



# ***KNIGHTLIFE***

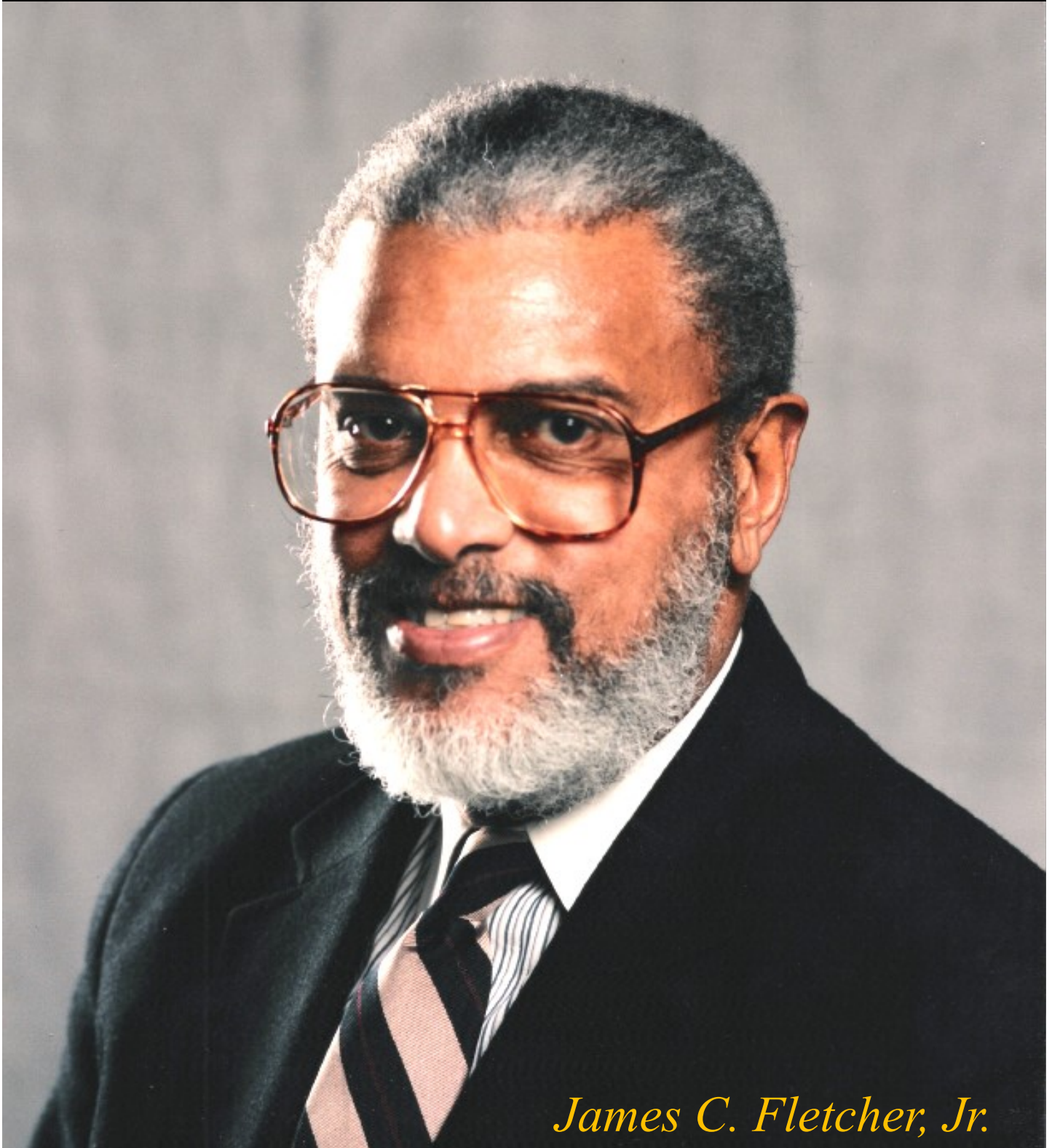


***JAMES C. FLETCHER, JR. COUNCIL 11422  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - STAR COUNCIL***

***Volume 21 Issue 10***

***April 2016***

***"BE NOT AFRAID, OUR FAITH IS OUR COURAGE"***



***James C. Fletcher, Jr.***



# KNIGHTLIFE

## FEATURES

- 3 Chaplain Report**  
"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."
- 4 Grand Knight's Chronicle**  
Let's continue to do the best for our faith, church and Community.
- 5 State Deputy Report**  
Continue to spread Columbianism throughout Maryland
- 6 District Deputy Report**  
Our Savior lived and rose as a visible testimony to our salvation and it is documented for all to see.
- 7 Supreme Knight' Message**  
Councils can strengthen Catholic Family Life.
- 8 Fraternal Benefits Advisor**  
Not all insurance companies are fraternal benefit societies.
- 9 Master's Log**  
We are Americans. God bless you, and thank you.
- 10 Bishop McNamara Chapter**  
Please join us at our next Chapter meeting.
- 10 Bishop Walsh Assembly**  
We are already planning for the next administration.
- 15 Reflections**  
Death with dignity, a dangerous pretense.



**10** *James C. Fletcher, Jr.*

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## PROGRAMS

**11 Program Director**  
UNITY is the word for 2016.

**12 Community Activities**  
A Field of Dreams

**13 Membership**  
"Wanted", Catholic Gentle-  
Men for an experience of a  
life time.

**11 Church Activities**  
Now is the time to renew our  
commitments to serving the  
church.

**12 Council Activities**  
Fletcher Council - Quiz

**14 Family Activities**  
Parishioners of St. Joseph and  
Fletcher Council honored the  
"Shorter" family.

**11 Cultural of Life Activities**  
40 Days For Life closing prayer  
service..

**13 Youth Activities**  
We are gearing up for the Annual  
Youth Talent Show.

### Miscellaneous

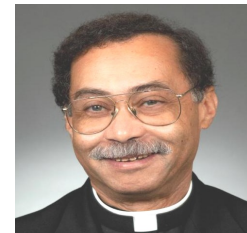
- 5** Convention Schedule of Events
- 16** Smiley Central
- 16** Council Officers
- 17** Birthdays & Calendar
- 17** Marian Title For April



# Chaplain Thoughts. . .

*“Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”*

by Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.



