

**WASHINGTON STATE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**DECEMBER 2018**

**"THE SECOND EDITION"**

**A child is born**



**Advent, Advent, die erste Kerze brennt!"**

**Advent, Advent, the first candle is lit!**



**By Barbara Washburn**

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That was a very short little saying I often heard as a small catholic child during the very beginning of Christmas time, growing up in the hills of Austria and Bavaria. Our Advent Season is just like here in the United States, building up to the Christian Celebration of the birth of Jesus.

After having moved to this country and attending a few different religious services of various denominations, I noticed that the Advent Wreath in America, seen standing or hanging in catholic churches, holds a fifth candle. Speaking to a priest some years back, he enlightened me about this extra candle which I had not been familiar with. He indicated that the fifth candle is lit as we celebrate the birth of Christ, which is December 25, the Christmas Day holiday in the United States.

The fifth candle made me curious of the contrast different religious denominations might have when it comes to Advent candles and light displays around our globe. Advent Light Traditions appear to have a common denominator, which is to bring light into the dark.

Credit: Flickr.com



## **St. Lucy – Scandinavia and Italy**

In Italy and the Scandinavian countries, we hear about St. Lucia Day, December 13, which always lands during Advent. This celebration originates from stories that were passed on by Monks who introduced Christianity to Sweden. St Lucia was a young Christian girl who was killed for her faith, in 304. She is considered the “saint of light,” which makes her an applicable Advent symbol to foretell the coming of the Light of the World, Jesus. Due to the longest period of time for darkness that surrounds the winter solstice; many people in Scandinavian countries have blended this Catholic saint’s celebration with pantheism.

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***In the Philippines***, a Parol is a decorative, star-shaped lantern which is customarily made out of bamboo and paper, and comes in various sizes and shapes, but generally the basic star pattern remains dominant. These lanterns signify the Star of Bethlehem. Some Filipinos explain that they are used to light the way for worshippers, as they marched to a very early 4 AM mass. These lanterns are often considered as meaningful to them as Christmas trees are to the western domain. They are usually very imaginatively and brightly decorated. This lantern tradition reminded me of our Saint Martin’s Parades in the dark each year on November 11 in Germany.



Credit: spirituality.Knoji.com

## **Germany, Austria and Switzerland**

A favorite for many people around the world, including residents of our country, is the Christmas Pyramid, die Weihnachts Pyramide”, as called in German speaking countries. This romantic and beautiful candle light display goes back clear to the middle ages, and it is my own most favorite.

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S** Back in the mountainous regions of Germanys' Erzgebirge, workers were not able to support their families during the harsh winter month, and many took to creating things out of wood as a way to spend their time. This way their children were able to receive small Christmas presents despite the grinding poverty. There was no lack of wood in the dense forests of the Erzgebirge Region.

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R** The long, dark nights of wintertime allowed the wood carvers enough time to create items they could also sell later. The movement of the pyramids through the warmth of the candle lights, was copied from conveyor techniques used by the carvers when working in quarries and mine pits. It appears almost magical when the various levels of the Christmas Pyramids start their motions, as they appear to come to life.

Below is a life size Weihnachtspyramid at the Christmas Market in Erfurt, Germany. Many larger villages and cities have been erecting these grander pyramids for display, and they often become the center of the towns' Christmas markets.



**Photo credit: Erfurt.de**

## **The Jewish Faith**

Needless to say, many other Advent lighting customs exist that are not listed or named in my article. Nonetheless, it has been educational and enjoyable to do this research. It appears that just about every country or region on our planet has very precise customs; these are ethnic to its' societies and history. All of these displays and traditions in their own way contribute a livelier and full depiction of the loveliness and meaning of Advent lights.

Even in the Jewish faith, Advent shows a longing for a Redeemer. In fact, the word "Advent" means appearance, entrance or coming. Jewish members look back at Advent even as they anticipate a future contentment. Hanukkah portrays the Jewish Festival of Lights, and it remembers the rededication of the second Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. The Menorah Jewish candle display, is placed in the very front window of homes. People passing can observe the lights recollecting the story of Hanukkah.



*|Image Credits: blueenayim/I-stock*

My sentiment is that International Advent customs and celebrations can so nicely be embraced into our own, and familiarized, way of preparing for Christmas. Let's face it; we all too often do not concern ourselves with the undying characteristics of Christmas. In its' place we tend to choose the material version of consumeristic gaining of measurable goods. All of us Catholics, or non-Catholics, could surely enrich ourselves by embracing these traditions, or at least accepting them, as part of our Advent planning; because, no matter how we look at it, it's all about bringing light into the darkness.

**Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night... Happy Advent!**

# "Date Which Will Live in Infamy"



## Karl A. Hadley, PSD, FVSM, FMFD

On December 7, 1941, three Japanese torpedoes struck the battleship USS Oklahoma causing her to capsize. LTJG Schmitt and several other sailors found themselves trapped below deck in a rapidly flooding compartment. There was a porthole just above the waterline and Schmitt urged his shipmates to safety. When Schmitt's turn came, he realized there were still more sailors behind him and he returned to the compartment to help them escape.

The unknown sailors of the USS Oklahoma who went down with their ship and others who died on that fateful day were buried in the crater of an extinct volcano above Honolulu, marked by row upon row of headstones.

In 2016, as part of a project of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency to identify these graves, the bones of Father Aloysius H. Schmitt, LTJG, Chaplain Corps, US Navy, a Catholic priest from St. Lucas, Iowa, were discovered. Father Schmitt was the first American Chaplain to die in World War II.

On October 8, 2016, Father Schmitt's remains were interred in Christ the King Chapel at his alma mater, Loras College, in Dubuque, Iowa. In his homily, Archbishop Michael O. Jackels said: "Try to imagine the drive for self-preservation that automatically kicks in at such a time when life is threatened, and then try to imagine what it would take to deny that impulse out of love for God, love for country, and love for others. ... This is the way to live a happy life, a full life, here and in the hereafter – imitating Christ, imitating Father Al, who imitated Christ."

Father Schmitt was honored posthumously with the Navy and Marine Corps Medal along with the Purple Heart and the Navy Cross. A destroyer escort named the USS Schmitt was commissioned in 1943 in his honor and served the US Navy until 1967. Along with the chapel at Loras College, St. Francis Xavier Chapel at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina, was built in his memory.

You might be asked, "Are Military Chaplains important?" If you reply, "Yes," then as one of your charitable contributions this year, please consider donating to the Military Chaplains Scholarship Fund.

And seventy-seven years later, let us not allow our children and grandchildren to forget the "Date Which Will Live in Infamy" and this Christmas let us remind them that we are the land of the free because we are the home of the brave.



On my way home one day, I stopped to watch a Little League base ball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first-base line, I asked one of the boys what the score was  
'We're behind 14 to nothing,' he answered  
With a smile.

'Really,' I said. 'I have to say you don't look very discouraged.'  
'Discouraged?', the boy asked with a Puzzled look on his face...

**'Why should we be discouraged? We haven't  
Been up to bat yet.'**

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An eye witness account from New York City , on a cold day in December, some years ago: A little boy, about 10-years-old, was standing before a shoe store on the roadway, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering With cold.

A lady approached the young boy and said,  
'My, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window!'  
'I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes,' was the boy's reply.

The lady took him by the hand, went into the store, and asked the clerk to get half a dozen pairs of socks for the boy. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water and a towel. He quickly brought them to her.

She took the little fellow to the back part of the store and, washed his little feet, and dried them with the towel. By this time, the clerk had returned with the socks.. Placing a pair upon the boy's feet, she purchased him a pair of shoes..

She tied up the remaining pairs of socks and gave them to him.. She patted him on the head and said, 'No doubt, you will be more comfortable now.' As she turned to go, the astonished kid caught her by the hand, and looking up into her face, with tears in his eyes, asked her.

**'ARE YOU GOD'S WIFE?'**

**My Dear Brothers:**

Michael Dumais, Coordinator - Respect Life Committee, Diocese of Spokane, requests we save the date for the "4th Annual - Walk for Life NW" set for Saturday, January 12, 2019, at Spokane's Riverfront Park, forming up near the Red Wagon Meadow. The Information Fair will begin at 11:00 AM and the Rally before the Walk at Noon.

Sharon and I have participated in the past, as have many of you, and we Knights and our families are called again to be the catalyst for this annual event to support Life in all its forms from conception to natural death.

Please mark your calendars to save the date, share the date with your parish Respect Life Committee, advise your members at the next council meeting, add this poster/notice to your December newsletters, and plan to attend as parish and community leaders. We look to see you all there.

George H. Czerwonka, Jr., PSD, FS  
Spokane Council 683  
509-370-1001  
[wonka1882@aol.com](mailto:wonka1882@aol.com)



*Pro Life is Pro Woman*

# WALK for LIFE

**4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**

**NORTHWEST**

Three photographs showing participants in the Walk for Life Northwest rally and march. The first photo shows a large crowd marching down a city street. The second photo shows a man speaking into a microphone at a podium. The third photo shows a group of people, including children, standing in a crowd holding signs.

Saturday, January 12 • Red Wagon Meadow • Spokane

Rally: 12 PM (noon)

**RED WAGON**  
Riverfront Park

Info Faire: 11:00 AM

Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019



**Joanna Hyatt  
of  
Live Action**



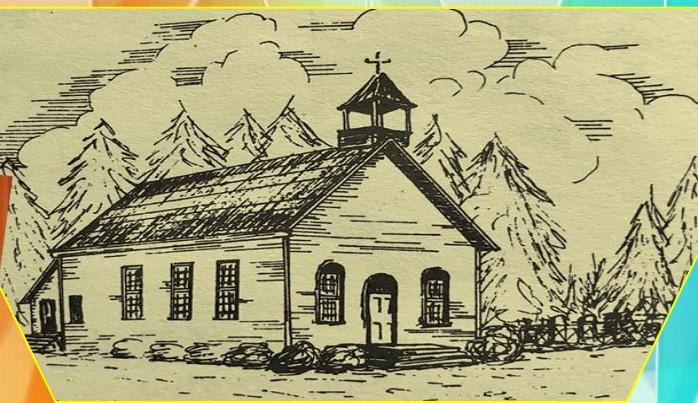
Having a Walk for Life? Enter your Walk here

**WalkforLifeNW.com**

# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CELEBRATES

SUBMITTED BY MIKE CALDERON

FROM NORTHWEST CATHOLIC



The first St. John the Evangelist Church  
in Vancouver was built in 1868.

# 150 YEARS IN VANCOUVER



The current St. John the Evangelist  
Church in Vancouver was dedicated in 2005.

