



# The Columbian Gazette

## Of Ashburn

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ASHBURN, VA

## A Message From Deacon Renzette

### Shepherds of Our Domestic Churches

On March 19 we will celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph. The Church gives us this great feast day to reflect upon our roles as husbands and fathers in the development of the faith life of our families and to seek the guidance and support of St. Joseph in our fatherly vocations.

Every family in every Catholic home is the domestic church, where Catholic family life is centered on Christ, formed through love. Our domestic church is the center of our living faith and as husbands and fathers, it is our primary responsibility to serve as the spiritual leaders and protectors of our domestic church.

While mothers and fathers both must contribute to the upbringing of their children, each parent offers something different that the other cannot. The main thing that we as fathers can do to lead and strengthen our individual domestic churches is to practice our Catholic faith loudly and directly in front of our children.

As Catholic fathers we must learn to lead and form our families as a domestic church, where God is honored, His law is respected, prayer is a normal event, virtue is transmitted by word and example, and everyone shares the hopes, problems, and sufferings of everyone else. Some may see this as a return to some outdated style of living from a long-gone age but, in truth, Catholic men living our Faith boldly is a reaffirmation of our proper role as husband, father, and leader of our domestic church as God originally ordained.

There are a number of resources for helping to nurture and protect our own domestic churches; but here are a few tips and practices that can be implemented to help you get started:

*Deacon Renzette (Continued on page 2)*

## From our Grand Knight

Brothers,

Time seems to go by a little bit faster the older we get and this year is no different. It's hard to believe we're in the middle of the Lenten season! I trust all of you are taking this Lenten season to deepen your faith just a little bit more and striving towards a grace-filled Lent. Not all Lenten seasons involve giving up some food or beverage that we like, but most do. What gets lost sometimes is the true power of the Lenten season which invites us back to be closer to our Lord, to forge ahead through the seemingly monotonous tasks of the week. This year, think about the following activities to cap off a great Lent:

- 1) **Prayer:** Our very own Father Dudzinski talks in his Homilies about the importance of daily prayer. Think about it, there is no time in human history where prayers, Bible readings, novenas, or the Rosary are a touch of an app away through our smartphones. Whether it is the Hallow app or others, download an app today to deepen your prayer life at the touch of a button.
- 2) **Fasting:** Jesus preached about fasting in Matthew 6:16 saying when we fast, not if we fast. Obviously, those with health conditions need to take precautions, but fasting is a powerful way to clear the mind, help the body, and strengthen our souls in the process; and,
- 3) **Serve your Neighbor:** as Knights, we have so many activities to help our brothers and sisters in need. Volunteer as an usher, deliver food to the needy, or help out our sick brothers in need. Or you can help us run the Lenten soup dinner on 22 March (a plug for our Knights' run Lenten Soup Friday! Email me if interested in this event). My very best to you all, brothers, for a strong end to our Lenten season. Vivat Jesus!!

- John Hegarty, Grand Knight.

**Prayer:** as in our parish church, it is essential in the domestic church that we pray together as a family at regular times such as morning and evening prayers, before meals (especially when eating out), and on special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays.

**Scripture:** reading Scripture together as a family helps infuse a love of God's stories in our children at an early age – a great place to start is to read and reflect upon the Mass readings for the coming Sunday.

**Holy Images:** every domestic church should have crucifixes and religious images displayed throughout the home as sacred art is a wonderful way to bring the stories of our Faith alive for our children.

**Sacramental Life:** this begins with weekly (at least) participation at Holy Mass on Sunday as a family, but also includes regular reception of Confession and visits to the Adoration Chapel (shorter visits with younger children; longer visits as they grow and mature).

**Communio:** join together with other fathers who are seeking to build faithful and vibrant domestic churches - groups like our own [Council](#) and the family-focused [Trinity House Community](#) in our parish are great examples.

*St. Joseph, earthly father of our Lord, pray for us and for all fathers that we remain faithful to our vocations and that we live the Christian life with courage and perseverance, so that through our witness, our children may come to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ.*

*St. Joseph, Head of the Holy Family and Protector of the Church, pray for us!*

- Deacon Renzette

## St. Joseph Muses about His Life on Earth



Hi everyone, you know me. I'm Joseph of the House of David, the carpenter, the husband of Mary. I'm the guy who is always shown in images wearing a brown cloak.

I knew my life was going to be different ever since my staff sprouted lilies and a dove descended upon it when I was courting Mary. Everyone was surprised when this happened, especially me! Mary and I were betrothed in a beautiful ceremony; and I looked forward to bringing Mary into my home. But before that happened, the most important event in the history of the world occurred! Mary told me that the Angel Gabriel appeared to her and said the Lord is with her and that the Holy Spirit came upon her and that that power of the Most High overshadowed her and that she would bear a Son who will be called holy, the Son of God and His name shall be Jesus. I couldn't understand this and planned to divorce Mary quietly; but an angel appeared to me in a dream and said not to be afraid to take Mary as my wife. I did as the angel commanded me; but nevertheless, I'm sorry that I did not believe Mary from the beginning whom I should have known could only be truthful; and as the angel said, she was greatly favored by God.

