



KNIGHTLY NEWS



KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS



At Christmas we honor the birth of Jesus Christ who is not only God's only begotten Son but God Himself in the flesh. At times our Savior is forgotten in the commercialization of the season and our rush to get ready for holiday festivities.

Giving gifts during this celebration of Christ's birth is supposed to remind us of God's generosity and encourage us to imitate our heavenly Father. During this season we often place a pine tree in our home and call it a Christmas tree. A Christmas tree is meant to remind us of Christ. It is a symbol of Christ. It is evergreen to remind us of God's endless love and the gift of eternal life. Its shape points toward heaven, our true home. Since it is a symbol of Christ we place our gifts beneath the tree asking for Him to bless them and accept them because the gifts we give to others are the gifts we give to Him.

Today's culture, however, sees Christmas not as a time of giving gifts in the name of Jesus to those we love and those in need but a time of getting. It is a time of material gluttony. It is a time to reinforce and perpetuate the mentality that the "one with the most toys wins". Most retail stores make approximately 80% of their annual income during this season. This should tell us that without Christ they would be broke.

In a time when all things religious are being discouraged and swept away, it's refreshing to know that the Knights of Columbus sponsors the "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign to remind people that Christmas is above all a Holy Day celebrating the birth of Christ.

Keeping Christ in Christmas is keeping the very heart and meaning of the Christmas celebration alive.

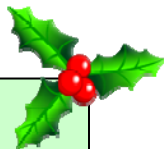
The number one way to keep Jesus Christ in your Christmas celebrations is to have him present in your daily life. Keeping Christ in Christmas is more about the way you live your life than the things you say - such as "Merry Christmas" versus "Happy Holidays." Keeping Christ in Christmas means daily revealing the character, love and spirit of Christ that dwells in you, by allowing these traits to shine through your actions. This holiday season give the gift of yourself within your council, community and family. Here are simple ways to keep Christ the central focus of your life this Christmas season. Give these or similar presents of friendship, understanding, kindness, love and compassion:

1. Give God one very special gift just from you to him:

Let this gift be something personal that no one else needs to know about, and let it be a sacrifice. David said in 2 Samuel 24 that he would not offer a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing. Maybe your gift to God will be to forgive someone you've needed to forgive for a long time. You may discover that you've given a gift back to yourself. Perhaps your gift will be to commit to spending time with God daily. Or maybe there is something God has asked you to give up, such as a vice, an addiction or an obsession, which draws us away from Christ. Make this your most important gift of the season.

2. Set aside a special time to honor God

This Holiday Season, take time to worship God for all the blessings he has bestowed upon you. This can be as simple as setting up a Nativity scene in a prominent place in the home or reading the Christmas story in the Gospel of Luke (1:5-56 through 2:1-20) with your family and discussing it together. You could even begin a new family tradition of setting aside a few minutes of family devotion on Christmas Eve or Christmas morning before opening gifts to gather together as a family in prayer and devotion.



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3. Plan a project of good will this Christmas:

Find someone with a genuine need, involve your whole family and see how happy you can make someone this Christmas. Jesus taught us to serve by washing the disciple's feet. He also taught us that it is *"more blessed to give than to receive."* (Acts 20:35) The idea of giving an unexpected gift of service to members of your community is to demonstrate Christ-like love and service. You might consider helping at the food pantry, or visiting a parishioner who's shut in, or serving meals at the winter shelter. Make it personal and meaningful and watch the blessings multiply.

Be a part of the holiday spirit by undertaking one or more of the items listed above and help make Christmas merry for someone else and yourself.

PAST EVENTS

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CHAPTER CLERGY NIGHT 2008



Chapter President Peter Lamendola presents Msgr. Rev. John Ukaegbu an award of appreciation.

On Friday, November 14th, Brother Knights throughout the San Gabriel Valley gathered at St. Phillips the Apostle Catholic Church in Pasadena to honor their clergy. As always the event included dinner, drinks and an awards ceremony to honor parish priest for the contributions they have made throughout the year and to call to mind the importance of vocations. This year, Council 6028 had Rev. Fr. Francis Ilano and Rev. Fr. Udumala Kaspar join them. Both were grateful for the Knights of Columbus support of vocations. In addition, the chapter honored one of the Council's Brother Knight, Msgr. Rev John Ukaegbu received an Award of Appreciation for his years of service as Chapter Chaplain.

