



The Explorer



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

Overlea/Rosedale, MD

Knights of Columbus

March 2017

Grand Knight's Message

Brothers all,
It is that time of the month again to share information with you. Several things need our attention.



First, two meetings ago we discussed having a nonmember priest as our Chaplain. This was approved by DD Ron Koelbel. So, we announced we were going to do that. Well when this [news] got to [State Deputy] Steve Cohen, the answer came back as NO, they must be a member. So that precludes the hope of Father Julio helping us. So, on this issue we are back looking for a Chaplain.

At the same time, there has been parish council meetings with Fr. Vincent and Rev. Julio and the topic of the Knights doing everything for the church and how much it was appreciated. However, Fr. Julio said he would like to get more parish involvement doing parish things and not rely only on the Knights. He made it very clear that they are very grateful for all we do for the parish. After much discussion, it was decided that the Mardi Gras would be a parish function and he and others would try to get more families involved. It was also discussed about the Bull roast and the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, the Breakfast with Santa being continued with the Knights. Please understand we are still in a new transition, and everything may not be perfect, but in time will be for the best interest of the parish.

I would like to thank Adam for presenting the gift at St. Clements from the tootsie roll donations. Also, a special thanks to Adam and Wayne for serving us food at our meetings.

We will have our next bingo on the 4th of March at
(Continued on Page 2)

Assistant Chaplain's Message

The forty days of Lent put before us the experience of Christ in the desert in which He Fasted, Prayed, and Determined not to yield to the temptations presented to Him. The Church places this experience of Christ before us in order to inspire us to have our own desert purification during Lent.



Determination to resist temptations is a sign of moral character. It flows from the inner discipline forged by our will power and the grace of Christ. Each of us knows what temptations bother us most. Determine to withstand them as Christ fought against His. Our two best weapons are prayer and fasting. The Eucharist is the greatest source of prayer. Come to the Eucharist each day of Lent and take in the Bread of Life and the power to stave away temptation. Fasting is good for the health of the body. It is also valuable for the health of the soul. Fasting clears the mind, cleanses the heart and sharpens our moral and spiritual determinations. Fasting should lead us to charitableness. When we spend less on food and drink, we can donate what we saved to those in need of food. When fasting makes us thoughtful of others, it begins to work its spiritual magic.

Pray that our Father in heaven will call us to fast, pray and be determined to resist temptations to sin, following the example of Jesus during His forty days of retreat in the desert. Pray for inspiration to see the value of fasting as a spiritual means to self-improvements as well as a road to charity in which we will eat less so that others, who need it, may eat more.

God bless you,
Deacon Frank

Grand Knight's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

6pm. Anyone that can help, please come.
Once again, many thanks for your support and help.

My God Bless all of you and your families.

Vivat Jesus,

John Gallup

Grand Knight

Upcoming Meetings

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

General Meetings – Mondays, March 13th & 27th at 7:00 pm in the Annunciation Parish Hall.

Upcoming Ceremonials

Admissions Degree

March 8th – Cardinal Gibbons Council – Fullerton
March 16th – Dundalk Council – Dundalk

Formation Degree

March 16th – Fr. Comyns Council – Ellicott City

Knighthood Degree

There are no Knighthood Degrees in March

Patriot Degree – Washington District

March 25, 2017 – Colony South Hotel, Clinton, MD

Sick & Shut-In

Please remember Brothers Melvin Bandell, 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

Happy Times

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

- 3 - Deborah Peppersack
- 7 - Charles F. Peppersack
- 10 - Patricia DiGennaro
- 11 - Romeo G. Dalangin
- 14 - Anthony V. Ciampaglia
- 15 - William E. Edgeworth
- 16 - Carol A, Ciampaglia & Susan Conrad
- 17 - Harold F. Payne
- 21 - Gerard Dirscherl
- 22 - Gary Kendzierski
- 24 - Gregory D. Brotzman
- 27 - Carole Payne
- 28 - Robert F. Miller, Jr.
- 29 - Scott A. Popiolek
- 31 - Edward J. Yeager

Anniversaries

- 16 - John & Susan Conrad

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

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: John E. Gallup, Jr. 410-256-2796
johnegallup@gmail.com

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

Chaplain:
Assistant Chaplain: Rev. Mr. Frank Zeiler

Wish You Were Here!

