



The Columbian Gazette

Of Ashburn

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ASHBURN, VA

From our Grand Knight

"Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all" (Gal 6:9-10)

Brothers

Typically around this time of the year I enter my pre Lenten panic. What will I give up, pray, read, do/not do, say/not say, eat/not eat, drink/not drink? I end up with a litany of commendable yet unachievable activities. What to do for Lent '22? For inspiration and guidance I turned to Pope Francis' Lenten message. His words and those of our Worthy Chaplain Fr. Hudgins have given me some great ideas!

There is so much fear, animosity and grouchiness in the world today that my Lenten focus will be on spreading Joy and not giving up when I falter. As Fr. Hudgins said in his Homily on 27 February, we have so much to be thankful for and so fortunate be able to spread Joy with zeal.

To recharge my batteries and get inspiration when I falter I only have to see the good works that my brother Knights and your wonderful families do for each other and our neighbors. You have no idea the rush that I get when I see growing numbers of Knights, families and children moving and sorting food. It is awesome to see the smiles on kids of all ages when you serve them breakfast. And nothing beats praying the Rosary together-such a powerful moment. I could go on and on....

Brothers, let us never tire of spreading the love of Christ and being beacons of Joy in our community during Lent and everyday. Let us pray that He gives us the strength to be His Light in darkness.

Vivat Jesus,

Miguel

A Deacon's Mighty Diary

This quarter's installment of The St. Louis Council's "Deacon Diaries" is from Deacon Matt Noah, who presents his homily from the Second Sunday in OT (C), as preached on 16 Jan 2022. As a refresher, the readings for that Sunday were: Is 62:1-5; Ps 96; 1Cor 12:4-11; and Jn 2: 1-11.

JMJ

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, our Gospel reading was from the second chapter of John and anytime you read John, you should remind yourself that you are not merely reading a description about Our Lord's earthly ministry with the Apostles. John's Gospel is a work of high theology with deep symbolic meanings. In fact, the "Wedding at Cana" is found **only** in John's Gospel. This story is not just some detail about Jesus that Luke forgot to add. Something else is going on here.

The first part John's Gospel mimics the Creation account in the Book of Genesis: **"In the beginning** was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Here John is telling us that Jesus Christ is God. Now what did God do on the First Day in Genesis? He separated Light from Dark. The "First Day" of John is where John the Baptist declares that he is not the light, but that he bears witness to the light to Israel, particularly its Pharisees, who are "in the dark". Later in Chapter One, John repeatedly uses the phrase "the next day" to point back to each day of Creation in Genesis. Just as God separated the waters of heaven and earth on Day Two, Christ separates the waters of John's Baptism of Repentance from Baptism by the Holy Spirit. Just as God created earth on the Third Day, Christ symbolically does too when He changes Simon's name to "Cephas" that means "Rock" in Aramaic.

Chapter two of John, our Gospel reading, starts with "on the third day" from meeting Nathanael, who represents ancient Israel. This "third day" has multiple symbolic meanings, and one of them is that it is the sixth time the word "day" is used in John, and in Genesis, God created man and woman, who enter into Matrimony on the Sixth Day. And so on the Sixth Day of John, we have a wedding, and the mother of God is there, as is Jesus and His disciples.

Mary is also used symbolically in John. When our

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Lord calls her “woman”, He is not insulting her. She represents the “New Eve”, just as Christ is the “New Adam”. Again, John is pointing back to Genesis. As such, Our Lady does not sin as Eve did; she is a symbol of what Israel was supposed to do throughout the Old Testament: to do whatever God tells them to do. Note also that Adam and Eve had as much grace as Mary did. Original Sin and all its effects happened **after** “The Fall” in the Garden of Eden. Those of you that have taken the Bible Timeline Course or are listening to the Bible in a Year podcast know that Israel often failed, and usually spectacularly, to follow God’s commands. This is seen in the very next verse, of the Gospel where there were six jars for Jewish ceremonial washing, and the jars were **empty**. Ruh roh. Israel’s worship of God, particularly by its priests who would have used those jars, was no longer pure, it had become dry and empty. The consequence of this was that they had no joy – **Israel had run out of wine**. Wine in the Old Testament is a symbol of joy with God; In the Book of Isaiah wine is served at the feast that God has waiting for us in heaven. And so the servants, representing Israel in its current dysfunctional state, had to first fill the jars to the brim - the way they should have been in the first place. Once that was done, once Israel returned to right and proper worship of God, they had wine again. Just like that. Let the party continue! In fact, this wine, symbolically the wine of the New Covenant that would be instituted at the Last Supper, was better than what they had before with the Old Covenant.

