



St. Mary Knights of Columbus Council 9962  
Newsletter: February 6, 2009

**2008/2009 Council Officers:**

**Chaplain**

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**Grand Knight**

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**Financial Secretary**

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**Treasurer**

Bill Medonis

**Chancellor**

Terry Wallace

**Warden**

George Blades

**Recorder**

Jeremiah Bannister

**Advocate**

Bernie Westrick

**Trustee (1 Year)**

Thomas Holewa

**Trustee (2Year)**

Jim Durecki

**Trustee (3 Year)**

Mike Wachowski

**Inside Guard**

Scott Farley

**Outside Guard**

Larry Forrester

**In the Chaplain's Words**

I am pleased to announce that on Saturday, February 28, our council will be holding a day of Recollection and prayer at St. Philip Neri House. This is a great opportunity to get a "jump-start" on the Lenten season characterized by prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is also an excellent opportunity to spend some time together as brother knights with Jesus, present in the Holy Eucharist. I look forward to seeing you there.

Vivat Jesus!

Fr. David Grondz

**From the Grand Knight**

Brother Knights, it's hard to believe that the Lenten season is just around the corner. Didn't we just finish putting our Christmas decorations away? As mentioned above by our Chaplain, we have the opportunity to help prepare for this season with a retreat that Fr David will host at the end of February. It is well worth the time spent; please make every effort to attend. RSVP to me or Fr David by Thursday, Feb 26 so that we can make appropriate plans for lunch and space.

Also at this time of year, our Council will be hosting a series of Lenten Dinners. Please check the schedule of upcoming events listed at the end of this Newsletter for the dates and times. Your help is very much needed. Contact Joe Myers (269-420-2816) or me at 382-5879 if you have any questions regarding these events or to ask how you can help.

The Deputy Grand Knight (also Faithful Navigator of Assembly 0513) and I (also Michigan District 2 Marshal) are looking for ways to raise funds to help offset costs for the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Exemplification that will be attended by 5-7 of our Council's members this spring. We will need about \$500 to \$700 by mid March. One idea is to host a "Cheeseburger/Chili" Dinner before Lent (Feb 21). Many of the supplies are already at hand. If any of you have other ideas, please let Joe or I know as soon as possible. Once a Knight has become a Fourth Degree member and completes his journey as a Knight, he is much less likely to leave the order. Retention is around 94% for Fourth Degree members. Our Council already has about 50% of its members through the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree (national average is about 13%). If you aren't yet a Fourth Degree member and would like to be, call Joe Myers.

Please check out the summary of results listed below for your Council's Fraternal Survey for 2008. All I can say is "Wow"!

Fraternally,

Jeff Cypher, GK

## **Knight and Family of the Month**

Congratulations to Barry Smith who was chosen by his fellow members to be Knight of the Month for December 2008 and to Dave Marks and Bob Ogrin chosen as Co-Knights of the Month for January. Congratulations are also in order the Fathers of the St Philip Neri Oratory: Fr Robert Sirico (Pastor of St Mary, Kalamazoo), Fr David Grondz (Council 9962 Chaplain), and Fr James Richardson (Chaplain Council 1616) who were chosen as Family of the Month for December 2008. The Rich and Barb Mattingly family (Ryan, Mike and Alex) were chosen as Family of the Month for January.

## **Congratulations to the 2008/2009 Council Level Spelling Bee Winners**

### **Vineyard Academy**

#### **Level I (Grades 4-6)**

Winner: Mary Margaret Downes; 1st Runner-Up: Mary Forrester; 2nd Runner-Up: Emma Trist; and 3rd Runner-Up: Grace Kaczanowski

#### **Level II (Grades 7-9)**

Winner: Collin Tran; 1st Runner-Up: Erica Kovacic; 2nd Runner-Up: Anthony Staib; and 3rd Runner-Up: Joseph Forrester

### **St Augustine School**

#### **Level I (Grades 4-6)**

Winner: Claire Amat; 1st Runner-Up: Erinn Scott; 2nd Runner-Up: Katherine Bridenstine; 3rd Runner-Up: Rachel Anglin

#### **Level II (Grades 7-9)**

Winner: Amanda Roche; 1st Runner-Up: Kaileb Bowers; 2nd Runner-Up: David Shufelt; 3rd Runner-Up: Peter Florian

## **Christmas Wreath Sale**

At our February meeting, the Charities Committee recommended that \$450 collected during our Christmas Wreath Sale be donated to Residential Opportunities Inc. (a nonprofit mental health organization in Kalamazoo that is a leading provider of residential and support services for individuals in Southwestern Michigan with developmental disabilities). The motion by the committee was unanimously passed by the members present. A big "thank you" is offered to Jerry Hoppe for making the wreaths and donating all of his supplies.

