



COUNCILAIRS

Bel Air Council 4714



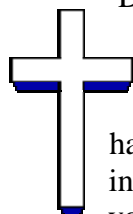
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23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050

Initiated Dec 1958

May 2007

Chaplain's Message

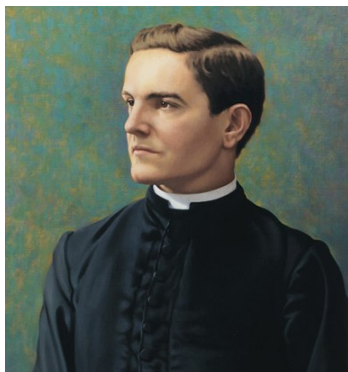


During May, we turn to Mary for her special intercession. Mary is our example because of her willingness to do the will of God. Despite the fact that she did not know all that would happen to her, Mary trusted in God's love for her in saying "let it be done unto me according to your word." Like Mary, we can trust that God loves us. This is especially important in times of transition in our lives. Mary's steadfast devotion was evident in those most difficult times. Even though she watched her son suffer, she did not turn to revenge or anger. The scriptures reveal her at the foot of the cross listening to her son.

Mary continues to be an example of love and forgiveness in the face of violence. She reminds us that our call to serve is not diminished by circumstances. Mary always points to Christ who reveals God's infinite love for every man and woman.

In seeking Mary's intercession, the rosary for peace needs to continue to be part of our personal prayer life and our family prayer. In reciting the rosary, we reflect on the mysteries which allow us to experience the love that Jesus has for us. Even if one decade is all that our family seems to have time for, it is still sufficient to draw our minds and hearts into the life of Christ and to help us call to mind our brothers and sisters around the world. God takes advantage of every moment we give to Him. Let us set aside the time to offer the rosary for peace.

Deacon Greg Rapisarda



Father Michael J. McGivney

Grand Knight's Message

I trust everyone had an enjoyable Easter. Spending time with family and hunting down those colored eggs hidden by that wassquilly wabbit.

A big thank you to Ray Caralle for putting together the renewal of vows and thank you to all the couples who participated. What a wonderful gift to each other, the recommitment made all those many years ago.

John Knapstein will be heading the car raffle effort this year. Yes we will be back in the mall. Please lend as much time to this undertaking as you can comfortably afford.

The Council has a Tootsie roll chairman. Ron Krebs has stepped forward to head up this worthwhile undertaking. I know Ron can count on the support the Council has shown in past years. This event takes place in October so we have a little time before it becomes crunch time. Give Ron any and all support you can afford.

The search is over for a new Financial Secretary. John Knapstein has applied for the position. John's name will be forwarded to Supreme for approval. To the outgoing Financial Secretary Dick Belmonte a hardy thank you for the time you served your Council.

The Maryland State Council has announced their 2007-2008 tour schedules. There is a bus trip to Niagara Falls in September, a Caribbean cruise in January, and another bus trip to Savannah in March. If you have not yet made your vacation plans for next year perhaps one of these trips would be of interest.

One of our Tootsie roll benefactors, the Arc is asking for assistance with two of their programs. First is the LPGA in June, they are in need of course marshals, here is an opportunity to get up close and personal with some of the best lady players in the game. The second program involves the renovation of homes supported by the Arc. No they are not recruiting carpenters and painters, they are looking for donations. What they are

in need of are household items such as towels, linens, kitchenware, and other household essentials. If we wish to aid them in this contact Elaine Orbino at 410-879-6785 or EOrbino@arcncr.org.

The Lost in the Fifties Car Club is sponsoring a classic car show and cookout at Perry Point VA medical center on June 10 from 1:00-4:00 pm. They are asking for volunteers and donations to aid them in this project. If interested contact Nancy McLaughlin, Activities Coordinator, Recreation Therapy, Perry Point at 410-642-2411 ext 5609.

