



The Explorer



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

Overlea/Rosedale, MD

Knights of Columbus

April 2018

Grand Knight's Message

Brothers,

The Laetare Sunday breakfast and egg hunt was cancelled due to very low registration of parishioners. The Bunny will still be visiting our parish on Easter Sunday after the 11 am mass. Children are welcome to have their pictures taken with the Bunny. He has some surprises for all who attend, so bring your cameras and have some fun. No reservations are required.



On Sat. April 21, 2018 the Knights of Columbus was planning a Spaghetti Dinner and Bingo to benefit the Church of the Annunciation Soccer Program. It was decided that the jump to Maryland Majors is a little too ambitious for the team at this time. More details on the team's future will be coming later. The dinner and bingo will go on as scheduled. It will be a fund raiser for the parish instead of the Bull and Oyster Roast usually held in the fall. This year we had to move the date of the roast because of the events in conjunction with the 50th anniversary celebration. Too many events occurring at one time. This will still continue the support the Knights have always given to the parish.

District Fraternal Benefits Night is scheduled for April 26, 2018 at St. Leo the Great Church Hall, 227 South Exeter Street, Baltimore MD. 21202. Along with K of C insurance products Mr. Scott F. Dixon, Esq will answer questions concerning Wills, Trusts and Estate planning.

Emrick Spacek

Grand Knight

**SPECIAL MEETING TIME ON APRIL 9TH.
SEE PAGE 2.**

Assistant Chaplain's Message

Brothers,

Thoughts about the increasing rise of crime and unrest in our nation and communities and perhaps a serious illness in your family, can sometimes lead us to believe there is not much hope for a better future. God knew that we might experience times of hopelessness so He kept his hand in the world and in our lives. We know from the Gospels that Jesus suffered, died and rose from the dead because of His great love for us. His wish is that our hearts should not be troubled.



Our Catholic faith teaches us that Easter is a time for the celebration of Hope. Easter tells us about all the things we can place our hope in: forgiveness, freedom from past hurts, and the power of the Holy Spirit to help us. Best of all, Jesus promised to prepare a place for each of us in His Father's house and then He will come to take us with Him. Read John's Gospel where Jesus says to His disciples and us, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me."

When you sit before the crucifix, let your mind reveal to you all the love that Jesus has for you. Remember those times when prayers to Jesus overcame seemingly hopeless situations for you. Study Jesus' outstretched arms, which seem to be beckoning you to become enfolded in His loving embrace.

Have a Holy and Joyous Easter Season,

God bless you,

Deacon Frank

Upcoming Meetings

Officer’s Meeting – Monday, April 2nd at 6:30 pm in the Annunciation parish Board Room.

General Meetings – Mondays, April 9th and 23rd. The General Meeting on April 9th will begin at approximately 7:30 pm. Monday, April 9th we will be celebrating the Feast of the Annunciation with a special mass at 6:30 pm in the church. The meeting will begin immediately following the mass. THERE WILL BE NO HOSPITALITY THAT EVENING.

The April 23rd General meeting will begin at 7:00 pm in the Annunciation Parish Hall. Hospitality begins BEFORE the meeting at 6:15 pm.

Upcoming Degree Ceremonials

Admissions (1st) Degree

- April 4th - Father O’Neill, Lutherville
- April 11st – Cardinal Gibbons, Baltimore
- April 18th – Patapsco, Catonsville

Formation (2nd) Degree

April 19th – Resurrection, Ellicott City

Knighthood (3rd) Degree

April 20th – Patuxent, Laurel

Anyone wishing to take any degree must contact Financial Secretary Walt Wankowski so that the proper paperwork can be prepared.

Wish You Were Here!

Did you know you can win money just for showing up at a meeting? Every member corresponds to a number on the roster and if your number comes up, you win! Our Attendance Prize winner for the February 26th meeting would have been Gregory Brotzman. The winner for the March 12th meeting would have been John Conrad. And the winner for the March 26th meeting would have been Robert Cole. If you are not sick or a shut-in, why not try making a meeting once in a while? It could prove profitable.

