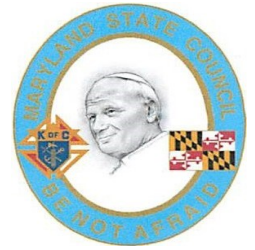




KNIGHTLIFE



Volume 20 Issue 10

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - **STAR COUNCIL**

April 2015

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF JAMES C. FLETCHER, JR. COUNCIL NO. 11422
HOME OF DISTRICT DEPUTY MICHAEL DAVENPORT & FORMER DISTRICT DEPUTIES
VERNON HAWKINS, JR., DAVID D. MARTIN & CARLTON L. WILLIAMS
"BE NOT AFRAID, OUR FAITH IS OUR COURAGE"



He is Risen. Alleluia!



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**Lord, the resurrection of Your Son
has given us new life and renewed hope.
Help us to live as new people
in pursuit of the Christian ideal.
Grant us wisdom to know what we must do,
the will to want to do it,
the courage to undertake it,
the perseverance to continue to do it,
and the strength to complete it.**

GRAND KNIGHT'S CHRONICLE

Thomas F. Matthews, II - Grand Knight



Brothers All, we are in the last quarter of this Fraternal Year. We have once again had two successful Fish Fry thanks to the hard work from Brother Cal Thompson and his wonderful wife Sharon. None of which could have been completed without the assistance of the Ladies Auxiliary of the James C Fletcher Jr. Council, Knights of Columbus. Several other Ladies of St. Joseph's church as well as several Knights assisted in this project. Thanks to

all that participated in this worthy cause. The funds raised will continue to allow Our Council to support the many charity events that we have value to support.

We had a successful First Degree on March 19, 2015. Three new Knights became members of our council. We welcomed them aboard and promised to see them through their Third Degree. Our council celebrated another mile stone by bringing aboard Nelson Okpah, who is the son of our Pass Grand Knight, Charles Okpah. Things like this can not only make a father proud as well as make our council grow. Brother Nelson is a member of the Martin Luther King Jr. Squire Circle and now a Knight in the James C Fletcher Jr. Council. He is also the youngest person to become a Knight in our council. The District Deputy Mike Davenport, who is also the Chief Councilor for the MLK Jr. Squires was present for the Degree and congratulated all the new Brothers.



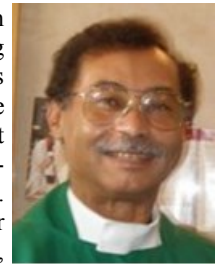
We are in the process of taking nomination for officers who will lead Our Council in the 2015 – 2016 Fraternal Year. If you want to step up and lead our council or if you know of a Brother that you feel could lead our council, please contact Brother Dave Martin and make your intention known. Our Council can only continue to be successful if we have great leadership and a strong contingency of Brothers standing behind them. The second of three nomination will take place on April 16, 2015 at the Council Business Meeting. The final nomination and election will transpire on May 7, 2015.

I wish all the Brothers and their families a safe and happy Easter. The Knights will provide candies for the children after the 11 o'clock Mass on Easter Sunday. We hope to see you there. Keep Christ in you life and you will find nothing is impossible.

Remember: *"If everybody does a little, nobody has to do a lot".*

CHAPLAIN'S THOUGHTS

Fr. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.



We all suffer in this life, some much more than others. If someone tells you about the suffering that they are going through, it probably brings to mind a suffering of your own. Your response to the person could very well be, "I know what that's like." Now, think of the Agony, Suffering, Crucifixion, Death and Burial of our Lord. Jesus can honestly say to each of us about our suffering, "I know what that's like." However, Jesus can also say, "Come, all you who pass by the way, look and see whether there is any suffering like my suffering." Can we say that we really know what His suffering was like?

Saint Paul tells the Philippians that "though he was in the form of God, Jesus did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Jesus endured His suffering out of obedience to His Father, because He loves His Father, and because He loves us so much that He was willing to die for us. His suffering ended on the Cross, the "tree of death," which became for us, the "tree of life." His death on the Cross made our eternal life in Him possible. Through His passion, death, and resurrection, Jesus reversed the disobedience of original sin by obeying his Father's will in spite of the devil's temptations, the betrayal of Judas, the abandonment of His apostles, the false accusations, the condemnation, the humiliation, the scourging, the crowing with thorns, and the torture of crucifixion.

This week, we need to stay united to Jesus Christ, our loving Savior. We need His strength to come into our lives, so that we can have the courage to live as He wants us to live. The ways we can stay united to Christ this week are by prayer, fasting and good works. We should spend more time in prayer this week, and more heartfelt sincerity in our prayer. This week, we must resolve to let Christ lead us, to concentrate on doing His will, not ours. This week, we can initiate Christ's Passion by doing what He did, by sharing our neighbors' sufferings, by taking upon ourselves the crosses of others.

We must see that we are not called to be spectators to Jesus' suffering and Passion; we are called to be active participants in His suffering and Passion. We participate in Christ's victory over suffering, sin and death, by carrying our sins to Calvary, just as Jesus carried His Cross. Then, He can save and heal us by nailing our sins to the Cross. He calls us to bring our sins to Him, and in exchange we get to carry Him everywhere we go, and into every heart we touch. Jesus wants to bring His salvation and His healing love to the world through us. A donkey carried Jesus into Jerusalem on that first Palm Sunday. Now, it's our turn to carry Him to others, for the rest of our lives.

ALERT / ALERT: THE FIRST THURSDAY IN APRIL IS A HOLY DAY, THEREFORE THERE WILL NOT BE A COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 2, 2015. IT WAS A TRADITION IN MY FAMILY THAT ON HOLY THURSDAY THAT WE HAD A QUITE DAY OF PRAYER. I AM REQUESTING THAT ALL THE BROTHERS AND THEIR FAMILIES TAKE A MOMENT ON THIS IMPORTANT DAY IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH TO TAKE A MOMENT OF SILENCE, AND SAY A PRAYER.

STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

Stephen J. Adamczyk - State Deputy

DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT

Michael P. Davenport - District Deputy



New Incentive For Fraternal Year End

Star Councils are the strong foundation upon which the Knights of Columbus' growth in charitable works, membership and insurance rest. In continuing recognition of the outstanding councils that earn this distinction, the Supreme Council has initiated a new incentive.

If a council earns the Star Council Award (at any level) in the 2014-2015 fraternal year, it will receive a credit of \$4.50 (\$3.50 per capita and \$1 Catholic Advertising) for each billable member on its roster as of July 1, 2015. Please note that this special Star Council incentive is only offered for insurance territories (United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and Guam).

For example: A council with 100 billable members on its roster as of July 1, 2015, will receive a credit of \$450.00 on the September 2015 statement. Be advised that non-billable members include Honorary Life members and those who have disability waivers.

Only through growth can councils be successful as they strive to earn Star Council Award status. Recruiting and retaining members is the result of successful, active council programs.

Grand Knight, as a fraternal leader you should continually review the council and its membership numbers. Ask yourself: Is your council on pace to make its membership and insurance quotas? Is your council conducting programs that include a large percentage of its membership? Where do you stand on insurance and membership? Is your council in tune with your chaplain? Does your council involve your field agent? How are your programs and activities doing?

What do these results tell you? The numbers are the report card. The better the numbers, the better the programs have been in connecting the members of the council and uniting them in a common cause.

The only way to improve these numbers is to expand the programs of the council, to include and connect to more members, and to be involved, visible and connected to parish life. Good programs and activities involve your council members, build enthusiasm and bolster your membership efforts. Programs provide opportunities to welcome new members into your council, which is the first step in qualifying for the *Star Council Award*.

God Bless and Vivat Jesus

Have You Visited The State Website Lately?

<http://kofc-md.org/>



I bring you greeting from our Worthy State Deputy Stephen J. Adamczyk who's motto is "Be Not Afraid Our Faith is Our Courage"

We've survived another winter and Spring is here. The month of March was busy and the month of April starts off busy as well. We have the Squires Installation and the Easter Egg hunt among many other activities.

Fletcher Council enjoys a heritage of good work, wonderful activities and cutting edge outside of the box thinking. You're doing a knock down job. Please remember our brothers who have endured losses and reach out to them during this time of reflection.



Although we have lost our Financial Advisor, reach out to his replacement and encourage each other to take advantage of our unique opportunity to plan for ours, our children and our grandchildren's financial wellbeing. As always we ask for prayers for the State as we continue Fr McGivney's good works, and that our deliberations are always centered on his goals and principles.

This is the last leg of our race to glory at the ocean. Chin up, wide stride and lets make this happen by sprinting to the end! We should keep our eyes on the target and exceed the previous goal of "One Member, per Council, per Month" and schedule our monthly degrees.

Remember the new Council Challenge Incentives which rewards Councils with VIP points for bringing in 12 new members for the fraternal year. Do you have your rosary and do you pray it often? "Be Not Afraid, Our Faith Is Our Courage."

SUPREME KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Carl A. Anderson - Supreme Knight



A new Knights of Columbus-produced documentary on St. John Paul II and his relationship with North and South America will screen this month on national television networks.

John Paul II: *Uniting a Continent* explores how the papacy of St. John Paul II left an indelible mark on the American continent. Driven by his singular conviction of a “United American Continent” under the patronage of Our Lady of Guadalupe, John Paul II’s papal travels from Argentina to Alaska generated massive crowds, shaped an entire generation and ultimately changed the course of history.

Narrated by actor Andy Garcia, the film features rare archival footage and insightful analysis from leading figures, including Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley of Boston, Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson, John Paul II biographer George Weigel and former Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls. Viewers will be both intrigued and moved by the documentary’s unprecedented framework for understanding one of the giant figures of our times.





FRATERNAL BENEFITS ADVISOR

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY WITH

Knights of Columbus Insurance - Your Shield of Strength

David D. Benjamin - Field Agent

Before you think about how you and your family would use life insurance, how your council members can benefit from our insurance program, or what products and options you would need, there's a more basic question that needs to be answered: Why do the Knights of Columbus care about life insurance? The answer is simple: Providing financial protection for Catholic families has been at the core of our mission since the beginning.

The drive to offer financial protection for Catholic families comes from our venerable founder, Father Michael J. McGivney.

Two Problems, One Solution

In the summer of 1873, as a young seminarian in Canada, he was forced to leave theological studies and return home to aid his family after the sudden death of his father, Patrick. "He was reeling," it says in his biography *Parish Priest*. "He packed his belongings, knowing that he would never return to Sainte-Marie, and went home."

"Money for tuition was no longer available," the authors continue. Even if the McGivney family could survive without Michael's financial support, it was not clear that he could survive without help from them — or someone." Michael was able to continue his studies only after receiving a scholarship from the then-Diocese of Hartford.

Less than a decade later, as an associate pastor at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Conn., Father McGivney was faced with an all-too-similar situation.

One of his parishioners, Edward Downes Jr., was forced to quit the seminary after his father died unexpectedly. He returned home to New Haven to support his mother and 12 siblings.

In those days, the court had the right to assign children to public institutions if it had reason to believe that their families could not properly care for and support them. Unless they were represented by a financially secure guardian in court, the teenage Downes boys would be removed from their family.

On February 6, 1882 — the very same day as the first meeting for what would become the Knights of Columbus — Father McGivney appeared in court to stand as guardian for Edward's brother Alfred. The court accepted, yet Father McGivney was frustrated by the recurring nightmare of financial hardship.

"Even though he was only a young man," *Parish Priest* says of Father McGivney, "he was filled with a lifetime of anger and frustration at the sense of doom that settled over nearly every family that lost its wage earner. ... On the afternoon of February 6th, he was more determined than ever that what had happened to the Downes family need not happen to anyone else."



