



### Grand Knights Report



First of all from the Knights Annual Award dinner on Dec.5th, I would like to congratulate the winners, Br. G. Johnston for the Appreciation Award. On Behalf of my wife Cheryl, I would like to Thank You all for voting us 'Family of the Year' and Br. W. Latremouille for Knight of the Year. A job well done by all. There are so many brothers who are worthy of these awards, I wish we could hand out more. As 2015 comes to a close, let us reflect on the good times we shared as well as saying Goodbye to some fellow Knights. Brothers Peter ASH, Mike HANLON, and Gerry TAYLOR. May They Rest in Peace.

Thank You to Br. Peter Horsfield for his first 6 months of 2015 as Grand Knight, then becoming our District Deputy. All the volunteers for the

work done during the year, pancake breakfasts, dinners, the garage sale, sand sculpting competition, etc. Thank You Br. Adam Waldie and Amanda Sapieha for opening their home for 'Christmas in July'. I want to Thank You for all your help and support in my 1st 6 months and 1st term as Grand Knight. We Congratulate all men who joined the Knights this year also, Fr. Karam, our new Parish Priest who is now a Knight and our Spiritual Leader.

*On behalf of Cheryl, we would like to Wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and all the Best for 2016!*

*God Bless You All, Vivat Jesus  
W. Sapieha. WGK Council 7991*



To all members of Council 7991 -  
Thursday, Jan 7th at 7.00 pm General Meeting at the Parish Hall. All Brother Knights are encouraged to attend the meeting.

Thursday Dec 17th 7.00 pm Executive Meeting - St. Luke's Room

A Director for the Pro-Life Committee is urgently required. Anyone interested may contact our WGK.

Br. Misanchuk (250)752-8950 and Br. Antoniuk (250)752-9152, are looking after the 2015/16' Life Style Book Program.

Br. D. Belliveau informs the next Garage Sale is scheduled for May 16th, 2016.

Br. P. Tellier, Tel. 250-586-5741 is co-ordinating the Charity Appeal Program for our Council. Please contact Br. Paul if you wish to purchase and/or assist with the sale of tickets.

The Knights Appreciation Dinner on Dec. 6th was well attended, a great Chinese Dinner and Awards presented to Br. Johnston, Br. Latremouille and Family of the Year Award to our WGK and Lady Sapieha.

Courtesy to;

Our WGK was hoping to contact the KofC Council 4488 at San Bernardino, Ca. to extend our Councils' concerns and prayers following the recent terrorist attack in that city. Several members of Council 4488 are employed with the Police in that city, the St. Bernardino Hospital, City Government and others. Br. Dominic GLASS GK of Council 4488 (bulletin@kofc4488.org) is the contact for any communications with that Council.

December 15 - Toronto . The Annual General Meeting of the Catholic Civil Rights League was scheduled to be held at St. Pius X Church. The guest speaker was to be Alex Schadenberg of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition to discuss the issue of conscience rights for health care workers in view of the recent Supreme Court of Canada decision on mercy killing.

Middle East; CWN Dec 14, The Fides news service reports at least 17 Christian churches in Syria have been destroyed or desecrated by Islamist extremists since that country's civil war began. Documented attacks on houses of worship include cases in which churches were burned to the ground or dynamited and some in which icons and relics were deliberately targeted for destruction.



Volunteer Christmas Decorators are invited to help at the Church on Monday, Dec. 21st at 10.00 AM. Call Ms. Shaddick at 250-2481921.

**Note;** To Contact Jesus, try Knee-Mail !

In November 15' the Knights Of Columbus announced that they surpassed \$100 Billion in Life Insurance, culminating a year of record-breaking sales. The KofC is now the world's largest Catholic fraternal organization with almost 1.9 million members across the globe.

In Sept. 15' the KofC informed that a one month supply of food would be sent to the estimated 13, 500 refugee families in Erbil, Iraq who have been displaced by ISIS.

Sept. 15' ; the US Court of Appeals issued a 2-1 ruling stating that the 'BIG MOUNTAIN JESUS' statue in Whitefish, Montana could remain on federal land. The statue was erected by the Knights of Columbus almost 60 yrs ago to commemorate the US Army's 10th Mountain Division that fought in Italy during WWII.

Council 7991 was invited to prepare the Annual Christmas Luncheon for the Parish Catholic Womens League. This involved a number of our Brother Knights under the guidance of our superb Cook, Br. Latremouille. Hats Off ! to the Crew.







A Christmas note from Ireland



Dear Brother Knights,

Greetings from a very wet and windy Ireland! The Shannon area is very badly affected and farmers are in a terrible

way. Please say a prayer for those people in that area. Not so much in this lovely area of Bantry Co. Cork. We have two Priests here who serve 3 parishes and are kept very busy with funerals and weddings so there is no time for any kind of socializing within the Church. Also, they visit the schools and the Hospital. So, we miss your Pancake Breakfasts and the coffee mornings and of course the non-stop parties in the Hall. Keep it Up! There is no CWL or KofC here. Helen has become involved with Meals on Wheels, about 30 people get dinner 3 times a week. I have also joined a group who bring Communion to the Hospital. Tuesday, 8th December, the feast of the Immaculate Conception was a Holy Day of Obligation here. It may be the nearest Sunday the feast in held in Canada. The only Mass with Music is at 12 Noon on a Sunday but Helen hasn't gone into that one..yet!

Well, we want to send you all lots of love and blessings for Christmas and may all good fortune be with you in 2016. Best Wishes,

Brendan and Helen O'Keeffe.

HEALTH



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.

Please notify the Worthy Grand Knight should you require any assistance or favor hospital visits.

'Having faith is being certain that there is something to live for, some purpose or direction or goal, a reason why life goes on and should go on" . C. F. Hefling

Happy Birthday, Pope Francis !



Dec 13th, Pope Francis opens the Holy Door at the Basilica of St. John Lateran. Holy Doors around the world were opened at city cathedrals, major churches and sanctuaries.

During his Feb 2016 visit to Mexico, Pope Francis will visit some of the most marginalized communities in that country.

Best Sermons are Lived - Not Preached



It was the day after Christmas at a church in S.Francisco. The pastor looked over the lawn and noticed the baby Jesus was missing from among the figures. He hurried outside and saw a little boy with a red wagon and in the wagon was the figure of the little infant Jesus. So, he walked up to the boy and said, "Well, where did you get your passenger, my fine friend?" The boy replied "I got Him at Church". "And why did you take him? asked the pastor. The boy said, "Well a week before Christmas I prayed to the little Lord Jesus and told him if he would bring me a red wagon for Christmas I would give Him a ride around the block in it!"



Christmas Season is near and a good time to remind everyone to be extra careful on the roads..

BC Catholic News 15 Dec 2015,' B.C. Supreme Court rules in favour of Trinity Western University. Following years of effort to gain recognition the Supreme Court had reversed its April 2014 decision citing 'concerns about discrimination against potential LGBT students. The TWU took the Law Society to Court. The Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms intervened in the court case and argued that the Charter gives groups the rights to establish their own membership requirements. That includes TWU's community covenant which some called discriminatory for asking students to abstain from sex outside marriage between a man and a woman. TWU says Alberta, Sask. P.E.I, N.B. and the Yukon will recognize their law graduates. Nova Scotia and Ontario law societies are still in the courts.



Christmas Candles in Windows? Dec.17, 15' Cath. Exchange.com; Fr. W. Saunders explains the custom began as a result of British persecution against the Catholic Church in Ireland after King Henry II invaded Ireland in 1171. The intent was to totally subjugate the Irish people, crush their religion which meant crushing the Catholic Church. The penal laws were extended to eradicate Catholicism. All

Catholic clergy were ordered to leave the country by May 1, 1698 after which they could be imprisoned and exiled and liable to hanging if they returned. Despite the persecution, the Catholic faith kept the Irish strong. Bishops and Priests continued to minister to the people. During Christmas every faithful Irish Catholic family hoped to have a priest visit their home so that they could receive the sacraments. They would leave their doors unlocked and place candles in the windows to signal a priest that he was welcome and would be safe. The practise was brought to America by the Irish immigrants and has become very popular. We must never lose sight of its meaning. As we celebrate Christmas, may we open our hearts and homes to Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Christ is our light, who entered this world to scatter sin and darkness. Having been enlightened by Christ through Holy Baptism, we must have a strong loyalty to our Church. We too must realize that the greatest gift of all is faith, a faith which enabled the Irish to triumph over the most heinous persecutions. (see Arlington Catholic Herald- Fr. W. Saunders)

A nationwide (USA) survey conducted by Marist Poll sponsored and funded by the KofC Dec. 15' finds that Americans are well aware of ISIS atrocities against Christians and other Minorities in the Middle East and believe those actions to constitute genocide. The survey supports agreement that this targeting of Christians and other minorities meets the U.N. definition of genocide. The US Commission on International Religious Freedom released a statement urging the State Dept. to declare what is happening in the region as genocide. During his recent trip to Bolivia Pope Francis stated "Today we are dismayed to see how the Middle East and elsewhere in the world many of our brothers and sisters are persecuted, tortured and killed for their faith in Jesus..A form of genocide is taking place, and it must end". (kofc.org/un/en/news/polls/index.html)Dec.17.

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