

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from your Grand Knight, Eric Novak.

Hope everyone enjoyed a very Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you to all who prepared the widows baskets and helping with the Holy Family celebration on December 27th.

January is Pro-Life month, where the council will distribute Roses for Life at the all the masses on January 19th and 20th. The proceeds collected will be disbursed at the February meeting.

There will be a 4th degree presentation at the January 5th meeting. Members interested in becoming a 4th degree knight are encouraged to attend.

February has become the time the council holds a pork chop bingo near Valentine's Day. The actual date and chairmanship will be discussed at the January 5th meeting.

To meet our membership quota the council should have a first degree in January or February. Please work on membership, it is every knight's responsibility.

Vivat Jesus! Fraternally Yours,
Eric Novak, Grand Knight
Tel: 320-309-6250

COUNCIL NEWS

Grand Knight, Eric Novak welcomed members and guests to the wine and cheese social and regular December 1st meeting. Communications received since the last meeting were read: Seminarian Brother Knight Thomas Skaja thanked the council for the financial support received from the council. Thank yous were received from Birth Line, National Center of sexual exploitation and St John's Area School for the donations they received.

Members and families contributing time and work for the council were remembered with Christmas Greetings and monetary gift from the council.

A request was received from St John's Area School regarding their need to update the outside playground equipment in 2016. The council plans on discussing this request in more detail at the January 5th regular meeting.

Doug Novak Faithful Navigator of the Fr. Pierz General Assembly invited members interested in joining the 4th degree to attend the 10:00am mass at S.S. Peter & Paul Church on December 6th and the Assembly Christmas Gathering that follows...

Chairman Reports

Treasurer, Al Sobania reported the council treasury balance is \$10,110.43.

Membership: Members are reminded to keep their membership current by paying annual dues on time. The 2016 membership dues of \$30 are now out. Please be sure to send your check payable to the Knights of Columbus to: **Financial Secretary Doug Novak 13944 105th Ave NE, Foley MN 56329.** Do not drop it in the Sunday collection.

A 1st degree initiation will soon be held, work on signing up new members now. Ask another member knight or officer to assist when you are out there talking to a new potential member about joining the Knights. Form 100 applications can be obtained from financial secretary or grand knight.

Community activities:

Members are gathering on Saturday, December 19th to complete the widow's basket project. Fruit from the Foley FFA chapter and the cookies were obtained through St. John's Area School cookie sale. Volunteers were asked to help and make the deliveries. A very worthy project remembering our deceased members wives at this special time of the year.

Youth: David Lieser, youth activities chairman of the council has organized a youth poster contest,

"Keep Christ in Christmas" poster winners will be awarded a cash prize and will be announced at the Holy Family Sunday celebration on Dec 27th.

HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY

On December 27th at 1:00pm there will be horse drawn trolley rides at the Gilman Church parking lot. Immaculate Mary Council 9261 is celebrating Holy Family Sunday inviting area parishioners and their children and guests to enjoy the day together. The youth winners competing in the Christmas Poster Contest will be announced and a pot luck lunch will be served after 3:00pm in the church basement. Come and join us for this annual celebration. Invite your families.

Council: In April 2016 the Immaculate Mary Council is celebrating 30 years as a council. We need a committee and chairman to begin working on this celebration. Please give us a hand and volunteer. Let Grand Knight Eric Novak know you'd like to help.

4TH DEGREE – FR. PIERZ GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Next spring will be the Knights of Columbus 4th degree exemplification in St. Cloud. This would be a very convenient time to join without a long distance to travel and lodging expense. At the regular meeting, January 5th, 4th Degree Faithful Trustee, Darryl Kukowski will have a presentation on membership to the 4th degree Knights of Columbus. Please join us in welcoming him to our council.

NURSING HOME CAROLING

Duelm council had arranged for Knights of Columbus to sing carols to the residents in the Foley Nursing Center at 2:00pm, on December 6th. Our council was invited to participate with them along with Bishop Marty Council. We had a very large group of knights bringing Christmas Greetings to the residents.

DECEASED MEMBERS MASS

Members were reminded of the memorial mass scheduled on Wednesday, December 2nd at S.S. Peter & Paul Church in Gilman at 8:00am mass and adoration that follows. We'd like to see a nice representation of members attend this special mass.

Knight of the Month: December Knight of the Month was awarded to Brother Knight, Rev. Father Leo Moenkedick... We congratulate Fr. Leo on receiving the honor of Knight of the Month. Thank you for your contributions to the council, church and community.

Family of the Month: The November Family of the Month is awarded to Brother Knight, Robert Stay family. We congratulate the Stay's and thank them for their involvement in the church, community and council.

Pray for all 18 of our seminarians. We would like you to write Thomas Skaja, seminarian sponsored by this council and encourage him in continuing his studies toward his religious vocation. His home address is 15088 65th Ave NE, Rice MN 56367.

State Council raffle tickets are available with a \$10 donation. See the financial secretary, Doug Novak in obtaining a book of chances.

Meeting jack pot was awarded to Brother Knight, John Mastey and guest, Connie Sobania. Congratulations John & Connie...

Name drawn for the Pot of Gold was Brother Knight, Valerian Bursch who **was not present** to collect the \$45 prize.

Remember to pray for Brother Knights and their families sick or in distress.

Next meeting – January 5 2016, rosary at 7:15pm, meeting at 7:30pm.