



Knight News

Mother Seton Council 6724



April 2019

Nativity Catholic Church

Grand Knight's Message

Brothers,

On Thursday, March 28, my wife and I and a friend went to see the movie *Unplanned*. The movie is based on the best-selling memoir of Abby Johnson, once one of the youngest clinic directors ever at Planned Parenthood — and involved in over 22,000 abortions — now a powerful leader in the pro-life movement.

The movie starts off with the reenactment of an abortion that Abby was called in to assist the Doctor. This is the first time that Abby participates in the abortion and sees the sonogram of the baby while it is being aborted. It is eye opening and sad to see the baby

trying to get away from the suction tube and finally



evacuated through the tube in pieces. It is at that moment that Abby realizes that she no longer can be part of Planned Parenthood.

The movie also gives viewers an inside look into Planned Parenthood as a business which incentivizes abortion. Planned Parenthood is a powerful corporation that has the abundance of money to support those who support them.

Ashley Bratcher, the actor that plays the role of Abby Johnson in the movie, has an interesting story

associated with her life. Ashley knew that when her mother was 16 years old, she had an abortion. When Ashley was a few weeks into shooting the movie, she received a call from her mother and explained what she was doing. Ashley said her mother began to cry.

Ashley's mother explained that she was 19 when she became pregnant with Ashley. Her mother and father felt they were too young to have a child and decided to have an abortion. Ashley's father had to pawn a shotgun to get the money for the abortion.

While Ashley's mother was on the clinic table, a pregnant nurse came in and her mother got sick to her stomach. The mother got up and walked out of the clinic and saved Ashley's life. Wow! Do you think God had a hand in this?

The movie is also about forgiveness and redemption. It provides hope for both women and men who have gone through an abortion. God is all forgiving and there is always hope.

I highly recommend that everyone see this movie. Even if you are Pro-Life it will open your eyes to the business of abortions and confirm your choice to denounce abortion.

Locally, *Unplanned* is playing at the AMC Regency theater in Brandon. The movie is only scheduled through Thursday, April 4.

Vivat Jesus!
Tim Kasprzyk
Grand Knight 6724

New 2nd Degree Knights

Nine of our Brothers successfully completed their 2nd Degree on Saturday, March 16. Please congratulate these Knights when you see them and continue to pray for them as they continue their journey to Knighthood.



Our new 2nd Degree Brothers are Tim Ashcraft, Tony Carew, Ed Worrell, Roland Velez, Jonathan Lodrigues, Adeyinka Awolowo, Andres Granados, Dave Tupper and Joe Casaccia.

Parish Penitential Service

Nativity Catholic Church will be holding a Penitential Service on Monday, April 8 starting at 7:00pm. We need Brother Knights to help with keeping the Confession lines orderly and insure privacy in the Church and Chapel. Plan to arrive at 6:30pm for assignment to a station. Our Pastor, Father Tapp, appreciates the Knights helping with this service.

2019-2020 Officer Nominations

It's time to start thinking about Officer nominations for the next fraternal year. To hold an Officer position, you must be a 3rd Degree or plan on becoming a 3rd Degree shortly after appointment.

You can self-nominate or nominate another Brother by going to the Council website, signing

into the Members Only section and scroll down to Nominate Officers.

The proposed Officer slate will be completed at the May Council Business meeting and voted on at the June Council Business meeting.

Proposed 2019-2020 Budget

The proposed budget for the upcoming year is on the Council website. To access it, select the Members Only tab on the left of the home page; log in to your account; and, scroll to the bottom of the page. Click the Council Budget button and the document should display.

Please review and provide any comments you may have to our Worthy Financial Secretary, Don Carpenter. Don's email is finsec6724@gmail.com. The budget will be finalized and voted on at the May Council Business meeting.

State Raffle Tickets

Florida State Council raffle tickets are available. Tickets donations are \$1.00 per ticket or \$12.00 per book. Prizes are: 1st - \$25,000, 2nd - \$10,000 and 3rd - \$5,000. There are also five \$1,000 prizes.

For every book that is sold, our Council retains \$6.00. Last year we sold 143 books by only 24 Brother Knights for a total amount of \$1,716. Our Council earned \$858. We need to have more Brother Knights actively involved in gaining donations for the raffle.



Raffle books will be available at our Council Business Meetings. You may also contact our Worthy Financial Secretary, Don Carpenter if you are not able to attend a meeting.

The sale of raffle tickets ends on May 6 and all stubs and money must be in possession of the State Council by May 15. Please turn in all stubs and money by May 8 so the deadline can be met.

