



SHINING ARMOR GAZETTE

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

Volume 2, Issue 11

Grand Knight Swinton W. Hudson, III

May 2011



UPCOMING EVENTS:

May

19 First Degree

20 Deacon Ordination

June

2 Business Meeting and Elections

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GRAND KNIGHT'S BRIEF

We've had a very successful fraternal year, and I want to thank each Brother Knight and your families who put forth such a tremendous effort. Because of your hard work and tireless efforts, our Council was recognized as a Distinguished Council at this year's State Convention held in Myrtle Beach, April 29—May 1. This is a great honor, and it puts our Council in the top 25% of Knights of Columbus Councils in South Carolina!

As the fraternal year winds to a close, we have two important activities to which to attend. First is the First Degree to be held on May 19th at 7PM. We have several Catholic men wishing to join our Order, and your attendance is encouraged. A reception in honor of our newest members will follow. The second is our monthly business meeting on June 2nd. The primary item on the agenda will be our election of officers, the slate for which is published elsewhere in this newsletter. Please plan to participate in this very important legislative function of our Council. If you would like to nominate someone that wasn't recommended by the nominating committee, nominations will be

taken from the floor at the time of election.

Looking forward, the date for our Installation of Officers and Recognition Dinner has been set for July 15th, and will be held at the KofC Hall on Marion Street. Make plans now to attend with your family! Details to follow in the June issue.

Lastly, in the coming weeks, I and our Programs Director Dan Wagner will be reaching out to you in search of Knights willing to serve our Church and community. Leaders of various service program areas and chairmen of specific activities are needed. In addition, we need committeemen to help with the planning and implementation of the many programs that our Council undertakes each year. If you are passionate about a specific area (Church, Community, Family, Pro-Life, Youth) please communicate that to us! Planning sessions will be held in late May and June, and will be open to all.

Vivat Jesus!

Swinton W. Hudson, III
Grand Knight

News Flash

Diaconate Ordination

Mark Stephen Good, a seminarian in the Diocese of Charleston, will be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate on Friday, May 20, 2011 at 6:00 PM at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Columbia, SC. Fr. Kirby, our Chaplain, has asked for a strong showing from the Knights of our Council in support of Mark's Ordination. In addition, Fr. Kirby has requested the Fourth Degree to provide an Honor Guard for the Ordination. In keeping with Msgr. Harris's request, no swords in the Church please.

Serving the Parish as a Eucharistic Minister

Deacon Skipper would like to invite you to join fellow Knights and parishioners in this ministry to the parish. There is a simple form to fill out and you will be given instructions. Deacon Skipper's e-mail is skipperm@bellsouth.net or can be reached through the parish office, and would be happy to talk with you about serving the parish in this important ministry.

Pass along this information to those who are interested even if you chose other parish ministries.

Membership

Congratulations to Jason Foster on becoming a member in the First Degree on May 14th!

We still need to bring in 5 more new members by June 16th to qualify for Star Council! There are hundreds of qualified Catholic gentlemen in our Parish, *just ask him*. Forward your prospect's contact information to Fred Parsons (803-467-4755).

Columbiettes

The ladies will now be meeting on the 2nd Friday of each month. They are also still 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 of Columbus. Contact Carrie Penny, interim President, for more information at 803-477-2242 or carrie_penny@hotmail.com.

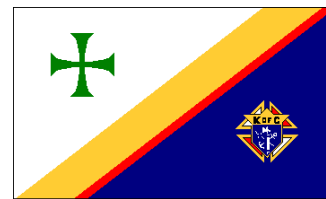


Ceremonials

First Degrees are **now** conducted on the 3rd Thursday of the month before our Social Meetings. Immediately following the Degree, the Council will host a reception in coordination with our Columbiettes Auxiliary to welcome our new members and their families into the Order.

Seek out qualified prospects to fill these dates:

- May 19th
- June 16th



We still need team alternates, especially at the key roles of Deputy GK and Financial Secretary. Rule changes by Supreme now allow for First Degree Team members to read their parts as needed. If you would like to serve the Council in this important role by exemplifying the First Degree, contact GK Skip Hudson at swhudson3@yahoo.com.

