



# Ascension Council 7991

## Knight Herald

Official Publication of **Ascension** Council 7991

May/June 2019



June 2019 will see the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Church of the Ascension. We are all looking forward to marking this event in our history.

As we know, the present Church of the Ascension serves approximately 520 families and individual households. The Church resulted from an amalgamation of two smaller churches, the St. Theresa-Church of the Little Flower in Qualicum Beach, established in 1935 and the St. John Vianney in Parksville formed in 1948. Funds were raised to purchase land and the present Church of the Ascension was built in 1969. The first priest of (Ascension) was Fr. Jan Planeta who arrived in the area in February 1968. Fr. Planeta was born in Poland in 1909 and entered the seminary at the age of 19. He was ordained as a priest in 1934. In 1939 with the German invasion

of Poland he was arrested and sent to Dachau Concentration Camp. Upon arrival he was told "there is no exit from this camp, except through the chimney of the crematorium". Due to the brutal conditions, beatings and starvation along with being used as a human guinea pig his weight dropped to 86 Lbs. Dachau had a separate area known as the 'Priest Barracks of Dachau' KZ Dachau. The 'Pfarrerblock' – 'Priesterblock' was created in December 1940 and became the Centre of imprisonment of clergymen. Of a total of 2720 recorded imprisonments of religious people at Dachau, 2,579 or 94.88 % were Roman Catholic. There were 109 Protestants, 22 Greek Orthodox, 8 Old Catholic-Mariavites and 2 Muslims. Members of the Catholic Society of Jesus (Jesuits) were the largest group. As we know, no words or pictures can ever reveal the extreme suffering of the thousands who were crowded in Dachau. The living conditions were unbelievable, no food, no sanitation and death all around. The Camp was liberated by US troops on April 29<sup>th</sup> 1945. It was the last concentration camp to be set free. The Barracks were converted into hospitals and it was months before many could be moved. Fr. Planeta joined the 'Polish Panzers' and eventually became chaplain of the military camp at Westphalen Germany. He then joined

the 52<sup>nd</sup> British Division becoming senior chaplain with the rank of Captain. In 1950, Fr. Planeta came to Victoria and became Assistant Priest at St. Andrews.

In June 1970, Fr. Planeta was replaced by Fr. Kevin Wiseman who remained as Parish Priest at Ascension until 1984. Fr. Wiseman had another interesting background. He was born in England in 1921 and was educated in Belgium and France. At an early stage he was attracted to the priesthood. Sadly, while with the 'White Fathers' at a French Seminary school he was caught in the German invasion in 1940 and was arrested. He spent the next couple of years in prisoner of war camps. Twice he was condemned to death but somehow managed to survive and was pardoned. He later served on several missions in Africa before coming the BC to visit family. Fr. Wiseman was a clergyman for 40 years. A book on Fr. Wiseman's life history is available in the Parish Library. Since 1984 we have been privileged to welcome a number of pastoral leaders to Ascension; 1984 – Fr. Paul Blanchard; 1987 – Fr. Ray Cunningham; 1998 – Fr. Michael Favero; 2004 – Fr. Josef Kobos; 2011 – Fr. Melquiades Bayron; 2015 Fr. Karam Alraban; 2017 – Fr. Michael Favero

Please refer to the Parish website for more information.



A grand celebration on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Church of The Ascension will be held after the 10.30 AM Mass on **JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**. Council 7991 has contributed financially and will also have a number of Knights preparing the luncheon for the event.