Altar Server Dinner



The Altar Server dinner was held on Saturday, March 16 in the Nativity Church Social Hall at 6:00pm. This dinner is held annually to recognize our servers who contribute numerous hours throughout the year in service to our parish and their families that help make it possible.

Brother Rick Zemke prepared a delicious meal that was enjoyed by those in attendance. Thanks to Rick and all the Brothers that helped in preparing and serving the meal. Also want to thank Dalila Quiñones and the Women's Guild for decorating the tables.

All Altar Servers were recognized and received a Certificate of Appreciation from our Council. Two Altar Servers received special recognition for their contributions during the year and received a special plaque. Alexandra Sanchez was recognized as the Top Junior Altar Server and Mia Lera was recognized as the Top Senior Altar Server.



We also took this opportunity to present a check for \$1,000 to Nativity Catholic School for the Scholarship Fund that was established in 2013 with the Diocese of St. Petersburg. On hand to receive the check for the school was Assistant Principle for Student Affairs, Mr. Bill Amrhein.



As is customary at this time, a check for \$100 was presented to our Pastor, Father Tapp to use at his



discretion. This was a token of our appreciation for all that Father Tapp does for our parish and for his support of the Knights of Columbus.

Knights Serving the Ladies

The Nativity Women's Guild held their Annual Tea, "Hats Off to Women," on Saturday, March 2 in the Social Hall. Five Brothers from our Council stepped up to help serve the ladies: Neil Waid, Danny Diaz, Don Carpenter, Roland Velez and Jessie Martinez. Our Council was honored to support the Women's Guild in this event.



Tootsie Roll Campaign

It's that time of year to put on the yellow aprons and smiles and collect donations for people with intellectual disabilities.



On Saturday, April 13, our last Tootsie Roll Campaign will take place at the Publix, 939 W Brandon Blvd., Brandon Mall, Brandon. This is the Mall that the Burlington store is in. You can sign-up in 2-hour shifts starting at 9:00am and ending at 5:00pm.

Volunteers are needed for every shift. Contact Neil Waid at (813) 830-1317 to sign up.

61 Years of Service

At our March Council Business meeting, SK Richard Hardesty was recognized for 61 years of service to the Knights of Columbus. Brother Richard has held



numerous positions during his tenure with the Knights. It is an honor to know this fine gentleman and his knowledge of the Knights is

indispensable. May you have many more years of service SK Richard.

Why I am Pro-Life Essays

Our Council was approached by Kim Holt to see if we would sponsor prizes for the 7th grade that were submitting essays on "Why I am Pro-Life?" We felt this was a worthy cause and agreed with the proposal. Mark Cote, David Kadiri, Tim Kasprzyk and Kim Holt were to judge the essays and pick the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners.

The essays that were submitted were very impressive. It really opened the judge's eyes as to what Pro-Life means. The students pointed out that

Pro-Life is not only for the unborn but also for the elderly. Some went on to explain why Pro-Life also includes not bullying of students.

A special presentation was made at the 10:30am Mass on Sunday, March 10. 7th grade teacher Mrs. Karla Dunnigan explained the rationale behind the essays and called the students up for their award. Our Council provided gift cards from Amazon for \$40, \$30 and \$20 to the winners.

Venerable Father McGivney

Nurturing Vocations

Irish immigrant families of the mid-19th century wove a reverence for the priesthood and religious vocations into



the fabric of daily life. They considered a priestly or religious vocation a great blessing.

Therefore, Patrick and Mary McGivney were probably not surprised when their eldest son Michael announced his desire to become a priest.

Father McGivney encouraged priestly and religious vocations among his parishioners. Of the seven letters written by Father McGivney that have been preserved, three deal with candidates for the priesthood and religious life.

The McGivney home provided a seedbed for priestly vocations; Michael and his brothers Patrick and John were all ordained for the Diocese of Hartford. The McGivney brothers, in turn, formed a strong family unit that nurtured the early growth of the Knights of Columbus.

Today, in much the same way, the Knights of Columbus nurtures new vocations. Under the Order's Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP), local units "adopt" seminarians and postulants, who are often either council members or the children of council members. Knights correspond

and exchange visits with their seminarians and postulants. They also offer financial assistance, typically \$500, with \$100 being reimbursed by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. More than 2,700 local units of the Knights of Columbus support individuals studying for religious life, contributing more than \$2.8 million in support. In addition to these local contributions, state-level jurisdictions conduct scores of other programs fostering vocations.