Sick & Shut-In

Please remember Brothers Robert Priller and Ed Yeager, and sisters Joan Gresdo, Charlotte Schaum and Margaret Wyatt in your prayers. If you know of any Brother or Sister who is in need of our prayers, please contact Walt at 410-866-6546 or wwanko@comcast.net.

Please Remember for When the Time Comes

Whenever a Knight passes on to his Eternal Reward, he is eligible for both a Rosary Call and an Honor Guard. His wife is also eligible for a Rosary call. But, the family of the deceased must request it. Please do not count on the church, the funeral director or anyone reading the newspaper to notify the council. The easiest way to obtain both the Council Rosary Call and/or an Honor Guard is to contact the Grand Knight of the Council. He can relay the request for the Honor Guard to the Navigator of the Assembly.

And please, if you would like to have a Rosary Call and or an Honor Guard at your viewing, please make sure your family members are aware of this so they can give the Grand Knight a call.

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
5212 McCormick Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21206

Grand Knight: Emrick Spacek 410-687-0529
elspacek@comcast.net

Editor: Walt Wankowski 410-866-6546
 Email: wwanko@comcast.net

Chaplain:
Assistant Chaplain: Rev. Mr. Frank Zeiler

1st Degree Team

We are looking for alternate team members for our 1st Degree team. 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.

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

BINGO

Our next Monthly Cash Bingo will be held on **Saturday, April 7th at 6:00 pm** in the Annunciation parish hall. The \$500 Jackpot will be played for 58 numbers or less. This is our most important source of regular income and has been for the last 11 years.

B	I	N	G	O
4	26	43	59	70
9	30	41	55	68
7	23	32	50	63
8	20	31	60	75
13	18	34	52	69

The profits enable us to conduct many of our programs. As always, we could use additional help both in the Kitchen and on the floor. No experience is necessary. We will show you what to do.

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. The Bingo starts at 6 pm and we are usually finished by 9:15 pm. So everyone gets home at a reasonable hour.

We hope you will find the time to pitch in and help.

Membership

Well, April is here and at least we do have one more new man who has signed up to be a member. But we still have to get him to his Admissions Degree. Let's try to keep up the momentum. Talk to guys in church, at work, in your community, talk to their wives! We need to grow this council. If we do, 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. Be ready to talk about the programs we get involved in, the contests we run for youth, the things we do for the parish, the things we do in the community, etc. And have a Form 100 and a pen ready when you do.

And keep in mind that it's not enough to get them to fillout and sign the Form 100; we also need to get them to take their 1st Degree.

Church Programs

Spaghetti Dinner & Cash Bingo

Due to the uncertain future for the Annunciation Soccer Team, the Spaghetti Dinner and Bingo that had been scheduled to raise funding for the team has been re-directed to raise money for the Church. Since there will be no Bull &



Oyster Roast this Fall to benefit the Church because of its close proximity on the calendar to the 50th Anniversary Celebration Banquet, the proceeds from the Spaghetti Dinner & Bingo will benefit the church.

A new flyer is attached to this email, but the only change is the beneficiary of the proceeds.

Volunteers are needed to make this work. If you can help us contact Jason at 410-687-2738 or jkarolkowski@bcps.org.

Religious & Seminarian Vocation Program

Just a reminder that our Council is continuously collecting money for those studying for the priesthood and the religious life. 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."



We generally collect enough money to award \$500 per year to five different Franciscans.

We thank you in advance for your generosity.

Pro-Life Programs

Mother's Day

Mother's Day is just a month away and once again our council will be giving all the mothers of our parish a small "Thank You" for choosing life. We will be handing out carnations after all the masses on Mother's Day weekend, May 12th and 13th. If you would like to help out please contact Adam Kolb at 443-490-2708 or kolb426@yahoo.com.

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 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 21st at 9:00 am. We hope that more of you will consider joining in.



4th Degree News

The next meeting of the Archbishop Francis P. Keough Assembly will held on Tuesday, April 10th at 8:00 pm at Columbus Gardens. This will be our Semi-Annual Raffle Drawing night and is an Open Meeting. Hospitality begins at 7:00 pm.



