

## Plan to Attend the Annual Knights of Columbus Christmas Dinner

The K of C Annual Christmas Dinner will be held on Tuesday December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Family Center, 3600 W Purdue Ave. The buffet dinner will begin at 6 pm and include grilled chicken breast, hot dogs, mashed potatoes, vegetable, roll, salad, dessert and drinks. A highlight of the evening will be the appearance of Santa and Mrs Claus after the meal. In addition to Santa, there will be other children's activities too. Plan to bring your family to this special event for a good meal with family and friends to help get into the Christmas spirit. Mark this event on your calendar now. See you at the Family Center!

### Tentative 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Exemplification on December 18<sup>th</sup>

Muncie Council 560 is planning a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Exemplification although at press date the plan is tentative and dependent on some factors still not decided. The plan is to have the exemplification before the business meeting on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at the Hall. Candidates should have paperwork completed and arrive no later than 6:30 pm for preliminaries. If you know of anyone who might be thinking of becoming a Knight, please help them with application. For additional information, please call Grand Knight Tom McComish at 765-744-5555 or e-mail: [tsmccomish@aol.com](mailto:tsmccomish@aol.com)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Exemplifications Announced for December 2<sup>nd</sup> in Greenwood, Indiana

The Greenwood, Indiana Council 6138 has announced 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Exemplifications on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at their Hall located at 695 Pushville Road in Greenwood. Registration starts at 12:30 pm (cutoff is at 1:15 pm). The 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree start time is 1:30 pm and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree will follow. Dress is business casual. Candidates and visiting knights will need to show their 1<sup>st</sup> degree cards. For more information and to let them know you will participate please contact Grand Knight John Dickey (317-888-4505; [jpdickey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jpdickey@sbcglobal.net)) or District Deputy (District 24) Scott Shutte (317-281-1676; [district24@indianakofc.org](mailto:district24@indianakofc.org)).

### Our Council's Donation Helps Seminarian Visit to Ball State\*

Thirty seminarians got a head start on the Year of Faith with a recent three day mission trip to Ball State. The trip was funded in part by the council after a request for assistance was received from Stephen Duquaine, a seminarian from the Lafayette diocese, who led the trip. Most of the men are studying at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsville, MD. The men are all members of the New Evangelization Club and this was their first visit to Ball State. Participating in the club is an extra activity and not part of the seminarian's official formation. The group trained for four weeks before coming to Ball State to share the Gospel message with others. The men were hosted by St Francis of Assisi Parish. Fr. Brian Doerr, vice rector for human formation at Mount St Mary's Seminary (far right in picture below) was a part of the group. One of the goals of the outreach was to get students interested in returning to the Catholic faith and involved in the Newman Center at St. Francis of Assisi. The Council was pleased to be able to assist in a small way with the seminarians notable efforts.



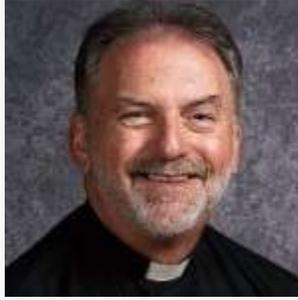
A group picture of the New Evangelization Club that made the trip from Maryland to Ball State.

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\*Photograph provided by The Catholic Moment. The information above was modified with permission from an article by Valerie Carnevale in the November 18<sup>th</sup> issue of The Catholic Moment.

## Assembly Faithful Friar Announced

Fr Dennis Goth, Pastor of St Lawrence in Muncie, has agreed to be the Assembly 243 Faithful Friar replacing Fr Andrew Didzinski who recently stepped down. We thank Fr Dudzinski for his time with the Assembly and welcome Fr Goth to the position. Thank you for accepting our invitation Fr. Goth.



Fr Dennis Goth is new Assembly Faithful Friar.

## Indiana Knights Gave \$1.9 Million to Charities in 2011\*

Knights of Columbus from the Indiana Jurisdiction donated more than \$1.9 million and nearly 590,000 hr in personal service to charitable and benevolent activities in 2011, according to the K of C Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity.

“These totals represent a remarkable outpouring of generosity not only in money, but in personal commitment on the part of the 33,000 Knights in Indiana,” according to state deputy Lawrence Fluhr.

