



THE RYAN REPORT

Father Patrick J. Ryan Assembly – 1084



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NAVIGATOR'S NOTES

I trust that you all experienced a wonderful celebration of the birth of Christ. Sophia and I traveled to Florida to spend Christmas with my mom, brother, sister and brother-in-law. We attended Mass at the Basilica of Mary, Queen of the Universe in Orlando, FL. What a memorable experience that was - more on that later. We had a nice visit, but there is just no place like home! As I write this, it is still 2009, but I hope you have all suitably – and safely - welcomed in the New Year.

Continue to watch for flags that need replacing. We have ten 3 X 5 flags available for this purpose. If a larger flag is needed, we need to verify the size and cost before committing to a replacement. The assembly will replace a standard flag if they give us their old flag for the next decommissioning sometime next spring.

Bill C., Warren W., Eric P., Ed K., Karl R., Victor W. Phil D., Daniel S., and Rusty P. represented the Assembly at the Corporate Communion at St. Jude in December. All Knights are welcome to take part in the Corporate Communion, but only Sir Knights in full regalia (or dress Military) can take part in the Honor Guard. Father Charlie gave us a warm recognition from the altar.

Attendance in December – both target and actual:

Target	December Actual
Social Meeting: 47	40
Prayer Service: 25	24
Corporate Communion: 11	9

Thank you to all who took time from a very busy personal schedule last month to join us. Overall, we are proceeding at about the same pace as last year. Let's make an increased effort to support our Assembly during 2010.

We had arranged to meet Brother Ed Szelengiewicz and his wife, Lucy, at the basilica for Mass on Sunday, 20 December. When we arrived, Ed told us we would be taking up the gifts. The celebrant recognized my K of C lapel pin and asked if I was a Fourth Degree Knight – yes, I said. He said he was also, and that he had served as State Chaplain for two years. You just never know how or when your Knighthood will be recognized.

If you have access to the internet, please take the time to look up the Manhattan Declaration at www.manhattandeclaration.org. It was written by a number of Christians and published on 20 November. Over 300 thousand Christians have signed this declaration indicating support for the principles espoused.

“No man’s life, liberty, or property is safe while the legislature is in session.”
John Adams (1788),



CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your family. I hope all of you were blessed, as I was, to spend Christmas with your family. All 3 girls were home for a couple days and midnight mass. This week our family also hosted the St Stephen traveling vocations chalice. Like most churches, a different family takes the chalice home for a week and prays for vocations. While having dessert in the living room I asked my youngest daughter (freshly graduated from MTSU) if she had prayed for vocations today. The conversation quickly got back to family plans and our busy schedules. Later that night she borrowed my car to run some errands. On the way home, she sent me a text message saying she put gas in my car and prayed for vocations.

While I hope this excerpt from our lives brought a smile to your face, I hope you take two lessons away from this newsletter. First, our children do listen to us (no matter their age) so we must always be the good example for them. Second, we need to pray. Not just for vocations, but for our family, friends, our nation, our world. Christ told us to pray unceasingly. Remember the promise you made at your First Degree to carry your Rosary and to pray it often. Do you have your Rosary? When did you last pray the Rosary? When did you last attend our Assembly's Adoration Prayer service?

As we start this New Year, I know many of us will make resolutions and many of them will pertain to losing weight, taking better care of ourselves, spending less money and saving more. Sadly, most of us will fail to keep our resolutions around March. Let me give you a couple additional ideas for resolutions. Pray, pray more pray often, it is the only way to focus on and unite ourselves with God's will. Our lives will improve if we don't focus so much on our plans for ourselves, but focus on God's will for us. Try praying daily as part of your New Years resolution. Even if you wane by March, God will appreciate your efforts.

Jesus also reminds us that, 'He did not come into the world to be served; but to serve.' How might we follow Christ's example to serve in the coming year? Well, here is my suggestion. We are all filling out the annual Fraternal Hours survey right now (don't forget they are due back to me and your Councils by Jan. 16). Look at the survey and pick an area that you did not have any hours of service for last year and make an effort to correct this in the New Year. There have been rumblings about a new Assembly being created in Chattanooga this year. This cannot happen unless we have good men to take on leadership roles. Combine both of my suggestions – pray for guidance and discern if God is leading you to step up and serve your church-community-nation as an officer in our/or a new Assembly.

May the grace and peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ guide and protect all of us in the coming New Year.

Victor Williams – Faithful Captain

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More of Marv's Musings

The following inscription was reportedly discovered on an old stone sentry box on the island of Gibraltar:

**God and the soldier
All men adore
In time of trouble,
And no more;
For when the war is over
And all things righted,
God is neglected –
And the soldier slighted.**

We have an opportunity to increase our "patriotic works" at the Chattanooga Veterans Center. Karen Carnes, the VA Volunteer Services Supervisor, who spoke at our Christmas social, has many 'works' awaiting someone to come forward to perform them. She will be able to find a fit for whatever time you may have to give to the center.

If we truly are the "Visible, Patriotic arm of the Knights," please contact me for information. Whether you have an hour or two a week or a month to give, consider helping me help the veterans who have given us so much.

Previews of coming attractions

We are planning another Saturday social for February – look for more info in our next newsletter.

1/10/10: Officer's Meeting – 3:00 PM at Victor's House.

1/17/10: Corporate Communion – Sts. Peter and Paul – 9:00 AM Mass

1/21/10 Business Meeting – St Jude for both prayer service (5:45) & meeting (7:00)

1/22/10 Pro-Life Mass – St. Jude 7:00 PM



INSTRUCTIONS TO FINANCIAL SECRETARIES/FAITHFUL COMPTROLLERS/BURSARS

Note: Knights should separate reported assembly activities from their reported council activities.

Located on the lower portion of this page are individual Member Worksheets to assist you in determining the number of hours of volunteer service expended by members during 2009.

This worksheet is printed on clip-art ready, reproducible paper. Simply photocopy as many forms as you need, cut along the dotted line and distribute a form at the November 2009 meeting. Forward a worksheet to every member on your current roster or include a copy in your next bulletin. Each member can individually identify the number of volunteer hours he expended in community service projects. You only need to collect and tabulate the council/assembly/circle results for completion of the 2009 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity Report due at the Supreme Council office by January 31, 2010.



2009 ANNUAL SURVEY OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITY INDIVIDUAL MEMBER WORKSHEET

Last year, the Knights of Columbus donated more than \$130 million to charitable and benevolent causes and 61.1 million hours of volunteer community service to aid the less fortunate. **To help prepare our Fraternal Survey for the Supreme Council office, please complete the information requested below and return it at our next meeting.** This information will assist us in determining the total number of hours of community service volunteered by our members **during 2009**

1. Number of visits you made during 2009 to:
 - Sick — caring for the sick/nursing homes/hospitals
 - Bereaved — visits of condolence
2. Number of times you served as a blood donor during 2009
3. Estimated hours of community volunteer service during 2009:
 - Church Activities — service in all Church related activities
 - Community Activities — service in all community related activities
 - Youth Activities — service in all youth related activities
 - Habitat for Humanity — service in all related projects
 - Miscellaneous Activities — service in areas not outlined above
4. Number of hours of fraternal service during 2009 :
 - Sick/disabled members and their families — household chores, transportation, tutoring, counselling, etc.

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