



# DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Knights of Columbus  
St Charles Borromeo  
Council 10570



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## *From the Grand Knight*

Grand Knight



Brother Knights,

As we enter the Advent and Christmas season, it is time to reflect, spend time with family, and most importantly focus on our Lord Jesus.

Advent is a time of waiting, longing and prepare. It is a time to pray, "Come, Lord Jesus."

We look forward to celebrating the first coming of Jesus at Christmas. We look forward with hope to the second coming of Jesus in his glory. We seek Jesus here and now in the Mass, when he comes to us in the Eucharist. We seek Jesus in the people and events of our lives, when he comes to us in ordinary ways. Advent is given to us as a time to prepare our souls for the coming of the Lord. We need to examine our conscience and confess our sins, as we ask Jesus to come to us in his mercy. For Jesus offers us a true experience of salvation through the forgiveness of our sins.

*God our Father, open to us your promised fountain of mercy, the Word made the flesh, to wash our sins and impurities away. Prepare us to welcome our Savior who dwells among us. Pour forth, we beseech you, Father, your grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son is to be made known anew through the Sacrament of Confession, may by his Passion and cross be brought to glory of his Resurrection through the same Christ our Lord. Amen*

Your humble servant & brother in Christ,

**Gary D Trujillo, Grand Knight**

Christmas is one of the most important days of the Church year, second only to Easter itself. It is the feast of the incarnation, the feast of God becoming flesh (the Latin "in carne" means "enfleshment"). It is a uniquely Christian teaching, the Divine choosing to become one of us. Because of this belief, God is not only Transcendent, but also wholly Immanent, Emmanuel (God-with-us). While remaining Transcendent (meaning we must rise above our present condition to reach Him), He is at the same time Immanent (meaning He is with us as we rise toward Him). Every Eucharist is like Christmas where the bread and wine are transformed into His flesh, His Body and Blood, and, in a sense, He is born anew on the altar.

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the Vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts, and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him...including the fact that he was born to die for us.

The Christmas tree and the Nativity scene are popular symbols of the season and a tradition in many Christian homes. It is also traditional to exchange Christmas gifts with family and friends as a way to honor God the Father's gift of his only son to the world. Having received the gift of Christ, we naturally want to pass that gift along to our loved ones.

*Merciful Father, help me to accept the grace of repentance and to make a good confession this Advent. Let my heart be opened to the healing love of you Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit.*

## DECEMBER & JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

December 19 - Jacque Zamora

December 22 – Gary D Trujillo

December 24 – Jason H Rodarte

January 5 – David Ortiz

January 7 – Jeremiah Saul Houdobre

January 11 – Joseph H Pohl

January 11 – John A Topolski

January 21 – Louis J Hernandez

January 29 – Joseph R Valdez

**On behalf of your Council's Brother Knights, we wish you a very Happy Birthday!**

# 4 PRINCIPLES 4 REASONS

CHARITY UNITY FRATERNITY PATRIOTISM

EXEMPLIFY TO YOUR DISCIPLE

*Humble Service*  
JUST LIKE JESUS DID

## COUNCIL RECOGNITIONS

November 2020 Knight of the Month: Kevin E Georges

November 2020 Family of the Month: Eligio & Eva Velasquez Family

*May the LORD bless you and protect you.  
May the LORD smile on you and be  
gracious to you.  
May the LORD show you His favor and  
give you His peace.*

### Charity is sowing to the Spirit

*Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption; but he who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. – Galatians 6:7-8*

In this verse, we have encapsulated the entire Catholic teaching concerning the idea of “merit.” Many people think that when the Church speaks of “merit” she means “extra good deeds you do to make up for inadequate atonement for sin.” But this completely misunderstands the Church’s teaching. In reality, everything that we do that contributes to our salvation is the result of the grace of Christ, not a supplement to or a cause of grace. Sowing to the Spirit (seeking God consistently in prayer, or doing works of mercy, or faithfully approaching the sacraments) is not a thing we do to put God in our debt. We do this because God is at work in us already and inspiring us to obey him.

