



The Crusader



Official Publication of the New Jersey State Council Knights of Columbus

State Deputy's Message



Robert Hatler
State Deputy



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Brother Knights,

The song says "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!" That is so true as we enter the month of December and look forward to celebrating Christ's birthday. During this special season, filled with so many personal activities, I ask you all to not lose sight of the things we as Knights can do for those less fortunate in our parishes, communities and councils. This is what we are all about! What better way to say thank you to Almighty God for all the blessings He's bestowed on us then by helping others less fortunate. If your council doesn't do anything in this regard, I challenge you to talk to your Grand Knight and get something started. It's not too late! As we move into the last month of 2017, remember you are someone who can make a difference in your council, parish and community by getting involved.

There are many Catholic, religious activities for a council to do in December. For the youth there is a "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. Keep Christ in Christmas coloring books are available to distribute to children of the parish! All the information for these activities is available in the Grand Knight's manual. For Council and church activity programs members should promote the State Council "Keep Christ in Christmas" card program. These are wonderful religious cards and all this information is available from the Grand Knights handbook. Also, during this season of giving, your council should be promoting and participating in activities such as Coats for Kids, Food for Families, working with pastors on programs for Building the Domestic Church, Christian Refugee Relief efforts, helping seminarians through the RSVP program and so many others.

Here's a unique idea for a Christmas gift of a lifetime..... I can't think of a better gift for a Catholic man, eighteen years of age or older, then a Membership Form 100! What better gift to give to someone (a relative, friend, parishioner, priest) than showing him you want him to join our order, sharing in the many charitable things we do and showing him the way the Knights can support him and his family financially. The Form doesn't cost you a thing but it's invaluable to the new member!

Finally let us all remember the theme "Keep Christ in Christmas!" It's not Happy Holidays, or Seasons Greetings. **CHRIST IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON!** Put a sign on your lawn, set up a crèche, put a magnet on your car and wear a button on your jacket! Promote your Catholicity! As the largest, Catholic, fraternal organization in the world we must let people know it's a religious holyday first and that then gives us all reason to celebrate!

On behalf of Maryann and me and our family we wish you and your families a most Holy Christmas, filled with the blessings of the Christ child and our hope for a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

REMEMBER – DON'T BLINK!

VIVAT JESUS, [Bob Hatler, State Deputy](#)

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

SCHEDULED DEGREES

[LINK](#)  individual Degree below for details.

<u>DATE/DEGREE</u>	<u>COUNCIL</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>CAMDEN:</u>		
2nd ~ Jan 21	Council 6551	Gibbsboro
<u>METUCHEN:</u>		
1st & 2nd ~ Dec 7	Council 3294	Flemington
1st ~ Dec 12	Council 2393	Basking Ridge
<u>NEWARK:</u>		
2nd ~ Dec 5	Council 2853	Fair Lawn
1st ~ Dec 6	Council 1711	Scotch Plains
1st ~ Dec 12	Council 2188	Westwood
1st ~ Dec 14	Council 3197	Hillside
1st ~ Jan 9	Council 2188	Westwood
2nd ~ Jan 18	Council 2586	Teaneck
1st ~ Jan 28	Council 3550	Ridgefield
<u>PATERSON:</u>		
3rd ~ Dec 3	Council 6320	Succasunna
1st ~ Jan 17	Council 10419	Long Valley
1st ~ Jan 18	Council 6904	Whippany
<u>TRENTON:</u>		
1st ~ Dec 5	Council 1436	Delran
1st ~ Dec 18	Council 6520	Medford
1st & 2nd ~ Dec 22	Council 3402	Keyport
3rd ~ Jan 5	Council 6201	Jackson

Degree Notes:

- Candidates and observers should be dressed appropriately, jacket and tie.
- Candidate escorts should have all Degree paraphernalia when arriving at Degree location.