Have you watched the quiz show Jeopardy? Have you noticed the expressions of the contestants when they get, what seems like an obvious question wrong? You can almost feel them wanting another chance to give the correct answer. Growing up, I used to hear my Godmother say, “Don’t be a Doubting Thomas.” I had no idea what that meant, or where the expression came from. Well, in today’s Gospel, Thomas doubts that the Lord is truly risen. Not only is his Lord truly risen, but He will give Thomas another chance to believe.

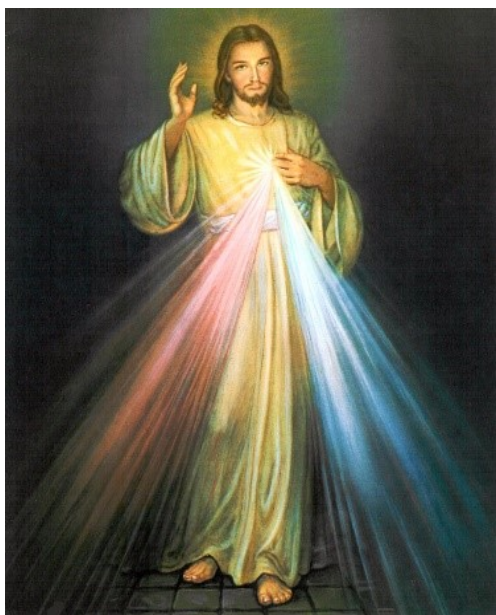
Earlier in John’s Gospel, as Jesus prepared to return to Judea, to raise His friend Lazarus from the dead, His disciples warned Him of the Jews’ intention to kill Him. Thomas did not doubt what Jesus could do, and was full of confidence when he said, “Let us also go to die with him.” Yet, today Thomas is away when our Lord first appears to the other Apostles.

Thomas’ confidence seems rooted in what he knows, what he has seen. Thomas is full of false confidence, and lacking faith, because he doubted that Jesus had risen from the dead, when his fellow Apostles told him that Jesus had appeared to them. Thomas doubted his faith, because he had not seen Jesus, himself. “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

When Jesus appeared to the Apostles again, He brought His lost sheep, Thomas back to His flock when He said, “Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.” Thomas again believed saying, “My Lord and my God!”

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday and Jesus calls us not to be like “Doubting Thomas.” If we believe in the miracles He did in the Scriptures, then we should believe in the mercy of His miracles (big & small) that He performs in our lives today. When we have doubt, Jesus says to us, do not be unbelieving, but believe in my Divine Mercy. We take advantage of His Divine Mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. When we leave that Sacrament, we believe that we have received God’s mercy.

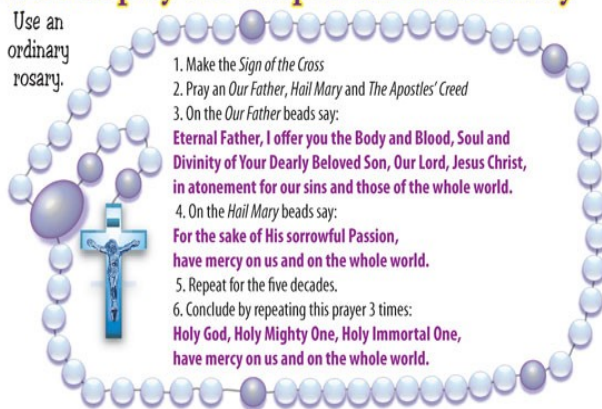
This Holy Year of Mercy reminds that God not only wants us to receive His mercy, but to also show mercy to others. In fact, we have to forgive in order to be forgiven! Jesus taught us that in The Lord’s Prayer, “forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.” Let us always be willing to forgive, as God is always willing to forgive us.



## How to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Use an ordinary rosary.

1. Make the Sign of the Cross
2. Pray an Our Father, Hail Mary and The Apostles’ Creed
3. On the Our Father beads say:  
**Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.**
4. On the Hail Mary beads say:  
**For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.**
5. Repeat for the five decades.
6. Conclude by repeating this prayer 3 times:  
**Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.**





## Grand Knight's Chronicle

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*"Let's continue to do the best for our faith, church and community"*



Happy Easter Brothers All!

This third month of the year, we are in Lent and approaching the end of the Fraternal year. Our Council has had a very eventful fraternal year, so far. Our Council's bounty of programs and activities continue to flourish in all areas of service.

We thank all brothers who donated soups for the Friday post Stations of the Cross Reflections. It has been refreshing to add this program to the weekly Lenten Stations of the Cross. Many Parishioners enjoy this and find that the presentations add to their understanding of the life and passion of our Lord Jesus.

The Prayer Vigil for 40 Days for Life which started on February 10, 2016 and runs through March 20, 2016 has been going very well. Our Council had Knights (Peter Methodius, Alan Davis, Fidelis Ajudua, and Vernon Hawkins) representing Saint Joseph Parish together with Fr. Aaron Qureshi, Parochial Vicar. We had elected to participate every Wednesday from 6 - 7 P.M. at the Metropolitan Family Clinic in Greenbelt, Maryland.

