

## **THE BANNER**

Unfurled for God and Country



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Blessed Carlo Acutis
Canonized April 27

BUSINESS MEETING, May 1, 7:30PM ◆ ALL MEETINGS @7:30PM IN PERSON ONLY!

### Meetings IN PERSON ONLY @7:30pm!

DEGREE CEREMONY, May 1; Business Mtg, May 8; Officers' Mtg, May 22 BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR AN EMAIL FROM MIKE PINKL REGARDING MEETING REMINDERS.

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From the Desk of the Grand Knight

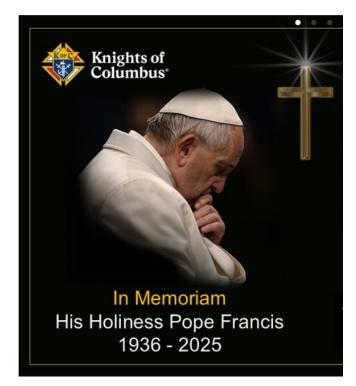
May 2025

Dear Brothers,

Catholics around the world are grieving the death of Pope Francis. A man of peace and vision, he served as Pontiff for 12 years and has been called home by our Heavenly Father to receive his reward. Let us pray for him as well as the Cardinals who are tasked with selecting his successor.

Our Brothers have distinguished themselves by serving at Stations of the Cross processions at St. Cecilia and Resurrection.

As I wrote in my first Grand Knight's message in August of last year, Blessed Carlo Acutis is slated to become the first "millennial saint". He was a young man who grew up in Milan, lived a pious life and died of Leukemia at the age of fifteen in 2006. By 2018, he was declared "Venerable", then



"Blessed" in 2020 as the first miracle was attributed to his intercession. With a second miracle being credited to him, he will be canonized in a Mass at St. Peter's Basilica on April 27, fittingly during the Holy Year's jubilee for teens.

Speaking of teens, our Brothers have once again assisted with traffic duty at the St. Cecilia "Legacy Run" on Saturday 4-26. Our task was to control vehicular traffic around the parish to keep the runners safe during the event, and once again, we did so.

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Also in the rearview mirror is the annual Pancake Breakfast, held this year in the

Café at Resurrection after our Knights and their families attended Mass. Starting next year, it will be expected that a new crew will assume the duties of buying supplies and cooking breakfast. The current crew has done this for a few years and deserves a break. My wife and I are moving on to a new ministry and will no longer have time for many of the events we have worked on in the past.

I am beyond grateful to the Brothers who have consistently answered my calls for service. It's a small group who, together, accomplish great things. It's not our custom to name the men who answer my numerous calls.

This is a shame, but we serve in silence and anonymity; we shun recognition. But, be assured, God knows what you have done, and your reward will be great.

Enjoy the warmer weather.

Vivat Jesus! Mike Pinkl Grand Knight

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# Faith and Works: Prayer Coupled with Action

I've been praying daily for my children and grandchildren to return to their Catholic Faith. I prayed



that something would motivate them to start thinking about God. It's been many, many prayerful years with absolutely no results.

A couple of months ago while walking out of Mass, a question suddenly popped into my mind asking, "What do you think will be a catalyst for them to start thinking about God? Do you think that maybe along with faith a little action or 'works' is also needed?"

Pondering it brought back answers which did not make me happy. It kept coming back that it was up to me. I had to be the motivator, the catalyst. I had to do something. I refuted with "If I do or say something, it may send them further from God."

I weighed sending them an email or better yet a letter. I remember when I was 21 my uncle Father William talking to me with no success. After our "talk" I was more committed to continue in my 'worldly' ways. I feared the same thing happening here. Or what if they passed my letters around and everyone ridiculed me? And just who did I think I was to write such a letter anyway? The thought churned around in my head for weeks. I even started to compose a letter to the oldest grandchild but hesitated, fearing ridicule and failure. I asked advice from my pastor Father Chris, and he said, "do it!" So, I did (ridicule is a good penance for Lent, I thought).

On Holy Thursday, my eldest grandson living in North Carolina telephoned me and said he read my letter. It was coincidental that just a few days before my letter, his friend invited him to a bible study. He immediately declined, but my letter made him change his mind and he's going to call his friend. Yesterday, my wife told me he went to church with his dad's parents on Easter!

Thank you, Lord! Prayers answered!

The Bible presents numerous examples where faith and works go hand in hand—Nehemiah prayed for guidance but also took action to rebuild Jerusalem, and Jesus Himself balanced prayer with active ministry.

Writing a letter to your children and grandchildren could be a beautiful and heartfelt way to express your love and hope for them. The key is to approach it with gentleness and sincerity, rather than pressure or expectation. A letter that shares your personal journey, your love for them, and your desire for them to find peace and fulfillment—rather than one that insists they must return to faith—might be more effective in opening their hearts.

Perhaps you could frame it as an invitation rather than a directive. Share how your faith has brought you comfort and strength and let them know that you are always there for them, no matter where they are on their spiritual journey. This way, they may feel encouraged rather than pushed.

Thanks be to God.

Vivat Jesus! (Jesus Lives!) He Truly Does. Will Schmitt, PGK, Lecturer



Happy Birthday to all Knights born in May!

Michael Foell John P Kelly Matthew McDonald Jack C. Tomczuk



Happy Mother's Day to our Lady Knights and all moms everywhere!

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#### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR BROTHER KNIGHTS & LADIES

Also, please pray for an end to war everywhere. Please pray for victims of gun violence and the wildfires. Please pray for government officials, for a commitment to peace.

Please call or email Mike Pinkl with the names of all ill Brother Knights and Ladies.

PA KofC Newsletter: <a href="http://www.pakofc.us/newsletter/keystone-knight/index.html">http://www.pakofc.us/newsletter/keystone-knight/index.html</a>

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