



COUNCILAIRS

Bel Air Council 4714



Phone: (410) 893:6442

23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050

Initiated Dec 1958

December 2008

Chaplain's Message



During this Christmas season, we celebrate life. For God, out of pure love, has become one of us. We rejoice that God gives us life as a free gift- that God became one of us out of love. After Adam's rejection of God, death came into the world. God could rightfully let us go our own way and condemned us. But God did not allow our turning away from Him, block His love for us. Pope Benedict says that our sin was so great that it "turned God against himself, his love against his justice." God could have rightfully left us to go our own way. But we are God's creation and God doesn't abandon those whom He created. God's love, which is forgiving love, comes alive in Jesus Christ. God not only talks about forgiveness, He shows it. That is why Christmas is a victory for humanity, because it shows that God has not abandoned us, and that now divinity is part of humanity. As Christians, we are called to remember what the birth of Christ means to the human race. The incarnation, in which God takes on flesh, is the reason for our gathering together. We give gifts to one another because it reflects the great gift from God. And especially at this time, we can share gifts of love and service to another without spending money. This may be the year to take the pressure off concerning and to give gifts of ourselves. We can begin to get in the habit of giving gifts of service or prayer. As we gather with our families, we can take the opportunity to pray together. The atmosphere around Christmas allows us to talk about what Christ means in our lives. Jesus shows us how to live. He shows us the face of God, and at the same time, how to be a perfect human being in perfect love with a natural love for life.

Whether we know it or not, we all respect life. We get up in the morning, eat, sleep, exercise, plan our calendars (a sign of hope), run errands, help others, and help ourselves. All these are tangible signs that we support life. We do this in a busy society, which

is a sign of love of life. So whether people admit it or not, they love life. Christmas is a wonderful time to say that we support life, and even those who celebrate with us, we can show in the gathering of families that we are respect life, the life that God has freely given to us.

Christmas not only commemorates the first coming of Jesus, but also His second coming. Jesus Christ always reminds us that we have hope in every situation in life. This hope for us is so sure, that it is not just about the future, but affects the present- it affects the way we live now. We can live our lives now in hope. As sure as we are that Jesus came to earth, we can also be assured that Jesus will come again, and we will live with Him, and one another, for eternity.

May this Christmas be a true celebration by being a time to love and forgive.

Merry Christmas,
Deacon Greg Rapisarda

Grand Knight's Message

December is always a special month. It is the month we celebrate the birth of Our Lord. This year however, December is extra special. December 16th is the 50th celebration of the birth of our Council: Bel Air Council 4714. To honor this special date Fr. Hemler our Council Chaplain has agreed to hold a special Mass for the Council. This anniversary Mass will begin at 7:00PM at St. Mark's Church in Fallston. Following Mass we will be having a light reception at the Council home. Please join us for Mass and the reception.

Our Council is also blessed to celebrate the introduction of three new members; Gregory McDermott, Tim Ward, and Scott Gibson. Gregory has recently transferred to Bel Air Council. Tim and Scott took their first degree at our November business meeting. I thank each of them for deciding

to serve as a Knight. We are all called to serve in our own way. Find something that interests you and get involved.

I also want to thank every Brother Knight and Knight's Lady that has helped support or attend the many functions and events we have held this year as well as the events being planned for the rest of this fraternal year. Our Council is a great organization because of the gift of time talent and treasure you give in service to Bel Air Council, the Knights of Columbus, and most importantly Our Lord.

I want to thank you again for the honor of being Grand Knight during this our Golden Anniversary: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your family.

Stephen Conley, Grand Knight

knightsfc@gmail.com (443) 417-7538

District Deputy Message

It is that time of the year to start thinking about the Convention. The Conventions will be held at the Princess Royale the weekend of May 15-17, 2009. You can reserve your room now. Everyone should consider attending the Conventions and watching the Grand Knights make a fool of themselves during the Grand Knights Olympics.

I would like to thank all the Grand Knights of the District for their cooperation in turning in their quarterly reports ahead of schedule.

Vivat Jesus

Mike Clemens, DD #16

Fraternal Benefits

Baby Boomers

This month's column is for the baby boomers. Do you know what is sneaking up on you? Retirement!

Ouch. I know. It's hard to believe isn't it?

Seems like just yesterday... but it's coming – and coming fast. And that's actually the good news.

There's a trend by companies to freeze or end their employee pension plans. This may have a big impact on baby boomers now on the cusp of retirement. Boomers with pension plans have counted on

monthly retirement checks at the end of their career, but increasing numbers of employers are ending their plans or halting future benefit accruals. Those at greatest risk include boomers in their late 40's and early 50's who are still at least a decade from retirement but too old to save enough to make up the difference in their pension benefits.

An August 2005 survey by PricewaterhouseCoopers showed that nearly half of companies that expected to change their pension plans in the next year were considering freezing benefits for all employees. More than a third that offered pensions have already pared back these benefits over the last three years.

“This will definitely be a problem for baby boomers,” says Karen Friedman at the Pension Rights Center. “You’ve been at a company under the plan and worked for years with that expectation, and then it’s taken away.”

