Brother Knights,

I would first like to congratulate everyone on a very successful ID drive! A huge thank you to Bernie, Deacon John, Jim Arns Sr., and Rick for their leadership this year. I was very impressed by the number of members, family, and friends that we had out on the corners, at the train station, and various stores. This year was a little rough for us as we lost several store sites due to company policy changes. That being said, we did a nice job making up for that by hitting the street corners even harder. Over the next few months, please continue to support the ID drive through sales at the parishes and other activities.

We are well on our way of becoming a Gold Star council. We have already met our insurance goal for the year and now need to focus on new members. This year’s goal is 22 new members, as set by supreme, and we already have 7 new members. I would like to continue challenging everyone to talk to one person about joining council #4977. Additionally, I sent out a prospect referral card with the meeting reminder for last month and will do so again for this month. Please complete and return to our council’s Chancellor, Bruce Alesi, and we will follow-up with your candidate. Lastly, please make an effort to attend as many events as possible. In the upcoming few months we have several events which are a great place to try and get a new brother Knight!

As always, please let me know if you need anything from me. I am here to serve you as your Grand Knight and am open to any feedback/thoughts you have!

Thanks and God Bless!

Yours Fraternally,

Jim Arns
Congratulations to our Newest First Degree Knights of Columbus
Please extend a warm welcome and congratulations to the three newest First Degree members of Council #4977.

Welcome to Brothers Mike Cukierski (top left), Lou Maiorano (right), and Brock Sloan (bottom left). All participated in the September 10th First Degree exemplification held at Holy Family. We also welcome Brothers Kevin Grillot and Jamie Zimmiewicz. Both have recently transferred to Holy Ghost Council #4977.

All current Brothers are urged to continue working to bring new candidates to join our council. For more information contact Grand Knight Jim Arns at: jarns@deloitte.com.

Knights of Columbus Membership Drive
This year’s membership drives will take place on the following weekends:

St. Thomas of Villanova: October 10th and 11th
St. Theresa: October 17th and 18th

We will have speakers at each of the Masses and Brother Knights present to interface with parishioners following each Mass. Volunteers are always welcome. Thanks in advance for your help!

Something to Think About this October…
Shared from the Book:

Reflections from Pope Francis
An Invitation to Journaling, Prayer, and Action

115. Learn From People Who Are Poor
The poor are not just people to whom we can give something. They have much to offer us and to teach us. How much we have to learn from the wisdom of the poor! In a very real way, the poor are our teachers. They show us that people’s value is not measured by their possessions or how much money they have in the bank. A poor person, a person lacking material possessions, always maintains his or her dignity. The poor can teach us much about humility and trust in God.

Holy Family Knights Café
Our brothers at Holy Family Parish, Council #11981, have a breakfast once a month and you are welcome to attend anytime.

The Knight’s Café is open after the 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 AM masses on Sunday, once a month. They typically start serving breakfast at 8:45, 10:15 and 12:15 PM, respectively. Hope to see you soon!

Dates of our Knight’s Cafe for the fraternal year 2015 - 2016:

October 25, 2015
November 22, 2015
December 20, 2015
January 31, 2016
February 28, 2016
March 27, 2016
April 24, 2016
May 22, 2016
June 26, 2016

Knights of Columbus Officer Meeting Notice
Our Next Monthly Officer Meeting will be held in the Festle Room at St. Theresa on Monday, November 2nd at 7:30 pm. For more information contact:

Jim Arns grandknight4977@gmail.com

“Passion, Pride, Performance”
Deputy Grand Knights Report

I.D. Drive: Deputy Grand Knight (DGK) Jim Arns, Sr. reminded all that this weekend’s I.D. Drive is our largest fundraiser of the year. He encouraged all to support. Bernie Bojarski asked us to pray for good weather, volunteers and generous donors. Unfortunately, about ½ of the stores from last year are no longer supporting the I.D. Drive. So, the emphasis for donations will necessarily focus on street corners.

Summer Picnic: DGK Jim Arns, Sr. confirmed that we will have a Council picnic on Sunday, September 27th at the Palatine Hills Park from 1:00 - 5:00 pm. Food and games are scheduled. All volunteers that supported the I.D. Drive are invited.

Kairos: Joe Raducka presented the history of Kairos which began in the 1970’s. Joe invited all interested in this ministry to speak with him. The Kairos team is on schedule for Oct 29th to Nov 1st to visit Stateville Prison. Cookies are needed. Please make and bring to the next business meeting (or church drop-off bins). Joe reminded us that the main ingredient of these Kairos cookies is prayer.

St. Theresa Update: Fr. Tim advised that St. Theresa will be celebrating the parish’s 75th anniversary in 2016. Many ideas are being considered by the Parish Pastoral Council to celebrate this milestone. Fr. Tim that he would like to see an oak tree planted on St. Theresa’s campus as part of the celebration. Also, he reminded us of the Trot for Theresa 5K walk/run on Saturday, September 26th. Our Knights of Columbus Council #4977 is a sponsor.

