



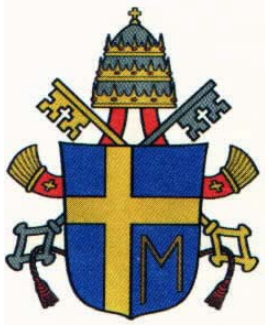
THE FISHER OF MEN

St. John Fisher Council 12856 Newsletter

*The Knights of Columbus are dedicated to
the propagation of the Roman Catholic faith*

December 2006, January 2007

Volume 7 No. 2



Monthly Thought from POPE Benedict XVI

The Hebrew word Shalom is translated in English Bibles to 'Peace'. Shalom was a

farewell, an expression of good wishes. In John 15:27 Jesus said "Peace is my farewell to you, my peace is my gift to you; I do not give it to you as the world gives peace. Do not be distressed or fearful" In this passage, His gift of peace or Shalom is a gift of salvation and not a conventional word of farewell.

Peace is a word so wildly used and with such rich content that no single English word can render its full meaning. As we look forward to the fifth anniversary of the attack on America at the World Trade Center, many of us will be saying prayers for peace. We are faced with a worsening situation in the Middle East. When peace seems more elusive now than ever we must "implore from God the precious gift of peace" as Pope Benedict XVI has encouraged all believers to do. Remember even if we do not have peace in the world, we can have peace in our hearts. It is a promise from Jesus.

The Knights of Columbus will observe September 11 as a World Day of Prayer for Peace. As we pray for peace on September 11, we not only honor the memory of those who were killed on that day, but also, in a special way all the brave men and women of the military who have sacrificed so much, even their lives to bring true peace, rooted in justice.

I have ordered from the Supreme Council, World Day of Prayer for Peace, prayer cards that will be handed out to all parishioners at the September 9th and 10th Masses. I would like to share this prayer for peace with you.

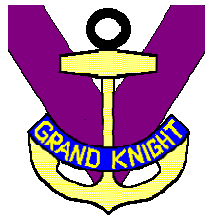
With you, O Mother of the Redeemer
may the hymn of the humble and
the poor rise to almighty God:
may he, the merciful one,
bring peace to earth,
reconcile brothers at enmity,
confound Cain,
make Abel rise again;
may he bring all of creation
to the design he had at the beginning
in the love of the Son,
in the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

"Each One Reach One!"

"Reach out and touch someone" by recruiting one new member.

Grand Knights Report

The 3rd Annual Golf Tournament was held on Saturday, September 30th. It was a big success. We will be donating to help cover some expenses of two deacons, already committed \$1030.00. Special thanks to Jerry Fjetland who ran the 3rd Annual Golf Tournament.



Annual Tootsie Roll Drive - Big success

\$5332.00

Thanks to all that helped.

Officers for 2006-2007

Grand Knight – Jim O'Reilly

Deputy Grand Knight – Tom McCullough

Appointed by Grand Knight: Chaplain –
Father Robert Aliunzi

**Appointed by Supreme: Financial
Secretary** – Darrell Butlett

Chancellor – August Huber

Recorder – Jimi Sallmen

Treasurer - Jimmy Mihalik

Advocate – Gerry Fjetland

Trustees – Dan Geraghty, Bill Patterson, John Schellinger

Inside Guard – Alfred Albion

Outside Guards – Ken Costigan and Tyson Gentz

Warden – John Ingram

Appointed by Grand Knight: Lecturer –
Eric Kemper

Remember to keep Christ in each and every day.

Spread your faith to someone each day.

VOLUNTEER & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

ADOPT-A-STREET: Is this Saturday December 9th. We will meet at Papa's Perks (SE corner of 67th ave. and 101) at 7:30am for coffee before the clean up. We will clean Beardsley between 67th and 59th Ave. Usually takes no more than about 1 hour.



POT OF GOLD

Come to the business meeting the first Monday of Each month and be entered for a chance to win. You must be present to win. This month's winner was David Janda. David was not present to win. Next month the POT OF GOLD will be \$25.00.

