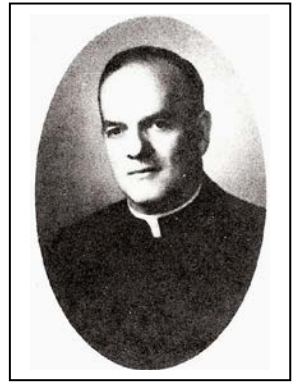


Father Maher's Knightly News

FR. PETER PAUL MAHER COUNCIL 6793 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Chartered April 21, 1976 • District 30 • Member of McNamara Chapter
Charter Council of the Sullivan Brothers Assembly 2861
P.O. Box 570 Olney, MD 20830 • www.kofc6793.org



DECEMBER 2019 • VOLUME XLII • ISSUE 6



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<https://www.facebook.com/KnightsOfColumbus6793/>

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Reverend James Boccabella, Pastor
Our Lady of Grace Church

E-mail: jimboccabella@msn.com Phone: 301-924-0067



We begin a new liturgical year on December 1, beginning the Season of Preparation, the Season of Advent. Although this season used to have a penitential flavor to it, much like Lent, its nature has changed somewhat, to a state of joyous anticipation. We have an advantage that our Old Testament forebears didn't – they awaited any sign of the fulfillment of God's promises to humanity, while we have seen the first phase of that fulfillment, Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection, and we now await the coming of the fullness of that redemption, the transformation of all of creation into an Eden greater than the one God had given our first parents.

Maybe we have grown a little tired of waiting, maybe we have lost the joy of anticipation. But this is the reason for this season – to revive that expectation, to revel in the power of what has been promised, what is being fulfilled. St. Peter reminds us that Jesus is not delaying in returning for us: He is giving us time to clean up our act. But He will only wait so long.

I was thinking about how God is superabundant in His graces, how He gives us more than we could ever hope for. The abundance is visible in the universe, in the trillions of stars and planets and the dark matter that holds it all together, and, as yet, we are the only populated one of those planets. We think of how Jesus not only provided food for the hungry crowds, but He provided leftovers (the source of the custom of the abundant feasts of Thanksgivings). Our expectations are too small; maybe

Motto: "Mary, fill our Hearts with Charity and Love."

we are afraid to bother God, or else can't imagine that He hasn't better things to do than to bother with our petty problems.

Unfortunately, because we have such small expectations, or are so focused on what we think we need, we leave a lot of what God wants to give us on the table, not only limiting our blessings but also limiting the opportunity to grow in our knowledge of His love for us.

As we continue our journey through Advent, as we approach the superabundant Gift of His Son's Nativity, let us keep our hearts and our eyes open. God doesn't just want a happy season that will expire, and we enter the new year like we left the last. He wants us to experience a taste of the Joy that can last us until we stand before Him in Heaven. May God grant us the grace to seek this grace, may He bless us and our families and friends with the riches of this Holy Day Season, and may He continue to bestow these blessings on us as He guides us to our true home with Him.

Fr. Jim

DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT

SK Joseph F. Krempasky, District Deputy (30)

E-mail: JKrempasky@gmail.com ~ Phone: 301-570-4891



December 8 - The Immaculate Conception of Mary
December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe
December 25 - The birth of our Lord

Now that December is upon us, the rush to complete things before the New Year seems to be more urgent than ever - Christmas Parties, Shopping for that special gift, Planning holiday travel. Please remember that all are not as fortunate. Maybe through our "Box of Joy" program we can bring a smile to someone needy. We can help the mariners through our Apostleship of the Sea program. These needy individuals receive shaving utensils, socks, playing cards etc. It's easy to forget those in most need.

This month Grand Knights and Deputy Grand Knights should be expecting an invitation to the Maryland State Council's Mid-term Meeting. It's the halfway point of our

fraternal year, and a lot of important information will be disseminated (convention, submittals, voting regulations, etc.) Please make sure that we are represented.

Quarterly Reports should be ready to submit to your District Deputy (electronic Word or PDF only). Once the format and completion has been confirmed, the DD will submit the reports to the state representative (must be Youth Protection compliant).

Form 1728 - Annual Activities Report must be submitted before January 31.

Many councils fall into neglect when it comes to council liability insurance. Although all events are carefully planned, accidents do happen, and should be adequately covered by insurance. If there is a concern in this area, I can supply the names of those familiar with the Knights of Columbus organization. These agents can recommend what should be adequate.

