

The Lancer

“Strong in Faith and Service”
February 2016



The Monthly Newsletter of the Knights of Columbus
St. John the Baptist Council No. 10232

P.O. Box 252

Madison, AL 35758

Website: <http://madison-kc.org>



Dear Faithful Brother Knights and Families:

As we prepare to enter the Lenten Season, let us take this opportunity to get our act together and become closer to God. All of us are called to conversion.

Brothers no matter what our state is in life, as knights we are called to constantly form ourselves in the faith. The idea for many of us is that a religious conversion consists of a once-and-done decision. Influenced by evangelical revivalist preachers, many think conversion is the same thing as "going forward," "getting saved" or "accepting Jesus into my heart as my personal Lord and Savior."

For too many, conversion is equated with an emotional religious experience of repentance and acceptance of Christ's forgiveness. Furthermore, too many of us may wrongly think that this once-and-done experience provides a free ticket to heaven. This is not true conversion. The conversion of St. Paul happened on the road to Damascus, but when we read his epistles, we see that the struggle continued. In his Letter to the Romans, he cries out, "O sinful man that I am! That which I would do I do not do, and that which I hate I do" (Romans 7:19). St. Paul was a work in progress. His conversion was not completed on the road to Damascus — it was only just begun. Let us begin our conversion this Lent. Like St. Paul it will be a work in progress.

But how can we do this after we have rejected Him so often? For making God in our own image and likeness, and not living in the image and likeness of Him who created us? Can we turn our lives around and find our way back to God? Yes, we can! By getting on our knees, and by saying, My God, forgive me! I'm sorry, help me! When we recognize that we have sinned, and all of us have sinned, then He will repay us with mercy.

This is the season of repentance and the Jubilee Year of Mercy! Let us then prepare ourselves, by fasting, praying, giving of our time and talent, learning to let go of those things that seem to own us, by strengthening our wills! Through the gift of faith, we live our lives in a different dimension of reality. Through the gift of faith, we march to a different drummer; and thus we will follow a path of true conversion at the most foundational level of our being.

Fraternally,
Danny Garcia

Family of the Month

The family of the month is very much involved in the church and the Knights of Columbus. The Family of the Month for February is **Pat and Maureen Haas**.

Knight of the Month

The Knight of the Month is involved in many activities within the council. This month's Knight of the Month is **Brother Chris Major**.

Important Council Announcements

- **Council 10232 Past Dues Now Being Collected!**

The council is collecting past dues. They can be paid at the council meeting on **October 1st** or by remitting a check (**please no cash**) in the amount of **\$40** (you may add an extra \$5 for the council's charity fund if you like) payable to "**Council 10232**" to **Ron Belz, Financial Secretary at 78 Jay Drive, Madison, AL 35758**. **Please contact the Grand Knight for relief of dues should a financial or medical condition exists.**

- **Bunco, Sunday February 14, Church Basement**

The October Bunco game will occur on Sunday February 14th beginning at 6:30pm. Bunco is a fun dice game for adults, which permits fun adult fellowship. No skill is required, only \$5 a person and a covered dish to share.

Council 10232 Service Activities

Church Activities

First Saturday Mass and Benediction February 6th

The council has been actively supporting the First Saturday devotion conducted on the first Saturday of each month. Mass begins at 8:30am in the chapel, which will be followed by Holy Hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Council Prayers for Priests Team

The purpose of this program is to pray for our priests by name on a daily basis for his priestly intentions and his personal sanctification. This is accomplished through a team concept. When a priest is selected, a Team Leader is identified to recruit six other team members thus forming a seven-member team. Each Team Member attends Mass on his designated day of the week, recites at least one decade of the Holy Rosary daily, also recites the Chaplet of Divine Mercy daily, and says the Daily Commitment Prayer daily. Participation in this program is not restricted to members of the Knights of Columbus, but would be open for participation to any Catholic desiring to participate. I hope you will offer your full support to this program and will be an active participant. Please contact Brother Joe McCarty to volunteer at joemccarty@ohiocpa.net.

Council Activities

Lenten Fish Dinners

It's time once again for our fish dinners. All members are encouraged to come out help, eat, and enjoy the dinners. Please see the pdf briefing sent on 2/1/2016 for dinner details.

Dinner #1 – February 12th
Dinner #2 – February 19th
Dinner #3 – February 26th
Dinner #4 – March 4th
Dinner #5 – March 11th
Dinner #6 – March 18th

Council Caps and Shirts

A small inventory of shirts and caps were purchased and are available for members to purchase for \$30 for a shirt and \$20 for a cap.

Blood Drive, February 20th

Please turn out to support the next blood drive scheduled for the third Saturday in February. The need for blood is ever present and your gift could literally save several lives.

Youth Activities

Skate Night A Success

A word of thanks to brother Eric Herbert and all of the council members that turned out to support the council's first skate night at the Insanity Skate Park in Madison. The event saw 120 people take part in this fun family event.

Free Throw Competition, Friday February 5th

A word of thanks to brother Tom O'Donnell for planning, scheduling, and holding the free throw competition on Friday February 5th in the St. John's gym. Boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are eligible to compete. The competition is free to all. The event begins at 6:30pm and runs until 8:00pm.

