



# The Explorer



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

Overlea/Rosedale, MD

Knights of Columbus

June 2017

## *Assistant Chaplain's Message*

The warm sunny days of June have finally arrived. Now is the time to dust off your favorite lawn chair and enjoy nature as the trees, flowers and wildlife come alive. After spending the cold winter months in doors, we can go outside and experience the wonders of nature. The sights, sounds and the fragrance of flowers and plants will enliven our spirits and give us new life. A good book can enhance the joys of spring and summer.



I have heard of the author Henri J. M. Nouwen but I have not read any of his publications. Recently, I found his book titled "Life of the Beloved" that appears to be enjoyable reading with a good message. This book is the fruit of a long friendship with journalist-writer Fred Bratman. Henri's book is a response to Fred's concern to live a spiritual life in the midst of a very secular world. While Henri writes to a personal friend, he in fact found a language that speaks clearly and convincingly to all who search for the Spirit of God in the world. As he wrote the book, Henri wondered if there might be one word he would most want his friend to remember after reading the book. Gradually, the word that emerged from the depths of his heart was "Beloved." There is that voice that speaks to us from within that whispers softly: You are my Beloved. It is not easy to hear that voice in a world filled with voices that shout: You are no good, you are ugly; you are worthless; you are despicable, you are nobody. Certainly, we are none of these.

The book is an affirmation that everyone is loved by God. It reveals the wonders of our spiritual journey and renews the fire of our faith. I hope that you will have an opportunity to read Henri's book and experience the words "You are the beloved" as

spoken to you with all the tenderness and force that love can hold.

Have a Holy and Happy summer,  
God bless you,

*Deacon Frank*

## *Upcoming Meetings*

**Officer's Meeting** – The June Officer's meeting will take place on Monday, June 5th at 6:30 pm in the Annunciation parish Board Room.

**General Meetings** – Mondays, June 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Annunciation Parish Hall.

## *Upcoming Ceremonials*

### *Admissions Degree*

June 7<sup>th</sup> – Cardinal Gibbons Council - Fullerton

June 15<sup>th</sup> – Dundalk Council - Dundlak

### *Formation Degree*

June 26<sup>th</sup> – Prince Georges Council – College Park

### *Knighthood Degree*

June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Patapsco Council – Catonsville

**Patriotic Degree** – the next Exemplification of the Patriotic Degree (4<sup>th</sup>) will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at the Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City, MD.

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

## *Flag Day*

Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> is Flag Day. This is a day set aside to honor the emblem of our country. Wherever you are,



whatever do are doing, take time to Pause for the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm EDT.

**Sick & Shut-In**

Please remember Brothers Frederick Hogarth, Robert Priller, Bob Rogers, John Vaeth, Ed Yeager, and sisters Joan Gresdo, 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](mailto:wwanko@comcast.net)

**Nominations and Elections**

It is that time of year to go selecting the Leadership Team for the next Fraternal Year. Nominations are now open for the following Officers for the 2017-2018 Fraternal year (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018):

- Grand Knight
- Deputy Grand Knight
- Chancellor
- Treasurer
- Recorder
- Warden
- Advocate
- Inside Guard
- Outside Guard
- Trustee for 3 Years
- Trustee for 2 Years
- Trustee for 1 Year

The Financial Secretary is appointed by the Supreme Knight and has a three-year term of office. The Lecturer is appointed by the Grand Knight.

Any member wishing to run for an office must be at least a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Knight. If you would like to throw your hat into the ring, contact Nominating Co-Chairs Shawn Ruby, PGK at 410-866-4932 or [sruby98@yahoo.com](mailto:sruby98@yahoo.com); or Jason Karolkowski, PGK/PFN at 410-687-2738 or [jkarolkowski@bcps.org](mailto:jkarolkowski@bcps.org).

Elections will take place at the General Membership Meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> at which time nominations may still be taken from the floor.

**Free Money! Wish You Were Here!**

We've had two winners in a row! Our attendance prize winner for the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting was Emrick Spacek, and our winner for the May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting was Paul Castagna. Both found a little extra cash in their hands. If you are not sick or a shut-in, why not try making a meeting once in a while? It could prove profitable.

**1<sup>st</sup> Degree Team**

We are looking for alternate team members for our 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm** in the Annunciation parish hall. The \$500 Jackpot will be played for 55 numbers or less.