District Message

Holy Smokes!! Who would have expected a Nor'easter to be coming up the coast on the first day of Spring, bringing along a cold, frozen rain and snow combination. I'm sure we will soon be into warming weather and the greening of our surroundings as the earth renews itself for another season of life.

The first of April brings the season of Lent to a close with the death of Jesus on the cross and then the glorious Resurrection to remind us that this is not the end, but the beginning of life everlasting with God.

Brothers, the big event that I want to bring to everyone is our Benefits Presentation night. Thru the generosity of GK Santo Grasso of St Vincent Pallotti council, the basement hall of St Leo the Great Church, will be made available for this presentation. Speakers will be Bob Marlow of the Marlow agency (long term care), Scott Dixon Esq. (wills, estate planning) and Tom Strassner (K of C Benefits). This presentation is open to ALL who would want to attend and maybe learn something new. As there is a parking garage less than 2 blocks away on S. Exeter St. carpooling is an easy accomplishment. If you find the benefits of value and would consider joining the Knights to participate, you can now join ON LINE and do not have to make a commitment to a particular council. Anyway, come on out and see what we have to offer!

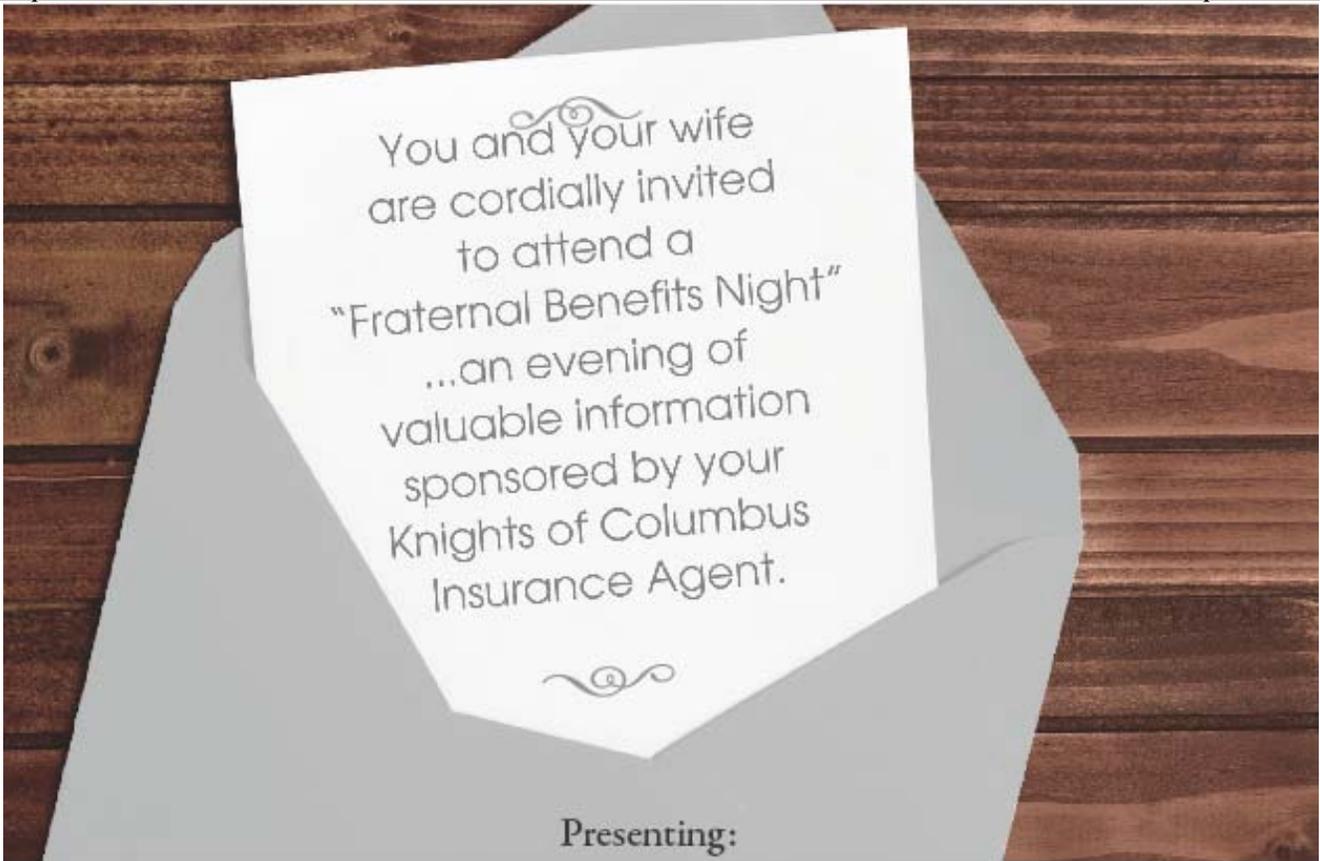
With all the blessings of the Season, I only ask that you keep all your charity work up to your promise and be of service to anyone in need. To be served, you must first serve. Be safe, watch over each other.

