

THE MARINER

The Knights of Columbus
Monsignor Dominic Blasco Council 3298
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
June/July, 2017

News and Information

✿ The **July Business Meeting** is Monday, July 3rd. We will be having our Officer Installation at this meeting, as well as starting to put together the budget for 2017-2018. If you have budgetary items, now is the time to get them in.

✿ We will be serving **Coffee and Donuts** for the Parish on Sunday, July 2nd after the 9:00 am Mass. Please come and help if you can!

✿ We will be having our **Anniversary Banquet** at Café Americain (7521 Jefferson Hwy) on July 29th, following a Quarterly Communion at the 4:00 Mass at Sacred Heart Church. RSVP to Raymond at 225-802-2997.

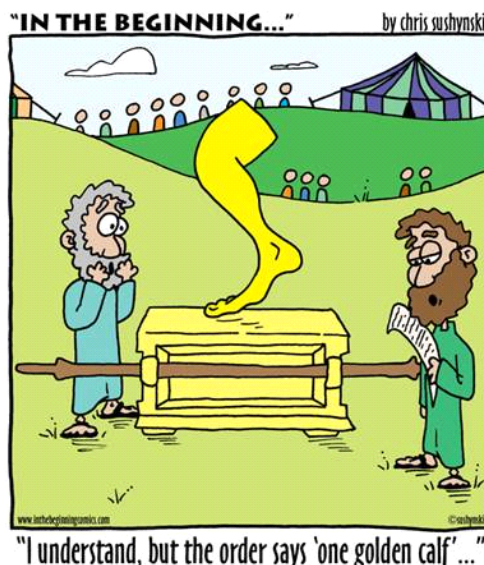
✿ On July 15th there is a **KC BBQ Cookoff**. James Rodney will be our Team Leader but needs some help.

✿ The **month of May** was extremely busy for our Council—we cooked for LSU, for SH Parish, we helped with the State Convention Crawfish Boil, we served coffee and donuts, we handed out roses on Mother's Day, and we sponsored a successful Parish Blood Drive! Whew! Thank you to everyone who got involved!

✿ Our **KC 3298 Scholarship Winners** from Sacred Heart School were James Douet (attending CHS) and Jaidyn Holland (attending SJA). The teachers and principal chose these students, and they chose the BEST of the class! They were the class Brotherhood/Sisterhood Award winners, both were straight-A students, and Douet was the SH Student of the Year! These two students also represented the core values of the KCs to their school and class.

Happy Birthday to these members born in July:

- Thomas Stewart—1st
- Gene Baker—2nd
- John Lofaso—10th
- Rosario Martina—12th
- Landon Futch—14th
- Wallace Powelle—18th
- Calvin Dudley—19th
- Kevin Harris—21st
- Joe Civello—26th
- Joseph Beazer—29th
- Michael Vaughn—29th
- Rev. Miles Walsh—29th



The Next Business Meeting is....

**Monday,
July 3rd, 2017**

Food—6:30 p.m.
Rosary—6:45 p.m.

BINGO DATES:

*July 13th
and
July 27th*



To these members born in June:

- Frank Fertitta — 1st
- George Richard — 9th
- Tim Joyce — 16th

Jackpots!

The Large Jackpot Winner for May was **Bill Purcell**, who was absent, and missed receiving his cash prize of over \$89.00!! The Small Jackpot winner was **Eric Miller**. Want to have a chance to win? Attend the monthly meetings!

The Mariner

Knights of Columbus # 3298
Monsignor Dominic Blasco Council
2250 Main Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802-3198

Place
Stamp
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Good of the Order

By Davis Hotard, P. G. R.

Don't Look Now, but...

When 22 people died outside a concert hall in Manchester, England, the media coverage was wall to wall. The cry went up that something must be done! Journalists followed the investigation. Press briefings were scheduled regularly. With broken hearts, we pored over color photographs of the victims, many of them only children, and we listened to bystanders describe their horror. The world grieved as the story unfolded for a week.

Five days later, 29 Christians in Egypt died when terrorists attacked their bus. Forty-two others were seriously injured and the assassins got away. That story vanished in less than 48 hours. No color photos. No interviews with authorities. No tragic details.

Here's what you probably never heard. The Christian group of parents, grandparents, and children were traveling in two buses to pray at a monastery. Their vehicles were stopped by terrorists outside the town of Minya. After the buses were surrounded by killers, passengers on one of the buses were forced to exit the bus one by one. As each reached the door to face masked gunmen, they were asked, "Are you Muslim?" None of them were. Each was then given a chance to renounce Jesus Christ and convert to Islam.

As each passenger confessed Christ and refused to convert, he was dragged a few feet away to be killed by either a shot in the head or a slit throat. One at a time, nineteen adults, and ten children were ordered to become Muslims or die. One by one they were instantly murdered. The criminals then fired on the group in the second bus, injuring 42, before speeding away to safety.

Why are tragedies like the one in Manchester more interesting or important than massacres like the one in Minya, Egypt? I suppose it could be racism. Or maybe we only care about tragedies that involve celebrities and beautiful people. But I seriously believe two reasons are more likely.

The media run away from Christian martyrs because they are a powerful witness to the Christian faith. When random concert-goers fall prey to terror, in the wrong place at the wrong time, it makes the rest of us feel sad but lucky. But when Christians die because they refuse to renounce their faith, it speaks to the power and the freedom ordinary people discover in Christ. No sane person willingly dies for something he knows is a lie. Historically, seeing the deaths of Christian martyrs has inspired others to follow the Savior as well. The secular media wants no part of anything like that! So a vague headline about people dying in a bus attack manages to cover the bad news without accentuating the Good News.

Christians in America turn their backs as well because stories about martyrs in other lands reflect poorly on the quality our faith here in the West. In persecution lands, believers risk their lives and the safety of their children to attend worship services and even public prayer times. They worship Christ in the open, fully aware that churches and Christian gatherings are soft targets. But in the Land of the Free, we casually skip worship on Sundays to take our kids to soccer practice or recover from a mild headache. Just imagine, if youth sports leagues existed in Minya, Egypt, those unfortunate children could have saved their lives by skipping church and going to play soccer instead!

In America, churches report that "regular worship attendance" is now defined as twice a month. Think about it: when worshipers in Egypt and China become as committed to Christ as we are, the rate of martyrdom could be slashed by half! The most difficult question facing the American church today is not "Why do bad things happen to good people?" We already know the answer to that question: character, faith and the purposes of God. The harder question is this one: What is a Christian, anyway? Jesus said no one can come after him without first being willing to deny self, pick up a cross, and follow. In the religious ghetto of American life, that particular Bible verse is just about as welcome as stories of Egyptian children who are willing to die violently before disappointing Jesus.

Please pray for any Knights or members of any Knight's family that you know of that is sick or in distress. If you know of any Brother Knight or a family member who is sick or in distress, please call Davis Hotard at 387-1578.

2016—2017 Council Leadership

Chaplain	Rev. Miles Walsh	
Grand Knight	Raymond Calandro	802-2997
Deputy Grand Knight	Karl Robillard	751-1433
Chancellor	Patrick Graham, Jr.	802-8204
Recorder	Wallace Powelle	923-2375
Financial Secretary	Eric Miller	752-3701
Treasurer	Danny Miller	
Warden	John Lofaso	343-5268
Inner Guard	Sam Sylvester	358-1619
Outer Guard	Tim Joyce	926-2737
Advocate	Michael DiVincenti	
1 yr. Trustee	Frank Fertitta	405-4400
2 yr. Trustee	James Rodney	
3 yr. Trustee	Charles Pecquet	907-3497
Lecturer	Carroll DiBenedetto	927-2869
Program Director	Raymond Calandro	927-0312
Church Director	Charles Pecquet	907-3497
Youth Director	Davis Hotard	387-1578
Public Relations	Davis Hotard	387-1578
Community Director	To Be Appointed	
Council Director	To Be Appointed	
Retention Chair	To Be Appointed	
Vocations Chair	Jeffrey Hotard	755-1874
Membership Chair	To Be Appointed	
Recruitment Chair	Eric Miller	752-3701
Pro-Life Chair	Frank Fertita	405-4400
Insurance Agent	Dustin Dean	247-8442