KEEPING THE FLAME BURNING

*For Families in Need*

# Free Winter Coats for Kids



When: Friday November 23, 2018  
9am – 12pm

Where: Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
1905 Highland Ave in Prosser

Hot Coffee, Donuts, Juice Provided by  
**Knights of Columbus – Sacred Heart Council**

# **P R O S S E R C O N C I L 1 0 5 4 3**



# TO OUR MEMBERSHIP



# MERRY CHRISTMAS

From Your  
**OFFICERS  
& CHAIRMEN  
PAST & PRESENT**





# State Deputy-Merry Christmas Wish

Despite all of the turbulence that we as Catholics face in the world today, and all of the changes we must adapt to from our beloved Order, I wish that all of you my brothers would focus on the Joy of the Season. And I wish that you would put down your worries and feel the Peace and Hope that comes from knowing that Jesus Christ came into this world to save us all and by his sacrifice we may all someday enjoy eternal life-lived as a twenty-five year old, not as a sixty-one year old.

God Bless you all this Christmas Season!

**Bob Baemert**  
**WA State Deputy**



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**To all State Officers, District Deputies, State Chairmen, Masters (past and present) and all of my Brother Knights, wishing everyone a safe, Happy and Joyous Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.**

Vivat Jesus,  
Andrew J. Kraemer (Andy)  
FS , FDD, PGK, PFN  
253-475-0602  
[andykkofc@msn.com](mailto:andykkofc@msn.com)

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Sacred Heart Worthy Brothers,

I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and safe New Year! Thank you for all of your contributions this year and I look forward to a strong 2019!

**VIVAT JESUS,**  
**Jason Rose, GK BELLEVUE COUNCIL #8136**



*Gracious God,*

*In the spirit of Saint Nicholas we turn to you and ask for your  
blessing on these candy canes.*

*May their flavor sweeten our hearts with compassion and kindness.  
May their shape remind us to be shepherds of grace and generosity.  
May their bright colors attune us to the delightful sights and  
sounds of this sacred season.*

*Inspire us to be like Saint Nicholas, who brought comfort and  
joy to children and their families.*

*We ask this in the name of the Holy Child, Jesus, whose coming  
we await with anticipation and love.*

**Wishing everyone the true blessings of Christmas:  
Love, Joy, Peace, and Hope.**

**Merry Christmas  
John Wharton GK  
Obadiah 7642  
Kirkland, Washington**



Merry Christmas and a very blessed New Year, brothers remember what our mission and goals are. It's up to all of us knights to reach out and share with all our church family, knowing how blessed we are to be able to give of our selves. God bless.

## **Clarence Williams GK Willapa Harbor Council 1606**

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### **Christmas Message 2018**

**Merry Christmas to all my Brother Knights from Santa Ron!** I wish you and tours a Blessed celebration of the birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Pray that with His help we can make a difference for all of the Unborn Babies. Remember and participate in the upcoming March For Life.



**Ron DeGroot, Life Chairman  
Washington State Council  
Knights of Columbus**



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### **CHRISTMAS GREETING**

**Wishing the Brothers and their families of All Saint Council 1629 the peace, love, and joy that can only be provided by our Savior. May you be blessed this Christmas!**

**Duane Bennett, GK  
Puyallup Council 1629**



# FROM YOUR STATE TREASURER

Merry Christmas 2018  
Times of Plenty

When I was growing up on the farm, as long as we raised it, we had more than plenty to eat. When it came to money or new stuff, that was scarce.

In our stockings on Christmas morning, the kids always had oranges, pecans and peanuts in the shell, peanut clusters and a few homemade delights. Other than the homemade delights, the rest we only received during Christmas. It was a real treat.

Kind of funny, I followed the example of my older brothers in hanging up long johns instead of stockings. We received a lot more treats that way, at least we thought so. I think proportionally it was about the same.

We, usually, would receive one gift from Santa. It was usually a new pair of jeans or shirt. One particular Christmas, I received a transistor radio. I could barely get one station and it had lots of static. It didn't matter, I could make out one in four words and that was enough. Batteries were a problem too.

I listened to the radio so much over a two day period that it quit working. Batteries were another of those items that were a treat.

I was always confused why my parents never gave us a gift, but Santa did.

The biggest treat of all was when grandpa and grandma came over Christmas evening for oyster soup and fried oysters. Being young, I didn't realize that was the most expensive item for Christmas. It was tough to get fresh oysters in the Midwest and even tougher was East Coast oysters. That was my dad's favorite and no other oyster would do. We always purchased a gallon since the price per pound made much more sense. Had to justify it, you know.



Another treat was snow. In Northwest Missouri, one in four years we had snow at or before Christmas. So if we had snow, that even made it more special.

One particular year (1964) we had a blizzard Christmas Eve. No one left the house, except to feed the cattle. The drifts were so high we couldn't even get the tractor out to feed, so we carried the hay to the cattle. I remember it being so bitterly cold and it took us until noon to feed, carrying one bale at a time.

Grandpa and grandma couldn't make it to our house that year, but we did have the oyster soup and fried oysters since that gallon had been purchased a couple of days before. Man did that soup taste good with the cold weather outside. We saved enough for grandpa and grandma after the roads were cleared.

The real gift was having all of us together and it just hasn't been the same since those times. Sadly, most kids today will never experience the joy of having little. Making joy out of nothing was special and has made me who I am today.



