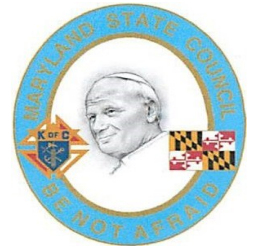




# KNIGHTLIFE



**Volume 20 Issue 7      *KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - STAR COUNCIL*      January 2015**  
**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF JAMES C. FLETCHER, JR. COUNCIL NO. 11422**  
**HOME OF DISTRICT DEPUTY MICHAEL DAVENPORT & FORMER DISTRICT DEPUTIES**  
**VERNON HAWKINS, JR., DAVID D. MARTIN & CARLTON L. WILLIAMS**  
***"BE NOT AFRAID, OUR FAITH IS OUR COURAGE"***



*James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422*  
*Knights of Columbus*  
*Celebrating Twenty-One Years As A Council*  
*"We Salute Our Past Grand Knights"*



*John Ramey 1994-1995*



*Robinson Gary 1995-1996*



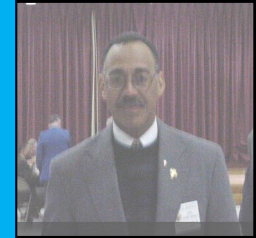
*James Harris 1996 1997*



*Deacon Leon Bechet 1997-1998*



*Reginald Grier 1998-1999*



*James Barnes 1999-2000*



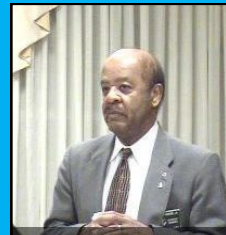
*Carlton Williams 2000-2001*



*Floyd Duckett 2001-2002*



*Joseph Marshall 2002-2003*



*Vernon Hawkins 2003-2004*



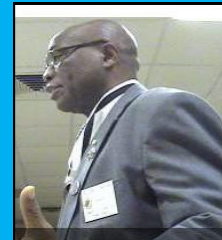
*Ken Hinton 2004-2005*



*John Adeleye 2006-2007*



*Michael Davenport 2006-2007*



*Michael Akpan 2007-2008*



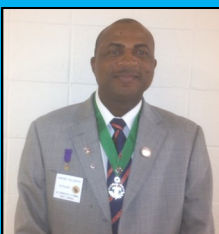
*Kermit Gresham 2008-2009*



*James Brown 2009-2010*



*Anthony Fidelis 2010-2011*



*Charles Okpah 2011-2012*



*Emeka Onwezi 2012-2013*



*John Huntley 2013-2014*



*Thomas Matthews 2014-2015 \**

# GRAND KNIGHT'S CHRONICLE

Thomas F. Matthews, II - Grand Knight



My Worthy Brothers, the year 2014 has been another memorable year for Our Council. We had several member of our council participate in the Christmas Trees Sales. I believe that we set an all-time record this year with an early sellout.

We did something special this year by supplying three Thanksgiving Baskets to three wonderful families this year. I was able to see the delight in each family's eyes and it made being a Knight worth every minute we take doing good for our community and church.

church.

The council Christmas Dinner was a great success this year. We had approximately 100 people to attend. Not only did the Worthy Brothers from Bishop Walsh Assembly attend and supply wonderful dishes, there were members from other councils that came to see how Fletcher council celebrates fraternity and brotherhood. All the families and children had a wonderful time.

The family of the Month presentation was a special beautiful event for December. The Adeleye family was presented with a certificate for their undying dedication to the church and our community. SK John Adeleye was so proud to have his family recognized and receive the award.

We are on schedule with our membership recruitment. We have recruited 7 new members and have had two others to transfer into our council. I want to thank the Bothers that realize that being a Knight is an opportunity that every catholic gentlemen should experience and therefore continue to bring other catholic gentlemen into our organization. Keep up the good work there are a lot more catholic gentlemen that are missing what we experience of the Fraternity, the Brotherhood and the Love we have for each other.

Now that the Christmas Season has passed, it is time to prepare for the next six months of this Fraternal Year. The first thing on our calendar is the KC Ladies Pancake Breakfast on Sunday February 8, 2014. Let's all support this event and tell all our friends and families to participate. We need all the assistance we can get so step up and help out in some small way if you can.

Then there is the Mardi Gras which is February 14, 2014. The ticket sales are going great but we still need your help setting up and if you haven't gotten your ticket yet, contact Brother Hawkins.

February is a very busy month. The First Lenten Fish Fry is February 27, 2014. This is where we need as many brothers to help as we can get. Please clear your calendar for this date and a few good men for the day before to prepare the food. We need preparers, servers, baggers, deliv-ers, and most important approximately 12 people to clean up after the event that evening. This is our major fund-raiser. Remember if everybody does a little, nobody has to do a lot.

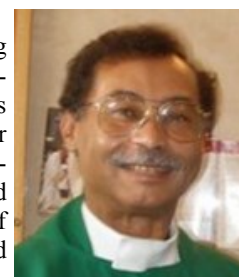
I want to thank all the members of the James C Fletcher Jr. Council for all they have done in 2014. If you participated in one of our activities, we saw you. If you assisted in one of our events, we observed you. If you helped in one of our project, we appreciate your services. *If you were only able to say a prayer for the members, we thank you*

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# CHAPLAIN'S THOUGHTS

Fr. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.