As always, we could use additional help both in the Kitchen and on the floor. 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>B</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>O</b>
7	25	44	57	62
15	22	40	50	70
11	30	<small>FREE SPACE</small>	46	74
2	28	37	55	68
10	27	39	59	75

**The Explorer**  
 Published monthly by the  
**Fr. A. Leo Abendschoen Council # 11615**  
 of the  
**Knights Of Columbus**  
 Meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday  
 at 7:00 pm at the  
**Church of the Annunciation**  
 5212 McCormick Road  
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**Chaplain:**  
**Assistant Chaplain:** Rev. Mr. Frank Zeiler

### Happy Times

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

- 5 – Michael Miklewski
- 15 – Linda Cole & Dolores Sigwart
- 20 – Mary Katherine Thomas
- 22 – Michael G. Witemeore, Sr.
- 29 – David Fricke & Jason Karolkowski

#### Anniversaries

- 5 – Barry & Phyllis Sewell
- 15 – William & Margaret Huth
- 18 – Lynn & Patricia DeGennaro
- 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, Promotions, etc? See a birthday or anniversary that's incorrect or not announced? Send them to Walt at [wwanko@comcast.net](mailto:wwanko@comcast.net)

## Membership

We are in our final month of the Fraternal year. We have until June 30<sup>th</sup> to bring in at least one new member; after that we start all over again. There are two Admissions Degrees in our local area this month, and if need be, we can always schedule one at our own council and utilize our own team.

But this is not going to happen by itself. We have to work at 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 Form100, contact Walt Wankowski at 410-866-6546.

## Church Programs

### **Religious & Seminarian Vocation Program**

We are pleased to report that we have donated another \$2,500 to five young men who are studying to be Franciscans. Checks for \$500 each were written and mailed to Timothy Blanchard, James Hoffman, Franck Sokopile, Bebe Thigpen and Emmanuel Wenke. In recent years we presented the checks to them personally at our annual Spaghetti Dinner & Bingo, but the Spaghetti Dinner has been discontinued.



Nonetheless, they can use the money, and we DO raise the money for them, so this year we just mailed it to them before they took off on their summer assignments.. We hope to have a few of them drop by in the fall for a visit.

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."

We thank you in advance for your generosity.

## Pro-Life Programs

### **Pro-Life Rosary**

All members are invited to join in on the monthly Rosary for Life which is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup>. We hope that we will have good weather and we hope that more of you will consider joining in.



### **We Got Lots of Smiles**

....when we handed out individual Carnations to all of the ladies leaving Annunciation church on Mother’s Day. We ordered 300 Carnations and handed out 272. The remaining flowers were placed into the vase in front of the Blessed Mother. Our thanks to Adam Kolb for Chairing the event and picking up the flowers, and to Frank Charvat, Greg Fischer, Bill Hodges, Adam Kolb, Anastasia Kolb, Aiden Kolb, Harold Payne, Joe Schaum, Rick Spacek, and Walt Wankowski for showing up at the various masses to hand out the flowers.

### **Community Programs**

#### ***Bull & Shrimp Roast***

Mark your calendar! Our annual Bull & Oyster Roast to benefit Annunciation Church will now be a Bull & Shrimp Roast and it will take place on **Sunday, November 12, 2017** from 1 to 5 pm in the Annunciation Parish Hall. Details are still being



worked out, but plan on joining us. We will need volunteers and we will need patrons.



This is the BYE week for the Ravens, so you won’t be missing the game by attending.

### **Youth Programs**

#### ***Altar Server Rewards***

Each year, our council takes time to recognize the outstanding service that our Altar Servers provide in their ministry to our parish and the church in general.

Discussions are underway as to what kind of reward we will present to our Altar Servers this year. Have any suggestions? We’d love to hear them. Contact Deputy Grand Knight Wayne Ciampaglia at 410-661-1979.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Degree News**

The next meeting of the Archbishop Francis P. Keough Assembly will held on Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Columbus Gardens. This will be “Patriotic Rosary” night and it an OPEN meeting. Please bring the family. There will be refreshments followed by the recitation of the Patriotic Rosary. If you have never taken part in this before, you are in for a wonderful experience.



#### **WE NEED YOU !**

And as always, we are looking for 4<sup>th</sup> 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. They are considered to be the “Visible Arm” of the Knights of Columbus. Any 4<sup>th</sup> Degree member who would like to join the Color Corps should contact Walt at 410-866-6546.

The next Exemplification of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at the Princess Royale Ocean Front Hotel in Ocean City, MD. Any member interested in taking the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree should contact Walt Wankowski at 410-866-6546 or [wwanko@comcast.net](mailto:wwanko@comcast.net) .

