

The Good Knight

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



Issue 23

February 2025

In this issue:

- Saint of the Month: St. Scholastica
- Word of the Month: Priest
- The Lord's Prayer: Give Us This Day
- Symbols of Our Faith: The Holy Oils
- Why I am a Knight (Bro. Gabriel deRuiter)
- K of C Exemplification & Charter Night
- Family of the Month: The Ksiazek Family
- Wheelchairs for Beaumont Catholic Schools

Greetings! Dating back to the 17th century, the month of February has traditionally been dedicated to the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. In them, we have the perfect model of the family. It is fitting that, in February, we also celebrate Family Day.

The month begins with the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candlemas, on February 2. On that day we remember Mary and Joseph bringing Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem, to consecrate their first-born son to the Lord, as was the custom. There they met the elderly Simeon, who simply wanted to live long enough to meet the Savior. The widowed prophet, Anna, was also present. Upon seeing Jesus, she praised God and spoke about Jesus to others (Luke 2: 22-40). For this reason, Anna is said to be the first evangelist.

We too are called to evangelize. Evangelization is the invitation to 'come and see' who Jesus is and establish a relationship with Him. To that end, feel free to share this newsletter with anyone who may need or appreciate it.

Thank you for reading *The Good Knight*.

Louis Kloster, Editor

Knights of Columbus Annual Dues

Please note that it is time for Knights to pay their annual dues, by e-Transfer to: council13064@gmail.com, or by cheque payable to K of C Beaumont Council 13064 and mailed to Bro. Paul Weisenberger at: 4816 - 58 St., Beaumont T4X 1C2.

Important Dates

February 2025



- 1 Knights of Columbus Charter Night
- 2 Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
COR Gathering
- 3 Feast of St. Blaise
- 9 Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast
- 10 Feast of St. Scholastica (Saint of the Month)
- 12 Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting by Zoom
- 16 K of C Spaghetti Dinner (See details on page 3)
- 17 Family Day
- 19 Knights of Columbus General Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.

Family of the Month

In January we recognized Dawid and Tommias Ksiazek and their children, Hazel and Asher, as our Family of the Month. The four are active members in our parish. They are eager to volunteer wherever help is needed. Dawid is a Eucharistic minister, while Tommias and the two children often serve as greeters, help with the collection, and bring up the gifts during Mass.



Another example of their volunteer spirit: At the K of C spaghetti dinner last year, the family helped cook and serve the gluten-free pasta and helped with the clean-up after the event.

Faith is a very important part of their lives. Every weekend the family occupies one of the front pews at Mass. Both Dawid and Tommias are Third Order Franciscans. Thank you to the Ksiazeks for your willing hands and servant hearts.

The Good Knight

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:

- Jam Abello's Dad Failing heart and kidneys
- Michael Busu Dementia
- Anne Brown Stroke recovery
- Wilbur Collin Heart condition
- Madeline Elder Ill
- Irene Hickey Stage 4 liver cancer
- Everett Hoffarth Sick
- Mary Korte Deceased
- Albertine Porter Cancer
- Vern Reichert Prostate cancer
- Larry Rowan Cancer, dementia
- Robert Weisenberger Stroke and heart attack

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:

Give us this day our daily bread

- The next three petitions are what we need in order to build His kingdom and do His will now – today.
- We pray for things that put us into right relationship with God. We need the necessary material and spiritual things that sustain us, the power of forgiveness, and protection from evil.
- Our Father in heaven gives us life and everything, materially and spiritually, to nourish our lives. He is generous with his blessings and gifts.
- God uses us as couriers – messengers – of the things people need. He calls us to share our abundance and to serve others.
- Scholars have studied this line. Some have believed that 'our daily bread' refers to the bread of the heavenly banquet, to the manna provided for the Israelites in the desert, or to the daily receiving of communion at mass. However, generally, we believe that it refers to everything we need, materially and spiritually, to sustain us.