I now knew that I was chosen by God to be the protector and provider for the family. That was my role and I endeavored to do that with the best of my ability.

Mary was excited to hear from the angel that Elizabeth, her kinswoman, was in her sixth month of pregnancy. Mary, always wanting to help others and also wanting to share her own news, went to Elizabeth who lived in the hill country near Jerusalem and stayed with her until John was born. It is not recorded, but I would not let Mary travel alone, especially while pregnant; so, I accompanied her when she went and when she returned home.

As you know, we had to go to Bethlehem for the enrollment, and that was when the Baby Jesus was born. This amazing event is recorded in Luke's Gospel. Later, the Magi came bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

When we took Baby Jesus to present Him to the Lord in the Temple, we were amazed at what the devout Simeon and the

*St. Joseph (Continued on page 6)*

# Honor Flights at Dulles



The spring season for Honor Flights is rapidly approaching. The first flight of veterans will arrive from Western North Dakota Honor Flight on 14 April.

Interested in greeting the veterans? Check out the website for all the information:

<https://heroeswelcomeiad.com/>

## Sacrifice

As is the case with many words, the word “sacrifice” has many meanings. They range from the sacred to the secular. But the question is – Which definition applies to how we live our lives? First, let’s look at a couple definitions.

The English word “sacrifice” derives from a Latin term that means “make sacred.” This meaning is quite appropriate for the rituals in the Hebrew Bible that are typically designated as “sacrifices,” since they involve the transfer of offerings from human beings to God, from the common to the sacred. When a sacrifice was offered, it was always the best that they had -- finest wheat, unblemished lamb, etc.

In baseball, it’s not uncommon for a batter to help a base runner to get to the next base by making a sacrifice bunt or hit.

More commonly, a sacrifice is the act of giving up something valuable or important for the sake of other considerations, often for the benefit of others or to achieve a greater good. It can involve situations ranging from a personal decision to a religious ritual. The act of sacrifice often implies a degree of selflessness and altruism. To our military personnel, sacrifice is giving up their personal lives to fight for our country. It means leaving spouses, children, family members and friends, and sometimes it means never coming back. That is truly an enormous sacrifice.

How many of these have you heard?

“She’s had to *sacrifice* a lot for her family.”

“He *sacrificed* his personal life in order to get ahead in his career.”

“I want to follow a diet that is healthy without *sacrificing* taste.”

“We’ve *sacrificed* so much to get you where you are today, don’t you appreciate that?”

Elton John made a bundle of money in 1989 from his hit song “Sacrifice”. This song is about how hard it is to stay faithful and devoted in a marriage when faced with external temptations and challenges.

What does “sacrifice” mean to you? What does the word “sacrifice” conjure up in your mind? Is sacrifice good or bad? Someone has to put the toddler to bed. Someone has to attend a “less-than-desirable” function. For relationships and families to work, sacrifice is sometimes essential. The good news is that published studies suggest that suppressing your desires for the sake of your partner is not necessarily a bad thing.

As we go through our day-to-day lives, we face many opportunities for sacrifice. Some are so small that we don’t even think of it as a sacrifice -- like putting the toddler to bed so the other person can get something done. Other times, it’s a decision of which person has the “more important” event that needs attention.

In our religious life, how often do we choose between being busy and taking time for prayer? Taking one step further, do we often “sacrifice” going to Mass in order to do something else (sports, travel, etc.)? When we look at our support of the church and our “sacrificial offering”, is our budget for dining out or entertainment out of proportion to what we contribute to the collection?

As we face each day and the decisions we each make, we need to remember that creating a balance in our lives requires some degree of sacrifice. And as we go through that thought process, we need to remember that the act of giving up something that you want to keep, i.e. - making a sacrifice, is a very good thing when it helps someone else.

- Doug Smith



## Father Daughter Dance Held on February 9, 2024

The Council hosted its first father daughter dance in the St. Theresa school gymnasium on Friday, February 9. The dance turned out to be a great event, with tickets completely sold out. We received nothing but positive feedback from the attendees, with over \$4800 in donations.

After expenses, we should be able to donate close to \$4000 to Divine Mercy Outreach.

This event would not have been possible without the leadership and initiative of Kate Rhoads and all of the planning and execution by Shana Becerra, Lori Cabrera, Jackie Smith, Kristen Nachman, Joanna Green, Katie McFadden, Lori Bancroft, and Irina Pate. This crew was phenomenal!

Thanks to all of the brothers that supported the event. These include PGK Miguel Rodriguez, PGK Cole Slattery, PGK Bill Lehner, Mike Zavala, Dan Redmond, John Garry, Ken Moore, Geoffrey Peters, Greg Switaj, Att Manzano, and Adam Yozwiak. A special thank you goes to worthy District Deputy PGK Steve Rogers.

We are looking forward to this being an annual event for our parish and school.

