



# GOOD KNIGHT NEWS

Monsignor James H Willet Council #7847 Hopkinsville Kentucky

www.kofc7847.org



December 2008  
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From the Desk of Grand Knight  
Bob Marko



December meeting is on 10<sup>th</sup> No Social Meeting  
Meetings start at 7 PM in the St Vincent De Paul  
Building



## DECEMBER IS HERE !

December is a very busy month for us as Knights. We have Christmas as the central theme of our Faith. There will be Christmas Baskets to be made up and delivered. The Christmas Parade on December 6<sup>th</sup> in Hopkinsville and the Christmas Party at Dot's on the 6<sup>th</sup>, the Mid Year State Council meeting on December 5<sup>th</sup> through the 7<sup>th</sup>. Many things have to be done to decorate the Church for the Birth of Christ. Bingo and Adoration as usual. And don't forget about the Angel Tree in the Church along with Christmas Cards for those mentioned in the Bulletin. Free Throw Contest is January 9<sup>th</sup> in the Gym.

**Remember to look at the schedules in this Newsletter. If you can not make the event you are scheduled for, please get a replacement. If you are unable to get a replacement then you must call some one and let them know so arrangements can be made.**



## THANK YOU

A big thank you to all the members of the Knights of Columbus who helped out with the distribution of Thanksgiving Bags, the sorting of the Food for the Baskets and the Distribution of the Baskets. The generosity of the parish enabled us to distribute the food to 41 families, with a little left over for the Arron McNeil Foundation.

Many Knights were on hand for Josh's elevation to Deacon. All the Ushers were Knights and the Fourth Degree Honor Guard was present.

## Fourth Degree



The Fourth Degree meeting has been changed. **We will meet at 5:00 PM** instead of 6:00PM on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. This is our Christmas Party Meeting and it will be held at the Calhoun Feed and Seed building on US 41A off exit 44 on the Pennyriple Parkway in Madisonville. **Do not bring a present to exchange.** We will have a Donation Basket handy. The Donations will go to buy presents for three men we are sponsoring at the Western Kentucky Veterans Home in Hanson.

The Christmas meal will be Steak and Baked Potato with Salad and Desert. Hopkinsville members bring desert. Call by December 7<sup>th</sup>, 931 553-8546 or email the Faithful Navigator [c1carpetgu@msn.com](mailto:c1carpetgu@msn.com) and let him know you will be attending. He needs a "head count" for the meal.

## **The Knights and the Wheelchair Foundation Our Donations at Work**

The Knights of Columbus has been working with the Wheelchair Foundation of Camarillo, California for four years, starting with a donation of 2,000 wheelchairs to victims of land mines and war in Afghanistan. Since then, the Knights of Columbus have distributed thousands more wheelchairs – to veterans in the United States – and to those in need in the Middle East, the Philippines, Poland, Mexico and Ecuador. Our Council 7847 has participated in this program for the past two years and we should continue to do so in the future. You can read more about this in the Supreme Web Site.

## **CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR AFGHANISTAN SOLDIERS**

Don't forget to drop off a Christmas Card or two in the box near the entrance of the Church. Fr Tony will get these cards to the troops serving in remote areas of Afghanistan.

## REMINDER

Your Dues for the year of 2009 are due on January 1, 2009. Please send your check to the Financial Secretary promptly. These dues get you some benefits in the Knights of Columbus besides keeping you an Active Member.



### What Do I Get for Paying my Dues? Rich Malek

**Columbia Magazine** Twelve free issues

**Rosary Program** A free Knights of Columbus rosary.

**Daily Mass Remembrance** Mass offered daily in New Haven Connecticut

**Insurance Program** Rated AAA by Standard & Poor's and A++ by A.M. Best.

**Annuity Program** Provide for retirement and build an estate through tax deferred savings.

**Long-Term Care** Safeguard your assets and afford the care and assistance needed later in life.

**Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit** Accidental death coverage for member and spouse at no cost.

**Orphan Benefit** \$80 monthly allotment for orphans of eligible families up to \$7,000 in college scholarships.

**Family Fraternal Benefit** For eligible families: a) pays \$1,500 for the child who dies before the age of 61 days; b) pays \$750 for the child who is stillborn at least 20 weeks after conception; c) offers guaranteed issued insurance up to \$5,000 to any child under age 18.

