



**Knights of
Columbus®**

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Osprey , FL
Council #15821**



*Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Council 15821
Darwin*



The Darwin Project

**June 2026
Special Edition
Newsletter**

Preface

A little more than two years ago, newly elected Grand Knight, Chuck Donelson, approached me with a challenge. You see, shortly before that, I volunteered for a position in Council 15821 as one of the program directors. Someone else had already come forward to assume that position, so his response to my offer was the following challenge: “I am looking for someone, he said, to take the responsibility of filling the position of Lecturer”.

The first thoughts that came to my mind were, “What in the heck is a Lecturer?” And “What does the job entail?” He proceeded to tell me a story of the Stradivarius family, world-famous violin makers, and how important they deemed their quality to be. In addition, how their own pride in the family name and what it should represent to the world around them should be portrayed. “Stories similar to the one I’ve told you would be appropriate for you to share at each Council meeting”, Chuck told me. “See what you can come up with”.

Blindly, I said I would give it a try and offered to do my best. Then the wheels began to turn in my mind, trying to figure out how I was going to approach this new task. After much thought, researching other councils’ Lecturer offerings, and surfing the internet, I came up with several criteria.

Firstly, the stories should be thought-provoking, giving the hearer something to ponder. Secondly, they should get the listener to think about the priorities in their lives. And, thirdly, those hearing the story should be given a model to follow (a pattern if you will) to become a better disciple of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer.

What you read on the following pages were my offerings for the two years I served as Lecturer. I hope you enjoy some, if not all, of the stories. Mostly, I hope I have successfully captured the intent of the Office of Lecturer and offered each of you something meaningful in the process.

Vivat Jesus!

Sir Knight Darwin Reeck



The Darwin Project

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By:
SK Darwin Reeck

Unsung Heroes:

Ordinary Individuals Making Extraordinary Contributions

As you celebrate Independence Day, take a moment to reflect on the many thousands of American heroes who've fought for freedom and equality.

From the Founding Fathers, who laid the foundation for our nation's independence to civil rights activists who championed equality, these individuals have shaped the course of American history.

And let's not forget about the unsung heroes, the ordinary individuals who've made extraordinary contributions to our society. Their stories remind us that freedom and equality are not just ideals to strive for, but values worth fighting for.

These unsung heroes are ordinary individuals who go above and beyond to make a difference in their communities. They may not have the fame or recognition of a civil rights activist, but their dedication and selflessness are truly inspiring.

From the teacher who goes the extra mile to ensure every student feels valued and supported, to the neighbor who organizes food-drives for the homeless, these unsung heroes are the backbone of our society. They may not make the headlines, but their impact is felt deeply by those they help.

From the Knights of Columbus and the Ladies Auxiliary whose efforts strengthen the faith community and provide monetary assistance to the many charities their fundraising supports.

In a world that often celebrates the achievements of the rich and famous, it's important to recognize and appreciate the contributions of everyday heroes. Their acts of kindness and compassion may seem small in the grand scheme of things, but together, they create a ripple effect that can transform lives and communities.

So, let us celebrate these unsung heroes and be inspired by their dedication to making the world a better place for all.

They teach us that change starts with individuals who are willing to stand up for what they believe in, regardless of the challenges they may face.

So, as you gather with loved ones and celebrate this day of freedom, remember the sacrifices and triumphs of these American heroes.

Their legacy lives on in the freedoms we enjoy today, and it's up to us to protect and preserve those liberties for future generations.

Let their stories inspire you to make a difference in your community, stand up for justice and equality, and never take for granted the precious gift of freedom.

Happy Independence Day!





By:
SK Darwin Reeck

The Pledge Of Allegiance

The author writes: "When I was a small boy in Indiana, I heard, I think, one of the most outstanding speeches I ever heard in my life. I think it compares with the 'Sermon on the Mount' and 'Lincoln's Gettysburg Address'. We had just finished reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and the principal called us all together and said, 'Uh, boys and girls, I have been listening to you recite the Pledge of Allegiance all semester, and it seems that it has become monotonous to you. Or could it be, you do not understand the meaning of each word? If I may, I would like to recite the pledge, and give you a definition for each word:

I - Me; an individual; a committee of one.

Pledge - Dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self-pity.

Allegiance - My love and my devotion.

To the Flag - Our standard. "Old Glory"; a symbol of courage. And wherever she waves, there is respect, because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts "Freedom is everybody's job."

Of the United - That means we have all come together.

States - Individual communities that have united into 50 great states; 50 individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose; all divided by imaginary boundaries, yet limited to a common cause, and that's love of country.

Of America - Our home: where we live and breath, love and laugh.

And to the Republic - A republic: a sovereign state in which power is invested into the representatives chosen by the people to govern; and the government is the people; and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

For which it stands – It stands for all of us and all our freedoms.

One Nation - Meaning “so blessed by God.”

Under God - Our Creator; the Just Judge, who loves us all.

Indivisible - Incapable of being divided.

With Liberty - Which is freedom; the right of power for one to live his life without fears, threats, or any sort of retaliation.

And Justice - The principle and qualities of dealing fairly with others.

For all - For all; that means it is as much your country as it is mine”.

By Red Skelton (delivered on his TV show on January 14, 1969)

Note: *Next time you recite the Pledge of Allegiance, perhaps this will remind you to pay more attention to it's true meaning and say it with more feeling and conviction!*





Lecturer's Minute

SK Darwin Reeck

WWMD?

In the mid 1990's, if you wandered into any convenience store or supermarket in America, among the gum and candy and lighters and other impulse items at the checkout you would see an array of different-colored "WWJD" bracelets. The "What Would Jesus Do" phenomenon swept the nation, alongside Beanie Babies and The Macarena. Indeed, it was a thought-provoking statement, meant to bring to mind the moral example of Jesus. Unfortunately, what was lost was the divinity of Christ, his role as our savior, and the fact that we cannot always fully comprehend the important part: his "why" behind the "what."

WWJD missed the mark because it forgot the very important principles that Jesus is God and we are not, that his ways are not our ways, and that we think as man thinks not as God thinks. If only there was someone not divine, an earthly someone with human father and mother who lived a life of perfect virtue. Someone who is worthy of our imitation, whose "why" is clear as crystal, whose Life we can meditate on... Oh wait. We're Catholics. We know there is such a person: The Blessed Virgin Mary.

So, when we ask, "What Would Mary Do?", some of the answers are easy, because we know what she did. If the angel of the Lord comes and says to you that the Lord has chosen you for a special job, the answer is "let it be done." If a family member needs a hand around the house for a few months, the answer is, "let me go and help them." If your spouse is visited by an angel in a dream, the answer is, "I believe you and we'll do whatever the angel said." If you go to a wedding and they run out of wine, the answer is "I'll tell the only person who can fix the problem." And if your son is falsely accused and being put to death, the answer is, "I will not leave his side."