Founding the Knights of Columbus was an expression of Father McGivney's vocation as an "Alter Christus," another Christ. He wanted to help Catholic men draw closer to Jesus and Mary. His fraternal Order was to be an instrument for spiritual growth in Christian faith and charity—and so it remains.

Insurance Corner

April 15th, the Tax Day, is not far off. It's a time when most of us focus on the income we've made....and how much of that we must hand over to the government. Nobody's happy about that. And nobody's happy about all the complicated tax laws and regulations. I heard a suggestion once that the income tax form could be simplified and reduced to just two questions and a statement:

How much did you earn last year?
How much do you have left?
Send it in.

Seriously, now is a good time to take stock of your finances and make sure you're on the path you want to be on. The focus around this time of year is saving tax money by contributing to an IRA for retirement. And whether you're getting close or whether you're fresh into a career and working life, it's not too early to plan. But many of the folks I talk with have lots of questions:

What's the difference between a Traditional IRA and a Roth IRA?

Which one is better for my circumstances?

How much can I contribute?

Can I earn too much money to qualify for a tax deduction?

What if I contribute to a 401K at work? Am I still eligible?

What if my wife doesn't work...can she contribute to an IRA?

There are many rules you don't want to run afoul of when it comes to contributing to an IRA and making the right determination about its tax deductibility.

As your Knights of Columbus field agent, I can help. Our annuities can be used as a Traditional IRA or a Roth IRA. A traditional one may help you save money on your taxes and the Roth has some amazing tax advantages, too. Our annuities pay a competitive interest rate, consistent with our primary goal of absolute safety of principal. They all include a guaranteed interest rate, so you never have to worry. One of the best features of an annuity is that it is designed to provide retirement income you cannot outlive—guaranteed! You can open a retirement annuity for as little as \$300.

So here are some facts about our annuities: Low contribution to get started; guaranteed lifetime interest rate; an even higher competitive rate being paid now; tax advantages whether an IRA; absolute safety of principal; an income you cannot outlive...all from the Knights of Columbus—How does that sound?

I'd be happy to meet with you in your home and at your convenience to explain the advantages of a Knights of Columbus annuity—and our other products: our highly rated life insurance, long-term care insurance and our disability income insurance. I'll be around after the meeting; let's get together!

Vivat Jesus!

John D Ruckart
813-855-5111
John.ruckart@kofc.org

Prayer for the Sick

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Jay McCabe – healing

Bob Dunn - healing

Richard Hardesty – healing

Bob Ippoliti - healing

Nancy Kasprzyk – healing

Carlos del Aguila, Sr. – health issues

Vincent Ferraro- Cancer

Lucy Watford – surgery rehab
Dwight Watford – bereavement
Cindy Kutcher – healing
Jean Neidorf – healing
Katherine Townsend – healing
Brian Mulholland – healing
Daniel Van Sciver’s mother - healing
Brother Knights who have no one to pray for them

April 24 - Officers and Directors Meeting, 7:00pm
Adult Ed. Bldg., 7:00pm
April 27 – 1st Degree, St. Stephen
April 27 – Miller Road Clean-up, 8:00am
May 18 – 2nd Degree, St. Stephen
July 13 – Corporate Communion, 4:00pm Mass
July 13 – Officer Installation and Dinner, 5:00pm,
Social Hall

*Dear Jesus, Divine Physician and Healer of the sick,
we turn to you in this time of illness.*

*O dearest comforter of the troubled, alleviate our
worry and sorrow with your gentle love, and grant
us the grace and strength to accept this burden.*

*Dear God, we place our worries in your hands. We
place our sick under your care and humbly ask that
you restore your servant to health again.*

*Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge your
will and know that whatever you do, you do for the
love of us...Amen.*

Officers

Grand Knight: Tim Kasprzyk
Deputy Grand Knight: Stephen Curcio
Chancellor: Ray Quiñones
Treasurer: Karlos del Aguila
Financial Secretary: Don Carpenter
Recorder: Andrew Balser
Chaplain: Father John Tapp
Warden: Neil Waid
Inside Guard: Frank Orsillo, Louis Rodriguez
Outside Guard: Steve Mirabole
Advocate: Howard Baum
1-year Trustee: Richard Spinelli
2-year Trustee: Jay McCabe
3-year Trustee: Bill Queenan
Lecturer: Vinnie Urso

Upcoming Events

April 1 - Council Business Meeting, 7:30pm Adult
Ed Bldg.
April 8 – Parish Penitential Service, 7:00pm
April 13 - Tootsie Roll Drive, Publix, next to
Burlington, Brandon



SERVING PROS SINCE 1945

