

KNIGHT VISION



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Council 13527 Newsletter

November 2024

Grand Knight's Report

Brothers,

Advent – a wonderful time in our liturgical year: a time of anticipation and preparation for the anniversary of Jesus' birth on Christmas. The scripture readings for Advent "...tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world." (USCCB "What is Advent?").

From the perspective of our Catholic faith, preparation during the season of Advent is key to reminding us of the meaning of the season. In a more secular perspective, there are times the cares of this world must be considered as we prepare for the physical changes looming in our parish. Those cares are also paramount to the near-term activities of our Council. Beginning in January, the Christ Our Redeemer office staff will temporarily relocate to our church's music room while our Council monthly meetings, as well as the meetings for other church organizations, will move to the Bluewater Community Church on Range Road. Growth is inevitable, and as Christ Our Redeemer grows, I'm reminded of how prescient the words of Bob Dylan are in that, indeed, "the times, they are a-changin'!"



With Christmas only days away, I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas! If you're traveling over the holidays, please be extra careful. If you're staying home, I pray you'll find the peace of the day to also be yours.

Merry Christmas!

Peter Blaise



Last Day for Reservations — Jan 1

Call or text Joe @ 850.974.1491

**Join Your Brother Knights for
Hockey in Pensacola**

4:05 p.m., Sunday, January 19, 2025

Tickets are \$20

Cash or Check to Joe Purka

CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

Deacon Tom Dwyer

We recently celebrated Thanksgiving Day. One editorial wag touted it as the one national holiday not “compromised” by divergent political, religious, or other sectarian differences. Be that, as it may, Christmas offers Christians an additional holiday for us to express thanksgiving specifically to our Almighty Father for Jesus, for His filial obedience and demonstration of humility in assuming our humanity **specifically for our** salvation.

We are all familiar with the story of the Archangel Gabriel's appearance to Mary, her “fiat” - - “let it be done unto me”, Mary's subsequent visitation to Elizabeth (pregnant herself with John the Baptist), and the birth of Jesus in a stable. Missing from the familiar Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary is recall of the arduous trip the Holy Family made to Egypt to escape Herod's efforts to kill the infant Jesus. Wrapped up in the whole narrative of Christmas, before, during and shortly after, is a wondrous model of family love, distinguishing a husband and father's (Joseph's) commitment to support and protect his wife (Mary) and newborn (Jesus), and the selfless sacrifice of a young wife and mother. Do not neglect to reflect on the sheer difficulty of living in those times without today's conveniences of refrigerator, stove and indoor plumbing! Something else eliciting gratitude!



Christmas can therefore incorporate celebrating the birth of Jesus as our Savior along with appreciation for the model of husband/wife and father/mother love and devotion so admirably demonstrated by Joseph and Mary.

Blessed Christmas to you and yours!

Baby Bottle Drive Tops Past Year's Totals

This year's Baby Bottle Campaign set a new Council record with \$3,568.21 going to FWB Center for Women to support their pregnancy help center. Thanks to all the Knights and all the parishioners for their generous contributions.

Upcoming Events

Dec 25	CHRISTMAS DAY
Dec 27	Bingo at HNJ (Alpha Team)
Jan 1	NEW YEARS DAY
Jan 9	Council Meeting Bluewater Community Church, 7 p.m. (Dinner and Social at 6:15 p.m.)
Jan 14	Assembly 3236 Meeting at HNJ, 7 p.m. (Dinner and Social at 6:15 p.m.)
Jan 17	Bingo at HNJ 6 p.m. (Bravo Team)

Keeping Christ in Christmas

Sir Knights from Assembly 3236 participated in the Niveville Community Christmas parade carrying the Keep Christ in Christmas banner and a trailer featuring a Nativity scene. The Knights have participated in the annual Christmas parade for many years.



November Family of the Month

Ralph & Beth McDonald

This Knight and his wife are very active in our church and community. Sir Knight Ralph serves as an usher during Mass, as our council's recorder, and sentinel for Assembly # 3236. He has organized and led each of our pancake breakfasts, works as a floor worker for bingo and helps make our Sunland picnics a success. He has also been a major contributor to our annual Oktoberfest fund-raisers at 3rd Planet and has pressure washed the sidewalks at Christ Our Redeemer Church.

His wife, Beth, is a sacristan and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. She coordinates the Tuesday all-day Adoration, leads the parish prayer line and is instrumental in conducting the All-Souls Day Remembrance Mass. She also organizes monthly lunches at the Twin Cities Pavilion, visits the sick, and bakes for the CCW Oktoberfest fundraiser. The McDonald's still find time to be involved grandparents too! For these and a host of other services provided to our church and community, we are pleased to announce Sir Knight Ralph and Beth McDonald as our November 2024 Family of the Month



November Knight of the Month

Louis Carter



This knight is always willing to lend a helping hand. This includes everything from tree removal and trimming on the parish grounds, tree trimming at an elderly Brother Knight's home, helping to move household goods for a disabled brother Knight, helping to pour concrete and finish the sidewalk from the parish hall to the St Joseph Pavilion to pressure washing the walkways of a Brother Knight in need. He not only helps with physical projects, but also with other council activities such as the pancake breakfasts and setting up and tearing down tents at our fund-raisers. He is a valued member of the bingo team and works extra shifts when necessary. He's an usher for the parish and often fills in when there are vacancies at Masses other than his regular Mass. In the past he volunteered to help with repairs at Twin City Pavilion and participated in Habitat for Humanity

projects. During tax season, he is a volunteer tax preparer helping elderly people complete their taxes correctly and on time. Additionally, he volunteers on Wednesdays at the Angel's Attic, and he volunteers at the Sharing & Caring and Niceville Catholic Outreach food pantries. And in his free time, he volunteers at an outpatient surgery center. For being such a great volunteer and unselfishly giving his time in service to others, we are pleased to recognize Brother Louis Carter as our November 2024 Knight of the Month.

Council Supports Scouting Religious Award

The council and parish recently recognized seven Scouts who recently completed the Pope Pius XII Scouting Religious Award. The purpose of the program is to help Scouts explore vocations and ministries in the Church as calls from God. It includes youth-led discussions on current issues facing the Church and society, which was included as part of a Pope Pius XII day of recollection. It also includes several interviews, a service project, and an investigation of a controversial issue facing the Church or society, as well as completion of a Board of Review.

This program, offered by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting, is designed for young people, 15 or 16-years-old, but all registered Venturers and Sea Scouts up to their 21st birthday and all registered BSA Scouts in high school before their 18th birthday, may participate. Council 13527 donated funds which paid for Facilitators Guides, Participants Manuals, certificates, and medals and several Knights served as facilitators.



Council Works Habitat for Humanity in Crestview



Council Knights worked on two houses in Crestview recently. Projects included removing concrete forms, installing shelves, building outdoor staircases, electrical wiring, interior door installation, and trim work around doors and walls. Participating were Dave Carter, Jared Carter, Dave Doherty, Joe Gettis, Luke Gianelloni, Joe Purka, Rick Spitznagel, Steve Wolfrom and Jim Yurack.