The next scheduled Third Degree is at Dundalk Council on April 21. Candidates at 1:00 pm the degree is scheduled for 1:30 pm.

There will be a First Degree at Bel Air Council on May 1. Ask an eligible man to join us.

The next Second Degree is scheduled for May 14 at Bel Air.

Remember always our sick and deceased members. An extra prayer or two for our gallant service personnel would go a long way toward their safe return to their loved ones.

Together we can achieve great things.

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

District Deputy's Message

Can you believe, we are almost through the month of April and we are still wearing our winter duds? However, I have hope and faith in the saying that 'if you don't like the Maryland weather, just wait a while and it will change'. And I also believe that it's got to get better for it can't get any worse. THINK SPRING!

I recently read, in one of the monthly publications that I receive, an article about 'The Great Spaghetti Harvest'. It seems that in 1957, the BBC news show 'Panorama' announced that as a result of a mild winter and the near elimination of the spaghetti weasel, Swiss farmers were enjoying a bumper spaghetti crop. It showed Swiss peasants pulling huge strands of spaghetti from the trees. Many viewers called wanting to know how they could grow their own spaghetti tree. To this, the BBC replied that they should place a sprig of spaghetti in a tin of sauce

and hope for the best. The article did not address whether there were any successful results but it did go on to say that this story was rated as being among the best of the April 1st pranks.

As you know, we are closing in on the end of the fraternal year. This is 'Election Time'. Once again we must elect the officers that will lead our councils. The window for these elections is between May 15 and June 15. Results of these elections must be reported to Supreme Headquarters and the State Council ASAP. Supreme needs the results in order to get pertinent information to the new officers in a timely manner and the State needs the results to get them into the State Directory so that it can be published and distributed ASAP. Advance copies of the Resolutions to be voted on at the convention have been provided to each council. Please review these resolutions and inform the State Deputy if any member intends to speak on any of the resolutions. All delegates are requested to bring their credentials to the convention. The ladies are still accepting contributions to support their convention activities. And finally, there are still a few tickets available for the Banquet. See you at the Convention.

With God's Blessing, We continue to Live Our Faith.
Vivat Jesus,
Ross Liberati, DD District #16

Insurance

If you haven't visited the Knights of Columbus Web site in a while, I encourage you to do so the next time you're online. There are many exciting features on www.kofc.org, but there are two that I wish to make you especially aware of.

The first is our member testimonial area, titled "Stages of Life." In this multi-media area, six "real-life" stories are told – stories of people at different stages of their lives. Chances are one of them will sound a lot like you. These people talk about how their Knights of Columbus agent took the time to demonstrate for them the need for life insurance in their lives. I'll be happy to do that for you and your family as well.

The second is our Life Insurance Calculator. This handy, easy-to-use online tool was developed to allow you, in about 15-20 minutes, to estimate the amount of life insurance coverage you need. The information you'll be asked to provide will be basic (the type most folks would tend to have at their fingertips), and secure (it's intended to be used solely for the purposes of the online calculator – the Order won't capture it or share it with anyone, including me!).

I stress that the number you'll receive is an estimate, based on the basic information you provide. It's not intended to take the place of the free, professional needs analysis that I'll be happy to provide for you and your family. Give me a call – I'd like to meet with you.

Edward O'Keefe (410) 569-6141

Financial Secretary

Financial Secretary reminder - If you have not yet paid your 2007 dues, please send them to me right away to avoid suspension. My address is:
110 N. Lynbrook Rd.
Bel Air, MD 21014

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

Ladies: Pat Bucci; Juliette Drouin; Marlene Hirsch; Owena Liberati, who is having eye surgery Wednesday, April 18th; Barbara Staniewicz; and Martha West.

