

Volume 4, # 8

FEBRUARY, 2010

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE
ST MARY COUNCIL CALL
Joe Sluis @ (815) 469 9204 or
Peter Baker @ (815) 806 1499
WWW.MOKENAKNIGHTS.ORG



OFFICERS 2009-2010

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GRAND KNIGHT Peter Baker
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CHANCELLOR Mark Welch
ADVOCATE Jason Stetz
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Richard Ciancio



MOKENA KNIGHTHOOD

IN SERVICE TO ONE, IN SERVICE TO ALL

FEBRUARY

MONDAY FEBRUARY 1: JOLIET ASSEMBLY MEETS At Council 4400, 7:30 PM
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 9: COUNCIL MEETING In Burnett Hall at 7:30 PM.
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 11: SPELLING BEE

This is the local spelling bee for kids in the Mokena Schools. Winners go to the Regional level. Come and help—cheer the kids on. In the Art Room of St Mary School at 7:00 PM. (See the article)

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13: FREE THROW CONTEST. The local free throw contest for grade school kids. Winners go to the District level. Come and be a COACH! At St Mary School Gym, 10 AM (See the article)

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13: "WORLD MARRIAGE DAY DINNER DANCE". Take your Valentine to a dinner dance sponsored by World Wide Marriage Encounter. (Back page)

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 14: FAMILY MASS. Bring your Valentine to Mass at St Mary with your brother knights. We attend the 9 AM Mass together and then go downstairs to Burnett Hall for a social time. Fourth Degree Knights should be in regalia for an honor guard.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20: Exemplification of new candidates to the Fourth Degree in Lisle.

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23: OFFICER MEETING In the Bishop Fitzgerald room at 7:30 PM

NEWSLETTER ON LINE

All recipients whose email addresses are available received this newsletter by Email this month and also via US Mail. The Email newsletter is clear and in color, in "PDF" format for "Acrobat". The software for "Adobe Acrobat" is available for free download from the diocesan web site "www.dioceseofjoliet.org". If you want the newsletter by US Mail then make your wishes known by telephone to Joe Sluis (815 469 9204) or mokenaj@aol.com. Postage mailings to email recipients will end with this issue.

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER



Fr. James Kubicki, SJ

Father Kubicki is heard daily on Relevant Radio, 950 AM, at 6:25 in the morning.

For the past 150 years, The Society of Jesus has conducted a program called "The Apostleship of Prayer". The Apostleship encourages Catholics to pray and provides support for our prayers through mailed materials, radio talks and a web site: www.apostleshipofprayer.org. Consider going on line and joining the Apostleship.

Father James Kubicki heads the organization. To contact the Apostleship by mail or phone: APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER, 3211 South Lake Dr., Suite 216, Milwaukee, WI 53235. Phone (414) 486 1152.

The apostleship encourages us all to pray the Daily Offering Prayer:

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world. I offer them for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart, the salvation of souls, reparation of sin, and the reunion of all Christians. I offer them for the intentions of our bishops and all the Apostles of Prayer, and in particular for those recommended by our Holy Father this month.

ANNUAL FREE THROW CONTESTS NEED YOU!

Junior High kids from the schools in Mokena will compete in a free throw contest on Saturday the 13th of February. The contest is divided by age and gender so that there are a lot of separate contests to judge. For each contest a knight serves as score keeper and another serves as judge. Needless to say, scorekeepers and judges are needed—wear a KC shirt! The contests are judged using printed forms that provide the necessary rules. Come and help with this! The kids bring their parents so that there is usually a good turnout. Join Tim Cosgrove at 10 AM on February 13 in the St Mary School Gym. The whole thing takes about two hours. District and Regional contests will follow.