**Memories....Merry Christmas!!!**  
**Kim Washburn-ST**

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**I'd like to say Merry Christmas to all my brother Financial Secretaries and Faithful Controllers and their families. Thank you for all the hard work that they do for your council's and assemblies. I wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year's.**

**I'm praying for your success this year in serving your assemblies and councils.**

**Dave Konzek, FS Consultant East**



**TO ALL KNIGHTS & THEIR FAMILIES  
A WARM CHRISTMAS GREETING**

**YAKIMA COUNCIL 894  
GIVE COATS TO KIDS  
AT MCKINLEY SCHOOL,**



A WARM Christmas greeting to all Knights and their families. This Fall over 50 councils participated in the Coats for Kids program. With the help of Supreme and their matching gift of Black Friday event coats we were able to keep about 7,000 kids warm and dry this winter.

Submitted By Roger Willis  
WA. State Coats for Kids Chairman.



To all my Brother Knights and Families

Linda and I would like to wish you all a season of hope, a season of love, and a season of blessings!

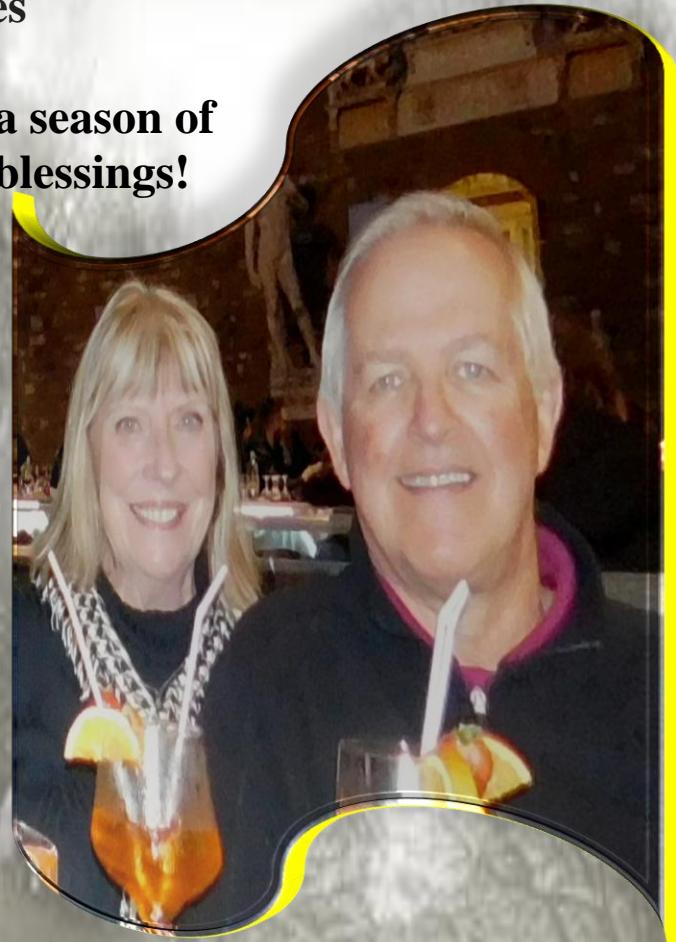
May the divine light of Christmas  
shine in your life this season!

*Vœux de Bonheur pour un Joyeux  
Noël et une Bonne Année!!!*

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo!!!

Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year!!!

**Marcel & Linda Bergeron**



I would like to pass on to all my brothers in their respective councils, the most blessed of Christmases and my appreciation for their reading of my articles throughout the year.

( IN SPANISH) Quiero decirles a todos mis hermanos en sus concilios, una Feliz Navidad y Prospero Año Nuevo y la bendición de Nuestro Señor para sus familias .

**Manny Aguilar**



# CHRISTMAS GREETING 2018

STATE ADVOCATE & MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR



From our family to yours, we wish you a  
Merry and Blessed Christmas 2018!

May you celebrate the birth of our  
Lord with loved ones  
and reflect on the many blessings He  
has provided in abundance.

May the peace and love of Christ  
transform your lives and  
be your source of strength in the New Year.

God's Blessings to you and yours  
during this Holy Christmas Season,

**GREG, DOREEN, SEAN AND CLIFTON MAHONEY**





# MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

## MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

### FROM THE EDITOR

Looking back on the year I see many messages of hope because of the people who dared to think and speak on the margins of society, they were not dependent on social correctness or societies routine, they spoke out under risk of abuse.

These people of faith when they lived up to their own message from God, had communication on the deepest level possible. Brothers the deepest level of communication is not communication, it is communion. It is wordless. It is beyond words, and it is beyond speech, and even beyond concept. It is not discovering a new unity, it is discovering an older unity. My brothers we are one. While some imagine that we are not. What we have to recover is our original unity. What we have to be is what we are.

With the gift of his Son the Lord gave us a limitless horizon, freedom to seek the highest truth without anyone's pressure or collective demand.

WE HAVE BEEN SHOWN THE POWER OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND  
WITH FAITH WHAT WE CAN ALL STRIVE FOR,  
EVEN IF IT SEEMS BEYOND ALL DREAMS ....

REMEMBER IN ALL IS GOD!



