



Council Crier

Santo Rosario Council, No. 14449 • Indianapolis, Indiana

Vol. 8, Issue 2

Summer 2017

Visit us online at <http://kofcsantorosario.org>

Next business meeting is Wednesday, July 5, at 6:45 p.m. — Please plan to attend!

One year ends, another begins ...

So many to thank for such a busy, successful fraternal year

This year Santo Rosario Council 14449 surpassed its ninth anniversary in service to God, our parish and many people both within and without our community of faith. We fulfilled once again the exhortation of our charter chaplain, Fr. Michael Magiera, quoting the Benedictine motto: *Ora et Labora, Pray and Work.*

Our Knights end the fraternal year more involved in parish life than we have ever been. We maintained our usual full menu of activities — Café Rosario, the parish picnic, council events at Indy Fuel and Pacers games, meal preparation at the Holy Family Shelter, support for Gibault School, the blood drive, the youth free throw competition, the Special Olympics dinner, support for Eucharistic Adoration and work at the Italian Street Festival.

But wait, there's more: This year we took on top-to-bottom responsibility for the Lenten "Fish Fry Fridays," an every-week event for the first time. We hosted the monthly meeting of the Bishop Chatard Assembly of the Fourth Degree in April. And, as always, whenever the parish needed help — the Nativity crèche, Lenten "purpling and depurpling" of the sanctuary, Corpus Christi procession — the Knights were there.

One of life's great deceptions is



THE GRAND OPENING

Brad Williams
Grand Knight

the belief that things run themselves. Knights know better. This level of commitment deserves some individual recognition, even at the risk of leaving someone out for which I apologize in advance.

To our Chaplain Fr. McCarthy and Assistant Chaplain Fr. Reese — thanks for your support of our council and for your practical and spiritual guidance.

To our faithful Café Rosario crew — Brothers Bob Collins, Lee Ashton, Paul Neuendorf, Patrick Preston, Daniel Knight, Jerry Friederick, Charles Stevens, Don L. Murphy — thanks for being there month in and out, keeping this popular event going.

To Brother and Past Grand Knight Don L. Murphy — thanks for singlehandedly making the parish picnic and parish breakfasts a reality.

To our Recorder and Editor Brother David Walden — thanks for the signs and artwork you turned out on short notice, for the professional look and feel of this newsletter, and for your above-

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and-beyond efforts on behalf of the award-winning Indulgence Walk, an event which has already become an instant classic.

To Brother and Past Grand Knight Bob Evanich, who kept the council website updated and the sound system running — thanks for fixing every problem before we knew there was one.

To the Brothers who make monthly Adoration possible, keeping the sanctuary occupied during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament — Gerard Schlundt, Gary Willen, Frank Oliver, Don L. Murphy, Zach Williams, Kurt Hostettler, Don R. Murphy, Paul Neuendorf, Stephen Abdalla, Lee Ashton, Daniel Knight, Patrick Preston, Jerry Mattingly, Tim Rushenberg, Eric Slaughter, David Walden, Past Grand Knight

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The Grand Opening

Continued from Page 1

Bob Collins — thanks for giving up the sleep.

To the Brothers who prepare meals at Holy Family Shelter — Fr. Reese, Don R. Murphy, Charles Stevens, Joseph Lehner, Lee Ashton, Brad Love, Eric Slaughter, Jerry Mattingly, Tim Rushenberg — thanks for giving up your Saturday afternoons to help the less fortunate.

To the hardy brethren who donated their evenings to assist with Fish Fry Fridays — Charles Stevens, Tom Brown, Bob Collins, Lee Ashton, Frank Oliver, Eric Froehlke, Jerry Friederick, Daniel West, Pat Preston, Zach Williams, Eric Slaughter, Tim Rushenberg, Daniel Knowles — thanks for making it possible.

To Culture of Life Director Charles Stevens and Brother Eric Slaughter, leaders of our pro-life efforts — thank you for this important work, it is the essence of what the Knights do.

To Church director Brother Ned Hummel — thanks for keeping us abreast of the work needed in the sanctuary and mobilizing the manpower to do it.

To our tireless Past Grand Knight, current District Deputy and Trustee Lee Ashton, who came to meetings regularly while balancing responsibilities with four other councils, and who still found time to assist with Café Rosario and to study to become an altar server — thanks for your wise counsel.

