



The Explorer



The Monthly Newsletter of Fr.A. Leo Abendschoen Council 11615

Overlea/Rosedale, MD

Knights of Columbus

April 2017

Grand Knight's Message

Brothers all, again we had a successful Bingo and great help! There is no other way to say it, other than thanks everyone for a great job.



During the next several months we have the Breakfast with the Easter bunny and another bingo, oh by the way they are both the same day. Again, we need all the help we can get. It will be an all-day work out as we will go right into the bingo from the Breakfast with the Easter bunny. It will be stretching us very thin, so please do your best to help.

Once again many thanks to all and a special thanks to the wives for helping and allowing us to spend this time with the Knights of Columbus.

My God Bless all of you and your families.

Vivat Jesus,

John Gallup

Grand Knight

Assistant Chaplain's Message

Holy Oil is one of the array of rich symbols we have in our Christian tradition. Three types of Holy Oils are used for different purposes. There is the Oil of Catechumens, which is used, in the Baptismal ceremony before the one to be baptized is taken to the font of life to be reborn. The Oil of the Sick, most often used by priests, imparts God's blessing to the one who is sick so that they may be freed from pain and illness and made well again in body, mind and soul. And lastly, there is Sacred Chrism, a sweet, aromatic



mixture of oil and balsam used to anoint priests and bishops at their ordination; those just confirmed or baptized; and in the consecration of altars and churches. In the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the oils are blessed or consecrated by the Archbishop at the Chrism mass on Monday evening of Holy Week at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen. Each parish takes their empty oil containers to the Cathedral that evening to have them filled with the newly blessed or consecrated oils. Burning or burial in the ground disposes of the remains of the oil from the past year. The new oils are received back in church on Holy Thursday prior to the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. The oils are presented by name and purpose, and then brought forward in procession to the repository called an ambry.

The Chrism Mass is one of the most joyful and intense liturgies of the year in my experience as a Deacon over the past twenty-five years. I also feel the faith and vitality of the diocesan Church as so many laity and religious fill the cathedral to pray for our priests as they renew their priestly promises at the Chrism Mass. If you have not had the opportunity to participate in a Chrism Mass in the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, I urge you to do so.

Have a Blessed and Joyous Easter,
Deacon Frank

God bless you,
Deacon Frank

Upcoming Meetings

Officer's Meeting – The April Officer's meeting will take place on Monday, April 3rd at 6:30 pm in the parish Board Room.

General Meetings – Mondays, April 10th & 24th at 7:00 pm in the Annunciation Parish Hall.

Upcoming Ceremonials

Admissions Degree

April 17th – Fr. Maurice Wolfe Council– Abingdon

April 19th – Patapsco Council - Catonsville

Formation Degree

April 3rd – Bel Air Council – Forest Hill

Knighthood Degree

April 22 – Fr. Robert Zylla Council - Emmitsburg

In Memoriam

William Cardinal Keeler

Cardinal Keeler served as the 14th Metropolitan Archbishop of Baltimore from May 23, 1989 until he reached the mandatory retirement age of 76 in 2007. Keeler was created Cardinal-Priest of Santa Maria degli Angeli e dei Martiri by Pope John Paul II on November 26, 1994. He was appointed to the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity in 1994 and to the Congregation for the Oriental Churches in November 1994. From 1998 to 2001 and again from late 2003 to 2006, he served as Chair for the Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

The cardinal was also responsible for the restoration of Baltimore's Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, America's first cathedral. The project cost about \$32 million, which were raised entirely from private donations and not from the Archdiocese's treasury, and lasted from 2004 until 2006.

May he rest in peace.

Melvin Bandell

Melvin was a Charter Member of our council and spent many hours in active service to the many events and activities that were conducted by the Knights of Columbus, and especially at our council level with the Breakfast with Santa, Tootsie Roll Drive, and the establishment of our monthly Cash Bingo. Melvin passed onto his Eternal Reward in the late hours of March 2, 2017.

May he rest in peace.

Sick & Shut-In

Please remember Brothers Frederick Hogarth, Robert Priller, Bob Rogers, John Vaeth, Ed Yeager, and sisters Charlotte Schaum and Margaret Wyatt in your prayers.