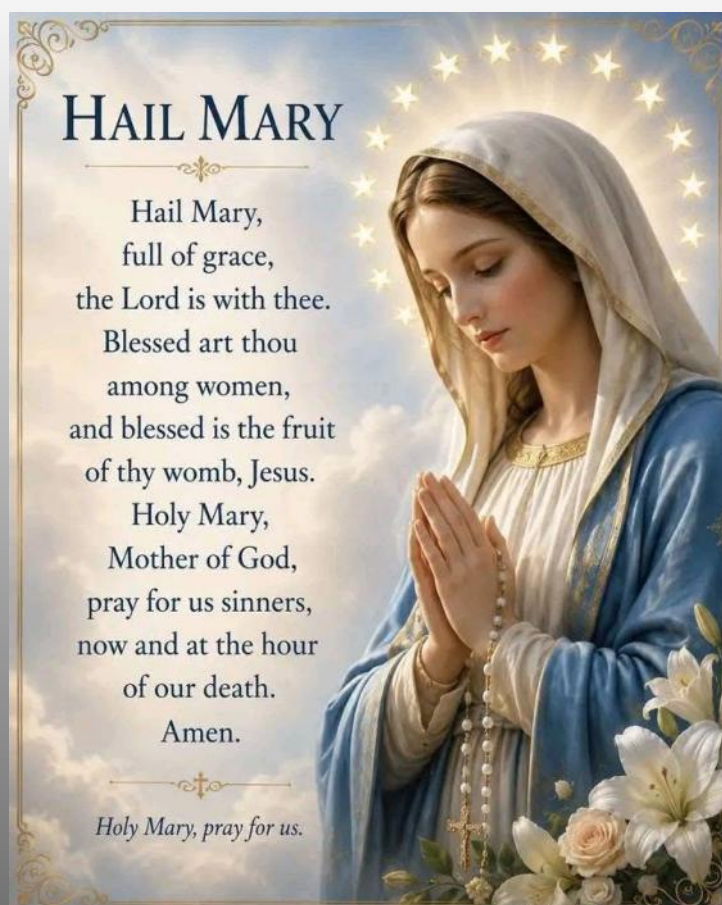
But WE can go further. We can meditate on other aspects of the phrase, "What Would Mary Do?", and in so doing we can discern her "why" behind her "what." It seems quite clear that it was her perfect fear of the Lord—one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit—from which all her actions flowed.

From this fear came her perfection of obedience to God, and it was from this obedience that God's graces filled her perfectly, making her truly worthy of being hailed as "full of grace." From her reverential fear of the Lord rather than fear of his just punishment came the perfection of her love for God.

And from this love for God flowed her devoted love for neighbor, whom she saw as a child of God just as she was.

In meditating upon "What Would Mary Do?" we find the reason why the Mother of God has come to visit her children on so many occasions. We can see why she came to St. Dominic to give him the Rosary, so that through it she can lead us to her son. We can see why she came to St. Juan Diego, to bring the Mexican people to Christ and put an end to pagan human sacrifices. We can see why she came to St. Simon Stock to give us the sacramental of the Brown Scapular, which we her children can wear with hope of salvation from eternal fire. And we can see why she came to three shepherd children in Fatima, to warn them-and all of us-about the reality of damnation, and to plead for us to stop sinning, pray and fast for the conversion of sinners, and pray the Rosary every day.

We face many temptations every day and every day we are also presented with many opportunities to live a life of perfect virtue. Every day we have the opportunity to live a life of fear of the Lord as Mary did and use that reverential fear to be obedient to God, and to love him above and before all others. All we have to do is ask the simple question: "What would Mary do?"





Lecturer's Minute

SK Darwin Reeck



Five More Minutes

While at the park one day, a woman sat down next to a man on a bench near a playground. "That's my son over there," she said, pointing to a little boy in a red sweater who was gliding down the slide.

"He's a fine-looking boy," the man said. "That's my daughter on the bike in the white dress."

Then, looking at his watch, he called to his daughter, "What do you say we go, Julie?" Julie pleaded, "Just five more minutes, Dad. Please? Just five more minutes."

The man nodded, and Julie continued to ride her bike to her heart's content. Minutes passed, and the father stood and called again to her daughter, "Time to go now."

Again Julie pleaded, "Five more minutes, Dad. Just five more minutes." The man smiled and said, "OK."

"My, you certainly are a patient father," the woman responded.

The man smiled and said, "Her older brother Tommy was killed by a drunk drive last year while riding his bike near here. I never spent much time with Tommy, and now I'd give anything for just five more minutes with him. I've vowed not to make the same mistake with Julie. She thinks she has five more minutes to ride her bike. The truth is, I get five more minutes to watch her play."

The moral of the story:

Life can be downright hectic, but as long as your priorities are straight, you'll be able to make the most out of your hard work.

In the story, the man learned the hard way to prioritize his family on top of all other things.





Lecturer's Minute

SK Darwin Reeck

The Greedy Mouse

A greedy mouse saw a basket full of corn. He wanted to eat all the corn, so he made a small hole in the basket. He squeezed in through the hole and he ate a lot of corn until he was full and happy.

The mouse then started crying. A rabbit was passing by and heard the mouse's cry and asked, "Why are you crying, my friend?"

The mouse explained, "I made a small hole and came into the basket to eat the corn. Now, I am not able to get through that hole."

The rabbit said, "It is because you over-ate. Wait till your belly shrinks."

The rabbit laughed and went away. The mouse fell asleep in the basket. The following day his belly had shrunk, but he wanted to eat some more corn. He had forgotten all about getting out of the basket, so he ate the corn, and his belly was huge again.

After eating, the mouse remembered that he had to escape. But he could not. So, he thought, "Aha! I will just wait and get out tomorrow."

The cat was the next passerby. He smelled the mouse in the basket, lifted the lid, and ate the mouse.

The moral of the story:

Being greedy will be your undoing. While it's great to make the most out of a successful venture, do not be too greedy that you are hoarding all the rewards.

Don't be like the greedy mouse who did not realize his predicament until it was too late!





Lecturer's Minute

SK Darwin Reeck

The Glass of Water

Once, during a lecture, a psychology professor walked around on a stage while teaching stress management principles to an auditorium filled with students.

As she raised a glass of water, everyone expected they'd be asked the typical "glass half empty or glass half full" question. Instead, with a smile on her face, the professor asked, "How heavy is this glass of water I'm holding?"

Students shouted out answers ranging from eight ounces to a couple of pounds.

She replied, "From my perspective, the absolute weight of this glass doesn't matter. It all depends on how long I hold it. If I hold it for a minute or two, it's fairly light. If I hold it for an hour straight, its weight might make my arm ache a little. If I hold it for an entire day, my arm will likely cramp up and feel completely numb and paralyzed, forcing me to drop the glass to the floor. In each case, the weight of the glass doesn't change, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it feels to me."

As the class shook their heads in agreement, she continued, "Your stresses and worries in life are very much like this glass of water. Think about them for a while and nothing happens. Think about them a bit longer and you begin to ache a little. Think about them all day long, and you will feel completely numb and paralyzed – incapable of doing anything else until you drop them."

The moral of the story:

On days when you're stressed out and feeling overwhelmed, learn to embrace the inevitable and let go. Some things cannot be controlled, and no amount of worrying could put all your burdens away. Instead of letting stress get to you, embrace it and conquer it. Let yesterday's worries inspire you to a productive day!





