



The Knightly News

News from Council 7447, Assembly 2163, and Squires Circle 4291 — Columbia, Tennessee
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August 2009

Family of the Month for July

Joe & Pat
Jakubisin

Knight of the Month for July

Bill Lorz

Events Calendar

Family Rosary
August 1 & 2
30 minutes before Mass
Chapel

Parish Potluck
August 4 at 6:30 p.m.
Social Hall
Anthony Thomas,
Phone 615.516.7136

Squires Meeting
August 20 at 7 p.m.
Room 202
Anthony Thomas,
Phone 615.516.7136

Officers Meeting
August 24 at 7:00 p.m.
Room 202
Mike Gilles,
Phone 931.540.0597

Council Meeting
August 26 at 7:00 p.m.
Social Hall
Mike Gilles,
Phone 931.540.0597

Fair Parking
September 1 - 6
Maury County Park
Bob Trybalski,
Phone 931.381.8979

Parish Picnic Cooking
September 27
4H Pavilion/Lion Pkwy.
Bill Lorz,
Phone 931.381.7697

September
Newsletter Deadline
is August 28.

Priests are Regular Guys Too

by Bob Trybalski, Deputy Grand Knight

According to Vatican statistics, there were 408,024 priests at the end of 2007. The total number of priests has been increasing slightly in recent years, but has not kept pace with the increase in the number of Catholics. The number of Catholics per priest was 1,830 in 1977, and had jumped to 2,810 in 2007. These statistics continue to tell us what we already know...there continues to be a shortage of priests.

“The pope has many times noted the burdens carried by priests in the modern age, including their increasing workload and their responsibility to preach and witness to Gospel values in a world that often seems indifferent to them,” reports Catholic News Service.

Stop for a moment and think about this. Just as some of us may be experiencing a decrease in co-workers to share the workload, those committed to the religious life experience this very same human condition.

Often times it is easy to forget that our priests are human too. They feel the same emotions and have needs just as we do. Priests are regular guys just like us...except that they chose serving God and us as their vocation.

As a young boy growing up in a small village in central New York state, where Catholics easily outnumbered protestants, I thought priests only ventured from the rectory to the church for Mass or to the parish school. It never dawned on me that they had interests outside the church grounds. No offense intended, but I didn't think priests or nuns were “cool.”

Then one day my eyes were opened! I saw Father Joe, one of three priests at my parish, racing down Main Street in his car with a volunteer firefighter red light strobing from the dash of his car.

Youthful curiosity took over and I rode my bike as fast as I could to the scene of the fire. Upon arrival I couldn't be-

lieve my eyes. There was Father Joe in his fire gear, with “Chaplain” on his helmet, helping other volunteer firefighters drag hose to the scene of a house fire.

My first thought was...Father Joe is so cool! From that day forward I viewed priests as regular people.

The point of telling this childhood memory is to remind each and every one of us that priests are just like us. Yes, they are leaders of our faith community. Yes, they are members of the same city or village in which we live. But, more importantly, they are members of our extended family.

Just as we may help a family member lighten their burden, let's stand in solidarity with our priests by lending a helping hand, giving them praise and thanks, and inviting them to be a part of our families.

Taking time to get to know a priest will reveal that they are “cool.”



The theme for this fraternal year is “The Year of the Volunteer.” Knights of Columbus should recruit members with this theme in mind. “By recruiting new members we will continue to grow our volunteer force to better serve the needs of our Church and the community,” says Supreme.

Brothers, take a moment to introduce the Knights of Columbus to those Catholic men who are not Knights. Invite them to participate in one of the community events listed on the events calendar.

Knights of Columbus
1647 Roberts Road
Columbia, TN 38401

Return Service Requested



The Year for Priests

www.kofc7447.org

**2009
Officer Installation and Dinner**



Photos courtesy of Brian Lobo, Jerry Miller, & Teresa Trybalski