

The Good Knight

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



Issue 34

March 2026

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Greetings! The season of Lent is well underway. 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, to build bridges. It's a time to reflect upon who we are and who God is calling us to be.

Thank you for reading *The Good Knight*.
Louis Kloster, Editor

Shrove Tuesday Pancakes

The Knights once again made pancakes on Shrove Tuesday for students and staff at St. André Academy and Mother d'Youville School. Pictured below are those that helped at St. André. L – R: Bro. Joe Lauer, Bro. Dennis Madu, Bro. Paul Weisenberger, and wives, Sheree Weisenberger and Dale Lauer. Thanks as well to those who cooked pancakes at MDY: Bros. Sid Eriavaz, Gary Fisher, and Patrick Stack.



Important Dates

March 2026



- 1 COR Gathering
- 6 World Day of Prayer
- 10 Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting by Zoom
- 13 Stations of the Cross led by Knights
- 15 Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast
- 17 Feast of St. Patrick (Saint of the Month)
- 18 Knights of Columbus General Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Feast of St. Joseph, spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary
- 25 Feast of the Annunciation of Mary
- 29 Palm (Passion) Sunday

Family of the Month

In February we honored Terry and Angie Campbell as our Family of the Month. For three years now, Angie has chaired the Liturgy Committee. She takes responsibility for scheduling the



liturgical ministries for the 11 a.m. Sunday mass and for special times of the year, specifically Christmas and Holy Week. Angie attends morning masses and often leads the singing at these masses. On top of that, Angie participates in Eucharistic Adoration every Friday and is also an active member in the CWL. Terry is appreciated for his assistance with snow clearing at the church. Thank you, Terry and Angie, for the many ways you contribute to our parish.

MAY ST. PATRICK GUARD YOU WHEREVER YOU GO, AND GUIDE YOU IN WHATEVER YOU DO, AND MAY HIS LOVING PROTECTION BE A BLESSING TO YOU ALWAYS.

~ An Irish Blessing ~

The Good Knight

Word of the Month

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

Contrition

The root of this word is 'contrite'. It derives from an Old French word that literally means 'worn out, ground to pieces'. Figuratively, it means 'crushed in spirit by a sense of sin'. In the context of reconciliation, contrition is sincere and complete remorse for sins committed, the first of four steps in the reconciliation process: *contrition*, confession, penance, and absolution.

In the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18: 9 – 13), we encounter two men in the temple. The arrogant Pharisee thanked God that he was not like others, such as robbers, evildoers, and tax collectors. The tax collector, however, had a contrite heart and could not even look up to heaven. He simply beat his breast and said, "God, have mercy on me, a sinner."



Contrition is what the prodigal son expressed when he returned to his merciful father saying, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son" (Luke 15: 21).

This sorrow is also expressed in this 18th century painting of St. Peter. Entitled 'Repentant', it a work by Spanish artist, Francisco de Goya.

The Good of the Order

Every month the Knights pray for the sick or 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. Please pray for:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| • Willy Bortez | Prostate surgery |
| • Michael Busu | Dementia |
| • Wilbur Collin | Heart condition |
| • Florent Duguay | Cancer |
| • Roland Leblanc | Dementia |
| • Lynda Leblanc | Health issues; melanoma |
| • Janet Ledene | Cancer |
| • Larry Rowan | Cancer, dementia |
| • Dean Weans | Cancer |
| • Andrew Weinkauf | broken bones, concussion |
| • Robert Weisenberger | Stroke and heart attack |
| • Maureen Whenham | Cancer |

Basketball Free Throw

The Knights held their annual basketball free throw contests at Mother d'Youville School on February 9/10. The free throw competition at Saint-André Academy is yet to be scheduled.

Many thanks to Bro. Paul Weisenberger (and wife, Sheree), who organized these contests as well as to the Knights who assisted him: Bros. Sid Eriavaz, Gary Fisher, Ted Kotylak, and Joe Lauer and wife Dale, Dennis Madu, and Julien Plamondon.

The Ten Commandments

The Ten Commandments, also known as the Decalogue, are significant in the moral life of a Christian. This year, *The Good Knight* will explore each one. The **Seventh Commandment** is:

Thou shalt not steal.

The seventh commandment forbids theft. Whenever we take something that does not belong to us, without the permission of the rightful owner, we break this commandment. Stealing is morally wrong, no matter how large or small the item, whether it is a cookie from the jar or money from the till.