Lecturer's Minute

SK Darwin Reeck

Being and Breathing

After spending nearly every waking minute with my wife Angel for eight straight days, I knew that I had to tell her just one thing.

So late at night, just before she fell asleep, I whispered it in her ear. She smiled – the kind of smile that makes me smile back – and she said, “When I’m seventy-five and I think about my life and what it was like to be young, I hope that I can remember this very moment.”

A few seconds later, she closed her eyes and fell asleep. The room was peaceful – almost silent. All I could hear was the soft purr of her breathing. I stayed awake thinking about the time we’d spent together and all the choices in our lives that made this moment possible. And at some point, I realized that it didn’t matter what we’d done or where we’d gone. Nor did the future hold any significance.

All that mattered was the serenity of the moment. Just being with her and breathing with her.

The moral of the story:

Our days are made up of fleeting moments. In a split second, these moments are gone. Do not let external pressures or stress keep you from appreciating the little moments that make life beautiful. Every day is a miracle, from the moment you open your eyes in the morning and close your eyes at night.



Lecturer's Minute



Three Sons and a Bundle of Sticks



Sir Knight Darwin Reeck

Once upon a time, an old man lived with his three sons in a village. The three sons were hard workers, but still, they quarreled all the time.

The old man tried a lot to unite them, but he failed. The villagers appreciated their hard work and efforts, but they made fun of them in their fights.

Months passed by, and the old man fell sick.

He told his sons to stay united, but they didn't listen to him. So, he decided to teach them a practical lesson so they would forget their differences and stay united.

The old man called his sons. He told them, "I will give you a bundle of sticks. Separate each stick, and you will have to break each stick into two. The one who breaks the sticks quickly will be rewarded more." The sons agreed.

The old man gave each of them a bundle of 10 sticks and asked them to break each stick into pieces.

They broke the sticks into pieces in minutes. And again, they started to quarrel about who came in first.

The old man said, "Dear sons, the game is not over. Now I will give another bundle of sticks to each of you. You will have to break the sticks as a bundle, not as separate sticks."

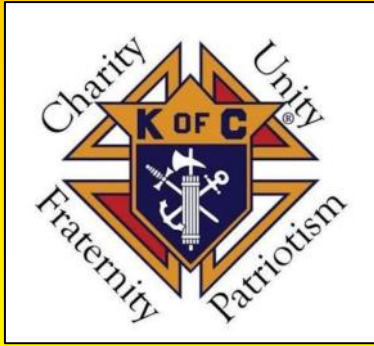
The sons agreed again and tried to break the bundle of sticks. Though they tried their best, they could not break the bundle. They failed to complete the task. The three sons reported their failure to their father.

The old man replied, "Dear sons, see! You could easily break the single sticks into pieces, but you could not break the bundle! So if you stay united, nobody can do any harm to you. If you quarrel every time with your brothers, anyone can easily defeat you." And so the father suggested that they stick together.

The three sons understood the power of unity and promised their father they would stay together, whatever the situation.

The moral of the story:

**When solving problems, it's much easier to work together as a group
rather than spend all that time bickering!**



Lecturer's Minute

The Young Boy & His Greed



Sir Knight Darwin Reeck

Sam and Tom were identical twins. They were so identical that even their mother found it difficult to distinguish one from the other.

But apart from their looks, the two boys couldn't be any more different. The first young boy, Sam, had no problems making friends.

Meanwhile, the other little boy, Tom, was terrible at keeping them. Sam loved sweets, but Tom loved spicy food. Sam was mommy's pet, and Tom was daddy's pet.

Sam was generous and selfless. Tom had a nasty temper and was very greedy.

This is where the story gets interesting.

As Sam and Tom grew up, their father wanted to share his fortune equally. However, Tom disagreed and argued that whoever proved to be more intelligent and stronger would have to get a more significant share of the wealth.

Sam agreed. Their father decided to organize a competition between the two. He asked the two sons to walk as long as they could and return home before sunset. The wealth would be divided in proportion to the distance covered. As a rule of the competition, they were not permitted to carry a watch to keep track of the time.

The following day, Sam and Tom set out to walk. It was a relatively sunny day. Sam walked slowly and steadily, while Tom broke into a sprint as he was bent on winning the race and a more significant portion of his father's wealth.

Sam knew that it would be ideal to walk as far as possible until noon and then head home by noon as it would take the same amount of time to walk back home. And, so he did.

However, Tom – with his greed to earn more wealth – did not attempt to return home even after mid-day. He walked and ran twice as long as Sam and thought he would still be able to return home before sunset.

Unfortunately, he could not even make it halfway. Darkness slowly engulfed his path, and he had to drag his tired feet back home.

He had lost the race because of his greed!

The moral of the story:

It's tempting sometimes to pull a fast one to get ahead of everyone else. In the story, Tom thought he could accumulate an extra portion of his inheritance by outsmarting his twin brother. His greed caused him to overestimate his abilities, leading him to lose the race – and money in the process.

Meanwhile, Sam won by analyzing the situation and being smart about his decisions.



Lecturer's Minute

The Proud Teak



Sir Knight Darwin Reeck

This is one of those inspirational stories about pride and how it can lead to one's downfall.

There was a proud teak tree in the forest. He was very tall and robust. There was a small herb next to the tree.

The teak tree said, "I am very handsome and strong. No one can defeat me." Hearing this, the herb replied, "Dear friend, too much pride is harmful. Even the strong will fall one day."

The teak ignored the herb's words. He continued to praise himself. When a strong wind blew, the teak stood firmly. Even when it rained, the teak stood firm by spreading its leaves.

During these windy and wet times, the herb bowed low. The teak made fun of the herb. One day, there was a storm in the forest and, again, the herb bowed low. As usual, the teak did not bow, but the storm kept growing stronger. The teak could no longer bear it, and he felt his strength giving way. He tried his best to stand upright, but in the end, he fell. That was the end of the proud teak tree.

When everything was calm again, the herb stood straight. He looked around and saw that the proud teak had fallen.

What's the moral of the story?

Do not let your pride get in the way of overcoming great difficulties. The teak was filled with too much pride. He thought he was stronger than the howling wind. His inability to yield eventually caused his downfall. Be cautious that you don't find yourself in the same predicament!





Lecturer's Minute

Shark Bait



Sir Knight Darwin Reeck

During a research experiment, a marine biologist placed a shark into a large holding tank and then released several small bait fish into the tank.

As you would expect, the shark quickly swam around the tank, attacked, and ate the smaller fish.

The marine biologist then inserted a strong piece of clear fiberglass into the tank, creating two separate partitions. She then put the shark on one side of the fiberglass and a new set of bait fish on the other.

Again, the shark quickly attacked. This time, however, the shark slammed into the fiberglass divider and bounced off. Undeterred, the shark kept repeating this behavior every few minutes to no avail. Meanwhile, the baitfish swam around unharmed in the second partition. Eventually, about an hour into the experiment, the shark gave up.

This experiment was repeated several dozen times over the next few weeks. Each time, the shark got less aggressive and made fewer attempts to attack the baitfish, until eventually, the shark got tired of hitting the fiberglass divider and simply stopped attacking altogether.