Many thanks to the council officers that have taken the very important Youth Protection Training. During this time of stress, the Knights of Columbus has taken a firm position on providing protection for the youth of our communities, and it shows that our local leaders understand this.

From the families of District Warden, Kevin Kennedy and District Deputy, Joe Krempasky, please have a joyous, safe Christmas, and a wonderful New Year.

Vivat Jesus

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

SK W. Fred Taylor, Grand Knight

E-mail: taylorwf8@verizon.net ~ Phone: 301-871-8928



Elaine and I hope each of you had a happy Thanksgiving and wish all a blessed, peaceful, and Holy Christmas holiday season. We are now in the Advent Season, the beginning of the Church's liturgical year. During this time, we not only anticipate the anniversary of our Lord's birth on Christmas, but we also prepare for Christ's second coming.

Our Memorial Mass, organized by Chris Romano and Martin Peschke, was again supported by our Brother Sir Knights from the Sullivan Brothers Color Corps. The Mass was followed by a sumptuous lunch in the Parish Center at Our Lady of Grace. This was an outstanding time of fellowship. Elaine and I also enjoyed your company and the play, Singing in the Rain, at our recent evening at the Olney Theater. Tickets went quickly again this year indicating the strong support this event now enjoys. My thanks to Joe and Lynn Feakes for another great job organizing this event and providing a spectacular reception before the show and at intermission.

Our Council hosted the Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose program on Sunday, November 17 at Our Lady of Grace Church. This Pro-Life prayer service reaffirms our commitment to the Sanctity of human life. Fr. Jim followed the prayer service

with a very special discussion of the origin and intent of the Silver Rose Program. He makes every event so special; we are so very fortunate to have Fr. Jim as our spiritual advisor and friend! Our fundraising dinner in support of our Seminarians and Students was held at Our Lady of Grace Parish Center and was an extraordinary success. We experimented with a Thanksgiving menu that was enjoyed by all and we were reminded what a great chef we have in Joe Krempasky. I was terrified about the new menu but Joe was steadfast!

We will be caroling at Montgomery General Hospital on the evening of December 18. Those who wish to participate should gather at 6:45PM in the Hospital Lobby. Address any questions to Steve Goldhammer.

Our annual Christmas Party is in full preparation and is being led by Innocent D'Almeida and Fred Whitman. Please let Fred know if you plan to attend. The party has a full and exciting agenda and will be on Sunday, December 15 at 2PM in the Parish Center at our Lady of Grace Church.

Jack Giacalone is leading the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest at our schools again this year. Winners will be acknowledged at our Christmas Party.

We continue to have an anonymous pledge from a generous Brother Knight to match contributions to the Seminarian fund up to \$1,000. Consider making a donation to support our Seminarians. Awards to our Seminarians will be made at our Christmas Party.

Growth of our Order is always our priority and a hot topic. We are preparing to conduct a "Delta Church Drive" and hope you will help us when we call to bring our message to our fellow parishioners and community at large.

We have recruited an exceptional group of new Knights in recent years. We must engage them and their Ladies and families, let them know they are welcome, wanted and needed, and make room for them in our upcoming schedule. They are the life's blood of this Council. Join us at a meeting, become a more active member of our Council, and help plan and execute our activities for the year. Please take the time to care for and love each other and pray the Rosary frequently.

Visit our website at www.kofc6793.org or Facebook page at www.facebook.com/KnightsOfColumbus6793/ to stay informed of our future activities. Attend our business meetings and read our Newsletter to find activities that interest you and join in. Become a more active Brother Knight and support our Council activities.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Jim Street, Chairman, Church Activities

E-mail: streetjamese@aol.com ~ Phone: 301-717-2667

Our Council will be conducting its first Delta Church Drive at St. Patrick's Church on the weekend of February 1 and 2. We are all looking forward to this new approach to growing the Knights of Columbus. We hope many of you will join us and participate in this exciting new model on that weekend.

Look for more information in upcoming Membership Reports. Meanwhile, we as Knights should remain mindful of our pledge to Mary, Queen of the Knights, and our Council by recruiting new members in our social and work environments.

In our prayer to the Lady Queen of the Knights, we ask her to "bless all the activities of our order and keep us true to the pledge to extend the kingship of thy Divine Son on earth. Through [her] intercession, win the grace ever to exemplify in

our public and private lives the virtues which should characterize those specially dedicated to the service of the heavenly court.”

We ask her to “make us always aware that, as [her] Knights, we are constantly observed, our faith judged, and our Order appreciated...”

Let us Meet our pledge!!