To Brother and Warden Kevin Richards — thanks for again coordinating our efforts on behalf of the Gibault School.

To Financial Secretary and Past Grand Knight Jay Stanley — thanks for your steady guidance by example and for the periodic reality checks.

To Brother Leon Dixon, organizer of our Trivia Night team — thanks, next year's the charm.

To Lecturer Brad Love — thanks for some inspired choices of council activities this past year, from dinners to sporting events to Fourth of July celebrations.

In the “utility player” department, there when the need arose — thanks to Brothers Zach Williams, Aaron Hodge, Walt Janiec, Past Grand Knight Bob Collins, and Treasurer Tom Brown — and to Chancellor Charles Stevens who *never* seemed to miss an event. Oh yes, thanks also to Brother Jerry Friederick, for his “good of the council” exhortations at the close of our business meetings.

To Brother and Past Grand Knight Frank Oliver — thanks for your perspective and sage advice throughout the year.

Finally, to Deputy Grand Knight Daniel Knight — thanks for your tireless support this past year and best wishes as you embark on your service as Grand Knight. With support like this you can't go wrong.

Council elects new officers for 2017-18 fraternal year

The following members were elected council officers by acclamation at our June business meeting.

Grand Knight: Daniel Knight

Deputy Grand Knight: Charlie Stevens

Chancellor: Brad Love

Recorder: Gerry Schlundt

Treasurer: Tom Brown

Advocate: John Molloy

Warden: Kevin Richards

Inside Guard: Zachary Williams

Outside Guard: Walter Janiec

Three-year Trustee: Brad Williams

Two-year Trustee: Lee Ashton

One-year Trustee: Bob Collins

They will be installed into their respective offices on Wednesday, June 28, at approximately 7 p.m., in Holy Rosary Church. A cookout will follow on the rectory rooftop deck.

2016 was record-setting year

In 2016 the Knights of Columbus again set records in its charitable giving and hours volunteered.

According to figures from the 2016 Fraternal Survey, Knights from around the world gave \$177,500,673 in charitable donations. This is up from \$175 million donated in 2015. In addition, the Knights volunteered 75,112,694 hours to charitable initiatives, up from the 2015 total of 73 million hours.

The top 10 jurisdictions in charitable giving for 2016 were: Texas, followed by California, Michigan, Illinois, Florida, Ontario, Missouri, New York, New Jersey and Wisconsin.

The top 10 in volunteer hours were Texas, followed by Luzon North, Florida, California, Illinois, Luzon South, Ontario, Visayas, Pennsylvania and Quebec.





**SANTO
ROSARIO
4TH OF JULY
PARTY**

*Watch the Downtown fireworks
with your parish family & friends*

5 PM Tuesday, July 4

Holy Rosary's North Parking Lot
(behind the church)



Bring your own lawn chairs and (optional) adult beverages

**South of Chicago Pizza & Beef will be on hand to sell
Italian beef sandwiches, chips and hot dogs**

Non-alcoholic beverages also will be sold on location

**Corn hole games and a live DJ will entertain early — and
music from the fireworks show will be live-streamed**



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
SANTO ROSARIO COUNCIL 14449



Charles Stevens
Council of Life Director

Battle to expand the Culture of Life continues

Once again, it's been a busy time for those engaged in working for the pro-life cause. Here are a few items the Culture of Life Committee would like to share with you:

This past May 19th, the ongoing Pro-Life Film Series featured "The Terri Schiavo Story." You may recall that she was the woman in Florida who, after being in a coma for 15 years, was removed from life support at the insistence of her husband — and against the expresses wishes of her parents and others. There were 29 people attending the film, including six Knights from our council. The film series is jointly sponsored by the pro-life committees of Holy Rosary and St. John parishes. Their next film, "The Euthanasia Deception," is set for 6:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15, in Priori Hall.

On May 31st, St. John's Pro-Life Committee sponsored an apologetics workshop on the Pro-Choice vs. Pro-Life debate. There were 33 people in attendance.

Two other ongoing pro-life events continue to be worthy of your attention and possible participation. First, the Helpers of God's Precious Infants Prayer Vigil is the third Saturday of every month. It begins with 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St. Afterward, participants process prayerfully to a nearby abortion facility and say the rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet. It concludes by 10:45 a.m.

Second, the Faithful Citizens Procession is every fourth Saturday following 10 a.m. Mass at Holy Rosary. Following Mass, they process through the surrounding neighborhood reciting the rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet in witness to and defense of Life, religious freedom and Holy Matrimony.

Here are some statistics from the spring campaign of 40 Days for Life:

Locally, there were five "saves" (change of heart regarding an abortion) and nine "hopefuls" (women who left Planned Parenthood and went to the Women's Care Center instead; there's no data on whether they ultimately decided to give birth or procure an abortion). Nationally, there were 637 "saves." No stats were given for "hopefuls," but 13 abortion facility workers left the industry and nine abortion facilities closed.

I also came across an article that said in the fiscal year 2015 Planned Parenthood performed 328,348 abortions. That same year, they performed 321,700 breast exams. (It's hard to imagine that an organization that claims to be concerned with women's health would perform more abortions than breast exams.) In 2014, PP reported a profit of \$58.8 million; in 2015 it was \$77.8 million. They also received \$554.6 million from the federal government (our hard-earned tax dollars at work).



Photo courtesy of Joe LeMark



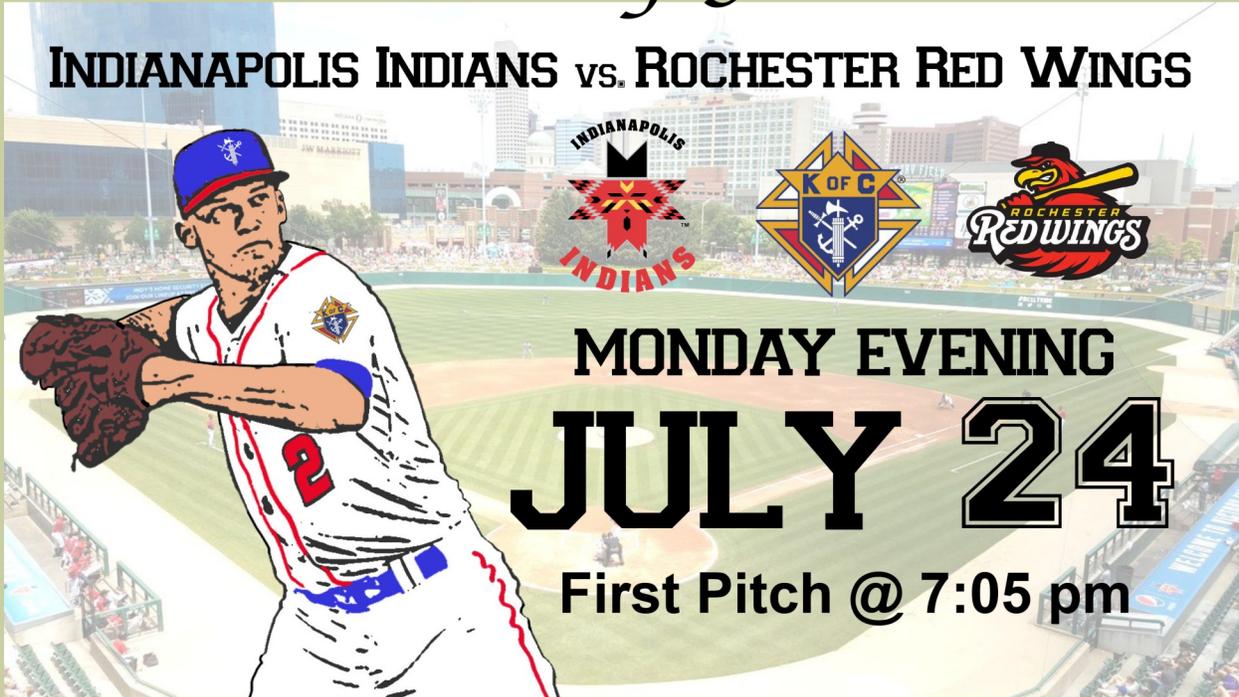
Photo courtesy of Walt Janiec

Ora et Labora

As always, Knights were deeply involved in the 2017 Italian Street Festival. (Left) Brothers Tom Brown, Joe LeMark and Lee Ashton take a break at the Meatball on a Stick and Ravioli booth. (Above) Huge crowds enjoyed nearly perfect weather both evenings. By all accounts, it was a stellar year.

SANTO ROSARIO COUNCIL NIGHT AT *Victory Field*

INDIANAPOLIS INDIANS vs. ROCHESTER RED WINGS



EXCLUSIVE OFFER

Reserved Seat Tickets: \$11/each*

Five dollars from each ticket sold
will go to the council's charitable causes

Buy tickets online

www.kofcsantorosario.org

click on Indians logo

use PASSWORD: knights



Contact: Chelsea Lowman,
community relations manager

Ticket Services: 317-532-6928 or
CLowman@IndyIndians.com



DOLLAR MENU NIGHT

Hot dogs, Cape Cod Potato Chips,
Cracker Jack and popcorn
will be available for \$1 each.

**Tickets are limited and subject to availability. Ticket price DOES NOT include \$1.50 processing and handling fee.
No refunds or exchanges.*

A small gift each month can save Christians' lives

The Archdiocese of Erbil, Iraq — home to one of the largest communities of displaced Christians in the Middle East — faces a shortfall of \$600,000 a month in food aid. Without immediate support, the Christian population there is facing a death sentence.

Related article: Page 9

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson comments on U.S. legislation that will help these persecuted Christians.

However, by donating a small gift each month, you can help save their lives.

How does this work?

Simply visit the Knights of Columbus website, ChristiansatRisk.org, and click on “donate.” This will send you to a page where you can select your donation amount and choose “Make this a monthly donation.” Without the hassle of filling out additional forms, the same amount will automatically be withdrawn from your account each month.

Donations may also be made by calling 1-800-694-5713.

And, if you donate before July 1, your donation will be matched by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. One hundred percent of all donations will be used to assist food programs for Christian refugees in Iraq.*

The Knights of Columbus has donated more than \$12 million for Christian refugee relief since 2014 in support of communities ignored by direct United Nations or United States government assistance.

Please, visit ChristiansatRisk.org and make a lasting difference today.

*The Knights of Columbus will match donations received by July 1 up to \$1 million. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Knights of Columbus Charities Inc. is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a charitable organization under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Santo Rosario Council Officers 2016-2017

Grand Knight	Brad Williams
Deputy Grand Knight	Daniel Knight
Chancellor.....	Charles Stevens
Chaplain.....	Fr. C. Ryan McCarthy
Assistant Chaplain	Fr. Luke Reese
Recorder	David Walden
Treasurer.....	Tom Brown
Advocate.....	Jose Ocampo
Warden	Kevin Richards
Inside Guard	Jerry Friederick
Outside Guard.....	Zachary Williams
3-Year Trustee	Lee Ashton
2-Year Trustee	Bob Collins
1-Year Trustee	Frank Oliver
Financial Secretary	Jay Stanley
Past Grand Knight	Lee Ashton
Lecturer.....	Brad Love

Committee Chairmen

Program Director	Daniel Knight
Membership Director.....	Edwin Barron III
Church Director	Ned Hummel
Community Director.....	Frank Oliver
Council Director	Brad Love
Culture of Life Director.....	Charles Stevens
Youth Director.....	Walt Janiec
Family Director	Pat Preston
Gibault Envoy.....	Kevin Richards

Council Crier

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We face a serious shortfall in the money needed just to cover the costs of providing food to the displaced Christians in our care. Having to decide between rebuilding homes and feeding the displaced is not a choice; it is a potential death sentence for our Christian communities.

— Chaldean Archbishop Bashar Warda of Erbil



SK Don R. Murphy, FIC, FICF
Field Agent

Since our founding, we have sought to protect breadwinner's income

While jobs may be safer in 2017, accidents, injuries and illnesses that can impact your ability to work still happen. Most, in fact, do not happen on the jobsite or place of employment. Did you know that a 2011 study revealed that more than 95 percent of the long-term disability claims on file were not work related?

The Knights have always sought to protect members' families from the "loss" of a breadwinner. I'm sure you know all about Father McGivney's vision for our insurance program. But you may not know that Father McGivney also wanted to find a way to help members who couldn't work because of an illness. After all, the "loss" of the breadwinner does not have to mean that person's death; it can also mean the loss of the breadwinner's income.

Consider that loss for a moment. How would your family fare if a source of income suddenly stopped? Could a dual-income family manage on one income? What about young families with a working father and a mother who cares for the children? What if his income halted due to an accident or illness?

I've heard some people say they have coverage at work, but too many aren't sure what this coverage entails, how much income it would provide or for how long. Having this protection counts for something, certainly, but it isn't "yours"; it's provided by the company for which you work at their discretion. It could be eliminated tomorrow.

