

The Beacon

A Publication of the St. Albert Knights of Columbus Council # 4742

Website: <http://www.stalbertcouncil4742.ca/> email: kofo@stalbertcouncil4742.ca

State Website: <http://kofo.ab.ca/>



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Mailing Address 7 St. Vital Ave.
St. Albert, AB T8N 1K1

NO General Meeting in December.

Are you ready for Christmas? Grocery cards make excellent stocking stuffers. They do not expire and every family buys food.



The 50th Annual Kinette Christmas Campaign is looking to fill 350 food and toy hampers for local families in need. Donations of staples for these baskets, and non-perishable food items, new toys & teen items or cash can be made at any of their drop boxes up to Dec.10.

You can also volunteer to distribute baskets to the families.

The Charities Appeal ticket sales are well underway with this year's proceeds to the Marion Center.

Warm welcome to our new Knight, Ryan McGregor

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
COUNCIL 4742
ADVENT MASS & DINNER**

Saturday, January 7th, 2017

Mass at 5:00 p.m. in Main Church

Dinner at 6:30 p.m. at
Star of the North

Entertainment from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.



Start off the New Year with a Party!

Tickets just \$25 each or \$50/couple

Win a prize from the Gift Card Tree!

Your Executive!

Chaplain

Fr. Ed Kosa
780 459-6593

Grand Knight

Br. Daniel Chauvet
780 966-3658

Deputy Grand Knight

Br. Brian Wolbert
780 460-8294

Chancellor

Br. Terry Sperling
780 459-5479

Financial Secretary

Br. Tony Csilics
780 458-0065

Treasurer

Br. James Van Horn
780 569-4022

Recorder

Br. Gerry Keane
780 458-3496

Advocate

Colin Cunningham
780 544-9555

Warden

Br. Marc Lambertus
780 458-2218

Lecturer

Vacant

Outside Guard

Br. Bernie Hryciw
780 458-8198

Inside Guard

Br. Robert Pampu
780 460-6740

Trustee 1

Br. Maurice Douville
780 459-9487

Trustee 2

Br. Gerry Buccini
780 459-7384

Trustee 3

Br. Glenn Fritz
780 460-2216

Lecturer:

Br. Joel Thomson
587 645-5736

December 2016 Meeting

Dignity of Life, from Conception until Natural Death

Opening Prayer

Lord, teach us to pray:
“Our Father...”

The Reading

(To be read by the Leader)

“God created humanity in His image and likeness, in His divine image He created him; male and female He created them....God looked at everything He had made, and He found it very good, (Gen. 1, 27, 31)”

Brothers, last month we defined the terms euthanasia and assisted suicide. This month we will look at the Catholic Church’s teaching on these two terms. In short the Catholic Church states that euthanasia is completely unacceptable both in principal and regardless what changes may be made to the Canadian Criminal Code of Law. As Catholics, our guiding principles are the **intrinsic value** and **sanctity of human life**. This, in conjunction with the fact that we are relational beings dependant on one another for the well-being of one another. Inter-relationality imposes a sense of mutual responsibility for one another. We need to assist one another in becoming truly and fully human. To deny our brothers and sisters this opportunity, (which belongs to them and them alone) would be perpetuating a grave injustice. We cannot take our sister and brothers right to life from them. It is not ours to take.

“Although a legal distinction is made between euthanasia and assisted suicide, there is no ethical difference. The moral responsibility remains the same whether a third party provides the pills or gives an injection.” As Catholics, we believe that life itself is a gift of God’s love for us. We do not have absolute dominion over this profound gift. We are the stewards of this gift of life, not the owners. The conclusion is pretty straightforward. “Consequently, the time and circumstances of our birth and death are not ours to choose.” Nor are they anyone else’s for that matter. Death is a necessary part of our temporal life and it is the door that we must transition through in order to attain the eternal life promised on the day of our baptism, the eternal life that we as Catholic Christians profess belief in.

The Reflection

(To be read by the Leader)

“I confirm that euthanasia is a grave violation of the law of God, since it is the deliberate and morally unacceptable killing of a human person. The act of euthanasia appears all the more perverse if it is carried out by those, like relatives, who are supposed to treat a family member with patience and love, or by those such as doctors, who by virtue of their specific profession are supposed to care for the sick person even in the most

painful terminal stages...The choice of euthanasia becomes more serious when it takes the form of a murder committed by others on a person who has in no way requested it and who has never consented to it. The height of arbitrariness and injustice is reached when certain people, such as physicians or legislators, arrogate to themselves the power to decide who ought to live and who out to die, (St. John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae*, # 65-66).” These nearly prophetic words were written by then Holy Father, now Saint John Paul II, in March 1995 over twenty years ago and Brothers, the heifer is a lot further out of the barn today than it was then.

Although euthanasia is not legal in Canada, we see that twenty years almost to the day later, the government of Canada made it legal to assist someone to commit suicide. If it is legal today for an individual to have someone assist them in taking their own life, how long will it be before other entities will be given the responsibility of deciding when to end another individual’s life. We can say this seems a stretch but it is not. There are some lobby groups in Canada who in an effort to do an end around on the Criminal code which is federally legislated are trying to present euthanasia as a form of health care, (which falls under provincial legislation), using terms like assisted dying and “appropriate end of life care”. In summary, making euthanasia or assisted suicide legitimate options would diminish respect for human life. It would also have the potential of diminishing respect for all life from conception until natural death, a trust from a Catholic perspective that is essential to any well-functioning society.

“God created humanity in His image and likeness, in His divine image He created him; male and female He created them....God looked at everything He had made, and He found it very good, (Gen. 1, 27, 31)”

Meditation Period

(The Leader now invites the members to spend a few moments in silent reflection, as the above text is not meant to be a ready-made answer but a starter for personal reflection on the theme.)

Fraternal Sharing

(The leader now invites the members to share with their Brother Knights any relevant thoughts that came to them during the meditation period.)

Closing Prayer

(Recited by all)

Let us pray:

“Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2016 / 2017

December

- 25 - Sunday - Christmas Day

January

- 1 - Sunday - New Years Day
- 7 - Saturday - 5 PM Advent Mass,
7PM banquet in Star of the North
- 8 - Sunday - Pancake Breakfast
- 9 - Monday - Executive Meeting 7 PM
- 18 - Wednesday - General Meeting



Message from our Chaplain

Brother Knights we are now in the pre-Christmas season of Advent a time for us to reflect on what Christmas means, a time to prepare ourselves to celebrate the great feast of the birth of Christ. We can do this through prayer, scripture reading, attending mass a few times a week, and celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation through acts of charity and reaching out to others. Let us not get taken up by pre-Christmas parties and all that the secular world, offers during the pre-Christmas season. Prepare well to celebrate the birth of Christ. This article will give you a good insight into the meaning of Advent. Wishing you and your families blessed and joy filled Christmas, and a New Year of the very best of God's Blessings.

Why is Advent Important

Preparation for Christmas is an important theme for Advent, but more is involved. Advent gives us a vision of our lives as Christians and shows us the possibilities of life. The vision of life that Advent gives us is twofold; it looks back to the first coming of Christ at Bethlehem, and it looks to the future when Christ will come again. In the interval between these two events we find meaning for our life as a Christian.

First we celebrate Christ-become-human. We view his life and experience his presence as a human being in our history. Christ came to show us what life can and should be. He gave us true and valid principles by which we can live true and valid lives. But Jesus knew that the human heart could not live in isolation. He formed the Church around the concept of a people held together by love. In that community we discover unlimited possibilities and meaning. Alone we can do nothing. Together we find real meaning.

When Christ left this earth, he did not abandon us. He remains with us in his Spirit, the Church, the sacraments, the Scriptures and each other. He lives in community with us and keeps his vision of life before us.

When Christ comes again, his presence will no longer be hidden behind the signs and symbols of the liturgy or the words of the Scriptures. His presence among us will be revealed in all its fullness, a presence that will never end, a presence that will perfect and complete our community.

This is the "greater significance" of Advent. In these few short weeks we take in the sweeping panorama of time - from Christ's birth to his Second Coming. The season of Advent brings us the magnificent vision of life and hope for the future given to us by Christ.

Advent is our time to become more involved, more caught up in the meaning and the possibilities of life as a Christian community. Thus we are preparing not only for Christmas but also for Christ's Second Coming. This means that when he comes again, we will be awake and watchful. He will not find us asleep.

Good of the Order

Please include in your prayers the following Brothers who are ill: **William Oshanyk; Ernest Sokolan; Marcel Venne; Rev. Louis Gendre; Gerry Hartel and Leon Richard.**

Members of our council will continue to visit our fellow Brothers who are ill and in continuing care. Visits will take place preferably in the mornings.

If you are able to participate please contact Br. Brian Wolbert at 780-460-8294 or Br. Tony Csilics 780-458-0065.

If you are aware of a Knight who is ill or who has passed away please call Br. Tony Csilics.