

The Good Knight

*"In Service to One,
In Service to All"*



Issue 24

March 2025

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Greetings! The liturgical season of Lent starts later than usual this year, with Ash Wednesday falling on March 5. The word, Lent, comes from a word that means 'lengthen'. As days get longer, thoughts of spring come to mind.

Like spring, Lent is a time for growing. Just as we engage in spring-cleaning around the house, Lent is a time for spiritual spring-cleaning. It's a time to 'turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel'. It's a time to throw out any habits and behaviors that may hurt our relationships with God and with others. It's a time to change our hearts of stone to hearts of flesh. It's a time, through reconciliation, to tear down any walls we have built between ourselves and others and, through service and kind deeds, build bridges. It's a time to reflect upon who we are and who God is calling us to be.

Let us embrace this challenging, yet rewarding season. May God bless us!

Thank you for reading *The Good Knight*.

Louis Kloster, Editor

aim at righteousness
godliness, faith
love
steadfastness
gentleness
1 TIMOTHY 6:11

Important Dates

March 2025



- 5 Ash Wednesday
- 7 World Day of Prayer
- 9 Feast of St. Dominic Savio (Saint of the Month)
- 11 Silver Rose Prayer Service @ 7 p.m.
- 12 Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting by Zoom
- 16 Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast
- 17 Feast of St. Patrick
- 19 Feast of St. Joseph, spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary
Knights of Columbus General Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 25 Feast of the Annunciation of Mary

Family of the Month

In February we recognized Neil and Claire Connell as our Family of the Month. Bro. Neil has helped at pancake breakfasts and was part of the church yard maintenance crew for the last two years.



Claire is a member of the CWL. She attends the meetings and is an active participant in all of their activities. She leads the CWL members in praying the rosary and is a strong advocate for the unborn and the sanctity of life. CWL president Heather Oulton wrote, "We love having her as our CWL sister!" Claire often leads the rosary just before weekday masses. She has chaired a bible study in the parish for many years and, for the last few years, has also coordinated the RCIA team. May God bless the Connells for their faithfulness to God and for the many ways they contribute to our parish community.

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A Look at the Lord's Prayer

This year, we are examining the Lord's Prayer more closely, so as to discover its rich meaning. The next phrase is:

And forgive us our trespasses

- Trespasses are sins: ways in which we 'miss the mark'. We sin in three different ways.
- Firstly, we sin when we disobey God's commandment to love our neighbour; when we fail to show concern for those in need, like the elderly neighbour who needs help shoveling the walks; when we slander someone, show disrespect, cheat or steal.
- Secondly, we sin when we break relationships in some way: by sharp, critical words; by neglecting our family; through infidelity; by spreading rumors.
- Finally, we sin when we turn away from God and do things our own way; when we turn from God's light and choose darkness; when we turn away from the Church, neglect to pray, and live solely in the material world.
- For all these transgressions, we need God's mercy and forgiveness, just like the prodigal son in the well-known parable.

GOD DOES NOT GIVE US EVERYTHING WE WANT, BUT HE DOES FULFILL HIS PROMISES ... LEADING US ALONG THE BEST AND STRAIGHTEST PATHS TO HIMSELF.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Word of the Month

In order to communicate our faith to others, and in order to be confident witnesses of the faith, we need to develop a certain vocabulary ... a faith vocabulary. Each month we will dissect and investigate one faith-related word.

repent

John the Baptist proclaimed that "the kingdom of God has come near; *repent*, and believe in the good news" (Mark 1: 15). We often hear that Lent is a time for *repentance*.

The word 'repent' means to have a change of heart or to change one's mind, which results in a change in one's life. To repent is to turn away from sin and to turn back to God. It is a 180-degree turn.

Jesus had that sort of effect on people. Jesus invited Zacchaeus, the tax collector, to have dinner with him. In encountering Jesus, Zacchaeus had a tremendous change of heart and said, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much" (Luke 19: 8).

The prodigal son (Luke 15: 11–32) is another example of one who repented for his selfish, wasteful behavior and returned to his father a changed man.

When we *repent*, we refrain from doing things our own way and return to God's way. It would be prudent to pay heed to John's advice.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Basketball Free Throw

On February 10 and 11, the Knights held their annual basketball free throw contests at Mother d'Youville Catholic School. Below is a photo of the Grade 7 participants.



Once again, thanks to the planning and leadership of Bro. Paul Weisenberger (and wife, Sheree) as well as the Knights who assisted him, including: Bros. Sid Eriavaz, Gary Fisher, Louis Kloster, Joe Lauer and wife Dale, Dennis Madu.

