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**Deputy Grand Knight**

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**Advocate**

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**Outside Guard**

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Edward Moroney

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Craig Guth

**Diocesan Deputy**

Cruz Hinojosa Jr.

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**State Chaplain**

Most Rev. Placido

Rodriguez

**Associate State Chaplain**

Rev. Msgr. Peter Flood

**State Secretary**

Tony Herreth

**State Treasurer**

Jim Collins

**State Advocate**

Douglas Oldmixon

**State Warden**

Joe Lopez

**Immediate Past**

Larry Zapalac

**Supreme Director**

Javier Martinez

*The next **Knights of Columbus** Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 10th at 7:30 PM at the KC Hall.*

*The next **Knights of Columbus** Officer's Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 6th at 7:00 PM at the KC Hall.*

*The next **Columbus Club of Dickinson** Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 21st at 7:30pm at the KC Hall*

**Good of the Order**

Please keep Rosella Lozica and Rosemary Milner in your prayers and they both passed away recently. Let us also keep all of the men and woman serving in the United States Armed Forces in our prayers during this holiday season while they are off fighting to keep us safe.

**Announcements**

The Columbus Club meeting for this month has been cancelled. There will be a meeting of all of the officers of the Knights of Columbus Council and the Board of Directors for the Columbus Club on Wednesday, January 6th at 7:00 PM at the KC Hall. It is important that ALL Officers and Directors are present!

**Upcoming Events**

December

|      |         |                                      |
|------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| 9th  | 5:45 PM | Festival of Lights Volunteer Support |
| 10th | 7:30 PM | Council Meeting                      |
| 16th | 5:45 PM | Festival of Lights Volunteer Support |
| 23rd | 5:45 PM | Festival of Lights Volunteer Support |
| 24th |         | Christmas Eve                        |
| 25th |         | Christmas Day                        |
| 30th | 5:45 PM | Festival of Lights Volunteer Support |
| 31st |         | New Year's Eve                       |

January

|      |         |  |
|------|---------|--|
| 1st  |         | New Year's Day   |
| 6th  |         | Feast of Epiphany  |
| 6th  | 7:00 PM | Special Meeting of the Council Officers and Columbus Club Board of Directors |
| 14th | 7:30 PM | Council Meeting  |
| 21st | 7:30 PM | Columbus Club Meeting  |

*Dates and times subject to change. Check website for most current schedule.*



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

*If you have an article for the Knight Times,  
please contact Michael W. Dunn at (281) 645-6124 or  
KnightTimes@dickinsonkccouncil.org.*

**Program Director**

Emmett Milner

**Membership Director**

Pascual Velazquez

**Retention Chairman**

Kenneth Suderman

**Hall Rental Coordinator**

George Ussery

**Facilities Manager**

Larry Armstrong

**INSURANCE**

**General Agent**

Rich Lesak

(979) 282-2706

(800) 460-2706

(979) 532-0314 Fax

(979) 533-3169 Cell

**Field Agent**

Michael Blake

(800) 460-2706

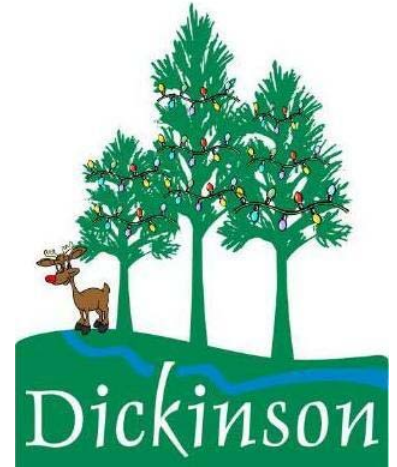
(979) 532-0314 Fax

(281) 413-5403 Cell

Michael.Blake@kofc.org

**12th Annual Dickinson Festival of Lights**

The Father Roach Council is providing volunteer support for the Dickinson Festival of Lights this year and will be working this Wednesday evening, and every Wednesday throughout the month of December. We need all the help we can get! Mark your calendar and help us out. You will need to be at the park no later than 5:45pm and plan to stay until the park closes at 9:30pm. There will be some food and refreshments available throughout the night. The council will make \$100.00 each time that we have at least six volunteers. We do NOT have to have six Knights there in order to qualify for the \$100.00 so if your wife or someone else you know would like to come out and help they can be counted toward our goal. All volunteers must be at least 17 years old to be counted. We will be working the nights of December 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and the 30th. Please let Michael Dunn know which nights you will be able to help make the Christmas season extra special for our great community.



**HALL RENTALS**

We have had two very successful hall rentals so far and there are several more potential rentals in the coming months. For every rental that we have, we need a good team of Knights to support the activities. Please contact George Ussery at (281) 337-4044 for information regarding Hall rentals.



**FISH FRY**

We will be holding eight fish fries this year during Lent. The fish fries will start on Friday, February 5th, 2010 and will continue every Friday through March 26th, 2010. The fish fries will be at our new KC Hall this year and will be served from 5:30pm and 7:30pm.



