



The Lancer



Faith – Family – Fraternity

**The Monthly Newsletter of St. John the Baptist Council 10232
Madison, Alabama
January 2012
<http://madison-kc.org>**

Grand Knight's Remarks

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

The holiday season is over and I sincerely hope that it was a truly Blessed and wonderful time for all of you and your families. It is my prayer that each of you has had a blessed Christmas celebrating the birth of our Savior – Jesus Christ. It is so easy to forget the real meaning of Christmas because we have accepted the commercialism of Christmas by the secular society.

While I was enjoying Christmas with my family in Texas, I could not help but think of those who are unable to celebrate Christmas with their family. One group that comes to mind are those who are serving our country in the military and are separated from family. Some are even fighting to keep America safe as I write my remarks to you. My prayers go out to them and their families, such as brother Eric Harrah who was deployed to Afghanistan just before Christmas, and brother John Grimes stationed in Oslo.

Then there are those that have been separated from family through death. Again, I think of those who have lost loved ones in the service of our country, but I also think of those faithful brothers of this council have departed this life. We truly miss them all so very much but we know that their families miss them even more. Our prayers continue to be with these families. The real meaning of Christmas provides hope and comfort to those who are separated from loved ones or are needy in other ways. Thanks be to God that we can have joy in our hearts, regardless of circumstances, so long as we know the One who brought Joy to the World.

I would also like to thank all of you most especially for being so generous of your time and the example of giving that you have so well demonstrated over the last few months. It is a struggle for any Grand Knight to get a group of men to become more unified but, I am glad that we don't have that problem with our council. We are truly blessed at St. John's to have a group of men such as yourselves who are united in faith and are always willing to serve your fellow man. In virtually every ministry within the parish, you'll find Knights serving the parish in one way or another. For all that you do in silence to serve our Church and our fellow man; I offer you very sincere and heartfelt thank you.

Again, the Christmas Season is a time to give thanks for the many blessings that we have individually and as a nation. We are a country of abundance and opportunity. But with those riches comes an equal burden of responsibility to keep our nation righteous and dedicated to the principles of liberty upon which we were founded. I encourage you to take the time to reflect on the gifts you have been blessed with and consider how you can use them to help return this county to its proper path of peace and prosperity.

It is my hope and prayer that each of you may know the peace and joy that inhabits this Season. May God bless you and your families throughout the New Year!

***Fraternally In Christ,
Danny Garcia, GK***

Family of the Month

The family of the month is very much involved in the church and the Knights of Columbus. The Family of the Month for January is **John and Candy Horch**.

Knight of the Month

The Knight of the Month is involved in many activities within the council. The Knight of the Month for January is **Brother James Cook**.

Announcements

- **Council and Assembly Dues Are Now Being Collected For 2012!**

The council is beginning to collect dues for 2012 and they can be paid at the council meeting on **November 3rd** or by remitting a check in the amount of \$40 (you may add an extra \$5 for the council's charity fund if you like) payable to "**Council 10232**" to **Ron Belz, Financial Secretary at 78 Jay Drive, Madison, AL 35758**.

Assembly 2420 dues are also being collected and can be paid by remitting a check in the amount of \$15 and payable to "**Assembly 2420**" to **Joe Morton, PO Box 252, Madison, AL 35758**.

- **First Saturday Devotion, Saturday January 7th Mass begins at 8:30am**

- **Council and Assembly Meeting Space**

Until further notice council and assembly meetings will take place in the Youth Room over in the school. The basement will be off limits to all activities and thru traffic until the planned renovations are completed sometime in December.

- **Bunco! Sunday January 8th beginning at 6:30pm**

Bunco is scheduled for Sunday November 13th starting at 6:30pm. The game will be held in the all purpose room which is located near the elevators on the lower level of the Parish Office building. This fun and easy to learn dice game is open to all members (single and married). A pot luck is also held prior to the game so bring a dish to share. There is a \$5.00 per player fee that is used for prizes.

- **Fraternal Meeting January 19, 2012**

Please do not forget our fraternal meeting on Thursday November 17th at 7:30pm in the Youth Room.