Dear Brother Knights:

"We have always done it this way...we have NEVER done it that way!" As an educator, nothing is more frustrating than to hear people talk about a process and realize that they are so inflexible that there is no wiggle room for innovation or new ideas. We develop comfort levels and what has been acceptable in years past is just assumed to continue to be acceptable. We can no longer think this way when it comes to membership recruitment and growing our Order. We can no longer stand outside of church twice a year and feel that we have adequately recruited for new members. How we reach out to potential members has changed and being equipped with the proper tools and knowledge will enable us to be successful.

Has your council embraced the use of social media? Does your council have a web page or Facebook page? You should be using these outlets to promote your council programs and endeavors to encourage new member inquiries. Recruiting of new members is the one time we should put aside modesty and boast of our accomplishments...if we don't boast – no one else will.

Are you recruiting for a specific purpose or an established degree date? We need to recognize that people lead busy lives and will not join the Order because they have two free nights a month and can think of nothing better to do than to spend it at a council meeting. Recruit members for a specific purpose – perhaps a person is interested in youth activities or parish activities. We should be encouraging that person to join the Order to bring this skill set to the council. Can they run or assist in the running of the Basketball Free Throw or the Soccer Challenge or will they be willing to organize a Family Rosary Night or Stations of the Cross Service. Getting prospective members involved in activities and programs that appeal to them will foster their interest in the Order. But the key is getting them to fill out the Form 100 and participate in an Admission Degree. Getting the paperwork filled out and then having them wait for a month or two for an Admission Degree is a sure way to lose that prospective member. Are you using the DVD or reading the parts to more quickly have a new member join the Order? These may not be ideal, but we cannot have prospective members waiting for degree dates...we no longer live in a 9-5, Monday-Friday world where every man can be available on a week night to attend a degree. The greater flexibility that we have in offering degree availability will increase the potential for that candidate to join the Order.

You have heard me say in the past – "Nothing Changes if Nothing Changes" – New Jersey will be part of a major change in recruiting new members when we join the Online Membership Program in January, 2018. I know...we have never done it this way before, but the states that have been part of the early pilot of this program have reported positive outcomes with the members being attracted being mostly younger members. This is using social media and it is a new program...we must be willing to try new methods of outreach if we are to offer membership in our Order to every Catholic gentleman. This new program will be discussed at the Mid Term District Deputy meeting on December 9, 2017 and at the Mid Term Grand Knight meetings

These are exciting times and the State Membership Team will be with you every step of the way to assist you. If you need our help, please feel free to contact us.

I wish you a joyful Advent and a Happy and Holy Christmas.

Vivat Jesus

[Russell D. Petrocelli, MFD](#)

State Membership Director

Upcoming Events:

*** PLEASE NOTE – ALL MONTHLY REPORTS ARE DUE AT THE STATE COUNCIL OFFICE ON THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH**

Be sure to make a note of the activities that are scheduled for the next several months. Click the specific activity [\[hyperlink\]](#)  to obtain more information, details and forms. Log-in required

2017

- Dec 2 ~ Blessing of the Cresche – State House
- Dec 7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day ~ Fly your Flag
- Dec 8 – Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- Dec 9 – District Deputy Mid-Term Meeting
- Dec 10 – 4th Degree Exemplification – 2nd NJ District
- Dec 12 – Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Dec 13 – National Guard Birthday ~ Fly your Flag
- Dec 24 – Christmas Eve
- Dec 25 – Christmas Day
- Dec 31 – New Year’s Eve

2018

- Jan 1 ~ New Year’s Day
- Jan 6 ~ MidTerm GK Meeting – Paterson/Metuchen
- Jan 6 ~ Feast of the Epiphany
- Jan 7 ~ Baptism of Jesus Christ
- Jan 13 ~ MidTerm GK Meeting – Newark Archdiocese
- Jan 15 ~ Martin Luther King Day ~ Fly your Flag
- Jan 19 ~ March for Life
- Jan 22 ~ NJ Life Rally
- Jan 27 ~ Midterm GK Meeting - Trenton/Camden
- Feb 2 ~ Candlemas Day
- Feb 14 ~ Ash Wednesday
- Feb 14 – Valentine’s Day
- Feb 19 ~ President’s Day
- Feb 24 ~ Polar Bear Plunge

PREVIOUS ISSUES OF THE CRUSADER
ARE AVAILABLE BY CLICKING [HERE](#)

Please forward this
Newsletter to all your council members.