Indiana Knights contributed \$497,600 to youth activities, \$1.244 million to Church and community activities, and \$161,200 for pro-life activities. Check out the Indiana Knights of Columbus at [www.indianakofc.org](http://www.indianakofc.org) for more information.

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\*Taken, in part, from an article in The Catholic Moment on November 4, 2012.

### Child's Christmas Carol

by

James Whitcomb Riley

(From The Lockerbie or Riley Verse\*)

CHRIST used to be like you and me,  
When just a lad in Galilee,--  
So when we pray, on Christmas Day,  
He favors first the prayers we say:  
Then waste no tear, but pray with cheer,  
This gladdest day of all the year.

O Brother mine of birth Divine,  
Upon this natal day of Thine  
Bear with our stress of happiness  
Nor count our reverence the less  
Because with glee and jubilee  
Our hearts go singing up to Thee.

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\*1911 Bobbs-Merrill Co., Publishers,  
Indianapolis, Page 285



### **Keeping Christ in Christmas\***

In a time when all things religious are being discouraged and swept away, it's refreshing to know that the Order sponsors the "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign to remind people that Christmas is above all a holy day celebrating the birth of Christ.

Keeping Christ in Christmas is keeping the very heart and meaning of the Christmas celebration alive. To celebrate the birth of the Son of God, here are some suggestions you can use to help in keeping Christ in Christmas.

#### **Celebrate the Coming of Christ with Family Advent Wreaths**

During the Advent season families should spend time together preparing for the approaching celebration of the birth of Christ. An Advent wreath can be a great focal point for family prayers and holiday celebrations.

An Advent wreath is a wreath of laurel, spruce or similar foliage with four candles that are lighted successively in the weeks of Advent to symbolize the light that the birth of Christ brought into the world. Traditionally three of the candles are purple, the color of kings and of penance. A rose-colored candle is used to mark the Third Sunday of Advent as a time to rejoice over the closeness of Christmas and the coming of Christ.

#### **Some Suggestions for Keeping Christmas Alive**

This Christmas season give the gift of yourself within our council, community and family. Give these or similar presents of friendship, understanding, kindness, love and compassion:

- Serve or prepare meals at a soup kitchen.
- Bring presents to children or elderly people in the hospital. Clean, repair and refurbish a church in a poor neighborhood. Visit someone who's shut-in.
- Send a Christmas card to someone you have not seen or talked to in years. Invite a friend or neighbor who will be alone to share your Christmas celebration.
- Reconcile with a friend or relative with whom you have quarreled. Apologize if you were wrong.
- Provide transportation to shelters for homeless people.
- Wish people you meet a good day and a happy and holy Christmas.
- Get the family together to clean out all the closets and dressers. Donate usable clothing, shoes, blankets and other items to a program for needy families.
- Send care packages to military personnel stationed overseas.
- Sing Christmas carols at nursing homes or hospitals.
- Collect baby clothes, blankets, food, diapers or money and donate these items to an organization that helps needy people.
- Sponsor a drive for children to donate their old toys to youngsters.
- Be a part of the holiday spirit by undertaking one or more of the items listed above and help make Christmas merry for someone else and yourself.

\*Modified and edited from Knights of Columbus web materials.

## Thankful...Especially at Christmas

Dear Fellow Knights:

It goes without saying that we as Americans have much to be thankful for again this year. Christmas is a special time to be thankful for Advent and the celebration of the birth of Christ our Savior. We are also thankful for our wonderful Catholic Faith and our tremendous organization: The Knights of Columbus. Looking back over the past year much has been accomplished. Our productive bingo operation has continued to run smoothly with the help of many knights and parish volunteers. We remain committed to our special Core Charities: Gibault, Harvest Soup Kitchen, St Vincent De Paul, Fr Andre's Orphanage in Haiti, and our parishes: St Francis of Assisi, St Lawrence, and St Mary. We too, are thankful for the many Knights in our Council and Assembly that contribute so much to everything we stand for as a fraternity. Yes, it is a time to be very thankful. Thank you too for all for your support and what you do as individuals without any fan fair or praise. **You are a wonderful group of special people, you Muncie Knights of Columbus.** Keep up the good work...and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your families!

Faithfully; Your Grand Knight, Tom McComish



# MERRY CHRISTMAS