



The Blue Mantle



Knights Of Columbus

Mater Dei Council #9774

www.geocities.com/materdei9774

March 2007

Lenten Special Edition

Knights of Columbus Mater Dei Council #9774

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Knights News:

Contemplating Christ nailed to the cross should stimulate people to protect human dignity and "to fight every form of contempt for life," said Pope Benedict XVI in his 2007 message for Lent. "May Lent be for every Christian a renewed experience of God's love given to us in Christ, a love that each day we, in turn, must 'regive' to our neighbor, especially to the one who suffers most and is in need."

Grand Knight's Report

Congratulations to Bill Shaffer and Bob McCaffrey for chairing a most successful Garage to Attic Sale. Not all the receipts are in or counted and we have already grossed more than \$16,300.00.

A hearty thank you to them and to all who participated, Knights, wives children and friends. This really is a team effort and we fielded quite a team.

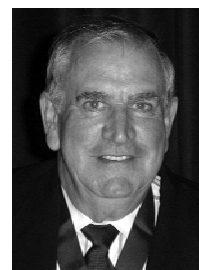
Thanks to all who assisted on the Annual Tootsie Roll Award dinner. We distributed more than \$58,000.00 to 23 organizations serving the mentally handicapped. It is an honor and privilege to meet the recipients who

do so much to make this a better life for so many.

Thanks also to those responsible for an enjoyable Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper.

The next major event on the agenda is our Annual council Anniversary on March 10th. This year we want to honor our Past Grand Knights and all widows of the Council who are invited to attend free. Let me be clear. PGK's and wives-free. Widows-free. For the rest of us \$15.00/individual -couples \$25.00. Bring the children and make a donation if they are big eaters. We also plan to put out a basket for the

support of the Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation, Children Scholarship Program. We sponsored one child last year and hope to do more this year.



God bless you as you observe Lent and prepare for Easter.

Wilsie Adams

Editor: Please send nominations of your favorite charities to benefit from the proceeds of our GAS.

District Deputy's Corner

I hope that all of you are surviving this brutal weather. The ice storm temporarily took away many of the our conveniences just as we deny ourselves something we like to do, eat, or drink during Lent. At least, as far as our Knights of Columbus activities are concerned, March means that the hard work on Supreme and State programs the Knights have undertaken

since July are mostly over. It is not a time to relax since we now take on the mission of adding new men and their families to our ranks. The opportunities to do good things for people offered by our Order should be emphasized to all Catholic men so they may join us in doing God's works.

My Saints of the Month are the Forty Martyrs of

England and Wales. During the reign of England's King Henry the VIII, the dispute with the Church gained a political aspect that resulted in the torture and beheading of many Catholics. The Vatican selected 40 martyrs, men and women, lay and religious to represent the some 300 Catholics who died for their faith and allegiance to the Church (continued on page 6)

What is lent?

Lent is the penitential season of approximately 40 days set aside by the Church in order for the faithful to prepare for the celebration of the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection. During this holy season, inextricably connected to the Paschal Mystery, the Catechumens prepare for Christian initiation, and current Church members prepare for Easter by a recalling of Baptism and by works of penance, that is, prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Even in the early Church, Lent was the season for prayerful and penitential preparation for the feast of Easter. Though the obligation of penance was originally only

imposed on those who had committed public sins and crimes, by medieval times all the faithful voluntarily performed acts of penance to repair for their sins.

Ash Wednesday is the clarion call to "Repent and believe the gospel" (Mk 1:15). For the next forty days, the faithful willingly submit to fasting and self-denial in imitation of Our Lord's forty-day fast in the desert. It is in these dark and still nights, these desert-times, that the soul experiences its greatest growth. There, in the inner arena, the soul battles the world, the flesh and the devil just as Our Lord battled Satan's triple temptation in the desert. His battle was external, for Jesus could not sin; our battle is interior, but with a hope sustained by the knowledge of Christ's

Easter victory over sin and death.

