



THE ST. JUDE JOURNAL

Knights of Columbus Council 5801
Gahanna, OH

JULY 2011

"So that in all things God may be glorified."—Rule of St. Benedict

Dates to Remember:

- July 13, 2010
Business Meeting
8 p.m., K of C Room

Letter From Our Grand Knight:

Brothers,

Brothers, I am honored to be your Grand Knight again this year. I am energized and humbled once again. There were several items we accomplished as a Council and several I have not yet completed. We have made advances in our bookkeeping thanks to Treasurer Dave Macynski and Financial Secretary Ern Stovall. Both of those jobs are sadly referred to as "thankless" - Please thank them as they spend many hours addressing the monthly needs of the Council! I could start saying thank you's to many others; however, some of you will be slighted and I don't intend to do that. So thank you for your support this last year! In addition, we have inducted approximately 12 new Knights into the first degree this year. We have also reduced our number of Knights who had lapses in payment. We welcome all of you back! We had a successful Catholic Mens conference attendance where 93 men from St. Matthews Parish attended and represented an increase of 75 from the previous year.

We also are in the beginning of developing a Mens's faith sharing opportunity for the parish. I feel strongly about this and I am excited. Yet I am a bit concerned about going out on the limb. so strap on your seatbelts as we are in for a bumpy ride. Here goes:

Men - we are Knights of Columbus. I believe we need to start acting like Knights as "Defenders of the Faith". Frankly I think Christian men and yes, Catholic Men, are getting the snot kicked out of us by the media and ourselves. It begins at home and at church. Let's step up and show our families that we are leaders in keeping the faith. Let's support our priests, sisters, deacons and our church staff and help them spread the truth. For me, I don't know the catechism very well but if I allow my wife and children to witness my attempts to learn, I think it sends a strong message of who I am as a Catholic Man. If I give it the "hohum/half ass shrug" and say "I guess we will go to mass today" or better yet "I went last week - we're good", we all know that a message of "I don't give a damn about mass" has just been sent to our family. Been there done that - not proud of it either! We can do better!

So I am setting up a workshop, tentatively set for October 29, 2011 at St. Matthews to begin a conversation on what a faith sharing/Defenders of the Faith might look like at St. Matthews. If 3 people show up - OK; if 50 show up - the better! I am envisioning this to be a Knight's lead proposition that lives up to our namesake. To be clear, we want all parish men to have the opportunity to attend and not to be a secret organization for Knights only. Yes the Luckeyes play Wisconsin at 8pm so I am thinking that we will have it from 8am-12 noon - No excuses. (UM plays Purdue at noon!). The workshop will be a 2-3 hour gig and may include mass and perhaps penance. We will be receiving assistance from the Columbus Catholic Men's organization. Details will be forthcoming.

I look forward to hearing your concerns and thoughts. PLEASE NOTE NO SOCIAL MEETINGS IN JULY AND AUGUST!!!!

*Fraternally,
Tom*



My Journey Home

By J.P. Leo Thomas

For many of us, faith is something we have had all of our lives. We have never known being separated or set apart from what we practice as Christians. But for some of us, our experience is less structured and more deeply profound.

Not profound in the sense that we are different, quite the contrary. We follow the same path but have strayed away from our communal responsibilities. Perhaps a death in the family, troubles at home or some other experience left us with questions about what we believe, how we believe it and why.

About 20 years ago, my life was much different than it was today. I had a prayer life but did not practice my faith with regular devotion. After my father's death, I began to question the very essence of God's nature. Where was He? Why didn't He cure my father's cancer? Why did my father suffer so?

Years went by where I did not go to mass and I devoted my time to helping my mother survive. My thought was that if God needed me, He knew right where to get me. Then my mother became ill, 10 years to the day of my father's death.

She would endure so much pain and anguish. I became her voice and was making decisions on her ultimate care. Many nights I laid awake thinking, "Was this God's way of calling me home?" Was I making my mother suffer needlessly? Was God telling me to release her? I prayed for her to come home but I believe now that He was calling her to His home in heaven.

One evening during my prayers, it happened. I felt a warm hand come upon my shoulder. I was never given to such experiences did not believe much in them but this was truly spiritual. There was this overwhelming sense of calm. I began to weep, weep not only for myself but for all who were suffering and lonely.

From that night on, I felt a change come over me. I started to pray more, love more, understand more, give more and believe more. I remembered blessed Pope John Paul's words of "Be not afraid" and I knew that whatever designs God had for me and my family, that we would be alright and we would receive the blessings we so longed for.

After 30 years of searching for answers, it was always right in front of me. God was there, waiting for me to come back to Him. He never abandons His children.

For many Catholic men who have witnessed these same emotions, remember Jesus' words – "I am with you always, till the end of the age". Find comfort in these words and in each other. I have found such solace and come full circle.

This was my journey home.



JULY: ST. JUDE COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Business Meeting	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

For the Good of the Order:

Please pray for:

- Nancy, Dave Tentler's wife
- Jim Brunetski
- Madeline Peters
- Jack Sternberg
- Brendan DeKemper
- Chuck Mignery
- Father Reichart
- Elizabeth Adams
- Bob Fenning
- Chad Williams
- Donna R. Tudor
- Pete Marchy
- Deacon Joe Poland
- Clay Louis
- Bob Arata
- Matt & Crystal Ellerbrock
- Gerald Stovall
- Valerie Coolidge
- the Dobbins Family
- Richard Sill (father of Fr. Sill)
- Joe and Mamie Murphy
- the Jones family (drowning in Costa Rica)
- the victims of all the recent natural disasters
- the Christian victims of Muslim persecution
- Nick Takach, John Wayne Sterzer,
and all serving in the military

Appreciation Dinner For Our Wives

Summer is a busy time for family. So we're rescheduling our Wives' Appreciation Dinner for fall. For more information, check with Tom Eckl and Steve Dinan.

Tom 614-471-7102, te3418dol@aol.com
Steve 614-475-2834, steve.dinan@53.com

Knights Running/Walking Club

Jared Ellerbrock is starting a Knights Running/Walking Club for all Brother Knights and their friends and families who would like to get out and get a little exercise. The plan is to meet and spend 30 minutes walking or running a couple of times a month. The first meetup was at St. Matthew's but we plan to have future runs in any of Gahanna's parks.

The informal group is open to all ages and abilities. The goal is to get out and enjoy an evening among friends and family.

Jared is also available to coach anyone who is looking to train for a specific goal. He can answer your questions, set up a training plan, or even help coach during individual workouts.

Please contact Jared with any questions. 614-579-9743
jaredellerbrock@hotmail.com

2011-2012 Council Officers

At our June Business Meeting, we elected our Council Officers for the Fraternal Year 2011-2012. Please keep these brothers, our servant leaders, in your prayers.

Grand Knight:	Tom Mignery
Deputy Grand Knight:	OPEN
Chancellor:	Gus Gustaldo
Recorder:	Jeff Lieser
Treasurer:	Dave Macynski
Lecturer:	Tom Eckl
Advocate:	John Sherman
Warden:	Jerrod Ellerbrock
Inside Guard:	Corey Black
Outside Guard:	Rich Schlagheck