

Knights in Action

Pope John XXIII Council #5441

Sebring, Florida

Issue 2009-03

March 2009

Grand Knight's Report

Jack McLaughlin

My Brother Knights,

A very special congratulations to the following mem-bers our Council who will attain fifty years of member-ship in the Order during 2009: Robert A. Levas-seur, Richard E. Wolf, Paul B. Reiter, and Daniel L. Rappe. Thank you for your years of devotion and service to the Knights of Columbus.



At our February 12th meeting, the CMBA presented facts and figures indicating that, if we don't take some kind of action our property will be in foreclosure in 60 days. Apparently, the Bingo, which is only being supported by a few of our Brother Knights is doing well at St. Catherine's. One has to wonder why it was thought that the Knights, who wouldn't support Bingo two nights a week at their own hall, would do so at St. Catherine's!

A special meeting on February 24 has been called to discuss and decide on one of the following options:

1. Lower the price - sell the property - turn money into Council for disbursing to Church or other 501C charity.
2. Possibly rent property to St. Catherine's for choir, youth group, all other functions, so they can obtain all of their buildings for use as a school.
3. Sell to Church at super discount, of course. Option No. 2 would depend

(See GK - Page 3, Col 1)

Deacon's Corner

Rev. Mr. James McGarry

Brother Knights and Columbiettes:
Brief History and Definition of Lent

The Germanic word Lent (lecten), which we use to denote the forty days of preparation preceding the Paschal feast, originally meant simply the spring season. It has been used since the Anglo-Saxon period (9th Century) to translate the more significant Latin term quadragesima, meaning the "forty days", or more literally the "fortieth day". This in turn imitated the Greek name for Lent, tessarakoste (fortieth), a word formed from the relationship to the word Pentecost (pentekoste), which had been used as a name for the Jewish festival before the time of Christ.

In the first three centuries of Christian experience, preparation for the Paschal feast usually covered a period of one or two days, perhaps a week at the most. Saint Irenaeus of Lyons (ca AD 140-202) even speaks of a forty-hour preparation for the Paschal celebration.

The first reference to Lent as a period of forty days preparation occurs in the teachings of the First Council of Nicea in AD 325. By the end of the fourth century, a Lenten period of forty days was established and accepted in the Church. Pope St. Leo (d. 461) exhorts the faithful to abstain that they may "fulfill with their fasts the Apostolic institution of the forty days."

(See Deacon - Page 3, Col 2)

February Meeting Notes

Ed Cronin, Acting Recorder



Because of the closing of the K of C hall, we will not be able to hold the annual Pro-Life rosary there. Fr. Gonzalez has given permission for the use St. Catherine church following the 12: 00 Mass on March 25th. All Knights, families and friends are urged to support this annual Pro-Life rosary. Please mark your calendars.

Council's Pro-Life Booth was shown at the St. Catherine Health Fair January 22nd.

Three new applications were identified at the February meeting.

1st Degree ceremony scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 25th at Our Lady of Grace Church. District Deputy Pedraza advises there may be as many as eight other candidates.

January breakfast at Our Lady of Grace served 434 people and netted \$1,139.00.

CMBA reported St. Catherine's may be interested in renting the hall for use by their parish organizations. Future plans for their school may take over the existing buildings on their campus. The hall is not suitable for use as a school. Stay tuned.

Annual Fund Raiser for the Mentally Disadvantaged. Jack McLaughlin will coordinate the program again. Scheduled to begin before the end of March. He needs many volunteers - Please help.

Veterans Committee Chairman Mike Basile reported that it is proper flag etiquette for veterans to use the military right hand salute. Heretofore, all civilians used the right hand placed over their hearts.

OFFICERS

Deacon

Rev. Mr. James McGarry
385-6608

Grand Knight

Dick Carlson, PGK
471-2134

Deputy Grand Knight

Jack McLaughlin, FDD
471-3295

Chancellor

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385-0608

Recorder

Kevin Bouffard
452-1515

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Mike Padron
385-1942

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382-9120

Lecturer

Vacant

Advocate

Jim Hollywood
382-0118

Warden

Paul Stephens
402-1811

Inside Guard

John Schumacher
382-8648

Outside Guard

Modesto Diaz
314-9188

Trustee (3 year)

Joe Grecko
314-9754

Trustee (2 year)

Carmine Aurigemma
385-5097

Trustee (1 year)

Ray Goers
471-2205

Annual Tootsie Roll Drive – HELP !!!

