

## *Chaplin's Corner*

*April, 2011*

Greetings to all of my Brother Knights and your families and a happy April to you all.

In these remaining days of Lent, I pray that we will focus on our need for reconciliation so that we will make a good confession and celebrate hope and a renewed joy in the Easter Season. Truly, this is a special reconciliation we seek. It is a reconciliation known as "Metanoia," or conversion. This conversion calls us to ongoing renewal and greater freedom in our lives. We are good people, a people who desire to draw closer to God each day. We can only do this when we are in touch with our struggles. Please take time this month to make a good examination of conscience and take advantage of the sacrament of confession with the grace it offers us. As I often tell people in ministry: "If you're unsure about going to confession, it's probably a good idea that you go and experience the sacrament again." Please pray for all who may be thinking about coming back to confession.

Brothers, I pass on to you three final thoughts for this month. The first comes from Max Lucado in his prayer reflections: "Do what is right this week, and be honest. You take a stand and be true. After all, regardless of what you do, God does what is right. He saves you with His Grace." In the sometimes dishonest world we live in, may we strive to be honest with ourselves and each other. The second thought is this: "Think about your words to each other before you speak them." As I reflect in these remaining days of Lent, I keep returning to one thought: "I wish I could take back what I said to some people when I was angry and upset." My two favorite examples of this point (thinking before speaking) are a former NFL player (not a Viking or Packer) who once said: "The word genius does not apply in football. A genius is a guy like "Norman Einstein" and, a former baseball player (not a Twin) who once said: "Remember guys, half of this great game is ninety percent mental." And my third and final thought comes from a Brother Knight in Pennsylvania: "Each day, kneel down and pray; carry a heart that never hates; carry a smile that never fades and, carry a touch that never hurts." I pray that these thoughts help each of you this month.

Please keep me in your prayers, as I look forward to celebrating Palm Sunday, the Easter Triduum, and Easter Sunday with you. You are always in mine. Happy Lent Happy Easter! Until we speak again, I am:

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Your Council Chaplain,

Father Bradley C. Baldwin, T.O.R.