

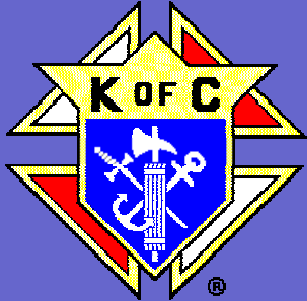
January 2010

<http://kofc11343.home.att.net>



knights of columbus

Grand Knight's Report



ST. LAURENCE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #11343

The Knight Rider

<http://kofc11343.home.att.net>

Greetings Brothers,

The officers of Council 11343 provide you a recap of our activities and charitable support for 2009 and things to look forward to in 2010. We started out the year with our usual sale and cooking of Super Bowl briskets, followed by six very successful Lenten Friday fish fries. The Knights participating in these endeavors enjoyed the brotherhood as well as the satisfaction of earning funds for our charities as well as providing a means to bring the parish together during these popular Friday night events. And remember the free Mother's Day pancake breakfast we provide to the Parish. Later, we provided major manpower as well as financial support for the very successful "Impact a Hero" 5-K run. Then we cooked burgers and dogs for Fr. Tommy's going away celebration. In August, we celebrated our fifteenth year as a council with a dinner and casino night, a great time for Knights and their ladies. That was followed by selling and cooking Labor Day briskets as another fund raiser. October saw the Knights in action again setting up and taking down the parish bazaar as well as operating a couple of food and drink booths. In November, we sold and smoked 140 turkeys along with our brother Knights from Sienna. This month (December) we delivered "pillows & blankets" care baskets to less fortunate in Ft. Bend County citizens just in time for Christmas. As you can see, we stay busy most of the year with many opportunities to serve.



You might wonder what are the charities the money we raise support. Over \$10,000 goes to Catholic schools including our own St. Laurence School as well as high schools including Strake Jesuit, St. Thomas & St. Agnes. In addition to the schools, we award \$6,000 in scholarships. In addition to the labor we provide, \$3,000 is spent to support the "Impact a Hero" 5-K run. We also support the Medical mission, parish needs, priest needs, seminarians, community needs, social concerns, youth activities and the Boy Scouts.

This coming year we plan to do more of the same, cooking briskets, turkeys, chicken & sausages with discussions for adding other items. Our three most man power intensive activities each year are the Lenten Friday fish fries, the Impact-a-Hero run and the Ba-

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Special points of Interest:

- **Urgent** - All Brothers are urged to notify Brother Mark Smith of changes to your address so that we can keep our records up to date! Email him at masmithjr@comcast.net
- **Email Addresses** - We have about 80% of member email addresses. If you are not receiving the Newsletter notice electronically, please send your email address to billletendre@yahoo.com. If you do not have access to a computer, notify us to receive a hardcopy of the newsletter.

Knights of Columbus Insurance

Retirement balancing act

Think of retirement as a three-legged stool. In order to maintain balance, you need all three legs... or there is a real possibility of a crash!

One leg consists of the benefits the government offers you. Debate rages about the viability of future benefits, and my best advice is to stay tuned to the discussion and make sure you are aware of what is planned for those benefits. Any change in future promises should be accounted for when we get to the third leg.

The second leg is your company's pension plan, either defined benefit (such as a traditional pension: you work so many years and the company provides you with so much monthly benefit) or defined contribution (such as the popular 401K plans). Some of these plans, particularly traditional ones, are under stress, have been frozen or pared back. Learn how yours works; read the plan description; stay on top of the news coming from the company. On the 401K side, become a good investor. Teach yourself the fundamentals of good diversification and know how much you have and when you will need it.

Finally, the third leg is the saving you do yourself, and this is the only aspect you can control completely.

Everyone needs this third leg. It consists of the money you personally set aside on a disciplined basis to help in retirement. You don't directly control government benefits and you don't directly manage your company's pension plan, but you must manage your money and your life.

Establish a retirement plan of your own. Here at the Knights of Columbus, you can open a retirement annuity for as little as \$300. Consistent and disciplined savings placed into that annuity over time can guarantee you an income that you cannot outlive at retirement. That's right – guarantee you an income you cannot outlive. That really will provide you with peace of mind.