His victory is our renewal, our "spring" — which is the meaning of the Anglo-Saxon word, "*lengten*" or Lent. In this penitential season we have the opportunity to make an annual spiritual "tune-up", a 40-day retreat with Our Lord. Have we allowed worldly cares and the "daily drama" to obscure our call to holiness? Have self-love and materialism eroded our relationship with God? Then let us renew our efforts, and through our Lenten observance, discipline the body and master it as we "*follow in the footsteps of the poor and crucified Christ*" (St. Francis of Assisi).

From an text by Jennifer Gregory Miller and Margaret Gregory

The season of Lent

On Ash Wednesday when the priest marks our fore-heads with mortality, we are called to remember our origin and end. For he repeats the stern sentence of God upon Adam and, in Adam, upon us all: "*Remember, man, that thou art dust, and unto dust thou shalt return.*" That means more than that a grave awaits us. It means that, no less than a grain of sand tossed in the wind, or the merest mote in a sunbeam, we are creatures whose very existence depends, at every moment, upon the gift of God. None of this vast universe of stars and worlds exists by itself; it hangs from the thread of the divine will, ever upheld by him, and by none but him. It is dust. We are dust.

Yet with what glory has God endowed the dust! For it pleased him to create beings capable of reason, and therefore of enjoying a freely chosen good, even the greatest conceivable good, towards which they should turn in love. Alone among earthly creatures man stands erect, that he may look to the heavens: not to this spangled canopy above us, but to the heavens whereof even the stars are but powdery signs. Yet Adam sinned, and all his progeny since have suffered that original crick in the neck that holds our attention to the things of earth. They may be good, and entice us with their beauty. But they are not the final good, no matter how avidly our souls cleave to them.

So when we are called to sacri-

fice certain pleasures for Lent, what are we really doing that is sacrificial? We are gainers in every way. Dust cannot satisfy; so we "give up" dust to turn our hearts again to the Lord, who gives strength to our youth. It's hard to walk with the back bent and the neck awry, cocking half a glance over the shoulder at heaven while keeping a keen eye for some glittery treasure on earth, some wealth or rank or fame or other such dust and the specters of dust. So we "mortify" the flesh by putting its crookedness to death, that we may finally straighten up and stride with ease and liberty. Lent is our yearly hospital, and we need it.

Anthony Esolen is a professor at Providence College, and a contributing editor of Touchstone Magazine

The Incarnation

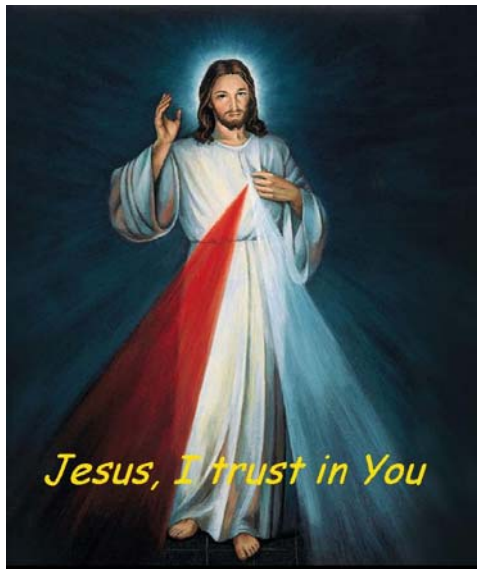
Editor's Note: On March 25, we celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation which is the day when God was incarnated, when "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." (John 1:14)

God dwelt among us

The glory of the Lord dwelt in the temple until the coming of the incarnation, but from that day it began to dwell in Jesus. The very word that Saint John uses to describe the incarnation - *dwelt among us* - is that which indicates the dwelling of God in the temple. And the presence of God which overshadows the Virgin is the same cloud whose presence showed that Yahweh dwelt in the tabernacle.