If you know of any other brother or sister who is sick or a shut-in, please notify Walt Wankowski at 410-866-6546 or wwanko@comcast.net

A Brother in Need

John Vaeth, a Past Grand Knight of our council is experiencing dementia and is interested in having visitors at his home in Gardenville. If you know John and have some time to spare, perhaps a visit from a familiar face would be in order. John lives at 5611 Gardenville Ave in Overlea and can be reached at 410-488-7591 or 410-916-9414.

Wish You Were Here!

Our attendance prize winner for the February 27th meeting was Paul Castagna and he donated his winnings to the Seminarian Fund. Our Attendance Prize winner for the March 13th meeting would have been John Moran, and our Attendance Prize winner for the March 27th meeting was Anthony Ciampaglia. If you are not sick or a shut-in, why not try making a meeting once in a while? It could prove profitable.

The Explorer
 Published monthly by the
Fr. A. Leo Abendschoen Council # 11615
 of the
Knights Of Columbus
 Meeting on the 2nd and 4th Monday
 at 7:00 pm at the
Church of the Annunciation
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Chaplain:
Assistant Chaplain: Rev. Mr. Frank Zeiler

Happy Times

The following members of our Council family are celebrating Birthdays in April:

- 1 - Charlotte Schaum
- 3 - Terry W. Schreiber, Jr.
- 8 - Paul J. Frey
- 13 - Gilbert M. Leppert, Jr.
- 20 - Adam T. Kolb
- 24 - John A. Geroso & Michael J. Thomas

Anniversaries

- 5 - Charles & Deborah Peppersack
- 29 - Robert & Joan Gresdo

Have Happy Times you would like to see published? Weddings, Baptisms, Births, Graduations, Promotions, etc? See a birthday or anniversary that's incorrect or not announced? Send them to Walt at wwanko@comcast.net

1st Degree Team

We are looking for alternate team members for our 1st Degree team. People who can fill in for someone when they are ill or cannot attend because of other commitments. These include the six speaking parts and three non-speaking parts.

If you would like to be part of our 1st Degree team, contact Walt Wankowski at 410-866-6546, and we will get your training started.

BINGO

Our next Monthly Cash Bingo will be held on **Saturday, April 1st at 6:00 pm** in the Annunciation parish hall. The \$500 Jackpot will be played for 53 numbers or less.

As always, we could use additional help both in the Kitchen and on the floor. **We know that we will be short-handed by at least one guy at the April Bingo, so we sure could use some extra help.**

Everyone working inside the kitchen should try to report by 4:00 pm. Everyone else needs to report by 5:00 pm or as close to it as possible.

B	I	N	G	O
7	25	44	57	62
15	22	40	50	70
11	30	FREE SPACE	46	74
2	28	37	55	68
10	27	39	59	75

Membership

Do you find yourself feeling tired after working at one of our events? Do you find yourself saying that it sure would be easier if we had a little more help? Well, the only way we get more help is if YOU take it upon yourself to go out and recruit new members. Yes, after a while this begins to sound like a broken record, or a CD with a blemish on it. We need to keep trying to grow this Council. We each need to ask ONE guy to join the Knights. If we can grow this council, we can do great things. Keep in mind that any prospective member doesn't have to belong to any particular parish. The only requirement is that he be a practical Catholic male, 18 years of age or older. If you need a Form 100, contact Walt Wankowski at 410-866-6546.

Church Programs

Vocation Support Program

Keep in mind that our Council is continuously collecting money for this purpose. If you'd like to contribute to the cause, you can place your donations into the transparent acrylic boxes that sit near the doors of Annunciation Church, or contributions can also be sent directly to Walt Wankowski, 5211 McFaul Road, Baltimore, MD 21206. Checks should be made payable to "Knights of Columbus 11615."



Pro-Life Programs

Pro-Life Rosary

All members are invited to join in on the monthly Rosary for Life which is held on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 9:00 am at the Beltway Plaza Shopping Center, 7702 Belair Road in Fullerton. This shopping center houses an abortion clinic. The next date for this activity will be Saturday, April 15th. We hope that we will have good weather and we hope that more of you will consider joining in.