### **Chapter News**

The next meeting of the Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights will be held on Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Resurrection Council, #11341, Church of the Resurrection Multipurpose Room #1; 3175 Paulskirk Dr.; Ellicott City, MD 21042

#### ***June 18<sup>th</sup> Is Fathers Day!***

If your father is still alive, spend some time with him. If he has already gone on to his Eternal Reward and his grave is close by, visit his grave. At the very least, take a few moments to think about him.

## District Message

Time flies when you are having fun as the saying goes. Our first year together has had its ups and downs, but overall, I think we have had a pretty good time of it.

Of course, as with every month, the State is (as always) pushing hard to increase membership in hopes of making the Supreme Circle of Honor. Well, you guys have at least made your goals in both membership and insurance. This is not always as easy as it sounds. You are the only council in District 28 to achieve this and are qualified to contend for Star Council. Just need to do the SP7 report. Enough said on that!

We all know you feel the loss of St Clements as a recipient of your council’s good will. It’s tough to stand by when you know the other council is not going to honor the commitments previously made by you. So, I say keep them as your own! (Just politely ask). Stepping on their toes doesn’t hurt as much as the loss of needed charity and good will to the ones that need it the most. I stand with you on that. Of course, your own parish needs you as well. With or Without, we will keep moving forward and achieve success in all our endeavors.

Time for elections and a new slate of Officers. Think about stepping in to do a year of service to your council. None of these jobs are that hard and we are all here to help each and every one do the best they can do. The lack of leadership is the only thing that can really hurt a council, and that’s only temporary. All you really need is dedication to the council and the Knights. Maybe even time to look at a few new programs to fill the Domestic Church Program.

Worthy Brother Knights – Lets make this one last push to fulfil our mission to serve our parish and our community with our abilities to improve the lot for all.

Vivat Jesus,  
*Ron Koelbel DD28*

## Insurance News

### ***Only Having Insurance “Through Work” Doesn’t Work***

Do you know anyone whose life or career has drastically changed during these years of economic downturn? It’s very likely that someone in your immediate or extended family or group of friends is facing financial uncertainty. Maybe there’s a possibility that you (or your spouse) could change employers, or even lose your job.

Too many people have often relied on group term life insurance as their only safety net. Often, this insurance is an employee benefit provided at low or no cost. The existence of this coverage might convince someone that personally-owned life insurance is not necessary.

But only having “through work” insurance can leave you and your family vulnerable. Most group life insurance policies are limited in amount, which may be tied to salary or some other benchmark. These numbers are often capped, and this cap may be dangerously low when compared to your family’s actual needs. In fact, a detailed needs analysis that evaluates your specific situation, will likely show that any employer-provided coverage falls short.

In addition, the amount of group insurance offered is almost always reduced, sometimes dramatically, when you retire. You could one day find yourself without coverage, and if your health has changed (which it will as you age), you might also find yourself unable to secure individual protection. At the very least, it will definitely be more expensive.

While group life insurance can help, it does not replace the need for individually owned life insurance. I’ll be happy to meet with you and provide a no-cost needs analysis, so you’ll know exactly where you stand.

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

## State Council News

### ***Marvelous Michigan Tour***

***Tuesday, September 12 –***

***Saturday, September 16, 2017***

***4 nights / 5 days***

*See Michigan's "Crown Jewel" the romantic and historic, Mackinac Island & the Grand Hotel; explore the quaint Bavarian village in Frankenmuth. With lots of interesting sights in between, including one of the most visited museums in North America, The Henry Ford, your tour will be packed with excitement, history and romance.*

***Package includes:***

- Round Trip Transportation on a ***deluxe motor coach***
- Fully escorted tour, gratuities included for escort and driver
- 4 nights hotel accommodations, **including 2 nights on Mackinac Island** at the ***Lake View Hotel***, luggage handling,
- 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 dinners, all inclusive of tax and tip.

***Highlights include:***

- **The Henry Ford Museum**
- **Ferry ride** across the Straits of Mackinac
- **Mackinac Island Carriage Tour –**
- **Fort Mackinac** tour –
- **Lunch** at the **Grand Hotel –**
- Free time in Frankenmuth and at
- **Bronner's Christmas Wonderland -**
- North America's largest retail Christmas store!
- **Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens** in Pittsburgh

**Package price per person - Single: \$1,578.00**

**Double: \$1,234.00**

Call Today: Nita or Michelle @ 410-224-0101 or

Email: [cig.nita@verizon.net](mailto:cig.nita@verizon.net)

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Reserve your seat with a \$200.00 per person

Deposit before June 1, 2017 .

Full payment due before July 2, 2017/ all payments are non-refundable after this date

### ***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

Ever been to a Supreme Convention?

Opportunity KNOCKS loud this time.