## **2008 Fraternal Survey:**

The following is a summary of our Council's fraternal survey:

### **Fraternal Commitment:**

Number of visits made during 2008 to:

Sick - caring for the sick/nursing homes/hospitals ..... **250**

Bereaved - visits of condolence..... **95**

Number of times you served as a blood donor during 2008 ..... **14**

Estimated hours of community volunteer service during 2008:

Church Activities - service in all Church related activities ..... **4100**

Community Activities - service in all community related activities..... **1662**

Youth Activities - service in all youth related activities..... **2051**

Miscellaneous Activities - service in areas not outlined above ..... **570**

Number of hours of fraternal service during 2008:

Sick/disabled members and their families - household chores, transportation, tutoring, counseling, etc. .... **511**

### **Charitable Disbursements:**

Church Activities..... **\$2,589**

Community Activities ..... **\$2,623**

Youth Activities ..... **\$23,095**

## If You Haven't Yet, You Should Think About Life Insurance

The Knights of Columbus was founded March 29, 1882 by Father Michael J. McGivney to assist widows and orphans in the then impoverished Irish Catholic community. The primary motivation for the Order was to be a mutual benefit society. As a parish priest in an immigrant community, McGivney saw what could happen to a family when the breadwinner died and wanted to provide insurance to care for the widows and orphans left behind. He himself had to temporarily leave his seminary studies to care for his family when his father died.

Give it some thought. Give our insurance agent a call. Robert Julian, 269 644 4321 or e-mail [robert.julian@kofc.org](mailto:robert.julian@kofc.org)

## Upcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time and Place</u>
Feb 7	Hockey Night	Night begins with Mass at 4:15, then Pizza in Bart Hall
Feb 9	Fr David (Chaplain)'s Birthday	All day
Feb 15	Pancake Brunch	Serving after the 9:00 AM Mass in Bart Hall
Feb 16	Red Cross Blood Drive	Noon - 5:00 PM, Borgess - Lawrence Center
Feb 17	Assembly 0513 Meeting	7:00 PM, Council 1616 Hall
Feb 21	Diocesan Free Throw Tournament	Noon Reg., start at 1:00 PM, Bart Hall
Feb 21	Cheeseburger Sale	Fr Bart Hall after 4:15 Mass
Feb 25	Ash Wednesday	
Feb 28	Council Retreat	Philip Neri House
Mar 4	Council Monthly Meeting	After 7:00 PM Mass in the Church lower level
Mar 6	Crab and Shrimp Dinner	Fr Bart Hall at 5-7 pm
Mar 7	State Level Spelling Bee	
Mar 13	Pasta-Pasta Dinner	Fr Bart Hall at 5-7 pm
Mar 14	St Patrick's Day Parade	Color Corp meets at the 1616 council hall by 10:00 am
	Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner	1616 Council Hall (Noon)
Mar 15	State Free Throw Tournament	Mt Pleasant, MI
Mar 16	Red Cross Blood Drive	Noon - 5:00 PM, Borgess - Lawrence Center
Mar 17	Assembly 0513 Meeting	7:00 PM, St Mary Rectory Meeting Room
Mar 19	Bingo Kitchen	5:30-9:00 PM, Bart Hall, Volunteers Needed!!
Mar 20	Crab and Shrimp Dinner	Fr Bart Hall at 5-7 pm
Mar 21	4th Degree District 2 Meeting	10:30 AM, St Gerard, Lansing
Mar 23	Parish Council Meeting	7:00 PM, St. Mary Rectory Meeting room
Mar 26	Bingo Kitchen	5:30-9:00 PM, Bart Hall, Volunteers Needed!!
Mar 27	Pasta-Pasta Dinner	Fr Bart Hall at 5-7 pm
	Living Stations of the Cross	St Mary Church, 7 pm
Mar 29	Corporate Communion	St Mary Church, 9:00 am Mass
Apr 1	Council Monthly Meeting	After 7:00 PM Mass in the Church lower level

## 2008-2009 Fraternal Calendar

The Council Calendar for the 2008-2009 fraternal year is being updated monthly on the St Mary Parish Website at: <http://www.stmarykazoo.org/>. Click on the menu for "Parish Groups - Knights of Columbus".

## Help Cut the Cost of Postage

If you have an e-mail address that we could send your mailings to, please send it to the Grand Knight [lawscience@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lawscience@sbcglobal.net) and the Financial Secretary [ponytailboss@hotmail.com](mailto:ponytailboss@hotmail.com)