**COME AND JOIN US ON FACEBOOK**

The Father Roach Council #3217 now has a FACEBOOK account. Just search for Knights of Columbus Council 3217 on facebook and you will be sure to find us. Come and join our council's group and help make this newest venture a success!

**Please fill out the Membership Survey on the council website (<http://www.dickinsonkccouncil.org>) to help us update our records and to let us know if you would like to receive this newsletter by email instead of regular postal service. You can find this survey under the Members section on the menu bar at the top**

# A Season of Hope

By Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson

December marks the official start of winter in most of the Western world. Yet, it is not the only winter that the world is facing. Demographers increasingly speak of a “demographic winter” wherein birth rates fall below replacement in most industrialized countries.

There are many causes of this phenomenon, as Pope Benedict XVI noted in 2006. He pointed out, though, that the “ultimate roots can be seen as moral and spiritual; they are linked to a disturbing deficit of faith, hope and, indeed, love. To bring children into the world calls for self-centered eros to be fulfilled in a creative agape rooted in generosity and marked by trust and hope in the future.”

Indeed, such a decline is nothing short of a lack of hope. A materialistic mindset replaces hope in a real future with something else: an immediate desire for consumer goods and status. This mindset is sadly brought home to us at this time each year, as Christmas seems each year to become more of a consumer season than a Christian one.

In his apostolic exhortation on the Christian family, *Familiaris Consortio*, Pope John Paul II observed: “In the richer countries ... excessive prosperity and the consumer mentality, paradoxically joined to a certain anguish and uncertainty about the future, deprive married couples of the generosity and courage needed for raising up new human life: thus life is often perceived not as a blessing, but as a danger from which to defend oneself” (6).

A society with no hope in the future and a resulting lack of openness to life is, not surprisingly, a society that would trade a celebration of birth for one of consumerism.

A purely materialistic view of Christmas — even more noticeable this year as recession-affected merchants desperately seek to improve their profits — can be a symptom of this same hopeless outlook on life.

Of course, as Christians, we have the reminder of our hope in salvation that comes with Christ’s birth at Christmas. With this event, the process of our own redemption is made possible. Christ’s birth — as the angels told the shepherds — heralds “peace on earth to men of good will.”

That is quite a contrast to the anxiety of the consumer mentality.

In addition to Christmas, the Church gives us other feasts in December that highlight hope, love and new life.

On the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, we remember the hope that Mary brought — and continues to bring — to this entire hemisphere. She appeared as a pregnant woman to a defeated people in search of meaning. Through her message that each person is loved, she brought the indigenous Mexicans to the fullness of hope in her son Jesus Christ.

Finally, we celebrate life within the family on the feast of the Holy Family, where Christ spent 30 of the 33 years of his life. It is a good opportunity for us to reflect on our own lives and on the way we bring up our children.

The Christian has hope — on earth and in heaven. Those who put consumerism first have only anxiety and possessions, which do nothing to decrease the restlessness of our hearts. As St. Augustine famously wrote, our hearts are restless until they rest in God. This rest in God gives the Christian hope, while the consumer has only yesterday’s purchase.

Hope is no small matter. In 2007, Pope Benedict wrote an entire encyclical on it. His words deserve serious thought: “If we cannot hope for more than is effectively attainable at any given time ... our lives will soon be without hope” (*Spe Salvi*, 35).

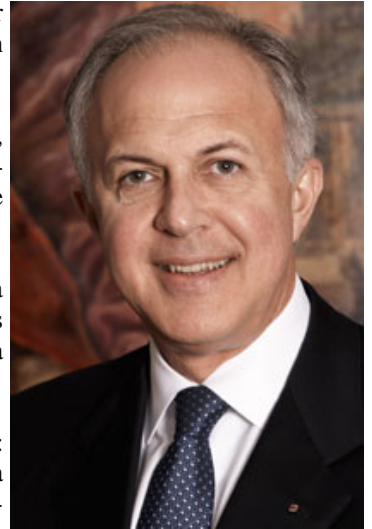
Our hope must be based not simply on the here and now, but on the hereafter; and not just on ourselves, but on the one who made us.

Life, children and family are all founded on love. During Advent 2007, Pope Benedict reminded us that “hope, like faith, is demonstrated in love.”

As we celebrate the feasts of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Christmas and the Holy Family this month, let us remember that they are feasts of hope precisely because they celebrate Christ’s life and loving family, and his greatest gift of love to us: our salvation.

**Vivat Jesus!**

Information gathered from the Knights of Columbus website: <http://www.kofc.org>



## Knights of Columbus Apparel

KC Baseball Caps \$14.00

KC Polo Shirts S, M, L, XL \$32.00  
XXL \$34.00  
XXXL \$36.00  
XXXXL \$38.00

Please visit the following company websites for Knights of Columbus items:

The English Company, Inc. 1-800-444-5632 <http://www.kofcsupplies.com>

Lynch & Kelly, Inc. 1-888-548-3890 <http://www.lynchkelly.com>

**Please contact George Ussery at (281) 337-4044 for information regarding Hall rentals.**



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