



The Knightly News

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Council 11514, Monument, Colorado 80132, Randy Fritz, Grand Knight

May 2022



Father Gzregorz Golyzniak

Dear brother Knights.

In the light of the war between Ukraine and Russia. Let me try to analyze pope Francis' thinking and concerns on this subject.

The Pope was trapped by the war in Ukraine. The faithful do not understand Vatican diplomacy, which avoids unequivocal words of condemnation of Vladimir Putin. Meanwhile, the war "problem" of Francis and the Church is much more complex and cannot be reduced only to the question of condemning the guilty. Whether we like it or not, the Pope is steadfast in his teaching on war and firmly upholds fundamental Christian principles.

The unprecedented nature of the current geopolitical situation places Francis in a very difficult position from some perspectives: doctrinal, communication, diplomatic, ecumenical and, above all, internal.

An honest analysis of the Pope's behavior since the beginning of the war in Ukraine shows that the successive

waves of hate poured out on Francis for his lack of commitment are unfair to say the least.

The world's bad reactions to Francis' extreme evangelical stance on war are understandable, even in the light of Catholic doctrine. However, taking into account the teaching of the pope from the beginning of his pontificate, his actions should come as no surprise.

It is hard to disagree with the Pope that when it comes to the war in Ukraine, the entire Western world suffered a defeat on many levels.

Until recently, many people who are far from Catholic ideals praised the Pope for his involvement, for example in the fight against climate change or poverty in the world. Today, the same people and many Catholics do not mince words, criticizing the Pope for his alleged lack of commitment to the war and failure to condemn Russia as the aggressor. However, an honest analysis of Francis' gestures and statements from the very beginning of the war clearly shows that the Pope criticizes all military actions, any violence and any crimes committed in Ukraine. Recently, the rhetoric of the Vatican has sharpened even more, and in a newly published book the Pope directly writes about the "attack on Ukraine". "In the face of the heartbreaking images we see every day, in the face of the cry of women and children, we can only shout: stop!" - Pope Francis writes in the introduction to the collection of his reflections "Against War. Courage to Build Peace". The book was published in Italy on Holy Thursday.

To better understand the Pope's attitude, it is worth referring to history. Pope John XXIII, in one of the most important encyclicals of the last century, entitled *Pacem in Terris* condemned all wars, pointing to talks as the only effective way to settle disputes. The Second Vatican Council finally abandoned the concept of "just war", replacing it with the notion of "right to defense". Successive popes agreed with this doctrine, including John Paul II. He wrote on the anniversary of the outbreak of World War II: "No more war! It is peace, peace must guide the fate of nations and all mankind".

From a doctrinal point of view, the right to defense is enshrined in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and therefore has binding force. Canon 2309 lists four conditions justifying the right to defense: the undeniable damage caused by the attacker, the exhaustion of all possible peace measures, the possibility of success and victory in the war, and the proportionality of the actions taken in relation to possible losses.

Importantly, with regard to the right to defense, "the assessment of the conditions of moral legitimacy is a prudent judgment of those who are responsible for the common good," we read in the catechism. The Church therefore leaves the decision on the right of defense to the authorities of a country that has been the victim of aggression. Therefore, the Pope cannot grant Ukraine "the right to defend itself" because only its authorities can decide about it and they do it selflessly by fighting the Russian aggressor.

Francis is the first pope who began to deviate quite unequivocally from the idea of "just defense". From the beginning of his pontificate, he called every war "madness" that destroys both sides of the conflict. "Wars are always unfair," said the Pope.

Francis' position towards the war has not changed since the beginning of his pontificate. During a homily at the military cemetery on September , 2014, the Pope said that "war destroys everything, including the bond between brothers."

It was in this spirit that Franciszek commented when he wrote that "we are all guilty" of the war in Ukraine.

