



The Blue Mantle



Knights Of Columbus
Mater Dei Council #9774
www.geocities.com/materdei9774

July 2008
Pray for Vocations

**Knights of Columbus
Mater Dei Council
#9774**

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Pope on Vocation

Vocation and mission are inseparable and the Church's many vocations should have an "intense missionary character."

St. Paul, for whom "vocation and mission are inseparable," is a model for all Christians, particularly "those men and women who dedicate themselves totally to announcing Christ to those who still have not known him: a vocation which continues to maintain all of its validity."

"It mustn't be forgotten that Christian marriage is also a missionary vocation: The couple, in fact, is called to live the Gospel in the family, in the workplace and in parish and civil communities. In certain cases, moreover, they offer their valuable contribution to the missions 'ad gentes'."

Pope Benedict XVI, 4/2008

DD's Report



My brothers all,

I would like to start by thanking our new State Deputy, Richard V. Siejack, for appointing me as his Deputy for District 18. Our District this year includes: Rock Creek Council No. 2797, St. Joseph Manyanet Council No. 5567, Mater Dei Council No. 9774, and St. Elizabeth of Rockville Council No. 12796. It is a privilege for me to serve this District, with a collection of well-established Councils, all striving to fulfill Fr. McGivney's spirit of Columbianism in the service of the Church and our fellow men; I look forward to working with all of you. Assisting me in this endeavor will be our new District Warden, Richard Earenfight, Immediate Past Grand Knight of St. Elizabeth Council.

I have had the pleasure of visiting your Councils

over the past weeks, where FDD Thomas Schneider graciously introduced me to you. For those who missed those meetings, I am a Past Grand Knight of Rock Creek Council and serve as Supreme Representative to the Usher Program at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. Speaking of FDD Scheider, I would like to express my appreciation to him and FDW Dan Potrepka for the wonderful work they did over the past two years. It is not easy to handle four Councils, so I cannot even imagine how they managed with six of them. With the ground work already prepared by them my work should be much easier.

And so, we embark onto another exiting Columbian Year. By the time you read this, your Grand Knights and I would have finished our training and enjoyed brotherhood and fellowship from the Seminars at Mt. St. Mary's College. The State Installation of Officers will take place on July 5, on the 30th we will attend the first Membership and Programs Seminar at Our Lady od Good Counsel High School in Olney, and as I write this, plans are on their way for the

Installation of Officers at each of your Councils. I look forward to seeing many of you and your Ladies on that special occasion.

I would be remiss not to mention that membership will continue being an important goal for each Council. Your Grand Knights are preparing their schedules for First Degrees, I have already one set date for a Second Degree in our District, and the State has asked us to host a Third Degree in January, to which I have already agreed. We will again try to have at least one First Degree each month within our District, so that a prospective member will not have to wait more than two or three weeks to become a member in our Order. We all must take advantage of Degrees offered by the other Councils.

The stage is set, and the players are ready. Let's all roll our sleeves, and go at it!

Mary, Queen of the Knights, pray for us.

E. Roberto Ibáñez
District Deputy No. 18

Successful Blood Drive

The K of C-sponsored blood drive of May 28, 2008 was the most successful in recent years. Forty three persons made appointments. Thirty eight were presented to the Red Cross resulting in 28 productive units.

Thanks to all who donated blood or attempted to donate and to all who volunteered to help make it so successful. The high rejection rate seems to have resulted mainly from potential donors having travelled to countries with significant incidents of HIV, mad cow disease or malaria.

FRATERNAL BENEFITS

WHY BUY LIFE INSURANCE?

Why should you buy life insurance anyway?

Because –

...if your wife does become a widow, funds are created automatically...immediately...and at the least possible cost.

...only life insurance will provide a steady income...a guaranteed amount month after month.

...with a check coming in monthly, she can budget accordingly.

...life insurance gives her a precious freedom of choice:

- She can work if she wants to...as a hobby...not as a necessity.

- She can live with her grown children if she pleases...as a welcome visitor.
- She can call on charitable agencies if she likes – to offer help...not to ask for help.

Life insurance is nothing less than an expression of your respect, your concern and your love of your wife and your family. Just ask any widow...

Call me today for an appointment.

Fraternally,

Rick Morin, FICF, CSA
Your Fraternal Benefits Advisor
301.384.7627

Our Vocation

God calls all the souls he has created to love him with their whole being, here and thereafter, which means that he calls all of them to holiness, to perfection, to a close following of him and obedience to his will. But he does not ask all souls to show their love by the same works, to climb to heaven by the same ladder, to achieve goodness in the same way. What sort of work then must I do? Which is *my* road to heaven? In what kind of life am I to sanctify myself? Apart from the universal calling of all of us to perfect love, to holiness, to the following of Jesus, and obedience to his will in everything, however small, a calling at the last to heaven, what is the particular and special vocation that he puts before me and you and each one of us?... This ques-

tion: "What kind of life am I going to undertake?" is the question of *vocation*. And it has got to be answered rightly. For if it is answered rightly and we take the way to which God calls us we shall be living obediently to him, we shall be strengthened by his help, and so we shall come to heaven...

We do not "choose a vocation" but seek to find *our* vocation, to do all we can to hear the divine Voice calling us, to make sure what he is saying - and then to obey him. Where vocation is concerned God speaks, calls, commands: man has not to choose but to listen and obey.

The Venerable Charles de Foucauld († 1916), contemplative and mystic, lived among the Tuareg people of Algeria.

"We must re-ascend to God"

Jesus steeped his followers in divine serenity. He caused them to watch for the currents favorable to creation. The earth at the service of man, his slave even when it makes him suffer; all of nature collaborating with heaven to bring about the result we are awaiting: that was his message to his disciples. And he inspired them to transmit it to us. Is this not, in fact, the basis of their teaching, the foundation of Christian doctrine? We came from God; all of nature proceeds from him; out of nature and ourselves, we must reascend to God.

We are the image of God; nature is his footprint. We must contemplate and pay him homage in all things. We are on the way back to God; the sheerest veil separates us from him, and death is preparing to tear it asunder. Let us keep ourselves in readiness, and, instead of allowing our life to proceed helter-skelter, without any control or tenacity of purpose, let us set it firmly in the path traced out by the Master.

Father Sertillanges († 1948) was a renowned Dominican preacher, apologist and philosopher.

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Message Board

- The Executive Board Meeting has been moved from July 1st to July 8th.
- This month the first page of the blue Mantle is in Blue like it used to be. It does make the newsletter stand out, however we loose in print quality as we have copies of a printout rather than a direct print. You can notice it best by looking at pictures. (Compare the icon of the Virgin on the first page from the issue of last month.) We will pick the preferred layout after the feedback we get. **Quality or Style?** Let your voice be heard!
- Sorry, I am busy moving to Germantown. I will update the contact list on the left for this new Columbian Year in the next issue.

Schedule of Events: July-August 2008

Tue Jul 8 Executive Meeting, 7:30pm-10pm, DCC

Thu Jul 10, Business Meeting, 8pm-10pm, DCC

Thu Jul 24, Social (cards), 7:30pm-10pm, DCC

Tue Aug 5 Executive Meeting, 7:30pm-10pm, DCC

Wed Aug 6 Blood Drive, 4pm-10pm, DCC

Thu Aug 14, Business Meeting, 8pm-10pm, DCC

Sat Aug 16 Installation Dinner, 6pm-10pm, Trumpet

Thu Aug 28, (Family Picnic), 7pm-10pm, DCC



Mary,
Queen of the Knights,
Pray for us.

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