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Faithful Navigator Report — SK Oscar Martinez

Sir Knights:

Congratulations to our two new Sir Knights of our great Assembly.

Sir Knight Eustolio (JR) A. Trevino and Sir Knight Ronald Lipinski

I encourage these new Sir Knights to set the example to other Sir Knights by attending our Assembly meetings, falling out for church functions and other religious events. It is important that our Sir Knights encourage active Catholic citizenship and foster the spirit of patriotism in our members and the community at large. This WORLD needs SIR KNIGHTS who will stand up for GOD and Country!

Our Assembly has set up a Grant of \$100 reimbursement to any Sir Knight that purchases their regalia. This is limited to only the first five (5) Sir Knights (per year) that show our Faithful Comptroller, Greg Nelson, a receipt for the full Regalia purchase AND attend at least three (3) assembly meetings and three fallouts.

We, as Sir Knights, are the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus. We are present, in our full regalia, acting as honor guards at dedications, civic, church and patriotic functions, during adoration of the Eucharist or standing in respect at wakes and funerals of our Sir Knights that have passed away. I thank all our Sir Knights that are dedicated to our cause and support all our functions including attendance at our regular monthly meetings. The 4th Degree Assembly meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30pm in St. Catherine's Parish Center. We welcome all Sir Knights.

I encourage all SIR KNIGHTS to answer our Pope Leo XIV's call to pray the rosary every day in October for the intention of PEACE. It is not difficult to recall the areas in our world, our countries and our communities and even our own homes and hearts where we might beg for GOD's peace to reign. Let's answer our Holy Father's call and pray a daily rosary for peace.

My GOD bless all our Brother Sir Knights and their families!

Oscar Martinez, Faithful Navigator
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Next 4th Degree Exemplification in Cedar Park – Tentative and More Information Forthcoming
 July 4, 2026 -250th Anniversary of the United States Independence

Bishop Reicher
 Assembly 1099



**Happy Birthday
Sir Knights !!!
May you have many more**

Brent	Bennett
Henry	Casas
Pat	Coakley
George	Dankworth
Librado	Garcia
Michael	Glenn
Roger	Ibarra
Brandon	Kraft
Gregory	Ledenbach
Charles	Malburg
Oscar	Martinez
John	McDonnell
Carlos	Mendoza
Robert	Meny
Charles	Porter
Roy	Staveley

Saint of the Month—SK Giacomo Leone

John Paul II Saint
Feastday: October 22
Patron: of World Youth Day (Co- Patron)
 Birth: 1920
 Death: 2005

Beatified: May 1, 2011 Saint Peter's Square, Vatican City by Pope Benedict XVI
 Canonized: April 27, 2014 Saint Peter's Square, Vatican City by Pope Francis



Karol J. Wojtyla, known as John Paul II since his October 1978 election to the papacy, was born in Wadowice, a small city 50 kilometers from Krakow, on May 18, 1920. He was the second of two sons born to Karol Wojtyla and Emilia Kaczorowska. His mother died in 1929. His eldest brother Edmund, a doctor, died in 1932, and his father, a non-commissioned army officer, died in 1941.

He made his First Holy Communion at age 9 and was confirmed at 18. Upon graduation from Marcin Wadowita high school in Wadowice, he enrolled in Cracow's Jagiellonian University in 1938 and in a school for drama.

The Nazi occupation forces closed the university in 1939, and young Karol had to work in a quarry (1940-1944) and then in the Solvay chemical factory to earn his living and to avoid being deported to Germany.

In 1942, aware of his call to the priesthood, he began courses in the clandestine seminary of Cracow, run by Cardinal Adam Stefan Sapieha, archbishop of Krakow. At the same time, Karol Wojtyla was one of the pioneers of the "Rhapsodic Theatre," also clandestine.

After the Second World War, he continued his studies in the major seminary of Krakow, once it had re-opened, and in the faculty of theology of the Jagiellonian University, until his priestly ordination in Krakow on November 1, 1946.

Soon after, Cardinal Sapieha sent him to Rome, where he worked under the guidance of the French Dominican, Garrigou-Lagrange. He finished his doctorate in theology in 1948 with a thesis on the topic of faith in the works of St. John of the Cross. At that time, during his vacations, he exercised his pastoral ministry among the Polish immigrants of France, Belgium, and Holland.

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Saint of the Month

The Young Karol Wojtyla

By Deacon Keith Fournier

The Birth of Karol Josef Wojtyla

On May 18, 1920, during the month traditionally dedicated to Mary the Mother of the Lord, one of her greatest treasures for the Church of her Son was born in the town of Wodowice, 35 miles southwest of Krakow Poland. The world would later receive him as Saint Pope John Paul II. His name was Karol (Polish for Karl or Charles) Josef Wojtyla. His hometown had about 10,000 residents, roughly 8,000 Catholics and 2,000 Jews. He was given a nickname by his friends, "Lolek."



The Baptism of Karol Josef Wojtyla

Karol was Baptized into Christ and His Church on June 20, 1920 by a Chaplain in the Polish Army, Fr. Franciszek Zak. Karol was the son of a Polish Army Lieutenant also named Karol, a tailor by trade. Karol's mother Emilia, was a schoolteacher. He had an older brother named Edmund and sister named Olga. His brother became a Doctor in the town of Bielsko. Sadly, his sister died before Karol was born.

A Friend of Consequence

The Wojtylas were faithful Catholics. They rejected the growing anti-Semitism among some Poles in that troubled time. One of young Karol's friends was Jerzy Kluger. He later recalled playing soccer with Karol. The teams were divided between Catholics and Jews. However, given the disparity in numbers, he recounts that young Karol would volunteer to play on the Jewish team in order to make the game more competitive and even out the odds.

This friendship lasted for a lifetime. Jerzy later participated in the dialogue which led to the extension of the Vatican's diplomatic recognition of the State of Israel. A special love for the Jewish people took root in young Karol. It was demonstrated dramatically during his Papacy when he visited the Central Synagogue of Rome and condemned anti-Semitism "at any time and by anyone." It was prophetically proclaimed in actions upon his visit to Auschwitz to honor the victims of the Holocaust. He was fond of regularly referring to the Jewish people as "our elder brothers" and taught the whole Church to do the same.



Karol Loses His Mother

Young Karol lost his mother a month before his ninth birthday. She died of heart and kidney problems. When he was only 12 years old his brother the Doctor died of scarlet fever. A childhood friend named Szczepan M... told one news source that "he lost his childhood at 12, when he lost his brother... There was no youthful fun for him. Even when he played sports, he was very concentrated, but of course, he had a lot of passion. He was a noble person, and he expressed things in a very noble way, but there was no folly." Father Karol and son Karol lived in a one room apartment behind the parish church.

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**Knights of Columbus Bishop Reicher
Assembly 1099**

Patriotic Degree of the Order

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SK Arnold Auzenne
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Faithful Pilot

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Faithful Admiral

SK John Massey

Trustee One Year

SK Roger Ibarra Jr.

Trustee Two Year

SK Billy Roberts

Trustee Three Year

SK Michael Moreno

Faithful Inner Sentinel

SK Jim Luhrman

Faithful Outer Sentinel

SK Jose Roddriguez

Color Corp Commanders

SK Darrel Vinklarek
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SK José Rodriquez

The 4th Degree Patriotic Order of the Knights of Columbus is open to Third Degree Knights. Contact your Council Financial Secretary if you are interested or email the Faithful Navigator or Captain.

**Pay Dues or Make Donations Online
Now Available**

<https://kofc1099.org/dues/>

From the Editor

Contact the Editor: Greg Nelson gnelson8156@gmail.com

Webmaster for the Assembly Brandon Kraft bk@kraft.im

Meetings for Bishop Reicher Assembly 1099

Meeting Schedule:

The Second Monday of the Month at 7:30 pm

St. Catherine of Siena

4800 Convict Hill Road

Austin, TX 78749

Parish Activity Center

2nd Floor Room 213

Assembly Shirts—SK John Massey

SK John Massey (512-779-6066 jpmkofc@gmail.com) has arranged for you to purchase new 4th Degree Shirts—Short Sleeve in Blue Shirt with 4th Degree logo and First Name
Long Sleeve with Button down Shirt in Blue with 4th Degree Logo and First Name

I encourage every Sir Knight to have one or the other (or both) to promote the 4th Degree to our community. For Pre-paid orders and any other details, please contact John.

Saint of the Month

Karol: The Father and the Son

The elder Karol sewed his sons clothing and watched over his studies. He taught him to be self-disciplined and to work hard. He was deeply devoted to raising the son he loved. Another friend recalls entering the small apartment and finding father and son playing soccer with a ball made of rags. Karol credited his Catholic faith to the influence of his beloved father. The Church was a vital part of their life as a family. He made his First Holy Communion at age 9, they practiced their Catholic faith in the home and Karol was confirmed at 18. Upon graduation from Marcin Wadowita high school in Wadowice, he enrolled in Krakow's Jagiellonian University in 1938 and in a school for drama .

Seeds of the Priestly Vocation and Response to the Call

Karol the Actor, Poet and Pilgrim

During his early schooling young Karol Wojtyla participated in his first theatrical performances. His lifelong love for the theater and all of the arts was born. He began writing poetry. He performed in his first student theatrical productions. He began the study of Greek, was elected president of the Sodality of Mary, and made his first pilgrimage to Czestochowa, home of the Image of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

A Cardinal's Inquiry

It was also during this time that he impressed Adam Cardinal Sapieha, the Archbishop of Krakow. According to his friend Fr. Mieczyslaw Malinski, Karol's skill as a speaker caught the Archbishops attention when he visited the young man's school. Karol had been chosen to give the welcoming speech - and he did so with great skill. The Archbishop asked the pastor of the parish whether young Karol had considered the priesthood. He was told that Karol had his heart set on pursuing an acting career in the theatre.



