



# Council Crier

Santo Rosario Council, No. 14449 • Indianapolis, Indiana

Vol. 7, Issue 3

September 2016

Visit us online at <http://kofcsantorosario.org>

**Next meeting is Wednesday, October 5, at 6:45 p.m. — Please plan to attend!**

## How did we get here?

In a short period of time, our council has achieved much in the parish

**W**hen I took the oath as Grand Knight this past June, the event provoked some thought about our council and the men who preceded me.

Santo Rosario Council 14449 hasn't been around that long. The charter hanging on the wall in Priori Hall dates back only to Jan. 20, 2008. But we have accomplished a great deal in a short time.

Check out the wall plaques next to the charter, especially the ones with the stars on them. We are a five-time Star Council, twice earning a double star. We will need to clear more wall space to find room to display all of our state awards.

Our members are involved in just about every facet of parish life, from parish council to the choir, to the parish office staff, to a liturgical Master of Ceremonies, to the artisan responsible for the hymn boards and bell maintenance, even to our newest priest. Wherever help is needed — rectory demolition, a Lenten fish fry, Advent and Holy Week setup, and much more — the Knights are always there.

Not bad for just eight years.

Since our founding, eight men have served as Grand Knight, nine if we include the contributions of one early leader:



## THE GRAND OPENING

**Brad Williams  
Grand Knight**

- pre-charter: Paul Neuendorf
- 2008-2009: Frank Oliver\*
- 2009-2010: Jay Stanley
- 2010-2011: Don L. Murphy
- 2011-2012: Robert J. Evanich
- 2012-2013: Edwin N. Barron III
- 2013-2014: Tim Rushenberg
- 2014-2015: Robert Collins
- 2015-2016: Lee Ashton

Brother Frank Oliver gets the asterisk because he took office during a partial year and held the post for one and one-half terms, our longest serving Grand Knight. Brother Paul Neuendorf merits more than honorable mention for serving as an “interim” GK during the months before the council was chartered, as membership rose to the magic number of 30 needed to officially establish it.

Every one of our past GKs remains active in the parish and in the Knights. Brother Lee Ashton was recently named State District Director for District 18. Brother Jay Stanley took on the demand-

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ing job of Council Financial Secretary, and has also served as State Church Director.

How did we get to this point? How did it all begin?

At the risk of leaving someone out, the names that get mentioned most in any discussion of the council's early days include Brothers Brian Murray, David Walden, Paul Neuendorf, Msgr. Joseph Schaedel and Fr. Michael Magiera.

After some false starts, things started to move forward in 2006. An article in the parish bulletin for Aug. 6 of that year bears the headline, “Holy Rosary could become home of Knights of Columbus council.” Soon thereafter (Aug. 27) Fr. Magiera came to Holy Rosary and tirelessly promoted the Knights. [See sidebar

article below my column.]

One early controversy threatened to derail the project. An article in the Feb. 25, 2007, bulletin stated, "Some men in our parish have been hesitant to join our prospective Knights of Columbus council over fears that they may be subjected to a liturgy not of their liking. They want to know if the Knights here would be a Latin Mass or an English Mass council." The article's author responded, "The answer is: neither," observing that the Knights are a service organization, not a liturgical society [see the complete article below].

We are pleased to report that liturgical preferences remain irrelevant.

Membership ramped up in mid-2007. A First Degree Exemplification in Priori Hall on July 1 brought in nine new Knights. Then, on Jan. 20, 2008, five

more men took the First Degree, bringing the number of members to the needed 30. Fr. Magiera became the council's first chaplain.

We don't know exactly when or how the name "Santo Rosario" was chosen. The first reference to it appears in the Feb. 3, 2008, bulletin.

The framed charter contains the names of the 30 founding members. You will recognize many of them for their continued service to the council and to the parish.

There is more to be said about our founding and about lessons learned along the way. If you have stories to tell about 14449's origins, or how particular events got started, or challenges met and overcome, or others deserving of mention, please drop me a line at [blw14449@gmail.com](mailto:blw14449@gmail.com). Give me enough material for Part 2.

