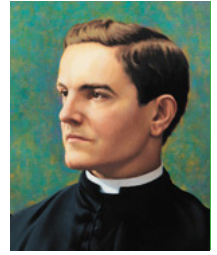




# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
1501 TROTTER RD, LARGO, FL 33770 COUNCIL 4892



Fr. McGivney

December 2018

## Guardian Angels are life's traveling companions, Pope Says

Christians have guardian angels to encourage and guide them so they won't become sluggish on their journey in life, Pope Francis recently said. Without the guidance of angels, men and women who become settled in their ways and put "their life on hold" are in danger of becoming like stagnant water.

"So many people are afraid of taking a risk and they remain still," the pope said. "But we know the rule is that a person who is stationary ends up stagnating like water. When water is still, the mosquitos come, they lay eggs and ruin everything. The angel helps us, he pushes us to walk."

Commemorating the day's feast



of the Guardian Angels, the pope quoted from the Book of Exodus in which God promises the people of Israel that he is "sending an angel before you, to guard you on the way and bring you to the place I have prepared." Guardian angels, the pope said, are the help "the Lord promises his people and us who walk along the path of life."

As companions and protectors, he continued, guardian angels are like "a human compass or a compass that resembles a human being and helps us see where we should go" to avoid dangers along the way.

Christians, he added, should heed

God's command to "be attentive and obey" their guardian angel and listen to "their inspirations, which are always from the Holy Spirit."

"I would like to ask you all a question: Do you speak to your angel?" the pope asked. "Do you know the name of your angel? Do you listen to your angel? Do you let yourself be taken by the hand along the path or pushed to move?" By obeying their guardian angels, he said, Christian men and women can avoid the dangers of taking the wrong path or, worse, leaving the path and going "from one place to another like in a labyrinth that ensnares."

He encouraged Christians to pray and speak to their guardian angel who "is not only with us but also sees God the father."

"The angel is the daily door toward transcendence, to the encounter with the Father," Pope Francis said. "The angel helps me walk along the path because he looks at the Father who knows the way. Let us not forget this traveling companion."



November 29 and 30  
December 1 and 2.



December 15. The band will be Two Dog Night. Mark your calendars. The tickets are on sale at \$25.00 each.



The Christmas parade will take place December 15..



Saturday Feb. 9. There will be two 4 oz. filets with twice-baked potatoes, a Caesar salad, and French bread. The cost will be \$25.00 per person.

## FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT



Pete Grasso DGK

Greetings, Brothers.

Here we sit on the verge of Thanksgiving, and we're already hearing Christmas music. I, for one, really enjoy the Christmas tunes and could listen all year, but not everyone appreciates it as much as I do. This past month has tested my culinary skills with two really fun events. First was the Trunk or Treat. Our Council sponsored this event by providing hot dogs, popcorn, juice, and water for the kids.

Several hundred members of local families attended this event. Our event DJ thanked the Knights several times during the evening, and we also received many thanks from the parents for our support. We participated in one of our most important functions and that is bringing families together in a safe environment. Thanks to all.

The second event which our council sponsored was a Men's

Retreat. This also was held at St. Jerome's Parish Center. The morning began with a Mass in the church with Fr. Tom. During this time, several of the Knights were fixing an outstanding southern breakfast of scrambled eggs, grits, biscuits and gravy, and bacon. During the breakfast, men from our parishes joined in good fellowship.

The program began with Fr. Tom sharing passages and scripture on the importance of being a good Catholic gentleman and how to center ourselves in our lives. The program lasted for approximately three hours. Once again, we received many thanks from the church leaders and the participants for providing a good atmosphere and good food. We were told that we should do this more often and many agreed. As another joy of the meeting the Knights picked up one member. God is good.

After the holidays we are really going to kick off our membership drive in our parishes. Two things I am going to ask of our brothers. One is to identify which parish they now belong to. This will provide a good snapshot of where the membership is centered. The second item which I am going to be asking for is for long-time members to share all of the good things the Knights have done throughout the years.

Have a Blessed and safe holiday season and focus on the true meaning of Advent.

## BOOSTERS

If you would like to be a part of our Booster club, your first donation (you, for example) would be \$5.00; each additional name (your wife, for example) would cost \$3.00. Also, this would be a wonderful way to remember loved ones by posting their names for all to see. Please fill out the form below to submit names.