Calendar of Events

• CALENDAR NOTES:

- **St. John Fisher Council Membership Business Meetings** are held on the first Monday of the month at St. Thomas More at 7:30 PM sharp. Please come early and help us set up and socialize. Get to know your brother Knights.
- **Community Service Project Highway Clean-up** held the second Saturday on even months. Knights are to meet at the 99¢ Store parking lot located at 67th Ave So of Beardsley at 7:00 am.
- **Officers Meetings** are being held the third Tuesday of each month. This meeting will be for all officers and Committee Directors. Any Knight is welcome to attend and observe.
- **Admission Committee Meetings** are held the 1st Tuesday and 3rd Thursday of each month at a place to be determined.
- St. Joseph's **4th Degree Assembly meetings** are held the fourth Wednesday of each month at St. Helen's Catholic Church 5510 W. Cholla St., Glendale at 7:30 PM
- St. Joseph's **4th Degree Color Guard Practices** are held on the Fourth Thursday of the month at St. Helen's Catholic Church 5510 W. Cholla St., Glendale at 7:30 PM
- Upcoming Blood Drives **St. Thomas More November 14th**. Sign ups will precede each drive 2 weeks preceding each blood drive. Volunteers are needed to help out. Contact John Schellinger at (602) 909-5732, sps@nhmh.com to help out.
- * = see note below

Upcoming Events:

• EVENTS: DECEMBER 2006 – JANUARY 2007

- **Monday December 4th, K of C Business Meeting St. Thomas More Catholic Church 7:00 setup, 7:30 meeting.**
- Saturday December 9th, **Adopt-A-Street**, at 7:30 a.m. Meet Papa's Perks on 67th Ave.
- Sunday December 10th, Christmas Party the Schellinger's Time 4:30 see flyers *
- **Tuesday December 19th, Officers Meetings St. James Church at 6:30pm** - This meeting will be for all officers and Committee Directors. Any Knight is welcome to attend and observe.
- **2007**
- **Monday January 2nd, K of C Business Meeting St. Thomas More Catholic Church 7:00 setup, 7:30 meeting**
- **Tuesday January 16th, Officers Meetings @ St. James Church at 6:30 p.m.** - This meeting will be for all officers and Committee Directors. Any Knight is welcome to attend and observe.
- **Free throw Championship for 10 14 year old boys and Girls January 21st, 9:00 a.m. basketball park near St. Thomas More Church.**
- **Blood Drive St. Thomas More Sunday January 28th, after all masses.**
- Monday February 6th, 2007, K of C Business Meeting St. Thomas More Catholic Church 7:00 setup, 7:30 meeting.
- Saturday February 9th, **Adopt A Street**, At 7:00 a.m. Meet Papa's Perks on 67th av.
- **Tuesday February 16th, Officers Meetings @ St. James Church at 6:30 p.m.** - This meeting will be for all officers and Committee Directors. Any Knight is welcome to attend and observe.
- * = see note below

Upcoming Degree's

- 1st Degree – Monday December 11th, Padre Serra #7114 at 7:00 p.m.
- 1st Degree - Thursday December 28th, Bishop Salpointe #4584 (Sierra Vista) at 7:00 p.m.
- 1st Degree – Tuesday December 12th, St. Anne's #10540 (Gilbert) at 7:00 p.m.
- 2007
- **2nd/3rd Degree** – Sunday January 7th, Ft. Joseph Patterson #3121 (Chandler) at 9:00 a.m.
- 1st Degree – Monday January 8th, Fray Garces #3855 at 7:00 p.m.
- 1st Degree – Tuesday January 16th, Ft. Joseph Patterson #3121 (Chandler) at 7:00 p.m.
- 1st Degree – Friday January 26th, Bishop Salpointe #4584 (Sierra Vista) at 7:00 p.m.
- 1st Degree – Wednesday January 31st, St. Helens #11738 at 7:00 p.m.



"Search and Destroy"

The origins of our air-mobile Army can be found in the battle of Ia Drang Valley.

By Mackubin Thomas Owens

This week (Nov. 14) marks the 41st anniversary of the beginning of the epic battle of the Ia Drang Valley of South Vietnam's Pleiku Province in the Central Highlands. The first part of the operation pitted Lieutenant Colonel Hal Moore's 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) against

three regiments of the Peoples' Army of Vietnam (PAVN) in a deadly struggle for Landing Zone (LZ) X-Ray. For better or worse, the lessons of this battle during the early days of America's Vietnam War shaped U.S. operational strategy for the remainder of the conflict and, indeed, still influence the U.S. Army's preferred way to fight.

In an effort to validate the Army's new air-mobility doctrine, which was based on the use of helicopters, Moore's superiors ordered his battalion to seize and defend a landing zone in Pleiku Province not far from the Cambodian border. The idea was to draw the PAVN into a battle and then to attack the massed

enemy forces with supporting arms, disrupting the attempt by the North Vietnamese to seize the strategically important Central Highlands. The plan to draw the PAVN into battle worked -- too well. Moore's under-strength command soon found itself in the midst of a large PAVN base camp containing some 2,000 PAVN troops intent on killing Americans.

The problem Moore faced on November 14, 1965, was holding the PAVN force at bay while he built up sufficient combat power around LZ X-Ray. Although the helicopter assault initially caught the North Vietnamese by surprise, there were only enough choppers to bring in 80 troops at a time. Since the round-trip flight-time between LZ X-Ray and the battalion's base at Plei Me was an hour, the danger was that the PAVN force would overrun the LZ before the entire unit was on the ground. Even then, Moore's 450 soldiers would be heavily outnumbered by a skillful and determined enemy.

By all accounts, Moore was a remarkable battalion commander who had prepared his unit well. Despite having lost almost a third of its most experienced soldiers and noncommissioned officers before its deployment to Vietnam because their enlistment terms were about to expire, the 1st of the 7th Cavalry was a fine unit, well-trained, with high morale and unit cohesion. This, along with supporting arms, was all that could keep the battalion from destruction in the Ia Drang Valley.

As Moore wrote in his account of the campaign, *We Were Soldiers Once...and Young*, "Among my sergeants [at LZ X-Ray] were three-war men -- men who parachuted into Normandy on D-Day and had survived the war in Korea -- and those old veterans were shocked by the savagery and hellish noise of this battle...We were dry-mouthed and our bowels churned with fear, and still the enemy came on in waves."

When the PAVN broke contact on November 16, after 40 straight hours of often hand-to-hand combat, Moore's battalion had suffered 74 dead and 121 wounded. Over 800 enemy dead were counted on the field, and countless others were killed by U.S. artillery and air strikes. Despite the high American losses during the fight for LZ X-Ray, the planners felt that the battle had vindicated the Army's operational concept. As terrible as the fight for LZ X-Ray was, it

was a U.S. victory.

What happened a day later was a debacle, and points to the truth of the observation by the Duke of Wellington that "the only thing worse than a battle won is a battle lost."

On the afternoon of November 16, Moore's battalion was heli-lifted out of LZ X-Ray and replaced by its sister battalions, Robert Tulley's 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry, and Robert McDade's 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry. Neither of these units was as well-trained as Moore's battalion.

Because a B-52 strike was scheduled to hit the suspected PAVN base camp near the Chu Pong Massif on the Cambodian border, the two battalions were ordered to abandon LZ X-Ray and move overland the next day to helicopter landing zones farther east. On the afternoon of November 17, the 2nd of the 7th Cavalry was ambushed as it moved to LZ Albany. Strung out along a trail, three of the battalion's line companies and its headquarters companies were annihilated. In six hours, 155 Americans died, the highest death toll for any day of the war.

It should be noted that, while Americans have been programmed to be cognizant only of alleged U.S. atrocities in Vietnam, many of the U.S. dead in this battle were wounded American soldiers killed by the Communists after the fighting had stopped. The late Jack Smith, son of the ABC newsman Howard K. Smith, described a night so harrowing that most of us cannot imagine it. Badly wounded but covered by the body of a dead comrade, Smith listened as laughing communist soldiers killed any American they found alive.

The battle in the Ia Drang Valley had important implications for the future conduct of the war. The Army favored "search and destroy" missions, such as the Ia Drang operation, designed to bring the PAVN to battle and then to destroy it. Although U.S. casualties in Pleiku Province were high -- some 300 between October 23 and November 26, 1965 -- estimated PAVN casualties were 12 times higher. Thus the Pleiku campaign convinced Westmoreland that the Army Concept was correct. In a head to head clash, an outnumbered U.S. force had spoiled an enemy operation and sent a major PAVN force reeling back in defeat, inflicting far more casualties than it sustained.