JOINT ASSEMBLY- COUNCIL POTLUCK

The Father Felix J. Penna Assembly hosted a joint Assembly-Council Potluck during their scheduled business meeting on November 19th. The potluck was a pre-Thanksgiving celebration to remember all that we are grateful for.

The evening was highlighted by a video presentation by Brother Dean Avram. Brother Dean was instrumental in coordinating a Rosary for the Troops on July 5th of this Columbian Year. As follow up to that and the recent visit by Brother Reyes from Camp Victory, Brother Dean created a presentation to be sent to the Roundtable Knights from Camp Victory.

After the presentation, Knights were asked to record their Holiday blessings and well wishes to the troops at Camp Victory. The whole presentation and Christmas messages should arrive to the troops in time for Christmas. Thank you Brother Dean for all your hard work.



Grand Knight and Sir Knight Efrain Delgadillo and Faithful Navigator Joe Sofka PGK open the event with presentation of colors.



Faithful Navigator Joe Sofka read about the meaning of Thanksgiving as Brother Dean looks on ready for his presentation

COUNCIL 6028 WELCOMES FATHER KASPAR TO THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

On November 26th, the 1st degree team from Council 6028 held A First Degree Exemplification at Dolan Hall. A total of 7 applicants took part in the ceremony including two priests.

Council 6028 welcomes Rev. Fr. Udumala Kaspar, from St. John Vianney Catholic Church. Father Kaspar, has been on temporary assignment for several months from his Diocese in India. So far his experiences at our parish have been wonderful and his enthusiasm for Knights has been equally

exciting. Knights from Council 6028 are once again honored to welcome a priest into our Brotherhood. Next time you see Father Kaspar make sure to congratulate him on the first step of his journey.



Grand Knight Efrain Delgadillo welcomes Fr. Kaspar into our Council.

STATEMENT FROM SUPREME KNIGHT CARL A. ANDERSON ON THE 2008 ELECTION



The election of Barack Obama represents an important moment in American history. Although much has been done to eradicate racial enmity in America since the days when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. led the civil rights movement four decades ago, Senator Obama's election represents a decisive affirmation of our national commitment to racial equality.

Having had the privilege of serving on the United States Commission on Civil Rights, I believe that we cannot overstate the importance of the election in this regard.

America will face many urgent problems during the years to come, and we must work together to come up with solutions.

It is also said that we may face challenges from abroad during the early months of the new administration. No potential foe should ever doubt that we will stand together as a nation in the face of such a challenge.

We join with the Catholic Bishops of the United States in extending our congratulations to the president-elect and offer our prayers that God will grant him strength and wisdom during the years to come.

We are grateful that citizens of California, Florida and Arizona voted to approve state constitutional amendments recognizing marriage as between one man and one woman. Marriage is the institution that provides the optimal environment for having and raising children, and clear majorities, in every one of the 30 states where this question has been presented to voters, have decided to preserve this understanding in their constitutions.

MARRIAGE IS PROMOTED, PROTECTED WITH KNIGHTS SUPPORT

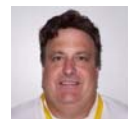
The Knights of Columbus was instrumental in protecting traditional marriage during the recent elections, and continues to work to promote and strengthen marriage in society.

At both the local and Supreme Council levels, the Order provided financial and volunteer support to help pass constitutional amendments defining marriage as the union between one man and one woman in Florida, Arizona and California. Indeed, in every state where constitutional amendments have been proposed to preserve the traditional definition of marriage, Knights have been actively involved in the victories.

Additionally, the Order is funding the work of a new ad hoc committee of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), formed to promote the Church's understanding of marriage and respond to threats against it. Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Ky., the committee's chair, said the committee hopes to "make known the uniqueness and beauty of the institution of marriage." He added that the direct attempt to "restructure" marriage is detrimental to the family, society and marriage itself, and also has "serious consequences" for the Church's mission.

Supreme Chaplain Bishop William E. Lori of Bridgeport, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Doctrine, was also named a member of the committee. Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson will serve as a consultant.

MESSAGE FROM OUR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS



From your Recorder and Community Director ...

