



**Vol. 16, No. 5, May 2011
St. Augustine Council No. 11258
Central Point, OR**

**TUESDAY, MAY 3:
BUSINESS MEETING**

Please plan to attend our monthly meeting in the Parish Center at 7 PM this coming Tuesday, May 3. We will be celebrating a First Degree Exemplification welcoming new members both from our area and from Shady Cove.

NEWS AND EVENTS

KC Rosary and Dessert Social Planned

On Tuesday May 17, Knights and Ladies are invited to a potluck dinner followed by inspirational words from Fr. Stephen Fister and a recitation of the rosary. The event, planned by the Council's Spiritual Life Committee is an opportunity for couples to take some time out of their busy schedules for prayer and reflection. The evening will take place at St. Rita's Retreat Center, 10800 Blackwell Road, Gold Hill.

Ladies Appreciation Night a Success

Our annual Ladies Appreciation Night took place Tuesday, April 20 at Wild River Brewing and Pizza Company in Medford. Forty-two knights and ladies attended. Ladies received

floral gifts and were treated to some amusing and insightful words from Bro. Doug Smith.

Support for St. Rita's

The hat will be passed this coming Tuesday, to provide some additional dollars to Fr. Fister and the St. Rita's Retreat Center ministry. Please bring your spare change, cash or check book. Fr. Fister has been a major supporter of our Council and we want to express our appreciation.



A view from St. Rita's Retreat Center, a spiritual gem of Southern Oregon

Special Thanks

A stalwart work crew braved some dreary weather to assist with a new drainage system at the home of Anne and Carl Wieland on Saturday April 6. The Wieland want to say thank you to Dave Dorman, John Garner, Dan Paris, Rich Thelen, and Frank White for a job well done!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 29- May 2, State KC Convention
Tuesday, May 3, Business Meeting
Tuesday May 17, Rosary & Desert Social

Monday, May 23, Archbishop's Invitational
Tuesday, May 31st, Officers' Meeting
Sunday, June 5, French Toast Breakfast

UPCOMING CEREMONIALS

Second and Third Degree Exemplifications are scheduled for Brookings on Saturday, May 21 beginning with a luncheon at 12 noon. Members are encouraged to attend and show their support and car pools will be arranged. This will be the first occasion that our newly formed District 9 Degree Team will be in action and should be an impressive event. For further information contact Bro. Ralph Browning at 541-261-0866.

A 4th Degree Exemplification will take place at Knights of Columbus Hall in Medford on June 18th, 2011. The Fourth Degree Assemblies represent the highest degree of the order. They seek to foster the spirit of patriotism and to encourage active Catholic citizenship. For more information, please contact Brother Joe Schudawa prior to May 1 at 541-772-8506.



The Fourth Degree is a group of outstanding Sir Knights, dedicated to promoting patriotism enlightened by their Catholic faith.



VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Shepherd of the Valley is looking for someone willing to volunteer a few hours each week to mow lawns and blow down the parking lot. If you are interested in helping with this important piece of parish upkeep please contact Parish Office Manager Liz Leahy at 541-664-1050.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS:

Members: Martial E. Henault, Richard Krueger, Dennis Mihocko, Rich Thelen, Bob, Vaughn, and John Wojtas.

Wives: Myrt Foster, Karen McNeilly, Becky Rademacher, Leonie Sekreta, Hazel Smith, Michelle Stockton, and Irene Vaughn.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

Kerry and Larry Carpenter, Kathy and John Garner, Lori and Chad McClure, Sharon and Don Nadeau, Melody and Richard O'Brien, Carol and Robert Rumenapp, Irene and Robert Vaughn.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember in your prayers Leni Assali, Fr. Stephen Fister, Shirley Gray, Linda Kolaso, Jim LeRoy, Larry Mullaly, John Plunkett, Gary Staats, and Carl Wieland. Anyone who knows of other brother knights or family members in need please contact Chancellor Bob Baehr at 541-826-3362.

PATTERNS OF FAITH: A Morning in Williams

The human loss, grief, and pain were unimaginable. Alice and I had awakened in our Sacramento motel room to another day of television news with the gripping pictures of the tidal wave sweeping over Japan's east coast like a great black sludge destroying all in its wake. We watched, and tried to get our minds around the tragedy that unfolded.

