

The Compass

In Loving Memory

We mourn the loss of our brother Tom Hecker....



On the evening of Sunday, February 1st, a motor vehicle accident claimed the life of our brother Tom Hecker.

Tom was an integral part of our community. As well as being a Knight, he worked with the Boy Scouts, the CCD program, and

was a lector at St. Benedict's Church. Tom also coached wrestling at Garden Spot High School in New Holland.

He will truly be missed.

Please pray for his wife, Colleen, and his children Mike and Sara.

Free Throw Championship a Slam Dunk!

On January 31st, 2009, our council held it's first activity for the youth of our community. The free Throw contest was held at the Immaculate Conception B.V.M. Church, in Birdsboro, and organized by our brother Knight, John Coccia.

Six of the youngsters who entered this event competed in the District Championship in Sinking Spring. Two of our six champions advanced to compete in the Regional Competition in Springfield, PA. We wish them both great success!

Kudos to John and our brother Knights who organized this event.

Thanks also to the administration at Immaculate Conception.

FATHER PHIL RODGERS HONORED AT SUNDAY MASS

One of the goals of Father Rogers was to establish a Knights of Columbus Council at Saint Benedict's Church. His dream came true in December of 2008. At the conclusion of the 11:15 mass on February 1st, 2009, the newly formed council of the Knights presented



Father Rogers with his lifetime gold membership card. The gold card and a special certificate from the Supreme Council was presented by Grand Knight, John Cocco. Many fellow Knights stood in place to express their thanks to Father Rogers.

From Your Grand Knight, John Cocco....

I would like to welcome everyone to our first official newsletter and yet another place to find the “happenings” in our council. But our council is young and the spirit is strong, I would like to encourage all of you to get involved with our council and its activities. The success of our council lies on us, not only with the programs we actively pursue, but also with membership growth and retention.

There are many existing Knights in our parish that we need to inspire and get them involved with the Knights of Saint Benedict.

I encourage all of you to attend degrees wherever and whenever possible, please support our candidates and fellow Knights by showing them our unity. I would also ask if you need a certain degree and don't hear of one through me, that you ask either myself, your Deputy Grand Knight and Membership Director Kevin Kozlowski, or your Financial Secretary Len Karver what you are looking for and we will find out when it will be. I would ask that any of you considering achieving the

fourth degree in May, plan on attending April's regular business meeting.

In closing I must admit that the past few months have been busy, however the honor bestowed upon me to serve as your Grand Knight has been just that, an Honor. I am very proud of our council and everything we have accomplished together in such a short time. I am also very proud of the brotherhood we have built together. This brotherhood stood strong in our first tragic experience together, with the loss of our brother Tom Hecker. I ask that we continue to grow our council, and invoke the spirit of brotherhood we have come to know, onto others.

Vivat Jesus
John Cocco
Grand Knight

Our First Basketball Free Throw Competition 2009.....



Pictured far left (back row), Grand Knight, John Cocco; center, Free Throw entrants and far right John Coccia, Free Throw Coordinator.

UPCOMING EVENTS MARCH 2009

March 1, 2009

A **Third Degree Ceremony** will be held at 12 noon in West Chester. Please meet at St. Benedict's church at 11:00 am to car pool to the ceremony.

March 1, 2009

We will be hosting **Hospitality Sunday** in the parish hall. Please make every effort to attend.

March 8, 2009

Our council will hold it's **Charter Ceremony** at the end of the 11:15 mass. Local councils and dignitaries are invited to this special ceremony. A light luncheon will be provided to those in attendance.



THE PARISH OF ST. BENEDICT'S SALUTES OUR TROOPS

Our parish honored our servicemen and women by collecting phone cards during the holidays. A total of 122 cards were donated, for a total of over 37,000 minutes. The cards will be distributed so that soldiers may call loved ones at home.



This project was coordinated by Chris Keenan. We thank Chris, and the parishioners for their generosity. Please pray for our troops.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Check out our new website. Visit "KnightsOfSaintBenedict.org". Get updates and keep in touch with your officers. Find interesting links to your brother knights.

<http://www.knightsofsaintbenedict.org/>



Council 14654 Officers Installation, December 13, 2008.



Front Row: Father Phil, Chaplain; Jim Gregor, Warden; John Cocco, Grand Knight; Kevin Kozlowski, Deputy Grand Knight; Dave Jones, Chancellor
Middle Row: Mike Donlan, Lecturer; Bill Brann, Trustee; Len Karver, Financial Secretary; Tom Dobson, Recorder; Matt Reagan, Trustee
Back Row: Mark McFadden, Outside Guard; Chris Keenan, Inside Guard; Nick Gatto, Advocate; Gary Gibson, Trustee; Steve Wagner, Trustee

Church of Saint Benedict
Knights of Columbus
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