

# **Grand Knight's Letter**

Worthy Brother Knights;

Since the fourth century AD, when Roman Emperor Constantine adopted Christianity, church attendance in Western Civilization was at its greatest during Christmas and Easter becoming a very relevant force in the world.

Prior to Constantine, Christianity was illegal. Ironically during this period of intense persecution the number of Christians grew at a phenomenal rate, with an underground network of small home-based churches (like in China).

Today, Christianity's lifetransforming power has been stifled in many corners of the world and the last several decades have seen a decrease in church attendance.

The name CHRISTmas forces most people to consider at some level: Who was Christ and why should his living two-thousand years ago make any difference to us today in our hectic modern life?

As Americans, does the Christmas story have anything to do with: our freedom to think and express ideas; our freedom of religion; the equality of people; or even ideas like the size and reach of government?

Clearly, individual rights and freedoms that have defined America and fall directly from a worldview sees humanity as unique, special and worthy of protection. Christianity moreover, teaches that people are created in the image of God.

Cultures that embraced the Biblical value of humanity, have delivered the greatest level of individual liberty over time. While not all of the American founders embraced orthodox Christianity, they did embrace a Biblically-based view of human nature and that every person is created equal "with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

In recent decades, some have been pushing America away from its moral foundation, resulting in increased chaos. Chaos has been answered by increasing the size and reach of government, leading to a decrease in personal liberty.

Humanity desires to express its creativity. True faith, hope and charity cannot be forced upon someone. Vast power invites corruption, whether in business, politics or government. Left unbounded by inner moral guides or external militant guides, 7.5 billion people worldwide would have 7.5 billion moral codes rarely in alignment and leading to selfdestruction.

Incredible transformation and healing does result when people bond with their Creator.

# **Knights of Columbus** Chisholm Trail Council 9368, Round Rock, TX St. William Catholic Church **December 2016 Monthly Newsletter**

Ideas have consequences. Ideas that ring true with life experience yield better results for us individually and for cultures. This Christmas, to change the world in small ways (i.e. through our families, our neighborhoods, our church or at work) consider seeing Christ revealed during Adoration, through the Eucharist at mass or the person in front of us or in the readings of the Bible about his life and message – which all ring true. Yes, Christmas is still relevant in the 21st century.

God Bless, Frank Alvarez, Grand Knight Knights of Columbus #9368 St. William Catholic Church

## **Continuing Family Bonds**

On November 13, the KCs held our second Family Fun Event. The event attendance drew: 30 people. KC Council 9368 invites you and your family to a Family Fun Day on Sunday, November 13, 1:00 pm at the Parish Softball Field.

There was a potluck lunch, followed by a short talk on Family Prayer Life and Prayer Time, based on Pope John Paul II teachings. Afterwards, there's a big kickball game between the adults and the kids. The next Family Fun Day event will be either February/March or March/April. For more information on how you and your family can participate, contact Allen Hebert at <u>512-657-5449</u> or allen@yourholyfamily.com.

### **Youth Free Throw Contest**

The Knights of Columbus, #9368 is hosting the Free Throw Championship on Jan. 21, at St. Dominic Savio, from 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm. It is open to boys and girls, ages 9-14. Contestants will get 15 Free Throws and winners will advance to district, regional and state tournaments. To register, please download the form from the Knights of Columbus website at www.kofc9368.org. Note: A copy of the child's birth certificate must be presented on the day of the competition. For more information call J.J. Lively at 512-925-3448; jjlively13@yahoo.com or contact Gabe Lujan at 512-925-4677; joseph.gabo@gmail.com.

#### Calendar

December 3 Breakfast with St. Nick St. William Catholic Church, Pavilion 8:00 am-12:00 pm Contact: F. Alvarez - 512-964-2637

December 7 KC Council Meeting St. William Catholic Church, Pavilion 7:00 pm-9:00 pm Contact: F. Alvarez - 512-964-2637

December 8 BrandMuscle Casino Party Location: TBA Time: TBA Contact: Mike Goertz - 512-923-5734

December 9 **KC Christmas Party** 4391 Green Tree Drive 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

Contact: F. Alvarez - 512-964-2637

Dec 13 IBM Development Group Christmas Casino Party Location: IBM, 11501 Burnet Rd.

6:30 pm - 9:00 pmContact: Mike Goertz - 512-923-5734

December 14 lst Degree Exemplification St. William Catholic Church, Pavilion 7:00 pm-9:00 pm Contact: Greg Castro - 512-217-4717

Dec. 17 Casino Party Location: TBA Time: TBA

Contact: Mike Goertz - 512-923-5734

January 4 **KC** Council Meeting St. William Catholic Church, Pavilion 7:00 pm-9:00 pm Contact: F. Alvarez - 512-964-2637

January 11 lst Degree Exemplification St. William Catholic Church, Pavilion 7:00 pm-9:00 pm Contact: Greg Castro - 512-217-4717

January 18 KC 9368 Officers Meeting Exfluor, 2350 Double Creek Drive 7:30 pm-9:00 pm

Contact: F. Alvarez - 512-964-2637

January 21 KC Free Throw Contest St. Dominic Savio High School 1:00 pm-4:00 pm Contact: J.J. Lively - 512-925-3448

January 21 Round Rock LaCrosse Casino Party Location: TBA Time: TBA Contact: Mike Goertz - 512-923-5734

January 28 March for Life Rally Downtown Austin, State Capitol 12:00 pm - 3:00 pmContact: Rob Prybyla - 512-809-1471

## **Prayer Requests**

Pray for peace and comfort for:

LaVerne Rinken, wife of the late Brother Knight Bill Rinken. She spent a couple of days in the Round Rock Hospital, but is now back home.

SK Moe Esker had been moved to Trinity Home Care in Round Rock, for Physical Therapy. It's suspected that Moe has had a slight stroke. Pray for his immediate recovery.

Carol Woisin who's had numerous return visits to the hospital since her September surgery. Please join in

prayer for Carol that she will have rapid healing and increased strength.

Tom Bierschenk was involved in an accident at his plant that resulted in chemical spilling on his face. He is back to work with issues to be resolved. Please pray for a full recovery, healing and pain reduction.

Ron Davis' 21-year old son-in-law's nephew, Tyler, has just been diagnosed with cancer. All prayers for him and the family are appreciated.

George Price is in the hospital with heart failure. Pray for successful treatment and recovery and for strength for him and his wife, Joan.

Leland Unruh's mother, Martha has contracted bronchitis, and is in constant pain from all the coughing. Please continue praying for her overall health as she fights brain cancer.

#### **Scheduled EIM Classes**

Pastoral Center, Austin St. Margaret Mary Parish, Cedar Park 12/14/2016 12:30 pm-2:30 pm

St. Louis Parish, Austin 11/12/2016 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

### Les Maciej Project Status

The family of Les Maciej asked that all people wishing to commemorate Les make a donation to the Knights of Columbus in lieu of flowers. To date, we have received \$3,597. The Knights have preliminarily begun planning to dedicate these funds to construct a very nice encasement in the pavilion near the front doors to some of the Knights' awards and history. Fellow brother, Igor Espejo who is a contractor is developing a couple different options at the request of the officers.

#### **Church Requests**

Christmas Concert Rehearsal Reception Parish Hall Dec. 16, 9:30 pm – 11:30 pm Volunteers: Need 4 Knights as bartenders. Contact: Frank Alvarez, 512-964-2637; ecsburges@gmail.com

Confession Marathon (20 priests) Parish Hall (serve food at noon) 12:00 pm - 7:00 pmVolunteers: Need Knights to prep &

Contact: Frank Alvarez, 512-964-2637; ecsburges@gmail.com

Christmas Eve Parking Dec. 24, 3:00 pm – 7:30 pm Volunteers: Need Knights to help with at minimum 2 hour shifts (3pm-5pm or 5pm-7:30pm) Meet in Narthex to pick up safety equipment Contact: Frank Alvarez, 512-964-2637; ecsburges@gmail.com

#### **Knights' Birthdays**

Burkhardt, Michael -12/01 Rodriguez, Christopher - 12/01 Higgs, David -12/02 Mandeville, Thomas - 12/04 Unruh III, Leland -12/04 Antonini, Kurt -12/05 McKenzie, Anthony - 12/06 Risinger, Ronnie -12/06 Waters, Russell -12/06 Castillo, Cencepcion - 12/08 Diaz, Lawrence -12/08 Torres, David -12/08 Hill, Chetwood -12/09 Harris, Michael -12/10 Ritter, James -12/10 Gargano, Frank -12/11 Gonzalez, Jerry -12/11 Madrigal, Harvey -12/13 Calderon, Irving -12/14 Price, George -12/14 Phipps, Kevin -12/15 Kreitzer, Neil -12/16 Smith, Roy -12/16 Moseman, Robert -12/18 Larmeu III, John -12/20 Nazareth. Martin -12/20 Bevins, Kenneth -12/22 Abbatista, Anthony -12/24 Griffin, Arthur -12/28 Hernandez, Andrew -12/30 Mole, Innocent -12/31

# Anniversary Dates of Knights Joining the KCs

Brauner, Mark -12/01 Schauberger, Wilfred - 12/04 Ainsworth, Spencer -12/09 Ferriola, Chris -12/09 Fierro, Jesse -12/09 Hartwick, Mathew -12/09 Madrigal, Harvey -12/09 Salinas, Zachary -12/09 Davis, Ron -12/13 Garza, Cesar -12/13 Glenn, Jeffrey -12/13 Leeper, Chad -12/13 Maduneme, Ogugua - 12/13 Moser, Robert -12/13 Adams, Mark -12/15 Kirking, Bryan -12/15 Rivera, Robert -12/19 Delaurier, Benjamin - 12/21

# **Knights Doing Bartending**

The KCs are frequently asked by the church and various ministries. To do bartending services, members need to be TABC certified.

Members can go to the TABC website to do online classes which are currently less than \$10, at <a href="mytabc.com">mytabc.com</a>. The council will reimburse members the full amount if they take the class. dramshopschool.com

The TABC certification is:

- Self- Paced no time limit.
- The TABC Exam is 25 multiple choice questions.
- TABC allows you to retake the exam once
- Print your 2 year TABC certificate.

Some alcohol training topics are:

- Laws concerning intoxicated persons and minors
- Identifying minors
- How to examine and spot fake IDs for intoxicated people

#### **Need to Know Now?**

Check out the Knights of Columbus website to find out more and current information about various activities of the Knights at: <a href="https://kofc9368.org/">https://kofc9368.org/</a>.

#### **Nov Family Fun Event Pics**













# KCs Cooking Turkeys for Annie's Way Pics















#### **Officers**

Frank Alvarez, Grand Knight 512-964-2637; ecsburges@gmail.com

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#### **Directors**

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