CHURCH NEWS

Jim Street, Chairman, Church Activities

E-mail: streetjamese@aol.com ~ Phone: 301-717-2667

OUR LADY OF GRACE

Website: <http://ourladyofgracelw.weebly.com/>

Reverend James Boccabella, Pastor



Christmas Eve Slide Show at Our Lady of Grace

Please share your pictures of your grandchildren and great-grandchildren for our annual Christmas Eve slide show. The show will also be posted on YouTube. Send pictures to Sr. Christine by email to ckcsj@aol.com; or bring them to the office to be scanned. Deadline for photos is December 10.

Saint Patrick's Leisure Club

Save the date for their annual Christmas luncheon catered on Thursday, December 12. Father Early will have Mass at 11 AM. Following the Mass, we will be saying a rosary.

For questions and/or reservations, please call Vince Pistolessi at 301-871-3334 or Mary Dugan at 301-873-3902 by December 7.

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

Website: <http://www.stpatricksmd.org>

Monsignor Charles J. Parry, Pastor



S.O.M.E Shoebox Christmas Gifts 2019

St. Patrick's parishioners continue their annual delivery of Christmas shoeboxes for homeless individuals who frequent the Silver Spring, Md., S.O.M.E. Soup Kitchen. They are in need of shoebox gifts for men and women.

On Sunday December 15, you can drop off needed donations of men and women winter items in our church usher's room. If you have any questions, please contact Mary and Jack Gibala at 301-871-8122 or marygibala@aol.com.

Saint Patrick's Leisure Club

On Wednesday, December 4, St. Patrick's Leisure Club is sponsoring a fabulous trip to Lancaster, PA, to see the Miracle of Christmas at the Sight and Sound Theater. The bus will leave St. Patrick's at 8:30 AM. and return at 8:30 PM. The total \$130 package includes a delicious smorgasbord lunch at the Shady Maple restaurant in Lancaster. For more information and to reservation, contact Kay Bidinger, at either 301-774-6843 or kaydbidinger@gmail.com.

ST. PETER'S PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

Website: <http://www.stpetersolney.org>

Reverend Thomas M. Kalita, Pastor



Christmas Bazaar and Breakfast With Saint Nick

Saint Peter's Parish will host its annual Christmas Bazaar on Friday, December 6, featuring homemade crafts, baked goods, raffles, Secret Santa Shop, and children's games. As part of the Bazaar, the parish will host a homemade Latino dinner with a Cash Bar on Friday evening.

On Saturday, December 7, Saint Peter's will host a pancake and sausage breakfast in the morning for children, their families, and other parishioners. Part of the Breakfast is an opportunity to visit with Saint Nick and to share Christmas dreams.

To volunteer, contact Yvette @ bazaarstpetes@gmail.com or Signup Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C48A8AA2B0-christmas1>.

To buy tickets for the 8AM Breakfast: <https://www.stpetersolney.org/breakfast-with-saint-nick-8>.

To buy tickets for the 10:30AM Breakfast: <https://www.stpetersolney.org/breakfast-with-saint-nick-1030>.

The Gabriel Project

The Gabriel Project assists Montgomery County needy women in their crisis pregnancies. For the most successful of interventions, women volunteers (especially bilingual, Spanish speaking women) are needed to stay in touch with client mothers by phone or e-mail during their difficult pregnancies. Often, bringing them needed items such as diapers, baby clothes, etc., and praying for them are what they feel to be “God Sent.” The average time commitment is approximately 1 to 4 hours per month.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep these Knights and families in your prayers.

INDIVIDUAL'S NAME	RELATIONSHIP
Rev. Fr. Thomas Kalita	Pastor/St. Peter's Church
Rev. Fr. Louis Tou	Past Chaplain/Council 6793
Kayla MacBride	Niece/Fr. Kalita
Bill Gulban	Brother Knight
Barbara Mazonkey	Brother Knight
Karen Mazonkey	Daughter/Bob and Barb Mazonkey
Hunter Shaffer	Brother/ Ed Shaffer
Rae Romano	Mother/Chris Romano
Rick Lanham	Brother Knight
Pat Gauthier	Wife/Romeo Gauthier
Romeo Gauthier	Brother Knight
Kathy Spade	Music Ministry/ St. Peter's Church
Antonio Brown	NFL Player
Kate Coppi	Friend/ Kevin Kennedy
Tony Laing	Friend/ Kevin Kennedy
Donna Conway	Wife/ Gerald Conway Jr
Michael Williams	Father to friend/ Chris Romano
Jani Whitney	Mom to Co-worker/ Chris Romano
Oliver Nelson	Grandson/ Harry Bushar
Elaine Burch	Friend/Fred Taylor
Donna D'Almeida	Wife/ Innocent D'Almeida
Innocent D'Almeida	Brother Knight
Norman Salem	Brother Knight
DECEASED'S NAME	DATE OF DEATH
SK Wilsie Adams, PGK, PFN	11/24/2019

Continue to pray for the souls of our deceased armed forces.

