

Knights in Action

Pope John XXIII Council #5441

Sebring, Florida

Issue 2009-10

October 2009

Grand Knight's Report

Jack McLaughlin, FDD

The September meeting was disappointing in that we did not have a quorum and were only able to hold an informational meeting. ***Guys, it is important to attend meetings if your goal is the same as mine ... to build a "new council"***. I've written in this column several times that we need to remember the good things that were part of our council history; to forget about whatever caused you to become inactive; to become active again and get involved in helping our parish, families, youth and community. These are four of the Order's major program areas, along with Pro Life and Council. ***Consider coming back! We need active members to move forward!***



Some of the items that I covered at the September informational meeting were:

- Council 5441 will be hosting the monthly breakfast at St Catherine on the 1st Sunday of each month, starting October 4th. This will continue to be a fund raiser for our council, with help from the Columbiettes. Help is needed - call me (471-3295) or JP Fane (386-4809).
- Deacon Jim is approaching all of the parish organizations, requesting their membership to "sponsor" one or more of the First Friday Adoration hours (6-7 PM) at St Catherine Parish. Last month there was minimal

(see Grand Knight - Page 3, Col 1)

Deacon's Corner

Rev. Mr. James McGarry

My Brother Knights & Columbiettes

I am sorry to say, I have to apologize to my Brother Knights and Sister Columbiettes. Sometimes I don't think about our spiritual life enough and certain things slip thru the cracks when there are days within the month that are very important. Important, not only to ourselves but also to our families and those around us. This past month (September) had two days of memorization that I neglected to bring to your attention. They were "Sept. 14th, & Sept. 15th." You are probably wondering what they are, they are: "The Exaltation of the Holy Cross" and "Mary the mother of Sorrows".



Usually adoration of the Holy Cross is said by the prayer, "We adore thee, O Christ, and we praise thee, because by the Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world." Many of those that died by being martyred and died for the faith, embraced the Cross. Mere words or even gestures on our part cannot fully grasp the amount of love that Jesus had for us. His death and suffering on the Cross is the ultimate and genuine act that can ever be bestowed on us. He revealed to us, the Father's love, in His love.

Through His death, He revealed to us, that there is love in the world. ***Love stronger than death ...*** He opened the way of hope to us. If we let the power of His love show itself once again to be greater than the evil

(see Deacon - Page 3, Col 2)

Upcoming Events

- Oct 2nd - 1st Friday Adoration at St. Catherine's (6-7 PM)
- Oct 3rd - 4th - Respect Life Sunday
- Oct 4th - Knights of Columbus Breakfast at St. Catherine (7:30-11:00) - ***Volunteers needed*** - call GK or JP Fane (386-4809)
- Oct 5th - Red Mass (12:00 PM) at St. Catherine church
- Oct 6th - 4th Deg Mtg in Avon Park (7 PM) - St. John Bosco Youth Ctr
- Oct 12th - Columbus Day
- Oct 13th - Columbiettes (7 PM) - Council 5441 Office Building
- Oct 13th - Council Meeting (7 PM) - St. Catherine Family & Youth Ctr
- Oct 14th - 1st Degree - Avon Park (8 PM)
- Oct 16-18th - FL Respect Life Conference - Orlando, FL



Knights in Action is a monthly newsletter published by the Knights of Columbus Pope John XXIII Council No. 5441, Sebring, FL 33870. The council was granted its charter on May 26, 1963 and meets the second and fourth Thursday of the month.

The newsletter editor is Jack McLaughlin, who can be reached at jack.mclaughlin@embarqmail.com or by phone at 471-3295. Any Knight, whether from Council 5441 or another council, may submit articles for publication. Please submit articles by the 15th of the month preceding the month of publication.

OFFICERS

Deacon

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385-6608

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471-3295

Deputy Grand Knight

Frank Stanton
835-1031

Chancellor

V a c a n t

Recorder

Ed Cronin
382-3477

Financial Secretary

Mike Flood, PGK
471-6381

Treasurer

Ray La Count
382-9120

Lecturer

Jack O'Sullivan, PGK
385-8080

Advocate

V a c a n t

Warden

V a c a n t

Inside Guard

V a c a n t

Outside Guard

Modesto Diaz
314-9188

Trustee (3 year)

Don Schnoor, PGK
385-8832

Trustee (2 year)

Carmine Aurigemma
385-5097

Trustee (1 year)

V a c a n t

Council Officer Election Notice

In accordance with Article 2, Section 5 of Council 5441's By Laws the Business Meeting of October 13th will be an election meeting to replace and/or fill vacant offices. JP Fane has been nominated as Chancellor; Al Frisch as Warden; and Dennis Zelnar as Inside Guard. The positions of Advocate and 1 year Trustee remain open. We need officers to conduct business IAW Supreme By-Laws.