Other Programs in Lent were very successful; the Fish Fries and the Breakfast Programs. Coming up soon is the Youth Kite Flying event on April 2nd. We look forward to the Cup of Joe program, and increased recruitment for the rest of the Fraternal year.

We are indeed blessed, as we continue to experience much prosperity in our works as a Council of the Knights of Columbus. Meeting our recruitment and Insurance quotas is paramount in our goals for the current quarter.

Our works at the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council continue to embody Charity, Church and Community Support and our love for our neighbors and mankind in general.

**Opportunity**

**To Step Up!**

**Council**

**Elections**

**Are On The**

**Horizon.**



**A MARYLAND TRADITION**





## State Deputy's Report



**Stephen M. Cohen**  
State Deputy

Spring is finally here and soon we will be at the Annual State Convention in Ocean City.

How did we do in our Church Drives? Please send your results to State membership Director, Thom Partenope, if you haven't already done so. Let's get these new members to their Admission Degree. Then please submit these Form 100's within two days of the degree. Get your numbers counted. Insure all Form 100's are filled out completely and correctly so they are not returned. Continue to reach for the **STARS . . . . STAR COUNCIL AND STAR DISTRICT.**

**Building the Domestic Church, While strengthening Our Parish** is the new initiative of the Knights of Columbus. In what activities have you included all members of your parish? What have you and your pastor planned for the upcoming months? Have you hosted the Holy Family Icon and invited the parish to participate? Please begin to incorporate these and other ideas into your planning meetings.

At State Conventions, throughout the Order, this year all State Councils will include an act of family consecration to the Holy Family, in it's Opening Masses. The Icon will be present throughout the convention, in the MAKO Room, the Opening Mass and the Convention Mass on Saturday.

In addition to State Convention, all State Councils have been asked to begin making preparations for diocesan wide Holy Family Prayer Programs. Our State Chaplain, Father Milt and State Advocate Vince Grauso are working on this. Look for messages concerning this event. Parishes will be invited and we are currently looking at large venue possibilities.

This past month, I had the opportunity to represent the Maryland State Council at a Care Net banquet in Southern Maryland. This event was attended by seven hundred people. Many of whom were Knights. Past State Deputy Dick Sejack and I presented CareNet with a check for \$27,900.00 for a new Ultrasound Machine. This makes our 16th machine in the State of Maryland. We continue to help save precious lives.

Continue to spread Columbianism throughout Maryland.

*Vivat Jesus!*

Have You Visited The State Website Lately

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

Or the Maryland State Yahoo Group

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/MDstatecouncil/info?yguid=46983702>

## MARYLAND STATE COUNCIL



### 118<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention - May 13, 14, 15, 2016

#### 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 (Make Room) with Exposition of  
The Blessed Sacrament until 11:30 AM  
Convention Registration  
Noon to (Barbados Room)  
4:00 PM Youth Activity  
1:00 PM to (Eleuthera Room)  
3:00 PM District Deputy Mtg. (Caribbean Hall)  
2:00 PM Grand Knights' \$1000 Olympics  
3:00 PM 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)  
7:00 PM Ladies Activities - (Palmetto  
Ballroom), Doors open 6:30 PM  
7:00 PM to 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 - Coat & Tie)  
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 (Black Tux)  
(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)

#### REGISTRATION AND CONVENTION BADGES

Are required for admission to all Convention Activities, Hospitality Rooms and the Atrium and should be worn at all times.

**Only Brother Knights are allowed to attend Official Convention sessions and they must present a current 3rd Degree Card**



## District Deputy Report



Why did he walk that bloody path and why did you become A Knight?

Many brothers answer that question with, "I wanted to join a group of Catholic men with similar interests and the desire to give their time or whatever they could spare to their Church, Charity and the works of Charity.

**Michael Davenport  
District Deputy**

I was encouraged and inspired by the Faith and Grace of a Pastor named Michael King on my way out of a Courthouse in Upper Marlboro. I opened the door for him and he thanked me. As he walked away he turned abruptly and asked me if I had a Family Church. I told him that my wife and I had recently moved into the area and, no. He told me about St. Joseph Church turned and proceeded to walk away. He then turned and said....."you know what? You'd be a perfect Knight". I had no idea what he meant until I attended my first Mass at St Joseph Church and he introduced me to the very Worthy Sr. Knight Robinson Gary. I became a Knight during the very next First Degree.

Through the different activities that were first developed by Councils and encouraged by State Council we are able to support our Pastors, our Parish and Our Church. It's important to understand that part of that development is the documentation of that support. I've heard it before, usually only from younger Knights, "I don't do what I do for a trophy or a plaque". Well why not !!

What's missing here is the reason why the reports are important and strongly supported by State and Supreme through recognition. How arrogant it is for us to think that when we are presented with a trophy or a plaque the audience is saying to themselves "Wow my hero, what a wonderful person this guy is, I want to be like him and pat him on his back." Nope I assure that's not what's going through the minds of most.

We are all inspired by the acknowledgment of our and others achievements and we inspire others within the Council and Church by showing what we do and being acknowledged for what we've accomplished through the testimonies both awarded and result driven.

Our Duty as Catholic gentlemen is to let other brothers know about the Knights of Columbus. We evangelize through the visibility of our involvement inclusive of the documentation, activity reports and sharing them. Reports are a testimony to what you do and a record for Knights in the Council to see for generations. We have no idea how we can inspire a young brother Knight 30 years from now when he looks at a Warm Hearts Make Warm Hands program.

When you go out to a restaurant, do you make the sign of the cross and say grace before you eat. If you do you're not doing it for recognition. You are evangelizing. Showing what this Council has done and is doing isn't for just for you or even for the Parish and Church. It's also for the collective, the Order as a whole. The recognition of accomplishment which supports the validity of our Order energizes support for our order from within and from outside.