Council 5441's annual tootsie roll drive to support the handicapped will be conducted in March this year. Both WalMart and Sweetbay no longer allow solicitations – so this will be a difficult year. The schedule so far is:

- March 7th - St. Catherine's after 3:30 & 5:00 PM Mass
- March 8th - St. Catherine's after 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 Mass
- March 13th - Sebring Winn Dixie 10-12, 12-2 & 2-4
- March 14th - Sebring Winn Dixie 10-12, 12-2 & 2-4
- March 20th - Sebring Publix 10-12, 12-2 & 2-4
- March 21st - Sebring Publix 10-12, 12-2 & 2-4
- March 28th - Our Lady of Grace after 4:00 & 7:00 Mass
- March 29th - Our Lady of Grace after 8:00 & 10:30 Mass

I am still waiting for confirmation from the Publix that replaced Albertsons. ***Your help is desperately needed – please volunteer a few hours for this fund raiser for the handicapped – call Jack at 471-3295.***

March Birthdays

William Dunn	02	William Brauer	17
Robert Ulm	03	Sylvester Wagasky	19
Maurene Stephens	05	Darryk Caraveo	25
Rev. Mr. Max Severe	09	Warren Fuller	25
Ronnie Durham	09	John Schumacher	25
Richard Wolf	10	Janet Brooker	28
George Eschenbach	11	Gary Meredith	29
Richard Carlson, GK	14	Frederick Khouri Jr	29

March Anniversary's

Dr. Michael & Sandra McLeod March 30, 1986

Upcoming Events

- Mar 1st - Breakfast at OLG
- Mar 3rd - 4th Deg Mtg – Sebring
- Mar 9th - 1st Degree
- Mar 10th - Columbiette Mtg (7PM) at house on Prospect
- Mar 12th - Council Mtg (7 PM) at house on Prospect Ave.
- Mar 21st - Trash & Treasures Sale hosted by Columbiettes
- Mar 21st - Divine Mercy Conference at National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe church in Orlando, FL
- Mar 25th – Annual Pro-Life Rosary at St. Catherine's after 12:00 Mass
- Mar 28th - Corporate Communion at 10:30 Mass at OLG
- Mar 28th - Diocese of Venice Catholic Men's Conference at Bishop Verot High School in Fort Meyers

CMBA BOARD

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Mike Flood, PGK
471-6381

Vice President

Frank Stanton
382-8853

Treasurer

Jack McLaughlin, FDD
471-3295

Secretary

Ed Tomek, PGK
453-6379

DISTRICT DEPUTY

Hiram Pedraza
DD #43
699-2013

COLUMBIETTES

Marie Carlson
President
471-2134

PROGRAMS

Program Director

Jack McLaughlin, FDD
471-3295

Church

Vacant

Vocations

Bill Reagan
385-4032

Community

Ed Cronin
382-3477

Pro Life Couple

Ed & Diane Cronin
314-9188

Council

Vacant

Family

Vacant

Youth

Vacant

Membership

Joe Grecko
314-9754

Retention

Vacant

(Grand Knight - from Page 1)

upon St. Catherine's review of the facilities.

By the time this newsletter is published, the meeting and decision making will be history. Hopefully, the good Lord will have guided us to the proper path.

The effort to establish a new Council at Our Lady of Grace Church has received the required number of applicants. When the dust settles on all of this; hopefully, we can all get back to the business of being the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic, family, fraternal organization.

Dick

Veterans Corner

Mike Basile, Veterans Chairman

The Veterans Council is hosting its third annual Military Ball on Saturday, March 7th at the Elks Lodge in Sebring. The menu includes roast beef & turkey, twice-baked potato, corn, salad, coffee and tea, and desserts. The tickets are \$30.00 dollars per person. There will be door prizes and a 25-25-50 raffle, a silent auction. Dress for the evening is formal, semi-formal or military uniform (if it still fits).



We are also conducting a drawing for a trip to the Ashville North Carolina Biltmore estate. Tickets are \$10.00 each. Please consider supporting these two major fund raisers, as they are the primary source of our annual funding. This our only fund raiser of the year. Please help! You will enjoy the evening. Formal or Semiformal or Military uniform. For additional information call Mike 382-4550.

Mike

Vocations Are Everybody's Business

(Deacon - from Page 1)

In its early development Lent quickly became associated with the sacrament of baptism, since Easter was the great baptismal feast. Those who were preparing to be baptized participated in the season of Lent in preparation for the reception of the sacrament of baptism. Eventually, those who were already baptized considered it important to join these candidates in their preparation for Easter. The customs and practices of Lent, soon took hold.

