



KNIGHTLIFE



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

Volume 21 Issue 9

March 2016

"BE NOT AFRAID, OUR FAITH IS OUR COURAGE"

ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLIC CHURCH, LARGO MARYLAND

Priests & Deacons

APPRECIATION DINNER

In Solidarity With Our Priests & Deacons

Our Honorees



Reverend
Roy E. Campbell, Jr.



Reverend
Fr. Aaron Qureshi



Deacon
A. Douglas Turner



Deacon
Steven A. Nash

FLETCHER COUNCIL WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGE

<http://www.council11422.org> & Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/JamesCFletcherCouncil11422KofC?fref=ts>



KNIGHTLIFE

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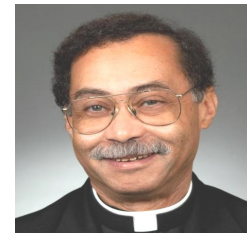
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“The water that I shall give you will become a spring of eternal life.”

by Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.



We have a number of Catechumen, not the Elect, entering the Church and even more Candidates receiving full communion in the Church at the Easter Vigil, so my reflections are from the Third Sunday in Lent. Cycle A.

In the first reading from Exodus, the Israelites thirsted for water to drink. However, their thirst showed their lack of trust in God. He had led them out of the captivity of slavery in Egypt and parted the Red Sea for them. Yet, their thirst led them to “put God to the test”, that is what the word Massah means in Hebrew. Meribah is Hebrew for “quarreling”, which is what the Israelites did with God, because they constantly wanted assurance that He was with them and would take care of them.

The Israelites tested God because they were wallowing in self-pity. They were hurting and angry with God. They did not have true “faith and trust” in God. The Israelites had “faith and trust” in God only when He worked a wonder for them. However, when that wonder faded from memory, so did their “faith and trust” in God. The Israelites’ “insatiable thirst” for another sign from God, was the result of feeling sorry for themselves, and living in their own self-pity.

In the gospel, the Samaritan woman came alone at midday to Jacob’s well to draw water, because she was rejected by the other women, probably because of her lifestyle. She too was

living in self-pity. Jesus saw in her, a woman who had an “insatiable thirst.” He saw a woman who thirsted for love, who had five husbands and currently had another lover. Jesus offered this woman “living water,” and the Samaritan woman went from self-pity and rejection and thirst, to “faith and trust” and “filled-up” in Jesus, in His grace and in His gift of the Holy Spirit.

The Samaritan woman’s thirst for “living water” led her to the source of “living water,” Jesus Christ. It is the same “insatiable thirst” that has led our Elect, Candidates and children to seek full reception, full initiation into the Church, the Body of Christ. These Elect and Candidates are seeking waters of eternal life through Baptism, Confirmation and especially the Eucharist.

So, how does our “insatiable thirst” lead the rest of us to trust and believe in Jesus’ gift of “living water” and eternal life through the Holy Spirit during this Lenten Season? It leads us to make our “daily trip to the well.” We need to come to the same well from which the Samaritan woman left as a disciple of Jesus. We need to come to the well of prayer. When we pray, we draw from the well of Jesus’ grace, wisdom, and love, refreshing and nourishing our souls, strengthening us for the fasting necessary for discipleship, so that we can give others our witness to the “living waters of eternal life” through His Gospel of Salvation.



The Holy Year of Mercy

Earlier this year, during a Lenten penance service, Pope Francis announced that the Church would celebrate an extraordinary jubilee year dedicated to God’s mercy. The Holy Year of Mercy began on December 8th, the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, and will conclude November 20, 2016, the solemnity of Christ the King.



Grand Knight's Chronicle

Ikechukwu R. Agbim

gk11422kofc2015@gmail.com

202-276-7796

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

Worthy Brothers, as we concluded the month of January on a very high note, with the Priests and Deacon Appreciation Dinner on January 30th. It was indeed the highlight of my year. We stand in Solidarity with our Priests and Deacons. However, we were not able to rest on our laurels, for no sooner done with that event, we quickly refocused to implement the council's Annual Mardi Gras Ball on February 6th. It too proved to be worth the wait to step back/forward in time to celebrate this yearly tradition. ***I had a ball!***

Again, thereafter, no time to rest on our laurels, for on February 14th we were assisting the KC Ladies Auxiliary with their ever popular Valentines Pancake Breakfast. All of the wonderful chores that it takes to support such an event our members, along side the KC Ladies we were there for. Not only did I enjoy the work, I too enjoyed the mouth watering pancakes, eggs, grits, apples, bacon...etc. The turn out after the 8:30 and 11 A.M. Masses was fantastic.