Accounting of activities is about the good that you do and the visibility of what you do and how it impacts others. This isn't just about why you do something. "I do this because it's the right thing to do to support my Parish". Wrong answer, "I do this because it's the right thing to do to support my Parish and as a testimony to what I can do with my blessings, brothers and church around me".

Document that testimonial to inspire others. It's the results and visibility of the work of a few that inspires more good works and inspires the growth of the whole Council, State and the Order". Our Savior lived and rose as a visible testimony to our salvation and it is documented for all to see.

Our Savior's Lenten Poems.

**The Journey**

*Why did You follow  
down that road?  
Did You not know  
You would be disgraced?  
You were physician  
to the world, the world,  
yet charged no recompense.  
You had it within your grasp,  
large houses, water front,  
big boats, private planes.  
And who did You choose to tend?  
The homeless, the pathetic.  
Why did You plod down that road?  
If not for love?  
Just love.*

Peter E. Abresch  
April 29, 2008

***"Be not Afraid Our Faith is Our Courage"***





## Supreme Knight's Message

### **Strengthening Catholic Family Life**

**by Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson**



In my column last month, I related a part of the conversation the supreme chaplain and I had with Pope Francis regarding our Order's new emphasis on strengthening Catholic family life.

During the last fraternal year, we implemented a new family life program titled Building the Domestic Church: The Family Fully Alive. Each month, it provides prayers, Scripture readings and meditations for families on different aspects

of the domestic church and recommends charitable activities that councils can sponsor. At last August's Supreme Convention, we began our 17th Orderwide rosary-based pilgrim icon prayer program — this year dedicated to the Holy Family.

Then, at the midyear State Deputies meeting, I announced an important new initiative: Building the Domestic Church While Strengthening Our Parish. It encourages councils to sponsor programs promoting Catholic family life while integrating their activities more closely into the life of their parish.

Last month, I asked that the opening Mass at all state conventions this year include an act of family consecration to the Holy Family. This should become an essential part of our family life programs, and should move from state convention Masses to the parishes where our local councils are based.

The response of Pope Francis and of many bishops and priests to these programs has been greatly encouraging, and I now take this opportunity to announce another expansion of our initiative.

Our Holy Family Prayer Program has met with such success that we should take it to a new level. I have asked our State Deputies and State Chaplains to continue our Holy Family Prayer Program in local parishes, but also to select one Saturday this October to offer the program as a diocesan-wide event, and to invite all Catholic families.

The diocesan-wide event should retain the rosary, papal meditations on family life, and the litany to the Holy Family that is al-

ready a part of the parish-based prayer program. But it should be expanded to include recitation of the new act of family consecration to the Holy Family and solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

State councils should begin now to make preparations for this diocesan-wide Holy Family Prayer Program. State chaplains should also assist in selecting a suitable parish in each diocese and in coordinating the event with the local bishop.

Recently, Pope Francis reminded us that the Church continues to propose marriage "not as an ideal only for a few" but as "a reality that can be experienced by all the baptized faithful."

This is precisely the idea of our program. Every family can benefit, and every family should be invited to participate.

One of the great lessons of the recent World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia was that millions of families can be helped by coming together in solidarity with and for each other.

What is also necessary for an effective evangelization of family life is for Catholic families to realize that the principles of charity, unity and fraternity apply also to them as families. This is one of the keys to understanding the family as a "domestic church."

There is no Catholic organization better positioned today to assist in the renewal of family life than the Knights of Columbus. But the realization of this goal will require the renewed dedication of our local councils.

A renewal of Catholic family life can begin with a simple plan: the consecration of millions of Catholic families to the Holy Family and their dedication to living as a domestic church within their parish communities.

The Knights of Columbus can begin to make this happen. With the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe and our venerable founder, Father McGivney, let us begin!

### **Councils Can Strengthen Catholic Family Life Through Our Prayer Program And Consecration To The Holy Family**





## Fraternal Benefits

David Benjamin, Fraternal Benefit Advisor

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Many companies claim their founder was a saint. As brother Knights, our claim is not simply hyperbole: We know that our beloved founder lived a virtuous and holy life. We hope and pray that he will be raised to the dignity of the altar.

In fact, by proclaiming him Venerable in 2008, the Catholic Church has declared that Father McGivney exercised Christian virtue above and beyond the call of duty.

As members of his brotherhood, it is incumbent upon all brother Knights to act in a way that pays homage to Father McGivney, carries on his mission and works with the same virtuous spirit that animated his life. That duty applies to all aspects of Columbianism, whether it be our charitable work, our fraternal work or our business endeavors.

Those two concepts — Catholic virtue and profitable business — may seem incompatible, but the Knights of Columbus has long been a shining example of how businesses can succeed by placing faith and values before financial gain.

Our Catholic heritage permeates our business. It's part of what makes us so unique. We call it our Catholic difference.

Asked recent about the Knights of Columbus and its Catholicism, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson replied:

*It means that we are different. We talk a lot about the "Catholic difference" of doing business with the Knights of Columbus. We present our members with a clear choice between doing business with us and doing business with a secular insurer. We are proud of our identity as a Catholic company. . . .*

*Our ethical practices, in fact, received international recognition in 2014 and 2015, when the Ethisphere<sup>®</sup> Institute designated the Knights of Columbus as a World's Most Ethical Company<sup>®</sup>.*

*We stayed true to our principles and knew that if we did the right thing for the right reasons, we would get the results that we wanted — and we have. Last year marked our 15th consecutive year of insurance sales growth.*

The signature way in which our Catholic identity impacts our business is in our investment strategy. We put our money where our faith is.

