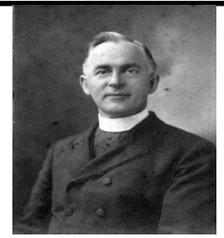




Knights Life

The Official Publication of Father Rosensteel Council #2169



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Chaplain's Reflection Incarnation

Christmas is a time to reflect on the awesomeness of God. The world was created some 14.6 billion years ago when God breathed the "big bang" that simultaneously created the entire universe. Through these evolutionary processes that were set into motion, all the stars, galaxies and other forms of matter would be created.

About 10.1 billion years after the "big bang," the solar system began to evolve and the earth was created. Another 4.4 billion years would pass before the first early humans appeared on earth about 2 million years ago. During all this time, 14.6 billion years, God simply watched His creation grow and evolve. At some unknown point in history, God breathed a soul into humanity. After that, God began His involvement in human history 4,000 years ago, when he appeared to Abraham.

God led His people, Israel, out of Egypt about 3,300 years ago. The Babylonian exile began 2,600 years ago. Finally, God completed his Revelation to humanity about 2,000 years ago, with the Incarnation of His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

God made us a "little less than a god," crowned us glory and honor, and gave us rule over the work of His hands, and placed everything under our feet (cf. Ps 8). Yet, God also realized that because we are "little less than a god," we are lacking in the wisdom to fully return His love either to ourselves or to our neighbors. So from the very beginning of time, God planned to reveal Himself through the Incarnation to the only one of his creatures that could love Him back, human beings.

God did not have to do this. God did not need to do this. Rather, God did this to share his infinite love with each one of us. But, in order for us to be able to love Him to the fullest, God sent His Eternal Word, Jesus Christ, "the way, the truth, and the life," to teach us how to love, how to live and how to pray.

At Christmas, we recall this greatest miracle of all, the Incarnation of God through the birth of Jesus Christ. The Incarnation is the most important feast in Christian life. Christianity is the only religion in the world that believes in the Incarnation of God. The Incarnation is God's gift to us. Without the Incarnation, there would have been no Resurrection.

Deacon Alan Jeeves

Grand Knight's Station "Fishers of Men"

Dear Rosensteel Family,

It is hard to believe we are in our 6th month of the Council year! There were some very nice events in November. We held our combined Installation Celebration and Volunteer Appreciation dinner with approximately 40 members attending on November 7. The menu had burgers, hot dogs and some really tasty wings. Then we held our traditional smoker - this one with fresh oysters courtesy of Dave Donnelly - the night before Thanksgiving. It was a well-attended event and the oysters were amazing.



Our Food for Families program allowed us to distribute more than \$4,000 in Safeway gift cards to needy families for Thanksgiving. Our Lady's Auxiliary put on a fantastic fundraiser for the Warrior Canine Connection. It was a night of great food, live auctions, prizes, music and dancing. Thanks to all of the volunteers that made these events and charity possible.

Our Council has a long history of sponsoring many events and charitable endeavors. All of this took time and many hands. Today, our Council is shrinking in membership and those many hands are not as many. As you prepare for the season of giving, think of the gifts of volunteerism and active involvement our Council brought to you and recruit a new member with whom to share that gift. If you have not been active and would like to join in on the many charitable events or Council activities, please contact one of our officers or a fellow Knight. Lastly, patronizing our Council events shows support and appreciation for our Council and how we are able to sustain our charitable involvement in our community.

On November 30 I sent out an e-mail with details of the St Andrew Christmas Novena. The Novena is said from November 30 to December 24 and is a glorious short prayer reflective on the birth of Christ and our Blessed Mother. There are many Novenas for this holy time of year. Continuing to say this prayer during this Christmas season is a great way to think about the significance of Christ's birth. Please share it as you celebrate with your families and friends.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Frank Zarrelli

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Knight Life

Published Monthly

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Council Officers

Grand Knight Frank Zarrelli, flzarrelli@gmail.com

Chaplain Fr. Joseph Calis, frjcalis@aol.com

Associate Chaplain Rev. Joseph Perkins (301.942.1020)

