



SHINING ARMOR GAZETTE

Serve the Priest, Serve the Parish, and Build a Better Culture

Volume 2, Issue 7

Editor: GK Swinton W. Hudson, III

January 2011



UPCOMING EVENTS:

January

- 15 Pro-Life March and Rally
- 21 Family Card & Board Game Night
- 30 Pancake Breakfast

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GRAND KNIGHT'S BRIEF

I hope that everyone had a blessed Christmas, and I wish you all a prosperous and Christ-filled new year.

We've completed six months of our fraternal year! But from a programming perspective, we've completed over 2/3 of our programs. Thanks to our pancake breakfast crew led by DGK Rob Wiggs, we raised \$250 for St. VDP Society. Great job!

Our annual Fraternal Benefits Night will be January 20th held in lieu of our Social Meeting. Let's use this opportunity to invite prospective Knights and their families to come learn more about the Order and the benefits of membership. We'll provide some finger foods and drinks. Please make an effort to attend this activity, and bring a prospect with you!

Brothers, we live in trying and uncertain times. An era where being a Christian in America is no longer the accepted norm, but rather the discriminated exception. A time when abortion is commonly used as birth control, and birth control is considered by our youth as a necessity for the selfish

purpose of preserving their perceived freedom and wealth. Children are seen as a burden to the Earth and menace to society, and the sick, indigent and elderly as a waste of resources.

Our Holy Days have been turned into secular holidays. The Nativity and Cross are considered obscene and banned in many a public square across our land, and public prayer in the name of Christ is forbidden. Yet in our public schools, children learn that Mother Earth is to be worshipped and glorified rather than our Heavenly Father.

Yes Brothers, good has become evil, and evil has become good. This is not a new war. It is one that has been playing out since the fall of Lucifer. Yet the war has already been won for us through the blood of Christ Jesus. And Satan knows it, but he isn't going down without a fight.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. Our Sword is prayer, and our Shield is faith and good works.

(Continued on page 8)

News Flash

At our February 3rd Business Meeting, we will be electing a new Treasurer. In December, our current Treasurer Jack Davis announced his intent to step down due to health reasons. Please pray for Jack as he seeks treatment for his ailment, and that a new Treasurer will be identified and duly elected. If you have interest in serving in this role, please contact the Grand Knight (622-7932) or any Trustee.

The Council will hold its Semi-Annual Audit on January 22nd, at a time/location TBA. Required attendees are the Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustees. All members are welcome to attend!

Thanks to everyone that donated food and cash for the Hispanic Ministry collection as part of the Giving Tree, and our Keep Christ In Christmas program. We were able to raise over \$600 to benefit needy families.

Please remember to submit your dues in a timely manner! If you are disabled and on a fixed income, you may qualify for a waiver through Supreme Council. For those experiencing financial distress, your dues may be paid in installments. Contact FS Lester Johnson about these options. And always be sure to keep your email and phone number up to date so that we can ensure you are kept up to date and informed!

Membership

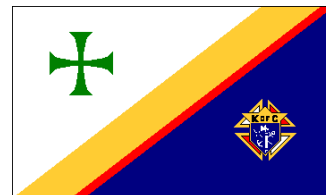
First Degrees have been scheduled, but we need prospects for membership! If you have a prospect for membership, forward his contact information via a prospect card or Form 100 to Membership Director Fred Parsons (467-4755) or Grand Knight Skip Hudson (622-7932). New members are the life blood of our Council!

Ceremonials

The First Degree Team is still in need of alternates, especially at the key roles of Deputy GK, and Financial Secretary. If you would like to serve the Council in this important role, contact GK Skip Hudson at swhudson3@yahoo.com.

First Degrees for 2010-2011 have been scheduled. Seek out qualified prospects to fill these dates:

- February 3rd
- April 7th
- May 5th



Columbiettes

The ladies are now recruiting members for the Columbiettes Auxiliary, so let your Catholic wives, sisters, mothers, daughters, and friends know about this fantastic sister organization to the Knights. Twenty-five ladies must agree to join the Columbiettes before their charter will be granted. They will be holding their next meeting on February 3rd at 7PM in the St. Francis de Sales house.