Programming Note

PROPOSED PROGRAMS

The Council is in need of leaders. Activity directors are needed in the areas of Council, Community, Family, and Youth. Any Knight in good standing is eligible. Contact Dan Wagner for more information.

The following is a list of the likely service programs for our council in fraternal year 2011-12.

COUNCIL — Knight of the Month, Newsletter, Web site, Annual Installation of Officers and Recognition Dinner, Council

Business Meeting Meals, Concession stand fundraiser, Fraternal Benefits Night;

COMMUNITY — Operation Hope, State Charity Drive, Support St. Vincent de Paul Society pancake breakfast, Blood Drive;

CHURCH — Support seminarians pancake breakfast, Catholic Information Booth, Keep Christ in Christmas, All Souls Day reception, Lenten Soup Supper, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Charity Award;

FAMILY — Family of the Month, Fathers for Good, Family cookouts/picnics, Family Game Night, Support St. Joseph School pancake breakfast;

YOUTH — Youth of the Month, Altar Server Appreciation Night, Soccer Challenge, Substance Abuse Poster Contest, Epiphany Mass and School Visit, Free Throw Contest;

PRO-LIFE — Ultrasound Initiative, Pro-Life March and Rally, 40 Days for Life, KofC Day of the Unborn Child, Monthly Rosary for the End of Abortion;

Calendar of Upcoming Events

MAY

- 19 FIRST DEGREE AND RECEPTION, 7PM
- 20 ORDINATION OF MARK GOOD TO TRANSITIONAL DIACONATE, ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, 6PM
- 30 MEMORIAL DAY

JUNE

- 2 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING, 7:30 PM; LOCATION TBA
- 5 FEAST OF THE ASCENSION
MONTHLY ROSARY AT SHRINE OF THE UNBORN
- 12 PENTECOST SUNDAY
- 14 FLAG DAY
- 16 FIRST DEGREE AND RECEPTION, 7PM
- 19 TRINITY SUNDAY / FATHERS DAY
- 26 CORPUS CHRISTI

JULY

- 1 ORDINATION, CATHEDRAL IN CHARLSTON
- 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
- 7 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING, 7:30 PM; DINNER

- 9 OPERATION HOPE WORKSHOP, OLOH
- 15 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AND RECOGNITION DINNER, KOFK HALL ON MARION STREET, 6PM—?
- 22-23 GRAND KNIGHTS WORKSHOP, OUR LADY OF THE HILLS; GK, DGK, CH, PD.

SEMI-ANNUAL AUDIT—LATE JULY, TBA

ALTAR SERVER APPRECIATION NIGHT - SEPTEMBER, TBA

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



St. Gregory VII

Feast day May 25

Life: 1021-1085

Pontificate: 1073-1085

Gregory was born in Tuscany, Italy, and baptized Hildebrand. Early in his life He spent some time at the famous monastery of Cluny where he may or may not have become a monk. For almost 30 years he served five successive popes as secretary performing many tasks. For example, when Berengar of Tours was denying the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist Hildebrand was sent to France in 1055 to combat this heresy. Two years later he was appointed the papal legate to Germany, and in another two years he was became an archdeacon.

During his time there were many abuses present in the Church, such as simony or making a profit from sacred things, and Nicolaitism or clerical marriage and irregular unions. Another abuse was hereditary benefices, or ecclesiastical positions which involved fixed income or property that were passed on to heirs. Perhaps the worst abuse was the system of investiture whereby church officials were appointed by laymen and the pastoral staff, or symbol of the church office was conferred by

the civil ruler instead of by the bishop. These abuses were remedied by what has become known as the **Gregorian Reform**, the reassertion of papal supremacy over civil rulers, and the ending of their control over Church affairs. His reforms were justified as a return to ancient practices of the Church. Gregory forbade simony, reestablished the celibacy of the clergy, and ended lay investiture. He is well known for the event when the excommunicated Emperor Henry IV traveled to Canossa to beg for pardon and was kept waiting for a long time in the bitter cold snow. Gregory believed that the Pope and the Church were supreme over civil rulers throughout the world, and could dispose of them at will.