VIRTUS Training: Our DGK asked for copies of Virtus certificates for all Brothers who completed training.

Blood Drive: Rick Deyhle advises that the recent Knight’s sponsored Blood Drive was the best we have had. A total of 39 units were donated!

Christmas Wreaths: Grand Knight Jim Arns acknowledged the help and support of Rick Deyhle to manage the wreath sales. St. Theresa wreaths will be distributed the weekend after Thanksgiving. Additionally, participation in wreath sales by St. Thomas has been growing.

Right-to-Life (RTL) Committee:

- Maria Goldstein (the leader of St. Theresa’s RTL committee) received national attention as a result of a discriminating experience. An employee at the Office Depot in Schaumburg chose not to duplicate RTL flyers protesting Planned Parenthood abortion practices. Planned Parenthood is the largest abortion mill in the United States.
- The Forty Days for Life campaign starts September 23rd through November 1st. The main activities for Knights are to pray, fast and, if possible, stand vigil with the RTL committee at an abortion clinic.
- Respect for Life month is October. The Little Sisters of the Poor are scheduled to speak on October 10th and 11th on the elderly and end-of-life issues.

Patriots of the Trinity: Jim Hajost advised that we are in need of more 4th degree Sir Knights to obtain regalia. Jim reminded that a 4th degree exemplification is scheduled for Saturday, October 3rd at the Crystal Lake Holiday Inn. 4th degree exemplifications are also scheduled for February and April 2016.

Written Reports to DGK: GK Jim Arns reminded the Council that Brothers verbally reporting to the DGK on Council programs at the business meeting need to deliver 3 written copies summarizing their comments to the Council prior to the start of the business meeting. Emailed or hard copies go to 1) GK Jim Arns; 2) DGK Jim Arns, Sr. and 3) Recording Secretary Bob Novak.

The Christian Shop: Proprietor and Brother Knight Mike Rheaume have lost their lease on their Christian goods store. Fellow Brothers are requested to assist Mike in boxing and moving the store’s goods on Tuesday, September 15th (later changed to Sep 22nd) from 5:00 – 9:00 pm.

“Passion, Pride, Performance”
Picnic In the Park
The Knights of Columbus family picnic was held on Sunday, Sept. 27th. The weather was certainly in our favor, and we had plenty of hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, salads, desserts and fun. If you left hungry it was your fault! Over 50 people attended and a good time was had by all.

Thanks to everyone who attended, and a extra special thank you goes out to all that helped run plan and run the event – Deacon John and Donna Breit, Al and Donna Russ, Dave and Diane Tiegel, Jim Stroedl and his mom Betty.

Check out Our Facebook Page
All Council #4977 members are encouraged to check out our New Facebook page. It can be found either via the URL:

https://www.facebook.com/kofc4977

You can also search for "Knights of Columbus Holy Ghost Council #4977" on Facebook. Give it a go and let us know what you think. Thanks!

Matt Mitchell
Council Activities Director

Council Awards

Right: Knight of the Month award (July) to Brother Steve Lundell for putting together our Council’s standout monthly publication – the Knightly News.

Left: Knight of the Month award (August) to Brother Alan Carlson for managing the Newman Fund and helping out with organizing the Knight’s participation in the 4th of July parade.

Right: Knight of the Month award (September) to Brother Frank Rehberg for managing the Public Relations activities that provides visibility to our community of our Council’s charitable activities.

Left: Brother Rick Deyhle was presented a Family of the Month award by our GK for skillfully managing our Council’s blood drives “for eons”.

Finally, Brother Cas Paprocki (and wife Cathleen) were presented a certificate from the Knights in celebration of 45 years of marriage.

“Passion, Pride, Performance”
Upcoming Activities
Spaghetti Dinner November 11th – Join Council #4977 for a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, November 14th from 5:00 to 7:30 PM. The dinner will be held at St. Theresa Parish, Lower Dolan Center.

Cost:
Family of four: $25.00
Adults: $8.00
Children under 12: $5.00

Dinner includes salad, minestrone soup, spaghetti and meatballs, sausage, garlic bread, dessert, and beverages. Come and enjoy good food and good friends. We will also have a children’s craft corner!

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast – What do Halloween, Thanksgiving and the Holy Ghost Council #4977 Pancake Breakfast have in common? PUMPKIN!! Holy Ghost Council is hosting an all you can eat Pancake Breakfast. Come join us and help support local charities, religious vocations and respect life initiatives.

The menu features:
Pancakes, eggs, sausage, corned beef hash, juice and coffee.

