Grand Knight’s Message

Brothers,

As our fraternal year is coming to an end, I want to thank all of the council members for their support. Not only has everyone worked so hard on all the events that have taken place, but I appreciate all the support and cooperation of everyone working with me during a learning process after my becoming Grand Knight in February. Yes this was unexpected and a large responsibility to undertake. I could not have done it without the support of all of the members.

I would like to thank all of the officers and committee chairman for their dedication and support.

We have completed so many successful programs this year that could not have been done without your help and dedication.

A special thanks to all of the wives for allowing their husbands to give this time to the council.

Our next meeting is the election meeting. If you are interested in becoming an officer please make it known.

May God Bless the Knights of Columbus and America

Vivat Jesus

John E. Gallup

Chaplain’s Message

Editor’s Note:

Brothers,

For those of you who may not have heard, last week our Chaplain, Fr. Justin underwent some Outpatient Surgery by having a rather large kidney stone blasted apart by a laser. The procedure took a while and left Father in some significant pain. He is now recuperating and as of this writing, was back at work in the office and trying to get back into the swing of thing. Suffice to say, we felt it better not to impose upon him for an article for this issue. Just keep him in your prayers that he has a speedy recovery.

Assistant Chaplain’s Message

We frequently hear about pregnancy centers and their support for expectant mothers and women with families needing support. Recently, I was invited to become a member of the Advisory Committee at the Center For Pregnancy Concerns in Essex and my wife Darlene was invited to set up a program at the CPC for clients interested in learning to sew. Darlene was required to attend a two-hour training session along with other women who will begin volunteer work. I decided to attend the training session to become more familiar with the Center’s goals. Throughout the session, it became quite clear that the women working at the Center and the new volunteers were people who cared about the welfare of those coming to the Center and how the Center’s numerous training programs could be used to teach beneficial skills. Foremost, the staff and volunteers offer friendship.

(Continued on Page 2)
Assistant Chaplain’s Message
(Continued from Page 1)
understanding and the willingness to help others in their times of difficulty. The Center isn’t just a place for handouts. There are expectations for each client to enroll in the wide variety of self-improvement programs offered at the Center. As each client advances in one or more programs, they earn “Mommy Dollar Credits” that allow them to purchase clothing and other items for their children from the Center’s store of donated items.

The CPC offers another very important service, Ultra Sound tests for pregnant mothers. Ultra Sounds help the expectant mother to bond with her unborn child and develop a love relationship that leads to birth and not abortion.

We can be proud and thankful for the staff and volunteers at the CPC as they share their gifts and talents in the service of others. And thanks to the Knights of Columbus, the Center has the expensive ultra sound equipment that saves the unborn from abortion. Through our love and generous support of this great organization, the lives of many families are enriched.

God bless you,

Deacon Frank

Upcoming Meetings
Officer’s Meeting – Monday, June 1st at 6:30 pm in the Annunciation Board Room

General Meeting – Monday, June 8th at 7:00 pm in the Annunciation parish hall. During the summer months of June, July & August, we only have one meeting each month.

Upcoming Ceremonials
1st Degree
If there is a need for a 1st Degree, we will schedule our own team.

2nd Degree
June 18th – St. Alphonsus Council – Woodstock
June 22nd – Prince Georges Council – College Park

3rd Degree
June 5th – Patapsco Council – Catonsville

4th Degree
September 12 – Annapolis Council

Note: See additional information about this under the 4th Degree News on page 6.

Sick & Shut-In
Please remember Brothers Melvin Bandell, Theodore Gegorek, Charles Pepersack, Robert Priller, Bob Rogers, John Vaeth, Ed Yeager, and sister 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

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. But, the family of the deceased must request it. 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.

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Knights Of Columbus
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Baltimore, Maryland 21206

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Email: wwanko@comcast.net

Chaplain: Fr. Justin Ratajczak, OFM Conv.
Assistant Chaplain: Rev. Mr. Frank Zeiler
Happy Times
The following members of our Council family are celebrating Birthdays in June:
7- Michael R. Miklewski
15 - Linda Cole & Dolores Sigwart
20 - Mary Katherine Thomas
22 - Michael G. Witemore
29 - David Fricke & Jason Karolkowski

ANNIVERSARIES
15 - William & Margaret Huth
18 - Lynn & Patricia DiGennaro
25 - Alfred & Lynn Hilditch
26 - Gerard & Anne Dirscherl
28 - Jason & Jennifer Karolkowski

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

Wish You Were Here!
Our attendance prize winner for the May 11th meeting was Paul Schneider and he went home with a few extra bucks in his pocket. There was no meeting on May 25th due to the Memorial Day Holiday. Why not try making a meeting once in a while? It could prove profitable.

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, June 20th. We hope that more of you will consider joining in.