**New Member Plan** A low-cost whole life policy to new members and their spouses upon joining the Order.

**Scholarships/Fellowships** Six different college scholarship programs; two different graduate fellowship programs; and scholarship programs for seminarians.

**Matthews and Swift Educational Trust Fund** Provides full scholarships including net expenses to Catholic colleges for children of members killed or permanently and totally disabled from military service in an armed conflict, or from criminal violence while performing duties as full-time law enforcement officer or full-time fireman.

**Leadership Development** Opportunity to build personal leadership skills through active involvement.

**Fourth Degree** Third Degree members can join the Patriotic Degree, one year after initiation into the Order.

**Honorary Life Membership at Age 75**

**Catholic Information Service** Opportunity for member and family to avail themselves of a variety of literature on Catholic faith and spirituality.

**Membership Card** Entry into over 14,000 councils

**Family Activities** Eligibility for recognition in Order wide "Family of the Month/Year" program and participation in a wide variety of local family events, such as family Communion breakfasts.

**Athletic Programs** Participate in annual council, state and international golf, bowling and softball tournaments; many councils sponsor teams in a variety of sports.

**Youth Programs** Opportunities for your children to participate in a variety of youth-oriented programs such as the Columbian Squires, a leadership training program for young men under council sponsorship.

**General Insurance  
Agent  
Dan Turnwald  
Office 859-331-0249  
Cell 859-630-6942**



### Saving Money versus Spending Money

These are certainly difficult economic times, and everyone is very aware of the turmoil that surrounds us: credit issues, housing issues, banking issues. For the average consumer, and the average member of the Knights of Columbus, the question is obvious: where do I turn? We'd like to suggest a conversation with your professionally trained Knights of Columbus Insurance Agent about ways to protect yourself and your family. While some might say, "I can't think about spending money right now," the goal is not spending money, but saving money. Saving money through permanent life insurance with guaranteed cash values, and/or saving money through a retirement plan with guaranteed interest rates are excellent ways to prepare for your retirement. The interest rate on a Knights of Columbus Retirement Annuity is currently 4.50% in the United States. Both products can offer you a guaranteed monthly income for life. Let us help you. Contact your agent today.

### Statement on Financial Services Markets and the Knights of Columbus

In a statement on the recent upheaval in financial markets, Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson said "there is no reason to be concerned about the value of your Knights of Columbus annuity or life insurance. Because of the very conservative approach we take to investing our \$14 billion in assets, the impact on the Knights of Columbus has been far smaller than for many other organizations and the industry as a whole."

### What is the cash value of my policy?

While the Knights of Columbus can not give such information over the phone, the policy owner is encouraged to call the Customer Service department toll-free at 1-800-380-9995. With information supplied by the insured, such as name, address, and policy number, Customer Service will be able to answer such requests via a letter. Or you can call our General Agent Dan Turnwald

## Winter Solstice



The precise moment of the 2008 Winter Solstice will be Sunday, Dec. 21, 7:04 AM EST

In astronomy, the solstice is either of the two times a year when the sun is at its greatest distance from the celestial equator, the great circle on the celestial sphere that is on the same plane as the earth's equator. In the Northern Hemisphere, the winter solstice occurs either December 21 or 22, when the sun shines directly over the tropic of Capricorn; the summer solstice occurs either June 20 or 21, when the sun shines directly over the tropic of Cancer. In the Southern Hemisphere, the winter and summer solstices are reversed.

The winter solstice marks the shortest day and the longest night of the year. The sun appears at its lowest point in the sky, and its noontime elevation appears to be the same for several days before and after the solstice. Hence the origin of the word solstice, which comes from Latin solstitium, from sol, "sun" and -stitium, "a stoppage." Following the Winter Solstice, the days begin to grow longer and the nights shorter.

So, my Brother Knights, the days will start getting longer and does that mean "Is Spring around the corner?"



## Our Future

Sometimes, the hardest thing about recruiting is taking the first step. Recruiting a new member can be as easy as asking them to join. Amazingly, many individuals haven't joined the Knights simply because they have never been asked to join. When the opportunity arrives, take the initiative and start a conversation with a prospect.