Community Programs

A Knight with the Birds

Our annual Knight with the Birds will be held on **Friday, May 19th at 7:05 pm** at Oriole Park at Camden Yards when the Orioles take on the Toronto Blue Jays. There will also



be a Fireworks display after the game.



HOWEVER, things will be quite different and

more comfortable than in previous years. We have reserved 100 Upper Box Seats in Section 352, right above third base. So for the first time since we started doing this over ten years ago, when you come out of the tunnel, you will be going **DOWN** instead of **UP**. Closer to the field, closer to the Restrooms, closer to the Concession stands, and many fewer steps to walk to get to your seat and back.

Tickets are \$27 each and can be purchased in the Annunciation Parish Hall after all weekend masses until April 23rd, or call Walt at 410-866-6546.

Tickets MUST be purchased by April 26th.

4th Degree News

The next meeting of the Archbishop Francis P. Keough Assembly will held on Tuesday, April 11th at 8:00 pm at Columbus Gardens. Hospitality will begin at 7:00 pm.



The Spring Raffle which was supposed to be held on March 14th was postponed by the appearance of Winter Storm Stella. It was instead held on Friday, March 24th at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Council. Winners have been notified.

WE NEED YOU !

And as always, we are looking for 4th Degree members to join the Color Corps. The Color Corps are the Knights who dress up in tuxedo, cape, chapeaux and sword and take part in many events and liturgies throughout the State, throughout the year. Any 4th Degree member who would like to join the Color Corps should contact Walt at 410-866-6546.

Chapter News

There will be no Chapter meeting on April 13th because it is Holy Thursday. Have a Blessed Easter!

District Message

The weather seems to be warming up, the days are getting longer, Day light savings time is on, and spring is finally here. Soon we will see the buds of new life risking up anew.

We are also in the last quarter of our first fraternal year together. These past 9 months have not been without challenges. Not only has Fr Justin retired, but a new chaplain doesn't seem to be forthcoming. You have also lost a parish to another council for both service and recruiting purposes. Even the school that you worked so well with is being folded into another one.

It seems all is lost, but we must look to the positive and maybe start venturing outside the box. Just maybe we have to take off the jacket of our comfort zone. Do I have the answers? No, I don't. But I do think it might be time for us (the Knights of Columbus) to find ways to get our story out. Our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson is always reminding us that it is our duty as Catholics to offer the fraternalism of the Knights of Columbus to all Catholic Gentlemen. Our State Deputy Stephen Cohen constantly refers to us as Advocates of the Lord.

Worthy Brother Knights – Lets make this one last push to increase our ranks (especially with young men), and fulfil our mission to serve our parish and our community with our abilities to improve the lot for all. Vivat Jesus!

Vivat Jesus,

Ron Koelbel DD28

Insurance News

The Knights of Columbus Guarantees

These days, in the midst of a volatile market and an unsettled economy, there's too much left to chance. In an ideal world, every product would come with clear-cut guarantees that would put you at ease and eliminate the guesswork, or at least some of it. The reality is that guarantees are hard to come by. But not for the Knights of Columbus. Here are eight guarantees from the Knights of Columbus that you and your family can count on when you do business with the Knights.

We guarantee the cash value in your whole life insurance.

The beauty of whole life — or permanent — insurance is that it is truly permanent. It's a way to insure your life for life. That's true not only of the death benefit but also of the cash value, which is guaranteed provided that you continue to pay premiums according to the contract.

We guarantee the rates on your level term insurance.

Our level term policies are predictable. Your rates as laid out in your contract will not change. No surprises — just reliable, affordable coverage.

We guarantee a minimum interest rate on your retirement annuity.

Your retirement is not something worth leaving up to chance. A Knights of Columbus annuity can help to remove some of the uncertainty. Your contract includes a guaranteed interest rate that you will continue to earn for the life of the contract. The actual rate you earn may be greater than that — and often is — but it will never be lower.

We guarantee the principal on your retirement annuity.