Chaplain Rev. Gerard Trancone (240.533.7846)

Honorary Chaplain Rev. Brien R. McCarthy

(202.577.3527)

Deputy Grand Knight Tim Stocker, Timothy.Stocker@rbc.com

Chancellor - Vacant

Warden Michael Maddox, M3T3M@yahoo.com

Treasurer Ed Jordan, Emmjordan@aol.com

Recorder Michael Quinn IV, quinnmfiv@aol.com

Advocate George Carter, FDD, PGK, PFN

Lecturer, ggc350@verizon.net

Inside Guards Mark Borkoski, mdhfc@verizon.net

Bruce Dorsey, brucedorsey454@yahoo.com

Outside Guard Terrence Brady, terrencebrady-43@gmail.com

Outside Guard Rick Colburn, racolburn5@verizon.net

Trustee (3 year) PGK James Mannion,

kocjim2169@gmail.com

Trustee (2 year) PGK Gus Gusman, gus-

koc2169@gmail.com

Trustee (1 year) PGK Paul Girolami, girolami@verizon.net

Fraternal Insurance Brian Graham, 301-962-0045, bri-

an.graham@kofc.org

Financial Secretary Kevin Carey, kdcarey@loyola.edu

Board of Directors

Forest Glen Building Association, Inc.

Brian McCaw - 3 Year, bmccaw@meridiantel.com

Chris Langley - 3 Year, rclangley77@yahoo.com

Abe Jacobs - 2 Year, ajacobsinc@aol.com

Pierre Cassagnol - 2 Year, jpcassa@aol.com

Dave Donnelly - 2 Year

Brian Hechinger - 1 Year

Father Rosensteel Clubhouse Association, Inc.

Pete Murphy (1 year)

Dobie Holmes (1 year), drholmes129@gmail.com

Nick Carrescia (3 year), nnickman11@aol.com

Bill Veith (3 year)

Kevin Carey (2 year), kdcarey@loyola.edu

Knight Life

Editor - Frank Cavaliere, fcavaliere@nrmca.org

Graphics Support - Helen Stuart

Program Chairs and Directors

Program Director	Frank Zarrelli	flzarrelli@gmail.com
Church Chair	PGK Frank Cavaliere	fcavaliere@nrmca.org
Church Director (youth)	Kevin Carey	kdcarey@loyola.edu
SJE Church Director	PGK Frank Cavaliere	fcavaliere@nrmca.org
St. B's Church Director	PGK Tom Kelly	thomasjkelly431@yahoo.com
CTK Church Director	Vacant	
Community Director	PGK Mike Miller	msmiller9701@gmail.com
Faith	PGK Frank Cavaliere,	PGK Gus Gusman
	fcavaliere@nrmca.org	guskoc2169@gmail.com
Life	PGK Gus Gusman, PGK Jim Mannion	guskoc2169@gmail.com, kocjim2169@gmail.com
Family	Bill Dassing, Tim Stocker	bnbdassing@verizon.net, Timothy.Stocker@rbc.com
Membership	Kevin Carey	kdcarey@loyola.edu
Recruitment	Brian Graham	Brian.Graham@kofc.org
Recruitment/Retention Chairmen	PGK Frank Cavaliere,	PGK Terrence Moore
	fcavaliere@nrmca.org	tpmoore927@gmail.com
Recruitment/Retention Sub Chairmen	PGK Gus Gusman, Jeff Campitelli, Rick Colburn	guskoc2169@gmail.com, campitj@gmail.com, racolburn5@verizon.net
Insurance Promotion	Brian Graham	Brian.Graham@kofc.org
Public Relations	PGK Bruce Cotting	Brucecotting@gmail.com
Convention Delegate	PGK Paul Girolami	girolami@verizon.net
1st Alt. to State Convention	PGK Gus Gusman	guskoc2169@gmail.com
2nd Alt. to State Convention	PGK John Fox	j.fox42@verizon.net
Communications Director	Brian McCaw	bmccaw@meridiantel.com
Webmaster	Brian McCaw	bmccaw@meridiantel.com
Sick & Deceased Chairman	FS Kevin Carey	kdcarey@loyola.edu
Vocations	GK Paul Girolami	girolami@verizon.net

