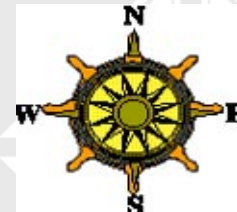




ST-MARK'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

THE COMPASS



Council Meeting.. This Thursday Jan 25th at 7:30pm in Rm 209

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GK Column

January

Brother Knights,

First, I'd like to congratulate Brian Bedard and Andrew Desrosiers as our newest members! I'm sure you'll all make them feel welcome in our council, and help them get involved in any our service programs that might interest them. We've made terrific progress in bringing new members on board this fraternal year, but we still need a couple more new members to make our Star Council award. With your help, I'm sure we can succeed. Please invite a Catholic man to join us!

Meanwhile, our council activities continue. I'd like to extend a special thank you to Paul Bartlett for leading our successful Free Throw event at St. Thomas on January 14th. The event was well attended with 30 competitors and the outcome posted elsewhere in this newsletter.

On the pro-life front, we have an upcoming Roe vs. Wade vigil this weekend. By the time you read this I suspect that we'll have successfully completed that event.

Thanks to all of you who signed up for a one-hour time slot to pray the rosary and spend some quiet time with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. I am confident that our prayers to increase the culture of life in our society will make a difference.

We still have more events coming up. In the near term, we have our annual Spaghetti dinner on January 27th to support our Rosemarie Cox scholarship program. Thanks to Don Sommese for offering to chair this event – please don't hesitate to contact him if you'd like to help out. I hope to see you all there for a wonderful dinner. There's another series of dinner events that needs your support.

Our annual Lenten dinners are scheduled to start this year at the end of February, but we don't yet have a chairman. Unfortunately, without a chairperson we won't be able to hold the event. The chairman doesn't need to be free every Friday during lent – he simply needs to coordinate the event so that a few members are signed up for each shift and supplies are available.

Most of the supplies are already taken care of (except for perishables), and we rarely have trouble getting volunteers to cook, serve or greet guests. Please let me know if you'd like to take a leadership role – we'll be happy to show you the ropes.

I'm happy to report that we did find a chairman for this year's tootsie roll drive. Special thanks to Mike Dromgoole for volunteering. Please feel free to contact me or Mike if you'd like to help out, learn what's involved, or simply offer some ideas for how to improve the program. Most importantly, please respond generously when you get a call to help out.

I seem to have a lot to be thankful for this month, so while I'm on a roll, I'd like to thank those of you who returned your member interest surveys with your dues. Don't forget to join us at the January business meeting because the first 10 members who return their survey and come to the meeting will be eligible for a \$5.00 dues rebate. If you haven't had a chance to respond to the survey yet, we're still interested in hearing from you – it's not too late to send them in. Of course, if you haven't paid your 2007 dues yet, we'd also like you to send that in too.

Our next business meeting is Thursday, January 25th at 7:30PM in Room 209, followed by refreshments. I hope to see many of you there.

Yours in Christ, Ron Turcotte, GK

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The 34th anniversary of Roe v. Wade is the weekend of January 22nd. Here are some of the quotes of noted legal scholars, regarding this decision!

“No one in 1973 anticipated the radical decision—the most radical in American judicial history—by which the U.S. Supreme Court established abortion as a fundamental constitutional right in the United States. ... “No enforcement of an abortion law covering even the last two months of prenatal life was possible. Effectively, the human being in the womb was stripped of the protection of the law at every stage of his or her existence. “The United States was presented with the most radical abortion law, or rather non-law, in the world. The action was accomplished without justification in any text of the Constitution of the United States and with out any relevant precedent. The action was accomplished, as Justice Byron White noted in dissent, by ‘raw judicial power.’” “Abortion 1985”, by John T. Noonan, Jr., Respect Life Program, 1985, pp 6-11, U.S. Catholic Conference. (professor of law, University of California Law School at Berkeley).