Edward O’Keefe, CLU, ChFC, CASL, FICF

edward.okeefe@kofc.org (410) 569-6141

Sick and Deceased

Please remember in your prayers all the Brothers, Ladies, Family Members and Friends who are experiencing serious health problems at this time, especially:

Brothers: Richard Barkkume; Jack Bauernschub; Bernie Classon; Thomas Classon; William Collins; Sam DiDio; Frank DiAngelo; Pete Kozak; John Maloy; Ross Liberati; Paul Manager; Robert Michels; Jerry Schoul; Vernon West; and Bill Wilhelm.

Ladies: Olga Barkkume; Kit Belli; Georgia Classon; Jean DiAngelo; Doris Harrison; Pat Rebbert, and Martha West.

Family Members and Friends: Mildred Herold's great-grandchildren, Sophia and Anna Belle; Chris Litz, son of Don Litz; Tom Grzynski, nephew of Don Litz; Jean Potter, wife of Brother Joseph Potter; John Spaminato, brother-in-law of Brother Francis Stallings and John Wills, grandson of Betty Bourgeois.

Deceased Members, Ladies, Family Members and Friends: Brother Richard Iardella; Theresa Longo,

wife of Brother Dominic Longo; Paul Serio, son-in-law of Brother Vernon and Martha West.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Pray the Holy Rosary each day. We ask that you join us at 7:30 pm before our business meeting (first Tuesday of each month). Your presence will be greatly appreciated.

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

Council Activities



50th Anniversary Gala

January 18, 2009 1:00 - 6:00 PM

Tickets are on sale for \$40 until December 16. Consider inviting your friends and relatives to this enjoyable

dinner dance. See flyer for details. 50th anniversary apparel is available to order from Wayne Davis. Attend a business or social meeting to do your shopping for these attractive men's and ladies' shirts, vests, jackets and caps. Support your council and create a keepsake by taking out an ad in the 50th anniversary gala program. Contact Ed Staniewicz for more information.

Dick Belmonte, Co-chair, 50th anniversary gala, rbbelmon@gmail.com (410) 838-6329

50th Anniversary Mass

Our council is celebrating its Golden Anniversary. On Tuesday, December 16, the actual date of the 50th birthday of our council, a Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated at 7:00PM, St. Mark Church in Fallston. Father Ed Hemler, our chaplain will celebrate the Mass. After the Mass, we are asking our members to meet at the council for cake and coffee and socializing. At our November Social meeting this was announced. If you were not present at this meeting and planning to come, please notify Ed Staniewicz.

Ed Staniewicz, Co-chair, 50th anniversary gala, (410) 529-7114

Fourth Degree

Blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year to all Knights and their families. May you all enjoy good health. From the St. Francis Xavier Assembly #380 of the Fourth Degree. We invite all Third Degree members to become part of the Patriotic Degree.

Fraternally,

Bernie Classon, FDD, PGK, FN

Investment Club

The first drawing will be December 16. I mailed out 290 tickets. So far 134 have been sold. If you have received tickets and cannot purchase or sell them, please return them to me and I'll try to sell them. The deadline to be eligible for the first drawing is December 9th. This is a major council fundraiser. Every ticket sold will be profit for our council.

Ray Caralle, PGK rcaralle1@verizon.net

(717) 382-1383

1087 Main Street

New Park, PA 17352

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 December 1st, 4-9 PM

Where: Bob Evans, 14 Bel Air South Pkwy, Bel Air, A visit from Santa 4-8 PM

For additional information please contact:

Pat Lijewski (410) 879-5872 or

MaryJane Zarachowicz (410) 638-9864



Club Steward Message

I would like to thank the members who have deposited household and kitchen items at the Council Home. Unfortunately, we use commercial grade

utensils, e.g. stainless steel. If you have left household items at the Council you are welcome to take them back before they are discarded.

Jerry Wagner, Club Steward

Family Activities

Family of the Month

Congratulations to Vernon and Martha West for being selected as Family of the Month for November.

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

Children's Christmas Party:

Children's Christmas Party

Reminder, our Children's Christmas party is on December 6th from 1PM to 4PM. Santa will be there and there will be games and food for all. Please celebrate with by bringing your whole family, most importantly our treasured children. Santa has asked Pete Kozak to keep track of how many adults and children plan to attend so there is enough for everyone. In order to meet Mr. Claus' request please call Pete at 410.638.6106 so he can tally the interest.

Community Activities

Wheelchair Fund

Our disabled veterans, disabled priests, and disabled nuns need our help with mobility. Please consider a contribution to the wheelchair fund. Any amount graciously accepted. Make checks payable to Maryland State Council and mark the memo section, "Wheelchair Fund". Please send to:

State Wheelchair Chairman

Bernie Classon

1304 Scottsdale Dr.

Bel Air, MD 21015

Tootsie Roll Campaign

Earnings were \$4622.25

I want to especially thank my weekly captains--Gene Stallings, Nick Mele, George Naused, Ron Krebs, Len Phillips and John Grigaliunas. A special thanks to Jack Bauernschub who made all the reminder calls and to everyone who took 2 hours or more watches for the Tootsie Roll Campaign and for God's special children.