## Fr. McGivney would be proud

*Perhaps the greatest advocate in the short history of our council was our first chaplain, Fr. Michael Magiera. He arrived at Holy Rosary on Aug. 27, 2006, and thereafter tirelessly promoted the Knights and our council in every venue to which he had access. Below is an early example of his work, an excerpt from an article he wrote for the parish bulletin on Oct. 15, 2006:*



Fr. Magiera

On another matter, I would like to repeat my exhortation to the men of our parish, reminding you, if I may, of my recent talk on fortitude. I explained that fortitude is a "manly" virtue. That means that it is the shining glory of a man who is fortunate enough to have this virtue in his spiritual arsenal. It is a virtue that pursues the difficult good. This is what men, by their nature, are supposed to do. To that end, I restate my entreaty to any and all men in this blessed parish to consider — seriously — becoming a charter member of a parish Knights of Columbus council. I have been a fourth-degree Knight for several years and would be privileged and honored to serve as council chaplain. But in order to be a council chaplain, a council is needed. For that, we come to you, men of Holy Rosary. Please consider being a part of this proposed council. Current Knights could quite easily transfer existing memberships to this new council.

## Would the K of C at Holy Rosary be Latin or English?

*This article appeared in the Feb. 25, 2007, parish bulletin, underlining one of the early controversies that delayed our council's founding.*

Some men in our parish have been hesitant to join our prospective Knights of Columbus council over fears that they might be subjected to a liturgy not of their liking. They want to know if the Knights here would be a Latin Mass or an English Mass council.

The answer is: neither. The K of C is not a liturgical organization. It is a Catholic men's fraternal benefit society that primarily concerns itself with good works. Knights are Catholic men, 18 years of age and older, who are committed to making their community a better place and to supporting the Church and their parish. Spiritual social and intellectual fellowship is promoted among members and their families through educational, charitable, religious, social welfare, war relief and public relief works.

We believe Holy Rosary could be home to a strong Knight of Columbus council whose members would make a difference in our parish and the community. If you are interested in joining the effort, please contact David Walden in the parish office, 636-4478.





# Oktoberfest

# Trivia Night

Bratwurst • Beer • Wine  
— and fun for all —

proceeds to benefit  
local charities

Saturday,  
**October 22**  
2016

Doors open 5:30 pm • 1<sup>st</sup> Round 6:45 pm

**Holy Rosary Catholic Church • Priori Hall**

520 Stevens Street • Indianapolis, IN 46203 • 317-636-4478

**\$30**/person • **\$300**/table

Tickets on sale after every Sunday Mass at Holy Rosary  
or contact Charlie Stevens at [stevens.charles39@yahoo.com](mailto:stevens.charles39@yahoo.com)

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize: \$500**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: \$400 — 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$300**



## There's still room at council's annual Father-Son Campout

We are once again sponsoring a Father-Son Campout Oct. 21-23 at Brown County State Park. It is open to all fathers and sons in Holy Rosary Parish who are capable of hiking, with a

### *Knighly news from home and abroad*



park-mandated limit of 30 people.

The outing includes hiking, Bible reading, rosary praying and singing around the campfire. Everyone is back in time for Mass on Sunday. Brother Jerry Friederick, who is organizing the campout, is attempting to get a priest to join the outing.

Cost is \$15/boy, \$20/adult. RSVP to Jerry at 317-894-5710 or [stpatrick@lifegrid.com](mailto:stpatrick@lifegrid.com). (He is also looking for a grubmaster, someone to buy food and help cook.)

### *Volunteers Needed for Fall Fundraiser*

We are preparing for our Council's first ever Trivia Night, scheduled for Saturday, October 23 following the 4:30 Mass. We need volunteers for various tasks, particularly with non-food supplies and setup. Most of the work will take place the week prior. For this year, the event will take the place of our Knight in Paris dinner.

To volunteer, sign the sheet at the Oct. 5 business meeting, or contact Grand Knight Brad Williams at [blw14449@gmail.com](mailto:blw14449@gmail.com).

### *Flood victims still needing your support*

Thanks to the support of Brother Knights around the world, our Order has provided more than \$500,000 in support to the victims of the flooding that devastated the area of Baton Rouge, La. Recently Supreme Knight Carl Anderson and Supreme Secretary Michael O'Connor visited the site and saw the massive amount of work that still remains to be done. For a firsthand look at the recovery efforts, visit [www.kofc.org/en/news/releases/louisiana-flood-relief.html](http://www.kofc.org/en/news/releases/louisiana-flood-relief.html).

The recovery has begun, but there is still much to do. Please donate what you can to help these efforts continue and to make a difference for these people in need. Visit [www.kofc.org/en/secure/charities/louisiana-flood-relief.html](http://www.kofc.org/en/secure/charities/louisiana-flood-relief.html).

## Santo Rosario Council Officers

2016-2017

Grand Knight .....	Brad Williams
Deputy Grand Knight .....	Daniel Knight
Chancellor.....	Charles Stevens
Chaplain.....	Fr. C. Ryan McCarthy
Assistant Chaplain .....	Fr. Luke Reese
Recorder .....	David Walden
Treasurer.....	Tom Brown
Advocate.....	Jose Ocampo
Warden .....	Kevin Richards
Inside Guard .....	Jerry Friederick
Outside Guard.....	Zachary Williams
3-Year Trustee .....	Lee Ashton
2-Year Trustee .....	Bob Collins
1-Year Trustee .....	Frank Oliver
Financial Secretary .....	Jay Stanley
Past Grand Knight .....	Lee Ashton
Lecturer.....	Brad Love

### *Committee Chairmen*

Program Director .....	Daniel Knight
Membership Director.....	Edwin Barron III
Church Director .....	Ned Hummel
Community Director.....	Frank Oliver
Council Director .....	Brad Love
Culture of Life Director.....	Charles Stevens
Youth Director .....	Walt Janiec
Family Director .....	Pat Preston
Gibault Envoy.....	Kevin Richards

### *Council Crier*

The *Council Crier* is published quarterly by the Knights of Columbus Santo Rosario Council, No. 14449, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis, IN 46203. It is distributed at no charge to its membership and is posted on Santo Rosario Council's website, <http://kofcsantorosario.org>. Articles and items of interest for the *Council Crier* may be submitted to Editor David Walden at the above address or via e-mail to [dgwalden@aol.com](mailto:dgwalden@aol.com).

### *Holy See honors K of C with Path to Peace Award*

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson and the entire Order will receive the 2016 Path to Peace Award from the Holy See's Permanent Observer to the U.N. for their life-saving work on behalf of Christians and persecuted minorities in the Middle East.



**SK Don R. Murphy, FIC, FICF**  
Field Agent

## *Protecting the breadwinner's income*

**W**hile jobs may be safer in 2016, accidents, injuries, and illnesses that can impact your ability to work still happen. Most, in fact, do not happen on the jobsite or place of employment. Did you know that a 2011 study revealed that more than 95 percent of the long-term disability claims on file were not work related?

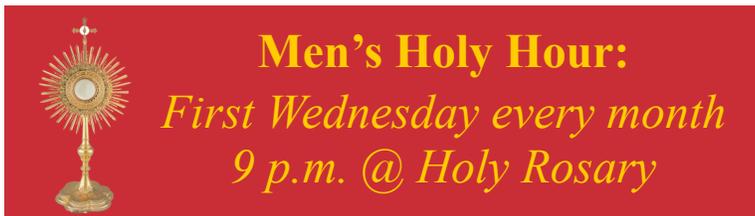
The Knights have always sought to protect members' families from the "loss" of a breadwinner. I'm sure you know all about Father McGivney's vision for our insurance program. But you may not know that Father McGivney also wanted to find a way to help members who couldn't work because of an illness. After all, the "loss" of the breadwinner does not have to mean that person's death; it can also mean the loss of the breadwinner's income.

Consider that loss for a moment. How would your family fare if a source of income suddenly stopped? Could a dual-income family manage on one income? What about young families with a working father and a mother who cares for the children? What if his income halted due to an accident or illness?

I've heard some people say they have coverage at work, but too many aren't sure what this coverage entails, how much income it would provide or for how long. Having this protection counts for something, certainly, but it isn't "yours"; it's provided by the company for which you work at their discretion. It could be eliminated tomorrow.

That's where a personally-owned disability income insurance product, like Income Armor, comes into play. It can offer valuable income replacement in the event of an injury or illness. If you have a job, you must know about this coverage.