A 2nd & 3rd degree exemplification is scheduled for Sunday, January 16, 2011, at Columbia Council 724. If you are a 2nd Degree Knight and wish to attend, contact Rob Wiggs (447-2127) or Skip Hudson (622-7932). This rewarding experience is the final step to full Knighthood in our Order!

Programming Note

January will be a busy month like October was!

All should plan to attend the Pro-life march and rally on the 15th starting at 11AM at the USC Russell House. More info is available in the flyer attached to this newsletter.

Family Card and Board Game Night will be held on Friday, January 21st in Room B of the Roland Education Building beginning at 7PM. Bring the kids

and a favorite game, and make an evening of it! Refreshments will be provided.

Our last pancake breakfast of the season will be our largest to benefit the St. Joseph School on January 30th! We will be serving an extended menu from 9AM-2PM to kick off Catholic Schools Week, so we need all hands on deck! If you can help please contact Rob Wiggs (447-2127).

Beginning at 3PM on January

30th, we will be hosting the annual Youth Free Throw Contest. We need help with scoring, passing out refreshments, and as always clean-up.

The next major program activity for our council will be the Family Valentines Day Celebration Chili Challenge & Potluck to benefit the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative on February 12th beginning at 6:45PM. Watch for more info to come.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

JANUARY

- 1 MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD
- 2 EPIPHANY
- 2 MONTHLY ROSARY AT SHRINE OF THE UNBORN
- 6 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING, 7:30 PM; DINNER, 6:30 PM
- 7 EPIPHANY MASS, 8:15AM AND SCHOOL VISIT
- 15 STAND UP FOR LIFE MARCH AND RALLY, 11AM, USC RUSSELL HOUSE TO SC STATE HOUSE
- 17 MLK DAY
- 20 FRATERNAL BENEFITS NIGHT, 7PM, PARISH HOUSE, COVERED DISH; EXEC. COMMITTEE MEETING, 6:30 PM
- 21 FAMILY CARD AND BOARD GAME NIGHT, 7PM
- 30 PANCAKE BREAKFAST TO BENEFIT ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, 9AM-2PM
- 30 YOUTH FREE THROW CONTEST, 3PM, HALL/GYM

FEBRUARY

- 3 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING AND FIRST DEGREE, 7:30 PM; DINNER, 6:30 PM

- 6 MONTHLY ROSARY AT SHRINE OF THE UNBORN
- 12 CHILI CHALLENGE & POTLUCK, 6:45PM, GYM
- 17 SOCIAL MEETING, 7PM, PARISH HOUSE
- 25-26 4TH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION, RADISSON HOTEL

MARCH

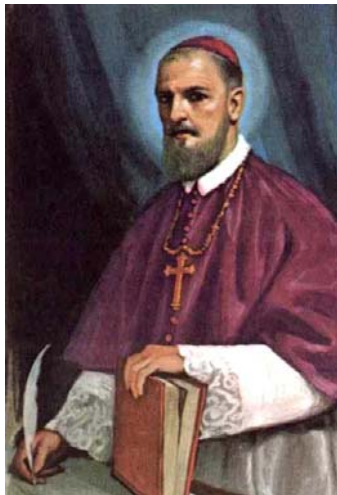
- 3 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING, 7:30 PM; DINNER, 6:30 PM
- 6 MONTHLY ROSARY AT SHRINE OF THE UNBORN
- 8 SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER, 6PM
- 13 COMMUNITY SUNDAY MEMBERSHIP BLITZ
- 17 SOCIAL MEETING, 7PM, PARISH HOUSE
- 25 K OF C DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD AND LENTEN SOUP SUPPER, 6PM MASS
- 31 5TH THURSDAY, KNIGHTS NIGHT, TBA

ARPIL

- 3 MONTHLY ROSARY AT SHRINE OF THE UNBORN
- 7 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING AND FIRST DEGREE, 7:30 PM; DINNER, 6:30 PM
- 8-9 OPERATION HOPE DRIVE, WAL-MART, 9AM-6PM

Saint of the Month by Deacon Charles P. Poole, Jr.

