



Phone: (410) 893:6442

COUNCILAIRS

Bel Air Council 4714

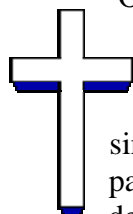
23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050



Initiated Dec 1958

February 2007

Chaplain's Message



On Sundays during the month of February, we will read from the gospel of Luke. One of the major themes of Luke's gospel is God's overwhelming mercy. The possibility that sinners, tax collectors, the sick, the poor, and the pagans could receive God's mercy was a radical departure from belief at the time of Jesus. The poor, the sick, and the pagans were thought to be outside God's favor. Although tax collectors were considered traitors because they collected taxes from the Jewish people and gave the tax to the Roman government, Jesus ate with them. Imagine the shock when Jesus selected Matthew, a tax collector, as an apostle.

Jesus' ministry extended to those who were excluded from society. In the kingdom of God, mercy is dependent on repentance not social status- no one is excluded from the love of God. God does not reject anyone who turns to Him. Mary describes it in her Magnificat- "He has mercy on those who fear Him in every generation." Jesus says "Blessed are the poor in spirit (Humble), for the kingdom of God is yours." Being humble toward God includes being respectful of other people. Jesus shocked the world when He said "Love your enemies."- Even those whom we may consider being outside the possibility of love.

Lent begins on February 21st and it is always a good time to not only adjust our conduct but also adjust our hearts. It is a time for self-examination so that we may see ourselves and others as children of God - to make certain that no one is excluded from our love.

Gregory Rapisarda, Deacon

Grand Knight's Message

February brings the month for lovers, take some time and show that special someone just how special they are in your life. Speaking of that special someone all married couples are invited to renew their marriage vows during a special Mass in April. The Mass will begin at 6 PM on April 17. Contact Brother Ray Caralle if you are interested. Not renewing your vows does not however let you off the hook you're stuck with each other.

February also sees us returning to Perry Point VA hospital to escort patients to Mass in the newly remodeled chapel. Volunteers meet at the McDonalds in town at the corner of Rts. 1 & 24. If you plan on eating breakfast arrive prior to 7:45 AM. The carpool departs for Perry Point precisely at 7:45 AM. Mass begins as soon as the patients are situated in the chapel. After Mass the patients are escorted back to their respective wards. Carpool returns approximately 11:00 AM. If you have never taken this trip do so it gives one time to pause and count your blessings.

By the time you read this our Spring Membership Blitz will have passed. The membership drive is scheduled for the weekend of February 3 & 4 at St. Marks. Membership can not be a once or twice a year event however. We need to constantly recruit new members. EVERY member of the Council is on the membership team. Do your best to invite a deserving individual to join our ranks. There is a First Degree scheduled for February 6 at the monthly business meeting plan to attend and support any candidates we may have. Even after the degrees our new Brothers need our continued and kindly support. When coming to the hall and you see an unfamiliar face introduce yourself and chat with the new member. Try to include the "new guy" in your conversations and make them feel like a member of the family.

For a taste of the bayou do not forget the Ladies Mardi Gras party on February 17 from 6:00 – 11:00 pm. Tickets are \$15.00 per person. Contact Betty Bourgeois.

The Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights is holding their anniversary ball on February 23 from 7:30-11:30 PM at the Columbus Gardens. Tickets are \$35.00 per person. This year's honoree is our own Pat Ruckle.

One little item that has come to my attention is the members of the Council who have achieved fifty years of service to our vaunted order. Since this is a new idea I will include a list of all members with fifty or more years in this issue. My intention is to continue to acknowledge those Brothers who have dedicated themselves to our Order and its mission.

The Brothers of Bel Air Council with fifty or more years of service are as follows:

With 61 years: Clement Vanden Eynden

With 59 years: Marion Wesolowski

With 55 years: John Richards

With 53 years: Salvatore "Sam" LoPresti

With 51 years: James Fenhagen, Thomas Maffeo,

Thomas O'Hara, and Frank Rinkor,

With 50 years: Joseph Ball, Walter Gregonis, and Clarence Townsley

Congratulations Brothers on this milestone.