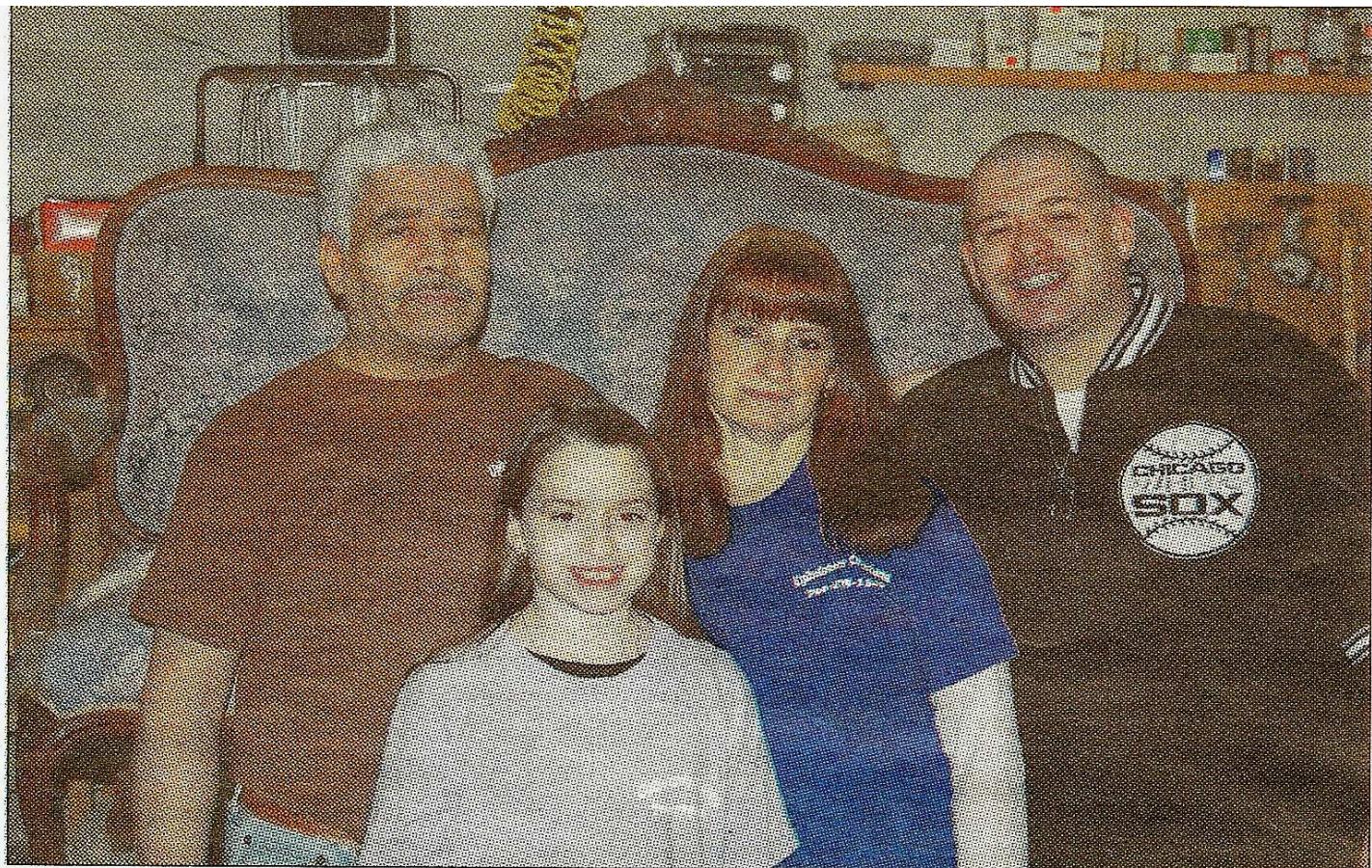
THE SPELLING BEE

The annual Local K of C Spelling Bee will be held the evening of Thursday February 11. This annual event produces a winning school and first, second and third place winners who then advance to the regional spelling bee in March. The Knights of Columbus State Spelling Bee then occurs in Springfield in April.



The winning school displays an award plaque that presently hangs in Mokena Junior High School.

Competition traditionally has been between St Mary School and Mokena Junior High. Come to the Art Room of St Mary School on Thursday February 11 at 7:00 PM to root for your favorite speller. The event takes about an hour and usually fills the room with families watching the event and supporting their children.



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PHOTOS BY JOSEPH HILLENMEYER/22ND CENTURY MEDIA

The Mendez family owns and operates Upholstery Creations in Mokena. (Left to right right) Juan, Angelina, Mary and Francisco Mendez.

MORE KNIGHTS IN THE NEWS!

Brother knights Juan and Francisco Mendez pose with Mary and Angelina in a photo from the December 31 edition of the Mokena Messenger. Juan owns and operates his upholstery business "Upholstery Creations" in the Mokena Industrial Park on US 45, just North of Willow Street, across from Mario's shop—between the two large buildings located across from "Arbury Hills". Stop in and pay them a visit! Call (708) 478 1203.