Our council continues to grow and expand its activities. Consider asking some one to become a Knight. Please call Bart Hulsmeyer (498-3202). We'll be glad to answer your questions. Our Council needs to grow. New Members bring new life and excitement with them. And this rubs off on us. Bring in a new member this Columbian Year.

## This is a Challenge to all Members.



Get a new member. We have three candidates waiting for a First Degree. Let's try to make that number higher. Get a Knight before Christmas.

## Cub Scouts



David Allard reports that there are two new members to the Cub Scouts. We now have 15 Cub Scouts that we support. They meet on Thursday between 6:30 and 7:30 PM. The Cub Scouts are open to any boy in the First through 5<sup>th</sup> Grades.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



## DECEMBER 2008

1	Alcohol and Drug Awareness Poster Contest	
6	Christmas Parade	
6	Christmas Party at Dot's	
6-7	Hand out Christmas Bags	
10	Business Meeting	
12	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe	
13-14	Hand out Christmas Bags	
20	Distribute Christmas Baskets	
25	Christmas Day	
31	New Year's Eve	

## JANUARY 2009

1	New Year's Day	
9	Free Throw Contest in School Gym	
??	Right to Life Crosses	
14	Business Meeting	
22	36 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Roe vs Wade	
28	Social Meeting	
??	ASPU Basketball with the Stars	
??	Insurance Night	

On Tuesday, December 3rd at 8 p.m. local time, Knights of Columbus councils throughout the Order will illuminate Nativity scenes and/or Christmas trees as part of the program. Knights of Columbus units can take the event a step further by adding activities such as a Christmas party, or a drive to collect gifts, clothing and food for a needy family.

This may be too late for December 3<sup>rd</sup>, but we can do something like this a little later in the Month



Some things to think about for the coming year. Should we start a Ladies Auxiliary. How about a Squires Circle. Maybe start a Food Pantry. Try to go as a group on a formal weekend retreat. Can we do a Pastor's Dinner. Let's revive the Communion Breakfast and the Spaghetti Dinners. Or could we have a "Dinner for the Wives" Think about a reason **why we can not** do these things and then think about **how we can** do these things. Let's start a discussion. Sometimes we need to "just do it".

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES

**Don't forget Josh and Byron in your daily prayers on their journey to Priesthood.**

## Bingo Schedule



Arrive for Bingo before 7PM on Thursday and stay until closing. If you can not work on your scheduled night call another Knight or Chuck Pucket. Bingo is **important** to the Parish and if it is **important** to the Parish it is **VERY important** to the Knights of Columbus.

Dec 4	Tommy Craft	885-8632
Dec 11	Greg Jones	885-9175
Dec 18	Tom Buehrle	886-4556
Dec 25	Jim Creighton	886-0454
Jan 1	Jim De Foe	886-1634
Jan 8	Miguel Guajardo	885-1497
Jan 15	Gary Harden	886-6382



# DECEMBER Adoration



2-Dec	1:00-2:00 a.m.	Don McCowan	886-4605	23-Dec	1:00 - 2:00 a.m.	Chris Stevens	886-0050
2-Dec	2:00 - 3:00 a.m.	Jim Creighton	886-0454	23-Dec	2:00 - 3:00 a.m.	Ron Lee	886-5504
4-Dec	12:00-1:00 a.m.	Gary Harden	886-6382	25-Dec	12:00- 1:00 a.m.	Dick Dymek	885-5754
4-Dec	1:00 - 2:00 a.m.	Chas Mowan	305-4330	25-Dec	1:00 - 2:00 a.m.	Chris Thomas	424-2461
9-Dec	1:00 - 2:00 a.m.	Bruce Wilcox	484-0523	30-Dec	1:00 - 2:00 a.m.	Don McCowan	886-4605
9-Dec	2:00 - 3:00 a.m.	Karl Prunitsch	886-8617	30-Dec	2:00 - 3:00 a.m.	Jim Creighton	886-0454
11-Dec	12:00-1:00 a.m.	Franco Cincotti	886-2241	1-Jan	12:00- 1:00 a.m.	Gary Harden	886-6382
11-Dec	1:00 - 2:00 a.m.	Tim Barnes	885-6606	1-Jan	1:00 - 2:00 a.m.	Chas Mowan	305-4330
16-Dec	1:00 - 2:00 a.m.	Carl Schmidt	886-1824	6-Jan	1:00 - 2:00 a.m.	Bruce Wilcox	484-0523
16-Dec	2:00 - 3:00 a.m.	John Soldo	889-9695	6-Jan	2:00 - 3:00 a.m.	Karl Prunitsch	886-8617
18-Dec	12:00- 1:00 a.m.	Doyle Shelton	886-3560	8-Jan	12:00- 1:00 a.m.	Franco Cincotti	886-2241
18-Dec	1:00 - 2:00 a.m.	Marvin Mahoney	886-2569	8-Jan	1:00 - 2:00 a.m.	Tim Barnes	885-6606