We held our first Fish Fry on Friday, February 19th and thanks to all the brothers that showed up to make it a success. Remember that we have another Fish Fry on March 4th and help from the brothers is needed to make sure this one has the success as all the pass ones. The Fish Fry is one of the council's biggest fund raisers. We cannot continue to do all the great thing the council has planned without your help and fund raisers like this.

The council, through the leadership of Dr. Peter Methodius, has been very involved in local areas Pro-Life forums and Prayer Vigils at the Metropolitan Family Planning Clinic on Greenbelt Road in College Park, Maryland. The 4th Prayer Vigil for 40 Days for Life will be held on Wednesday, March 2nd from 6-7 P.M.

On Friday, February 26th, council members: Alan Davis, Harold Sanders, Michael Akpan, Bernard Broadus and I were readers for the Stations of the Cross. Afterwards council members served a selection of three soups to the parishioners. Deacon Al Turner presented the Lenten Reflections.



March is upon us and it time to prepare for the next fraternal year by getting ready for the election of the new council officer. The first of the nominations will take place at our meeting on the 17th. Every brother needs to decide who they would like to see lead this council the Next fraternal year. We have always been strong and have had great leaders in the pass, let's continue to elect a strong leadership and make sure we give them our full support. Our council is like a chain. We are only as strong as our weakest link. Remember if everybody does a little, no one has to do a lot.

March, a month of change, a month when the daylight lengthens and the earth begins its renewal for spring. Change always takes effort, commitment and a will of spirit. When **we** change for **Christ**, we allow ourselves to be open to His love and then to share that love with others. We are now in the season of **Lent** and we as Catholics know we must change our hearts and souls in preparation for Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday. The church provides us the opportunity to change our souls through the sacrament of penance or confession as it is commonly known. *"The basic requirement for a good Confession is to have the intention of returning to God like the Prodigal Son and of acknowledging our sins with true sorrow before His representative, the priest"*.

Have A Blessed And Glorious Easter,

Ike



A MARYLAND TRADITION





State Deputy's Report



Stephen M. Cohen
State Deputy

Well, hopefully spring is not far away. However, I did hear a number of people say that they were pushing for the groundhog to be arrested for lying on the stand. Pray for warmer weather.

With warmer weather we should have better recruiting and with better weather will allow us to hold good Admission degrees. Remember, One new Member per Council per Month and One Admission Degree per District per Month. In terms of membership

keep up the good work, you have already started. It will pay off.

The Death with Dignity or Physician Assisted Suicide Bill is in committee. Please contact your legislators and let them know you are against the horrendous bill. Please go to the Maryland Catholic Conference web site and educate yourself on this bill.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chris Powers, our State Warden for heading up our Lenten Pilgrimage. What a great day. My thanks also to our Supreme Chaplain, Archbishop Lori for spending the day with us and for celebrating our Mass. Thanks also to all who attended. Hopefully next year we will double the size of our group.

There are many important dates in March. Please mark your calendars:

- Church Drives - March 5&6 or 12&13
- Admission Degree Week - March 14-20
- Charitable Outreach Week - March 28 - April 3

So, Grand Knights have you met with your Pastors? What are we doing for the Parish Community that we haven't done before? What are we doing to attract younger members and their families? These are all part of the New Initiative. Take time to read the Supreme Knight's message in each Columbia Magazine. Incorporate the new programs Supreme is sending to you.

Remember Always, *"We are the Knights of Columbus, We are a people of Life, for Life, Building a Civilization of love."*

Vivat Jesus!

Have You Visited The State Website Lately

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

Or the Maryland State Yahoo Group

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

MARYLAND STATE COUNCIL



118th Annual Convention - May 13, 14, 15, 2016

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

9:00 AM	Mass (Make Room) with Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament until 11:30 AM
Noon to	Convention Registration
4:00 PM	(Barbados Room)
1:00 PM to	Youth Activity
3:00 PM	(Eleuthera Room)
2:00 PM	District Deputy Mtg. (Caribbean Hall)
3:00 PM	Grand Knights' \$1000 Olympics for Charity (Atrium Area)
6:00 PM to	Convention Registration
8:00 PM	(Barbados Room)
7:00 PM	Mass & Opening Session of Convention (Caribbean Hall)
7:00 PM	Ladies Activities - (Palmetto Ballroom), Doors open 6:30 PM
7:00 PM to	Youth Activity
9:00 PM	(Eleuthera Room)
8:30 to	Open House - Hospitality Rooms
Midnight	(Atrium Area)

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

REGISTRATION AND CONVENTION BADGES

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

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



District Deputy Report



Michael Davenport
District Deputy

Worthy Grand Knight, Brothers All,

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

Winter is slowly drifting away as we start to move towards warmth and the life that Spring brings. Last month we celebrated Valentine's Day and spread the warmth of our hearts to loved ones and friends.