That's where a personally-owned disability income insurance product, like Income Armor, comes into play. It can offer valuable income replacement in the event of an injury or illness. If you have a job, you must know about this coverage.

Don Murphy
317-532-7330
Don.murphy@kofc.org



Men's Holy Hour:
First Wednesday every month
9 p.m. @ Holy Rosary



COUNCIL CALENDAR

- Wednesday **JUN 28** **Officers Meeting**
Priori Hall
6:30 p.m. to 6:55 p.m.
- Wednesday **JUN 28** **Installation of Officers**
Holy Rosary Church
7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday **JUN 28** **Celebratory Cookout**
Rectory Rooftop Deck
7:30 p.m. to ????
- Tuesday **JUL 4** **Fourth of July Party**
Holy Rosary North Parking Lot
5 p.m. to ???
- Wednesday **JUL 5** **Business Meeting**
Priori Hall
6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m. (social hour until 9)
- Friday-Saturday **JUL 7-8** **First Friday Adoration**
Holy Rosary Church
6:30 p.m. to 8:45 a.m.
- Monday **JUL 24** **Outing to Indians baseball game**
Victory Field
First pitch at 7:05 p.m.
- Wednesday **JUL 26** **Officers Meeting**
Priori Hall
6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Wednesday **AUG 2** **Business Meeting**
Priori Hall
6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m. (social hour until 9)
- Friday-Saturday **AUG 4-5** **First Friday Adoration**
Holy Rosary Church
6:30 p.m. to 8:45 a.m.
- Wednesday **AUG 30** **Officers Meeting**
Priori Hall
6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Friday-Saturday **SEP 1-2** **First Friday Adoration**
Holy Rosary Church
6:30 p.m. to 8:45 a.m.
- Wednesday **SEP 6** **Business Meeting**
Priori Hall
6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m. (social hour until 9)
- Sunday **SEP 10** **Holy Rosary Parish Picnic**
Edna Balz Lacy Park
Afternoon
- Wednesday **SEP 27** **Officers Meeting**
Priori Hall
6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m.



**Carl A. Anderson
Supreme Knight**

This article first appeared in the May 2017 Columbia magazine.

Our historic chance to halt legacy of Roe v. Wade

Pro-life Americans now face a historic opportunity. Not since the Supreme Court decided *Roe v. Wade* in 1973 has the United States government had so many high-ranking officials who are pro-life.

Consider this: The House majority leader and the speaker of the House are strongly pro-life. So are the Senate majority leader and the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Both the president and the vice president as well as 17 members of their cabinet are pro-life.

Just three days after the inauguration, President Trump signed a presidential memorandum reinstating the Mexico City Policy, which requires that, as a condition for receiving U.S. foreign aid, nongovernmental organizations agree to neither perform nor promote abortion. Then, several days before the March for Life, the House of Representatives passed Rep. Chris Smith’s “No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act.”

‘The political stars are aligning in a way as to make change possible. It is time to take up the challenge of Pope Francis to work tirelessly for the building up of a culture of life by advocating for the unborn.’

Vice President Pence went from meeting pro-life leaders and speaking at the March for Life to later casting the tie-breaking vote to pass legislation overturning an Obama administration rule blocking states from defunding Planned Parenthood.

The pro-life agenda has had an important place in the first 100 days of the new administration and the new Congress. But that agenda is far from complete.

The *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, issued by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace in 2004, describes the right to life as “the first right” (155) and states: “Promoting human dignity implies above all affirming the inviolability of the right to life, from conception to natural death, the first among all rights and the condition for all other rights of the person” (553).

Last August, during our Supreme Convention in Toronto, I stated that we can never hope to build a true culture of life and civilization of love as long as the legal regime of abortion mandated by *Roe v. Wade* remains in effect — a regime that has resulted in the deaths of an estimated 60 million unborn children in the United States since 1973.

As the *Compendium* affirms, “The immediate purpose of the Church’s social doctrine is to propose the principles and values that can sustain a society worthy of the human person” (580). And Pope Francis in his encyclical on “care for our common home,” *Laudato Si’*, speaks of the need to “safeguard the moral conditions for an authentic human ecology” and to provide the poor with the “right to a life consistent with their inalienable dignity.”

The civilization of love rests on respect for the equal dignity and right to life of every person. Human dignity goes beyond abortion. But the right to life is not only a foundation; it can also be a common ground to a broader engagement with society.