Vivat Jesus!

Ron Koelbel DD28

Insurance News

A Fraternal Benefits Night will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at St. Leo the Great Church Hall, 227 South Exeter Street in Baltimore's Little Italy. See the flyer on the next page for full details.



Scott F. Dixon, Esq.- Wills, Trust and Estate planning
Robert S. Marlowe, *CLU, LUTCF, FICF* - Long Term Care

Date:

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Time:

Door open at 7:00 pm

Place:

St. Leo the Great Church Hall
227 South Exeter Street, Baltimore, MD 21202

Parishioners and Prospective members are welcome. Refreshments will be served.



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

RSVP:

Thomas A. Strassner,, *FICF*
Field Agent
410-258-0308
thomas.strassner@kofc.org



LIFE INSURANCE • DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE • LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE • RETIREMENT ANNUITIES

Chapter News

The next meeting of the Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights will be held on Thursday, April 12th at 7:00 pm at the Dundalk Council , 2111 Eilers Avenue, (near Merritt Blvd & Sollers Point Road). All Knights are invited to attend.

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.

Supreme Council News

St. Joseph's humble, decisive witness speaks volumes to our culture today

As Catholic fathers, one of our main responsibilities is to pass on the faith to our children. We do this best by living the faith in an engaging way and by attending Mass with our family. But we also need to teach our kids the basics of the faith at a young age and make sure their Catholic knowledge grows as they do.

In teaching about Jesus and Mary, a summary of Gospel stories and a review of the mysteries of the rosary provide an excellent primer. What can we say about St. Joseph, the husband of Mary and adoptive father of Jesus, who has no words recorded in the Bible? In our online age in which every stray thought can be texted or tweeted, we can present Joseph as a model for our times — a man of action who goes against the tides and trends of the world.

There are five “countercultural” qualities of Joseph that can be instructive to our children, as well as to us.

Attentive. Our kids are bombarded by distracting media, yet they long for peace of heart and mind. As Pope Francis has observed, Joseph was “constantly attentive to God” and responded with courage to heavenly messengers who told him to put aside the opinion of others. St. John Paul II also said that because of his attentiveness, Joseph had the “power of making great decisions.” Our children, too, can do great things with St. Joseph at their side.



Humble. Social media, as forums for idealized personas and perfect images, are not noted for fostering humility. With a little guidance, our children can see through the online posturing and appreciate the value of honesty, the foundation of humility. Setting aside his own plans in order to follow God’s will, Joseph “lowers himself and takes this great responsibility upon his shoulders,” explains Pope Francis. St. Joseph teaches us that humility does not mean passivity. Rather, his hidden life was defined by integrity and strength.

Protective. Our kids can feel vulnerable amid what Pope Francis calls a “throwaway culture,” which does not respect the dignity of the human person — especially the unborn, the poor, the elderly, the sick and others on the periphery. In the face of harmful influences such as cyberbullying and online pornography, we should appeal to our children’s desire for protection. St. Joseph was the guardian, or *custos*, of Jesus, and he is now the patron of the

universal Church. As a father, show your children that you stand strong with Joseph.