**DREAM BROTHERS DREAM !**

# Special Olympics Fall Games Lunch preparations

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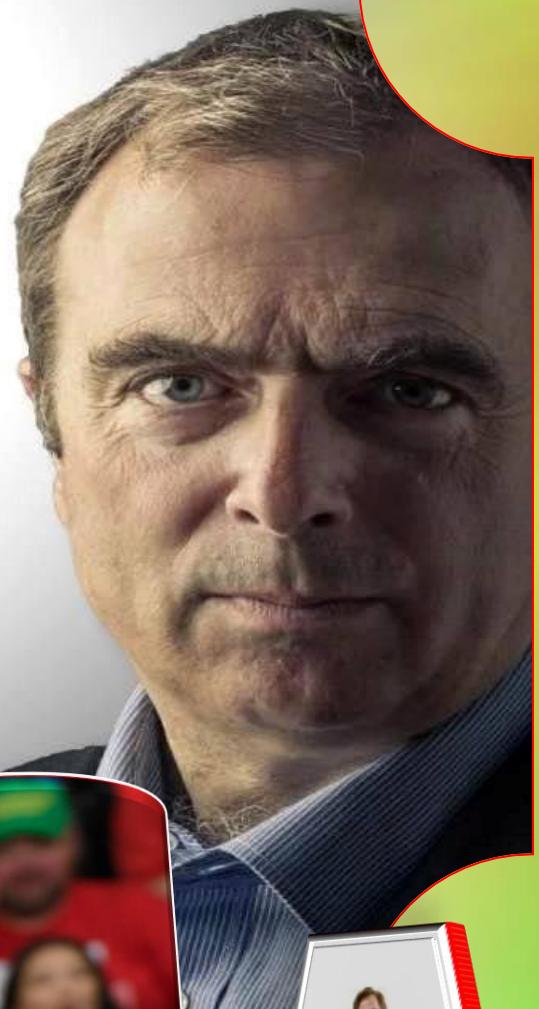
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Submitted by Darren E. Johnson Special Olympics Chairman

**Abortion** is the only event that modern liberals think too *violent* and *obscene* to portray on TV. This is not because they are squeamish or prudish. It is because if people knew what Abortion really looked like, it would destroy their pretense that it is a *civilized answer* to the problem of what to do about unwanted babies