*Acts of penance are not a payback that evens the score, but a way of recalling that we are constantly in God’s debt. ~ Practicing Catholic*

Our sincere condolences to our Brother Knights:

Council Advocate Kevin E Georges on the loss of his father-in-law.

Grand Knight Gary D Trujillo on the loss of his father.



May the Lord bless you and keep you. May He show His face to you and be merciful to you. May He turn His countenance to you and give you peace.  
May the Lord bless you.

*O Lord, we ask for a boundless confidence and trust in Your divine mercy, and the courage to accept the crosses and sufferings which bring immense goodness to our souls and that of Your Church.*

*Help us to love You with a pure and contrite heart, and to humble ourselves beneath Your cross, as we climb the mountain of holiness, carrying our cross that leads to heavenly glory.*

*May we receive You with great faith and love in Holy Communion, and allow You to act in us, as You desire, for Your greater glory.*

*O Jesus, Most adorable heart and eternal fountain of Divine Love, may our prayer find favor before the Divine Majesty of Your Heavenly Father. Amen*



### Upcoming Events: Note – Limited due to Public Health Order

Dec. 8 – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

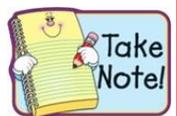
Dec. 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day

Dec. 12 – Webinar: Paying for Long-term Care; Protecting Your Legacy (see attached flyer)

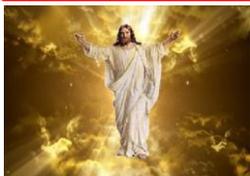
Dec. 25 – The Nativity of the Lord – Christmas

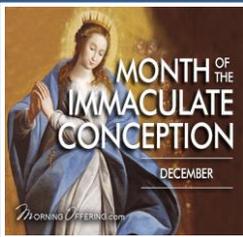
Dec. 27 - Consecration to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Dec. 30 – Council Membership/Business Meeting - Virtual

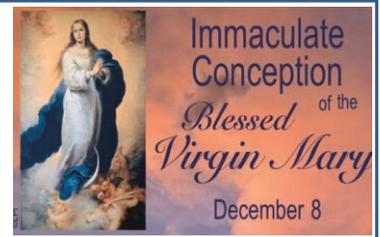


**I am the Light of the world. Men crawl through their lives cursing the darkness, but all the while I am shining brightly. I desire each of My followers to be a Light-bearer. The holy Spirit who lives in you can shine from your face, making Me visible to people around you. Ask My Spirit to live through you as you wend your way through this day. Hold My hand in joyful trust, for I never leave your side. The Light of My presence is shining upon you. Brighten up the world reflecting who I am.**





# MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Chosen before time to be the Mother of God Incarnate, Jesus Christ, God created Mary perfect and full of grace, preserving her from the stain of Original Sin. Mary Immaculate is the most beautiful fruit of the work of redemption accomplished by her Son, thereby making her the perfect model of holiness for all Christians.

*“The blessed Virgin Mary to have been, from the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, in view of the merits of Christ Jesus the Savior of Mankind, preserved free from all stain of original sin”*

## **MONTHLY CHALLENGE FROM THE SUPREME CHAPLAIN**

An exciting initiative called “Monthly Challenge from the Supreme Chaplain.” Check out this month’s challenge below. A new challenge for each month will be shared on the Knights of Columbus social media pages, as well as in *Knightline* and *Columbia* magazines. It is also available in multiple languages at [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org).

**Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.”** (Gospel for Dec. 20, Lk 1:38)

### REFLECTION

Mary’s *fiat*, her “yes” to the angel Gabriel at the Annunciation, models perfect discipleship. It was a total acceptance of and submission to the will of God. What faith and trust our Blessed Mother exemplified! Because Mary unreservedly said yes to God, Jesus became man in order to redeem the world from sin. God worked wonders in her life and the world through her trust in him. May each of us strive to place our unconditional trust in the will of God, so that he may work wonders in our own lives.

### DECEMBER CHALLENGE

This month, I challenge you set up a Nativity scene in your home and pray before it, meditating on Mary’s *fiat*. Second, I challenge you to join with your brother Knights in the Faith in Action Keep Christ in Christmas program to help your parishes and communities celebrate the Son of God and Son of Mary.

