



Phone: (410) 893:6442

COUNCILAIRS

Bel Air Council 4714

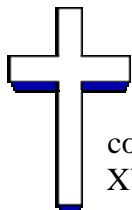
23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050



Initiated Dec 1958

December 2006

Chaplain's Message



“Glory to God in the Highest and peace to His people on earth.” This prayer of the angels at the birth of Jesus Christ is God’s dream for us—that we have the freedom of mind and heart to glorify God and live in peace. This is what God intended from the beginning. Even though the human race had rejected God generation after generation, God chose not to abandon us. Instead of rightfully condemning us, God came to earth to save us from our own foolish rejection of God. As Pope Benedict XVI said in *Deus Caritas Est*, “This is love in its most radical form.”

The birth of our Savior is God’s offer of reconciliation and a time we celebrate our humanity. God has honored the human race by becoming one of us as we acknowledge that we are made in the image and likeness of God. Our gifts at Christmas are offers of love and reconciliation and reflect the unconditional love we have been freely given. Our best gifts are of ourselves.

May this Christmas be merry because we recognize God in each of us; may our giving be a source of joy for ourselves and others; and may God’s dream that we would have peace on earth come closer to fulfillment by our simple acts of love.

Merry Christmas,

Gregory Rapisarda, Deacon

Grand Knight's Message

Once again a huge thank you is due the Ladies kitchen committee, (Nancy Classon, LuAnne Belmonte, Alicia Rappold, Barbara Staniewicz, Mary Jane Zarachowicz and Marguerite Ward), first for the menu prep at the tailgate party then the Memorial Mass. Thank you so much Ladies for stepping up when asked. Speaking of the Memorial Mass thank yous are due also to Earnie and Natalie Boyd for putting together the Mass. I would be remiss not to also thank Father Hemler for taking the time out of his busy schedule to say the Mass commemorating those who have past from our lives. Though they may be gone they are truly not forgotten. May their souls rest in the eternal glory of God.

November also saw our second tailgate party. Not as many attended but all who did enjoyed themselves. The food was again very good and the game was exciting. We will take the month of December off for the holidays and hope to resume the tailgate party after the first of the year. All are welcome and bring a friend. This past party even saw a couple ladies having craft time in the back corner. It is truly a social event.

Thanks to the efforts of Frank DiAngelo, Jack Bauernschub and Al Kramer with the can good drive 40 families in the county did not go hungry this past Thanksgiving. A big thank you is also due to all the delivery volunteers who made sure the care packages got to their appointed destination. This program is one that gives a warm feeling to those who participate.

December brings the joy of commemorating the birth of our Lord and Savior. It is a time for family and friends to draw near in peace to share in one another’s love. Let’s not forget however those who cannot be with their families, especially our gallant service personnel who find themselves in harms way. Say an extra prayer or two for their safe return.

Upcoming events

Mark the second Monday of each month for card night. Contact Paul Zarachowicz for details.

Dec 4 – The Ladies fund raiser at Bob Evans. Come out have dinner and support our Ladies.

Dec 5 – First degree at Corpus Christi Council candidates by 7:30 p.m.

Dec 17 – Council Children’s Christmas party.

Dec 21 – The Fields Christmas Party. Contact Al Kramer if you are willing to help.
Dec 31 – The Council New Years Eve party. Contact Victor Ferrara for ticket information.
Jan 16 – Community Awards night.
Jan 22 – March for Life in Washington D.C.

Nancy and I wish each of you and your families the most Joyous and Merriest of Christmas also may the new year bring you peace, prosperity and joy. Together we can achieve great things.

Thomas Classon, Grand Knight, teclasson@comcast.net (410) 838-0378

District Deputy's Message

During the month of November we celebrated All Saints and All Souls Day by showing our respect for our deceased family members and friends by attending a memorial service throughout the Order. Thanksgiving was also celebrated with our families and friends by giving thanks to God for the bounty he has placed upon our tables throughout the year. Now, during the month of December, we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child, our Savior. Let us remember the true meaning of Christmas by 'Keeping Christ in Christmas'. Keep reminding ourselves of the religious nature of Christmas as we prepare and celebrate the holiday season.

As you may know, the situation in the Holy land is very serious. Christians are in a desperate struggle to survive and families are leaving the area in large numbers. It is for these reasons that the Maryland State Council is asking you to help the people of the Holy Land. Each Council and Assembly is being asked to consider supporting the education of one Christian child in a Christian school in the Holy Land. The cost for educating one child for one year is \$300.00. The forms to participate in this program have been provided to each council.

