



Knights of Columbus Newsletter Council #15373



Sept. 2018

From the Chaplain - Fr. John Harrold

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: "We pronounce, and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory." The pope proclaimed this dogma only after a broad consultation of bishops, theologians and laity. There were few dissenting voices. What the pope solemnly declared was already a common belief in the Catholic Church.

We find homilies on the Assumption going back to the sixth century. In following centuries, the Eastern Churches held steadily to the doctrine, but some authors in the West were hesitant. However by the 13th century there was universal agreement. The feast was celebrated under various names—Commemoration, Dormition, Passing, Assumption—from at least the fifth or sixth century. Today it is celebrated as a solemnity.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's Assumption into heaven. Nevertheless, Revelation 12 speaks of a woman who is caught up in the battle between good and evil. Many see this woman as God's people. Since Mary best embodies the people of both Old and New Testaments, her Assumption can be seen as an exemplification of the woman's victory.

Furthermore, in 1 Corinthians 15:20, Paul speaks of Christ's resurrection as the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Since Mary is closely associated with all the mysteries of Jesus' life, it is not surprising that the Holy Spirit has led the Church to believe in Mary's declare share in his glorification. So close was she to Jesus on earth, she must be with him body and soul in heaven.

From the Grand Knights Table - David Swierkosz

Brothers, on Wednesday, August 1st five of our Council Officers attended a training seminar on the new "Faith in Action" program. The purpose of this program is to implement faith filled family programs within parish based councils. The idea being that we practice our faith not just as Knights but together with our families and extended family of parish and community. The four categories of programs include Faith, Family, Community and life. Each category has eight different activities included. They will offer us an opportunity to reach out and share our faith and tradition with each other. We will continue to unite and assist all three parishes. Enjoy the rest of the summer with your families!

Did You Know - Calvin Kulik

DID YOU KNOW... that Father John has been a 3rd degree member of the Knights of Columbus for about 25 years?

Father was born and raised in Greensburg and attended Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish. He also went to Cathedral School for 8 years. He was the youngest of 6 children that included 3 boys and 3 girls. He graduated from high school in 1982 and college in 1986 with a degree in Food Service Management. Father feels that he got his "calling" to the priesthood during his freshman year in college. At that time he was attending mass on Ash Wednesday and listening to a priest, Father Bill Rathgeb, talk about how he was "called" to become a priest. Being a young man trying to find purpose and direction in his life, Father prayed to God for guidance and was called by God to the

priesthood at that Mass. He coincidentally later learned that Father Rathgab was also from the Cathedral Parish.

Father John graduated from Christ the King Seminary near Buffalo, N.Y. in 1992 with a Masters of Divinity. After graduation ordination, he had a number of assignments as a parochial vicar in St. Agnes in N. Huntingdon, Mother of Sorrows in Murrysville, St. John the Evangelist in Uniontown, and St. Bernard in Indiana. After those assignments, Fr. John was pastor at St. Raymond of the Mountain in Donegal, St. Edward in Herminie, Christ Prince of Peace in Ford City & St. Lawrence in Cadogan and then came to our partner parishes last year.

Father John is very active and enjoys a number of hobbies/activities including woodworking/home remodeling, shopping, volleyball, golf, bowling, and bicycling. Father reports that in addition to being a priest he is also the "CEO" (Clergy Executive Officer) of The Last Resort Construction Co.!!

According to Father this "company" was started many years ago with a group of friends as they were building their homes. It has continued over the years to help friends, parishioners and family with their construction needs. It is rumored that Father owns many tools and even has a "workshop" in St. Ambrose church!!

Father John is quite proud of the fact that in his first assignment as Pastor in Donegal they added an additional 7000 square feet of facilities including a social hall, bathrooms, kitchen, classrooms and storage. The total cost of all the construction amounted to about \$250,000! Although this was a lot of money, when all was said and done the average cost was about \$40 per square foot as compared to the going rate for construction of about \$100 per square foot!! The parish was also able to enlarge and pave the parking lot that had always been gravel.

Needless to say Father has a keen interest in our parishes H.A.C.C.!! (Hardly Able Construction Crew). The Knights of Columbus and all parishioners take this opportunity to welcome Father John to our Partner Parishes.

From the Newsletter Editor and P.R. Chairman - Ken Nath

Well we can chalk-up one more almost completed project for the HACC (Hardly Able Construction Crew). On Tuesday, August 7 we made a big dent in cleaning up the old church at St. Matthews. Thanks again to the crew for all of your help!

Our Clean-up Crew



From L to R - J. Gais, C. Kulik, A. Corridoni, D. Swierkowsz, C. Nath and K. Nath behind the camera

Upcoming events:

- **Thursday, Sept. 6 at 6:30 PM** - Officers meeting.
 - **Thursday, Sept. 13 at 7:00 PM** - General meeting at St. Sylvester's.
 - **Monday, Sept. 17 at 7 PM** - Chapter meeting, location to be determined.
 - **Sunday, Oct. 7 Following the 8:30 AM Mass at St. Sylvester's** - K of C Partner Parrish, Thanks for your Support Free Breakfast
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