

# The Cross and Compass

Knights of Columbus St. Joseph Council #7528



Joey Romero, Grand Knight

Tim Philomeno, FFS—Editor

## From The Grand Knight

- The monthly meeting took place on December 5th.
- December 17th, Knights sponsor Coffee and Donuts. We netted around \$130, and the event brought many parish members together for social time.
- The Planning Meeting will take place on December 19th at 7 p.m.
- All enjoyed the Knights potluck dinner! Worthy Grand Knight Joey outdid himself, as did everyone who brought dishes and dessert.
- Nativity House breakfast took place December 16th. There is no word on participation levels at this time.
- Mike Fay is leading a team of Knights in decorating the two trees on Wednesday, December 20th, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. A second session, if needed, will be on December 21st at 10 a.m.

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## From Your Lecturer

### GRACE

According to Webster's Dictionary, Grace is defined as:

- unmerited divine assistance given to humans for their regeneration or sanctification
- a virtue coming from God
- a state of sanctification enjoyed through divine assistance



Catholics believe that we receive grace from God, but do we really know what we are receiving. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states: "The Grace of Christ is the gratuitous gift that God makes to us of his own life, infused with the Holy Spirit into our soul to heal it of sin, and to sanctify it. It is the *sanctifying* or *deifying* grace received in Baptism. It is in us the source of the work of

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## FS Notes

Merry Christmas



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sanctification. (CCC 1999) Therefore, Grace is that which is necessary for us to free us from our sins, and eventually be worthy to face God for we cannot do it by ourselves". Is it no wonder that we pray for grace in our lives.

But this explanation may still leave us wanting for a better understanding of grace. A less academic explanation of grace was made by Carl Frederick Buechner (1926-2022), who was an American author, Presbyterian minister, preacher, and theologian. The author of thirty-nine published books, his career spanned more than six decades and encompassed many different genres. The following is from an article written by Buechner in 2016.

After centuries of handling and mishandling, most religious words have become so shopworn nobody's much interested anymore. Not so with *grace*, for some reason. Mysteriously, even derivatives like *gracious* and *graceful* still have some of the bloom left.

Grace is something you can never get but can only be given. There's no way to earn it or deserve it or bring it about any more than you can deserve the taste of raspberries and cream or earn good looks or bring about your own birth.

A good sleep is grace and so are good dreams. Most tears are grace. The smell of rain is grace. Somebody loving you is grace. Loving somebody is grace. Have you ever tried to love somebody?

A crucial eccentricity of the Christian faith is the assertion that people are saved by grace. There's nothing *you* have to do. There's nothing you *have* to do. There's nothing you have to "*do*".

The grace of God means something like: "*Here is your life. You might never have been, but you are, because the party wouldn't have been complete without you. Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don't be afraid. I am with you. Nothing can ever separate us. It's for you I created the universe. I love you.*"

There's only one catch. Like any other gift, the gift of grace can be yours only if you'll reach out and take it.

Maybe being able to reach out and take it is a gift too.

[originally published in Wishful Thinking and later in Beyond Words]

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- Wednesday, December 23rd, Sim Bang Gabi mass, with a party at the Social Hall to follow.
- January 15th will be the Free Throw Championship.
- The Knight of the Month is Brother Bill Shell!! Thank you for everything you do, Bill.
- Family of the Month is the John Mills family! Thank you for your dedication, John and Katy Mills!
- Executive Assistant Mike Rutland has lined up at last 10 new members. Terrific job Mike! Also, Grand Knight Jory has recruited new officers for next year. Details at our next monthly meeting.

## KNIGHTS NIGHT 2024

Brother Knights we are attempting to schedule a night at the Tacoma Rainiers game on Thursday May 16 @ 7:00 PM. We would like to reserve a 30 person suite for that night & still have general admission tickets available for anyone or group. The suite would have hot dogs, hamburgers, chips & sodas. Wine & beer & popcorn. Plus a dessert item.

The cost for a suite ticket is \$65.00 each.

The GA ticket price is \$15.50 & includes a hot dog, chips & a bottle of water.

Please contact me @253 735 6035 or [rhusky1@gmail.com](mailto:rhusky1@gmail.com) with your interest ASAP as we need to make our reservations ASAP.

You may also contact Mike Fay with your reservations. Payment is due May 1.

Thank you -- hope to see you May 16th at Cheney!!!

### Birthdays and Anniversaries for January

Member Birthdays		Wife's Birthday	
4th	Tito Alfiler	8th	Christine Molina
7th	Roger Gallagher	17th	Franchesca Henderson
13th	Lawrence Weigel	18th	Lisa Alfiler
14th	Aric Tennant	23th	Pam Ross
15th	Mark Hartman	29th	Mary Seatz
15th	James Miles	30th	Mary Czuk
16th	Selim Abounader		
18th	Kevin Robillard		Anniversaries
19th	James Freyberg	12th	Julius and Helen Rabara
20th	Thomas Skoda	14th	Richard and Mary Ann Peterson
24th	Donald Mennie	15th	Steven and Pat Gentry
25th	Winn Michaelson	20th	William and Diane Shell
28th	Norman Robinson	27th	David and Mary Seatz
28th	Travis Spicer		
29th	Gerald Duhamel		
30th	Robert Butzerin		

### Good of The Order

The following is a list of those Brother Knights or family members who are sick or in distress that we have been asked to pray for:

Tom Amato son of Tim Amato, Pete Anderson, Dale Dietrich , Aurther DePalma father of Fr. John Patrick, Margie wife of Gary Fredrickson, Ray & Mary Garcia, Leo Herrera, Ralph & Peggy Horner, Jerry and Kathy Koch, Bill Miller brother of Don Miller, Katherine Myers mother of Dave Myers, Larry and Ann Neville, Ralph Osman, Mike Rutland Jr., Marianne Savino, Dean Smith, Anita Spicer Mother of Frank Spicer, Fr. Tom Vandenberg, Jim Yokum

Pray for all people that are victims of war and persecution throughout the world especially Israel, the middle east and Ukraine.

Pray for our Brother Knights of Columbus, Church members and families that we remain strong in our faith and pray that the Holy Spirit guides and protects us during these troubling times.

Pray for all priests and clergy that the Holy Spirit strengthen them and help them cope with all the changes as they minister to the faithful.

Pray for Our Country and leaders that the Holy Spirit descend upon us and lead us back to One Nation Under God for without Him we will not survive as a nation.

### 2023-2024 Council Leadership

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#### Knight of the Month January

Michael Rutland

#### Nativity House!

Come help feed the homeless Saturday December 20th. Everyone will be meeting in the church parking lot at 7:45 and leaving promptly at 8AM. From there everyone will be heading to the Tacoma Nativity House to feed the homeless pancakes and sausage! This is a great opportunity to help those in need! Contact Ted Colby at [nhb@kofc7528.org](mailto:nhb@kofc7528.org) for any additional information.

#### Family of the Month January

John Mills

#### Pennies for Heaven

Our goal for this year, as always, is a penny a day for Vocations, \$3.65/yr. Please support our priests! Contact [FS Mike Fay](mailto:FS Mike Fay)

## Upcoming Events!

### January

2nd Rosary in church—sanctuary 7:00pm  
2nd General Meeting—South Narthex 7:30pm  
16th Planning Meeting—South Narthex 7:00pm  
20th Nativity House

### February

6th General Meeting—South Narthex 7:30pm  
17th Nativity House  
20th Planning Meeting—South Narthex 7:00pm

Knights of Columbus

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