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Next Business Meeting December 7, 2016
Our Meetings are Now at St. Catherine's
Mass 6:30pm, Meeting 7:00pm

Grand Knight's Report

It's Advent Season! We bid goodbye to the year of Mercy and begin a new Liturgical Year. I hope you all had a good Thanksgiving. We have much to be grateful for. Friends, Family, our Parish and Community; as well as our nation and the Liberty we enjoy within it. Over the next several weeks we will be witness to a rare phenomenon in world history; the peaceful transition of power within a world superpower. It is easy to forget how rare and unusual this is in a historical context. We may or may not be happy with the incoming or outgoing administrations, but the transition will happen with no violence between them. As difficult as things may sometimes seem, it is a privilege to live in this nation and enjoy the liberty and opportunities available within it.

Thanksgiving is over, that means Advent begins and Christmas is around the corner. Advent – the beginning of a new year for the Church. A good time to consider renewals ourselves and perhaps think of things we want to do and or change for the next year.

As we anticipate the celebration of Jesus' Birth, we consider the anticipation the Israelites had for the coming of the Messiah. We have the advantage of knowing the story; the unlikely of Messiah's; Jesus is born to a young virgin and placed in a manger. What a humble beginning; especially for the King of the Universe. Shortly after his birth, however, he is identified as a Future King, by current Kings from the East. Many consider the gifts of the Magi as a forerunner to the gift-giving we participate in for Christmas. This is a season of giving. While we prepare for our own families' celebrations, let's take some time to help others as well. The greatest gift you can give another is the gift of your time. That is something that can never be replaced. Try to take a break from the stress, hustle & bustle of this season and spend some quality time with your family. If you can spend that time volunteering together, you will be sharing memories while at the same time blessing others.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Vivat Jesu,

Larry Odom

Grand Knight



Birthdays

RONALD	BUYS
EARL	CARTER
ERIC	CHURCHILL
RONALD	CRAIN
STEVEN	DAIGLE
TREVOR	DE MARTINI
BOB	GARCIA
JAMES	GERESZEK
DAVID	GOSSETT
CHRIS	GRAHMANN
ALEJANDRO	GUTIERREZ Jr.
BARRY	HAYGOOD
MICHAEL	HEJNY
KENNETH	KURZAWSKI
DOUGLAS	LYON
WILLIAM	MASTIN
STEVEN	MYERS
ERIC	NEGRON
CHRISTOPHER	NICHOLS
EFRAIN	ORTIZ
GUADALUPE	PEQUENO
ROBERT	PETERSON
GUADALUPE	RAMIREZ
PATRICK	REINHART
VICTOR	REYNA
GEORGE	REYNES Jr.
ALEXANDER	SANCHEZ
THOMAS	SAUCEDA
SAM	STEPHENS
JEFFREY	STOVALL
BEN	TRUONG

Insurance Agent Report - Eddie Mazurek FICF LUTCF

Mary and I wish each of you a very Blessed and Merry Christmas.

An Ethical Responsibility

In March of 2016, the Knights of Columbus was named one of the World's Most Ethical. As a business, the Knights of Columbus holds a unique place in the world.

For starters, we were founded by a Venerable Servant of God, who, we pray, is on the path to Sainthood. How many companies can say that?

It is our responsibility to continue the business in a way that Father McGivney intended. He founded this organization so that a caring community of Catholic families could come together and protect widows and orphans from financial devastation upon the death of the bread winner. Our Companies by the Ethisphere Institute for the third year in a row.

This is a tremendous honor and achievement that all Knights should be proud of. You are part of a fraternal benefit society that puts integrity above everything.

But tremendous though it is, being one of the world's most ethical companies is not just an achievement; it's our legacy and our responsibility. We won't settle for less.

We owe it to our founder, to our Church, and to our members.

Our mission remains the same 133 years later.

From our founding to the present day, we are and have been an unapologetically Catholic company.

For us, this means that we must conduct our business in accordance with Catholic principles. We have established a strict screening process for our investments, and we refuse to invest in companies that deal in abortions, contraception, human cloning, embryonic stem cell research, for-profit health care that pays for any of the aforementioned, and pornography.

We are an organization by brother Knights, for brother Knights.

We don't worry about stock price, shareholders, or corporate takeovers. We worry about doing what's right for our members and their families. After all, we're brother Knights too.

As agents, we are rigorously trained to adhere to the highest ethical standards. Each of us must sign a Code of Ethics, which is modeled after the Ten Commandments. Among its commandments is "Thou shall present, honestly and accurately, all the facts necessary to enable a member to make an informed decision."

