



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Yorkton COUNCIL NO. 2031

THE WORD

Editor: Orest Machushek, orestm@sasktel.net

March, 2023

L Turn away
E
N
T from sin



Yorkton Council No. 2031
St. Gerard 125 Third Ave. North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE



Hello, Brother Knights.

There continues to be a lot of activity in our council. It is good when we can be visible in the parish.

First an update on the White Ribbon campaign that was held at the end of January. We received very strong support from the parish for which we are very grateful. Over \$700 was raised and donated to Shelwin House. Thank you to all the Brother Knights who helped with this project.

Another successful brunch was held on February 12. In addition, we hosted a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper on February 21. Thank you to Henry Kweens and the entire team for making these events possible.

We have had several bingos in recent weeks. Thank you to Brother Gary Colbow for spearheading this activity and to all who come out to help. The schedule of upcoming bingos will be found in the calendar of activities in this issue.

Our council was pleased to lead the Stations of the Cross on February 24. A campaign in support of the Vocations Endowment Fund which is part of the Knights of Columbus Charitable Foundation was held the weekend of February 25-26.

Some important dates to remember for March include the following:

- Our combined planning and general meeting will be held **March 8** at **7:00 pm**
- Brunch after both Sunday masses **March 5** in conjunction with the parish mission.
- Family Prayer Night **March 25** following Mass.

Council #2031 is pleased to be one of the sponsors of the Parish Mission being held March 2-5. As well, many Brother Knights will be active in the various parish ministries throughout Lent.

As always, thank you to Fr. Louis for his ongoing support. Please keep our ill and deceased

Brother Knights in your prayers. St. Joseph, pray for us!

Fraternally,
Keith Hayward GK

DEP. GR. KNIGHT'S MESSAGE



Peace Be with Us Brother Knights,

FOCUSING AND PREPARING OURSELVES FOR THE 40 DAYS OF LENT

The Catholic Church's Liturgical Calendar has for seasons. We have advent, ordinary time, Lent, and Easter seasons. In this coming month of March, we focus ourselves on the season of Lent as it prepares us for the Easter season.

Lent (Latin: Quadragesima: Fortieth) is a solemn religious observance in the liturgical calendar that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends later at approximately six weeks before Easter Sunday. The purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer through prayer, doing penance, repentance of sins, almsgiving, atonement, and self-denial. This event is observed by Christians in the Anglican, Eastern Orthodox, Lutheran, Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches.

"The period of forty days or years contains instances of suffering and the victory. The Israelites wandered in the desert for forty years before they entered the promised land. Jesus fasted for forty days and nights before commencing his life-giving public ministry. The Israelites needed to wander in the desert for forty years so they would be purified. Indeed, the generation that sinned died in the desert. Jesus fasted for forty days to prepare himself for his ministry." - Frank Padilla

Observing lent for 40 days should be seen with the eyes of love. Lent is 40 days long because traditionally it is a number used for purification and preparation in the Bible:

“By the solemn forty days of Lent the Church unites herself to the mystery of Jesus in the desert.” CCC540

Focus on Jesus’ Suffering

Our church teaches that that seasons and days of penance in the liturgical year (Lent, and each Friday in memory of the death of the Lord) are intense moments of the church’s penitential practice. By going through these sacrifices, we offer our pains as we remember the suffering of Jesus.

Focus with Jesus’ Love

Sacrifices is not just for the sake of doing it. We sacrifice because it teaches and leads us to love more. Let the extra resources we gain in our self-denial (fasting and abstinence) be used for acts of almsgiving or donated for any evangelistic purposes.

Focus on Jesus’ Victory

May the 40 days of sacrifices of us trying to be a more loving, resilient, and forbearing person, makes us come out of Lent to be a new and better person reflecting the glory and the work that God has done in our lives. Let the victory of the passion and death of the Lord, lead us to our personal victory in conquering the weaknesses of our human nature.

Focus on the three pillars of lent.

