

# BISHOP ODIN NEWS

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# BISHOP ODIN NEWS



Bishop Odin Council 2917 - Knights of Columbus

607 East Whitney Street  
Houston, Texas 77022

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A Monthly Publication

Phone: 713-694-2341

Fax: 713-694-2342

Grand Knight: Shawn Reichardt

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org>

April 2017 (Vol. 36, No. 4)

## Grand Knight's Message

Shawn Reichardt

Brother Knights, Spring is here!

The best part of this time of year is the beauty of re-birth. So what does that really mean to us? Well for the gardeners among us it is the planting of seeds and plants and then watching the miracle of life explode into beautiful color and greenery. For the sports fans it is the start of our national pastime, baseball season. We watch these men grow and learn to work as a team to win every game. For us as Catholic men, it is the combination of both, in my opinion.

First, we are given the reminder of what Jesus went through for 40 days and nights as we observe the Lenten season. Then, with the great glory of the Father, we acknowledge His Son who has risen to be with us once again. This allows us the chance to be re-born into our faith, acknowledge our sins and grow into our faith even stronger. Then, as members of this great organization, we are tasked to work as a team.

Now is a great time to get re-born into the Knights of Columbus. A good way is to visit a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree and relearn what it means to be a part of this organization. Next, you can work to be a part of our team and learn to work with your fellow members as a whole and then we can accomplish so much more. It is the season to get involved and we have many ways you can. We always need Bingo help, we need officer positions filled and we need a Director of Recruitment and a Director of Retention. Our team is not complete and thus we struggle to be the best. Please help us and yourself by seeking to help build our team.

Spring is about re-birth and growth so just think how beautiful our gardens will look, how great the Astros will be, how strong our council will be and most of all, how better a Catholic you will be in the summer ahead if we just give the effort, the nourishment and dedication in the spring.

God bless.



## Chaplain's Message

Rev. Rafael Becerra

**Four Ways to Love God** (by wisdom hunters)

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. Mark 12:30

Love is the most powerful weapon in our arsenal of faith. Like the tip of an arrow love points us to God. Love commandeers all other graces to engage the Lord's affection and His eternal concerns. When Jesus defined love as the greatest command, He gave us a glimpse into what He wants for the world and His children. A life motivated by love is only limited by its capacity to love the Lord. Love is a muscle we exercise so it grows in stamina and strength.

*Here are four ideas to develop our love for God:*

**Love God with Your Emotions:** Jesus starts at the heart of the matter—our heart. What captures our passions and yearnings? Our heart is the seat of our feelings and affections. We are drawn to what we desire—what we value. Yes, the heart follows what it treasures above all else. In the same way an engaged couple each aggressively seeks to engage the heart of their lover, so as the bride of Christ we passionately pursue His heart. As our heart loves Jesus—He simultaneously settles and stirs our emotions. "Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge" (Psalm 62:8).

**Love God with Your Soul:** In the beginning God breathed life into the soul of man (Genesis 2:7). So our soul is our entire being brought into being by the Spirit of the Lord. It is here, deep within the recesses of our spirit, that we communion with Christ. Our marriage to Jesus was consummated when, by grace through faith, He saved our soul. Prayer is our bedchamber of intimacy for us to love our Lord with all our soul. Christ is our companion and confidant. A soul in love with God seeks God by faith. "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God" (Psalm 42:1).

**Love God with Your Mind:** A mind in love with the Lord wants to do the Lord's will. In the same way a noble idea captures our imagination so much that it drastically influences our actions, so to know and do God's will is the goal of those in love with Jesus. Mental romancing with the mind of Christ marks the thoughts of those who trust and obey. Knowledge of God acquired out of love starves our pride and feeds our humility. Big, worshipful God thoughts expand our love for our sovereign Lord. "What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived"—the things God has prepared for those who love him" (1 Corinthians 2:9).

**Love God with Your Strength:** Energy in eternal matters is what matters most. When our focused attention is on the important (like giving) and not the trivial (like worry) we thrive in our love for the Lord. What activity may be competing with your time with Christ? Avoid activities that create sideways energy. Our strength increases as we engage with other followers of Jesus on fire for Him. Like a bonfire ignited by gasoline, so the prayers and encouragement of God's people flame our fire of faith and love for God. Being around people in love with Jesus grows our love for Jesus. Yes, love strong! "I love you, Lord, my strength" (Psalm 18:1).

