



KNIGHTS' *Communiqué*



Knights of Columbus
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St. Joseph Manyanet Council No. 5567
Published Monthly



Wheaton, Maryland
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Grand Knight's Message

The Grand Knight did not provide a message for the newsletter this month. Instead, he asks that you read Larry Grayson's reflection. You can find it online on the Maryland State Council's website: www.kofc-md.org. Click on State Newsletter, and look for the *Reflections* link.

Chaplain's Reflection

Every Baby Deserves a Birthday

She's a young mother with four children already, and she just found out that she was pregnant again. In a state of panic, she called a girlfriend.

"Get rid of it!" her friend counseled. "You have children already. You and your husband are not getting along that well. There's a little place up the road. I'll go with you." "But I couldn't live with myself if I did that," the young mother replied.

She called another girlfriend. "Look," her friend said, "why bring another child into the world when it might not really be loved by your husband? Right now, it's only hair and fingernails! Do something right away. I'll go to the hospital with you."

Sadly, this story is true. Now, the people that this young mother talked to were not bad people. They were friends. They honestly wanted to help her. But sadly, like the counselors of Job in the Bible, they brought more anxiety than help.

The mother in question decided to have the baby. Her reasoning was simple and unpretentious. "It was against my principles," she said. "I always say to my girls not to get pregnant because I'm not going to help them have an abortion. If they get pregnant, they are going to have to have the baby. Now, I have to practice what I preach."

While acknowledging that her marriage had been shaky, she replied to her friends, "But, would you kill one of your children just because you and your husband were having a hard time? What a powerful statement.

She continued, "I look around at my kids, and I realize that's exactly what I would be doing. Which one of my children would I want not to be alive just because our marriage isn't perfect?" **Continued Next Column**

Chaplain, from Column 1

"I realized that if I had an abortion, every time I saw a baby I would feel guilty. As the years would pass, I would see 2 and 3 and 5 year olds and on and on, and I would know that my baby would be that age. I would wonder what the child would have been like."

I tell this woman's story, not to make people who had abortions feel guilty. God forgives our worst sins, and we need to forgive ourselves our worst choices. And, the woman is also a victim when an abortion is performed. But, I tell this story because it helps to highlight the pressure many women are under to have abortions. Abortions are legal, and it's easy to forget that something legally right may not be morally right.

Abortions are convenient, and so there is great pressure to act quickly without thinking thoroughly. There are many reasons why friends, and even family, will help us justify having an abortion, thus increasing the pressure. And did you notice in the advice she was given by her friends, how the new life was referred to as "it?" It's so much easier to kill "fingernails and hair," to kill an "it" than to realize that we are killing a developing human being.

I like to think of that young mother as one of life's heroes. She is not a religious fanatic. She is not attempting to force her values on anyone else. But she does have values. And she dares to live them, at no small personal cost to herself. And a new life will be born. And her husband may yet learn to love the new child.

And one day a little child somewhere will be blowing out candles on a cake and others will be singing and presents will be wrapped. And you and I will know the rest of the story about a mother who believed the saying, "Every baby deserves a birthday."

Pilgrimage to the St. John Paul II Shrine

The Council is planning a pilgrimage to the St. John Paul II National Shrine. Details are still being worked out. Watch the Communiqué for updates, or check with PGK Bill Newbrough.

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Please Remember in Your Prayers

Luke Barr (Bernard Wikramanayake's Grandson)
❖ Bernadette Barr (Bernard's Daughter) ❖ Connie Berens (Pattie Kane's Mother) ❖ Harry Canter ❖ Rolando Cobarrobias ❖ Christina Cooper ❖ David V. Dube, Jr. ❖ Patrick J. Freimuth, PGK ❖ Chris Glaser, Jr. ❖ Thomas Strobel ❖ Charles Hudson ❖ John Kominski ❖ Alfio & Rosemary Mazzaglia ❖ Gloria Pelletier ❖ Evans Family (adoption) ❖ Rice Family (adoption) ❖ James Stack ❖ Roger Vales ❖ Mary Wells (Bob Kane's Sister) ❖ William Cooper ❖ Peggy Leake-Ross's Son-in-Law ❖ Deacon John DeWolf ❖ Nimal Perera's Daughter Savini ❖ Fr. Val Keveny ❖ Ron Dunn ❖ Jack McCue ❖ Bill Hanna ❖ Maria E. Cooper, daughter of Christina Cooper (widow of George Cooper) ❖ Carl Dabbs, PGK ❖ Orlando Lau ❖ Marlene Trimble ❖ Chris Glaser ❖ family of Ted Sintetos ❖ Mary Masto ❖ Sharon Kassel ❖ Peter Latora ❖ Dawn Szabo ❖ Alice Clair ❖ Aristotle Prado's Nephew ❖ B.G. Thompson, PGK and his wife Caroline ❖ Fr. Alphonso Carew ❖ Joe Fantom's daughter ❖ Wally Stack, PGK and his wife Bea ❖ the Grandfather of Danny Grant ❖ Carl Fefe ❖ Robert Kammer, PGK ❖ Iria Pereira ❖ John Naughton ❖ the sister of Cesar Sanchez-Luna ❖ Special intention of Bill Newbrough ❖ Bonnie, the daughter-in law of Roger Szabo ❖ Hector, high school friend of Ponce Teran

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ed Lusik, who entered into eternal life in December

COUNCIL

Birthday Greetings

The Council extends best wishes for a Happy Birthday to our Brother Knights who are celebrating a birthday in February!