The Maryland State Council will host the 2018 Supreme Convention in Baltimore! Initial planning is well underway, and it's time to start identifying the many volunteers needed to make this a success. Spread the word about this opportunity for you and your spouse to welcome thousands of Knights and families from throughout the Order.

The major hosting efforts requiring significant volunteer support are:

- Registration: Assist w/registration, distributing tickets, provide information to Guests
- Transportation: Transport Hierarchy to and from hotel, airports and train stations
- Greeters: Greeter at all Convention Hotels (greet and provide information to arriving guests)
- Youth: Youth Activities
- Sales: Country Store (assist with sales of merchandise)
- Everything else: Volunteers not assigned to a specific task, will help as needed

Volunteers will be needed to cover 4-hour shifts beginning at 7am each day, from Friday, August 3 through Thursday, August 9, 2018.

To get involved, contact Walt Wankowski at 410-866-6546 or [wwanko@comcast.net](mailto:wwanko@comcast.net).

### ***Food for Christians at Risk***

Knights of Columbus Urges Public to Help Iraqi Christians as Humanitarian Crisis Looms. Without funding for food, Church leaders say their communities could disappear entirely. Knights set up matching fund to help supply resources.

Following the shared concerns about Christians in the Middle East expressed by Pope Francis and President Trump at their recent meeting, the Knights of Columbus, which has been among the top financial supporters of these persecuted Christians, is urging the public to donate to its Christian Refugee Relief Fund to help avert a crisis and will be matching up to \$1 million in donations.

Church leaders in Iraq are warning that, without immediate support, the country's Christian population could be reduced to unsustainable levels.

The Christian population has fallen from as many as 1.5 million in 2003 to only about 200,000 today, according to the Chaldean Catholic Archdiocese of Erbil. Erbil is home to the largest Christian population still in Iraq and the largest community of displaced Christians in the country (12,000 families). The archdiocese now faces a shortfall of \$600,000 a month in food aid.

“As we approach the third anniversary of ISIS’ genocide against our community in Iraq, Iraqi Christians face a new threat,” explained Archbishop Bashar Warda of Erbil. “Even as their home towns are liberated, our people often cannot move home because there is not enough money for reconstruction or security. What’s worse, at this point we face a serious shortfall in the money needed just to cover the costs of providing food to the displaced Christians in our care. Having to decide between rebuilding homes or feeding the displaced is not a choice,” he said. “It is a potential death sentence for our Christian communities.”

He added: “As never before in 2,000 years, the future of Christianity in Iraq now hangs in the balance, and whether it survives will depend in great measure on whether or not we are able to provide the essentials that our people need in the short term, and whether or not they receive help

with reconstruction and assurances of security in the longer term.”

The Knights of Columbus has donated more than \$12 million for Christian refugee relief since 2014 in support of communities too often ignored by direct U.N. or U.S. government assistance. The bulk of the funding has aided Christian communities in Iraq with food, clothing, shelter, and education, and has also helped threatened or displaced communities in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt. Other religious minority groups targeted by ISIS, including Yazidis, have also been recipients of the Knights’ aid.

“A century ago, the American people helped save Christianity in the Middle East after the genocide they endured during and following World War I,” said Supreme Carl Anderson. “Today, it falls to us to act, and to act quickly, if Christianity — and with it, pluralism — are to be saved in the Middle East. The Knights of Columbus is absolutely committed to aiding our brothers and sisters in Iraq and to ensuring that pluralism is not erased there.” He added, “We urge all who can to donate to our Christian Refugee Relief Fund as soon as possible.

The Knights of Columbus will match donations received by July 1 up to \$1 million, and 100 percent of the money raised will be used to assist with food programs for Christian refugees in Iraq. Donations can be made at [www.ChristiansatRisk.org](http://www.ChristiansatRisk.org) or by calling 1-800-694-5713 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.

Articles for the July edition of *The Explorer* must be received by Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Send all inputs to:

Walt Wankowski

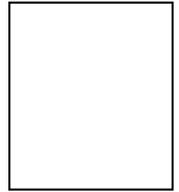
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### ***Calendar Reminders***

- June 3 - Monthly Cash Bingo – 6:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall
- June 5 - Council Officer’s Meeting – 6:30 pm – Annunciation Board Room
- June 12 - Council General Business Meeting – 7:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall
- June 13 - 4th Degree Assembly Meeting - 7:00 pm – Columbus Gardens –Patriotic Rosary
- June 14 – Flag Day
- June 17 - Pro-Life Rosary – 9:00 am – Beltway Plaza Shopping Center, Fullerton
- June 18 – Father’s Day
- June 26 - Council General Business Meeting – 7:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall