

The Beacon

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

Website: <http://www.stalbertcouncil4742.ca/> email: kofo@stalbertcouncil4742.ca

State Website: <http://kofo.ab.ca/>



FOUNDED FEB., 16, 1959

Mailing Address 7 St. Vital Ave.
St. Albert, AB T8N 1K1

Your Executive!

Blue Sunday Mass - Come Celebrate with Us on May 6, 2018



Blue Sunday Mass is celebrated annually for all First Responders employed in the "public safety field and includes police officers, firefighters, correctional officers, EMS personnel and our military. The colour blue relates to the blue-colored uniforms predominantly used by these services. The service is an opportunity for our community to show gratitude to first responders and their families. Psalm 91:11, "For He will give His angels special charge over you to accompany and defend and preserve you in all your ways [of obedience and service]," The Blue Mass dates back to September 29, 1934 when, Rev. Thomas Dade started the service as part of his duties with

the Catholic Police and Fireman's Society. The first mass was held at St. Patrick's Church in Washington DC, and has now grown to a worldwide celebration. This will be the 13th Blue Sunday Service held in St. Albert Parish. This invitation is extended to all serving and retired First Responders. Those who wish to attend are asked to come in uniform if possible, but that is not necessary. The invitation is also extended to their families. Remember, it is not necessary to be of the Catholic faith to participate. All are welcome.

Knights - please encourage all those active and retired First Responders that you know to attend this event and encourage them and their families to indulge in a complimentary breakfast following Mass.

Please read a copy of Most Rev. Richard W. Smith's "Weekly reflections on Sacred Scripture and comment on public issues" on page 3. - "reprinted with permission from the Archdiocese".

Chaplain

Rev. Ed Kosa
780 919-5069

Grand Knight

Br. Brian Wolbert
780-460-8294

Deputy Grand Knight

Br. Gerry Buccini
780-459-7384

Chancellor

Br. Daniel Chauvet
780-966-3658

Financial Secretary

Br. Tony Csilics
780-458-0065

Treasurer

Br. James Van Horn
780-569-4022

Recorder

Br. Gerry Keane
780-458-3496

Advocate

Colin Cunningham
780-544-9555

Warden

Br. Marc Lambertus
780-458-2218

Outside Guard

Br. Bernie Hryciw
780-458-8198

Inside Guard

Br. Robert Pampu
780-460-6740

Trustee 1

Br. Ken Gallagher
587 341-5711

Trustee 2

Br. Kevin McClean
780 418-5676

Trustee 3

Br. Terry Sperling
780-459-5479

Lecturer:

Br. Joel Thomson

UPCOMING EVENTS 2018

April

- 21 - Spring Wing Ding, Parish Hall
- 27 - 29 Knight's Convention in Calgary

May

- 6 - Blue Sunday
- 6 - Pancake Breakfast after both the 9 and 11 AM Masses
- 7 - Executive Meeting, 7 PM, Grandin Room
- 16 - General Meeting, 7 PM, Grandin Room

We are planning the June
BBQ at the Star of the North.
Pencil June 16h into your
calendars.

Photos from Blue Sunday 2017



Monday, May 8, 2017 **The Reason for Our Hope**

Weekly reflections on Sacred Scripture and comment on public issues

By Most Rev. Richard W. Smith, Archbishop of Edmonton

The Blue Mass

On Sunday I had the great joy of gathering at St Albert parish for their annual "Blue Mass", offered in thanksgiving to God for the first responders who protect us.

The timing was right. Just this past week we commemorated the first anniversary of the Fort McMurray fire. Looking back, we were reminded not only of the enormous danger faced by the residents of that city, but also of the heroism, professionalism, competence and selfless dedication of the first responders. It was a moment when the profound respect, admiration and gratitude of the citizens of this province for the men and women willing to stand in harm's way was on full display and expressed in a variety of ways.