Application: What limits my love for the Lord? How can I grow my capacity to love God?

## Financial Secretary

Benny Okruhlik

### **DUES ARE NOW DUE!**

The 2017 dues are now billed and if a member does not have a current 2017 member card (unless you are an Honorary Life member), such a member is in arrears or is considered delinquent. Please remit your dues to the Financial Secretary immediately. If you prefer, you can now pay your dues online <https://kofccouncil2917.org/> If you changed your address and do not receive mail from the Supreme Council or the State Council on a regular basis, your address requires an update. Please notify your Financial Secretary of any address changes or update your information by clicking the link below. <http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/member>

Next **Officers'** meeting is  
**Wednesday, April 5 at 7:00 p.m.**

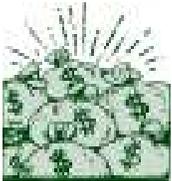
Next **Council** meeting is  
**Monday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Dinner served from 6:00-6:40 p.m.**

Next **Northside Columbus Club** meeting is  
**Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00 p.m.**



Next work day is **Saturday, April 8**

### **ATTENDANCE PRIZE WINNER!**



Names drawn at the March council meeting were: Brother William Woods, Brother David Patronella and Brother Oscar Montemayor. None of these members were present. The attendance prize will be \$160 for the April 10 meeting. Social and meal from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m. and the attendance prize drawing at the conclusion of the meeting.

## **40 Cans for Lent**

The goal of this program is exactly as the name implies—each council member is asked to contribute one can of food per day during the 40 days of Lent.

A food collection box is in the foyer of the hall awaiting your donations. Collected food will be divided between Assumption, St. Rose and St. Ambrose food pantries.



Brother Knights, we are far from our goal. Please bring your cans to the April meeting.

On council donations to the parish food pantries, Supreme Council refunds \$100 to the council for every 1,000 lbs. of food donated from the council. Your 40 cans of donation for our Council Lenten Food Drive, turns into pennies on the dollar and is returned to the council to then roll over to a greater donation to the charities of Council 2917. Please support this "40 Cans for 40 Days" food drive for our parish food pantries."

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO**

Brother Maxie Mendoza winner of the Grand Knight giveaway at the March meeting.

## **Congratulations to**

- **Mike Goins** Knight of the Month for February.
- **Benny & Earline Okruhlik**, *Family of the Month for February.*

## **Recruit**

Please make an effort to recruit a new member. If you are a member, please make an effort to become more involved.



## Northside Columbus Club

John Buck, President

Brother Knights,

I cannot stress this enough, the NSCC and the council need your support. We need your help with maintenance on the facility. If you cannot help on our scheduled work day, but can help on another day or evening, we will try to make this arrangement. Or you can volunteer to help clean the hall before or after a rental. Since our last meeting with me asking for help, I have had a couple of men say that they could not help on our scheduled work day but could volunteer their services for another day. I am working on a plan with them for volunteering on their time. On our last work day, we had 7 men and 1 lady attend. Our membership is less than 500, so that makes it about 1.5% of our membership helping. These 8 people volunteered on our March work day: Bennie Bronikowski, Dennis Kubiak, Doug Wendt, Brian Kubiak, Billy Hoffart, Tony Cavalierre, Lydia Clifton and John Buck. These few people accomplished about 10 tasks before lunch and before the rain showers came. These regular 7-10 people have done wonders with our facilities. However, with more help, we could finalize our facility Spring work list.

Our April work day will be the **2nd Saturday of the month** because Easter weekend falls on the 3rd Saturday.

Remember to promote the rental of our facility—halls and grounds.

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/hall-rentals>

**Deadline for the May newsletter is  
April 16.**

## VA Visitations



Please mark your calendar and make an effort to visit our veterans on: **May 14, 2017**

The attendance for our March 12 visitation had a 100% increase over the last visitation in January, 2017. This means Brother Leonard Kasowski was the only visitor. The attendees for March were Brother Leonard Kasowski and Brother Bob M. Rivera. Brother Leonard said "It was the most rewarding experience I have had since I have been going. They were so appreciative of the visit. We visited with 9 veterans."

Brother Knights, please make an effort to attend our next visitation and spend a few minutes to lift up the spirit of our veterans. It only takes a little while to show them support for the years they served us.