As you ponder all the things that may not work out as you proceed toward retirement, think about the one thing you can do to help yourself. It's reasonably priced, guaranteed and controlled by someone you trust: **you**

Tony Rangel Agency

Volunteer Opportunities

Super Bowl Brisket Fund Raising Event

Pre-sales

January 23-24, 2010—after all masses (Church courtyard)

January 30-31, 2010—after all masses (Church courtyard)

Cooking

February 5-6, 2010—Parish Hall Kitchen (Contact Tim Cullen <tpcullen@windstream.net>)

Pick-up

February 7, 2010—Parish Hall Kitchen Door (8 am—12 pm)

Phone Numbers To Keep Handy

Grand Knight:	Cliff Buede	979-799-8318	cliffordbuede@att.net
Deputy Grand Knight	Joe Chirco	281-545-2379	jlchirco@aol.com
Chaplain:			
Ass't Chaplain:	Bob Dunham	281-242-4110	rkdunham@windstream.net
Chancellor:	Bob Bilski	281-980-4407	bob@impressiveprinting.us
Recorder:	Jimmy Holzhauser	281-277-6666	jimmy.holzhauser@gmail.com
Advocate:	Ian Cullen	281-265-5222	iancullen01@yahoo.com
Warden:	Doug Turner	281-980-4169	dtpc@alltel.net
Outside Guard (2):	Kenny Preismeyer	281-565-8765	kpriesmeyer@kw.texas.com
Outside Guard (1):	Michael Hartman	281-772-4103	mlh351@att.net
Inside Guard (1):	Nieves Olvera, Jr.	281-857-4859	nolverajr@comcast.net
Inside Guard (2):	Kyle Schockley	281-980-3867	gumz_dude15@yahoo.com
Trustee 1 Year:	Tim Cullen	281-265-5222	tpcullen@windstream.net
Trustee 2 Year:	Bob Jaros	281-208-0506	robertj@firstcolony.org
Trustee 3 Year:	Tim Haney	281-449-8206	trhaney@comcast.net
Treasurer:	Greg Schockling	281-980-1688	gschocklin@aol.com
Financial Secretary:	Bill Letendre	281-460-8613	BillLetendre@yahoo.com

From the Editor

The newsletter notice is being emailed to all members.

If you have not received the email notice, either we don't have your correct email address or any email address at all for you. The newsletter is available as a PDF file for download on the St. Laurence website at:

<http://www.stlaurenceparish.com/>

<http://www.tkofc.org>

Please forward your email address to billletendre@yahoo.com if you are not receiving the notice electronically or if your email changes

Bill Letendre, Newsletter Editor



We offer our prayers for the following Brothers and families:

- Repose of the soul of Brother Jim Lord
- Brother Gary Bentz
- Brother Martin Adrian
- Members of our Armed Forces both living and deceased



Help Wanted:

Brother Knights interested in cooking for our monthly meeting. Get a chance to cook for approximately 50 hungry men that are not too particular about your cooking skills. Work on a rotating basis with other like minded individuals. Great pay plan: 1/2 the split and take and all the beer you can consume. Will accept applicants with driving skills that can arrange and pick up a meal. The alternative is PIZZA, yuck. Please contact Buster at 281-433-5215 or e-mail busterspencer@remax.net.



January 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Business Meeting 7 pm	14	15	16
17	18	19 4th Assembly Mtg 7 pm	20	21 Officers Mtg 7 pm	22	23 Brisket Pre-sale
24 Brisket Pre-sale	25	26	27	28	29 Clergy Appreciation Night	30 Brisket Pre-sale
31 Brisket Pre-sale						

February 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4 Business Meeting 7 pm	5 Brisket Cooking	6 Brisket Cooking
7 SUPER BOWL—Brisket Pick-up	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 4th Assembly Mtg 7 pm	17	18 Officers Mtg 7 pm	19 Lenten Fish Fry 5 pm	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Lenten Fish Fry 5 pm	27
28						

March 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4 Business Meeting 7 pm	5 Lenten Fish Fry 5 pm	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Lenten Fish Fry 5 pm	13
14	15	16 4th Assembly Mtg 7 pm	17	18 Officers Mtg 7 pm	19 Lenten Fish Fry 5 pm	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Lenten Fish Fry 5 pm	27
28	29	30	31			