The marine biologist then removed the fiberglass divider, but the shark did not attack. The shark was trained to believe a barrier existed between it and the baitfish, so the baitfish swam wherever they wished, free from harm.

The moral of the story: Most people tend to give up after facing a series of setbacks and failures. But do not let these setbacks keep you from trying again. Think of each setback as an opportunity to learn. Do not let the barriers that you set for yourself in your mind keep you from achieving your goals.

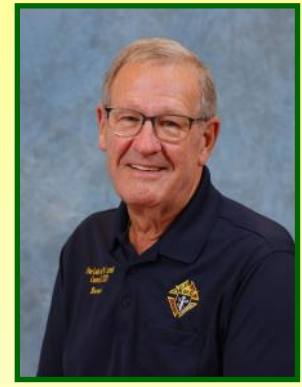
Remember, nothing is impossible if you set your mind to it.





Lecturer's Minute

Turtles



Sir Knight Darwin Reeck

Every Sunday morning a man took a light jog around a park near his home. There's a lake located in one corner of the park. Each time he jogged by this lake, he saw the same elderly woman sitting at the water's edge with a small metal cage sitting beside her.

This past Sunday his curiosity got the best of him so he stopped jogging and walked over to her. As he got closer, he realized that the metal cage was, in fact, a small trap. There were three turtles, unharmed, slowly walking around the base of the trap. She had a fourth turtle in her lap that she was carefully scrubbing with a sponge brush.

"Hello," he said. "I see you here every Sunday morning. If you don't mind my nosiness, I'd love to know what you are doing with these turtles."

She smiled. "I'm cleaning off their shells," she replied. "Anything on a turtle's shell, like algae or scum, reduces the turtle's ability to absorb heat and impedes its ability to swim. It can also corrode and weaken the shell over time."

"Wow! That's really nice of you!" he exclaimed.

She went on: "I spend a couple of hours each Sunday morning, relaxing by this lake and helping these little guys out. It's my own strange way of making a difference."

"But don't most freshwater turtles live their whole lives with algae and scum hanging from their shells?" he asked.

"Yep, sadly, they do," she replied.

To make the world a better place!

He scratched his head. “Well then, don’t you think your time could be better spent? I mean, I think your efforts are kind and all, but there are freshwater turtles living in lakes all around the world. And 99% of these turtles don’t have kind people like you to help them clean off their shells. So, no offense... but how exactly are your localized efforts here truly making a difference?”

The woman giggled aloud. She then looked down at the turtle in her lap, scrubbed off the last piece of algae from its shell, and said, “Sweetie, if this little guy could talk, he’d tell you that I just made all the difference in the world.”



A Family Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of our family. Enlighten our hearts and minds that we may live more fully this vocation to love.

In our daily life and work,
May we reflect the self-giving love which you,
O Father, eternally show with your Son
and the Holy Spirit.

Let your love be evident in the peace that reigns in our home and in the faith, we profess and live. May our family always be a place of generosity, understanding, forgiveness and joy.

Kindly give us the wisdom and courage to be witnesses to your eternal design for the family; and grant that the Holy Family of Nazareth may always guide our path to holiness as a family.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Amen.



Lecturer's Minute

Pledge of Allegiance

Sir Knight Darwin Reeck



July is the month in which we celebrate our independence from Great Britain. We acknowledge the founding of a nation of former colonies and the change from a struggle for “our rights as Englishmen” to a war for complete independence from the British crown.

Our founding documents not only created a country dedicated to basic freedoms but to establish goals for the nation that we pursue to this day.

When most of us began kindergarten, one of the first things we were taught was the “Pledge of Allegiance”. The “Pledge” was recited everyday before class began. Our council meetings begin with the “Pledge” as does the Congress and state legislatures. There is no requirement to do so in law nor is the wording for the “Pledge” found in any of our founding documents.

There was no “Pledge” until 1885 when Union Army Captain George Thatcher Balch determined that some form of oath was desirable. His early version was: “We give our heads and hearts to God and country; one country, one language, one flag!” Note that this wording included a reference to God, something subsequent versions omitted until 1954.

The current “Pledge” carries some controversy regarding it’s author. It is thought to have been written by a person named Bellamy, either a 13 year old Kansas boy or an older preacher who submitted it to a magazine for publication. They interestingly had the same last name but were not related.

Several attempts were made to include “under God” in the “Pledge” but failed until June 14, 1954. On that day President Eisenhower officially proclaimed that “under God” be added to the “Pledge”. June 14 is now officially “Flag Day” in the U.S. (Note: The Knights of Columbus started using “under God” in 1951).

When reciting the “Pledge”, it is proper to face the flag, place your right hand over your heart. Gentlemen should remove their headwear and hold it over their heart. Military personnel and veterans will render a hand salute.

The next time you recite the “Pledge of Allegiance” think of what you are saying and the meaning behind those thirty-one words. You are swearing an oath, promising to give your total support to the ideals as set forth in the documents that form the bases of the United States of America. Truly a worthy undertaking!



Lecturer's Minute



Darwin Reeck

The World's Six Best Doctors

Steve Jobs died a billionaire at age 56.

This is his final essay:

"I reached the pinnacle of success in the business world. In some others' eyes, my life is the epitome of success. However, aside from work, I have little joy. In the end, my wealth is only a fact of life that I am accustomed to. At this moment, lying on my bed and recalling my life, I realize that all the recognition and wealth that I took so much pride in have paled and become meaningless in the face of my death.

You can employ someone to drive the car for you, make money for you, but you cannot have someone bear your sickness for you. Material things lost can be found or replaced. But there is one thing that can never be found when it's lost- Life. Whichever stage in life you are in right now, with time, you will face the day when the curtain comes down.

Treasure love for your family, love for your spouse, love for your friends. Treat yourself well and cherish others. As we grow older, and hopefully wiser, we realize that a \$300 or a \$30 watch both tell the same time. You will realize that your true inner happiness does not come from the material things of this world. Whether you fly first class or economy, if the plane goes down-you go down with it.

Therefore, I hope you realize, when you have mates, buddies and old friends, brothers and sisters, who you can chat with, laugh with, talk with, sing songs with, talk about north-south- east-west or heaven and earth, that is true happiness! Don't educate your children to be rich. Educate them to be happy. So, when they grow up, they will know the value of things and not the price. Eat your food as your medicine, otherwise you have to eat medicine as your food.

The one who really loves you will never leave you for another because, even if there are 100 reasons to give up, he or she will find a reason to hold on. There is a big difference between a human being and being human. Only a few really understand it. You are loved when you are

born. You will be loved when you die. In between, you have to manage!



Lecturer's Minute



Darwin Reeck

Breathing With No Air

A boy once asked a wise old man what the secret to success is.

After listening to the boy's question, the wise man told the boy to meet him at the river in the morning and he would be given the answer there.

In the morning, the wise man and the boy began walking toward the river. They continued on into the river, past the point of the water covering their nose and mouth. At this time, the wise man ducked the boy into the water.