Joseph and Mary were devout Jews, living by the laws of their faith. Joseph was a carpenter, a man who worked to provide for his family. Joseph was not a wealthy man, for when he took Jesus to the Temple to be circumcised and Mary to be purified he offered the sacrifice of two turtledoves or a pair of pigeons, allowed only for those who could not afford a lamb. There, they met Simeon, the holy man who foretold the great things that would come about, because of this new born baby. Mary realized from Simeon's words, how great her suffering would be, in bearing witness to her Son's sacrifice to redeem mankind.

We hear a lot in Scripture about Mary, but not much about Jesus' human foster father. Joseph revealed in his humanity the unique role of fathers to proclaim God's truth by word and deed. His paradoxical situation of "foster father to Jesus" draws attention to the truth about fatherhood, which is more than a mere fact of biological generation. A man is a father most when he invests himself in the spiritual and moral formation of his children. Joseph was keenly aware, as every father should be, that he served as the representative of God the Father.

***"The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom."***

Joseph's life reminds us that a home or community is not built on power and possessions but goodness; not on riches and wealth, but on faith, fidelity, purity and mutual love. Joseph took Jesus and Mary to their new home in Nazareth as a family firmly bonded in love and respect for each other, and obedience to the will of God. The family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is the family described in our readings from St. Paul's letter to the Colossians and in the Book of Sirach; for children to respect their parents and for everyone to love each other as the Lord loves us.

The family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is the family we are called to imitate. We must learn to live in our own families with the love, respect, and obedience shown in the Holy Family.

## 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*



## STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

Stephen J. Adamczyk - State Deputy



Kathleen and I sincerely wish each of you and your families a very Blessed and Happy New Year.

As we start the New Year and the **second half** of the Fraternal Year, we all need to reflect and evaluate our progress to date. Are we meeting our goals that we set for ourselves? Are we working toward attaining the prestigious Star Council Award and strengthening our Council Programs? Have we recruited one member, per council, per month? Be honest now ..... If we have, then let's not stop but strive to do even better. If we have not, let's put forth as a "**New Year Resolution**" to make a positive effort to reach these goals.

We the State Family look forward to seeing you at the Mid-Term Meeting at Cardinal Gibbons Council 2521 on Saturday, January 3, 2015. **All Grand Knights and Deputy Grand Knights are expected to attend.** A separate morning session will be held for the Deputy Grand Knights focusing on their expectations as they prepare for their leadership role. We will also attend the State Pro-Life Mass at the conclusion of the meeting.

The **Annual March for Life** will take place on Thursday, January 22, 2015 in Washington, D.C. Why not plan to attend this vital Pro-Life gathering as we need your presence to make a "Culture of Life" statement. Let's all work to have our largest turnout ever.

In closing, many thanks for what you have accomplished to make the first six months a success and with the grace of God this success will continue.

***"Be Not Afraid, Our Faith is Our Courage".***



Have You Visited The State Website Lately?

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

## DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT

Michael P. Davenport - District Deputy

**Brothers All,**

During this season of giving we are ignited with a Holy fire. It's practically impossible to quench the Spirit, fueled by Divine oxygen that warms our Christian bodies and motivates our charitable acts. My Brothers, join me in lifting up praise from the surface of the earth to the ears of God, Who lifts our spirits even higher to a realm where we speak to Him heart to heart, soul to Soul. This is the time of year when we celebrate the coming of The Christ, with a joyous Christmas Season and happy healthy New Years. The feeling around planning for your spiritual future should be child like, similar to when we looked up an escalator for the first time in bewilderment, as people effortlessly moved upwards to some place unknown but inviting.



We are approaching our Mid-Term and we should be thinking about how we are moving closer to our goals and reflect on what we are doing. Our Council Santa list should be a list of questions:

- What has been working for my Council?
- Have we been holding Degrees?
- What is holding us back from having Degrees?
- What is the most "out of the box" idea that has works for our Council?
- What more do we need from our State to make our goals?
- Have we been and how have we been assisted by our DD?
- What additional information or support would we like that we may not be currently getting?
- Finally, what more does the State need to know to help us?

As we approach this half way mark, now is the time to plan for stronger recruitment efforts over the next 6-months. We should keep our focus on "**One Member, per Council, per Month**" and schedule our monthly degrees.

Remember the new Council Challenge Incentives which rewards Councils with VIP points for bringing in 12 new members for the fraternal year. Achieving STAR Council this year isn't an option, it's a given. This Council needs to move to the next level and you are on your way. In the words of our Worthy State Deputy, "*Our goal is to have 100% of our reporting so that the full power of our charitable giving and volunteering can be recorded and recognized.*" **Brothers step up and BE recognized! You deserve it and ..... "Be Not Afraid Our Faith is Our Courage". Have a blessed and prosperous New Year!!**

## SUPREME KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

At the conclusion of a special Mass celebrated by Pope Francis in St. Peter's Basilica to mark the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Msgr. Eduardo Chavez, a Canon of the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe and brother Knight, presented the Holy Father with a silver rose. The silver rose was hand-carried from Canada, through the United States to Mexico City by Knights of Columbus as a symbol of unity in the continent of America. For more than 50 years, the Order has sponsored the Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Program to reaffirm the Order's commitment to the sanctity of life and honor the Blessed Virgin under her title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas.