Don Murphy  
317-532-7330  
Don.murphy@kofc.org



**Men's Holy Hour:**  
*First Wednesday every month*  
*9 p.m. @ Holy Rosary*



# COUNCIL CALENDAR

- Friday-Saturday **OCT 7-8** **First Friday Adoration**  
Holy Rosary Church  
7 p.m. to 7 a.m.
- Sunday **OCT 16** **Membership Drive**  
Holy Rosary Church  
All Masses
- Sunday **OCT 16** **Parish Breakfast**  
Priori Hall  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Saturday **OCT 22** **Trivia Night**  
Priori Hall  
6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday **OCT 26** **Officers Meeting**  
Priori Hall  
6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Sunday **OCT 30** **Café Rosario**  
CLOSED FOR THE DAY
- Thursday **NOV 3** **Business Meeting**  
Priori Hall  
6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m. (social hour until 9)
- Friday-Saturday **NOV 4-5** **First Friday Adoration**  
Holy Rosary Church  
7 p.m. to 7 a.m.
- Saturday **Nov 5** **Indulgence Walk**  
Holy Cross/St. Joseph cemeteries  
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Wednesday **NOV 30** **Officers Meeting**  
Priori Hall  
6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Friday-Saturday **DEC 2-3** **First Friday Adoration**  
Holy Rosary Church  
7 p.m. to 7 a.m.
- Wednesday **DEC 7** **Business Meeting**  
Priori Hall  
6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m. (social hour until 9)
- Sunday **DEC 25** **Café Rosario**  
CLOSED FOR THE DAY
- Wednesday **DEC 21** **Officers Meeting**  
Priori Hall  
6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m.

# Parish Picnic 2016



**ABOVE:** Don R. Murphy demonstrates that he's as good with a grill as he is with K of C Insurance.

Top four photos  
by Sean Gallagher;  
bottom photo  
by Brad Williams.

**ABOVE:** Fourth Degree Knights carry the colors at a short ceremony in memory of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks — exactly 15 years prior to this year's parish picnic.



**LEFT:** Children of the parish made good use of the bocce courts at Edna Balz Lacy Park.



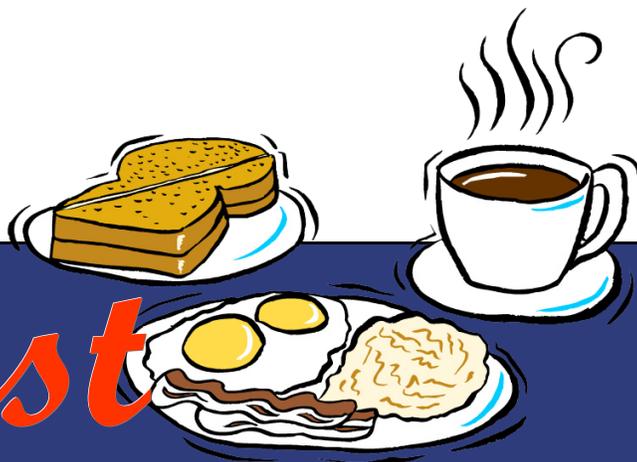
**RIGHT:** Parishioners load up their plates with fare provided by the Knights and brought by the parishioners themselves.

**BELOW:** Another good-sized crowd attended the picnic to enjoy picture-perfect weather and the company of fellow parishioners — and, in many cases, to expand their waistslines.



# Parish

# Breakfast



## Sunday, October 16, 2016

9 a.m. — 2 p.m.

*Priori Hall • Holy Rosary Church*



*All you can eat!*

**\$ 6** per person

**\$ 30** maximum per family

Scrambled Eggs • Biscuits & Sausage Gravy  
French Toast Sticks & Syrup • Sausage Links  
Fresh Coffee, Tea & Juice • Biscuits with Butter & Jelly



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
SANTO ROSARIO COUNCIL 14449



**Carl A. Anderson**  
**Supreme Knight**

*This article first appeared in the August 2016 edition of Columbia magazine.*

## ***Ongoing work of Order testifies to laity's mission***

**T**his past June, I had the privilege of attending the 28th plenary assembly of the Pontifical Council for the Laity. I had been appointed a member of the council by Pope John Paul II and reappointed by Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis.

At the start of the meeting, the president of the council, Cardinal Stanisław Ryłko, observed that Pope Francis recently reminded us of a phrase that was popular following the Second Vatican Council: “The hour of the laity has come.” But then, the pope added, “it seems that the clock has stopped.”

In his direct and often provocative way, the Holy Father was raising the issue of whether the laity today lives up to its vocation and mission in the Church. He went on to say that the laity is called to many initiatives exhibiting “the necessary boldness to enable the Good News of the Gospel to be brought to all areas of the social and, above all, political sphere.”

