



SHINING ARMOR GAZETTE

Serve the Priest, Serve the Parish, and Build a Better Culture

Volume 2, Issue 3

Editor: GK Swinton W. Hudson, III

September 2010



UPCOMING EVENTS:

September

- 2 Football Concessions
- 10 Altar Server Appreciation Night
- 11 Football Concessions
- 16 Business Meeting
- 18 Football Concessions
- 30 Knights Night Social

Inside this issue:

Pro-Life Activities	2
Membership	2
Calendar	3
Saint of the Month	4
Fathers for Good	5
Birthdays	6
Insurance	8
Congratulations!	8

GRAND KNIGHT'S BRIEF

At our August Business Meeting we voted to move our September Business Meeting to the Third Thursday in September (Sept. 16th) in place of the Social Meeting. Please be sure to note this on your calendars!

We welcome home Brother Nick Gentile (LTC) who just completed a rotation to the Iraq Theater with his unit, the 169th Fighter Wing "Swamp Foxes." Let us give thanks for his safe return, and for that of all our men and women in uniform who are coming home. We owe them so much!

I got word in early August, just after our Business Meeting, that our Council has been awarded Star Council for 2009-2010. Congratulations to PGK Jim Corbett and all of the members that worked so hard to complete our membership, insurance, and service program goals for the year. Great job!

September begins the meat and potatoes of our program schedule for the fraternal year. Our Program Director Dan Wagner and his Service Directors have put together a superb itinerary of service programs. There is truly

something for everyone! Take the opportunity to put your Catholic Faith In Action, and get involved.

Keep in mind that we will be holding our semi-annual membership blitz the second Sunday of October (10/10) during the Community Sunday activities after each Mass. Come share in fellowship and recruit new members.

There is some interest from several female family members of Knights and ladies of the Parish to form a Ladies Auxiliary in support of our Council. I will host an interest and information session to coincide with our October Social to gauge the level of interest. Let your wives know!

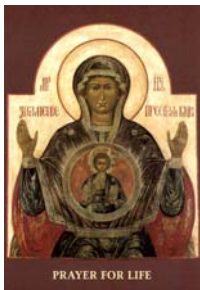
Lastly, if you haven't already heard, our web site (kofc12554.org) is up and running! Use this great resource to keep informed about Council activities, find contact information, and to read this newsletter. It's also a great recruiting tool! You can also now find us on Facebook. "Like" us today!

Vivat Jesus!

S. W. Hudson, III

Grand Knight

Pro-Life



The monthly Rosary at the Shrine of the Unborn is held at 9:30 AM on the 1st Sunday of each month. The September 5th Rosary will be led by the St. Gianna Guild, and the October 3rd Rosary will be led by Knights from this Council.

There is a Rosary Vigil every Saturday morning at 10AM outside the Planned Parenthood parking lot. The Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be there on Saturday, October 2.

Birthright New Volunteer Training, 4 consecutive Tuesdays at 6:00 PM starting on Sept. 21st. For more information, e-mail birthrightofcolu@bellsouth.net.

40 Days for Life (Sept. 22 to Oct. 31): People can start signing up for Vigil slots anytime by visiting www.40daysforlife.com/columbia and clicking on the "vigil schedule" link.

Rosaries for Life (Sept. 22 to Oct. 31): People can take part in this on their own, any time and place, as part of the prayer and fasting aspect of the 40 Days for Life.

Diocesan Respect Life Workshop, Saturday, September 25, 10 AM - 3 PM at St. John Neumann School. The Bishop will be present.

Life Chain, Intersection of Forest Dr and Beltline Blvd, Sunday, October 3, 2:30 to 3:30 PM. See www.sclife.org/midlands for more details.

Membership

A first degree has been scheduled for October 7th! However, we still need candidates. Seek out practicing Catholic Gentlemen, and ask them! They may tell you they don't have time, that they are too busy, or that they can't give their all. But we're not asking them to join the US Army, just the largest Catholic Fraternal Benefit Society in the world. The amount of time they choose to give is up to them! Let them know about our insurance too.

Always have a Form 100 and a Member Prospect Card on hand. Have your prospect fill it out on the spot. Don't let them take it home, or you'll never see it again. Turn in completed forms and cards to our Membership Director Fred Parsons, 467-4755.

Ceremonials

First Degrees for 2010-2011 have been scheduled. Seek out qualified prospects to fill these dates:

- October 7th
- November 4th
- February 3rd
- April 7th
- May 5th

A 2nd Degree will be held at St. Joseph on September 12th at 2:30PM. We need help with refreshments and clean-up afterward! The next closest 3rd Degree will be held in Rock Hill on October 2nd at 12:30PM. Contact FS Lester Johnson, 803-755-2736, to register for these at no cost to you.

Programming Note

The Council will again be working a concession stand at every USC home football game. Seven volunteers are needed per game! Contact **Rick Coker** (466-5020) to help in this council fundraiser.

Our annual Altar Server Appreciation Night will be held on September 10th at Royal Z Lanes, 8512 Two Notch Road, beginning at 6:30pm. We need as many Knights and family members to help as we can get!

Our first pancake breakfast of the season will be held in the Parish Hall/Gym on October 3rd from 9AM-12:30PM to benefit our seminarian, Deacon David Nerbun. Please come out and support the future of our Church!

The Catholic Booth at the SC State Fair will be October 13 to 24. There will be planning meetings for those interested in helping at Our Lady of the Hills, 120 Mary Dale Lane, in the Library

of the Parish Life Center on: Monday, September 20 at 7:00PM; and Thursday, October 7 at 7:00PM.

Volunteers, supporters, and those interested in this work of evangelization and ecumenism are encouraged to attend. If you cannot attend, but are interested in volunteering or supporting the Catholic Christian Booth please call Sharon Crocker 309-2480, or email: scrocker4@windstream.net.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

- 2 FOOTBALL CONCESSION STAND FUNDRAISER
- 5 MONTHLY ROSARY AT SHRINE OF THE UNBORN
- 6 LABOR DAY
- 10 ALTAR SERVER APPRECIATION NIGHT, ROYAL Z LANES, 6:30 PM
- 11 FOOTBALL CONCESSION STAND FUNDRAISER
- 16 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING, 7:30 PM; DINNER, 6:30 PM (*NOTE THAT THIS IS THE 3RD THURSDAY*)
- 18 FOOTBALL CONCESSION STAND FUNDRAISER
- 30 5TH THURSDAY "KNIGHTS' NIGHT" SOCIAL

OCTOBER

- 3 MONTHLY ROSARY AT SHRINE OF THE UNBORN
- 3 PANCAKE BREAKFAST TO BENEFIT SEMINARIANS
- 7 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING AND 1ST DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION, 7:30 PM; DINNER, 6:30 PM
- 9 FOOTBALL CONCESSION STAND FUNDRAISER
- 10 COMMUNITY SUNDAY MEMBERSHIP BLITZ
- 11 COLUMBUS DAY

13-24 CATHOLIC BOOTH AT SC STATE FAIR

- 17 YOUTH SOCCER SHOOTOUT, 2PM, ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL SOCCER FIELD
- 21 SOCIAL MEETING, 7 PM, PARISH HOUSE, COVERED DISH; EXEC. COMMITTEE MEETING, 6:30 PM
- 29 SUBSTANCE ABUSE POSTER CONTEST AWARDS, ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, FOLLOWING 8:15AM MASS
- 30 FOOTBALL CONCESSION STAND FUNDRAISER

NOVEMBER

- 2 ALL SOULS DAY REMEMBRANCE MASS AND RECEPTION, 6PM
- 4 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING AND 1ST DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION, 7:30 PM; DINNER, 6:30 PM
- 6 FOOTBALL CONCESSION STAND FUNDRAISER
- 7 MONTHLY ROSARY AT SHRINE OF THE UNBORN
- 11 VETERANS' DAY
- 18 SOCIAL MEETING, 7 PM, PARISH HOUSE, COVERED DISH; EXEC. COMMITTEE MEETING, 6:30 PM
- 20 FOOTBALL CONCESSION STAND FUNDRAISER
- 21 OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING
- 25 THANKSGIVING

Saint of the Month by Deacon Charles P. Poole, Jr.