This year six silver roses traveled from Canada to Mexico to symbolize unity among the peoples in the Americas. The rose is also a symbol of the pro-life movement, which recognizes Our Lady of Guadalupe as its patroness.

The roses began their journey in Canada in May, and for six months were carried by Knights of Columbus throughout the western, central and eastern corridors of North America. The journey concluded on December 12<sup>th</sup>, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, at the basilica bearing that

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, with whom Pope Francis met earlier in the day in a private audience, was also at the Mass.

The Silver Rose program began in 1960 as an initiative of the Columbian Squires, the youth program of the Knights of Columbus. In the mid-1990s, the program was adopted as a Supreme Council program which grew to encompass routes for three silver roses. Last year, five silver roses made their way across North America.

name in Mexico City. The roses were presented before an image of Our Lady.

The Silver Rose program is replete with symbolism. The seven guides carrying the roses represent the sacraments of the Catholic faith and the ways to approach God. The thorns represent all the efforts and sacrifices of the Columbian Squires and Knights of Columbus along the way. Lastly, the strong stem represents faith.

In 2001, Supreme Knight Anderson dedicated the Order to Our Lady of Guadalupe. Since that time, the Order has organized and supported numerous spiritual initiatives and academic conferences to promote devotion the Virgin of Guadalupe.



*Mater Ecclesiae  
Totus Tuus*

*Our  
Warmest  
Wishes*

for a joyful Christmas  
and a grace-filled  
New Year

St. John Paul II took for his motto Totus Tuus, an expression of the Holy Father's entrustment of his pontificate to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The *Mater Ecclesiae* mosaic overlooks the spot in St. Peter's Square where a would-be assassin's bullet nearly took the life of the pope. St. John Paul II ordered the mosaic to be placed there in gratitude for the Blessed Mother's intercession after he survived the May 13, 1981 assassination attempt.

The mosaic was blessed by St. John Paul II on the feast of the Immaculate Conception during the 1981 Advent season.

With prayers that the *Mater Ecclesiae* may intercede for all the needs of the Church, the Knights of Columbus wishes everyone a blessed Christmas and a grace-filled New Year.



# BISHOP WALSH ASSEMBLY NEWS

*Francis P. Blidi - Faithful Navigator*



**Brothers,** As the year comes to an end, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all my brother Knights for the Walsh Assembly outstanding achievements during the year. I would like to ask that during 2015 that we work even harder for better productivity for the good of the Order.

As we bring in a New Year, we can't help but think about the future and what lies ahead of us. What changes will we see and who might we encounter? I ask you to add *"Who might we help, and touch?"*

The Sir Knights of the Maryland and Archdiocese of Washington Districts are men we do think about such things. Whether it be

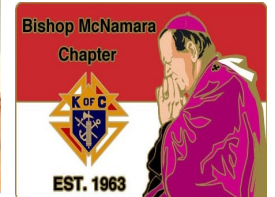
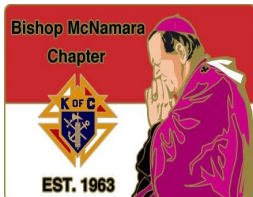
laying wreaths at Arlington Cemetery, or simply giving a toy to a child, the men of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree are dedicated to improving the lives of those who serve all of us.

As we come into the spring of the year, both Districts will conducting Exemplifications and we invite you to join our band of brothers. The requirement for becoming a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree member truly is a love for our Church, our Country, and God. The other requirement is a willingness to serve them all.

If you are a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree member with these passions, please reach out to a Sir Knight and ask him why he is a member of the 4<sup>th</sup> De-

# BISHOP McNAMARA CHAPTER

*Richard Earenfight - Chapter President*



**Happy New Year!** You are invited to join us at the next meeting of the McNamara Chapter on January 21, 2015 at the Maurice J. McDonough Council 12128, St. Joseph Church Activity Center, 4590 St. Joseph's Way, Pomfret, Maryland 20675.

The primary goal of the McNamara Chapter is to promote the welfare of its member Councils and to work for the common good of the Order. Bishop McNamara Chapter consists of councils with the Archdiocese of Washington and several adjoining areas. The Chapter meets the third Wednesday of each month at member councils.

All District Deputies, District Wardens, Grand Knights and Deputy Grand Knights are strongly urged to attend and meet and greet our State Officers and Chairmen. Grand Knights are also encouraged to bring their Chair Officers and Committee Chairmen.

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

*Ikechukwu R. Agbim, DGK*

*iagbim@gmail.com*

202-276-7796



**HALLOWEEN PARTY:**

The Fletcher Council Youth Halloween Party was held on October 21, 2014 at the Rosemont Room of St Joseph's Parish, from 6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M. It was fun, yes, and there were lots of games- ghoulish games, freaky fun, and frightening food!

Kids 5-13 were invited, but all ages and parish family were there to enjoy with them. The highlight was the costume contest for the youth...scary even to the judges!



The Costume finalists: Announcer Bro. Phil Beaubouf urges the cheering crowd and judges to scream at their most favorite.

**CHRISTMAS TREE SALES:**

This year's Council Christmas tree sale was a huge success, with a very early 'sold out' date! With over 250 trees sold, we met with many old customers many of them have bought trees from us over the years. Satisfaction guaranteed – both for trees and service as brothers worked in two shifts weekdays, and three shifts weekends (rain, snow or shine) to pull off the successful sales. As many as 21 brothers from our



Council participated in one way or the other, from setting up fence, offloading the delivery truck, working to makes sales, bringing much needed snacks and warm drinks to tree sale workers, as well as dismantling the fence for pick up by our vendors.