Pope Francis rejects a view that minimizes the role of the laity and “gradually extinguishes the prophetic flame to which the entire Church is called to bear witness.”

Reflecting on these words, Cardinal Ryłko stated, “The missionary Church, a Church that goes out with courage toward the peripheries of the world, sees the urgent need to rekindle the flame that animated the life of the prophets. In order to do this, lay Christians must rediscover the beauty of their prophetic vocation in the world! They must allow themselves to be inflamed by this fire and missionary zeal.”

Obviously, there is much here for us to think about. But the first thing we may say is that the clock has not stopped for the Knights of Columbus. To the contrary, as the world’s premier organization of Catholic men, we are in many ways ahead of time.

That is to say, we continue to hold high “the prophetic flame” to which Catholics are called to bear witness.

Our Ultrasound Initiative, for instance, has placed 600 state-of-the-art ultrasound machines in pregnancy resource centers that are saving thousands of lives every month.

Our programs to strengthen Catholic family life, such as Building the Domestic Church, the Holy Family Holy Hour, and family consecration to the Holy Family, will help develop a network of familyfriendly parishes in all the countries where we are active. These programs will encourage millions of families – many of whom are wounded and struggling – to more fully live the joy of the Gospel.

Our efforts to protect religious liberty and end the scourge of Christian genocide have already achieved important results, not only in the courts but also in the U.S. Congress and the State Department. And we have become a leader in providing direct aid to and raising awareness about persecuted Christian refugees in the Middle East.

Each year, our councils undertake many thousands of locally inspired programs at the parish level, making life better for millions of people. And all of this is the legacy of our founder, Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, whose spiritual genius inspired generations of Catholic men to step forward with courage to confront the challenges of their day by living out the principles of charity, unity and fraternity in a distinctly Catholic way.

The prophetic flame that Pope Francis speaks about continues to burn bright in the hearts of our brother Knights around the world. That flame ignites in them a true sense of Catholic charity – a charity that evangelizes and that brings, in a very concrete way, a light to the nations.

*Vivat Jesus!*

# ELECTION DAY ADORATION



**Tuesday,  
NOV. 8**

**Anno Domini MMXVI**

*Pray for  
the U.S.*

**6 AM - 6 PM**

**Mass or Adoration**

**as long as the polls  
are open in Indiana**

**6:30 a.m. Anglican Use**

**7:30 a.m. Ordinary Form**

**5:45 p.m. Extraordinary Form**

**Holy Rosary Catholic Church**

520 Stevens Street ★ Indianapolis, Indiana 46203 ★ 317-636-4478



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
SANTO ROSARIO COUNCIL 14449



**Pope Francis  
Supreme Pontiff**

*The Holy Father delivered this address at the weekly Angelus on Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016.*

## ***Choose the road that leads to God***

**T**oday, Jesus invites us to reflect on two opposing ways of life: the way of the world and that of the Gospel — the worldly spirit is not the spirit of Jesus — and He does so by recounting the parable of the unfaithful and corrupt steward, who is praised by Jesus, despite his dishonesty (cf. Lk 16:1-13). We must point out immediately that this administrator is not presented as a model to follow, but as an example of deceitfulness. This man is accused of mismanaging his master's affairs, and before being removed, astutely he tries to ingratiate himself with the debtors, condoning part of their debt so as to ensure himself a future. Commenting on this behavior, Jesus observes: "For the sons of this world are wiser in their own generation than the sons of light" (v. 8).

We are called to respond to this worldly astuteness with Christian astuteness, which is a gift of the Holy Spirit. This is a matter of departing from the worldly spirit and values, which the devil really favors, in order to live according to the Gospel. How is worldliness manifested? Worldliness is manifested by attitudes of corruption, deception, subjugation, and it constitutes the most ill-chosen road, the road of sin, because one leads you to the other! It's like a chain, even if — it's true — it is generally the easiest road to travel. Instead, the spirit of the Gospel requires a serious lifestyle — serious but joyful, full of joy! — serious and challenging, marked by honesty, fairness, respect for others and their dignity, and a sense of duty. And this is Christian astuteness!