FAITH IN ACTION

John Feldmann, Chairman, Faith Programs

E-mail: jjf3353@comcast.net ~ Phone: 301-924-3353

Book Giveaway

St. Patrick's Church has asked our council to conduct a book giveaway on the weekend of December 7 and 8. We will be giving away the books at the 5:30PM Mass on Saturday, December 7 and Sunday Masses, December 8 at 6:30AM, 8:00AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM and 7:00PM.

If you can assist with the book giveaway, please send an email to either John Feldmann (JJF3353@comcast.net) or Ed Shaffer (Ed.Shaffer75@gmail.com) indicating the Mass that you will assist at. You may also contact them at their telephones as well: John 301-924-3353 or Ed 301-706-8975.

If you are unsure which Mass you will attend but can assist with the giveaway, please, at the end of Mass, go to one of the three church exits and look for the tables with books on them. There are only 500 books to be given away. So, there may not be enough books for all Masses.

\$1000 Anonymous Challenge Returns

Again, this year a council brother knight has challenged the council to donate to the Council Seminarian Fund which he will match up to \$1000! Yes, \$1000!

In previous years, the council has indeed donated more than the \$1000 challenge, so we again look forward to your continued generosity which will help keep us the biggest sponsor of Seminarians in the state of Maryland....something we all can be very proud to achieve!

ST. MARTIN'S FOOD PANTRY

As part of our Faith in Action Family service programs, we have instituted our Food For Families program. We will be collecting food for St. Martin's Pantry, who provides food to needy families.

There will be a box at all meetings for collecting food items. All food must be unexpired, sealed items. Items in shortest supply are canned soup, canned fruit, pasta sauce, "meals in a can (canned pasta, canned chili, etc.) and dry, unsweetened cereal. So, when you are grocery shopping this month, pick up an item or two and help feed those in need.

CULTURE OF LIFE NEWS

Steve Goldhammer and Marco Colombini,

Co-chairs, Life Programs

E-mail: segoldhamm@aol.com ~ Phone: 301-570-9613

"The greatest obstacle to the apostolate of the Church is the timidity or rather the cowardice of the faithful" – Pope St. Pius X

Council Hosts Silver Rose Ceremony

On Sunday, November 17, our Council Chaplain, Fr. Jim Boccabella, led the Council's Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Program to celebrate and honor the sanctity of life. About 20 Council members and their families attended. The challenge and intent of the Silver Rose Program is to teach the world that the life of each human being, unique and unrepeatable, begins at the moment of conception and ends by natural death and that the sanctity of life will reign in human hearts and enjoy the full protection of the law.



To accomplish this, we turn to the Blessed Virgin Mary, through whom the Word was made flesh. Through Mary, under her title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, we seek the grace and strength to bear witness to the reality that every human life is sacred, a gift from God.

Little Sisters Continuing Court Battle

On October 22, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit blocked recent government rules exempting religious organizations from Obamacare requirements that force employers to provide birth control, including abortifacients, as part of healthcare insurance. The ruling was in response to a lawsuit brought by 14 states attorneys general. As a result, religious groups, including the Little Sisters of the Poor, will not be exempt from the mandate in Maryland, as well as in California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and the District of Columbia. This ruling was made in spite of the fact that the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of religious exemptions for the Little Sisters in 2016. An appeal no doubt will be made to the Supreme Court.

Pro-Life Issues at the Next Maryland General Assembly Session

The 441st Maryland General Assembly will convene on January 8 and run through April 6, 2020. A number of pro-life issues that were considered but defeated last year are expected to be reintroduced. Among these are the legalization of physician-assisted suicide, a proposed constitutional amendment on abortion, and the criminalization of human trafficking.

Proponents of legalizing physician-assisted suicide have begun to organize again ahead of the 2020 session, and it is expected that, for the fifth time in six years, these groups will try again to push their agenda through Maryland.