Relatives & Friends: Bernie DiAngelo, son of Frank and Jean DiAngelo; Mildred Herold's great-granddaughters, Sophia and Anna Belle; Bonnie Meadowcroft, wife of Frank Meadowcroft; Helen Michels, wife of Robert H. Michels; Shari LoPresti, daughter-in-law of Salvatore LoPresti; John pampinato, brother-in-law of Francis Stallings; and John G. Wills, grandson of Betty Bourgeois.

Deceased Member, Ladies, Relatives and Friends: May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace.

May is the month dedicated to our Blessed Mother, Mary; please honor Her by your daily 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

Membership

As we move towards the end of our fraternal year, we need to focus on the adults who have gone through the RCIA program and ask them to become members. Do not overlook any former and inactive members who may be waiting for a member to ask them to become active.

Remember! Ask 1-2B-1.

Please use the following information to help in your recruiting efforts.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Knights of Columbus is the 10th largest mutual life insurance company in the United States.
- The Knights of Columbus is one of five companies (out of 1800) with the top ratings from Standard & Poors, A.M. Best and the I.M.S.A. certification for customer service.
- The Knights of Columbus is a Fortune 1000 Company among the tens of thousands of companies doing business in the U.S.
- The Knights of Columbus gave \$130 million and 60 million man hours to charity last year.
- When you do business with the K of C, you not only get superior products and rates of return... but you also help the less fortunate and promote Catholic principles and values.

Frank DiAngelo, Membership Director (410) 838-5019

Council Activities

Investment Club

Congratulations to Susan Welsh, Ray Caralle, Louise Caralle and Charles Corson (AGAIN).

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

Bull and Oyster Roast

A Bull and Oyster Roast will be held at the Council on Saturday September 22, 2007. Food service will be from 6-10pm, with music provided by DJ's Norm & Carlos from 7-11pm. This event will be catered by Atlantic Catering, so everyone can enjoy their evening. The extensive menu includes pit beef, ham and turkey, oyster stew, fried oysters, oysters on a half shell, lasagna, fried chicken, kielbasa and sauerkraut and much more. The cost of the Roast is \$35, and tickets will be on a first come first serve basis. This event is expected to be an sell out so collect the moneys and get your tickets early. Tickets are now available and will be distributed when money is received.

A copy of the flyer for this event is included in this newsletter. For additional information please contact Chairman Terry Lijewski via e-mail or phone (tlij@comcast.net or 410-879-5872). Your support of this event would be greatly appreciated.

Terry Lijewski, Chairman (410) 879-5872

Church Activities

Weekly rosary will be held at the St. Margaret Chapel Sundays at 8:30AM starting in May.

Earnie Boyd

Community Activities

Wheelchair Foundation

Funds are needed to supply the disabled poor with wheelchairs enabling them to get to work, school, and church. Make checks payable to, "Wheelchair Foundation", and give or mail to Bernie Classon, K-C State Wheelchair Chairman. He then mails them in and enters your name on the recognition list for the State Deputy. Any amount you wish to donate is greatly appreciated.

Bernie Classon, PGK, FDD

Family Activities

Congratulations to all brothers and their wives who participated in the Renewal of Marriage Vows. A special thanks to Father Rose who performed the ceremony.

Gentlemen, please help in filling out a knights survey form and submitting it to me via e-mail, snail mail, or at a meeting. A survey form can be obtained at the Council or from the previous Councilairs. A survey was also provided to the Ladies at their meeting on 3/20. Filling in the survey and forwarding it to me would be greatly appreciated. It really helps in preparing the Family of the Month form. <http://belairknights.org/BrotherKnightSurvey.html>.

Thanks in advance.

Congratulations to Ray and Louise Caralle for being selected as Family of the Month for April.

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

Knights Ladies Korner

Ana Grigaliunas keeps looking for a deaf priest to hear her confessions, so if you know of one please tell us all about him. I thought I had found an easy one. I know a priest who keeps giving the same penance, "Go and do something nice for someone." But maybe this is not as easy as it sounds.