Here are our names for the Booster list:

Bob Anderson, Vice Supreme Master PSD

Bob Lamelle

Edgar Lecuyer

Anne Lecuyer

Dave Dumont, PFN

Thelma Dumont

David Ruppel

Patty Ruppel

Henry J. Cajiao

Tom and Mary Walsh

Henri and Judy Bellavance

Bob Dasch PGK PFN and Stephanie Dasch

Richard LaLuzerne PSD PFN PGK and Joyce LaLuzerne

Dick McCarthy

Kelly McCarthy

Patricia Pomianowski

David St. Martin

In Memory of Earl D. Lochner, Henry Cajiao, Sue Anthony, Henri Bellavance Jr., David McConnell, Carol Anderson, Bob Dash Jr.

Al Pomianowski, Lloyd St. Martin

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND NAME \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_

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# REMEMBRANCE OF SACRIFICE



A color guard composed of each branch of the U.S. military presented the U.S. flag as well as the individual flags of the armed forces.

to an end in 1918. A Mass, co-sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS), USA, was held on Veterans Day at that same time to observe the conclusion of the "War to End All Wars."

Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, the K of C's supreme chaplain, was the main celebrant, and Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the AMS preached the homily.

"We have gathered not to assign blame, look at causes or rejoice in victory," said Archbishop Broglio in his homily. "We

Saint John Paul II National Shrine hosted an event co-sponsored by the Knights and the Archdiocese for the Military Services USA to mark 100th anniversary of end of WWI.

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, the carnage that characterized World War I came

gather to give thanks to those who sacrificed themselves. We also assemble to beg God for lasting peace. The soldiers we honor today risked their lives for a greater value: to end a senseless war."

Prior to the Mass, a special ceremony featured a color guard composed of each branch of the U.S. military presenting the U.S. flag as well as the individual flags of the armed forces. There was also a wreath-laying in memory of those who served in the conflict.

In addition, there were readings from noted Catholic poet Joyce Kilmer, a soldier of WWI and Knight of Columbus who was killed in the conflict, and excerpts presented from Pope Benedict XV's 1914 encyclical, *Ad Beatissimi Apostolorum* (Appealing for Peace).

At an event following the Mass, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson spoke of the Knights' work in the war, particularly that involving K of C recreation centers — known as "huts" — that were set up near training areas and the front lines to offer soldiers some comforts of home.

"From New York to Paris to the front lines, these centers, staffed by men known as 'Caseys,' supported those who bore the burden of war," Supreme Knight Anderson said. "Holding all of it together was this simple motto: 'Everybody welcome. Everything free.' In a world of hatred and bloodshed, those words expressed that the Knights of Columbus had a higher mission — a mission that continues today."



## SPOTLIGHT on Gene Sanders Inside Guard

"I felt like it was time to give back."

Gene Sanders was born in Ft. Dix, NJ. His dad was in the Air Force. His dad flew B-17s in WWII. His plane did go down once; he and his copilot were the only two to survive. "Over time he did lose both legs," Gene said. Upon graduating from high school, Gene thought he wanted to go to either West Point or the Air Force Academy which might have led to a mechanical engineering job. The appointment did not come through, though, so he went to Georgia Tech for a couple of years. Then he transferred to Florida State and graduated with a Human Resources and Business Management Degree. "One of the best and most fun I ever had was when I was college. I helped coaching high school track and football. That was a blast for me," he said. He had been on the track team while at Geor-



gia Tech.

His first job was with the Grand Union grocery chain out of NJ. "It was a disaster," he said. "I hated it." He was there for two years, and then they started closing all of their stores in Florida. So, he and his wife moved to Atlanta where he sold insurance for a while. That didn't work out well. "I remember pulling up to a house," he said, "and the

lights went out as soon as they were aware that I was coming up to the door. I rang and knocked, but no luck. So, I drove away for a little bit and then went back. The lights were on again, but that was enough for me."

He then worked in a hardware store for a while. Moving to the Clearwater area, he started working for The Athlete's Foot, a specialty store for athletic footwear. In their heyday, they had over 850 stores all over the world. He was with them almost 20 years. He became a district manager. "Each time I got a promotion, we had to move."

He lived in Atlanta four times. He then moved to the company's franchise area where he got to move all over the world. He was a regional manager. At one time he went to Moscow to help with the regional managers who were preparing to open their franchises. "It

all was absolute fun," he said. But in time The Athlete's Foot filed for bankruptcy and he had to move on.

In 2008 when the market suffered greatly, he was laid off for the first time in his life. He bounced back, though, and became a part of the home health-care industry. He's with a company now called Senior Helpers. It's a non-medical home care industry for seniors who need help with companionship or daily living. He finds it very fulfilling. "I'm never bored," he said.