Together we can achieve great things.

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

District Deputy's Message

We are mid-way through the fraternal year and before you know it another year will have passed us by. Are you on target to achieve Star Council? If not, now is the time to really concentrate on an all out effort to complete those tasks necessary for your council to achieve Star status. Much information to assist you in these efforts can be found on the Supreme WEB site, www.kofc.org.

This site has information and guidance which will assist you in the achieving recruitment success. Material specially developed to assist you in your Blitz efforts can also be ordered from this site. The State Membership Team is another source for assistance in your recruitment efforts. Use their expertise. They are more than willing to help. All you need to do is ask for their assistance. Do you know that less than 2% of eligible Catholics are members of the K of C? Also, many of them haven't joined because they've never been asked. Take the first step; ask a qualified prospect to join.

The deadline for submitting all the requirements for the Star council award is June 30. However, June 30 falls on a Saturday. Consequently, all documents must be received, processed and recorded at Supreme before 4:30 PM on Friday, June 29. Make sure your council has met all the requirements by qualifying for the Father McGivney, Founders and Columbian awards.

The Knights of Columbus will celebrate its 125th Anniversary on March 29th. Let's all plan to celebrate this momentous occasion by attending the Founders Day Mass to be celebrated at 2:00 PM at The Cathedral of

Mary Our Queen on N. Charles St. on Mar 18. A reception will follow at Notre Dame Council Home, 201 Homeland Ave, Baltimore, Md 21222.

Vivat Jesus,

Ross Liberati, DD District #16

Insurance

"I already have insurance at work."

Many jobs offer some form of group life insurance. Often, this insurance is an employee benefit provided at no charge, or for a small co-pay. Knowing that this coverage exists may convince someone that he doesn't need to discuss personally owned life insurance with an agent. That could be a mistake.

Most forms of group life insurance are limited in amount. That amount may be tied to a salary or some other benchmark, but often there is a cap. That cap may be dangerously low for your family's needs should you die. In fact, without a needs analysis (which I'll be happy to provide, free of charge), it may be completely unrelated to needs at death. In addition, the amount of group insurance offered is almost always reduced – and sometimes dramatically – when you retire.

Especially today, there is the very real possibility that you could lose your job. Or that your benefits could be reduced. In either case, you can find yourself without coverage. If your health has changed in the meantime, you can find yourself out of luck.

While group life helps, it does not replace the need for individually owned life insurance. I'll be happy to meet with you and provide a free, custom-tailored needs analysis, so that you'll know exactly where you stand.

Please give me a call.

Edward O'Keefe (410) 569-6141

Financial Secretary

Many thanks to everyone who has remitted their 2007 annual dues. Remaining payments should be made by January 31. Second notices will be mailed in early February. If you have any questions regarding your membership or payment or have a new address, please contact me.

Financial Secretary position – I will be completing my second three year appointment as Financial Secretary for Bel Air Council. I have found the position to be a very satisfying way to serve the Bel Air Council over the past six years. Next year, I would like to serve the council membership in different ways. If you might be interested in learning more about the membership and financial duties of the council's financial secretary, please contact me as soon as possible. The Grand Knight must nominate a financial secretary for the next term by April 1.

Dick Belmonte rbb73@juno.com (410) 838-6329

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: Rennie Bucci; Bernie Classon; William Collins; Ross Liberati; Paul Manager; Joe Rink; Pat Ruckle and Jerry Shoul.

Ladies: Pat Bucci; Jean DiAngelo; Juliette Drouin; Marlene Hirsch; Owena Liberati; Barbara Staniewics; Mary Jane Zarachowicz.

Relatives and Friends: Bernie DiAngelo, son of Frank and Jean DiAngelo; Mildred Herold's great-granddaughters, Sophia & Anna Belle; Colleen Joy, daughter of Bob Joy; John Spampinato, brother-in-law of Francis Stallings; John G. Wills, grandson of Betty Bourgeois.

Deceased Members, Ladies, Relatives & Friends: Although I have not received word of any death this month, I ask you to remember in a special way all our deceased Brothers, Ladies, Relatives and Friends. May they forever enjoy their heavenly peace forever. And may 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. (Your prayers may lead a poor soul from purgatory into Heaven.)

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

Investment Club

Congratulations to January winners: Christopher Warner, Chris Seling, Ed & Barb Staniewicz and Walter Cronin.

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

Church Activities

St. Margaret Church has asked for volunteers who are willing to spend one hour a month at Eucharistic Adoration. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held each Tuesday in the Chapel from 9 AM until 6 PM. If you can spend just one hour each month in prayer, please contact Joann August at 410-838-9773 and your name will be included in the rotation.

Earnie Boyd

Community Activities

Cabaret

Next one is February 25th. 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.

Essay Contest

ATTENTION MALE & FEMALE SENIORS 60 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER!!!

Enter the Maryland State K-C essay contest. You might win the State wide competition. Write a 500 word essay. The theme for it is What Does "Living Our Faith" Mean To Me. All entries are to be typed or computer printed, black ink, and double spaced on 8 1/2 X 11 white paper. Submit entry to the State Chairman, Bernie Classon, and mail to him at 1304 Scottsdale Dr., Bel Air, Md. 21015. Make sure you have your name, address, and phone number on the entry. All entries must be received by Bernie by February 15, 2007. It is not necessary for entrants to be members of the KofC.

Bernie Classon, PGK, FDD.

Perry Point

Once again this February will be the Bel Air Council's turn to aid the patients at Perry Point to get to the chapel during all the Sundays in February. They have designated a new chapel in Building 1314, and we will once again be helping them attend the 9:00 Mass.

All those interested in helping us during February may join us at the McDonalds on Rts 1 & 24 by 7:45 AM (earlier if you would like to have breakfast) and we will drive up together. See co-chairs Tom Sutera or Pat Dolan at a meeting or call Tom.

Tom Sutera, PGK (410) 638-1096

Family Activities

On Tuesday April 17 at 6:30 PM., there will be a renewal of marriage vows ceremony. Anyone who is interested in participating contact Ray Caralle at (717) 382-1383 or rcaralle@aol.com giving him husband's name, wife's name and date of marriage. Certificates will given out during the regular social meeting at 8:00 PM.

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

Knights Ladies Korner

Hello and Happy New Year! A New Year means a new start with hopes, dreams, and resolutions. My inspiration for the Ladies comes from the homily I heard on Holy Family Sunday. I was very moved when the Pastor of St. Margaret discussed twelve characteristics of a good family: reverence, trust, morality, service, communication, support, respect for privacy, coping, sharing faith, traditions, meals, and responsibility. I thought, this should be true of our Knights Family also. To quote Father Marty, "Think about it."

One area we have perfected is meals! Next month we will share a meal on February 17th at our Mardi Gras Dinner, Dance and DJ. As of 1/17/07 tickets were already half gone so please get your tickets soon or you might miss out. The cost, \$15 includes salad, dinner, dessert, soda, beer, wine, and dancing with our favorite DJ, Tapeworm. Call Betty B. or me for tickets if you have not yet reserved your table.

On March 24th we are sponsoring a retreat at the Upper Room in Fawn Grove. It is from 9am – 4pm and will include a light breakfast, a sit-down lunch, guidance from the Retreat Master and an opportunity for confession followed by Mass. We are about half full but would like at least 10 more participants. Please call Natalie Boyd or me.

Then on April 22nd the Ladies are pleased to sponsor our First Annual High Tea. Roni Dunford has graciously agreed to chair this position and has brought a great deal of experience to the table. From the moment guests walk into the springtime décor they will know this is special. Seated at tables of eight with their own server keeping the tea hot, each guest will be treated to a cold fruit soup, followed by fresh scones with Devonshire cream and lemon curd and so much more. But more on this later! This is a major fundraiser for us and we will be asking everyone to help, so plan to be involved.

