



Knights of Columbus

St. Mary of the Hills Council 13950
2675 John R Road Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Volume 03 Number 03

December 2009

<http://www.smooth.org/kofc/index.html>

Officers for 2008-2009

Grand Knight

Ed Ratzenberger
248-693-7692

Chaplain

Rev. Stan Ulman

Deputy Grand Knight

Tim Polulak
248-601-4638

Chancellor

Joe Bono
586-731-8272

Financial Secretary

Paul Thorn
248-852-1758

Lecturer

Deacon Gene Kowalski
248-299-5509

Recorder

Scott Wiseman
586-844-6032

Treasurer

Bill Travnik
248-652-1533

Advocate

Robert Jackson
248-652-8115

Warden

Paul Blanchard
248-656-8738

Inside Guards

Bob Choma
586-726-0494

Bob Sheldrick
248-853-0004

Outside Guards

Frank Walkiewicz
248-608-2720

Gil Dutilly
248-650-1936

One Year Trustee

Richard Diem
248-709-2058

Two Year Trustee

John Hundiak
248-652-3433

Three Year Trustee

Alex Kiwior
248-652-3258

District Deputy

John Dunlap
248-652-7627

Membership

Tony DeFinis
248-852-5571

Insurance Representative

Tom Preslow
586-739-4742

Publisher - John Hundiak

Greetings, Brother Knights

As we pass through Advent towards the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ we observe daily the disruption in the lives of people due to loss of employment, death of a loved one or illness. We may not understand why these things must happen in God's plans for us and we pray for His guidance. The Lord Jesus continues to come to us every day and if we pray and are open to receiving His word we will be guided to do His will.

There are many opportunities to spend a few minutes every day with the Lord. We could say a prayer while standing in line at the store or when waiting at a traffic light and this not only opens your thoughts to receiving direction in our lives but the prayers have a calming effect in these hectic times. The other day while waiting in a small room at a Doctor's office I was able to say a whole Rosary and still had time for more reflection.

As Knights we have a number of occasions to help people through the many activities in which we participate. If you have not attended a Council meeting recently or if you haven't helped with some of the programs please consider doing so. There is an 85-year-old person who is President of several National organizations and travels the world to help the poor. She said there is a poem, which describes her philosophy of life. It is:

Life is not a Journey to the grave with the
Intention of arriving
Safely in a pretty and well preserved body but
Rather to skid in
Broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and
Loudly proclaiming, "Wow, what a ride!"

There are some giving people in our Council and Parish who also seem to abide by this philosophy and help with everything. Due to individual or family circumstances and interests everyone cannot participate in many activities but may be able to help with one or two activities during the year. As a Knight please consider helping Membership Chairman Tony DeFinis by referring a candidate to join the Knights, or help Rich Diem with the Tootsie Roll Drive, or help Frank Walkiewicz at the Manna Food Kitchen, or help with coffee and donuts, or help Bob Sheldrick with the Blood Drive, or help Bob Jackson with the Free Throw Challenge or the Texas Hold'em Poker fundraiser, or help John Hundiak at the Birthday Party for Jesus, or help at the Parish Picnic or attend a monthly meeting or some other activity. Your Brother Knights really look forward to seeing you. Please say prayers for those who have lost a loved one, who lost their job or who are ill.

My family and I wish you a blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ed Ratzenberger
Grand Knight



ANNIVERSARIES DURING

December

09 Ron & Marcy Habhab 4 Years
 26 Bob & Debbie Reblin 34 Years

January

15 Ron & Mary Ann Ziegler 22 Years
 18 Robert & Kathleen Armstrong 12 Years
 27 Jonathan & Julie Rea 14 Years

WE NEED YOUR ANNIVERSARY INFORMATION

As you can see on the anniversary list, we do not have the year of marriage for everyone. Please email our Financial Secretary, Paul Thorn, with the date and year of your marriage. This will allow us to acknowledge the anniversaries of all.

Paul Thorn redwng47@aol.com

BIRTHDAYS DURING

December

02 Bill Travnik
 03 Mario Angelo
 03 Ron Norton
 05 Dan Azarovitz
 06 Carrie Maffey
 09 Rose Marie Polulak
 13 Julie LaPointe
 16 Pearl Kotter
 16 Ted Skrzyszewski
 17 Carl Lanfear
 18 Gilda Nicosia
 20 Dan Medved
 20 Barbara Oniszcak
 20 Carol Gunther
 25 Jesus
 31 Marylal Karbowski



January

02 Eric Chisholm
 02 Jeffrey Saccalan
 03 Jim Grawburg
 03 Tamela Braun
 03 Sue LaFavre
 04 Carl Piontkowski
 05 Paul Grandy
 05 Debra Weisman
 06 George Phillips, Sr.
 07 Mary Ann Ziegler
 08 Tony DeFinis
 16 Patrick Rayall
 17 Debbie Reblin
 22 Andrew Fadanelli
 23 Deb Valot
 25 Clem Valot
 27 Bob Reblin
 30 Ken Corrion

Fourth Degree News

Members of Divine Mercy Assembly 3082 have been invited to join with Assembly 0482 in fun and fellowship at a Christmas party on Thursday, December 17, 2009 at the Fr. Lynch K of C Hall located at 870 N. Main St. in Clawson. Festivities will begin at 6:00 PM social hour with dinner at 7:00 PM Dress code is casual dress, no jeans, no t-shirts and NO TUXEDOS! Cost for the dinner is \$10.00 per person plus a gift for a Veteran in the hospital. The assembly will purchase the meats. Participants are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. YOU MUST CALL TIM DUNNING AT 248-879-2148 TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE BY 12/7/09. Prospective 4th Degree candidates are welcome to attend and learn more about the 4th Degree. The next opportunity to join the 4th Degree is March 6, 2010. To join, you must be 18, a citizen in the country you reside in, a member of the Knights in the First Degree for 12 months and also obtained your 3rd Degree. John Hundiak, PGK, PFN (248) 652-3433

COUNCIL PRAYER LIST

- Joe Bono, Jr.
- SK Bill Sabanos
- Don Zelazny
- Clarence Presnell
- Claire Bono
- The Cashman Family



If you know of someone in the council family who is in need of prayer, please contact John Hundiak at jhundiak@gmail.com to have them added to the list.

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, December 19, 2009
 Noon until 2:00 PM
 Fr. Strain Gymnasium

Birthday Party for Jesus!

Join Us at the Rochester Christmas Parade
 Sunday, December 6, 2009

Meet at the Rochester Community House
 By 11:30 AM

Children's Party after the Parade
 At the Community House (around 3:30 PM)

New Members of Council 13950

On Saturday, November 21, 2009 parishioner Ron (Mary) Elzerman joined the order and our council by taking his First Degree at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, along with 6 seminarians. Brother Knights Jim (Mary) Davis, Ted (Debbie) Skrzyszewski and Keith (Cindy) Yanachik took their Second and Third Degrees in Royal Oak. Please congratulate them and their families.

Remember to continue recruiting for the Knights. The Knights were founded during very tough economic times just like we are experiencing and we are a great organization to support Catholic families through all times!

COUNCIL AND PARISH ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER 2009

- 05 - Ring the Bells for Salvation Army at Sears Essentials
- 06 - Blood Drive at St. Mary's
- 06 - Rochester Christmas Parade
- 12 - St. Mary Parish Council Meeting
- 12 - Caroling at Sanctuary at Bellbrooke
- 12 - Membership Blitz After Mass
- 13 - Membership Blitz After All Masses
- 13 - St. Mary G.I.F.T. Sessions (Knights Participation Needed)
- 15 - Council 13950 Officer & General Membership Meeting
- 15 - MI Check Presentation to Special Olympics and RARA SCAMP Programs
- 16 - St. Mary G.I.F.T. Sessions (Knights Participation Needed)
- 18 - St. Mary G.I.F.T. Sessions (Knights Participation Needed)
- 19 - Birthday Party for Jesus
- 20 - Knights host Coffee & Donuts after 9:00 AM Mass
- 25 - Christmas Day
- 29 - Divine Mercy Assembly 3082 Membership meeting at Sacred Heart Parish

January 2010

- 01 - New Year's Day
- 09 - St. Mary of the Hills Parish Council Meeting
- 10 - St. Mary G.I.F.T. Sessions
- 12 - First Degree at Council 5452
- 13 - St. Mary G.I.F.T. Sessions
- 15 - St. Mary G.I.F.T. Sessions
- 19 - Council 13950 Officer & General Membership Meeting
- 21 - Annual Right to Life March in Washington DC
- 23 - Snowflake Gala
- 26 - Divine Mercy Assembly 3082 Membership meeting at Sacred Heart Parish
- 27 - Winter District Meeting in Lake Orion
- 30 - Major Degree at Council 11957, Shelby Twp

Financial Secretary Notes

Billing Notices for 2010 will be mailed around December 15. Dues this year will be set at \$39. If you are able to help us support Vocations (\$3), Michigan Charities (\$5) or the McGivney Chair in Life Ethics at Sacred Heart Seminary (\$12), please add that amount to your dues. If you are unable to pay your dues because of job situation, please contact Grand Knight Ed Ratzenberger or myself. All conversations will be held in confidence.

There is also a new option to send billing by email. You may also get an email notice if I have your correct email address.

A 2nd and 3rd Degree ceremony will be held locally on Saturday, January 30. If you have not attained the 3rd Degree, you will be contacted by someone from our Membership team to see if you will be able to attend. There is no charge to you to take this Degree. It was part of the Initiation fee you paid prior to taking your 1st Degree.

If any of your information changes, please contact me with the change. These include address, phone number, email address, marital status.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Paul Thorn, Financial Secretary

Redwng47@aol.com

248-852-1758