



COUNCILAIRS

Bel Air Council 4714



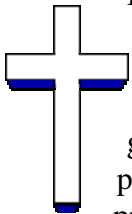
Phone: (410) 893:6442

23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050

Initiated Dec 1958

December 2009

Chaplain's Message



During Advent, we prepare ourselves for the greatest gift to all humanity. The Son of God is born. This awe-inspiring birth of our Redeemer is met with the angels' greeting, "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth." This proclamation expresses God's desire for us.

Giving God glory is part of our human nature. In praising God, we are lifted above the daily concerns which may burden us. We give God glory by the way we live. Our lives should be directed toward peace with God and with one another. It means respecting God and others. It seems hard to imagine that the world still does not enjoy total peace.

During Advent, we pray that our families and friends may come to know peace. Just as God took the initiative toward reconciliation, we must do the same. This means that we, as Christians, are the ones who must make that phone call, or send that note, or card, which extends an offer for peaceful relationship. This radical commitment to forgiveness and peace humbles us, because it means that we must desire peace beyond any judgments of who is right or who is wrong. When we say that Jesus died for us while we were still sinners, we mean that even though we had rejected God, God still wanted to become one of us and redeem us. The birth of Jesus is the miracle of unconditional love.

This is a good time of year for sending a Christmas card to someone we have not spoken with, or a friend or family member with whom we are no longer on speaking terms. Pray that God will give us the grace to set ourselves at the foot of the manger, as we experience God's humility toward us. The little child, who would later endure the violence of the cross for our sake, has brought peace to the world.

May the angels' greeting of peace become a reality in our lives, and may the birth of the incarnate Son be honored by our gifts of love.

Merry Christmas,
Deacon Greg Rapisarda

Grand Knight's Message

Thanksgiving has passed and now we are approaching the Christmas Holydays. I see more and more cards indicating Happy Holidays and very few that indicate Merry Christmas. The word Christmas means Christ's Mass which refers to the last supper. Many want to eliminate the word Christmas and replace it with holiday. Brother John Welsh, our Youth Activities Chairman, will be holding a Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest however, it is also up to us to help by purchasing religious Christmas cards and greet one another with a Merry Christmas. We must remember that Christ is the reason for the season.

Please remember to pray for all our priests and especially for Fr. Ed, our Worthy Chaplain who is still recovering from his surgery.

Our Associate Chaplain, Rev. Mr. Greg Rapisarda will attend and speak at our December business meeting. Let us all try to be present and greet him.

The children's Christmas party will be held December 12. Have breakfast with Santa. There will be two sittings for breakfast: 8:30AM and 10:30AM. There is a charge of \$4.00 for adults, however when you attend, you receive your money back. Bring your children and grandchildren. For more information and reservations call Brother Pete Kozak, 410-638-6106.

A thank you goes out to all who contributed to the Thanksgiving food baskets and all those who

volunteered their time distributing, etc. May God reward you for all your efforts.

The Ladies Auxiliary is holding their Christmas party on December 6. Tickets are \$28 per person. For more information call Barbara, 410-529-7114.

The Ladies Auxiliary fundraiser is set for Monday, December 14. Let us all support them.

Brother Victor Ferrara is chairing the New Year's Eve party. Let us all give Victor our support and attend. Please bring your friends. Cost is \$40 per person. Please call Victor, 410-569-4171 for more information.

For our new members and their sponsors here is a list of the degrees taking part in December:

1st Degree

- Dec 1: 7:30PM Corpus Christi Council, Edgewood.
- Dec 9: 8:00PM Cardinal Gibbons, Fullerton
- Dec 21: 8:00PM Father Maurice J. Wolfe, Abingdon

2nd Degree

- Dec 2: 8:00PM Patapsco Council, Catonsville

3rd Degree

- Dec 11: 7:30PM Havre de Grace Council, Havre de Grace

Remember: Candidates must arrive 30 minutes prior to all degrees.

Barbara and I would like to wish all of you and your family a Merry and Blessed Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

Praise be Jesus Christ,
Edward Staniewicz, Grand Knight (410) 529-7114

Fraternal Benefits

Insurance Check-Up for 2010

Can you believe it will soon be 2010? I hope that 2009 was a healthy, prosperous year for you and your family. It's said that time flies, and the older we get, the more that statement seems true. As we review the past year and prepare to welcome a new one, we wonder where the times goes.

If you're like most people, you'll make some resolutions for 2010. If I may, I'd like to make two suggestions regarding your resolutions. First, write them down. A resolution is really a goal for the year and until you commit a goal to writing, it's nothing more than a wish. Writing a resolution down is the first step towards achieving it. Whether your goal is to lose weight, contribute more time and money to charity, read more or watch less TV, you're more likely to accomplish it if you write it down.

Second, schedule some time to visit with me, your professional Knights of Columbus insurance agent. The "insurance check-up" that I'll provide (free of charge, by the way) will quickly identify any gaps in your family's life insurance program. You'll want to fill those gaps now – not later. Unlike many other products, you need more than money to obtain life insurance. You also need good health, and no one will ring a bell warning you when your health is about to change.