Schedule of Events

- January 13-7 pm Council Business Meeting—Parish Hall with Dinner
- January 19—7 pm 4th Degree Assembly Meeting—St. Basil Hall
- January 21—7 pm Officers/ Committee Chairmen Meeting—Rm 2
- January 23-24-30-31-Super Bowl Brisket Pre-sales after all masses
- January 29—6:30 pm Clergy Appreciation Night—Stafford Center—Stafford, TX
- February 4—7 pm Council Business Meeting—Parish Hall with Dinner
- February 16—7 pm 4th Degree Assembly Meeting—St. Basil Hall
- February 18—7 pm Officers/ Committee Chairmen Meeting—Rm 2
- February 19—5 pm Lenten Fish Fry—Parish Hall
- February 26—5 pm Lenten Fish Fry—Parish Hall
- March 4—7 pm Council Business Meeting—Parish Hall with Dinner
- March 5—5 pm Lenten Fish Fry—Parish Hall
- March 12—5 pm Lenten Fish Fry—Parish Hall
- March 16—7 pm 4th Degree Assembly Meeting—St. Basil Hall
- March 18—7 pm Officers/ Committee Chairmen Meeting—Rm 2
- March 19—5 pm Lenten Fish Fry—Parish Hall
- March 26—5 pm Lenten Fish Fry—Parish Hall

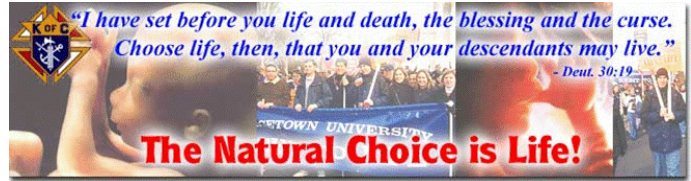
Invite a friend to become a Knight!

Please welcome Dick Hogan as a new member of the Council

Major Degree exemplification will be held at Council 3313 on Sunday, January 31, Sealy, TX & in Rosenberg, TX on February 21.

Contact Brother Richard Ramirez, if you want to attend a Major Degree Exemplification.

His phone is 281-685-8098 and his email is ravr2@aol.com



PRAYER FOR THE UNBORN

We should make it a habit to pray daily for the lives of the unborn. Here is a very short and easy to remember prayer by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen:

Jesus, Mary, Joseph,
I love you very much.
I beg you to spare the life of the unborn child
that I have spiritually adopted, who is
in danger of abortion. Amen.

December Calendar Raffle Winners

DATE	NUMBER	WON	NAME	SELLER
12/1/2009	257	\$30	Hargarther, Bob	Bilski, Bob
12/2/2009	768	\$30	Coppens, John	Williams, Chris
12/3/2009	619	\$30		
12/4/2009	394	\$40	Voelkel, Karen	Lord, Jim
12/5/2009	367	\$50	Fr. Drew	Hanshaw, Steve
12/7/2009	531	\$40	Andel, Rene	Siwierka, Ted
12/8/2009	474	\$30	Bonnette, Anna	St. Cyr, Cordell
12/9/2009	650	\$30	Roche, Thomas	Guarisco, Joe
12/10/2009	567	\$30	Bentz, Juliette	Bentz, Gary
12/11/2009	131	\$40	Jaros, Bob	Jaros, Bob
12/12/2009	327	\$50	Haines, Ricky	Haney, Tim
12/14/2009	480	\$40	Heng, Sam	St. Cyr, Cordell
12/15/2009	904	\$30	Vu, Angela	Guarisco, Joe
12/16/2009	822	\$30	Schockling, Amy	Schockling, Greg
12/17/2009	294	\$30	Olivo, John M.	Feldman, Robert
12/18/2009	313	\$40	Silvas, Liz	Viaclovsky, Ron
12/19/2009	583	\$50		
12/21/2009	851	\$40	Ramirez, Palmirz	Guarisco, Joe
12/22/2009	966	\$30	Buice, Brenda	Siwierka, Ted
12/23/2009	651	\$30	Siffert, Verda Mae	Siffert, John
12/24/2009	065	\$30		
12/25/2009	924	\$1,000	Colligan, George	Williams, Chris
12/26/2009	995	\$50		
12/28/2009	537	\$40	Williams, Frances T.	Slavinsky, Joe
12/29/2009	984	\$30		
12/30/2009	536	\$30	Nowak, Jennifer	Chirco, Joe
12/31/2009	977	\$200	Jablonski, Kristy	Siwierka, Ted

our support. All are welcomed to help with these or any other activities on our calendar. The details are published each month in our electronic newsletter. If you don't get it, please send us your e-mail address. I'm sure I've missed some things, but we wanted to let our less active members know what is happening and encourage them to become active.