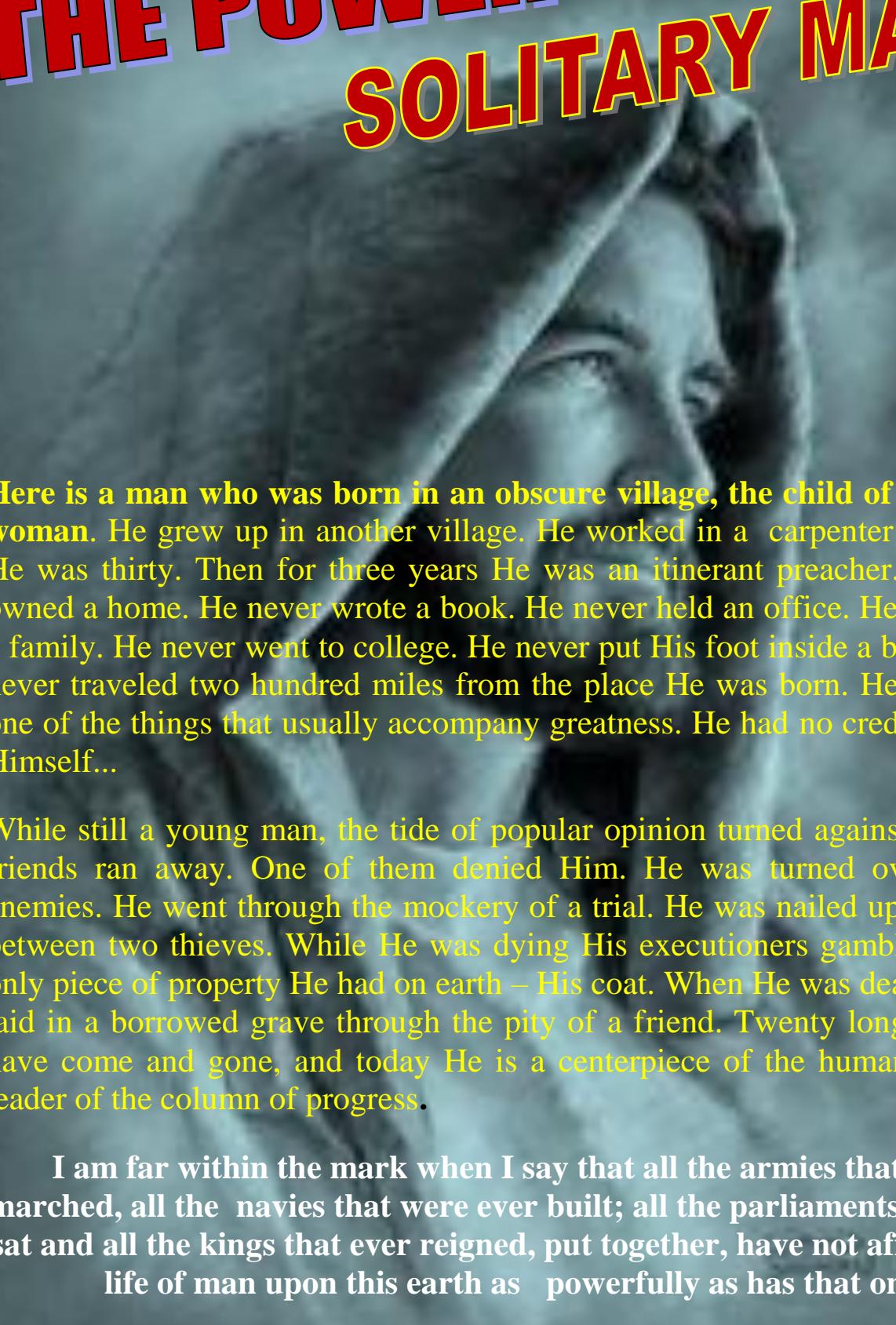
— Peter Hitchens



## My Pillow CEO Invests \$1M in Anti-Abortion Film

Michael Lindell, the millionaire inventor and CEO of MyPillow, has invested \$1 million into a new film from the makers of "God's Not Dead," and says he plans to spend more of his estimated \$300 million fortune on projects that fit his conservative message.

# THE POWER OF A SOLITARY MAN



Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty. Then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never owned a home. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put His foot inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself...

While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed upon a cross between two thieves. While He was dying His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth – His coat. When He was dead, He was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend. Twenty long centuries have come and gone, and today He is a centerpiece of the human race and leader of the column of progress.

I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, all the navies that were ever built; all the parliaments that ever sat and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that one

**SOLITARY LIFE.**

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# Christmas Adventure with Grandma

*I remember a time on Christmas Eve I needed to talk with Grandma. I was just a kid. I remember tearing across town on my bike to visit her on the day "a big kid" dropped the bomb: "There is no Santa Claus," he jeered. "Even dummies know that!" My Grandma was not the gushy kind, never had been. I fled to her that day because I knew she would be straight with me. I knew Grandma always told the truth, and I knew that the truth always went down a whole lot easier when swallowed with one of her "world-famous" cinnamon buns.*

## **Submitted by Steve Snell**

Grandma was home, and the buns were still warm. Between bites, I told her everything. She was ready for me. "No Santa Claus?" she snorted ..... "Ridiculous! Don't believe it. That rumor has been going around for years, and it makes me mad, plain mad!! Now, put on your coat, and let's go." "Go? Go where, Grandma?" I asked. I hadn't even finished my second world-famous cinnamon bun. "Where" turned out to be the Hardware Store, the one store in town that had a little bit of just about everything. As we walked through its doors, Grandma handed me ten dollars. That was a bundle in those days. "Take this money," she said, "and buy something for someone who needs it. I'll wait for you in the car." Then she turned and walked out of the store.

I was only eight years old. I'd often gone shopping with my mother, but never had I shopped for anything all by myself. The store seemed big and crowded, full of people scrambling to finish their Christmas shopping. For a few moments I just stood there, confused, clutching that ten-dollar bill, wondering what to buy, and who on earth to buy it for. I thought of everybody I knew: my family, my friends, my neighbors, the kids at school, the people who went to Mass at my church.

I was just about thought out, when I suddenly thought of Bobby Becker. He was a kid with bad breath and messy hair, and he sat right behind me in Mrs. Whitney's grade-two class. Bobby Becker didn't have a coat. I knew that because he never went out to recess during the winter. His mother always wrote a note, telling the teacher that he had a cough, but all we kids knew that Bobby Becker didn't have a cough; he didn't have a good coat. I fingered the ten-dollar bill with growing excitement. **I would buy Bobby Becker a coat!**

I settled on a red corduroy one that had a hood to it. It looked real warm, and he would like that. "Is this a Christmas present for someone?" the lady behind

counter asked kindly, as I laid my ten dollars down. "Yes, ma'am," I replied shyly. "It's for Bobby." The nice lady smiled at me, as I told her about how Bobby really needed a good winter coat. I didn't get any change, but she put the coat in a bag, smiled again, and wished me a Merry Christmas. That evening, Grandma helped me wrap the coat (*a little tag fell out of the coat, and Grandma tucked it in her Bible*) in Christmas paper and ribbons and wrote, "To Bobby, From Santa Claus" on it. Grandma said that Santa always insisted on secrecy. Then she drove me over to Bobby Becker's house, explaining as we went that I was now and forever officially, one of Santa's helpers.

Grandma parked down the street from Bobby's house, and she and I crept noiselessly and hid in the bushes by his front walk. Then Grandma gave me a nudge. "All right, Santa Claus," she whispered, "get going." I took a deep breath, dashed for his front door, threw the present down on his step, pounded his door and flew back to the safety of the bushes and Grandma. Together we waited breathlessly in the darkness for the front door to open. Finally it did, and there stood Bobby. Fifty years haven't dimmed the thrill of those moments spent shivering, beside my Grandma, in Bobby Becker's bushes. That night, I realized that those awful rumors about Santa Claus were just what Grandma said they were -- ridiculous. Santa was alive and well, and we were on his team.

**I still have the Bible, with the coat tag  
tucked inside \$19.95.**

**On Jesus' Birthday;  
May you always have LOVE to share,  
HEALTH to spare and FRIENDS that care...  
And may you always believe in the giving magic of  
Christmas!**



**Come Follow Me.**

# Washington State Knights of Columbus License Plates

Displaying a Knights of Columbus License plate proudly proclaims that you are a Knight, a Catholic, and that America is "One Nation Under God!" What better statement could you make to those that see your vehicle on the road?