Our attendance prize winner for the February 13th meeting would have been Robert “Buddy” Cole. This newsletter had to go to press before the February 27th meeting, so we will publish the name in the April edition. If you are not sick or a shut-in, why not try making a meeting once in a while? It could prove profitable.

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.

Time to Pay Up

We still have about 11 members who have NOT paid the annual dues for 2017. Bills for our Annual Dues were mailed out on December 16th, and Second Notices to those who have not yet remitted were mailed on January 25th. We ask you to remit your dues as soon as possible. Membership cards for 2017 will be mailed out shortly after we receive your dues.

If you have NOT received the invoice for your dues, please contact Financial Secretary Walt Wankowski at 410-866-6546 or wwanko@comcast.net.

BINGO

Our next Monthly Cash Bingo will be held on **Saturday, March 4th at 6:00 pm** in the Annunciation parish hall. The \$500 Jackpot will be played for 52 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 two guys at the March 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

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.”



Membership

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 over the next six months. 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.

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, March 18th. We hope that we will have good weather and we hope that more of you will consider joining in.



Youth Programs

Catholic Bee



The sixth Annual Catholic Bee was held at St. Clement Mary Hofbauer School on Wednesday, February 8, 2017. The fourth and fifth grades participated with five finalists from each grade. The winners of the Catholic Bee are as follows:

1st Place: Emily Smith Grade 5 \$75
 2nd Place: Antonette Maximiano Grade 5 \$50
 3rd Place: Felice Mojica Grade 5 \$25

Each participant received a Certificate of Appreciation and a rosary. The three winners will now be eligible to compete at another Catholic Bee on March 18, 2017 at St. John's in Hyde, Maryland sponsored by Long Green Valley Council, KOC. The competition will be among many of the local elementary schools in the area.

Community Programs

Bowling for Our Heroes

On Sunday, February 12, 2017 Archbishop Francis P. Keough Assembly partnered with Fr. A. Leo Abendschoen Council, the Student Council, and the Home School Association at St.



Clement Mary Hofbauer School to host the 3rd Annual "Bowling for Service Men and Women" to benefit Operation Welcome Home. This year's event attracted 59 bowlers to Brunswick Perry Hall Lanes for an afternoon of bowling and fundraising. Prizes were awarded for the Highest Adult Average (Jim Burke), Highest Child Average (Amanda Karolkowski), as well as the top pledge earner (Margaret Frisel). In conjunction with the bowling event, the Student Council at St. Clement Mary Hofbauer School held a dress down day to benefit Operation Welcome Home. A check presentation will be made in the near future.

Family Programs

We will once again be sponsoring our annual

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

Saturday, April 1st, 2017

9:30 a.m.

Church of the Annunciation Parish Hall

There will be a hot breakfast for all who attend. Children can have their pictures taken with the Easter Bunny and participate in an Easter Egg Hunt! The cost of the breakfast is \$15.00 for families of 3 or more or \$5.00 for individual tickets. There is no additional cost to meet the Easter Bunny or to participate in the Easter egg hunt.



To assure that there is enough food, we ask that you pre-register for this event no later than Wednesday, March 29, 2017. A separate flyer is included with this newsletter. Please complete the lower portion and return it in an envelope in the collection or to the parish office by Checks may be made payable to *K of C 11615*. For more information, call Jason at 410-687-2738.

Volunteers will also be needed to set up, cook, serve and clean up afterward. Volunteers should arrive by 8:30 am. If you can pitch in and help out, contact Jason.