Council Service Activities

Church Activities

First Saturday Mass and Holy Hour, January 7, 2012

The council has undertaken the obligation of supporting the First Saturday Devotion conducted on the first Saturday of each month in our new chapel. Mass begins at 8:30am, which is followed by Holy Hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and we then meet for a 30-45 minute session on Men's Spirituality led by Paul Semmens. In actuality the First Saturday Devotion is a mini-retreat in which we approach the Lord with our same weaknesses and temptations that we will battle until the end. My brothers, I urge you to please support me in this so that we as Knights may come to better understand His will, "Lord to whom shall I go? You and you alone have the words of everlasting life."

Strong Men Strong Faith, Scheduled for February 19th in Huntsville

Strong Men Strong Faith, a Catholic men's conference scheduled for Sunday February 19, 2012 designed to bring men together to examine their spirituality as it relates to their lives as husbands, fathers, and work colleagues. The conference will be held at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Huntsville, located at 625 Airport Road, Huntsville, AL 35802. Stay tuned for more information.

Community Activities

Galaxy of Lights A Success!

The council once again participated in the Huntsville Botanical Garden's Galaxy of Lights on Friday December 16th. This has become an annual tradition for the council and one that we look forward to as the Christmas Season nears. Thanks to everyone that participated in this annual event it was great fun and filled everyone with the Christmas spirit.

Council Activities

Extending Membership Opportunities

We are currently working towards bringing in 30 eligible men into the council this fraternal year. We must make it our business to offer every eligible man at St. John's the opportunity to join. Please get out and shake the bushes and help grow this council!

"We Care" Program

The "We Care" project supports any of our council members or any sons or daughters of our council members who are directly serving our military in the combat zones of Iraq or Afghanistan. Our "we care" support will be to send a monthly box of donated snacks, hygiene items or reading material to each military member in an effort to show our support. The most important aspect of this project is to let these dedicated warriors know that "we care" for their well being and safety as they undertake a very difficult assignment. They are seriously placing their lives at risk on behalf of our nation. **Please bring your items to the council meeting so that the committee can sort and ready items for shipment.**

State Meeting To Be Held January 7th

The state meeting midyear meeting will be held on Saturday January 7th in Prattville starting at 10:00am.

Bunco, Sunday January 8th

Bunco returns this coming Sunday November 6th at 6:30pm in the all purpose room. Everyone is definitely invited to come and join us for an evening of fun. Bunco is an easy to learn, fun, and exciting dice game. We ask that you bring a dish to share and \$5 per player for prize money.

Lenten Fish Dinners Are Back!!!

After a long hiatus, the council will once again be cooking fish on the Friday evenings of Lent. A great deal of planning needs to occur before our first dinner on Friday February 24th. Dinners will proceed for the next 5 Fridays for a total of 6 dinners with the last taking place on Friday March 30th. The dinners were originally envisioned as a way to attract parishioners to Stations of the Cross services held on the Friday's of Lent and will continue to serve that purpose. Therefore, serving will commence at 5:00pm and will end at 6:30pm. Everyone's help will be needed to make the dinners a success.

Pro-Life Activities

2nd and 4th Saturday Rosary at Huntsville Abortion Clinic

The council is actively supporting the Rosaries being led by Father Alan Mackey at the abortion clinic located on Madison Street in Huntsville at 9:00am on the second Saturday of the month.

We have had a tremendous response thus far and would like to encourage all knights to turn out to support this event. In January, the 2nd and 4th Saturdays fall on **January 14th and January 28th**. Anyone wishing to attend can meet in the lower parking lot at 8:00am and carpool down with brother Juan Benjamin.

Council Supports John Paul II Catholic High's Trip to Washington DC

The Grand Knight on behalf of council 10232 and Brother Juan Benjamin on behalf of Assembly 2420 presented Father Bresovar with a \$200 check from the council to help defray expenses for the school's annual trip to Washington DC to participate in the Roe v. Wade Anniversary Pro-life March.

Youth Activities

Council Support Sister Suzanne's Epiphany Party for Special Needs Children

Sister asked the council if we would support her efforts to hold an Epiphany party for special needs children and their families from the parish. In correspondence with Sister it was learned that she needed funds to buy the food for the party and she wanted to know if the council would offer assistance. An email was sent to Sister asking her to buy what she needed and place the receipt in our mailbox and we would reimburse her for the food expenses. There are approximately 30 such families in the parish.

Minutes for the December 1, 2011 Council Business Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Worthy Grand Knight Danny Garcia at **7:30 PM**.
2. **Warden's Report:** The chamber was verified secure.
3. **Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance:** The council prayed the 'Our Father' and recited the 'Pledge of Allegiance'. WGK Danny Garcia led the council in prayer.
4. **Role Call of Officers:** All officers were present or accounted for.
5. **Reading of the Previous Minutes:** The reading of previous meeting minutes was dispensed.
6. **The Council Conferred 1st Degrees:** One new member was initiated into the Council: Paul Reina. The 1st degree team was Brs. Bill Moeller, Ron Belz, Danny Garcia, Jason Esteve, Dan Mellen and Pat Haas.
7. **Report of Admission Committee:** One transfer into the council: Damian Williams.
8. **Grand Knight's Report:**
 - a) Patrick Giancatarino became a 1st degree Knight at the fraternal meeting on November 17th.
 - b) The Council's Intellectual Disabilities (ID) Drive has a balance of \$5157.71. We will send \$5100 to the state treasury of which \$4080 will be returned for distribution to the Madison City Schools for use in their special needs programs. We managed to raise \$1100 more this year *versus* last year. Thanked all that assisted in the drive particularly the site captains at Krogers – Paul Dube, Walmart – Gerald Kaney, Dollar General – James Cook, Staples – Pat Kallus, Star Market – Richard Weber. In addition, special thanks go out to Maria Kilgore with Madison City Schools, and all of the teachers and students that assisted with the drive.
 - c) The council will support a Josephinum Seminarian Jonathan Howell with \$500
 - d) The council members will be selling 'Keep Christ in Christmas' magnets after each weekend Mass.
 - e) The annual survey of activity report has been submitted.
 - f) Moved 24 boxes of books to the Ashbury Thrift store.

WGK Danny Garcia presented awards:

- a) Knight of the month (December): Br. Steve O'Neill
- b) Family of the month (December): Br. Jerome and Brenda Villarreal

9. **Treasurer's Report:** Br. Tom Hart provided a written report for the month ending November 2011. All receipts from treasurer to financial secretary were verified by the Trustees.
10. **Financial Secretary's Report:** Br. Ron Belz reported
- Report of receipts: verified.
 - Membership: We have 243 members on the books (95 associate members, 133 insurance members, 15 inactive). There are 4 honorary life members and 2 honorary members. Honorary Membership Card bestowed to Br. Bruce Jones.
 - Council dues for 2012 are \$40 and an optional \$5 for the Charity Fund. The assembly dues are \$15
 - We owe Supreme \$12.84
11. **Report of Program Committees:**
- Danny Garcia (Church): 1st Saturday Mass on Dec 4th; and the changing of electric bulbs scheduled for Dec 10th
 - Juan Benjamin (Pro Life): Rosary at Downtown Clinic on Dec 10th. The group will leave at 8:15am
 - John Horsch (Council): The Knights-out dinner is on December 3rd at 7:00pm at Carrabba's located at Parkway City Mall.
12. **Report of Standing Committees:**
- Tom Hart (Charity): \$100 to SVDP, \$100 to Toys for Tots, \$108 to the St. John's Giving Tree for a bicycle. Spent \$300 for e-notebooks for the troops.
13. **New Business:** None.
14. **Faithful Navigator's Report:** Br. Dan Frische reported
- Next meeting is Dec 8th and the next Bunco night is on Dec 11th 6:30pm.
 - Blood drive is on Dec 17th 9:30am-2:30pm, in the parish hall.
 - Color Guard Regalia training is on Dec 3rd in Fort Payne.
15. **State Officer's report:** Br. Jason Esteve mentioned that the council needs to fill the 'Special Olympics' form so that the State Council can receive some funding from the Supreme Council.
16. **Announcements:**
- The council will participate in the Huntsville Botanical Garden's 'Galaxy of Lights'. This event will be on Friday December 16th at 6:00pm.
 - The old plastic chairs from the Church Hall (about 144 in number), have been listed for sale on Craig's List. The council is hoping to earn about \$4000 from their sale.
17. **Prayers:** The following names were added to the prayer list: Cecilia Alvarez, Dot Wren, Seth Olsen's father Joe, Dan Frische's wife's friend, Dan Mellen's mother Rhonda, and Tacey Viegas' friend Trevor King.
18. **Closing Prayer:** WGK Danny Garcia adjourned the meeting with a prayer at **9:14 PM**



In case you do not make a concerted effort to thoroughly read all of your monthly Columbia Magazine, I wanted to call your attention to some short but wonderful publicity that members of our council received in the current issue of the Columbia Magazine.

Brothers Danny Garcia, Juan Benjamin and Jerome Villarreal are shown in the "Knights in Action" section as they prepare make a public statement for "Defending Life" and praying the rosary at Huntsville's "Alabama Women's Center", our local abortion facility.

Mass Schedule for Local Catholic Churches

Parish	Masses				Reconciliation (Confession)	
	Saturday	Sunday	Weekday	Holy Day	Saturday	Sunday
Good Shepherd, 882-1844	8:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	8:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	M None T 6:30 p.m. W 8:30 a.m. Th None F 8:00 a.m.	8:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	4:30 – 5:15 p.m.	None
Holy Spirit, 881-4781	5:00 p.m.	7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	M-F 7:30 a.m. M, T, TH 12:00 p.m. W 7:00 p.m.	6:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	4:00 – 4:45 p.m.	None
Military Chapel Redstone Arsenal, 842-2175 Or 842-2178	5:00 p.m.	9:15 a.m.	M None, T-F 12:00 p.m.	12:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	4:00 - 4:30 p.m.	8:30 – 9:00 a.m.
Our Lady Queen of the Universe, 852-0788	5:00 p.m.	9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	M None W-F 12:00 p.m. T 6:30 p.m.	12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	3:30 – 4:30 p.m.	None
Saint John the Baptist, 722-0130	5:30 p.m.	7:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	M,F 8:30 a.m. T 6:15 a.m. W, Th 6:30 p.m.	7:00 p.m. Vigil 8:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Th 6:00 – 6:25 p.m. S 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	None
St. Joseph, 534-8459	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	8:15 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	M, W - F 7:00 a.m. T 7:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m. Vigil 7:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:00 – 4:45 p.m.	None
St. Mary, 536-6349	5:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	M-F 8:00 a.m.	As Announced	4:00 p.m.	None

St. John the Baptist Council 10232 2011 - 2012 Fraternal Year Officers

Grand Knight
Chaplain
DGK
Fin. Sec.
Chancellor
Warden
Recorder
Treasurer
Advocate
Lecturer
Inside Guard
Outside Guard
Trustee – 1st Yr
Trustee – 2nd Yr
Trustee – 3rd Yr
Field Agent

Danny Garcia
 Rev. Phil O'Kennedy
 Kevin Rodriguez
 Ron Belz
 Jerome Villarreal
 Dan Frische
 Tacey Viegas
 Tom Hart
 Joe Morton
 Daniel Mellen
 Patrick Jemison
 Ros Nourse
 Miguel Rodriguez
 John Phillip
 Pat Haas
 Shane Duplantis

**Fr. Patrick J. Murphy Assembly 2420
2011-2012 Fraternal Year Officers**

Faithful Navigator
Faithful Fryer
Faithful Captain
Faithful Comptroller
Faithful Pilot
Faithful Purser
Faithful Scribe
Faithful Admiral
Faithful Inner Sentinel
Faithful Outer Sentinel
1st yr Trustee
2nd yr Trustee
3rd yr Trustee
Color Corp Commander

Dan Frische
Deacon Skip Graffagnini
Jim Frank
Joe Morton
Jason Esteve
Bill Moeller
Miguel Rodríguez
John Horch
Juan Benjamin
Danny Garcia
Kevin Rodriguez
Charles Wesolowski
Pat Haas
Jim Frank