Jesus wants us to have right and loving relationships, especially within our families. He wants us to forgive everyone who has hurt us---seventy times seven times, if necessary. He asks us not to condemn, not to hold any anger against anyone, but to replace resentment with love. In short, Jesus calls us to love others as fully as He loved us (John 15:12).

If we were to compare these demands with our experience, we might come to the conclusion that it's nearly impossible to fulfill them. My brother knights, it's our human frailty that convinces us that we simply cannot live out such a high calling on our own strength. Some wounded relationships and scarred memories will take a long time to heal. That's why we need to turn to Jesus and ask Him to give us His grace, His healing, and His transforming power.

During this season of lent, ask God to help you to forgive, give the Spirit a chance to heal our wounds. Jesus wants to heal the wounded relationships of our past, especially those within our marriages and families. He wants to cover all of our resentments, hurts, and guilt with His precious Blood. He wants us all to move forward, with the wind of the spirit at our backs, in the call to become like Him and to share His forgiveness and mercy with the world. Let's make this a time when the wind of the Holy Spirit moves us into the healing and transforming presence of God.

Go with Christ - Deacon Jim

Columbiettes

Marie Carlson, President

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

Our January meeting was the last one held at St. Catherine's Music Room. Your president sent a letter of thanks and a donation to Father Jose for allowing the use of this facility for two months. The February meeting's attendance was down a bit (16). We will hold our meetings at the house on Prospect Avenue on Tuesday evenings until further notice.



On February 1st, we had our monthly breakfast at Our Lady of Grace. The Knights and Columbiettes worked hard to accomplish this. Thanks to all our faithful and hard-working people, we were able to serve 434 people. I believe this was the biggest crowd so far. Our next breakfast is on March 1st.

Ladies, we must concentrate our efforts now on "talking up" our Trash and Treasure sale (March 21st) to our neighbors and friends. The first thing we need to do is rent out the large-round tables, so that we will have a nice variety of things to sell. These will be available to anyone at a cost of \$10.00 each. We all know people who would be interested in doing this. Also, we need to be saving articles to sell, putting them aside for this event. Our Columbiette tables will be located in the center of the room. Anne Flanagan has a nice sign-up list started for the bake sale. If there are any other ladies who are willing to donate baked goods to our sale, please call Anne at 471-2029, so that your name can be added to the list. Pat Stuckel has her people lined up to set up the snack bar for our customers. Let's all work together on this one to make it a successful fundraiser. Just think---no tickets to sell this year!

(See Columbiettes - Page 4, Col 1)

(Columbiettes - from Page 3)

We have a Corporate Communion scheduled at Our Lady of Grace Church on Sunday, March 29 at the 10:30 Mass. Your attendance shows your support for this event. Please ladies, let us all try to be there. We have reserved seats and it's a bit embarrassing not to fill them.

I think our plans for the Columbiette Convention on April 25, Saturday, are moving along nicely.

Highlands Today published a beautiful article on February 11, written by Sir Knight, Ed Cronin, titled "A Serious Threat." This article focused on the dreaded Freedom of Choice Act, which our new president said he would vote for. I hope you all read it. If not, I will bring this article to the next meeting so you can do so. Ed is so well-spoken and is a faithful advocate for the Pro-Life movement. Two points he made were that, "FOCA opens the door to require taxpayers in every state to fund abortions!" And, "FOCA is the most radical of abortion legislation ever considered by the U.S. Congress. Its goal is to establish a fundamental right to abortion and would go far beyond what the U.S. Supreme Court even contemplated in *Roe vs. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood vs. Casey* decisions." Prayer is needed badly for the defeat of this act. Everyone should write their congressmen and representatives, asking that they vote against this heinous act. It is our duty as Columbiettes to speak up against anything to do with the *Culture of Death*.

May our dear Blessed Mother, St. Theresa, St. Joan of Arc, and Venerable Father Michael McGivney bless and help us every day.

Marie



God Bless America

A Serious Threat

Ed Cronin, (Pro Life Chairman)

The Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) will write a woman's "right" to kill her pre-born child into law and will prohibit federal, state and local governments from enacting any type of law or regulation that would, in any way, interfere with a woman killing her pre-born baby.



FOCA prohibits any federal or state government entity from denying or interfering with abortion rights or discriminating against the exercise of these rights. Even the most reasonable restrictions on abortion would be off-limits as unlawful interference. This means the progress made by the pro-life movement over the past 35 years in limiting and reducing abortions through modest regulations could vanish overnight. For instance, it would invalidate all state laws relating to pre-abortion counseling, parental notification for children under the age of 18, waiting periods, restrictions on late term and partial birth abortions. By saying that government may not "discriminate" against the right to an abortion, FOCA opens the door to require the taxpayers in every state to fund abortions.