Special thanks go to Cal Thompson for his able leadership of this program. Proceeds from this program go to benefit the Scholarship program of the James C. Fletcher Council Charities.



**CHRISTMAS PARTY:**



The Council Christmas party held on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> from 8.00 P.M. to 9.30 P.M., and was very successful. There was lots of



food, pastries, drinks and games for the kids. Special thanks to the Lady Knights for helping out with decorations, food setup and food service.

As the Calendar year comes to an end, and as we mark our midway into the Fraternal Year, we remain thankful to all Brothers who have participated in one way or the other to support our programs, thus far. We have accomplished quite a lot, and wish to sustain this into next year!

Remember *!..give a couple of hours a month to our council.* There's is no mountain we cannot climb!

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

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR TO ALL AND THEIR FAMILIES!!!**

**CHURCH ACTIVITIES**


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



301-536-0732

During Advent, we awaited the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ to satisfy our hunger for His love in our lives. Christ has come to us and we celebrated His arrival on Christmas Day. In this New Year brothers, we must remain hungry for the **PIE** Christ offers us. The **PIE** is a *Personal Incarnational Encounter* with Christ. It is a relationship that fulfills Christ's call to us to *"deny ourselves, pick up our cross daily and follow Me."* The church celebrates two Feasts this month that offer us examples of those who answered Christ's invitation to follow Him. On January 1st, we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God with a Mass at 10 A.M. Mary's personal encounter was to say yes to being the Mother of God and bring Him into the world.

On January 4th, we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord with Masses on Saturday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5 P.M. and Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 and 11 A.M. The manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel and Savior of the world was through the encounter and witness of the Magi who represent His revelation to us all. Brothers, let us as Knights celebrate these feast days, the New Year and our own *Personal Incarnational Encounter with Christ.*



**ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON**  
 Concert and Liturgy  
 celebrating the legacy of  
 Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2015**  
**CONCERT 3:00 P.M.**  
 Featuring  
*Archdiocese of Washington Mass Gospel Choir*  
*Mr. Kenneth Louis, Director*  
**MASS 4:30 P.M.**  
**DONALD CARDINAL WUERL**  
**CELEBRANT AND HOMILIST**  
*Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian Catholic Church*  
*1357 East Capitol Street, SE*  
*Washington, DC 20009*



**COUNCIL ACTIVITIES**

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



301-249-2955

**Congratulations all Around** for a truly outstanding effort on the part of so many dedicated council members, squires and St. Joseph parishioners for their manning of the Christmas Tree lot this season, participants are listed below.

John Adeleye & son David  
 Ikechukwu Agbim  
 Vincent Akas  
 Paul Awunor  
 Jose Barberena  
 Philippe Beauboeuf  
 Ernest Bennett  
 Francis Blidi  
 Bernard Broadous  
 Alex Brown  
 Mervyn Chancellor  
 Michael Davenport  
 Alan Davis  
 Edmund Gary  
 Damel Goddard  
 William Harris  
 Vernon Hawkins

John Huntley  
 Boris Lloyd  
 Carlos Macres  
 Wade Matthew & son Adrian  
 Thomas Matthews  
 Peter Methodius & sons  
 Pierre & John-Paul  
 Charles Okpah & sons  
 Nelson & Justin  
 Emeka Onwezi  
 Errol Sanderson  
 Michael Saulsberry  
 Pat Springmann  
 Anthony Stevenson  
 Maurice Sutton  
 Kevin Taylor  
 Calvin Thompson



In record time, we achieved a feat never achieved by the council this early during the Christmas season. All trees were sold by Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Just think, we had several days of rain, which slowed sales just a little. Nevertheless, we persevered, and success was ours. Then, we were able to focus on just what this season is all about, celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**Pssst'**

**See 'Vern' For Your Ticket  
 To The Social Event Of  
 The Year...Fletcher Council's  
 Annual Mardi Gras  
 February 14, 2015**

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

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



301-262-2350

We will kick off our **Lenten Fish Fry Season** on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Parishioner and community support for this event has been awesome over the years. Our main shortfall is not the food, but manpower. Although the KC Ladies have been consistent helpers, we often run short of men to help with the many/many chores necessary to keep up with the customer demands. Council members and family members are requested to come out and help during the course of the day on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are welcomed to call, email me or contact a council member.



**It's Mardi Gras Time !  
 "February 14, 2015"  
 See 'Vern' To Get Your Ticket!**

**MEMBERSHIP QUEST**

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



240-441-9086

First I would like to wish the entire Council a **Happy Year**. We are about to embark on another successful year and I know that all of the Brother are ready to tackle any challenges. Recruiting new members is essential to the continued growth and well-being of our Council and the order. Offering a man membership in the Knights of Columbus gives him the opportunity to improve his own life and his community. Membership allows him to experience the fraternal bond that Knights share while growing closer to his family and faith.

Retention is as important as recruiting. Imagine you're trying to fill a bucket with water. Every drop you put in should increase its contents, but if there's a leak you may end up losing more water than you gain. Think of the membership in our Council in the same way- every new Knight you add won't help your membership increase and grow stronger if we lose existing members.