The Gregorian reforms were made official by the documents *Dictatus papae* and *Libertas ecclesiae*. Gregory had to fight against much opposition for the establishment of his reforms.

Toward the end of his life Henry revived the conflict, claimed to depose Gregory and to replace him by Antipope Clement III. Norman troops took over Rome, and Gregory retired to Monte Casino. On his death bed his famous last words were “I have loved justice and hated iniquity, that is why I die in exile.”

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

Renew Your Vows and Your Marriage

by Carey Casey

Men, are you taking your wife for granted? Let me take care of that nonsense right now. I have buddies whose brides died of cancer. A while back I received a call from my friend Billy about his wife, whom he has loved since they met back in college. He said, “Carey, she’s sick. She’s really in trouble.” And he broke down and cried.

Men who have lost their wives would give anything to go back and do things just a little better. Maybe they’d change their priorities, or make better use of the time they do have. Men who have been through a divorce often have similar feelings.

Sometimes you hear about couples renewing their marriage vows, and I think that’s a useful idea whether it’s a formal ceremony or just an inner recommitment “from this day forward, ‘til death do us part.”

And what about that line, “in sickness and in health”? I don’t think the bride and groom fully appreciate what they’re saying. What if the marriage ceremony actually listed some of the possible challenges, sicknesses and tragedies? What if one of the spouses will get cancer, be paralyzed, or have mental problems? Maybe they’ll have a miscarriage or two.

Tragedy almost always takes us by surprise. And suddenly we’ve forgotten the vows made many years ago, or we never realized what the vows mean in the first place.

I think about these kinds of challenges, and I thank God for my bride, Melanie. She’s such a blessing to me, and I try to serve her in small ways every day —getting her something from the kitchen, or washing the dishes, or carrying dirty clothes down the stairs, or just making the bed. You could probably list a hundred ways to serve your bride — from arranging a second honeymoon to just putting down the toilet seat. It all adds up.

Let me confess, when I invest in Melanie, I’m getting something in return. She’s an extension of me wherever I go. She gives me great feedback and encouragement on all the things I do. She makes me a better dad. She loves me through my brokenness and weaknesses. And that makes me love her even more.

Dad, even if it doesn’t always feel like it, your marriage is a great gift from God. I hope you’ll renew your commitment to those vows you made to your bride.

Carey Casey is CEO of the National Center for Fathering.

4th Degree



BISHOP ENGLAND ASSEMBLY 1072

The Assembly meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 809 Calhoun Street.



Fourth Degree Exemplification, February 26, 2011. (l-r) Jack Davis, Irma Davis, Sarah Parsons, Fred Parsons, Ivelisse Hudson, Skip Hudson, Paul Ardoin, Vera Ardoin, Barbara Frett, Ramon Frett.

May Birthdays

- 1st Donald Barbare
- 1st David Pfrommer
- 4th Josh Riggins
- 7th Don Wagner
- 9th Mark Shaffer
- 10th Chris Wagner
- 14th Branden Conrad
- 15th Rob Wiggs
- 20th Gene Olona
- 24th Brian Binette
- 25th John Tucker
- 31st Dan Wagner



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

Brother to Brother

Please remember especially these Brother Knights in their time of illness.

Brother Don Wagner is in ailing health, please keep him in your prayers.

Brother Jack Davis (708-6167) suffers from chronic pain and is limited in his mobility.

Brother Johnny Nix (783-0419) continues to recover from multiple surgeries, but is now back on his feet.

Brother Gerard Gener (447-3687) is continuing to recuperate from multiple surgeries and complications thereof.

Brother Laddie Gatling (261-6883) continues his battle with MS.

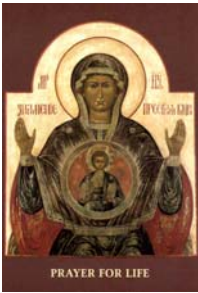
Brother Byron Weston (256-4983 Room 115) remains in the nursing home.

Let us join in prayer and ask God for His healing for those who are ill and to share His strength with them and their families.

O God, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. Hear the prayers we offer for our sick brothers and sisters. May all who suffer pain, illness or disease realize that they are chosen to be saints, and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

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.

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

Contact Brother John Staab (381-3310) for more information on how you can get involved.

K of C Insurance

What if your last paycheck was your last paycheck?

by Thomas P. Smith Jr., Executive Vice President (Agencies and Marketing)

As I am sure most of you know, the Order has what some would call a limited product line. We sell life insurance, retirement annuities, and long term care insurance. It is not because we can't or couldn't sell a variety of other products and services; rather it is because we believe in being very good – not just good but very good – at what we do, and no one who tries to be all things to all people can be very good at everything. You've heard the phrase "jack of all trades, master of none"? Not us. We're the masters of what we do.

So it isn't very often that we get to share the excitement of a brand new product with you, but this is one of those times. Effective April 1, in the United States and Canada, the Order will offer our client base a disability insurance product, known as Income Armor. Fundamentally, this product offers monthly payments to the insured to replace income lost when the insured is unable to work due to accident or illness. It is a

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Congratulations!

Brother Knight Bill Jones is our April Knight of the Month. Bill is a superman when it comes to the kitchen. Not only does he prepare the meal for our monthly meetings, but he well represents this Council in the kitchen for church functions and charitable events. A prime example was Friday, April 29th when he and his team prepared a spaghetti dinner for over 70 guests at the Big Band and Spaghetti Dinner event which helped raise money to benefit the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. This was a last minute add-on to our programs, requested by Sr. Julienne, and Bill eagerly took on the project and made it a success. Thank you Bill, for your dedication to this council, our community, and our Church!

SC State Convention – RECAP

The 90th Annual SC Knight of Columbus State Convention was held April 30-May 1 in Myrtle Beach, SC. Special guests included Daniel J. Baker from the Supreme Board of Directors, and Honoree Joe Gubeli, Immediate past State Deputy and District Master. Representing St. Joseph Council 12554 were GK Skip Hudson, DGK Fred Parsons, and Recorder Pro-Tempore Troy Penny.

Saturday – Opening Session

State Deputy Tom Monahan opened the session with a welcome, a brief recap of the cumulative successes of the KOC in SC during 2011, and a directive that we need 88 more members state-wide to attain our fifth straight Circle of Honor this year. This includes a mandate for every council to bring in at least 2 new members by the end of June.

Tom Monahan announced the implementation of a new 3rd Degree ceremony that is a significant change to the ceremony we have used for the last 30 years. The new 3rd Degree goes into effect on May 1, 2011. South Carolina will first perform the new 3rd Degree in Conway on July 16, 2011. 3rd and 4th degree knights are encouraged to make plans to attend one of the new format ceremonies this year.

Father Robert Higgins, State Chaplain reviewed the recruitment letter from Bishop Robert and emphasized how unprecedented it was for the KofC to receive such a strong recommendation from an Apostolic Vicar. Fr. Higgins stressed that the Church needed the Knight of Columbus, particularly as it is challenged with falling numbers in the priesthood.

Father Higgins pointed out that while we have always been good at raising money, there should more

to the KofC than Charity work. He reminded all that “Faith in Action” has an evangelistic meaning and that we must be more pronounced in our active Catholicism as the “face of the church” to the community. This may mean being more selective in who we pursue as members to ensure we aren’t just getting bodies, but genuine practicing Catholics.

Daniel Baker, Supreme Director gave a brief talk on the Knight’s nationwide successes in fund raising and applauded SC for its contributions. The Knights now have 1.8 million members world-wide. SC is the first and only state to place 5 ultra sound machines.

Saturday – Afternoon Session

Roll-call indicated that 44 councils were in attendance (about 160 delegates and alternates). For the first time SC will have no councils under suspension or probation.