Fraternally Yours,

Cliff Buede
Grand Knight

District Deputy # 75 Report

Worthy Brothers,

I hope and pray that your Christmas and New Year were a blessed one. As we get back into the groove of our jobs and other duties I ask you to resolve that you will be able to spend some time being active with your brother Knights this year. We have so many great opportunities ahead to be examples to others by our acts of charity, unity and fraternity. January 29th we will show our unity and solidarity with the Clergy in the Diocese as we honor them with our annual Clergy Appreciation Night. We will have the opportunity on January 10th to show our fraternity as we are all invited to Knights of Columbus Night with the Houston Aeros. Please get with your program director or me to get all the details. We can also show acts of Charity this time of year as we call or visit some of the many sick, hospitalized or shut-in brothers or widows in our area. Remember the charge at our first degree that Charity is not always about gifts of money, your time is a valuable gift as well.



For all of you First Degree members, I would like to extend an invitation to attend a Major Degree (2nd and 3rd) on Sunday, February 21st in Rosenberg. This will be the closest major degree in the area for the next few months so please avail yourself to this great opportunity. If you would like to attend, please get with your Financial Secretary and he can take care of the rest.

As I close, I would like to ask one more favor of you for the remainder of this fraternal year; please try to recruit a catholic gentlemen to join our fine order. We have so many fine men in our parish just waiting to be asked so please just take a minute and talk to them about the benefits of being a Knight of Columbus.

May God bless you and your families,

Gary Blanchette DD#75



10 Things Your Kids Need to Know ...

Brian Caulfield

Editor, *Fathers for Good*

1. You love them

Love is the foundation of any child's life, and it is a resource he or she will draw upon throughout life. Our children can get for themselves most of the things we may fail to give them. But one thing they can never get anywhere else is parental love. Say today, "I love you," and then give life to the words.

2. God loves them

In *Deus Caritas Est* (God is Love), Pope Benedict XVI writes, "I wish in my first Encyclical to speak of the love which God lavishes upon us and which we in turn must share with others." To some children, God's love may seem as clear as the crucifix on the wall or the picture of Jesus with his arms around the children. For others, such love may seem abstract or distant and they will need convincing. In either case, they will look to you, their father, for affirmation through your actions that the Father in heaven does love them.

3. You love their mother

The marriage relationship is the central reality in the lives of children. The love a father bestows on his wife will be a model for his sons of how to treat women, and a model for his daughters of how they will expect to be treated by men. As fathers, we should help them to expect only the very best.

4. Life has meaning and is worth living

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, the most popular preacher of the 20th century, titled his 1950s TV show "Life is Worth Living." He knew that after two world wars, a deep sadness and cynicism was threatening the culture. He knew that people needed hope and meaning – to know that, indeed, life is worth living.

The things that make it worth living are God's love for us, our love for others and the deep mystery at the heart of creation that is reflected in the human heart. Teach your children to respect the mystery, accept the unknowable and discover their own potential for love and achievement under the eyes of God.

5. They must learn to forgive

"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." You can say these words of the Our Father a thousand times and still not realize their full meaning. Forgiveness is absolutely essential for one to enter the kingdom of God. If we do not forgive others, God will not forgive us. Forgiveness also has the temporal benefit of reliving us of psychological burdens, freeing us from the clasp of revenge, and making possible love even of our enemies.

6. Morality matters

There are voices inside of every heart saying, I can do as I please – my law myself. And there are more than enough enticements to keep those voices alive. Yet we need only look at a playground to know that there is a law outside the self – that morality matters – when one child takes the toy of another and the offended party cries out for justice. There is a right and a wrong in life, and the sooner your child understands this, and seeks to live accordingly, the better it will go for him or her.

7. The Catholic Church is the one true Church

Yes, we still believe this, and it does matter that we teach it to our children. Although you will hear from many sources that all religions are basically the same, the Catholic Church has never taught this little bit of syncretism as official doctrine. In fact, the Church has condemned the teaching that all religions are equal.