Not only will the rate on your Knights of Columbus retirement annuity never fall below your guaranteed minimum, the principal in your Knights of Columbus annuity will never decrease, guaranteed. If you put \$10,000 into your annuity, the value in your account — before you begin to withdraw funds — will never drop below \$10,000. If you put

\$20,000 in, it will never drop below \$20,000. Quite simply, unless you execute an early surrender or withdrawal, you will never lose money on a Knights of Columbus annuity.

We guarantee an income stream for life.

With a properly structured Knights of Columbus annuity, you can be assured of a guaranteed income stream for as long as you live. Whether you live 5 years, 15 years or 25 years into retirement, by working with your Knights of Columbus field agent, you can be assured that you will have guaranteed income during each of those years.

We guarantee high-quality, professional services.

We're not just an insurance company — we're an insurance company for brother Knights, run by brother Knights. We pride ourselves on the quality of service that we provide to members and their families. Our dedicated, full-time professional agents will be there for you and your family whenever you call on them.

We guarantee not to purchase "junk" bonds or derivatives.

We do not take our brother Knights' financial futures lightly. We invest carefully and make business decisions motivated not by profit or greed, but by service and commitment. Our safety, security and fiscal responsibility are the principle reasons why we have earned A.M. Best's highest financial strength rating, A++ (Superior), for 41 consecutive years.

We guarantee not to invest in companies that deal in abortions, contraception, human cloning, embryonic stem cell research, for-profit health care that pays for any of the aforementioned, and pornography.

The Knights of Columbus is Catholic both professionally and fraternally. Our faith informs our work at every level, including the evaluation of each investment we make. Father McGivney wouldn't have wanted it any other way. The Knights of Columbus should be different than all other insurance companies — and we are. We are looking out for you in a way that no other company can because we're your brothers.

So join the hundreds of thousands of brother Knights who have chosen to help protect their future with the Knights of Columbus. Talk to your agent and see what options are available to you and your family. His name is Norman "Chuck" Teal and you can reach him at 443-676-3892.

State Council News

Yahoo!

The Maryland State Council sponsors a communication vehicle at Yahoo.com. Any Knight who has a computer, can sign up for it and it costs nothing. Among the items regularly passed on via the Yahoo site are notifications of illness and deceased members, upcoming activities at the local, State, and Supreme Level, access to information on State Programs, notifications of upcoming degree ceremonials, etc. To sign up for this service, simply go to <http://www.kofc-md.org/state1415/yahoo.asp> and then follow the instructions.

119th Annual Maryland State Convention

The 119th Annual Convention of the Maryland State Council, Knights of Columbus, will be held at the Princess Royale Oceanfront Resort, Ocean City, Maryland, Maryland, May 5, 6 & 7, 2017. Note that you MUST register for the Convention BEFORE you will be able to register for your hotel room. Both registrations must be made online at <https://www.mdkocconvention.org/>

Supreme Council News

A week prior to the feast of the Annunciation, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson attended the blessing of a mobile ultrasound unit donated to A Woman's Haven, a pro-life pregnancy center in San Antonio. Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller of San Antonio blessed the mobile ultrasound unit. Attending the ceremony with Supreme Knight Anderson were Supreme Director Javier Martinez, Texas State Deputy Douglas Oldmixon, General Agent Steve Michlik of the Michlik Agency and San Antonio Diocesan Deputy Derek Rabey.

The donation was arranged by St. Mark the Evangelist Council 7613 in San Antonio, alongside the fundraising efforts of Poth Council 2618, New Braunfels Council 4183, St. Joseph's at Honey Creek Council 8521 and St. Rose of Lima Council 11599. Meanwhile, encouraged by this program, A Woman's Haven raised the money to purchase a Save the Storks mobile ultrasound van.

Eddie Perez, president of A Woman's Haven and member of Council 8521 in Bulverde, said, "Because of this mobile pregnancy center, we anticipate that the number of women we serve will grow to approximately 2,000 ... on a yearly basis."

Darlene Balenger, a nurse practitioner at A Woman's Haven, told Mr. Anderson that the new machine has already saved a life.

