



St. James Council 4949 - Columbus Court - 301-3003 Gateby Place - Vernon, British Columbia VII 9H5 - www.kofc4949.org

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## **Knight News Online**

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EDITOR: Guenter A. Rieger Grand Knight

General Meeting  $2^{nd}$  Tuesday of the month Executive Meeting  $-4^{th}$  Tuesday of the month

# St. James Council4949 Executive

Fr.Dale Normandeau Chaplain **Grand Knight** Guenter A. Rieger Pat Hagel **Deputy GK** Chancellor **Kevin Schmaltz** Warden Joseph Scebba **Treasurer** John Toporchak **Advocate** Paul Rosetti Recorder **David Elrick Outside Guard** George Matymish **Inside Guard** Sal D'Agosto 1.Year Trustee Ralph Hounslow 2.Year Trustee David Durand 3.Year Trustee Steve Campbell Fin.Secretary Mark Lopianowski

Field Agent Blaine Anhel

District Deputy Michael Gernat

### **Birthdays in December**

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Bro. John A Prost
Bro. Robert J Folk
Bro. Glen L Lellman
Bro. Patrick Schmaltz
Bro. David J Okeefe
Bro. Witold J Wince
52 yeras
26 years
55 years

#### Dear Brother Knights: (Chaplain)

The first Sunday of Advent began four weeks of preparation for the commemoration of the Incarnation, where Jesus, God from God, took on the fullness of our humanity and was born among us to save us from sin and death. Deep down, we know this, but this central fact of why we celebrate Christmas is often misplaced by all the embellishments that surround this solemnity, even to the degree where



the central "reason of the season" can be lost entirely.



Chaplain Father Dale Normandeau

Let us remind ourselves that we are not celebrating a 'winter festival' but nothing less than the gratuitous gift of salvation, wrought by Christ in the fullness of his humanity. We are given four week of preparatory time in the season of Advent to conform our hearts and wills to Christ's, tangibly manifested through acts of charity and selflessness, reflecting the selflessness and charity of Jesus Christ for our sake.

This is what animates and directs our preparation for Christmas and supplies the fundamental "reason for the season".

May God bless you and your families this Christmas and always.

Fr. Dale Normandeau

# PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND DISTRESSED

Most Reverend Bishop David Monroe, Bro.Hubert Bibby and Bernice Bibby , Bro. Bill and Mary Turner, Bro. Tom Moore, Bro. Peter Kroft, Bro.Gary Balcon, Bro. Colin Mooney

### Dear Brother Knights. (Grand Knight)

December is our Spiritual month of Joy when we Catholics welcome and celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.



**Grand Knight** Guenter A. Rieger

Many of you know that we as Knights of Columbus are a strong supporters on keeping the name Christ in Christmas.

I strongly urge you to use only Christmas Cards, indicating the Birth of Christ. We need to put the message out there, that we do not accept using happy holidays instead of Merry Christmas.

### Together we can make a difference.

Ask yourselves what you can do to better serving our community, and our priests.

We have reached the month of December and time has been flying by. It seemed like yesterday that we were having our first meeting of the year and here we are Christmas is upon us.

I would like to thank all Brother Knights for attending our meetings and support shown in council, church and community activities.

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, will be our last business meeting for this year. Please bring your wife with you to join us for wine a cheese, after our meeting.

On behalf of my wife Regina, myself and my family, I want to wish you and your family a very happy, holy and blessed Christmas.

Thank you and God bless you, Guenter A. Rieger, Grand Knight

### My Brothers All, (District Deputy)

It's happening, here we are a month before Christmas and I have had to stop and give myself the reality check.....its' not about getting the lights up on the garage or trying to figure out what kind of gift to get my wife.....its about stopping and rejoicing in the reason we are celebrating this season. It is about the fraternal friendships that we share with one another as Brother Knights





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and more importantly about the good works that our Order does BECAUSE we celebrate the Birth of Christ and what that means to all of us.