Before Department of Licensing (DOL) considers the Washington State Knights of Columbus Specialty License Plate Series, DOL requires at least 3,500 intended license plate purchases. Signing this petition indicates your intent to purchase these plates, if they become available.

Our hope is that proceeds from the special license plate sales will go to infirm and elderly Catholic Priests in Washington State.

When the special plates are available the information on this petition may be used to notify you.



The Washington State Knights of Columbus License Plate is sponsored by the Washington State Council of the Knights of Columbus. The goal of this specialty plate is to highlight the presence and good works of the Knights of Columbus in Washington and to raise funds to support infirm and elderly Catholic Priests in Washington State.

The anticipated cost for the Knights of Columbus plate would be \$40 (in addition to annual tab fees). Of that fee, \$12 would cover vehicle licensing fees and the remaining \$28 would support infirm and elderly Catholic Priests.

A minimum of 3,500 signatures are needed before the specialty license plate can be considered by state Legislature. The goal is to obtain these signatures in order for the plate to be considered during an upcoming legislative session. If approved by the Legislature, the plates could be available through Department of Licensing (DOL) by the summer of the same year.

Signature guidelines that will help WSDOT ensure an accurate count of supporters:

- You must be a Washington resident for your signature to count
- The petition must be filled out in full or your signature will not count
- Only one signature per individual will count
- You must express interest in purchasing at least one set of plates

While these signatures are intended to show intended purchases, submitting a signature is not an obligation to buy a plate.

Please note that minor changes to the design featured above may occur due to Department of Licensing requirements.

If you have any questions about the Knights of Columbus specialty plate initiative, please contact SK Larry Devlin at [ldevlin.kofc@gmail.com](mailto:ldevlin.kofc@gmail.com) or 360-981-3179

## How to Sign the Petition:

It's Easy! Go to [www.bit.ly/wakcplates](http://www.bit.ly/wakcplates)

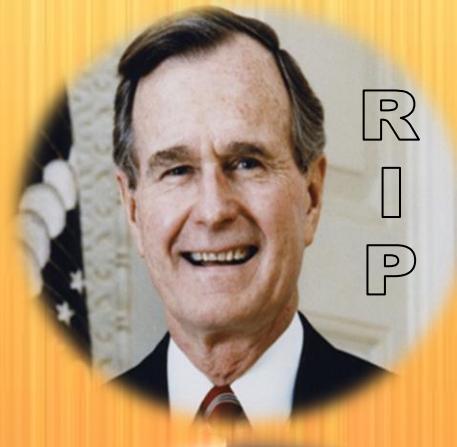
Spread the word among our Brother Knights!

# KOFC NEWS BITS

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson says George H.W. Bush was "**a friend of the Knights of Columbus.**"

Read his full statement as we are:

<http://www.kofc.org/.../releases/legacy-of-public-service.html>



## Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council #10543

We welcome our new Knights!

*From L-R: Carl Bender,  
John Schab, Diego Medel and Jose Martinez*



Congratulations to the members of the Saint Martin's University Knights of Columbus Council #16361 for winning an award in the church service program category at the Knights of Columbus College Councils Conference this September! The award recognized the Saint Martin's Council's commitment to the faith and their desire to share that devotion with their peers. Daniel Cofield, the Grand Knight or President of the council, attended the conference in New Haven, Connecticut, and represented the Saint Martin's Council at the awards ceremony. Cofield said that many members played a part in winning the award, including Tyler Snook, Deputy Grand Knight; Carter Bidwell Williams, Chancellor; Walther Hoffman '18, former Grand Knight; Dave Olwell, Ph.D., advisor and dean of the Hal and Inge Marcus School of Engineering; and all the brother knights, or members, of the council.



# NEWS BITS CONT.

## HERE'S THE MILITARY CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER BEFORE THE ARMY-NAVY GAME

"God of wonders, some wonder why we pray for a football game," Pawlikowski said. "So I tell them in this game, every player on the field is willing to die for every person watching."

"And there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for what is truly good."

And so, God, I do pray for these players on this field and all the good they represent. Their fellow cadets and midshipmen, soldiers, sailors, Marines, firefighters, first responders, police, and countless others who lay down their lives daily in our defense because in your eyes, God, **it's not the critic who counts but those who actually step in to the arena.** And so, almighty God, we who are willing to die for others, we salute you. Let this game begin. Amen.

When a 95 year old war hero uses every ounce of strength he has and needs help to stand and salute his war hero friend at his casket. This is why we don't take a knee during the National Anthem.



**Tell Me Again About You Taking a Knee...**

**Council 8297 in Poulsbo**  
cleaned up 3 miles of highway trash on Highway 3 near the Hood Canal Bridge on December 8. Thanks to John Rebar, PGK Thomas Musha, PGK, Roger Fritz, Bruce Baumann, and Larry Devlin.  
with Thomas Musha.



# BISHOPS APPLAUDING TRUMP ADMINISTRATION



## EXPANDED MORAL AND RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS

**(BISHOPS APPLAUD FINAL RULES PROVIDING EXPANDED MORAL & RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS TO HHS MANDATE)**

**WASHINGTON**—The final rules announced Wednesday by the federal government regarding the HHS mandate “allow people like the Little Sisters of the Poor, faith-based schools, and others to live out their faith in daily life,” according to leaders of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and President of the USCCB, and Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Chairman of the USCCB’s Committee for Religious Liberty, are applauding the Trump Administration’s decision to finalize regulations providing expanded religious and moral exemptions from the mandate requiring health insurance coverage of sterilization, contraception, and drugs and devices that may cause abortions.

Cardinal DiNardo and Archbishop Kurtz offered the following joint statement in response:

“We are grateful for the Administration’s decision to finalize common-sense regulations that allow those with sincerely held religious or moral convictions opposing abortion-inducing drugs, sterilization, and contraception to exclude such drugs and devices from their health plans. These final regulations restore free exercise rights in accordance with the First Amendment and long-standing statutory protections for religious freedom. The regulations allow people like the Little Sisters of the Poor, faith-based schools, and others to live out their faith in daily life and to continue to serve others, without fear of punishing fines from the federal government.”

It is requested that District Deputies forward this most important USCCB update to all councils.

George H. Czerwonka, Jr., PSD, FC, FS

Washington State Council - Legislative Liaison  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



# FINDING THE STRENGTH

When we are faced with gloom, perhaps the question isn't "do I like or dislike my current situation," but "do I feel equipped to handle it?" If the answer is no, thankfully we do not have to fix it on our own. In order to accomplish what is on our plate, we need the Lord's strength; that is the prerequisite.

Take a look at the following men from the Bible. These five didn't have a glamorous life, void of problems and dangerous situations. They were in uncharted territory, having to make the right decisions, just as we do.

Moses faced his fear of public speaking, when he confronted Pharaoh, a vicious and undependable ruler. The Lord guided Moses into bringing His people out of oppression in Egypt.

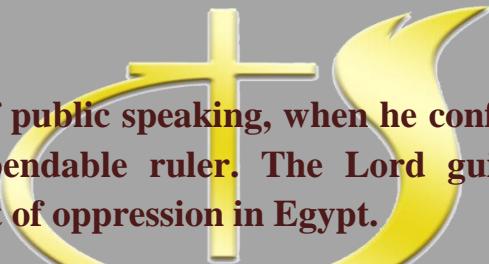
Joshua saw many battles and battlefields in his lifetime. He and the Israelites fought to reclaim their land. Only when they put their strength and faith in God, were they victorious.

Gideon had no experience as a leader, but he went on to become a military leader. He waited on the Lord before making any decisions.

David relied on God's power, when matched against an unlikely and more powerful opponent, Goliath the giant.

Paul, a servant for the Lord, had to squelch personal attacks and lies spread against his character.

No matter if we fail or succeed, God is there, even if in the distance. We ought to breathe calmly and think rationally. God offers unfailing love and deliverance. (Psalm 130:7) He is ready to lend a hand, when we ask and trust Him to be our guide and helpmate.





# Knights of Columbus

Bishop A.M.A. Blanchet Council 15730

Thank You

## Coats for Kids



This year, 14 dozen warm winter coats were purchased with donations from our Parishioners, and 14 dozen warm winter coats were given to our Bishop A.M.A. Blanchet Council #15730 by the Supreme Council in recognition of the outstanding effort by our Council in planning and executing another successful Coats for Kids Drive.

Knights started working with Community-Family Resource Coordinators at several elementary and middle schools in and near the inner-city of Vancouver early in the school year, and with St. Vincent de Paul and Share Vancouver, children and teenagers in our community. All 28 dozen coats (336) were delivered to these locations to identify the number and sizes of winter coats needed by needy to help children stay warm this winter.

Many thanks to those who donated generously again to this needed cause, and thank you to those Knights who planned and executed the 2018 Coats for Kids Drive, including making banners, soliciting donations, ordering, sorting and delivering coats, and helping children select and try on their coat.



**Submitted By Roger Willis, Coats for Kids Chairman**

**FELIZ NAVIDAD / MERRY CHRISTMAS**

TO ALL WHO SENT IN  
THEIR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

*Thank you ...*

GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS  
AND THOUGHTFULNESS

**SEE YOU NEXT MONTH**



**GOOD BYE!!**

A photograph of a squirrel with its right paw raised towards the camera, appearing to wave. The squirrel has a reddish-brown coat with a white belly. It is set against a dark background with some green pine branches visible.

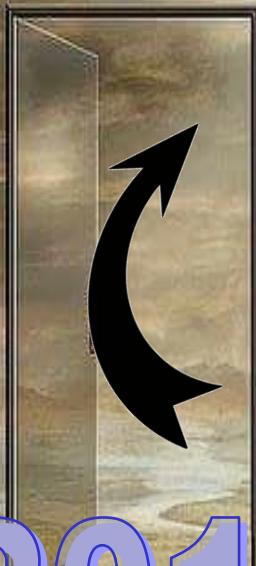
**Merry Christmas**

A decorative banner at the bottom of the card. It features three Christmas ornaments: a gold bauble on the left, a red bauble with a floral pattern in the center, and a gold bauble on the right. Pine branches are visible behind the ornaments. The banner itself is white with gold borders.



# 2019

IN THE NEW YEAR IN ORDER TO BE WISE, WE SHOULD LISTEN TO EVERYONE, FROM THE YOUNGEST TO THE OLDEST. THE LORD SENDS MESSAGES THROUGH MANY SOURCES.....WE MUST LISTEN.



# 2018

# ENTERING THE NEW YEAR

