



# Knight Digest



Union Council 4504

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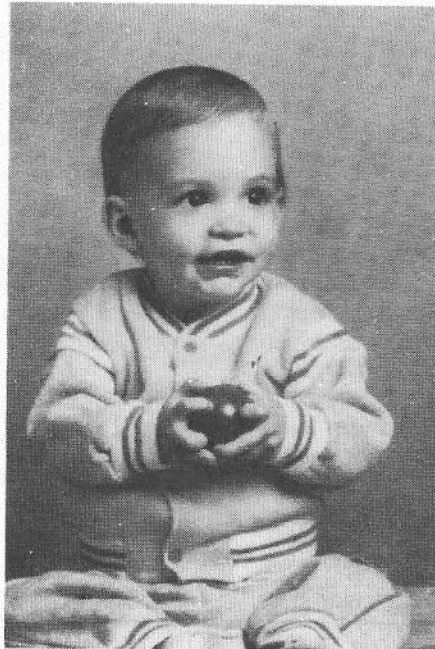
## LITTLE LEWIS NEEDS OUR HELP

Pictured is Lewis Rommeihs, He is the 16-month old son of Robert and Carolyn Rommeihs. Carolyn's maiden name is Aroneo and she is a native of Irvington. Her husband, Robert, is a native of Vailsburg. The couple moved to Union about five years ago and became neighbors to Union Council. They are residents of Jeanette Avenue. Robert is a Brother Knight, a member in the Vailsburg Council. He maintains his membership there as he still spends many hours in Newark as a fireman.

If you did not know anything about Lewis, you would not think that there is anything "wrong" with him. Sadly though, there is a very serious problem. Lewis is missing the seventh chromosome, a condition that will eventually lead to acute non-lymphocytic leukemia. This rare form of the disease is very difficult to treat.

Little is known about ANL, as this form of cancer is called, as opposed to the more common form of leukemia, ALL, which has a cure rate of 85%.

What is known is that it cannot be treated by chemotherapy. Instead, Lewis must undergo a bone marrow transplant in Seattle, Washington. The donor search and operation is expected to cost over \$165,000. As most people know, medical insurance does not cover much.



When a donor is found and the surgery which is a very complicated and trying procedure will take 21 days. During this time Lewis will spend his days and nights in a completely sterilized environment. The family and Lewis will have to stay another 100 days to assure that the transplant takes hold. The surgery will be scheduled six to eight weeks after a donor is found.

To help to defray some of the expenses, Lewis's aunt started a fund called "Lewis' Love for Life". Some fund raisers have been held already by the Newark firemen and the Vailsburg Knights of Columbus Council, but a lot is still needed. More fund raisers are expected and we at 4504 should try to help and/or attend.

Little Lewis is a "regular" at United Children's Hospital in Newark for testing and for the donor search.

Wouldn't it be wonderful and also very charitable if every Brother of 4504 would send just \$1.00 to the fund. Why that's almost \$1600.00 to help a Brother Knight and his family at time of need. If you can find it in your heart please mail your donations to:

Lewis' Love for Life  
P. O. Box 312  
Kenilworth, New Jersey 07033

If you have any questions about the Little Lewis fund, contact Grand Knight Mike Carr or Editor John Peters.

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**Grand Knight's Column**  
Michael Carr

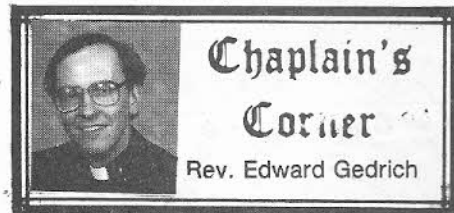
February is the month of hearts and of Valentine's Day, and fortunately, another year has gone by in which I have been able to dodge Cupid's arrow. No worrying about the last minute box of candy, the one that has been on the shelf since the day after Christmas. No making the florist rich by paying triple the price for roses. I'll enjoy Valentine's Day at the annual Valentine's Dance at the Council and I hope many of you will also. This affair is one of the more important events of our Columbian year, so please support it.