October Birthdays

Joseph Colangelo	04	Keith Quiel	19
Richard Kelly	06	Samuel Gutridge	20
Ed Tomek	11	James Curtis	24
Angel Sanchez	15	Anthony Garosi	28

October Anniversary's

John & Mary O'Sullivan	October 6, 1968
Ervin & Beverly Adams	October 10, 1959

Two Members Take 2nd Degree

Brothers Knights Jim Dall and Steve Palchik took their 2nd Degree in Wauchula on September 24th. Congratulate them when you see them.

Red Mass

This year at St. Catherine we will celebrate the Red Mass on Monday, October 5th at 12:00 Noon. Red Mass refers to a Mass celebrated annually in the Roman Catholic Church for judges, prosecutors, attorneys, law school professors, students, and government officials. The Mass requests guidance from the Holy Spirit for all who seek justice, and offers the opportunity to reflect on what Catholics believe is the God-given power and responsibility of all in the legal profession.

One of the better-known Red Masses is the one celebrated each fall at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington, D.C. on the Sunday before the first Monday in October (the Supreme Court convenes on the first Monday in October). It is sponsored by the John Carroll Society and attended by Justices of the Supreme Court, members of Congress, the diplomatic corps, the Cabinet and other government departments and sometimes the President of the United States. All officials attend in their capacity as private individuals, rather than as government representatives, to quell arguments with respect to a weakening of the separation of church and state. This logic had greater import in the 1950s when the first services were held, as Catholicism was viewed with greater suspicion than today in the American body politic.

CMBA DIRECTORS

President

Mike Flood, PGK
471-6381

Vice President

Frank Stanton
382-8853

Treasurer

Jack McLaughlin, FDD
471-3295

Secretary

Ed Tomek, PGK
453-6379

DISTRICT #43

Hiram Pedraza, DD
699-2013

Angel Hernandez, DW
unavailable

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Beth Caracaus
President
452-0782

PROGRAMS

Program Director

Frank Stanton
835-1031

**Church
Vacant**

**Vocations
Vacant**

Community

Ed Cronin
382-3477

Pro Life Couple

Ed & Diane Cronin
382-3477

**Council
Vacant**

**Family
Vacant**

**Youth
Vacant**

**Membership
Vacant**

**Retention
Vacant**

(Grand Knight - from Page 1)

attendance. With our Order's devotion to the Blessed Mother I thought that October and May would be significant month's for the council to volunteer. Our initial First Friday will occur October 2nd from 6-7 PM. Please attend with your spouse and family members. I'm sure we'll all take a lot from this hour of meditation.

- I reported that there would be a 2nd Degree in Wauchula on September 24th. Attempts have been made to contact all 1st Degree Knights to advance them in their journey to full Knighthood.
- There will be a 3rd Degree in October held in mid-state (read somewhere around here). This will be a great opportunity to advance to full Knighthood. As soon as the location, date and time are announced, we will contact all 2nd Degree Knights.
- There was a discussion about the sale of the CMBA/Council property to St Catherine Parish and its ramifications in the Sebring-Avon Park area. Mike Flood as President of the CMBA and myself as Grand Knight told Fr. Jose that we would take action to address the situation as soon as I returned from vacation. We had a meeting on September 16th with Our Lady of Grace Church and Council, but issues remain unresolved from their stand-point.

Consider getting active in the Council - attend a meeting or two and give us a chance to convince you that we are moving forward on the right path. If we are not, voice your opinion ... your input is important to the council leadership! We need active members to move forward!

Jack

.....
Discover a World of Good Things
in the Knights of Columbus
.....

(Deacon Jim - from Page 1)

threatening us, we can change this world. We have to be strong and persevere in our beliefs.