Council Programs

BINGO
Our next Monthly Cash Bingo will be held on Saturday, June 6th at 6:00 pm in the Annunciation parish hall. The $500 Jackpot will be played for 57 numbers or less. As always, we could use additional help both in the Kitchen and on the floor. Even if you’ve never done it before, we can show you what needs to be done. The more workers that we get cross-trained, the easier it is to make sure that all of our bases are covered if some member of our crew can’t make it on a particular night.

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 promptly at 6:00 pm and is usually finished by 9:00 pm.

1st Degree Team
We are always 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.

Nothing is more satisfying being a part of the team that actually brings new members into the Order. 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.

Elections
The floor is open for the 2015-2016 Fraternal Year. Any 3rd or 4th Degree Knight may run for any elective office – Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Chancellor, Treasurer, Recorder, Warden, Advocate, and Inside and Outside Guards and Trustees. (The Financial Secretary is appointed by Supreme and the Lecturer is appointed by the Grand Knight.) In accordance with our Bylaws, Elections will be held at the General Meeting on June 8th, at which time additional nominations may be taken from the floor. Anyone wishing to run for office should contact DGH Shawn Ruby at 410-866-4932.
Installation
Our annual Installation of Officers will take place following the 11:00 am mass on Sunday, July 19th at the Church of the Annunciation. A banquet will follow in the parish hall. All Council members and their immediate families (those living in the same household) are invited to attend the Installation and Banquet, but reservations must be made so that we can be sure that enough food is prepared. If you would like to join us, please RSVP to John Gallup at 410-256-2796 or gallupj@verizon.net no later than Sunday, July 12th. All members who wish to come MUST make reservations, EVEN the officers who are being installed.

Jacks of All Trades
From time to time, Knights are called upon to lend their skills to a need at the Council home, the home of a Brother Knight, out in the community, or at another neighboring Parish. Do you have training in electricity, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, heating & air conditioning, small engine repairs, basic home improvements, etc.? (No licenses or certifications required.) If so, we would like to compile a list of our Jacks of All Trades for future reference so that we would know who we might call when a need arises. Walt Wankowski will be the point of contact for this information. Contact him at 410-866-6546 or wwanko@comcast.net. You are not obligating yourself to anything by giving us this information.

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 Joseph D. Schaum, Jr., 6152 Radecke Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21206.

Fortnight for Freedom
The Fortnight for Freedom is a novena of masses and prayers that remind us that we should have the freedom to bear witness to our faith in Baltimore, in Maryland, and in our country. The Fortnight for Freedom will begin on Sunday June 21st with an Opening Mass at 10:45 am, celebrated by our Supreme Chaplain and the Archbishop of Baltimore, William E. Lori, at the Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Downtown Baltimore. It will end on Saturday, July 4th, when the Holy Hour for Freedom will be celebrated at 9:30 am at St. Ursula’s Church in Parkville.

For a complete list of the Fortnight for Freedom events go to http://www.archbalt.org/about-us/fortnightforfreedom/calendar.cfm

“We defend religious liberty because we are lovers of every human person, seeing in the face of every man and woman also the face of Christ, who loved us to the very end of his earthly life and who still calls on us to love and serve our neighbor with the same love he has bestowed on us.

“We do this because Archbishop John Carroll’s generation of believers and patriots bequeathed to us a precious legacy that has enabled the Church to worship in freedom, to bear witness to Christ publicly, and to do massive and amazing works of pastoral love, education, and charity in ways that are true to the faith that inspired them in the first place.” — Archizhob William Lori, Mass of Installation Homily
Box Tops For Education
Box Tops for Education may be placed in the plastic pouch attached to the council display in the back of Annunciation Church or you may mail them to Jason Karolkowski, 1322 Chapel Hill Drive, Baltimore, MD 21237. All box tops collected by our council are donated to St. Clement’s School.

Community Programs

A Knight with the Birds
We’d like to thank all 100 of you and your family and friends who joined us for our annual Knight with the birds on Friday, May 15th. Sad to say, the Orioles lost the game, but it looked like everyone had a great time anyway. Pictures of the outing can be viewed on our Council website – www.kofc11615.com

Community Day/Night Out
Summer is here and the school year is almost over. What better way to celebrate than by going out to eat with your Brother Knights. We will be holding a Community Day/Night Out at the Bob Evans on Wholesale Drive at the entrance to BJs Wholesale Club, on June 10th from 6 am to 9 pm. Dine in or carry out. The council will receive 15% of the purchases when you bring the flyer that is included with this newsletter. All proceeds will support the council’s charity fund.

Spinning Our Wheels
The Rosedale Community Carnival will be occurring from Monday, June 22nd through Saturday, June 27th on the grounds of St. Clement Mary Hofbauer School. Any Knights interested in volunteering to work at the carnival should contact Jason Karolkowski at jkarolkowski@bcps.org or by calling 410-687-2738.

Family Programs

Family of the Month/Year
Anyone who has a family in mind that you think would be deserving, please submit them for nomination. And keep in mind that a single person can still be a family; and a childless couple can also be a family.

The following factors should be considered:
- Has the family made significant contributions to the Church, community and/or council?
- Does the family enjoy one another?
- Does the family share experiences?
- Does the family communicate openly and honestly?
- Does the family pray and attend Mass together?
- We will need the names of the family members, and if there are children, the ages of the children.

Please forward all nominations to Walt Wankowski, PGK, 5211 McFaul Road, Baltimore, MD 21206 or email at wwanko@comcast.net

4th Degree News
The next meeting of the Archbishop Francis P. Keough Assembly will be on Tuesday, June 9th at 8:00 pm in the Lounge at Columbus Gardens. This will be an Open Meeting so please bring the wife. We will be reciting the Patriotic Rosary.

Congratulations to those members of our Council who were elected to Assembly offices for the 2015-2016 Fraternal Year. SK Jason Karolkowski, PGK will be the new Faithful Navigator, SK John Gallup will be the new Faithful Inner Sentinel, and SK Walt Wankowski, PGK, PFN will be the new Faithful Trustee for 3 Years.

As always, we are looking for 4th Degree members to join the Color Corps. The Color Corps is the “Visible Arm” of the Order and takes part in Special Liturgies, Celebrations, Parades, and stands
Honor Guard at the viewing of a fallen Knight. They are the guys dressed in Tuxedo, Cape, Chapeaux and carrying a sword. When they are seen in public, everyone knows they are the Knights of Columbus. Any 4th Degree member who would like to join the Color Corps should contact Walt at 410-866-6546.

SPECIAL NOTE: Normally, the Exemplification of the 4th Degree is only held once each year in the Spring. There are occasionally exceptions to this, and this year happens to be one of them. Another Exemplification of the 4th Degree will be held on Saturday, September 12th at 10:30 am at Annapolis Council in Edgewater, MD. Unlike the 4th Degree “Weekend” that’s held in the Spring, this will be a one-day event. Any member of our Council who would like to take the 4th Degree on September 12th, should contact Walt Wankowski at 410-866-6546 or wwanko@comcast.net, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Flag Day
Sunday, June 14th is Flag Day. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened on that day in 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; in August 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress. Please fly the flag and join your fellow Americans as we Pause for the Pledge at 7:00 pm EDT.

Chapter News
The next meeting of the Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights will take place at 8:00 pm on Thursday, June 11th at 8:00 pm at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Council in Middle River. Elections for Officers for the 2015-2016 Fraternal Year will be held. All Knights are invited and encouraged to attend.

District Deputy’s Message
At the time this issue went to press, no message had been received from the District Deputy.

Insurance News
In March, the Knights of Columbus was named one of the World’s Most Ethical Companies by the Ethisphere Institute for the second year in a row. All Knights should be proud of this tremendous honor and achievement. You are part of a fraternal benefit society that puts integrity above all else. Tremendous though it is, being one of the world’s most ethical companies is not just an achievement; it’s our legacy and our responsibility. We owe it to our founder, to our Church, and to our members.

As a business, the Knights of Columbus holds a unique place in the world. Writing in last month’s Columbia, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson reflected on that uniqueness, noting that: Whether we consider the development of our insurance products, the investment strategies that support them, or the outstanding agents who make them available to our brother Knights, our Catholic fraternal “business” model is truly unique in today’s marketplace.
We do not divide the world among consumers and customers, shareholders and stakeholders, union members and management. Instead, our business decisions are measured by a fraternal calculus: What is best for our brother Knights and their families?

It’s an approach that runs counter to modern cultural expectations, which is one reason why so few companies earn the “World’s Most Ethical” distinction. “Some may say that this is a kind of idealism that cannot compete in the real world of business,” Supreme Knight Anderson continued. “On the contrary, the tremendous success we have achieved in recent years demonstrates that our approach is the height of what I would describe as Catholic realism. We deal with
real persons, not with economic abstractions. Our focus is on the person who is always worthy of respect and who always should take precedence over profit.”

That focus stems from our roots. It is our responsibility to continue the business in the way that Father McGivney intended. He founded this organization so that a caring community of Catholic families could come together and protect widows and orphans from financial devastation upon the death of the breadwinner. Our mission remains the same 133 years later. That’s why, from our founding to the present day, we continue to be unapologetically Catholic. For us, this means that we must conduct our business in accordance with Catholic principles. We have established a strict screening process for our investments, and we refuse to invest in companies that provide or fund abortions, contraception, human cloning, embryonic stem cell research and pornography.