Thank you Thank you,

Paul Zarachowicz, Chairman

Knights Ladies Korner

Happy Holidays,

I wish you all the very happiest holiday season. May everyone enjoy a healthy and happy Christmas and New Year.

In the midst of all the holiday preparations remember to take a breather and enjoy dinner at Bob Evans' December 1st. What could be better than to enjoy a stress free meal and contribute to our auxiliary at the same time. Bring your friends and family as well.

We will not be having a regular business meeting in December but there are lots of opportunities for getting together.

December 6th The Knights will be having their annual Children's Christmas Party - the ladies are asked to contribute large (sugar cookie type) store bought cookies for the children to decorate.

December 14th Ladies Christmas Party. The men are invited and the menu is sure to please. Cost is \$28 pp. due December 7th. Please contact Barbara Staniewicz,(410) 529-7114, for tickets.

December 16th Anniversary Mass at St. Mark's 7 P.M. Light refreshments at the council home following the mass.

December 18th FIELDS Christmas Party. The ladies are asked to donate store bought cookies for the party. The reason we are requesting store bought cookies is to comply with Harford County Board of Health regulations.

In January we will be taking a serious look at the direction our auxiliary will be taking in the coming months. Is our focus too broad? Are the activities fulfilling your needs or should we channel our efforts in different areas? I will be contacting the ladies individually during the month of December. I would very much like your input and opinion. All names will be confidential but the information will be compiled and used by the executive board to plan our direction for the rest of the year.

Please reflect on how you feel about our current activities. Do you want to participate in these things or do you see other needs that should be met. Or perhaps you can suggest a different method to reaching our goals.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation and input and I look forward to talking to each of you.

Dee Kozlowski, President Bel Air Knights Ladies Auxiliary

News from Supreme

Pope Receives Knights of Columbus



Members of the Board of Directors of the Knights of Columbus were received in an audience at the Vatican on Friday, Oct. 3 by Pope Benedict XVI. Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said, "On behalf

of our more than 1,750,000 members and their families in the United States, Canada, Philippines, Mexico, the Caribbean and Poland we pledge greater efforts in building a new culture of life in all the countries in which we work."

Knights Launch News and Information Web Site for Catholics



The Knights of Columbus has established an Internet-based news and information service for Catholics – [Headline Bistro](http://www.headlinebistro.com) <http://www.headlinebistro.com>.

The new Web site provides a digest of daily news of interest to Catholics. You'll also find video clips, detailed state-by-state information about voting and public policy, and recommended books.

Wake-Up Message for Men



The Knights of Columbus Web site [Fathers for Good](http://www.fathersforgood.org) <http://www.fathersforgood.org> is featuring an article about an inspiring Catholic men's conference that featured former gridiron great Danny

Abramowicz and Supreme Chaplain Bishop William E. Lori. The secret of becoming a true man of God was the focus of the conference.

Dates to Remember

December 1	Ladies Fundraiser Dinner
December 2	Business Meeting
December 5	BINGO
December 6	Children's Christmas Party
December 8	Card Party 7-11 PM
December 9	KC Club Meeting
December 12	BINGO
December 14	Ladies Christmas Party
December 16	50 th Anniversary Mass
December 18	FIELDS Christmas Party
December 19	BINGO
December 23	Officers Meeting
December 25	Christmas
December 26	BINGO
January 1	New Year's Day
January 2	BINGO
January 6	Business Meeting
January 9	BINGO
January 12	Card party 7-11 PM
January 13	KC Club Meeting
January 16	BINGO
January 18	50 th Anniversary Gala
January 19	Martin Luther King Day
January 20	Ladies/Social Meeting
January 23	BINGO
January 27	Officers Meeting
January 30	BINGO





Bel Air Knights Annual Children's Christmas Party



Saturday December 6, 1-4PM



Bring your kids and or your Grandkids. There will be games and activities for Kids of all ages.

Pin the nose on the reindeer



Decorating cookies with icing



Make your own Sundae



Face Painting



And what would a Christmas party be without a visit from Santa.



**For information and reservations please call Charlotte or Pete Kozak
(410) 638-6106.**

Bel Air Council 4714
Knights of Columbus

50th Anniversary Gala

Sunday, January 18, 2009

Social Hour – 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.
Dinner and Dancing – 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Music by The Monaldi Brothers

Richlin Ballroom
1700 Van Bibber Road
Edgewood, Maryland

\$40 per person paid before December 16, 2008

No tickets available after December 16

*For information, please contact Dick Belmonte at 410-838-6329
or by e-mail at rbbelmon@gmail.com.*

Tear off here and return with your check made payable to Bel Air Council 4714 to:
Dick Belmonte
110 N. Lynbrook Road
Bel Air, MD 21014

Name _____
will attend the 50th Anniversary Gala on January 18, 2009.

_____ Number of tickets requested

Telephone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

Committee Use Only

Date Received _____

Number of Tickets _____ @ \$ _____

Table # _____