We have established a strict screening process that prevents us from investing in any of the following lines of business:

- Abortions and abortifacients
- Contraception
- Human cloning
- Embryonic stem cell research
- For-profit health care that pays for any of the aforementioned
- Pornography

We also do not invest in junk bonds or in risky investment instruments. We do not believe that the potential for profit is worth jeopardizing our Catholic faith or our solemn promise to our members and their families.

*"It is a principled approach to investing," the supreme knight said, "that highlights the depth of our commitment to our faith. And while following these principles, our investment team has consistently achieved positive and competitive financial returns."*

That's integrity.

Not all insurance companies are fraternal benefit societies. Not all fraternal benefit societies are Catholic. Not all Catholic insurers are like the Knights of Columbus — we are different.

We are different because of who we are. We are different because of what we believe. And we are different because of the way we act on those beliefs.

It's a difference that traces its way back to Father McGivney, and that ought to be a point of pride for all brother Knights and their families.

Discover the Knights of Columbus Catholic difference. Give me a call or send me an email and lets talk about the many fraternal benefits that are available to you and your family.







## MASTER'S LOG REPORT

John F. Winfrey - Master  
Archdiocese of Washington District



*Ronald Reagan's First Inaugural Address On January 20, 1981*

*Each one of those markers (At Arlington National Cemetery) is a monument to the lands of hero I spoke of earlier. Their lives ended in places called Belleau Wood. The Argonne, Omaha Beach, Salerno and halfway around the world on Guadalcanal, Tarawa Pork Chop Hill, the Chosin Reservoir, and in a hundred rice paddies and jungles of a place called Vietnam.*

*Under one such marker lies a young man—Martin Treptow—who left his job in a small town barber shop in 1917 to go to France with the famed Rainbow Division. There, on the western front, he was killed trying to carry a message between battalions under heavy artillery fire.*

*We are told that on his body was found a diary. On the flyleaf under the heading, "My Pledge," he had written these words: "America must win this war. Therefore, I will work, I will save, I will sacrifice. I will endure, I will fight cheerfully and do my utmost, as if the issue of the whole struggle depended on me alone."*

*The crisis we are facing today does not require of us the kind of sacrifice that Martin Treptow and so many thousands of others were called upon to make. It does require, however, our best effort, and our willingness to believe in ourselves and to believe in our capacity to perform great deeds, to believe that together, with God's help, we can and will resolve the problems which now confront us.*

***And, after all, why shouldn't we believe that?***

***We are Americans. God bless you, and thank you.***



## WALSH ASSEMBLY NEWS

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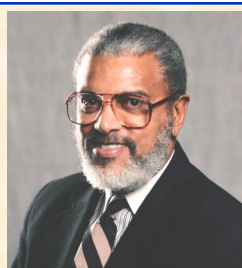


It is nice being back in the country after taking two weeks off to travel out of the country. The reality has kicked in, since I have to resume my daily routine, as my short vacation, which I was wishing not to end, has ended. With that being said, I am looking forward to attend the Archdiocese of Washington District Fourth Degree Exemplification on April 2, 2016, at Colony South in Clinton, Maryland. I congratulate all the new Fourth Degree members and more especially, those who are from Bishop Walsh Assembly 1548. This year, our goal was to recruit 15 members, but we did supersede our goal. I appreciate all those who worked tirelessly to recruit new candidates for the Fourth Degree. All your efforts paid off. The assembly will have appreciation dinner for the new members on July 31, 2016 at Holy Family Church in Mitchellville, Maryland. All members are encouraged to wear black tuxedo and black bow tie.

As my administration is coming to an end, our assembly is nominating members to take the mantle of the assembly leadership comes July 1, 2016. I cannot believe it is almost over. We are already planning ahead, and the installation of the new officers for 2016-2017 fraternal year will be on July 31, 2016 at Holy Family Church in Mitchellville, Maryland. This event is open to all.

For these three remaining months of this fraternal year, we will focus in accomplishing other things that will make the transition from my administration into the incoming administration go smoothly.

**REMEMBER THAT WE HAVE CHANGED OUR MEETING TIME FROM 8 P.M. TO 7 P.M., WITH REFRESHMENTS SERVED AT 6:30 P.M.**



**JAMES C. FLETCHER, JR.** (May 20, 1934 - June 28, 1994) was born to James Sr. and Marguerite Fletcher and was the eldest of nine children. He attended the Bowie Demonstration School, Fletcherstown School, Lincoln Elementary, Armstrong Senior High School, Howard University and the American University. Mr. Fletcher served four years in the United States Air Force. After his service in the military, he began a career with the Federal Government as a Computer Specialist and retired as a Management Information Specialist.

Since the early 1960's until his death, Mr. Fletcher was active in community service in Prince George's County. He was the Chairman of the Glenarden Recreation Council and President of the Civic Association. He was the Ward I Councilman for 9-years prior to becoming Mayor of Glenarden, MD. He served three terms as Mayor and ran successfully for the Prince George's County Council in 1990 and was about to announce his bid for re-election. Mr. Fletcher's passions were community development, balanced affordable housing, economic empowerment and revitalization. He served as Chairman of the Public Safety and Health Committee and the Prince George's Board of Services, a member of the County Council's Fiscal Policy and Government Operations Committee, the Legislative Committee, and the Prince George's Board of Social Services.

Other memberships include the Prince George's Municipal Association and the Public Safety Committee of the Metropolitan Council of Governments. He chaired the Prince George's County Substance Abuse Council and co-chaired the County's Revitalization Task Force. He was the past president of the Prince George's Municipal Association and former member of the Board of Directors of the Maryland Municipal League. Mr. Fletcher also had membership in the Maryland Association of Counties and the National Association of Counties. He was also a member of the American Legion, Glenarden Post #275.