WWW.NJKOFC.ORG



Quarterly Calendar



DECEMBER 2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JANUARY 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

Highlighted Programs of the Month

FREE THROW TOURNAMENT

Brothers,

With Christmas this month, that means it is getting to be time for indoor activities for the children. This is a great time to start planning your Council's Free Throw Tournament, which will take place in January. With School and Township Tournaments under way, it might be wise to reserve a gym now, don't wait until January.

The Tournament is open to boys and girls age 9 – 14. The child's age is determined by the age they are on January 1, 2017. Children under 9 or older than 14 on that date may not compete in the "Official Tournament", but that doesn't mean you can't hold a Council Tournament For the younger children, or a 3 pt competition for the older children

Free Throw Tournament kits can be ordered from Supreme or if you have forms left over from previous years, you may use them. Just draw a box for the 9 yr olds age group.

After the Council competition is completed in January, your District Deputy will hold a round in February and the winners of the District Round will advance to the Diocesan Round in March. The Diocesan winners will compete in the State Finals, scheduled for early April 2017. Letters will be provided informing the Diocesan Champions of the location and time schedule for the State Finals.

In the past few years, we have had some of our State Champions go on to win the International competition and we hope to be fortunate again.

<u>Round</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
Council Free Throw:	January 2017
District Free Throw:	February 2017
Regional Free Throw:	March 2017
State Free Throw:	April 8, 2017

Diocesan Free Throw Coordinators

Camden Diocese:	Mike Querubin, FDD
Metuchen Diocese:	George French, FDD
Newark Archdiocese:	Silvio Sartori, FDD
Paterson Diocese:	Enrique Blanco, DD
Trenton Diocese:	John Gazis, FDD

Let's have a great competition, but most of all remember, this is for the kids to have fun.

[John A Gazis, FDD](#)

State Free Throw Chairman



LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN

The Pen is Mightier than the Sword

These words by Edgar Bulwer-Lytton mean that we can cause people to change their opinions about our faith on a large scale whereas a sword can only change a person's opinion by force.

The Founding Fathers of the United States of America considered the pen to be mightier than the sword, and therefore were able to gain the freedom of America by uniting the colonists.

So, we too, as Brother Knights, must defend our faith by changing people's minds. We can do this by being attentive to the world around and pick up our pens and challenge in writing all the misconceptions about our faith.

I am asking you to join me as part of our Catholic Voice in the Media team. I ask that you be vigilant and, when necessary, pen a Letter to the Editor expressing your feelings about the topic at hand.

Most newspapers will limit you to 200 – 250 words. This means you will have to be concise in your writing. It means that your letter has a good chance of being printed unedited. It also means that it will be read. Don't get discouraged if it is not printed. Just keep on trying!

Do not identify yourself as a member of the Knights of Columbus but if you must identify yourself, do it as a Man of Faith.

I ask that you send me a copy whether it is printed or not.

Vivat Jesus!

[Ron Prykanowski, F.D.D.](#)

Our Catholic Voice in the Media



PROGRAM CORNER

Hello Brothers.

Thanksgiving has come and gone. We are now all preparing for Christmas, the Birth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, and New Year's is right around the corner. Believe it or not we are that close to this Fraternal year being half over. As you read this the Programs team is getting ready for the DD Mid-term Meeting and our GK Meetings across the State. Hopefully most of you have been doing programs all along and starting to fill out your Columbian Award forms. Also, please make sure to make a strong push with the "Building The Domestic Church" initiative. We must remember that in this Fraternal Year, 1 Domestic Church Activity must be done in each Program area to achieve Star Council.

The Bowling Tournament will be held 2/10-11 and 2/17-18 at the PlayDrome in Toms River. Please get your teams together ASAP. They need to be in by 1/15/18 To Kevin Delmonico. Wedding Certificates are also a great way to let your Members know that you are thinking about them. John Jones heads this Program.