Words to motivate and inspire: *"Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishments"*



**FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

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



301-350-7637

As we faithfully prepare for the feast of Lord's Nativity, the Knights of Columbus, James C. Fletcher Jr. Council 11422 is delighted to acknowledge the family of John Adeleye, Sr. as the top Family of the Month for their continued outstanding contributions to St. Joseph Church, and/or Council. John, Sr. and his spouse, Bosede, are long time members of St. Joseph's Parish and are devout Christian parents of a daughter, Olusayo Adeleye, and two sons, John Adeleye, Jr. and David Adeleye who are very active in St. Joseph Church Parish.



The daughter, Olusayo, sings in the Youth Choir, cantors, altar serves and plays the flute at the 11:00 A.M. Mass. She also serves as Secretary of the Youth Ministry. The eldest son,

John, Jr. plays the piano, cantors, lectors at mass and sings in the choir. He serves as the Youth Choir Director. And the other son, David, is a member of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Squires Circle 04712, St. Joseph Church, Largo, Maryland. He altar serves and sings in the choir. Despite the roles the children play in the church and community that demand her full attention, the spouse, Bosede, finds time to also participate in the Church Choir as a singer.

As a past Grand Knight, John Adeleye, Sr. one of the pioneers of the Fletcher's Council, today continues to serve as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at Masses. From above accounts, John Adeleye, Sr. and his family are indeed blessings to our parish. May the Almighty Father guide and richly bless them. Amen!

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

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



240-353-1460

A Day with Santa was the theme of the Annual Council CCD class on Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Santa came well prepared and in splendid yuletide spirit. As usual, he brought down the house with gifts, hugs, and his hilarious "Ho, Ho, Ho" for one and all. Brother Kermit Gresham served as Santa and members of the KC Ladies served as Santa's elves and host along with council members.



One-on-One with Santa was the objective of the children and the most exciting time of the Christmas Party. Not only did they request a multitude of items for not only themselves, but for family members and friends as well. It was a most enjoyable day, filled with smiles, plenty of laughter, music, eats and fun. Thanks all around to those who made this another wonderful council event.



**PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES**

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

301-328-9142



Pro-Life Americans will gather in our Nation's Capital to bring our important simple prolife message to Washington officialdom and to all our Neighbors. At the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual March for Life, January 22, 2015, prolife Americans will continue to educate Washington officialdom about the evils of preborn innocent blood as a crime against humanity which can never be legal and for which future generations will apologize. Therefore, pro-lifers look to President Obama for his two promises: 1) that he will be President of all of the people - including all preborn humans in existence at fertilization, and 2) that he will make change - a crucial inherent change which stops the intentional killing of even one preborn human as he becomes a strong leader by word and deed to overturn Roe vs. Wade peacefully throughout all executive, legislative and judicial branches of our United States and state governments.

Please come and bring many Marchers for Life with you. January 22, 2015 is a significant anniversary date of the Supreme Court's infamous 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision when we mourn the intentional killing of an estimated 50,000,000 innocent preborn humans and the suffering of pregnant mothers from these killings. Thus, on January 22, 2015 at 12:00 Noon on the Mall at 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Washington, we shall increase our efforts to educate Washington officialdom and all of our Neighbors that America must stop - not merely reduce - the intentional killing of innocent preborn humans, and that America can and must provide equal care for both a pregnant mother and her preborn child with no exception and no compromise!

Please plan now to attend. Your presence, in growing numbers every year, is the best way to draw attention to the untenable legacy of Roe v. Wade, and to persuade our leaders to eradicate it from America's future.



**FRATERNAL BENEFITS ADVISOR**

Harry Canter  
Harry.canter@kofc.org

301-262-4300

**“Longer Life is Here To Stay”**

Ask anyone what is the expected life length and the answer is usually 78.5 years. This is certainly what the U.S. Census Bureau states. Thus, someone who retires at age 65 can reasonably expect to live 13 years or so. NOTE: Life expectancy now is 83. Yes, 83!

Recent industry research shows that life expectancy for a 65 year old male is actually 83. For planning purposes, it is wise to estimate that 50% of 65 year old males will live to beyond the age of 83. In half of all married couples, at least one of the partners will celebrate a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. 78 is no longer the norm, apparently.

What does this mean for you (and me)? In short, we need to be ready for our latter years. We need a plan, written both in narrative form and with projected income from Social Security, pension, 401 (K), savings, permanent live insurance, etc.. What expenses do I expect to have in the future – mortgage, credit cards, car payments, etc., and will my assets cover them? Do I need to give up something, or trim my expenses? What plan do I have to handle emergencies and potentially declining health? What happens when I can no longer live in my home – where will I go, who will assist me?

These are important questions. Fortunately, the Knights of Columbus has good, experienced proven tools to help us answer them, to our continued comfort and ease the burden on family. Let’s meet early in 2014 to look at your plan; if you don’t have one, we can work to create one.

*I wish you and your families the best in health and prosperity in 2014. May you enjoy peace in the New Year.*

**K C LADIES AUXILIARY**

Cathy Gresham, President

301-868-5795

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!** Now mark your calendars! Spread the news! The KC Ladies award winning Annual Pancake Breakfast is back. Join us on Sunday, February 8, 2015 immediately following the 8:30 A.M. and 11 o’clock Masses. The menu has all of the vittles your heart and tummy desires. Cost, \$9.00 adults and \$5.00 for children 9 and under. Pull up and fill up with the KC Ladies and parishioners of St. Joseph. It is a family affair. The below flyer list the vittles that you will enjoy.