Hardworking. Although life today is vastly different than in the time of St. Joseph, the demands of hard work are still essentially the same. “Work was the daily expression of love in the life of the family of Nazareth,” wrote St. John Paul II. While our virtual age seeks pleasure first and is quick to demean or outsource menial labor, Joseph the carpenter rolls up his sleeves and reveals the dignity of human work. He is an example of someone who knows that hard work can be its own reward.

Loving. Our world is filled with distorted images of love that can cause our children great harm and heartache. Joseph is an antidote. Love for him was not red hearts and arrows but self-giving for the good of others. He also expressed a “tenderness,” notes Pope Francis, a “strength of spirit and a capacity for concern, for compassion, for genuine openness to others, for love.” Through St. Joseph, your kids can learn the true nature of love that is rooted in his care for Mary and Jesus.

Presenting St. Joseph with these countercultural virtues, we fathers should seek to imitate him in our own lives. That will be a win for our children, our families and ourselves.

Funds will help with food, clothing, shelter and education for Christians targeted by ISIS

NEW HAVEN, Conn. – As Holy Week begins, the Knights of Columbus is transferring more than \$1 million in aid to persecuted Christians in the Middle East. The support includes \$800,000 in new financial assistance and \$250,000 as part of its ongoing commitment to rebuilding an Iraqi Christian town.

The \$800,000 brings to almost \$19 million the aid the Knights has committed to Christians and other religious minorities in the region since 2014. That total includes \$2 million committed to the rebuilding of the predominantly Christian town of Karamles on the Nineveh Plain. Karamles had been overrun by ISIS, which destroyed homes and desecrated churches before the town was liberated last year.

"As we recall the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, it is particularly timely for us to remember and support our brothers and sisters in Christ who have, in places like Iraq and Syria, endured so much persecution for their faith," said Knights of Columbus CEO Carl Anderson. "Having faced suffering and even death at the hands of ISIS, we hope that our assistance will help these communities to rise up again and rebuild for the future."

Some \$500,000 from the Knights will help support the food program run by the Catholic Archdiocese of Erbil. An additional \$300,000 will be sent to the Syriac Catholic Patriarchate to support its aid programs for the nearly 3,000 families from Iraq and Syria who have lost everything and are in need of assistance with food, clothing, shelter, and access to education and medical care.

"Our people know that without the direct support from the Knights of Columbus to Christians in the region, and without its assistance in making our case to the United States government, Christianity might already have been driven out of Iraq completely," said Chaldean Archbishop of Erbil Bashar Warda, CSsR.

Syriac Catholic Patriarch Ignatius Joseph III Younan wrote that he relied "on [the Knights'] compassion and understanding of our plight in the Middle East, particularly in Syria and Iraq."

As part of its advocacy on behalf of persecuted religious minorities in Iraq, Syria and the surrounding region, the Knights led a major campaign urging Congress and the State Department to declare ISIS' terrorism an act of genocide. To support the cause, it produced a nearly 300-page report on ISIS' atrocities against Christians that was used by the U.S. State Department to support its 2016 finding that a genocide was indeed taking place.

Articles for the May edition of *The Explorer* must be received by Monday, April 23rd.

Send all inputs to:

Walt Wankowski

5211 McFaul Road

Baltimore, MD 21206

Or by email to: wwanko@comcast.net



Fr. A. Leo Abendschoen Council 11615
Knights of Columbus
5212 McCormick Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21206



Calendar Reminders

- April 1 – Easter Sunday
- April 2 - Council Officer's Meeting – 6:30 pm – Annunciation Board Room
- April 7 - Monthly Cash Bingo – 6:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall
- April 9 - Special Mass celebrating the Feast of the Annunciation – 6:30 pm – Annunciation Church
Council General Membership Meeting – 7:30 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall
- April 10 – 4th Degree Assembly Meeting - 7:00 pm – Columbus Gardens
- April 12 - Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights – 7:00 pm – Dundalk Council
- April 21 - Pro-Life Rosary – 9:00 am – Beltway Plaza Shopping Center, Fullerton
- April 23 - Council General Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall