



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

MILTON COUNCIL 7027

We are Knights! We are Pro-Life!



COMING EVENTS

Date	Time	Event	Location
1	6:30PM	CCMI MEETING	KNIGHT'S HALL
1	7:00PM	KOC PLANNING MEETING	KNIGHT'S HALL
2	8:30AM	FIRST FRIDAY-ADORATION	CHAPEL
5		LABOR DAY	
8	6:00PM	1ST DEGREE-ST ROSE OF LIMA	KNIGHT'S HALL
8	7:00PM	Aniv. Of Fr. Lorigan's death	KNIGHT'S HALL
8	7:00PM	KOC BUSINESS MEETING	KNIGHT'S HALL
9	5:30PM	KOC SOCIAL	KNIGHT'S HALL
11	6:00 AM	KOC BREAKFAST	PARISH HALL
14	8:00 AM	VA HOT DOG DAY	PARISH HALL
15	7:00 PM	KOC ASSEMBLY 2823 MEETING	KNIGHT'S HALL
16	5:30 PM	KOC SOCIAL	KNIGHT'S HALL
17	1:00 PM	4TH DEGREE-LITTLE FLOWER CHURCH	MOBILE, AL.
23	5:30 PM	KOC SOCIAL	KNIGHT'S HALL
25	8:00 AM	KOC CORPORATE MASS	ST ROSE OF LIMA
25	11:00AM	ST LORENZO RUIZ	ST ROSE OF LIMA
25	12:00 AM	NEWSLETTER DUE	

Keepers of His House Schedule

	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4
Month/Yr	Day	Day	Day	Day
Sep, 2016	24	3	9	16
Oct, 2016	22	1, 29	7	14
Nov, 2016	19	26	4	11

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Fr. Thomas G Lorigan	<i>Suppliment</i>

September 8 is the 19th anniversary of Fr. Thomas Lorigan's death. Since he is the council's namesake we have undertaken to collect as much information about his life as possible. The beginnings are published as part of this newsletter and **with your help** will be updated as more information is received. Please send any memories, photos, or articles you wish to contribute to our email address. If you don't have scanning capabilities contact us and we will make arrangements to get them from you. **Newsletter Editor**

Editor's Note

It's your newsletter. Officers and committee chairmen are encouraged to submit articles. **Anyone** who would like to contribute an article please send it to 7027newslet-ter@gmail.com by the 4th Sunday of the month to be published in the next month's newsletter. **The Newsletter Editor**



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GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

Brother Knights In Christ:

I have faith that this fraternal year that God will guide us to succeed in the direction towards our first order which is charity, second unity and to further increase our membership.

You know, faith is an extremely important part of our lives. Faith is the feeling we have about ourselves and others, knowing we can succeed in anything we want to try. Our faith would stop our judgments of people and bring us all closer together. Faith is what keeps this world together, and having the confidence to have faith is what really counts.

Faith encompasses all areas of life but the focus of this paper will be upon faith in Jesus Christ and allowing that faith to change our lives and very sense of being brothers united together for one common goal. For our faith to be strengthened and to be healed spiritually, emotionally or physically we must remember to choose faith over fear. The Lord will be patient with us as we strive to understand the faith that we do have and allow that faith to overcome our doubts. As in modern times, our faith has been weakened in meaning so that some people use it to mean self-confidence but true faith is confidence in God, not in one's self. But if we put our faith in God and trust Him, he will always provide a way for us, according to His will. Faith makes things possible, not easy. Prayer is taking our troubles to God, faith is leaving them there.

Having faith promotes good works which pleases God. In fact, without faith, good works do not exist. If we do not have faith, we aren't pleasing God! And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him. Having faith also shows God our love and devotion to Him. It enables us to have a loving relationship with Him and allows us the ability to serve and love others, which is our Christian responsibility. Having true faith also allows God to direct our paths that we may take in life. Faith can make good things happen to Knights of Columbus council 7027.

Your Brother in Christ

Cesar Mascardo

Grand Knight, Council 7027



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FIELD AGENT'S REPORT

Don't Crowdfund Your Family's Future

There is a new phenomenon sweeping the internet: crowdfunding. It's increasingly being used to raise funds for grieving families. Chances are you've seen this more than once. Someone passes away, and within a day or two a representative from the family opens a crowdfunding page to raise funds to pay for funeral expenses and medical bills.