Our Knights of Columbus/Marist polling on abortion has consistently shown that strong majorities of Americans support significant restrictions on abortion. And on some questions, these majorities include majorities of those who describe themselves as “pro-choice.”

On Jan. 22, the 44th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, Pope Francis stated, “The Church must never tire of

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Supreme Knight: We must have courage to confront, change reality

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson made the following remarks June 7, 2017, at a Press Conference on Capitol Hill.

A year ago, Congress unanimously used the right word to define what was happening to Christians, Yazidis and other religious minorities in the Middle East. The Secretary of State used the right word as well.

That word was genocide.

The word was an important first step, and last evening, we saw the next step: bi-partisan action to save those communities targeted for genocide by ISIS.

We must have the courage to confront reality and then we must have the courage to change reality. That is what the House of Representatives did last night.

Since 2014, these communities have too often been overlooked by U.S. government or UN aid programs. H.R. 390 will help to ensure that U.S. government money will actually reach these endangered communities. Those engaged in humanitarian assistance must not be afraid to help these communities. They face extinction.

Now is not the time for means-testing aid, or for prioritizing only on the basis of individual need.

We must save these communities.

Money has been allocated for this purpose in the Continuing Resolution. H.R. 390 will now ensure it reaches those communities most in need.

Last evening's vote showed this is not a partisan issue. It is an issue of survival, justice and decency. The action of the House last night demonstrates that America stands united in the face of evil and terror. We are horrified at the acts of savagery inflicted recently in Egypt, Manchester, London, Paris and Melbourne.

Last night's action demonstrates that America stands united to ensure that the goals of terrorism will never be achieved.

Vice President Pence has spoken out on the need to protect religious minorities including Christians in the Middle East. Yesterday morning at the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast he said the cleansing of Christians from the region must end.

H.R. 390 is the necessary step to keep these religious minorities alive.

We are tremendously grateful for the courage and determination of Congressman Smith and Congresswoman Eshoo.

We thank all those in the House who voted for the bill.

Now the Senate must act and act quickly to pass this legislation.

Thank you.

Chance to halt Roe v. Wade legacy

Continued from Page 8

being an advocate for life and must not neglect to proclaim that human life is to be protected unconditionally from the moment of conception until natural death." He went on to encourage participants of the March for Life "to work tirelessly for the building of a civilization of love and a culture of life."

Today, we have in America a new pro-life moment. Now is the time for Catholics and other pro-life Americans to seize this moment to turn the corner on the legacy of *Roe v. Wade*.

The political stars are aligning in a way as to make change possible. It is time to take up the challenge of Pope Francis to work tirelessly for the building up of a culture of life by advocating for the unborn.

If we do not, then in the words of Shakespeare, "the fault ... is not in our stars, but in ourselves."

Vivat Jesus!

Bishop Thomas Daily, R.I.P.

Please remember in your prayers the Most Rev. Thomas V. Daily, who died May 15 at age 89. A foremost advocate of the pro-life cause, he was bishop emeritus of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus for 18 years.

During his time as supreme chaplain, from 1987 to 2005, Bishop Daily was a popular figure at Knights of Columbus Supreme Council events, winning hearts and minds with his easy-going style and regaling audiences with stories told with a Boston-Irish wit.

He was one of the first U.S. bishops to lead rosary processions from local parishes to nearby abortion clinics in peaceful demonstrations against the taking of innocent human life.

He joined the Order in the same year as his ordination, 1952.



**Pope Francis
Supreme Pontiff**

The Holy Father delivered this homily May 13, 2017, in Fatima, Portugal, at Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima.

From Mary's embrace will come hope and peace

'[There] appeared in heaven a woman clothed with the sun.'

So the seer of Patmos tells us in the Book of Revelation (12:1), adding that she was about to give birth to a son. Then, in the Gospel, we hear Jesus say to His disciple, "Here is your mother" (Jn19:27). We have a Mother! "So beautiful a Lady," as the seers of Fatima said to one another as they returned home on that blessed day of 13 May a hundred years ago. That evening, Jacinta could not restrain herself and told the secret to her mother: "Today I saw Our Lady." They had seen the Mother of Heaven. Many others sought to share that vision, but ... they did not see her. The Virgin Mother did not come here so that we could see her. We will have all eternity for that, provided, of course, that we go to heaven.

Our Lady foretold, and warned us about, a way of life that is godless and indeed profanes God in His creatures. Such a life — frequently proposed and imposed — risks leading to hell. Mary came to remind us that God's light dwells within us and protects us, for, as we heard in the first reading, "the child [of the woman] was snatched away and taken to God" (Rev 12:5). In Lucia's account, the three chosen children found themselves surrounded by God's light as it radiated from Our Lady. She enveloped them in the mantle of Light that God had given her. According to the belief and experience of many pilgrims, if not of all, Fatima is more than anything this mantle of Light that protects us, here as in almost no other place on earth. We need but take refuge under the protection of the Virgin Mary and to ask her, as the *Salve Regina* teaches: "show unto us ... Jesus."

Dear pilgrims, we have a Mother, we have a Mother! Clinging to her like children, we live in the hope that rests on Jesus. As we heard in the second reading, "those who receive the abundance of the grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ" (Rom 5:17). When Jesus ascended to heaven, he brought to the Heavenly Father our humanity, which he assumed in the womb of the Virgin Mary and will never forsake. Like an anchor, let us fix our hope on that humanity, seated in heaven at the right hand of the Father (cf. Eph 2:6). May this hope guide our lives! It is a hope that sustains us always, to our dying breath.

Confirmed in this hope, we have gathered here to give thanks for the countless graces bestowed over these past hundred years. All of them passed beneath the mantle of light that Our Lady has spread over the four corners of the earth, beginning with this land of Portugal, so rich in hope. We can take as our examples Saint Francisco and Saint Jacinta, whom the Virgin Mary introduced into the immense ocean of God's light and taught to adore Him. That was the source of their strength in overcoming opposition and suffering. God's presence became constant in their lives, as is evident from their insistent prayers for sinners and their desire to remain ever near "the hidden Jesus" in the tabernacle.

In her *Memoirs* (III, 6), Sister Lucia quotes Jacinta who had just been granted a vision: "Do you not see all those streets, all those paths and fields full of people crying out for food, yet have nothing to eat? And the Holy Father in a church, praying before the Immaculate Heart of Mary? And all those people praying with him?" Thank you, brothers and sisters, for being here with me! I could not fail to come here to venerate the Virgin Mary and to entrust to her all her sons and daughters. Under her mantle they are not lost; from her embrace will come the hope and the peace that they require, and that I implore for all my brothers and sisters in baptism and in our human family, especially the sick and the disabled, prisoners and the unemployed, the poor

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Holy Father

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and the abandoned. Dear brothers and sisters, let us pray to God with the hope that others will hear us; and let us speak to others with the certainty that God will help us.

Indeed, God created us to be a source of hope for others, a true and attainable hope, in accordance with each person's state of life. In "asking" and "demanding" of each of us the fulfillment of the duties of our proper state (*Letters of Sister Lucia*, 28 Feb. 1943), God effects a general mobilization against the indifference that chills the heart and worsens our myopia. We do not want to be a stillborn hope! Life can survive only because of the generosity of other lives. "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (Jn 12:24). The Lord, who always goes before us, said this and did this. Whenever we experience the cross, He has already experienced it before us. We do not mount the cross to find Jesus. Instead it was He who, in His self-abasement, descended even to the cross, in order to find us, to dispel the darkness of evil within us, and to bring us back to the light.

With Mary's protection, may we be for our world sentinels of the dawn, contemplating the true face of Jesus the Savior, resplendent at Easter. Thus may we rediscover the young and beautiful face of the Church, which shines forth when she is missionary, welcoming, free, faithful, poor in means and rich in love.

For the Good of the Order:

Advice on living the vocation to fatherhood

In *The Catholic Family Handbook* (first published in 1962, and republished in 2012), Fr. Lawrence Lovasik offers words worthy of serious reflection by all who have been graced by God with fatherhood. He writes:

Nature and Christian Tradition tell us that the father is the head of the home. That alone should suggest the dignity of fatherhood. Your dignity as a father rests, first of all, upon the fact that Almighty God has bestowed upon you the privilege of cooperating in the greatest natural mystery: the creation of human life.

Sons and daughters are yours in a sense that nothing else you may ever possess can be called your own. That thought carries with it a unique honor.

Even modern society, which has striven to forget the sanctity of marriage, retains this basic recognition. Your children are your dependents. They bear your name. They imitate many of your mannerisms, gestures and modes of thought.

Much more: if you are a worthy father, and they are worthy children, they carry with them through life the training in virtue that you alone can impress on their young minds.

He furthermore advises that a father cannot begin to exercise his authority too early in the lives of his children:

You should exert your authority as a father even when your children are babies. Your word should be something strong, good and a little to be feared.

If your children learn to respect your authority even from their tender years, they will find that authority a tremendous power to guide those difficult, almost uncontrollable years of adolescence.

But if you let your wife do all the bossing, and are content to be another child yourself, you will be able to make only a feeble protest to youth's tendency to disobedience and independence.

At the same time, he reminds fathers that their authority, to be used properly, must reflect the Fatherhood of God:

Your children should enjoy the strength of your kind paternal authority. It gives them security. What is more, they are given security by the knowledge that their mother and father are united in matters of discipline.

It is dangerous when a child can obtain from a softer parent something that he has failed to obtain from a stricter one, or when parents quarrel in front of children over points of conduct.

In the full program of domestic education, you must take great care that you use your authority properly. Pope Pius XI said that normally a vocation to the priesthood is the result of the example and teaching of a father "strong in faith and manly in virtues."

Therefore, fatherhood is a vocation in God's service, to be held not lightly or frivolously, but with the serious determination of serious men.

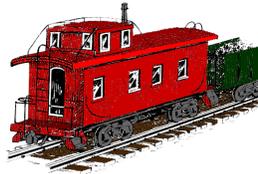
Since it is a life's work in His service, God offers His aid at every important step along the difficult road.

On your part, though, He expects cooperation with grace, which in turn calls for persevering good will, a spirit of sacrifice, and conscientious observance of God's law made known by the Church.



THE EDITOR'S CABOOSE

David Walden
Editor



A one-handed guide on how to pray

With deadline looming, I had no idea what to write for this column. Prayers for inspiration seemed to go unanswered. Then I banged up a finger — not sure what I did to it, but it's black, blue, swollen and makes typing a little difficult and quite painful. And it reminded me of something I had seen the previous day: the Five-Finger Prayer.

I had heard of a five-finger discount, but never a Five-Finger Prayer. Happily, the prayer is much better than the discount. Many online sources attribute it to Pope Francis, some saying he penned it while an archbishop in Argentina. I have my doubts about that attribution, but the prayer *is* worth studying. So, with thanksgiving for the Internet and my computer's copy-and-paste function, I can avoid some of the pain of typing:

Five-Finger Prayer

Using the fingers on your hand, start with the thumb and pray these intentions in this order:

- 1 The thumb is closest finger to you. So start praying for those who are closest to you. They are the persons easiest to remember. To pray for our dear ones is a "Sweet Obligation."
- 2 The next finger is the index. Pray for those who teach you, instruct you and heal you. They need the support and wisdom to show direction to others. Always keep them in your prayers.
- 3 The following finger is the tallest. It reminds us of our leaders, the governors and those who have authority. They need God's guidance.
- 4 The fourth finger is the ring finger. Even though it may surprise you, it is our weakest finger. It should remind us to pray for the weakest, the sick or those plagued by problems. They need your prayers.
- 5 And finally we have our smallest finger, the smallest of all. Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. When you are done praying for the other four groups, you will be able to see your own needs but in the proper perspective, and also you will be able to pray for your own needs in a better way.

So there you have it. Simple yet effective. Given Pope Francis' emphasis on simplicity and the common touch, perhaps he did write it. Attribution to his authorship does predate his elevation to the Chair of Peter.

Many Internet sources indicate it is a prayer meant for children, and it certainly is simple enough to be a good prayer and teaching tool for youngsters. But, as the Holy Father teaches in the book, *The Spirit of Saint Francis: Inspiring Words from Pope Francis*, "To be friends with God means to pray with simplicity, like children talking to their parents."

So even God's adult children can use the above format as a guide to prayer. Our world and all too often our lives are filled with problems, difficulties, challenges, needs. It can be overwhelming sometimes trying to decide who or what to pray for. I like that this prayer has us praying first for others and, only at the end, for ourselves. Prayer should be unselfish.

I wish it included prayers for the dead — perhaps they could be among the "weakest" in the ring-finger prayer. And I also wonder if it's merely coincidence that the middle finger is reserved for our government leaders and politicians (sorry ... couldn't resist the bad joke).

Now, time to rest my own painful finger. God bless you all.

