

### Happy birthday to our Bro. Knights celebrating their birthdays in April:

Rick Methot  
Phillip Cormier  
Leo Girard  
Carlo Hoj

Sean Bishop  
Tim Bilyk  
Joseph Milne

Pat Leahy  
Rosaire Tremblay  
Terry DeAbreu  
Mladen Zorkin

### Dr. Clement Persaud Speaks on Stem Cell research

Our Council was very pleased to have **Dr. Clement Persaud** speak to us on the science and ethics of stem cell research on **Tuesday March 15, 2005, in St. Peters Church**. Following the talk, light refreshments were served in the parish hall and all had a chance to mingle and talk with Dr. Persaud directly. We were pleased to have had over 120 people come out to this very timely and interesting lecture. Without exception, all were inspired and impressed by Dr. Persaud's clear, succinct explanation of this very complex and sensitive issue. Currently, there are two major sources of stem cells: embryonic and adult stem cells. Embryonic stem cells are still largely in the animal trial stages and, since they require destruction of the embryo, are ethically controversial and unacceptable. By contrast, adult stem cells (umbilical cord and adult-derived) are an ethical alternative. They have been used successfully in patients with neurological, leukemic, cancer, cardiac and genetic disorders. It is of fundamental importance to clearly differentiate between the two types of research: the first, embryonic, is morally totally unacceptable; while the second, adult, is not only acceptable but should be supported wherever possible.

### News bytes.....

- There will be a Major Degrees Exemplification on Saturday April, 9, 2005, in Victoria. So far we have six of our Brothers committed to taking their major degrees at this time. Please call G.K. **Vince Cooke** (756-9473) or see our website (Home page/What's new) for full details.
- In response to a request from the R.C.M.P., we will put on another pancake breakfast for their "**Cops for Cancer**" fund raiser on Saturday May 7, 2005, which, as last year, will be held at the Serauxmen Stadium.
- Last year we supported one elementary school "Student Leadership Conference" program in the amount of \$200. We have been asked to support even more conferences this year. We are currently considering this possibility. The Conference program is designed to teach leadership, mentorship and global service skills to young students—a most worthwhile objective and cause.

### On the Lighter Side ....

Murphy arrived at J.F.K. Airport and wandered around the terminal with tears streaming down his cheeks. An airline employee asked him if he was already homesick. "Oh no" replied Murphy, "I've lost all me luggage!" "How'd that happen?" Murphy replied, "The cork fell out!"



## Mid-Island Council #3842 Knights of Columbus Nanaimo, B.C. Canada

Vol.3, no.10

Mid Knight News

Apr. 2005

### Executive meetings:

Last Thursday of the month (Aug.-May) at Columbian Centre at 7:30 pm

### Regular meetings:

1st Wednesday of the month in St.Peter's Parish hall at 7:30 pm

### Pancake breakfast:

Every 3rd Sunday after both Masses

### Officers for 2004/2005

Grand Knight	Vince Cooke	756-9473
Past Grand Knight	Jim Mudge	754-4110
Chaplain	Fr. Darek Zarebski	753-3570
Deputy Grand Knight	Brian King	751-7851
Chancellor	Bill Smith	756-6141
Recorder	David Haworth	741-8253
Financial Secretary	Parker Okano	753-5115
Treasurer	Jake Gillespie	754-5091
Lecturer	Claude Francoeur	754-2425
Advocate	Daniel DePape	740-2521
Warden	Eugene Greene	390-2562
Inside Guard	Jack Kelly	753-2658
Outside Guard	Mike Loos	716-5893
Trustee 3rd Year	Leo Poirier	390-3272
Trustee 2nd Year	Jim Mudge	754-4110
Trustee 1st Year	Rene Marchand	753-1657

*We lovingly remember and pray for our Holy Father,  
Pope John Paul II*

Visit our website at: <http://members.shaw.ca/kc3842>

This bulletin is also available on our website at:

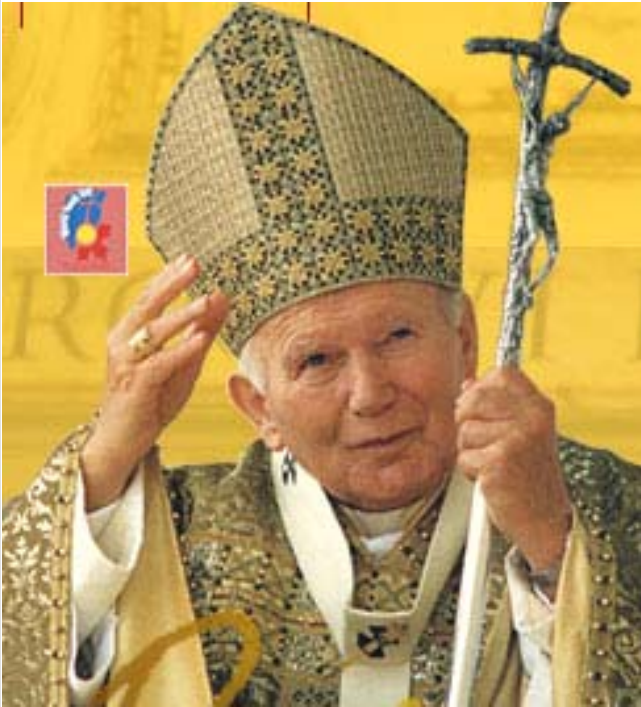
<http://members.shaw.ca/kc3842/bulletin>

Our Email address: [kc3842@shaw.ca](mailto:kc3842@shaw.ca)

## In Memoriam

Dear Brother Knights,

On behalf of all our Brothers I would like to dedicate this bulletin to the happy memory of our Holy Father as we all celebrate his life and death. Perhaps you may have noticed that the March issue of our Columbia magazine celebrates the 10th anniversary of Pope John Paul's



Gospel of Life encyclical, *Evangelium Vitae*. In it the Pope appeals to all of us to respect, protect, love and serve life, and in so doing, it will lead to "justice, development, true freedom, peace and happiness"

If you look at the cover picture and the picture to the left, you will notice that the Pope's crozier is in fact a crucifix, symbolizing

both for the Pope and the Knights of Columbus, that the cause of life is the cause of the Gospel. Take a moment and you will also notice on the table of contents that every article has the word "life" in the title, and the articles quote the Holy Father as the main reference --- I highly recommend every article as mandatory reading for everyone. What a happy coincidence that Columbia magazine should present the Pope's teaching on life at a time when he himself would undergo the ultimate transition from earthly to eternal life. You may be aware that the Pope referred to us as "Columbus men", and appreciated our support, not only on the international, but also at the grass roots level. We join the faithful world wide in our prayers of thanksgiving to Almighty God for the gift, the life and the blessings of our beloved Pope John Paul II

**Vince Cooke,** Grand Knight.

**May he Rest in Peace.**

## Substance Abuse Poster Program

On behalf of Br. **Bill Smith**, I am pleased to report that we successfully completed our 2004 Substance Abuse Poster Contest on March 22, 2005. We started this campaign at the end of Aug. 2004 by requesting permission from the Nanaimo School Board to contact the 32 elementary schools in the Nanaimo area. We were immediately given permission, and all schools were contacted by email explaining who we are and what our program offered. Before school started in early Sept., we were invited to visit 29 schools to provide more detailed information. The principals of 20 schools were most impressed with the work kits supplied by the Knights and informed us that they would discuss scheduling our program into their school curriculum at their first staff meeting in Sept. and would recommend acceptance to their teachers. In late Sept. and early Oct., we received a commitment from 14 schools with scheduled completion dates from Dec 2004 to March 2005.

It should be remembered that in Nanaimo we do not have the benefit of offering this program to Catholic schools, so we must be a little more diligent in trying to help these public schools understand our objectives. I am pleased to say that we were very successful in this area. We were very well received and appreciated by the principals, staff and students of all the schools. This year both student and school participation tripled over last year: from 301 students to 927, and from 5 schools to 14.

We were invited as guests of honour to many of the school assemblies and were asked to speak briefly to the staff and the full student body about our work as Knights. **WE DID IT!**

We were sometimes asked to help the teachers and students judge their drawings, and present winning and participation certificates during assembly exercises. We estimate that we have met or spoken to 1900 students and staff members; volunteered more than 200 hours visiting the schools (we visited each school a minimum of four times); and judged 52 winning posters in 4 categories submitted by the 14 schools.

In conclusion, I wish to thank Br. **Bill Smith**, our Worthy Chancellor, publicly for his dedication and hard work during this labor of love and to the four judges who had the most difficult task of picking four winners to represent Nanaimo at the State level. The standards were very high, but Brs. **Bill Smith** and **Brian King** and our two judges from the **C.W.L.**, **Johanne Watson** and **Gerrie**, my very supportive and patient wife, who also provided us with refreshments, struggled for 3 hours to find four winners. It should also be noted that through this program our Council has taken on the responsibility of financing one school with a breakfast program, another with a lunch program, and a third school with a Christmas Pancake breakfast. This is really being "Knights in Action" as our founder envisaged it! In the next few days we will post the names of the winners, their schools, and a complete set of pictures on our web site; please, look for them on the 'Gallery' page.

**Vince Cooke,** Grand Knight.