

The Beacon

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

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FOUNDED FEB., 16, 1959

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Br. Joel Thomson

PIZZA! PIZZA! SPLASH! SPLASH!



Sunday, March 26th at Fountain Park Pool
(4 Cunningham Road)

Swimming from 4 - 6 PM

Pizza and Refreshments from 6 – 7 PM



*This event is for all families and friends of St.
Albert Parish, sponsored by your local
Knights of Columbus Council 4742*



This event is free but donations are being collected for Charity

UPCOMING EVENTS 2017

February

- 15 - Wednesday, General Meeting 7 PM
- 25 - Saturday, Winter Wing Ding
Dinner then Dance to the Saint City Big Band

March

- 5 - Sunday, Pancake Breakfast
- 6 - Monday, Executive Meeting 7PM
- 15 - Wednesday, General Meeting 7 PM
- 26 - Sunday, Pizza! Pizza! Splash! Splash 4-6 PM

April

- 26 - Wine & Cheese Social for new members - 6:30—8 PM

February 2017 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 looked at the potential consequences for an already legal assisted suicide and the inevitable next step euthanasia. Literally a slippery slope that nothing good can come from. In many ways it will become a matter of what group or class or particular illness warrants being out of their misery and the extension of this is that it is not even them who will be making the decisions. Yes, we do have a moral and ethical obligation to ensure that a dying person is ensured good quality end of life care, with appropriate medical, social, emotional, spiritual and religious support that will ensure a death with dignity and peace. This month we will look at how much treatment is enough and when is it too much?

The principle to be used when exploring treatment options from a Catholic perspective is this. For a person who is competent and in care and for one who is not competent, where we may be called into the proxy decision making process. “We are to seek measures that offer a reasonable hope of benefit and that can be obtained and used without excessive pain, excessive expense or other serious inconvenience.” There must be a reasonable hope of benefit for a treatment to be considered. If you are a person receiving care or are making decisions for someone who has entrusted you with their care the following is very important. “Persons receiving care are not obliged to seek treatment when it is of no benefit, or when burdens resulting from treatment are clearly disproportionate to the benefits hoped for or obtained. Similarly, there is no obligation to provide or to continue providing a treatment whose burdens are disproportionate to the expected or obtained benefits. This would amount to overtreatment-an unacceptable option.” So, common sense needs to be part of the equation.

If the pain caused or the expense incurred in the treatment of a terminally ill cancer patient will only increase their life span by a very short period of time, while at the same time causing tremendous discomfort and pain, it is reasonable that one would discontinue treatment and focus on the comfort, dignity of end of life care that could be provided. In other words brothers, treatment at all costs and all situations is not the answer. The hoped for outcome of the treatment has to make sense for the afflicted individual and for those providing the treatment. In some cases it makes much more sense

to acknowledge that our loved ones are going to die and to make them as comfortable as possible during their final days or weeks. What is a good rule of thumb in these difficult situations; make your decisions out of love for the other. If we do this, we will always have the best interest of our loved ones as our motivation, because as we know, love is about the other.

The Reflection (To be read by the Leader)

One of the questions that may be in your mind when dealing with difficult end of life decisions is this; “Is there a real difference between euthanasia and the withdrawing or withholding of burdensome treatment?” Yes, absolutely. When extraordinary or excessive treatment is withdrawn, the intent is to allow our loved ones to die peacefully and naturally. Euthanasia is expressly for the purpose of causing death. Our loved one does not die naturally but before their time. There is a great difference between allowing someone to die and killing them. Our intentions (our intent) are a key element when it comes to distinguishing between end of life decisions and euthanasia. “Distinctions based on intent are important, and in fact form the basis of our criminal law. While factually the distinction may, at times, be difficult to draw, legally it is clear.” (Justice Sopinka ruling on the Sue Rodrigues case in 1993). If our intent is based on love and guided by God’s natural law, we will not go wrong. God gave us our lives out of His love for us. He will decide when our lives will end in order for us to be with him forever in the heavenly kingdom. Next month, advance directives, living wills and power of attorney. (COLF Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide; Urgent Questions.)

“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

Please bring a copy of this reading to the next regular meeting so that you can more fully participate in the readings, meditation and prayers. If you are unable to attend please reflect on the readings in your own way.

"Message from our Chaplain".

Greetings Brother Knights

As Knights we are called to be the salt of the earth and the light of world. St. John Paul used these words in speaking to the youth on the occasion of one of the word youth days, and as I often reflect on these words taken from the gospel Matthew, I said what a appropriate invitation to the Knights, because of who we are.

Jesus calls us "salt." In the Old Testament, salt was used to season the sacrificial offerings for sins and covenant with God: "Season all your grain offerings with salt; you shall not let the salt of the covenant with your God be lacking from your cereal offering..." (Lev 2,13). Also, land agreements were sealed with a gift of salt as a proof of the strength and permanence of the contract. Salt was also a symbol of God's activity in a person's life. This is because it penetrates, preserves, and aids in healing. That is how God becomes active in our lives.

So, when Christ calls us "salt", he wants us to make a difference in our world. We must penetrate and preserve our world from moral, spiritual and physical or environmental decay. As salt, we must add taste and flavour to people's lives.

Again, Christ calls us "light." In fact, he gives us a command: "Your light must shine in the sight of men...!" Light does not shine for itself. Hence, Christ tells us why we must shine: "So that men may see your good works and give praise to God." Good works here mean corporal and spiritual works of mercy: feed the hungry, cloth the naked, welcome the stranger . To give praise means to acknowledge, and to be moved. It means to be affected positively by our light. As light, we must represent: "What is good, pure, true, holy, and reliable" (Phil 4, 8).

Finally, we must not conceal God's gift. Since "charity begins at home," so, we must first be light and salt in our homes and communities. Also, our world must feel the positive effects of our light. We must not starve it of the sweetness of our testimonies and good works.

Fr. Edward Kosa,omi

Good of the Order

Please include in your prayers the following Brothers who are ill:

William Oshanyk; Ernest Sokolan; Rev. Louis Gendre; Gerry Hartel and Leon Richard.

We will visit our fellow Brothers who are ill and in continuing care. Some members of our council will visit them, preferably in the mornings. If you are able to participate please contact Br. Brian Wolbert at 780-460-8294 or Br. Tony Csilics 780-458-0065e-mail kofc@stalbertcouncil4742.ca.

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

Special Social Evening for new prospective members from St. Albert Parish.
April 26, 2017 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM.
St Albert Parish Hall.
Come meet the new prospective Knights for a wine and cheese social.
Share with them what being a Knight of Columbus is all about.
See you there.
Call Gerry Buccini at 780 459-7384



save on foods For every \$100 you purchase, \$5 to \$8 is contributed to charities. Support your Knights
Superstore of Columbus Council 4742
SAFEWAY **sobeys**

Winner
"Keep Christ in Christmas"
Poster Contest.

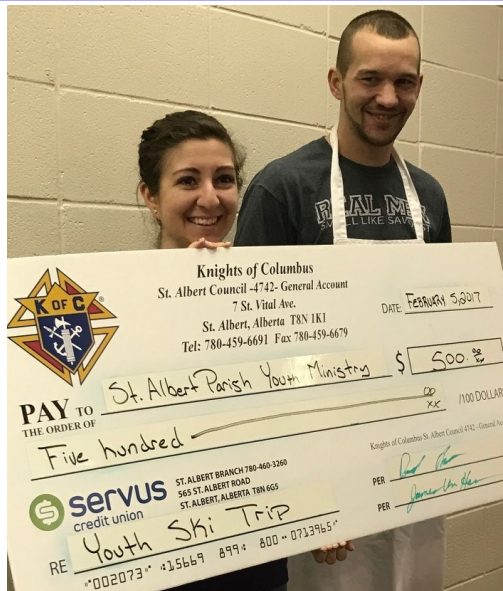
Olivia
Wiwchar.
Won a
\$50. David's Tea
card.
Not only is
she an artist,
she is
also an altar server.



Reminder that our pan-
cake breakfast is the first
Sunday of each month. If
you are available please
assist by serving coffee or
breakfast. See you there.



"Life-Teen"
Donation to our
Youth Coordinator
to help offset
expenses for their
upcoming ski trip.



We are planning the June BBQ at
the Star of the North. Mark your cal-
endars.