



Volume 15 Issue 12

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Contact the Editor: gnelson8156@earthlink.net

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Next Business Meeting December 3, 2014
VFW Hall
[Directions on the Council Website](#)

Grand Knight's Report — We Are One

As I write this Grand Knight's Report we starting to make preparations for Advent and Christmas. It is fortunate that we can begin this time Our November Corporate Communion will take place on Sunday, 30 November at the 8:30 Mass. I hope to see as many Brothers there as can make it. Bring your family to celebrate the First Sunday of Advent to begin preparation for Christmas.

The afternoon of 4 December the sorting the Giving Tree Christmas gifts that parishioners have contributed for families served by the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Our Council has traditionally participated in this service activity. Then on Saturday, 6 December after the 9:00 AM Mass the delivery of these gifts will take place. The St. Vincent de Paul Society members tell me they will be serving 100 families this year. They will find it very helpful if those with pick-up trucks and SUVs can be there for the deliveries.

Despite the condition of Johnson Hall the Knights of Columbus Auxiliary is hosting Christmas Faire on the evening of 12 December. The ladies of the Auxiliary will be setting up the hall on the evening of 11 December at 6:00 PM. If you have a few minutes they would appreciate any help you can contribute to decorating the hall for this festive evening.

Some of the Christmas Masses will be held in Johnson Hall. As usual we have been asked for help. After Christmas Faire is concluded we will set-up part of the chairs for the Masses. If you can help it will be a great.

The "Telling of the Christmas Story" will take place on 14 December at 3:15 PM. Children come dressed in simple costumes as angels, shepherds, or kings to participate in the story of Jesus' birth. Although this is intended for the children, it is a very good telling of the Christmas Story. If you have not seen this, come and enjoy it.

A new Christmas activity is being introduced by the Chaplain of the Greater Austin Area Chapter of the Knights of Columbus. Father Vincent Romuald is a Pastoral Vicar at St Louis King of France Parish in Austin. He is Filipino and he has permission to introduce Simbáng Gabi to the Austin area. The background and the schedule is in another part of the Newsletter.

Remember to keep Christ in Christmas. I pray that each of you will have a joyful and blessed Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ.

Merry Christmas and Vivat Jesus!

Jim Luhrman



Birthdays

Mark	Armatta
James	Benavides
Ronald	Buys
Earl	Carter
Eric	Churchill
Ronald	Crain
Steven	Daigle
Trevor	De Martini
James	Gereszek
David	Gossett
Chris	Grahmann
Alejandro	Gutierrez
Barry	Haygood
Michael	Hejny
Kenneth	Kurzawski
Douglas	Lyon
William	Mastin
Rob	Murphy
Steven	Myers
Eric	Negron
Efrain	Ortiz
Guadalupe	Pequeno
Robert	Peterson
Guadalupe	Ramirez
Patrick	Reinhart
Victor	Reyna
George	Reynes
Alexander	Sanchez
Benjamin	Sander
Thomas	Sauceda
Jeffrey	Stovall
Ben	Truong

Insurance Agent Report - Eddie Mazurek FICF LUTCF

Who are The Knights of Columbus?

Most Catholic men are drawn to the Knights because of its emphases on serving one's Church, community and family virtue. In his own words, Father McGivney wanted the organization "to unite the men of our Faith, that we may thereby gain strength to aid each other in time of sickness; to provide for decent burial, and to render pecuniary assistance to the families of the deceased members. "

The initial system of "life insurance" designed by Father McGivney was a simple one, a pass-the-hat system that each member participated in to help support his brother Knights.

But as the organization grew, so too did the insurance program, and the pass-the-hat system was transformed into one of the largest and most highly-rated life insurance programs in North America.

The Knights of Columbus has passed many milestones and received many accolades but all that is secondary.

What matters most is that we continue to fulfill Father McGivney's mission of offering and providing financial protection for Catholic families.

2014 is not 1882. Times are different. Laws are different. Economies are different. But life insurance can be the difference between getting by and getting evicted. In its role as the premier Catholic life insurer, the Knights of Columbus continues to provide a valuable and noble service.

That's why we offer life insurance.

It's not for the \$8 billion in annual sales volume, or the \$95 billion in force, or the 1.8 million policies on the books. It's not the amounts that count, but the impact of those dollars.

It's the homes saved, the college tuitions provided, the Catholic funerals paid for, and the families shielded that create the legacy of protection that would make Father McGivney proud.

It's those things that are the hallmark of the Knights of Columbus Insurance program.

BUT – YOU have to participate for it to work. YOUR participation helps not only your family, but the families of your brothers, as well as the many charitable works of the order.

Are you carrying on Fr. McGivney's vision?

I can show you how to give your fellow Brothers the opportunity to help your family by being a Fr. McGivney Knight.

Eddie Mazurek PGK-FICF LUTCF

512-301-1218

emazu5@gmail.com



Chancellor & Vocations Director Duties

On Wednesday, November 5th Council 8156 elected a new Chancellor. Frank Avilar is our new Chancellor. Frank has been a Knight since May of 1987. As part of his duties he is to notify the Council of illness or death of a Knight or a member of a Knight's family. If you know of a Knight or a member of a Knight's family who is ill, especially if they are in the hospital, or has passed on Brother Frank is the one to notify.

Knight and Family of the Month

Knight— Lee Jones

Lee Jones' dedication to the Knights and the Church epitomizes the four principles values of a Knight of Columbus: charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. He volunteers as Usher for weekly and special Masses. He is extremely active with the Council, consistently participating in the monthly BBQs and other Council events in whatever role needed to support the event. No job or task is too big or too small for him. He serves the critical role as coordinator with the VFW Hall the Council is now using for its monthly business meetings and family activities. For his exemplary performance as a Knight, congratulate Lee as our Knight of the Month for November 2014.

Family— Jason and Christina Wagner

Jason and Christina Wagner with their four young children play a very active role in St Catherine's and the community our Church supports. Jason recently chaired the monthly BBQ and through his leadership raised \$850.00 for the Regina Caeli Academy. One or more of the family volunteers in support or leadership roles as Eucharistic Minister, Usher, Religious Education teacher, the Regina Caeli Academy, creating church decorations and decorating the church for holy days and special events, Eucharistic Adoration, working on the capital campaign committee, participating in parish service days, and cub scouts. They show their Catholic values and love of their faith through their presence at Mass and support of the Parish Community. Join me in congratulating Jason and Christina as our Family of the Month for November 2014.

Simbáng Gabi — Jim Luhrman

What is Simbáng Gabi?

Simbáng Gabi (Filipino for "Night Mass") is a devotional nine-day series of Masses practiced by Roman Catholics and Aglipayans in the Philippines in anticipation of Christmas and to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Masses are held daily from December 16 to December 24, and occur at different times ranging from as early as 03:00 to 05:00 Philippine Standard Time. On the last day of the Simbáng Gabi, which is Christmas Eve, the service is instead called Misa de Gallo (Spanish for "Rooster's Mass").

The Simbáng Gabi originated in the early days of Spanish rule over the Philippines as a practical compromise for farmers, who began work before sunrise to avoid the noontday heat out in the fields. Priests began to say Mass in the early mornings instead of the evening novenas more common in the rest of the Hispanic world. This cherished Christmas custom eventually became a distinct feature of Philippine culture and became a symbol of sharing.

Father Vincent Romuald will be having a Mass per the schedule below for the Novena of Simbáng Gabi

Father Vincent is the Chaplin of the Austin Chapter Knights of Columbus, please attend and experience this new culture.

Schedule of Masses

Dec 15 - 7pm - St. Louis

Dec 16 - 8pm - St. Albert the Great

Dec 17 - 7pm - Seton Williamson Medical Center - Round Rock

Dec 18 - 7pm - St. Paul - South Austin


Dec 19 - 7pm - St Catherine of Siena

Dec 20 - 7pm - St Catherine of Siena

Dec 21 - 7pm - St. Albert the Great

Dec 22 - 7pm - St. Louis

Dec 23 - 7pm - St. Albert the Great



Pro-Life — Ed Empero (This article is dedicated to the memory of Ed Kruzcek, a pro-life advocate)

Brothers, I want to tell you why I am so passionate about pro-life issues.

I will complete my story in increments over a few monthly articles.

My story starts with EUGENICS, (the belief and practice of improving the genetic quality of the human race). It is a social philosophy advocating the improvement of HUMAN GENETIC TRAITS through the promotion of higher reproduction genetic traits and reduce reproduction of people with undesired traits.

The idea of EUGENICS existed before the word, EUGENICS.

Back in 1829-1894, William Goodall , advocated the Castration and spaying of the insane.

However, EUGENICS, as a modern concept was originally developed by Francis Galton. Galton had read his cousin's, Charles Darwin, THEORY OF EVOLUTION, which sought to explain the development of plant and animal species, and desired to apply it to HUMANS.

EUGENICS had its roots in France, Germany, Great Britain and the United States. The policy of STERILIZING mental patients was implemented in other countries, as well.

But the scientific reputation of EUGNEICS started to decline in the 1930's , a time when EUGENICS was used for a justification for racial policies of NAZI GERMANY.

I know , by now, you are wondering where I am going with this article.

You will see , next month, January of the New Year 2015.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY BLESSED NEW YEAR 2015 TO ALL !!

Knights of Columbus 8156

4800 Convict Hill Rd
Austin, Tx 78749

Email: KC8156@gmail.com

Knights are Catholic men, 18 years of age and older, who are committed to making their community a better place, while supporting their Church. Being a Knight is more than camaraderie; it is being involved with your community; it is supporting your local Catholic Church, while enhancing your own faith; it is about protecting and enhancing your family life. Come see just what we are all about by calling the Grand Knight.

Charity, Unity & Fraternity

From the Editor

Submit articles for the January Newsletter by December 26

Contact List

Jim Luhrman, GK

onetop66@austin.rr.com

512-422-5056

Fr. Ron Feather, Chaplin

Chris Klotz, DGK

klotzlaw@austin.rr.com

Randy Schreiber, FS

allowat.s@gmail.com

Frank Avilar Chancellor

fm_avi@yahoo.com

Eddie Mazurek, Treasurer

emazu5@gmail.com

512-301-1218

Other Officers

Advocate – Mathew Wade

Lecturer – Bob Stuijbergen

Recorder – Adam Alvarez

Warden – Juan Tavarez

Inside Guard – Carl Disher

Outside Guard – Bill Diaz

3-Year Trustee – Jerry Guajardo

2-Year Trustee – Larry Odom

1-Year Trustee – Armand Gagnon

Fundraising Directors

Colton Brugger

Lloyd Monroe

Greg Nelson

Pro-Life Director—Ed Empero

Important Dates for the Month

Monday, December 1	10:00am	KOC - Poinsettia's for Widows
Wednesday, December 3	6:30pm	KOC - Eucharistic Service
	7:00pm	KOC - 1st Degree and Business Meeting
Thursday, December 4	4:00pm	SVDP - Sort Christmas Baskets
Friday, December 5		MTM - Community Service, Mexico
Saturday, December 6	8:30am	MTM - Community Service, Mexico Our Lady of Guadalupe Diocesan Celebration
	9:45am	SVDP - Deliver Christmas Baskets
	3:00pm	First Saturday Devotion
Friday, December 12	7:00pm	Christmas Faire
Wednesday, December 17	7:00pm	Planning Meeting
Sunday, December 21	4:00am	BBQ
	7:00pm	Member Info Mtg.
Thursday, December 25		Christmas - Holy Day of Obligation

"Knight" in Question

The upcoming Third Annual Conference of Catholic Men in February is being co-sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Central Texas Fellowship of Catholic Men. It will be in February at Saint Williams Parish in Round Rock. This one has a "knightly ring" in its very title: The Armor of God -- and it indeed will be calling men to step up to the role of knighthood -- not as ceremonial bearers of a bygone heritage, but as combatants in the very real ongoing battle between powers and principalities noted by the Apostle Paul.

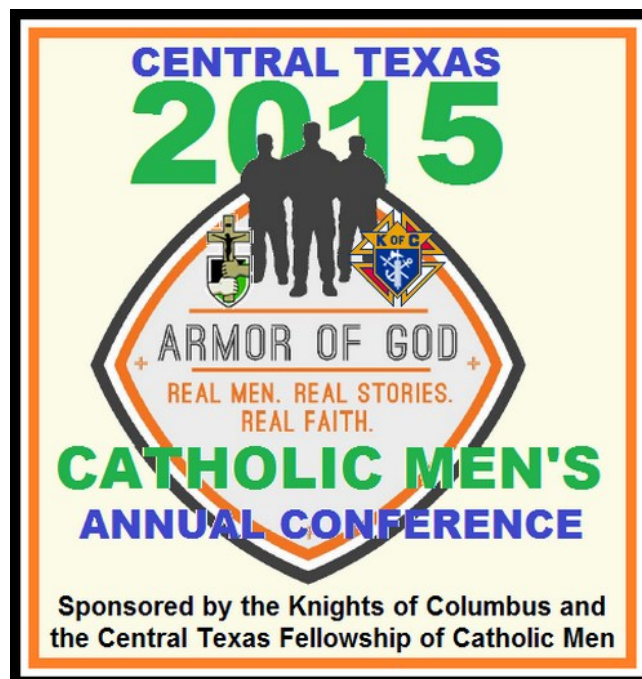
The word "knight" emerged long after the time of Paul, in the middle ages, and it lingered in language long beyond the time of Arthur and Lancelot and the Round Table as a word that represents the ultimate nobleness of men, true to the definition and instincts of real men. Real men, knights, who rise to be the men our women deserve -- what our children, families, parishes and communities deserve. Men are needed on the home front specifically as the men God created them to be, as knights, and not as the gender-neutral space-fillers devised in Satanic strategies updated from when he first slithered down the tree in the Garden of Eden. He is still out to divide men and women from each other -- and he knows he can do more to divide us by appearing as an angel of light than as an apple-peddling snake.

Today he invites us to take a bite out of a different kind of poisoned fruit -- diabolic redefinitions of manhood, womanhood, marriage, and human life itself -- and whole subcultures swallow it whole. We are under direct attack -- in real time and real life -- by those who think they are enlightened by such lies. That is war on a lot of fronts. On one of those fronts -- manhood (the matter of being the individual man God made us each to be) -- we need to share and get our acts together with other men. Men do need to hear from men. And the women at home need to have their men hear from men.

This conference -- The Armor of God -- is about war. The featured speakers are ex-Navy Seal, turned "Catholic Commando" Charlie Aeschliman and culture warrior Jesse Romero.

The Conference is Saturday, February 21, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at St. William Catholic Church in Round Rock. The cost is \$39 online and a limited number of advance tickets are available today for \$35. There is a special fee of \$20 for college students or younger, and \$45 at the door if available. There is more information in today's bulletin. Tickets can be purchased on line at <http://www.catholicarmorofgod.com/>.

Now, you could wait until January to buy tickets, but that would be passing up an opportunity to give them as Christmas gifts (and I cannot imagine any gift being more in the true spirit of Christmas).





Knights of Columbus
Council 8156
4800 Convict Hill Road
Austin, TX 78749

Mailing Label

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