FOCA is the most radical of abortion legislation ever considered by the U.S.

Congress. Its goal is to establish a fundamental right to abortion and would go far beyond what the U.S. Supreme Court ever contemplated in the *Roe v Wade* (1973) and *Planned Parenthood v Casey* (1992) decisions.

Experts agree that the modest restrictions on abortions that currently exist in state and federal law have been effective in reducing abortion rates and saving lives. According to a recent nationwide survey conducted

by the Marist College Institute for Public Opinion, 92 percent of Americans believe there should be some restrictions on abortion. According to the poll, 75 percent of Americans favor parental notification when someone under the age of 18 is planning an abortion. A large majority of Americans - whether they are pro-life or pro-choice - favor restrictions on late term abortions. Clearly then, FOCA is out of step with American public opinion

FOCA would have an equally destructive effect on the freedom of conscience of doctors, nurses and health care workers whose personal convictions do not permit them to cooperate with the killing of unborn children. This Act could force Catholic hospitals and other faith based facilities to close their doors rather than cooperate with evil.

We now have a new Congress and a president who has stated he will sign FOCA.

Both the House and the Senate will have stronger pro-choice majorities than ever before. The serious threat that FOCA poses to human life - to mothers, unborn babies and family members - should be a wake up call to all citizens who value the Sanctity of Life. We should be prepared to fight this latest version of the Culture of Death. Be ready - Stay tuned!

Ed

Good of the Order

Remember in your prayers and thoughts Deacon Max & Gladys Severe, Rudy Cecere, Raymond Whitlatch, Jim Hollywood, Jack Earhart, John Harrison, Bill Reagan, and Father Vicente Lloria who died recently.

Remember our Brother Knights, Columbiettes and their spouses in need of prayers and our military men and women who are serving in harms way protecting your freedom.

Commander Joseph T. O'Callahan, SJ

Assembly #1723

OFFICERS

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Max Severe
382-9402

Faithful Navigator

Jack McLaughlin, PFN
471-3295

Faithful Captain

Mike Basile, PFN
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Faithful Pilot

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Sean Dolan
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Paul Stephens
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Faithful Outer Sentinel

Modesto Diaz
314-9188

Faithful Admiral

Hiram Pedraza
699-2013

Faithful Trustee (1 year)

Charles Wiseman
699-2186

Faithful Trustee (2 year)

Don Sliwiski
402-0423

Faithful Trustee (3 year)

Andy Mish
402-1402

Navigator's Report

Jack McLaughlin, Faithful Navigator

Our next meeting will be on March 3rd in the administrative office building of Sebring Council 5441 at 7PM. The building is located directly behind the hall on Prospect Ave. Park in the council lot and go along the right side of the building and enter through the open garage side door.

The next Exemplification will be held at the Marriott hotel located at Tampa International Airport the weekend of April 3rd & 4th. Any Knight who has been a member for 6 months and is currently a 3rd Degree member is eligible to take the 4th Degree. If you are interested please let me know as soon as possible.

Candidates and Sir Knights dress for the Exemplification will be:

- Black Tuxedo, Plain White Tuxedo Pleated Shirt (with lay down collar - NO wing tips allowed), Black Bow Tie, Black Socks, Black Shoes, and Black Cummerbund.
- Members of the Armed Forces may wear their full dress uniform instead of the Black Tuxedo, but no K of C Jewels.

Dress for the banquet will be formal wear with the ladies wearing evening dress suitable for the occasion.

No Banquet or Ladies Luncheon tickets will be sold at the door or after the cut-off date of March 6th, 2009.

Hotel Rates:

- The room rates are \$112.00 plus tax, per night
- The hotel is located in the Tampa Airport, Tampa FL.
- Reservations can be made by telephone at (800) 564-3440. You must mention they are with the Knights of Columbus for this rate.
- Cut Off Date for Room Reservations – March 6th, 2009

The Exemplification will take place on Saturday morning, April 4th, and you could make it a one-day trip, but you would need to be there before 8 AM. Complete information and schedules are listed under Fourth Degree at the Florida State Council website (<http://floridastatecouncil.com>). I have an Email from Vince Federico, the Aide to the Master with additional websites that contain detailed information. If any candidate or member would like this information send an email to jack.mclaughlin@embarqmail.com.

Any Form 4's turned into any member should be forwarded immediately to the Faithful Comptroller or myself at the following address:

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4713 Duffer Loop
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Mike Flood
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Sebring, FL 33875

Jack

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