February is also a time when we start to look ahead a little bit. A nominating committee is being selected to start work on naming a slate of Council officers for the upcoming Columbian year. Deputy Grand Knight Mike Gasser, in between Convention headaches, is starting to formulate his plans for the upcoming year. He is thinking of people to head his committees. We need Brothers to volunteer to be chairmen or to work on a committee. Anyone who would like to give Mike a hand — he's a real nice guy — please call him on 486-3141 or call Chancellor Bob Pfarr on 964-1512.

Please remember the Lewis Love for Life Fund. The Council has made a donation of \$120.00 which was presented at a fund raising dinner held by our Brother Knights of Regina Pacis Council. We hope to make another donation by the end of the term. I hope that you as Brother Knights will find it in your Valentine's hearts to help a Brother Knight and his family in this time of need.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- February 18 BINGO at Boys Club 7:00 P.M.  
Winter Smorgasbord 7:30 P.M. (Council hall)
- 20 Swim Club Meeting 8:00 P.M.
- 23 Columbian Club Meeting 7:30 P.M.
- 26 Spelling Bee 1:30 P.M.
- 27 Council Meeting 8:15 P.M.
- March 3 First Friday 7:30 P.M.
- 6 Officers Meeting 8:00 P.M.
- 13 Council Meeting 8:15 P.M.
- 14 Trump Plaza Bus Trip 8:30 A.M.
- 18 Irish Night 7:30 P.M.
- Annual Easter Egg Hunt 1:30 P.M.
- 19 Bally's Bus Trip 1:30 P.M.



**Chaplain's Corner**

Rev. Edward Gedrich

We've washed the ashes from our foreheads. Have we also washed away the spirit of repentance they were meant to express?

So often the season of Lent becomes for us "The Will-Power Olympics". Will we be able to hold out until Easter without candy, or beer, or cigarettes, or dessert? Will we fade in mid-March? Do Sundays count? If that's all Lent means for us.....what a foolish waste of time! The Lord doesn't want to test our will-power: He wants to test our hearts! Are our hearts really with Him?

Let this Lent be a time when we really look into our hearts—every day, all Lent long. This means more than a quick examination of conscience before going to confession the Saturday afternoon before Palm Sunday. It means time (quality time, priority time, time set aside each day). It means honesty (forget the petty self-deceptions we usually use to justify our self-centeredness). It means faith (that God Loves us today, here and now, even as He calls us to become so much more loving, just, and generous than we are).

When it comes to "giving up": how about giving up grudges; how about giving up stinging words; how about giving up rash judgments about others. Lent is not about saving calories: it's about saving souls.

How fruitful such a Lent might be! Its effects might last beyond Easter morning, maybe even beyond the day the last jelly bean is found behind the sofa in July. Its effects might even last a lifetime. Maybe even forever.

**FIRST FRIDAY SCHEDULE**

The following lists the guest speakers for the First Friday celebrations to be held through June:

- March 3 - Rev. Charles J. Miller  
WWOR Sunday Mass celebrant
- April 7 - Very Rev. Michael Merlucci
- May 5 - Very Rev. Paul L. Bochicchio
- June 2 - Most Rev. Dominic Marconi

**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

A Council scholarship is available to one student per year. The student must be the child, brother or sister of a member in good standing or a deceased member of Union Council.

The applicant must pass the Archdiocesan High School entrance exam and be accepted by a Catholic high school.

Preference for the scholarship will be decided by the scholarship committee on the basis of need and scholastic ability. If deemed necessary by the committee, an interview will be scheduled at which time the applicant must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Please apply as soon as possible and no later than April 15, 1989. Applications will be made available at the Council hall or contact PGK Andy Popp at 688-6951.

All applications must be addressed to the Grand Knight and mailed to the Council hall. The winner will be notified no later than June, 1989.