As he struggled to get out, the wise man continued to push him further down. The boy felt a fish slip by his leg and squirmed to get up even harder. The man eventually pulled the boy's head up so he could get air. The boy gasped as he inhaled a deep breath of air.

The wise man said, 'What were you fighting for when you were under water?'

The boy replied, "Air!"

The man said, "There you have the secret to success. When you want to gain success as much as you wanted air when you were under water, you will obtain it. That's the only secret."

The Moral:

Success starts with the desire to achieve something. If your motivation is weak, your results will follow suit.

Think about what you desire the most in life and work towards getting it. Don't allow your environment or other people to influence the things that you truly want.

Just because the fish swimming by is comfortable with being under water doesn't mean that you are.





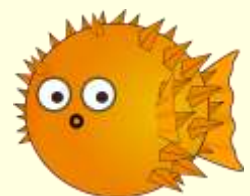
Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

Founder of the Knights of Columbus

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Please report all letters received:
The Father McGivney Guild
1 Columbus Plaza
New Haven, CT 06510-3338 - USA
www.fathermcgivney.org

Working by His Right: A Knight of Columbus





Lecturer's Minute



Darwin Reeck

The Boulder and the Gold

There once was a king who decided to do a little experiment. He had a giant boulder put right in the middle of the street. He then hid near the boulder to see who, if any-one, would try to move it out of the way.

First, some wealthy merchants walked by. They walked around the boulder, complain-ing that the king hasn't been maintaining the roads very well.

Next, a peasant walked by, heading home with his arms full of food for his family. When he noticed the boulder, he put his groceries down and attempted to move it out of everyone's way. It took him a while to move it, but he eventually succeeded.

After the peasant gathered up his groceries to carry on home, he noticed a bag lying in the middle of the road, just where the boulder once was.

He opened the bag to find that it was stuffed full of gold coins, along with a letter from the king saying that the bag's gold was a reward for the peasant to keep.

The king gave this gift because the peasant had taken the time and energy to move the boulder out of the road for the convenience of others who would be traveling the road in the future.

The Moral:

The peasant in this story was taught by the king that every obstacle you face offers an opportunity to improve.

If you're able to push through moments that are challenging, you may end up being much better off than you were before you started trying.

This story also offers a lesson of personal responsibility.

If you see a job ahead of you, don't leave it for the next person to do. Rather, step up and get the job done to help the people who come after you.



Lecturer's Minute



Darwin Reeck

The Ultimate Test

One night, four college students stayed up late partying, even though they knew they had a test the next day. The next morning, they came up with a plan to get out of having to take their test.

Each student rolled around in dirt and then went to the teacher's office.

They told the teacher that they had gotten a flat tire the night before, and they spent the *entire night* pushing their car back to campus.

The teacher listened, and to the students' delight, he offered a retest three days later.

On the day of the test, the students went to their teacher's office. The teacher put all four of the students in separate rooms to take the test. The students were okay with that because they had been given a chance to study.

The test had 2 questions:

- 1) Your Name _____ (1 Points)
- 2) Which tire was flat? _____ (99 Points)

Front Right Front Left Back Right Back Left

The Moral:

Aside from making wise decisions, **you always need to**
take responsibility for your actions.

This means not blaming other people for your mistakes, not complaining about the reality of the present moment, and not giving in to other people's pressure.



Lecturer's Minute

TIME FOR GOD



Darwin Reeck

The following was taken from an article written in 2009 under the title "What are we doing here?" While this article was written about the gift of time in relation to God, you may also consider the time you give to your wife, children, fiancé, parents, etc.

In Matthew's Gospel, it is written:

Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there to pray." He took along Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to feel sorrow and distress. Then he said to them, "My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch with me." He advanced a little and fell prostrate in prayer, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will." When he returned to his disciples he found them asleep. He said to Peter, "So you could not keep watch with me for one hour? Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

There are 168 total hours in a week. The average person sleeps about 8 hours each day or 56 hours each week; that leaves 112 waking hours in that same week. For us working stiffs, 40 hours of those 112 are spent in pursuit of a paycheck. The remaining 72 hours in our week are often filled with TV, visiting friends and family, laundry, grocery shopping, etc. There is never enough time.

But where do we fit in time for prayer, silence, and scripture? If we were to give God the first fruits of our time, say 10%, then the total number of hours we would spend in the presence of the Lord would be 16.8 hours per week or 2.5 hours per day. But wait, only 112 of those hours are we awake! That leaves only 11.2 or 1.6 hours each day for prayer. But wait, if we subtract the 40 hours we are at work there are only 72 hours left. That makes 7.2 hours per week, or a little over 1 hour per day of quality time devoted to the one who created us, the one who died for us.

Do we approach one hour of prayer each day in silence, reading the scriptures? Do we keep a scheduled holy hour each week in the silent presence of the Blessed Sacrament? When we are at Sunday Mass do we talk to our friends, read the bulletin, or allow our minds to wander?

According to a recent survey, the average American watches 28 hours of TV each week; that's 4 hours each day of mindless, inactive viewing. How many channels are on our TV's? Who is our God? When we consider the stewardship of time, how much is spent in prayer and how much is spent following reality shows? Do we know more about the lives of the saints or the sports and movie stars? Which is nearer, the Bible or the remote? Too often "our spirit is willing" but our flesh is parked in front of the TV. Perhaps we have some things to think about as we approach the season of Lent.



Lecture's Minute

Is The Jar Full ?



Darwin Reeck

A philosophy professor once stood up before his class with a large empty mayonnaise jar. He filled the jar to the top with large rocks and asked his students if the jar was full.

His students all agreed **the jar was full**.

He then added small pebbles to the jar, and gave the jar a bit of a shake so the pebbles could disperse themselves among the larger rocks. Then he asked again, "Is the jar full now?"

The students agreed that **the jar was still full**.

The professor then poured sand into the jar to fill up all the remaining empty space.

The students then agreed again that **the jar was full**.



The Metaphor:

In this story, **the jar represents your life** and the **rocks, pebbles, and sand are the things that fill up your life**.

The rocks represent the most important projects and things you have going on, such as spending time with your family and maintaining proper health. This means that if the pebbles and the sand were lost, the jar would still be full and **your life would still have meaning**.

The pebbles represent the things in your life that matter, but that you could live without.

The pebbles are certainly things that give your life meaning (such as your job, house, hobbies, and friendships), but they are not critical for you to have a meaningful life.

These things often come and go, and are not permanent or essential to your overall well-being.

Finally, the sand represents the remaining filler things in your life, and material possessions. This could be small things such as [watching television](#), browsing through your favorite [social media site](#), or running errands.

These things don't mean much to your life as a whole, and are likely only done to waste time or get small tasks accomplished. The Moral:

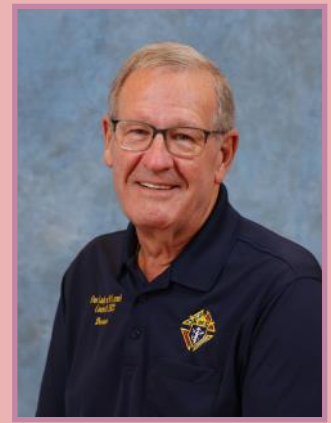
The metaphor here is that if you start with putting sand into the jar, you will not have room for rocks or pebbles.