**SQUIRES IN ACTION**

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



301-523-7374



This has been a busy season for the Squires. The Spirit of giving and playing has made its mark on the Circle and a sense of pride and honor resonates down the halls of St Joseph Church in Largo, Maryland.

Squires in action in the still of the night, like stealthy warriors of Christ fill the clothes recycling bins with boxes of tennis shoes and baskets of clothes. All team leaders need to be cohesive in the name of team spirit practicing their skills of goals working as a team. Why not Laser Tag with the Bursar Isaiah Scott scoring the highest!!! It figures, he’s so good with the numbers.....!!! The Chief Squire was not far behind but the Chief Councilor....well no comment, unfair advantage. The next planned activity is Fletcher Council Knights vs the Martin Luther King Jr. Squires Circle laser tag games to begin soon after the Holidays.

From sadness evolves kindness and support. Sir Knight Harold Sander’s mothers, Mrs. Cecelia Wheeler Sanders, recently departed this world to join our Father in heaven. Members of our Squires Circle were honored to assist him in moving furniture from the place where she lived to the home of her caring son Harold and will be honoring her with a future activity.

Our Brother Knight Howard Wynn’s daughter, Paula Wynn, has not been feeling well but had to move to a different apartment. Several members of the Squires Circle (Isaih Scott, Azubike Agubokwu, Philip, Timmy) spent two days assisting her move into her new apartment and setting up her many plants and new furniture in her new home. Christmas music was played for the duration of their visit with an occasional Chuck Browns Christmas song here and there. A friend has been made for life and future visits have been schedule to make sure she has a wonderful Christmas and memorable *New Year*.



**Marian Title for January**  
**Our Lady of**  
**Hope of Pontmain**



Our Lady's visit occurred at the height of the Franco-Prussian War. Pontmain lay between the oncoming Prussian invaders and the city of Laval. With the sound of gunfire in the distance, two young brothers, Eugene and Joseph Barbadette, were pounding animal feed with their father when they saw a beautiful woman above the village church. Years later, an adult Joseph (who became a priest) recounted:

She was young and tall of stature, clad in a garment of deep blue, like balls of indigo such as laundresses use for rinsing linen. Her dress was covered

with brilliant gold stars. The sleeves were ample and long. She wore slippers of the same blue as the dress, ornamented with gold bows. On the head was a black veil half covering the forehead, concealing the hair and ears, and falling over the shoulders. Above this was a crown resembling a diadem, higher in front than elsewhere, and widening out at the sides. A red line encircled the crown at the middle. Her hands were small and extended toward us as in the 'miraculous medal.' Her face had the most exquisite delicacy and a smile of ineffable sweetness. The eyes, of unutterable tenderness, were fixed on us. Like a true mother, she seemed happier in looking at us than we in contemplating her.

A crowd gathered to pray as word quickly spread among the anxious villagers. Children saw the beautiful Lady, and gleefully pointed up to her. Adults, however, only saw 3 stars forming a triangle! As they prayed the Rosary, the children saw the garment's stars multiply until it was almost entirely gold. Next, the children saw a banner unfurl beneath the Lady. Slowly, a message appeared: "But pray, my children. God will hear you in time. My Son allows Himself to be touched." Upon hearing the message read aloud, the crowd spontaneously began the hymn "Mother of Hope." As they sang, Our Lady laughed and joined in the singing.

The children squealed with delight as her hands kept time with the music, conducting their song. When the crowd began "My Sweet Jesus," her expression changed to profound sadness and a red crucifix appeared in her hands, with the words "Jesus Christ" above it. Her eyes mournfully contemplated the cross during the hymn. As the people sang the "Ave Maris Stella," the cross vanished, and her smile returned, though with a touch of melancholy. Two small white crosses then appeared on her shoulders before Our Lady disappeared behind a cloud.

The apparition lasted for 3-hours. In that time, the people of Pontmain heard a lessening in the distant sounds of war. During the evening, the Prussians ceased their advance and, 12-days later, the war ended. Just as Our Lady promised, God heard their prayers for peace. Devotion rapidly spread under the title Our Lady of Hope of Pontmain and, in 1900 the Bishop consecrated a magnificent Cathedral commemorating the apparition. The tiny chapel over which she appeared remains nearby in its original state.

**Let Us Always**  
**Remember**



**Ronald F. Carpenter, Sr.**

*June 14, 1933 - October 12, 2007*



**Please, Remember In Your Prayers**

**Members Who Are Ill**



Howard Wynn  
 Jerome Julius  
 Joseph Marshall  
 Ken Hinton  
 Donald Wilson

James Shorter  
 Mary Julius  
 William Tolbert  
 Roscoe Campbell  
 William Missouri





*REFLECTIONS**Lawrence P. Grayson**The Challenge of Being a Catholic American*

Our nation was established by people who desired freedom -- freedom in both their private and public lives, freedom in their homes, churches, enterprises, and associations. They wanted a person's conscience to be held inviolable so that individuals could freely express themselves on political and social matters and worship the Almighty as they choose. The genius of the Founders lies in the basis they pronounced for that freedom.