Charter Night 2025

Our Lady of the Hill Council 13064 was founded on January 8, 2002. On Saturday, February 1, we celebrated our 23rd anniversary with a potluck supper. The evening was well-organized by Grand Knight Gabriel deRuiter and enjoyed by about forty-five people. Entertainment was provided by a talented local musician, Andrew Scott, and was much-appreciated.

The council executive was introduced and recognized for their work. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Fr. Les Drewicki and District Deputy Florent Duguay.

The following awards were presented:

- Ted Kotylak Award: Bro. Ted Kotylak
- Knight of the Year: Bro. Louis Kloster
- Family of the Year: Joe Stack family (See photo below.)



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Knight of the Month

When it comes to making pancakes for our monthly breakfasts, Bro. Dennis is our resident expert. He joined the Knights of Columbus in 2001 and has been an active Fourth Degree Knight for many years. He plays an instrumental role in setting up the outdoor Nativity scene, hauling dozens of straw bales from his acreage to the church and back. Whether it be selling grocery gift cards, helping with basketball free

throw at our Catholic schools, driving the truck with the sound system for our outdoor Stations of the Cross, or helping with the Silver Rose prayer service, Dennis is eager to volunteer. Thank you, Bro. Dennis for the many ways you contribute to our council, our parish, and our community. Indeed, you are a Good Knight!

Birthdays in March

We send blessings to the following Knights who are celebrating birthdays this month:

- March 1 Blair Corbeil
- March 1 Urbain Laboucane
- March 4 Stephen Huska
- March 4 Wesley Young
- March 5 Todd Yakimoski
- March 15 Colin Molinski
- March 16 Paul Pritchard
- March 17 Gerry Goudreau
- March 19 Philip Berube
- March 20 Andrew Chatelaine
- March 21 Vincent Coulombe
- March 23 Jesus Rodal-Hernandez
- March 27 Vincent deRuitter
- March 30 Paul Walsh



Spaghetti Dinner & Horse Races

On Sunday, February 16 our third annual spaghetti dinner was held at the Beaumont Community Centre. 116 people attended. Thanks to all those who came out on a cold evening to support this event. \$1180.00 was raised in support of The Mustard Seed. Many thanks to Joe Stack, who organized the dinner, and to his hard-working crew of volunteers.

The horse races that followed were a great deal of fun for everyone. They were organized and directed by Bros. Tim Morris and Vincent Coulombe. They encouraged a high degree of audience participation, lending to the success of the event. With fewer than usual children in attendance, even the adults volunteered as jockeys, as captured in this photo.



Saint of the Month: St. Dominic Savio

The Church recognizes a number of child saints. Perhaps the most well-known child saint is St. Dominic Savio, who was born in a village in northern Italy on April 2, 1842. Dominic was the second of eleven children born into a poor but hardworking family.

At a young age, Dominic was already demonstrating a remarkable faith and an unflinching love for God. He became an altar boy at the age of five. Two years later, he received his First Holy Communion. On that day, He wrote and committed to four promises:

- I will go to Confession and Communion as often as my confessor will allow.
- I will sanctify Sundays and holy days in a special way.
- Jesus and Mary will be my friends.
- Death, but not sin.

Dominic was a diligent student and a fast learner. At the age of twelve, he entered the Oratory of St. Francis de Sales, a school run by St. John Bosco. Much of what we know about Dominic Savio comes from a biography written by St. John Bosco, entitled *The Life of Dominic Savio*. Dominic was a well-liked and respected leader amongst his peers. He enjoyed his studies as well as sports and games. When his classmates misbehaved or engaged in fights, Dominic would correct them. His classmates accepted his mentorship and guidance.

As one story goes, two boys in his class placed snow and garbage into the stove in the classroom. Dominic was falsely accused by his fellow students for having done this. Rather than defending himself, Dominic endured a stern scolding from the teacher. Eventually, the truth became known. When the teacher questioned Dominic for having remained silent, the boy explained that he was imitating Jesus, who remained silent during His passion and crucifixion.

Dominic was an ordinary boy with an extraordinary love for God. He prayed often and desired to be a saint one day.



At the age of fourteen, Dominic became seriously ill and received the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. He did not fear death; instead, he was serene and seemed to look forward to it. Dominic died a few days later. Dominic is remembered for his heroic virtue in his everyday life. Pope St. Pius X said, "A teenager such as Dominic, who bravely struggled to keep his innocence from Baptism to the end of his life, is really a saint."

In 1954 Dominic Savio was canonized – declared a saint – by Pope Pius XI. He described Dominic as "small in size, but a towering giant in spirit." Dominic is the patron saint of choirboys and of those who are falsely accused. His feast day is March 9.