For these and similar entries, and for the lack of a clear indication of Russia as the aggressor, a wave of hatred is being poured out on the Pope from various sides. However, in the optics presented by Francis, there is a lot of painful reason. The Pope denounces the hypocrisy of societies which only now, in the face of the war in Ukraine, have ceased to be indifferent to the drama of any armed conflict. In this way, the Pope wanted to draw attention to other wars that do not interest us so much, because they take place far from our borders. Just to name a few that Francis spoke about many times before: the drug cartel wars in Mexico, the war in Sudan, the civil war in the Central African Republic, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the Kurdish issue.

One can understand the disappointment that the Pope does not emphasize Russia's role as the aggressor so strongly. However, the Pope goes on and asks what will happen after the end of the war. A wall of hatred has already developed between the Russian and Ukrainian nations, which may result in further conflicts in the future.

Another problem for Francis is Vatican diplomacy, which, for historical reasons, protects the neutrality of the Holy See in all ongoing wars. The Church has been involved in conflicts since antiquity, and even provoked them herself. This led to a moral fall of the papacy, which had to be

rebuilt for a long time. For this reason, the concept of neutrality developed, to which Francis falls today. Anyway, there is a dispute to this day over the attitude of Pope Pius XII towards the Holocaust. At that time, there were no unequivocal words of condemnation against Hitler. This policy of "positive neutrality" has its justification. First, the Vatican leaves the way open to dialogue with both sides of the conflict. Secondly, it provides some protection for the faithful who might fall victim to Putin's revenge. Thirdly, it leaves the way open to dialogue with the Orthodox Church, which has been a great goal and dream of the Church since the times of John Paul II.

From today's perspective, this policy seems to be a failure. Orthodoxy in Russia, led by Patriarch Cyril I, is completely detached from Christian values, and the dialogue between the Eastern and Western churches in the face of war and such blatant dependence of Cyril on the Kremlin seems impossible. Only after the authorities of the Moscow Patriarchate have changed, it will be possible to return to a sincere ecumenical dialogue.

The Pope certainly sees photos from Ukraine. He sees murdered people, war crimes, he sees death and fire. And it must hurt him terribly, recall memories of the dirty war in Argentina, where several thousand people died as a result of genocide and terror, including many of his friends. Seen from this perspective, the Pope does not make a strict distinction between the aggressor and the defender, because he does not think he needs them. In the light of the teachings of the Church, every war is evil, because it takes its toll not only during hostilities, but also after their end. The Pope was heavily criticized for pointing out this simple truth about the suffering of mothers on both sides of the conflict. Meanwhile, one must have the courage to admit that Francis is right. Regardless of the causes of the war, both societies suffer from it - one manipulated by Putin and his entourage in the Kremlin, and the other - attacked on the orders of Putin and his entourage. The Pope also realizes that only Putin can stop the slaughter in Ukraine immediately and that he alone is responsible for it. But what if the war is over and Putin still sits in the Kremlin? The Church does not want to close the path of dialogue even with the greatest criminals.

On the other hand, Francis consistently implementing its reconciliation plan and does not want hatred to poison new generations of innocent people. This is why gestures like the one on Good Friday, when a Ukrainian and a Russian woman carried the cross during the traditional Way of the Cross. From the beginning of his pontificate, the Pope presents the Church with new challenges, be it in terms of poverty, obedience, and reform of Vatican institutions. And it is focused on dialogue, on connecting, not dividing, on building, not destroying.

The Pope emphasizes that there are currently many wars in the world that cause pain, innocent victims, especially among children, and the flight of millions of people forced

to leave their homes and cities. According to the Pope, many wars are "forgotten" because they seem distant.

"In the face of the excruciating images we see every day, in the face of the cries of women and children, we can only scream: stop! War is not the solution, war is madness, war is a monster, war is a cancer that feeds itself by consuming everything. Moreover, war is a sacrilege that destroys what is most valuable on our earth - human life, the innocence of the smallest, the beauty of Creation "- emphasizes the Pope. Francis invokes the appeals of St. John XXIII to stop the escalation during the Cuban crisis in 96 and the words of St. Paul VI, who three years later said to the United Nations: "No more war". He also recalls that many appeals for peace were made by St. Pope John Paul II.