Without question, crowdfunding is a great way to harness the power of the internet for charitable ends, but it is often insufficient.

Recent studies show that the average crowdfunding memorial page raises \$2,000-\$2,200 — far below the average cost of funeral services. Grieving families are left to deal with the shortfall as well as the additional stress of soliciting donations, figuring out how to access the money and calculating platform fees.

September is designated as Life Insurance Awareness Month. It's a great opportunity for you to evaluate your life insurance coverage and make sure your family's future will not be left up to a crowdfunding page.

Let's get together and see how the Knights of Columbus can help protect you.



May God Bless You All,

Jeff Fischer, FICF, LUTCF
K of C Field Agent

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DEACON'S TEACHING By Deacon Chris Christopher



Why Are Abortion and Embryonic Stem Cell Research Wrong?

King David speaks in a psalm of God's intimate and abiding love for him, even before he was born. He prays, *"You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb... My very self you knew; my bones were not hidden from you when I was being made in secret"* (Ps 139:13-15). Other biblical passages confirm the truth that the child in the womb, at whatever stage of development, is a fully human person – known and loved by God, sharing the great dignity and value of every human person created by God in his image (Gn 1:26-27).

The Bible condemns murder, the wrongful taking of innocent human life (Ex 20:13). Since children in the womb are regarded as human persons in Scripture, killing them is included in this prohibition. In addition, we should note that Jesus shows special concern for children because of their vulnerability and is explicit in his condemnation of those who would hurt these "little ones" (Mt 18:1-6; 19:13-15). So the Church, in keeping with his example and with the consistent teaching of ancient Scripture and Tradition, condemns abortion as a particularly grave sin.

Infanticide takes place when an infant is intentionally killed or allowed to die through neglect, often because the child suffers from some disability. Embryonic stem cell research, however noble may be its medical objectives, involves the destruction of unborn children at the embryonic stage. Consequently, the Church condemns these practices as gravely immoral on the same grounds she opposes murder in any form. Forms of stem cell research that do not require the destruction of human embryos are acceptable.

For similar reasons, the Church condemns human cloning. This practice involves the manipulation and "manufacturing" of living embryos for commercial or other purposes, as if they were commodities to be used by others rather than children who share the innate dignity of all human beings.

Finally, the Church insists that the human right to life of the innocent, and to the dignity of all, should be defended in civil law. This right is not merely a religious matter, but a part of the universal natural law that should be recognized by all civilized societies.

Next month we'll ask: *Aren't All Christians 'Saints'?*



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Pro-Life by Dan Arndt

I would like to begin by telling you all that I am again the Run for Life chairman for the Panhandle. Attached you will find the new and improved **"RUN FOR LIFE CHALLENGE"**. This will enable more councils to be involved with raising needed funds to Pregnancy Care Centers in a fun way. Please do all you can to assist in this new adventure in the fight for Life, Life of the Unborn Child.

The next **"40 DAYS FOR LIFE"** is Sept 28th - Nov. 6th. Our Council Day to Pray is 6am - 6pm Friday Sept. 30. Come out to the abortion facility for a peaceful time of prayer and reflection. This is a place that innocent lives are taken. Lives that were made in God's own image.

Catholic politicians should embrace Church teaching or quit, quoted Carl Anderson. The Truth is always for the best and the Truth is the Church. The Church teaching is one of tradition and Truths that arise from Jesus' teachings. The teachings in this case is that of defending Life at all stages. A women does have a right to her body and can have anything she wants to have cut out of her if it is harmful to her like cancer, but at conception the life in her is not part of her body. It is scientifically proven that it is another human being with its own DNA. Why this evil has been allowed to continue for almost 43 years is unimaginable. Over one Million babies a year, and some politicians would like it to expand to an unlimited amount and have everyone pay for it. It then comes to defending our consciences and religious values.

So for the next election, vote your conscience. To help know what different politicians believe on certain issues, I have also attached a copy of the Florida Catholic Bishops survey on the candidates. Also look up the party's platform and see that one has the following policies: **Women should have access to quality reproductive healthcare services, including safe and legal abortion -- regardless where she lives, how much money she makes, or how she is insured.** With this party in office you will continue to pay for abortions.

CCMI

ATTENTION: There will be an important meeting of the CCMI at 6:30pm on Thursday, September 1st, prior to the Council planning meeting. This is open to all the membership. We will need to elect the officers of the Corporation for the year. All are urged to attend. Questions can be directed to Bro Ron Winn @ 712.8935.



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RUN FOR LIFE CHALLENGE

The Run for Life team is bringing the event to your council as the **Run for Life Challenge!**

The **Run for Life Challenge** is an event you can initiate in your own council, parish or school. The nature of the event is limited only by your imagination or preferences. It can be a run or a walk, a bowling tournament, a baseball game, a dinner, auction, or any event you would like to have in order to raise money for the Culture of Life. Sponsorship of the event is encouraged.

The mission of the **Run for Life Challenge** is to raise funds in support of diocesan Respect Life offices and various other local life-saving charities. All the funds raised stay in your local area to help with your local Pregnancy Help Centers, whether to support ultrasound machine operations or just the day-to-day costs of helping those women who elected to carry their babies to term.

Let the **Run for Life Challenge** team know what events you are doing so we can put them on the State website and give you the full support you will need. The team will have an event such as a 5K or 10K race in Saint Augustine sometime in February or March.

Each Council, Assembly or District should conduct events under the current Florida K of C insurance directives. A copy of the requirements can be provided by the **Run for Life Challenge** Coordinator for your diocese.

TO REQUEST FUNDS FOR LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS: We encourage you to gather all funds raised and direct them through "Florida KofC Charities, Inc" to qualified 501(c) 3 life-saving organizations in your respective areas. For this, log in to <http://floridakofc.org/> select "Services", "Forms". In the "KofC Charities Forms" section, select form "FSC 13100 Helping Life Designated Distribution Document." Print it, fill it out (Type of Function: "RUN FOR LIFE CHALLENGE"), and send it with your check, to the address in the form. Make a copy of the check you receive.

TO REPORT FUNDS COLLECTED TO THE STATE COUNCIL: In the "State Award Forms" section, select form "FSC 04101 Pro Life Report" and fill it out online before the due date. In the "Special Project - Please list project in detail" section, enter first "RUN FOR LIFE CHALLENGE", then describe the event (examples: Run, Walk, Bowling Tournament, Baseball Game, Dinner, Auction, or other event). Remember to upload the copy of the check(s) with photos of the event or project. Awards will be presented to the 3 Councils that raise the most money for Life.

The Run for Life Challenge Team:

East Coast: Chuck Rossner

West Coast: Dave Erickson

North Florida: Allen McCaffery

Panhandle: Dan Arndt



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4th Degree —Teresa of Calcutta Assembly 2823

Worthy Knights and Sir Knights,

ALERT: The Assembly is looking for someone to become the Faithful Scribe. We need a Sir Knight willing to take good notes and be able to maintain a good written record of what transpires during our meetings. Please contact me if you are willing to take the

position.

As with our Council 7027, the Assembly is also busy. We have some important events coming up over the next few months.

September 14, 9am: The monthly VA Hot Dog Lunch at the Pensacola VA Clinic will take place. If you wish to help, please contact me.

September 15, 7pm: The regular business meeting of Assembly 2823 will be at the Knight's Bldg. We encourage all 4th Degree members to attend. We will be voting on a resolution to change the name of the assembly, ever so slightly, to: St. Teresa of Calcutta Assembly 2823, in honor of her Canonization to take place on September 4th.

October 22nd: the Assembly 2823 Oktoberfest will be held at the St. Rose of Lima Festival Grounds. More details in September. Heads up - we could use a bit of help. Thanks!

November 11th: The annual Veteran's Day Parade will be held in Milton. As a council and assembly, we participate in this one and encourage all to attend and participate. More in October on this.

November 12th: Veteran's Day Dinner. Probably our biggest and most elaborate event of the year, held at the Parish Hall. We have the opportunity to honor those outstanding military service members at Whiting Field. Expect us to pull out all the stops for this one. We encourage all our knights to attend. More details in September and October as they develop.

December 3rd: Annual Milton Christmas Parade. Our opportunity to participate and witness our faith by encouraging our community to "Keep Christ in Christmas". Please plan to participate or be out there to cheer us on.

NOTICE: As I alluded to earlier, the Assembly will put forth a motion to adopt a Resolution "adjusting" our name to reflect the canonization of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. The resolution, pretty much as will be written/voted upon and then approved by the Supreme Board of Directors, is included in this newsletter. Please read and consider our action. If you are a 4th degree knight, please plan to attend our meeting on 9/15/16, 7pm to express your thoughts and vote on the motion.

