



The Knightly News

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Council 11514, Monument, Colorado 80132, Alan Feldkamp, Grand Knight

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Father Gzregorz Golyzniak

Dear brother Knights. Let us continue to meditate on Eucharistic Rival in our country. At this time let us read a testimony of one of the priests serving in armed forces. I believe his life could be inspiration to many of us.

He starts his sharing with the title: "Standing at the Altar" by Fr. Michael Metz

As a priest and a chaplain, I see a lot of wild things, some tragic and some beautiful. I can stand on my own talents, on my own loves, on the Army creed—but if I do, I will misunderstand. But if I take my stand at the altar of love, I see all things through Christ. Because of the Eucharist, *we can always stand with Jesus*, especially in the most exceptional

and unexpected circumstances. I recently experienced this lesson in a poignant fashion during an important and dangerous nighttime training operation, packed with unanticipated and life-threatening moments.

My brigade, the "Devil Brigade" of the 82 Airborne Division, was tasked to conduct a two-week field training exercise. Our mission was to execute a parachute operation in order to seize and secure a critical objective. I felt Christ's living presence as I prayed for the paratroopers and silently gave them a priestly blessing.

At 3 a.m. I exited the noisy C-17 into a rush of air and a silent night. Lunar illumination and peace filled the skies. My parachute opened, my equipment lowered correctly, and I safely landed on the drop zone. At some point, we heard branches cracking above us. Paratroopers, caught by high winds, had drifted into the woods and were smashing through the trees, crashing down all around us! Luckily, nobody was hit by the wayward jumpers, but the night was just beginning. I could hear other soldiers landing deeper in the woods. Donning my headlight, I was quickly on my feet, running to locate my paratroopers.

Following the sound of voices, I found a young man who hadn't yet hit the earth. From the ground, I saw that his parachute was caught in the trees; he was suspended 20 feet in the air, and I was standing right beneath him. He began to execute the emergency protocol on how to exit a harness if a tree landing occurs. In the final maneuver of the safety procedures, the paratrooper realized that his equipment belt was interwoven with his parachute shoulder straps. As he lifted his arms to slip out of the harness, his blouse and equipment jerked upwards and jammed into his neck. My heart sank. In the pitch dark, all I could see with my headlight was this soldier dangling twenty feet over open ground, suffocating on his own equipment. I stood powerless and terrified. I watched the paratrooper thrash around with his arms raised, hands shaking, no longer able to speak. After a violent effort, and a prayer on my lips, his head and shoulders popped free! The paratrooper came careening down his reserve parachute into my arms. Relief washed over us as we both started breathing again. With a spattering of expletives and a restoration of resilience, he picked up his equipment and promptly went on his way. Ten minutes later I was back with my soldiers drifting into some much-needed sleep.

Nobody prepared me for this in seminary! When I was ordained, I pictured Baptisms, donuts after Mass, weddings, and confessions. But was Jesus surprised? No. Did the strangeness of this moment exclude the presence of Christ? Absolutely not. Did I have eyes of faith to recognize his presence? Yes, but only because of the Eucharist.

In Pope Benedict XVI's masterwork *Introduction to Christianity*,

he discusses belief not as something you know, but as a place to stand. Faith is not the utilization of knowledge, but rather a place where our hearts can *stand*, which leads to authentic *understanding*.

The altar of sacrifice, the Holy Mass, is the proper place to stand in order to live true Christian faith. Everything moves from and flows towards Christ, because he is the source and summit of all things. In a sense, the Eucharist is the most true and solid place in existence. With my own eyes, I stand petrified and powerless, watching a paratrooper dangle in mid-air and struggle to breathe. But time with Jesus in the Eucharist unveils more. I catch a glimpse of God working powerfully, ensuring a paratrooper is not alone and not in darkness as he fights, victorious over death.

I am confident that Jesus wanted that young man to have a priest—me—stand by him, encourage him, calm him, and catch him when he was without light, clinging to life.

The Eucharist is the bridge between heaven and earth.

This is an amazing story and I hope that it will trigger more thoughts in our minds to realize how much we need Jesus Christ in Eucharist. I'm looking forward to Knights of Columbus Christmas party.

With prayer Fr. Grzegorz



Saint of the Month



Saint John of Kanty

The people of Olkusz in Bohemia in 1431 had every reason to be suspicious of their new pastor. They knew what a Cracow professor would think of their small rural town. But even more insulting, their town was once again being used as a dumping ground for a priest who was "in disgrace."

John had indeed been kicked out of his university position -- unjustly. Rivals who resented John's popularity with the students had cooked up a false charge against him. John was not even allowed to appear at his own hearing or testify in his own defense. So, at age 41, he was shipped off to be an apprentice pastor.