Chapter News

The next meeting of the Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights will be on Thursday, March 9th at 7:00 pm at Knights of Fatima Council #10137, 6420 East Pratt Street, 21224, in the Joseph Lee section of Baltimore. This will be Honoree Night. All Knights are invited and encouraged to attend.

4th Degree News

The next meeting of the Archbishop Francis P. Keough Assembly will held on Tuesday, March 14th at 7:00 pm at Columbus Gardens. This will be our annual Spring Raffle drawing. This is an Open Meeting and the family is invited. Hospitality will begin at 7:00 pm. There will be an Officer’s meeting at 7:30 pm and the drawing should begin around 8:00 pm.



If any 3rd Degree Member would still like to take the 4th Degree this year, we can take you to the Washington District Exemplification on Saturday, March 25th at the Colony South Hotel in Clinton, MD (near Joint Base Andrews). Contact Faithful Admiral Jason Karolkowski at 410-687-2738, SOON!

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.

District Message

The Weather has absolutely been crazy this year. The daily predictions for any week look like the old roller coaster at Gwynn Oak Park. But, it’s not over yet, and just when you think it is time for shorts and tee shirts.....

Early March takes me to the State Spring Meeting. Our State Deputy has been pretty well pleased with the number of councils recruiting and the number of new members that have joined our ranks. BUT, I know there will be no let up on pushing the numbers until we reach our goals. This council has done very well in that department,

especially with the new members from a most unexpected source.

I am happy to report all your paper work due to State and Supreme are up to date, and that always keeps my name off of the many lists I get that require me to harp and nag about. This council is one I can always count on to keep up with the requirements.

There is one issue I would like to bring up that has come to my attention. This is not necessarily a K of C issue, but one that does (or should) nips at beliefs as Catholics. It seems that the Maryland State Legislature is going to consider (for the 3rd Year), a bill to allow physician-assisted suicide. The two bills coming up this session is SB354 and HB370. I urge all interested Knights to go to the Md State K of C website for more information on this issue and what you can do.

And my perennial closing: May we continue to be renewed and ready to make the world tomorrow just a little better than yesterday. As the Formation degree teaches us the strength in Unity: Stand Together, Be Strong, Keep safe, Watch over all in need. God Bless every one of us and the ones we hold dear!

Vivat Jesus,

Ron Koelbel DD28

Insurance News

K of C Sets Insurance Record for 16th Consecutive Year

\$8.54 billion in new insurance sold

The Knights of Columbus recorded its 16th consecutive year of growth in insurance sales in 2016, with \$8.54 billion in new life insurance sold — an increase of more than \$125 million over the previous year. The K of C now has more than \$105 billion of life insurance in force, marking a \$50 billion increase in the last decade due to the record sales. “More and more Catholic families are turning to the Knights of Columbus for their insurance needs,” said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. “By leveraging our fraternal network of professional

field agents and remaining faithful to our Catholic roots, we offer something unique to members and their families: topquality financial protection provided by professionals who are brother Knights and who share our values — and act on them.” This new sales record caps a year of milestones for the Knights of Columbus, the largest Catholic fraternal order in the world. In March, the organization was named a World’s Most Ethical Company® by the Ethisphere Institute for the third consecutive year. The Knights was one of only two companies named in the life insurance category. In September, the Knights was again listed on the Fortune 1000 list and, for the 41st consecutive year, earned the highest possible rating for financial strength, A++ (Superior), from A.M. Best.

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 ceremonies, 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. Online registrations can be made until March 7th. 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/>

Suite Rates are as follows:

- Ocean/Pool View Suite - \$120.00 per night
- Ocean Front Suite - \$164.00 per night
- 2 Bedroom/2 Bath Condo - \$260.00 per night

3 Bedroom/3 Bath Condo - \$280.00 per night
(ALL HOTEL RATES ARE PLUS 10.5% TAX PER NIGHT)

Children under 17 stay free/\$20.00 additional per adult person.