In the England they had left, liberties and rights were granted by the king and a parliament. In the France they knew so well, liberties and rights were rooted in the will of the majority of the populace and set forth in a constitution. But views can change and constitutions altered. If a king or a parliament or a majority of the people can grant rights, they can also take them away.

In America, the Founders recognized that certain rights are inherent in the very nature of man, in the sacredness of the human psyche, independent of any state, government, or dictator. These rights are God-given and not subject to any human power. They may be infringed upon by a state, abused by a government, encroached upon by a tyrant, but they cannot be taken away.

It was made explicit in the Declaration of Independence that "all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." On this basis, the Founders created a distinctly unique government, one valuing pre-existing rights granted by a transcendental power.

This is the core of Americanism, that man as a creature of God is free to be his own master, free in his conscience, free to pursue his ultimate end. As the Declaration of Independence further states: "to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed." Thus, government's primary purpose is to protect pre-existing rights, not to create or dispense them. Its authority to act resides in the will of the people.

A government of, by and for the people, as in the United States, requires public goodness, an ethic among the citizenry that they will govern themselves by virtuous norms so that public office will not be used for personal gain and views of the minority will be respected. Religion plays a large role in nurturing public virtue. George Washington expressed this clearly in his Farewell Address, when he warned that "reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

The essence of Americanism is also the foundation of Catholic social teaching: that man is made in the image and likeness of God, and as such has an innate dignity worthy of respect. As that dignity comes from God, the person has certain intrinsic rights to personal liberty, freedom of conscience, and basic economic well-being. Indeed, this understanding is common to the beliefs of all of Christianity. Americanism, as understood above, may be considered a political expression of Christian

doctrine regarding man. As such, the church and the state have distinct, but complimentary functions in promoting public virtue. The church through its teachings develops the moral character of the people, while the state is to create an environment within which the church can flourish and carry out its teaching mission.

If religion is so important to self-government, why is our nation today more anti-religious than at any time in its history? To a significant extent, it is because too many Christians – and Catholics in particular – have distanced themselves from the teachings of their Faith. They have been secularized and have diluted their religious beliefs in pursuit of worldly prosperity, acclaim and social acceptability.

When one professes to be Catholic, the person states that he ascribes to a body of dogma dating back two thousand years and lives his life by it. The Church's teachings, including those on societally-controversial matters such as abortion, euthanasia and same-sex marriage, must influence a Catholic's public posture and decisions. Without adhering to the unchanging beliefs about God, man's purpose in the world, how he should live his life, and his ultimate end, a claim to be Catholic is hollow and may indicate a cultural or social affiliation and not communion with the Church.

The lack of adherence – or lack of knowledge – to the tenets of Christianity is so widespread that we may be approaching an unexplored, perilous social condition. Pope Benedict XVI described the challenge in today's secular world, writing: "[O]ur century has been characterized by an entirely new phenomenon: the appearance of a people incapable of relating to God...our distance from God – the obscurity and dubiousness surrounding him today – is greater than ever before." If left unaddressed, the ignorance of the Faith among the laity will continue to grow, and lead to an increasing exclusion of Catholic truths from public affairs and to a decline in the values that underlie this nation. If human dignity and liberty come from God, then the loss of faith in God will lead to a loss of belief in the unalienable nature of those liberties and rights which derive from Him.

There must be a resurgence of the Faith among Catholics in America. There must be a new evangelization, an education about what it means to be Catholic. This requires an effort at every level of responsibility. The bishops as stewards of the Faith, and priests as leaders of the local parishes, must assure that the laity are appropriately educated and form proper consciences, so that they can lead lives in conformity with the Faith. Parents must improve their own knowledge and behavior so they can pass the Faith to their children. And it is the duty of all of us to take action in our public and private lives to change society for the better. A Catholic population, stoutly embracing the teachings of their Faith could have a serious leavening effect on American life.



**A New Year's Wish:** On New Year's Eve, Marilyn stood up in the local bar and said that it was time to get ready. At the stroke of midnight, she wanted every husband to be standing next to the one person who made his life worth living. Well, it was kind of embarrassing. As the clock struck – the bartender was almost crushed to death.

**New Year's Day Prayer for One and All:** Dear Lord, so far this year I've done well. I haven't gossiped, I haven't lost my temper, I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or overindulgent. I'm very thankful for that. But in a few minutes, Lord, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on I'm probably going to need a lot more help. Amen.

**Dieting – New Resolutions: 2011:** I will get my weight down below 180 pounds. **2012:** I will follow my new diet religiously until I get below 200 lbs. **2013:** I will develop a realistic attitude about my weight. **2014:** I will work out 3 days a week. **2015:** I will try to drive pass a gym at least once a week.

**Lecture Tour with A Difference:** On New Year's, Joe was in no shape to drive, so he sensibly left his van in the parking lot and walked home. As he was wobbling along, a policeman stopped him. 'What are you doing out here at 4 o'clock in the morning?' asked the police officer. 'I'm on my way to a lecture,' answered Joe. 'And who on earth, in their right mind, is going to give a lecture at this time on New Year's Eve?', enquired the police officer sarcastically. 'My wife,' slurred Joe grimly.

