

Knights of Columbus

Council 996

GREETINGS FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT

SPECIAL DATES OF INTEREST:

- Bingo every Tuesday @ 7pm
- December 7th- Business Mtg.
- December 10th- Poteau Casino
- December 16th-Kids Christmas Party
- December 21st- Members Christmas Party
- December 28th-4th Degree Meeting

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

Can you believe we are already half way through the year! We had our check presentation/ Thanksgiving potluck dinner and thank you everyone that came out to it and thank you for the side dishes and desserts. Everyone had a good time and left with full tummies! Thanks goes out to all the cooks that came out and prepared the food for us that day:

Henry and Mary Moore for cooling the turkeys, Clyde Chaney for the gravy and potatoes, Chris Brown for helping with the gravy, potatoes, and stuffing, Dickie and Jayne Spahn, Susan Dubois for helping in the kitchen, Art Rideout, Waylon Horn, and David English for cleaning up afterwards. Without their help none of it would have been done.

For those of you that could not make it to the check presentation, we gave the Kistler Center a check in the amount of

\$6,000.00 dollars! Thanks again to all the volunteers and their wives that helped with the first Knights of Columbus Golf Tournament. It could not have happened with out you.

December we will be having our Christmas party on the 21st. That is our social night so bring your wives! There will be snacks and drinks, so come on out for a night of fun and fellowship.

Vivat Jesus
Grand Knight
Gus Copenhaver

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CASINO KNIGHTS!!

We have a casino in Poteau, Oklahoma on December 10th. They are providing food for us. We will need to be there before 6:00pm to set-up and also so we do not disrupt their dinner. So, if we leave here by 5:00pm we will have plenty of time.

The casino will operate from 7:00-9:00pm. They are expecting 165 people to come to the banquet. We will need help with this!!!

COUNCIL LECTURER - DC. GREG PAIR

What is Advent?

The word 'Advent' is from the Latin 'Adventus,' which means 'coming.' Advent is the beginning of a new liturgical year (in the Western churches), and encompasses the span of time from the fourth Sunday before Christmas, until the Nativity of Our Lord is celebrated. The first Sunday of Advent is the Sunday nearest the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle (which is November 30th), and so it will always fall somewhere between November 27th at the earliest and December 3rd at the latest. The liturgical color for this season is purple (Usually a deep purple as opposed to the lighter, red-violet shade of purple associated with Lent).

Like Lent, Advent is a preparatory season. It has significance because it is a season of looking forward and waiting for something greater; both for the annual celebration of the event of Christ's birth, and for the time when Christ will come again.

As noted in the New Catholic Encyclopedia, during Advent, the faithful are asked: to prepare themselves worthily to celebrate the anniversary of the Lord's coming into the world as the incarnate God of love, thus to make their souls fitting abodes for the Redeemer coming in Holy Communion and through grace, and thereby to make themselves ready for His final coming as judge, at death and at the end of the world.

Origin and History of Advent

The exact time when the season of Advent came to be celebrated is not precisely known. Of course, it was not in practice before the celebration of the Nativity and Christmastide began; the earliest evidence shows that the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord was

established within the later part of the 4th century. There are homilies from the 5th century that discuss preparation in a general sense, but do not indicate an official liturgical season. A Synod held in 590 established that Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from November 11th until the Nativity would be offered according to the Lenten rite. This and other traditions, such as fasting, show that the period of time now established as the Advent season was more penitential (similar to Lent) than the liturgical season as we know it today.

A collection of homilies from Pope St. Gregory the Great (whose papacy was from 590-604) included a sermon for the second Sunday of Advent, and by 650 Spain was celebrating the Sundays (five at the time) of Advent. So it seems the liturgical season was established around the latter part of the 6th century and first half of the 7th century. For the next couple of centuries, Advent was celebrated for five Sundays; Pope Gregory VII, who was pope from 1073-85, reduced the number to four Sundays.

Advent Today

The themes and traditions of the Advent season have evolved throughout the history of the liturgical season. As mentioned, the early Advent season was mainly penitential, close to the theme of the Lenten season. Today a penitential theme still exists, but it is not as intense as in 7th century. Also, it is blended with the theme of prayerful, spiritual preparation for the second and final coming of the Lord, as well as the joyful preparation for the annual festive remembrance of the Incarnation and Christ's birth.

In recent decades, a trend of wearing blue vestments rather than purple during Advent has emerged. However, purple is the appropriate vestment color, as noted in paragraph 346 of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, in the section which discusses the prescribed colors for liturgical vestments: Violet or purple is used in Advent and Lent. It may also be worn in Offices and Masses for the Dead. Rose may be used, where it is the practice, on Gaudete Sunday (Third Sunday of Advent) and on Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent).