What was experienced at the moment of the Fort McMurray crisis can give us important insight into the message of the Gospel proclaimed on Sunday (John 10:1-10). As I reflect on all that unfolded during that tragedy, what stands out is the importance of the voice of authority: the voice that alerted to danger, the voice that called people from their homes, the voice that gave direction, the voice that diverted people away from peril, the voice that showed the way to shelter, the voice that kept the population updated, and so on. In each case, the voice was listened to and followed, because the voice was trusted. The voice of authority was spoken by one in authority and therefore was trusted to speak only that which would lead away from harm and toward security.

The Gospel passage speaks precisely of a voice of authority that can be trusted with absolute confidence, and which is therefore the voice to be followed. It speaks of the voice of Jesus Christ. Using the familiar imagery of the Good Shepherd who loves and cares for his sheep, Jesus says that his sheep know and recognize his voice and follow his direction to pastures of safety, protected from the thieves and bandits who seek only to steal and destroy. At issue here is the pasture of eternal life and unending safety in the presence of God. In the course of our earthly lives we encounter many evil voices that attack not only the body but also the soul, seducing to spiritual danger. As we listen to the voices of our first responders who seek to protect us from bodily harm, we need also to be attentive to the voice of the One Good Shepherd, Jesus, whose voice leads us to spiritual security.

And why Jesus? Why his voice and not another? In the course of the Fort McMurray rescue, the voices of authority gave direction in accordance with an overarching plan that was formulated by those who could see the whole picture and assess the entire situation. The One who sees the whole picture of our lives, the One who, indeed, can assess the entire situation of world history, the One who sees clearly where danger lies, who knows the "escape routes" that lead away from peril, is Almighty God, who loves us beyond all imagining. He has fashioned a plan of escape for us, which in more theological language we call his plan of salvation. To carry out that plan, he has sent his well-beloved Son to be the voice of authority. So, when we listen to Jesus Christ, we can have full confidence that he is shepherding us in accord with the mysterious and loving plan of our Heavenly Father. His voice is worthy of our full trust, and in following it we find safety and peace.

One final thought about the Fort McMurray event. We were all particularly impressed by the bravery and skill of the firefighters. Yet, for many days they were forced to admit that the fire was beyond their control in spite of their best efforts. Often, we find things "out of control" in our own personal lives. Things "get away from us" in spite of everything we try to do to bring order and control. This can cause great stress and heartache and bring heavy pressure to bear on family and professional relationships. At times like these it is helpful to recall that there is one who is always in control and can turn all to the good if we but consciously surrender control of our lives to him. That is Jesus, our Good Shepherd, who loves us, speaks to us, and leads us to freedom. Let's listen to his voice and follow.

April 2018 Meeting

Created in the Image and Likeness of God (Gen. 1, 26-27)

Opening Prayer

Lord, teach us to pray:
"Our Father..."

The Reading

(To be read by the Leader)

"God created humanity in His image and likeness, in His divine image He created him; male and female He created them....God looked at everything He had made, and He found it very good, (Gen. 1, 27, 31)"

Brothers, last month we spoke about inclination versus action, regarding to sin. In a particular way we focused on the reality that some individuals who are experiencing same sex attraction did not invite these feelings, they did not want them and found these feelings to be a burden/cross for them in their lives. We spoke about the need to focus on the value of virtues practiced on a repetitive basis and how developing the habit of virtue can assist one not only in their journey of sexual chastity, but also in all areas of their lives. Finally, we noted that forming and cultivating good healthy fraternal friendships, such as the Knights of Columbus is critical to healthy human development. Healthy friendships with likeminded individuals (Knights) can be invaluable in assisting all to live, lives that are pleasing to the Lord and in conformance with Catholic teaching.

This month we begin the journey to in some small way understand the area of transgender or properly called sexual dysphoria. To write in an orthodox manner on this topic I will be using Sr. Helena Burns, a Daughter of St. Paul and expert in this area particularly with young people. I will also use a document titled "Selected quotes from Documents of the Popes and Members of the Roman Curia on the Subject of Gender Theory."

In today's world the terms "gender" and "sex" are understood to mean different things but they only mean one thing and that is whether someone is male or female. This statement is supported by God's natural law and is named in Genesis 1, 27, "God created man in His image; in the divine image He created him; male and female He created them, (NAB)." According to natural law we are created in our mother's womb either male or female. The trend or popular thought in the secular world today states: "You are assigned a physical sex at birth (actually in the womb), but gender is what you really are, what you feel inside, your true self, what you want to be, and or it's fluid and can keep changing. Some people talk about a "spectrum" of sexuality far beyond the two sexes, (Sr. Burns. Gender and LGBTQ Pt. 1). For clarity this is a secular attitude and is stated by Sr. Burns only as part of her research.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI speaks of our humanity in this way. "If the Church speaks of the nature of the human being as man and woman, and demands that this order of creation be respected, this is not some antiquated metaphysics. What is involved here is faith in the Creator and a readiness to listen to the "language" of creation. To disregard this would be the self-destruction of man himself, and hence the destruction of God's own work. What is often expressed and understood by the term "gender" ultimately ends up being Man's attempt at self-emancipation from creation and the Creator. Man wants to be his own master, and alone-always and exclusively-to determine everything that concerns him.

Yet in this way he lives in opposition to the truth, in opposition to the Creator Spirit, (Dec. 28, 2008)."

The Reflection

(To be read by the Leader)

"It is crucially important to understand that saying a person has a particular inclination that is disordered is not to say that the person as a whole, is disordered. Nor does it mean that one has been rejected by God or the Church, (USCCCB 2006)."

Brothers, you can see where this is going. Humanity wants to be in charge and over-ride the natural law established by our Creator God, literally at the beginning of time. The question that comes to my mind when I see the undermining of natural law at virtually every corner and facet of society including what constitutes a family is this. If society has no basis for their opinion except for the desire that everything be in the hands of humanity to decide, where will they turn when things finally go so far askew from what we have long understood to be normative. Who will they turn to? If the Creator is pushed out as a point of reference for our existence?

Pope Benedict sites the Chief Rabbi of France, Gilles Bernheim's argument about this attack on the nature and true structure of the family. He notes that the term "gender" is seen as a new philosophy or understanding of sexuality. "According to this philosophy, sex is no longer a given element of nature that man must accept and personally make sense of: it is a social role that we choose for ourselves, while in the past it was chosen for us by society." He further states that the absolute falsehood of this theory results in this: "People dispute the idea that they have a nature, given by their bodily identity that serves as defining element of the human being. They deny their nature and decide that it is not something previously given to them, but that they make it for themselves."

Brothers the biggest challenge faced here, is not that "crisis of identity" is becoming more and more normalized within our society. The very real and much larger problem is that at the root of this, humanity (secular society) has deemed that they are in charge of the very essence of who they were created to be in the first place by our God. They are saying the Creator no longer has dominion over who I have been created to be. I am in charge of who I am. When we look back at Noah's flood account, the tower of babel, or even WWII things have not turned out well when humanity thought they knew better. Next month the challenge facing Gender dysphoria.

Created in the Image and Likeness of God (Gen. 1, 26-27)

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

"Woman," he asked her, "Why are you weeping? Who is it you are looking for?" "I have seen the Lord!"
John 20:15, 18

Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb of Jesus after his crucifixion to pay him homage. She does not find his body in the tomb. At first, she does not recognize Jesus as he asks her,

"Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?" I have to wonder, would I be like Mary Magdalene? Would I recognize Jesus? Would you recognize Him?

As I live every day in this world, I know that Jesus is everywhere. I recognize Him in the Eucharist I receive during Mass. I recognize Him in the people I encounter each day. I recognize Him in the Earth that God has created; the natural beauty of every day and season. I have seen the Lord! I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and for you. I trust in Him.

Easter Action:

May I be like Mary Magdalene and go out into my daily life activities and proclaim, "I have seen the Lord!"

Easter Prayer:

Help me to believe in you, Jesus. Help me to see with eyes of Faith in you. Amen.

Oblate Moment - Br. Bernie Hryciw

The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate is a world wide Roman Catholic Congregation of Priests and Brothers founded after the French Revolution in 1816 by St. Eugene de Mazenod to work among the poor. Today we number 4,440 priests and brothers working in 71 countries throughout the world. Having arrived in Canada in 1841, the Oblates presently form one of the most important communities of men in the country. We now number about 700 men in Canada. The Oblates in Canada are organized into three sections known as Oblate Provinces. Oblates exercise very diversified ministries, but above all we seek to dedicate themselves to the poor and abandoned in urban centers, in Northern Canada and in other remote areas of the country. Oblates also work with immigrants, ethnic minorities and First Nations people. One can thus find us for example, in parishes, retreat houses, in missionary formation, preaching, social justice and other pastoral ministries, and universities. Our work situates us throughout Canada, from coast to coast.

"No ministry is alien to us as long as we never lose sight of the main purpose of the Congregation: the evangelization of the most abandoned." (Oblate Constitutions & Rules)
Oblates also work in missions throughout the world, on all six continents. There we work for the growth of the local churches. We are in solidarity with their missionary action and provide them with various forms of support.

Good of the Order

Keep in your prayers those at the Youville and elsewhere: William Oshanyk, Ernest Sokolan, Rev. Louis Gendre, Father Felix Labat, Leon Richard, Dan Boivert and Norm Dust's wife Jesse.

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 has passed away please call Br. Tony Csilics.

Pizza, Pizza; Splash, Splash!
Another successful Event!

Br. Tim,
On behalf of the Knights of Columbus
Council 4742, I want to thank you and
Susan for your continued dedication to
this great Parish event sponsored by



the Knights of Columbus. I would
think that it would be safe to say
nearly 1,000 different parishioners
have attended this event over the
past 12 years. That's phenomenal!!!

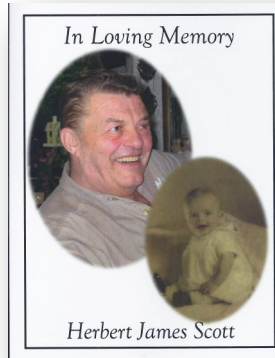
Br. Terry Sperling
Trustee 3, Knights of Columbus
Council 4742, St. Albert, Alberta



Herbert James Scott

On Sunday, March 18th our Brother Herb Scott
passed away. Herb was a member of the Knights for
34 years. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his
family.

Brother Herb will be truly missed!



Next Pancake Breakfast is May 6th

We need you to help at the pancake breakfasts. Please advise either Ken Gallagher or
Kevin McClean and come help with the set-up, serving and clean-up.

Ken (587) 341-5711 kennethtgallagher@gmail.com

Kevin (780) 418-5676 kmcclean@telus.net.

"In service to One. In service to All.



Knights Support Knight 's Functions

On Saturday March 24, some of our Brother knights received their 2nd and 3rd Degree exemplification. Pictured below are the following from left to right: Chris Malayko, Jacob Sperling, Emmanuel Aguilar, Nicholas Cross, Mark Mackenzie, Stanley Knaga, Arman Estillore, Scott Venne, Fadi Salloum. Thank you Br. Marc for coordinating this event.



Congratulations!



St. Albert Parish is hosting the Spring Wing Ding on Saturday April 21st following the 5 PM Mass.



Come and enjoy the fellowship, good food and wonderful entertainment! This is a fundraiser for CWL and K of C. Tickets are \$25 each.



Contact our Grand Knight Brian Wolbert at 780-690-4938 for tickets.



Welcome to our newly transferred-in Brother Knight, Christopher Murphy. Christopher moved from Ottawa and prior to that he grew up in the Camrose area. He plans to join the seminarians in September.