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.

priest

The word priest derives from the Greek word, presbyter, meaning 'elder', and refers to a man ordained to the priesthood. In the early Church, presbyters helped the bishops with their duties. Over time, their role became an established ministry in the Church. As celebrants of the Eucharist, priests represent Christ, the High Priest. Everything they do in their ministry, particularly in the sacraments, is to be done in the name and the person of Jesus Christ.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

On Saturday, January 18, we welcomed four men to the Third-Degree of Our Lady of the Hill Council #13064. The candidates were introduced to three of the four principles by which the Knights strive to live: charity, unity, and fraternity. In the photo below, our new members are in the front row, surrounded by members of the exemplification team (wearing yellow and white baldrics). From left to right, front row: GK Gabriel deRuiter, Lubo Urda, Ellis Frost, Gil Bérubé (honoree), Michael Dunphy, Ian Meaden, Gary Fisher, Joe Stack. Second rows: Patrick Stack, Vincent Coulombe, Louis Kloster, Fr. Les Drewicki, Paul Weisenberger.

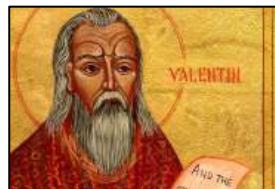


Basketball Free Throw

On January 27 and 28 the Knights held their annual basketball free throw contests at Saint-André Academy. Below is a photo of the Grade 4 participants from Saint-André Academy.



Many thanks to Bro. Paul Weisenberger (and wife, Sheree), who organized these contests as well as to the Knights who assisted him, including: Bros. Tom Ashmore, Sid Eriavaz, Gary Fisher, Louis Kloster, and Joe Lauer and wife Dale.



Did You Know ... ?

St. Valentine was both a priest and a physician who lived in Rome during the third century. At that time Christians who practiced their faith openly were arrested or sometimes put to death. Valentine took many risks because of his desire to follow Jesus' second commandment: **Love one another as I have loved you.** Valentine freely gave people money for food and clothing; he visited those who were imprisoned and took them gifts, often anonymously. Eventually Valentine was arrested and beheaded in the year 269.

The Good Knight

Knight of the Month

Ian is a brother Knight, recently transferring into Our Lady of the Hill Council. He is very involved in our parish and, for the last two years, has been involved with the RCIA program in our parish, as a guest catechist and a sponsor. He is an active pro-life supporter and, last spring, arranged to bring in the executive director of the Back Porch to speak to the parish, an evening that concluded with a pro-life family movie.



Ian is a regular proclaimer and Eucharistic minister at Mass. At Christmas he responded to a need for parking attendants at Christmas Eve masses. He also participates in Cor gatherings, the Christ-centered fraternity that was initiated by the Knights of Columbus a year ago. Thank you, Ian, for the many ways you contribute to our parish.

Have You Heard This One?

Sitting by the window of her convent, Sister Barbara opened a letter from home one evening. Inside the letter was a \$100 bill her parents had sent.

Sister Barbara smiled at the gesture. As she read the letter by the window, she noticed a shabbily dressed stranger leaning against the lamppost below.

Quickly, she wrote, "Don't despair. Sister Barbara," on a piece of paper, wrapped the \$100 bill in it, got the man's attention and tossed it out the window to him. The stranger picked it up and, with a puzzled expression and a tip of his hat, went off down the street.

The next day, Sister Barbara was told that a man was at her door, insisting on seeing her. She went down, and found the stranger waiting. Without a word, he handed her a huge wad of \$100 bills.

"What's this?" she asked.

"That's the \$8,000 you have coming, Sister," he replied. "*Don't Despair* paid 80-to-1."

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Birthdays in February

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

- February 2 Roger Tessier
- February 2 Maurice Potvin
- February 6 Han Wei (Henry) Yang
- February 6 Bill de Groot
- February 11 Bryan Pueschel
- February 19 Lorne Malaka
- February 26 Jeremy Bujold
- February 27 Kurt Helgoth
- February 27 Louis Kloster



Anniversaries in February

- February 18 Bryan & Diane Pueschel
- February 22 Josemon & Nethu Varghese

Spaghetti Dinner

For the third year, the Knights are hosting a spaghetti dinner, which is scheduled for Sunday, February 16 at 5 p.m. It will be held at the Beaumont Community Centre. Tickets are \$10.00 a person, and \$40.00 per family, all dwelling in the same house. Tickets are available at the Knights of Columbus gift card table at the back of the church. Following the supper, we are once again holding 'A Night at the Races', which has been especially popular amongst the children. The hall at the Community Centre can hold up to 150 people, and we would love to fill the space. Not only is this a fundraising event, but it is an opportunity to gather as a parish community on the Family Day long weekend. Please come and join us.