This holds true with the things you let into your life. If you spend all of your time on the small and insignificant things, you will run out of room for the things that are actually important.

In order to have a more effective and efficient life, pay attention to the "rocks," because they are critical to your [long-term well-being](#).



Lecture's Minute



Darwin Reeck

A Story of Cashews

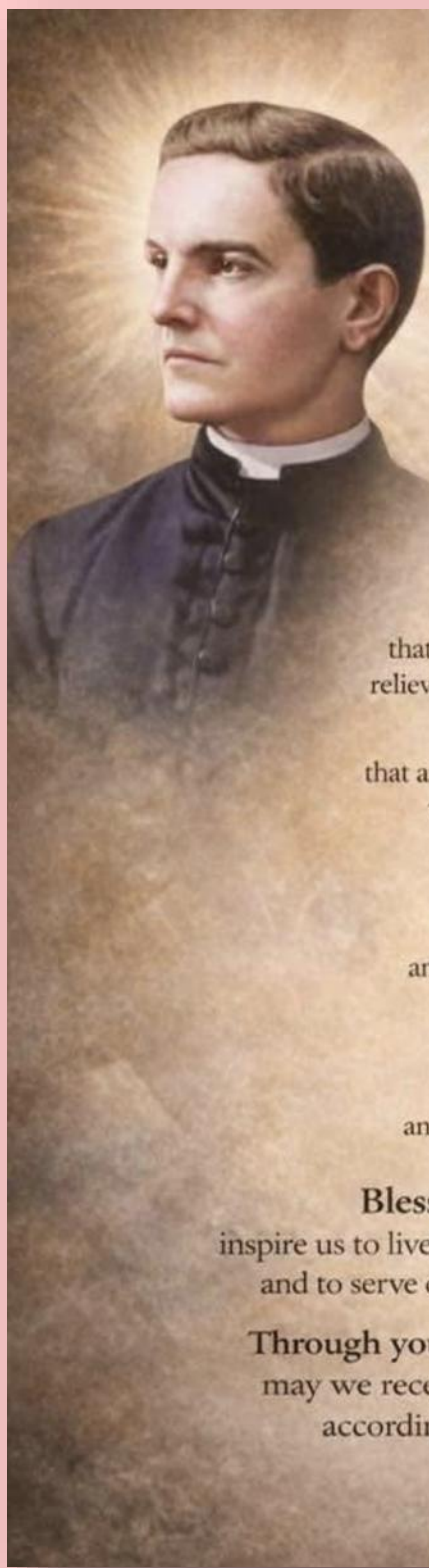
A young priest, recently assigned to a large parish, was preparing for his first Christmas since being ordained. The Monsignor, his boss, explained to him that he would learn valuable lessons in understanding what it takes to run a parish.

The closer Christmas got, the more “glad tidings” showed up at the parish office for the two priests to share. One day a beautiful tin of mixed nuts arrived. The Monsignor took it back to the Rectory and placed it on the coffee table in the living room that both priests shared. The temptation was too great to ignore so, as often as they could, the two thought of every conceivable excuse to walk by the tin to complete a menial task. Of course, they had to dip into the tin to grab a handful of nuts. “Waste not, want not”! Occasionally, when Monsignor wasn’t around, the young priest would stop and hand-sort out a few extra cashews and wolf them down.

After a few days of this the young priest noticed that the remaining nuts were dramatically lacking the adequate number of cashews necessary to balance the mix. Guilt came over him and he began to worry that the Monsignor would notice and lecture him about his self-indulgence. He immediately drove to the local grocery store and proceeded to peruse every aisle until he found the baking section. And there he was, face-to-face with the “holy grail” of the nut family. He picked up a large bag of cashews and looked at the price tag. His eyebrows raised and he swallowed hard. He raced to the checkout where two elderly ladies were in front of him. They zeroed in on his purchase, looked at each other with raised eyebrows, and one whispered to the other, “I thought they had to take a vow of poverty!” The college-aged checkout grabbed the bag, flipped it over to find the bar code and commented, “Wow, Father, big day in the collection basket? Party on dude!”

The young priest, embarrassed beyond limits, picked up his brown grocery bag and headed for the parking lot like he was going to a fire. “Father, forgive me”, he muttered. “When will this nightmare end?” As he pulled into the parking lot at the Rectory, the Monsignor was there to meet him. “Busted!” he thought to himself as the driver’s side back door opened. “What have you got there, son?” Sweat was running down the forehead of the young priest as the Monsignor opened the bag. “Oh, bless your heart, son. I’ve been eating all the cashews out of the tin all week and feeling guilty about it. Thank you for thinking of me. I would never have the guts to be seen in public buying a bag of these. I’m so glad you did. Let’s go in and sample the loot!” After opening the bag and sharing its contents, the two simultaneously realized that the cashews were not all that special and they began to laugh. The Monsignor said. “I’ve got an idea.” He proceeded to take from the tin a Brazil nut, a walnut, an almond, a hazel nut, four Spanish peanuts, and mixed in a new cashew. He shook them around in his hand like casino dice and flung the whole works down the hatch. He crunched and swallowed, clasped his palms together and said, “It’s the mixture of all the different nuts together that makes it all taste so good!”

A Knights of Columbus Council can be a lot like a can of premium roasted and salted mixed nuts. We're a blend of colorful personalities and backgrounds that enhance one another's existence. Old mixed with young, professionals mixed with craftsmen, Priests mixed with lay, entrepreneurs mixed with laborers, all in our decorative "Catholic Container". Some members put in more time, volunteering for KC events than others do, while still others use their time and skill sets planning those events. Ultimately, it's the members who don't work the event, but bring their entire family to eat, that make the fundraiser a true success. While the "peanuts" buss the tables and sweep the floors and "cashews" present the big check at the ceremony, it's the combination of the entire KC Council supporting the event that makes "it taste so good" to the parish. Let's take pride in how we're all a little nuts over the KC's!!!

A portrait of Blessed Michael McGivney, a young man with dark hair, wearing a dark blue clerical shirt with a white collar. He is looking slightly to the left with a gentle expression. The background is a soft, golden glow.

 **Prayer to**
Blessed Michael McGivney
*(For Physical, Mental, Emotional,
and Spiritual Healing)*

Blessed Michael McGivney,
faithful servant of God and devoted shepherd
of His people,
we turn to you with trust and confidence.
You who cared deeply for the sick, the suffering,
the widows, the orphaned, and the troubled,
intercede for us before the throne of God.

Pray for our *physical* healing,
that the Lord may restore strength to our bodies,
relieve pain, and grant comfort in times of illness.

Pray for our *mental* clarity,
that anxiety, confusion, and fear may be replaced
with peace, wisdom, and right judgment.

Pray for our *emotional* healing,
that wounded hearts may be mended,
sorrow turned into hope,
and discouragement into renewed courage.

Pray for our *spiritual* growth,
that our faith may be strengthened,
our trust in God deepened,
and our lives guided always by His holy will.

Blessed Michael McGivney,
inspire us to live with charity, unity, and fraternity,
and to serve others with love and compassion.