My friends, the Wedding at Cana is about two weddings. Yes, it’s about an earthly wedding between a man and a woman in First Century Palestine, but it’s also a Spiritual wedding between Christ and His Church. Between Christ and you, and me, and all of humanity. So the Church, and all of us, are a Bride of Christ. And how are we to behave as Brides of Christ? Fortunately, Scripture tells us in the ever popular fifth chapter of Ephesians, where we read: “Wives, be subject to your husbands, as to the Lord.” Here Paul, a former Pharisee himself mind you, was **not** endorsing a tyranny of men over women; he was referring to the lesson of Cana, that Israel and now the Church was to follow Jesus Christ, to do whatever He tells us to do. This is reiterated in the very next verses: “For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. As the church is subject to Christ, so let wives also be subject in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her”. Why should we follow Christ and His Church? Why should we follow all the difficult sayings and seemingly oppressive laws of the Church? Because Christ died for the Church as a good husband should die and sacrifice for his wife and children. The les-

son here is that a good marriage between a man and a woman teaches us about how Christ loves us, the Church. It’s about how obedient worship will give us wine, will give us joy. Since we are married to Christ, we also know His teaching about Marriage and His prohibition on divorce. Christ will never leave us. The real question is one we must answer each day of our lives: will we leave Him? Will we be a good spouse to Him?

Those of you who are married know that marriage is difficult and requires each spouse to work in some way. So it is with our relationship with Christ; we will have to work to do. We saw that at Cana, where the servants had to fill the jars to the brim. Each of us has some unique task that God wants us to do specifically. We need to go to God in prayer to learn what our task is. We should also ask our Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was at Cana remember, to pray for us as we discern God’s will. Then also ask her to pray for you as you attempt to do whatever the task is. We need to have the faith his Mother had; we need to say “Fiat” - let it be done, just as she did even when she didn’t know the end of the story.

Now your assigned task may seem impossible, but never forget that with God’s grace, we are capable of doing God’s will for us. For God will give us what we need to accomplish His will, and nothing is impossible for God. Do NOT listen to the little voice in your head that says, “oh I can’t do that: I’m too young, too old; too poor, too sick, too stressed, too busy, too tired, etc., etc., etc.”. That voice is Satan’s voice. Ignore him. Say a Hail Mary and a Saint Michael prayer and tell him to go to Hell where he belongs. Point to the Cross and remind him that he lost the war, and that we as disciples of Christ can enjoy the Victory and peace and joy that comes from the end of Sin and Death. Tell him that we can do **any and every thing** God wants us to do.

All this, my friends, is Good News; this is The Gospel. God created humanity and created them Good. Satan captured us and Sin and Death entered the world. God became the man Jesus Christ, both Divine and Human, who died on the Cross and Rose again to rescue us. Part of that rescue plan was to marry us. The Grace that flows from that rescue – our Marriage to Him – is **precisely** what allows us to do whatever He tells us to do. Let us always remember that The Church, and each and every one of us in His Church, are married to Christ. Let us never forget that He died for us as a good Husband should for his Wife, and that His Mother is praying for us that we will always be faithful to Him. Today, let us all pray, that **we will** “do whatever He tells you”.

PAX

Honor Flights Resume

Spring is coming and with it, the return of flights to Dulles, Reagan, and BWI of WWII, Korean, and Vietnam veterans. It is always a fun and rewarding trip to the airport to greet (or send off) these veteran groups. The first two flights will be on the 12th and 13th of April. For more information and how to sign up to attend and get free parking, check out the following two websites. The Chicago one has finalized their flight schedule while the Dulles group is still awaiting final information from the hubs.

For more information, go to:

<https://heroeswelcomeiad.com/>

Lenten Message from Pope Francis

See our Pope's Lenten message for 2022 here:

<https://aleteia.org/2022/02/24/begin-lent-on-the-right-foot-heres-pope-francis-message-full-text/>

Or scan:



Lenten Retreat: The Knights of Columbus, St. Louis Martin Council would like to invite you to a Lenten retreat to be held in the main church at St. Theresa Parish, in Ashburn, Virginia, on Saturday, March 26, 2022. The retreat will run to approximately 11:45 am, starting with the regularly scheduled 8:30 am Mass. The agenda will include a light breakfast, two talks given by Fr. Jack Riley, and quiet reflection time between the talks. Fr. Riley's talks will focus on the spirituality of St. Therese of Lisieux. We hope to see you there!

Council Family Trip/Outing

Planning has begun for a Council activity this spring, tentatively set for April 30. It will be a visit to the National Museum of the United States Marine Corps, otherwise known as the Marine Corp Museum in Triangle, VA. This visit will be for all family members of the Council. The museum is free to the public. It is roughly an hour away from Ashburn. There are many exhibits to see and it's possible to spend all day there. While we would plan to arrive at the same time, each family will decide how long they want to stay. The museum is totally self-guided with docents stationed throughout the exhibits.

Because we could easily have more than 20 people attending, I have to make arrangements with "Group Tours". I have asked about the availability of Saturdays in late April thru mid-May but have not had a reply yet. I will have to let them know the number of attendees a month before we visit. To help with these early stages of planning, please send me an e-mail with the number of people if you would be interested in going. Once I get a date, I will let everyone know.

In the future, we can also visit the National Museum of the United States Army at Fort Belvoir. It would be great to go to the National Museum of the United States Navy but being on the grounds of the Navy Yard, visitors need to be fingerprinted and photographed in addition to the usual ID check. In 2025, a new Navy museum will open outside of the base. Individual families can better handle this instead of a group. The Air Force Museum is in Ohio and the Coast Guard Museum is in Connecticut so we will not be visiting those.