When: Sunday, November 1, 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM
Where: St. Thomas Parish, 1201 E. Anderson Dr.
Cost:
$6 per person
$4 for seniors
$15 per family

Free to families experiencing difficult times.
Questions? Contact George (847) 991-0738

Council Retreat in February – The Concil #4977 retreat will take place at Bellarmine Hall in Barrington, February 26th - 28th, 2016. Watch for additional details to come.

Chaplain’s Corner
The Respect Life Program begins each year, as October is Respect Life Month. It is a call to each of us to uphold Life at every stage – from womb to tomb.

Each of our lives, and every life, is worth living, no matter the circumstances. We are called to respect and protect our own lives and the lives of others. We have been given one life to live from God’s own love. How do we choose to live it each day in our own life?

The Knights of Columbus are known for their great stance for LIFE!! We as Knights are proud of our dedication to life itself. During this month of October, I urge you to pray the following each day:

Prayer to End Abortion
Lord God, I thank you today for the gift of my life, and for the lives of all my brothers and sisters. I know there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion, yet, I rejoice that you have conquered death by the Resurrection of Your Son. I am ready to do my part in ending abortion. Today I commit myself never to be silent, never to be passive, and never to be forgetful of the unborn. I commit myself to be active in the pro-life movement, and never to stop defending life until all my brothers and sisters are protected, and our nation once again becomes a nation with liberty and justice, not just for some, but for all.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rev. Thomas R. Rzepiela, Pastor
St. Thomas of Villanova Church
1201 E. Anderson Drive
Palatine, IL 60074-4155
847.358.6999
fathertom@stov.org

Happy fall,
A wonderful time of the year!

“Passion, Pride, Performance”
Charity Begins at Home

Charity is one of the four virtues of the Knights of Columbus. Holy Ghost Council #4977 of Palatine carried the charity to one of our neighbor, St. Joseph’s Home for the Elderly.

Having been asked by Mother Marguerite, Administrator of St. Joseph Home for the Elderly, if the local Knights of Columbus could provide improvements to the grounds around the home, the idea was quickly endorsed and set into action.

The request was broken into two phases. The first being to add and/or replace benches on the grounds. Earlier this year Brother Tom Nicholas handled the purchasing, assembling and placement of four benches and three gliders. This work was accomplished by Brother Knights. The four benches were placed in an alcove wherein there is a statue to St. Jeanne Jugan, the foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor. The three gliders were placed two on two of the patios.

Phase two was the addition of nine trees to the grounds. To do this, Coordinator Tom Nicholas worked with John Heaton, owner of Knupper Nursery and Landscape, who gave the Knights of Columbus an economical and workable price on the trees. With the help of Jerry Cole, owner of Yardworks, Etcetera, Inc., Tom Nicholas picked out the nine trees. Various species were selected to improve the chance of survival.

Jerry also offered his services and that of two of his employees, for the actual digging and planting, at no charge.

So on a beautiful cool Saturday morning everything came together and the trees were planted and the projects were complete.

Thanks go to John Heaton, Jerry Cole and his crew, and a special thanks to Brother Tom Nicholas for undertaking this project and Brother Rick Deyhle for helping to plant the trees.

The Knights of Columbus Holy Ghost Council #4977 will continue spiritually, physically, and financially to support St. Joseph’s Home for the Elderly.

For information or if you wish to contribute please contact: grandknight4977@gmail.com

Prayer Intentions

Please keep the following in your prayer – Nancy Miklius (wife of Brother Leo); Darlene Landers (wife of Brother Jack); Brother Jim Reiber; Isabel Miklius (2-year-old granddaughter of Brother Leo); Brother George Tibus’ daughter Becky and her recently born premature child; Brother Bonifacio Quiaoit; Connie Mascenic; Rev. Joe Curtis; all families affected by the tragic events of 9/11; all current and former U.S. military men and women; and all police officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty (and their families). Prayers were also requested for the repose of the souls of the following deceased individuals – John Berto (brother of Brother Conrad); Brother Ernest Favaro; Brother Mike June’s father.

Submit your prayer petitions to stephenlundell@sbcglobal.net and we will do our best to publish them each month. If someone should be removed from this list, notification would be appreciated.
Retirement Balancing Act during tough Economic times
By Pierre Zermatten, Knights of Columbus Field Agent

Think of retirement as a three-legged stool. In order to maintain balance, you need all three legs… or there is a real possibility of a crash!

One leg consists of the benefits the government offers you. Debate rages about the viability of future benefits, and my best advice is to stay tuned to the discussion and make sure you are aware of what is planned for those benefits. Any change in future promises should be accounted for when we get to the third leg.