St. Francis de Sales, January 24



Life: 1567-1622

Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Patron Saint of Writers

He was born in the Duchy of Savoy into a family of minor nobility four years after the closing of the Council of Trent. He was eldest in a family of many children, almost all of whom died at birth or in early infancy. His father instilled military virtues on the family, and was disappointed when his son chose the priesthood.

Francis was educated by private tutors and in private schools, then by the Jesuits at the College of Claremont, and at the University of Paris where he excelled.

While there he had a deep spiritual crisis over the issue of predestination, and received little consolation from the Jesuits and Dominicans who were fighting over the interpretation of Aquinas and Augustine instead of contending with the Calvinists over predestination. He wrote "Whatever happens, Lord, may I at least love you in this life if I cannot love you in eternity since no one may praise you in hell." He eventually earned a doctorate in law from the University of Padua.

Through influential contacts, Francis was appointed by the pope as provost of Geneva, with a rank just below that of a bishop, so he had to be rushed through the minor orders and then ordained a priest

to fill this post. He then spent the next four years in a diocese that had been taken over by the Calvinists.

As the number of converts increased, his mission changed to that of finding priests and establishing parishes. There was an emphasis on the newly instituted Forty Hours Devotion.

In 1602 he became bishop of an unreformed pre-Tridentine diocese and was assigned the additional task of reforming lax monasteries. A major emphasis in the Church at that time was implementing the reforms of the Council of Trent, a policy called the Counter-Reformation. It encountered great resistance.. Francis also helped to calm the debate between the Jesuits and the Dominicans which ended in a compromise with both sides told to desist.

Francis wrote "Introduction to the Devote Life", the first series of spiritual exercises designed for lay people. It was considered too lax at the time of writing, but now has the reputation of being too rigorous. Times have changed! He also wrote "The Treatise on the Love of God" for the order of the Visitation Nuns, which he founded in collaboration with his friend St. Jeanne de Chantal. In 1923 he was named patron saint of writers.

Fathers For Good An initiative for men by the Knights of Columbus

Connecting Faith to Everyday Life

by Father Martin Pable, OFM Capuchin

The test of any form of spirituality is connecting the good ideals with everyday life. A man must begin to form a vision and a lifestyle in keeping with his commitment to Christ.

Instead of keeping separate compartments, he begins to make connections — first in his mind, then in his choices.

He begins to ask new questions:

1. How does God view this issue?
2. What is the Lord's plan for me?
3. How does my job fit into God's larger purposes for me and for the world?
4. How does God view my marriage, my children, my style of parenting?
5. What's is God's view of sexuality?
6. What does Christ teach about human relations and dealing with difficult people?

Instead of relying on his own judgments and insights, the man seeks guidance through prayer, reading the Bible and other spiritual sources, and seeking the counsel of other faith-filled people. As he grows in vision, he also comes to see that his actions and choices need to be brought into line.

Here is where the going can get tough, because he may reach the conclusion that he has to make some changes in his lifestyle if he is going to be faithful to the newfound vision.

As one man told me, "Spirituality was fun till I realized it meant giving God the right to ask some things of me!"

Let's be very clear about this. Spirituality is not meant to be fun and games. It is discipline, and it is tough.

This is the reason that in *A Man and His God* I stressed the importance of the traditional spiritual disciplines, especially prayer and Bible reading. Then I tried to make connections between spirituality and some of the key areas of a man's life: self-image, work and leisure, the quest for love, marriage and family, dealing with life's problems.

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4th Degree

BISHOP ENGLAND ASSEMBLY 1072



The next Exemplification of the 4th Degree will be held in Columbia at the Radisson Hotel on Bush River Road, February 25th and 26th. Friday night will consist of hospitality rooms hosted by each participating Assembly, and is open to everyone. Saturday will begin with Mass, followed by lunch and a ladies luncheon, the Exemplification, and end with a Black Tie dinner and dancing.