Juan Mendez works on refinishing an antique piece of furniture at his shop in Mokena.

BUSINESS CARDS

Some of our brothers have expressed an interest in knowing what other knights do for a living. If you have a business card, send one in. This news letter will be published in the near future with a display of the cards and notes. We still have the cards from last year. This is intended as a service to all, and not as advertising. It will help all of us to know each other better. Send the cards to: Joe Sluis, 11533 St Vincent Ct., Mokena, IL 60448



On January 22 about 250,000 dedicated Christians once again went to Washington DC to pray on the steps of the Supreme Court for an end to abortion in America. Since the infamous decisions by the Supreme Court in 1973 that legalized abortion at any time in a woman's pregnancy, fifty million children have been murdered in the United States. As usual, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council was a sponsor of the event with many councils sending groups to Washington. Over 225 Joliet Catholic pilgrims went to the March with Bishop Sartain.





JACOB ST MARIE CHECKS UP ON HIS DAD GEORGE'S ACCOUNTING



SOME OF OUR GREAT COOKS!

PANCAKE FUN IN JANUARY

The council turned out as usual to produce another great pancake breakfast in January. It was Carol Baker's birthday (29), which added to the fun. We all had a good time with the pancake crew producing another wonderful meal and Larry Jourdan running around recruiting new members (3?). Teen volunteers helped serve and waited on tables. Council members socialized with fellow parishioners as well as with each other to produce a great event.



BIRTHDAY GIRL CAROL BAKER AND PETE



SOME OF MOKENA'S FIREFIGHTERS HONORED US BY SHARING OUR PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Father McGivney Center of Hope and Healing

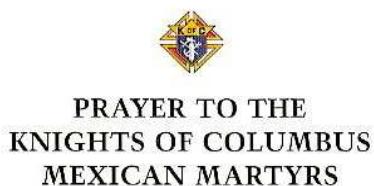
On December 18, Larry and Marge Therault, Right to Life Chaircouple of the Illinois Knights of Columbus, announced establishment of the new Father McGivney Center for unwed mothers in Chicago. The new facility is located in the former convent of Saint Priscilla Parish and is supported through donations. Gifts to the organization are tax deductible since it is a 501©(3) charity. To learn more about this wonderful new source of hope, check the organization web site: www.mcgivneycenter.com .



SAINTS AND KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

In 1909 the “Socialist Workers Party” took power in Mexico. For the next twenty years, Catholics were persecuted by the Mexican state. Thousands of dedicated Catholic men were shot or imprisoned for standing up for the faith, particularly after the 1917 Bolshevik revolution in Russia when the Mexican rulers renamed their party “Communist”. Many of those killed were Knights of Columbus. Among the knights were six priests and one Bishop recognized by the Church as having lived lives of heroic virtue. The six priests shown in the image at left were martyred for their faith and were canonized by Pope John Paul II in 2000. Their loyalty to Christ and His Church is a heroic example for us all.

Bishop Guizar Valencia had to go underground in 1910 and then fled Mexico in 1915 because he was under the death penalty due to his strong defense of the faith. He was permitted to return in 1920 and joined the Knights of Columbus in 1923. He founded an underground seminary in Mexico and was known as the “Bishop of the Poor”. Saint Bishop Guizar Valencia was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI in 2006.

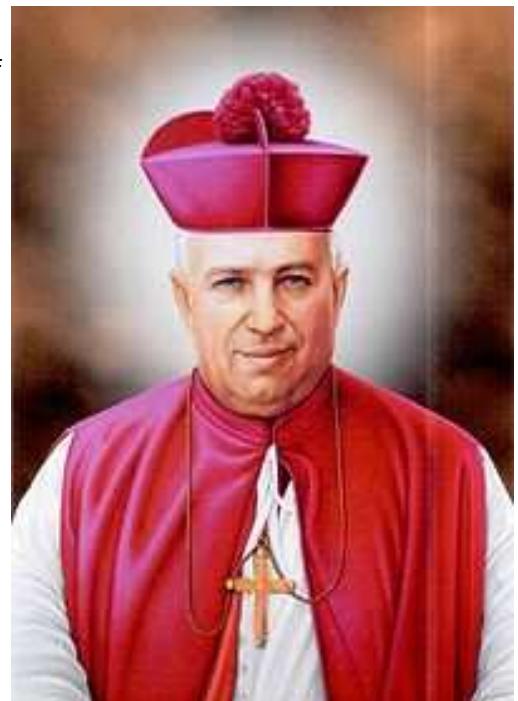


PRAYER TO THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEXICAN MARTYRS

Almighty God, the martyrdom of Saint Mateo Correa Magallanes and his priest companions who were Knights of Columbus reveals that violence and hatred are only overcome by the spirit of peace and charity; and it manifests your love for the nation of the Guadalupana. These brother Knights live on in our minds and hearts for, as they sacrificed their lives for the sake of the Gospel, they witnessed that your love is eternal and your truth can never be compromised. Let their death-cry of fidelity to Jesus Christ encourage us to be courageous in faith and to remain loyal Knights of Columbus.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The official persecution of the Church in Mexico ended in 1929 but many laws restricting both human rights and the activities of the Church remain in effect and still damage society there.



Saint Bishop Guizar Valencia



WHY DOES THE ORDER HAVE INSURANCE?

The Order of the Knights of Columbus was founded at a time when there was no such thing as a "Social Safety Net". Families depended on each other for everything. If a man was seriously injured or died, his wife and children were usually destitute. The difficulty of life for widows and their children caused the formation of various orders of men such as the Moose and Elks. Some groups were basically drinking clubs while others subscribed to non Christian belief systems but all had a function of taking care of the helpless. It was in this climate that our founder, Father Michael J. McGivney, determined that there should be a group of Catholic men who would remain loyal to the Faith, who would defend the Church and who would also take care of the helpless. It is correct to tell others that the Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization similar to the Moose or the Elks and that we are not officially affiliated with the Church.

From its beginnings 127 years ago, the insurance program of the Knights of Columbus has grown and become one of the best programs in the world. While the Knights were providing insurance for members, other insurance programs and plans multiplied so that what was once a very special thing—Knights of Columbus Insurance—now looks like a lot of other plans. The biggest difference remaining is that the profit from our Knights of Columbus insurance goes to charitable causes while the profits from other insurance companies go to the company share holders. It's a very good program and worth a look.

PLANNING YOUR RETIREMENT?

This month's column is for the baby boomers. Do you know what that is sneaking up on you? Retirement! Ouch. It's hard to believe isn't it? Seems like just yesterday...

But it's coming - and coming fast. And that's actually the good news.

Let me share with you some tidbits that may be of interest:

"The trend by companies to freeze or end their employee pension plans may have a big impact on baby boomers now on the cusp of retirement.

Boomers with pension plans have counted on monthly retirement checks at the end of their career, but increasing numbers of employers are ending their plans or halting future benefit accruals. Those at greatest risk include boomers in their late 40s and early 50s who are still at least a decade from retirement but too old to save enough to make up the difference in their pension benefits.

An August, 2005 survey by PricewaterhouseCoopers showed that nearly half of companies that expected to change their pension plans in the next year were considering freezing benefits for all employees. More than a third that offered pensions have already pared back these benefits over the last three years.

"This will definitely be a problem for baby boomers," says Karen Friedman at the Pension Rights Center. "You've been at a company under the plan and worked for years with that expectation, and then it's taken away."

You can reach me at (773) 934 5056 or Email at john.cinkus@KofC.org Call me – let's talk.

John Cinkus, Field Agent



World Marriage Day Dinner Dance

Join us for an evening of dinner and dancing

"I belong to my love, and his desire is for me."

Song of Songs 7:10

Date: Saturday February 13th 2010, 6-11p.m.

Place: Seven Bridges Golf Club,

1 Mulligan Drive,
Woodridge (Route 53 & 63rd St.)

Cost: \$65 per Couple (Cash Bar or \$5 cork fee)

Checks payable to Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME)

Reservation Volunteers Tom & Laura Nolan

nolansnluv@hotmail.com



Please mail this portion w/\$ to Tom & Laura Nolan 11619 Parkside Lane Mokena, IL 60448 708-479-9791

Couples Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Or Home Address to send confirmation of receipt

(Please inform us if you have dietary restrictions)

Choose: Chicken Vesuvius (QTY) _____ or Vegetarian Platter (QTY) _____

The deadline for reservations is February 9!

