



# Knighly News

Fr. Ben Powers Council #1315  
Knights of Columbus

Bowling Green, KY  
(270) 782-6488

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## Chaplin's Corner

Recently I was reading a catholic newspaper and found an interesting article on "Who's most responsible for the Church: Priests? Laity? The article begins with a very interesting statistic; that one of every 10 Americans is former Catholics'.

Based on this statistic the author conducted a survey. The results of the survey were very interesting and indicated "its' ultimately the fault of the priests." He cited some of the comments received from the survey, which were; "slights endured from imperious and unpastoral pastors, lack of catechetical content in homilies, as well as weak homilies and that some described parishes in which catechesis and the sacraments seem an afterthought." He continues his discussion stating the results of blaming the clergy makes sense, as Christ did set up our Church as a Hierarchy guaranteed by apostolic succession.

As Church leaders the Priest has an awesome responsibility for the souls of his parish. But he then changes focus asking this question "what are our responsibilities' as laypeople in all of this?" He goes on to discuss how tempted we are to criticize clergy and feel our roll is to "pray, pay and obey." Then he draws attention to our embracing the priesthood we share by virtue of our baptism.

The key element of this is most vividly displayed on the cross: "self-sacrifice and conformity of one's will to God's. The more we succeed at this, the more committed to daily discernment of God's call we are. He closes the article with this "the more we succeed and commit to this discernment of God's answers and not our own we will be stirred to wonder for what purpose God has made our paths cross, and what does God expect of us.

Today we face many challenges in our Church and we need to focus on the long term health of the Church, both clergy and laity, through teaching faith in Jesus. Do we know someone who has left the church? If so have you reached out to them?

Deacon Bob

## In Memorium

### Father Dan Sheehan died April 6, 2008

Father Dan Sheehan of the Fathers of Mercy was called to his eternal reward on Sunday, April 6. Father Dan was ordained June 20, 1946. We thank him for saying yes to the priesthood and for being a faithful priest for almost 62 years.

He was active in the Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree. Father Dan was also a Board Member of Barren River Right to Life and was an active participant in the pro life movement. Father Dan touched many lives and had a great love for the poor. Father Dan was also an active participant in a weekly Prayer Meeting.

May his soul rest in peace.

## May Anniversaries

01	Brian & Miranda Clements
01	Robert & Peggy Jameson
01	Donald & Mary Kay Korte
01	Jim & Yvonne Mullen
02	Francis & Paddy Gerbic
03	John & Donna Matukas
04	William & Carolyn Siebold
05	Tom & Mary Gaietto
08	John & Diane Beeckler
08	Jonathan & Angel Duncan
08	Richard & Joyce Wanta
09	Larry & Crystal Halida
10	Raymond & Jeanie Spears
11	Gerald & Dolores Frey
12	Richard & Cynthia Gensler
12	William & Cynthia Helfrich
13	Steve & Linda Keene
15	Brent & Elaine Mason
16	Charles & Tanya Gries
16	William & Penny Payne
18	Terry & Pam Hatler
18	Anthony & Pauline Romano
19	H. Todd & Debbie Conway
19	Tom & Fran Smolen
20	Michael & Amy Buser
20	Stanley & Nann Harwood
20	Chuck & Deirdre Lawless
22	Horst & Melanie Benhart
25	Dennis & Betty Yu Chen
28	Jeffrey & Julie Altfillisch
28	Stephen & Mary Kovar
28	Michael "Dwayne" & Shelley Mattingly
28	Nick & Wendy Noble
28	James & Beth Ann Schaeffer
29	John & Krista Yeric
30	Hank & Lorraine Bormann
30	Glenn & Edith Lohr
30	Wilbert & Marelle Normand

## Community Activities

Adopt-a-Highway - 03/26/08: Nineteen bags of trash were collected by brothers Tom Gaietto, Dick Gensler, John Goessling, Del Hayden, Ed Hurt, Dick Jakel and Tony Meffert. Tom Gaietto also picked up a substantial amount of trash on our KC property, especially along the airport fence. The new trash-picker-uppers made the job easier and less stressful for our backs. Many thanks to all.

Nativity Sets Project: No firm decision has been made regarding building additional Nativity sets, however we are exploring the idea of building 20 (instead of 30) sets this year. Holy Spirit has granted permission to use the small barn at Parkside. We currently have orders for 12 sets. Do any Knights want a set? Who will be able to help if we decide to proceed with the cutting/building/painting? Let me know if you can help, especially as a cutter.