The Missions Begins - And Continues

In that spirit, Father McGivney set off with "entrepreneurial zeal" to found the Knights of Columbus. In his own words, Father McGivney wanted the organization to "to unite the men of our Faith throughout the Diocese of Hartford, that we may thereby gain strength to aid each other in time of sickness, to provide for decent burial, and to render pecuniary assistance to the families of the deceased members."

He knew what life was like without that assistance. The initial system of "life insurance" designed by Father McGivney was a simple one, a pass-the-hat system through

which each member could help support his brother Knights.

As the organization grew council by council, state by state, and country by country, so too did the insurance program. The pass-the-hat system was transformed into one of the largest and most highly rated life insurance programs in North America.

The Knights of Columbus has passed many milestones and received many accolades along the way: \$97 billion of life insurance in force, 39 consecutive A++ (Superior) ratings for financial strength from A.M. Best, 14 consecutive years of sales growth, and designation as a 2014 "World's Most Ethical Company," but all that is secondary.

What matters most is that we continue to fulfill Father McGivney's mission of offering and providing financial protection for Catholic families.

2015 is not 1882. Times are different. Laws are different. Economies are different. But even for those families who may have slightly more than next-to-nothing, insurance protection can be the difference between getting by and getting evicted. In its role as the premier Catholic life insurer, the Knights of Columbus continues to provide a valuable and noble service.

That's why we offer life insurance.

It's not for the \$8 billion in annual sales volume, or the \$97 billion in force, or the 1.8 million policies on the books. It's not the amount that counts, but the impact of those dollars.

It's the homes saved, the college tuitions provided, the Catholic funerals paid for and the families shielded that create the legacy of protection that would make Father McGivney proud.

It's those things that are the hallmark of the Knights of Columbus Insurance program.

This March, as we observe Founder's Day, and remember Father McGivney's legacy and the mission he set forth for our great Order, take the time to reach out to your dedicated Knights of Columbus field agent — who is himself a brother Knight — and see what we might be able to offer to you and your family.

Reach out to me, your assigned Field Agent, David B. Benjamin at (202) 494-6527 or email david.benjamin@kofc.org today and take advantage of this exclusive portfolio.



MASTER'S LOG REPORT

John F. Winfrey - Master AWD



It is that time of the year when all Assemblies are getting ready to elect new Officers for the 2015-2016 fraternal year. In that regard, it is important to remember that all Assembly elections must be conducted during the month of May.

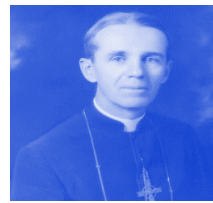
The following is an excerpt from Laws and Rules Governing the Fourth Degree: Article VIII: Section 24 (j): Elections.

The regular election of officers in Assemblies shall take place annually at the first regular business meeting of the assembly held in May of each year.... The Faithful Navigator shall within ten days after the election, file report of the same, together with the names and addresses of all officers elected, with the Master of the District, and shall send a duplicate to the Supreme Secretary.

The report referred to in the last sentence is the Supreme Report Form 186 - Report of Officers Chosen. Supreme expects 100% completion no later than June 30th.

WALSH ASSEMBLY NEWS

Francis P. Blidi - Faithful Navigator



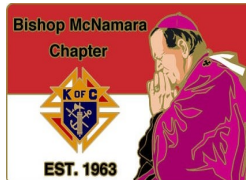
The Archdiocese of Washington District Fourth Degree Exemplification will be held on the weekend of April 10-12, 2015 at the Colony South Hotel and Conference Center in Clinton, Maryland. As this newsletter goes to print, the Bishop James E. Walsh Assembly has

the following candidates registered for the exemplification:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Michael M. Achankeng | Dr. Kingsley N. Anurugwo |
| Ikechukwu M. Ezekwu | John O. Grier |
| Onyema G. Nmorka | Steven M. Nwamkpa |
| Christopher C. Okala | Victor C. Onyekwere |
| Joseph O. Oratokhai | Jean-Marie Tcheffo |

McNAMARA CHAPTER

Richard Earenfight - Chapter President



The April Chapter meeting will be on Wednesday, 15 April 8 P.M. at Saint Elizabeth Council 12796, 917 Montrose Road, Silver Spring, MD. We will continue with the second round of election nominations.

We are ramping up for the Annual Bishop McNamara Chapter Southern Maryland (SOMA) Blue Crabs Baseball Game. See the adjacent flyer for all the details. The primary point of contact for ticket is our Past Chapter President (PCP) Brian Werring. However, as an alternate, feel free to contact any of the chapter officers to pick up and/or to reserve your tickets.

HAVE YOU VISITED THE FLETCHER COUNCIL

WEBSITE? CHECK IT OUT. INSERT THE BELOW INTO YOUR BROWSER AND GO AT IT.

<http://www.kofeknights.org/councilsite/?cno=11422>

BISHOP MCNAMARA CHAPTER

INVITES YOU

TO

SOUTHERN MD BLUE CRABS

VS

Long Island Ducks

Saturday, 6 June 2015, 6:35pm

\$15.00 Ticket Price Includes:

Box Seat Admission to Game (GREAT SEATS!!!)

Tailgate Party (4pm-6pm)

Grilled All Beef Hot Dogs, Hamburger

Chicken and Ribs

Crunchy Potato Chips

Soda & Beer

Grilled Twinkies

Kids Park/Play Area * Fireworks after Game

Colors to be presented by Fr. Andrew White Assembly Flag Team

For more info and Tickets contact:

Brian Werring
240-925-5668
bwerring@md.metrocast.net

11763 St. Linus Drive
Waldorf, MD 20602

Considering a Vacation to Priesthood?

"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men!" Mt 4:19



PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ikechukwu R. Agbim, DGK
iagbim@gmail.com

202-276-7796



I am so impressed and amazed as the council, parish and community members come together to complete task after task in support our brothers and sisters. Our out reach programs are reaching those who need our assistance. I thank God and you, my brothers and sisters for all you do and pray that you will continue to be there as we continue this miraculous journey.