Through your powerful intercession,
may we receive the grace we seek,
according to God's holy will.

Amen.



Lecture's Minute

The Story of Rose



Darwin Reeck

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know.

I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being.

She said, "Hi handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty-seven years old. Can I give you a hug?" I laughed and enthusiastically responded, "Of course you may!" and she gave me a giant squeeze.

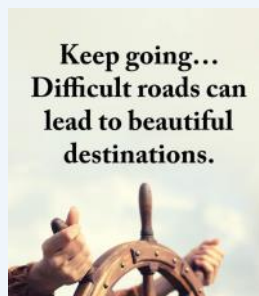
"Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked.

She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, and have a couple of kids..." "No seriously," I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age. "I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!" she told me.

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months, we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this "time machine" as she shared her wisdom and experience with me. Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up.

At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed she leaned into the microphone and simply said, "I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order so let me just tell you what I know."

As we laughed she cleared her throat and began, "We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humor every day. You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it! There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up.



If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything I will turn eighty-eight. Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change. Have no regrets. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets."

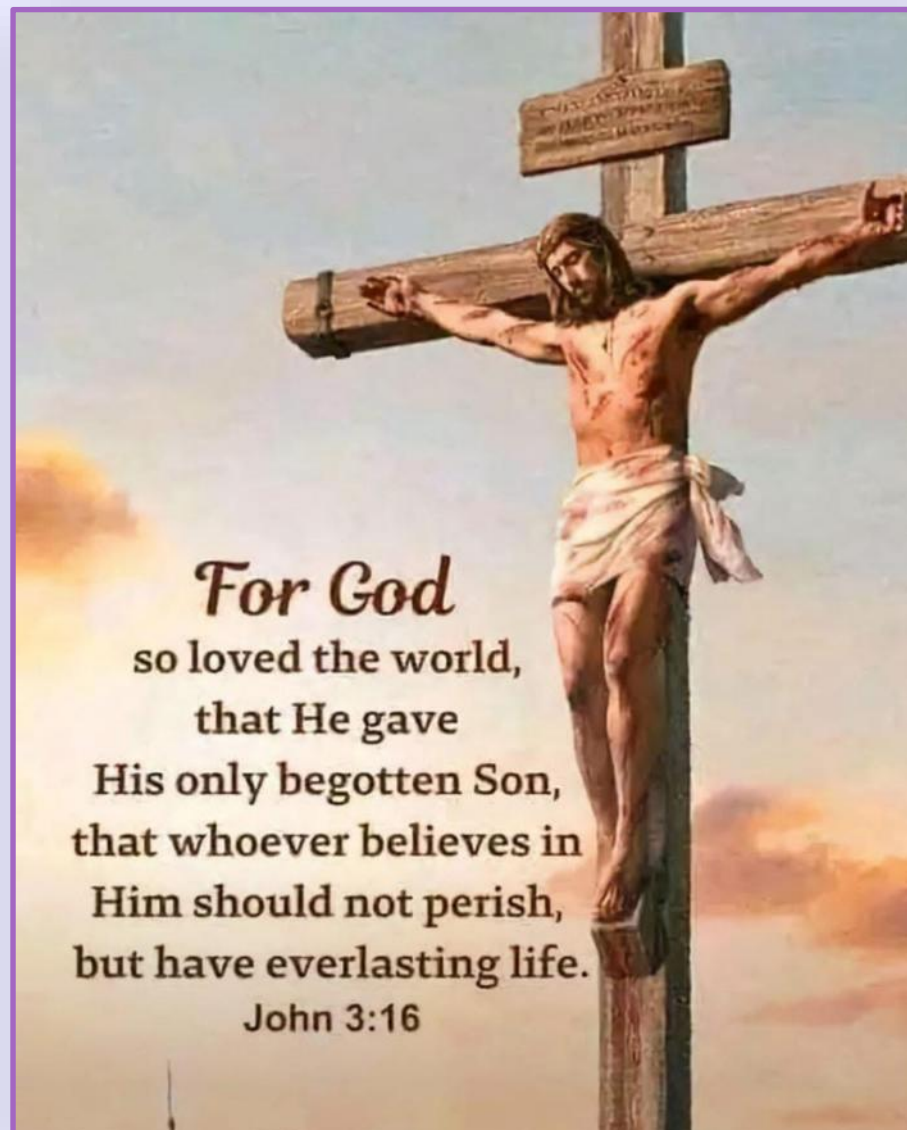
She concluded her speech by courageously singing "The Rose." She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives.

At the year's end Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep.

Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be. We make a Living by what we get, We make a Life by what we give.

REMEMBER, GROWING OLDER IS MANDATORY.

GROWING UP IS OPTIONAL.





Lecture's Minute

Darwin Reeck

The Virtue of Hope

October is the month of the Rosary. The three Divine Virtues are: Faith, Hope, and Charity. I will focus on the virtue of hope in this writing.

The older or archaic definition of hope is, “a feeling of trust”. Certainly, when we think of hope as a feeling of trust, we would want to pray for an increase in hope. Increasing our trust in God can only have good consequences. But it is hard to trust in God. And it is easy to say that we trust in God, it is another thing to put that trust into action.

You have all experienced at some point in time in your life a moment when you had to place your trust in another human being. Maybe it was the pilot of the aircraft you flew on recently, or it was the driver of the car passing you on the road, or a cashier at the grocery store giving you change. You are providing trust in these people to do their tasks without there being an unsatisfactory result for you.

Now let's consider that classic trust exercise that people do for team building – where you have a participant turn their back to their colleagues and fall backwards waiting to be caught. This act of trust puts all of us into an uncomfortable space. When you are facing away from the crowd, doubt starts to seep in with thoughts of you weighing too much or they aren't ready for you when you fall or that they will even let you fall on purpose. It is scary to trust. It is hard. It is not in our nature to freely give our trust. But God trusts us! He gave us free will. What an act of trust! He chose to let you decide if you want Him in your life. And we could all say “NO”.

Abraham didn't say “No”. He took Isaac up on the mountain and was prepared to sacrifice him. Knife in hand, he was stayed by God's angel. Wow, that is trust! I see why he is the father of faith.

God wants us to trust in Him. The more we trust in God, the closer we will be to the path that He has chosen for us. It is not easy to trust God, but it is rewarding. So, the next time that you are praying the rosary, when you come to the first three beads for an increase in Faith, Hope, and Charity, remember that the increase in hope is not just an increase in a wish, but rather an increase in trust that God will deliver on all His promises.



Lecture's Minute

The Soccer Ball Story



Darwin Reeck

SOCCER BALL STORY



I want to share an uplifting story about charity – the story of Chuck Herman, a Fire Chief in Rochester, MN who died in a freak accident on August 4, 2011 while cutting down a tree, having it catch, twist, and fall in a different direction than intended, killing him instantly.

Chuck and his good friend, John, had recently started a non-profit entity called “Great Deeds”, with the idea of performing random acts of kindness, as often as the opportunity arose, with as little as ten or twenty dollars – lunch or groceries for hungry strangers, books, socks, shirts – whatever occasion arose to thank someone or help someone in a small way and for any reason.