Del Hayden, Community Activities Chair

## Important Dates

### MAY 2008

06	Officers Meeting
06	Charity Committee Meeting
13	Council Meeting
15	Fourth Degree
17	Texas Hold-em State Convention
19	June Newsletter articles due
27	Columbus Club

### JUNE 2008

03	Officers Meeting
03	Charity Committee Meeting
10	Council Meeting
19	Fourth Degree
20	July Newsletter articles due
24	Columbus Club

### JULY 2008

01	Officers Meeting
01	Charity Committee Meeting
08	Council Meeting
17	Fourth Degree
21	July Newsletter articles due
22	Columbus Club

- Bingo is every Monday night at 5:00 p.m.

## May Birthdays

07	Lowell Hatfield
10	Tom Smolen
14	Seth Spears
16	Dennis Hinkle
18	Steve Thornton
19	George Calta Jr.
21	Derek Helm
23	Chris Deglow
23	James Weis
24	Bob Graham
24	Christopher Hamilton
25	Billy Metzger
25	Raymond Symicek
26	Mark Pitcock
26	David Schmidt
27	Raymond Spears
27	Matthew Thacker
28	Charles Peters III
28	Timothy Vogel
30	John Haynes
31	Francis Gerbic
31	William Liscomb

# Submitted by Tom Parrott

NRL News, Page 3, March 2008, Volume 35, Issue 3

## It's the Economy ... NO, THE SUPREME COURT!

By Wanda Franz

*As Democrats dream about the possibility of retaking the White House in 2008, they are also fantasizing about their first Supreme Court appointments since 1994. But the bench of potential candidates is surprisingly thin....[M]ost of the sitting Democratic appellate judges are too old to be considered plausible Supreme Court candidates....*

*That leaves only one other category of potential Democratic justices: current and former politicians.... Politicians ... tend to be more pragmatic than ideological and ... [can] build majorities and transform the Court in their own image [emphasis added].*

*[A]ny Democratic justice appointed from politics would have to be book smart as well as a ruthlessly determined politician. All of which means that the next Democratic president may have only one obvious candidate for the first Supreme Court vacancy: Once Obama has beaten [Hillary] Clinton, or vice versa, and gone on to the White House, the winner can appoint the loser to the Supreme Court.*

-- Jeffrey Rosen, legal affairs editor of The New Republic ("Why the Dems lack Supreme Court nominees," 2/27/2008)

Jeffrey Rosen may appear to be "dreaming" or "fantasizing," but he is certainly serious about his suggestion. And pro-lifers must take this scenario seriously, too. (Most likely, Bill Clinton was not considered an "obvious candidate" by Rosen because Clinton was disbarred for several years after he had given false testimony in court and has, well, other "baggage.")

Pro-abortion Democrats may be "dreaming" and "fantasizing" about either Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama "transforming the Court in their own image," but for pro-lifers such a turn of events would be a nightmare. It would be bad enough if either of them were to become president, but to have a "twofer" with the Democratic primary elections loser becoming a Supreme Court justice would try our patience to the utmost. In the case of such a calamity, the marshal's words at the beginning of a Court session would then become our fervent prayer: "God Save the United States and this Honorable Court!"

Anyone who doubts that a President Hillary Clinton or a President Barack Obama would appoint anyone but a rigid pro-abortionist to the Supreme Court should keep in mind the common refrain at an Obama rally: "Yes, we can!"

Let's face it. Once again the Democratic Party is offering this country only presidential candidates who are enthusiastically "pro-choice"—that is pro-abortion. The only antidote to that sad situation is that the other major party offers us a candidate who is pro-life and can win.

This late in the election season, debates about who is the "most" pro-life candidate, who is the "perfect" candidate, etc., are not only meaningless—they are outright dangerous. Dividing the pro-life voting contingent with such debates makes it only easier for the pro-abortionists to succeed on Election Day.

Anyone who insists on finding and supporting only the "perfect" pro-life candidate should look in the mirror. Are you a "perfect" pro-life voter? Will your "perfect" actions (or inactions) draw votes from an "imperfect" pro-life candidate and thus make it more likely that the pro-abortion candidate wins? For the sake of the unborn, be honest and realistic here!

Are you more interested in "making a statement" than making a positive, pro-life difference?

Are you willing, for the sake of "principle," to sacrifice the lives of millions of future unborn children by handing a victory to the pro-abortionists, so that they can "transform the Court in their own image" for decades to come?

In my previous column I gave you the reasons and figures on how, over 25 years, pro-life work and laws have saved the lives of millions of unborn children. All this progress will be jeopardized if a Democratic pro-abortionist wins the presidency and, in concert with the pro-abortion Democratic leadership in the House and Senate, pushes for and finally puts his signature on a law like the infamous "Freedom of Choice Act." It would mean the end to effective pro-life laws, and pro-lifers could no longer claim that the Supreme Court imposed abortion on demand through extra-constitutional "legislating from the bench"—no, the people's elected representatives would have done it.

Given the possibility of a pro-abortion sweep of the executive and legislative leadership, are you willing to stay at home on Election Day for the "sake of principle" or "making a statement" or what not? Are the lives of the unborn that unimportant to you? I hope not.

Those who think that a pro-abortion president can not "really" do much damage are not learning from history. Look at the "centrist," but pro-abortion Bill Clinton. On his first day in office he rescinded the pro-life policies of his predecessors, presidents Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush. He brought the abortion drug RU-486 to this country. He appointed the extreme pro-abortionist Ruth Bader Ginsburg to the Supreme Court. He vigorously pursued a pro-abortion agenda at the United Nations and worldwide. He wanted to make abortion a routine medical procedure ("no questions asked," as one commentator and later Clinton advisor put it) in the Clintons' national health care plan. He wanted to sign the "Freedom of Choice Act" (which didn't pass Congress after an enormous lobbying effort by pro-lifers). And let's not forget his dishonest slogan that "abortion should be safe, legal, and rare"—how can abortion be rare if it is legal? (Anyone for "legal" embezzlement or theft?) Those are only the highlights. Had enough?

The facts about the upcoming presidential election are quite clear: if the pro-life candidate doesn't win, pro-lifers are in for a very difficult time for years to come. Worse, the real loser will be the unborn babies who will be sacrificed on the altar of "choice." What will you do?

# News from the Patriotic Fourth Degree

The Fr. Alexander Korte Fourth Degree Assembly 2231 had a wonderful turnout for the Religious Appreciation Dinner on March 27, 2008. We were pleased to have so many of our local Priests, Brothers, and Deacons attend a dinner to honor their dedication to God's call to guide His flock.

We were deeply honored with the presence of Bishop John J. McRaith who was the very first person to accept the invitation to join us in this celebration. While he was invited as a guest, we did put him to work. He filled the role of our Faithful Friar as Fr. Brian Johnson was called away unexpectedly due to a death of a member of his parish. The Bishop commented on what a great blessing it has been to be associated with the Knights of Columbus organization. He went on to say whenever the Knights have been asked to support a cause of the Church; they have never failed to deliver!

The most touching part of our meeting, and my primary reason for writing this article, was the presentation of a Memorial Chalice in honor of one of our departed Sir Knights, R.E. Hayden. For those who may not be familiar with this program, the Fourth Degree Assembly offers its members the opportunity to participate in the Memorial program for a small annual fee. In the occasion of the passing of a Sir Knight, the money can be used as a donation or to purchase an inscribed Chalice which is donated to a church of his choosing. R.E. Hayden requested a Chalice to be donated to the Glenmary Missioners, and his son Rick Hayden, Jr. was able to attend this meeting. His acceptance of the Chalice was very emotional, and filled with kind words for the Knights of Columbus who, as Rick said, were his dad's "second family." He wanted to thank all the Knights for being there throughout the years for his Dad and for him and his brother, Chris as they were growing up. There were many fond memories that he recalled which created this special bond that can never be broken. It's hard to imagine how simple acts of friendship, and working together for a common cause in the Knights of Columbus can forge lasting relationships and memories for us and our families.

## Council 1315 Family of the Month – April 2008

### JACK & GINNY FRENCH

Jack and Ginny French moved to Bowling Green from Jacksonville, FL in 1992. They are both originally from Philadelphia, PA, but Jack was a commanding officer in the Navy for eight years and his last station was in Jacksonville.

Jack joined the Knights of Columbus in Bowling Green in 1992 at the invitation of Tom Gaietto. Jack and Tom were both employed by General Electric Motor Division in Scottsville.

Jack travels considerably for the company for which he is currently employed, but attends our 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree meetings as often as possible. He has participated in the Tootsie Roll Drives and Christmas Basket programs, as well as working Bingo on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month.

Jack and Ginny belong to Holy Spirit Parish and participate in the Married Couples Group, and serve coffee and doughnuts after Sunday Mass.

Ginny has been involved in Holy Spirit's Children's Ministries (Nursery, Young Children's Catechist/Children's Liturgy of the Word), Sacramental Teams, RCIA Sponsor, and she chairs the Catechetical Leadership Committee.

Holy Spirit Church is involved in a capital campaign to raise money to build a new church, administrative office, rectory, etc. Recently, Ginny was asked by Father Jerry Riney to make a presentation on the subject. Ginny said her family discussed it, prayed about it, and then reached a decision. Her presentation at church was truly convincing and inspirational to the congregation.

