for judging on April 15<sup>th</sup>. The winner will receive a \$100.00 Savings Bond.

## **Guardian of Defenders Replica**



The St Michael Knights of Columbus Council 14584 hosted a reception on December 7<sup>th</sup> for the unveiling of a replica of the statue to be created by Julio Sanchez De Alba, a well known artist and resident of El Paso. The completed statue will be 30 feet high and made of bronze. As shown, the statue depicts an angel lifting a dead soldier from the battle field, thrusting him heavenward, leaving behind the weapons of war. The plaque shown on the right will be placed at the foot of the completed statue. This project is on going and if you would like to make a donation towards the statue, make checks payable to St Michael KofC council and mail to FS Roger Strong, 5231 Rushing Road, 79924-



5811. He will insure the donations get to our Brothers at St Mike's.

***"The Only Thing Necessary For The Triumph Of Evil is For Good Men To Do Nothing"***

## POSADA ~ ANOTHER SOUTHWEST TRADITION

As they have for every year the Council has been active, Youth Director Andy Veilleux with his wife Virginia and the young adults group put on a Posada for the pleasure of the entire parish. This is one of three major youth activities Brother Andy organizes each year. A posada is a combination of the telling of the story of Mary & Joseph going to Bethlehem, the birth of Jesus and the praying of the rosary. Afterwards, participants enjoy refreshments. Thank you Brother Andy and our young adults for another stellar performance!



## SEASONAL FLU SHOTS END WITH SUCCESS

December 6<sup>th</sup> was the final event for the seasonal Flu Shots. My thanks go to the Visiting Nurses Association for conducting these clinics. Next year we will shoot for bigger and better events.

*SK Mike Herrera, Event Coordinator*



## *Double Play = Home Run Youth Director Scores In December*

Kudos was earned by Youth Director Andy Vielleux for his two super December youth events. In addition to the Posadas, he also had the kids participating in a play depicting the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12<sup>th</sup>. That this School Principle managed both exceedingly well while still performing his continuing education and lector duties vividly demonstrates Saint James admonition: Faith without works is worthless! Hats off Brother Andy for a job that was better than the famous "well done"!



## **BROTHER RAMON COOTE** **SAFE IN IRAQ ~ STILL NEEDING YOUR SUPPORT**

Past Chancellor Ramon Coote has safely arrived in Iraq and is currently operating in and around the Mosul area. He reports that he and his soldiers, many of whom assisted us in various functions ranging from judging the youth science fair to assisting with the conduct of our annual free throw championship, are doing well and keeping alert.

One of the best ways we can support Brother Ramon is to keep him and his troops in our prayers. Additionally, it is always nice to hear your name called out at mail call. Won't you take the time to send him a postcard or note? His address is: Capt Ramon Coote, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry, FOB Marez, APO AE 09334.

An even better way to support him would be by sending him and his troops a CARE package. See last month's newsletter for a list of suggested items. Another way to help is to call Brothers Richard Garcia or Dave Burger and tell them you'll support their efforts with items or cash to purchase what is needed. There are some things that are too important to put off. Taking care of those who take care of us is one of them.



# THE SILVER ROSE

## COUNCIL 4497'S 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL HOSTING

On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009, for the second year in a row, Council 4497 had the honor of hosting the Annual Running of the Silver Rose for Life. The Rose was presented to State Deputy Martinez in Anthony, New Mexico, at a ceremony hosted by the local council.

The Silver Rose program features a sculpted silver rose carried by Knights from Canada, through the United States, to Mexico, bringing Culture of Life messages on its journey. The Silver Rose is received at councils and parishes along the way where masses and prayer services are offered. Special border ceremonies with Fourth Degree honor guards are held when the rose is transferred from one country and one state to another. The Silver Rose program is a sign of the Order's unity on life issues to include the protection of the unborn and the sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman. The long trek of the sculpted silver rose from Toronto to Monterrey is achieving the Order's goal of uniting Knights in the Americas and spreading the life issue messages. Each June Knights begin carrying the Silver Rose through many jurisdictions for the journey to end at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Monterrey on Dec. 12 each year, the date of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.



Celebrating a Mass for Life for the Council this year was Fr. Cervantes. Sir Knight Roger Strong and Sir Knight Blas Herrera were the honor guard while Sir Knight and Past Grand Knight Gene Mason performed Lector duties explaining the significance of the rose to parishioners in attendance. Also in attendance were Brother Dave Burger and Brother Robert Estrada. Brother Gene explained to all in attendance the history of the running of the Rose and prayed the Litany for Life. The Rosary Altar Society then led the Council and congregation in a rosary to end abortion.

### 2010 REQUESTED MASS SCHEDULE

Request a mass for the Day of the Unborn (March) for "All Souls, born & unborn" by the Knights of Columbus on March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2010.

Request a mass for Right to Life Month (October) for "All Souls, born & unborn" by the Knights of Columbus on the following date:  
October 5<sup>th</sup> 2010

Request a mass for the "Repose of the Souls of All Knights & All Parishioners" by the Knights of Columbus on the following dates:  
February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2010  
April 6<sup>th</sup> 2010  
June 1<sup>st</sup> 2010  
August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010  
December 7<sup>th</sup> 2010

## Angels Explained By Children

I only know the names of two angels, Hark and Harold.

Gregory, age 5

~ 2009 ~  
**A GOOD YEAR TO BE A KNIGHT**

To say that 2009 was a good year to be a Knight would be an understatement. If you read the Columbian, our national magazine, you would have seen that Council 4497 stood out for conducting annual "Loving Wills" as an alternative to the callus and often deadly living wills pushed by the medical community. The Texas Knight noted our efforts too with our annual "Shamrocks for Seminarians" campaign. But we Council members know we don't do it for fame or pats on the back, but rather because it's the right thing to do. How often has the Lord reminded us that faith without works is worthless? Let us pray that those who sit on the couch watching football rather than helping their Church or spend dollars on beer but put coins in the collection basket wake up and smell the coffee, for none of us know the day nor the hour HE will call us to be judges.

While we reflect on what we have done this fraternal year, let us not forget to send in our fraternal survey. To help jog our memory we highlight some of the events the Council conducted. The list is not complete nor is it possible to list the many visits to the sick and other activities individual members have participated in. Regardless, try and submit to the FS a list of your activities no later than January 15<sup>th</sup>!!



**YOUTH ACTIVITIES** ~ Free-Throw, Science Fair, Speech Contest, Passion Play, Essay Contest, Egg Hunt, Scholarship Breakfast, Posada & OLG Celebration, Bowling Tournament

**FAMILY ACTIVITIES** ~ Family of the Month and Year, Ministry Appreciation Dinner, Valentine Luncheon,



Bratwurst Breakfast, Founders Day Breakfast



**PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES** ~ Roe v Wade mass, march & rosary, Right to Life mass & rosary, America needs Fatima rosary, petition drive to legislators against FOCA, sidewalk counseling & demonstrations that resulted in the closing of El Paso Planned Parenthood, new pro-life memorial & Special Olympic support

**COUNCIL ACTIVITIES** ~ Monthly fraternal breakfasts, Knight of the month and year programs, monthly rosary for our departed and distressed Brothers, annual All Souls Day mass for our departed Brothers and family members, 5 individual masses for recently departed Brothers, pancake and bratwurst breakfasts, conducted parish wide football frenzy program



**CHURCH ACTIVITIES** ~ monthly corporate communion, repaired church truck, built a church BBQ pit, cleaned up church playground, conducted a Keep Christ in Christmas program, shamrocks for seminarians & vocation support

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES** ~ blood drive, 2 health fairs, flu shots, begging for bucks to help holiday food baskets & monthly support of needy



**FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION**

The next 4th Degree Exemplification will be on Feb 20<sup>th</sup> at St Joseph's School Auditorium, 3729 Hueco Ave. The exemplification will be held in honor of Sir Knight Joe Lorkowski. Our Lady of the Americas is the hosting Assembly. More information to come in the Feb Word.



SK Ray Lucero Our Council Field Agent

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 Raymond.Lucero@KofC.org

## CITY WIDE YOUTH BOWLING TOURNAMENT

There were 22 enthusiastic youngsters that made their bowling debut (some for the first time) at El Paso Bowl on December 19<sup>th</sup>. The kids were representing St Michael's Council 14584 (escorted by GK Hilles) and Joseph I Driscoll Council 4497 (escorted by



GK Ortiz). Unfortunately, the names of all the participants were not available at press time but be assured, all had a great time. The trophies went to Dominique Dalton, for High Game, and High Series went to his younger brother Tyrique Dalton, both



winners were proud of their trophies.

