



### From the Lecture's Desk

Last month, the Grand Knight shared both his frustration and the extent of his responsibilities. At its core, the Grand Knight's message was direct and simple -- more people need to volunteer for council activities. We are Knights. Every appeal for help is a call for a Knight to respond. Whether from our community, parish, or council; when a need is made known to us, it is our responsibility to find ways to say "yes." No one, including our Savior, expects we'll accommodate every request for help. We are expected though to respond in some way, at some time, to at least some things. Christ made clear that our response must not be because it's convenient. We are called to make a sacrificial offering. That's what the story of the widow's mite is all about:

Calling his disciples to himself, he said to them, "Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood." [Mark 12:43-44]

As Knights, we profess ourselves as Practical Catholics. We know the answers to the issues and challenges in our lives are found in Scripture.

Right now the challenge is to step-up and volunteer for just one council activity in 2016, and the response has been disappointing. We should – must -- do better. Before you say "I'm too busy" to help, consider what Scripture says about our obligation to serve others:

**1 Peter 4:10** - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

**Galatians 6:10** - So then, as we have the opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

**Ephesians 2:10** - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

**James 2:14-17** - What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

**Ephesians 2:10** - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

**Galatians 6:9-10** - And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap if we do not give up. So then, as we have the opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

**Matthew 10:8** - Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay.

**Matthew 25:31-46** - When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger, and you welcomed me, ...

When asked to volunteer for a council activity, you face the responsibility laid out in scripture. It's that simple. It's that direct. There are no "should's" or "could's" or "may's"; just "do's" and "will's".

When you joined the Knights, you received the booklet "These Men They Call Knights". It's where you first learned the Knight's principles. First among them is charity [the others are: unity, fraternity, and patriotism]. At your first degree, you committed yourself to live by these principles. Now you are being asked to put them into action.

Take a moment to review the expectations set before us in Scripture and accept a challenge. Consider the pledge you took when joined the Knights. Volunteer for just one council activity; most of them are listed in this newsletter. Email the Grand Knight at "grandknight5290@mcmn.us" and tell him what you're volunteering for.