

# The Good Knight

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



Issue 35

April 2026

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**Greetings!** April will soon arrive and, with it, our hopes for an early spring. The word April actually means 'to open'. This month early-blooming flowers will open. Windows on our homes will be opened to the spring air. Let us also open our hearts and minds to truly experience the most holy days of the Church year, including Holy Week (March 29 – April 5, 2026) and the holiest of all celebrations: Easter. Keep in mind that Easter is not just a day, but a season ... fifty days (a week of weeks) to celebrate the resurrection of the Lord and the gift of salvation for humanity.

Thank you for reading *The Good Knight*.

Louis Kloster, Editor

*Coincidence is when God chooses  
to remain anonymous.*

## 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.*

### octave

This word comes from Latin and means 'the eighth day'. It refers to a period of eight days that are given to the celebration of a major feast such as Christmas or Easter. The Easter Octave begins on Easter Sunday and includes the seven days that follow.

The Christmas Octave begins on Christmas Day (Dec. 25) and ends on the Feast of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Jan. 1).

## Important Dates

### April 2026



- 2 Holy Thursday
- 3 Good Friday  
Outdoor Way of the Cross @ 2 p.m.
- 5 Easter Sunday
- 8 K of C Executive Meeting @ 7 p.m.
- 12 Divine Mercy Sunday  
Cor gathering at 7 p.m.
- 15 Knights of Columbus General Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 17 Feast of St. Kateri Tekakwitha (Saint of the Month)
- 19 K of C Pancake breakfast
- 25 Feast of St. Mark, evangelist
- 28 Feast of St. Vital, patron of our parish

## Knight of the Month

In February, our council recognized Bro. Gary Fisher as our Knight of the Month. Gary is a dedicated member of our council and an active parishioner. He lends a hand wherever it is needed, whether it is managing the snack table at a blood drive or cooking pancakes at one of our Catholic schools on Shrove Tuesday. Bro. Gary volunteered with the basketball free throw contest and serves as a parking attendant at the annual Rural Routes Fair. He is a Knight rider, driving parishioners to and from the church for weekend Masses. At the 5 p.m. Saturday Masses, Gary is a regular proclaimer and Eucharistic minister. He is also quick to offer to read at a Knights-sponsored liturgy or lead one of the Stations of the Cross when the Knights are involved. On top of that, he regularly attends COR gatherings. Bro. Gary you are, indeed, a tremendously 'good Knight', and we thank you for your servant's heart and willing hands.



# The Good Knight

## Saint of the Month: St. Kateri Tekakwitha

This month we feature a saint who was canonized just twelve years ago. Saint Kateri Tekakwitha was born in 1656 in what is now the state of New York. Her father was chief of the Iroquois, and her mother was a Christian Algonquin. When she was very young, her whole family died of smallpox, so she went to live with her uncle and aunt. Even though they treated her unkindly, she tried to be cheerful and obedient.



In 1667, at the age of eleven, Kateri met some Jesuit missionaries who had been sent to help make peace with the French. Kateri wanted to become a Christian, but met with opposition from her family. At the age of 18, Kateri was baptized. She received the name Kateri, the indigenous name for Katherine. After her baptism, her community tried to get her to abandon her faith. They made fun of her and the children were encouraged to call her names and throw stones at her. Kateri escaped and settled in a Jesuit mission just south of Montreal in New France, which later became Canada. There she celebrated her First Communion.

Kateri died on April 17, 1680 at the young age of 24. It is said that, within minutes of her death, the smallpox scars that had been on her face since childhood, disappeared. Shortly after her death, the indigenous people began offering devotion to her. The 'Lily of the Mohawks' was beatified in 1980 and canonized by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012. Her feast day is April 17.

## 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:

- |                       |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| • Shirley Affleck     | Medical concerns           |
| • Hilda Bannack       | Dementia                   |
| • Jean Boucher        | Bladder cancer             |
| • Wilbur Collin       | Heart condition            |
| • Florent Duguay      | Cancer                     |
| • Everett Hoffarth    | Ill                        |
| • Claire Kloster      | Deceased                   |
| • Ardie Korte         | Recovery heart surgery     |
| • Eric Lafoy          | Recovery from surgery      |
| • Roland Leblanc      | Dementia                   |
| • Lynda Leblanc       | Health issues; melanoma    |
| • Janet Ledene        | Cancer                     |
| • Bryan Oulton        | Ill                        |
| • Chris Oster         | Divorce                    |
| • Larry Rowan         | Prostate cancer, dementia  |
| • Joanne Scherger     | Multiple myeloma           |
| • Dean Weans          | Cancer                     |
| • Andrew Weinkauff    | Recovery from brain injury |
| • Robert Weisenberger | Stroke and heart attack    |
| • Maureen Whenham     | Cancer                     |

## 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 **Eighth Commandment** is:

**Thou shalt not bear false witness  
against your neighbor.**

By the eighth commandment we are instructed to speak the truth in all things, but especially in what concerns the reputation and dignity of others. St. Paul exhorted, "So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another" (Ephesians 4:25). In this day of 'alternate facts' and 'fake news', of euphemisms and 'white lies', we are reminded to always respect, embrace, and speak the truth.