I want to thank to the boys and girls that bowled, the Chaperones from St Michael Catholic Chapel, Jose Ortiz Grand Knight, Council 4497, and Mrs. Dalton, Most Holy Trinity for their help. I would also like to say thank you to SK Roger Strong and Grand Knight & SK Klaus Hilles, Council 14584 for their support. *Nat De Rosso, Assistant Diocesan Deputy for Charity*

### *Looking Forward ~ The Last Hurrah Challenges Ahead As The Fraternal Year Slides Downhill*

It is hard to believe that over half the fraternal year has passed so quickly. Elsewhere in this newsletter your Editor listed some of the tasks your Council executed well, so well that we were included in the Columbia magazine, the Texas Knight and for



the ala mode were presented with the Star Council Award. While it's always great to get a pat on the back, that's not the reason we do what we do. Rather we are reminded of what Saint James told us ~ faith without works is worthless! This should be our clarion call. We should be reminding every Catholic man we encounter that talk is cheap. God requires more of him than a weekly distracted visit to church and a few miscellaneous coins tossed as an offering. Equally important as our touting



our Order and encouraging qualified men to join our Brotherhood is the need for us to demonstrate how we do good works. Up coming MAJOR events remaining this FY are the January 17<sup>th</sup> "March 4 Life" following our Corporate Communion 10 AM mass;



Shamrocks for Seminarians March 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>; our MHT Scholarship Bratwurst Breakfast on April 18<sup>th</sup> along with our Easter Egg Hunt; and finally but not least our Blood Drive on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Numerous MINOR events include the school science fair and speech contest; a tentative Valentine brunch after our February corporate communion, March's pro-life Month of the Unborn activities; the Passion Play by Brother Andy's Youth Ministry in April; perhaps a Mothers Day activity, plus officer nominations, the next



annual program schedule to develop and a budget to finance it in May; then in June a possible Council outing in conjunction with Fathers Day & election of officers. These are only some of what we plan to do. Without your participation they won't be as



successful as they could be; without you actively seeking others to join us we will wither on the proverbial vine. If you physically just can't give of your time, at least give of your treasure. If you won't do that either then shouldn't you ask yourself why you are a Knight? Just because you have life membership isn't good enough. Remember faith without works, regardless of age, is worthless, for even the bed ridden can do something. What? Contact the Grand Knight or Program Director and find out! *SK Dave Burger*



**FROM THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

**Brothers, we are at the time of year when reports are due. On page 6 above, is a synopsis of the activities the council has conducted in 2009, please use that as a reminded for the events you participated in. Prior to the end of January, I must submit the Special Olympics Partnership and the Annual Fraternal Activities reports.**

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS PARTNERSHIP REPORT**

Please provide the numbers asked for:

- Volunteer hours provided by members and families \_\_\_\_\_
- Number of KC volunteers at Special Olympic Games and Events \_\_\_\_\_
- Number of events in which KC members and families volunteered \_\_\_\_\_
- Total funds contributed to Special Olympics \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the information via worksheet, telephone (751-8596) or email rogielo@sbcglobal.net

**FRATERNAL ACTIVITY REPORT INPUT**

Below is a work sheet provided for your use. If you would prefer to call me the information at 751-8596, just refer to the line numbers. If I am not home, please recite the information to my answering machine and leave your name and number in case I have a question on your input. This information is very important and obviously I can't submit it without your inputs. Thanks to those that have already provided the information and thanks in advance to those that will. Roger Strong, FS

**Fraternal Activity Report Survey**

Last year, the Knights of Columbus donated more than \$130 million to charitable and benevolent causes and 61.1 million hours of volunteer community service to aid the less fortunate. **To help prepare our Fraternal Survey for the Supreme Council office, please complete the information requested below and return as indicated above.** This information will assist us in determining the total number of hours of community service volunteered by our members during 2007.

1. Number of visits you made during to:

Sick — caring for the sick/nursing homes / hospitals . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Bereaved — visits of condolence . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

2. Number of times you served as a blood . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

3. Estimated hours of community volunteer service:

Church Activities — service in all Church related activities . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Community Activities — service in all community related activities . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Activities — service in all youth related activities . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Habitat for Humanity — service in all related projects . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Miscellaneous Activities — service in areas not outlined above . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

4. Number of hours of fraternal service:

Sick/disabled members and their families — household chores, transportation, tutoring, counseling, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

**DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES**

Billings have been sent out and the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarters dues of \$9.00 are due now. You are encouraged to pay annually (\$36.00) which saves the council additional mailing costs. Checks should be made payable to KofC Council 4497 and sent to the Financial Secretary; Roger Strong, 5231 Rushing Road, El Paso, TX 79924-5811. If you are experiencing financial difficulties or wish to apply for disability status, please contact the Grand Knight, one of the Trustees or the Financial Secretary and something will be worked out. In the case of disability, all it takes is a statement from your doctor that you are unable to work. Thanks in advance for your support! *Roger Strong*