### QUESTIONS FO REFLECTION:

Looking back over your life, are there things that happened that you didn’t understand at the time, but later saw that God was at work? Are there currently things in your life God is asking you to answer *fiat* to? How can the life of Mary help you to better understand how to submit your will to God’s?

**Engage in the challenge and put your faith into action today! *Vivat Jesus!***

*Merciful Father, you come to us not only at Christmas, but also in the time of waiting and preparation. Help me to embrace with joy this holy time of Advent, so that I might celebrate your arrival at Christmas with a ready and glad heart.*

A PROGRAM AND SERVICE OF  
THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC RISK RETENTION GROUP, INC.

## **VIRTUS<sup>®</sup> Online ABUSE AWARENESS INFORMATION**

The Archdiocese of Santa Fe recently changed policy regarding the abuse awareness training for the protection of children. First, **ALL** volunteers **MUST** complete the training, whether you are in a Mass ministry or volunteer in any capacity in any parish. Second, the training must be renewed every FIVE years. The training can now be completed either at a class or individually ONLINE. And, it is completely FREE! For details, please pick up a copy of the flyer from the table in the St Charles Borromeo lobby, or visit the Archdiocese of Santa Fe’s website @ <http://www.archdiocesasantafe.org/> **Please note: since Knights volunteer at church activities, all Knights are required to be in compliance with the Abuse Awareness Training. Once you have completed the training, please provide a copy of your training certificate to the Council Advocate.**

**Why Encourage Membership in Knights? It’s an Opportunity to Grow in Jesus Christ**



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Knights of Columbus  
**INSURANCE**  
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Brother Knights,

Usually we would have been shopping for that special present, getting a tree and preparing to cook the traditional Christmas meal. This year will be different. Many will be reluctant to travel, so many may be celebrating with just the household instead of a house-full! Instead of crushes of people at the mall, our Christmas presents will be dropped at the front door by UPS, USPS or Amazon Prime. No 22 lb. turkey this year for the family members visiting from far and wide; just a small one for the few of us. While this year may be different, it may get us to slow down a bit and perhaps savor the special time of year and what we really celebrate.

We turn our thoughts to themes of "Peace on Earth" and "Goodwill to Men!" We think of our Savior's birth in Bethlehem and the beginning of this chapter of salvation history. We think of family, both the ones we celebrate with this year in person and those who might only be present on Zoom. But we'll make it through the season; we'll have even more to celebrate next year.

Each year I remind my readers of some important financial issues as we move through December and hit year end. As you slow down here are some financial issues to consider at the end of the calendar year.

1. Because we're so late in the year, you may have met your individual or family deductible on your health insurance plan. Financially this may be the opportune time for some minor procedure to be scheduled; or that visit to a specialist you may have put off. The same is true about dental insurance and sometimes even for vision coverage.
2. Speaking of health insurance, do you have a Health Savings Account? Do you have to spend the money that's in there by year end? Some plans have a "use it or lose it" feature. Do you have to make a decision about how much to contribute next year? These are a couple of time sensitive issues.
3. If you have earned income for the year, what amount will you want to contribute to your traditional IRA, Roth IRA or 401k? Are you eligible to contribute much more based on the "catch up" provision? You won't have to make that contribution until you pay your taxes and that could be four months away; however now is the time to start making plans.

Many issues come with rules and regulations, so don't go it alone. Give me a call and I will be happy to discuss any of these... and you can do it safely, virtually with me on the computer from the comfort of your home.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us be thankful for all the graces God has showered on us, especially the gift of his Son, our Savior! "For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. His name is Wonderful-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:5

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*But the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Look, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.*

Luke 2:10-11

**Newsletter Submissions:** Please submit anything of interest (articles, anniversaries, events, obituaries, service projects, etc) to the Grand Knight (rdo1381@aol.com) by the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month for inclusion in the newsletter.

***"It is not lengthy prayers, but generous deeds that touch God's heart." — St. Arnold Janssen***

## CATHOLIC CITIZENS ESSAY CONTEST

THE Council in conjunction with the St. Charles School conducted the Catholic Citizens Essay Contest during the month of October. Traditionally the Essay Contest is open to students in grades 8 through 12, however, since the St. Charles school is only elementary and middle school ending at 8<sup>th</sup> grade, the contest was opened up to the middle school (6-8).

All students at the school in grades 6 through 8, submitted an essay with the topic of: How trusting in God during a difficult time has helped you or someone you know find the strength and hope to endure it.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:

1<sup>st</sup> - Julianna Gallegos  
2<sup>nd</sup> - David Cerrato-Salad  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Lily Trujillo

### **Contest Winners:**

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:

1<sup>st</sup> - Noah Salazar  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Isabella Caba  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Abigail Seager

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:

1<sup>st</sup> - Marie Jojoba-Miranda  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Rihanna Gonzales  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Emma Ortega

*Lord our God, in your wisdom and love you surround us with the mysteries of the universe. Send your Spirit upon these students and fill them with your wisdom and blessings. Grant that they may devote themselves to their studies and draw ever closer to you, the source of all knowledge. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



***The day of joy returns, Father in Heaven, and crowns another year with peace and good will. Help us rightly to remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men. Close the doors of hate and open the doors of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil, by the blessing that Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our bed with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen***

The Candy Cane:

The true meaning of Christmas:



**Scripture:** He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his stripes you have been healed. 1 Peter 2:24 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. Psalm 23:1

The candy cane is a long-time Christmas tradition. Everywhere we look we see them. They are used as decorations on Christmas trees and, of course, they are one of the most popular of all Christmas treats. I have heard several stories about the history and meaning of the candy cane. I don't know if they are true, but I do think that the candy cane can teach us a few things about the true meaning of Christmas.

First of all, if you look at the candy cane like this , it looks like the letter J. Jesus starts with the letter J, so that should remind us of Jesus and help us to remember that Christmas is Jesus' birthday.

If you look at the candy cane like this , it looks like a shepherd's crook. The shepherd used his crook to keep the sheep from wandering away from the flock and getting lost or eaten by a wild animal. The Bible says, "The Lord is my shepherd." The candy cane should remind us that Jesus is our shepherd and he will keep us from wandering away and getting lost or hurt.

The candy cane is mostly white. White is a symbol of purity. That should remind us that Jesus was the spotless Lamb of God and that because he came to be the sacrifice for our sin, we can become as white as snow.

As you know, the candy cane has three red stripes. The Bible tells us that before he was crucified, Jesus was beaten with a whip which made blood-red stripes across his back. The Bible says that we are healed by those stripes. The stripes on the candy cane should remind us that Jesus suffered and died, so that we can have everlasting life.

To many people, the candy cane is a meaningless decoration seen at Christmas time or just a piece of candy to be eaten and enjoyed. I hope that this year, every time you see a candy cane, you will be reminded of the true meaning of Christmas.

***Lord, we thank you that Jesus is the Good Shepherd who keeps us from harm. We thank you that because of his suffering and death on the cross, we have life everlasting. Help us to remember that we find the true meaning of Christmas in him.***

NMKnights.com

New Mexico Knights of Columbus Insurance

## 2020 Webinar Series



New Mexico Knights of Columbus Insurance

NMKnights.com

November 7, 2020, 10AM Retirement

### Three Retirement Strategies Tax Qualifications Explained

LINK:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_N2pYVwQmTHqmIMNZ1J4ZcA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_N2pYVwQmTHqmIMNZ1J4ZcA)

November 21, 2020, 10AM Business

### Common Business Challenges Financial Planning for Business

LINK:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_06qBhIRpTC236u-8c9dm4g](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_06qBhIRpTC236u-8c9dm4g)

December 12, 2020, 10AM LT Care

### Paying for Long-term Care Protecting your Legacy

LINK:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_3FyPRclQTPeywTTQKdR5-Q](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3FyPRclQTPeywTTQKdR5-Q)

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Protecting Catholic Families  
Since 1882