The Soccer program has been completed and it is now time for the Basketball Free Throw Program. The Free Throw Participation Form should be ordered now and is to be completed and returned to Supreme upon completion of the program but NLT 1, Jan, '07. This form is available on page 7 of the council Report Form Booklet (#1436) or may be downloaded from the Supreme WEB site, (www.kofc.org).

The DW, Bob Hickey, my wife, Owena and I wish you and your families a Season of Love and Peace, Happy Holidays.

Vivat Jesus,

Ross Liberati, DD District #16

Insurance

We all know the old adage – the grass seems greener on the other side of the fence. When it comes to replacing your existing Knights of Columbus life insurance with coverage offered by another company, the adage holds true. Perceptions are deceiving. A move to the other side of the fence might seem like a good one, but it can leave you with less green in your wallet – in some cases, a lot less. That's why it pays to remember another old saying – Read the fine print.

There are many reasons to keep your existing coverage in force, whether that coverage is with the Knights of Columbus or with another company. I'll focus on the potential pitfalls of replacing coverage here – pitfalls that an agent trying to convince you that the grass actually is greener might neglect to mention.

First, all life insurance contracts contain a contestability period, which allows the insurer to contest claims made for a period, typically two years, after the contract is issued. Chances are, this is no longer an issue with your current coverage.

Second, it's unlikely that you can obtain the same amount of coverage, for the same premium, that you were able to obtain with your existing contract. The two factors that determine how much you'll need to pay for life insurance coverage are age and health. Certainly, you're older now than you were when you took out your current coverage. There's no way around that one. And you have to ask yourself, has your health changed during that time? Is your blood pressure the same? Your cholesterol? Have you gained weight? All these factors affect the amount of coverage you'll get for your premium dollar.

If someone encourages you to replace your existing coverage, please call me. I'll show you how your existing coverage is working for you and why replacement is not in your best interest.

Edward O'Keefe (410) 569-6141

Financial Secretary

Annual dues: The 2007 annual dues notices were mailed on Monday, November 27. Dues remain unchanged at \$30.00 per year. For those of you who do not have to pay dues in 2007, your new membership cards will be mailed on December 6. I will also hand them out at the business meeting on December 5 for those who attend that meeting. Honorary life members (at least 70 years old and 25 or more years of consecutive membership) and clergy are entitled to no cost membership. In addition our council by-laws excuse the membership dues for the Grand Knight, treasurer and recorder. Honorary members (at least 65 years old and 25 or more years of consecutive membership) are assessed \$10.00 annual dues. Dues are based on a member's status as of December 31, 2006. Reduced annual dues are also assessed for insurance members less than 26 years old. Members who may be having financial difficulty should advise me so that suitable arrangements can be made to continue your membership.

Dick Belmonte, rlb73@juno.com (410) 838-6329

Membership

As we get into the full swing of another holiday season, Bel Air Council will be asking each knight to recruit a "KNIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS". The Council Officers are planning a Christmas party and ask each knight to bring a prospective member and his wife to the party. There isn't a better way to show prospects that the Knights of Columbus is all about families, invite them to your Council's Christmas party. The party is scheduled for December 19, 2006 in the Newport Room starting at 8:00 p.m.

If you did not participate in the October Blitz, please invite a Catholic friend to become a part of the Knights of Columbus.

Vivat Jesus,

Frank DiAngelo, Membership Director (410) 838-5019

Sick and Deceased

Your prayers are requested for all the Brothers, Ladies and Family Members & Friends who are experiencing serious health problems at this time, especially:--

Brothers: Ross Liberati; Rennie Bucci; Bernie Classon; William Collins; Jerry Shoul; Paul Manager; Joe Rink; Richard Iardella; Al DiCocco; and Victor Ferrara.

Ladies: Owena Liberati; Pat Bucci; Kitty DiDio; Marlene Hirsch; and Mary Jane Zarachowicz.

Relatives and Friends: Colleen Joy, daughter of Bob Joy; Bernie DiAngelo, son of Jean and Frank DiAngelo; Mildred Herold's great-granddaughters, Sophia and Anna Belle; Phyllis Russo, sister of Marion Oliva; and John Sampniato, brother-in-law of Francis Stallings.

Deceased Members, Ladies, Relatives & Friends: May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Please join us 15 minutes before our regular business meeting for the recitation of the Holy Rosary. If you know of anyone who is in need of our prayers, please get in touch with me.

Victor V. Ferrara (410) 569-4171

Programs

Program Director's Message

If you have an idea for a program that our Council might be interested in doing, please contact Stephen Conley at 443-417-7538. All assistance is appreciated.

Church: We are looking for a Church Activity Chair. Someone to oversee the activities planned and keep the officers updated on resource requirements, etc. If interested see Stephen Conley, DGK or Tom Classon, GK.

Council: We are looking for a Council Activity Chair. Someone to oversee the activities planned and keep the officers updated on resource requirements, etc. If interested see Stephen Conley, DGK or Tom Classon, GK.

Stephen Conley knightsfc@gmail.com (443) 417-7538

Council Activities

Bull and Oyster Feast Raffle Winners: Ed Kurowski \$50, Roger Broadwater \$300.

Investment Club

The first drawing will be the January Social Meeting, 01/16. At that time I will draw 4 \$50.00 winners. Each additional month for 4 consecutive months, I will draw 4 \$50.00 winners. On the fifth month (May) in addition to the 4 \$50.00, I will draw an additional \$500.00, \$300.00 and \$200.00. This would be a great Christmas gift for relatives and/or friends. I am trying to sell 300 tickets which would make this a great council fundraiser. If you would like to purchase any at \$20 each, send me a check; made out to Bel Air Council and I will send them to you.

Ray Caralle, PGK RCaralle@aol.com (717) 382-1383, 1087 Main Street, New Park, Pa. 17352

Home Corporation Club Steward

We have formulating several policies that are fair to the members yet competitive with other banquet facilities in our area. The price guides and policies are available to the members upon request by calling me at 410-638-6489. Basically, there is a substantial discount to members who have been in good standing for two years.

The Knights of Columbus is a "faith based initiative" and like any other charity the funds to function need to come from a source, either the pockets of the members or a revenue source like the Council Home rental. My only request is that we try to avoid member rentals on Saturday night since that is the most profitable rental evening.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jerry Wagner, Club Steward (410) 638-6489

Community Activities

Cabaret

Charlie Belli, along with Natalie and Earnie Boyd are again be hosting a cabaret night. Next one is January 28th. Time 7pm to 10 pm, with a dance step review from 6pm to 7pm. Music, soda, beer and snacks for only \$6.00 per-person. Bring yourself and friends. For information call Charles (410) 836-9966

Rennie Bucci

Church Activities

On Sunday, December 3rd at 3 PM at the St. Mary Magdalen Mission Center, A Christmas Show will be presented featuring the New Dawn Singers. Tickets are available \$15 for adults and \$12 for Seniors. Call 410-838-6969 for tickets.

Family Activities

If you have any ideas about possible family events or would like to nominate a family of the month, please contact me at home or by e-mail tlij@comcast.net. FYI--the family of the month nomination does not have to be a Council member. If you know of a deserving Catholic family that should be honored please let me know. Please fill out and return the Brother Knights Survey below:

| |
|--|
| Name: |
| Wife's Name: |
| Wedding Anniversary: |
| Parish Church Affiliation: |
| Children – names and birthdays: |
| |
| Third Degree date Month/year: |
| Fourth Degree date Month/year: |
| K of C Positions held: |
| |
| Ladies Auxiliary Positions held: |
| |
| K of C Activities participated in for the member and his wife: |
| |
| Church Activities participated in for the member and his wife: |
| |
| Children activities: |
| |
| Other comments: |
| |

Please submit this information to Family Activities Chairman Terry Lijewski via e-mail at, at a meeting, or by mail to 2512 Deer Valley Way Bel Air, MD 21015. If you have any questions please contact me.

Terry Lijewski, tlij@comcast.net (410) 879-5872

Youth Activities

We are looking for a volunteer to run the Free Throw Contest in January. If interested contact Stephen Conley knightsfc@gmail.com (443) 417-7538.

Knights' Ladies Korner

Knights' Ladies Annual Fund Raiser

Have dinner with family and friends and support our efforts for charitable giving. A percentage of your total bill will be the reward for your dining with us. Raffles for baskets of Bob Evans products will be available.

