



KNIGHTLIFE



Volume 23 Issue 8

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
2018 March For Life

February 2018





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Chaplain Report



Chaplain Thoughts...

“He taught them as one having authority..”

by Bishop Roy E. Campbell, Jr.

So far in this short season of Ordinary Time, we have heard of our Lord’s call to His Apostles and to us as His people to “Come, follow Me.” Now that we have heard Him calling, what must we do? We must listen to Him!

Throughout salvation history since Moses, God has called His people through the message of the prophets He has sent. Now, God completes and fulfills His call, His message, through His greatest prophet, His Son, Jesus.

The people listened, because Jesus speaks to them as Moses did, with AUTHORITY! However, there is a difference between the authority that Moses spoke with, and the authority that Jesus speaks with. Jesus does not speak and act with the authority given to Him by God, as Moses did. Jesus speaks and acts on His own authority, because He is God. Jesus uses His authority to expel demons from a man whom demons possessed and controlled.

The demons knew who Jesus was and tried to say so. The demons were trying to gain a measure of control over Jesus

by saying that they knew who He really was. However, Jesus silenced them, with AUTHORITY!

The people were amazed, and left the Synagogue, spreading the news of what they had seen to everyone they met.

In some ways, each one of us can relate to that possessed man’s situation. We are not possessed, but we all have sufferings and temptations that seem to have mysterious power over us, just as the devil had power over this man. Jesus came to bring new life and new hope to that man. He comes to bring new life and new hope to every human heart today, and He rejoices whenever we let Him act with authority in our lives, as He did for that possessed man.

We, like the people in the Synagogue, should tell everyone we meet what Jesus has done for us by how we live as Christians and how thankful we are for having God’s love working in our lives. We call that evangelization.

Grand Knight’s Chronicles



Your Grand Knight For The 2017 - 2018 Fraternal Year

“Trust in the Lord with all thy Heart, and lean not on thy own understanding”

J. Bernard Broadus



Brother Knights,

Allow me to tell you about my January 2018. It all started on January 2nd when I and PGK Alan Davis interviewed an applicant. We met a wonderful man and seeing his desire to join our ranks (he has seen the kind of good works we do) made me so proud to be a Fletcher Council knight/member. You never know when you are being observed, and so, walking as a true knight, embracing your catholic faith and showing kindness and love to all, really shows the generosity we have for each other. Let us continue to do the things we are all call to do for our fellow men. You can learn a lot more listening than talking.

On January the 6th, I attended the Mid-Term Meeting for DD, DW, GK, and DGK from all over the state of Maryland. Recruitment, Recruitment, Recruitment!!! Brothers all, let’s make it a personal goal to bring in one (1) new brother in the next 90 days. We can do a lot more with more soldiers (knights) on the field. Speaking of more soldiers, on January 12th, we met at Lady Missouri’s home to remove the Christmas lights. Brother Knight Steve Kueberuwa joined us and we had a great talk about the council and the good works being done. I am going to mention Steve again a little later in this article.

I attended Chapter Meeting on January 17th held by our very own council member, Sir Knight Vernon. (Assembly meeting was cancelled this month due to inclement weather.) The Chapter meeting allows PGK and GK the opportunity to network, discuss projects being done and share ideas. The next day, January 18th, we had our monthly social meeting where we hosted an Admission Degree.

Please congratulate our new Brother Knight, Kenneth Nnawuba, the next time you see him. And just a few days later on January 23rd, SK Alan Davis, SK Harold Sanders and myself, had the honor of taking Brother Knights Steve Kueberuwa, Kenneth Nnawuba, Linus Alozie and Andrew Sutton to North Beach, Maryland, Calvert County Council, to their Formation Degree Ceremony. (2nd Degree) We actually got to see a 1st and 2nd Degree Ceremony. As I sat through the ceremonies, I found myself being renewed in my oath to being a Knight of Columbus, evermore to helping my fellow man and making sure our brother’s widow and children are also. Brothers, please don’t forget to donate to our very own Fletcher Council Memorial Fund that helps the families of our deceased brother.

May Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, continue to bless and keep us all safe from harm.



District Deputy's Report

State Deputy's Report



G. Emeka Onwezi
District Deputy

The March for life was held on January 19th. Many came out in the cold to march for the unborn. That was dedication and commitment for fight against abortion. The fight for the right of the unborn babies and fight against abortion should not end after January 19th. The fight should also not be once a year during the annual march for life. Rather, we should keep on fighting every day to protect life, both born and unborn.

We have started registering for the Maryland State Council Convention. As usual, it will be in Ocean City, Maryland during the weekend of May 4th and 6th. All who want to attend the convention must register online at: www.mdcoconvention.org. If you have not been to any of our conventions yet, you are missing a lot. This is a family and friend event. It is a fun convention with a lot of things for everyone, from the youths to the adults.