Mr. Fletcher was a devoted parishioner of St. Joseph Catholic Church. He served as an usher, a moderator of the youth ministry and was on the Board of Directors of the Catholic Youth Organization. He was also a member of the Men's Club.

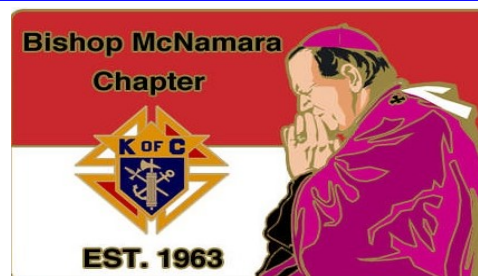
Mr. Fletcher was a devoted family man. He married Vernell Hammett and they and their two eldest children settled in Glenarden, Maryland in 1962. He was always available for whomever needed him. His constituents and friends knew that they always had someone who would listen and care.

Jim was first a Christian and second a philanthropist. Whether with his family, or in a professional setting, Mr. Fletcher loved people. Next to God, he loved people second. People were his most important business.

## McNAMARA CHAPTER

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I am sad to say, yet happy to say that we are now in the Chapter Officer Election Cycle. At our meeting in February, I appointed the Nominating Committee to pull together a slate of candidates to run for each of the Chapter officer positions. Thus far, the nominating slate is as follows:

Chaplain	Fr. Joe Jenkins
Assist. Chaplain	Deacon Jim Dominic
President	Tom Santangelo
Vice President	Vernon Hawkins, Jr.
Secretary	Joe Massimini
Treasurer	Andres Padilla
Marshal	Pat Springman/Jeff Koscho

Nominations will be accepted at our April and May meetings. The elections will be held at Columille Council 5317 on May 18, 2016.

Due to schedule conflicts the Annual Past Chapter President will be held on May 1, 2016 at Sacred Heart Council Home in Bowie. More information is forth coming.

Please join us at our next Chapter meeting on April 20th at Father Horace B. McKenna Council 11024, 19951 Father Hurley Blvd., Germantown, MD 20874. Meetings start at 8 P.M.

**Vivat Jesus!**



## PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Alan M. Davis, DGK

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301-808-8009

**Brothers**, two of our major upcoming events in April and May are Youth Activity Events and are the last of our youth activity events for this council year. Our annual **Kite Flying Extravaganza** is Saturday, April 2 from 11:00 am to 2 pm on the church grounds. This event, along with our Halloween Party, is a huge hit with the children and their parents. Free kites, kite flying lessons, music, food and fun make for an exciting day for kids of all ages. Volunteers are needed in the morning to assemble kites and to help the Squires Club serve lunch. Contact Phil Beauboeuf, Alan Davis or Grand Knight Ike Agbim before March 27 to sign up to participate. Our annual **Youth Talent Show** is Friday, May 20 from 7 pm to 9 pm in the Rosemont Room. This is our 6th year sponsoring the Talent Show, and each year new and more talented students arrive to surprise and entertain the parish. If you have never attended the show, I strongly



urge all council members to come witness a truly remarkable experience and I extend an invitation to the children of our council members to participate. Everyone who auditions is accepted into the show and also receives prizes. More youth events are in the planning for next year and Father Aaron Qureshi is actively planning events for the youth of St. Joseph in concert with other ministries and organizations.

Please contact him if you wish to assist with our St. Joseph Youth Ministry.

*Brothers, remember we are strongest when we are united together!*  
**UNITY IS THE WORD FOR 2016.**

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Alan M. Davis, Church Activities Director  
adavis1960@verizon.net



301-808-8009

**Brothers**, spring is upon us, Easter is behind us and **now** is the time for us to renew our commitments to serving the church and the council. Let us as Knights spring into action and take an initiative to help the ministries of St. Joseph serve our fellow parishioners, council members and community.

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 (Burma Hill), Good Samaritans Ministry (Jeanne Black), Hospitality and Lector Ministries (Beverly Starks), Altar Servers (Deacon Al Turner) and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion ( Bernard Broadus) are in desperate 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 the Kingdom of God. If you or any other family members have time to give to these ministries, pleas consider volunteering. To volunteer, contact the ministry chairperson listed above or on the website, the bulletin or church office.

### CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITIES

Peter Methodius Pro-Life Activities Director  
pmethodius@yahoo.com

301-728-7827



Members of the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422 and St. Joseph Catholic Church parishioners were active members of the Archdiocese of Washington 40 Days For Life Program. Instrumental in advocating our participation was Father Aaron Qureshi, Pastor and Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph Church. Assisting me as Fletcher Council representatives were Grand Knight Ike Agbim, Deputy Grand Knight Alan Davis, FDD Vernon Hawkins and Fidelis Ajudua.

The 40 Days For Life is a community-based campaign that draws attention to the evil of abortion through the use of prayer and fasting, constant vigil, and community outreach. It takes a determined, peaceful approach to showing local communities the consequences of abortion. It puts into action a desire to cooperate with God in the carrying out of His plan for the end of abortion in America. The 40-day campaign tracks Biblical history, where God used 40-day periods to transform individuals, communities and the entire world.

The 40 Days For Life Program Spring Campaign commenced with a Kickoff Rally on Saturday, January 30th and concluded on March 20th with a Closing Prayer Service at Holy Redeemer Church in College Park, MD. Throughout the 40-days, daily Prayer Vigils were held near the Metropolitan Family Planning Clinic in College Park, MD. Fletcher Council and St. Joseph parishioners held its Prayer Vigil adjacent to the clinic each Wednesday from 6-7 P.M.

