Pick of the Week

Wednesday, February 14th is Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. During the Ash Wednesday Mass, everyone is invited to process forward and receive a cross on their forehead marked with Ash. As the Ash is applied, one of two scriptural passages is said: "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19) or "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel" (Mark 1:15). Those passages reveal why Ash is used on this day; they tell us what the Ash symbolizes. The Genesis quote reminds us that someday, sooner or later, we all will die. The second quote from Mark's gospel reminds us that since we have no idea when that day will come, we need to prepare, and we need to start now. By accepting the mark of Ash, we are acknowledging our sinfulness, expressing sorrow for our sins, and showing everyone our desire to take advantage of the season of Lent to fast, pray, and give to others so that by Easter Sunday, we are more faithful disciples. So this Wednesday, get your Ash in church.

By Kathy Long

Mass Times - Ash Wednesday, February 14th 10:00am at St. Joseph - Amery 6:30pm at Our Lady of the Lakes - Balsam Lake

KC Meeting Minutes Our next KC meeting will be February 20 at 7:00 pm officers meeting at 6:30pm

Please try to get your dues paid. Mike will be sending 2^{nd} notices out soon, if there is a problem, please contact Mike or GK Jim to work them out. Along with thanks to all who filled out the fraternal survey that came with the dues notice. If you haven't we can still add to our councils numbers. We disbursed 2590 dollars visited 1340 to the sick and bereaved, gave 9 pints of blood, and volunteered 3390 hours of service. WELL DONE!

My Brother Knights, last year we came 161 pounds short of the goal of 1000 pounds of food for the food pantry in Luck. The Supreme program Food for Families will give a food pantry funds based on a councils quantity of food delivered to that pantry. This will be our third try to accomplish this. So here's the challenge Forty cans for Lent was a program a few years back where people were challenged to give up a food item for each day of Lent. So I'm (the Council) is challenging you to participate if you can. A good way to give something up for lent, and helps others out at the same time.

Well we had our first KC breakfast of the year thanks to all those who helped or ate. We continue to serve one of the best breakfast around.

Our History book is completed for last year thanks to all who gave me stuff for it. It is a full 3" of history of what our council completed last year. THANKS again for all our members and their families do in our parish and communities.

We are asking the members of our council to participate in corporate communion the week-end before our general meeting. What we are asking is that Knights and their families sit together in a show of Unity on the left side of the altar.

Tootsie roll drive is around the corner (April 20-22). Please keep this date open to help raise funds. If you have any idea who else might benefit from the drive come to the meeting and share your idea. Currently Endeavors and Polk Co Special Olympics split the funds raised.

We are currently getting started planning the Blue Mass. If anyone would like to help please contact GK Jim, Greg Maier, or Mike Bauer. Now more than ever these men and women need this recognition.

Fraternally Yours

Jim Otto Grand Knight

Fred Koslowski Deputy Grand Knight

Our Lady of the Lakes Knights of Columbus 40 Days of Lent....40 Items for Food Shelf

Looking for a meaningful way to take action and support our local food shelf? Food drives raise awareness of hunger in the community. Collect food for people in need and play an essential role in the fight against hunger. The Knights of Columbus would like you to participate in a 40 day food challenge during Lent. Even bringing one item for the food shelf helps out our local food shelf, Loaves and Fishes.

Bring in food item and place item in drop box in entryway.

With everyone pulling together we can make a difference.



Something to Think About

Sunday, February 11: It is difficult for us to fully grasp the plight of lepers in Biblical times, although there are still places in the world where leprosy exists and where those with Hansen's disease are quarantined. Today, Jesus heals a leper, who (in spite of Jesus' instructions to not tell anyone what had happened) is compelled to "publicize the whole matter." No doubt, he was astounded at his healing and the promise of new life that awaited him as a result.

Connecting with everyday life: Passages such as the one we hear today can be difficult for some, whose experience of physical illness has not been of healing, but of suffering and death. It will be helpful today to remind people that Jesus suffers with us in such times, just as the Lord may work through the healing touch of medical professionals. We also experience other kinds of illness — spiritual, emotional turmoil in which we reach out to God and rely on the care of others to bring about healing. Consider how you are called to be person of healing. Are there situations in which you may be called to forgive another, to reach out with love to someone who is hurting, to visit someone who is sick, and whose spirits may be lifted through your care?