We have the one beautiful example that we can follow. Her strength, Her love, Her faith, that she portrayed while she suffered from Bethlehem to Calvary. It's not by chance that we have the day, "Mary, Mother of Sorrows," following the Exaltations of the Cross. Mary is our spiritual mother, and the mother always understands her children and consoles them in their troubles. Then, she has that specific mission to love us, received from Jesus on the Cross, to love us, so as to be an example through her consoling, pointing out the Crucified One and Paradise to us.

Pope John Paul 11 confirms Mary's vital role in the preparation of the people for our Lord through Her special intercessions. Mary's role as Advocate, imploring the aid of the Holy Spirit for the Church in times of need, will continue for the Church until such time of which, "Only the Father knows." It is the task of Mary, Advocate for the people of God, to implore the descent of the Holy Spirit at times of particular need for the Church. There is no better time then at the present to pray to our Blessed Mother for her help and Guidance for our Church, our country and the world.

Let us make a concerned effort both privately and with each other to pray that the unrest in today's world will come to an end. I remember at one of my retreats the mission director said "Love and prayers" mountains can be moved.

Go with the love of Christ,

Deacon Jim



Columbiettes

Beth Caracaus, President

Dear Sister Columbiettes & Brother Knights,

First an update on our President Beth; she and her husband were moved to an assisted living residence in Sun N' Lake. Let's all keep her and Charlie in our prayers. The members will be helping our Knights with monthly breakfasts at St. Catherine on the first Sunday of each month, with the first on October 4th. We need three women to volunteer. Please call me and we will set up a schedule. This will be a monthly endeavor for us, so put it on your calendars. There will be a Chapter meeting Saturday September 19th at Sacred Heart Council in Belleview, FL. We will meet in the parking lot of St Catherine Church at 7 AM. The next Saturday, September 26th is the State Regional meeting. Again we will be traveling this time to Hollywood. The Officers will be attending this very important meeting. A lot of information will be exchanged and each office of our Auxiliary will know what their duties consist of. Again we will meet in the parking lot at 7 AM to go to Fr. Monahan Council in Hollywood. No date has been set for our Installation. We are trying to do this sometime in October. We will use the phone chain to let you know.

Our Past State President MaryAnn Drexel is very sick. She is now in the intensive care unit at Winter Haven Hospital. I ask for your prayers. Our District Deputy Ann Kuhn was also admitted to the hospital this past week, and again I ask for your prayers for her.

I will not be at the next meeting as I will be going on the State Columbiette Cruise. We'll be gone October 11th-18th. Have a great meeting and I will see you at the November meeting. The October meeting will be in the Council 5441 Office Building on Prospect Drive. Plan on attending and getting all or the latest info on our happenings.

(see Columbiettes - Page 4, Col 1)

(Columbiettes - from Page 3)

May the Blessed Mother, St Joan of Arc and ST Theresa watch over us and bless our endeavors

God Bless,

**Vicki Sandin, Assistant to
Beth Caracaus, President**

District Deputy

Hiram Pedraza, DD #43

I am currently on vacation so this will be short and to the point. There are two items of importance coming up in October. The first is a Third Degree that will be held during the month. As soon as the Degree Team confirms a date, I will pass it on to your council Grand Knights and I will select a site for the Degree.



The second item is to remind every Knight in each Council in our District that October is the Order wide Membership Blitz. Remember recruiting is everyone's business. Recruit your Catholic friends and fellow parishioners, talk to every Catholic male you know! Remember it's only through new members that our programs find new life, continue to grow and do the most good for our Order, our Parish and our Community!

If each member in your council would actively recruit one member, you would be well on your way to being a Star Council.

Vivat Jesus

Hiram



Pro-Life Report

Ed Cronin, Chairman

OBAMACARE AND ABORTION

Recently President Obama said we should have an honest debate on health care, not one dominated by willful misrepresentations and outright distortions. The president says that among the "phony ideas" made against the House bill is that it provides funding for abortions and other objectionable acts, e.g. death panels and represents a federal takeover of the health care system.



Let us look at funding for abortion. Does the House bill (HR3200) fund abortion in its current form? Not obviously. However, while the House Energy and Commerce Committee at first voted to exclude abortions from "essential" services, to the howls of NOW, Chairman Henry Waxman conducted a second vote, to drop the anti-abortion amendment. That vote passed. In short, funding for abortions remains an open question.

Regardless if Obama drops it to assure passage, he supports the Freedom of Choice Act that would overturn every state and local regulation, including the Hyde Amendment which forbids federal funding for abortion. The president has already used his authority to lift the Reagan administration prohibition against using foreign aid funds to procure abortions abroad.

Obama is a pro-abortion absolutist. If abortion funding is not in the final health care bill, does anyone doubt that the Democrats will move quickly to incorporate it in future legislation?

A representative from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) wrote to Congress advocating "accessible, affordable

and quality health care that respects and protects the life and dignity of all people from conception until natural death. He also wrote that "No health care plan should compel us to pay for the destruction of human life, whether through government funding or mandatory coverage of abortion."

In a similar manner, Cardinal Rigali, of Philadelphia, wrote to the House urging them to make health care legislation "abortion neutral" When the 111th Congress convened last January, millions voiced their opposition to the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA). Introduction of FOCA was successfully thwarted through a nationwide effort, but, many have warned that health care reform bills, in their current forms, could accomplish many of FOCA's objectives by other means e.g. Give the government the power to make abortion a mandated benefit.

Fr. Frank Pavone, Priests for Life, reminds us that the importance of Mary flows from her Son, and worship of the Son leads to honoring the Mother. Marian devotion teaches us something about our pro-life commitment - Mother and child belong together.

Vivat Jesus

Ed



Volunteers Needed

Here are five chances to step up - get involved - help re-build our Council by getting involved in our community and church!

#1 - Workers are needed for the St Catherine School Bingo! Do you have a few hours to spare to raise money for the children of our school? The parish bingo is held on Friday's at St. Catherine's Church Hall. Doors open at 3:30PM for socializing and light refreshments from our kitchen - *we need kitchen workers*. At 4:30PM tickets for Bingo go on sale - *several volunteers are needed to sell tickets*. We also need several volunteers for Early Bird and regular Bingo, and finally *about 3 people to stay for about 15 minutes to move chairs and take the garbage out*. As you can see, you can help for as little as 1 hour or as long as you see fit. Your volunteer hours could be as flexible as you need - every other Friday - once a month - all night - only early shift - ***time schedules are flexible, but we need help!*** Bingo callers are also needed for either all night or ½ nights - we will train you if you would like to give it a try! to call ½ of the night or all night. If you can help, please call Mike Flood at 414-0945.

#2 - St Catherine Church will hold a Fall Festival on Saturday, November 21st at the Parish Family and Youth Center (former Council Hall). Volunteers will be needed. If you are willing to help contact myself or JP Fane (386-4809).

#3 - Each year the Council of Catholic Women and the Knights co-sponsor a Pro-Life event at St Catherine church on Respect Life Sunday (weekend of October 3rd & 4th - this year). Please volunteer to help Ed & Diane Cronin distribute a Prayer Card following which-ever Mass you attend this weekend. This will probably take less than 10 minutes of your time! See Ed before Mass.

#4 - I was reminded after the last meeting that the council had in the past marked Columbus Day by awarding savings bonds to the first

babies born on Columbus Day at both Highlands Regional Medical Center and Florida Hospital Heartland Division. This is an excellent chance for our council to get publicity in the local press and to get our message out. Ed Cronin has sent letters to both hospitals requesting their support and assistance. **We need a chairman to take over this annual program** as Ed has his hands full with the Pro Life programs.

#5 - How does this newsletter get to your home? I edit it and either Mike Flood or myself copies it; Ed & Diane Cronin have taken the responsibility of collating the newsletter, folding it, applying the seals, adding the mailing labels, and finalizing it for the Post Office. They need help! A group of five or six could complete these tasks in an hour and a half. Bring your wife with you to help and get to know some of the other members of the council and their wives! Call the GK or Ed (382-3477)

Insurance Corner

Mike McDonough

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic men's fraternal organization with insurance programs only available to members!

3.75% risk free on deposits of \$10,000 or more. For deposits made by 9/30/09. After, call for rate. Under \$10K earns 3.5%. Lifetime minimum of 3%. Consider this; if you had \$50,000 earning 1.75% interest with the bank, you would make \$875 in interest. If you had \$50,000 with the K of C, you would make \$1,875. That's \$1,000 more with the K of C.