Jack and Ginny have been married 22 years. They have two children: Megan, 13 and Christopher, 7.

Congratulations to our Family of the Month – Jack and Ginny French.

## May Mass Readings

### Sunday, May 1 (Ascension of the Lord)

First Reading ..... Acts 1:1-11  
Second Reading ..... Ephesians 1:17-23  
Gospel ..... Matthew 28:16-20

### Sunday, May 4

First Reading ..... Acts 1:12-14  
Second Reading ..... First Peter 4:13-16  
Gospel ..... John 17:1-11

### Sunday, May 11 (Pentecost)

First Reading ..... Acts 2:1-11  
Second Reading ..... First Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13  
Gospel ..... John 20:19-23

### Sunday, May 18

First Reading ..... Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9  
Second Reading ..... Second Corinthians 13:11-13  
Gospel ..... John 3:16-18

### Sunday, May 25

First Reading ..... Isaiah 49:14-15  
Second Reading ..... First Corinthians 4:1-5  
Gospel ..... Matthew 6:24-34

# An Unparalleled Model

4/23/2008

**In proclaiming our founder a Venerable Servant of God, Pope Benedict XVI has given the Knights a great spiritual gift.**

**By Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson**

In proclaiming our founder a Venerable Servant of God, Pope Benedict XVI has given the Knights a great spiritual gift. On Palm Sunday, many of us awoke to the news that the Vatican had declared our founder, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be a "Venerable Servant of God."

In other words, the Holy Father had determined that Father McGivney indeed lived a life of heroic virtue. It is clear to the universal Church that Father McGivney is a model of Christian life.

He exemplified the theological virtues of faith, hope and charity as well as the moral virtues of humility, prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance. He demonstrated these virtues amid the difficulties of his life as a parish priest and in founding the Knights of Columbus.

Pope Benedict XVI has thus far blessed the Church with two encyclicals, *Deus Caritas Est (God Is Love)* and *Spe Salvi (On Christian Hope)*. Through these encyclicals he has called Catholics to reconsider the basics of their faith and to deepen their intellectual and spiritual understanding of faith, hope and charity.

Now Pope Benedict has blessed our Order with the new proclamation of Father McGivney as "Venerable Servant of God." With this action the pope is calling every member to imitate the heroic virtue of Father McGivney precisely in terms of the moral and theological virtues.

Let us take Pope Benedict's action to heart. When confronting the practical difficulties that can arise in our councils, whether in membership or programs, let us recall the fortitude of Father McGivney. Remember his words at one point in our early history, "...the Order I was endeavoring to establish fell back almost lifeless but not dead." Yet, Father McGivney forged ahead, undeterred from completing his task.

Surely, Father McGivney is an unparalleled model of hope and fortitude in the history of the Knights of Columbus. Perhaps more importantly, he is also an unparalleled model of the virtues of charity, humility, temperance and prudence – virtues that must remain at the heart of a fraternal brotherhood such as the Knights and which must inform the life of each of our councils.

Each of us is called to imitate Father McGivney as a man of Christian virtue in every aspect of our life – both inside and outside the council chamber. We should all celebrate the important step that has been taken in the cause for canonization of our founder. But it is a celebration that brings a deepening responsibility: A loyal Knight of Columbus must also be a faithful spiritual son of Father McGivney; not only as a member, but also as a man.

Near the close of our 125th anniversary year, the Knights of Columbus received a great spiritual gift from our Holy Father. Like all spiritual gifts, this new recognition of Father McGivney's holiness must be received with both an authentic expression of gratitude as well as a firm spirit of resolution. Let us determine to have both.

## Website Statistics

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits
May-07	163	289	830	2,379	Nov-07	318	527	1,756	8,835
Jun-07	184	264	1,417	3,552	Dec-07*	341	584	1,803	7,928
Jul-07	233	448	1,347	3,760	Jan-08	109	147	601	1,190
Aug-07	179	223	827	2,258	Feb-08	86	121	574	1,347
Sep-07	209	260	1,471	3,750	Mar-08	127	162	915	1,458
Oct-07	438	749	2,037	5,652	Apr-08	150	214	907	1,424
* March totals as of 4/27					Totals	2,537	3,988	14,485	43,533

**Fact:** During the month of April, our website has been viewed by people in 10 different nations, including the United States, Taiwan, Israel, Italy, South Korea, China, Great Britain, Canada, Saudi Arabia and one other European nation. The calendar was viewed 2,438 times.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
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# **Knightly News**

A KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

**FR. BEN POWERS COUNCIL NO. 1315**

**May 2008**

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