"She told me that the first pregnant woman to use the machine had said her mind was made up — she was going to have an abortion," Supreme Knight Anderson related. "But then she had the ultrasound, and as she watched the screen, she looked up at the nurse and said, 'I'm going to keep my baby.'" Since 2009, state and local councils have teamed up with the Supreme Council for the Order's Ultrasound Initiative, funding more than 760 ultrasound machines for pro-life pregnancy care centers throughout all 50 states, Canada, Guatemala, Jamaica and Peru. Recently, the Supreme Council also began offering funding for ultrasound machines used in mobile medical units.

The supreme knight expressed hope that the ultrasound machines will help pregnant women decide to keep their babies. "We conservatively estimate that these machines will save the lives of at least 100,000 unborn children this year alone. And these machines will go on saving lives for years to come," he said.

A Woman's Haven has been serving women experiencing crisis pregnancies since 2007. The agency is a 501c non-profit organization that will serve anyone regardless of their age, race, citizenship status or religion. To learn more about A Woman's Haven, please visit AWomansHaven.org

Knights of Columbus Gives Nearly \$2 million to Aid Syrian and Iraqi Christian Refugees

A year after the U.S. House of Representatives and State Department declared that ISIS was committing genocide against Christians and other religious minorities, the Knights of Columbus is continuing its humanitarian support for persecuted Christian communities in the region by contributing nearly \$2 million in new assistance.

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson announced the organization's \$1.9 million in new assistance, noting: "A year ago, our country declared with one voice that genocide was occurring to Christians and other religious minority communities, but words are not enough." He added: "Those targeted for genocide continue to need our assistance, especially since many have received no funding from the U.S. government or from the United Nations. The new administration should rectify the policies it found in place, and stop the *de facto* discrimination that is continuing to endanger these communities targeted by ISIS for genocide."

The Knights of Columbus donation includes support for:

- Medical clinics in Iraq
 - Easter food baskets for displaced Christians under the care of the Archdiocese of Erbil
 - General relief for the Christians of Aleppo, Syria, via the city's Melkite Archdiocese
 - Support for the Christian refugee relief programs of the Syriac Catholic patriarch

The K of C has raised more than \$12 million for Christian refugee relief since 2014.

The Knights also spearheaded the campaign that led to last year's March 17 genocide declaration by the State Department. As part of the effort, the organization and its partners prepared a nearly 300-page report on the genocide being carried out against Christians by ISIS and other extremist groups. The State Department's declaration was only the second instance in which the U.S. government declared an ongoing situation to be genocide.

Supreme Knight Anderson has said 2017 may be "the decisive year in determining whether many Christian communities throughout the Middle East will continue to exist," and has called for aid from the U.S. government and the international community. He has also urged prayer for "those who are being persecuted and killed for their faith.."

Donations to support Christian refugees can be made at www.christiansatrisk.org and are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc. is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a charitable organization under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, and 100 percent of all donations will be used to assist Christians and other religious minorities, primarily from Iraq and Syria.

Knights Support Church Bombing Victims

The Knights donated \$75,000 to support the families of the victims of the Dec. 11 church bombing in Cairo.

Given the ongoing needs of those affected by the bombing of St Peter's Coptic Orthodox Church in Cairo on December 11, 2016, which claimed the lives of 29 people, mostly women and children, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council has donated \$75,000 to support the families of victims.

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson spoke to Coptic Orthodox Bishop Anba Angaelos of the United Kingdom shortly after the bombing to arrange support for the families and communities affected by the tragic event.

Articles for the May edition of *The Explorer* must be received by Monday, April 24th.

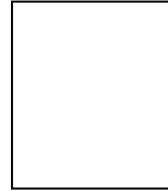
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Or by email to: wwanko@comcast.net



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Calendar Reminders

- April 1 – Monthly Cash Bingo – 6:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall
- April 3 - Council Officer’s Meeting – 6:30 pm – Annunciation Board Room
- April 9 - 15 – Holy Week
- April 10 - Council General Business Meeting – 7:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall
- April 11 - 4th Degree Assembly Meeting - 7:00 pm – Columbus Gardens
- April 15 - Pro-Life Rosary – 9:00 am – Beltway Plaza Shopping Center, Fullerton
- April 24 - Council General Business Meeting – 7:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall
- April 26 – Last day to purchase tickets for “A Knight with the Birds.”