Sunday had dawned foggy in the Sacramento Valley, and we traveled north along a gray freeway flanked by flatlands and rice fields, and at Williams exited into the decaying agricultural town that in an era of higher hopes had once been named "Central." As we did so the radio reported that four Japanese cities with a combined population of over 120,000 inhabitants had been almost entirely obliterated. The massive seawall at Kamaishi completed at a cost of \$1.5 billion dollars two years ago, had not saved the city. I did not expect that grief-stricken Japan would take on special meaning in little Williams.

At the town's main intersection was an old cement structure whose boarded-up second-story windows sat atop a string of empty

storefronts. Two blocks to the south, across the street from an empty graveled parking lot was the Church of the Annunciation. The Catholic community, is now part of a four parish complex served by a Filipino pastor and a retired Irish priest in his eighties. There had been a church here for one hundred years, but the attendance was modest, and as we entered the unassuming, modern-styled structure, Japan receded from my mind.



Church of the Annunciation, Williams, California

For all the similarities among Catholic liturgies, every parish has distinctive features. The Hispanic deacon that assisted the elderly priest that morning wore a gown and cape in shimmering Lenten violet, and the small altar boys were vested in old-style black cassocks and white surplices. Caught up in such small things, I wondered why there was no music, and although this was an English-language Mass the modest congregation was largely Hispanic. My thoughts drifted aimlessly until the prayers brought me up short.

At the Offertory, the usual petitions were said for the Holy Father, political leaders, the young, and the sick. To these, the priest added an

additional intention. He asked the assembly to remember in a special way the suffering people of Japan in this time of great tragedy. For two days, I had pondered the woeful events on the other side of the world and their implications and yet I had never said a single prayer for the suffering people of Japan.

Embarrassed by this discovery, I began to follow the Mass more closely and found the prayers and symbols of the service taking on new meaning. "Deliver us Lord from every evil," the priest intoned, "and grant us peace in our day...and protect us from all anxiety" Later we remembered "our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again; bring them and all the departed into the light of your presence." I was struck by the natural wooden crucifix hanging above the altar with the eyes of the suffering savior lifted heavenward. The Lord in agony was looking upward to his heavenly father in prayer, as we are also called to do. Flesh of our flesh, Christ on the cross was one with us in suffering.

Alice and I were soon on the highway back to Oregon, and I did not think of the morning in Williams again until a Good Friday episode several weeks later. In Rome that day, the Holy Father appeared on television speaking to questions that he had been asked. One came from a young Japanese girl named Elena who told the Pope that the great tsunami had killed many children of her age. She asked, "Why do children have to be so sad?"

"I also have the same questions," Pope Benedict acknowledged. "Why is it this way? We do not have the answers, but we know that Jesus

suffered as you do, an innocent, and that the true God who is revealed in Jesus is by your side and you can be certain that this will help you. One day we will even understand why it was so. At this moment it seems important to me that you know "God loves me" even if it seems like He doesn't know me. No, He loves me, He is by my side, and ...one day, I will understand that this suffering was not empty, it wasn't in vain..."

Larry Mullaly



Our prayers go out to the victims of the 2011 Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.

KNIGHTLINE:

Knights Respond to Japanese Disaster

In response to the destruction from the earthquake and resulting tsunami that struck Japan on March 11, the Supreme Council is working with the Knights of Columbus U.S. military councils in that country to determine key projects on which the Order can offer financial assistance.

There are four active councils in Japan: Yokosuka Council 12488 on the U.S. Navy base in Yokosuka; Twenty-Six Martyrs Council 12970 at Naval Air Facility Atsugi; Father Charles Ermin Bantle Council 13945 in Okinawa; and St. Francis Xavier Council 14821 at the U.S. Army base in Zama. Those councils count more than 390 Knights as members. After identifying key needs, the Knights of Columbus will distribute all funds collected in a way designed to maximize the effectiveness of those funds for humanitarian purposes.

Contributions for the Japan or Haiti efforts can be made by visiting kofc.org. Donations (in the United States) are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law to Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc., a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Checks should be sent and made payable to: Knights of Columbus Charities, One Columbus Plaza, PO Box 1966, New Haven, CT 06509-1966.

INSURANCE CORNER

As of April 20th, Brother Ray Pierce, our Knights of Columbus Field Agent, is no longer serving in this capacity. Ray has been a wonderful resource and a good friend to the knights of our Council across several years of service and we appreciate all he has done.

In Ray's absence we will be served by Oregon Knights of Columbus General Agent Kyle Casey who can be reached at 503-287-5102 or by email at kyle.casey@kofc.org. Kyle is now actively seeking a replacement for this position.