In Church Activities, please get your last minute orders for the Keep Christ in Christmas Cards orders into our Chairman Pete Kudless. The deadline was November 27th but hopefully we can get them to you if ordered immediately. Call Peter before ordering. The Parochial and CCD Teacher of the Year forms must be in to your DD by 2/1/18. As well as the CHAPLAIN OF THE YEAR. There are 362 Council, there should be 362 applications. GET THEM IN

In Community Activities, we need to take care of our Veterans all year, but especially during the Christmas Season. Have your Council plan a visit to one of the Vets homes to brighten their day. Also, it is time to put together Christmas Food Baskets to the needy in our Parishes. The following forms are due to your DD's by 2/1/18: Police and Fire Shield award. EMT of the Year, Senior Citizen of the Year...AGAIN there should be 362 forms submitted.

In Youth Activities. I would like to thank State Chairman Vito Pulito and his team on running a successful Soccer Challenge. Finally the Catholic Citizenship Contest must be completed by the Councils by Jan 30, send to the DD's by Feb 28th and DD's to the Chairman by March 30, so Essays can be submitted to Supreme by April 15. One of the most important things to do this year is to have completed the SAFE ENVIRONMENT Program. All Grand Knights and Youth Activities Chairmen MUST complete this Program. Please contact our State Advocate Ray Sands for any needed info. By doing your programs and teaching those Knights ready for advancement you will make sure your Council is **"ANCHORED IN CHARITY AND FRATERNITY"!!**

[Harold Delaney, FDD](#), NJ State General Program Director

PATRIOTIC CORNER

My Worthy Brother Knights,

As we welcome December and the start of Advent season, our social and Order calendars tend to become rather filled. I trust that all Assemblies will have had their Memorial Mass of Remembrance for their departed Brother Sir Knights. If not, it's never too late to remember them with a special prayer or service. November always presents us with the opportunity to remember our Veterans and those who served during periods of war and conflict.

This year's 2nd NJ Districts fall Exemplification of the Fourth Degree in Cherry Hill will be held December 9 & 10th. The Exemplification Ceremony itself always includes recognition of our hero veterans and those who made the ultimate sacrifice by giving up their tomorrows so that we could have our todays. Continue to remember them and all who served in your prayers.

As the Patriotic degree of the order, we also strive to support our Armed Services personnel. There is a project called "Send a Hero Home for the Holidays". It will pick up the travel fees to send an active duty soldier who has not been home in a while. Imagine the satisfaction by helping make a soldier get home with their loved ones for the holidays! For more details or how to contribute contact Tom Ponting at atponting@gmail.com or call 609-203-2390.

I also would like to extend my congratulations to Russell Petrocelli on the 1st NJ District Exemplification of the 4th Degree and Military Ball, truly a success. 85 candidates joined the 4th Degree. Congratulations to honoree - Vice Supreme Master Andy Lipenta, PSD. Also I extend our congratulations to Joseph E. O'Boyle Jr, Color Corpsman of the Year and to Thomas Hyer recipient of the 2nd Frederick J Corforti Distinguished Service Award.

On behalf of my fellow Master, Russell Petrocelli and myself and our families, I would like to wish each of you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Holy and Healthy New Year. We look forward to a great 2018!

VIVAT JESUS!

[Christopher Tomasello](#), Master, 2nd NJ District



SPECIAL PROGRAMS CORNER

Brother Knights,

As discussed in last month's Crusader, I hope you have all visited the [NJKofC Polar Penguins Plunge page](#) and made your donation for the February 24th Polar Bear Plunge in support of Special Olympics!