The eighth commandment relates to more than lying. It forbids deception, hypocrisy, and more. When we bear false witness against someone, we are guilty of slander or what is also known as *calumny*. On the other hand, we can gossip about someone, telling the truth but with the intention of hurting someone's reputation. This offense is known as *detraction*, as it detracts from another person's good name.

The eighth commandment also applies to the *breaking of confidentiality*. Some information is private and is not to be revealed, especially if it will, in some way, harm another person. This is why the Church upholds the seal of the confessional.

*Cheating* and *making gross exaggerations* are also offenses against the truth, as is *boasting*. And if we believe as true, without significant evidence, any gossip about another person, we are guilty of *rash judgment*.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church recognizes that human beings "tend by nature toward the truth" (CCC 2467). However, when we are guilty of any of the above offenses, we are morally obligated to make reparation by acknowledging our wrongs and then trying to repair the damage we have caused to someone's reputation or level of trust. Reconciliation and healing will be the rewards, and we are set free from guilt and the fear of being caught in a lie. In John 8: 31-32, Jesus instructs his disciples, saying, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." Indeed, this is so.



From an early age, we are taught that 'honesty is the best policy'. We are told to 'tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth'. When we follow this advice and practice the virtue of truthfulness, we become known as trustworthy, as someone with integrity. When it comes to one's character and our relationships, this is a highly valued quality in a person.

**SALVATION IS FREE,  
BUT DISCIPLESHIP WILL COST YOU YOUR LIFE.**

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran pastor, theologian, and martyr

# The Good Knight

## 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:

### The Anointing of the Sick



Oil has always had significance in Middle Eastern cultures, initially used to comfort and heal the sick. Oil was what bound together the elements of bread, and so it symbolized the healing of fragmentation. In the early centuries of the Church there is evidence of sick people being anointed. This was intended to strengthen them in their physical or psychological illness, rather than having some spiritual effect.

In the Old Testament, illness was mysteriously linked to sin and evil, however, faithfulness to God would restore life. This association between sin and sickness is also highlighted in the New Testament, when Jesus encounters a blind man: As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him" (John 9: 1–2).

Towards the end of the first millennium, anointing of the sick became associated with the sacrament of penance. Jesus came to heal the whole person: body, mind, and soul.

Over the centuries, the anointing of the sick became a sacrament for the dying. More and more it was conferred exclusively on those at the point of death. Thus it became known as 'extreme unction', the rite associated with the last 'unction' or breath of life. It came to be understood as a sacrament one would receive only in danger of death, and perhaps only once. With Vatican II, important reforms took place. The sacrament emphasized the importance of faith, the word of God, and the community.

Like all the sacraments, the Anointing of the Sick was instituted by Christ. There are numerous accounts of Jesus healing people and showing compassion for the sick. For example, Jesus heals a paralytic, ten lepers, a deaf mute, Bartimaeus, the hemorrhaging woman, a centurion's servant, and Peter's mother-in-law.

Jesus' compassion for the sick was so great that he identified himself with them. In the parable of the Last Judgment, he says, "When I was hungry, you fed me; when I was thirsty, you gave me drink ... when I was sick, you visited me."

Christ invites us, his disciples, to follow him and to share in his ministry of compassion and healing. In the gospel of Mark, he sends out his disciples to continue his healing ministry: "So they went out and preached that men should repent. And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them" (Mark 6:12).

The scriptural basis for this sacrament is found in the Letter of James: "If one of you is ill, he should send for the elders of the Church, and they must anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord and pray for him. The prayer of faith will save the sick

man and the Lord will raise him up again; and if he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven" (James 5: 13–16).

In Jesus' ministry, the healing came through the spoken word and the laying on of hands ... through words like "your faith has healed you" (Mark 10:52). By making a paste from his own spit and dirt, Jesus would lay his hands on the blind man's eyes (John 9:1–6). In the sacraments, as they are celebrated today, Christ continues to *touch* us in order to heal us. The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick today still involves the laying on of hands and the reciting of comforting words, all within a Liturgy of the Word. The anointing of forehead and hands with oil comprises the matter in this sacrament. The words that accompany these actions – the form – are: "Through this holy anointing may the Lord in His love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up."

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick can be received as often as is necessary, each time an individual is seriously ill. Generally, after having received the Anointing of the Sick, people are strengthened, more at peace, and more prepared to face what lies ahead. They experience greater hope, surrendering to God and trusting in God's will.

Through our illness, we share in or participate in the suffering of Christ. We relate to Christ and come to know Him more through our suffering. We unite ourselves more closely to Christ's passion. As much as a seriously ill person would like a miraculous healing, the Anointing of the Sick contributes more to a spiritual healing than a physical one. It is the touch of God's hand. Receiving it is an act of faith in the power of God to heal us in many ways, even ways we cannot see.

## Birthdays in April

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

- April 5 Joe Stack
- April 7 Andrew Gorman
- April 8 Juan Garcia Rojas
- April 10 Yves Gascon
- April 12 John Bosnyak
- April 14 Sean Carman, Larry Jungwirth
- April 16 Josemon Varghese
- April 18 David Comire
- April 19 Deacon Dan Ritchie
- April 22 Larry Rowan
- April 23 Mark Blaise, Eugene Cherwonka
- April 26 Patrick Gobeil, Gerard McLarney
- April 30 Pierre Vermette



## Wedding Anniversaries in April

We wish the following couples, celebrating anniversaries this month, many more years of enduring love and happiness:

- April 17 Paul & Katherine Banic
- April 21 Neil & Claire Connell
- April 21 Gary & Denise Fisher
- April 28 Roland & Lynda Leblanc
- April 30 Eugene & Maxine Cherwonka
- April 30 Deacon Dan & Joan Ritchie

# The Good Knight

## Testing Your Knowledge: Anointing of the Sick

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

1. In the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, what would be considered the matter, that is, the essential sign and symbol?
2. True or False: The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick can only be received once.
3. In whose name does the minister of this sacrament lay his hands?
4. In the past, prior to Vatican II, when was the Anointing of the Sick typically conferred?
5. "Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up." These words are known, not as the 'matter' but the \_\_\_\_\_.
6. True or False: The Catholic Church recommends that the Anointing of the Sick is best received in a church.
7. Name one benefit or 'effect' in receiving the Anointing of the Sick.
8. A term that refers to the reception of reconciliation, anointing of the sick with oil, and the Eucharist on one's deathbed.
9. A word that literally means 'bread for the journey' and refers to the reception of the Eucharist just prior to one's death.
10. There are three other sacraments that involve anointing with oil. Name two.
11. The last sacrament of the earthly journey that prepares us for our heavenly homeland.
12. In this sacrament, where is the person anointed with oil? (There are two places.)
13. The ordinary minister of this sacrament.
14. There are Sacraments of Initiation (e.g. Baptism) and Sacraments of Service (e.g. Holy Orders). The Anointing of the Sick is known as a Sacrament of \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Name the oil that is used in this sacrament.

## Have You Heard This One?

A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you all understand my sermon, I want you to read Mark 17."

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many people had read Mark 17. Every hand went up.

The minister smiled and said, "Mark only has 16 chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."

## Testing Your Knowledge: The Answers



1. Matter: the oil
2. The sacrament can be received as often as is necessary ... each time an individual is seriously ill.
3. The priest lays his hands on the person in the name of Christ.
4. Prior to Vatican II, it was conferred just prior to one's death.
5. Form
6. The sacrament can be given anywhere: in one's home, at the hospital, at the church, at an accident site.
7. Effects ... we receive grace, a gift from the Holy Spirit; we are given peace, courage, and hope; we share in the suffering of Christ; our physical and/or spiritual health is restored; forgiveness of sins
8. Last Rites: 3 sacraments together
9. Viaticum ... Latin for 'bread for the journey'
10. Other sacraments involving oil: Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders
11. The Eucharist should always be the last sacrament of the earthly journey ... the viaticum for passing over to eternal life.
12. Anointed on the forehead and on the palms of the hands
13. Ordinary minister: priest or bishop
14. The Anointing of the Sick is one of the two Sacraments of Healing; the other one is Reconciliation.
15. The oil of the sick (or infirm)

## Family of the Month

In March we recognized Bryan and Pauline Sosnowski as our Family of the Month. Bryan and Pauline are faithful members of St. Vital Parish. In addition to being a Knight of Columbus, Bryan is a member of the Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) team and is a regular Master of Ceremony (MC) at Mass, not just on weekends but at funerals, weddings, and weekday masses as well.



Pauline helps with Baptism Preparation and assists when baptisms take place. In the past she has helped prepare children for the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC). Thank you, Bryan and Pauline, for your commitment to the Church and your service within our parish. God bless.