Please contact *Brother Leonard P. Kasowski*,  
*VA Hospital Chairman*, if you are able to attend  
713-206-1318 or [lpkasowski@comcast.net](mailto:lpkasowski@comcast.net)

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/va-ministry>

## SENIOR CLUB

Next Senior Club meeting is **April 11.**

Everyone is asked to bring sandwiches and a dessert. You are also asked to bring a \$1.00 donation each month which will be used to cover the cost of our special catered meals throughout the year.

## CHAPTER INFORMATION

### 1st Degree

(Spanish) 4/10/17 - 7:15 p.m. - St. Basil Council 4204, St. Basil Hall, 702 Burney Rd., Sugar Land 77498

4/17/17 - 7:15 p.m. - St. Basil Council 4204, St. Basil Hall, 702 Burney Rd., Sugar Land 77498

6/19/17 - 7:15 p.m. - St. Basil Council 4204, St. Basil Hall, 702 Burney Rd., Sugar Land 77498

### 1st Degree Exemplification:

5/15/17 - 7:00 p.m. - St. Thomas Aquinas Council 7382, 12627 W. Belfort Ave., Sugar Land

## Program/Activities

John Buck, Director

**\*Lenten Parish Food Pantry Drive-"40 Days/40 Cans".** Don't forget your canned goods—only 1 more meeting before Easter. This program can be used as part of "your Lenten sacrifice" or "your Lenten Duty," helping one another. The practice of giving up something that you like during Lent has now changed into more of our performing a good deed for someone. Our Knights of Columbus Program, 40 Days/40 Cans, works as both—a sacrifice and good deed of helping others. The true meaning of this program is to set one food item aside each day of Lent, then after collecting your 40 cans for the 40 Days of Lent, bring the 40 food items to the hall for distribution to our 3 parishes. Along with your daily prayers, this is one of the simplest ways to preform an act of helping another person.

**\*SUMMER FLING**—our \$100 Summer Fling tickets are now here for distribution to sellers and to purchase. To purchase or sell tickets, please contact Ed Okonski at **281-433-6835**. To learn more about the Summer Fling or to purchase tickets online click on <http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/summer-fling-dance-and-dinner>. Only 350 tickets will be sold.

**\*Our council Ladies Auxiliary and CDA** will have their organization fundraisers soon. Please assist the ladies of these 2 organizations, as they assist the council with our events—we are one family here.

**\*Anyone interested in attending a Sunday Afternoon Movie at the hall?** Movie topic could be family-oriented for the entire family to attend or a family movie that is more child-oriented for our younger Knights and their family to attend.

**\*In late May or June, we will have another Corporate Communion Mass at St. Rose Parish.** Remember that when the council holds these Masses, we hold these Masses at a parish of our council, Council 2917 and all members of Council 2917 are members of each parish of our council. So I ask you to attend our Corporate Communion Masses at our parishes. At our Corporate Communion at St. Rose, Father Rafael will renew our Council 2917 member's wedding vows and give a special blessing to these couples. Next month will have more details.

## FOR SALE

Four cemetery spaces are available at Forest Park Lawndale, 6900 Lawndale Avenue, Houston TX 77023 and are located in the tranquil Section 54, Lot 289.

The spaces have perpetual care, monument privileges and are street frontage. Each space may be used for double interment. These four spaces are valued at \$24,800.00 (\$6,200.00 each per Forest Park Lawndale).

All four are for sale at a reduced price. Contact **Brother Michael Kloss, 281-351-6146** for additional information.

## Pro-Life Program Director

Floyd Supercinski



The public is invited to join our Brother Knights and their families as they pray the Rosary to end abortion.

**Monday, April 24 at 7:00 p.m.**

A light meal will be served after the Rosary.

Thank you to the Knights for providing refreshments for our Rosary on **February 27**

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*Please join us in praying the Rosary at St. Rose of Lima Church any Thursday at 11:00 a.m. in the small chapel to your right as you enter the Church.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Join The Helpers of God's Precious at

**Good Friday Stations of the Cross on April 14, 2017**

**8:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral**

**1111 St. Joseph Parkway, Houston, TX 77002**

Followed by the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet at Planned Parenthood, 4600 Gulf Freeway, Houston, TX 77023

"Each life that we encounter is a gift deserving acceptance, respect and love. The Word of God helps us to open our eyes to welcome and love life, especially when it is weak and vulnerable... Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts", to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us. Even when we sin, he patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, he shows us his readiness to forgive." - *(excerpts from Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for Lent )*

If you cannot join us, please remember us and all individuals whose lives we touch that day in your prayers.

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/pro-life>

## DOMINO RESULTS

**Moon Tournament Winners for March 6**

1st place tie: Ron Wendt & George Mendel

3rd place: Marion Lewandowski



**Next Tournament is April 3.**

# Happy Birthday Greetings

to all Brother Knights celebrating the gift of life

Zygmunt L. Jankowski	April 1
Wilbert A. Storemski	April 1
Richard A. Yanowski	April 1
Donald Eisterhold	April 2
Robert Miller	April 3
Bradley D. Brawner	April 4
Benny Okruhlik	April 5
Ross J. Gagliano	April 5
Henry C. Gutierrez	April 5
Paul A. Heidbreder	April 5
Raul A. Machado, Sr.	April 6
Larry W. Tobias	April 8
Rev. Narciso Bordignon	April 9
Albert Anthony Castle	April 9
Charles W. Falco	April 11
Bruce C. Marek	April 12
Joe M. Okonski	April 12
Emery J. Robertson	April 12
Michael D. Borski	April 13
Raymond G. Borski	April 13
Thomas V. Gorka	April 14
Ronnie L. Kristynik	April 14
Joseph A. Wick	April 14
John T. Katra	April 15
Rev. Albert Zanatta	April 15
Joseph L. Anderson, Jr.	April 16
Gerome J. D'Anna	April 16
Gregory A. Okonski	April 16
Fay V. Perez	April 20
Alfred C. Rodriguez	April 20
Joe Walkoviak	April 20
James M. Golick	April 21
Jaro R. Nevlud	April 21
Neil A. McWhorter	April 22
David G. Navarro	April 22
Gregory J. Borski	April 23
James E. Bilnoski	April 24
Charles F. Bilnoski	April 25
Steve Bugaj, Jr.	April 26
John J. Salerno	April 26
Ray A. Wisniskie	April 26
Joseph E. Braunagel	April 27
Paul L. Nevlud	April 28
James A. Borski	April 29

## Please pray for our sick:

- Brother Edward Borski
- Brother Bill Kmiec
- Brother Alvin Bollom
- Brother Vincent Kubiak
- Brother Sam Ruffino
- Brother Benny & Earline Okruhlik
- Brother Pete Kmiec
- Brother Joe & Mary Campise
- Brother James Urbanovsky
- Brother Fred Syzdek
- Brother Chris Mocek
- Brother Mark E. Bartniski
- Brother Ernie Bugaj
- Brother Al Kainer
- Brother Don & Joann Psencik
- Deacon Denis Smaistrla
- Cheri Wick Byrd, daughter of Brother Joe Wick.
- Margaret Brossman, mother of Brother Charles and mother-in-law of Brother Doug Wendt
- Gary Kubiak, son of the late Brother Alfred Kubiak



## IN MEMORIAM:



**Candy Bernier Kitkoski**, age 65, passed away on March 15, 2017. Born in Houston, TX, she was a loving wife, sister and aunt who retired from Shell Oil Company as a geophysicist after 21 years of service. She was preceded in death by her parents, Jean and Elizabeth Bernier; stepmother, Opal Bernier; and sister, Judy Campbell. Survived by her husband of 45 years, Brother Knight Joe Kitkoski, Jr.; sister, Lori Smith and husband Michael; and numerous nieces and nephews.

**Gertrude Ima Ida Hinze Miller**, 97, of Houston and formerly of Ben Arnold, died Monday, March 6, 2017. Mrs. Miller was born April 30, 1919 to Gustav & Annie (Moeller) Hinze in the Walker Creek community of Milam County. She married Hugo Miller on Sept. 24, 1940 and he preceded her in death in 1969. Mrs. Miller was also preceded in death by brothers Gus, Edwin, Paul and by sisters Mary Hefelfinger and Clara Boeker. She is survived by daughters: Gloria Tolar, Sandra Rekieta & husband Brother Knight Floyd, Bertha Ott & husband Arnold, Monica Wright & husband Rick; 7 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, 14 great-great grandchildren.

Please remember these dearly beloved and their families in your prayers. May God grant them eternal rest and let his perpetual light shine upon them.

Names on our "Sick Prayer List" will appear in our newsletter for 3 months, after which they will be removed unless notification is received to have the name remain.

**Please contact Brother Floyd Supercinski, Chancellor, at 713-861-6725 if you would like to add anyone or have the name remain on our prayer list. Also contact Brother Floyd if you know of a Brother Knight confined to his home or a nursing home that would like to be visited by his Brother Knights.**

**You can always read the prayer list on our website as well as requite a prayer via online at**

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/sick-distressed>

## LADIES' AUXILIARY

*Kelly Clawson, President*

Ladies,

Time has flown by. The March meeting was my last meeting to hold as your president as my two terms are complete. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as your president.

The new officers are:

President – Lydia Clifton  
Vice-president – Theresa Burkett  
Treasurer – Kathy Bronikowski  
Secretary – Pat Koterak

Please support the new officers! They can only do so much on their own. They need the membership to step up and assist as much as possible.

At the meeting, we voted to move our meeting night to the same night as the men – **second Monday of the month** (but we will still only meet every other month). The men will provide dinner and the ladies will provide the dessert and tea when we meet with them. We are all hoping that this will encourage more turn out to both meetings.

Please remember to pay your dues. You may bring your \$10 to Bingo any Friday or mail it to Kathy Bronikowski, 22623 Bergman, Magnolia TX 77355.

If you have already paid for 2017 – Thank you!

We are once again planning a Casino Bus Trip to Coushatta! We will be going on **Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**. The cost of the trip is \$10 per person. You may bring a small cooler with non-alcoholic drinks and snacks with you on the bus.

Per our new Standing Rules, we will provide two mini raffle prizes to the Summer Fling (valued at \$100 each). We will have one with gift cards and one with scratch-offs as these seem to always be big draws for the mini raffle.

We also talked about helping the knights by starting a beautification project of the grounds. We are wanting to enhance the front drive thru entrance as well as the public entrance. I am working with the knights now to see what all we can do and what they can do to help us. We will be planting blooming/flowering plants to give that area some color. The date and time have not been determined. If you are interested in helping, please call or email Kelly (713-299-1337) [mnrlnut@aol.com](mailto:mnrlnut@aol.com). We would also like to replace the statues that were stolen. If you know of a cheap place that we can get fairly nice size cement statues, please let me know.

The Bingo kitchen workers for February were: Theresa Burkett, Mickie Wendt, Dorothy Urbanovsky, Earline Okruhlik, Angie Heinrich, Kathy Bronikowski.

The bakers for February were: Dorothy Urbanovsky, Theresa Burkett, Angie Heinrich, Sandra Rekieta, Earline Orkruhlik, Kathy Bronikowski.

Our attendance prize will be \$60 at the May meeting since Mary Gorka was not present when her name was drawn.

Our next meeting will be on **our new meeting night, May 8<sup>th</sup>**. We will have the Installation of Officers prior to the meeting.

I hope you all have a very Blessed Easter!

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/ladies-auxiliary>

# Upcoming Events

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/calendar>

- Apr. 3 Domino Tournament (1st Monday)
- Apr. 5 Council Officers' Meeting
- Apr. 7 BINGO
- Apr. 8 Council Work Day
- Apr. 10 Council Meal at 6 p.m./Meeting at 7 p.m.
- Apr. 11 Senior Citizens' Meeting
- Apr. 13 HOLY THURSDAY
- Apr. 14 GOOD FRIDAY— NO BINGO
- Apr. 16 HAPPY EASTER!
- Apr. 19 Northside Columbus Club Meeting
- Apr. 21 BINGO
- Apr. 24 Pro-Life Rosary (*Catholic Daughters*)
- Apr. 28 BINGO
- May 1 Domino Tournament (1st Monday)
- May 3 Council Officers' Meeting
- May 5 BINGO
- May 8 Council Meal at 6 p.m./Meeting at 7 p.m.
- May 8 *Ladies Auxiliary Installation of Officers*
- May 9 Senior Citizens' Meeting
- May 12 BINGO
- May 17 Northside Columbus Club Meeting
- May 19 BINGO
- May 20 Council Work Day
- May 22 Pro-Life Rosary (*Knights*)
- May 26 BINGO
- May 29 MEMORIAL DAY (Domino Tournament)



## CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

Next meeting is **Tuesday, April 4**

**Social at 6:30 - meeting at 7:00**

If you would like information on joining the Catholic Daughters, please contact Kris Hamby at 281-531-6132.

**Annual Games Party is May 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Meal tickets are \$10 and must be purchased in advance.**

Please call Betty Taylor at 713-462-6777 to purchase your ticket.

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