Seeds Planted in the Heart

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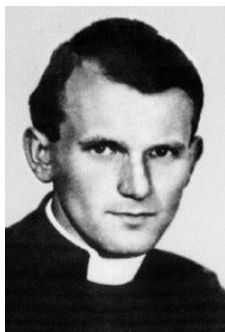
In 1987, Saint Pope John Paul II shared these thoughts with young people in Los Angeles, "I am often asked, especially by young people, why I became a priest. Maybe some of you would like to ask the same question. Let me try briefly to reply. I must begin by saying that it is impossible to explain entirely. For it remains a mystery, even to myself. How does one explain the ways of God? Yet, I know that, at a certain point in my life, I became convinced that Christ was saying to me what he had said to thousands before me: 'Come, follow me!'

"There was a clear sense that what I heard in my heart was no human voice, nor was it just an idea of my own. Christ was calling me to serve him as a priest. And you can probably tell that I am deeply grateful to God for my vocation to the priesthood. Nothing means more to me or gives me greater joy than to celebrate Mass each day and to serve God's people in the Church. That has been true ever since the day of my ordination as a priest. Nothing has ever changed this, not even becoming Pope."

The Student who became a Professor; the Pastor who became a Bishop

By Deacon Keith Fournier

Fr. Karol, Graduate Student



Fr. Karol Wojtyla first entered into graduate studies at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) in Rome. His intelligence was one of the many gifts, both natural and spiritual, which he offered to the Lord. While a student, he roomed with Fr. Starowieyski, another Polish priest at the Pontifical Belgian College, with whom he became friends. In 1947, he received his STL (License) which, in the European University system, is an absolute requirement to teach. That summer the two traveled to France, Belgium and Holland. In the area of Charleroi he carried out his pastoral activities with the Polish workers. Then, under the oversight of Fr. Reginald Garrigou-Lagrange, OP, he began his studies toward a Doctorate.

The influence of Jan Tryanowski was still bearing fruit in the life and thought of Fr. Karol Wojtyla. He sought approval for a dissertation topic "The Problem of Faith in the Works of St. John of the Cross." He wrote the dissertation and successfully defended it. He later earned a master's degree in theology at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow's well as a doctorate in sacred theology in the Faculty of Theology at the Jagiellonian University. He was called to Krakow to be an assistant pastor at St. Florian's in Krakow and serve as a chaplain to university students and health workers.

A Sabbatical of Preparation

In 1951 Archbishop Baziak who had replaced Cardinal Sapieha gave Fr Karol a sabbatical in order to enable him to qualify as a University Professor. For two years he worked on this further academic position successfully completed his examinations. He also had to write and defend another thesis in order to qualify for a university professorship. This he diligently pursued for the next two years.

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His philosophical interests lay in the area of phenomenology and he focused on a philosopher named Max Scheler. He began to see the limitations of the approach. As a result, the seeds were planted in Fr Karol the scholar, student and professor to begin what would later become his own contribution to the field of philosophical ethics and the renewal of Catholic Moral theology. He began his teaching experiences by offering a class on social ethics to fourth year theology students in the seminary.

Fr. Karol Becomes a Professor

As time passed, Jagellonian University merged its theology program with the archdiocesan seminary. In effect, the entire faculty of the theology school was eliminated. So Fr. Karol Wojtyla accepted what was originally a non-tenured professorship at the Catholic University of Lublin. In 1956 he was appointed to a Chair in Ethics and the next year he was approved as a full lecturer. For the next twenty years he taught and developed his thought in the field of Ethics and moral Theology.

From Priest to Bishop

In 1958 Fr Karol Wojtyla was called to another assignment in his continuing response to the vocation the Lord had given him. He was ordained to the fullness of Holy Orders and received his first Episcopal assignment as an auxiliary Bishop to assist Archbishop Eugeniusz Baziak of Krakow. His enormous gifts of both teaching and pastoral care continued to be offered to the Church of Poland. Bishop Karol Wojtyla taught at University and provided pastoral care to students.

Bishop Wojtyla Writes His First Book

Though he had already published many articles in areas of both philosophical and theological interest in his academic studies and early University research and teaching, it was during this period of time that he wrote his first major book entitled "Love and Responsibility." In it, the seeds of his rich understanding of the nature of the human person, created in the Image of God and called to love, began to form and be articulated. In addition his practical pastoral experience drew even more fully into consideration of the nature of human love in the Divine Plan.