#### COME PRAY WITH US



All Council Members  
Are Invited To  
Knight's Sunday  
Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday  
Of The Month  
At The 11 A.M. Mass

## Considering a Vocation to Priesthood?

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





## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Bernard Broadus, Community Activities Director  
bbroadus53@gmail.com



202-359-7781

# A Field of Dreams



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. Don't wait to be called on, volunteer some of your time. No joke, we need your support. The dates will be announced shortly. More information will be fore coming at our next council meeting. Point of contact are Harold Sanders and Alan Davis.

## COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Cal A. Thompson, Council Activities Director  
calthompsn@msn.com



301-928-2157



### Fletcher Council - History Quiz

What are these Fletcher Council member doing. When? Where? Why?

Can you name the participants?

Which one now lives in Florida? California?

Can you identify which one severed as a Past Grand Knight?

Which of the 8 are deceased?

Can you identify the Charter Member(s)?

**BONUS:** Who had a son that was also a member of the council?

*Send your answers to [vhawkinsjr@aol.com](mailto:vhawkinsjr@aol.com)*



**MEMBERSHIP QUEST**  
 John W. Huntley, Membership Director  
 jhuntley@some.org



240-441-9086

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



240-353-1460

**WANTED!**  
**CATHOLIC GENTLEMEN**  
**FOR AN EXPERIENCE OF**  
**A LIFE TIME**



**AS A MEMBER OF THE**  
**JAMES C. FLETCHER, JR. COUNCIL**  
**ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**IN SERVICE FOR ONE IN SERVICE FOR ALL**  
**GIVE ME A CALL**

**JOHN W. HUNTLEY - 240-441-9086**



## Youth Talent Show

Friday, May 20, 2016  
 7 PM - 9:30 PM

St. Joseph Catholic Church – Rosemont Room  
 2020 St. Joseph Drive, Largo, Maryland 20774

### 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 21<sup>st</sup>.

Short auditions will be held April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30 p.m. and April 29<sup>th</sup> 7:30 p.m.

### SEE THE SHOW!

Vote for your favorite act!  
 Enjoy a great night of entertainment

**Prizes**  
**Awarded!**

Free will donations are requested to benefit the Youth and Charities.

### TO REGISTER CONTACT

Virginette Scott – youth@stjosephlargo.org - 301-773-4838

Alan Davis – adavis1960@verizon.net - 301-808-8009

### SPONSORED BY

James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council Charities, Knights of Columbus  
 The Youth Ministry of St. Joseph

## Maryland Knights on Bikes led the March for Life Parade last week in Annapolis, Maryland





## *FAMILY ACTIVITIES*

*Gabriel O. Nmorka, Family Activities Director*  
*ognmorka@gmail.com*

301-350-7637



### *Family of the Month* *The “Shorter” Family*

James W. and Dorothy Shorter have been married for over 52 years. Out of this blessed union came seven children, 3 boys and 4 girls. A host of grandchildren and great grandchildren are also a part of this loving family. The Shorter family resides in Lanham, Maryland and both James and Dorothy are retired. They enjoy spending time with their extended family and in their youth, they both loved to go dancing.

Sir Knight James Shorter has been a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church for over 30 years. He is a long-time member of the Hospitality Ministry, greeting parishioners at the 11 o'clock Mass, and is a member of The Men's Club.

He has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for over 20 years and has served in all facets of council activities, including Church, Council, Community, Family, Youth and Pro-Life. He is a mainstay and supporter of the council's Annual Mardi Gras where he has served as bartender. Jim is always in the fore front of the Church Picnic, serving as its grill-master. He continues his cooking skills during Lent as a cook for the Fish Fry and throughout the summer at the Flea Markets refreshment stand.

James was the recipient in 2005 of the Archdiocese of Washington Order of Merit Medal. An award established by the Archdiocese to recognize ordinary parishioners for service to their parish and the Archdiocese of Washington.

Jim and Dorothy are loving parents and a true example of a Christians who devotes their time, talent and treasure building up the Kingdom of God everywhere he goes.

For these notable services to St. Joseph Church and the Community, the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422 of the Knights of Columbus would like to acknowledge James and Dorothy Shorter as the April, 2016 Family of the Month.

Heavenly Father, guide and richly bless James and Dorothy forever and ever in Jesus Holy name. Amen!

EACH OF US IS A  
**MASTERPIECE**  
OF GOD'S CREATION.



## REFLECTIONS

Lawrence P. Grayson

### No Greater Love

It was the sixth hour on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Nisan in the Hebrew year 3790 – in the future, under the Gregorian calendar, it would be remembered as noon, Friday, April 7, 30 A.D. Large crowds were entering the walled city of Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover, which would begin at sundown. Opposing the flow of pilgrims were three men carrying wooden beams, who were accompanied by a group of Roman soldiers, Jewish high priests, a few relatives, friends, and curious onlookers. They exited the city through the Gennath Gate and struggled up a nearby rocky hill called Golgotha. At its crest were three upright timbers. Each was about six feet high and shaped so that a grooved crossbeam could be fitted on top.

Two of the men were criminals; the third was innocent and had done nothing to deserve punishment. All three were to die.

When they reached the hilltop, the soldiers disrobed Jesus, the innocent one, and tossed him to the ground. They placed the lumber under his neck and extended his arms. The executioner quickly drove a long, square nail through each wrist into the beam. Four soldiers lifted the wooden bar, raising the condemned man from the ground, and placed it on the upright. One of his feet was placed over the other and both nailed to the vertical beam. A sign with his name and charge against him was affixed over his head. The same procedure was followed for the other two prisoners.