The Pope emphasizes the need for dialogue, negotiation, listening and "diplomatic creativity" and "far-sighted politics, capable of building a new system of coexistence that will not be based on weapons." "Every war is not only a failure of politics, but also a shameful capitulation to the forces of evil," concludes Francis.

I hope this article will put some light on Pope's intentions as we speak about war in Ukraine.

With prayer

Fr. Gregory

Saint of the Month

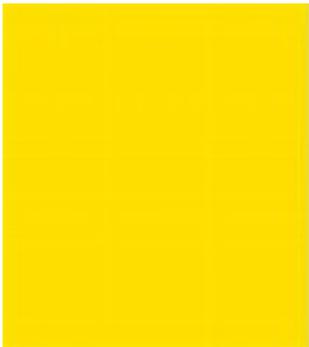
Saint Pancras of Rome

Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Saint's Biography

Saint Pancras of Rome (his name in Greek means "the one that holds everything") was an orphan (14), brought to Rome by his uncle, Saint Dionysius, and later converted to Christianity. Pancras was beheaded with Saint Nereus, Saint A Achilleus, and Saint Domitilla for announcing their faith. His relics were sent to the British Isles as part of the evangelization of England, so they have relics of the entire church and can be placed in altars in new churches. St. Augustine of Canterbury consecrated the first church in England to St. Pancras, and subsequent churches throughout England are named after him. He was born in 270 AD in Turkey and died in 304 AD in Italy. His feast day is celebrated on 12 May.





No Neighbor Left Behind Program

Brother Knights, led by PGK Bob Knapp, continue to transport parishioners from assisted-living facilities to and from St. Peter's for Mass on weekends.

With weather warming up, these Knights are gearing up for spring cleaning and yard work for the shut-ins and elderly of the parish.



Knights in Action



7th Grader Ariana O'Connor gives her presentation before the judges from the Father Kekeisen Assembly 2594 on 05 April 2022.



Fourth Degree judges listen to a presentation by 8th grader Bryn Wagner.



Jack Sheehan makes his presentation before the judges. Jack is a 6th grader.



Winners of the speech contest pose with Father Tim O'Connell and PFN Bob Knapp after the Mass on Tuesday, 12 April 2022.

Winners of the speech contest each received a certificate and a check; \$50 for first place, \$35 for second and \$25 for third place.

Sixth Grade winners:

- 1st – Luke Logeman
- 2nd – Charles Schwartze
- 3rd – Jack Sheehan

Seventh Grade

- 1st – Ariana O'Connor
- 2nd – Macy Keenan
- 3rd – Kegan Mulloy

8th Grade

- 1st – A J Pepper
- 2nd – Grace Kempf
- 3rd – Ethan Conifer

Judges for the Speech Contest were unanimous in their praise for the preparation, students' poise, and being comfortable speaking to a panel of adults. The feeling among them was that praise must go to their speech teacher Mrs. Jenni Helgoth who really had these students so well prepared.



Left:

Robert Salasko receives the Knight of the Month Award from Grand Knight Randy Fritz.





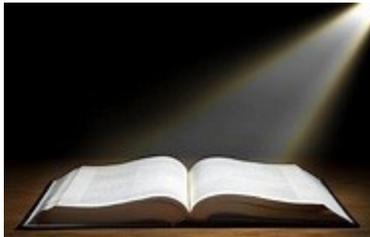
Gerry and Elaine Abdella receive the well-deserved FOM Award on Sunday, 03 Apr 22.



Requiescat in pace

Council member **Robert (Bob) Rissacher** passed from this earth to his heavenly kingdom over the weekend of 23 April 2022. He was born on 01 June 1925 and was a daily communicant at St. Peter's until the past year when health issues slowed him down. Parishioners will remember him with his big smile and hearty greeting.

May his soul rest in peace in the perpetual light of Jesus.

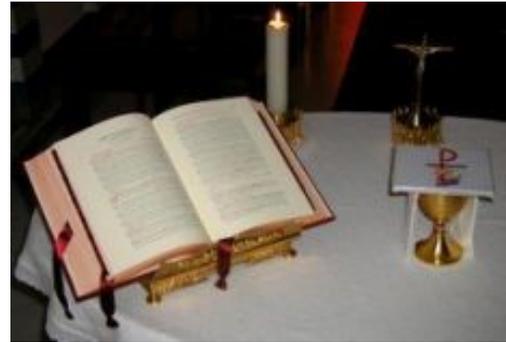


Word of the Month

Viaticum: *Holy Communion given to those in danger of death. The word, derived from Latin, means provision for a journey through death to life hereafter.*

From the *Catholic Word Book*

When our time on earth is done, money or material things will not matter. But the love, time and kindness we've given others will shine and live on forever.



Sermonette

Love is the greatest of all gifts

There are many facets to friendship, not the least of which is love. And Jesus tells us the greatest expression of love is to lay down one's life for a friend. Jesus calls us friends, and he laid down his life for us. The gift of the Son and his love for us is the greatest of all gifts. It is one we are obliged to share, through self-sacrifice and proclamation of the Gospel.



Monthly Council Mass

The Knights normally celebrate Mass as a group on the first Sunday of each month at the 0800 Mass. The Council also has these Masses said for members or family members who are ill or deceased.

Knights and their families are asked to sit in reserved pews and wear their Council name tags. If you know of any Knights, or family members, who should have a Mass intention, please contact **Bob Knapp at 719-502-0327** or rbknapp06@comcast.net

as a Catholic gentleman at all times? What kind of witness to the Knights are you presenting to others?

The only way the world knows anything about Christ is by watching His followers.
~ Steve Lawhead

From Knights To Christ Booklet



Unity is building a temple

So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone. Through him the whole structure is held together and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord; in him you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. ~ Ephesians 2:19-22

Charles Schulz, author of the *Peanuts* cartoons, once said, "How can you go to something that you are already a part of? If you are Christian, you *are* the Church."

Someone else said, "That's precisely my problem with the Church. How can I believe that Christ founded it, when I see so many second-rate Christians mutilate its teachings so badly?"

To that, someone replied, "That's like saying, 'How can I believe in the musical talent of Beethoven, when I hear so many second-rate musicians mutilate his Ninth Symphony so badly?'" Beethoven's music isn't on trial: the second-rate musicians are."

~ Mark Link, S.J.

When people see us minister to God, they marvel at His beauty and power; but when they see what little impact He has in our lives, they laugh at what we believe. Do you consciously maintain your bearing

Remember in our prayers: Jim Desautel, Jack Banoczi, Father Golyzniak, Chris Otto, Mary Ann Trifeletti, Butch Christensen, Fred and Melanie Seiter, Laura Gomez and Charlie Bergeron.

Pray for our priests, deacons and for vocations to the religious life.

Remember our soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen, especially those in combat areas.

Pray for the repose of the soul of **Maurice Meier**, **Bob Rissacher** and our departed brother Knights and their families.



78 pairs of sox, three hats, and three pairs of gloves were delivered to veterans at the Crawford House, compliments of members of the Fr. Kekeisen Assembly 2594. After 22 years of assisting our Veteran community, the Crawford House is closing its doors effective 30 April 2022. The decision was

made due to many and expensive repairs needed, but alternative programs are in place.



Your Insurance Corner

Retirement Annuities

What options do I have?

Payment Type

Knights of Columbus retirement annuities come with many different payment and plan types (see below) which determine the nature of the annuity.

There are three payment types for Knights of Columbus annuities:

1. Single Premium Annuity – You make a single, lump-sum payment that accrues interest until you elect to begin withdrawals.
2. Flexible Premium Annuity – Premium payments can be made on a regular or irregular basis. We encourage Electronic Transfer of Funds (EFT) with the frequency of payments determined by you. In addition, you have the option to choose your payment schedule.

3. Single Premium Immediate Annuity – Purchased with a single payment, it begins to pay out immediately.

Plan Types

In the United States, the Knights of Columbus annuities have three available plans:

1. Non-Qualified Annuity
2. Traditional Individual Retirement Annuity
3. Roth Individual Retirement Annuity

The Knights of Columbus also offers Tax Sheltered Annuities (TSA) and Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) options.

Contact your Knights of Columbus field agent today to learn more about our retirement annuities, and about the safety and security that we can help provide.

Your field agent and brother Knight

Rylee Nelson

719-225-9397

Rylee.nelson@kofc.org

Regional Office: 303-427-5056

May Birthdays



- 01 May – Frank Evans
- ❖ 01 May – William McIntosh
- ❖ 03 May – Walter Young
- ❖ 04 May – Ronald Scott Brunton
- ❖ 05 May – Terry Nickel
- ❖ 05 May – Mark Fini
- ❖ 06 May – Jonathan Thorpe
- ❖ 07 May – Jim Rech

- ❖ 08 May – Francis Doiron
- ❖ 10 May – Randy Elmer
- ❖ 11 May – John Hartling
- ❖ 11 May – Kenneth Walters
- ❖ 14 May – Joseph Morgan, Sr.
- ❖ 15 May – Ed Hettler
- ❖ 15 May – Donald Richey
- ❖ 16 May – David McCloy
- ❖ 21 May – Andre Bergeron
- ❖ 21 May – Jim Taylor (the elder)
- ❖ 22 May – Randy Fritz
- ❖ 22 May – John Wishart
- ❖ 23 May – John Devlin
- ❖ 26 May – John Pletcher, Jr.
- ❖ 27 May – Father Donald Brownstein
- ❖ 27 May – Ben Placzek
- ❖ 30 May – Marc Wood

11 Jun – Ice Cream Social fund raiser for Mater Filius, a home for pregnant women and girls.

14 Jun – Flag Day, Flag retirement ceremony



Artist Rendition of Mater Filius (Mother-Child)

Mater Filius is scheduled to open in 2023 and will be built on the grounds of St. Gabriel’s Church in Colorado Springs. It is a nonprofit, Catholic apostolate committed to helping women of all backgrounds facing an unexpected pregnancy who need housing or other support.

Since the Knight of Columbus are active in pro-life programs, the council is sponsoring an ice cream social fund raiser on 11 June 2022 from 1800 to 2000 with all funds raised going to Mater Filius.

Happy Birthday to all of our brother Knights during this early summer month of May.



- 04 May – Council Business Meeting at 1900
- 08 May – Mother’s Day
- 18 May – Council Social Meeting at 1900
- 19 May – Council Officer Meeting at 1830
- 19 May – Fr. Kekeisen Assembly Meeting at 1900
- 21 May -Armed Forces Day
- 29 May – 5th Sunday Rosary after 0800 Mass
- 30 May – Memorial Day Ceremony at Monument cemetery

Save Future Date:



Back By Popular Demand

(some punny ones!)

Dad, are we pyromaniacs? Yes, we arson.

*Why do bees stay in their hives during the winter?
Swarm.*

I lost my job as a stage designer. I left without making a scene.

She was only a moonshiner's daughter, but I miss her still.

Never buy flowers from a monk. Only you can prevent florist friars.

I once worked at a cheap pizza shop to get by. I kneaded the dough.

Bono and The Edge walk into a Dublin bar and the bartender says, "Oh no, not U2 again."

What did the surgeon say to the patient who insisted on closing up their own incision? Suture self.

I went to the toy store and asked the assistant where the Schwarzenegger dolls are and he replied, "Aisle B, back."

I'm trying to organize a hide and seek tournament, but good players are hard to find.

Scientists got together to study the effects of alcohol on a person's walk, and the results are staggering.

I got over my addiction to chocolate, marshmallows, and nuts. I won't lie – it was a rocky road.

I lost my girlfriend's audiobook, and now I'll never hear the end of it.

How much did the pirate pay to get his ears pierced? A buccaneer.

Hopefully, these put a smile on your face and maybe a groan or two!



Remember those who gave their all

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