Continue the progress of growing your council and our order. We still have four more months to the end of this fraternal year. This is enough time to meet your membership and insurance quota and attain the prestige Star council for your council. Also, there is other incentive in recruiting new members this fraternal year. The Supreme Council will sponsor 10 couples to attend the world meeting of families in Dublin Ireland with all expenses paid. If you recruit a member into the order from December 2017 through June 30, 2018, your name will go into a drawing. On July 1, 2018, ten names will be drawn at random. If you are a winner, you and your wife will be notified immediately so that you can plain this once in a lifetime opportunity to interact with families from all over the world. When you return, you can become a beacon of light for other families in your council, community, and state. The more men that you recruit, the greater the probability you will have to win this trip to Dublin, Ireland.

Please continue in all your effort to make sure that your council succeed in this fraternal year. It is not your Grand Knight's council and it is not your Financial Secretary's Council. ***It is your council and you own its success or failure.*** With your commitment and brotherhood, your council will succeed and meet that ultimate goal of a Star Council.

Vivat Jesus!



Stephen M. Cohen
State Deputy

I want to thank everyone for all the hard work that was done in the first half of our Fraternal Year. Thank you for both your efforts in growing our Order and our State, and also for the all of the Charitable Outreach done so far this year.

Now is the time to double and triple our efforts in both of these areas and finish strong in the last six months of the Fraternal Year. Don't put off asking that eligible Catholic man to join us or to make that donation to a charity; June 30th at Midnight will be here before you know. Remember time flies.

What a great Mid-Term Meeting! Thank you to everyone who attended and thank you to the presenters. A lot of good information was presented, so make sure your District Deputy is passing it on. Districts should be holding their District Meetings now.

Now is also the time to contact your Insurance Agent and schedule your Benefits Night. Hold this as an open meeting and invite the families. This could be combined with an Open House. Invite the parish families and tell them about the great works the Knights of Columbus do.

As a State we continue to grow. Thanks to everyone who has recruited at least one new member this Fraternal Year. It is not too late to get onboard. Remember everyone is a member of the Membership Committee. Look past your parish, each one of us knows a Catholic gentleman that is eighteen or older. Ask them to join us. Help us as we look to encourage young men between the ages of eighteen and thirty to join us. Remember, we are looking for an hour of their time each month.

Now is the time to start planning for our Annual Convention in Ocean City. Chairman John Trainor and his team have been working hard to make this year enjoyable for all. If you have any question do not hesitate to contact John.

Our mantra remains – It is not I – it is We – It is one Goal and it is Our Goal – and that Goal is to make this our best year ever.

Vivat Jesus,

Steve



Have You Visited The State Website Lately
www.kofc-md.org
Or the Maryland State Yahoo Group
<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/MDstatecouncil/info?yguid=46983702>



A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPREME KNIGHT

Carl A. Anderson - Supreme Knight



The Knights of Columbus is providing \$1.4 million to help repair and rebuild churches that were either destroyed or badly damaged in the late summer hurricanes that assaulted Texas, Florida and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

“Getting parish facilities up and running again does not just meet a practical need,” said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. “The people in the affected areas see the revival of their churches as a spiritual joy and as an important signal of recovery for the larger communities that surround these churches.”

Knights of Columbus Charities raised \$3.8 million for disaster relief in the months following the hurricanes. In the immediate aftermath, more than \$720,000 was used to pay for food, water and other critical supplies. At the same time, many local Knights helped rescue neighbors stranded by rising waters and reached out to their communities in a variety of other ways.

Church repair and renovation has been a key component of Knights’ relief efforts in the past. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, which struck the New Orleans area in 2005, the K of C contributed \$6.7 million to various dioceses to help rebuild the Catholic infrastructure in the area, aiding in the repair of schools, churches and other buildings.

The Knights of Columbus has also earmarked a significant amount of money for upcoming church repair efforts in Puerto Rico. This donation will be in addition to the \$100,000 donation presented by the Order to the Archdiocese of San Juan in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, which provided generators, food, water and other necessities to aid relief efforts.



**After every Mass on February 3rd & 4th at
St. Joseph, there will be a
Blessing of the Throats
in celebration of the Feast of St. Blaise**



FRATERNAL BENEFITS

Harold Sims, Fraternal Benefit Advisor

Harold.sims@kofc.org

202-701-2415

FINANCIAL FITNESS FOR THE NEW YEAR

When a new year begins, we like to look at our lives and assess where we are. Many make resolutions to challenge themselves, improving on health and habits or setting new bars to which they may aspire. These are great practices. After all, no matter how good we're doing, we can always do better. Critical self-reflection and setting goals can help. This is true not only for our physical and spiritual health, but also our financial health. As we begin 2018, here are a few suggestions to help you look at your financial situation and find opportunities for improvement.