The bright noon sky began to darken. The crucified men were in intense agony as their lives slowly ebbed away. By one o'clock, most of the curious had left. Jesus raised his eyes toward heaven and cried out in a loud voice, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." This petition was meant not only for those who condemned, persecuted and crucified him, but for all of humanity – for those through the ages whom he came to save, but who receive him not; for those who hear the Word, profess to believe it, but prefer a congenial life, without self-restraint, sacrifice or mortification; for those who want Christ's religion without the Cross. The appeal was an act of supreme love. Jesus, the Son of God, as then-Father Joseph Ratzinger said, "loves us not because *we* are good, but because *he* is good." If we are to be followers of Christ, we must love in the same way.

The word "love" is overly used in our language and as a result the concept of love, as exhibited by Our Lord, is poorly understood. It is used in place of enjoy, as in "I love sailing." It is used to denote erotic attraction and filial affection, as well as a profound attachment and deep concern for the well-being of another person. This last meaning for love is a willful, rather than emotional, act which recognizes that every human being has an inherent dignity as a creature made in the image and likeness of God. That is the type of love, which the Greek's called *agape*, that is demanded of Christians.

In contrast to other-centered, sacrificial love, so much of what is done and approved of in today's society is the result of its self-focused antithesis. Contraception uses another person for one's immediate pleasure. Pornography satisfies one's own erotic desires. Cohabitation involves no binding commitment to another. Abortion sacrifices a child for freedom for oneself. Euthanasia purposely destroys a God-given life and the value it is meant to provide, often to eliminate pain or a burden.

Today, too few people are willing to make the commitment and sacrifice required for Christ-like love. Too few professed Catholics truly live according to the teachings and example of Christ, even if they abide by obligatory devotions. Their faith does not affect their ideas, attitudes, priorities, decisions and actions. As a body, they are indistinguishable from the general populace.

They relegate their faith to an occasional Mass – only 24 percent attend weekly -- and the rest of the time exhibit a practical agnosticism, living as if God has no effect on their lives. They willingly ignore and even deny Church teachings, and have so compartmentalized their minds that they can say, "I am personally opposed to abortion (or ..., you name the evil), but will not prevent others from having one. This disposition is palatable because it imposes no obligation on the individual to publicly live the faith, to make the sacrifices that faith and Christ-like love demand. It does not interfere with one's drive for self-gratification and material success.

Faith is more than a set of dogmas to be acknowledged; rather it is a way of life, a way whose ends are not the temporal comforts of this world, but the fulfillment of the reason we were created -- to gain an eternity in the kingdom of God. What Catholics need is a re-evangelization of their beliefs. They must learn once again what it means to be Catholic, to understand the timeless truth of its doctrines, to develop the moral values and commitment to live their lives in accord with the faith.

Jesus, the Son of God, came into the world to pay through suffering the ransom for man's sins. On the Cross, he fulfilled his task, the work of Redemption was complete. As three o'clock approached, he uttered, "It is finished," and soon after bowed his head and died. While thousands were beginning the ritual of Passover by spilling the blood of lambs in the temple area as an offering to God, the Lamb of God offered his blood as a sacrifice for the salvation of man.

Although the doors of heaven have been opened, we must earn the right to enter. Being a disciple of Christ requires commitment. After his Resurrection, Christ asked Peter, "Do you love me?" This is a question we all must answer, not only in words, but with deeds.



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.

## James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422 Council Officers

2015 - 2016

Chaplain	Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.
Associate Chaplain	Deacon Alton Davis, Jr.
Associate Chaplain	Deacon A. Douglas Turner
Grand Knight	Ikechukwu R. Agbim
Deputy Grand knight	Alan M. Davis
Chancellor.	J. Bernard Broadus
Warden.	Errol Sanderson
Financial Secretary	Robert B. Sistare
Recorder.	John O. Grier
Treasurer	Harold F. Sanders, Jr.
Lecturer.	Michael P. Akpan
Advocate	Christopher U. Aguocho
Trustee 3 year.	Thomas F. Matthews, PGK
Trustee 2 year.	John W. Huntley, PGK
Trustee 1 year.	G. Emeka Onwezi, PGK
Inside Guard.	Arthur C. Osuorah
Outside Guard.	Mervyn Chancellor
Convention Delegate	Ikechukwu R. Agbim
First Alternate	
Second Alternate	

### Please, Remember In Your Prayers

#### Members Who Are Ill



Howard Wynn	James Shorter
Mary Julius	Hugo Braden
Joseph Marshall	William Tolbert
Ken Hinton	Harold Sanders
Donald Wilson	Charles Ratcliff

#### Deceased

Mamie Poole

Please send any names you know of so that we may add or remove them to/from the list.





**“HAPPY BIRTHDAY”**  
**\*\*APRIL\*\***  
**- 2016 -**

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



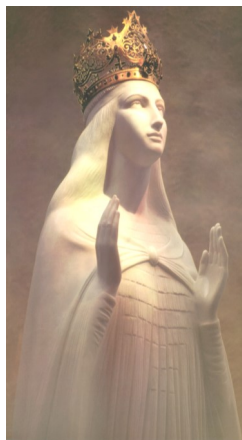
**“The Joy  
 Of An  
 April  
 Birthday”**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
**\*\*APRIL\*\***



- 01 April Fool’s Day
- 02 Kite Extravaganza
- 02 AWD Fourth Degree Exemplification
- 04 The Annuciation of the Lord
- 07 **Fletcher Council Meeting, 7:30 PM**
- 11 Bishop Walsh Assembly Meeting
- 17 **Knights Sunday, 11 O’clock Mass**
- 18 Income Tax Day
- 20 McNamara Chapter Meeting
- Fr. McKenna Council 11024
- 21 **Fletcher Council Meeting, 7:30 PM**
- 22 Passover

**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 and 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.