This commandment extends beyond the theft of material products or property. It includes the stealing of ideas (plagiarism), the theft of information (cheating), and the illegal downloading of music, videos and other software.

When people are cheated, robbed, or shortchanged, trust erodes. If a person has stolen something from another, the individual is required to make amends (**reparation**) and return the stolen property (**restitution**). When trust is established, one need not worry about 'locking their doors'.

The seventh commandment addresses the importance of social and economic justice. Stealing demonstrates a lack of respect for the goods of others as well as the *rights* of others. God created the earth, and, because we are a global community, its resources are intended for all. We must be concerned with the common good. It is a matter of **justice**. When a group of people hoards the earth's resources, refusing to share with those who have less, the fundamental rights of the poor and disadvantaged are violated. In our greed, we steal what is rightfully everyone's to share. Jesus addressed this injustice in the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16: 19-31). The rich man "feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table." Upon death, Lazarus found himself in heaven; the rich man did not. St. Paul reiterates this in his first letter to the Corinthians: "Thieves, the greedy ... robbers – none of these will inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Cor. 6: 10).

The seventh commandment requires that we be good stewards of the environment, so as not to deplete or destroy the earth's resources and, in so doing, steal the inheritance of future generations.

This commandment applies to our work as well. While employers have the responsibility to pay just wages and provide safe and fair working conditions for their workers, employees should be working to the best of their ability. Otherwise, they are stealing from their employer.

It even applies to human slavery and human trafficking, whether it is in regards to prostitution or slave labor. In these cases, the dignity and freedom of the individual is stolen.

**AN APOLOGY IS A GOOD WAY
TO HAVE THE LAST WORD.**

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The Sacraments – The Christian Mysteries

This year *The Good Knight* will examine each of the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church. This month we take a close look at:

Reconciliation

In this sacrament, our sins are forgiven and we are reconciled with God and with others. Through our sinfulness, we hurt our relationship with God; reconciliation is the process by which we restore that friendship, make amends, and resolve to avoid sin in the future.



As with all the sacraments, Reconciliation is rooted in Scripture and instituted by Christ: "On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, Jesus showed himself to his apostles. He breathed on them, and said to

them: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained' " (John 20: 19, 22-23). In this passage, Jesus gives to the apostles the power and authority to forgive the sins of others on His behalf.

Jesus did not institute the sacrament merely with words, but he demonstrated it through action. Just consider the stories of his interaction with Zacchaeus, the Samaritan woman at the well, and the adulterous woman that was to be stoned to death. The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15: 11 – 32) describes the beauty, power, and freedom of reconciliation.

Reconciliation has not always had a liturgical form, and for many centuries the sacrament was not ritualized. Today there are four clear components to the process of reconciliation: contrition, confession, penance, and absolution. After an examination of conscience, the penitent should naturally feel remorseful for one's wrongdoings (**contrition**). With a contrite heart, he or she enters the reconciliation room to disclose their sins (**confession**). The penitent takes responsibility for one's sins. The Church tells us that anyone who is aware of having committed a mortal sin must first be reconciled with God and with neighbor before receiving Holy Communion at Mass. The priest will assign a **penance**, usually in the form of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Through works of mercy, sacrifices, and service of neighbor, one is making amends for one's wrongdoing. Penance, or satisfaction, helps us re-establish the habits befitting a disciple of Christ. Finally, the priest absolves the individual of their sins in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (**absolution**).

You Were Wondering ...

What is the 'seal of confession'?

This refers to the obligation of secrecy that a priest practices when he hears a confession. Regardless of what a penitent confesses or reveals in the sacrament of reconciliation, confessors cannot disclose or divulge to anyone else the information that has been shared. So important is this confidentiality that, if a priest were to break the seal of confession, the penalty would be excommunication.

Of course, a priest can discuss general or non-specific matters about confession without violating the seal.

Reconciliation Quiz: True or False

Test your knowledge of the sacrament. Answers on next page.

- ___ 1. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also known as the Sacrament of Conversion.
- ___ 2. When confessing our sins we are to tell just our most serious or 'mortal' sins.
- ___ 3. Except when a serious criminal offence has been confessed, such as murder, a priest must keep absolute secrecy regarding the sins that his penitents have confessed to him..
- ___ 4. Individual confession of grave sins followed by absolution remains the only ordinary means of reconciliation with God and with the Church.
- ___ 5. The Church requires that we receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least twice a year, once during Advent and again during Lent.
- ___ 6. The mere 'telling of one's sins' suffices to obtain their forgiveness.
- ___ 7. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the *matter* is the contrition felt by the penitent, the confession of their sins, and the penance one does. The *form* is: "God the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son, has reconciled the world to Himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."
- ___ 8. In the sacrament of reconciliation, the priest acts 'in persona Christi'.
- ___ 9. In the early Church, publicly-known sins were often confessed openly or publicly in church.
- ___ 10. In the Catholic Church only a priest or deacon can hear confessions.