Brother Knights,

Christmas is just around the corner- the birth of our savior Jesus Christ. Jesus came into this world to show us the way. His life was not easy. Jesus did not live the life of a king. Nor did the Apostles have an easy life. As a brother Knight, I would like us to remember these things when we feel the burden of serving in this ministry. Yes, it is a ministry and we should do our best to be practical practicing Catholics-Always. We need to support each other, both in the events we provide and in our relationships with each other. We need to rally together, especially in prayer. Work together peacefully. We say "Keep the Christ in Christmas." I say keep Christ in your day, everyday. Let us remember our troops away from the ones they love. Giving up their freedom so others may be free. Just as Jesus laid down his life so we all may live. We are all called to love our neighbors, and love our Lord the best we can each and every day.

May the peace of our Lord be upon you always, God bless, and MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Brother Dean at your service...



From your Council Director...

To all my Brother Knights,

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As we begin our busy shopping season, let us take a moment and remember the true meaning of Christmas; and that is the birth of our Savior. Take time to thank him for the abundance in our lives. And remember now is the time to put aside our petty differences that we may have with friends colleagues or Brother Knights and truly get into the Spirit of Christmas. May the Lord bless all of you this Holiday Season.

Your brother in Christ, Ray Gomez

UPCOMING EVENTS



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

This month the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on December 4th and January 1st beginning at 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Please plan on spending one hour with our Lord.

1st SATURDAY ROSARY FOR THE TROOPS

Please make time to join us every first Saturday of the month following the 8:00 am mass. We will be saying one decade of the Rosary for peace in the middle east in unison with our Brother Knights in Iraq who will simultaneously be saying one decade Rosary before their evening mass.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY

Two events this month will take place at our parish which honors the Blessed Virgin Mary.

On Sunday, December 7th, the Rosarios Guadalupanos Group and other Ministerios Hispanos will be hosting the Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration beginning at 5:00 am with a Rosary and ending around 1:00 pm with its Fiesta Guadalupana. For those Knights that are able too, please show your support to other ministries and other parishioners of this parish by attending.

Also remember to plan ahead for the Immaculate Conception of Mary on Monday, December 8th. This Holy Day of Obligation celebrates that Mary, the Mother of God, was free from sin from the moment of her conception in the womb of her mother. Please plan on attending Mass.

ANNUAL CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Council 6028 will hold its Annual Children's Christmas Party for needy families on Saturday, December 20th. Festivities will begin around 12 noon in the O'Callaghan Center. This year, as in the past, we need Brother Knights to help make this event a successful one. A phone tree message will be sent to all Council members requesting your assistance. Please give freely of your time whatever it may be.

8TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Hacienda Heights Interfaith Council of Churches will be holding it 8th Annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 14th at 7:30 p.m. at St John Vianney Catholic Church. Seven Choirs from various churches will perform including the SJV Adult and Children's choirs. This is a perfect event to get the whole family in the Holiday Spirit.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Wednesday, December 17th the Father Felix J. Penna along with Council 6028 will having a Christmas Party in Dolan Hall beginning at 7:00 pm. Bring your favorite gourmet dish to share and take a break from the busy holiday season and come relax with Brother Knights. All family and children are welcome.

ADOPT A FAMILY

The St. Vincent DePaul Society is once again coordinating the Adopt a Family program through our Parish. If you or your family is interested in adopting a needy family please call the Corpus Christi Center before December 15th. There is no better way to have a Merry Christmas than to see Christ in others.

STATE LINE OVERNIGHT TRIP TO WHISKEY PETES

The State Line Overnight Trip to Whiskey Pete has been postponed to May. We will be sending additional information in the coming months. Please plan on attending.

INSURANCE CORNER

A SEASON OF THANKS AND GIVING

Now that the holidays are approaching, this is a good time to sit down with me and discuss your family's current financial circumstances and your future plans.

Life insurance is truly one of the best gifts a member can buy for himself and for his family. Think about it: what else can you put under the Christmas tree that can

- Guarantee that the mortgage would be paid off when you pass away, and
- Provide a way for you to ensure money is available for your dependents or heirs to attend college, whether you live or die, and

- Ensure your family's financial survival if you, your spouse, or both of you met an untimely death, and. . .
- Provide supplemental income if needed during your lifetime?

Financial hardship **IS** preventable. By taking some prudent steps now, you can protect your loved ones against the possibility of your death without sacrificing future savings. This is a tough subject at this time of year, but it is something we cannot forget.

Please give me a call at 909-606-0262 or e-mail me at gerry.cacnio@kofc.org so we can help your family.

Marlene, Sam, Elmer, David and I wish you and yours a Blessed Christmas and New Year!

Yours in Christ,
Gerry Cacnio
Field Agent

REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

DID YOU KNOW?

Advent has begun! Many Catholic families will bring the advent wreath out of storage and set it in a prominent place on the dining room table. As often as practicable over these four weeks preceding Christmas, we will gather as a family, light a candle, recite a prayer and sing together- inviting the coming of the Lord into our lives. So will millions of Christians the world over.

The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin words, "ad-venio" or "adventus", which both signify a coming. It is a liturgical "season" in the Catholic Church and has birthed important customs in Catholic faith and life. Customs that form a framework, a texture that is meant to bring faith to life and form patterns for our daily lives which can move us forward in the Christian life.

The actual celebration of Advent as a season of preparation for Christmas dates back as early as the fourth century. It has grown throughout the history of the Western Church to become a significant part of the pattern of life, faith, culture and worship that is Catholic Christianity.

For four special weeks, preceding the great celebration of the Incarnation, the Nativity of the Lord Jesus, ("Christ-Mass"), many western Christians (Catholics and others) are invited to prepare, to "get ready", to anticipate His coming(s)

The focus of Advent is preparation for the coming of the Lord -- both in commemoration of His Nativity and His coming again at the end of time. Though most Protestants -- and far too many Catholics -- see this time of year as a part of the "Christmas Season," it isn't; the Christmas season does not begin until the first Mass at Christmas Eve, and doesn't end liturgically until the Octave of the Epiphany on January 14. It goes on in the spiritual sense until Candlemas on February 2, when all celebrations of Christ's Childhood give way to Septuagesima and Lent.

The mood of *this* season is one of somber spiritual preparation that increases in joy with each day, and the gaudy "Christmas" commercialism that surrounds it in the Western world should be overcome as much as possible. The singing of Christmas carols (which comes earlier and earlier each year), the talk of "Christmas" as a present reality, the decorated trees and the parties -- these things are "out of season" for Catholics; we should strive to keep the Seasons of Advent holy and penitential, always remembering, as they say, that "He is the reason for the Season."

To sum up the similarities and differences between Advent and Lent as penitential seasons, there's this, by Fr. Lawrence Smith: Advent is the time to make ready for Christ to live with us. Lent is the time to make us ready to die with Christ. Advent makes Lent possible. Lent makes salvation possible. Advent is the time when eternity approaches earth. Lent is the time when time reaches consummation in Christ's eternal Sacrifice to the Father. Advent leads to Christ's life in time on earth. Lent leads to Christ's eternal Life in Heaven. The Cross -- through the Mass, penance, and mortification -- is the bridge connecting Advent and Lent, Christ and His Church, man and God. Each of the Church's penitential seasons is a dying to the world with the goal of attaining new life in Christ.

Catholic apologist Jacob Michael wrote something very interesting about how secular America sees "Christmas" as beginning after Thanksgiving and ending on 25 December, and then makes "New Years Resolutions" at the beginning of the secular year: ...what Christians do (or should be doing!) during Advent and leading up to Christmas is a foreshadowing of what they will do during the days of their lives that lead up to the Second Coming; what non-Christians refuse to do during Advent, and put off until after Christmas, is precisely a foreshadowing of what they will experience at the Second Coming.

We Christians are to prepare for the Coming of Christ before He actually comes -- and that Coming is symbolized and recalled at Christmas. Non-Christians miss this season of preparation, and then scramble for six days after the 25th to make their resolutions. By then, however, it's too late -- Christmas has come and gone, Our Lord has already made His visitation to the earth, and He has found them unprepared. This is precisely what will take place at the Second Coming, when those who have put off for their entire lives the necessary preparations will suddenly be scrambling to put their affairs in order. Unfortunately, by then it will have been too late, and there will be no time for repentance. The Second Coming will be less forgiving than the Incarnation. There will be no four-week warning period before the Second Coming, like we get during Advent. There will be no six-day period of grace after the Second Coming during which to make resolutions and self-examination, like the secular world does from Dec. 26 until Jan. 1.