Nomination committee presented candidates for State Offices and Delegates to Supreme Convention. All were elected unanimously without dissent or debate.

12 resolutions of support or appreciation were read and adopted unanimously. There were no legislative resolutions on the table.

New Business was minimal – A recommendation was introduced by Council 13713, Blythewood, that the RSVP be expanded to include Deacons in training. This proposal was tabled for consideration at next year’s convention.

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Budget for year 2011-2012 was presented by the State Treasurer in the amount of \$89,125, which was approved unanimously. This is an increase of \$2,325 over the previous fiscal year's budget.

The 91st State Council Convention will be held in Columbia in late April or early May of 2012, and will be hosted by the Districts and Councils of the Midlands.

Sunday Session

Presentations were given on the "Shadow Children" of Georgetown and the work that the Knights are doing to clothe the children of that county, a pre-recorded message from Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, and also on the Beatification of Pope John Paul II.

State Awards winners were announced.

St. Joseph Council 12554 was recognized with a plaque for completing 115% of our Operation HOPE goal for 2010. Congratulations to Co-Chairmen Jack Davis, Sam Kopack, and to all of our Brother Knights who contributed their time and sweat to this worthy cause!

St. Joseph Council 12554 was awarded with "Distinguished Council" for the current fraternal year, the highest non-competitive award given by State Council. Congratulations to Program Director Dan Wagner, ICC Chairman Sam Kopack, each of our Activity Directors and Chairmen, and to every Brother Knight who worked tirelessly to make this fraternal year a success!

Respectfully submitted by,

Troy Penny, Recorder Pro-Tempore



PUTTING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH
IN ACTION

Alabama Requests Tornado Relief Assistance

The following is a letter sent from State Deputy Ray Carney of the Alabama State Council to our State Deputy, Tom Monahan. This letter is a request and an invitation for our help. They do, of course, need financial and donations of goods (food, water, clothing, toiletries, etc) but this letter has a specific request. Those in charge of relief efforts have exhausted their storage space for donated goods. State Deputy Carney requests the donation or loan of trailers or other portable storage containers to assist the relief efforts.

The point of contact is the Worthy State Treasurer, Pete Parrish (205) 295-3100, at PO Box 678, Jasper, AL 35502-0678.

My Worthy Brother State Deputies,

I am sure that you are aware of the tornado's that occurred in Alabama and other Southern states last Thursday, April 28th, and of the vast destruction and deaths that were caused by this F5 Tornado. Evaluating the situation and devising a plan of action takes time. Living on the Gulf coast and seeing the destruction that results from hurricanes, I feel that I am somewhat familiar with the recovery process, even though this is my first year as State Deputy.

Our State Convention was scheduled for this past weekend, so when the news came of the destruction of the tornados, we were not sure if the Convention could go on as scheduled. After calling the hotel where the convention was to be held, we found that all was well there, so the convention went on as planned. We all witnessed the Holy Spirit was at work this weekend, even in our darkest hour, His light shines through!

When I returned home last evening, I was in contact with Theresa Petruzella, whom Bishop Baker appointed to head up the Tornado Disaster Relief (Bishop Baker is in Birmingham, and Tuscaloosa and all of north Alabama is in his Diocese). Theresa and I have started working on a plan, which includes any and all help that the Knights can give. Foremost, Bishop Baker wants the Knights to "fly their colors" by wearing their shirts, hats and using banners. He wants the word "Catholic" on the shirts and banners, as Tuscaloosa is located in the Baptist Belt of Alabama, and many don't know who the Knights of Columbus are. I have ordered new materials to address this concern.

I have directed my Knights to get in touch with their Pastors, Schools and Convents so that the kitchens can be opened up and we can start feeding the flock. Now comes a special request from Theresa: The most needed thing right now is warehouse space. They are receiving clothing, non-perishable food items, baby needs, water, etc., but they have no where to store these items. If any of our Brother Knights have any containers or tractor-trailers that they may not need for at least a year, Alabama can use them. Sister Carol Grace, head of Catholic Social Services in Tuscaloosa, has 17 acres available on which to store the containers or trailers. This is an immediate need! Please use your e-mail list to get this call out, we never know who may have a contact to supply this need.