Look for final details in the monthly newsletter and/or the Knights' section of the St. Theresa Church bulletin.

Council and District Free-throw Competition held on February 21, 2022

The combined Council 15256 and District 18 basketball free throw competition was held on February 21, 2022. Thank you to all the young athletes who participated. Congratulations to the following Awardees (from Saint Theresa's parish KofC Council 15256 and from District 18):

Council 15256 competition:

Boys age 9: First place - Aidan B.
Girls age 10: First place - Sofia C.
Boys age 10: First place - Joseph S.
Girls age 11: First place - Julia P.
Girls age 12: First place - Gabriella S.
Boys age 13: First place - Stanley R.
Girls age 14: First place - Hannah S.

District 18 competition:

Boys age 9: Second place - Aidan B.
Girls age 10: First place - Sofia C.
Boys age 10: Second place - Joseph S.
Girls age 11: Second place - Julia P.
Girls age 12: First place - Gabriella S.
Boys age 13: Second place - Stanley R.
Girls age 14: First place - Hannah S.



Signup table



Warm ups



Competition



Council Winners



District Winners

Food Donation Program

Our St. Lucy food drive initiative which helps stock the shelves of the Catholic Charities Food Bank in Sterling, is off to a great start in 2022, with over 5000 lbs. of food delivered in January., and 4966 lbs. in February.

Many thanks to the Youth Group, Knights, and volunteers who worked to collect, carry, sort, and deliver the supplies to the food bank. See photos below.



Sorting



Ready for the delivery

Breakfast w/the Knights!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 13th for the next Pancake Breakfast! Enjoy pancakes (of course!), eggs, potatoes, sausage (and more!) with your brother Knights and fellow parishioners. This month, the proceeds will benefit Divine Mercy Outreach. Hope to see you there!!

Through the generosity of our parishioners, December's breakfast netted \$700 to the Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter, and from the proceeds of our January breakfast, we donated \$1200 (including an anonymous \$600 matching donation) to the St. Theresa School "Focus on Faculty" drive. Thank you!



Weighing



Mission Accomplished!

Knights of Columbus Council 15256

Calendar of Events

Grand Knight Miguel Rodriguez



COUNCIL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 2021-2022

Chaplain
District Deputy
Grand Knight
Deputy Grand Knight
Chancellor
Financial Secretary
Warden
Recorder
Treasurer
Advocate
Trustees

Lecturer
Inside Guard
Inside Guard
Outside Guard
Fraternal Benefits
Field Agent

Father Hudgins
Cole Slattery
Miguel Rodriguez
Rob McNamee
John Beauchesne
Attilio Manzano
John Hegarty
Jack Hayes
Mike Boyle
Steve Rogers
Manny Galvan
Joseph Potak
William Lehner
Vincent Tranchitella
Lem Kemanya
Kyle Dumouchelle
Steve McLaughlin

Benny Perez

Faith Director
Community Director
lin
Life Director
Public Relations

Family Director
Membership Director
Recruitment Committee

Construction Team Lead
KOVAR Team Lead
Technology Team
Parish Picnic

Dana Stalcup
Stephen McLaughlin

John L. Hayes
Rudy Flores
Dave Scheder
Eric Ciliberti
Erich I. Stefanyshyn
John Beauchesne
John L. Hayes
Francis O'Gara
James Sinnott
Donald J. Smaltz
Anthony Gizzi
William Lehner

Visit our Website: <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/>

CLICK OR SCAN BELOW TO SEE
OUR FULL FRATERNAL CALENDAR

<https://a7fbd55-0810-4f2d-b6c5-682b42712b41.filesusr.com/>



2022		March				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
28	01 International Wheelchair Day	02 Ash Wednesday	03	04	05	06
07 Business Meeting LCPS Student Holiday (County Wide Staff Development)	08	09	10	11	12	13 Parish Breakfast
14 7:00 Combined Degree Ceremony (St Theresa)	15	16	17 St. Patrick	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Food Drive Lenten Retreat	27 Food Drive
28	29	30	31	01	02	03
04	05	Notes:				

2022		April				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
28	29	30	31	01 Lenten Soup Supper	02	03
04 Business Meeting	05	06 Fraternal Benefits Seminar	07	08 Fish Fry	09	10 Palm Sunday
11 LCPS Spring Break	12 LCPS Spring Break	13 LCPS Spring Break	14 Holy Thursday LCPS Spring Break	15 Good Friday LCPS Spring Break	16 Easter Vigil	17 Easter Sunday
18 LCPS Student Holiday (Planning/Records/Confer ence Day)	19	20	21	22	23 Food Drive	24 Food Drive
25	26	27	28	29	30	01
02	03	Notes:				

2022		May				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	01 Council Officers Elections begin
02 Business Meeting	03 Student/Staff Holiday	04	05	06	07	08 Parish Breakfast Mother's Day
09	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 KofC Mexican Martyrs	21	22
23	24	25	26 ASCENSION OF THE LORD	27	28 Food Drive	29 Food Drive
30 Memorial Day	31	Notes:				