Exemplification fees and dues are due by January 19th! Cost is \$70 for candidates, and \$45 for Sir Knights and guests. No payment, no go. Contact Fran Dudley (781-0706) to make payment.

Bishop England Assembly 1072 meets at 7:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in the old house next to Good Shepherd Church, Calhoun St.

January Birthdays

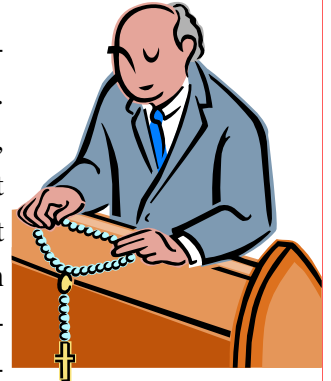
4th	Skip Hudson
6th	Gerry Gener
10th	Dick Monckton
11th	Paul Ardoin
11th	Jim Corbett
14th	Buddy Wier
23rd	Bill Condon
23rd	Dev Thakur
26th	Alex Espadas
30th	Jason Byrnes
31st	Jordan McCullough



We wish all of our Brother Knights a happy and blessed birthday!

Brother to Brother

Brother Gary Geneer continues to need our assistance. He was a productive Knight, often pushing himself past his endurance to cook at various K of C and church events for several years, including our monthly meetings. A series of physical setbacks and problems - in addition to his hip and leg problems that disabled him - took away these opportunities to be an active Knight about one and a half years ago. He has called several times to apologize for not being around. Gary has been hospitalized with heart problems and stomach/colon problems during this time.



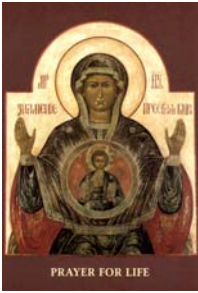
Brother Gary needs you to help in one of several ways. First and foremost call - 447-3687- or visit him - 511 South Edisto Ave 29205.

Pray for him. He also needs a dependable, mature roommate to split costs in a fairly nice and well kept house. He was able to live on his disability check by having a roommate. And he needs temporary financial support until he gets a roommate and pays his share of the mountain of medical bills.

If 10-20 of us could send him something the next two months, even \$10-\$15 each month, it would mean a lot to his finances and to his spirits. Can you prayerfully consider making him part of your prayers and your life for awhile, until he gets back on his feet?

Remember, Charity begins at home! If you know of a Brother Knight that is sick or in distress, contact PGK Jim Corbett at JCoressq@aol.com.

Upcoming Pro-Life Activities



The monthly Rosary at the Shrine of the Unborn is held at 9:30 AM on the 1st Sunday of each month. Thanks to all of the Knights that came out on October 3rd!

There is a Rosary Vigil every Saturday morning at 10AM outside the Planned Parenthood parking lot (2712 Middleburg Dr).

The Stand Up for Life March and Rally will take place on Saturday, January 15th at 11AM in Columbia, and begin in front of the Russell House at USC. More information can be found on the attached flyer.

FYI: This year's **Annual State Mid Winter Meeting** will be hosted by Council # 6892 of Irmo at Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church at 120 Marydale Lane on Saturday, January 29, 2011. The doors will open at 8:30AM and the meeting will start immediately at 9:00 AM. The meeting will be over before 4:00 PM. Lunch will be provided at \$5.00. All Grand Knights, Deputy Grand Knights, Membership Chairman, and Program Chairman need to be present. All other Knights are welcome. This meeting will focus on goals for the remaining six months of the year, and will provide details of the State Convention, and participation in the State Awards program. We have made some improvements in this meeting to make the meeting timely and worthwhile. The dress for the meeting is coat and tie.

The Annual State Charity Ball will also be held on Saturday, January 29, 2011 at Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church. The Charity Ball starts at 8:00 PM. All who donate to the Charity Drive may come to the Ball. The dress is coat and tie for the men (or tux) and Sunday dress (or long dress) for the ladies.