Start With a Comprehensive Review

Take stock of your entire situation. Look at your assets and liabilities, as well as the plans and protection that you already have in place. Try to anticipate the future. Are you hoping to have more children? Do you want to help pay for your children's education? Are you nearing retirement?

This is a valuable and revealing process, and it is one that you don't have to do alone. As a Knight of Columbus, you can work with a dedicated, well-trained professional brother Knight field agent who can help you identify what you need to adequately protect your family.

Through your field agent, you can receive a comprehensive, complimentary financial needs analysis. This analysis, titled "Profiles & Forecaster," is a proven industry tool that helps you determine your needs. It's a fraternal benefit that costs you nothing but can tell you a lot. The Profiles & Forecaster analysis will help you identify surpluses, shortages, insurance and income replacement needs, final expenses and more. It's a great way to start.

Focus on the Future

Ask yourself a series of questions: What happens when you die? Will your family be adequately protected? Do you have life insurance? Is it privately owned or tied to your employment? Is it temporary or permanent? As a member, you have exclusive access to our extensive portfolio of permanent and temporary life insurance products that can be customized to fit your needs.

What happens if you get injured?

If you're disabled and can't work, how long can your family survive without your income? Do you have disability income insurance? How much of your income does it cover? Is it privately owned or tied to your employment? The Knights of Columbus has recently introduced a disability income insurance product that can help provide critical protection for your paycheck.

What happens if you get sick?

If you need extended care in a nursing facility or at home, will you have money set aside for those needs? Have you looked to see what care like that may cost? Members of the Knights of Columbus have the ability to purchase long-term care insurance that can provide the cash needed to pay for long-term care services while shielding the savings they've set aside for retirement and other purposes.

What happens when you retire?

Do you have enough money tucked away? How do you know if it's enough? How will your retirement age and social security affect your financial situation? By working with your brother Knight field agent, you can establish a Knights of Columbus retirement annuity that takes out the guesswork by guaranteeing your principal. It also guarantees growth and — when properly structured — an income stream for life, no matter how long you live.

Prioritize Protection

Make protecting the most important things a priority. Think of all the things you insure in your life: your car, home, important electronic devices and major appliances. But how much more precious and valuable is your life? Shouldn't this be protected and prioritized as well? Proper protection is much more affordable than you may think. Contact your field agent for your free needs analysis, and he can walk you through all your options and create a plan that is right for you and your family.



This Year,
Prioritize Your Family's Protection.





McNAMARA CHAPTER OF GRAND KNIGHTS

Vernon Hawkins, Jr. - Chapter President - vhawkinsjr@aol.com - 301-336-0284



This month's Bishop McNamara Chapter meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 21st at St. John the Evangelist Council 11171, 8910 Old Branch Avenue, Clinton, Maryland. The meeting will start promptly at 8 P.M. Remember **all** Grand Knights, Deputy Grand Knights, District Deputies, District Wardens are strongly urged to attend and meet and greet our State Officers and Chairman. Grand Knights are also encouraged to bring their Chair Officers and Committee Chairman. Future McNamara Chapter meetings and events for the remainder of this fraternal year are listed below:

- February 2nd, Tri-Chapter Ball, Columbia Gardens, Baltimore, MD
- February 21st, St. John the Evangelist Council 11171
- March 21st, Saint Mary's Council 1470
- April 18th, Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council 6793
- May 16th, St. Elizabeth Council 12796, Election of Officers
- June 20th, Sacred Heart Council 2577, Exchange of Jewels
- TBD - Blue Crabs Baseball Game

Please note that during this quarter, the election cycle for officers for the 2018-2019 fraternal year will commence with the appointment of the Election Committee at the February 21st meeting. The Election Committee shall assemble a slate of candidates for submittal for Chapter Officer elections.



WALSH ASSEMBLY NEWS

Michael P. Davenport - Faithful Navigator
qstorm3@aol.com 301-523-7374



Extra, Extra, read all about it! The Archdiocese of Washington District (AWD) will be holding an Exemplification of the Fourth Degree on April 7, 2018 at the Lady of Good Counsel High School, 17301 Old Vic Blvd in Olney, Maryland 20832. This will probably be the only one this year so do not miss this chance to become a better citizen of this great country! Complete your journey and become a **Sir Knight!** Each candidate must be: **(1)** A third degree member in good standing in his council, and **(2)** a citizen of the country in which he resides. A citizen of another nation may participate with the specific written approval of both the Master of the appropriate District where he claims citizenship and the Master of the Archdiocese of Washington District. For more information visit AWD website at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/49th-awd-exemplification-of-the-fourth-degree-tickets-41744814865?ref=ebtn#tickets>

Renewal of Obligations: The Annual Renewal of Obligations for the Bishop James E. Walsh Assembly 1548 will be conducted on Monday, February 12, 2018 at 7 P.M. The Master and members of the Archdiocese of the Washington District (AWD) staff will be in attendance. All Sir Knights are encouraged to attend in Tuxedo, 4th Degree Pin, Social Baldrick. A group photograph will be taken.



PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Michael Younger, Community Activities Director

mrwhy@verizon.net

301-980-6779



WOW? February is upon us and yes, it has been cold. Flu season is in full swing. Were you one of the unfortunate one's or fortunate? February also brings in the eighth month of this awesome fraternal year. Through Grand Knight Bernard Broadus leadership the council has conducted and met a myriad of goals in all of its major enterprises of Church, Council, Community, Family, Youth and Pro-Life. Also, with the fantastic support of our Directors and Chair officers, I have been enjoying this year. However, a surprise did over take me last month during the council meeting as one of my legs began to twitch just a little, after looking at the calendar and realizing that come March, nominations for officers to serve for the 2018-2019 fraternal year commences, with council elections held prior to the State Convention. **O'Boy!** Any chance of extending GK Bernard's tenure? He has done a superb job. **Tongue-in-cheek,** I just may make a motion on that at the next meeting.

Now, back to the real world. February brings in a full slate of council activities, many are described in this edition of the Fletcher newsletter. This month is *Black History Month*, also known as *African-American History Month*, is an annual observance in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom and in the Netherlands where it is known as Black Achievement Month. It is celebrated annually in the United States and Canada in February, as well as in the United Kingdom and the Netherlands in October. There are a multitude of events happening this month throughout the Archdioceses of Washington to celebrate this occasion. St. Joseph Church will conduct a Black History Program and reception following the 5 P.M. on Saturday, February 24th. Please join us as we continue to celebration our heritage.

KC LADIES AUXILIARY

Cathy Gresham, President

catstew@aol.com



We are Back! We are back, ready and willing to serve our Annual Delicious, Scrumptious Melt in your mouth PanCake Breakfast. Many of our patrons craved throughout the year wondering when will the next *KC Ladies PanCake Breakfast* be held. Well, no more craving, its happening on February 25th. See the adjacent flyer for details.



JAMES C. FLETCHER, JR. COUNCIL 11422
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
KC LADIES' ANNUAL



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018

After the 8:30 & 11:00 Morning Masses

- | | | |
|----------------|--|---------|
| Pancakes |  | Sausage |
| Eggs | | Ham |
| Grits | | Coffee |
| Fried Potatoes | | Milk |
| Fried Apples | | Juice |

Adults \$9.00

Children, 9 and under \$5.00





CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Chidubem M. Oparaoji, Activities Director
cmatriot@gmail.com 202-802-8155

Brothers, February is the shortest month of the year, and this month there are numerous services and events we can experience which will aid us on our walk with Christ as we journey towards *EASTER*.

The overriding traditional theme of February is *LOVE* and many of us will focus on February 14th which is *Valentine's Day*. Truly, love is always the focus of our relationship with God and our family, friends, coworkers and all those who live with us on this earth. Let us show our love by our presence at and commitment to the liturgical and historical events and services held at St. Joseph this month.

ASH Wednesday Masses on February 14th begins our Lenten journey. Friday night *Stations of the Cross* and *Lenten Reflections*, Tuesday night Adoration, Benediction, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Confession and Mass help draw us closer to our Lord and each other. Wednesday evening,

"The Light is on for You" penance services are offered throughout the Archdiocese during *Lent*.

Fletcher Council will hold its annual *Mardi Gras Ball* to celebrate the upcoming Lenten Season on Saturday, February 10th. Also, *Black History Month* Celebrations will be held this month in the Archdiocese. The many ministries here at St. Joseph will hold a *Black History Month Program* and Reception on Saturday, February 24th after the 5 p.m. Mass.

Brothers, please take time this month to participate in these services and events as we prepare ourselves for the glory of *EASTER*.

"Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth" 1 John 18.

February 8, 2018 will be the International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking

The Novena for St. Josephine Bakhita begins on January 30th and ends February 8th.

Saint Josephine Bakhita

February 8th is the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita, who was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery in Sudan and Italy. Once Josephine was freed, she became a Canossian nun and dedicated her life to sharing her testament of deliverance from slavery and comforting the poor and suffering. She was declared a saint in 2000. All Catholics are called to recite the Prayer to Saint Josephine Bakhita on February 8th.

Prayer to Saint Josephine Bakhita

*St. Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery
as a child
and endured untold hardship and suffering.
Once liberated from your physical enslavement,
you found true redemption in your encounter with
Christ and his Church.*

*O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a
state of slavery;
Intercede with God on their behalf
so that they will be released from their chains
of captivity.
Those whom man enslaves, let God set free.*

*Provide comfort to survivors of slavery
and let them look to you as an example of hope
and faith.
Help all survivors find healing from their wounds.
We ask for your prayers and intercessions for
those enslaved among us.
Amen.*



Considering a Vocation to Priesthood?

