

## The Service Section: “THE KNIGHTLY NEWS”



**Elkins Council**

**#603**

April 2011

### **Church Service, “Service to One, Service to All”**

**Editors Note:** Service is the key in the motto of the Knights of Columbus. “The Service Section” of the KNIGHTLY NEWS has been created to describe some of our service activities beyond just the short news bite found in the regular issues. Periodically, we will highlight or expand on the service carried out by the Council in one of our six-service areas: Church, Community, Youth, Family, Council, and Pro-Life. The Knights of Columbus members have been assisting the Church and our priests since Father McGivney formed the Knights of Columbus in 1882 at St. Mary’s. Therefore, in this special edition we are emphasizing a few of these efforts by our Council.

#### **From Father Higgs, the CHAPLAIN’S REPORT**

“A collection of thoughts from  
the Chaplains’ Newsletters”

In May, Pope John Paul the II will be beatified, moving him closer to Sainthood. As, we reflect on his life and papacy, it reveals some of the values and the principles of the Knights of Columbus. In following his example, we can strengthen our resolve to the first principle of the Order, Charity, by starting our day with prayer and making the Eucharist and all the sacraments the foundation of our lives in Christ. In other words, before showing charity to others, we must welcome Christ’s mercy and love. All of our charitable work is but the evidence that this love has taken root in our hearts. Because we want the best for our Church, community and family, we must stay focused on the principles rooted in the Knights of Columbus of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. As the largest Catholic laymen’s organization for the Church, collectively we can be the strong voice to support God’s law on marriage, life, and supporting the disabled, elderly and needy of our communities. It is however, the work, that Knights do at the parish level, that keeps the focus where it should be, on the works of the Church, principles of the Order and service in each of the program areas.



#### **SOLIDARITY with our PRIESTS**

##### **“THE PRIESTS OF ST. BRENDAN’S”**

Last year was the Year for Priests, and throughout the State of West Virginia, the Knights thanked the many priests that served the Diocese. The Council sent cards to all those that served here at St. Brendan, St. Patrick and Holy Rosary. Shortly, after Fr. Hariman established a Mission in Elkins and the St. Brendan parish was formed in 1897, a Knights of Columbus Council was established to serve. The Elkins Council #603 was chartered just four years later in 1901. Since that time there have been eleven Pastors along with nearly twenty other priests that impacted our faith formation in Elkins. In a supplement to “The Knightly News”, a short biography of these priests was documented, and presented at our Founder’s Day dinner. Did you know, we had priests born in Ireland and Germany, a priest who served here twice before becoming Pastor, five priest who said their first Mass here, a priest who established the varsity athletic program at a Jesuit college and have five of these priest buried here at St. Brendan cemetery? We have been blessed to have strong religious leadership in our parishes, and we should continue to show our solidarity with our Parish Priests and provide support to them. In addition, we must continue to support and pray for increased vocations to the priesthood, especially from our area.

#### **SEMINARIANS & THE RSVP PROGRAM**

What does Father Don Higgs, Father Steve Vallalonga and Seminarian John Paul Nardelli have in common? Yes, they were all supported during their studies for the priesthood by the Knights of Columbus. Each seminarian in the Wheeling Charleston Diocese is sponsored by at least one Council in the State. The Elkins Council #603 has a long history of supporting religious vocations for men attending the seminary with discernment for the priesthood or deacons. We have provide a monthly stipence along with prayers and cards to support them in pursuet of their vocation. Currently, Seminarian John Paul Nardelli is studying at the Theology College in Washington DC, and is supported by the Knights of the Elkins Council. Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> is the “World Day of Prayer for Vocations”, take the time to say a prayer for all our Seminarians and for those who may consider the priesthood their future vocation..

## KNIGHTS ASSIST IN LAY MINISTRIES

An important role for the laity in any parish is the assistance in the everyday ministries of the church. Again, we are blessed with the many individuals that are there to help in each of our parishes. It is here that we, Brother Knights, can serve. And we do see Knights serving in many capacities.

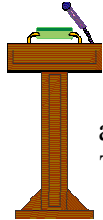
Briefly, here are the some of the areas that our Brothers are serving the church and their parishes. It is our hope to highlight the service with an example, and not name all the Knights who serve.

There are ushers and greeters, such as Brothers John Sainato, Champ Lothes, Jack Lewis, Joe Trupo, Ron Elmore and Greg Silvester; Brothers Mike Ellis, John Walsh, Jim Rossi and John Meader serve on the parish councils and Richard Humpherys on the finance committee. Brother Dick Loar and Jerry Carter are Eucharistic Ministers, Dan Kelly is in the choir, Brothers Kevin Blosser, Chic Rao, Chris Fry and John Vallelonga are readers, and

we see Rick Smith serve at Mass, while also assist in ensuring that there are lay-ministers available in various capacities at Mass.

Then, there is Brothers Tom, Patsy, Neil and others helping with maintenance.

Again, these are but a few of the many Brother Knights that help the various parishes with volunteer service. If you are one of these volunteers, Thank You, if wish to help there is always room for another helpful hand.



## HELPING THE CHURCH BEYOND THE COUNCIL

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Knights of Columbus, through our Supreme Council, helps the Church worldwide. It is the Knights that provided support for Pope Benedict XVI's visit to the United States in 2008. The Knights, also, provide funds annually to the Pope for contribution to the charity of his choice. Knights continue to help fund the Vatican's Broadcast of Faith efforts. They provide funds for seminarians from in Puerto Rico, the Philippines, Poland, Mexico and Belgium. It was the Knights



that helped fund the restoration of the ceiling mosaic, and construction of the 329-foot Knights' bell tower with its 56-bell carillon at the National Shrine. They were a major contributor to the Pope John Paul II Center in Washington DC. The Knights provide funds for Christian advertising and Catholic publication. And again, the Supreme Council helps encourage vocations through the RSVP program and other donations internationally. Yes, when we



pay our dues we get our Columbian magazine and much, much more in "Service to One, Service to All, Service to the Church."

## THE SILVER ROSE RUN

### OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

### MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH



May is traditionally the month of Mary. During this Marian month, we, her Knights, can commemorate Mary with prayer and the Rosary in the company of our families or as individuals. We ask Mary to "Pray for us sinners" to Jesus. It is the month as stated by Pope John Paul II that is dedicated to Our Lady. In the Litany of the Blessed Virgin, Mary is exalted with more than fifty titles including "Mother of the Church" and "Mother of Mercy". The running of the Silver



Rose in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe begins its journey during the month of May in Canada and will progress through the United States to Mexico. It will travel so as to arrive at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City on December 12<sup>th</sup>. As, it was on that day in 1531 that Mary appeared to Saint Juan Diego. The Elkins Council will again participate in the running of the Silver Rose through West Virginia, this coming July. Last year, the Council, with five runners, ran the rose from Holy Rosary in Buckhannon to St. Brendan. A rosary and prayer service was held in both parishes. Chairmen of this year's event will be announced next month. The Our Lady of the Mountains, Assembly 3159 will provide an honor guard. So, remember Mary, the Mother God during the month of May, and plan to participate in this year's running of the Silver Rose. Contact either of our Church chairman Ed Tucker or Grand Knight Bob Hammer if you are interested in being part of our relay team. The dates, locations and activities will be announced next month.