Christopher Stradone – 1 Theodore Sintetos - 14
Bernard Wikramanayake - 1
Daniel M. Potrepka – 3 Rev. Val Keveney - 15
Caleb M. Glaser – 6 Suraju Akimbola - 22
Michael W. Henze – 8 Peter Freimuth - 22
Joseph A, Criswell – 9 Henry A. Salah - 23

Please let the editor know of any additions or deletions to/from the Sick or Birthday lists.

COMMUNITY

Shepherd's Table

Let's give a hand to the good people at the Shepherd's Table soup kitchen on Wednesday, February 15, beginning at 5:00 PM. The time spent will be most rewarding. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Call William Trimble, PGK, 240-603-2574, for more information. The address is: 8210 Colonial Lane #A, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

CHURCH

Easter Olive Wood Sale at St. Jude's

On the weekend of April 1 and 2, after all the Masses, the Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation will be selling items made of olive wood by Christians in the Holy Land. Please help out if you can. Please contact Frank Carroll for additional information or to volunteer.

CHURCH

Men's Retreat

Brothers are invited to join the Men of St. Jude's on a retreat at the Loyola Retreat House. The retreat is the first week of March. The retreat is run by the Jesuits. The Loyola Retreat House is located in Faulkner, MD at 9270 Loyola Retreat Road, Newburg, MD 20664. For more information, please contact Frank Carroll.

New Council

The Knights of Columbus proudly welcomes St. Maximilian Kolbe Council in Silver Spring to the Order. The institution ceremony will take place on Sunday, February 5. Please check with PGK, DW Bill Newbrough for further information.

CULTURE OF LIFE

VP Speaks at March for Life

On Friday, January 27, Vice President Mike Pence spoke at the annual March for Life. This was the first time anyone so high-ranking has ever spoken at the March. For more on the Knights' participation in the March for life, check out the K of C website: <http://www.kofc.org/en/news/releases/vice-president-march-for-life.html>.

CHURCH

Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto

Plans are being made for a Council Pilgrimage to the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes in Emmitsburg, MD. The date is set for Saturday, March 25. Watch for more details in the March *Communiqué*, or contact Roger Szabo.

MEMBERSHIP

Degree Exemplification Schedule

The Initiation Degree Team at St. Joseph Manyanet Council will be hosting three more Initiation (1st) Degree Exemplifications during the 2016-2017 Fraternal Year. Degrees will take place on Thursday, February 9, Thursday, April 6, and Thursday, June 8

Exemplifications take place in Room 11, the Council Chamber, and begin at 8pm. Candidates should report to the lobby area outside of Room 11 by no later than 7:30pm. Contact F.S. Roger Szabo if you know of any candidates, so that proper arrangements can be made.

In addition, the Council will be hosting a Formation (2nd) Degree on Thursday, May 25, 2017.

FAMILY

Annual Council Baseball Outing

Calling all Orioles fans and anyone else who wants to come along! This year's Baseball Outing will take place on Friday, July 14, 2017, when the Baltimore Orioles host the 2016 World Series Champion Chicago Cubs. Mark your calendars now! Look for additional information in future editions of the *Communiqué*. Friends and family are always most welcome.

Exemplifications of the Fourth Degree

There are two Fourth Degree Exemplifications coming up very soon.

Maryland District/Calvert	ADW District
March 3-5, 2017	March 24-26, 2017
Princess Royale Hotel	Colony South Hotel
9100 Coastal Highway	7401 Surratts Road
Ocean City, MD	Clinton, MD 20835

In both cases, the registration deadline is approaching very fast. Please contact Roger Szabo, PGK, FS as soon as possible if you are planning to take the 4th Degree on either of these two dates so that proper arrangements can be made. For further information please visit the Maryland State Council Website: www.kofc-md.org, and look for the 4th Degree line.

This Man Is You (TMIY)

The second semester is under way. Saturdays at 6:30 am at St. Jude's. Breakfast, an inspirational talk and breakout sessions are included.

February, 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 TMIY @ SJ
5	6	7	8	9 Initiation Degree 8pm	10	11 TMIY @ SJ
12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15 Shepherd's Table 5pm	16	17	18 TMIY @ SJ
19	20	21	22	23 Business Meeting 8pm	24	25 TMIY @ SJ
26	27	28				



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