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





COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Cal Thompson, Council Activities Director

calthompsn@msn.com

301-249-2955



Brother Knights, tickets for our Annual Mardi Gras on February 10, 2018 went on sale in October. I am happy to report that we have a "Sell Out". Our council members and the parishioners of St. Joseph knows a good thing. Thank You! Special **THANKS** to Brother Knight **Cal Thompson** for being the focal point for this fabulous yearly odyssey.




FEATURING
"THE EXCLUSIVES"

Date: Saturday, February 10, 2018
Time: 7pm 'til Midnight
Where: St. Joseph's Rosemont Room
 2020 St. Joseph's Drive
 Largo, MD 20774
 (301) 773-4838

Menu
 Seafood Gumbo w/Rice
 Chicken Gumbo w/Rice
 Baked Chicken
 Meatballs
 Potato Salad
 Rice Pilaf
 Green Beans
 Rolls/Butter
 Cake
 Punch/Ice Tea
 Bottled Water
 "Open Bar"

Mask Optional
Or
Semiformal

"A Truly New Orleans Gala - Traditional Mardi Gras - Superb Music & Entertainment"
ADMISSION ONLY \$45.00 PER PERSON

For Tickets Call/Email
 Vernon Hawkins - 301-336-0284 - vhawkinsjr@aol.com
 Cal Thompson - 301-928-2157 - calthompsn@msn.com
 Sponsored By The James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422
 Knights of Columbus

SOLO D OUT



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Michael Younger, Community Activities Director
mrwhy@verizon.net *301-980-6779*

Catholics in Annapolis Night (formerly known as Lobby Night) will be held on Thursday, February 22nd, from 3:00 to 8:00 PM. This will be held at St. John Neumann Church in Annapolis. Free shuttles will take participants to the events.

Catholics in Annapolis Night gives Catholics the opportunity to promote laws that our Bishops endorse, as well as the opportunity to oppose laws that our Bishops oppose. We do these by taking issues directly to our State Senators and Delegates.

Catholics in Annapolis Night is organized by the Maryland Catholic Conference, which fully represents our Maryland bishops in the Maryland Legislature.

You should sign up prior to participating in Catholics in Annapolis Night. This can be done online:



Catholics *in* Annapolis

FEBRUARY 22, 2018 • 3-8 p.m.

Mark your calendars! The Maryland Catholic Conference's 34th annual Catholics in Annapolis event is **February 22, 2018**. Catholics in Annapolis provides a chance for you to come together with Catholics from across the State of Maryland for an evening of food, fun, faith and advocacy. Meet your lawmakers, mingle with Maryland's Catholic Bishops and your fellow parishioners, and share the Catholic belief in the dignity of all lives. Catering will be provided by B.E.S.T. Catering, a culinary job-training enterprise of the Light House Homeless Prevention Support Center in Annapolis.

REGISTRATION:

Event & reception are free but registration is required. Visit:

www.mdccatholic.org/lobbysnight

BRIEFING:

St. John Neumann Mission Church
620 N. Bestgate Road, Annapolis 21403
(3-4:30 p.m.)

If you cannot make the briefing, we encourage you to attend the reception!

MEETINGS AND RECEPTION:

Legislative Office Buildings
Rowe Boulevard, Annapolis
(Meetings with legislators: 5-6:30 p.m.)
(Legislative reception: 6:30-8 p.m.)
(Shuttles available: 4:30-8 p.m.)

QUESTIONS?

Chris Santo or Kate Alexander
410-269-1155 or 301-261-1979
chris@mdccatholic.org
kalexander@mdccatholic.org



10 Francis Street • Annapolis, MD • 21401



FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Efrain Anderson, Family Activities Director

canal511@aol.com

301-372-6426

Family of the Month Lady Carla Ratcliffe



Lady Carla Ratcliffe is a former members of St. Augustine Catholic Church in Washington, Carla her mom and dad became parishioners at St Joseph in 1964. Her mother, *Cynthia Ratcliffe*, was a member of the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary and a member of the St. John Auxiliary until her passing in 2003. Her father, *Charles Ratcliffe*, is a Charter member of the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council Knight of Columbus here at St. Joseph, serves as an Usher at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Concept in Washington DC. Carla's sister, *Celita Nash*, is also a member of St. Joseph Church.