PAST PROGRAM - LENTEN FISH FRY

After two dates, our council assisted by the KC Ladies Auxiliary and other volunteers, pulled off an excellent and successful program of serving lunches. Special thanks to SK Cal Thompson, who led the charge and to all members of the Fish Fry Team who did the work to ensure the success of the program.

CUP OF JOE



Fletcher Council has approved funding for a Cup of Joe Breakfast program this first quarter and we successfully pulled it off on Thursday, March 26th. Thanks all around to an excellent team of supporters and workers.

REDSKINS/FEDEX CONCESSION STAND



We are onto a new season and year with the Redskins Concession Stand Program. Our goal is to continue to improve our showing for this program from year to year. Concession stand work is fun and provides much needed revenue for the council charitable programs. Training for new participants will be announced in the future.

We remain thankful to all Brothers who have participated in one way or the other to support Council programs. Remember !!give a couple of hours a month to our council." There's is no mountain we cannot climb!

Working together we can keep the flag of our Council flying very high!

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Cal Thompson, Council Activities Director
calthompsn@msn.com



301-249-2955



Would you believe it? The council's Flea Market season is quickly approaching. Our season includes one Saturday per month, June through August. It is one of the many successful events conducted during the summer and is fully supported by the church and surrounding community. It has grown from a few vendors and tents to a metropolis of sales advocates and eager bargain hunters.



Our success depends on active council members participation, to assist with set up, traffic control, grill cooks, operation of the refreshment stand, raffle ticket sales, clean up and the many awesome task required for this event.

The Flea Markets dates for this year are as follows:

- Saturday - June 27
- Saturday - July 25
- Saturday - August 22



CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Alan Davis, Church Activities Director
 adavis1960@verizon.net



301-536-0732

The many ministries at St. Joseph provide spiritual comfort, friendly greetings and economic assistance to our parishioners, their families and our community. Currently, the Repast Committee, the Bereavement Support Ministry, Good Samaritans Ministry, Social Justice Committee, Hospitality Ministry, Altar Servers (adult and children), Lector Ministry and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are in need of volunteers to increase their membership. All of these ministries are an important part of our stewardship and evangelization as Christians and help us advance God's kingdom. If you, your wife, children, grandchildren or other family members have *any* time to give to these ministries, please consider volunteering. To volunteer, contact the ministry chairperson listed on the church website or bulletin, the church office (301) 773-4838 or contact Alan Davis (301) 808- 8009 (adavis1960@verizon.net).

Sunday 29th	Monday 30th	Tuesday 31st	Wednesday April 1st	Thursday 2nd	Friday 3rd	Saturday 4th
Palm Sunday	HOLY WEEK	Holy Tuesday	Holy Wednesday	Maundy Thursday	GOOD FRIDAY	Holy SATURDAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 a.m Mass 9:45 a.m. Gospel Choir (CR2) 11:00 a.m Mass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 a.m. Mass 4:00 p.m. Grow Our Own Musicians (G.O.O.M) 5:00 p.m. Chrism Mass at St. Matthews in Wash. DC 7:00 pm Music 7:00 pm Life in the Spirit (CR2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 a.m. Mass 4:00 pm G.O.O.M 7:00 p.m. Mass in Chapel 7:30 pm NO RCIC Classes 7:30 pm Musicians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 am Mass 4:00 pm- GOOM 7:00 pm — PENANCE SERVICE 7:00 pm NO RCIA Class 7:00 pm Hospitality Minis. (CR2) 7:00pm Gospel Choir (RB) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 am Mass 4:00 pm G.O.O.M 7:00 pm MASS of the Lords Supper (washing of the feet) Transfer of the Blessed Sacrament w/ prayer & adoration in Repository until Mid-Night 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00 Noon — Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m. — Celebration of the Lords Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass Service of Light, Easter Proclamation, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, Lighting of the new Paschal Candle

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Bernard Broadus, Community Activities Director
 Bernard.broadus@xerox.com



301-262-2350



We did it again! The council held its second successful *“Cup of Joe”* event to feed the homeless. However, what was so spectacular about this second event was the awesome turnout of not only council members, but parish and community members as well. Also, hats off to the teenagers and youngsters that accompanied their parents. Also on hand were members of the St. Joseph Social Justice Social Concern (SJSC) Ministry and Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington. Chairman for this event was our Deputy Grand Knight Ike Agbim, assisted by council member Vern Hawkins, serving as the SJSC representative.

In approximately 45-minutes, the group prepared and packaged *“Cup of Joe”* breakfasts for 425 residents at local homeless shelters in the Washington metropolitan area. The *“Cup of Joe”* program is one of many outreach programs sponsored by the St. Joseph parish under the auspicious of the SJSC Ministry. Periodic *“Cup of Joe”* preparation and packaging nights will be held by various Ministries/Organizations of the parish. Fletcher Council has set the example, not once, but twice for all to follow. My sincere thanks for a magnificent and successful venture in support of the homeless.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Gabriel O. Nmorka, Family Activities Director
 ogmorkson@comcast.net



301-350-7637

The John A. Adeleye, Sr. family from Largo, Maryland was honored on Sunday, March 22, 2015 as the “Maryland State Council Family of the Year” by the Knights of Columbus, at the organization’s annual Founder’s Day Dinner and Awards ceremony in Middle River, Maryland. The presentation of the award to John, Lady Besede and their family members was the highlight of a program in which awards were also given to the Fireman, EMT, Law Enforcement Officer, Citizen, and Teacher of the year.



The awards was presented to the Adeleye family by the Maryland State Deputy, Stephen J. Adamczyk. Also in attendance and pictured on the far right is Grand Knight Thomas F. Matthews III.



PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

Dr. Peter Methodius-Ngwodo, Pro-Life Director
 pmethodius@yahoo.com

301-328-9142

Prayer for Closing the Abortion Facility

Metropolitan Family Planning Institute, Inc.
 5915 Greenbelt Rd. College Park 20740

Father, all life is in Your care.