When: Monday 12/4/06 4:00-9:00 PM

Where: Bob Evans, 14 Bel Air South Parkway

For additional information:

Mary Jane Zarachowicz, (410) 638-9864

Dates to Remember

Nov 27-Dec 16 Santa Visits
Dec 1 1st Friday Lunch (St. Margaret)
Dec 1 BINGO
Dec 4 Knights' Ladies annual fund raiser dinner at Bob Evans
Dec 5 Business Meeting
Dec 8 BINGO
Dec 9 State Christmas Party at Cardinal Gibbons Council
Dec 12 KC Club Meeting
Dec 15 BINGO
Dec 17 Council Children's Christmas party
Dec 19 Ladies/Social Meeting
Dec 21 The Fields Christmas Party
Dec 22 March for Life: Washington DC
Dec 22 BINGO
Dec 27 Officers Meeting
Dec 29 BINGO
Dec 31 5th Sunday Mass/Breakfast (St. Margaret)
Dec 31 New Year's Party

Message from State

The 109th Annual Convention of the Maryland State Council, Knights of Columbus, will be held at the Princess Royale Oceanfront Resort, Ocean City, Maryland, the weekend of May 18, 19, & 20, 2007.

Reservations are now being accepted. Suite rates are as follows (all rates are plus 9% tax per night):

- Ocean View Suite \$109.00 per night
- Ocean Front Suite \$159.00 per night
- 2 Bedroom / 2 Bath Condo \$219.00 per night
- 3 Bedroom / 3 Bath Condo \$239.00 per night

Rates are based on single or double occupancy. Children 17 years of age and under stay free in parents' room. Additional Adults will be charged \$15.00 per person. Ocean View Suites have a view of the ocean but are not directly oceanfront. To request a room overlooking the atrium make sure you state that you want a "POOL VIEW" room.

To make reservations Call 1-800-476-9253, identify yourself as a Knight of Columbus attending the convention in May 2007, you will then receive the above rates. A credit card will be necessary to reserve your room and they will charge the first night including all taxes to your card. Be sure to examine the confirmation very carefully to avoid any confusion when you arrive. If you don't receive a confirmation, call the Princess to follow up.

All reservations at the Princess Royale must be made by APRIL 15, 2007. Late reservations will be charged the prevailing rates normal for that time of year. Should you have any questions, you can call me at 410-239-7960.

Fraternally,

John Trainor, Convention Chairman

Message from Supreme

Order Must Grow with Church, Supreme Knight Tells KofC Leadership.

The action plan for 2007 includes an 'In Solidarity With Our Priests' membership campaign and activities tied to the 125th anniversary of the Order.

The leadership of the Knights of Columbus met in Atlanta Nov. 17-19 to assess the Order's progress in meeting its goals for the 2006-07 fraternal year. Membership and new council growth remain priorities for extending the Knights' outreach to more parishes, communities and ethnic groups. These efforts are being enhanced with strategic growth goals for each jurisdiction and an action plan to reach those goals.

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson told state deputies that in his experience he had not found an organization better suited to grow with the Church and meet its needs at every level than the Knights of Columbus.

"We are a fantastic, growing, productive and relevant organization," he said. "We are standing shoulder to shoulder with our Holy Father, with our bishops and with our priests."

The supreme knight announced that beginning in 2007, recruitment programs and degrees will be tied to the 'In Solidarity With Our Priests' theme to strengthen the Order's ties to parish life and to K of C chaplains and pastors.

"The Holy Father, our bishops and our priests know that in the Knights they will often find the money and material they need for their programs. Through this 'In Solidarity With Our Priests' effort, we are telling them that they also have 1.7 million faithful, loyal men to stand with them."

"That is a great spiritual gift to them," Anderson added.

The supreme knight told the state deputies that they and their leadership teams must look at "concrete ways" to formalize membership growth in their jurisdictions. "Membership growth is the bloodline, the pulse of everything we do and everything we are," Anderson said. Strategic growth goals have to be tied to the real growth the Church is experiencing in nearly every U.S. state and Canadian province, as well as in Mexico and the Philippines.

"Even in those states where the Church is not growing as rapidly, there are Catholic men who need to be asked to join the Knights and former members who need to be asked to give us another look," Anderson said.

"The bottom line is this: We need to keep pace with the Church's growth," he said. "We should be growing as fast, or even faster, than the rate of growth of the general Catholic population; that's our potential."

Anderson also told the state deputies that the Order was looking forward to next March's 125th anniversary. "Every single jurisdiction has a proud history and a great record of accomplishment. But it's only the foundation for what we will accomplish in the future."

On March 29, Founder's Day, Anderson said he hopes every council will hold a clergy appreciation dinner in honor of the Servant of God Father Michael J. McGivney.

"There are so many great priests sustaining our parishes and moving them forward. The Knights should invite the entire parish to a celebration that brings everyone in closer union with the pastor and our priests," Anderson said.

"Our first brother Knights put their confidence in Father McGivney. We must remain confident in his vision and strong in our determination to realize the potential of the Order," Anderson said.

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