



THE BANNER

Unfurled for God and Country



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**Life Fest:
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BUSINESS MEETING, Feb 2, 7:00PM (DINNER SERVED!) ♦ **ALL MEETINGS IN PERSON AND ON ZOOM!**

Meet *IN PERSON or on Zoom!* Zoom Meeting ID 805 406 5230; passcode is VjfUN3
Business Meeting, Feb 2, 7pm; Home Meeting, Feb 9, 7:30pm; Officers' Meeting, Feb 23
MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE ON ZOOM AND IN PERSON!
BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR AN EMAIL FROM TONY DICICCO REGARDING MEETING REMINDERS.

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✠ *From the Desk of the Grand Knight*

February 2023

Brothers:

Welcome to February. We begin the month with blessing candles and our throats and end it in penance during the holy season of Lent.

We have been asked by Fr DeGrassa at Resurrection of Our Lord to once again assist with the "Soup-Or-Bowl" food drive the first two weekends of the month. The first weekend we just need people there to help organize the canned goods, while the second weekend will consist of organizing and then packing cars to take the food to Catholic Social Services that week.

The officers recently met with a seminarian and are looking forward to having a relationship with him, where there can be sharing from both sides. More details will follow.

Brothers, I will be having knee replacement surgery on the 16th of this month. I ask for your prayers to guide the medical team and for a successful recovery.

Vivat Jesus,
Tony DiCicco
Grand Knight

(continued)

Can you help at Resurrection the first two weekends in February?



✠ *Pro-Life Chairman*

Brothers,

I hope you're all well and surviving the mildest winter we've had in a while (I hope I just didn't jinx us!). On top of the normal pro-life events being the rosary walk February 4th 10:30 to noon with the Sisters of Life, and Holy Hour February 18th down at St Malachi's, I was asked to revitalize the pro-life organization at Saint Cecilia's.

The pro-life movement has always been very important part of the Knights of Columbus, and I'm looking forward to making a more active contribution to this organization. Working hand-in-hand with the Sisters of Life has always been one of my main goals. So, with that said, the pastor of Saint Cecilia's is asked us to start the group again. If you are interested in becoming an active member of the pro-life movement there will be a meeting at Saint Cecilia's rectory on February 18th at 9:00a.m.

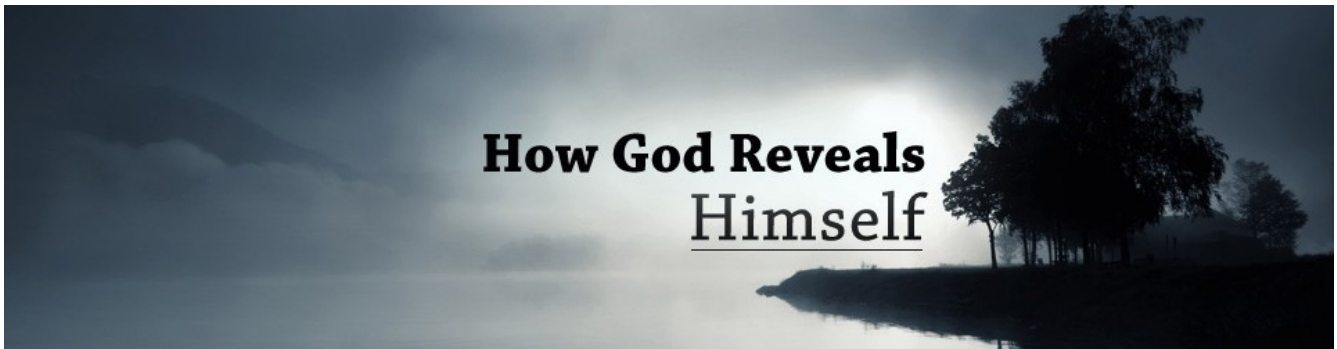
As I stated to the officers, I'm automatically adding members of the Knights who are parishioners of Saint Cecilia's to our list. Please call me or text me at 215-694-3708 if you have any questions. I will explain how the program will work at the meeting on 18th. If you can't make that meeting let me know. I am not asking for a permanent commitment--it's like anything else we do you give as much or as little as you are comfortable with.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you very soon. God bless.

Chuck Kuhar
Pro-Life Chairman



God Reveals Himself Gradually in Stages



It endlessly amazes me how God inspires us by tying together little everyday things, thoughts, words, etc. to form or confirm a teaching, prayer, idea, or new thought.

I decided earlier today to organize my notes on “The Catechism in a Year.”

It is day 17 and the margins of my Catechism are full of scribbled notes all over the place with no real order. In the back of my mind, I’m also thinking it’s getting late into the month and I need to get started on the Lecturers’ message for The Banner newsletter.

As I’m putting my notes in order, I see a remarkable connection from the Catechism to an RCIA article I have been trying to complete; writing, rewriting, and rewriting repeatedly always towards a dead end. I’m slow to get things, but this time God slapped me on the head and ‘suddenly’ I got it! I use the ‘suddenly’ tongue-in-cheek. This can also be a great topic for the newsletter. It might help someone out there. It also reveals why it takes me so long to learn.

Paragraph 54 of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, CCC 54 and CCC 122 talk about God’s divine Revelation to us. God wants you and me to move closer to Him and what better way than to help us get to know him. He first revealed himself to our first parents. Even after they sinned, He didn’t abandon us. He again manifests Himself after the flood through a covenant (*promise, treaty*) with Noah, then again with Abraham. After this God forms the people of Israel and the final revelation, the mediator and fullness of all revelation is the Christ Jesus.

God’s divine Revelation occurred in stages gradually over thousands of years.

CCC 65 teaches there will be no further divine Revelation after Christ. Yet even if Revelation is already complete, it has not been made completely explicit. It remains for Christian faith gradually to grasp its full significance over the course of the centuries.” (CCC 66).

So, if God reveals to far greater minds in stages and gradually, I understand why it takes me so long. The key points here are “gradually” and “in stages.” Why can’t God just infuse us all with complete knowledge and understanding of Him all at once?

That way we could all be fully in love with God, desire nothing more and exist in ecstatic joy and fulfillment in union with Him. Oh, wait! That’s coming.

It makes perfect sense for God to reveal Himself gradually and in stages. Think of it this way. Can a first grader understand eighth-grade instruction?

God had to start somewhere. Imagine you were able to go back in time and bring someone from the 4th or 5th century forward to 2023. They would probably die of cultural shock at the sight of an automobile, no less an airplane or space travel. The same with Revelation.

God had to meet the human race where they were in their time, whatever time period. He had to meet them in their culture. Our first parents, Abraham, Moses, Noah all met God based on their culture and customs of the period in which they lived. And we humans need time to think about, absorb, and accept new ideas.

Otherwise, it would be like the 21st Century technology and culture crushing down on a 4th century person. Thus, the gradual Revelation in stages.

CCC 122 explains the economy of the Old Testament books, but it can apply to all of God’s Revelation: “Even though they contain matters imperfect and provisional (*exists for the time being, but may possibly change later*), the books of the Old Testament bear witness to the whole divine pedagogy (*Teaching, education, training*) of God’s saving love.”

To be understood by humans, God’s Revelation had to be in human language, instructed in their way of living and thinking (provisional), and at their level of understanding (First Graders).

I think this still applies today for each one of us. It is with joy and fulfillment that we learn a little bit step-by-step, building on each preceding step to higher levels of understanding to know, love, and serve God.

You and I can move closer to God and fall more in love with him by getting to know Him. Somedays more than others, gradually, in stages!

Jesus Lives!
Will Schmitt, PGK
2nd Year Trustee

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PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR BROTHER KNIGHTS & LADIES

Please pray for peace in Ukraine. Please pray for victims of gun violence.
 Please call or email Tony DiCicco with the names of all ill Brother Knights and Ladies.
 Through "Prayers Unite the World" www.prayersunitetheworld.org,



*TO ALL WHO WERE
 BORN IN FEBRUARY!*

Richard L Girkin

Charles P Kuhar, Jr

Patrick Gleason

Anthony T Stamato

Rev. Joseph E Howarth

Rev Joel F Szydowski

Charles P Kuhar, Sr

Paul J Wuestkamp

If we missed your birthday, we apologize. Please send an email to the editors at council5036@gmail.com.

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PA KofC Newsletter: http://www.pakofc.us/newsletter/keystone_knight/index.html

Prospect Landing Page has been updated by Supreme.

Each council member should have this link readily available on your phone for obtaining new members. Especially if you are helping out at Church Membership Drives.

USA (English) Online Prospect Form: <https://info.kofc.org/us.html>

USA (Spanish) Online Prospect Form: https://info.kofc.org/us_sp.html

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Please submit all articles for the Banner (Council5036@gmail.com) by the 15th of the month.