Little Sisters of the Poor Collection Saturday, December 18

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our November collection. The Sisters were overjoyed by your generosity and special donation of a ham and 6 frozen turkeys. Our next collection is Saturday, December 18, from 10 a.m. until noon. Financial donations and grocery gift cards are always appreciated as are personal care items (including unscented body wash, denture tablets, travel-size deodorant and body lotion, toothpaste, mouthwash, tissues), cleaning supplies (Clorox, gloves, wipes, etc.), individual snacks (fruit cups, puddings, chips or cookies), cases of water, peanut butter and jelly, juice boxes, cereal, canned vegetables and canned soup. Please feel free to donate a turkey or ham.

Your gift, no matter its size, makes a true difference in the lives of others. Please do your best to contribute this month and we'll see you on the 18th. Of course, you can always bring in any non-perishable items when picking up your Friday Night Dinners. As always, please remember to keep the Sisters and their special ministry in your prayers.

A Long Overdue Thank You

One of the hardest parts about being Grand Knight during the coronavirus shutdown was not being able to thank the members of the Father Rosensteel Council family as often as I would have liked for a job well done.

Thank you for electing me to be Grand Knight during our 100th Anniversary year. As I've said before, it wasn't the year I had planned for us, but it turned out even better. We were able to successfully conduct several programs in new ways and create new ones. Due to your participation and support, we won first place in our division in the Faith category, which focused on the Rosary and included a new Rosary program that other Councils plan to conduct this year.

Although space doesn't permit me to single out everyone, and there are so many deserving individuals, there are a few people I'd like to thank publicly:

My wife, Barbara, for allowing me to travel this 7-year journey from Warden through 3-year Trustee. I know it has been very aggravating and lonely for her at times, but she knows it's something I enjoy (most times).

Fr. Calis, for his cooperation, prayers and spiritual guidance throughout the year.

My Council officers and trustees, for putting up with difficult times and missed opportunities because we had to cancel so many programs.

Tim Twomey and Frank Cavaliere, respectively, for maintaining the Council website and preparing the *Knight Life*.

My fellow Past Grand Knights, for inspiration and advice. In particular I'd like to thank PGK Gus Gusman for his continued friendship – we still call each other almost every day.

Our Maryknights, for their continued support, encouragement and wishes for our success.

Geoff Conway, who encouraged me repeatedly to run for office and to be Grand Knight during the Council's 100th Anniversary. He gave me his word he'd always support me; he's never let me down and continues to help me more ways than he knows. Plus, he created the now iconic drink – the Warden – for me my first year back in the chairs.

Kevin Carey, for an outstanding job as Financial Secretary.

Spike Holmes, the Clubhouse Association, and John McNamara, for keeping the clubhouse solvent despite so many closures and missed bookings.

Dave Donnelly and the Building Association, for keeping the building safe and operating so efficiently.

Terrence Moore, the kitchen crews and our volunteer bartenders, for incredible dedication to preparing excellent to-go dinners and drinks despite COVID.

The many friends of the Knights Room and its benefactors who saw an opportunity to modernize and bring up to code a 40-plus year room without taking any funds from the Council (donations to cover costs still being accepted!).

The wives, partners and families who allowed the men to donate time to serving the Council this past year. Without your support our programs wouldn't have run so smoothly, if at all.

It wasn't an easy decision due to the number of excellent candidates, but I was honored to name Dave Donnelly as Knight of the Year. He was at the Council more days than I was and worked tirelessly at improving the Council building and operation, despite working two other jobs. The other contenders also did incredible jobs throughout the year and I wish I didn't have to choose only one individual. They know they are Knights of the Year to me.

Our motto last year was "Faith and Family Foremost." We truly lived that motto during our 100th Anniversary and I'm sure we will continue to do so.

With sincere gratitude for your help, prayers and support, it was a true and most humbling honor to guide Father Rosensteel Council this past Council year.