## *Grand Knight's Report.*

*Dear Worthy Brothers All:*

*It's staggering how quickly time flies by! Here we are almost at the end of our Knights year and you wonder where has it all gone.*

*My tenure as the Grand Knight of our Ascension Council will end at the end of June. We have had a busy two years! We were able to accomplish many of our goals and by the same token, we have failed in achieving some of our goals. Certainly, I have learned a lot. Most of what I have learned is very positive and I would not have missed this opportunity under any circumstance. Being in*

*this position for the past two years, has without any question, broadened my perspective and appreciation for what the Knights of Columbus stand for and the work we do not only in our own communities but throughout our State jurisdiction and most parts of the world!*

*When Pope John Paul 2 referred to the Knights of Columbus as the 'Strong Right Arm of the Church', that statement alone pretty much tells it like it is and puts it all into perspective.*

*It has been an honour and a privilege to be your Grand Knight for the past 2 years. I have benefited greatly from this experience and my life has been completely enhanced because of it. I am humbled by your confidence in me and the commitment and support which I have received from every Knight! I would personally like to thank each one of you for helping and guiding me through the past 2 years. It has made my duties and responsibilities that much easier.*

*My wife Carol and I had the honour of being voted 'Family of the Year' by you my Brothers which we will cherish for the rest of our lives.*

*I look forward to serving our Knights Council for as long as I am able and wherever I may be directed .*

*I would like to congratulate all the incoming Officers who will have the responsibility, the duty and the honour to move this Council to bigger and better areas of our work as Knights. It's a noble cause and it will require a strong commitment from all the Officers, Directors and Chairmen throughout all our Council's endeavours.*

*Thank You*

*Vivat Jesus*

*Rum Hykaway, Grand Knight.*



## Calendar of Events

Events for 2019';

June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Parish BBQ to Celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Church of Ascension.

June 6<sup>th</sup> at 7.00 PM General Meeting

Your Attendance and Participation is vital for the continued well being of the Council.

May 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.00 PM Exec. Meeting

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Due to unforeseen difficulties, the Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> Pancake Breakfast was cancelled and has been re-scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>



A prospective husband in a book store; "Do you have a book called 'Husband – the Master of the House?'" Sales Girl' "Sir, fiction and comics are on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor!.

Pharmacist to customer; "Sir, please understand, to buy an anti-depression pill you need a proper prescription. Simply showing a marriage certificate and your wife's photo is not enough!"



The Grand Knight R. Hykaway presented Br. Lucien 'Lou' Biggeman with his 'Honorary Life Membership card at the April General Meeting. Br. Biggeman is one of 3 remaining Charter Members of Council 7991 which was formed 37 years ago.

Council 7991 welcomed two new Knights; Taigan Marshall obtained his 1<sup>st</sup> Degree on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> and Michael McNulty was welcomed on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019.



Br. D. Belliveau and his trusty crew have been preparing for the Famous Annual Knights of Columbus Garage Sale to be held at the Church of the Ascension on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019. This is one of the better events of the year for the Council's projects, it takes a great deal of work and co-operation by a number of our members and we value their work and assistance. Br. Dennis is available should you wish to contribute to this event in any shape or form. Donations of items for the sales tables are welcome.

From the Catholic News Service 2019-5-13;

The Alaska Thrift Shop, Archangel Attic at Anchorage Alaska which is attached to the St. Benedict Church. has raised over \$1 Million for the Lumen Christi High School. The KofC has assisted the Thrift Shop in various means.

### A Glance around the Globe

2019-5-10; CNS; Pope Francis told the heads of women’s religious orders from around the globe the sisters are needed to serve the church and those in need and should not be ‘servants or maids’.

2019-5-09 CNS; Archbishop Charles Scicluna of Malta, Adj. Secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith told reporters;” the document by Pope Francis “Vos estis lux mundi”(You are the Light of the World) established the norms and procedures for holding bishops and religious superiors accountable in protecting minors as well as in protecting members of religious orders and seminarians from abuse:

NBC NEWS April 19’; The Church of England has acknowledged the reality of shrinking congregations and overworked priests and lifted a 400 year old rule requiring that all churches hold services every Sunday. After decades of declining attendance, many priests are now responsible for multiple Churches, especially in rural areas. Until now, they have needed permission from a bishop not to hold Sunday services in each church.

