

January 2020

The Beacon

A Publication of the St. Albert Knights of Columbus Council # 4742

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Grand Knights Report

Now that we are well into 2020 and thus the second half of our Columbian year, I would like to wish you and your families a Very Happy New Year. The mass on December 31 followed by hot chocolate and then the fabulous fireworks display certainly started the 2030 in wondrous fashion. May we continue our journeys as knights how the year began.

This month I would like to introduce to you the Monthly Challenge as provided by our Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori. Each month, Archbishop Lori selects a brief passage from the Gospel reading of one of the Sunday Masses of the month. Archbishop Lori also shares a brief reflection on the passage and issues a challenge for us to live for the month.

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." (Gospel Lk. 3:21-22)

Think about it. Do you really see yourself as a beloved son in whom your Heavenly Father is well pleased? To be honest, most men, including this archbishop, go through seasons when we don't seem to sense that our father is well-pleased. Maybe we see ourselves as self-made men who don't owe our father anything. Maybe we did not experience love from our dad, and the very idea of being beloved is ludicrous. Maybe instead of Jesus' actual words, we hear, "This is my wayward son, in whom I am much disappointed." Yet we know that we are baptized into Christ and share in his identity as the beloved son. Being beloved sons is the bedrock of our identity. The plain fact is that your heavenly Father is well-pleased with you.

This month I challenge you to hear the Heavenly Father saying these words "you are my beloved son" personally to you and reflect on your identity in him. I recommend that you do so, if possible, in Adoration. Secondly, I challenge you to spend time with someone who loves you unconditionally. Ask them why? Their answer should give you a small glimpse of God's unconditional love for you.

Vivat Jesus

Br. Bernie Hryciw
Worthy Grand Knight

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Good of the Order

Keep in your prayers those at the Youville and elsewhere: Rev. Louis Gendre, William Oshanyk and Leon Richard.

We will visit our fellow Brothers who are ill and in continuing care. Some members of our council will visit them, preferably in the mornings. If you are able to participate please contact Br. Brian Wolbert at 780-460-8294 or Br. Tony Csilics 780-458-0065 e-mail kofc@stalbertcouncil4742.ca.

If you are aware of a Knight who is ill or who passed away please call Br. Tony Csilics.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date

January

24 January Social- 7 PM ****

February

2 Pancake Breakfast following the 9 and 11 Masses

3 Executive Meeting - 7 PM

19 General Meeting - 7PM

January Social - Games Night !!!!!

There will be **NO** General Meeting in January however in place there will be fraternal building with games etc. This is not a closed event and spouses are invited to attend.

Br. Terry Sperling is planning this event and will send out more information as the event gets closer. Mark your calendars for **January 24th** and ---- stay tuned!.

State Hockey Tournament - Wainwright AB - April 3 - 5

Calling all Hockey players. If you wish to take part in the tournament you should make your wishes known soon. There are a limited number of positions available on the team so contact Br. Shannon Scott ASAP.

Shannon.Scott@forces.gc.ca



Pancake Breakfast

After mass parishioners gathered for pancakes and an opportunity to see the hockey game.

I was a great opportunity to see the game have a good breakfast and to buy their grocery card.

Remember you can buy your grocery cards and pay with your credit card at the Morning breakfasts.



You may also contact :
Gerry Buccini guccini@telus.net
Frank Polanski 780-459-7941
Scott Venne venne1@shaw.ca

◆REMEMBER◆
◆Knights support
◆Knight Events!◆

**Knights of Columbus Alberta-Northwest Territories
Formation Program-January-2020
“When the Son of Man comes in His glory and all the angels with Him...
Final Judgement, (Mt. 25, 31)”**

Opening Prayer

Lord, teach us to pray:
“Our Father...”

The Reading

(To be read by the Leader)

“These words from Matthews Gospel remind us that we will be blessed to give an account of how we used the gift of life and the many talents that our Lord blessed us with. They are not meant to cause fear or trepidation within us, they are simply a reminder that we are accountable for what we have been blessed with and this is certainly no different than our accountability in our homes, our workplace, our parish and our Councils.