I look around and see how fortunate I



District Deputy

Michael Gernat

am. I think of those men and women who are away from home because they are defending the right to worship I think of all of those who are cold and hungry while I write in my day timer yet another social event. I think of the little girl I watched on the Santa Claus parade who wished everyone a Happy Holidays. I think of the money that will be spent "buying" happiness. I think of all of these things and I want to say, I'm sorry God..... Thank you for the reality check.

I will be attending the semi-annual DD's meeting in Surrey the first weekend in December. It provides an opportunity for all of the DD's to come together and share ideas and successes, as well as to find out the goals of the Jurisdiction for the next six months of our fraternal year.

I am pleased with the recruitment results to date in District 11, but one thing that this season does provide us with is the coming together not only at mass, but for other seasonal occasions...look around you, do you see a catholic gentleman that is not a Brother. Extend that hand of welcome and invitation!

On behalf of Deb and our family, I would like to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas. Be safe in your travels over the holiday season and remember, when you are greeted with a seasonal salutation, return that greeting with a MERRY CHRISTMAS and give thanks for the glorious gift of the Birth of our Saviour!

Merry Christmas, Michael Gernat DD#11 Brother Knights. (Council Director)



Council Director
Sal D'Agasto

First I would like to thank the Brothers that volunteered to set up tables for the C.W.L. bazaar on November 19-20<sup>th</sup>, again Thank You.

The Charity Appeal campaign is going well; we have sold 506 (5060 Tickets) books as of Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>. The ticket sales began on October 9, 2010

and will conclude on January 29, 2011. Our Brothers from 12202 are manning the phones for sellers, so when you get a phone call I ask that you please consider helping out. I am looking for venues to sell the tickets, so I ask that if you know someone that works at one of the major stores in the area to please contact me as this will helps us to establish a line of communication with the store.

Our last pancake breakfast on November 7<sup>th</sup> was well attended and we had 17 volunteers. We deposited \$138.90 and what is left will be used for supplies and our next float. The next pancake breakfast will be on Sunday December 5th, where for only a donation you get a fantastic breakfast. Do not forget to bring a friend and/or a neighbour as everyone is welcomed.

A reminder that I have a number of "Holy Rosary Transfers", license plate holders and shopping cart tokens. If you are interested in purchasing some please feel free to contact me. I also have the Keep Christ in Christmas magnets and if you know of a Christian that would like to receive one, do not hesitate to contact me. We are only asking for a donation as we do not have a fixed price on them.

Our Sunday bingo at the Schubert are going well but we could use a larger number of players.

May God bless you and your family. Your fellow Brother Knight, Sal D'Agosto

#### **Calendar for December**

DEC 5<sup>th</sup> Pancake Breakfast
DEC 14<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting
Wine and cheese with our Ladies.
DEC 28tExecutive Meeting

#### The Birth of Jesus

While Mary was still engaged to Joseph, she miraculously became pregnant through the Holy Spirit, as foretold to her by an angel.

God sent an angel to Joseph in a dream to verify Mary's story and reassure him that his marriage to her was God's will. The angel explained that the child within Mary was conceived by the Holy Spirit, that his name would be Jesus and that he was the Messiah, God with us.

Joseph too must have wondered in awe as he remembered the words found in Isaiah 7:14, "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."

At that time, Caesar Augustus decreed that a census be taken, and every person in the entire Roman world had to go to his own town to register. Joseph, being of the line of David, was required to go to Bethlehem to register with Mary. While in Bethlehem, Mary gave birth to Jesus. Probably due to the census, the inn was too crowded, and Mary gave birth in a crude stable. She wrapped the baby in cloths and placed him in a manger.

In a time when all things religious are being discouraged and swept away, it's refreshing to know that the Order sponsors the "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign to remind people that Christmas is above all a holy day celebrating the birth of Christ.

Merry Christmas
and a Happy
New Year
to all Brother Knights
and families.