Knights of Columbus life insurance offers something precious few other financial products can – guarantee. As long as you pay your premiums, the policy proceeds will be there for your beneficiaries should something happen to you. We call that peace of mind, and that's (as they say in the credit card commercials) priceless.

Fraternally,
Edward A. O'Keefe, CLU, ChFC, CASL
Chartered Financial Consultant
edward.okeefe@kofc.org (410) 569-6141

Council Activities

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: Our Chaplain, Fr. Edward Hemler; Frank DiAngelo; Dave Custer; Mike Fay; Raymond Horney; Peter Kozak and his wife, Charlotte; Al Kramer; Ross Liberati, who is recovering from triple by-pass open heart surgery; Paul Manager; Robert Michels; Vernon West; Bill Wilhelm; Gene Stallings and Bernie Sporney.

Ladies: Olga Barkkume; Betty Bourgeois; Georgia Classon; Jean DiAngelo; Kitty DiDio; Owena

Liberati; Pat Lijewski; Marguerite Ward; and Martha West.

Family Members and Friends: LuAnne Belmonte's mother, Dorothy Dimler; Tom Ellis, son-in-law of Gene Stallings; Jean Potter, wife of Joseph Potter; John Spampinato, brother-in-law of Francis Stallings; and John Wills, grandson of Betty Bourgeois.

Deceased Members, Ladies, Family Members and Friends: Please remember all of our deceased Brothers, Ladies, Family Members and Friends this month at our Memorial Mass on November 17, 2009. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the Mercy of God, rest in peace.

If you know of anyone who is in need of our prayers, please get in touch with me!

"Gratia et pax Spiritus Sancti sint semper nobiscum"

Victor V. Ferrara (410) 569-4171

Pot of Gold

Each month at the Business Meeting, the Council conducts a "Pot of Gold" drawing. All that is required is your attendance. The prizes range from \$5.00 to \$50.00. After there is a winner, the prize starts at \$5.00 and each month that a name is drawn and the winner is not in attendance, \$5.00 is added to the kitty until it reaches the maximum prize of \$50.00. You must be in attendance to win. See you at the next meeting! Due to the First Degree and a meeting in the Columbus Room, we were unable to have a drawing at the November meeting. Sorry! The drawing at the December meeting will be worth \$20.00.

Investment Club

Most of the tickets have either been distributed or mailed out. If you receive tickets and can not either purchase or sell them, please return them to me and I will try to sell them. Please mail checks payable to Bel Air Council #4714. Remember, the more tickets we sell; the more we help the council.

Ray Caralle, PGN

1087 Main Street
New Park, Pa. 17352

Music and Comedy Stage Show

Saturday, March 20, 2010 Music & Comedy Stage Show at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Forest Hill. Music Comedy Legends Show featuring Billy Finch.

He has performed in TV and radio ads featuring his many "celebrity voices". He has performed at the Riviera in Las Vegas, Wolf Trap, The Kennedy Center, and for three Presidents at the White House. Billy's stage show celebrates, Elvis, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Nat King Cole, Ray Charles, Louie Armstrong, and Johnny Cash. The Washington Post describes Billy's show as "Musical, Hilarious and Family Friendly". He is an entertainer for all ages. <http://www.billyfinch.com>. Show and dinner. Details will be provided later. Mark your Calendar!! To RSVP or more info, contact John Knapstein, 410-692-9823, jdk92048@aol.com

Community Activities

Perry Point Program

Following are a few photos taken at our last Ladies meeting on past Tue - 10 Nov. November is our month to honor the Veterans at Perry Point. Vernon West is our representative to take collected items and to buy appropriate items with the money that is donated to him by the Ladies. He takes items donated and the "fixings" of party (cake, ice cream, etc.) to the hospital there and the Veterans are so happy and appreciative for all he does. Vernon and his volunteers have been doing this for several years and we applaud their efforts.

Jean Monahan





problem - their Parish is in the midst of construction work in their Parish Hall. This is a good example of our Knights reaching out to help others.

Because there will be so many more children, we will serve breakfast in two shifts: 8:30 and 10:30 on Saturday, December 12th.

In order to ensure that we have enough pancakes and other goodies, we need an accurate count of those attending. Everyone (both adults and children) will need a ticket to get in. Children's tickets are free; adults are \$4.00 each (but your four bucks will be refunded when you show up at the breakfast. (We are doing this to cut down on no shows and wasted food!) To reserve your tickets or for more information, please call Pete or Charlotte Kozak at 410-638-6106.

Pete once again has a direct line to the North Pole and will coordinate directly with Santa.

Regards,
Pete Kozak (aka Santa)

Knights Ladies

Ladies,

Can you believe the holidays are just around the corner already? Reminders are every where. And here is one; the Knights Ladies will be celebrating their Annual Christmas Party on Sunday December 6 at the Council. Start the holiday season off right by joining us for a catered dinner, singing and a visit from a special guest. For information and reservations please call Barbara Staniewicz on 410-529-7114. All Knights and their Ladies are welcome. By the way the cost will be \$28 per person.