The late House Speaker Michael Busch worked to pass a legislatively-referred amendment to Maryland's constitution that would have established abortion as a so-called "right" in the state. If passed by the Assembly, the bill would put on the next election ballot a question asking voters to ratify or reject the change. It is expected that this effort also will be reintroduced in the coming session.

The Maryland Catholic Conference worked with allies during the 2019 session to defeat these efforts and will do so again in the coming session. If you do not receive the action alerts from the Conference's Catholic Advocacy Network, please sign up to receive alerts on legislative issues of concern to Catholics in Maryland. You can do so at www.mdccatholic.org/joincan.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Saturday, December 7 – Archdiocese of Baltimore's Office of Respect Life is conducting a pilgrimage to the St. John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, DC.** No charge. Meet at 10AM in the Luminous Mysteries Chapel for Mass, followed by the Rosary and Confession. The celebrant and homilist is Fr. James Brent, O.P., from the Dominican House of Studies. After lunch, take a self-guided tour of St. John Paul II exhibit, followed by relic veneration and Divine Mercy Chapel.
- **Saturday, December 14, and Saturday, March 7 from 10AM. Introductory Natural Family Planning Class: Called to give life** – Spouses share in the creative power and fatherhood of God. Married couples should regard it as their proper mission to transmit human life and to educate

their children; they should realize that they are thereby cooperating with the love of God the Creator and are, in a certain sense, its interpreters. They will fulfill this duty with a sense of human and Christian responsibility.' (CCC2367) Couples will learn about the science behind Natural Family Planning and the different methods they can use in an introductory class. Both sessions will take place at Catholic Charities, 12247 Georgia Ave., Rm. 301, Silver Spring. You only need to attend one of these dates. To register: <https://adwnfp101.eventbrite.com>. For more info, contact the Office for Family Life at 301-853-4546 or visiblesign@adw.org.

MARYLAND STATE COUNCIL NEWS

[Website: www.kofc-md.org]

REFLECTIONS

Christmas, A Celebration of Family

(by Lawrence P. Grayson)

Maryland State Council Pro-Life Director

Christmas is a nostalgic time that evokes feelings of joy, serenity, love, and a desire for family gatherings. Songs like "I'll be Home for Christmas" and "It's a Wonderful Time of the Year" arouse memories of holidays past celebrated in the warmth and love of family life. Now more than half a century since their release, these emotive songs are still seasonal standards.

The true beauty of Christmas, however, is more than sentimental reminiscences. Its essence is religious, centered on the celebration and meaning of God becoming man. Churches will be beautifully decorated, prominently displaying a crèche with statues representing the infant Jesus and those who were with him at his birth in Bethlehem. People will attend Mass and join in hymns praising God. In spite of the secular influences that shape our daily lives, Christmas helps us experience the wonder and comfort of God's presence.

We are very familiar with the story of Our Lord's birth, especially as related in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke: the angel's announcement to Mary, her fiat, the angel's visit to Joseph, the census, the couple's trip to Bethlehem, the rejection at the inn, finding room in the stable, the angelic hosts, the guiding star, the shepherds and wise men, and most of all the babe lying in the manger wrapped in swaddling clothes. Yet, the images, as beautiful as they are, are almost too well-known so that we do not fully appreciate the thoughts and meanings they present.

That Holy Night was the beginning of the redemption of man. Without his birth, there would be no Resurrection and the gates of heaven would still be closed to us. On that first Christmas, the "Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us." God had come to earth in the person of Jesus Christ. He assumed a human nature, with all of the joys and agonies, trials and tribulations, thoughts and emotions, sufferings and death that are innate to man.

People saw Jesus, heard him, spoke with him, ate with him, and touched him. He had parents and relatives, mingled with neighbors, practiced a religion, learned a trade, worked, and finally assumed his public mission to teach, gather followers, suffer and die on a Cross. These are human

experiences to which we can relate. Because of this birth, God was no longer an unseen, unknown divinity that was beyond our comprehension. Now he was a personal God.

The narrative about Christmas is not only about Our Lord, as central as he is, but about family. Mary accepted motherhood with her fiat to the angel's announcement. Joseph took her as his wife. They traveled to Bethlehem as a couple, as a family. He negotiated a place to stay and was present as Mary gave birth. Joseph likely arranged the straw in the manger, and Mary wrapped the child in swaddling clothes. She fed, dressed and nurtured him. On the eighth day, they had him circumcised and, on the fortieth, presented him in the temple in obedience to Jewish law.