Shortly after forming their non-profit, Chuck rode his motorcycle to South Dakota. Stopping at Wall Drug to stretch his legs, he stood in

line to buy a \$20 t-shirt and, while waiting, decided that he already had too many t-shirts. He got back on his bike and continued his journey. In the distance he could see inclement weather approaching so he turned North to avoid it. Several miles out of town he noticed a little white church with lots of cars in the lot. He pulled in and after hearing a wonderful message he shook the pastor's hand and handed him the \$20 bill, suggesting that he take his lovely wife to brunch. The pastor handed it back and directed him to Lily, a parishioner who was about to head to Africa for a two-week mission trip.

Lily was about to use her valuable vacation time to volunteer at an orphanage in a small city in Zimbabwe, bringing clothing, donations, and Bibles. After a short chat Chuck handed her the \$20 bill and instructed her to buy soccer balls for the kids to play with. She reluctantly agreed, thinking the \$20 would be better spent on something else when there was so much need. Chuck doubted the money would end up where he requested but finished his vacation and returned to Rochester.

"Great Deeds" alive.

Lily arrived at the orphanage, met the director, and saw all the latest improvements. She advised the director of the promise to buy soccer balls for the kids and he balked at the idea, saying it was too dangerous. She pointed to the adjacent lot and asked him about using that space. Still, he cited that it was too dangerous as the lot was full of broken glass, sharp objects and needles. She then volunteered to clean it up herself and he finally agreed. As she began to clear the lot of debris others pitched in to help. The director drove her to the local sporting goods store to purchase the balls. On the way, Lily noticed some idle earthmoving equipment. She persuaded the director to pull over and she asked the owner/operator to clear the lot for them. He declined, stating that he didn't do charity work. When they arrived at the store there was "Closed" sign in the window. Lily knocked incessantly until someone came to unlock it. The owner pointed to the sign and said that he was going out of business. She pleaded with him to look for soccer balls. He told her there was a barrel in the back she could look through. There she found three uninflated soccer balls and asked the owner to blow them up for her. Instead, he gave her a pump and an inflating needle and took her \$20.

On the way back to the orphanage she persuaded the director to stop and talk with the equipment operator again. Again, he said "No". She kept this up for two more days and he finally agreed to clear the lot since he had no other work. Not only did he clear it but seeded it with left-over grass seed from another project. Local craftsmen fashioned simple soccer goals and the kids were excited to play soccer on a real field.

Lily returned to South Dakota and as she was planning her next trip two years later, she learned from the director that, since her last visit, word had travelled throughout the area of her efforts and others began renting the facility. They were able to purchase all the supplies, food, clothing, and textbooks they needed to run the orphanage with money left over, all because of her \$20 purchase of soccer balls.

Since then, bleachers and benches have been added, the sporting goods store re-opened, the community is thriving, and the neighborhood is safe. Hundreds of soccer teams from the surrounding area are using the soccer complex and Chuck's donation of \$20 has turned into a million-dollar windfall and soccer facility in a poor town in Zimbabwe, keeping his dream of "Great Deeds" alive.





Lecture's Minute

The Farmer & His Corn



Darwin Reeck

For this month's Good of the Order, I'd like to focus on the start of our Council's Year - with a new slate of officer's and the work that our council is gearing up for to support our parish, our Pastor, and our community. Let me start with a quick story.

The Farmer and His Corn

There was an old farmer who grew excellent corn. Every year he won the award for the best-grown corn at the local fair.

One year a news reporter interviewed him and learned something interesting about how he grew it. The reporter discovered that the farmer shared his seed corn with his neighbors, "How can you afford to share your best seed corn with your neighbors when they are entering their corn in competition with yours every year?" the reporter asked.

"Why sir," said the farmer, "Didn't you know? The wind picks up the pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbors grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn."

So it is with our lives...

Those who want to live meaningfully and well, must help enrich the lives of others, for the value of life is measured by the lives it touches. And those who choose to be happy must help others find happiness, for the welfare of each is bound up with the welfare of all.

Call it the power of
collectivity... Call it a principle
of success...

Call it a law of life.

The fact is, none of us truly wins until we all win!!!

Our council's work to support our parish, our Pastor, and community requires all of us Knights to pitch in as "farmers" to sow and share good seed. The seeds being our strong Catholic faith and our strong beliefs that will assist our Pastor in nurturing our parish and community. I ask all my brother Knights, on behalf of our Program Director, to volunteer your time and talents to work on one (or many) of our various Council projects. Together, we will all work as the "farmer" to sow good seeds within our parish and community!



Lecture's Minute

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS EMBLEM



Darwin Reeck

The emblem of the order dates from the Second Supreme Council on May 12, 1883, when it was designed by James T. Mullen, who was then Supreme Knight.

A quick glance at the emblem indicates a shield mounted upon the Formee Cross. A Formee Cross is one that narrows at the center and flares to be broader at the perimeter. The shield is that associated with a medieval Knight. The Formee Cross is the representation of a traditionally artistic design of the Cross of Christ through which all graces of redemption were procured for mankind. This then represents the Catholic spirit of the order.

Mounted on the shield are four objects: a fasces (which is a bound bundle of wooden rods); an axe standing vertically; and, crossed behind it an anchor; and a dagger or short sword.

The fasces from Roman days is symbolic of authority which must exist in any tightly-bonded and efficiently operating organization. It symbolizes teamwork, the strength inherent in unity and fraternity.

The battle axe, placed on the shield, symbolizes action taken to overcome obstacles or ambushes on the road to accomplishing one's objectives.

The anchor is the mariner's symbol for Columbus, patron of the Order. It is an instrument designed to hold a ship in place, representing that which stabilizes.

The short sword or dagger was the weapon of the Knight when engaged upon an errand of mercy. It symbolizes honor, distinction, bravery, and courage. Thus, the shield expresses Catholic Knighthood in organized merciful action, and the letters K of C, proclaims this specific form of activity.

The red, white, and blue in the background of the shield and the foreground of the Cross are the colors of our country.

As such, red symbolizes giving of one's self, courage, valor, and heroism in the fight for one's faith, one's language, and one's rights.

White represents innocence, frankness, and purity of intention.

Blue represents the sky, that is, God who watches over the world. It is the symbol of hope, peace, and confidence.

The other color contained within the emblem is Gold (or yellow). This color denotes the richness that comes with hard work.

There is also the ecclesiastical symbolism of the colors red, white, and blue.

Red becomes the reflection of the drips of Christ's redemptive blood shed upon Calvary, and of the martyr's blood shed in defense of faith. Red, then, is the symbol of faith, of belief in Christ.

White is the color of the Eucharistic Bread; a symbol of the infinite love God has for man. White, then, denotes Christ-like charity.

Blue is the color of our Lady's mantle, in which she wrapped her beloved Son, through whom came salvation to a sinful world. Blue is then the symbol of hope.

Perhaps now we can all have a better understanding and a deeper appreciation for the emblem we all proudly display on the shirts we wear.



**Knights of
Columbus®**

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Council #15821**

February 2026



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OF COLUMBUS**
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