"Our fraternal ties to our members," it goes on to say, "make it more incumbent on us, in our dealings with them, to assure that their interests are uppermost in our minds as we provide solutions to their financial needs. It all boils down simply to the golden rule – Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." After all, we are our brother's keeper.

That's our commitment to you. And that's our commitment to conducting our business in line with Church teaching, and in line with the vision of our holy founder.

We are honored that the Ethisphere Institute has acknowledged that commitment.

Discover the benefits of doing business with one of the World's most ethical companies. Contact me today. **Eddie Mazurek 512-301-1218 emazu5@gmail.com**

Future of the Monthly BBQ

In the last several months, we have had poor turnout for our monthly bbq's. I thought I might say a little something about why we have the bbq's and what it means financially to the council.

We provide a great value and service to the parish by doing these bbq's each month. I believe our pricing keeps this affordable for all. In addition to providing a service to the parish, we also gain financially. As you might know by now, we are no longer participating in bingo. For about 25 years bingo brought in a huge amount of income to our council that we were able to give to many, many charities around central Texas. Since we are no longer in the bingo business, we must look for other ways to raise funds. While we have the golf tournament and gala, we still need to raise more funds or cut our charity spending. We net about \$900 - \$1000 each month from the bbqs. Over the course of the year, that is a lot of income that can be spent on charities.

In order for us to continue bbqs and thus, raising funds, we need your help. There is a crew of 4 or 5 members who do not mind getting up and starting at 3:00 AM. What we need help with is selling after all the Sunday masses. Would you consider volunteering for about 10 minutes after mass to help sell? In November we only had about 4 people TOTAL to help sell after the masses. We need about 6 PER MASS to help.

Also, it would be great if we had a clean up crew. As I mentioned, we start at 3:00 AM. Sometimes we finish selling after 1:15 mass, about 2 or so. By the time we clean up, it is past 3 and that makes it a 12 hour day for those that were there to help start bbq.

Remember this brings in a huge portion of our annual income. Although we don't want to stop the monthly bbq's we may need to if we don't get additional support from you to help sell after mass.

Thank you and hope to see you at December bbq sales.

Knight and Family of the Month

Knight— Nick Hotz

Nick Hotz is one of our younger members but he works hard to be active in the Council. Nick is active in the meetings and does not hesitate to ask questions and give his input on items under consideration. Nick has been administering the sale of items donated to the council by bringing the items to our meetings and presenting them at our post-meeting dinners. Nick's enthusiasm for the Knights of Columbus is admirable and his support for our Council is greatly appreciated. When you see Nick, congratulate him and thank him for his service and recognition as Council 8156 Knight of the Month for November 2016.

Family— Joe & Lynn Hotz Family

We are pleased to recognize Joe & Lynn Hotz and their family as Family of the Month for Council 8156 for November 2016. Joe has been an active member of the Council for several years. Joe and Lynn and their family have been faithful volunteers for the Austin Food Bank. Lynn volunteers with hospitality for Youth Nights. Allowing the youth to be open to the word by helping to make sure they aren't thinking about their stomachs instead. A "Minister of the Munchies" as Leti Bueno would call them. Thank you Joe & Lynn for your service to your Church and Community.

Culture of Life— Roger Ruether

Give a Gift to *Central Texas Coalition for Life!*

Your donation will help them continue their work to end abortion peacefully and prayerfully, save lives and change hearts.

[Give a Gift...](#)

Miracles of Life

There are many stories of micro-preemies surviving birth and thriving. Here are a few that inspire and strengthen one's faith.

[Born premature at 24 weeks, baby Marlo is a 'miracle'](#)

[Micro-preemie, delivered at 24 weeks to save mother's life, is home at last](#)

[Premature baby born at 24 weeks overcomes the odds](#)



Thanks to all for your prayers, voices, and actions supporting the gift of life and Pro-Life issues this year! Many lives have been and will be saved as a result.

Merry Christmas!

Knights of Columbus 8156

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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

Grand Knight

Larry Odom
LOdom2@austin.rr.com

Chaplain

Fr. Ray (Rayapureddy)

Deputy Grand Knight

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Advocate

Juan Tavarez

Lecturer [Appointed]

TBD

Warden

Hugh Bryars

Inside Guard

Mathew Wade

Outside Guard

Alberto Chiquillo

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Fund Raising Director 3 Year

Troy Authement

Fund Raising Director 2 Year

Lloyd Monroe

Fund Raising Director 1 Year

Greg Nelson

From the Editor

**Submit Articles for the January Newsletter
by December 23, 2016**

Important Dates for the Month

Please use the new Group Space Calendar

[Click for the Council Calendar of Events](#)



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Mailing Label

Here