Reasonable people may disagree about the Army's operational concept. For instance, in the opinion of the overall commander of all Marines in the Pacific during much of the Vietnam War, Lt. Gen. Victor H. Krulak, Ia Drang represented an example of fighting the enemy's war -- what North Vietnamese General Vo Nguyen Giap predicted would be "a protracted war of attrition." And, says Krulak, a "war of attrition it turned out to be . . . [by] 1972, we had managed to reduce the enemy's manpower pool by perhaps 25 percent at a cost of over 220,000 U.S. and South Vietnamese dead. Of these, 59,000 were Americans." Krulak's figures are probably low. Hanoi has admitted that it suffered some 1.4 million combat deaths during the war. But the lessons of Ia Drang transcend Vietnam. The fact is that the United States Army has a preferred way of fighting. The wars the Army wants to fight are conventional wars involving regular troops on both sides. Unfortunately, as Vietnam showed us some four decades ago and Iraq shows us today, we do not always get to fight the wars we want.

-- Mackubin Thomas Owens is an NRO contributing editor and a professor of strategy and force planning at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I. He led a Marine infantry platoon in Vietnam in 1968-1969.

Prayer for Peace

Loving God and Father, answer our prayers for a world of peace. Give us strength as we face the conflicts of our troubled world. Cleanse our minds of retaliation and help us to be instruments of Your peace. Fill us with the compassion we need to overlook the hatefulness of others and enable us to be a country embraced by the grace of Your teachings. We ask to share in the task of restoring harmony and justice.

God of compassion and mercy, we pray for all the people whose lives have been changed by violence in this world.

Remember, too, those who perished in the attack on America and the lives that have been lost in protecting democracy and freedom around the world. Console their families and friends with the knowledge that their loved ones will find comfort and peace in. Your loving arms. We put our trust in Your heavenly graces. Hear our plea and grant that peace reign throughout the world. Amen

Please remember in your daily prayers...

Val Costigan (Wife of Ken Costigan)
Margaret Albion (Mother of Alfred Albion) our inside guard

If anyone wants to be on our prayer list please send the information to
Darrell Butlett iharms@qwest.net

Members of Parishes Prayer Lists



Knight of the Month

November 2006

Tyson Gentz

Family of the Month

September 2006

Ron Rytlewski

Congratulate these brothers when you see them for their fine work in support of our counsel.



Sunday January 28th, 2007

**ST. THOMAS MORE
BLOOD DRIVE**

**Volunteers Needed for Sign-ups
After all Masses
on
Saturday, Sunday**

**Contact: John Schellinger
(602) 909-5732**

**Volunteers needed to help call and schedule
appointments after each sign-up**

**All Knights and their Families and Friends
are encouraged to participate.**

Saturday January 21st, 2007

**FREE THROW
CHAMPIONSHIP
BOYS AND GIRLS
AGES 10 - 14
TRY OUTS
CALL JIM O'REILLY
623-572-738**

**“4th Degree
Exemplification”
Sunday, June 7th,**

A Social Hour and Dinner will be conducted following
the Mass.

Contact SK Dan Geraghty (623) 582-8792
dgerity@cox.net if you can attend



Saturday December 9th

ADOPT-A-STREET

7:30 am

Papa's Perks

S.E. corner of 67th Ave and Beardsley

Contact Ken Costigan (602) 493-2311

Please Help Out

**All 1st Degree Knights
2nd/3rd Degree's Exemplification
January 7th
9:00 AM**

Ft. Joseph Patterson 3121 (Chandler)

2006/2007

**St. Helen's Bingo every week
Where: St. Helen's Church
At 6 P.M Friday's**

“Knight's Night Out”



Join us **watch email for upcoming information** after 4 p.m. mass at St. James Church, on January 27th, to just hang out, socialize and get to know your brothers and friends. The location is to be announced so mark this date on your calendar.

Get away from the office, television and chores and pamper your spouse, family and yourself for the evening.

Knights of Columbus

St. John Fisher Council 12856

**ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
FOR ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH
MARCH 24TH, 2007**



KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

*KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
CHRISTMAS PARTY*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

Where: The Schellinger's 5276 W. Quail Avenue

4:30PM APPETIZERS AND DRINKS

6:00PM DINNER

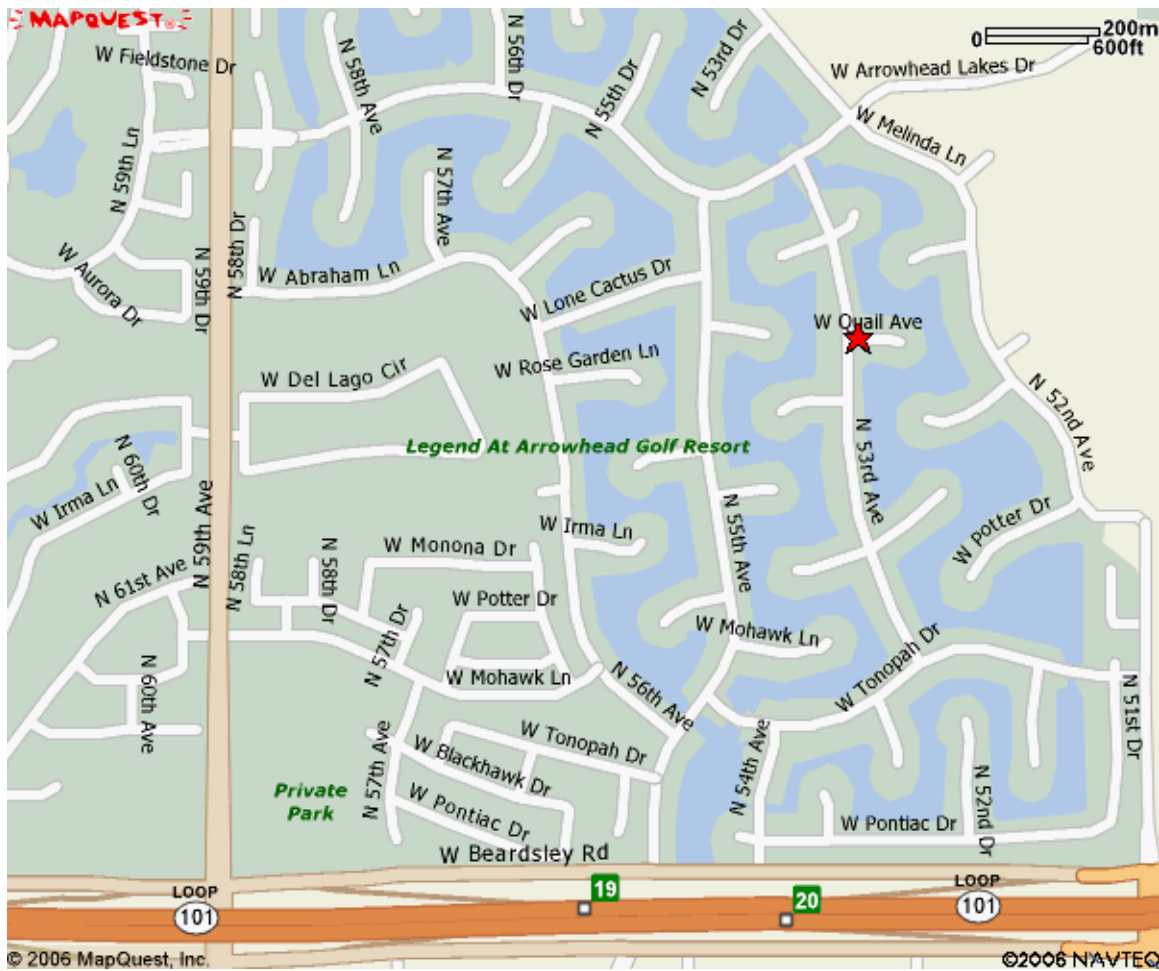
7:30PM GIFT EXCHANGE

9:00PM DESSERT

RSVP BY DECEMBER 5TH JOHN OR MARILYN 623-561-1031

Email: JSchel5276@aol.com

Directions to the Schellinger's
5276 W. Quail Avenue Glendale 85308



DINNER: The Knight's will provide drinks and the main course. Please bring a dish to pass: appetizer, salad, side dish, or dessert.

GIFT EXCHANGE: Please bring a gift, approximate value \$20.00 (2 for couples). Disguise your gift so no one can guess what is inside. Then the fun will begin when we start to open them.

PLEASE RSVP by December 5th. John or Marilyn 623-561-1031

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This newsletter is published every other month. The Deadline for submission of material that will be used in the following month's newsletter is the first of each month. Please contact SK Darrell Butlett with submissions.

Newsletter Publisher/Editor
4th Degree Representative

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Dan Geraghty

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Knights of Columbus
St. John Fisher • Council 12856

c/o Darrell Butlett

7001 W. Lone Cactus Drive
Glendale, AZ 85308



“In God We Trust.”