



# Knights Corner



FATHER SCHUMAKER COUNCIL NO. 6772  
BROOKLYN CENTER, MN

ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH,  
December 2011

## Grand Knight's Message:

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

The Holiday Bazaar at St. Al's, was a great reminder that Christmas time is coming up fast. Remember Dec. 11th is our Christmas Fund Raiser at Dehn's Manor, with a Mass, Breakfast, and White Elephant Auction. All money raised will go to Women Source in Osseo for a Ultra Sound Machine. At our Dec. 1st membership meeting we will have a guest speaker, Myrna Kragness to talk about a memorial to be built behind the Brooklyn Center Civic Center.

Let's all have a great Thanksgiving  
Yours in Christ, Craig Solarz GK

## K of C 6772 CHRISTMAS FUND RAISER MASS, BREAKFAST & AUCTION

The date is Sunday Dec 11th, at Dehn's Manor, 11281 Fernbrook Ln., Maple Grove, MN 55369 (763-420-6460). Arrival time at 9:30 am. Mass will start at 10:00 am. The White Elephant Auction will start about 11:30 am. **PLEASE BRING ONLY ONE ITEM PER PERSON FOR THE AUCTION.**

The money raised this year will go to a fund for a new Ultra Sound machine that our District 12 will donate to Women Source in Osseo.

Any questions, please call Bill McAlpin 763-533-3619, Thank you. See Nov newsletter for more info

## Different life stages, changing needs KC insurance agent article

You may be concerned about a comfortable, financially worry-free retirement. You may wonder if long-term care costs will deplete your hard-earned assets. College funding may be a concern, and you certainly want to have something to leave behind to provide security for your wife, children, grand children or perhaps help out your favorite charity.

Over time our needs evolve and change and our finances need to change with them. What is important to you at age 20 may not be at 30, or 45, or 65 or even 85. What is the best way to be prepared for these changes before they happen? One of the best ways to be financially ready for changes that come with different life stages is to visit periodically with me, your professional Knights of Columbus agent, and address the needs that our review uncovers. You will then be ready to face the financial challenges and issues on the road ahead.

During each visit, I'll take the time to review your **needs, goals and budget**. I'll review beneficiaries on all your policies (KofC and others) and make sure that your coverages meet your needs. I'll recommend a program of life insurance, long-term care, long-term disability insurance and guaranteed income annuities that will help you rest easy at night. No pressure, just an objective review of your needs and proposed solutions presented to you by a trusted Brother Knight.

Whatever your needs, whatever your concerns, whatever your stage in life, I can help.

I'm at 612.743.6659 or [joseph.hamand@kofc.org](mailto:joseph.hamand@kofc.org). Call me – let's talk.

## MN K of C 2011 SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The 2011 State Bowling Fall Classic was another success. The event participants this year consisted of 1950 athletes, 605 coaches and 700 volunteers. We served 2800 lunches of which 1250 were at Brunswick Zone in Brooklyn Park. The four District 52 councils of St. Joe, St. Gerard, Osseo and Fr. Schumaker Councils volunteered.

A **"BIG"** Thank you to all the Knights, their wives and friends who worked at the event. May God Bless each and everyone of you for sharing your time with the athletes & their families. It would not happen without you!

A special thank you is extended to all of you who volunteered to work but were not needed due to the overwhelming volume of volunteers.

It was a great experience seeing all the athletes' smiling faces & hearing their achievement on the lanes. If you haven't participated lately or at all, you should place this on your calendar for next year and see how much it has grown. Hope to see you again in 2012.

Thank you from the Special Olympic Staff and MN State Officers!