Mary may have held her Son when she and Joseph welcomed the Magi. Soon after that visit, the family fled to Egypt to protect the child from Herod's persecution. Upon the tyrant's death, they returned to Nazareth, where in the love of his earthly family, "the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him." (Lk 2:40)

In those years, Mary reared Jesus, while Joseph taught the boy a trade and worked to support them. They experienced the same delights and griefs of typical families. After one of their annual trips to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast of Passover, the boy was missing. Mary and Joseph searched for three days before locating him in the temple. Mary said, "Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." Would not any loving parent have had the same worries, and had the same relief upon finding him? Jesus then returned with them "to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and his mother kept all of these things in her heart." (Lk 2:48-51)

From a theological perspective, Christmas brings forth an even deeper tenet of family, for God himself has a familial nature. As Pope John Paul II expressed it: "God in his deepest mystery is not a solitude, but a family, since he has in himself fatherhood, sonship, and the essence of family, which is love."

Thus, the human family, being centered in love, is a reflection of the nature of God. It is love for one another than binds a family together. It is God's love for us that allows us repeatedly to receive his forgiveness for our sins and his grace for our salvation. It is through love that parents sacrifice their pleasure and wellbeing for their children. It is for love that Jesus died on the Cross for our sins.

Pope Benedict XVI, in his Angelus Address on December 27, 2009, expressed this relationship between God and family as:

"God had chosen to reveal himself by being born into a human family and the human family thus became an icon of God! God is the Trinity, he is a communion of love; so is the family despite all of the differences that exist between the Mystery of God and his human creature, an expression that reflects the unfathomable Mystery of God as Love... The human family, in a certain sense, is an icon of the Trinity because of its interpersonal love and the fruitfulness of this love."

Do not limit your reflection on this consequential birth which linked heaven and earth to December 25. Live everyday as a preparation for Christ's coming. Spend time each week in Eucharistic Adoration, go to Confession, attend Mass more frequently, meditate on the liturgical readings, and make the Rosary a frequent family prayer. If you cannot pray with your family, pray for them. As Fr. Patrick Payton stressed, "The family that prays together stays together."

Each time you say the Hail Mary, think of the

Archangel Gabriel's salutation to Mary, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee," and the invitation to her to become the mother of God. Meditate upon this event and on the birth that followed. Be thankful for the great gift we received through the birth of Jesus.

May you and your family have a very Blessed and Merry Christmas!

FAMILY NEWS

Innocent D'Almeida, Chairman, Family Programs
E-mail: ipdalmeida@verizon.net ~ Phone: 301-871-6156

Consecration of the Holy Family

Our Consecration to the Holy Family will take place at St. Patrick's Parish on Saturday, December 28 at the 5:30PM Mass and Sunday, December 29 at the 8AM, 9:30AM and 11:30AM Masses.

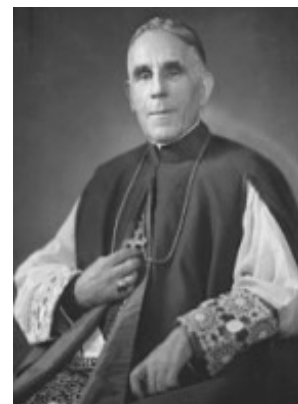
The Chaplet of Divine Mercy Returns

The council is bringing back the praying of The Chaplet of Divine Mercy prior to each council business meeting. Open to all brother knights, please arrive at Our Lady of Grace Church at 7PM, prior to the business meeting at 7:30PM. Prayer materials will be provided. Also bring your prayer intentions. This is in keeping with the council "Faith in Action" emphasis.

W. Fred Taylor, Grand Knight

CHAPTER NEWS

Bishop McNamara Chapter - Established 1963
[Website: <http://kofcknights.org/ChapterSite/?D=103>]
McNamara Chapter Marshall – Michael P Davenport



The December Chapter meeting will be hosted Fr. Kidd Council #14455.

Date: December 18, 2019

Time: 7 PM, Chapter Christmas Party

Location: Holy Family Church, Parish Hall, 12010 Woodmore Rd, Mitchellville MD, 20721.

FOURTH DEGREE NEWS

SULLIVAN BROTHERS ASSEMBLY 2861

"WE STICK TOGETHER!"

SK George Silvas, Faithful Navigator [www.sullivan2861.org]



Assembly Business Meetings are held the **third Thursday** of each month at 8PM. See this newsletter's calendar for details.

FRATERNAL BENEFITS ADVISOR REPORT



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Kenneth D. Storck
Field Agent

Office: 301-421-1430
Cell: 301-807-2169
ken.storck@kofc.org
Website: CallawayAgency.com

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Protecting Catholic families since 1882.