Carla started helping at the church as a Sanitation Technician, did accounting for the Offering Department on Mondays, is a member of the Repast Ministry, the Arts and Environment Ministry, the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary, and the St. Vincent DePaul Ministry. *Carla* worked 32-years for George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates Department of Surgery. *Carla* has always been a loving and devoted Catholic. Our Lord and Savior nursed her through a serious illness, which made her love stronger and devotion to the Lord and her commitment to the Church. St Joseph, lets welcome *Carla Ratcliffe* and family to receive the Family of the Month Award for January 2018. *Congratulations Carla.*



***OUR MARDI GRAS
BAND FOR 2018
THE EXCLUSIVES***



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Phil Beauboeuf, Youth Activities Director
pabeaub@us.ibm.com 240-353-1460



Brother Knights, it is time to remember days of long ago, and once again for the *James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council* to field a competitive Basketball Free Throw Team and once again participate in the Maryland State Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw competition. The youth of the parish showed remarkable shooting skills throughout the summer on the St. Joseph Church's Basketball Court. Lets corral them for a team to represent the Council. It is open to Boys and Girls, ages 9-14. Steps to the finals on March 18, 2018 include: **1)** Council Shootout; **2)** District Shootout; and **3)** the State Shootout. Individual scores are used to move a team member through each step. We can do this and, with **YOUR HELP**,

we can make it so. I do need some volunteers to assist me with the team formation. Therefore, I am asking for volunteers, please email me to let me know that you can be counted on to assist with this wonderful program for our youth. *What say you?*



Maryland State Knights of Columbus

Basketball Free Throw

March 18, 2018

12:00 – 3:30 PM Awards at 4:00 PM

Any ties will be played at 3:30 PM

Open to Girls and Boys, Ages 9 – 14

Archbishop Spaulding High School

8080 New Cut Road
Severn, MD 21144



Volunteers are needed!

Questions – call or e-mail

Joe Massimini, 240-997-0402, joemassi@comcast.net or

Mike Ragolio, 443-520-3517, MCRagolio@verizon.net



CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITIES

Peter Methodius Pro-Life Activities Director
pmethodius@yahoo.com 301-728-7827

2018 March for Life



“St. Joseph is Pro-Life”



The Capital One Arena in Washington which typically houses professional basketball and hockey games and sold-out concerts, was filled with thousands of youth from around the country who gathered there to stand up for life on January 19th. The Archdiocese of Washington’s annual Youth Rally and Mass for Life preceded the 45th Annual March for Life, which is held every year around the anniversary of *Roe v Wade*, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in the United States.

Washington Cardinal Donald Wuerl, upon entering the arena, expressed admiration for the amount of people who had come to the rally. He is quoted as saying: *“This is so, very exciting to see this entire arena filled with thousands and thousands of young people. The next generation is every bit as committed to life as the current generation. It tells us that the future is very bright.”*

At the conclusion of the Mass, many of those thousands of people once again left their seats and walked out of the arena to attend the March for Life, where they would walk up Constitution Avenue to the Supreme Court building and U.S. capitol, witnessing to the dignity of life.





Congratulations Brother Knights



L/R: Steven Kuebenruwa, Linus O. Alozie, DW Stephen C. Coker, DD Stephen J. Bayliff, Andrew D. Sutton, GK Bernard Broadus and Kenneth Nnawuba.

A proud Grand Knight, Bernard Broadus, stands with four members of the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422. He is proud and smiling because the four had just successfully completed their *Formation Degree* (Second Degree) at Calvert Council #7870 in North Beach, Maryland. Just as proud were District Deputy #9, Stephen J. Bayliff and District Warden #9, Stephen C. Coker. BTW, talk about proud, check out the body language and expressions on the faces of our four new brother's faces. May I have a "SHOUTOUT" of CONGRATULATIONS!



WE APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU DO

A Shinning Example of Knighthood

Past Grand Knight

Sir Knight Charles N. Okpah





REFLECTIONS

Lawrence P. Grayson

Marching for Pro-Life America

On January 19, some 20,000 students attended an early morning Mass and youth rally, and then joined several hundred thousand pro-life advocates on the National Mall in Washington, DC. After encouraging remarks by political and social leaders, the overwhelmingly young crowd from all over the country marched to the Supreme Court for the 45th annual time to bear witness for life at all stages.

Ever since *Roe v. Wade* legalized abortion in 1973, the pro-life movement has peacefully prayed outside of abortion clinics, counseled pregnant women, shown them ultrasound images of their children, provided free housing for mothers-to-be, stressed the alternative of adoption, exposed the depraved techniques of abortion, filmed the illegal sale of baby parts, and lobbied for laws to protect both mother and child. The results are indisputable. The number of surgical abortions has decreased dramatically. Children are being saved.

In 1996, an estimated 1.36 million children were killed in the womb; by 2015, the number had dropped to 908,000. Last year, 27 surgical abortion centers closed or stopped doing abortions, continuing a long-term trend. In 1991, there were 2,176 surgical abortion clinics in the country; today, only 490 remain. As a result, over 90 percent of the counties in the United States no longer have an abortion provider.