In 2000, a document from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, called *Dominus Iesus*, caused some stir for proclaiming that the Catholic Church has always been and will always be the one Church on earth founded by Jesus for the salvation of souls. Anyone who is saved, and goes to heaven, does so only through the agency of the Catholic Church.

Only the Catholic Church was founded by Jesus, only she has the seven sacraments and the valid priesthood of Christ, and only she offers believers the true body and blood of Jesus in the Eucharist. Those who are not formal members

In Memoriam



James “Jim” Lord

Brother Jim Lord, age 70, passed away Friday, December 11, 2009. He was born May 28, 1939, in St. Paul, MN, to John and Lillian Busian Lord.

Jim graduated from Madan High School, in Madan ND and attended the College of St. Thomas, in St. Paul, MN. He served four years in the U.S. Air Force, primarily serving in Glasgow, MT, during the Cold War era. Jim was a longtime employee of Control Data Corporation, Cray Research, and ExxonMobil. He was a founding parishioner and active member of St. Laurence Catholic Church, where he was a 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus.

He was a Councilman in Missouri City in the 1970s and was a longtime member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Sugar Land. He was a co-founder of First Colony Soccer and was an active volunteer for the United Way and the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America. He was a “Commit for Life” Gold Level Donor and 100 Gallon Donor for the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center.

He is survived by his wife Marion C. Lord; son, Robert Lord and his wife Christy of Sunnyvale, CA; daughters Jennifer Chesterman and her husband Bob of Sugar Land, TX, and Karen Voelkel and her husband Joy of Missouri City, TX; ten grandchildren; one great-granddaughter and numerous other loving relatives and friends.

Continued from p. 7

of the Catholic Church may, by God’s mercy, make it to heaven, but only through the overabundant graces given through the Church, which draws all persons of goodwill to herself. This document was signed by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the present Holy Father.

8. Evil is real and they will suffer

This is the true “inconvenient truth” of our day. Evil has been downgraded to personal failure or genetic tendency, and the devil has been laughed out of polite conversation as though he really has pitchfork and horns.

Suffering has been cast as something simply to be avoided or to be medicated or psychologized away.

Yet evil will confront your kids, the more they strive to be good. St. Augustine tells of that germinal moment when his peers tempted him to steal a pear. He rightly saw in this moral decision the heart of all evil – the free choice to do what is wrong when we know it is wrong. Those who are wise in their own eyes dismiss Augustine’s “scruples” and excuse the “wild oats of youth.” Yet we should teach our children that the devil roams “like a roaring lion” seeking souls to devour. They must stand strong in faith and resist temptation.

9. One day they will die

Despite the best medical efforts, death is inevitable. Your children will see you die or, God forbid, you will see one of them die. Death is the universal sentence. Yet death is not the thing to be most feared or even regretted. The great benefit of death is that it gives form and structure to life. We know we have an end, and only so much time. We want to believe, more than anything, that we will outlast the grave. And – lo and behold – there is one religion that says we do and can actually prove it! The Catholic religion proclaims that Christ rose from the dead and founded the one Church that gives us all the means on earth to gain everlasting life as well. Good news for sore souls.

10. Love is stronger than death

We may have heard this at a Catholic wake our funeral. “For strong as death is love, relentless as the nether world is devotion, ... Were one to offer all his riches to buy love, he would be roundly mocked (Song of Songs 8:6-7).

The love of Christ has rescued us from death, so now we need not live in the fear of the shadow of death, but are free sons and daughters of God, destined for love in eternity.

If your children know even this one last thing, they know much.

Council Photo Album



4th Degree Honor Guard for the liturgy celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe anniversary



Brothers Holzhauser and Benzala prepare homemade ravioli for the December business meeting dinner

Council Photo Album



4th Degree Honor Guard at Sir Knight Jlm Lord's wake and funeral mass



Brothers and families participate in annual Pillows & Blankets delivery event. Many Ft. Bend families received needed items for the winter season.

Job Opportunity

St. Laurence Church Sacristan

The parish office is accepting applications for an adult sacristan. This is a paid position with flexible weekend hours and on the job training. Among the responsibilities of this position is preparing the altar for Mass and overseeing the collection monies. If you are interested in this position or if you have questions please call Paula in the parish office @ 281-980-9812.