



February 2020

NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. LOUIS COUNCIL 3335



The Lewis Family receives the St. Louis Knights of Columbus Council's most important and prestigious award, "Family of the Year 2019". Mama Bernadette is standing on the extreme left behind Madison (11). Toby (8) is holding the plaque. Next to him is little Gianna (6) with big sister, Faith (15) behind her. Giving his acceptance speech is Papa Scott while holding baby Anna (1). On the right are Noah (12) and Elijah (14). One of the children is missing. Kolbe (4) is there, but where? Bernadette can only conclude that he's lost in the temple.....hiding behind the podium on the left. The Lewis Family is amazing! They not only live in a domestic church; the kids go to their own home school that their mother runs. On February 22 they are all going on a mission trip to Costa Rica for a week.....being witnesses as they give a testimony after Mass and meet Costa Rican families; helping to build a chapel; and visiting the homebound. If the Lewis Family discerns a calling, they will return for at least a year. Both husband and wife must agree.

The Lewis home is a beautiful Christ centered model of what a domestic church should be. They have daily prayer time which includes the rosary. Story time features the saint of the day. In preparation for Sunday Mass that they attend as a family every week without fail, they discuss the readings. As part of their homeschooling, they set aside time for some Bible reading according to each child's age. Scott is a super convert, having entered the Church almost five years ago. During lulls while helping patients with kidney dialysis at Holzer Hospital, Scott does spiritual reading. According to his wife Bernadette Stapleton Lewis, "Scott will go to any Catholic event up and down the state with his family, including a family retreat, conferences, visiting shrines, etc." He wants to show the kids that things Catholic are fun! They have gone to the March For Life in Washington as a family in January, help out in the Right to Life booth at the Flea Market, and participate in the Life Chain along Route 7 in October. The family is very active in our parish. The three older boys are altar servers at even some daily Masses. Our thanks to Mike Stapleton for taking the photos in this issue.

Fr. Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus to promote, preserve, and protect families. The current national campaign is to promote the domestic church in order to strengthen both the family and the parish.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR YOUR MARRIAGE TODAY? In his apostolic exhortation, "Familiaris Consortio, on the Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World", St. Pope John Paul II explained how the married state is designed by God to lead toward mutual sanctification of both husband and wife. By virtue of the

mystery of the death and Resurrection of Christ, conjugal love is purified and made holy. The graces of the sacrament of Matrimony accompanies the couple throughout their lives. The goal of any marriage should be mutual sanctification and so much will follow. In difficult times pray and tap the graces of Matrimony. Help to make your wife holy.



On the left are Gretchen McConnell & Justin McClelland after the Graduation Mass in May. They both received Knights of Columbus \$1000 scholarships. Gretchen is currently a student at the University of Rio Grande. She played varsity soccer at Gallia Academy. Justin is a business major at Capital University in Columbus, where he is continuing his football career as a quarterback. Even though a freshman, he got considerable playing time. At Gallia Academy he played varsity football, basketball, and baseball. Both were altar servers and continue to serve when not away at school.

On the right is Paul Sebastian giving an acceptance speech after receiving the Knight of the Year award. He talked about his struggle to maintain a balance of priorities even though retired.....1) God; 2) Family; 3) Job to support the family; and 4) Service. Paul advocated that each knight specialize in at least one activity instead of simply paying dues and never showing up to help. Sebastian attends every meeting as lector where he gives a brief five minute talk on diverse subjects and organizes the Knights of Columbus Mass five times a year. Previously Paul was treasurer for two years. He writes this monthly newsletter and other articles subject to the approval of our pastor. Together as a team, Paul and his wife Jaga bring Communion to the sick every Sunday and advise the Catholic Newman Club at the University of Rio Grande. Paul is on the Steering Committee for putting on the annual Diocesan Men's Day of Renewal since 2010 and tries to mobilize our men to attend. They are generally patient with him.

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NOTES

***Our grateful thanks** to the Ours Family for another stellar job with the **Giving Tree**.

*Many thanks to Allen White, his son Alex, and his nephew Frederick Michael Edelman for their work with the **Coats For Kids** campaign.

*Don't forget our **Coffee and Donuts Breakfast** after the Sunday Masses on *February 9*.

*We need your participation at the **next Knights of Columbus meeting**. Your presence makes a difference and animates everybody present.....great fellowship and most of all, your ideas. Since our chaplain cannot make the usual 4th Monday, the meeting may be changed to another day. Our Council is as strong as its members.



In the left photo Patty Hays receives the Lady of the Year award from our grand knight, Tyler Reynolds. A professional photographer, Patty has taken many wedding and First Communion photos. She's a real prayer warrior who mobilizes those on her Prayer Line to pray for those in distress by e-mail and Facebook, which she uses as an apostolate. Hays also organizes the women to participate in retreats and mini-pilgrimages. Patty was at Fr. Bill's side when he died, comforting and caring for him in Dayton. Similarly, she helped Blanche Champer in her last days.

In the center photo is Bill Griffith, who entered the Church only about seven years ago, has helped enough for a lifetime. An expert in the culinary arts, he has cooked at many a wedding, fish fry, parish festival, and other gatherings in the parish. Even though he's not a knight, Bill helped us sell raffle tickets to his brothers in the Elks, raising over a \$1000. He even helps out with maintenance in the parish. Thus he earned the Volunteer of the Year award,

In the right photo is our pastor, Fr. Thomas Hamm, who was chosen as Chaplain of the Year in appreciation for attending all of our meetings and keeping us on track in regard to the parish. He blesses our meals and leads prayer at the beginning of our meeting and for those members who are ailing. Thank you, Father, for your faithful service.





In the photo on the left Krystal Davison receives the Youth of the Year Award. Krystal continues as an altar server, especially when her Mom is lector. Krystal often helps out at the fish fries. In the photo on the right Frederick Michael Edelmenn receives the Bluecoat of the Year Award from Grand Knight Tyler Renolds. Frederick Michael works with a company that sells cabinets. He is a member of the National Guard that could be deployed with little notice. In his spare time Frederick Michael is a volunteer fire fighter.....risking life and limb to protect us. He was very helpful with the Catholic Newman Club at the University of Rio Grande a couple of years ago.



The awardees, all together. Coach Jared McClelland is a stand-in for his son Justin. Thank you for all that you have done for the parish community. And the Lewis Family found little Kolbe on the far left. His mother has her hand on him, just to make sure he doesn't get lost again. The Lewis Family is intact.