
KNIGHT *Watch*

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

COUNCIL #6386

ST. ROSE OF LIMA, SHORT HILLS

July - August 2000, Volume 26, No.5

September 6, 8:00 PM MASS and OFFICERS' INSTALLATION followed by Refreshments in Ryan Hall

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

On July 4, Independence Day, Americans celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the beginning of the struggle for freedom from England.

One only has to read the Declaration of Independence to realize that it drew its inspiration from the Scriptures. The framers and signers of the Declaration were believers. The message of equality and human dignity in political terms was a response to their faith in the Good News received in Christ Jesus.

As Catholics and Americans we pray for our nation. We pray that we may always be true to the ideals exposed in the Declaration. Unfortunately, our nation has not always been true to its lofty calling. Some of those who proclaimed that "all men are created equal" saw no contradiction in owning slaves.

America, like faith itself, is a work in progress. We can always improve; we can always build on the past to bring about a better tomorrow. When so much is written today about the separation of Church and State it is clear that the signers of the Declaration of Independence were influenced by their religious values in framing a new vision for a political and governmental system.

Our Scriptures speak of Jesus' compassion for those in need and

those suffering. In particular Jesus showed his concern for a young girl and a sick woman. I was struck by a parallel that occurred recently in the parish.

A number of years ago a young woman found herself in a crisis situation. She was at her wits end and saw no hope for the future. She turned to her local parish priest and got the help she needed. He helped her find a place to live and, more importantly, helped her turn her entire life around. The young woman's name is Elisabeth Natalie Walkley. You may recognize her name as we pray for her because of her current health problems.

A donor presented a gift of \$10,000 to the parish to establish the "Elisabeth Natalie Walkley Fund." The money from the fund will be used to assist women in our parish who might find themselves in difficult straits. The donor knew how important the Church had been to Elisabeth in her difficult time and wanted to be sure that our parish could respond positively in similar circumstance.

Jesus constantly proclaimed compassion and mercy to those in need. He was always willing to help those who came to him. He challenges us to do the same. The example of Elisabeth and our parishioner model the teaching of Jesus. I am most grateful for all the generosity of our parishioners

that allow St. Rose of Lima parish to respond in so many ways to those who are in need.

JUBILEE GIFT DECISION

At the May business meeting, a floor proposal was approved to have the Grand Knight appoint a committee to determine if the Council has the wherewithal to make a charitable Jubilee Gift of significance, and if so to make recommendations for a Council vote on June 6th as to how much and to whom should such a gift be made.

The Committee concluded that a gift of \$25,000 to three organizations should be recommended to the Council membership. The committee also called for replenishing gifted funds via a gala fund raising event. The committee mailed background and meeting notification to each dues paying member of the Council. In that notification was a proxy which the member was urged to complete and return if they were unable to attend the June 6 business meeting.

At the meeting itself, those who had not yet voted were asked to complete the same ballot mailed to the entire membership. After the voting was closed, a question of procedure was raised and since the Advocate was unable to be at the meeting, the votes were sealed by the Warden.

The procedural question was about whether the proxy ballot procedure and the vote itself as conducted was carried out in accordance with the by-laws of the Council.

Subsequently, it was determined that the vote was not taken in accordance with Sec. 122 (b) of the by-laws. That section requires any vote on the transfer or distribution of Council funds in excess of \$200 to be a 2/3 majority of those present and voting at a regular business meeting, and requires that the purpose of the vote be promulgated at a regular business meeting prior to the vote.

The Jubilee Gift Committee Chairman was instructed to reconvene his committee, reevaluate its recommendations and report back to the Council at a future business meeting.

The Warden has since been instructed to destroy the ballots of the invalid votes cast.

FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT

It was a privilege and an honor to serve as your Grand Knight these past two years. You are a great bunch of guys. As Grand Knight, it was both challenging and rewarding. Thanks for your support.

At my first indoctrination at the Somerset Marriott Hotel, we were told that it is lonely at the top. The indoctrinators said that you can get help from many sources, and I did get wonderful help from the State Secretary, Jack Murphy, who is retiring this year after 13 years in office. But, let me tell you something... those people at the Marriott did not know how great and how supportive the Knights are at St. Rose. God Bless you all! I could not have carried on the tradition of the Past Grand Knights who worked so hard to keep this

council together without your individual help.

Now it's time to get behind our new Grand Knight in the same way. This PGK proudly passes on the baton to a truly deserving and dedicated new Worthy Grand Knight, Frank Alexander. Hip, hip, hooray! Long live the Knights of St. Rose Council #6386.

I wish you brother Knights and your families a happy and healthy summer.

God bless all,

Bill Tortoriello, PGK

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

The June 6th Business meeting elected the nominating committee's choice of officers who are:

- Grand Knight Frank Alexander
- Deputy GK Carmine Bagnato
- Chancellor John Dalton
- Warden Gary Venturi
- Recorder Bob Keating, Sr.
- Treasurer Vinnie Ricci
- Inside Guard Pete Pisciotta
- Outside Guards Mike Feoli, Chas. Dwyer
- Chaplain Msgr. G. Trabold
- Lecturers Tom Pizzano, Sr., Dr. John De Voy
- Advocate Ray Torres, Esq.
- Fin'l Sec'y Chas. Gosling

The following men have agreed to serve as Chairs and Directors:

- Program Dir. Chas. Pisciotta
- Membership Dir. Jon Hetherington
- Youth Comm. Anthony Moschetta, Vince Nascone
- Respect Life Phil Farrelly
- Spirituality Vern Bremberg

FROM THE Grand Knight-elect

I am both delighted and humbled to be your new Grand Knight: I'm happy for the opportunity to serve God in this capacity and humbled that you would chose me to be your leader for the next year.

Some people have looked at our Council and have seen older

men, tired from their efforts of charity, unity and fraternity for more than twenty five years. Some have seen only the outward signs of our friendships such as Tuesday night card games and the modest beer tipping.

But many more have seen the true heart of the men of this Council: they see it in the milk and juice bought each month for the cloistered nuns in Morristown; the seminarians' scholarships given each year and the community scholars funded; the soup kitchen supported; the First Friday Eucharistic Adorations, and the Parish Catholic Library at the RESOURCE CENTER. And because of this, our numbers are growing. Last year we took in eight new Knights, and at this writing we have five more awaiting a First Degree ceremony.

Who wouldn't be proud to be a part of the leadership of this Council? And as our planning for the 2000-2001 Fraternal year unfolds, we see many more opportunities to serve God and our brothers and sisters in the Parish and community in the coming year. Won't you help us?

In the near future, one of your brother Knights will be calling to ask for up-to-date information on how we can reach you and what interests you have in participating in Knightly activities. We hope to publish edition 2 of the Membership and Call Directory in September.

Wednesday, September 6th, Chaplain Msgr. Trabold will celebrate mass at 8:00 PM and District Deputy Luciano will install the new Officers. Refreshments will follow.

Tuesday, September 12th at 8:00 PM will be our first regular Business meeting for the new Fraternal year. Please come!

Frank Alexander