We seem to say it ever year, "It's almost Christmas, where has the year gone?" As we look back we measure the passing of the seasons, from one holiday to the next, and see how our lives have changed over that time. Christmas and the end of the year mark a milestone for most of us. The season gives us pause to thank God for sending his only-begotten Son to redeem us and it is a time to reflect on all the gifts we've received from him. God's gift to us inspires the gift-giving so many of us enjoy at Christmastime. We certainly enjoy receiving those gifts, but reflect for a moment of what the giving of gifts does for the gift-giver.

Some gift-givers aren't so good with words, so they use gifts: Remember "Say it with flowers," the slogan of FTD. Some get a sense of satisfaction in seeing the happiness of the recipient, some feel appreciation that they are able to share what God has given them. It seems to fulfill the need to please, encourage or help someone. It makes us feel good to give.

As I look back at 2019, I can't help but think of all of the selfless members of the Order who gave gifts to help others. As our Supreme Knight highlighted in his address at the Supreme Convention just a few months ago we are "Knights of Charity." And we prove this every day with the many people who give of themselves; give of their time, their talent or their treasure, to help those less fortunate and those in need.

Supreme Knight Anderson spoke about the disaster relief provided by our Knights of Charity; \$4.2 million supporting hurricane victims alone. The one thousandth ultrasound machine has been placed in service to help save more unborn children. He talked about our mission of charity to the Middle East and the Christian community there that faces extinction.

More than \$20 million has provided food, shelter, clothing and a new 140-unit apartment building for Christians and those of other religions who need our help. Knights of Charity helped provide coats for more than 105,000 kids who will now stay warm this winter.

Knights are known for their generosity. We are indeed, Knights of Charity.

All of these important initiatives help many others, but don't forget about your own family...and I'm not talking about gifts that you'll put under the tree. This holiday season as we think of giving and receiving, when we think of all the good gifts we have been given and all we are able to give, make sure you give your family the gift of peace of mind. Secure in the knowledge that whatever challenges they may face, you have protected them.

The Knights of Columbus has the products that will do just that: Provide financially for your family if you aren't here, make sure you have enough for a comfortable retirement, give the care needed if you can't care for yourself and make sure all of this comes to pass if you are sick or hurt and can't work. It's painless to sit down with me to analyze your particular situation.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, let us be thankful for all the graces God has showered on us, especially the gift of his Son, our Savior! As Isaiah 9:5 says: For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. (New American Bible, Revised Edition)

Vivat Jesus!

SUPREME NEWS

[WEBSITE: <http://www.kofc.org>]

Source: K of C Supreme Website

Maryland's KofC Ultrasound Program

Save lives and help women choose life by giving them the opportunity to view their unborn children on ultrasound machines at pro-life pregnancy centers. This initiative is funded by Knights of Columbus state and local councils with matching grants from the Supreme Council's Culture of Life Fund.

The Knights of Columbus works together as an organization to purchase ultrasound machines for qualifying pregnancy centers. After the state and/or local council raises 50% of the cost, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council will provide the other 50% to complete funding for purchase of an ultrasound. Or, if the council raises 100% of the cost of a vehicle outfitted to serve as a mobile medical unit for a pregnancy center, the Supreme Council will provide 100% of the funds for an ultrasound machine to be used in that vehicle.

In Maryland, the KofC has donated 23 ultrasound machines to Pregnancy Care Centers throughout the state. Several councils are working with other PCCs to raise funds and prepare applications to receive ultrasound units. The State Ultrasound Program, however, needs additional funds to meet all requests. For more information about the ultrasound program in Maryland or to make a donation, contact Lawrence Grayson at LPGrayson@verizon.net.

**Knights of Columbus
Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council 6793**

Annual Family Christmas Party



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019 (2-5 PM)

Our Lady of Grace Parish Dining Hall - 15663 Norbeck Boulevard

Pot-Luck Dinner

Family last name A-N bring a main dish for 10, family last name M-Z bring a side dish or salad for 10. Council will provide beverages and desserts.

- *Christmas Music *Great Food***
- *Christmas Raffle Drawing***
- *Introduction of Seminarians***
- *Recognition of Christmas Poster Winners***

“Chinese Auction/Yankee Swap” Gift Exchange

Bring a wrapped gift, value \$10-\$20, for each person who wants to participate in the swap

Please contact Fred Whitman (240-550-1007) or shagger43@yahoo.com

No later than December 8th!

Tell us the number of people in your group and ages of any children you'll be bringing.



DEC 15 SUN -- Annual Council Family Christmas Party, Our Lady of Grace Parish Hall, 2-5PM. Call Fred Whitman at Tel: 240-550-1007.

DEC 18 WED -- Christmas Caroling at Montgomery General Hospital, 6:45PM in the hospital lobby.

FEB 02 SUN -- "Delta Church Drive" at St. Patrick's Church at the 9:30 and 11:30 Masses. This is a membership event to grow our Order. Volunteers should contact Jim Street or Fred Taylor.

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We proudly serve the parishes and families
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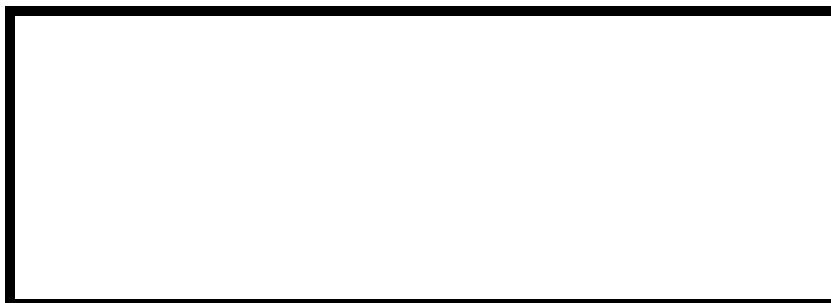
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- DEC 04 WED **Executive Meeting**, 7:30PM, St. Patrick's Parish Center
DEC 07 SAT Breakfast with St. Nick annual event, St. Peter's Church. Contact Jack Giacalone at: jgiacal@verizon.net.
DEC 07 SAT Book Distribution, St. Patrick's Church. Contact John Feldman and Ed Shaffer
& DEC 08 SUN
DEC 11 WED **Business Meeting**, 7:30PM, Our Lady of Grace Parish Center, Leisure World. **A Divine Mercy Chaplet Devotion before the business meeting at 7PM.**
DEC 15 SUN Annual Council Family Christmas Party, Our Lady of Grace Parish Hall, 2-5PM. For more information, call Fred Whitman at Tel: 240-550-1007
DEC 18 WED Bishop McNamara Chapter meeting, Holy Family Church, Parish Hall, 12010 Woodmore Rd, Mitchellville MD, 20721, Christmas Party starts at 7PM.
DEC 18 WED Christmas Caroling at Montgomery General Hospital, 6:45PM in the hospital lobby
DEC 19 THU Sullivan Brothers Assembly 2861, 8PM, Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Road Derwood, MD, 20855
DEC 25 WED Council Social Meeting (CANCELLED due to Christmas Holiday)
DEC 25 WED Christmas Holiday
DEC 28 SAT "Consecration to the Holy Family", St. Patrick's Church. Contact Innocent DAAlmeida and Fred Whitman
& DEC 29 SUN



- JAN 01 WED **Executive Meeting**, 7:30PM, St. Patrick's Parish Center (CANCELLED due to New Year's Day)
JAN 08 WED **Business Meeting**, 7:30PM, Our Lady of Grace Parish Center, Leisure World. **A Divine Mercy Chaplet Devotion before the business meeting at 7PM.**
JAN 15 WED Bishop McNamara Chapter meeting, Fr Rosensteel Council #2169 – 9707 Rosensteel Ave, Silver Spring MD, 20910, Ladies Night.
JAN 16 THU Sullivan Brothers Assembly 2861, 8PM, Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Road Derwood, MD, 20855
JAN 22 WED Council Social Meeting, Movie for Life, "Unplanned"

► **For more information about or to participate in any council event, contact Grand Knight Fred Taylor on 301-890-9308.**
► **Council Calendar:** View it at: www.KofC6793.org (Select "Event Calendar" at the left and the current month's calendar will be displayed.) Scroll forward to view upcoming events.) To view **Monthly Business Meeting Minutes** on the website: (On the HOME screen, scroll to the bottom of the page, on the right, select "Access Minutes" in the Council Minutes section.)
► **DEADLINE:** Newsletter content **MUST** be sent, via e-mail, to **Daniel Musiitwa [DMusiitwa@hotmail.com]** **NO later than the 20th of the month** to be included in the **following month's publication**. Newsletter content questions or story ideas may be sent to **Daniel via e-mail, anytime or call him on (202-320-6806).**