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**From the Editor:**

The newsletter deadline is the 15th of each month. If anyone has information to be published, Please feel free to mail it to me at 2001 Whitewater Trl. BP, MN 55444 or e-mail it to simon.f@usfamily.net . THANKS

**ANNUAL KNIGHTS RETREAT @ KING'S HOUSE**

Our annual Knights Men's retreat weekend at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo, MN is Friday-Saturday January 13-15<sup>th</sup>, 2012. This year's retreat is "RENEW MY HEART". To reserve a room contact retreat center via tele#763-682-1394 or website: [www.kingshouse.com](http://www.kingshouse.com). A NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT of \$ 30.00 is required with reservation. Get your reservation in early as they sold out last year. If more questions, please contact Jim Stalberger at telephone 763.424.8874. Carpooling is available.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Religious Christmas cards are being sold on weekends at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church. Please watch the Church bulletin for the exact weekends. All proceeds go towards the ultrasound machine that the knights are purchasing for Women Source – Osseo. **REMEMBER TO KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS!**

**Fourth Degree Article**

Greetings from Nicollet Assembly, the Fourth Degree Assembly in the Northwest Quadrant of the Minneapolis area. Many of you will be reading this article for the first time, as I have requested of your Worthy Grand Knight, permission to publish general information about the Fourth Degree, and specific information about Nicollet Assembly

Activities in your monthly newsletter. Who or what we do in Fourth Degree is often overlooked by faithful members of our parish-based Third Degree Councils, unless your Council is fortunate to have a very active Nicollet Assembly member. Joining Fourth Degree, like the time when you made a commitment to join the first three Degrees of the Knights of Columbus, is a very personal decision, reflecting primarily on where you are in your faith journey as a Catholic gentleman. Our comfort level at the Parish where we attend Mass, volunteer for various committees, and greet people that we have known for years, is part of our weekly routine. (article continues on page 3)

**Remember in your Prayers**

Jan Wojtysiak  
Denny Braget  
Hames sister in law  
Sylvia Kramer  
Priests at St Al's  
Jerry Hallerman  
Matt Roers  
Mary Miller  
Judy Kowalczyk  
Gladys Claseman



And for others we may have missed and need our prayers.

**CARDS SENT TO GET WELL**

Matt Roers  
Shirley Fricke

**SYMPATHY May he/she rest in peace**



Shirley Fricke, wife of Harlan Clayton Ditty, husband of Joan Eugene Marsyla, bro of Gary Jim Holst, son of Dave Holst

**THINKING OF YOU**

Jan Wojtysiak

If you know of someone who may benefit from a card, contact Simon Fehn at 763-560-3971 or [simon.f@usfamily.net](mailto:simon.f@usfamily.net)

## LETTER FROM OUR SEMINARIAN WE SUPPORT

Fr Schumaker Council supports a Seminarian through the KC RSVP Program. Here is a letter from him on how he is doing. His name is Aaron Meszaros, C.Ss.R

Dear Knights of Columbus,

I hope all is well with each of you. It has been a while since I last wrote to you, so I wanted to touch base with a short letter explaining my activities for the last several months. In May I went to Canandaigua, New York (near Rochester) for a Redemptorist seminarian gathering. As Always, it was nice to see fellow Redemptorist seminarians, many of which I once lived with. After a week there, I went to Long Branch, New Jersey where I participate (to a limited ability) in a workshop for ministers in a Hispanic context. I do not know Spanish, but this workshop was intended to help me in my summer work. After a little less than a week there, I returned to New York City and stayed in the Bronx before I departed for a six week program that would take place in California.

In California, I arrived at Fresno, where one of our Redemptorist priests now resides, Fr. Mike. He works in the diocese of Fresno, working with the Hispanic population who work on farms, dairies, etc. It is called Campesino Ministry. Everywhere we went there were fields and fields of grapes and oranges and nuts and more. I thought living in the Midwest with all of our cornfields would prepare me for this sight. But the fields are everywhere, and you can imagine all these fields require many hands. I had imagined Campesino Ministry would be largely focused on the rights and plight of the workers, and some of it is. However, Fr. Mike encouraged us to burden our understanding. His main task was always to make the sacraments available to the workers who so often cannot get to church.

Thus for two of the six weeks in California, several of us Redemptorist seminarians taught a two week catechetical program so as to prepare over forty children for their sacraments of first communion and reconciliation. Their ages ranged from seven to fifteen. Yet the real difficulty was the fact that we had no school to work in, no church, no shelter to work under. We taught two hours each night for those two weeks, in sometimes 100 degree weather on a dusty sandy ranch. We had no desks, but our seats were the bleachers overlooking a rodeo pen. It was a very interesting experience, and at the end of the experience, it was so powerful to be present at the first communion of each of these children.