There is a Mass at Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church at 5:30 PM. There will be a meal served by the Fr. Frederick H. Suggs Council # 6892 council after Mass for those making reservations. The meal is not part of the Charity Ball and reservations are required. The cost of the meal is \$15 per person/\$25 per couple. Reservation Deadline is Monday, January 24, 2011. No meals will be sold at the door or on Saturday. Reservations may be made through either Brother Gerald Couture, GK, gcouture001@sc.rr.com, 803-727-2127, or Brother David McCarthy FS, knife337@cs.com, 803-451-1718.

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You may find the spiritual road demanding, even frightening at times. Trust God: trust him with your life, your love, everything you have and everything you are or would like to be.

This is the stuff of spirituality. You have embarked on a great journey.

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Insurance



Did you know that more than 50% of households in the United States and Canada have no individually owned life insurance? One reason supported by a survey by the Life Insurance Marketing Research Association was that 43% of people were afraid to make the wrong decision regarding their

life insurance needs.

This problem can be solved by a simple meeting with your professional, full-time agent. Your agent is dedicated to serving members and their families, answering their questions and making personalized recommendations that suit your needs and budget.

A conversation with a Knights of Columbus agent can help inform about the products we offer. In the end, you'll realize that the only wrong decision was not meeting with him sooner.

Contact your Field Agent Peter Zeeff, 731-5107, today to open an annuity account for just \$300.

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Read the Bible and pray daily together as a family, especially the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Stand in defense of what's right and good, and against what is wrong and evil. And always seek the Truth!

To quote Thomas Jefferson, "All tyranny needs to gain a foothold is for people of good conscience to remain silent."

Vivat Jesus!

Swinton W. Hudson, III
Grand Knight

Congratulations!

Our Knight of the Month for December is Bernie Champan.

The Family of the Month for November is that of Brother Jim Albert.



The *Shining Armor Gazette* is a monthly publication of the Knights of Columbus St. Joseph Council 12554. Distribution is via email generally on the Friday immediately following the 1st Thursday of the month.

The Council currently meets in the Parish House at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Columbia on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month, unless otherwise published. Regular Business Meetings, closed but to the membership, are held at 7:30pm on the 1st Thursday, preceded by dinner at 6:30pm. Social Meetings, open to all, are held at 7pm on the 3rd Thursday, and consist of a potluck dinner and program, which is preceded by an Officer/Director Meeting at 6:30pm, if applicable.

We are now on the Web! Check out our Council web site at www.kofc12554.org, and our Facebook page too.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CALL TO ACTION



Stand Up For Life Pro-Life March and Rally

(In loving memory of Shelia Massey)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2011 - COLUMBIA, S.C.

Featured Speaker - Senator Rick Santorum

Fox News commentator Ethics and Public Policy Center, Senior Fellow
Republican Senator from Pennsylvania 1995-2007

EXERCISE YOUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY

WITHOUT THE RIGHT TO LIFE THERE IS NO FREEDOM

11:00 a.m. Line up for the march, USC Russell House, Greene Street

11:30 a.m. Knights of Columbus lead marchers to the S.C. State House.

Noon Rally begins at the State House, Gervais Street side

MUSIC by Joyful Sound

For more information contact SC Citizens for Life, 803-252-5433 &
sccl@sclife.org



[March for Life January 24, 2011 Washington, DC](#)

The Columbia bus to the National March for Life in Washington DC will leave Our Lady of the Hill Family Center's back parking lot at 6:30 am on January 23, 2011 with a stop in Florence at 7:30am. We will be returning on Jan 25, 2011 at around 6pm. The cost will be between \$200-\$250 depending on whether the bus is filled and rooms are shared. A down payment of \$100 must be made before January 7, 2011. Please make checks out to: Diocese of Charleston-Family Life 2879 Highway 160W #4336, Fort Mill, SC 29708 Call 803.547.5063. Register by January 7

Bus from Greenville: Valerie Baronkin- 864-297-8838 -

Bus from Garden City: Don Zaitz @ 293-7471 or Ellen De Kleva @ 651-1359