They moved to this area because many family members live in this area. His company makes a direct impact on people's lives," he said. He is so sold on this type of industry. He said he wished it had been around when his parents needed it. "I can help somebody help somebody," he said. "I can finally look into a mirror and realize that I did something good this day."

His dad was a Grand Knight in Hollywood, FL. He was always the guy who set up dances, etc. Even though he was wrapped up in the Knights of Columbus, he did not expect Gene to join, he said. His dad died in 1983 and his mom died 5 years after that. He had thought about joining the Knights "... some day when I get time, some day when I get time..." He got married at St. Jerome's in 1982. He just kept thinking about joining the Knights and finally made himself do it. He would love to do more, but his job keeps him quite busy. "Even so," he said, "I am finally giving back."

# ADVENT: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2



Advent comes from the Latin word meaning "coming." Jesus is coming, and Advent is intended to be a season of preparation for His arrival. While we typically regard Advent as a joyous season, it is also intended to be a period of preparation, much like Lent. Prayer, penance, and fasting are appropriate during this season.

Advent is not as strict as Lent, and there are no rules for fasting, but it is meant to be a period of self-preparation. The purple color associated with Advent is also the color of penance. The faithful should fast during the first two weeks and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The color of the Third Sunday of Advent is rose. This color symbolizes joy and represents the happiness we will experience when Jesus comes again. The Third Sunday is a day of anticipatory celebration. It is formerly called "Gaudete" Sunday; gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin.

Finally, Sundays during Advent, just as during Lent, should not be given to fasting, but instead to celebration because we celebrate the resurrection of Our Lord every Sunday. It is important to remember, however, there are no rules for how the laity should observe Advent.

## MEN'S RETREAT HELD AT ST. JEROME'S PARISH

On November 3, about 15 men met at St. Jerome's Parish to be as part of a men's retreat. We met first for a 9 a.m. Mass and then went to the parish hall for a great breakfast served up by GDK Pete Grasso, helped by GK Danny McConnell and Financial Secretary Jim Blackwell. The meal consisted of biscuits and gravy, very crisp bacon, scrambled eggs, mashed potatoes and home fries..

After we all had enjoyed the delicious breakfast, Fr. Tom Morgan began talking about what he called Fr. Tom's Tool Time. He had an open box sitting next to him on a table; we could see a hand saw sticking out of it. First, he pulled out a center punch used, he said, to punch a hole in a piece of wood or metal to help guide a drilling bit into place. He then drew an analogy



that we should all be concerned about centering our lives on what is important: God's will. Next, he pulled out a level. The obvious analogy is that our lives should be "on the level" at all times. Next came a hammer, a tool to "hammer" things home and with a curved claw, to remove bent nails, "mistakes." Finally, a saw was used to show how it can cut across the grain, as we should

always be ready to do if that's what it takes to be true, level-headed, firm, and ready to admit mistakes.

Scattered throughout his comments were many references to his personal life which, besides helping him to make a point, elicited many belly laughs from us all. Fr. Tom is extremely good, as well as comfortable, with referring to himself as he grew up and decided to become a priest instead of a politician. One story dealt with a time in school when he was running for class president. Unfortunately he came in second. When asked by the winner how he felt coming in second, Fr. Tom said, "I'm ok with it." Before he knew it, he said, his competition grabbed him and threw him to the ground, yelling, "Never be content to be second!"

It was time well spent.





# UPCOMING EVENTS

## FUN FAIR 2018



St. Patrick's School will be celebrating their 53rd Fun Fair this year with a later date and a brand new Christmas theme! The dates will be November 29 and 30 and December 1 and 2.

Fall has become a very saturated market and we are anxious to celebrate the beginning of Advent and the birth of our Lord along with all the happiness the season of Christmas brings. We want to let you know how much we appreciate your support and how important it is to the success of the fair, our largest fundraiser of the year. Please look for us soon outside the church selling our Benefit Drawing Tickets and offering opportunities for personal and corporate sponsorship. We will be raffling decorated trees such as those at the Christmas Party last year, and we are in need of any artificial trees that you may want to donate along with any decorations that you are no longer using; please contact me if you are able to help. We are very grateful for all that you do to make a difference in our kids' lives.

