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A Monthly Newsletter for the Sir Knights of Father Jerome Kleber Assembly 1970

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Faithful Navigator's Log

Sir Knight Faithful Navigator Jesus Quintanar:

In the name of the Father, I pray that this Faithful Navigator Newsletter reaches Council and Assembly members throughout the District of Texas. The month of January has its personal significance in that it celebrates the beginning of the new year on the Gregorian calendar.

Please note that January's theme for *continued on page 2*

Grand Knights' Notes

Council 6711 SK PFN Grand Knight Chuy Perez:

In January, Thunderbird Council 6711 showed their appreciation for Saint Matthew Altar Servers and their families by providing a spaghetti dinner for them. They also sold empanadas. During Lent, the Council will offer six Friday Fish Fries.

Council 10788 Grand Knight Santiago Ogeda:

Shepherd of the Valley Council 10788 held a Eucharistic Procession with Bishop Seitz at San Judas Tadeo Church and plans to have Lenten Fish Fries.

Council 12160 SK Grand Knight Mike Chavarria:

Franklin Mountains Council 12160 plans to offer Lenten Fish Fries on February 16, March 1 and March 15, 2024.

Council 14413 SK Grand Knight Dan Fenton:

In January, Rio Grande Council 14413 had a Holiday Dinner and held fellowship sessions (coffee, hot chocolate, cookies and doughnuts) after all Masses one weekend. The Council plans to offer six Friday Fish Fries during Lent and hold another fellowship session in February.

Council 17420 SK Grand Knight Eric Zubia: San Francisco de Asís Council 17420 has nothing to report.

Assistant Diocesan Deputy's Desk

SK Assistant Diocesan Deputy John Danley:

The 2024 Knights of Columbus State Convention will be held in Houston, TX from April 26 to 28 at the Hilton of the Americas Hotel. You can register at the following website: <https://www.tkofc.org/blog/2024/texas-state-council-annual-state-convention-april-30th-may-2> (disregard the incorrect dates shown on the URL).



There will be many activities at the *[continued on page 2]*



Saint Blaise, 1740, Maria-Trost Church, Berg bei Rohrbach, Austria. In his mitre and cape Saint Blaise holds the crozier in his left hand. These signify his role as a bishop. The candle in his right hand is one of his attributes, referring to a ritual blessing of the throats of the faithful commonly observed on his Feast Day, February 3, 2024. Candlemas is the day before, February 2, 2024. (<https://www.christianiconography.info/blaise.html>)

Faithful Scribe's Script

SK Faithful Scribe Joe O'Connor: The Catholic pre-Lenten rite of the Blessing of the Throats stems from a miracle from God requested by St. Blaise who was a Bishop and Martyr: Stories about the third- and fourth-century Saint Blaise and an inset regarding the prayers recited at Candlemas and at the Blessing of the Throats can be found on page 2.

 The red ribbon tying the candles together represent Saint Blaise's martyrdom. 

Faithful Navigator's Log (Continued)

SK Faithful Navigator Jesus Quintanar: *[continued]* scripture quotes is "Repentance" for our sins. Knowing that one of God's greatest commandments is love thy neighbor as thyself, we must look at the next issue: When people seriously offend us, we must ask God through prayer to help us absolve those offenders that have trespassed against us. To conclude, in the name of God, I ask that God bless America in this period of World Conflict. Thank you.

Asst. Diocesan Deputy's Desk (Cont'd)

SK Asst. Diocesan Deputy John Danley: *(cont'd)*

The 2024 Texas State Convention of the Knights of Columbus



120th Texas State Convention
April 26th – April 28th
Hilton of the Americas Hotel



Convention, including programs for the wives (go to the website <https://www.ghknightskonvention.com/app/> for Convention highlights). I will be running the El Paso Hospitality Suite at the Convention so Council support and help in warmly welcoming El Paso Knights to Houston will be most appreciated!

Candlemas & Blessing of the Throats

Candles used in the blessing of throats may be those blessed on Candlemas, February 2, with the prayer:

"God, almighty and all-mild, by your Word alone you created the manifold things in the world, and willed that the same Word by whom all things were made take flesh in order to redeem mankind; you are great and immeasurable, awesome and praiseworthy, a wonder of marvels. Hence in professing his faith in you the glorious martyr and bishop, Blaise, did not fear any manner of torment but gladly accepted the palm of martyrdom. In virtue of which you bestowed on him, among other gifts, the power to heal all ailments of the throat. And now we implore your majesty that, overlooking our guilt and considering only his merits and intercession, it may please you to bless and sanctify and impart your grace to these candles. Let all men of faith whose necks are touched with them be healed of every malady of the throat, and being restored in health and good spirits let them return thanks to you in your holy Church, and praise your glorious name which is blessed forever; through Christ our Lord." In the Blessing of the Throats, the Priest holds two blessed candles, tied with a red ribbon, holds them in the form of an X. He touches the candles to each side of the person's neck and says: "Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you free from every disease of the throat, and from every other disease. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (SimplyCatholic)



The Martyrdom of St. Blaise, Giovanni Antonio da Pesaro, 15th century, oil and tempera on panel.

Martyred in AD 316, Blaise of Sebaste in Western Armenia (present-day Turkey) was a physician whose holiness led him to be elected bishop by the local people at a young age, a process that involved examination and consecration by other bishops with the approval by the Pope. He lived in a cave on Mount Argeus and was a healer of men and animals. His sanctity was confirmed through many miracles. Many people came to him to be healed physically and spiritually. Even though Emperors Constantine and Licinius agreed in the Edict of Milan (AD 313) not to persecute Christians, Licinius did so anyway (Constantine defeated Licinius in AD 324.) Hunters seeking wild animals for the arena found Saint Blaise praying and took him to the local governor who threw him in prison. On his way to prison, a woman whose son was choking to death on a fish bone pleaded for his help. Saint Blaise prayed to God and the boy was cured. When he was in prison, a woman whom he had helped brought him food and a candle. He told the woman, "that every year she should offer in his church a candle, and know thou that to thee and to all them that so shall do shall well [prosperity] happen to them." In Catholic Churches the use of candles on Saint Blaise's Feast Day continues to the day. When Saint Blaise refused to renounce Jesus, he was beaten, put on a stone table, flayed with iron combs used to comb wool off sheep, and then beheaded.

Assembly's Knights in Action

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVdP) West Side Food Distribution



On January 3, 2024, in the Saint Luke Parking Lot, SSVdP held its biweekly Food Distribution. On Side A, Sir Knight Faithful Outer Sentinel Paul Leenheer placed several milk cartons into a waiting vehicle. (Photo: Sir Knight Faithful Comptroller/Scribe Joe O'Connor)



On Side B, Sir Knight Gebhard "Gus" Erler placed several items of produce into a waiting vehicle. On that day, 24 pallets of food were distributed to 260 households, a lower-than-average number due to the Holidays. (Photo: Sir Knight Faithful Comptroller/Scribe Joe O'Connor)

Rio Grande Council 14413 Holiday Party



On January 5, 2024 at Great American Steakburger, Rio Grande Council 14413 held its Holiday Dinner. In the foreground was Sir Knight Financial Secretary Tom Hicks (left) and Sir Knight Grand Knight Dan Fenton (right) and their Spouses. (Photo: SK Joe O'Connor)



Sir Knight Grand Knight Dan Fenton (left) led the Opening (and later Closing) Prayers with the 31 Council Knights and their Significant Others who attended the Council's Holiday Party at Great American Steakburger. (Photo: Sir Knight Faithful Comptroller/Scribe Joe O'Connor)



Sir Knight Financial Secretary/Lecturer Tom Hicks (standing) stressed the importance of Spouses to the success of the Knights of Columbus and invited Knights to attend a new Saturday morning program entitled "This Man Is You." (Photo: Sir Knight Faithful Comptroller/Scribe Joe O'Connor)



Sir Knight Grand Knight Dan Fenton (standing) thanked the Knights for their service to the Parish and Community during the past year. Other Sir Knights in attendance included Bill Sutton (far left), PGK Butch Francisco (third from left), Alan Cooksey (second from right) and PGK Robert Valdiviez (far right). (Photo: Sir Knight FC/S Joe O'Connor)

Assembly's Knights in Action



Thunderbird Council 6711 Saint Matthew Altar Server



On January 6, 2024, in the Saint Matthew Dining Hall, Thunderbird Council 6711 prepared and offered a spaghetti dinner for Saint Matthew Altar Servers and their families. Here Sir Knight Faithful Pilot Wally Piatek made from scratch the spaghetti sauce used in the meal. SK Wally also prepared garlic butter for the toast and set up the serving line. (Photo: Sir Knight Past Faithful Navigator Grand Knight Chuy Perez)



Sir Knight Past Faithful Navigator Sam Gutierrez made garlic toast for the Altar Servers and their families. Not shown were Sir Knight Adrian Muñoz and Knight Randy Lucero who prepared the ground beef into meatballs for the spaghetti topping. Manning the serving line were SK Adrian Muñoz and Knights Rudy Garcia, Randy Lucero and Karl Kimball. (Photo: Sir Knight Faithful Pilot Wally Piatek)



Following the motto "Clean As You Go," Sir Knight Past Faithful Navigator Grand Knight Chuy Perez cleaned a cooking pan in the Saint Matthew Parish Kitchen while Thunderbird Council 6711 prepared the spaghetti dinner for Saint Matthew Altar Servers and their families. (Photo: Sir Knight Faithful Pilot Wally Piatek)



Thunderbird Council 6711 Knight Rudy Garcia made more garlic toast while Sir Knight Past Faithful Navigator Grand Knight Chuy Perez (partially hidden) cooked the spaghetti noodles. (Photo: Sir Knight Faithful Pilot Wally Piatek)



Saint Matthew Altar Servers and their families enjoyed a spaghetti dinner provided by Thunderbird Council 6711 in the Saint Matthew Dining Hall. (Photo: Sir Knight Adrian Muñoz)



In the Saint Matthew Dining Hall, a total 46 Altar Servers and family members consumed of the spaghetti dinner provided by Thunderbird Council 6711. (Photo: Sir Knight Adrian Muñoz)

Assembly's Knights in Action



2024 Diocese of El Paso March for Life



Representing the West Side at the January 20, 2024 Diocese of El Paso March for Life were four Rio Grande Council 14413 Knights (left to right): Jesse Saenz, SK FC/S Joe O'Connor, Patrick Ross and SK PGK Alberto "Butch" Francisco. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)



Three Clergy presenters at the 2024 March for Life included (left to right) Bishop of Las Cruces Peter Baldacchino, Our Lady of Assumption Pastor Sir Knight Past Faithful Navigator Father Mark Salas, and Bishop of El Paso Mark Seitz. (Photo: Sir Knight FC/S Joe O'Connor)



Listening to SK PFN Father Mark Salas (right photo) deliver a moving story that emphasized the Culture of Life and the School of Love in the Church were (left photo, left to right) Bishops Peter Baldacchino and Mark Seitz, SK Diocesan Deputy Art Aguirre, and SK ADD John Daley. (Photos: SK FC/S Joe O'Connor)



Trying to keep warm on a cold day before marching off were some Sir Knights of the Color Guard (left to right): ADD John Danley, District Marshal Jesus Granado, CCC Frank Ortiz, Rosendo Dominguez, and District Master Giovanni Hyppolite. Chatting with them was Sir Knight Past Faithful Navigator Father Mark Salas (right). (Photo: SK FC/S Joe O'Connor)



The Color Guard Sir Knights led the march off (left to right): CCC Danny Muniz, ADD John Danley, Rosendo Dominguez, District Master Giovanni Hyppolite, Gilbert De La Rosa, CCC Frank Ortiz and District Marshal Jesus Grenado. Right behind them were Bishops Mark Seitz and Peter Baldacchino (hidden). (Photo: Sir Knight Faithful Comptroller/Scribe Joe O'Connor)



Escorted by El Paso Police Department patrol cars and motorcycles, the Marchers went east on North Loop to Lee Trevino, turned around on North Loop and went to Yarborough, turned around on North Loop and returned to the start point at Saint Matthews Street. Approximately 100 Knights, family members and friends made the 45-minute March. (Photo: Sir Knight Oscar Villalva)

Assembly's Knights in Action

Sir Knight PGK John Bock's Vigil/Rosary and Chalice Presentation



On January 30, 2024, six Sir Knights gathered at Sunset Funeral Home-West for Sir Knight Past Grand Knight John Bock's Vigil/Rosary (left to right): Joe O'Connor, Armando Uranga, Alfonso Holguin, District Marshal Jesus Granado, PFN GK Chuy Perez and Wally Piatek. (Photo: Sir Knight PGK Robert Valdiviez)



As Father Richard Sotelo, S.J. (left), led the Rosary, Sir Knight District Marshal Jesus Granado (second from left) posted Sir Knights Armando Uranga (second from right) and Wally Piatek (right) next to Sir Knight Past Grand Knight John Bock's open casket for the Rosary's First Decade. (Photo: Sir Knight Faithful Comptroller/Scribe Joe O'Connor)



After the Rosary, Sir Knight Joe O'Connor (podium) read the Proclamation of Condolences and the Chalice Presentation Proclamation while Sir Knight Past Faithful Navigator Grand Knight Chuy Perez (right) waited to present Sir Knight John Bock's Chalice. (Photo: Sir Knight Past Grand Knight Robert Valdiviez)



Sir Knight Past Faithful Navigator Grand Knight Chuy Perez (left) presented the Chalice baseplate (see below) to Sir Knight John Bock's family members. Mrs. Patricia Bock, Sir Knight John's widow, sat in the front pew. SK Joe O'Connor prepared to present the framed Condolences to Sir Knight John's family members. (Photo: SK PGK Robert Valdiviez)

Sir Knight Past Grand Knight John Bock's Chalice was donated to a new Parish in Kenya where it will be used every day in the Celebration of the Mass. Sir Knights are asked to identify now either a small Mission Church or a Seminarian upon his Ordination to the Priesthood as their Chalice destination, rather than leaving it upon the surviving family to decide. Sir Knights are asked to notify Faithful Scribe Joe O'Connor of their Chalice destination. (Photo: Sir Knight Faithful Comptroller/Scribe Joe O'Connor)



Sir Knight Past Grand Knight John Bock's Chalice baseplate was encribed with his name and date of death. In the future, when the Priest elevates the Chalice, his name will be visible to the Priest. (Photo: Sir Knight Faithful Comptroller/Scribe Joe O'Connor)



Assembly's Knights in Action



Sir Knight Past Grand Knight John H. Bock's Funeral Mass



On January 31, 2024, outside Queen of Peace Catholic Church, an Honor Guard of five Sir Knights awaited Sir Knight John Bock's casket (left to right): PFN PGK Luis Rojas (left of picture), Armando Uranga, Wally Piatek, Joe O'Connor and PFN GK Chuy Perez. When the casket and pallbearers passed by, the Honor Guard rendered Present Sword. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)



Awaiting Sir Knight John Bock's casket and many family members, the Honor Guard consisted of (left to right): Past Faithful Navigaor (PFN) Grand Knight Chuy Perez, PFN PGK Luis Rojas, Armando Uranga, and Wally Piatek. As the Priests, Sir Knight John's casket and pallbearers, and family members went by, the Honor Guard rendered Present Sword. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)



At the Offertory, as Sir Knight John Bock's family members prepared to bring up the bread and wine, SK Joe O'Connor held Sir Knight John's Chalice and Paten, as the family requested that it be used during the Funeral Mass. Sir Knight PGK Robert Valdiviez (left) served as Head Usher. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)



Sir Knight Faithful Comptroller/Scribe Joe O'Connor presented Sir Knight John's Chalice and Paten to Sir Knight Father Allan Alaka (right), Queen of Peace Pastor, assisted by Father Richard Sotelo, S.J. (to the left of Sir Knight Father Allan). Sir Knight John's Chalice was then used in the Consecration. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)



The Honor Guard of five Sir Knights, after presenting the Inveted Sword (hilt on top forming the shape of a Cross) and bowing when Sir Knight John Bock's casket and pallbearers went by, returned to Carry Sword (left to right): PFN PGK Luis Rojas, Armando Uraga, Wally Piatek, PFN GK Chuy Perez, and Joe O'Connor. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)



Their job done, the Honor Guard of five Sir Knights, executed Return Sword as the Hearse containing Sir Knight John Bock's casket and the motorcade of many family members and friends prepared to depart to Memorial Gardens of the Valley for Sir Knight John's burial. Several Sir Knights of Rio Grande Council 14413 attended Sir Knight John's Rosary and Funeral Mass. (Photo: Mary O'Connor)