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# ANNUAL



# DUES

The Annual Dues are being collected by Br. J. Lewis.

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A smile; A Brit in a taxi in Dublin leaned over to ask the driver a question and tapped him on the

shoulder. The driver screamed, lost control of the cab, nearly hit a bus, drove up over the curb and stopped just inches from the edge of the bridge over the Liffey River. For a few moments everything was silent in the cab and then the still shaking driver said; “I’m sorry, but you scared the devil out of me”. The Brit apologized and said he didn’t realize a mere tap on the shoulder could frighten an Irishman so much. The driver replied; “Will the Saints in Heaven forgive me, it’s entirely my fault. Today is my first day driving a cab, I’ve been driving a hearse for the last 25 years “.

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Council 7991 currently has 91 members. We look forward to seeing more members attending monthly meetings. We would encourage Council members to consider finding new candidates interested in joining the Knights of Columbus. This is an organization that fills your heart and mind with joy of giving to others and the feeling that comes with making a difference. We strive to make this community a better place while supporting our Church. It is not only the camaraderie but being involved with the community, supporting our Church enhancing our faith and protecting our family. If you cannot attend a meeting and wish to comment or make suggestions please do so via e.mail, phone call or letter to the Grand Knight.

The kofc HQ has announced that free membership to the kofc will be available to seminarians. For more info. Check out [emembership@kofc.org](mailto:emembership@kofc.org).

Recruitment of new Knights continues to be a priority as we are committed to making the community a better place. Knights support the community and our Catholic Church.

Kofc HQ 11.14/2018

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Should you be looking for some neat KofC goods you may check out [www.knightsgear.com](http://www.knightsgear.com) . This

is the official on line store of the Knights of Columbus.

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 The Council 7991 Website, kofc7991.com has recently been redesigned, information updated, members photos added along with new photos of events. Members should check their information personal data under the title 'Members' and contact Br. P. Horsfield for any corrections or additional information you wish to add. Certain data is password protected and you may contact Br. Horsfield directly if you require any assistance to access the website.. He may be contacted at peterlhors@hotmail.com or call Br. Peter at 250-248-8869.

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**KNIGHTS IN ACTION ;**

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**Code of Chivalry;**

**‘Always Live Pure, Always Speak True, Always Right Wrong and above all, Always Follow Jesus Christ, the King. That is the very heart of true Christian Knighthood. Without Chivalry, Knighthood is dead. Every true Knight must live by the Code of Chivalry, those who do not are not Knights at all’.** (A. Lord Tennyson)

The following events are planned for the rest of 2019 and into 2020.

- June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Special Celebration – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Church of the Ascension.
- October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Pasta Night (Twoonie Auction)
- December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 KofC Appreciation Dinner.
- February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 St. Valentine’s Dinner and Dance.
- March 21, 2020 – Irish Night
- May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 KofC Annual Garage Sale.

Br. A. Walsh continues his efforts to introduce anyone interested in joining the Knights of Columbus and any assistance in this regard would be highly appreciated.

On Sat. May 18<sup>th</sup>, Br. Rod Morrison and Noreen renewed their wedding vows in recognition of their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Fr. Mike Favero was on hand to direct the celebration. Our Congratulations to Br. Rod and Noreen !

The recent ‘Knightline’ newsletter, Vol. 36 #5, emphasized the Knights’ interest in seeking new members. It is suggested that an approach to a prospective member may be “Have you ever thought about being a Knight of Columbus?”. A second recommendation suggested that all issues related to KofC membership should be noted in the Parish Bulletin. Items such as new Knights, Knights who advance in Degrees, new transfers or reinstatements, births and marriages and accomplishments of members. It was reported that Tennessee State Council Knights noticed that Knights who were not involved in council activities were leaving the Order. Br, T. Staller, State Dep. Of Tennessee stated that “our church is suffering from a similar lack of participation, what could almost be termed a retail or consumer attitude toward our faith.

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 KofC Council 683 at Spokane Washington has supported the Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Church for more than 10 years. The Order has been working at parishes, Catholic schools, retreats and the Sacred Heart Medical Center and are actively supported by the Knights of Columbus who have so far raised approx. \$110,000 to support the Sisters of Mary. The sisters host an annual golf tournament fundraiser.

A number of Br. Knights are needed to assist at funeral services and also for the upcoming Easter services. Alter training will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Br. Paul Tellier if you are interested.

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 The Refugee family sponsored by the Parish of Ascension has decided to relocate to Surrey, BC A number of Knights, Brothers Latrmouille, Antoniuk, Sterckeman, Fraser, Tellier, Belliveau

and Niwa assisted in moving personal belongings onto a transport for the move to the mainland.



Knights' Choir has been very active during the past few months with regular monthly performances at the 8.30 Mass, the Appreciation Dinner, Christmas Mass, etc. Tip of the hat to the Choir members and the accompanist, Michael Briones. These gentlemen are doing a marvelous job and the Council can be proud of them. On a sad note, the long time Choir Director Leo Pearson has decided to relocate to Nanaimo and will no longer be able to guide our Choir.

The British Columbia Knights of Columbus State Song; (to the tune of 'Sing to the "Sing to the Mountain, sing to the Sea'.

Sing to the Mountain sing to the sea  
We're Knights of Columbus from BC  
British Columbia God has made,  
We're proud to call it home.

British Columbia God has made  
Where rivers flow out to the sea.  
Mountains high and cedars tall  
And orcas and eagles are free.

Sing to the mountains, sing to the sea  
We're Knights of Columbus from BC  
British Columbia God has made

We're proud to call it home.(2 x last time)  
By PSD Dan O'Hara

**Basketball Free Throw Competition Winners.**

Award Presentations made by GK Hykaway and Free Throw Chairman Br. M. Gaudreau



The Tragedy of Life, I am told, is not that it Ends  
so soon, but that we Wait too Long to Begin It !

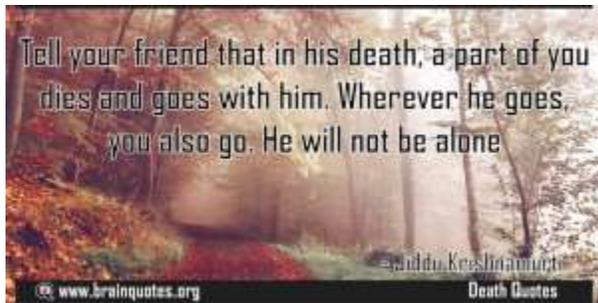
“Life is a shipwreck, but we must not forget to sing in the lifeboats” . V. Hugo



### Health

Greetings to those of our Brothers and their loved ones who may be suffering ill health, we wish you all the best and a speedy recovery.

### Br. Jim Enright



May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019; Sad news has come to us of the passing of Br. J. Enright, a former Grand Knight and active member of Council 7991 for many years. Our thoughts and prayers for Br. Jim, his family and friends.

Please notify the Grand Knight should you require any assistance or favor a visit.

For those who may be travelling, please be careful and stay healthy.

Some 'red flags' when using the computer; **BE CAREFUL!** A) If you don't recognize the sender's email address or someone you normally communicate with. B) You don't know the sender personally and they were not vouched for by someone you trust! C) You don't have a relationship nor any past communication with the sender.



From KofC HQ; “Knightline” is going Digital ! It will continue to be available on [kofc.org/knightline](http://kofc.org/knightline) and you can sign up to receive Knightline by visiting [kofc.org/myinfo](http://kofc.org/myinfo).

Jan. 30. 2019; The Catholic Civil Rights League (CCRL) presented arguments at the Ontario

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**On the World Scene;**

This has been a particularly difficult Easter for many Christians around the Globe. The shocking death of 350 people and destruction in Sri Lanka rings terribly familiar in this era of Christian persecution. As commented by C. Pepinster 'The Telegraph' on April 23, 19', according to a respected Research Center 'Christians are the most targeted body of believers in 144 countries. The future of Christianity is grim in N.Africa and the Middle East. In Libya, a mass grave contained 34 Ethiopian Christians killed by Islamic State Fighters. The destruction of Christianity in Iraq after Islamist groups emerged has resulted in barely any Christians left in cities like Mosul.

Fr. Raymond J. deSouza stated in his 25 April 19' article to the National Post. "In 2018, French police reported **875** churches vandalized. Though the Notre Dame de Paris fire was

deemed to be accidental, another prominent church in Paris was burned while another was smeared with excrement and sacrileges against the Holy Eucharist.

During an Easter procession in Gombe, Nigeria, a car rammed into a group of children killing 9 people and injuring another 30.

On Palm Sunday 2019 a church in Uttar Pradesh, India was attacked by some 200 men who beat the pastor and congregation with sticks.

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In April, the Catholic Civil Rights League noted the introduction of proposed legislation to force all religious symbols to be removed by specific public sector workers in the Prov. Of Quebec. ([ccrl@ccrl.ca](mailto:ccrl@ccrl.ca) 19-04-07)

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Matthew Kelly, a well-known author, speaker and consultant, commented in one of his books 'The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity' that, "Christian unity will be needed to make the world a better place. It is no longer just a nice idea; it is the moral imperative upon which the future of Christianity depends. Yes, the world is in a mess and Yes, people see the outlook as grim but we as Christians should not look upon the world as grim. Christians are people of hope."

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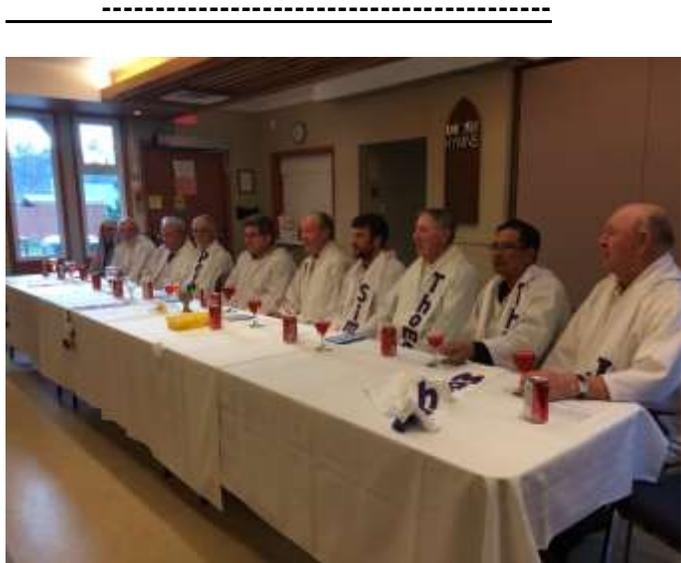
**Basketball Free Throw Competition 2019.**



**Feb 2019; First Degree Presentation to Br. T. Marshall.**



**Photo on previous page #9; At the Parksville City Hall, Worthy Grand Knight R. Hykaway and Trustee Br. P. Horsfield, on behalf of Council 7991, presented 7 charities in the Oceanside area with a total of \$8.750. Well Done Council 7991.**



**Council 7991 participates at the Last Supper enactment April 2019.**

Websites to check;

<http://www.kofc.org> Knights of Columba

<http://www.vcn.bc.ca/kofc/> ; KofC BC & Yukon

<http://www.vatican.va/> - The Vatican



-“If you are depressed, you are living in the past.

If you are anxious, you are living in the future.

If you are at peace, you are living in the present”. (Lao Tzu)

“What is a Throne?”

“It’s a chair with some velvet!” (N. Bonaparte)

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