



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
November/December 2009, Bulletin #7.
Guardian Angels Parish Council 14723.



Message from our Chaplain

Canadians celebrated Remembrance Day on November 11, 2009. It was such a joy to see thousands of Canadians gathered together from different parts of Canada to remember the sacrifice of the thousands of Canadian who gave their lives to bring freedom to the country. They died for us, for their homes and families and friends, for a collection of traditions they cherished and for a future they believed in; they died for Canada. The meaning of their sacrifice rests with our collective national consciousness; our future is their monument. They believed that their sacrifice would make a significant difference for the future, but it is up to us to ensure that their dream of peace is realized. So on Remembrance Day, we do acknowledge the courage and sacrifice of those who served their country and we acknowledge our responsibility to work for the peace they fought hard to achieve.

Many people went for Mass to thank God for the gift of Canada and to pray for those who gave their lives for this country.

The Gospel of Luke 17:11-19 reminds us to thank and praise God for his wonderful works:

The ten lepers- Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

Reflecting on the above story, are we thankful for our many blessings? Do we appreciate the freedom and the peace we enjoy in this country? Do we appreciate what our family does for us? They work very hard to provide for us and give us the things we need. Do we thank them; do we show our appreciation by cooperating with them? Do we appreciate all those who work for peace in this country and our community?

Message from our Deputy Grand Knight

Dear Brother Knights,

Greetings and welcome to our 7th newsletter since our council formation. The figure 7 is considered a lucky number, although for people of Chinese origin the figure 8 is lucky. My personal lucky number is 13 as I was born on Friday the 13th. As I start to write this message, I realize that December will be a very busy month with lots of activities involving our council and assisting the priests of Guardian Angels Parish. So far we have had a fairly good attendance of members at our council meetings; almost half of our membership. I am encouraged by the readiness of many members to actively participate. It is my hope and prayer that the attendance at our meetings will grow with active input from all members. This coming meeting on Thursday Dec. 3rd at 7:00PM is important and will be the last meeting of this year 2009. In this newsletter you will read about many programs, initiations and charities requiring our attention. Remember your first degree initiation: "The basic principle of our order is charity, the greatest of all virtues". May you be in a position to put this virtue to work.

Vivat Jesus,

Arie J. Smits, Grand Knight.

Next general meeting

The next general meeting will take place on **Thursday Dec. 3rd 2009 at 7:00PM** in our Knights of Columbus Millennium Hall. As we did last meeting, the meeting will last about one hour followed by a social with refreshments and goodies. You are all invited. If you cannot attend, please let myself or Sean Hinton know, especially if you hold an executive position.

New Members

Fr. Rudy D'Souza is presently travelling in the United Arab Emirates and will be back on Dec. 9th. Fr. Rudy has a great admiration for our Knight of Columbus organisation and is eager to become an honorary member of our council. In order to put on a first degree ceremony, would it be great if we could get 3 or more candidates from our parish to join Fr. Rudy in the initiation. Invite another parishioner. We can organise a full-fledged membership drive early next year with a first degree initiation in early March 2010 when our council will celebrate its first anniversary.

Recruitment Training Session

Our past State Deputy Dan O'Hara is organising a training session in recruitment efforts on Dec. 14th 2009 at 7:00PM at St. Bernadette's Parish Centre in Surrey. It is an interactive training session and members of all councils in the lower mainland are encouraged to attend.

Nativity Scene.

There is good progress with respect to expanding the outside Nativity Scene for the roof of the rectory entrance. Thanks to a donation from Hal McInerney, we now have 3 brand new kings as well as a donkey to add to our scene, while Noel Dimalanta has purchased a 2nd flood light.

The intention is to install the plywood base on Saturday Dec. 5th at 10:00AM. So far Duncan, Philippe and Noel have volunteered to help. On Saturday Dec. 12th at 10:00AM we will be installing all the figurines and Christmas trees and install all the lights. Again volunteers to assist with the installation are welcome. There will be a motion during our meeting whether or not to install a sign "Keep Christ in Christmas" together with our council's name near this nativity scene.

Letters from Charity Organisations.

As a council we get many requests from charity organisations for donations, such as:

1. "The lay brothers of the poor" requested help for the most poor in Mexico.
2. The Catholic Education Resource Centre (CERC) re evangelizing in Canada with the Church's message.
3. World Organisation of the Ovulation Method (Billings) or also called "WOOMB Canada".
4. Campaign Life Coalition, Ottawa: the political lobby arm for the Pro-life cause.

Knights of Columbus Annual Charity Appeal 2009

As a new council we are apparently not yet on the list of participating councils, but we received a call from our State Deputy, Michael Yeo, if our council could start with 30 books for 10 tickets each. That is less the one book per member. Charity Appeal is fully endorsed by the provincial government and is for most BC councils their major fundraiser. Almost half of the amount raised (tickets sold) will be returned to our council to help charity institutions with their work. The prizes are fabulous; 5 cars, 2 scooters and many cash prizes. More information will be available at our general meeting.

Columbus Charity Association

This Knights of Columbus Association, dealing with the many K of C Senior Citizens Residences in Vancouver and the lower mainland (including our Millennium Tower), requires 2 members of each council on the Board of Directors. Bro. John MacDonald volunteered already and a second member of our council is required. Meetings are twice a year only.

Fund Raisers

Catholic Mission Canada will make available 25 beautiful calendars for 2010 free of charge to our council, except for mailing costs of \$10. In turn our council can then distribute these to our members and/or parishioners for a donation and thus raise more funds.

Bingo

The staff at our Knights of Columbus Millennium Tower have scheduled a bingo for the residents on Wednesday Dec. 9th 2009 from 1:00PM to 2:30PM and have asked our council members to assist in this activity. In the summer our council already assisted the Millennium Tower staff with their BBQ which was most appreciated by the residents. So brother Knights, please consider donating some time for this charitable work on Dec. 9th. The Lord has said: "I assure you, as often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me." (Mat. 25:40). Let's put this into action.

Stamp Collecting

Please save your used stamps and bring them to the meeting or drop them off in the special stamp box at the church entry foyer. Many stamps have so far already been collected and some members have volunteered to cut away most of the paper surrounding the stamps as required by the dealers buying the stamps. Also over \$30. worth of uncanceled stamps have been collected saving our council postage while mailing letters. Especially foreign stamps are in high demand. The proceeds are for the State Vocation Program, assisting seminarians with their fees.

Pennies for Heaven

Please save your coins and pick up a special can or jar to save them in. This initiative is going quite well and our council is hoping to collect and count all the coins by next March 2010. The proceeds also go to the State Vocation Program.

Read on a calendar:

YOU must be the change you wish to see in the world. (Mahatma Gandhi).

We are here to add what we can to life, not to get what we can from it. (Sir William Osler).

YOU make a living by what you get; you make a life by what you give. (Sir Winston Churchill).