We voted, at the January Meeting, to give Sparrow House \$100 at our next meeting. We also voted to sponsor a door prize for the upcoming 4th Degree. We continue to support Four Seasons Nursing Home and the bag lunches for the homeless. In addition to this, members brought plastic bags and paper products for Anna's House, just as they do every month. LuAnne B. thanked us for the \$150 we donated to the Principle's Fund at Lisby-Hillsdale Elementary. Many of these children live below the poverty line and this money is available for needs that are not covered by other programs or that are needed immediately before the paper work could be processed. I thank each of you personally for your generosity of time and money. It is as always a pleasure and honor to serve with you.

God Bless and keep you and our troops safe!

Alicia Rappold, Knights Ladies President (410) 879-0854

Club Steward's Message

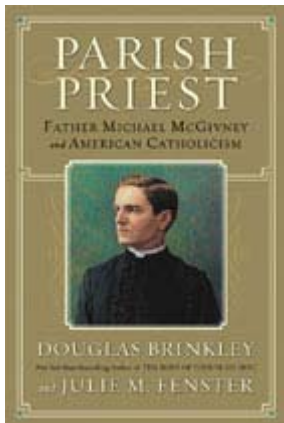
The purpose of the discount for rentals was the Home Corporation's way of thanking our members for their support. It is also a way of enticing future prospective members to join. If we use our membership to award non-members the same benefits as members we are defeating the purpose of the discount. Over the past couple of months I have been required to rent our hall to people who are not only non-members but not even in the family of a member because a member has offered his membership discount to someone. In the future, rentals discounts will be given to members, Knights Ladies, and widows of members only as prescribed in our policies. The deposit and payment must be from the aforementioned, and that person must be in attendance for the time rented. Our participation in this organization is a something to be cherished. We do a lot of good in our community and what little reward we get for our efforts should not be given away lightly.

Jerry Wagner

Dates to Remember

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|----------|---------------------------------|
| Feb 2 | BINGO |
| Feb 2-12 | State Caribbean Cruise |
| Feb 4 | Superbowl Party |
| Feb 6 | 1 st Degree Ceremony |
| Feb 6 | Business Meeting |
| Feb 9 | BINGO |
| Feb 13 | KC Club Meeting |
| Feb 14 | St. Valentine's Day |
| Feb 16 | BINGO |
| Feb 17 | Mardi Gras Dinner Dance |
| Feb 20 | Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper |
| Feb 21 | Ash Wednesday |
| Feb 20 | Ladies/Social Meeting |
| Feb 23 | BINGO |
| Feb 25 | Cabaret |
| Feb 28 | Officers Meeting |

Message from Supreme



Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson and Douglas Brinkley, co-author of *Parish Priest*, the biography of Knights founder Father Michael J. McGivney, answered reader questions on the best-selling book during a live online discussion on Jan. 18. Transcripts of the conversation

are available on the Supreme Knight's Book Club website. The website will also feature monthly selections will focus on themes of adult faith formation, Catholic parenting and leadership, and how to live Catholic spirituality by putting one's faith in action. www.kofc.org/eb/en/books/sk_bookclub/index.html

Another new feature on the Supreme website is weekly 5 minute downloadable podcasts. Brief but informative discussions of a wide variety of activities will be posted every Monday morning. You don't have to have an iPod in order to listen - just download it to your computer! A podcast is an audio program that is distributed over the Internet. You can download it onto your computer and listen to it there, or you can transfer it onto a portable music player, such as an iPod or MP3 player, and listen to it later wherever you are. The audio files are formatted as MPEG (.mp3) files, which are fast and easy to download. www.kofc.org/eb/en/utility_pages/pod/index.html

Note from the Editor

I'm looking for photographs to publish on our website belairknights.org and to include in the Councilairs. Pictures of the events that the Knights and Knights Ladies participate in are said to be an excellent form for recruitment of prospective members. Our website is as much a recruiting tool as a forum for members to keep up on Council activities. If you have photos please let me know. Digital photos are easier, but if you have regular snapshots, I can scan them and return them to you.

Scott Redding editor@belairknights.org (410) 836-7387

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