Patty Ruppel, Fun Fair Chair 727-455-1976



The Msgr. McCall Hall has been booked for a Christmas party on December 15. The band will be Two Dog Night. Mark your calendars. The tickets are now on sale at \$25.00 each which includes the meal, open bar, and entertainment. There are only 100 tickets available, so don't wait too long to get yours.

### Pancake Breakfast



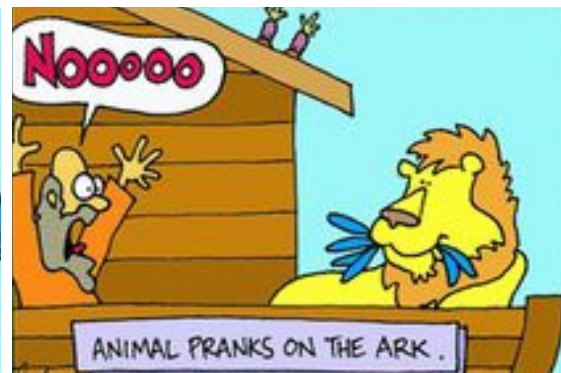
Dick McCarthy PGK announced that our annual pancake breakfast is up and running. Naturally he needs volunteers to help prepare the pancakes and then to help clean up when the breakfast is over.

If you are able to help, please contact Dick at 644-3638.



We have heard from Ron Klemm, PGK, that the Christmas parade will take place December 15.

We will discuss it further at our next meeting.





# MEETING MINUTES

From the December 13, 2018 council meeting



## Obituaries

Danny Iglesias



### Hurricane RELIEF

DGK Pete Grasso asked if members wanted to pass a hat for relief for the hurricane in N.C. The answer was yes, so Chancellor Ray Spurgeon did so. The amount collected was \$90.00. Last month's amount was \$53, for a total of \$143 that will be sent to the K of C Florida Hurricane Relief Fund.

## WELCOME new members

**1st Degree**

Matthew Itig  
Jim Cullinan

**3rd Degree**

Ron Waters  
Paul Grant

**Approved**

Eric Hernandez



GK Danny McConnell stated that we need volunteers for the Fun Fair to help out with 50/50 sales. There will be 2-hour shifts.

Dick McCarthy said that he could use volunteers to help him with the pancake breakfasts.

José Carrera said a Spelling Bee will be held at Blessed Sacrament November 11 and that volunteers are needed.

## Valentine's Day DINNER

Three-year trustee Dave Ruppel spoke about the up-coming Valentine's dinner. This will be the 4th year for it. It will be the Saturday before Valentine's Day, February 9. There will be two 4 oz. filets with twice-baked potatoes, a Caesar salad, and French bread. The cost will be \$25.00 per person.

He will need volunteers to help with the twice-baked potatoes on Friday, February 8. He said that we will make about 180 potatoes.

He hopes to make a couple of thousand dollars for charity purposes. There will be a cash bar, but he hasn't decided yet about having a live band.

### CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Chancellor Ray Spurgeon gave us the names of three seminarians who need our prayers: Joshua Har and Anthony Astrab from St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, and Reginaldo Jara from St. Vincent de Paul's College Seminary.

### OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE



The GK pointed out that St. Jerome will have an Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival to be held December 12th, he thinks. He will have the exact date at our next meeting.

St. Jerome hopes we can provide four Knights to carry the Lady around the pond. He also asked Henri Bellavance if there could be an honor guard there. Henri said he would look into it.



GK Danny asked Tom Walsh if we are going to have a Right-to-Life poster contest. We have given a \$25.00 gift certificate in four categories. A motion was made to do that, seconded, and passed to give the gift cards. It was suggested to buy the gift cards from St. Jerome's School.



# SAINT OF THE MONTH

## St. Francis Xavier

St. Francis Xavier was a Roman Catholic missionary born in the Kingdom of Navarre on April 7, 1506. He was the youngest in his family and resided in a castle which still partially stands today and is in the possession of the Jesuit order.

As the young Francis grew, he was surrounded by war. When the war stopped, and Francis came of age, he was sent to study at the University of Paris. He was heavily influenced by Ignatius of Loyola, who encouraged Francis to become a priest.

On August 15, 1534, Francis Xavier made vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. He and some friends planned to travel to the Holy Land to convert non-believers. Francis Xavier started his study of theology that year and was ordained on June 24, 1537.

Pope Paul III approved the formation of their order in 1540, which became The Society of Jesus, or Jesuits. While Francis Xavier was becoming a priest, Portugal was colonizing India. The Portuguese settlers in India and elsewhere were losing their faith and Christian values. To restore these values, the King of Portugal asked the Pope to send missionaries to the region. Ignatius decided to send Francis. He left for India on his thirty-fifth birthday. There were few people to preach and minister to the Portuguese, especially outside the walls of the city.



A major problem Francis quickly recognized was the nature of the people and their intentions. Many sailors and settlers were former prisoners who had been recruited from jails or were fleeing mistakes they made back home. None of them came to spread or live virtuous lives. Instead they came to escape Portugal.

Xavier ministered first to the sick and the children. Xavier began ministering to them. He spent three years among them but was often embarrassed by

the conduct of his Portuguese countrymen who were already Catholic, but frequently misbehaved.

Xavier built 40 churches for the people of the Pearl Fishery Coast. Xavier encountered difficulty in his mission because he usually worked to convert the people first, instead of their leaders.

Xavier returned to Goa for about a year to attend to his official responsibilities, but he was very interested in visiting Japan. In 1549, he finally departed for the country, arriving in July.

The local daimyo warmly received Xavier but forbade his subjects from converting to Christianity. In addition to the legal obstacle, Xavier found language to be a barrier. The Japanese language was different than any other he had previously encountered.

Xavier was surprised to find that his poverty was a barrier to his com-

munication. Poverty was not respected in feudal Japan as it was in Europe, so Xavier was compelled to change his strategy. On one occasion, when meeting with a local prince, Xavier arranged to be finely dressed and for his fellow missionaries to wait on him. He had gifts from India delivered to him. The charade had the desired effect and improved his reputation.

Despite his efforts, the Japanese were not easily converted. Most held fast to their traditional Buddhist or Shinto beliefs. The Japanese also found the concept of hell difficult to accept.

Some traditionalists, including priests from the native religions, grew hostile toward Xavier and Christianity. Xavier established a few congregations, but the religion was suppressed from spreading by the nobility to grow to mistrust the outsiders and their faith. Eventually, Christianity became the subject of great persecution, forcing many to go underground with their belief.

Xavier finished his work in Japan for the time and decided to return to India with a stop in Goa. During his voyage, he was petitioned to meet with the Chinese emperor and argue for the release of several Portuguese prisoners as a representative of their government. Xavier decided to make the trip to China.

His ship reached China in August. From there, Xavier was on his own. He managed to find a man to agree to take him to China for a large fee, but while he was waiting for his boat to arrive became ill with a fever. Xavier died on December 3, 1552.

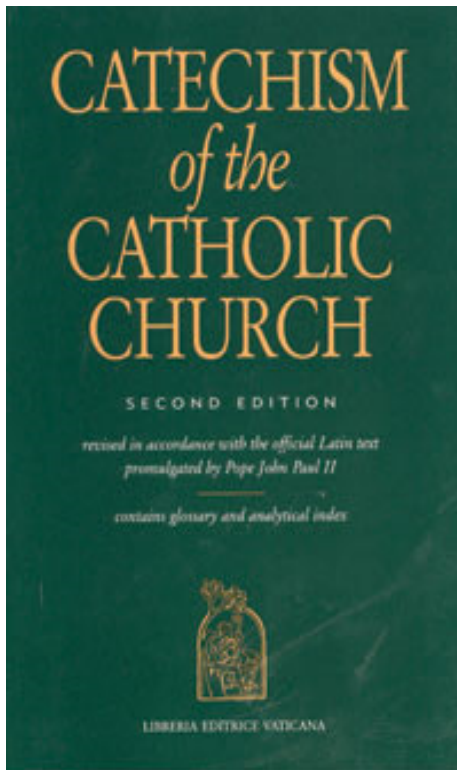
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## What does the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* say about Faith in a God?

44 Man is by nature and vocation a religious being. Coming from God, going toward God, man lives a fully human life only if he freely lives by his bond with God.

45 Man is made to live in communion with God in whom he finds happiness: "When I am completely united to you, there will be no more sorrow or trials; entirely full of you, my life will be complete".

46 When he listens to the message of creation and to the voice of conscience, man can arrive at certainty about the existence of God, the cause and the end of everything.

47 The Church teaches that the one true God, our Creator and Lord, can be known with certainty from his works, by the natural light of human reason.

48 We really can name God, starting from the manifold perfections of his creatures, which are likenesses of the infinitely perfect God, even if our limited language cannot exhaust the mystery.

49 "Without the Creator, the creature vanishes". This is the reason why believers know that the love of Christ urges them to bring the light of the living God to those who do not know him or who reject him.



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

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