**Redskins vs. The Cowboys:** As in many homes on New Year's Day, Janet and Nigel, a happily married couple, faced the annual conflict of which was more important: the football game on television, or the lunch itself. Hoping to keep the peace Nigel ate lunch with the rest of the family, and even lingered for some pleasant after-lunch chat before retiring to the family room to turn on the television. Some minutes later, Janet looked in to see how he was and graciously even bought a cold beer for Nigel. She smiled, kissed him on the cheek and asked what the score was. Nigel told her it was half time and that the score was still 0-0. 'See?' Janet said happily, 'You didn't miss a thing.'

**New Year's Eve Party – Phantom Guest:** Trevor's New Year's Eve party was an annual occurrence with numerous guests arriving. During the evening, a man knocked on the door, was greeted heartily although no one knew who he was, and was led to where the drinks were, in the kitchen. He sat there happily, chatting away, for a couple of hours before a strange light dawned on his face. 'You know,' he confided to Trevor, 'I wasn't even invited to this party. I just came over to tell you that some of your guests' cars are blocking my drive.' He continued, 'My wife's been sitting out in the car waiting for me to get them moved, so that we can go out.'

**Aging In The New Year:** I've sure gotten old! I've had two by-pass surgeries, a hip replacement, new knees, fought prostate cancer and diabetes. I'm half blind, can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine, take 40 different medications that make me dizzy, winded, and subject to blackouts. Have bouts with dementia. Have poor circulation; hardly feel my hands and feet anymore. Can't remember if I'm 85 or 92. Have lost all my friends. But, thank God, I still have my driver's license.

James C. Fletcher Jr. Council 11422

**LENTEN FISH FRY**

FEB 27 & MAR 13

12 Noon – 5 P.M.

St Joseph Church  
2020 Saint Joseph Drive  
Largo, MD 20774

**Dinner \$10.00 Fish Sandwich \$7.00**



Soda \$1



Cake \$1

**DINNER MENU**

WHITING FILLET or CROAKER (w/Bone)  
2 SIDES  
CORN BREAD / SLICED BREAD

**SIDES**

Potato Salad Cole Slaw  
Macaroni & Cheese  
String Beans Collards

**PLACE YOUR ORDER / INFORMATION**

Harold Sanders 301-390-7150 Vern Hawkins 301-367-1881  
Calls Must Be Placed Between 9 A.M. & 5 P.M. Weekday Only  
No Call in Orders Accepted After 2:30 PM Day Of The Event

**Form #100  
Belongs in  
All of These Places**

- Briefcase
- In Your Pocket
- Near Your Phone
- Glove Compartment
- Everywhere You Go!



**SIGN UP A  
NEW MEMBER  
TODAY!**



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



# MARDI GRAS



**FEATURING  
"THE EXCLUSIVES"**



**Date:** Saturday, February 14, 2015  
**Time:** 7pm 'til Midnight  
**Where:** St. Joseph's Rosemont Room  
2020 St. Joseph's Drive  
Largo, MD 20774  
(301) 773-4838

**Mask Optional  
Or  
Semi-formal**

**Menu**

- Creole Seafood Gumbo w/Rice
- Marinated Herb Baked Chicken Leg Quarters
- BBQ Meat Balls
- Southern Style Potato Salad
- Seasoned Green Beans
- Roll and Butter
- Punch, Cake
- Louisiana Coffee
- "Open Bar"



*"A Truly New Orleans Gala – Traditional Mardi Gras – Superb Music & Entertainment"*

**ADMISSION ONLY \$40.00 PER PERSON**

**For Tickets Call - Vernon Hawkins (301) 336-0284 – [vhawkinsjr@aol.com](mailto:vhawkinsjr@aol.com)  
Sponsored By The James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council  
Knights of Columbus**

**“HAPPY BIRTHDAY”**

**\*\*JANUARY\*\***

**- 2015 -**

- 05 Jose Franco
- 06 Constantine Efantis
- 06 Jacques Moukouri
- 06 Deacon Al Douglas Turner
- 11 Dr. Donald Egbuonu
- 12 James C. Vidale
- 12 Leon F. Williams
- 13 Michael Davenport
- 18 Ansanus C. Obizuo
- 21 Henry Onyeador
- 23 Judson Tallandier
- 26 Joseph Hall
- 26 Howard L. Wynn
- 30 Gregory Harrod, Sr.



**“Oh’ The Joy  
of a  
Birthday”**

**Maryland State Council Officers**

- |                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| State Deputy    | Stephen J. Adamczyk  |
| District Deputy | Michael P. Davenport |
| District Warden | G. Emeka Onwezi      |
| Field Agent     | Harry Canter         |

**James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council Officers**

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

**Program and Activity Committees**

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

**Squires Circle Officers**

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

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**\*\*JANUARY\*\***



- 01 **New Year’s Day**
- 01 Feast of Mary, Mother of God  
Holy Day of Obligation (HDO)
- 03 State Mid-Term Meeting - Cardinal Gibbons Council  
2521, Columbus Gardens, Baltimore, MD
- 04 Epiphany of the Lord
- 15 Fletcher Council Meeting 7:30 P.M.
- 12 Bishop Walsh Assembly Meeting, 8 P.M.
- 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 18 Knights Sunday, 11 A.M. Mass
- 21 McNamara Chapter Meeting, Maurice J. McDonough  
Council 12128, Pomfret, MD
- 22 March for Life in Washington, D.C.
- 24 Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge