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The Beacon

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Welcome Back from Summer

Pizza and Pop

The next General Meeting is scheduled for September 19th. Please plan to attend this event. Pizza and Pops will be supplied prior to the meeting. Great time to socialize and get to know your fellow Knights. Start time will be 6 PM with the meeting scheduled for 7 PM. See you there.

Election Results and Appointments

Welcome to the Executive; Brothers Kevin Paish, Shannon Scott, James Scott, Christopher Malayko and Darrel Tymchuk.

Please see the messages on pages 4 to 6 from our Supreme Knight, Carl A. Anderson.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September

- 19 6 PM General Meeting - Pizza & Socializing Evening
- 22 Albert's Dinner - Church Basement
- 30 Church Expo

October

- 1 7 PM - Executive Meeting
- 17 7 PM - General Meeting
- 25 Padre Night - St Basil Cultural Centre



Grand Knight's Report – September 2018

I wish to thank all those that let their names stand for various positions on our Council 's Executive. I look forward to working with all of our members, helping make our council and St.Albert Parish a spiritually vibrant organization.

Vivat Jesus,

Br. Brian Wolbert

Oblate Moment - Br. Bernie Hryciw

Two interior graces transformed Eugene in his twenties. The first was a grace of “conversion”. During the adoration of the cross on Good Friday in 1807, Eugene had a special experience of the love and goodness of Christ which culminated in the shedding of his blood to obtain the forgiveness of all sins. Simultaneously conscious of his own sins and filled with a sense of profound confidence in Divine Mercy, Eugene decided to make amends through the total gift of his life to Jesus his Savior.

A second moment of grace, which he describes as “an impulse from without” from the Spirit, led him to a decision for the priesthood. In 1808, he would enter the Seminary of Saint Sulpice in Paris and be ordained a priest at Amiens, on December 21, 1811. His dream was to be “the servant and priest of the poor”.

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.

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

September 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)"

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)"

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 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

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.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

August 21, 2018

Worthy Chaplains and Dear Brother Knights,

The issues that have come to light concerning sexual abuse by Archbishop Theodore McCarrick and in the Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report are cause for grave concern among Catholics and Brother Knights. Many feel deeply betrayed by those whom they long held in high regard. Such concerns are shared not just in the United States, but in Europe, Latin America and elsewhere.

These sins of commission and omission have sent the Church we love, the Church we serve and the Church that Jesus Christ established into convulsions. Sadly, the disgrace not only is borne by the perpetrators, it hurts us all, as does the silence of shepherds who have ignored the cries of their flocks.

There are many wonderful and faithful laborers in the vineyard of the Lord among our priests and bishops. However, it is clear that in addition to devastating criminal acts, we have seen many other moral failings by clergy that represent a crisis of commitment to the Gospel.

Too often the needs of victims have been subordinated to a distorted sense of mercy toward the perpetrators or an instinct for clerical self-preservation. The sexual acts — both criminal and non-criminal — highlight the need to recover a respect for and a renewed commitment to the priestly promises of celibacy.

The Knights of Columbus has supported the pastoral and charitable work of our bishops and priests since our founding by the Venerable Father Michael McGivney. We understand that the priest should lead the parish and the bishop should be the center of unity in a diocese. But we — like all Catholics — are painfully aware of the wreckage that ensues when elements of this leadership are abdicated by evil actions whether directly perpetrated or covered up.

Now, the Knights of Columbus — laymen, priests and chaplains together — will have an important role to play in rebuilding the Church. We must

commit the Knights of Columbus to work for repentance, reform and rebuilding of the Church.

Repentance should include a full accounting of the misdeeds by those who have committed them. Archbishop McCarrick and others at fault owe us a full account of their actions, motivations and cover-ups. After years of having us confess to them, it is now time for them to come clean about what they have done and what they have failed to do.

This will also help increase the recognition that clerical sexual abuse is a global problem that must be addressed at the highest levels of the Catholic Church. Moreover, priests and bishops who refuse to live according to their promises of celibacy should be removed from public ministry, not out of retribution, but for the protection of the faithful and to prevent future variations of the scandal we now suffer.

Reform must include many good ideas that have been proposed, such as a full and complete investigation of sexual abuse led by an independent commission that includes laity; complete transparency by the Catholic hierarchy into all matters of criminal sexual misconduct past or future; an expansion of the zero tolerance policy to include sexual activity or misconduct by clerics including bishops, and by seminarians; and a call for faithfulness by all members of the clergy, including bishops. There must also be an independent ethics hotline for reporting of criminal and other conduct at odds with Catholic teaching on the clerical state of life; and there must be protections against retaliation.

Such reforms will be difficult for a Church largely unused to them, and we must support our bishops and our priests in embracing these reforms in order to rebuild.

We can help to rebuild our Church in several ways. Above all else, Knights — and our chaplains — must embrace love of God and love of neighbor. This is Christ's great commandment and the founding mission of our Order. It is also exactly the opposite of the rejection of God and exploitation of neighbor that our Church has witnessed in these scandals.

Shortly before becoming Pope Benedict XVI, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger decried the “filth” in the Church “even among those, who in the priesthood, ought to belong totally” to Christ. He also provided the antidote, stating at other times that what the Church needs now more than anything else is “saints.” Pope Francis reiterated Pope Benedict's sentiments in his letter on Aug. 20.

In the days ahead, the Knights of Columbus will help renew our Church on a national level through a Novena of Masses in reparation for these sins that have so grievously wounded the Body of Christ. I take this opportunity to

ask that you offer this Novena of Masses for our Church at your earliest opportunity.

Beginning in November, the Knights of Columbus will sponsor, in cooperation with the Shrine of St. Jean Vianney in Ars, France, a national tour of the relic of the heart of this great patron saint of priests. In the coming weeks, I will share more details with you about this initiative.

We will also continue to strengthen and rebuild our Church at the level of our families and parishes through our Building the Domestic Church program. Its twin elements of imbuing families with faith and strengthening parish life are critical to providing a Catholic Church that rebuilds based on the Gospel principles of love of God and love of neighbor. Together with our recently announced "Faith In Action" initiative, we will strive to make our parishes truly become, in the words of Pope Francis, "a family of families."

Now is the time for all brother Knights to stand steadfast in faith, as Catholics and as gentlemen. We will assist priests, bishops and our fellow Catholics in helping the Church chart a course for the future that puts Christ at the center, so that truly we may say, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

This is the moment in which Knights — including in a special way our priest members — can be part of a great renewal for good in our Church. And as we strive to follow the Lord more closely in the days ahead, may he deliver us from every evil and in his mercy graciously grant his Church peace and unity.

In closing, know that your faithful witness and sacrifice can bring inspiration and hope to millions of your fellow Catholics. It will be needed in the days ahead more than ever before. And to every priest and bishop whose commitment and dedication to our Order and to our Church has been faithful and exemplary, please accept my gratitude in both a personal way and on behalf of the Knights of Columbus.

Let each one of us prayerfully invoke the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, so that in the words of St. Maximilian Kolbe, our hearts "would be cleansed and themselves become immaculate, similar and like unto her own heart."

Fraternally,

Carl A. Anderson
Supreme Knight