The Tea will have already happened but in this case I can predict with 100% accuracy that it was wonderful beyond all expectation! It sold out right after our last meeting and we could have sold more tickets if we had them. Thank you Roni and all of the inspired Ladies and Gentlemen who made this day so wonderful.

The "Crosses for Confirmands" is out of the planning stages and actually happening. We found beautiful crosses made in Jerusalem from olive trees. (Jesus prayed in the Garden at Gethsemane next to an olive tree.) We selected several styles that would most appeal to the High School Confirmand and were able to buy 200 of them. Karen Clemens, at St. Margaret Church, is so happy with our support that she has invited our Ladies to join the Confirmands on their pilgrimage the end of April or first weekend in May. What a blessing to be allowed to be part of this! I want to thank Pat Lijewski and all of the Ladies for getting this program moving.

Betty O'Leary tells me that Anna's House is would love to have a barbecue/picnic in June. They are also excited about a garden with tomatoes, beans, lettuce, flowers and promise that if we buy the plants and help start it they will take very good care of it. We have already approved money for this project, so please call Betty ASAP to help with this.

We will be having the May Procession next month followed by a light meal provided by the men. We will then have the Ladies meeting as scheduled, followed by cake and coffee. This meeting is important, as we need to decide on officers for next year as well as activities. Please bring your ideas and willingness to help.

The Birthday Luncheon at the Hall will be in June and we have several surprises planned. Mary Jane Z. and Mary Sporney have some new tricks up their sleeves and I know you will be very pleased with the day, so please plan to attend.

Let's all do something nice for someone together and have fun while we do it!

God Bless and keep you safe,
Alicia Rappold, Knights Ladies President (410) 879-0854

Attention: All Knights Ladies

Ladies Birthday Party
 Sunday, June 3, 2007
 2-4 p.m.
 Contact Mary Sporney at 410-638-1015
 by May 27th if you are planning on attending.
 Come join us for an afternoon of fun!

Dates to Remember

- May 1 1st Degree Ceremony
- May 1 Business Meeting
- May 4 BINGO
- May 5 Join Hands Day
- May 6 Rosary at St. Margaret Church 8:30AM
- May 6 Scout Troop 999 Chicken Dinner
- May 8 KC Club Meeting
- May 11 BINGO
- May 13 Rosary at St. Margaret Church 8:30AM
- May 14 Card Party 7-11 PM

- May 14 2nd Degree Ceremony
- May 15 May Procession 6:30 PM
- May 15 Ladies/Social Meeting
- May 18 BINGO
- May 18-20 109th State Convention
- May 19 Auction
- May 20 Rosary at St. Margaret Church 8:30AM
- May 23 Officers Meeting
- May 25 BINGO
- May 27 Rosary at St. Margaret Church 8:30AM
- May 27 Veteran's Dinner

Message from State

Reflections

Lawrence P. Grayson

The Continuing Ebb of Christianity

(Third of a series of four articles)

Ever since the social forces unleashed in the 1960s overran the Christian mores of the country, America has continued to move toward becoming a more irreligious nation. In the last 40 years, there has been a progressive assault on the public display and acknowledgement of religion, accompanied by life style practices and social abuses which are antithetical to Christian beliefs. Marriage, the family, and even life itself have been degraded. Today, a great deal of social practice and political action in the nation is incompatible with Christian principles.

In 1970, California passed a law that legalized no-fault divorce. By 1985, every state allowed it. A rationale for this change was that when there were irreconcilable differences, the partners would not have to lie about the other's infidelity to develop grounds for divorce. The result, however, transformed the marriage bond from a life-long covenant into a cancelable contract.

Movement now is to remove the procreative rationale for marriage and make it a contract for material security. With this reasoning, marriage can be viewed as a civil agreement between any two people, regardless of gender. In 2004, the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts declared that limiting marriage to a man and a woman was discriminatory against same-sex couples, and legalized homosexual marriages in that



State. Although other States have not followed their exact lead, Hawaii, California, Maine, Vermont, Connecticut, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia allow civil unions, an arrangement which confers a status equivalent to marriage.

With the emphasis in marriage on individual satisfaction, there was no reason why pregnancy should hinder personal desires. In 1973, the Supreme Court ruled in *Roe v. Wade* that women had a constitutional right to privacy under the 14th Amendment, and based on that they could choose to abort any child they were carrying. The period of legality for abortion has been extended from conception to the partial birth of a full-term child. Since the ruling, some 1.3 million babies, which is the equivalent of the population of New Hampshire, have been aborted annually.

These changes have occurred with minimal resistance from the Christian community, even though Christians form the majority of the United States population. Too many Christians, including Catholics, have accepted the notion that religion is a matter that should be restricted to one's private life. They limit religious expression to a Sunday worship service, and pursue their material ends the rest of the week. Their religious beliefs are carefully compartmentalized and therefore do not impinge on their behavior in the secular world. Increasingly, religious beliefs are becoming diluted and the nation is becoming de-Christianized as people accommodate themselves to a society which is militantly secular and highly materialistic. Media which glorify sex, easy access to pornography, rap music that extols killing, the acceptance of all life styles as valid in the name of tolerance, schools that teach children about sexuality and provide them the means to practice it, and a myriad of similar influences which operate steadily, but silently, undermine traditional family values and mitigate against the transmission of Christian beliefs and traditions from generation to generation.

Pope John Paul II drew a distinction between secularity and secularism. The former is advantageous in a pluralistic society as it separates the political realm from the religious. Secularity implies that the state is non-clerical and is concerned solely with the temporal concerns of its people, leaving the religious sphere to operate as it sees fit. A state founded on secularity ensures the free exercise of worship and of the spiritual, cultural and charitable activities of the communities of believers.

Secularism, in contrast, is an ideology that promotes indifference to religion and disallows any public expression of faith or religious considerations. It relegates faith to the private sphere and leads, over time, to restrictions on religious liberty, promoting contempt or ignorance of religion. A government based on secularism is intolerant of religion and attempts to impose its own values on the consciences of the people and exerts pressures to have religiously-based organizations operate according to totally secular norms, even when those norms violate the tenets of the religion.

Today, America is moving from the principles of secularity, upon which it was founded, to those of secularism. It is not a frontal assault on all religious expression, but is occurring on a consistent basis in innumerable ways. It is seen in the rejection of a display of the Ten Commandments in courthouses, in forbidding the saying of non-sectarian prayers in public schools, in forcing pharmacists to dispense birth control and abortifacient medications even if it goes against their consciences, in attempting to require Catholic hospitals to perform abortions, in trying to force the Boy Scouts to allow homosexual men to serve as scout leaders, in repeated actions to take the words "under God" out of the Pledge of Allegiance, in trying to mandate that Catholic social service agencies allow same-sex couples to adopt children, and the list goes on.

The movement toward secularism must be reversed or America as we know it will cease to exist. As then-Cardinal Ratzinger stated: "A culture and a nation that cuts itself off from the great ethical and religious forces of its own history commits suicide."

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Bel Air Knights of Columbus #4714 Annual Bull & Oyster Roast

When: Saturday, September 22, 2007

Time: 6:00-11:00 PM

Where: 23 Newport Dr. Forest Hill, Md. 21050

Cost: \$35.00 per person

Norm & Carlos D.J.s for your dancing pleasure.



Food by Atlantic Catering: Beef ,Ham, Turkey on the pit, Oysters on the half shell, oyster stew, fried oysters, sausage with peppers and onions, Lasagna, Kielbasa and sauerkraut, Fried chicken, Coleslaw, potato salad, mashed potatoes and green beans assorted cheeses and fresh vegetables, deserts etc. Soft drinks, Draft beer

For ticket information please contact Terry Lijewski on
410-879-5872

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