You have entrusted us to one another,
 that we may show our brothers and sisters
 the same love You have for us.

We pray then, for the least among us,
 the children in the womb.
 Protect them from the violence of abortion.

We pray especially for the preborn babies
 scheduled to be killed in the Metropolitan
 Family Planning abortion mill.
 Save them from death!

Give new hope to their parents that they
 may turn away from the desperate act of abortion.

Grant conversion the abortionist, Dr. Amir Gohari,
 Zhora his mother, Abolghassem his father, and their staff.

Show us how we are to respond to the
 Bloodshed in our midst,
 And lead us to the day when this place of death
 will be transformed into a haven of life.

Guard us with Your joy and Your peace,
 for in You, life is victorious.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

MEMBERSHIP QUEST

John W. Huntley, Membership Director
 jhuntley@some.org



240-441-9086



Amazing! DD Michael Davenport went fishing in March and pulled in four **BIG** fish. Not only did we pull in Nelson Okpah, son of a proud Past Grand Knight, Charles Okpah, the Chief Squire himself, Jordan Gill and two others. These are two of the movers and shakers of the spiritual movement of St. Joseph Church.

The council is moving ever so close to reaching its membership quota for the year. The Grand Knight has recruited two new members thus far this fraternal year, and received the Silver Knights Award from the Maryland State Council for his successful recruitment efforts. Lets not leave our GK out there a lone, He **needs** your help for the council to achieve “**Star Council**”, the highest award that a council can achieve. Our goal is 14 new members. We only have 7 so far.

How about you checking with your catholic friends, neighbor, those in your pew, and invite them to become a Knight of Columbus. Then, have them fill out a Form 100 and bring it to the next council meeting on April 16th for submission.



Heads Up! The council will have the honor of hosting a Maryland State Council Third Degree on April 17, 2015.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Phil Beauboeuf, Youth Activities Director
 pabeaub@us.ibm.com



240-353-1460

Lets round them up and head them towards two fabulous Youth council events. The Annual Kite Flying Extravaganza will be held on April 18th and the always entertaining "Who has Talent" Youth Talent Show. Yep! These are two superb and most enjoyable events. So, checkout the below flyers, pass the word and round them up.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

what: Kite Flying Extravaganza
when: Saturday, April 18, 2015 at 11 A.M.
where: St. Joseph Church Parking Lot
 (2020 St. Joseph Drive, Largo, MD 20772)
who: Everybody
features: Food, music and free Kites!
contact: Mr. Phil (KoC Youth Activities Director at 301-249-4968)

Who has Talent
Youth Talent Show

Friday, May 15, 2015
 7-9 PM
 St. Joseph Catholic Church – Rosemont Room
 2020 St. Joseph Drive, Largo, Maryland 20774

<p>BE A PERFORMER! Calling all singers, musicians, dancers, actors, poets, and performers! Share your talent with the community and win prizes! Solo and group acts are welcome! Participants: Youth ages 7 to 18 years Performers must be pre-registered by April 21st. Short auditions will be held April 24th, 7:30 p.m. and May 1st 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>SEE THE SHOW! Vote for your favorite act! Enjoy a great night of entertainment</p> <p>Prizes Awarded!</p> <p>Free will donations are requested to benefit the Youth and Charities.</p>
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TO REGISTER CONTACT
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SPONSORED BY
 James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council Charities, Knights of Columbus
 The Youth Ministry of St. Joseph

SQUIRES IN ACTION

Michael P. Davenport, District Deputy
 qstorm3@aol.com



301-523-7374

Spring is here and already growth is evident all around us. Changes are on the horizon as Squires center the Circle and Squires move on to even higher callings. I look at them and I see Color Corps members, Activity Chairs and yes even Grand Knights and Deputy Grand Knights. Nominees become officers and officers become Brother Knights

Congratulations on a job well done to the Chief Squire Jordan Gill who is now a full Brother Knight in the First Degree. Jordan we have great expectations, for you are truly blessed with a great Council full of great men of the Order waiting to support you.



The Squires are looking forward to many activities as the season warms up. The trial period is over and its time to step up. We'll begin with the final Squires Circle Members Installation Ceremony on April 26, 2015. This will mark the beginning of the entire Circle Membership coming into the order to begin their first accountable term. So far practice activities have been tested and a bank account has been established.

Time to shine but the polish and cloth is the support of parents and Brother Knights. Its time to move "These Young Men We Call Squires" towards "These Men They Call Knights"!

FLETCHER COUNCIL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OF THE YEAR



Rebecca Sprague & James Martinez

As a result of their extraordinary duties and service to the Prince Georges County, Maryland, First Class Rebecca Sprague and Police Officer James Martinez were so honored. On October 12, 2014, Police Officer First Class Rebecca Sprague and Police Officer James Martinez were called to the 10200 block of Riggs Road in Adelphi for the report of a woman with a knife who was threatening suicide. By the time the officers had arrived, the woman had cut herself and was bleeding severely. She refused help from family and had left her home. When Police Officer First Class Sprague and Officer Martinez arrived, they immediately began searching for the woman. They found her nearby. Once the officers determined she was no longer armed, they applied pressure to the woman's wounds to help control the bleeding until medical personnel arrived. The woman survived her injuries.

Tamya Matthews Wins Again Prince George's Spelling Contest



Tamya Matthews of Mt. Calvary Catholic School reacts after the judges confirm the correct spelling of her final word, to win the Educational Systems Federal Credit Union 15th annual spelling bee, presented by The Gazette, on Friday, March 17, 2015 at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland.

Tamya Matthews, 13, didn't hesitate as she spelled the word "waterzooi," to win her second consecutive title in the Prince George's County Spelling Bee.