- Mike Boyle



## Pancake Breakfast on February 11, 2024, Benefitting Work Camp

We held our second pancake breakfast of the calendar year on Sunday February 11. The event was well attended by parishioners and we were able to collect over \$1400 in donations. After expenses, the proceeds will benefit the Diocesan Work Camp program. Several St. Theresa school students and their parents involved in Work Camp came out to volunteer, helping our brother knights prepare and serve food. Thank you to all, including brother knights for a job well done!





## KCIC Poster Contest Winner

The Knight of Columbus would like to congratulate parishioner Vaughn D., whose entry in our annual "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest was selected to advance to the Virginia State level competition and won First Place for the 1st and 2nd grade level. The contest engages the creative talent and imagination of our young people in hopes they will come to a deeper understanding of the true, spiritual meaning of Christmas. A picture of Vaughn's poster is featured on our Council's webpage. Congratulations, Vaughn!

## District 18 Free Throw Challenge

Our Council would like to congratulate several youth who were winners in our District 18 Free Throw Challenge, held on February 19. Graham C. (Age 9), Kai B. (Age 10), Eleanor S. (Age 12), Mason C. (Age 13), and Luke L. (Age 14) were all winners from St. Theresa parish. These individuals competed amongst the best from other councils within District 18, were crowned "District Free Throw Champions", and are eligible to compete at the Virginia State level competition in March. Congratulations to our winners and a special thanks to all volunteers who helped to make this event a success.



## Book Review: *"The Interpretation of the Bible in the Church"* produced by The Pontifical Biblical Commission

By ROBERT N. BORGHESE

This small paperback of only 135 pages published in 1993 contains an Address by St. Pope John Paul II, and the document produced by the Pontifical Biblical Commission on "The Interpretation of the Bible in the Church" with a Preface by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (Pope Benedict XVI).

Reading the book, which is somewhat technical and scholarly, will amaze you as to the many various methods and approaches there are for interpreting the Bible. All of the methods and approaches have something to contribute; but they all have limitations as well. In this brief Book Review, I will comment on just two of the methods and approaches.

**The Historical-Critical Method:** This method is indispensable for understanding the intention of the human authors as well as the message which they addressed to the first readers. However, this method has the danger of only making the human dimension appear real without the dimension of God, the true author.

**Fundamentalist Interpretation:** Fundamentalism is right to insist on the divine inspiration of the Bible and the inerrancy of the Word of God; but, among other problems, fundamentalism pays no attention to the literary forms and to the human way of thinking in very diverse historical situations.

The text of the Bible is typically read with 2 Senses: The Literal Sense expressed directly by the human authors and the Spiritual Sense which is the Literal Sense read under the influence of the Holy Spirit. Ultimately, we need to arrive at the Fuller Sense which is a deeper meaning intended by God. This Fuller Sense will conform with the Catholic Faith and Tradition.

This book is available free online; but I recommend getting the paperback for easier reading, underlining important passages, and writing notes in the margin.

(Continued from page 2) St. Joseph

prophetess Anna said about the Child.

When the angel appeared to me in a dream and said that the Baby Jesus was in danger, I did not hesitate to flee by night with the family to Egypt until evil King Herod was dead.

The last thing you read about me in Scripture is when Jesus (age 12), after being missing on the caravan coming home from Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover, was found in the temple astounding the teachers with his understanding and answers. Jesus said, "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" We did not understand what He said at the time. That was an event, worrisome for a while, that ended happily.

I am a quiet man and chose to stay in the background. There are no words of mine recorded in the Bible; and I'm good with that. I only wanted to be known as "a just man." Indeed, while in Nazareth the villagers would often ask me to settle disputes.

My Feast Day is March 19<sup>th</sup>. St. Patrick gets more attention on his Feast Day of March 17<sup>th</sup>, except for the dear Italians who spread out a St. Joseph's Table of scrumptious goodies to celebrate my Feast Day.

I have a request. Please go to Mass on my Feast Day; or if you can't, please say a rosary for the intention of the family which is under attack as never before.

God bless,  
Joseph, a just man

- Robert N. Borghese



### CURRENT COUNCIL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS (2023-2024)

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District Deputy	Steve Rogers
Grand Knight	John Hegarty
Deputy Grand Knight	Mike Boyle
Chancellor	John Beauchesne
Financial Secretary	Jim Bonfils
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Recorder	Stephen McLaughlin
Treasurer	Stephen Shields
Advocate	Tony Gizzi
Trustees	3 Yr. Rob McNamee
	2 Yr. Miguel Rodriguez
	1 Yr. William Lehner
Primary Alt. Sate Del.	Miguel Rodriguez
Secondary Alt. State Del.	William Lehner
Programs Director	Mike Boyle
Lecturer	Vince Tranchitella
Inside Guard	Miguel Sian
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Faith Director	Jack Hayes
Vocations Chairman	Vince Tranchitella
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Recruitment Committee	Jack Hayes
Retention Chairman	James Sinnott
Construction Team Lead	Donald J. Smaltz
KOVAR Team Lead	Benny Perez
Fraternal Benefits Field Agent	Anthony Gizzi
Technology Team	William Lehner
Parish Picnic	



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