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*The next **Knights of Columbus** Officer's Meeting will be held on
Wednesday, February 3rd at 7:00 PM at the KC Hall.*

*The next **Knights of Columbus** Council Meeting will be held on
Thursday, February 11th at 7:30 PM at the KC Hall.*

*The next **Columbus Club of Dickinson** Meeting will be held on
Thursday, February 18st at 7:30pm at the KC Hall*

Good of the Order

Please keep our brother Knight Marvin Griffiths in your prayers. He has always been the one making sure that everyone else is always well taken care of and how he is in need of our help! Please keep the Andrews family in your prayers as they are in a tough battle with Cancer right now.

Announcements

STEAK NIGHT returns to the Father Roach Council on Friday, February 5th from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM and will return again following Easter. The Steak Nights and the Lenten Fish Fries will be held at our new KC Hall in Dickinson. We will be having seven Fish Fries this year starting on Friday, February 12th from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. Please help get the word out so that we can have a good turnout this year. We need help in all areas so please take time to come out and help us make this years Steak Night and Fish Fries a big success!!

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, February 3rd	7:00 PM	Officers Call
Friday, February 5th	5:30 PM to 7:30 PM	Steak Night
Saturday, February 6th	10:00 AM	Pro-Life Mass
Thursday, February 11th	7:30 PM	Council Meeting
Friday, February 12th	5:30 PM to 7:30 PM	Fish Fry
Thursday, February 18th	7:30 PM	Columbus Club Meeting
Friday, February 19th	5:30 PM to 7:30 PM	Fish Fry
Friday, February 26th	5:30 PM to 7:30 PM	Fish Fry
Wednesday, March 3rd	7:00 PM	Officers Call
Friday, March 5th	5:30 PM to 7:30 PM	Fish Fry
Friday, March 12th	5:30 PM to 7:30 PM	Fish Fry
Friday, March 19th	5:30 PM to 7:30 PM	Fish Fry
Friday, March 26th	5:30 PM to 7:30 PM	Fish Fry

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

*Come and join us for the Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm
Shrine of the True Cross Catholic Church
following each Fish Fry during Lent*



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

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**For rental
information:**

Contact George Ussery
(281) 337-4044



**Knights of
Columbus Hall**

4132 E. 27th Street
Dickinson, TX 77539

George.Ussery@DickinsonKCCouncil.org

Directions to the KC Hall from True Cross Church

Take FM 517 east to Dickinson Ave. (FM 1266)
Turn left on Dickinson Ave. (FM 1266)
Turn left on 27th Street and the hall is on the left

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING CATHOLIC GENTLEMEN

Please welcome the newest member of our council PJ Velazquez! PJ is the son of our Deputy Grand Knight, Pete Velazquez.

Please congratulate the following members of our council who recently completed their 2nd and 3rd Degrees of Knighthood: Michael Moore, Paul Owen, Ed Sustrick, PJ Velazquez, Richard Mayfield, Robert Rose and Lucas Hinojosa.



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 of the page.

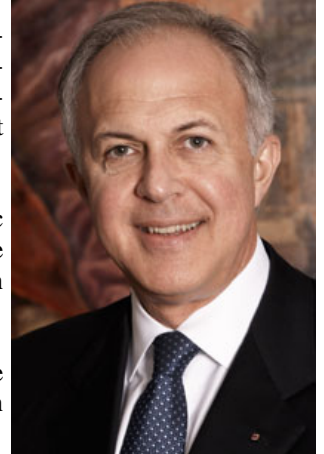
Health Care, Politicians and the Catholic Conscience

by Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson

A troubling new development has appeared in American politics. For decades, Americans have been subjected to the arguments of certain Catholic politicians who argued that while “personally opposed” to unjust policies like abortion, they were nonetheless unwilling to “impose” that view on the rest of the country. This argument is disingenuous, premised on the fact that somehow a Catholic conscience has to be put aside in the public square.

Now, the very people who argued that they couldn’t bring their private conscience into a secular public square are poised to use the law to impose a particular view on others. By working and voting to include abortion coverage in health care legislation, several Catholic politicians stand to be the deciding votes in forcing their fellow Catholics to fund abortion through tax dollars.

While professing that they cannot impose their consciences on anyone else, these politicians seem to have little hesitation about imposing an immoral political view — one they claim to oppose in principle — on the consciences of Catholic citizens.



Catholic politicians willing to forsake their consciences have come a long way from the legacy of the highest profile Catholic statesman in U.S. history, fellow Knight John F. Kennedy, who while discussing his role as a Catholic and candidate for president said: “If the time should ever come — and I do not concede any conflict to be even remotely possible — when my office would require me to either violate my conscience or violate the national interest, then I would resign the office; and I hope any conscientious public servant would do the same.”

While some might consider that Catholic politicians have disagreed with the public policy recommendations of their bishops in a variety of areas, the key point is this: many issues are prudential and open to reasonable disagreement, but the inalienable right to life in the context of abortion is not — it is fundamental, and it may not be compromised.

As Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger — now Pope Benedict XVI — noted about Catholic politicians in 2004: “not all moral issues have the same moral weight as abortion.”

He continued: “While the Church exhorts civil authorities to seek peace, not war, and to exercise discretion and mercy in imposing punishment on criminals, it may still be permissible to take up arms to repel an aggressor or to have recourse to capital punishment. There may be a legitimate diversity of opinion even among Catholics about waging war and applying the death penalty, but not however with regard to abortion.”

Catholic politicians must now consider the effect of national legislation mandating Catholic cooperation in abortion. In his famous pro-life encyclical, *Evangelium Vitae*, Pope John Paul II wrote: “The passing of unjust laws often raises difficult problems of conscience for morally upright people with regard to the issue of cooperation, since they have a right to demand not to be forced to take part in morally evil actions.”

He said further: “Christians, like all people of good will, are called upon under grave obligation of conscience not to cooperate formally in practices which, even if permitted by civil legislation, are contrary to God’s law. Indeed, from the moral standpoint, it is never licit to cooperate formally in evil. This cooperation can never be justified either by invoking respect for the freedom of others or by appealing to the fact that civil law permits it or requires it” (74).

It is doubly ironic that a law that would force millions to violate their conscience by paying their taxes — and would entangle thousands of Catholic physicians, nurses, hospitals and charities in the evil of abortion — is being considered at precisely a time when the majority of Americans, in greater and greater numbers, identify themselves as pro-life.

Catholic public officials in Washington have the power to prevent this moral tragedy from happening. They should not hesitate to do so.

Vivat Jesus!

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KC Polo Shirts S, M, L, XL \$32.00
XXL \$34.00
XXXL \$36.00
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Please contact George Ussery at (281) 337-4044 for information regarding Hall rentals.



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