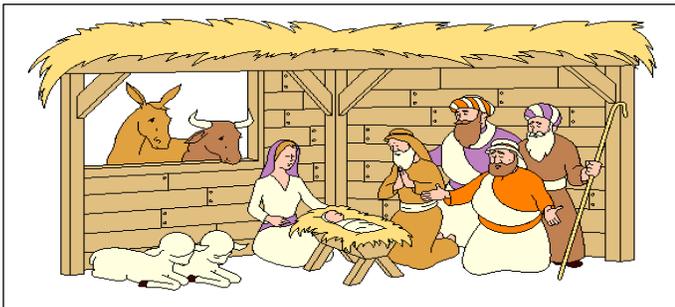
As you plan fund-raising activities for the first few months of 2018, please remember we desperately need contributions toward the Special Programs supporting: 1) Deborah Hospital, 2) Alzheimer's Respite Care, 3) Autism Family Support, 4) Intellectual Disabilities, and 5) Support for Persecuted Christians. Grand Knights should submit related forms (found on www.njkofc.org) reporting these donations by the deadlines required (usually 3/31). Detailed information on each Special Program can be found in the [Grand Knight's Handbook](#).

In keeping with the Holy Father's plan to build the domestic church and strengthen the family, this year's **Marian Devotion Program** is dedicated to the Holy Family. There is an icon in each diocese and the icon is distributed by way of the District Deputies with Regional Coordinators in each Diocese: Newark: [Enrique Blanco, FDD](#); Metuchen: [Ramon Alayon, FDD](#); Trenton: [John Gazis, FDD](#); Paterson: [Joseph Wickham, OFS, FDD](#); and Camden: [Henry Keating, FDD](#). There is a beautiful prayer service that travels with the icon and prayer cards for each participant that they can take home with them and continue to pray with their family. Contact your DD or Regional Coordinator for additional information and scheduling of Marian Devotion Prayer Services.

Thank you in advance for your support and for all that you do for the Order. The State Chairmen of Special Programs and I, along with our families, wish you all a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year! As Brother Knights, may we be united in spirit and "Anchored in our Charity and Fraternity", as we help those less fortunate. Vivat Jesus!

[Marty Boyle, FDD](#),

Director of Special Programs



CULTURE OF LIFE CORNER

Brothers:

The Christmas season is a wonderful time to celebrate Life! We are reminded of all the great things that one person can do if given a chance to live. What if Mary, a single girl who found herself pregnant, had had an abortion instead of relying on her faith in God that everything would be all right?

March for Life. As we move into January, we must prepare for the March for Life in Washington on January 19. *The theme is "Love Saves Lives."* All information can be found on their web site www.marchforlife.org. If your council or parish has a bus going, be sure to submit the details to the State Council. There may be many people around the state who would like to go and would love to join you on your bus. Please fill out the form at this [LINK](#) by December 16 and help us spread the word.

Also, don't forget the Life Rally in Trenton run by NJ Right to Life on January 22, at 11am! This year it will take place in the annex courtyard alongside the state house because of work starting on the façade of the building. Please don't bring signs, they will be provided and if you're planning to attend, email NJRTL at feedback@njrtl.org.

As always, please be sure to report on your activities. I know you don't do it for awards, but as our Lord said, don't hide your light under a bushel basket; let it shine before men. How else will we inspire others to turn away from the Culture of Death?

[Steven J. Richardson, FM](#)

Culture of Life Programs Director



INSURANCE MATTERS

Merry Christmas.....Two words that have deep meaning for all Christians. The "Christmas Season", as it known, is when we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior. In our society today, that celebration has been trivialized and relegated to the background of the wanton consumerism that sparks our economy each year at this time.

As Catholics, we are reminded of the true meaning of Christmas through the liturgical season of Advent. Advent is when we are supposed to prepare ourselves to be in the presence of the Jesus. Advent is the season when we are to look at ourselves and our relationships and make a resolution to be better. (We atone for our sins in the next major liturgical season, Lent, but that's a story for another article.)

Some of you may be saying what does any of this have to do with insurance, well, it's a bit of stretch, but here goes. Fr. McGivney founded our Order so that the families of our members would be protected from the sure financial devastation of the loss of the breadwinner. Our insurance program, in modern times, not only protects our wives and kids from our untimely death and the consequences of that occurring, but we now cover the wives and children of our members. We also have insurance to replace your income, during your working years and a program to help you pay for long term care costs if a member of the family is incapacitated and needs care. We also offer a safe haven for your retirement nest egg in uncertain, (what goes up, always goes down, even if we are riding a nice wave right now), economic times.