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 puddles of thinned and worthless paint.

Jock knew this was a warning from the Almighty, so he got on his knees 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."

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True or False: The Answers

1. True. It is also known as the Sacrament of Penance, of Forgiveness, and of Confession.
2. False. "Without being strictly necessary, confession of everyday faults (venial sins) is nevertheless strongly recommended by the Church. Regular confession of our venial sins helps us form our conscience and fight against evil tendencies." (CCC #1458)
3. False. Every priest who hears confessions is bound under very severe penalties to hold all confessions in confidence. There are no exceptions. This is called the 'sacramental seal', because what the penitent has made known to the priest remains 'sealed' by the sacrament.
4. True. General absolution does not replace individual confession.
5. False. One of the precepts of the Church is that we confess our sins to a priest at least once a year. This has been a precept of the Church for almost 800 years. Of course, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available to us as often as needed.
6. False. Without sincere sorrow and the intent to make amendments, confession does not free us from our sins. God's grace is only as effective as we cooperate with it and allow it to change our lives.
7. True. In Reconciliation, the matter – the essential sign or symbol – is not tangible; rather it is one's own sorrow for their sins and their desire for forgiveness (contrition). The essential words are "I absolve you from your sins."
8. True. The role of the priest is as the minister of Christ's mercy. Catholics believe that no priest, as an individual man, has the power to forgive sins, apart from God. The priest speaks the words of absolution and forgives one's sins in God's place or on behalf of God. Only God forgives sins.
9. True. Private sins were still confessed in private. And penances were often more harsh. One might receive a 'ten-year penance' for a serious sin.
10. False. Only an ordained priest or bishop can hear confessions and absolve someone of their sins. Deacons do not have the authority.

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 Justus deRuiter
- March 20 Andrew Chatelaine



- March 21 Vincent Coulombe
- March 23 Jesus Rodal-Hernandez
- March 27 Vincent deRuiter
- March 30 Paul Walsh

Knight of the Month

In February, our council recognized not one but two Knights of the Month: Patrick Stack and Caelm Stack. They are brothers as well as brother Knights. Patrick and Caelm contribute to the life of the council in various ways.

Bro. Patrick was recently elected to serve as Deputy Grand Knight for our council and has been the chairman of our council's Community Program. In that capacity, Patrick organizes such projects as blood donor clinics the annual ditch clean-up on Highway 814. Caelm lives in Lac la Biche, but helps whenever he is able. Both brothers were recognized for their generous help with parking at the Christmas Eve Masses. In past years, both have used their brawn to help with the heavy lifting at the soapbox derby.



Saint of the Month: St. Patrick

On March 17 we celebrate Saint Patrick's Day. We often associate Saint Patrick's Day with green food and leprechauns. There is more that we can learn from the life of this saint.

In fact, Saint Patrick was not Irish but was born in Scotland around 387 A.D., when Ireland was a pagan country. Patrick's father was a tax collector in a Roman settlement in what is now the country of Great Britain. At the age of 16, the Irish raided Scotland, and Patrick was taken as a slave and forced to tend livestock. This time in captivity led to his conversion to Christianity. During the next six years, Patrick's faith in God grew, and he would say up to 100 prayers a day!

God also performed many miracles through Patrick. According to one legend, he banished venomous snakes from Ireland. Thousands were baptized in the Christian faith. Patrick is known as the Apostle to Ireland and its patron saint. We learn much about St. Patrick from his autobiography, *Confession of St. Patrick*.



Charter Night 2026

Our Lady of the Hill Council 13064 was founded on January 8, 2002. On Saturday, January 31, we celebrated our 24th anniversary with a potluck supper. The evening was well-organized by Grand Knight Gabriel deRuiter and enjoyed by about thirty people. Entertainment was provided by a talented local musician and was enjoyed by all.

The following awards were presented:

- Ted Kotylak Award: Bro. Sid Eriavaz
- Knight of the Year: Bro. Sid Eriavaz
- Family of the Year: Lubo Urda family