So please, restore Advent and don't think "Christmas is here" until it truly comes. *Taken from the FISHEATERS website at www.fisheaters.com*

PRAYER REQUEST

During this Advent and Christmas Season please remember all of our deceased members of the Knights of Columbus Family who have gone to their eternal rest and also those Brother Knights that are suffering from infirmities or the burdens of this season.



Remember all our soldiers serving this country and who are away from their families this holiday season. May the Lord grant them and their families the strength they will need during this Christmas Holiday.

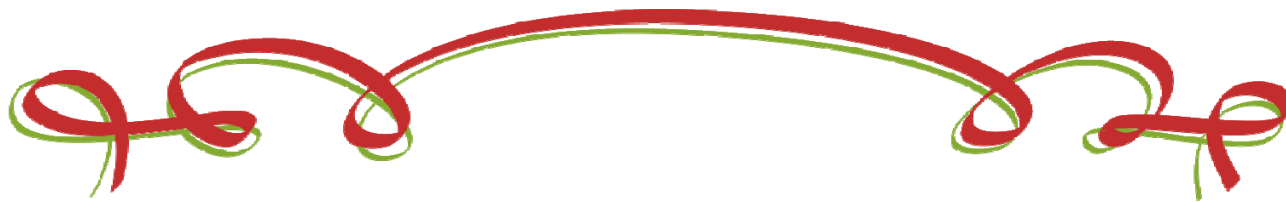
Finally, remember all those less fortunate including the homeless, impoverished, terminally ill, mentally ill, and anyone suffering through difficult times. May the lord grant to them the peace they are seeking.

NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

Council 6028 is accepting sponsorship from Brother Knights and local businesses in order to defray costs of the newsletter. If you are interested in advertising, please email Ray Gomez at rgomez@kc6028.org.

Advertisements listed in this newsletter should not be construed as an endorsement of the business, product or individual, by Shepherd of Ars Council 6028, its officers or its members. It is done for the benefit of Brother Knights and their supporters. Discretion and good judgment is always necessary when patronizing listed businesses.

PLACE YOUR AD HERE

**COUNCIL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS PHONE LIST****2008-2009 Columbian Year**

Grand Knight	Efrain Delgadillo	(909) 762-4195
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Lecturer	Lino Barro	(626) 622-1202
Warden	James Hernandez	(626) 968-8665
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2nd Year Trustee	Vacant	
3rd Year Trustee	Joseph Sofka	(714) 396-4849
Church Director	Roy Haber	(626) 475-4467
Community Director	Dean Avram	(562) 577-3037
Council Director	Ray Gomez	(626) 315-7325
Family Director	Roger Meehan	(626) 271-4259
Youth Director	James Hernandez	(626) 968-8665

2008-2009 OFFICERS

Grand Knight

Efrain Delgadillo

Deputy Grand Knight

Joe Mansueto

Chancellor

Roy Haber

Recorder

Dean Avram

Financial Secretary

Joel Johnson

Treasurer

Rollin Dunbar

Advocate

Dominic Niccolli

Lecturer

Lino Barro

Warden

James Hernandez

Inside Guard

Gabriel Ortega

Outside Guard

Pete Pulido

Trustees

Roger Meehan (1stYear)

Vacant (2nd Year)

Joe Sofka (3rdYear)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wed., December 3rd

Thu., December 4th

Sat., December 6th

Mon., December 8th

Wed., December 10th

Sat., December 13th

Wed., December 24th

Thu., December 25th

Thu., January 1st

Sat., January 3rd

Sun., January 4th

Wed., January 7th

Wed., January 14th

Mon., January 19th

Wed., January 28th

Officer's Meeting @ Dolan Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament @ St. John Vianney Church beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Rosary for Peace @ St John Vianney Church following morning mass

Immaculate Conception

Business Meeting @ Dolan Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Party @ O'Callaghan Center (tentative)

Open Meeting @ Dolan Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Day

New Year's Day

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Rosary for Peace @ St. John Vianney Church following morning mass

Pancake and Menudo Breakfast @ O'Callaghan Center following all morning masses

Officer's Meeting @ Dolan Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Business Meeting @ Dolan Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Martin Luther King Holiday

1st Degree Exemplification @ Dolan Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Please be sure to check www.kc6028.org for the most current calendar



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
SHEPHERD OF ARS COUNCIL 6028
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HACIENDA HEIGHTS, CA 91745-3153

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year