So, let's all try to "Keep Christ in Christmas", and let's also remember that it is our duty as fathers, husbands and members of our Order to protect the future of those closest to us. When reflecting, please take a moment to schedule some time to meet with your agent to make sure Fr. McGivney's vision and our mission is fulfilled.

From all of the General Agents and Field Agents, serving New Jersey, please accept our best wishes for a happy, healthy and Blessed Christmas, (and a healthy and prosperous New Year).

[Charles Miraglia](#), General Agent



WEBMASTER

Past vs. Former

I receive requests to post Council & Assembly events on the website. And although the composition of the "Who, What, Where, When, Why and How Much" are written to be well-meaning, sometimes there is confusion on the proper manner to address certain "retired" officers.

There are specific times when the prefix "Past" and the prefix "Former" are used. It makes a major difference in usage, and the two are not interchangeable:

"PAST" is used preceding a title for a major **ELECTED** office, after that person has stepped down / retired - but **ONLY** after having served more than 6 months. Examples are:

- Past Grand Knight
- Past Faithful Navigator
- Past State Deputy
- Past Supreme Knight

"FORMER" is used preceding a title for a major **APPOINTED** office after that person has stepped down / retired, again **ONLY** after having served more than 6 months. . Examples are:

- Former District Deputy
- Former Supreme Director
- Former Master
- Former Vice Supreme Master
- Former Supreme Master

Speaking of Protocol...Remember, State Officers have busy schedules, and much as they might LOVE to attend every Council or Assembly event, there are only so many days in a Fraternal Year. As a sign of courtesy and respect for their time it is recommended that State Officers, and other dignitaries, be mailed written invitations at least 6 weeks in advance.

In addition, be sure to spell out the dress code, agenda and request for the dignitary to speak (and time frame) at your function.

Oh, speaking of protocol "Do's and Don'ts"...and this actually happened at an event I attended as a dignitary: The highest ranking dignitary is supposed to be the last to speak. However, the host asked the State Officers to come up to speak out of order by stating, "Since the food isn't quite ready, how about <the State Officer> come up now, but since the food will be ready soon, please keep it brief!!!" Yikes! At least the host said "please"!

Help Wanted: If anyone would like to assist with data entry tasks, please give me a call. My motto: "I never work anyone harder than I work myself!" 😊

Vivat Jesus!!!

[Bernie Ernst, FDD](#)

NJ State Council Webmaster

SQUIRES CORNER

Brothers Merry Christmas & Happy & Holy New Year.

We are winding down for the Holidays shortly and I wanted to mention that in January applications for the scholarships can be found on the State Squire/Squire Rose Web site @: www.NJSquires.org

[Fr John M Murray Catholic High School Scholarship](#)

[Fr John M Murray Catholic College Scholarship](#)

[John Attardo College Scholarship](#)

Our Circle in Sparta is running their **8th Luminary Night** in December. They are selling Luminary kits as a fund raiser to support the many needy and homeless families in their area. Contact Nick Cutrone for additional Information. (*see below*)

Our Circle in Budd Lake is sponsoring a Christmas Party for their Senior Center in Town at Paragon Village Contact Tom Rohe for additional information. (*see below*)

Youth are the keys to the future of the Knights of Columbus; our Squires/Squire Roses statewide are busy working food banks, attending retreats, and many miscellaneous projects assisting our councils, our parishes, and our communities.

Brothers to start a Circle in your council;
Contact:

- **Peter Briody, PGK**
Columbian Squires/Squire Rose Director –
NJSquires@gmail.com
- **Tom Rohe, DGK**
Columbian Squire/Squire Rose Regional
Chairman North - trohe4@optonline.net
- **Anthony Cozzi, FDD**
Columbian Squire/Squire Rose Regional
Chairman Central Acozzi3294@gmail.com
- **William McCartney, FDD**
Columbian Squire/Squire Rose Regional
Chairman South- MccartneyJr@lcloud.com
- **Nick Cutrone, PGK**
Columbian Squire/Squire Rose State
Committee - cutronekofc@gmail.com

[Peter D Briody, PGK](#)

Columbian Squires/Squire Rose Program Director

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Brothers,

In putting together the Crusader every month, I come across some celebrations and holydays I had never heard of before. One of these is Candlemas. Candlemas is celebrated on the **2nd** day of **February** of each year. The day is celebrated as a day of renewal, hope, and purification. It celebrates 3 occasions according to Christian belief: The Presentation of the child Jesus, Jesus' first entry into the temple and it celebrates the Virgin Mary's purification 40 days after the birth of her son, our Savior Jesus Christ (mainly in Catholic Churches)

The Presentation of Jesus at the Temple is an early episode in the life of Jesus that is celebrated by the Church on the holiday of Candlemas. It is described in the Gospel of Luke of the New Testament the Christian Bible. Within the account, "Luke's narration of the Presentation in the Temple combines the purification rite with the Jewish ceremony of the redemption of the firstborn."

As we prepare for the coming Christmas Holidays, remember to say loudly and proudly "Merry Christmas". This is the time of year to wear your Faith on your sleeve. Many times you will hear "Happy Holidays", let your response inform people you are proud of your Catholic Faith. Display your "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets and lawn signs prominently.

Remember that New Years Day is not just a day of football and beverages, it is also The Solemnity of Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God. Start your day by celebrating Mass, thanking Mary for her life as Jesus' mom, as well as ours. It is through Our Lady that all we do is possible.

[John A Gazis, FDD](#)

Crusader Editor



MILESTONES



<u>COUNCIL</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>CHARTER DATE</u>	<u>YRS</u>
<u>2061</u>	<u>Our Lady of Victory</u>	<u>Sayreville</u>	<u>12/1/1919</u>	<u>98</u>
<u>10994</u>	<u>St Francis of Assisa</u>	<u>Wrightstown</u>	<u>12/1/1992</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>4504</u>	<u>Union</u>	<u>Union City</u>	<u>12/2/1957</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>5903</u>	<u>Prince of Peace</u>	<u>Englishtown</u>	<u>12/2/1966</u>	<u>51</u>
<u>6735</u>	<u>St Peters</u>	<u>Merchantville</u>	<u>12/5/1975</u>	<u>42</u>
<u>7677</u>	<u>St Gregory the Great</u>	<u>Hamilton Square</u>	<u>12/8/1980</u>	<u>37</u>
<u>6320</u>	<u>St Therese</u>	<u>Succasunna</u>	<u>12/9/1971</u>	<u>46</u>
<u>7926</u>	<u>St Martha</u>	<u>Pt Pleasant</u>	<u>12/9/1981</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>4885</u>	<u>Pope Pius XII</u>	<u>Edison</u>	<u>12/12/1959</u>	<u>58</u>
<u>6522</u>	<u>Fr Capodanno</u>	<u>Forked River</u>	<u>12/13/1973</u>	<u>44</u>
<u>2561</u>	<u>Caldwell</u>	<u>Caldwell</u>	<u>12/14/1924</u>	<u>93</u>
<u>7020</u>	<u>Brigantine</u>	<u>Brigantine</u>	<u>12/14/1977</u>	<u>40</u>
<u>636</u>	<u>Princeton</u>	<u>Princeton</u>	<u>12/16/1901</u>	<u>116</u>
<u>6195</u>	<u>Our Lady of Mt Carmel</u>	<u>Nutley</u>	<u>12/17/1969</u>	<u>48</u>
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State Deputy Robert Hatler, along with the entire NJ State Council and the Newsletter Staff, would like to take this opportunity to wish **ALL** councils best wishes on their **Charter Anniversary**.

May your council continue to grow and do good deeds for many more years to come! Let's continue to grow our Order, expand our programs and continue to be "**Anchored in our Charity and Fraternity!**"

The CRUSADER is the Official Monthly Publication of the New Jersey State Council, Knights of Columbus

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