

Newsletter

January 2009

St. Luke the Evangelist

*Knights of Columbus,
Council 12455*

*Merry Christmas
and Happy New
Year*

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Mark your Calendars

Council Meeting. Wednesday, January 7, 2009, 7:30 PM. A pre-meeting reception begins at 6:30 PM, with food and soft drinks.

Washington, D.C. March for Life. Thursday, January 22, 2009.

Corporate Mass. Saturday, January 18, 5:30 PM.

K of C Winter Meeting, Saturday, January 24, 7 PM Greenville NC.

New Brother Knight

Brother Angel Figueroa made his 1st Degree at St. Catherine of Siena on December 18. Council #12455's First Degree Team conferred the degree on Angel and four other men from nearby councils. Congratulations and welcome to Brother Angel.

March for Life

If you can, go to the March for Life on January 22, 2009 in DC. The cost is \$50 for bus transportation there and back. Sign up with Michelle Fober (848-8342) or stop by the office at St. Luke's to reserve a slot. Thus far we have two buses going to the nation's Capitol.

President Elect Obama needs to be made aware of the sacredness of life from conception to natural death. This is your opportunity to join with the people of Raleigh diocese in decrying the killing of unborn babies. We need to protest the unjust Roe v Wade Supreme Court decision. Every year media accounts grossly understate the numbers of persons supporting the right to life. Let there be no doubt -- this year's march will demonstrate the importance of civil rights for all, including the unborn.

Buses leave St. Luke's at approximately 4 AM and return by about 11 PM. Each person attending should bring a bag lunch and money for dinner.

Marriage Amendment

The Knights Marriage Amendment petition urges North Carolina's State Representatives and Senators to support a State Constitutional Amendment defining marriage as a union between one man and one woman at one time. To date, well over 400 of our

parishioners have signed. We believe that this is more than two-thirds of parishioners/families active in our church. Thanks for the support Father Joe Mulroney has given this initiative.

Grand Knight Terry Whalen has sent a letter to the Grand Knight of each NC Council explaining our petition drive and inviting each Council to participate in the petition drive. Copies of the letters were sent to the District and regional directors as well as the State Deputy.

An explanation for the need of such an amendment appears in the "***Knight's Corner***" of our weekly St. Luke Parish Bulletin.

Knights' Job Network

Our Council is exploring the possibility of setting up a jobs and skills networking group. The following preliminary goals were posed at a recent meeting:

- Creating an online database of member professions, skills, and hobbies
- Job Networking to learn about open positions.
- Seminars to learn about growing professions and required training.
- Ability to identify members that have unique or specialized tools and equipment.
- Expansion to include other councils in the future.

Interested Brothers include: Larry Opanasenko, Jim Haag, John Bihlmeyer, Bill Dougherty, and John Eshelman. Contact any of the above to participate, or to make suggestions.

Corporate Mass

A Memorial Mass for our deceased brother Knights and families will take place on Sunday January 18

at the 8:30 AM mass. Brother James Dasher requested this mass for the primary intention of protecting the Unborn, anticipating January prolife activities.

The Singing Knights will participate in the liturgy, under the direction of Jeff Rice. All Knights, ladies and families are invited to attend and sit as a group at this memorial mass. Knights may volunteer to serve in available ministries such as hospitality, Eucharistic, and Lectors. Call or e-mail Brother Mike Fober if you can minister or sing in the Knight choir.

Why not?

Time for New Year's resolutions!

How about getting more involved in selected Council activities? You really don't have to "over commit" yourself, but simply find some new and meaningful ways to get to know your Brother Knights. Many Knights are doing TLC, RCIA, bible study, choir, hospitality or Eucharistic ministries, or are volunteering in community, youth and family programs. Last year our Council members volunteered:

- Church: 7,630 hours
- Community: 3,740 hours
- Council: 3,700 hours
- Family: 2,400 hours
- Youth: 1,130 hours

Consider the following ways to become more involved:

- Member Retention & Recruitment
- First Degree Team
- Buddy (Mentor) Program
- Vocations
- Assist Needy/Disabled
- Pro Life
- Public Policy
- Family Events
- Youth Activities

Call GK Terry Whalen to discuss your interests and Council needs.

Social Activities

If you didn't make the Christmas party at the Sancineto's, you missed a wonderful evening of great food and merriment. Frank and Laura continue to outdo themselves each year. A special thanks to them.

Also, kudos to Chris Taurance for organizing a successful Texas Hold'em on November 21. All who attended enjoyed the event that turned a small profit.

Have you submitted your name to attend a Durham Bulls game in the spring and / or an evening at the theater in June when "Jersey Boys" comes to town? Please contact Terry Whalen, GK if you want to get in on the fun.

We look forward to doing more social events in the future and welcome your ideas. We particularly want to include our wives and family members as well.

Council Meeting

Council meets 7:30 PM, Wednesday, January 7. **A pre-meeting reception will start at 6:30 PM with food and refreshments.** Meeting agenda include: Knight and Family of the Month Awards, Networking Project, Charity Raffle, Catholic Parish Outreach, Keep Christ in Christmas, Barbeque Team, and other important Council business. **Bring your card and rosary.**

Please consider offering to bring food and refreshments for pre-meeting socials -- reimbursements made! Let Terry Whalen, GK know if you can volunteer for this.

Ignatian Retreat

St Luke's Council will again sponsor a men's weekend retreat at Avila in Durham, June 12-14, 2009. Fr. Michael Proterra, S.J.

will direct the retreat drawing on the *Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius*.

A retreat is a time of quiet and reflection, a time to get a better perspective on the deeper meaning of your life, a time to come into closer contact with God, a time of reconciliation and peace.

This men's retreat will start Friday at 6 PM and close Sunday noon. Avila Center is a unique retreat environment -- a peaceful and reflective setting for meditation and prayerful walks around the wooded landscape.

During the retreat, Fr. Proterra, S.J. gives talks, each about a half hour in length. These conferences are not dry, academic lectures, but are reflections on life's fundamental directions as seen in the light of the Gospels and the *Spiritual Exercises*.

For further information about the Men's Retreat, call Jim Haag at 841-5817 or Chris Taurence at 866-0886.

Knight/Family of the Month

Do you know of a worthy Brother or a Knight family who deserve of special recognition from our awards program? Send their names to John Billmeyer @ jatnc@mailcity.com with a short justification paragraph.

Wishing you and yours all the peace, goodwill and joy of the Christmas season