Minutes for Council Business Meeting of January 7, 2016

The Grand Knight opened the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Opening Prayer: The GK requested prayer petitions from the 41 members present. This was followed by a prayer given by Joe McCarty that is for blessed Father Michael J. McGivney, the founder of the Knights of Columbus.

Pledge of Allegiance

GK Remarks/Welcome:

- We welcomed Dewey Granger, a transfer from a council in Oklahoma.
- A word of thanks to brother John Horch for arranging our annual Christmas dinner event at Terra Nova's. The GK made a special presentation of the Knights medal to John for his ongoing support of the council activities.
- The Family of the Month for January is John and Sue Phillip. John was the lead in the Christmas banner project. This brought a \$2900 profit to the council; this will be distributed to the deaconates' and seminarians to assist in their spiritual journey. John was the lead in this project and did it almost single-handed. Great effort.
- The Knight of the Month is Brother Tom O'Donnell. While also being the council treasurer, he was the driving force in getting the holiday billboard message out to the driving public. He also stewarded the ID drive that provides monies to the Madison schools for those with disabilities. He noted that if you were to visit the teachers and classrooms, you could see the benefit to our efforts. Regards the ID drive, Tom urged members to support Wal-Mart and Kroger as they were very generous in allowing us to use their premises for gathering the ID drive contributions. Tom spoke of the assistance provided to a church member affected by the recent rains and flooding.

- GK reported on brother who made an unanimous donation of \$1150 to assist a parish family who suffered flooding issues during the Christmas holiday.
- The GK spoke of A St. John's workday being planned in the near future to do some minor repairs around our church.
- Saturday is coming up on 2/6/16. Council members are encouraged to participate. Ash Wednesday will follow quickly, 2/10; followed by our 1st fish fry on 2/12/16.

Activity Reports:

- John Horch spoke of the successful recent night out. He also needs recommendations for future events.
- John Horch mentioned a Red Cross program to reduce or eliminate home fire injury and death. The RC is coordinating with local groups (K of C) to get the word out and participate in the installation of free (no cost to the user) smoke alarms. The GK named John as head of the aforementioned committee.
- Dave Agrusa talked about a high school group raising money to participate in the Washington DC March for Life. They are raising money by serving at the IHOP in Madison as part of the effort and pooling tips and contributions. There will be a pancake breakfast at St. Johns this Sunday to provide further support for their trip.
- Joe McCarty mentioned the "free Throw" contest to be held on 2/5/16 in the school gym. He is looking for member support. The district deputy will be called upon to provide prizes for the winners as well as deliver those for the recently help soccer competition.
- The Birmingham March for Life will be held on 1/16/16. The council members are urged to get together and support this worthy cause. Car pools are encouraged. Depending on your car pool, both breakfast and dinner are possible during the trip. Mass will be held at the cathedral with the march to follow. See Joe McCarty for additional detail.
- The 23rd of January is the date for St. John's parish members to enjoy a fun-filled evening roller-skating at the Madison Insanity Skate Park located at 100 Skate Park Drive in Madison from 7PM to closing. Admission per person has been reduced to \$5.00 and that includes admission and skate rental. The Knights will provide pizza and soft drinks to attendees.
- On the horizon: Huntsville Havoc Hockey in February.
- 1st degree members were reminded of the upcoming 2nd and 3rd degree exemplifications at Our Queen of the Universe on the 1st Saturday in March.

FS Report:

- Ron Belz , the financial secretary, gave an upbeat report. We have 297 members including 10 new members; our quota for new members is 20. Dues collection has begun and is ongoing.

Treasurer's Report:

- Tom O'Donnell provided a written report to the council.

New Business:

- It was moved by brother Mike Dauphinais, that Council 10232 make a \$100 contribution to the high school youth group to help defray expenses for their trip to Washington DC to participate in the March for Life. Motion seconded by John Phillip. Passed.

Faithful Navigator's Report:

- It was pointed out that the council may be requested to sponsor the council at the new

- Mercy parish.
- Tom Hart gave info about the Bunko game. This time it will be held on 1/17, a delay of a week owing to a conflict with other church activities.
- John Horch noted the next blood drive on the 3rd Saturday in February.

50/50 Raffle: \$73 raised.

Closing Prayer

Meeting Adjourned: 8:25 PM

Respectfully given,
Mike Dauphinais, Recorder.

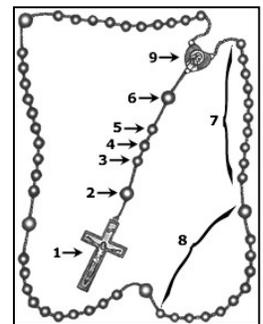
Devine Mercy Chaplet

1. Make the Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2. Optional Opening Prayers

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us. O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!



3. Our Father

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.

4. Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

5. The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

6. The Eternal Father

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

7. On the Ten Small Beads of Each Decade

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

8. Repeat for the remaining decades

Saying the "Eternal Father" (6) on the "Our Father" bead and then 10 "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion" (7) on the following "Hail Mary" beads.

9. Conclude with Holy God (Repeat three times)

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

10. Optional Closing Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion — inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

Fraternal Benefits Advisor

Please do not forget about our greatest fraternal benefit, our insurance program. Call brother Ziak and schedule an appointment to review your coverage today.

Brother Paul Ziak

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