St. Jerome (345-420)



Priest

Doctor of the Church

Name: Eusebius Hieronymus Sophronius /
Jerónimo / Girolimo /
Jérôme

Feast September 30

Doctor of Western Church together with Saints Ambrose, Augustine and Gregory the Great.

Eastern Church: Saints Basil, John Chrysostom and Gregory Nazianzen.

Patron of scripture scholars.

Quotation: “Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.”

Jerome was born in Stridon Italy to a Christian family, and he died in Bethlehem. He was educated in Rome. He spoke Illyrian as a youth, and soon became fluent in Latin and Greek. He read all the classics in these languages.

When Christ appeared to him and asked “Who are you?” he replied “A Christian,” and he became very upset when Christ retorted “Liar! You are a Ciceronian, not a Christian.” He reacted by becoming a hermit living in the deserts of Syria doing penance for 4 or 5 years. A monk who was a converted Jew began teaching him Hebrew. When he journeyed to Antioch the bishop ordained him a priest, but it is not known whether or not he ever celebrated saying Mass. He served as secretary to Pope Damasus and

was popular among the nobility. Due to his difficult personality and penchant for sarcasm he made some enemies. He befriended some rich noble Christian women, mainly widows, including St. Paula and her daughter St. Eustochium, who were living a quasi-monastic life. When Pope Damasus died in 384 he became unpopular in Rome, admired for his learning but despised for his biting sarcasm. Soon he went to Antioch and then settled in Bethlehem where he founded and ran a monastery. Paula and Eustacium came and founded a convent there.

Jerome spent the rest of his life writing bible commentaries and translating the Hebrew Old Testament and the Greek New Testament into Latin, a translation that later became known as the Latin Vulgate, the authoritative biblical text of the Church. There were earlier inferior Latin bibles that were replaced by the Vulgate. In making his translations, he relied on earlier biblical scholarship of Origen, but then he got involved in a bitter controversy with his earlier friend Rufinus over the orthodoxy of some of Origen’s writings. St. Augustine became involved in the controversy.

Jerome, Augustine and many in the Church were shocked and disillusioned by the sack of Rome in 401 AD by Alaric, the king of the Visigoths. Many of Jerome’s and Augustine’s friends in Rome perished. The Church, of course, survived.

Deacon Poole will present a different Saint as part of our Good of the Order at the September 16th Regular Business Meeting.

Fathers For Good An initiative for men by the Knights of Columbus

Father McGivney: Saint for Our Time by Father Roger J. Landry

Though many of us may know some very holy priests, no native born American priest has ever been formally declared a saint. Moreover, in the history of the Church, no matter what the country, it's very rare for a parish priest to be canonized – unless he went on to become a saintly bishop or founded a new religious order. All that may soon change.

In March, Pope Benedict XVI approved a decree recognizing the heroic virtue of Father Michael McGivney, a parish priest of the Archdiocese of Hartford who died in 1890 at the age of 38.

The decree of heroic virtue is the first of the three major steps on the road to canonization. It is given after an in-depth study of the life and writings of a particular candidate meant to determine whether he or she lived the Christian life heroically. After ten years of study by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, Pope Benedict declared that Father McGivney had.

The last two major steps on the road to canonization require God's direct intervention through working miracles – which only God can do – for those praying to him through Father McGivney's intercession. One medically-certified miracle, from the time after his death until the present, is needed for his beatification. Another miracle, dating from after the time he is declared blessed, is required for canonization. The Archdiocese of Hartford has already submitted to the Vatican a heavily-substantiated file regarding one such miracle, which, if accepted by Pope Benedict, will lead, hopefully soon, to Father McGivney's being beatified.

A Simple Parish Priest Who Did His Job

What I've always loved most about Father McGivney is that he was an "ordinary" parish priest for 13 years who, without fanfare, devoted all his energies to the spiritual and material care of those entrusted to him by God. As far as we know, he had no great miracles associated with his prayer. He wasn't a flashy preacher. He was not known for any particular theological brilliance. He simply "did his job" with great love for God and others, regularly opting for the toughest assignments, like visiting death-row inmates.

In fulfilling his duties with humble fidelity, however, he ended up affecting the lives not only of his parishioners, but of men and women of all walks of life right down to our day.

After his priestly ordination on Christmas Day, 1877, he became the parochial vicar of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, in the shadow of Yale College. It was a difficult assignment, because Irish Catholics in that section of New Haven were about as welcome as termites. Sometimes we can think that the mainstream media today is biased towards the Church, but what we suffer is nothing like what Father McGivney's generation endured. During his second year there, the *New York Times* ran a front-page article entitled, "How An Aristocratic Avenue Was Blemished By A Roman Church Edifice."

(Continued on page 7)

4th Degree

BISHOP ENGLAND ASSEMBLY 1072



Bishop England Assembly 1072 meets at 7:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in the old house next to Good Shepherd.

The next Exemplification of the 4th Degree will be held in Columbia at the Radisson Hotel on Bush River Road, February 25th and 26th. Friday night will consist of hospitality rooms hosted by each participating Assembly, and is open to everyone. Saturday will begin with Mass, followed by lunch and a separate ladies luncheon, the Exemplification, and end with a Black Tie dinner and dancing.

To join the 4th Degree you must be a 3rd Degree Member in good standing, and a member of the Knights of Columbus for at least six months. Contact any 4th Degree member for a Form 4.

September Birthdays

- 2nd Mathew Fecteau
- 4th Byron Weston
- 10th Austin Hughes
- 11th Laddie Gatling
- 15th Tom Glynn
- 16th Kemp Peel
- 22nd Michael Faucett
- 24th Brian Casey
- 24th Robert Degenhart
- 28th Byron Williams
- 29th Danilo Cabanayan
- 30th David Campbell

We wish all of our Brother Knights a happy and blessed birthday!

Brother to Brother

Brother Gerard Gener (447-3687) is recovering after complications from hip surgery.

Brother Laddie Gatling (261-6883) continues to battle with MS.

Brother Terry McWaters (212-4292) is still unemployed and actively looking for work in the customer service and banking fields. Terry has a Masters degree in Accounting and has taught at Midlands Tech. You can email Terry with job leads at tmmcwaters@yahoo.com.

Keep Gerard, Laddie, Terry, and all of our Brother Knights in your prayers, and give them a call once in a while. It is uplifting for them to know that you care!

Please also keep Brother Donnie Cooper's daughter, Maria Cooper, in mind as she continues to seek employment. In addition to her having a Master's degree in Teaching, Maria also has a B.A. in English. She is proficient with medical terminology, an excellent proofreader, extremely computer literate, and very detail-oriented. She has worked before in an office environment and is presently a part-time private tutor for elementary school-aged children. Job leads or résumé requests can be sent to Maria through Donnie at Bravesdad1945@yahoo.com.

Remember, Charity begins at home! If you know of a Brother Knight that is sick or in distress, contact PGK Jim Corbett or PGK Sam Kopack.



(Continued from page 5)

He Protected the Family

Early in his time in New Haven, a tragedy happened to one of the families at St. Mary's that provided an occasion not only for Father McGivney to show his priestly character, but to establish in God's providence one of the greatest lay foundations in the history of the Church.

One of his parishioners, Edward Downes, died of "brain fever." For years, he had struggled to keep his newsstand viable, while cheerfully concealing all financial difficulties from his growing family. Upon his death, his wife Catherine discovered that there was no money at all to support her four sons. The Probate Court could assign the children to public institutions lest they be neglected for want of money. Catherine Downes had to demonstrate that her fatherless children had someone to support their education or apprenticeship and prevent them from becoming vagrants.

The oldest son was able to get a job and Catherine's relatives were able to scrape together \$2,500 for each of the two youngest sons. But no guardian was able to be found willing to pay a \$1,500 surety and become Alfred's guardian. During the probate court hearing to determine his fate, the judge asked if anyone would be willing to become his guardian. Father McGivney stepped forward. Even though he didn't have the money for the bond, the judge accepted an arrangement with a local grocer who trusted the priest enough to insure the guardianship.

Father McGivney saved Alfred Downes from going to a public institution that day, but the 31-year old priest's eyes were opened to the danger to which families were exposed should their breadwinner be injured or die. He began to pour his pastoral heart and energy into trying to find a solution.

The Knights of Columbus

He met with the young husbands and fathers of St. Mary's and began to discuss founding a fraternal benefit society that could strengthen them in their Catholic faith and provide security for their families. He also wanted to do something to counteract the draw of certain anti-Catholic secret societies that were luring men precisely because they provided life insurance.

After studying what other fraternal benefit societies did, Father McGivney and 24 lay parishioners founded the Knights of Columbus in the basement of St. Mary's. From that humble beginning, the Knights have grown over the past 126 years into the largest society of Catholic men in the world, with 1.75 million members in 13 countries. They continue to provide spiritual support and top-rated affordable life insurance policies to its members and families. But that's not all. Annually Knights raise and donate more than \$144 million to the Church's worthy causes and dedicate over 68 million volunteer hours.

Six years after Father McGivney was made pastor of St. Thomas Church in Thomaston, he contracted pneumonia and died. His funeral Mass was one of the largest the state of Connecticut had ever seen. God-willing, his beatification Mass in New Haven will be much larger still.

This article originally appeared in *The Anchor* (March 28, 2008), the publication of the Diocese of Fall River, MA.

Insurance



Take control of your retirement – establish a retirement plan of your own. Here at the Knights of Columbus, you can open a retirement annuity for as little as \$300! Consistent and disciplined savings placed into that annuity over time can guarantee you at retirement an income that you cannot outlive. That's right - guarantee you an income you cannot outlive. That guarantee - and the fact that no one has ever lost

money in a Knights of Columbus annuity - really will provide you with peace of mind.

As you ponder all the things that may not work out as you proceed toward retirement, think about one thing you can do to help yourself - a Knights of Columbus annuity. It's reasonably priced (\$300 to start), guaranteed, and controlled by someone you trust - you!

What works better for you? Through our Single Premium

Annuity, you make one payment and select the age you begin receiving benefits. Through our Flexible Premium Annuity, you make periodic payments of as much as you want, for as long as you want.

Your principal is safe, and if you lock in now you're guaranteed never to earn less than 3.0% on your money. Current rates are available by contacting your Field Agent Peter Zeeff, 731-5107.

Congratulations!

Our Knight of the Month for July was Sam Kopack, PGK. Sam planned and organized our Council Installation of Officers and Recognition Banquet, with little to no help. He is the standard bearer for what it means to be a Knight.

The Family of the Month for July was that of Brother Damian Masse. Damian's family is instrumental in his participation in Knights and Church activities. They are always there in support of him, and are truly representative of a charitable Christian family. They are most deserving!

A Youth of the Month will be announced in October for the month of September coinciding with the start of school. If you know of a youth (age 11-17) in our Parish that deserves recognition, contact Branden Conrad.

The *Shining Armor Gazette* is a monthly publication of the Knights of Columbus St. Joseph Council 12554. Distribution is via email generally on the Friday immediately following the 1st Thursday of the month.

The Council currently meets in the Parish House at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Columbia on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month, unless otherwise published. Regular Business Meetings, closed but to the membership, are held at 7:30pm on the 1st Thursday, preceded by dinner at 6:30pm. Social Meetings, open to all, are held at 7pm on the 3rd Thursday, and consist of a potluck dinner and program, which is preceded by an Officer/Director Meeting at 6:30pm, if applicable.

We are now on the Web! Check out our Council web site at www.kofc12554.org, and our Facebook page.