



**FOUNDED FEB., 16, 1959**

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# The Beacon

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

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## Grand Knight's Message—October 2018

### Annual Knight's Membership Dues Increase

It has been years, too many to remember, since our membership dues have changed. State has recently increased their fees and our expenses continue to go up and as a result these increases will need to be passed onto the membership. Effective immediately, the annual membership fees have increased. Regular member dues \$50 honorary member (attained the age of 65 years and has been a member 25 consecutive years) dues \$10 Honorary Life member (attained the age of 70 years and has been a member for 25 consecutive years and those who have been a member for 50 years regardless of age) are exempt from payment of dues.

"Every good act is charity. A man's true wealth hereafter is the good that he does in this world to his fellows".

- Moliere

Vivat Jesus,

*Bt. Brian Wolbert*



## Save the Dates

- Memorial Mass, November 20th, 6 PM
- Fourth Degree Christmas Party - December 15th
- Advent Mass and Dinner - Saturday, January 5th, tickets will go on sale at the Pancake Breakfast on November 4th.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### October

- 13 1st Degree, 9:30 am St Joseph's High School.
- 14 Pancake Breakfast
- 17 7 PM - General Meeting
- 25 5:30 Padre Night - St Basil's Cultural Centre

### November

- 4 Pancake Breakfast
- 5 7 PM - Executive Meeting
- 20 6 PM - Memorial Mass
- 21 7 PM - General Meeting

Archbishop Oscar Romero modern day Saint and Martyr

Message from our Chaplain

This Sunday, Archbishop Romero who was the archbishop of El Salvador will be declared a saint, the first Central America born figure given this honour.

As bishop, he spoke out against the injustices of the government and military of day who spoke out against their own people who were murdered, kidnapped and never heard of again. The Salvadorans called him the “voice of the voiceless” and the “journalist of the poor.

On March 23, 1980, at the end of his Sunday mass, he made appeal to the Salvadoran soldiers to stop killing their fellow citizens. He said, “I beg you, in the name of God, stop the repression” .

The following day, March 24, 1980, Archbishop Romero was shot dead at the alter while saying mass. The murderer was never found. It was most likely a soldier of the government.

Oscar Romero has given us an example to follow. Like him, we must speak out against the injustices of our day like assisted death, abortion, unfair wages, discrimination. We are called to be the voice of the poor in its many faces.

St. Romero, pray for us that we have the courage to speak out against the injustices of our time.

Oblate Moment – Br. Bernie Hryciw

From 1808 to 1812 as a member of the Seminary of Saint-Sulpice in Paris,

Eugene de Mazenod was guided by Monsieur Emery and Monsieur Duclaux. These holy men encouraged Eugene to continue developing a spirit of fervor, regularity and industriousness. Eugene, notwithstanding personal risk, committed himself to faithfully serve and assist the Pope who at this time was a prisoner of Napoleon at Fontainebleau.

Eugene’s desire to become a priest of the poor continued to develop. Direct contact with impoverished youth and prisoners of war strengthened Eugene’s desire to devote himself entirely to these forgotten people. Simultaneously, he continued to harbor a desire to make atonement, both for his own sins and all Christians who had abandoned the Church. Thus, he participates in the activities of the Marian Congregation and a missionary group established by his friend and confrere, Charles de Forbin-Janson. Repeatedly he expressed the desire to cooperate with Christ in the salvation of the world, so that the shedding of the blood of Christ might be efficacious for others as it had been for him.

#### Good of the Order

Keep in your prayers those at the Youville and elsewhere: William Oshanyk, Ernest Sokolan, Rev. Louis Gendre, Leon Richard 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](mailto:kofc@stalbertcouncil4742.ca).

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

## What is the Grocery Card Program ?

It is a way that various charitable organizations can raise money for their programs. The Knights purchase large lots of gift cards from grocery stores at a discount. We then resell them at face value thus making a small profit of 6-8%. When you buy \$ 400. of gift cards, you can purchase \$400. worth of groceries or other goods from that store. You get a full \$400. worth of value. Currently we have Safeway/Sobey's, Save-on-Foods and Super Store cards available.

## Why and how would you use a Grocery Store Gift Card ?.

When you buy \$400. of gift cards, you then use it as cash at the store. They accept it at full face value. You lose nothing and we all gain. You can use them to purchase **groceries, gifts (Christmas is coming), medications, etc.**

What do we do with the money? All the profits go to various local Knights of Columbus charities. We contributed to local community charities such as Marian Center, Wellness Center, Our Parish Youth (SAPY). **We are a major financial sponsor of our Parish.**

Most families will spend from \$400. to \$1,000. on groceries every month. We have over 2,000 families in the parish. If each family purchased \$400.worth of grocery cards each month, what would it do ?

2,000. families at \$400. each = \$800,000. a month. Our profit of 6-8% would then be about \$64,000. a month We could do a lot for the Church (we could easily wipe out the debt the parish has) and the community with these funds and it costs you nothing. Every little bit counts, even a \$100. purchase each month would be great.

## Where, When and How Can I Purchase the Gift Cards?

When - Where. Our members will at the in the church basement at each K OF C breakfast selling cards after Mass on the **first full weekend** of each month.

**We currently accept cash and cheques.**

You can financially assist your Parish and community with no added cost to yourself.

**DO YOUR LITTLE BIT.**

We sincerely **THANK YOU** for your participation.



Worthy Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries.

I encourage you to participate in one or more of the events scheduled in the attached document.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES**

Steve C. Horvath CET CMI

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## **RELATIONSHIP BUILDING & LOOKING FORWARD**

Worthy Knights of Columbus Brothers:

We have an opportunity to become better informed and skilled to become stronger leaders in our Councils by participating in one or more of the following schedule of events:

Supreme membership and program coordinator, Brother Guy Precourt, will be here October 19 to 25 to lead the seminars with information and guidance to enable us to become stronger leaders in our Councils and to respond to your questions and concerns during our sessions.

- ❖ **Saturday, October 20, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at St Joseph Basilica Parish Hall: Looking Forward, Relationship Building Seminar**  
Lunch and refreshments will be served. Discussion will focus on the Faith in Action Program, building relationships for recruitment and retention and your questions and concerns.

Saturday evening and Sunday: Church Drive recruitment for Father Leduc Council and St. Charles Council.

- ✓ **Monday, October 22: 7:00 to 9:00 pm at Corpus Christi Church**  
2707 34 Street NW, Edmonton
- ✓ **Tuesday, October 23: 7:00 to 9:00 pm at St. Albert Holy Family Church,** 75 Poirier Avenue, St. Albert.
- ✓ **Wednesday, October 24: 7:00 to 9:00 at Wetaskiwin K of C Hall**  
By-the-Lake Park 6128 56 Avenue, Wetaskiwin
- ✓ **Thursday October 25: PADRE NIGHT 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm at**  
St Basils Cultural Centre 10819 71 Avenue.
- ✓ **Support our Bishops and Priests**

**Please mark your calendar to participate and invite and bring Council members with a goal to develop your leadership and that of future executive officers.** Will anyone bring potential candidates?

## September / October - 2018 Meeting Created in the Image and Likeness of God (Gen. 1, 26-27)

### The Reflection

*(To be read by the Leader)*

All this to say brothers, that our Lord and Saviour instituted a perfect Church. The problems began when He left humanity in charge. There is no question that we have all inherited the proclivity to sin from our first parents and we need to be diligent in the way we live our Catholic faith for ourselves, for our families and our community. Brothers, at moments like this in the Catholic Church, one of our options is to turn away and say I want no part of an organization like this. That is your right, but I ask you to consider this thought. Brothers, the one relationship, that is of utmost and paramount importance to us and our families is the relationship we have with Jesus Christ. Our Lord and Saviour, who in In 14, 6 states clearly; "I am the way the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me."

Brothers, there will always be a reason to turn our back on the Church if we are inclined to look for one. Remember this please; the Church is our Church, we are the Church, we are the body of Christ and Jesus is the head of the Church. We cannot let anyone, or anything get in the way of, or impede our relationship with the Lord, Who is, the way the truth and the Life. Jesus left us the Church in order that it mediate and assist our relationship with our God. Certainly, some days are better than others in this respect. My prayer for you, for your families and for our Holy Catholic Church is that we will move forward with hearts that are open to the prompting of the Holy Spirit. If we do this, our Lord will have His way with us and allow us to see past the frailty of a sinful humanity and church, to the glorious eternity that He desires for each and every one of us, His children.

Brothers, I am still not clear on what I will write about with regard to the Formation program and this Columbian year, but I knew I needed to address the elephant in the living room.

### 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

### *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)"**

My dear Brothers in the Lord; "Do you not know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough? Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch, (1 Cor. 5, 6)." St. Paul's words of warning to the people of Corinth two thousand years ago spoke to my heart about the elephant in the room that all Catholics and the world for that matter are very aware of today. Suffice to say, I refer to the recent findings of the grand jury in Pennsylvania and the allegations of cover-ups against some of the hierarchy of the Catholic Church. Brothers, the numbers are staggering, 1000 victims, 300 priests, regardless whether the time span is the 70 years leading up to 1985.

It is an understatement to call this a grievous breach of trust over a period of many years, by clergy, perpetrated on the most vulnerable. This travesty occurring in the Church making this an ever more painful experience. I write this article with no excuses. In AA (Alcoholics Anonymous), one of the maxims is that when you are able to name a problem you are half way to resolving it. As we all would agree, if we do not name it, there is not much chance anything will ever change. Painful as it has been to witness, my prayer is that we have hit bottom and are now in a position to be ever more vigilant and proactive in putting the necessary checks and balances in place in order to avoid anything like this ever again. Though it has been a painful implementation process over the last 6 years of so, I am very grateful, that within the Archdiocese of Edmonton we have the "Call to Protect" program which includes criminal record checks and children's services investigation checks for anyone who will be involved with the vulnerable sector of our communities and in particular, our young people. I am grateful for the Knights of Columbus and their safe environment initiative which is required of all Grand Knights and Youth Directors. Is this enough? I am not sure, but we need to start by naming it and then in a very objective and open way, we need to ask; what are we to do?

**"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)"**

Please bring a copy of this reading to the next regular meeting so that you can more fully participate in the reading, meditation and prayers. If you are unable to attend please reflect on the readings in your own way.