The annual Convention Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday, May 4th at the Ocean City Golf Club. Registration at 11:00 am/ \$80 per Golfer. The number of participants is limited so you are encouraged to register early. For full details on the Golf Tournament call Paul Weber at 410-879-0558 or email him at apaulweber@verizon.net.

Supreme Council News



Pope Francis received Supreme Knight Carl Anderson in audience at the Vatican on Feb. 16.

At that audience, Supreme Knight Anderson discussed with the Holy Father the Knights of Columbus’ many initiatives, especially its work on behalf of persecuted Christians in the Middle East. He also presented the earnings from the Knights’ Vicarius Christi Fund, in the amount of \$1.6 million.

The proceeds are given annually to the pope for his personal charities. Since the fund’s inception in 1981, more than \$57 million in earnings has been donated.

The 40 Days of Lent –



The holy season of Lent begins on March 1st. All Knights should be aware of their fasting and abstinence obligations for the season of Lent. Here are

the church regulations for fasting and abstinence during Lent:

- Everyone 14 years of age or older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.
- Everyone 18 or older, and under 59 years of age, is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.
- Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal penitential practices.

A Happy Day for The Irish



St. Patrick of Ireland is one of the world's most popular saints. He was born in Roman Britain and when he was fourteen or so, he was captured by Irish pirates during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. At the time, Ireland was a land of Druids and pagans but Patrick

turned to God and wrote his memoir, *The*

Confession. In *The Confession*, he wrote:

"The love of God and his fear grew in me more and more, as did the faith, and my soul was rosed, so that, in a single day, I have said as many as a hundred prayers and in the night, nearly the same. I prayed in the woods and on the mountain, even before dawn. I felt no hurt from the snow or ice or rain."

Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain and was reunited with his family.

A few years after returning home, Patrick saw a vision he described in his memoir:

"I saw a man coming, as it were from Ireland. His name was Victoricus, and he carried many letters, and he gave me one of them. I read the heading: 'The Voice of the Irish.' As I began the letter, I imagined in that moment that I heard the voice of those very people who were near the wood of Foclut, which is beside the western sea-and they cried out, as with one voice: 'We appeal to you, holy servant boy, to come and walk among us.'" The vision prompted his studies for the priesthood. He was ordained by St. Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre, whom he had studied under for years, and was later ordained a bishop and sent to take the Gospel to Ireland.

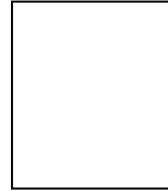
Patrick arrived in Slane, Ireland on March 25, 433. There are several legends about what happened next, with the most prominent claiming he met the chieftan of one of the druid tribes, who tried to kill him. After an intervention from God, Patrick was able to convert the chieftain and preach the Gospel throughout Ireland. Patrick preached and converted all of Ireland for 40 years. He worked many miracles and wrote of his love for God in *Confessions*. After years of living in poverty, traveling and enduring much suffering he died March 17, 461.

He died at Saul, where he had built the first Irish church. He is believed to be buried in Down Cathedral, Downpatrick. His grave was marked in 1990 with a granite stone.

Articles for the April edition of *The Explorer* must be received by Saturday, March 25th. 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

- March 1 – Ash Wednesday – Lent Begins
- March 4 - Monthly Cash Bingo – 6:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall
- March 6 - Council Officer’s Meeting – 6:30 pm – Annunciation Board Room
- March 9 - Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting – 7:00 pm – Knights of Fatima Council
- March 13 - Council General Business Meeting – 7:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall
- March 14 - 4th Degree Assembly Meeting - 7:00 pm – Columbus Gardens – Spring Raffle Drawing
- March 17 – St. Patrick’s Day
- March 18 - Pro-Life Rosary – 9:00 am – Beltway Plaza Shopping Center, Fullerton
- March 25 – Feast of the Annunciation
- March 27 - Council General Business Meeting – 7:00 pm – Annunciation Parish Hall