

Knighly News

Marian Council 9522

Serving St. Joseph Parish

Manchester, MO

April 2011



The *Knighly News* for a designated month is published in the last week of the preceding month. Articles and event information must be received no later than the 22nd of the preceding month. Please send all materials via e-mail to Gerry Wilkes at: glwilkes1@sbcglobal.net

Marian Council 9522

Monthly Planning Meetings:

Generally scheduled on the 4th Thursday of each month in the Emmaus House at 7:00 p.m.

Monthly Council Meetings:

Second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Meetings are currently held at the Emmaus House and are preceded by a Rosary at 6:20 p.m.







UPCOMING EVENTS

- Italian Dinner Apr. 3
- Soup Kitchen Apr. 11
- Business Mtg. Apr. 14
- *Felice Cuores* Apr. 16
- Tax Deadline Apr. 18
- Good Friday Apr. 22
- Easter Sunday Apr. 24
- Planning Mtg. Apr. 28
- Family Mass May 29



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday, Brother Knights

-  Tom Anstoetter
-  Brian Carroll
-  Bob Cartwright
-  Chuck McMillan
-  Curt Metzger
-  Raul Reyna
-  Dave Shaw
-  Nick Smith
-  Sam Tedesco
-  Edwin Vandeven
-  Andy Villaire
-  Mike Wilkes
-  Matt Willis

RECRUITMENT

We need **you** as a source of new members. Please contact Sam Tedesco with the name of a prospect and Sam will make the initial contact. Call Sam at (314) 229-2878 or e-mail him by [clicking here](#).

Felice Cuores

Fred Bird visited the March 19 *Felice Cuores* Dance Party. There were 175 guests despite the absence of many “regulars” who were involved in Special Olympics events. There were 4 volunteers from Marian Council.

Mary Mueller, a parishioner of St. Clare, generously consented to share some of her photos of the event from which Tom Brown has put together two collages that really capture the joy of the participants. Each collage is so good that it was impossible to choose the better, so we’ve included both. See Pages 11 & 12.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

The March Council meeting was very well attended. Three additional rows of chairs were needed to accommodate the large turnout. Especially gratifying was the presence of fifteen members of the council at the Rosary which preceded the meeting.

FIRST DEGREE INITIATIONS

- April 4 Villa Ridge 7:00 p.m.
- April 6 St. Clare 7:00 p.m.
- April 12 Dardenne 7:00 p.m.
- April 12 Arnold 7:00 p.m.
- May 9 Cottleville 7:00 p.m.
- May 13 Bishop's Council 7:00 p.m.

SECOND/THIRD DEGREE INITIATIONS

No 2nd/3rd Degree Initiations are scheduled in the St. Louis area until later in the summer. Contact [Larry Moore](#) for 2nd/3rd Degree initiations outside the St. Louis area.

Family Mass Memorial Day Service

On May 29, at the 11:00 Family Mass, our council will once again sponsor a memorial for those members of our parish who have given their lives in the service of our country. Those present at last year's ceremony witnessed an impressive and moving tribute.



Shining Armor Award

Congratulations to Knight John Ottenad for having qualified for the Knights of Columbus *Knights in Shining Armor Award*.

The *Knights in Shining Armor Award* recognizes exceptional service to the Order during the first year of membership. It is given to those men who exemplify the true spirit of the Knights of Columbus.

The concept of the "Shining Armor Award" program is to get new members active in the many facets of our Council as early as possible and to assist in maintaining that activity, as well as honoring them as valued members of our Council.

To qualify for the "Shining Armor Award", new Knights during their first year of membership must be involved in at least 3 Council Service programs; attend at least 3 Council business meetings; receive their Second and Third Degrees; meet with our Councils insurance representative (purchase not mandatory); and recruit at least one new member.



**St. Joseph
Dinner
Italian Style
April 3**

Get set for another round –or rounds—of Papa Paul’s superb Lasagna at the all-you-can-eat St. Joseph Italian Dinner on April 3. The food preparation will take place on Saturday, April 2.

Two shifts of volunteers are needed for serving, dish washing, and clean up on Sunday, April 3. Please sign up for either the 3:30-to-5:30 shift or the 5:30-to-7:30 shift. E-mail or call [Paul Listenberger](mailto:Paul.Listenberger@stjoseph.org) (314-369-1451).

All the details are included in the copy of the excellent flyer designed by Stephanie Caratenuto which you can find on page ten of this Newsletter.

SOUP KITCHEN

On our March 14 visit to the Soup Kitchen, only 3 Knights, Jim Schuessler, John Diehl, and Gerry Wilkes, were present, but there was a veritable army of extra helpers. John Diehl was accompanied by two of his grandsons, students at Kennedy High School; the St. Joseph Eighth Graders and moms added another nine helpers; a group of young women from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, who had chosen to help out at the Soup Kitchen throughout their entire Spring Break, swelled the ranks by an additional 13; a mother and daughter from Alton, Illinois and the normal Monday volunteer staff of 5, plus four nuns and two Deacons, for the first time in anyone’s memory, collectively exceeded the number of guests (33) who had braved the inclement weather.

At the March 11 Business Meeting, Jim Schuessler mentioned that the nuns at the Soup Kitchen supply the guests with plastic containers so that they can take food with them if they choose. Please save your margarine tubs and other plastic containers with lids and bring them to the meetings. We will see that they find their way into appreciative hands.

**A MESSAGE FROM
DEACON MARK GUILFORD**

A late New Year's Resolution: resolve to have an expert look at your finances. I recommend that you have a team of experts help you, and I should be among the first you sit with. Schedule some time to visit with me, your professional [Knights of Columbus insurance agent](#), and I'll provide an "insurance check-up" that will quickly identify any gaps in your family's life insurance program. And you'll want to fill those gaps now, not later. Unlike many other products, you don't just need money to obtain life insurance; you also need good health, and no one knows when your health could change.

Did I mention my check-up is free of charge? When was the last time you received something for free that could be providing value to you and your family for generations? Call me today. (314) 807-6454.

Knights In Need

As most of you are aware, a part of your annual dues is diverted to a special fund to aid members of our own council who are experiencing financial difficulty. Recently, the trustees voted unanimously to come to the aid of one of our council members in dire need. Thanks to our Grand Knight Phil Desloge for his prompt and discreet disposition of this request.

**Knights Help With Summer
Service Project**

At the March Business Meeting, Grand Knight Phil Desloge read a letter from Melanie Book, daughter of council member Michael Book, requesting some financial assistance for her summer service project. The Cor Jesu Academy senior will work with needy families in Appalachia. The membership voted unanimously to help her with a portion of her anticipated expenses.

**Supreme Knight
To Speak at Archbishop's
Prayer Breakfast - May 25**

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson will speak in St. Louis for the first time on May 25. Tickets to the event are \$30. Contact [Sam Tedesco](#) to make a reservation.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE DATE

Friday June 17

Crescent Farms Golf Club

Get your foursome together!

**100 participants insures our exclusive
use of the course for the afternoon!**

Contact [Dave Shaw](#) for more details.



FOUR MARIAN KNIGHTS ASCEND TO FOURTH DEGREE

ON MARCH 5, 2011 AT THE ST. LOUIS AIRPORT MARRIOTT HOTEL, THESE KNIGHTS COMPLETED THE FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION AND THUS HAVE EARNED THE TITLE OF "SIR KNIGHT." CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW MEMBERS OF ST. LOUIS ASSEMBLY #565:

SIR KNIGHT FRED LUECKENOTTE

SIR KNIGHT ARTHUR BOWLES

SIR KNIGHT JON CAMPBELL

SIR KNIGHT DAVID GOCKLEY

THE GIFT

Part Three – One Size Fits All

It's the most unhappy people who most fear change.

*~Mignon McLaughlin, *The Second Neurotic's Notebook*, 1966*

The original concept for the Gift of Mary Center has undergone considerable change since it opened in 1989. No longer does the Center provide overnight accommodations for men. Bob Funk recalls the days when the Knights would set up cots in the back room for the homeless; Barbara Lynn remembers that her least favorite task was when she was asked to clean the men's shower area. A lack of security and supervision in addition to inadequate space and facilities forced the nuns to abandon that aspect of their mission. The Center services fewer and fewer actual "homeless" people now. The nuns still have some beds on the top floor of their convent to provide overnight lodging for women and children; these folks must leave during the day. The truly homeless are more likely to be serviced by more specialized and often better funded city-based facilities, such as New Life Evangelistic Center, St. Patrick Center, St. Martha's Hall, and Guardian Angel Settlement.

The nuns have diverted their energies to other areas. Of course, they continue to feed the poor. The majority of the guests for the daily meal are men; from week to week, the faces do not change much. They are primarily the poor from the immediate area. The transients who once made up a large percentage of the folks at the tables, have been made unwelcome in the area by the police who look after the interests of a considerable number of new homeowners who occupy housing units recently constructed under a variety of federal, state, and private redevelopment programs, such as Habitat for Humanity. Many of the long-time residents in the area have been forced out into other municipalities which possess less political leverage to attract redevelopment.

The neighborhood, in spite of efforts at gentrification, is still a dangerous place to be at night. Lawless elements control the streets, preying upon the weak and defenseless.

Women once made up at least 20% of the guests at the Soup Kitchen, but their numbers have dwindled considerably. I recently asked one of the semi-regular guests what had become of all the women who used to come to the Soup Kitchen. She replied, "You won't like my answer, but here it is: they're mostly in prison or on crack." The women in this area are the easy victims of the predators.

THE GIFT

Part Three – One Size Fits All

The nuns continue to be a positive anchoring force in the neighborhood. They bring food and prayer to the homebound in the neighborhood; they visit the sick, even travelling far into the county to pray with a benefactor or volunteer in distress. A large contribution which the Missionaries of Charity have made to their neighborhood is the popular after-school program which seeks to provide a safe haven for the children of working parents. The nuns provide help with school work, some religious instruction, and a nourishing snack. The nuns also run a summer camp for the neighborhood children. Even the worst in the criminal community seem to respect their efforts. **No one hassles the nuns:** it seems as if it is a universally accepted neighborhood rule.

The nuns have adapted well to the changes over the years. They are women of extraordinary faith. Extraordinary faith presumes extraordinary humility. They live each day in the unwavering belief that they are in God's hands. They have no personal agenda so they see in all changes the finger of God pointing them in another direction. If their role in the community should change, so be it! If their mission in this community should end, so be it!

The role of the Knights of Columbus in the Gift of Mary Center has changed significantly over the years. Until recently, of the original councils, our Marian knights alone still supported the Gift of Mary Center. All of the other original eleven councils had ceased supplying volunteers. The result has been that the original model which involved knights from an individual council taking over a specific day of the month has gradually been replaced by volunteers from an incredible diversity of backgrounds.

Locally, there is the retired dentist who specializes in washing pots and pans and in driving nuns to their various destinations. He describes a long drive with the nuns as a "two-trosary trip." There is the retired stockbroker who owns a string of racehorses, knows every Italian tradesman in town, and –possibly most important-- makes the nuns laugh. Mary, a nurse at the nearby Veterans Hospital, comes to help on her day off. On her first visit, she asks, "I'm not Catholic; is it O.K. for me to be here?" Anita, a very wealthy woman, helped out for a while; she had been diagnosed with terminal cancer and could not think of any better way to spend her remaining time.

THE GIFT

Part Three – One Size Fits All

Lizzie from India by way of Ecuador comes for three months, then disappears for two, only to reappear. For many years, Joanne has volunteered regularly one or two mornings each week. She has organized the women of Ascension Parish to supply each month 30 large pans of mostaccioli (prepared from the same recipe and frozen) which the nuns can use to handle overflow crowds. Glen, who is legally blind but can see well enough to cook, comes twice each month with his wife; she drives, of course. Bill, a businessman from Tulsa, spends a week of his vacation here every year. Ten friends from St. Louis University come for a week during their Spring Break; 13 young women from Benedictine College in Kansas arrive the next week; the nuns find a place to sleep for all. Peter, an Egyptian Jesuit scholastic, helps out in the summer when he is not attending classes. Cara, born in London, raised in Pennsylvania, is attending college in Maryland. She comes on Christmas Holiday to help the nuns; she had lived here with the nuns and actually had worn the habit for one year. She's not Catholic either. Mother Teresa selects whom she will.

Why do they come? What is the motivation? Do all hear the same call?

Some come regularly, some when they can. If you come often enough, beware: you might change. You might begin to experience the miracles. These are not the 64-point-headline miracles. These are the miracles that the very receptive might notice with a kind of spiritual peripheral vision, the miracles which the self-absorbed and "busy" people will surely miss. You might notice that the hatred and resentment which at first is evident in the attitudes of many guests over time becomes transformed into a grudging gratitude or even honest appreciation. You may begin to sense the abiding happiness among the nuns and the volunteers. They genuinely like each other; they pray together; they laugh together. One begins to understand that while they are doing this work there is no other place they would choose to be.

The small miracles you will notice first are those taking place within yourself. Perhaps it's the *metanoia* that Jesus asked of us ("**Changing our way of thinking**"). Perhaps the **opportunity to change** is the true Gift of Mary and the Gift of Mother Teresa. But, once again, be cautious: if you begin to feel part of this, there's no possibility of repatriation.

~All you can eat~

ST. JOSEPH ITALIAN LASAGNA FEAST



Lasagna – Italian Salad – Garlic Bread – Dessert

SUNDAY – APRIL 3, 2011

4 - 7 PM

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL CAFE

ONLY \$9.95 ADULT - \$4.95 CHILD (12 AND UNDER)

Tea and Lemonade served with dinner

A portion of profits Donated to St. Joseph School & Parish

For more info/ tickets: Paul - 314.677.4177–<mailto:pjlistenberger@sbcglobal.net>

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Original Photographs by Mary Mueller – Collage by Thomas Brown

FUND RAISING



District Deputy Joe Caratenuto has been developing and expanding a fund raising idea originally suggested by Deacon Larry Damato. The plan has the potential for dramatically increasing the funds available for our council's charitable activities. Details concerning a trial balloon will be available shortly.



Original Photographs by Mary Mueller – Collage by Thomas Brown

WHAT IS A 24 HOUR KNIGHT?

The answer will be forthcoming at the next Business Meeting

April 14