As with all disasters, financial help is always needed. The destruction is not just in Tuscaloosa, but also many small towns across north Alabama

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and other Southern states. We have set up a Tornado Disaster Relief Account in Alabama, and our Worthy State Treasurer, Pete Parrish will handle these funds. His address is PO Box 678, Jasper, AL 35502-0678. His phone number is 205-295-3100.

My Brother Knights, the need is great. Please keep Alabama and the other Southern states that have been affected in your prayers. As of this morning, there are still 500 people missing in the Tuscaloosa area alone. I can't even begin to imagine the emotional and physical distress that the people of Tuscaloosa are feeling.

Alabama thanks you for any and all help that you may be able to provide!

Peace and Vivat Jesus!

Ray Carney - State Deputy
Alabama State Council

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critical form of insurance that protects your paycheck. After reviewing the product for some time, we decided it fits our sweet spot and is clearly in keeping with our mission: insuring our members and their families against financial risk. Risk of death, yes...risk of inadequate retirement income, yes...risk of catastrophic costs associated with long term care, yes...and now, insurance against the loss of income that a disability would bring.

The first question you may ask yourself is "what are the odds of me becoming disabled and ever needing paycheck protection?" Here's your answer: nearly one in four men can expect to suffer a disability that keeps them out of work for 90 days or longer at some point during their working years. For women, the odds are worse: one in three. And are you ready for this? One in every seven workers can expect to be disabled for five or more years before retirement. Troubling statistics. Basically, if you do not currently own paycheck protection in the form of disability insurance, and you have a job, you need it. Trust me.

So the question becomes where do you get it? We saw a need for our members to have a source where they can go to get the protection they need from a strong, stable, consistently steady financial institution. Where, once the purchase is made and premiums are paid, there is no need to worry about whether or not the company can back up their promises. Like everything we offer, you buy it, you pay your premiums, and you leave the rest to us. That's a pretty good deal in this day and age.

I encourage you to talk to your agent about protecting your paycheck with Income Armor. Your Field Agent, Peter Zeeff, can be reached day or night at (803)807-1337.

Report of the Nominating Committee

At the monthly business meeting held on May 5th, 2011, the Nominating Committee recommended the following slate of officers for the 2011-2012 fraternal year.

GRAND KNIGHT.....	SWINTON W. HUDSON, III	803-622-7932*
DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT	FREDERICK M. PARSONS, III	803-467-4755*
CHANCELLOR	GENE T. OLONA	706-202-7466*
RECORDER.....	TROY S. PENNY	803-920-4146
TREASURER.....	ROBERT W. WIGGS, JR.	803-447-2127*
ADVOCATE	JOHN J. DAVIS	803-708-6167*
WARDEN.....	JOSEPH W. FIXL	803-253-8894*
INSIDE GUARD	RAMON E. FRETT	803-237-1278*
OUTSIDE GUARD 1	PAUL C. ARDOIN	803-738-2858*
OUTSIDE GUARD 2	DAMIAN P. MASSE	803-776-2715*
THREE YEAR TRUSTEE	JOHN R. LONG	803-695-3286
TWO YEAR TRUSTEE.....	JAMES J. CORBETT	803-787-1075*
ONE YEAR TRUSTEE.....	SAMUEL J. KOPACK, JR.	803-783-4056*

Denotes 4th Degree Sir Knight

Election of officers will be held on June 2nd, 2011. If you would like to nominate someone for one of the above positions other than as recommended by the Nominating Committee, you may do so at the time of election when nominations from the floor are permitted. Please be certain that the person you are nominating is a 3rd Degree member in good standing.

The *Shining Armor Gazette* is a monthly publication of the Knights of Columbus St. Joseph Council 12554. Distribution is via email generally on the Monday 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 program that varies from month to month.

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