Robert H. Bork Former U.S. Court of Appeals judge and former U.S. solicitor general “The Court has used its invented privacy right exclusively to enforce sexual freedoms. The most dramatic instance was the success of the pro-abortion movement in evading democratic processes to lodge its desires in the Constitution, effectively making abortion a convenient birth control technique. The majority opinion in Roe v. Wade is a curious performance: In just over fifty-one pages it contains no shred of legal reasoning (or logic of any description), but simply announces that the right of privacy is sufficiently capacious to encompass a woman’s right to an abortion. The opinion laid down new rules more permissive than any state legislature had produced.” “Both Roe and [Planned Parenthood v.] Casey are, in fact, crass violations of the rule of law; they are not rooted in any conceivable interpretation of the Constitution, and have nothing to do with ‘constitutional terms.’

Archibald Cox Former U.S. solicitor general, Watergate special prosecutor and professor at Harvard Law School

“Oddly ... the opinion fails even to consider what I would suppose to be the most compelling interest of the State in prohibiting abortion: the interest in maintaining that respect for the paramount sanctity of human life which has been at the centre of western civilization, not merely by guarding ‘life’ itself, however defined, but by safeguarding the penumbra, whether at the beginning, through some overwhelming disability of mind or body, or at death.”

“[T]he Justices read into the generalities of the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment a new ‘fundamental right’ not remotely suggested by the words.”

“The failure to confront the issue in principled terms leaves the opinion to read like a set of hospital rules and regulations. ... Neither historian, layman, nor lawyer will be persuaded that all the details prescribed in Roe v. Wade are part of either natural law or the Constitution.” Cox, Archibald. The Role of the Supreme Court in American Government. New York: Oxford, 1976

Robert A. Destro Professor, Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law “The Court completely omitted any discussion of why the unborn should or should not have rights of their own. The rationale behind this marshalling of interests and the necessity for this approach to the issues were unexplained.” Destro, Robert A. “Abortion and the Constitution: The Need for a Life-Protective Amendment.” California Law Review 63 (1975): 1250-1351, at 1254

John Hart Ely Professor, Yale Law School Roe is “a very bad decision. ... It is bad because it is bad constitutional law, or rather because it is not constitutional law and gives almost no sense of an obligation to try to be.” Ely, John Hart. “The Wages of Crying Wolf: A Comment on Roe v. Wade,” Yale Law Journal 82 (1973): 920-49, at 947 “[T]he argument that fetuses lack constitutional rights is simply irrelevant. ... Dogs are not ‘persons in the whole sense’ nor have they constitutional rights, but that does not mean the state cannot prohibit killing them. ... Thus even assuming the Court ought generally to get into the business of second-guessing legislative balances, it has picked a strange case with which to begin. ... That the life plans of the mother must, not simply may, prevail over the state’s desire to protect the fetus simply does not follow from the judgment that the fetus is not a person. Beyond all that, however, the Court has no business getting into that business.” Ely (supra), at 926

Patricia King Professor, Georgetown University Law Center “The Court offered no justification for this conclusion [that viability has constitutional significance], perhaps because any justification would have exposed the thinness of its claim that it was taking no position on when life begins.” King, Patricia A. “The Juridical Status of the Fetus: A Proposal for Legal Protection of the Unborn.” Michigan Law Review 77 (1979): 1647-87, at 1656

Laurence Tribe Professor, Harvard Law School “One of the most curious things about Roe is that behind its own verbal smokescreen, the substantive judgment on which it rests is nowhere to be found.” Tribe, Laurence H. “Foreword: Toward a Model of Roles in the Due Process of Life and Law,” Harvard Law Review 87 (1973): 1-53, at 7

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The following brothers are celebrating their birthday:



Mark Collins	1st
John McCarthy	12th
Jim Giguere	13th
Evan Sohm	16th
Robert McCool	26th
Pat O'Sullivan	30th



Paul DiMarco	5th
Steve Curtin	14th
Bob Valway	14th
Wally Markham	16th
Tim Bowen	21st
Connor O'Brien	24th
Richard Engler	26th



Saturday, January 27th @ 6 PM
(directly after 5 PM Mass in the Parish Hall) Spaghetti Dinner (Monies raised will support the 2007 Rosemarie R.Cox Memorial Scholarship)

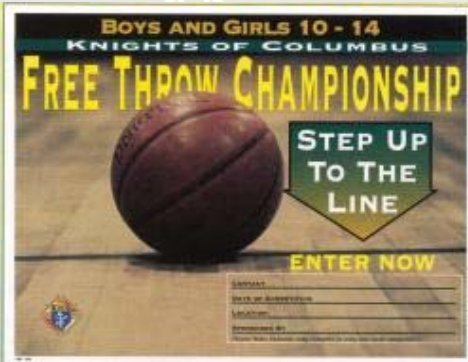
Bring your Families to Support this Worthy Cause and enjoy a delicious Pasta Feast!

St. Mark's First Degree Team

We're still looking for help with our new First Degree team. This is an opportunity to get involved in a unique aspect of our order, and to help shepherd in new brother Knights. You only need to be a 1st degree knight to be on the team, and some of the roles are very easy. Please contact Ron Turcotte at ron@turcotte.com or 603-437-6549 if you'd like to join us, or even just to get more information.

New Council

Members..... Congratulations to Brothers Brian Bedard and Andrew Desrosiers the newest members of our Council. Both individuals participated in the 1st Degree Exemplification Ceremony conducted at St. Joseph's Parish Friday evening, January 12, 2007. Jean Desrosiers sponsored his son and was there supporting Andrew. In approximately the past 18 months our council has been blessed with the enrollment of five young men sponsored by their fathers. They are Brendan Turcotte, Edward Combes, Andrew Desrosier, Connor O'Brien and Patrick O'Sullivan. Our council benefits greatly by these father and son teams and we hope this trend continues.



A highly successful Knights of Columbus Free Throw competition was conducted Sunday afternoon, January 14, 2007 by the combined councils from St. Mark's, St Thomas' and St Jude's parishes. The event was conducted at the Aquinas Gym at St. Thomas Parish. Approximately 30 boys and girls in the 10 – 14 age

brackets participated of which one girl and five boys represented St. Mark's Parish. The District Free Throw competition was conducted immediately thereafter and St. Mark's has three members who won the District competition and are now eligible to advance to the State Free Throw competition. The participants from St. Mark's Parish are noted below with the awards won. Congratulations to all participants and winners. Pictures from this event will be posted on our web site. Thanks also to Dennis Pedley, Mike Dromgoole, Garrett Adie and Paul Bartlett for organizing and supporting this event.

Name	Age	Parish Win	District Win
Cassandra Cronin	11	Yes	Yes
Nick Flanders	10	Yes	
Ben Flanders	12	Yes	Yes
Chris Lavallee	13	Yes	
Steven Howard	14	Yes	Yes
Chris Flanders	14		

Charity, the first principle of our order!

**Here is a list of our recent recent Donations:
December Donations**

- \$200 for Fairfield University Campus Ministry (Jamaican Ministry for Katie McLaughlin)
- \$500 for NH Cultural Diversity Awareness Council
- Renewed quarterly commitment of \$250 for Kidney Fund



Family of the Month

Please congratulate Deacon Lee and Marie Abbott as our December Family of the Month



Our New Insurance Agent is:

F. Brian Gillis
12 Webster Court
Merrimack, NH 03054

Home: 603 429-1017

Office: 494-0332

**Email:
Brian.Gillis@kofc.org**

Click arrow to view a different month!

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 <input type="checkbox"/> 1p Quarterly Meeting	29	30	31 <input type="checkbox"/> 12p Fraternal Survey Due	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 <input type="checkbox"/> 7:30p KC Officer Meeting	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 <input type="checkbox"/> 9a Coffeee & Donuts Hosting	19	20	21 <input type="checkbox"/> 1p KC Newsletter Deadline	22 <input type="checkbox"/> 7:30p Council Business Meeting	23 <input type="checkbox"/> 5p Lenten Dinner	24
25	26	27	28	1	2 <input type="checkbox"/> 5p Lenten Dinner	3

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