Certainly no one would have blamed John if he was furious at such injustice. However, he was determined that his new parishioners would not suffer because of what he happened to him.

But there was no overnight miracle waiting of him in Olkusz. He was nervous and afraid of his new responsibilities. And, despite the energy he put into his new job, the parishioners remained hostile. But John's plan was very simple, and came not from the mind but from the heart. He let his genuine interest and concern for these people show in everything he did. Despite working for years without any sign of

success, he was very careful not to demonstrate impatience or anger. He knew that people could never be bullied into love, so he gave them what he hoped they would find in themselves.

After eight years, he was exonerated and transferred back to Cracow. He had been so successful that these once-hostile people followed him several miles down the road, begging him to stay.

For the rest of his life, he was professor of sacred Scripture at the university. He was so well-liked that he was often invited to dinner with nobility. Once, he was turned away at the door by a servant who thought John's cassock was too frayed. John didn't argue but went home, changed into a new cassock, and returned. During the meal, a servant spilled a dish on John's new clothes. "No matter," he joked. "My clothes deserve some dinner, too. If it hadn't been for them I wouldn't be here at all."

Once John was sitting down to dinner when he saw a beggar walk by outside. He jumped up immediately, ran out, and gave the beggar the food in his bowl. He asked no questions, made no demands. He just saw someone in need and helped with what he had.

John taught his students this philosophy again and again, "Fight all error, but do it with good humor, patience, kindness, and love. Harshness will damage your own soul and spoil the best cause."

John put all his effort into a new and frightening job, that others might have considered beneath him. Today do something you have never done before or do something in a new way, perhaps something that has frightened you or you felt was beneath you. This can be something as simple as trying a different type of prayer or as complex as serving others in a new way.

Prayer:

Saint John of Kanty, you were unjustly fired from your work. Please pray for those who are jobless or in danger of losing their jobs that they may find work that is fulfilling in every way. Guide us to ways to help those looking for work. Amen

I named my two dogs Rolex and Timex. They're my watch dogs.



Grand Knight Alan Feldkamp presents the Family of the Month Award to Rob and Molly Ketchell during the Veteran's dinner, hence the uniforms.

Right: Fred Seiter receives the Knight of the Month Award from Grand Knight Alan Feldkamp.





5th Sunday Patriotic Rosary on 29 Oct 22 following the 0800 Mass. 32 people participated, and there would probably have been more, but the Knights and families were competing with the St. Peter's students who were dressed as saints in the school's gymnasium and told stories about the saint they represented.

Right: *SK Fred Seiter leads a decade of the Rosary. Each decade prays for ten of the 50 states, a saying from a patriot of the United States and a patriotic song. Very stirring!*





St. Peter's Council 11514 and American Legion Post 9-11 members met at the Crawford Medal of Honor Memorial in Palmer Lake on 11 November for a Veterans Day ceremony. Army MSgt William (Bill) Crawford was a WW II veteran who received the medal for killing many German soldiers, wiped out several German tanks and took over 100 German soldiers as prisoners. He was born in Pueblo and retired in Palmer Lake.

The ceremony was held in a chilly 22 degree morning starting with the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer by Legion Chaplain Jim Bergeron, a talk about what a veteran is by retired Air Force colonel and fighter pilot in Vietnam, Darrel Whitcomb, USAF (Ret) and culminating with the National Anthem.

Knights participating:

John Hartling	Rob Ketchell
Rob Hoette and Lady Kay Hoette	
Michael Pietsch	Randy Fritz
Jim Bergeron	Eddie O'Callaghan
Chuck Hardy	

Honored guest: Representative Terry Carver, District 20, Colorado House of Representatives





New Creche

After heavy winds in 2021 that destroyed the creche at St. Peter's, the Knights of Council 11514 gathered at the garage of Dick Peters and built a new one complete with new statuary.

Team One designed and built a suitable structure that would protect and display the 13 new statues. The team used retired cedar fence posts and panels that were repurposed to make structural bones, roof and walls.

Team two designed and built storage boxes for use during the off-season. Three boxes were built, painted and labeled.

Team one: Dick Peters, Bob Knapp, Bob Lynn and Randy Fritz.

Team two: Bob Leise and Jim Desautel.

Assistants: Rob Hoette and Alan Feldkamp



Creche set up with statuary in place with helpers posing for the camera.

L to R: Bob Leise, John Hartling, Alan Feldkamp, Jim Bergeron, Ed Paulovich, Bob Knapp, Patrick Finnegan, Dick Peters and Michael Pietsch



Dick Peters donates a gift of life during the blood drive run by Lady Teresa Knapp at St. Peter's on 09 Nov 22. Several other Knights participated resulting in a successful drive.



Charity is listening to the inner voice



Encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. ~ Thessalonians 5:14

Dan Begley settled into his plane seat in Seattle, hoping to get a lot of work done before arriving in Dallas.

Just then a mother and three kids got on. The mother and a four-year-old sat behind him; the older two kids, next to him.

Once airborne, they began turning around every ten minutes to ask their mother, "Where are we now?" Dan's irritation rose to the "danger" level.

Suddenly, an "inner voice" told him, "Be patient! Love these kids. They need it."

He put away his work, took the in-flight magazine, turned to the flight map, and showed the kids the route to Dallas. He divided the route into 15-minute lengths so that they could see exactly where they were at any moment. Then he explained a lot of things about planes to them.

As the plane approached Dallas, Dan asked if their father would be waiting. A short silence ensued. Then one of the kids said softly, "No, we just buried him in Seattle."

~ Mark Link, S.J.

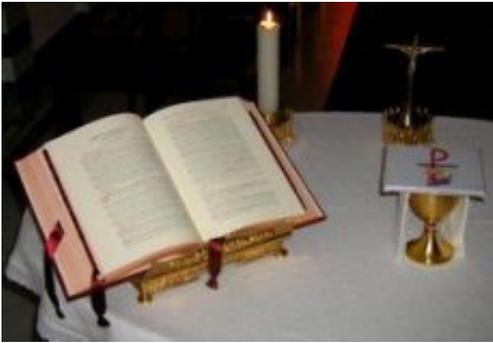
How patient am I, especially with children?

Of all the places you live (at home, work, school, community), where do you feel the need for more faith, more hope or more love?

Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet.

~ Jean Jacques Rousseau

From the **Knights to Christ** booklet

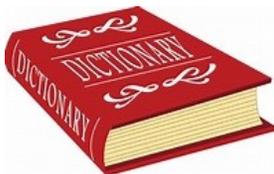


Sermonette

Let us build our faith on the firm foundation of the Lord.

Staying faithful to the words of Jesus, and acting upon them, gives our lives a firm foundation. Let us never become complacent in our faith, but instead strive to live each day faithful to God's will.

Word of the Month



Christians: The name first applied about the year 43 to followers of Christ at Antioch, the capital of Syria. It was used by pagans as a contemptuous term. The word applies to persons who profess belief in the divinity and teachings of Christ and who give witness to him in life.

From the Catholic Word Book

Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in your garage makes you a mechanic.



December Birthdays

- 05 Dec – Richard Heebner
- 07 Dec – Bill Uhl
- 17 Dec – Don Caughlin
- 18 Dec – Colin Cassidy
- 22 Dec – Alfonso Bince
- 22 Dec – Tony Trifiletti
- 25 Dec – Baby Jesus
- 27 Dec – Gary Spoto
- 28 Dec – Michael Casarez
- 31 Dec – Robert Gibbons



- ✓ 01 Dec – Parish Penance Service at 1830
- ✓ 03 – 04 Dec – Council 11514 hosts the State Mid-Year Convention in the PMC at 1200
- ✓ 03 Dec – Corporate Communion Mass at 1700
- ✓ 08 Dec - Immaculate Conception Feast (Holy Day of Obligation)
- ✓ 10 Dec – Council Christmas Party at 1730 in PMC. Mass at 1700 in Chapel.
- ✓ 22 Dec – Set up gymnasium for Christmas Masses
- ✓ 25 Dec – Christmas Day

- ✓ 31 Dec – New Year’s Eve
- ✓ **NOTE:** No Assembly or Council meetings in December. The Christmas party is the monthly social event.



Christmas Trivia

Q. The movie *Miracle n 34th Street* is based on a real- life department store. What is it?

A. Macy’s

Q. In which modern-day country was St. Nicholas born?

A. Turkey (originally Patara)

Q. What was the first company that used Santa Claus in advertising?

A. Coca Cola

Q. What popular Christmas song was actually written for Thanksgiving?

A. Jingle Bells

Q. Which country started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?

A. Germany

Q. What movie introduced the song White Christmas?

A. Holiday Inn in 1942

Keep in our Prayers: Don Flobeck, Jim Desautel, Jack Benoczi, Father Golyzniak, Chris Otto, Mary Ann Trifiletti, Butch Christiansen, Fred and Melanie Seiter, Laura Gomez, Charlie Bergeron
 Pray for our priests, deacons, nuns and for vocations to the religious life.
 Remember our soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen, especially those in combat roles.
 Pray for our departed Knights and their families.

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**Merry Christmas from the
editor and staff of The
Knightly News.**