Thus the manhood of Jesus became the new temple and "the place where your honor dwells." It is this that Christ proclaimed to the Samaritan woman when he told her: *"The hour will come, when you shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem,*

worship the Father, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth." That is to say, not that they will not worship in any temple, but that they will worship in the true temple of the Spirit, as opposed to the figurative temple of the flesh.



This is why Christ was able to reply to the Pharisees who accused him of misunderstanding the temple: *"In this place is one greater than the temple."* From that time, the temple of stone might be destroyed; it would be of no importance since after three days the true temple was to be finally established. And indeed, three days after the veil of the temple was rent, the temple of the new law, the glorified manhood of Jesus, was raised up forevermore.

Cardinal Jean Daniélou († 1974) was a French Jesuit, a theologian, and a peritus at Vatican II.

The High Mystery of Christ's Body

Prayer:

My God, make me worthy of knowing your highest mystery - brought about by your most ardent and ineffable charity, with the charity dispensed by the Trinity - that is, the most high mystery of your most holy Incarnation which you accomplished for our sake. The Incarnation was the beginning of our salvation and it does two things for us: First, it fills us with love; second, it makes us certain of our salvation.

O incomprehensible charity! There is indeed no greater charity than the one by which my

God became flesh in order that he might make me God. O heartfelt love poured out for me! When you assumed human form, you gave of yourself in order to make me. You did not let go of anything in yourself in any way that would lessen you or your divinity, but the abyss of your conception makes me pour out these deep, heartfelt words: O incomprehensible one, made comprehensible! O uncreated one, made creature! O inconceivable one, made conceivable! O impalpable one, become palpable!

O Lord, make me worthy of see-

ing the depth of the charity which you communicated to us in your most holy Incarnation. O happy fault, which merited that we discover the most hidden depths of the divine charity until then hidden from us. Oh, in truth, I cannot imagine anything greater to contemplate! O most high, make me able to understand this most high and ineffable charity.

Blessed Angela of Foligno († 1309) was a wife and mother who later became a Franciscan tertiary and an esteemed mystical writer.

Proposed Budget for the year

WORKING FUND PROGRAMS	BUDGET ALLOWANCE SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	
Non Event Revenue	\$ -	
DUES FROM MEMBERSHIP	\$ 8,000.00	
INCENTIVE CAR RAFFLE	\$ 1,500.00	
ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS	\$ 1,700.00	
RECYCLE PROJECT	\$ 50.00	
INITIATION FEES	\$ 240.00	
POKER	\$ 180.00	
FIFTY-FIFTY CHANCES	\$ 350.00	
TOTAL		\$12,400.00
K of C Assessments		
STATE ASSESSMENTS	\$ (1,200.00)	
ADVERTISING	\$ (400.00)	
STATE CONVENTION - DELAGATES	\$ (200.00)	
COLUMBUS DAY BALL - AD	\$ (70.00)	
SUPREME ASSESSMENTS	\$ (\$850.00)	
CARDINAL'S CHARITY BALL - AD	\$ (100.00)	
		\$ (2,820.00)
Daily Operations		
FINANCIAL SECRETARY COMPENSATION	\$ (600.00)	
FIRST DEGREE SUPPLIES	\$ (30.00)	
GRAND KNIGHT'S EXPENSES	\$ (100.00)	
K OF C SUPPLIES - OFFICE (Paper)		
K OF C SUPPLIES - SUPREME	\$ (\$50.00)	
MEMBER AWARDS		
NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT	\$ (100.00)	
NOTICES AND PUBLICATIONS	\$ (800.00)	
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ (600.00)	
POSTAGE	\$ (1,200.00)	
PRINTING	\$ (900.00)	
REFRESHMENTS & FOOD - MEETINGS & EVENTS	\$ (2,300.00)	
RENT - Not from GAS or tootsie Roll Dinner	\$ -	
SECOND DEGREE FOOD & DRINKS	\$ (100.00)	
SERVICE COUNCIL - PROGRAMS		
TEACHER AWARDS	\$ (400.00)	
WORKING FUND TRANSFER (rent)	\$ (600.00)	
YOUTH AWARDS AND PROGRAMS	\$ (425.00)	
		\$ (8,205.00)
Events		
ANNIVERSARY DINNER	\$ (400.00)	
CHRISTMAS PARTY	\$ 200.00	
ICREAM SOCIAL	\$ (200.00)	
INSTALLATION - CEREMONY	\$ (200.00)	
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS DINNER PARTY	\$ (1,200.00)	\$ (1,800.00)
TOTAL WORKING FUND REVENUE	\$ (805.00)	\$ (425.00)