Paul Girolami
Immediate Past Grand Knight



“Equality Begins in the Womb”

**The 29th Annual Pro-Life
Rally Kickoff Dinner**
Sunday, January 16, 2022, 5:15pm

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All Are Welcome

Maryknights Officers 2021- 2022

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 Chaplain Emeritus: Rev. Gerard Trancone 240-533-7846, deafmindc@aol.com
 President: Nancy Koski, irishchero@comcast.net
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Dear Maryknights,

Looking forward to a joyous Advent and Christmas season this year and I hope you are too!

Acknowledgements: Congratulations to Rose Emig who is our newest lifetime member. And Happy Birthday to all of our December birthday Maryknights! And we welcome Teresa Sutton back to the Executive Committee as our new vice president!

Kudos: Many thanks to Helen Vallone for collecting for Shepherd's Table in November. She received a generous number of items from the Maryknights and friends and Shepherd's Table is very grateful. Good work all.

And a great big thank you to Sue Wiant, her committee and all who helped out, donated and attended the charity event on November 13 in support of the Warrior Canine Connection (WCC)! A great time was had by all and we can't wait to find out the final tally of support going to WCC! Well done everyone!

Our December collection is supporting the Apostleship of the Sea, whose mission is to offer a welcome and safe haven to mariners, fishermen and their families. Bring your items (2022 calendars, paperback books, writing materials (pens, pencils, notebooks), toiletries, including razors, candy and snacks, socks, gloves and hats, puzzle books like Sudoku, crosswords, etc., playing cards or other small games) to our December General Meeting where we will assemble the gift packages.

Finally, don't forget the next Executive Board meeting is Thursday, December 9, at 7 p.m. and the General Meeting will be on December 13 also at 7 p.m.

Reflection: If you can find it on TV, an app or some other way to view it, you might enjoy an old Hollywood Christmas movie, *The Bishop's Wife*, with Cary Grant as an angel, David Niven as the bishop (Episcopal) and Loretta Young as the bishop's wife. At the end, the struggling bishop resolves his issues and gives a sermon, written for him by the angel, Dudley, before he heads back to Heaven.

Tonight I want to tell you the story of an empty stocking. Once upon a midnight clear there was a child's cry. A blazing star hung over a stable and wise men came with birthday gifts.

We haven't forgotten that night down the centuries. We celebrate it with stars on Christmas trees, the sound of bells and with gifts, especially with gifts. You give me a book. I give you a tie. Aunt Martha has always wanted an orange squeezer. And Uncle Henry could do with a new pipe. We forget nobody, adult or child. All the stockings are filled.

All that is, except one. And we have even forgotten to hang it up. A stocking for the child born in a manger. It's His birthday we are celebrating. Don't let us ever forget that. Let us ask ourselves what He would wish for most. And then let each put in his share. Loving kindness, warm hearts and the stretched-out hand of tolerance. All the shining gifts that make peace on earth.

As true today as it was in 1947, and just as hard it seems, to accomplish. But very worth it if we succeed!

Pope's Intention: For December, the Pope asks us to pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God that they may be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Wishing you a blessed, safe and Merry Christmas,
 Peggy Seleski*



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JANUARY 2022

1 - New Year's Day
16 - Pro Life Rally Kickoff Dinner

DECEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1.	2.	3. More Mullaney, Dollymore, Bromley	4.
5.	6. D'Antuono Happy Hour	7. Council Meeting	8. Gusman, Mannion McKinney	9. Maryknights Ex- ecutive Board Meeting Pierre	10. Mannion, McKinney	11.
12.	13. Maryknights General Meeting D'Antuono Happy Hour	14.	15. Gusman, Mannion Sullivan	16. Officer/Trustee Planning Meeting Dassing, Colburn, Carescia	17. Lynch, Sullivan	18. Little Sisters of the Poor Collection
19.	20. D'Antuono Happy Hour	21. First Day of Winter Culkin, DeVol	22. Gusman, Mannion	23.	24.	25. Christmas Day Council Closed
26.	27. D'Antuono Happy Hour	28. Culkin, DeVol	29.	30.	31. New Year's Eve	January 1. New Year's Day