Advent Traditions

Advent celebration and traditions can vary from place to place, influenced by culture. However, some traditions have come to be common throughout the Catholic Church. The Advent wreath is likely the most popular tradition, and wreaths are typically present in both the parish church and in the home. It is a more recent tradition, with the modern Advent wreath emerging in Germany and spreading throughout Europe and beyond in the 1930's. It is often circular, representing God's eternity, and it includes 4 candles - one for each Sunday of Advent. Many families have a wreath in the home, and will light the candles each Sunday and say Advent prayers together. A great guide for this practice is the book *Season of Light*.

The Jesse Tree is also a popular Advent tradition. A Jesse Tree, named for the father of David, is a tree that is decorated gradually throughout Advent with symbols or pictures of biblical persons associated with the gradual coming of the Messiah, Christ. This includes, among others, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and Joseph and Mary.

The Jesse Tree tradition provides a wonderful teaching opportunity; it is a perfect way to teach and remind children about the preparatory nature of Advent. Aquinas and More carries Jesse Tree kits, which can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

Advent calendars are another popular tradition, although they most often follow the calendar month of December, not the four Sundays which can begin in November. While many popular Advent calendars use purely secular images, Aquinas and More is proud to offer a selection of several Catholic themed Advent Calendars.

For other Advent activities and ideas on celebrating Advent in the home, also check out Advent, Christmas and Epiphany in the domestic Church: Activities to Celebrate Catholic Liturgical Seasons. For more information on Advent, Advent prayer books and other Advent supplies, check out our Advent and Christmas Specialty Store.

- This article adapted information from The New Catholic Encyclopedia and Catholic Customs and Traditions.

D E C E M B E R B I R T H D A Y S

1st-Robert Hatwig, William Lux	18th- Tony Reith
3rd-James Cullen	20th-George Moschner, Noel Sanger
5th-Charles Kleck, Ryan Meyers	21st-Frank Hug, Jr., Tim Koenigseder,
6th-Kenneth Blaschke, Michael Stec	Paul Lux
7th-Bill Weidman, Benjamin Moorehead	22nd -Andrew Hudgens
11th-John Spradlin	23rd-Danny Oldham, Richard Keel
12th-John Bice, Steven McAllister,	24th-Bill Soller
Anthony Scherrey	27th-Herman Lutz, Dr. James Post
13th-Michael Cain	28th-Keith Mason, Rodney Riser,
14th-Robert Mersberger	Stephen Smith, Jon Woodham
15th-George Burrell, Mike Heathcott	29th-Arthur Gramlich
16th-Richard Anders	30th-Michael Locknar, Bart Barry
17th-Raymond Schoen, Chris Millard	31st - Kenneth Long

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM YOUR BROTHER KNIGHTS!

F A M I L I E S I N N E E D O F P R A Y E R

Sick:

Gerald Miller, Tony Spahn, Scott Koch, son of Gilbert Koch, Bill Kirk, Irene Seiter, Harold Willie, Sharon Mott, mother of Danette (Cliff Boyd), Beverly Heathcott, Kathy Fuhman, Billie Sharum, June Lyons.

Deaths:

Lenice Meyers, widow of George Meyers, Louise Heinrichs, wife of Edward, Ernestine (Tina) Mayfield, widow of Jim Mayfield.

Military:

Jake Dahlem, stationed in Japan, and Jacob Ferguson, son of Carter Ferguson, who is deployed.



DECEMBER 2016

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2	3
	Hall Rented						
4 2nd Sunday of Advent	5		6 Bingo 7pm St. Nicholas's Day	7 Business Mtg. 7:30pm	8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception	9	10 Poreau Casino
	Hall Rented						
11 3rd Sunday of Advent	12		13 Bingo 7pm	14	15	16 Kids Christmas Party 6pm	17
	Hall Rented						
18 4th Sunday of Advent	19		20 Bingo 7pm	21 Social Night- Christmas Party 6pm	22	23	24 Christmas Eve
	Hall Rented						
25 Christmas Day	26		27 Bingo 7pm	28 4th Degree Mtg. 7:30pm	29	30	31 New Year's Eve
	Hall Rented						
	Hall Rented						

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB OR ON
FACEBOOK FOR UPCOMING EVENTS!!



Knights of Columbus
COUNCIL 996

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Hall and Acres Rental Contact:
Jayne Ann Spahn
479-208-3108

www.kofc996.com

www.columbusacres.com

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**Discover a World of Good Things in the
Knights of Columbus**

2016-2017 Council Officers

Chaplain	Fr. Babu Battula
Grand Knight	Gus Copenhagen
Deputy Grand Knight	Matt Hutchinson
Financial Secretary	Marc Lux
Treasurer	Mark Urban

2016-2017 Columbus Club

Robert Collins, President

*Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of
every other month at 6:30 P.M. All Council
996 members are invited and encouraged to
attend.*

CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 21st at our next social night, we will have a members Christmas Party with spouses invited beginning at 6pm. We will serve snacks and have a gift exchange for those who want to participate. The price limit is \$15. We will also be collecting gifts for local nursing homes, mainly socks, pajamas etc. Please plan on attending! It will be a good and festive time!!



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