Saint of the Month St. Scholastica

On February 10, we remember Saint Scholastica. She and her twin brother Benedict, who also became a saint, lived in Italy 1500 years ago, when the world was very troubled. When they were born, their parents praised God. Scholastica and her brother were cherished by their parents, who tried to raise them well. As a young girl, Scholastica promised herself to Jesus.

Upon the death of her parents, she went to visit her brother. The two always treated others with great respect and gentleness. Eventually, Benedict built an abbey, a holy place for men to come and live prayerful lives. Scholastica started a convent for young women to do the same.

Once a year, Benedict and Scholastica would spend a day talking about God together. They would meet in a house



halfway between the abbey and the convent. One time, Scholastica got the feeling that this would be their very last visit. When Benedict got up to leave, Scholastica prayed for rain. Sure enough, it rained so hard that Benedict had to stay, and the two talked all night long. Three days later, Scholastica died.

Saint Scholastica is the patron saint of children and nuns and those needing protection from storms. She teaches us that, out of all of our possessions, the one most prized by those who love us is our time and presence. Through her, we learn to make ourselves available to those who need us, and not to worry about schedules or work.



The Good Knight

Symbols of Our Faith

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



Olive Oil

Since ancient times, olive oil has played an important role in the culture and religious practice of the Middle East. In that part of the world, olive oil has always been a necessity of daily life, being used in food preparation and recognized as a

remedy for various physical and spiritual ailments. Rubbed on the skin, it renewed dry skin and aching muscles. It was burned in lamps to provide light. It is no wonder that it has played a significant role in the life of the Church. Olive oil symbolizes spiritual strength and is used to anoint both people and physical objects that are used in liturgy, such as bells and chalices. Oil is used in four of the seven sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders, and the Anointing of the Sick.

There are three kinds of oils used in the sacraments: Oil of Catechumens, Oil of Chrism, and the Oil of the Sick. Each of them is oil extracted from olives, but the Chrism is distinguished from the others by having balm or balsam mixed with it. You will learn about these holy oils in the April issue of *The Good Knight*.



Why a Knight?

Bro. Gabriel deRuiter

I became a Knight after seeing my dad serve in Beaumont's council of Knights of Columbus for many years. Since I was a child, I saw him working alongside lots of other men of the parish to host community events or volunteer to serve others in many different capacities.

I remember being approached by a good family friend when I was 18, where I was asked to think about joining this organization. I didn't know very much about it at the time, so after being asked I talked to my dad about what it meant to be a Knight of Columbus. I learned about the commitment and dedication it can take, the virtues of Charity, Unity and Fraternity that helps to develop and shape a person, and most of all the rewards one gets from serving their neighbours.

After joining the Knights of Columbus and trying to be as active as possible, I have developed a deep appreciation for the order. I am proud to serve my community and parish, I love the friends I have made, and I truly enjoy the time spent working alongside Brother Knights. I have committed myself as the Grand Knight of the council and as a 4th degree Knight in order to serve in the best ways that I can.

I am thankful to everyone who played a role in getting me into this organization, and I look forward to many more years of service to my council.

Bro. Gabriel deRuiter presently serves as the Grand Knight for our council.

COR ... A Christ-Centered Fraternity

Our next COR gathering is scheduled for Sunday, February 2 at 7 p.m. COR is a time for men in the parish to pray, study Scripture, and enjoy fellowship. We meet at the home of Louis Kloster, just four miles due east of St. Vital Church at 7 p.m. Louis' address is Lot 100, 50511 Range Road 234.

Wheelchairs for Catholic Schools



Our Lady of the Hill Council has committed to purchasing a wheelchair for each of the Catholic Schools in Beaumont. In the photo to the left, Bro. Dan Chalifoux presents a wheelchair to Mr. Tyson Roth, Vice-Principal at Mother d'Youville Catholic School.

In the photo below, Bro. Dan presents a wheelchair to the principal of École Quatre Saisons, Mme. Etta Viens.



The wheelchairs will be used when a student or staff member becomes ill or injured and is unable to walk. Please continue to collect pop tabs and deposit them in the wooden box in the foyer of the church. The proceeds from the sale of the aluminum helps with the purchase of wheelchairs for those in need.

Thank you to Bro. Dan for his work in this area.

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 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.