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Symbols of Our Faith

This year, each issue of *The Good Knight* will present a different symbol of our faith and its significance.

Cross with Crown of Thorns

Our Christian symbol this month is the cross with the crown of thorns. The cross is the most well-known symbol of Christianity. As we begin the Lenten season, the cross focuses us ahead to the death of Christ on the cross, which we remember on Good Friday. The *crown of thorns*, placed on Jesus' head as he carried the cross, is yet another symbol of Jesus' suffering.



The crown of thorns is often portrayed upon a cross to remind us that heaven awaits those who are persecuted for their faith in Jesus Christ.

Crowns are worn by royalty as signs of authority. To Christians, crowns represent God's favor, the rewards of the faithful, and victory over sin and death. The Pope wears a triple crown in honor of the Trinity.

We cannot be certain what thorny plants were used for the crown. In those days they were used as a fuel to produce hot fires or as protective hedges. In the bible, such thorns also symbolize punishment for sin. For example, in Hosea 10: 8, the prophet writes: "*The hilltop shrines of Aven, where the people of Israel worship idols, will be destroyed. Thorns and weeds will grow up over their altars.*" It is ironic that such a symbol should have been placed cruelly upon Jesus' head, for He was without sin. However, it may have been very appropriate, considering that Jesus died for the forgiveness of our sins.

Whether the crown of thorns was shaped in a circle or was more like a cap is something we may never know. Some believe that the thorns were large, painful, and sharp. Many bible scholars believe that the crown was not meant to torture Jesus, but to humiliate him. For the Roman soldiers, it may simply have been a crown to mock Jesus who claimed to be a king. They made fun of him by bowing before Him and crying out, "Hail, King of the Jews!" (Matt. 27: 29). Nonetheless, Pilate wrote Jesus' title in three different languages (Hebrew, Greek, and Latin) on a piece of wood and had it nailed to the top of the cross. It read: "Jesus Nazarene Rex Iudaeorum," which meant, "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews." Abbreviated, it is written: INRI.



Wheelchairs for Schools

Our council has now provided a wheelchair for each of the Catholic schools in Beaumont. In this photo, Bro. Dan Chalifoux presents a wheelchair to Curt Baron, principal of St. André Academy.

Please continue to collect aluminum pop tabs and deposit them in the marked wooden box in the foyer of the church. Thanks!

It's the Custom!

What is the significance of hot cross buns during Lent?



During Lent, every year, it is a custom to eat hot cross buns. This tradition began in England, hundreds of years ago, where buns were decorated with icing in the form of a cross, as a reminder of the Crucifixion, and then eaten on Good Friday.

In the past there has been some superstition associated with hot cross buns. It was said that, to share one of these buns with another person, would guarantee friendship for the next year, especially if accompanied by the words: "*Half for you and half for me, between us two shall good will be.*" Hanging a hot cross bun in the kitchen would protect the house from fire and ensure well-baked bread for the next year.

Now, hot cross buns are eaten throughout the Lent and Easter seasons.

The Good of the Order

Every month the Knights pray for the sick and recently deceased in the parish as well as relatives and friends who are in need of God's help. We call this the Good of the Order. We invite you to join us in praying for the following individuals:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| • Michael Busu | Dementia |
| • Anne Brown | Stroke recovery |
| • Wilbur Collin | Heart condition |
| • Madeline Elder | Elderly (97 years old) |
| • Rollande Gosselin | Cancer Concerns |
| • Irene Hickey | Stage 4 liver cancer |
| • Everett Hoffarth | Sick |
| • Rick Martin | Deceased |
| • Albertine Porter | Cancer |
| • Vern Reichert | Prostate cancer |
| • Larry Rowan | Cancer, dementia |
| • Therese Smith | Deceased |
| • John Stretch | Toe amputation |
| • Paul Weisenberger | Recovery from hip surgery |
| • Robert Weisenberger | Stroke and heart attack |

Have You Heard This One?

Jock, the painter, often would thin his paint so it would go further. So when the Church decided to do some deferred maintenance, Jock was able to put in the low bid, and got the job. As always, he thinned his paint way down with turpentine.



One day while he was up on the scaffolding – the job almost finished, he heard a horrendous clap of thunder, and the sky opened. The downpour washed the thinned paint off the church and knocked Jock off his scaffold and onto the lawn among the gravestones and puddles of thinned and worthless paint.

Jock knew this was a warning from the Almighty, so he knelt and cried, "Oh, God! Forgive me! What should I do?"

And from the thunder, a mighty voice was heard: "Repaint! Repaint! And thin no more."