Lenten Movies

Cooperating with the St. Raphael Library the Knights of Columbus will offer two family movies this Lenten season. They will be shown in the Duffy Center, Rooms 3 & 5 and will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m.. Light refreshments will be served.

► Thursday, March 15 - **"A time for Miracles"** the true story of Elizabeth Seton America's first native-born Saint. Much of this movie takes place in our local Baltimore & Emitsburg, Maryland where Elizabeth Seton started the first American parochial school and the American Sisters of Charity. Today you can even visit the Seton shrine in Emitsburg where all this started (perhaps a Lenten pilgrimage).

► Wednesday, March 28 - **"Mother Theresa"** a captivating portrait of her work and the order she founded dedicated to a selfless life of service to the poorest of the poor. Her work today touches countries across the world.

These films will show you and your family what a person, dedicated to God and a life of service, can do to change our world. Your hearts will be touched and your spirit lifted. Plan to join us. Questions: Dick Jasinski 301-983-1445

Divine Mercy

The Divine Mercy revelation, as given to Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska under the direction of the Lord Jesus Christ speaks of the infinite and outpouring love of our Merciful Savior, Jesus Christ, who came into the world to show the world the mercy and salvation of God. The revelation speaks of the Lord's Passion as an expression of His holy and mighty love for His people and the means of forgiveness of our sins and the salvation of our souls.

St Raphael regularly prays the Divine Mercy Chaplet on Tuesday and Thursday evening and prior to the 1:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday. This year St. Raphael is renewing efforts to introduce the Divine Mercy message to a larger part of the parish. On April 15, Divine Mercy Sunday look for the following:

► The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed prior to all Masses that week end
► At 2:00 p.m., following the 1:00 p.m. Mass - exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

► Between 2:00 & 3:30 p.m. confessions in the church

► 3:00 p.m. Chanting of the Divine Mercy Chaplet

► 3:20 p.m. Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

► 3:30 p.m. Celebration of Mass

► A video on the life of Sr. Faustina will be shown in the Duffy Center at 1:00 p.m.

► Beginning on Good Friday, April 6, and continuing through Saturday, April 13, the Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet will be offered daily following the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

All are invited to participate and become part of this celebration. Questions - contact Dick Jasinski 301-983-1445

Rosary Study

Rosary Study, Sundays Feb 25—Mar 25 from 1 to 2 pm.

Contact Mike Barnes for more information: 240-864-2543

"The rosary is my weapon."

"Our Lady has never refused me a grace through the recitation of the rosary."

"Love the Blessed Mother and make her loved. Always recite the rosary."

St. (Padre) Pio of Pietrelcina

"Among all the devotions approved by the Church, none has been so favored by so many miracles as the Rosary devotion."

"Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world."

Pope Pius IX

"There is no surer means of calling down God's blessings upon the family... than the daily recitation of the Rosary."

Pope Pius XII

"The rosary is a wonderful instrument for the destruction of sin, the recovery of God's grace and the advancement of His glory."

Pope Gregory XII

"The Rosary is the most excellent form of prayer and the most efficacious means of attaining eternal life. It is the remedy for all our evils, the root of all our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying."

Pope Leo XIII

"The Rosary is my favorite prayer."

"Dear brothers and sisters, recite the rosary every day. I earnestly urge pastors to pray the rosary and to teach people in their Christian communities how to pray it."