Our November meeting was on the 10th and we celebrated the Perry Point Veterans Appreciation Day. There were sweat pants and shirts, personal products in boxes to thank those that served our country and us. Special thanks go out to Martha and Vern West for using their time and talents in making our military feel not forgotten.

We have received a special request from Mary Jane Zarachowicz for desserts for the First Friday Seniors luncheon on Dec 4th. Our Council will be providing the luncheon and the desserts would help in making this a special event. If you can help, please contact

Youth Activities

St. Margaret Elementary School, St. Mary Magdalene Middle School, and St. Mark's CCD have all received their school supplies from Bel Air Council #4714 KofC. We have also invited the three schools to participate in the "Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest" with a deadline of December 4, the "Free Throw Championship" with a deadline of January 31, and the "Substance Abuse Poster Contest" with a deadline in March.

John Welsh, Youth Activities Chairman

Family Activities

Children's Christmas Party

This year, the Bel Air Knights of Columbus are combining their annual Children's Christmas Party with the St. Ignatius Parish Holy Name Society "Breakfast with Santa."

The event will be held in our Hall. In the spirit of the Season, we are helping St. Ignatius with a logistical

Mary Jane on 410-638-9864. We need everyone's help this year on December 14th to make the Ladies Annual Bob Evans fundraiser a success. This is our major fundraiser and with its success we will be able to continue all of our efforts to support our charitable giving. After all that turkey you just may want to try something else and have someone else clean up the mess. Don't forget to bring the kids Santa will be there with gifts.

As I was sitting around planning my menu for Thanksgiving dinner I stopped to think of what the day means to me. At first I thought of all of the cleaning, cooking, serving then cleaning again and felt a little down. Boy have I forgotten the true meaning of the holiday. Webster dictionary defines Thanksgiving Day as "a day appointed for giving thanks for divine goodness". Then after some pondering of what the real meaning is to me I recalled that I will be singing at St. Margaret's Thanksgiving Day Mass in the morning and Terry will be serving the hungry at Our Dailey Bread, now that is giving thanks for divine goodness. Take a moment to think of all of the blessings that have been bestowed on all of us and thank God for making all of us so very Blessed. Terry and I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Upcoming events:

- 12/6 Ladies Christmas Party
- 12/14 Bob Evans Fundraiser
- 2/13 Mardi Gras
- 7/14 Sight N-Sound "Joseph"

Birthdays

- 12/8 Georgia Classon
- 12/13 Diane Custer
- 12/15 Doris Harrison
- 11/18 Natalie Boyd
- 11/22 Anna Marie McMillian
- 11/30 Olda Barkkume

Words of Wisdom--"*I know God will not give me anything I can't handle. I just wish that He didn't trust me so much*". Mother Teresa

I hope to see all of you soon.

Pat Lijewski, Knights Ladies Auxiliary President

Holiday Mail for Heroes is back!

In this season of hope and giving the American Red Cross and Pitney Bowes, Inc. have joined forces to invite Americans to "send a touch of home" to United States service members and veterans across the country and abroad. In its third year, the Holiday Mail for Heroes program is an opportunity to share joy and thanks with our service members throughout the holiday season by way of a greeting card.

How Holiday Mail works:

They have established an extensive process to ensure all cards sent to our service members are safe and arrive in time for the holidays. Holiday cards will be collected through a unique P.O. Box address from Monday, November 2 through Monday, December 7*.

First, cards from across the nation must be sent to this address:

Holiday Mail for Heroes
P.O. Box 5456
Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456

Every card received will be screened for hazardous materials by Pitney Bowes and distributed to participating Red Cross chapters nationwide. Once the cards arrive at the Red Cross chapters, they are sorted and reviewed by volunteers who then distribute them to service members, their families and veterans in communities across the country.

Please don't forget to follow these guidelines while preparing your holiday greetings!

Do...

- * Sign all cards
- * Entitle cards "Dear Service Member, Family or Veteran"
- * Limit cards to 15 per person or 50 for school class or business group
- * Bundle groups of cards in single, large envelopes

Don't...

- * Send letters
- * Include personal information such as home or email addresses
- * Use glitter – excessive amounts can aggravate health issues of wounded recipients
- * Include inserts of any kind as they must be removed in the screening process

Bel Air Knights Ladies

Annual Christmas Bob Evans Fundraiser

At the Bel Air Bob Evans

14 Bel Air South Pkwy.



Monday December 14, 2009 4-9:00PM

Come have dinner with us and help support our charitable giving to organizations as Birthright, Anna's House, Sparrows House and others.

Baskets of Bob Evans products will be raffled off to



further support our efforts.



Santa will be visiting from 4-8PM



For additional information please contact:

Pat Lijewski on 410-879-5872



Ring in the New Year with the

**Bel Air Knights of Columbus #4714
23 Newport Dr. Forest Hill, Md. 21050 410-893-6442**



12/31/09

8PM-1AM



Buffet dinner catered by Falcon Caterers

**Open Bar
Champagne at Mid-Night**



Music by DJ Barry Hart



Cost \$40

**For information and reservations please contact
Vic Ferrara 410-569-4171**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 Bel Air Council No. 4714
 P.O. Box 13, Bel Air, MD 21014-0013

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 Forest Hill, MD 21050-9998

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