And very encouraging, in the past year there have been a host of federal government actions to promote the sanctity of life. On January 23, 2017, the President reinstated the Mexico City Policy, which prevents U.S. foreign aid from going to non-governmental organizations that provide or promote abortion services abroad.

Then, on the morning of the 2018 March for Life, the President announced two major pro-life policy changes. First, the Department of Health and Human Services is rescinding an Obama-era guideline that forced states to make Medicaid reimbursement payments to Planned Parenthood, rather than to local community health centers which do not perform abortions and serve more people with more health services.

Second, the Office for Civil Rights proposed a new policy to protect conscience rights and religious freedom of doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals so that they would not be coerced into participating in medical procedures, such as abortion, sterilization, or assisted suicide, that violate their consciences.

That same morning, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the *Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act (H.R. 4712)*, which requires, under penalty of possible criminal and civil actions, health care practitioners to provide the same standards of care, including admission to a hospital, to a child surviving an abortion as would be expected for infants who were not subjects of an abortion.

The President has called upon the Senate to pass that legislation, as well as the *Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act (H.R. 36)*, which passed the House in October 2017, and he will sign

both. The latter bill makes it a crime for any person to perform or attempt to perform an abortion on any unborn child 20 weeks or more after conception. These bills would virtually eliminate abortions nationwide after five months of pregnancy.

The recent government actions are in-line with public opinion. A Knights of Columbus-Marist poll conducted in January 2018 found that 76 percent of American adults, including 60 percent of those who identify themselves as pro-choice, want abortions restricted to the first three months of pregnancy or limited to cases of rape or incest or to save the life of the mother. This confirms a Gallop survey released at the time of last year's March for Life, which found that although there is strong support for abortion in the first trimester majorities oppose it strongly in the second and third trimesters. The majority of Americas favor significant restrictions on abortion, such as waiting periods, spousal agreement, and the consent of one parent for a minor's abortion.

The March for Life is more than an annual symbolic demonstration. As Cardinal Timothy Dolan said at the youth Mass preceding this year March, "Our elected representatives, executive and legislative, and the judiciary they appoint, need to see and hear and feel the grassroots power and sincere voices of millions...we will not give up."

The National March in Washington, DC, has spawned more than 60 sister marches in communities and states across the nation, almost all held on or near January 22, the date when the Supreme Court legalized abortion. And other countries have followed the example. Marches for life are being held in at least 20 nations on six continents, making this a global movement.

Although progress has been made in protecting the sanctity of life, there still is significant opposition from pro-abortion providers, the entertainment industry, and much of the main-stream media. Marching alone will not win the battle for life.

Lila Rose, founder of Live Action, when asked a few years ago to advise a first-time attendee at the March for Life, expressed the need for continuing involvement: "If you're here, that's fantastic — but we need you tomorrow; we need you the next day; we need you on Sundays at your church; we need you at your schools standing up for life; we need you voting for life; we need you encouraging and working with your friends to make sure they're not having abortions...We need you every day, not just today."

Action also must be coupled with prayer. As the President said in his remarks at the March, "this movement can only succeed with the heart and the soul and the prayer of the people." With prayer, fasting, wide-spread public involvement, and trust in God, America will be a land that protects life from conception until natural death.



Smiley Central™

Recently a teacher, a garbage collector, and a lawyer wound up together at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter informed them that in order to get into Heaven, they would each have to answer one question.

St. Peter addressed the teacher and asked, "What was the name of the ship that crashed into the iceberg? They just made a movie about it."

The teacher answered quickly, "That would be the Titanic." St. Peter let him through the gate.

St. Peter turned to the garbage man and, figuring Heaven didn't REALLY need all the odors that this guy would bring with him, decided to make the question a little harder: "How many people died on the ship?"

Fortunately for him, the trash man had just seen the movie, and answered, "1,228."

"That's right! You may enter."

St. Peter then turned to the lawyer. "Name them."

A woman phoned her dentist when she received a huge bill. "I'm shocked!" she complained. "This is three times what you normally charge."

"Yes, I know," said the dentist. "But you yelled so loud, you scared away two other patients."

My new data-entry assistant could often be heard offering encouragement to her computer. "You can do it, big guy!" she would say. "Good boy! Nice job, fella."

After one particularly lengthy pep talk, I asked, "How do you know your computer's male?"

"Because you have to tell it what to do."

An airline pilot with poor eyesight had managed to pass his periodic vision exams by memorizing the eye charts beforehand. One year, though, his doctor used a new chart that the pilot had never before seen. The pilot proceeded to recite the old chart and the doctor realized that he'd been hoodwinked.

Well, the pilot proved to be nearly blind as a bat. But the doctor could not contain his curiosity. "How is it that someone with your eyesight can manage to pilot a plane at all? I mean, how for example, do you taxi the plane out to the runway?"