The second leg is your company’s pension plan, either defined benefit (such as a traditional pension: you work so many years and the company provides you with so much of a monthly benefit) or defined contribution (such as the popular 401K plans). Some of these plans, particularly traditional ones, are under stress, have been frozen or pared back. Learn how yours works; read the plan description; stay on top of the news coming from the company. On the 401K side, become a good investor. Teach yourself the fundamentals of good diversification and know how much you have and when you will need it.

Finally, the third leg is the saving you do yourself, and this is the only aspect you can control completely. Everyone needs this third leg. It consists of the money you personally set aside on a disciplined basis to help in retirement. You don’t directly control government benefits and you don’t directly manage your company’s pension plan, but you must manage your money and your life.

Establish a retirement plan of your own. Here at the Knights of Columbus, you can open a retirement annuity for as little as $300. Consistent and disciplined savings placed into that annuity over time can guarantee you an income that you cannot outlive at retirement. That’s right—guarantee you an income you cannot outlive. That really will provide you with peace of mind.

As you ponder all the things that may not work out as you proceed toward retirement, think about the one thing you can do to help yourself. It’s reasonably priced, guaranteed and controlled by someone you trust: you!

I’m at 847-323-0914 or pierre.zermatten@kofc.org. Call me – let’s talk.

Upcoming Business Meetings
November 9, 2015
St. Theresa Dolan Center, Lower Level
December 14, 2015
St. Theresa Dolan Center, Lower Level
January 11, 2016
St. Theresa Dolan Center, Lower Level
February 8, 2016
St. Theresa Dolan Center, Lower Level
March 13, 2016 (Sunday)
St. Theresa Dolan Center, Lower Level
April 11, 2016
St. Thomas, Meeting Rooms A & B
May 9, 2016
St. Thomas, Meeting Rooms A & B
June 13, 2016
St. Theresa Dolan Center, Lower Level

Upcoming Officer Meetings
November 2, 2015
Festle Board Room
December 7, 2015
Festle Board Room
January 4, 2016
Festle Board Room
February 1, 2016
St. Thomas, Meeting Room C
March 7, 2016
Festle Board Room
April 4, 2016
St. Thomas, Meeting Room C
May 2, 2016
St. Thomas, Meeting Room C
June 6, 2016
Festle Board Room

Full calendar attached as a separate document.

“Passion, Pride, Performance”
Council Service Contacts

Please make note of the individuals responsible for various activities within our council. In the event you have any questions related to any of these activities, please reach out to this individual and copy the Grand Knight on all emails. Doing this will help avoid duplication of efforts and inconsistent messages going out from the Council. Thank you!

Chaplain: Fr. Tom Rzepiela

Program Director: Jim Arns, arns134@comcast.net

Church Director: John Breit, John.Breit@gmail.com

Vocations Chairman: Tom Nicholas, TGNicholas@msn.com

Community Director: Mike McMahon, MMcMahon172@comcast.net

Culture of Life Director: Tom Mullen, TomMullen20@gmail.com

Council Director: Matt Mitchel, STMattMitchel@gmail.com

Public Relations: Frank Rehberg, frehberg@sbcglobal.net

Family Director: James Kelligrew, jim.killigrew@comcast.net

Youth Director: Dave Tuegel, DTuegel@comcast.net

Membership Director: Bruce Aelsi, alesbruce@gmail.com

Recruitment Committee: Layne Gabiner, CJGabi@sbcglobal.net Bob Novak, SaxonBob@gmail.com Jim Hajost, JHajost@comcast.net

Retention Chairman: Jim Arns, arns134@comcast.net

Insurance Promotion: Pierre Zermatten, pierrezermatten@yahoo.com

Lecturer: Jim Hajost, JHajost@comcast.net

Culture of Life Chair People: Jim Baur, JNG3306@gmail.com Geniveve Baur, JNG3306@gmail.com

Priesthood Sunday is October 25, 2015

Priesthood Sunday is a special day set aside to honor Priesthood in the United States. It is a call for parishioners to honor Christ as Priest and the men who were called to be His priests on earth.

Since its founding by a parish priest, Fr. Michael J. McGivney in 1882, the Knights of Columbus have always stood in solidarity with our priests. On this Priesthood Sunday, the Knights of Holy Ghost Council #4977, offer our sincere appreciation to the priests of St. Thomas of Villanova, St. Theresa, and the entire Chicago Archdiocese for the sacrifices they have made to be our spiritual shepherds.

Our thanks and admiration go to our priests at St. Thomas of Villanova:

Father Tom Rzepiela, Father Marcin Zasada, Father Ray Yadron, Father James Presta

Our thanks and admiration go to our priests at St. Theresa:

Fr. Timothy Fairman, Fr. Matthew Jamesson, Fr. Dennis Stafford, Fr. Ron Lewinski and Rev. Monsignor John P. McNamara

Gratitude
TURNS WHAT WE HAVE INTO ENOUGH

“Passion, Pride, Performance”