For our 3rd Degree members; I encourage you to consider becoming a 4th Degree Knight. We would love to have you in our Assembly. As always, we will ask no more of you than you are willing to do. You are most welcome to join the Patriotic Degree. Please talk to me or any 4th Degree Knight about membership.

Reminder; Dues for the new fraternal year are due. Those who need to, please render payment to our Faithful Comptroller, Rusty Bradberry.

Vivat Jesu,

Ron Winn
Faithful Navigator
Tel: 850.712.8935





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Knights of Columbus

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Assembly 2823
 Ronald L. Winn, Faithful Navigator
 Milton, FL 32570

A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY BLESSED TERESA OF CALCUTTA ASSEMBLY 2823 WITHIN THE FLORIDA JURISDICTION (DE SOTO PROVINCE)

WHEREAS: The Blessed Teresa of Calcutta will be canonized on or about September 4th, 2016; and

WHEREAS: It would be appropriate for the name of this assembly to accurately and respectfully reflect the sainthood of one of the most humble of God's servants; and

WHEREAS: The desire of this body of Sir Knights wish to honor the memory and good deeds of the St. Teresa of Calcutta; and

WHEREAS: After publishing the motion to the membership and a 2/3 or greater vote to approve by members in attendance at the regular business meeting on September 15, 2016;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED: To change the name of this Assembly of the 4th Degree, to ***ST TERESA OF CALCUTTA ASSEMBLY 2823*** effective upon adoption and approval by the Supreme Board of Directors.

This is to certify that the foregoing resolution was considered and approved by the Officers and members of the Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Assembly 2823, at the regular business meeting held on September 15, 2016, in Milton Florida.

Attested to:

SK Ronald L. Winn
 Faithful Navigator
 Assembly 2823

Faithful Scribe
 Assembly 2823



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Honors of the Months

Month	Knight of the Month	Family of the Month
July, 2016	Philip Germain	Gene & Martha Skalsky
August, 2016	Fr. Richard Schamber	Norman & Melba Champagne
September, 2016		
October, 2016		
November, 2016		
December, 2016		
January, 2017		
February, 2017		
March, 2017		
April, 2017		
May, 2017		
June, 2017		
Year 2016-17		

Knight of the Month



Fr. Richard Schamber

Family of the Month



GK Cesar Mascardo, Melba Champagne, Msgr. Michael Reed, Norman Champagne



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Thirteen Men from Our Diocese in Seminaries

This year, our diocese has thirteen men discerning and studying for the priesthood. Please pray for them, and consider writing to them to encourage them.

Luke Farabaugh, Jack Campbell, Jacob Jaks, Troy Fulford, John Daniel, Hunter Ernde, Brent Gordon, Richard Graham, Ray Herard, and Kevin Wessa are all at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary. The mailing address is 10701 S Military Trail, Boynton Beach, FL 33436.

At St. John Vianney College Seminary, we have William Goble, Austin Mall, and Jared Wark. Their mailing address at the seminary is 2900 SW 87th Ave, Miami, FL 33165.

Please remember these seminarians in your prayers. If you have the opportunity, tell them how important they are to us all.

Vivat Jesus!

George Elliott, Vocations Chairman

A note of thanks to one of our Knights

As a Knight, we often hear of members going "above and beyond the call" to assist those in need. I want to share a tale of one of our members who has definitely exceeded any outreach effort it has been my pleasure to observe. As you may know, I have been afflicted with multiple strokes since this past Easter. The strokes have made life interesting, to say the least, and certainly have not been much fun. I'm doing OK I guess, but am unable to move around very much. Household chores have fallen behind and I have been restricted from working out in the heat, so the yard hasn't been kept up much and my little house looks even more unkempt than usual. The strokes occurred while I was in the middle of finishing bedroom and bathroom overhaul; paint, tile, furnishings etc. Family members helped as much as they could; moving tools, and supplies to storage, but they are limited in what they could, so a lot was left.

Enter a true Knight: Vic VanGrowski stopped by to visit, chatted for a while, drank some coffee, and said good bye. The next day he came back, cut my grass, and trimmed my driveway. In the following days, he tended to the yard plants, cleaned up the accumulation of brush around the yard, and cut back the overgrowth. His next chore was to straighten the mess of construction supplies left on the back patio. Vic then power washed the house, and then he brought in his own paint and painted the trim. He worked outside in excessive heat, never asked what was to do, but simply accomplished any chore needing to be done. We are blessed to have a Knight of this caliber as a member of our council, and it is my blessing to have him come to help so much.

