



Marshall Council 966

December 2020 Newsletter

Knights of Columbus

PO Box 1672, Marshalltown, IA 50158



Wishing you a Merry Christmas

From Grand Knight Greg Jacobs:

We each have suffered to some extent this year with the pandemic and to those that have suffered most through the loss of a loved one my heart goes out to you. As bad as the situation seems I can't help but believe there is a positive side to this pandemic.

I have found it much easier to spend more time with the Lord reflecting upon where I am on this journey toward hopefully life everlasting. We are all called to spend time in word and prayer each day. This can be difficult for me when life is what we used to call normal--busy with work, busy with family, busy with organizational commitments, busy with household chores, busy volunteering, etc. When being busy becomes a crutch, an excuse, it becomes too easy to ignore what is most important and that is putting God first.

I am hopeful that the positive outcome of this pandemic is a new normal and not a return to the old normal. I am hopeful that periods of isolation, limited face to face meetings, and the pandemic forcing us to slow down and dial back the pace of life, has helped many people like me to reset and refocus on that most important of commandments. I am hopeful that the new normal reveals a new re-energized Catholic faithful on fire with love for Jesus Christ.

During this advent season as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior I challenge you to take advantage of restrictions on social gatherings, or self-quarantine, or not being able to do all those busy normal things of old and spend time with the Lord. Read the Bible, read a book by Matthew Kelly, pray the Rosary. Take advantage of what may seem a difficult situation and turn it around, invest in your Soul!

Wishing you and your family a very Blessed Christmas.

--Greg Jacobs

Artwork (left) Fr. Tom's calligraphy and Julie Miller's art present a central Christmas theme

How could the Knights help you?

Could you ever have imagined a year as bad as 2020? A pandemic AND a derecho! Has there ever in our lifetime been such widespread need?

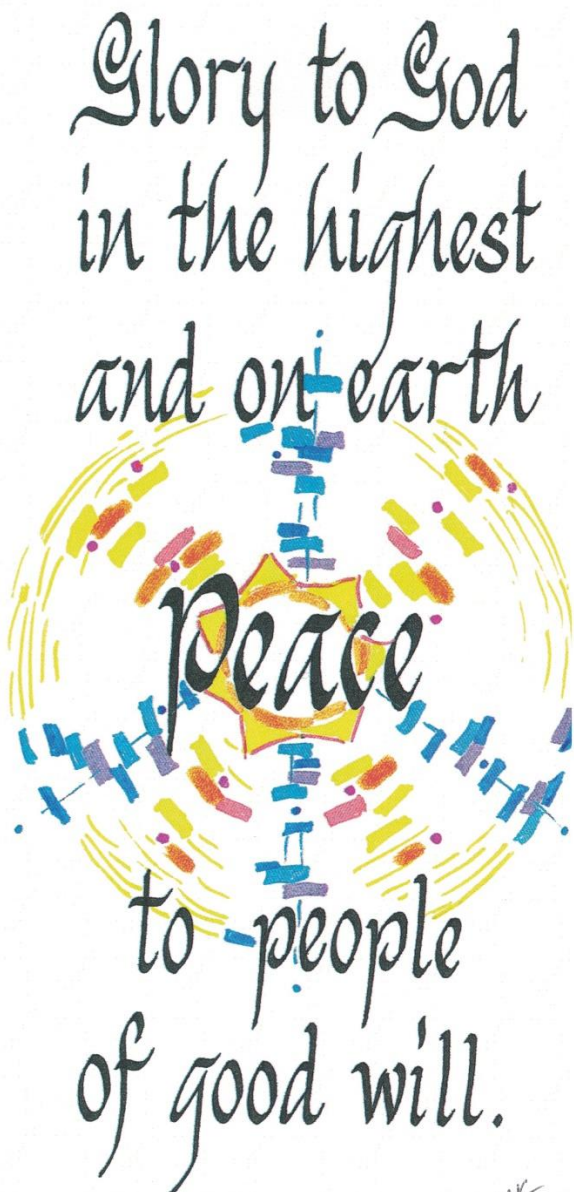
As a service organization, with Charity as our first pillar, and Fraternity not far behind, we are called to find ways to serve our neighbor, but in particular our fellow Knights, and any widows or children left behind by a Knight's death.

