

SOLIDARITY -2-

WITH OUR TROOPS



Eugene G. Mulloy of Nashville (Tenn.) Council 544 helped groups throughout the Diocese of Nashville make rosaries for the troops. Each rosary packet included one of the Order's rosary prayer cards. The rosaries were given to the Catholic chaplain at Fort Campbell, Ky., home of the 101st Airborne Division, for shipment to the Mideast.

His fellow Knights also offer prayer support.

"We have a rosary before a council meeting, usually for deceased members," Greitens said. "Now we also keep the troops in our prayers."

His parish church, St. Joseph's, offers Masses daily for the troops, and has a bulletin board for parishioners to post information on loved ones who are involved in the war effort.

Among those receiving a flag were Sir Knight and Marine Matthew Watson, a member of John J. Williams Council in Roslindale and Sir Knight Edward Flynn, a member of Pere Marquette Council 271. Flynn is with the Navy. His father is Raymond Flynn, former U.S. ambassador to the Vatican and a member of Council 271.

KNIGHTS IN SERVICE

James L. Strande, treasurer of Lakeville (Minn.) Council 8367, said Knights there were praying for one of its younger members, 22-year-old Jarrod Berg, a communication specialist with the 3rd Infantry Division.

Berg's mission remained in secret during Operation Iraqi Freedom. "His whereabouts were secret, but his mother, Jean, said he would call from time to time to let her know he was safe," In Columbus, Neb., prayers were offered for Chad Erickson, 19, stepson of Anthony Hergott, Nebraska State Council public relations chairman. Erickson, who was deployed to the Middle East, is a specialist in the Army's 1st Battalion, 14th Field Artillery, from Fort Sill, Okla.



Grand Knight John Dauer of St. Luke Council 11229 in Erie, Pa., presents a certificate of merit to Master Sgt. Frank Supinski in recognition of his service in Afghanistan. Sgt. Damian Siggia, another member of Council 11229, is deployed overseas.

School, was also called up for military service. She was involved with the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults program at St. Andrew's Parish and is stationed at nearby Fort Riley.

Father Randall Weber, pastor of St. Andrew's, said Anguiano is driving a refueling truck in the Middle East, a mission which comes with particular dangers.

"We miss them and pray for their safe return," he said.

Support for the soldiers and their mission has been very strong in Nevada, said Bruce C. Jarzen, immediate past state deputy and master of the Nevada District of the Fourth Degree. Fourth Degree Knights in the Reno and Fallon areas combined forces to hold a military

Several councils reported putting together care packages for the troops. David J. Walsh is grand knight of John J. Flannery Council 7635 in East Hampton, N.Y. Walsh, a former Army Ranger who has three nephews and a cousin serving in the Middle East, said the council shipped 40 packages with personal care items to the troops. "We collected about 100 letters of support, greeting cards, lip balm and local newspapers," he said. The council also personalized the packages by including information about the Knights and Council 7635.

Notre Dame Council 2901 in Baltimore also sent care packages with personal hygiene items.

Father McGivney Assembly in Boston provided service flags to members whose loved ones had been called to duty.

His mother, Laurie Hergott, said the prayers of the Knights and the members of St. Isidore Church were especially welcome.

Father Joseph A. Miksch allowed her to hang a bulletin board for pictures of soldiers serving overseas and protecting us here at home, she said. "While I like having Chad's name in the bulletin, I also want us as a congregation to put faces with the names and make them people to everyone praying for them — more than names on a list," she added. Another name on that list is Jamie Jakub, son of James H. Jakub, financial secretary of St. Isidore Council 12086.

Abilene (Kan.) Council 1661 has been without Grand Knight Marc G. Anguiano, an enlisted Army reservist, since he was called up. Anguiano's wife Kristi, a fifth-grade teacher at St. Andrew's

appreciation dinner at Fallon Naval Air Station.

Jarzen's son, Pvt. Andrew J. Jarzen, is in the U.S. Army 229th Military Intelligence Battalion and currently studying Arabic. Though not in the Middle East yet, he may be deployed in the future.

Before that happens, though, the younger Jarzen has set aside time to take his Fourth Degree. ❖

Steve Gust, a freelance writer, is public relations chairman for the Oklahoma State Council. He is a member of Edmond Council 6477.

Above: Theresa Laurence/Tennessee Register, Diocese of Nashville

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