After the Mass, us seminarians and Fr Mike were able to get to ten parties in a matter of a few hours. There were more parties that we missed. It struck me that the whole point to this experience, of working with these children and being a part of the lives and experience of their families was not about those two weeks, and not even so much about the Mass that we had attended, but even more so about the celebration that followed. The Eucharist comes alive when we celebrate, despite our cultural and lingual worldviews.

After my time in California, I departed to hot and humid Houston, Texas, for nearly three weeks, where I shadowed a Redemptorist priest who is engaged in deaf ministry. The time there was a bit slower than my experience in California, but I was able to enter into the world of another group — the Deaf and hard of hearing (I myself have a minor hearing loss). It was good to meet new people and to learn some sign language (I learned the Our Father in sign language, although I am terribly slow at it!). I am very much interested in learning sign language and that might be a possibility for my future.

After Houston, I finally returned home. I went on a vacation with my sister. I am so happy that I am close with my family especially my sister. I was home for three weeks, and it was long enough to see all of those family and friends whom I would have loved to have seen. But now I back in Chicago, continuing my studies at Catholic Theological Union. I am in several different classes, and I am engaged in a ministry where I teach E.S.L. Hopefully I will pick up on some more Spanish as I work with my students.

I believe I should probably end my letter here. Please know how appreciative I am for all of your support and kindness, as well as your continued prayers. Know that you are in my prayers as well.

Sincerely, Aaron L Meszaros, C. Ss. R.

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### **(4th degree article con't from page 2)**

Fourth Degree allows you to reach out, take a chance, and meet other Catholic men and women from some of the 40+ parishes in the Minneapolis Nicollet Assembly area, who are members of Nicollet Assembly. In future articles, I will expand in more detail who and what we are. Do you have time for one more activity in public expression of your faith? Speak to one of us.....today!

### **STEP UP TO THE FOURTH DEGREE**

Ken Hudoba, Faithful Admiral, Nicollet Assembly



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BROOKLYN PARK, MN 55445**

**Return Service Requested**

**Membership Meeting, 7 PM  
First Thursday of the Month  
St. Alphonsus School Cafeteria**  
Planning Meeting, 7 PM  
Third Thursday of the Month  
St. Alphonsus CCD Building  
St. Clement's Room 4111-71st Ave. N.

**SPECIAL DAYS**

- Nov 25 Thanksgiving
- Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Day
- Dec 8 Immaculate Conception
- Dec 22 Winter Begins
- Dec 25 Christmas
- Jan 1 New Years Day
- Jan 3 Epiphany
- Jan 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**MERRY**

**CHRISTMAS**

**TO ALL**

LABEL



To you who did not join us in October at the Plymouth Playhouse — You missed an exceptional performance of the Church Basement Ladies.

Make plans to attend the Knights of Columbus Christmas mass, breakfast and white elephant auction on Sunday, December 11 at Dehn's Country Manor. This is always a fun laugh-filled event with the auction proceeds going towards a new ultra sound machine for women source organization in Osseo.

Remember to keep in your prayers all those who are afflicted with cancer and their family members.

Wishing everyone a **Blessed Christmas Season**

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**Dates to Remember**

- Dec 1 Membership Meeting** 7 PM School Cafeteria.  
**Please note** that we will have a **guest speaker** at this meeting to tell us about a memorial to be built at Brooklyn Center Civic Center.
- Dec 4 Installation Mass**, for Fr. Peter, at St Al's  
10:30 mass with 4th Degree Honor Guard
- Dec 11 Christmas Fund Raiser**, 10 AM mass w/  
breakfast and auction to follow at Dehn's.  
See article on page 1

- Dec 15 Officer's Meeting** 7 PM Faith Formation  
Bldg, St Clement's room
- Jan 5 Membership Meeting** 7 PM School Cafeteria
- Jan 13-15 Annual Knights Men Retreat**, Fri, Sat,  
Sun at King's House Retreat in Buffalo,  
MN. See details in article on page 2
- Jan 19 Officer's Meeting** 7 PM Faith Formation  
Bldg, St Clement's room