FINAL EXPENSES. Everyone knows that the last thing you do in life is create a debt.

EDUCATION. High school and college are more expensive today than ever before.

EMERGENCY FUNDS. Consider today's economy. Cash for emergencies helps avoid financial ruin.

RETIREMENT. Will you have the funds needed to make those years comfortable and worry free?

FAMILY INCOME. Continued income to allow your loved ones to maintain the standard of living you have worked so hard to provide after you're gone.

PENSION CONTINUATION. Most pensions are cut in half when you die. What will your widow do?

IRA CONVERSION. A systematic way to leave more tax-free.

MORTGAGE PROTECTION. Your largest investment is probably your home. Here is a way to guarantee that this investment will pay off for those you leave behind.

These are all good reasons why you - yes you! - need more life insurance. Call your K of C Insurance Representative **Mike McDonough 941-228-5656** for retirement and insurance planning.

Form #100 Belongs in All of These Places

- Briefcase
- In Your Pocket
- Near Your Phone
- Glove Compartment
- Everywhere You Go!



**SIGN UP A
NEW MEMBER
TODAY!**



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

flockNote

On September 18th Father Jose launched a new communications vehicle called "**flockNote**" to improve communication in the parish. As of this writing there are currently 54 subscribers and 51 different feeds.

flockNote is an innovative, Catholic website that helps you share notes with the flock. It's free, too. As a leader in the Catholic community, you can send notes to your entire flock - or just a specific group - without the frustrating job of managing multiple mailing lists by email.

As a member, you can get the latest news and information from the groups you care about – through the website, email, txt message, and more.

Here's how it works - simply sign up, sign in and create or join a "feed." A feed is a group where you "feed" information to your group members.

For example, as a parish leader, you may want to create a feed for your entire parish. Meaning, every single parishioner can sign up to receive your latest announcement, alert or other news of interest. Or, create one for a particular group - or all of the groups - within your parish. Big or small, near or far, you can create as many feeds as you'd like and invite interested people to join.

As a member, you can subscribe to as many feeds as you find interesting - and choose to receive your notes on the website or in your email inbox. Simply select the feed(s) that you're interested in (daily readings, bloggers, news sources, musicians, parish or diocese groups, etc.) and keep up to date on all of your Catholic interests! You can subscribe or unsubscribe from any feed at anytime.

Listing only a few of the feeds that may interest you: Knights of Columbus; Men's Club; Eucharistic Ministers; Lectors; Sacristans; Prayer chain; Music ministry; etc.

Check it out at the following website: <http://www.flocknote.com/>

Good of the Order

Pray for the repose of the soul of Reverend David Stokes, S.J., the Priest Pastoral Assistant at St. Catherine Parish, who passed away on September 24th.

Remember in your prayers and thoughts Rudy Cecere, John O'Shea, Rufus Bonifas, and Raymond Whitlatch.

Keep in your thoughts and prayers our Brother Knights, and Columbiettes, and their spouses in need of prayers.

Pray for our military men and women who are serving in harms way protecting your freedom.

Tribunal Submits Additional Information About Reported McGivney Miracle to Vatican

Officials of a supplemental Tribunal constituted by the Archdiocese of Hartford have formally sent a new report to the Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of Saints. The tribunal – a panel tasked with gathering additional testimony – interviewed additional witnesses, including several medical doctors, about the circumstances of a reported miracle attributed to Venerable Michael McGivney's intercession. The report was signed and presented to Archbishop Henry Mansell on Sept. 22 and was affixed with the seal of the Archbishop of Hartford. The Postulator of the Cause, Dr. Andrea Ambrosi, travelled from Rome to Hartford for the occasion. The event was held in the chapel at the Chancery of the Archdiocese and was attended by Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, other Supreme Officers, relatives of Father McGivney and archdiocesan officials.

**PRIESTS, BROTHERS, NUNS.
THEY NEED US.
WE NEED THEM.**

Vocations Are Everybody's Business

FL Respect Life Conference

The Florida Respect Life Statewide Conference will be held in Orlando, FL the weekend of October 16-18, 2009. This annual conference is a wonderful opportunity to renew our enthusiasm for the apostolate we have chosen. The Knights of Columbus encourage you to attend, if possible. If interested in carpooling, give Ed & Diane Cronin a call (382-3477) and maybe we can set up a sharing plan.

If ever there was a time for Respect Life effort, that time is now. The federal administration has appointed so many Pro-Abortion senior officials to positions of leadership in health, social and legal agencies, we should all be concerned and vigilant in defense of LIFE. The subject conference is a good way for us to learn and prepare ourselves against tactics and strategies such as FOCA and the Trojan Horse known generically as Obama's Health Care Reform.

We hope to see you at the conference. Spread the word to everyone you know to be Pro-Life. In closing, we would like to share with you the following:

"The defense of human life at its most vulnerable stages is an essential duty of those inspired by the Gospel. Our prayers and efforts in this cause should open us up to defending the rights and meeting the needs of human beings all along life's spectrum. Having said 'no' to attacks on innocent human life, we need to affirm a great 'yes' to the full range of human living and flourishing." Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia and Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities.



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Commander Joseph T. O'Callahan, SJ

Assembly #1723

ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Max Severe
382-9402

Faithful Navigator

SK Dick Carlson
471-2134

Faithful Captain

SK Mike Basile, PFN
382-4550

Faithful Pilot

SK Frank Stanton
835-1031

Faithful Comptroller

SK Al Phillips, PFN
385-2858

Faithful Scribe

SK Mike Padron
385-1942

Faithful Purser

John Schumacher
382-8648

Faithful Inner Sentinel

SK Ricardo Gonsalves
699-2421

Faithful Outer Sentinel

SK Joe Meegan
382-3520

Faithful Admiral

Vacant

Faithful Trustee (1 year)

Charles Wiseman
699-2186

Faithful Trustee (2 year)

Andy Mish
402-1402

Faithful Trustee (3 year)

Hiram Pedraza
699-2013

Navigator's Report

Dick Carlson, Faithful Navigator

I apologize for the mix up on the date of our September meeting. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 6th at 7:00 PM in the St. John Bosco Youth Center at Our Lady of Grace Church in Avon Park. The Youth Center is the second building behind the church.

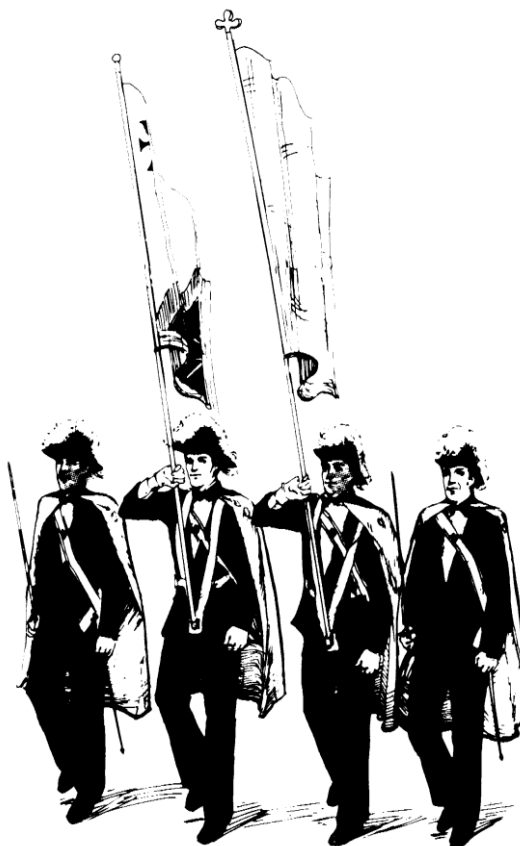
The next 4th Degree Exemplification will be held November 27-29 in Orlando at the Rosen Plaza Hotel. Any 3rd Degree member who has been a member for 6 months or more is eligible to take the 4th Degree. Let's try to have some candidates ready.

Pray for the end of abortion and the defeat of the Freedom of Choice Act.

God Bless,

Dick

EDITORS NOTE: *The error Dick is talking about concerning the date of the last meeting was mine while cutting and pasting information, not Dick's.*



Knights of Columbus
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Pope John XXIII



Council #5441

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*** To be a patron for the newsletter, please send \$5 to the council home and mark it as patron. Your name will run for one year. If you will take note, each name appears with a small number on the Patron List. This is the number of the month that your name expires. If your name is in **BOLD** and **ITALIC**, this will be the last time that your name runs, unless you renew your patronage. The council thanks you for your patronage.