Tamya's dream is coming true. The eighth-grader from Mt. Calvary Catholic School in Forestville will represent Prince George's in the Scripps National Spelling Bee held May 24-29 at National Harbor

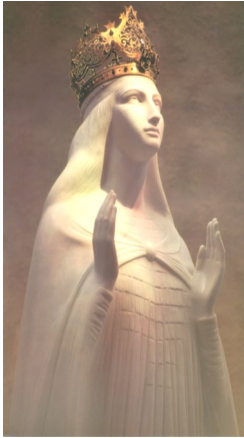
Tamya is a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Largo, Maryland. She is the granddaughter of a very proud

**Grand Knight
Thomas "Tim" Matthews**

CONGRATULATIONS TAMYA!!!



Marian Title for April
Our Lady of Knock



On the evening of August 21, 1879 Mary McLoughlin, the housekeeper to the parish priest of Knock, County Mayo, Ireland, was astonished to see the outside south wall of the church bathed in a mysterious light; there were three figures standing in front of the wall, which she mistook for replacements of the stone figures destroyed in a storm. She rushed through the rain to her friend Margaret Byrne's house.

After a half hour Mary decided to leave and Margaret's sister Mary agreed to walk home with her. As they passed the church they saw an amazing vision very clearly: Standing out from the gable and to the west of it appeared the Blessed Virgin, St. Joseph and St. John. The figure of the Blessed Virgin was life-size, while the others seemed to be neither as large nor as tall. They stood a little away from the gable wall about two feet from the ground. The Virgin was erect with her eyes toward Heaven, and she was wearing a large white cloak hanging in full folds; on her head was a large crown.

Mary Byrne ran to tell her family while Mary McLoughlin gazed at the apparition. Soon a crowd gathered and all saw the apparition. The parish priest, Archdeacon Cavanaugh, did not come out, however, and his absence was a disappointment to the devout villagers. Among the witness were Patrick Hill and John Curry. As Patrick later described the scene: 'The figures were fully rounded, as if they had a body and life. They did not speak but, as we drew near, they retreated a little towards the wall.' Patrick reported that he got close enough to make out the words in the book held by the figure of St. John.

An old woman named Bridget trench drew closer to embrace the feet of the Virgin, but the figure seemed always beyond reach. Others out in the fields and some distance away saw a strange light around the church. The vision lasted for about three hours and then faded.

The next day a group of villagers went to see the priest, who accepted their report as genuine; he wrote to the diocesan Bishop of Tuam; then the Church set up a commission to interview a number of the people claiming to witness the apparition. The diocesan hierarchy was not convinced, and some members of the commission ridiculed the visionaries, alleging they were victims of a hoax perpetrated by the local Protestant constable! But the ordinary people were not so skeptical, and the first pilgrimages to Knock began in 1880. Two years later Archbishop John Joseph Lynch of Toronto made a visit to the parish and claimed he had been healed by the Virgin of Knock.

The Church approved the apparition in 1971 as being quite probable, although it has never been formally stated. The Shrine at Knock is opened year round. In 1994 three life-size statues were erected of Our Lady, St. Joseph and St. John.

Let Us Always Remember



SK Jerome D. Julius

November 26, 1930 - March 2, 2015



Please, Remember In Your Prayers

Members Who Are Ill



*Howard Wynn
 Joseph Marshall
 Ken Hinton
 Donald Wilson
 Hugo Braden*

*James Shorter
 William Tolbert
 Roscoe Campbell
 William Missouri
 Mary Julius*



REFLECTIONS*Lawrence P. Grayson****Transforming the St. Patrick's Day Parades***

St. Patrick's Day, which is a holy day of obligation for Catholics in Ireland, has been corrupted in America by homosexual activists who flaunt their opposition to Catholic doctrine. Celebratory parades have been coopted for dissident political purposes.

Since the seventh century, St. Patrick has been revered as the patron saint of Ireland. His feast day was officially placed on the universal liturgical calendar of the Catholic Church in the early 1600s, thus, liturgically commemorating the saint and his role in converting Ireland to Christianity.

In America, his feast day was celebrated even before this country became a separate nation. The Charitable Irish Society of Boston organized the first observance of St. Patrick's Day in the thirteen colonies in 1737, while Irish soldiers serving in the British army staged the first recorded parade in his honor in New York City in 1762.

With the dramatic increase of Irish immigrants to the United States beginning in the mid-19th century, the observance expanded throughout the country and started to gain a cultural purpose celebrating a common Irish immigrant experience in America. The various parades, however, retained a strong religious aspect as the vast majority of Irish-Americans were Catholic.

With the growing secularization of America, the weakening of adherence to Church teaching, and a growing belligerence on the part of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) groups, there were increasing demands and pressures on parade organizers to admit these groups to march and proclaim their sexual orientation in direct opposition to what Catholicism stands for.

Homosexuals have marched in the parades for many years, but have done so as members of organizations that promote Irish heritage. This year, after decades of opposition, gay and lesbian groups marched under their own rainbow banners in the St. Patrick's Day parades in Boston, Washington, DC, and New York, while Catholic moral teaching was ignored in Norfolk, Virginia.

In Washington, some 40 members of a contingent from the DC Center for the LGBT Community marched down Constitution Avenue, accompanied by a car adorned with rainbow flags and shamrocks.

In Massachusetts, the South Boston Allied War Veterans Council, a private group that organizes the 114-year-old parade, had consistently banned gay groups from participating, holding that homosexuality conflicts with Catholic doctrine. Their position had been confirmed when the Supreme Court unanimously ruled in 1995 that the group had a First Amendment right to exclude whomever it wanted. The organizers, however, came under intense pressure to change their position, which ran counter to the liberal attitudes that prevail in Massachusetts; in 2004 the state became the first in the nation to legalize same-sex marriage. Two LGBT rights groups, Boston Pride and OutVets, joined in the South Boston St. Patrick's Day Parade this year.