The journey of life necessarily involves a choice between two roads: between honesty and dishonesty, between fidelity and infidelity, between selfishness and altruism, between good and evil. You can not waver between one and the other, because they move on different and conflicting forms of logic. The prophet Elijah said to the people of Israel that went on these two roads: "You are limping with both feet!" (cf. 1 Kings 18:21). It's a fine image. It is important to decide which direction to take and then, once you have chosen the right one, to walk it with enthusiasm and determination, trusting in God's grace and the support of His Spirit. The conclusion of the Gospel passage is powerful and categorical: "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other" (Lk 16:13).

With this teaching, Jesus today urges us to make a clear choice between Him and the worldly spirit, between the logic of corruption, of the abuse of power and greed, and that of righteousness, meekness and sharing. Some people conduct themselves with corruption as they do with drugs: they think they can use it and stop when they want. It starts out small: a tip here, a bribe over there. ... And between this and that, one's freedom is slowly lost. Corruption is also habit-forming, and generates poverty, exploitation, and suffering. How many victims there are in the world today! How many victims of this widespread corruption. But when we try to follow the Gospel logic of integrity, clarity in intentions and in behavior, of fraternity, we become artisans of justice and we open horizons of hope for humanity. In gratuitousness and by giving of ourselves to our brothers and sisters, we serve the right master: God.

May the Virgin Mary help us to choose at every opportunity and at all costs, the right way, even finding the courage to go against the tide, in order to follow Jesus and his Gospel.

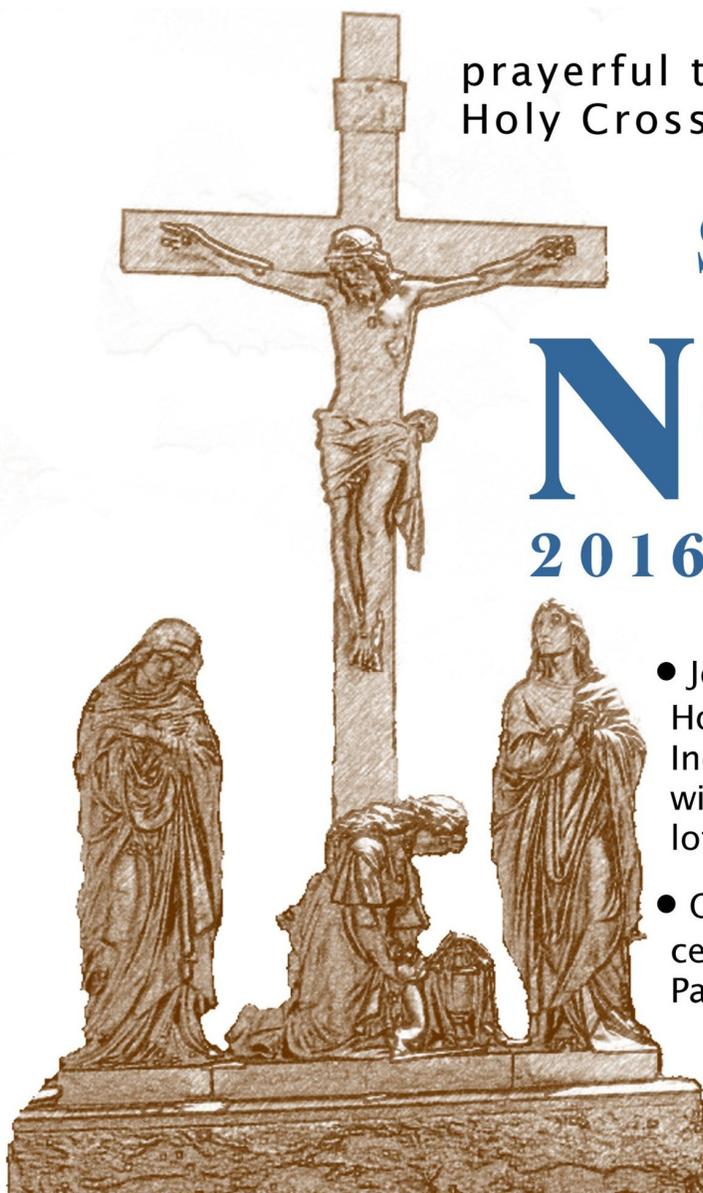
***It is important to decide which direction to take and then, once you have chosen the right one, to walk it with enthusiasm and determination, trusting in God's grace and the support of His Spirit.***

# INDULGENCE WALK

prayerful tour of historic  
Holy Cross/St. Joseph Cemeteries

SATURDAY

NOV 5  
2016



- Join us for the Mass at **10 a.m.** at Holy Rosary Church, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. Those going on the tour will depart from the church parking lot immediately afterward.
- Or meet us at **10:30 a.m.** near the cemetery entrance on Pleasant Run Parkway near Bluff Road.

Pray for the dead and learn  
the stories behind (and beneath)  
the tombstones of ...

## WHY AN 'INDULGENCE WALK'?

A plenary indulgence, applicable only to the Poor Souls, is granted Nov. 1-8 to those who visit a cemetery and pray for the dead. The following conditions must also be met for the faithful to gain the indulgence:

- A sacramental confession must be made within a period of about 20 days before or after the work performed.
- Eucharistic Communion must be received within several days of the work, although it is fitting that it be done on the same day.
- Prayer for the intention of the Pope must be made within several days of the work, although again it is fitting that it be done the same day.



...the 'mentor' of notorious  
bank robber and infamous  
Public Enemy No. 1,  
John Dillinger...

...a major league player and  
executive who once was  
proclaimed the 'King of Baseball'...



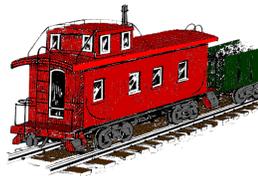
...not exactly Willy Wonka,  
but a family of confectioners  
who made life here sweeter...

...and more!



## THE EDITOR'S CABOOSE

David Walden  
Editor



### *Cleansing the soul in a 'Little Way'*

**L**ate one Saturday morning, my wife's sister and her teenage daughter made a surprise visit to our home. Although I don't recall the purpose of their visit, I clearly remember what I was doing at the time because it seemed to disturb my niece.

"Uncle David," she said with clear concern in her voice, "every time I'm here, you're washing dishes. Is that all you *ever* do?"

It wasn't surprising that she'd say that. It's true, every time my in-laws come over, I'm the one who washes the dishes. I'm also the one who performs that task most days for my immediate family. Standing on sore feet in a water-stained shirt with suds up to my elbows has become part and parcel with my existence. In part this reflects a certain amount of obsessive-compulsive behavior (i.e. pride) on my part: no one else can clean and put away dishes to my complete satisfaction. It's also the deal my wife and I made long ago: she cooks and I clean up afterward. And, when her family or friends visit, I want to make sure that she is able to spend time with them and not worry about the mess in the kitchen. (She happily returns the favor when my friends visit.)

But that explanation isn't the one I offered to my niece. Instead, not missing a single swipe of the soapy dishrag over a plate, I said over my shoulder, "Don't worry about me; it's all part of my master plan to become the patron saint of dishwashers."

I offered it as a joke, but I also hoped she might take away a lesson from it. We attain heaven not necessarily through great, public acts, but more often through small, routine tasks that are performed with proper disposition. St. Thérèse of Lisieux, "the Little Flower" — whose feast day the Church celebrates October 1 — advocated this as part of her "Little Way" of loving God.

"Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice," she said, "here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love."

Elsewhere in her writings, St. Thérèse explained, "I have no other means of proving my love for You other than ... not allowing one little sacrifice to escape, not one look, one word, profiting by all the smallest things, and doing them through love."

When I'm spiritually hitting on all cylinders, washing dishes does advance me along the road to heaven. The sore feet, ache in my back and shoulders, and the drudgery become sacrificial offerings for the love of God and my family. All too often, however, I either find myself resenting the endless time at the sink while others are enjoying themselves, or happily handing off the daily task to someone else "for a change" — behavior not exactly becoming of the wannabe patron saint of dishwashers.

St. Thérèse also spoke to that shortcoming, which she claimed was a fault of her own:

"So you see ... what a *very little* soul I am! I can only offer *very little* things to God," she wrote. "These little sacrifices bring great peace of soul, but I often let the chance of making them slip by. However, it does not discourage me. I put up with having a little less peace, and try to be more careful the next time."

The next time my niece visits, at some point she'll likely find me once again in the kitchen surrounded by dirty dishes. May it please God that He send me the Little Flower to whisper encouragement into my ear and to remind me that great love grows through the smallest of tasks.

St. Thérèse of Lisieux, pray for us!