We are an organization by brother Knights, for brother Knights. We don’t worry about stock price, shareholders or corporate takeovers. We don’t obsess over profit margins and golden parachutes. We worry about doing what’s right for our members and their families. We rigorously train our agents and hold them to the highest ethical standards. Each agent must sign a code of ethics, which affirms that they agree to always present facts honestly and accurately for the benefit of our members’ decision-making.

“Our fraternal ties to our members,” it states, “make it more incumbent on us, in our dealings with them, to assure that their interests are uppermost in our minds as we provide solutions to their financial needs. It all boils down simply to the golden rule — do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” After all, we are our brother’s keeper. That’s our commitment to you. That’s our commitment to conducting our business in line with Church teaching, and in line with the vision of our holy founder.

We are honored that the Ethisphere Institute has yet again acknowledged this commitment. It is what makes doing business with the Knights of Columbus truly different.
pilgrims at the Rosary Basilica in Lourdes, France, on Friday, May 15. Nearly 200 military veterans, active service personnel and volunteers were in attendance, many of whom were sponsored through the Archdiocese for the Military Services/Knights of Columbus Warriors to Lourdes Program.

In his homily, Bishop Spencer, who also serves as the episcopal vicar for Europe and Asia, explained the significance of the site for the veterans: “Lourdes has been a place of pilgrimage for over a hundred years. According to the French Historical Commission, members of the French military started going to Lourdes during WWII to give thanks to the Blessed Mother for prayers answered and to pray for peace. The actual beginning of the military pilgrimage as it is known today has been attributed to a gathering in Lourdes on Dec. 10, 1944. … The first official military pilgrimage took place in 1958, the year of the 100th anniversary of the apparitions.”

He also reminded the pilgrims, many of whom were wounded after serving in combat and military duty, that “the ability to be joyful in the midst of adversity is one of the most attractive traits a person can have.”

“Each morning we awaken to receive 86,400 seconds as a gift of life. … So, what will you do with your next 86,400 seconds?” the bishop asked. “Think about that, and always think of this: Enjoy every second of your life, because time races by so much quicker than you think.”

“Time is our most precious treasure because it is limited. We can produce more wealth; but we cannot produce more time. When we give someone our time — as we should since we all are our brother’s keepers — we actually give a portion of our life that we will never take back. Our time is our life! The best gift you can give to the Lord these next few days is your time. … May we all have the wisdom to give time and to share time with the Lord and with one another. My friends, let us rise and lift up our hearts as we journey in pilgrimage here in Lourdes, to heed our Blessed Mother’s call to conversion of heart so that the world might be a better place for all.”

This is the Important Notice referred to on Page 1

HARD COPIES- Please read this if you get your Council Bulletin via US Mail

The cost of printing and mailing hard copies of this Council Bulletin continues to escalate. We often wonder if those who are receiving the hard copy are even reading it because we seldom, if ever, see or hear from them. Therefore, in an effort to avoid wasting money and killing trees, effective with the JULY 2015 edition, we will only print and mail enough hard copies to cover those who have notified us that they are, indeed, interested in receiving it.

If you are receiving the Council Bulletin through the US Mail, you need to notify Walt Wankowski in person, or at 410-866-6546, that you wish to continue receiving the hard copy. If we do not hear from you by June 22nd, we will assume that you are not reading the Council Bulletin anyway, and we will stop mailing it to you.

There is no change to those who are receiving the pdf soft copy by email. If you are currently receiving the hard copy and you HAVE email and can receive the bulletin that way, please notify Walt at wwanko@comcast.net.

Father’s Day is June 21st

Don’t forget to spend some time with your father if he is still alive, and visiting his gravesite or at least thinking about him if he has passed on to his Eternal reward.

Articles for the July edition of The Explorer must be received by Friday, June 26th. Send all inputs to:
Walt Wankowski
5211 McFaul Road
Baltimore, MD 21206
Or by email to: wwanko@comcast.net
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Calendar Reminders

June 1 - Council Officer’s Meeting – 6:30 pm – Annunciation Board Room
June 6 - Monthly Cash Bingo – 6:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall
June 8 – Council General Business Meeting – 7:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall
June 9 - 4th Degree Assembly Meeting – 8:00 pm – Columbus Gardens
June 10 – Dining Out at Bob Evans – 6 am to 9 pm – 4110 Wholesale Drive, Fullerton
June 11 - Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights – 8:00 pm – Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Council
June 14 – Flag Day
June 20 - Pro-Life Rosary – 9:00 am – Beltway Plaza Shopping Center, Fullerton
June 21 – Father’s Day
  Fortnight for Freedom Begins 10:45 am – Baltimore Basilica
June 22 – 27 – Rosedale Community Carnival – St. Clement’s Church Grounds