



NEWSLETTER



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Knights of Columbus

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JANUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 <i>DANCE</i> <i>HOLY ROSARY</i> <i>PRIEST'S RETIREMENT</i> <i>FUND</i>
13 <i>THE BAPTISM</i> <i>OF THE LORD</i>	14 <i>MEETING</i> <i>CALDWELL</i> <i>7:00 PM</i>	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 <i>DAY OF PRAYER</i> <i>FOR THE LEGAL PRO-</i> <i>TECTION OF UNBORN</i> <i>CHILDREN</i>	23	24	25	26 <i>MARCH FOR</i> <i>LIFE-MASS AND</i> <i>MARCH</i>
27	28	29	30	31		

NEWS

We mourn the loss of our brother Sir Knight Phillip Rosas, who passed away on Sunday, January 6. The funeral Mass will be at St. Mary's in Caldwell, on Friday, January 11, at 2:00 PM. We have been asked to provide an Honor Guard for the services. Please arrive 30 minutes before the Mass time.

Our annual Priests Retirement Fund Dance will again be held on January 12, at the Holy Rosary Recreation Center. Holy Rosary Heavenly Hamburgers will be available starting at 6:00 PM, and the dance will start at 7:00 PM. Come out and enjoy yourself and help support our retired Clergy in our Diocese.

Our meeting this month will be in Caldwell again, due to a scheduling conflict at the Rockdale location. The meal will be served promptly at 7:00 PM, with the meeting to follow.

The annual March for Life will be held on January 26. There will be two Mass locations again this year, one at San Jose parish, with Bishop Michael Mulvey presiding, and the other will be at St. Louis Parish, with Bishop Patrick Zurek presiding. I have attempted to contact our District Master to determine if the traditional Regalia will be allowed for this march, but have not been able to contact him. Hopefully we will know something by the time of our meeting on Monday. The march forms at 14th St. and San Jacinto, at 1:00 PM.

We will have our Renewal of Obligations at our February meeting in Rockdale. A reminder that this is a meeting where the wives are invited, and the dress is Tuxedo with Social Baldric.

Our next Turkey Shoot is quickly approaching, and it is set for March 31. Raffle tickets will be available soon, so line up your prospects. Prizes will be the same, which is 4 \$500.00 gift cards, with a \$20.00 price tag for the tickets.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Here we are, kicking off another year, and I am already behind. I am trying to get this in the mail today, Monday, but was waiting for the details of the funeral for our brother Knight. We have them now, so should get the paper copy out today.

Dear Brother Knight:

There have been times in our country's past when uninformed or prejudiced people questioned whether Catholics could be good citizens or honest public servants. That's why Father McGivney chose the name "Columbus" for our Order — because the discoverer was the Catholic figure from American history most admired and accepted at the time. In fact, from our founding in 1882, until the election of Brother Knight John F. Kennedy in 1960, many still held that Catholics were unfit for public office. Throughout that time, the Knights of Columbus worked to counter such prejudice.

Sadly, it seems that in some quarters, this prejudice remains. First, in 2017 a Notre Dame law professor was deemed unfit for a federal judgeship by a United States Senator who feared that "the dogma lives loudly within you." Now, two more senators have questioned a Brother Knight's fitness for the federal bench precisely because our Order holds firm to the Church's teachings on the sanctity of life and marriage.

Such attacks on the basis of our Catholic faith are hardly new. The Knights of Columbus was formed amid a period of anti-Catholic bigotry. We stood against that then, and we do so now. We have spoken out against persecution around the world for nearly a century. At the same time, here at home we stood against the Ku Klux Klan, including its attempts to ban Catholic education, and we published books on the black and Jewish contributions to American history decades before the Civil Rights movement. More recently, we stood with the Little Sisters of the Poor in their fight for religious liberty and have worked with both the Obama and Trump administrations — and both sides of the aisle in Congress — to help Christians, Yazidis and Shi'a Muslims targeted for genocide by ISIS.

From our very beginning, the Knights of Columbus has been an organization adhering to the teachings of the Catholic Church. As with the Church, our primary motivation in everything is Christ's great commandment, that we love God completely and our neighbor as ourselves.

As the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church explains, "Jesus Christ reveals to us that 'God is love' and He teaches us that 'the fundamental law of human perfection, and consequently of the transformation of the world, is the new commandment of love.'

This love impels us to our great charitable endeavors on behalf of those in need. From inner cities in the United States to refugee camps in the Middle East our Order's donations over the last decade — more than one billion dollars and hundreds of millions of hours in volunteer work — are the result of this faith.

These works of charity have practical impacts that transform lives as we help people here at home and around the world. Our charity helped typhoon victims in the Philippines rebuild their lives and livelihoods; it brought prosthetics and rehabilitation to thousands of Haitian youth after the earthquake there; it puts coats on poor, cold children in some of our country's most impoverished neighborhoods each winter; it gives wheelchairs to those who otherwise could not afford them in countries like Vietnam and Mexico; and it provides education, housing and medical care to AIDS orphans in Africa.

This love also motivates us to stand with the Church on the important issues of life and marriage, precisely because the Church's teaching reflects and is based on that love. We stand with our Church because we believe that what our faith teaches is consistent with reason, is timeless and transcends the changing sentiments of any particular time or place. We do not stand alone.

In his first message to our international convention, Pope Francis asked "each Knight, and every Council, to bear witness to the authentic nature of marriage and the family, the sanctity and inviolable dignity of human life, and the beauty and truth of human sexuality."

And our positions on life are not new. My two predecessors as supreme knight spoke out forcefully to defend the rights of the unborn. In 1973, Supreme Knight John McDevitt wrote that Roe v. Wade was "a mortal blow to all who consider human life sacred." He urged the Order to "to initiate or increase efforts to offset the harmful effects of this lamentable decision."

My immediate predecessor, Virgil Dechant, said in 1977: "With some 1.2 million unborn babies being killed by abortion each year in the United States alone, we are confronted with an outrage against human life paralleled only by the ravages of a bloody war."

Simply put, our positions are now, and have always been, Catholic positions.

We must remember that Article VI of the U. S. Constitution forbids a religious test for public office, and the First Amendment guarantees our free exercise of religion, freedom of association and freedom of speech. Any suggestion that the Order's adherence to the beliefs of the Catholic Church makes a Brother Knight unfit for public office blatantly violates those constitutional guarantees.

Let us continue to express our love of God and neighbor by helping those in need and by standing with our Church, regardless of the popularity of doing so. Let us remember that our "Christian witness is to be considered a fundamental obligation."

Let us also remember that, from our founding, we have embodied the truth that a good Catholic is a good citizen who shows civility and dignity even in the face of prejudice.

As we begin 2019, Dorian and I wish you a new year filled with the joy and wonders of His love. Thank you as well for all the many ways in which you have brought joy into the lives of millions around the world. May the inspiration of our founder prompt us to greater confidence in that love and encourage us to even greater works of charity.

Fraternally,

Carl A. Anderson

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