The organizers of the New York parade, the city's 254th annual march up 5th Avenue, also buckled under external pressure. NBCUniversal, which has broadcast the parade for many years, threatened to drop its coverage unless a gay group was included. The organizers allowed OUT@NBCUniversal, the company's employee group of homosexuals, to march under its own banner. Thus, the committee retained the broadcast network and had the brewers Guinness and Heineken, which boycotted the event last year, return as sponsors. Wanting to "keep 2015 focused on the

gesture of goodwill we made towards the gay community," the parade committee further denied the request of Children First Foundation, a pro-life organization, to march.

Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York and this year's grand marshal, said he thought "the decision is a wise one." This contrasts with the position of his predecessor, Cardinal John O'Connor, who in 1993, while avowing his love and prayers for homosexuals, stated that he "could never even be perceived as compromising Catholic teaching" by entertaining their admission as an identifiable group in the parade. At the Cardinal's Mass before the 1993 parade, the faithful sang the hymn "Hail, Glorious St. Patrick," intoning, "In a war against sin, in the fight for the faith, Dear Saint, may thy children resist to the death." No such hymn was sung this year.

In Norfolk, Virginia, the parade which began in 1968, has been organized annually by a local Knights of Columbus council and usually includes a large number of Catholic organizations. While no gay group marched, Gov. Terry McAuliffe, a self-proclaimed Catholic, who is an advocate for abortion and homosexual marriage, was invited to serve as grand marshal.

The reaction of Catholic groups dismayed by the developments was consistent. In Boston, the Immaculate Heart of Mary School, which annually sends its classic float of St. Patrick and its 40-member-band, pulled out. The school's principal Brother Thomas Dalton stated, "We don't believe that any Catholic organization should be part of a parade that is promoting a homosexual lifestyle and same-sex marriage." In addition, the Massachusetts State Council of the Knights of Columbus, which had announced its intention to participate, withdrew.

In New York, the decision prompted the Catholic League and at least one Catholic school to decline to march. And in Norfolk, Holy Trinity Parish cut its ties to the organizing council, while the Ancient Order of Hibernians and about six Catholic schools withdrew from the parade. The state's two bishops, Francis DiLorenzo of the Richmond diocese and Paul Loverde of Arlington, condemned the selection of the governor as grand marshal, stating, "It is an erroneous and serious mistake in judgment for any Catholic organization to grant awards, honors and platforms to any public person who clearly acts in defiance to Catholic teaching."

St. Patrick spent his adult life as a missionary in Ireland working to convert the Celtic tribes from their polytheistic beliefs and pagan practices, including sodomy, to Christianity. It is a travesty that parades bearing his name now advertise the gay lifestyle.

In New York, Holy Innocents Church, located just blocks from the parade route, offered an alternative event. It conducted a "St. Patrick's Day Lenten Pilgrimage," which encompassed four Masses, the opportunity for Confession, and a prayer vigil for unborn children. The traditional religious purpose of the parades may have been impeded, but prayer and sacrifice can yet win the day.



A crook mistakenly made a counterfeit \$8 bill instead of a \$10 bill. He decided to try it out anyway, so he went to the bank and asked for change. The teller looked at the \$8 bill and gave the crook two \$4 bills as change.

A couple wants a divorce, but first they must decide who will be the main guardian of their child. The jury asks both the man and woman for a reason why they should be the one to keep the child. So the jury asks the woman first. She says, *Well I carried this child around in my stomach for nine months and I had to go through a painful birth process, this is my child and a part of me.* The jury is impressed and then turns to ask the man the same question. The man replies, *OK, I take a coin and put it in the drink machine and a drink comes out, now tell me who does the drink belong to me or the machine?*

A construction worker accidentally cuts off one of his ears with an electric saw. He calls out to a guy walking on the street below, *Hey, do you see my ear down there?* The guy on the street picks up an ear and yells back, *Is this it?* *No,* replies the construction worker. *Mine had a pencil behind it.*

A gorilla walks into a bar and says, *A scotch on the rocks, please.* The gorilla hands the bartender a \$10 bill. The bartender thinks to himself, *The gorilla doesn't know the prices of drinks,* and gives him 15 cents change. The bartender says, *You know, we don't get too many gorillas in here.* The gorilla replies, *Well, at \$9.85 a drink, I ain't coming back, either.*

A native American hitchhiker was picked up by a slick city man who was driving pass the reservation. As they were driving along, the Indian noticed a brown paper bag on the dashboard and inquired as to its contents. The city man replied: *It's a bottle of wine, I got it for my wife.* The Indian looked forward at the road, nodded his head solemnly, and said: *Good trade.*

A barber gave a haircut to a priest one day. The priest tried to pay for the haircut, but the barber refused, saying, *you do God's work.* The next morning the barber found a dozen bibles at the door to his shop. A policeman came to the barber for a haircut, and again the barber refused to pay, saying, *you protect the public.* The next morning the barber found a dozen doughnuts at the door to his shop. A lawyer came to the barber for a haircut, and again the barber refused payment, saying, *you serve the justice system.* The next morning the barber found a dozen lawyers waiting for a free haircut.

Two hunters were dragging their dead deer back to their car. Another hunter approached pulling his along too. *Hey, I don't want to tell you how to do something...but I can tell you that it's much easier if you drag the deer in the other direction. Then the antlers won't dig into the ground.* After the third hunter left, the two decided to try it. A little while later one hunter said to the other, *You know, that guy was right. This is a lot easier!* *Yeah, but we're getting farther from the truck,* the other added.

MARYLAND STATE COUNCIL
117th Annual Convention - May 1, 2, 3, 2015

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY

11:00 AM Convention Golf Tournament
5:00 PM to Pre-Convention Registration
7:00 PM (Barbados Room)

FRIDAY

9:00 AM Mass (Mako Room) with Exposition of
The Blessed Sacrament until 11:30 AM
Convention Registration
(Barbados Room)
1:00 PM to Youth Activity
3:00 PM (Eleuthera Room)
2:00 PM District Deputy Mtg. (Caribbean Hall)
3:00 PM Grand Knights' \$1000 Olympics
for Charity (Atrium Area)
6:00 PM to Convention Registration
8:00 PM (Barbados Room)
7:00 PM Mass & Opening Session of
Convention (Caribbean Hall)
Ladies Activities – (Palmetto
Ballroom), Doors open 6:30 PM
7:00 PM Youth Activity
9:00 PM (Eleuthera Room)
8:30 to Open House - Hospitality Rooms
Midnight (Atrium Area)

SATURDAY

7:30 AM to Convention Registration
10:30 AM (Barbados Room)
8:30 AM Assemble for Grand Knight March
(Sun Deck)
9:00AM Awards Program (Atrium Area)
11:00 AM Second Session of Convention
(Caribbean Hall)
11:00 AM to Youth Activity
1:00 PM (Eleuthera Room)
3:00 PM Assemble for Convention Mass
(Front of the Hotel)
3:30 PM Rosary (St. Luke's)
4:00 PM Concelebrated Mass (St. Luke's)
5:45 PM Convention Banquet (Palmetto Ballroom)
(Cash Bar – Doors Open 5:15 PM)
5:45 PM to Youth Activity
8:00 PM (Eleuthera Room)
8:00 PM to Open House - Hospitality Rooms
Midnight (Atrium Area)

SUNDAY

7:30 AM Mass (Mako Room)
9:00 AM District Deputy Meeting
(Dominica Room)
9:30 AM Closing Session of Convention
(Caribbean Hall)



“HAPPY BIRTHDAY”

****APRIL****
- 2015 -

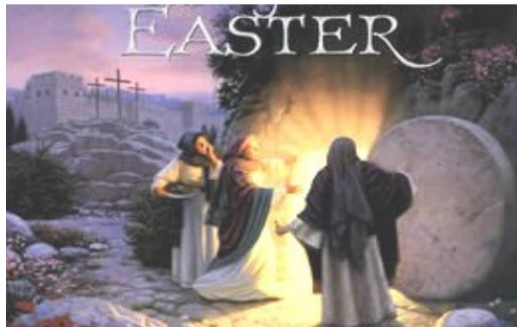


- 02 Jasper Tucker, III
- 06 John A. Adeleye, Sr.
- 12 Vincent Akas
- 13 Onyema G. Nmorka
- 18 Kevin P. Taylor
- 24 Fidelis E. Joseph

**“Oh’ The Joy
of a
Birthday”**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

****APRIL****



- 01 April Fool’s Day
- 03 **Good Friday**
- 04 **Passover**
- 05 **Easter**
- 11 Archdiocese of Washington 4th Degree
- 15 **Tax Day**
- 15 McNamara Chapter Meeting, St. Elizabeth Council 12796 Rockville, MD
- 16 **Fletcher Council Meeting, 7:30 PM**
- 18 Kite Flying Extravaganza
- 17 Council To Host Maryland State Third Degree
- 19 Knights Sunday, 11:00 Mass
- 22 Earth Day
- 24 Arbor Day
- 25 KC Ladies - Senior Tea
- 26 World Day of Prayer For Vocations

Maryland State Council Officers

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| State Deputy | Stephen J. Adamczyk |
| District Deputy | Michael P. Davenport |
| District Warden | G. Emeka Onwezi |
| Field Agent | David B. Benjamin |

James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council Officers

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Chaplain | Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr. |
| Associate Chaplain | Deacon Alton Davis, Jr. |
| Associate Chaplain | Deacon A. Douglas Turner |
| Grand Knight. | Thomas F. Matthews |
| Deputy Grand knight | Ikechukwu R. Agbim |
| Chancellor. | Jose R. Barberena |
| Warden. | Alan M. Davis |
| Financial Secretary | Robert B. Sistare |
| Recorder. | Damel S. Goddard |
| Treasurer | Harold F. Sanders, Jr. |
| Lecturer. | Michael P. Akpan |
| Advocate | J. Bernard Broadus |
| Trustee 3 year. | John W. Huntley |
| Trustee 2 year. | G. Emeka Onwezi |
| Trustee 1 year. | Charles N. Okpah |
| Inside Guard. | Vincent Akas |
| Outside Guard. | Ernest E. Bennett |
| Convention Delegate | Thomas F. Matthews |
| First Alternate | G. Emeka Onwezi |
| Second Alternate | Vernon Hawkins, Jr. |

Program and Activity Committees

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Service Program Director | Ikechukwu R. Agbim |
| Church Director | Alan M. Davis |
| Council Director | Calvin A. Thompson |
| Community Director | J. Bernard Broadus |
| Family Director | Onyema G. Nmorka |
| Youth Director | Philippe A. Beauboeuf |
| Culture of Life Director | Peter Methodius-Ngwodo |
| Vocation Chairman | Jose R. Barberena |
| Health Services | Peter Methodius-Ngwodo |
| Public Relations | Vernon Hawkins, Jr. |
| Columbian Squires | Michael P. Davenport |
| Membership Director | John W. Huntley |
| Recruitment Committee | G. Emeka Onwezi |
| Recruitment Committee | Alan M. Davis |
| Recruitment Committee | Calvin A. Thompson |
| Retention Chairman | Charles N. Okpah |
| Insurance Promotion | Robert B. Sistare |
| Pro-Life Couple | Peter & Justina Methodius-Ngwodo |
| First Degree Team Captain | Robert B. Sistare |
| Newsletter | Vernon Hawkins, Jr. |
| Web Master | Michael P. Akpan |
| Scholarship Program Chairman | Peter Methodius-Ngwodo |
| Historian | Vernon Hawkins, Jr. |
| Photographer | Thomas F. Matthews |

Squires Circle Officers

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Chief Squire | Jordon Gill |
| Deputy Chief Squire | Agya Adomuko |
| Notary | Justin Okpah |
| Bursar | Justin Onyeador |
| Sentries | Nelson Okpah |
| Spiritual Committee Chair | Stephen Bazuaye |
| Membership Committee Chair | Kofi Nyome Mireku |
| Service Committee Chair | Chinazom Ojiaku |