Pope John Paul II

"This prayer is perfect because of the praise it offers, because of the lessons it imparts, because of the graces it obtains, and because of the triumphs it achieves."

Pope Benedict XV

Bravo!

Congratulations to Father Gaskin on his admission to the fourth degree.

Faith and Civilization

Check out the first article of a series of 4 from PGK Larry Grayson:

"When America was a Christian Society" at

<http://www.geocities.com/materdei9774/grayson/grayson.htm>

As Christianity was the backbone of European Civilization, America was founded on Christian principles.

(continued from page 1)
in the mid-1500s to late 17th century. One of the most interesting Saints was Saint Nicholas Owen. A Jesuit Coadjutor Brother, he was a mason and carpenter by trade. During the persecution, he would make hiding places for priests in the buildings and houses that, at great danger to the owner, served as a sanctuary for the persecuted. During the day he plied his trade in public view. At night, he would create concealed rooms to hide the priests from raids and other inspections by the King's forces. After he was arrested for his activity, he was tortured and died without disclosing where the hiding places he built were located. He is credited with saving the lives of hundreds of people.

Mary Queen of the Knights, Pray for Us

God Bless America

Tom Schneider

Upcoming Degree Ceremonies

If you are a Knight looking to get your next degree, or if you know a prospective Knight who wants to join Mater Dei Council, here is a schedule of upcoming degree ceremonies:

February 8	1st Degree	Mater Dei Council
February 22	1st Degree	Rock Creek Council
March 11	4th Degree	University of Maryland - University College
March 22	2nd Degree	Mater Dei Council
March 23	3rd Degree	Rock Creek Council
April 26	1st Degree	Rock Creek Council
June 14	1st Degree	Rock Creek Council



If you are interested in attending any of these Degree Ceremonies, please contact Bob McCaffrey, (301) 251-5225, so we can get the paperwork filled out and ensure that you can get your next degree.



**Our Garage to Attic Sale
was a resounding success!**

KEY CONTACTS

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Program Director: Bill Shaffer
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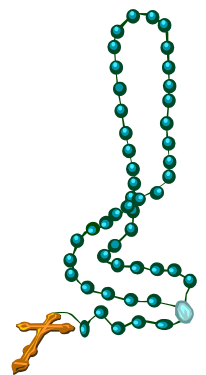
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Special Notices

- **Congratulations to John & Elizabeth Daly on their selection as Family of the Month.**
- **Membership dues are past due, avoid the phone calls pay ASAP.**
- **All articles for the March issue must be received by the Editor by Friday March 24th.**

Schedule of Events: Mar-Apr 2007

Sun Mar 4	Joyful Mystery of the Rosary, 1pm, Anchorhold
Tue Mar 6	Executive Meeting, 7:30pm, DCC
Thu Mar 8	Business Meeting, 8pm, DCC
Sat Mar 10	Anniversary Dinner
Sun Mar 11	4th Degree at College Park Luminous Mystery, 1pm, Anchorhold
Wed Mar 14	Chapter Meeting at St. Raphael
Thu Mar 15	"Elizabeth Seton" movie, 7pm, Duffy Center
Sun Mar 18	Sorrowful Mystery, 1pm, Anchorhold
Thu Mar 22	Second Degree, DCC
Sat Mar 24	3 On 3 Basketball @ Our Lady of Mercy
Sun Mar 25	Annunciation (Incarnation) Glorious Mystery, 1pm, Anchorhold
Wed Mar 28	"Mother Theresa" movie, 7pm, Duffy Center
Tue Apr 3	Executive Meeting, 7:30pm, DCC
Fri Apr 6	Good Friday
Sat Apr 7	Holy Saturday
Sun Apr 8	Easter Sunday
Thu Apr 12	Business Meeting, 8pm, DCC
Sun Apr 15	Divine Mercy Sunday (Check out the many activities)
Thu Apr 26	Business Meeting, 8pm, DCC



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