If you have needs, or you know of someone (not necessarily Knights) with needs that could be served by volunteers, please contact any of the officers listed later in this newsletter. You, or your loved one, signed up to be a Knight, not just to serve, but also to benefit from the charity, fraternity, unity, and patriotism we all pledged to uphold.

Some examples of services we could provide in these trying times are:

- Clean up derecho damage
- Repairs (handyman level) or tasks
- Transportation needs
- Personal visits; writing cards or letters
- Setting up video chats with distant family

Give us this chance to put actions behind words and live out our commitment to you.



Brothers All:

Have you ever read an encyclical letter from the pope? I recently started reading Pope Francis's recent encyclical titled "Fratelli Tutti" which translates to "Brothers All". It is long, but surprisingly (to me anyway) easy to read. You can access it for free here: http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20201003_enciclica-fratelli-tutti.html

If you're not quite up to an encyclical, pick up the November copy of Columbia magazine, which is about our founder, blessed Michael McGivney. It may help you see the Knights of Columbus in a whole new light.

Whatever you do, don't just sit out these challenging times. Rise to the challenge. Be open to change. Give thanks in all circumstances.

Notable happenings since October:

- Due to Covid, we are planning to honor this year's deceased Knights along with next year's in the November 2021 KC memorial ceremony
- Checks to ARC, CIRSI, and MIW, as well as to the Marshall County Disaster Relief Fund, were presented at a dinner at Legends in November. Given the shortfall in Tootsie Roll receipts this year, the funds for these donations were covered by an \$8000 payout of interest from the investment fund established by the sale of the hall.
- \$1000 was donated to Guiding Star's John Egnew memorial ultrasound fund.
- LeRoy Jero volunteered to become our council's Financial Secretary now that Roger Drummer is our area insurance agent.
- Karol Smigowski and Steve Ulrich have registered as new members. They will be the first to be enrolled using the new initiation procedure which is no longer secret and can involve the family of the new member.
- Several Knights have helped with Derecho cleanup at Eldon Schneider's farm.
- Several Knights helped add cushion material to the playground at St. Francis and to install benches there.

Insurance Corner –

Season's greetings to all. We are fully into our first season of the Church's year, Advent. Hopefully all are preparing for a very merry, and especially this year a very safe, Christmas season.

This time of year, with regards to our insurance program, there is a focus on long term care insurance. After the year we have had, many people realized this year that staying at home is preferred, if at all possible, over going to a nursing home facility. The Knights of Columbus insurance program can assist with that.

Please contact me if you would like more information on this topic. Once again thank you and please have a merry and safe Christmas season this year.

Sincerely

Roger Drummer
Field Agent
Knights of Columbus
641-844-4728

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U S POSTAGE

PAID
PERMIT NO. 45
MARSHALLTOWN IA 50158

December 2020 Newsletter



Council 966 Officers:

- Grand Knight – Greg Jacobs c:(641)-750-1277 gwjacobs@mediacombb.net
- Deputy Grand Knight – open
- Financial Secretary -- LeRoy Jero (641) 752-2165 (home) ljero@centurylink.net
- Chancellor – open
- Recorder -- open
- Treasurer -- Robert M Cook h:(641) 752-1661 c:(641) 844-3049 rmcook2703@yahoo.com
- Warden – Brandon Kunkel (641) 351-9653 brandonkunkel@yahoo.com
- Advocate -- George Baitinger h:(641)488-2966 mjbait@heartofiowa.net
- Inside Guard -- David Staron h:(641)752-4868 c:(641)485-6172 davidstaron@mac.com
- Outside Guard Logan Frederick c:(641)750-0076 lofredfqp@hotmail.com
- One Year Trustee -- Vince Frederick h:(641)753-7288 vfredfqp@hotmail.com
- Two Year Trustee -- Stephen Seberger h:(641)752-8363 c:(641)750-2550 sgsebe1@gmail.com
- Three Year Trustee -- Matthew Herrick c:(641)351-9597 matthew.herrick@huskers.unl.edu
- Lecturer Deacon Roger Polt h:(641)753-1444 c:(641)351-9386 rpolt@yahoo.com
- Newsletter editor -- Steve Seberger h:(641) 752-8363 sgsebe1@gmail.com