"Well," says the pilot, "it's really not very hard. All you have to do is follow the instructions of the ground controller over the radio. And besides, the landmarks have all become quite familiar to me over the years."

"I can understand that," replies the doctor. "But what about the take-off?"

"Again, a simple procedure. I just aim the plane down the runway, go to full throttle, pull back on the stick, and off we go!"

"But once you're aloft?"

"Oh, everything's fully automated these days. The flight computer knows our destination, and all I have to do is hit the autopilot and the plane pretty much flies itself."

"But I still don't see how you land!"

"Oh, that's the easiest part of all. All I do is use the airport's radio beacon to get us on the proper glide path. Then I just throttle down and wait for the co-pilot to yell, 'AIEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!!!' pull the nose up, and the plane lands just fine!"

Marian Title for February **Our Lady of Bearing**



The Blessed Virgin showed herself 35 times. These Apparitions of Our Blessed Lady occurred in Namur, Belgium in 1932 and 1933. In that period of time, the small town boasted about 2,400 people. It was at the convent of the sisters of Christian Doctrine of Nancy in a small replica of a Lourdes Grotto that these apparitions occurred.

The Blessed Virgin Mary told the children to "Always be good." And it was especially important to her that they attend the Mass of the Immaculate Conception for which

15,000 people came. She told them to "Pray, pray very much."

She asked several things of the children including that a chapel be built, she wished for people to come on pilgrimage, she stated "I am the Immaculate Virgin," and she showed them her golden and Immaculate Heart.

During the final days of the apparitions, each child received a secret, none of which have been revealed. But to Finance Violin, a fifteen year old visionary, she asked, "Do you love My Son?" To which Fernanda replied "Yes." Spectators reported hearing a loud thunderous sound and seeing a ball of fire coming from the sky as this was happening. "Do you love me?" She asked. "Yes," Fernanda replied. "Then sacrifice yourself for me."

Everybody hears Her say: "Adieu!" In the apparitions which occurred after the 29th of December the children continually see 'A heart surrounded by rays of light'. This is why people here call Mary: "Mother with the Golden heart".

The feast day of Our Blessed Lady of Bearing is celebrated on August 22nd.



Please, Remember In Your Prayers



Members Who Are Ill

James Shorter Mervyn Chancellor
Joseph Marshall William Tolbert
Charles Ratcliff Rita Gants

Deceased

*Our Brothers & Sister
Who Are Now With Our Lord & Savior*



- 02 Francis N. Somerville
- 04 G. Emeka Onwezi, DD
- 06 John M. Doherty
- 07 Michael M. Turay
- 08 Deacon Steven A. Nash
- 09 Joseph E. Jenifer
- 11 Jose R. Barberena
- 14 Gilbert V. Neblett
- 16 John E. Queen
- 18 James Bernard Broadus
- 20 Agya Y. Adomako-Arhin
- 21 Jideofor C. Omeili
- 22 Ernest E. Bennett
- 22 Andrew D. Sutton
- 27 Antonio D. De Leonibus
- 28 John W. Huntley



***“The Joy
Of A
February
Birthday”***

Maryland State Council Officers

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| State Deputy | Stephen Cohen |
| McNamara Chapter President | Vernon Hawkins, Jr. |
| District Deputy | G. Emeka Onwezi |
| District Warden | Michael P. Akpan |

James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council Officers

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Chaplain | Bishop Roy E. Campbell, Jr. |
| Assistant to the Chaplain | Deacon Al Douglas Turner |
| Assistant to the Chaplain | Deacon Steven Nash |
| Grand Knight. | J. Bernard Broadus |
| Deputy Grand knight | Michael Younger |
| Chancellor. | Fidelis K. Ajudua |
| Warden. | Robert Sistare |
| Financial Secretary | John O. Grier |
| Recorder. | Efrain Anderson |
| Treasurer | Harold F. Sanders, Jr. |
| Lecturer. | Calvin A. Thompson |
| Advocate | David D. Martin |
| Trustee 3 year | Alan M. Davis |
| Trustee 2 year. | Ikechukwu R. Agbim |
| Trustee 1 year. | Thomas F. Matthews, III |
| Trustee 1 year. | John W. Huntley |
| Inside Guard. | Charles N. Okpah |
| Outside Guard. | Gilbert Neblett |

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

****FEBRUARY****



AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

- 01 Fletcher Council Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 02 Groundhog Day
- 02 Tri-Chapter Ball, Columbus Gardens, Baltimore, MD
- 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- 10 AWD Meeting, 10:00 AM
- 10 Fletcher Council Mardi Gras
- 12 Bishop Walsh Assembly Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 14 Ash Wednesday
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 15 Fletcher Council Social Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 19 Presidents' Day
- 18 Knights Sunday, 11 A.M. Mass
- 21 McNamara Chapter Meeting
- 24 Washington's Birthday



COME PRAY WITH US



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