My dear brothers, may the blessing of the Lord be upon you and yours in this year of our Lord 2020. May you and your loved ones be blessed with a happy, healthy and holy Columbian year ahead. Brothers, I pray that your Christmas season was joyful, with family, friends and faith as key components of the celebration of the nativity of our Saviour; the Saviour of the world.

Brothers as you are very aware, “Faith in Action” has become the flag bearer of our Knights and their Councils throughout the order, for the past year and half. Faith in Action seeks to meet the needs of our membership, our families and communities in this modern day in which we seek to serve. “It seeks to balance the key priorities of the Order with priorities of our men and their families.” These priorities are Faith, Family, Community and Life. Needless to say, one could state that these priorities could and should be the priorities of any Catholic family. However, the Knights have made them their own. One of the quotes from the Faith in Action Guidebook is: “Our goal is for men to lead their family in service, not leave their family for service.” The Faith in Action model allows us to come together to share our faith, celebrate fraternity within our families within our Order, to serve our parish and community and finally to defend life at all stages and conditions, from conception until natural death.

The Reflection

(To be read by the Leader)

Brothers I write these thoughts at the beginning of a new year, a new decade not as a commercial for Faith in Action, but because now is a perfect time to ask the question; How are we doing at implementing Faith in Action in our local Councils?

Many of us are aware the name January comes from the Roman god Janus, the god with two faces. One looking to the past and one looking to the future. What does an ancient Roman deity have to do with anything Catholic? Practically speaking the end of a year and the beginning of a new year is a wonderful time to reflect on our journeys. We look back at where we have been, what we have accomplished, what we perhaps could have done better. At the same time, we look forward with anticipation to where we wish to get to, to what we would like to accomplish, to what our hopes and aspirations for ourselves, our families and our Councils are for the coming year. Brothers, this beginning of the new year/decade we are invited to be introspective about our lives. We are offered the opportunity to take an honest look back at what has been happening, evaluating these things and then to ponder what we would like to see transpire in the year ahead.

We make our plans for the coming year, for our Family, Council, Parish, Community, but we cannot objectively look practically ahead, if we do not first, intentionally look back. Now a word from the Greeks. Socrates an early Greek Philosopher said: “the unexamined life is not worth living.” These words ring as true today, as they did twenty-six hundred years ago. The comment or caveat I would add, is that all life is worth living, but true joy and fulfillment will be had, when we serve the Lord fully to the best of our abilities. That being said, our Knights of Columbus Order exists to serve, particularly the needs of the Church with the extension of this service being service in the community and our global sisters and brothers.

So, the question: as we find our way with

on how things went and what could we do differently? I am a fan of consistency, but I am not a fan of doing what we do, because that is what we did before. Brothers, a suggestion, set aside ten minutes at your next four council meetings and do a debrief with your attending membership. Open the floor for comments on how the past year went regarding the activities you implemented to meet the criteria of each of the four areas of focus, Faith one month, Family the next, and so on with Community, and Life. Look back and then look ahead. When we see that we perhaps could have done things differently or better, often that is when the ideas

or suggestions will come from the floor, but we have to open the door of evaluation in order to offer the opportunity for this to happen. We have many good, faith-filled, intelligent, service-oriented men in our Councils. Invite them to look back and to provide input on what we have done well and how we might do things better. God's blessing for the second half of your Columbian year brothers. The other part of this equation brothers, is you need to celebrate as a Council what you have done well and indeed, there is much to celebrate.

When the Son of Man comes in His glory and all the angels with Him... (Mt. 25, 31)

Meditation Period

(The Leader now invites the members to spend a few moments in silent reflection, as the above text is not meant to be a ready-made answer but a starter for personal reflection on the theme.)

Fraternal Sharing

(The leader now invites the members to share with their Brother Knights any relevant thoughts that came to them during the meditation period.)

Closing Prayer

(Recited by all)

Let us pray:

“Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Chaplains Corner

Fr. Ed Kosa was kind enough to forward an address to an article regarding the history of The Christmas bag program at the Remand Centre. It is a pleasure for the Council to support this worthy program for the inmates and the students. The article can be seen at the following address.

<https://grandinmedia.ca/christmas-at-remand-centre-brightened-by-gift-bags-from-students/>