Thanks and God bless for all you have done Brother Vic,

Jack Barrett

Father Thomas G Lorigan

Knights of Columbus Council 7027 Namesake

Ralph Crago, Newsletter Editor

September, 2016

Every newly ordained Catholic priest is a man of prospective service, humility, virtue and holiness. Some become known to the world for specific charisms like Bishop Fulton J. Sheen. Some live their lives in virtual anonymity and are known only to a small number of people and the Lord. Some live a relatively anonymous life but their memory lives on in the people they touched. Father Thomas Gerard Lorigan seems to be one of the latter.

He was born in Bandon, County Cork, Ireland, on July 14, 1913. He entered the seminary and was ordained for the Diocese of Mobile under Bishop Thomas J. Toolen. On August 28, 1939, he immigrated to the United States and was naturalized May 25, 1942. He spent his life in service to the people of Alabama and Northwest Florida serving as pastor at St. Rose of Lima from June, 1970, until January, 1982. He retired to Milton, Florida, and died September 8, 1997.

The following are memories of Father Lorigan contributed by some of the people who knew him as a priest, pastor, and most of all, a friend. Thanks to Mike Kassinger, Stu Hoffman, and Molly Leonard for their time and assistance.

"My memories of Fr. Lorigan are that he was a kind and gentle man. Loved by most. His sermons were softly spoken in a very Irish brogue. He was from the OLD school and he took a long time getting accustomed to the new church doctrine. He was solely responsible for the construction of what used to be the rectory/office combined and is now just the office. He did not build the building until he had every penny accounted for. He did all this by himself as he was the only priest assigned to this parish. I think he got to see the new church built by Fr. Hevia."

Mike Kassinger

"Father Lorigan was a giant. Ever the Irish storyteller, he would regale us with tales of his early years in the Diocese of Mobile.

When he first arrived, Archbishop Toolen made him a circuit-riding minister to the small Catholic communities scattered about the diocese. If my own (diminishing) memory serves me, he would visit a certain number of communities every week on Sundays and, I presume, on Holy Days of Obligation, completing the circuit in a month. During these visits he would do it all: hear confessions, baptize, marry, and eulogize those who had died since his last visit; perhaps even conducting funerals . . . all this in addition to celebrating Mass and distributing Communion. Keep in mind that this was in the "Old Days," when his transport was a vehicle with a manual transmission without air conditioning. To add to the challenge, Father had to fast from the previous midnight, and he could not eat until he had celebrated his final Mass of the day, Father Lorigan accepted the pastorship of the Catholic parish (mostly, if not totally, attended by

blacks) in Selma, Alabama. He became deeply involved in the Civil Rights movement, and he often received death threats. The Archbishop told him to back off on his commitment. In his reply, Father Lorigan is said to have refused, saying that there would be no better way to die than to give his life for this cause. He participated in the Freedom March from Selma to Montgomery, perhaps having been beaten during the ordeal as a "nigger-loving white guy" by the marchers' adversaries. I relate this with some authority, having talked to a brother Knight who had been one of the National Guard Sergeants-Major trying to keep order at the infamous Edmund Pettus Bridge along the route.

I did not know Father Lorigan well when I was on active duty in the Navy; however, after I'd retired I got to know him better as a genial, outgoing pastor emeritus with a warm smile and a kind word for everyone. As he aged, his motor skills began to fail him. In retirement, he took advantage of the chance to cruise as the Ship's Chaplain. I remember talking to him about an upcoming cruise to Alaska. I mentioned that it would be a chance to taste the wonderful Pacific salmon. This offhand comment led to this story:

"One of my major memories from my youth involved a salmon. One day my father landed and proudly brought home a thirty-five pound beauty, the biggest fish he had ever caught.

"Stewart," he said with that twinkle in his eye, "we ate on that fish for nearly a month! That experience killed my taste for salmon ever since."

His replacement pastor, Father Hevia, kept after him to accept the Anointing of the Sick; but, ever the Old School devotee, Father Lorigan kept begging off, saying that he would ask for "Extreme Unction" when he felt the time was near. True to his word, he waited; and shortly after receiving Last Rites, he passed on to his reward.

I'll never forget the man I got to know and love. I felt him to have been a living saint."

Stu Hoffman

Molly Leonard kindly provided The Florida Catholic article about Father Lorigan's fiftieth anniversary of ordination to the priesthood from 1989.

Father Thomas Lorigan celebrates 50th anniversary in the priesthood

By Christopher Martinez

The Florida Catholic, July, 1989

Milton – Beginning with an old Irish saying – “the fool of the family goes to America” – Father Thomas Lorigan told of 50 years of priesthood in his adopted country.

The meaning of the saying is that the fool comes here “in the hopes of making it in America. He won’t make it in Ireland,” the pastor emeritus of St. Rose of Lima Parish told a congregation, June 10.

The golden jubilarian celebrated his anniversary Mass with Bishop Keith Symons, St. Rose pastor Father Todd Hevia and parishioners, and visitors – including priests – in the church he shepherded for 12 years.

“I never had any desire to have a celebration” he told those gathered for the celebration, but Father Hevia convinced him to do so he said. He also thanked his brother priests who came “without being invited. I didn’t ask anybody.”

They probably wondered what brings “us foreigners” – Father Hevia and himself – to America, he said, and said it began with a calling by “Almighty God” known as a vocation.

He had the right family for it: eight brothers and four sisters who would kneel on the floor after dinner and fight over who would say a decade of the rosary next. They also had the “trimmings” of the rosary – people they would pray for – which could be longer than the rosary itself, he said, “We really did not want anybody close to us die because then they would be on the list!”

The family also was scattered over five Masses each weekend, but “we were grilled as to what we learned at the Mass” when they returned home. Father Lorigan

said he was also influenced by “strong parish priests.”

It was his brother who went to study for the priesthood initially, he said, but he died of spinal meningitis. It was then he began to think of his vocation.

In 1939, a year before the end of his seminary training in St. Patrick’s College, Carlow, he was told to sign up with a diocese. He had already considered leaving Ireland and was looking at three choices: San Diego, where four or five of his classmates were already going; Cheyenne, Wyoming, about whose fierce Indians he read in westerns; and “Moe-bile, Alabama.” “Nobody from the college had ever gone to Moe-bile ... I said it must be a desperate place,” and decided to go there. Like the priests who went from Belgium to the lepers in Hawaii, “I thought I couldn’t be in any worse shape.”

He received \$100 from the Diocese of Mobile for his journey – the only donation he said he was to receive from it – “and it would take more than \$100 to do that, but it was a desperate place.” The exchange rate was \$4 per Irish pound so he got 25 pounds. On board ship to America he planned to change his money to dollars but World War II broke out, and the ship bank closed. When he got to New York, he was only able to get \$35 for his 25 pounds. “My \$100 check shrank.”

Father Lorigan eventually made it to Mobile and eventually met his bishop – Thomas J. Toolin – who was caught in Switzerland when war broke out.

The priest served a short term – “usually when people talk of terms, they mean jail” – at St. Michael Parish, Pensacola. At the time, the Navy was using the San Carlos Hotel next door, and until 2 a.m. he

heard silverware in the kitchen, and “I was regaled with the odors of fried chicken, southern fried” – which he hated.

He spent time in Birmingham with its steel industry and then served in chapels in six counties with lumber industries and coal mines. Father Lorigan said he would rise at 5:30 a.m. and “the first Mass would be about 75 miles away” over clay roads that washed out when it rained. He used empty potato sacks and a board to get his car out of ditches when it slid into them. And, he “spent nights in lumber camps.”

It was an exciting time. I was young, and I really didn’t mind.”

Other experiences included two men accosting him in Selma, and asking him, “Are you the priest?” He said he responded, “Yes, “and they said, “We’re going to shoot you.” He told them he didn’t think they had the

courage to do so, and they did not, he said. Another evening, an escaped inmate showed up at his rectory looking for food, said the priest.

In his 50 years of priestly ministry he had about 1,000 converts, he said, though not all continued in their faith.

Of his 43 classmates only seven that he knows of are still alive to celebrate their 50th anniversaries, he said: two died in their first year of ordination, one eaten by a shark, the other due to an apparent drowning.

Anyway, he concluded, “I wanted you to know what brought us “foreigners here.” It began with God’s call, and “there was always – America for the simple-minded ones.”

“I hope when I celebrate my 100th anniversary, you’ll all be here” to help celebrate.