## Knight of the Month



Todd Hall is the Knight of the Month for December. Todd was instrumental in organizing the Thanksgiving baskets for distribution. He really takes charge of the event in the preparation and separating phases of the project. He led the crew that went to Todd County and he says he really enjoys it as the people are so glad to get the food. Todd is a Hopkinsville guy born and raised. He graduated from Hopkinsville High School. He now sells cars at his family owned business North Main Auto. He can be spotted in his free time playing Texas Holdem. Two years ago he and Jo Ashley combined two sets of boys who eat them out of house and home. Todd brought Will, 20 and Luke, 16. Jo Ashley brought Jake 15 and Hunter 13. Jo Ashley says Todd is a wonderful father and husband. Todd has been involved in a number of Knights events including Fish Fry, Poker Run, Tootsie Roll Drive and Texas Holdem events.



## Senior Knight of the Month

Karl Prunitsch is the senior Knight of the month. Karl is heavily involved in the organization of perpetual adoration at church. He graduated in 1958 from The United States Military Academy at West Point. He got his Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Alabama University. After 10 years of military service he moved to Hopkinsville to take an engineering job with a friend's uncle at Mid Continent Spring Company where he worked for 10 years. When they started building a new company across town Karl took the opportunity to work for US Tobacco as the plant engineer for the next 18 years. He and his wife Shirley have slowed things down after raising two daughters. One daughter lives in Orlando works for Disney and has a son Karl named after his grandpa. The other is a flight attendant for American Airlines and lives in Nashville. Karl was spotted this last week delivering Thanksgiving baskets with the Knights.



**JESUS  
IS  
THE  
REASON  
FOR  
THE  
SEASON**



## Family of the Month



The Family of the month is the David Allard family. The Sergeant Major was born in Southbridge, MA. He entered military service 24-1/2 years ago just out of high school in 1984. He and his wife Christy have three children Alexander-8, Anna 3 and Jonathan 11 months. David and his wife are very busy and she is a 10 year military veteran and serves in the Tennessee National Guard. She is presently pursuing a Masters in Psychology. David is the Scout Master for Sts. Peter and Paul Cub Scout Pack which his son Alexander is a part of. The Cub Scout pack and David recently help the Knights distribute Thanksgiving food baskets to the needy of our community. David has a weekly perpetual adoration slot from 12 midnight to 1 am. He also services as the councils Outside Guard and Military Liaison.

## Knights of Columbus and Special Olympics: A 40-Year Partnership

Forty years ago the very first Special Olympics was held in Chicago, and the Knights of Columbus was there to help from the very first day. Joining with Knight Sargent Shriver and his wife Eunice Kennedy Shriver, the Order helped spread Special Olympics throughout the United States and the world with both financial and volunteer support. You can learn more by visiting the Supreme Knights of Columbus web site.

Monsignor Willett Council continues this great endeavor with the Tootsie Roll Drive for Special Needs people. Our programs are many and are needed in the community. Help out next time we do something for our Special Needs people.

## Keep Christ in Christmas



In a time when all things religious are being discouraged and swept away, it's refreshing to know that the Order established the "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign and the "Light Up for Christ" program to remind us that Christmas is above all a Holy Day celebrating the Birth of Christ.