

December 2013

# *The Beacon*

A Publication of the St. Albert Knights of Columbus Council

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**FOUNDED FEB., 16, 1959**

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## Grand Knights Report – Advent 2013



**Advent** is derived from the Latin word meaning coming. Quite simply, the Lord is coming! The bitter cold of a northern Alberta winter reminds us that this is the season that we celebrate the baby Jesus' birth. Too often the first signs of Christmas are television commercial and jingles on the radio. Christmas is not seen or heard, it is felt in our hearts. As Christians, we need to put aside the lights and sounds and truly feel the joy of the season in our hearts. I encourage all Brother Knights to use this time to reflect our Order's first principle: Charity. Take the time to help those less fortunate than ourselves at this most blessed time of the year.

**Fraternity** is also a principle of our Order and I encourage all Brother Knights of Council 4742 to come together on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> for the St. Albert Parish Knights of Columbus and Catholic Women's League annual Advent Mass, Dinner, and Social. Fr. Andrew will preside over the 6:00 p.m. mass which will be followed by social time. A delicious buffet dinner will start at 7:00 p.m. Following dinner we will have the beautiful musical styling's of David Fraser on piano and Marie Irene McCormick singing the songs of the season. We will have door prize draws, and table centrepiece raffles raising funds for one of our many charitable recipients.

The December Pancake Breakfast was again a huge success. A special thank-you to the Brother Knights that helped with decorating the Parish Hall. Our two Santa's were kept quite busy taking the wish lists of the children and the odd parent back with them to the North Pole. We'll need everyone's help again at the January breakfasts as these historically are very busy since Parishioners are returning from holidays and looking forward to meeting friends and family over a delicious breakfast.

Finally, my wish to you is a joyous Christmas with family and friends, safe travels and a happy and healthy New Year in 2014!

*Vivat Jesus*  
*Terry Sperling, Grand Knight*

# December 2013 Meeting

## Ten Commandments

### The Fourth Commandment

#### **Opening Prayer**

Lord teach us to pray:  
Our Father...

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#### **The Reading**

*(to be read by the Leader)*

#### **“Honor Your Father and Your Mother”**

To whom does the Fourth Commandment refer and what are the expectations of the word honor? Well, even Jesus asked the question; “Who is my Mother... (Mt. 12, 48)” Of course Jesus defines the parameters of the answer to this question. “Whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother and sister and Mother, (Mt. 12, 50). A broad stroke but accurate response, meaning that all of us are created in His image and likeness and therefore we are brothers and sisters in Christ. To live up to this identity we must discern and then obey the Lord’s will for us in our lives. Some facets of our Father will do not require discernment; rather they simply require our attentiveness. The Fourth Commandment refers in the first place to one’s physical parents, but also to the people to whom we owe our life, our well-being, our security and our faith. (Youcat 367).”

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#### **The Reflection**

*(to be read by the leader)*

Our parents, through the grace of God gave us life itself, as the fruit of the love they have for one another. In other words, just as all of creation and particularly all of humanity is the fruit of the love expressed within the Blessed Trinity for one another, the extension of this is that we are expressions of love. It follows that naturally we must be that love for one another particularly to those responsible for the gift of life we have received from them. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI wrote this about our families. “The family is the necessary good for peoples, an indispensable foundation for society and a great and lifelong treasure for couples. It is a unique good for children, who are meant to be the fruit of the love, of the total and generous self-giving of their parents, (July 2006).”

Brothers, the family is the cornerstone of our society, it is the single-most important component of this world we live in, short of the Creator Himself. It makes sense that we give appropriate dignity and respect to our parents who have blessed us in a very

large way with who we have become. The extension is this; given that we are all part of the body of Christ, then all people need to be treated with dignity and respect. It is a logical conclusion that those who gave us life, who formed us, cared for us and gave selflessly of themselves on our behalf, should be the primary recipients of the respect, honor and love that for the most part we learned from them. Sixteen hundred years ago, St. Augustine of Hippo said; “The life of the parents is the book which the children read.” Generally speaking, we can say that who we are as adults ourselves is in large part the gift and the result of our parents giving totally of themselves for our well-being and benefit.

How are we to honor our father and mother? Simply put, by reciprocating the love and the gratitude that we received so freely from them. If we are not able, or do not find it necessary to honor our parents, how are we to be an expression of love for those who are far less important to us in our lives. In other words, if we are unable to cultivate healthy loving relationships with our parents who loved us first, how do we expect to maintain healthy loving relationships with others? Make no mistake; parents are not perfect, neither are we. But for the most part we can say that they are acting out of love, and if love is their motivation, then they are doing the best they are humanly able to be Christ-like for us. Honor your father and mother, and there is a reasonable opportunity that the other relationships in your life will have a good chance to be loving and healthy.

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#### **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.)*

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#### **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.)*

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#### **Closing Prayer**

*(Recited by all)*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen

## Grocery Card Sales

Purchasing grocery cards is a great way to support the Knights charitable work. You get your groceries and the money earned from sale of the cards is used for charitable work. The cards are also easy to send in the mail as a gift.



## Grocery Cards

Grocery Cards are available. Please call:  
Br. Gerry Buccini at 780-459-7384  
or  
Br. Frank Polanski at 780-459-7941

## Pancake Breakfast was a Big Hit

Those who attended the pancake breakfast will agree that the event was fun and well attended. Santa was there to meet the children.. There was also an opportunity to buy baked goods from the CWL and tickets.

Thanks to the Knights who assisted with the serving, setup, take down and clean up. The event went well and the work was made light by many hands working together.

## First Degree planned for February

Do you know of someone who is interested in becoming a Knight? There is a great opportunity coming in February.

There will be a first degree ceremony held in our parish. Cards to request an interview are at the back of the church.

**Remember there is no General Meeting in December. See you next year.**

***Good  
of the  
Order!***

**Please keep in your prayers...**  
**Ida Dribnenki**  
**Deceased wife of former Knight**  
**Peter Dribnenki**  
**and for Brothers who are ill**  
**David Biollo Sr.**  
**Armand Carignan**  
**Fern Carignan**  
**Ernest Sokolan**  
**Al Stephenson**