“The three traditional pillars of Lenten observance are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These times are particularly appropriate for spiritual exercises, penitential liturgies, and pilgrimages as signs of penance, voluntary self denial such as fasting, almsgiving, and fraternal sharing.” CCC1438

1. Prayer

“Prayer is, for me, an outburst from the heart; it is a simple glance darted upwards to Heaven; it is a cry of gratitude and of love in the

midst of trial as in the midst of joy! In a word, it is something exalted, supernatural, which dilates the soul and unites it to God. Sometimes when I find myself, spiritually, in dryness so great that I cannot produce a single good thought, I recite very slowly a Pater or an Ave Maria; these prayers alone console me, they suffice, they nourish my soul.” -St. Therese of Lisieux

2. Abstinence

Fasting helps us to grow in self-mastery, it teaches us to obey the will of God. It is a sacrifice directed towards God and not to ourselves. Abstinence is a day on which Catholics fourteen years or older are required to abstain from eating meat. We refrain from eating meat since Jesus sacrificed his flesh for us on Good Friday. Our goal in abstinence is to have a simple meal. We avoid meat while eating a sumptuous seafood dinner misses the whole point of sacrificing for God.

3. Almsgiving

Almsgiving is not only for the rich or people who have some extra spending money, but also for those who are poor or are struggling. We are all called to go out of our comfort zone to share Christ to others. It is a sign of our care for those in need and an expression of our gratitude for all that God has given to us. Let us also love our neighbors as ourselves. Let us have charity and humility. Let us give alms because these cleanses our souls from the stains of sin. Men lose all the material things they leave behind them in this world, but they carry with them the reward of their charity and the alms they give. For these they will receive from the Lord the reward and recompense they deserve. -St. Francis of Assisi.

We focus on Jesus Christ through prayer, fasting, abstinence and almsgiving.

Spiritual Preparation for 40 days.

1. GIVE UP - Decide to offer something like food, TV, social media, etc.

2. ADD UP - Do something to gather by joining parish activities like daily Mass, family prayer etc.

3. STEP UP - Evangelize an old friend or acquaintance by inviting them to join Lenten season and church activities or encourage our family, friend, and brother knights to have confession.

Lent is an opportunity for us Catholics to prepare ourselves to honor and celebrate with grateful heart the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Christ. Through the 40 days of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, that is all done out of love, we are reminded of the way of the Cross. It is difficult but we try to focus on the real reason of lent which is the Glory of the Cross.

Let the 40 days of preparation and purification allow us to examine ourselves to better resist sins and temptations. Let us renew our commitment to God as his disciples who are ready to proclaim His good news, love, and truth to others.

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam,

Jonathan Rosas – DGK

PROGAMMING



It is nice to see that the events are well attended. Thank you for supporting and a big thanks to those who planned them.

It would be nice to have more volunteers to help with the bingo. Brother Gary and Wayne are doing a great job but they need help. They would appreciate if you would give them a call.

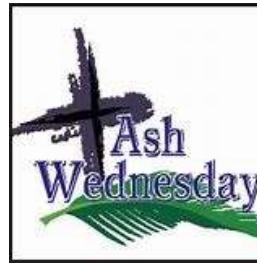
Here are the events for March:

- 2 to 5 - Parish mission with Father Kevin McGee
- 5 - Brunch after 9 and 11 Masses to conclude the mission

- 8 - Combined meetings at 7 pm
- 11 - Evening Bingo at 5 pm
- 19 - Afternoon Bingo at 12 pm
- 23 - “Special Needs” lunch at the hall
- 25 – Deadline for “The Word”
- 29 - Evening Bingo at 5 pm

Fraternally,
Rejean Houle

ASH WEDNESDAY?



On Ash Wednesday we began the season of Lent which is our preparation for the Easter celebration of Jesus’ resurrection. It is a time in imitation of Jesus spending forty days in the desert. Jesus fasted in the desert and overcame the devil’s temptations. Jesus never sinned but, in the desert, he was tempted, and during these forty days of Lent we remember Jesus in the desert as we try to overcome temptation in our lives and to overcome sinfulness. There is practically no hiding place or shelter in the desert and the difficulties of the desert make whatever is inside a person come to the surface. The desert tests and shows up a person as he/she is. Lent is an invitation to us to take the courageous step of “going into the desert” and not hiding from what lies hidden deep within us. Lent is a time to put our souls before a mirror and see ourselves as we really are. Lent is an invitation to allow our sin and darkness and wounds come to the surface so that we can deal with them and allow them to be healed by the grace of Jesus. During these forty days of Lent, we do not hide from our sinfulness or prevent God speaking to us or healing us during this Lent. It is only when we admit something that we can deal with it. The first stage in overcoming anything is to admit the problem. If we remain in denial, we miss out on the grace of God to heal us and renew us and make us whole. During Lent we say **no** to the devil’s temptations to continue committing sin, and instead we trust in our heavenly Father like Jesus in the desert. The words

of Jesus can be our words this Lent: *“Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.”* (Matt 4:4) Lent is not only about helping others, about doing something, it is also very much about the type of person we are.

Now we move toward the end of Lent. The words of Christ at the end. His first saying was that of forgiveness. We see in the 1st saying Christ asking the Father to forgive the very people who at the time were mocking him and had beat and mistreated him all night long. They scourged him and beat him beyond recognition, yet His first saying on the cross of forgiveness. This is a forgiveness that wasn't dependant upon the remorse of others but on the Agape love of God.

His second saying was that of salvation. Although He was soon to die, He never stopped doing what He was sent to do. Jesus gave the gift of eternal life to a thief on the cross just in the last hours of his life he turned to Christ and asked to remember me when you come into your kingdom. Jesus said, *“Today you will be with me in paradise.”* It shows that even unto death we must be faithful, it shows us that no matter what you've done and no matter what hour if you turn to Christ with true repentance in your heart it's never too late.

His third saying was that of affection. We see Jesus in the pain and agony on the cross, yet He takes time to entrust his mother to his beloved friend and disciple John.

His fourth saying was that of anguish. We hear the humanity of Him when He said I thirst. Although this thirst was to be quenched with the bitterness of vinegar it was sweet to our souls. I thirst was THE EXPRESSION OF THE DESIRE OF HIS HEART. He thirsted for water no doubt, but His soul was thirsty in a higher sense; indeed, he seems only to have spoken that so that the Scriptures might be fulfilled as to the offering Him vinegar. Understand that He was always in harmony with Himself, and His own body, He was always expressive of His soul's cravings as well as of its own longings. "I thirst"

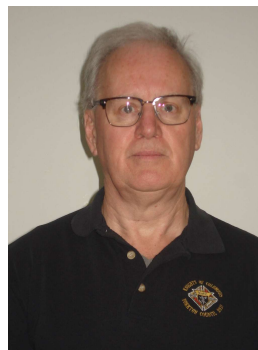
meant that His heart was thirsting to save men. This thirst had been on him from the earliest of his earthly days. He thirsted to pluck us from between the jaws of hell, to pay our redemption price, and set us free from the eternal condemnation which hung over us.

His fifth saying was that of suffering. We hear the agony in the voice of Christ at the very moment that He took the sins of the world upon Himself and was separated from His Father. He said, *“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”* He endured that separation from His Father so we wouldn't have to.

Let our continued journey in Lent, be one of reflection and of change. May the Spirit build in us an even stronger faith and conviction in Christ.

Steven Boucher,
Lecturer

A REMINDER



Reminder that the Final notice for Member dues will be sent out. **Please pay your 2023 dues.**

Thank you to the members that have paid!
Thank you!

Henry Kweens F.S.

After a church service on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I've decided to become a minister when I grow up."

"That's okay with us, but what made you decide that?"

"Well," said the little boy, "I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and talk, than to sit and listen."

NEW ROSTER



The NEW roster is now available. Brother Knights and widows are invited to pick up the New 2022-2023 Knights of Columbus Roster from the welcoming area of the church. They will NOT be mailed or delivered.

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. 'I've gone for 30 years now,' he wrote, 'and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all.'

This started a real controversy in the 'Letters to the Editor' column. Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

'I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.

Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!' When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible!

Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!

IF YOU CANNOT SEE GOD IN ALL, YOU CANNOT SEE GOD AT ALL !

B. I. B. L. E. simply means: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 – Maxine Paydli | 18 – David Sutter |
| 3 – Judie Bernat | 19 – Randy Fleury |
| 4 – Joan Andrusyk | 21 – Walter Bugoy |
| 6- Mark Faul | 22 – Glen Chillog |
| 6 – Joel Pasloski | 25 – Kim Maier |
| 9 – Vera Wassill | 25 – Mervin Wasylenchuk |
| 9 – Brenda Dierker | 25 – Ann Malinowski |
| 10 – Thomas Cook | 25 – Janice Flaman |
| 12 – Richard Swejda | 26 – Christina Gimena |
| 13 – Trent Senger | 28 – Bernice Machushek |
| 13 – Juanito Ubongen | 29 – Rose Brezinski |



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

NO ANNIVERSARIES TO CELEBRATE THIS MONTH