As we begin the Month of March, typically, the broad grin across the Grand Knights face begins to grow as the flashes of the end of his reign pops into his mind and the Council sprints to the finish line. But not so fast!!! We still have a lot of work to do and the "fat lady" hasn't begun to sing yet!!

We need to step up our efforts in recruitment and exposing our brothers to the wonderful insurance benefits that our Order offers. Don't wait for a visit. Invite the Financial Benefits Advisor to meetings. Star Council is within reach but we're not there yet and time is running out. Prepare a strategy for recruitment, retention and getting involved with the Church ministries. Afterwards, man your posts and make it happen.

The March for Life rally's on Monday March 7th and is quickly approaching. On Sunday March 13th the State Founders Day Mass will take place in Severna Park. The Maryland State Basketball Free Throw will be starting at 12 noon on March 19 at the School of The Incarnation. Archdiocese of Washington District (AWD) 4th Degree Exemplification is around the corner and will commence on Saturday, April 2nd at the Colony South Hotel & Conference Center in Clinton.

This month I will be going to the Spring Meeting sponsored by our Maryland State leadership. It's a day of Fraternity and seminars and reporting and leadership reminders and more reporting on what's been submitted and what's missing. Fletcher Council is a leader in completing necessary forms and even sending things twice when asked. You are appreciated.

This thing that we call Charity exemplified by these men we call Knights (**YOU**) is an important calling. We can't do it alone. We all know that as Catholic Gentlemen we not only have the responsibility to expose other Catholic gentlemen to

our Order but also to exemplify our principles of fraternity. Treating each other with respect and visibly showing our Fraternal bond is a must. When was the last time you called **Joe Marshal** or **Danny Smith** or **Billy Tolbert**?

We ask for prayers for the State as we continue Fr. Michael J. McGivney's good works, and that our deliberations are always centered on his goals and principles. Do you have your rosary and do you pray it often?

"Be not Afraid Our Faith is Our Courage"

Grand Knight Checklist

March 2016

- ◆ Confirm that the following materials were submitted. If they have not been completed, please do so immediately.
 - * Council Per Capita, Catholic Advertising and Culture of Life Fund assessments.
 - * Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics (#4584), Free Throw Championship Participation Form (#FT-1), Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest Participation Form (#4001) and Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728).
- ◆ Schedule council activities for Founder's Day (March 29) and the Orderwide Outreach Week (March 28-April 3).
- ◆ Make sure your council is on the path to earning the Star Council Award.



Founders Day
March 29, 2016



Supreme Knight's Message

Knights Know Mercy

by Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson

#KnightsKnowMercy

Corporal & Spiritual

	Feed the Hungry	Instruct the Ignorant	
	Give Drink to the Thirsty	Counsel the Doubtful	
	Shelter the Homeless	Admonish the Sinners	
	Clothe the Naked	Forgive Offenses	
	Visit the Sick	Comfort the Afflicted	
	Visit the Imprisoned	Bear Wrongs Patiently	
	Bury the Dead	Pray for the Living & the Dead	

A bit of mercy makes the world less cold & more just - Pope Francis

During Lent, Knights are encouraged to share what their councils are doing in response to Pope Francis' call to grow in faith by performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. With so many Knights of Columbus programs and initiatives being expressions of the works of mercy — including 40 Cans for Lent, Coats for Kids, and Food for Families — Knights should lead their parishes in Lenten observances during the Holy Year of Mercy.

Knights can start small, by simply hanging the printable Works of Mercy poster in their homes, council meeting spaces, and parishes, to be reminded daily to perform the works of mercy. Copies of the poster may be downloaded from the Supreme website at:

kofc.org/un/en/news/detail/knights-know-mercy.html

Post your pictures and stories to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram with the hashtag: #KnightsKnowMercy, and you might be featured on one of the Supreme Council's official social media accounts!



During Lent, Knights are encouraged to share what their councils are doing in response to Pope Francis' call to grow in faith by performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.



MASTER'S LOG REPORT

John F. Winfrey - Master AWD

*“What a proud day for me as Master.
We had the honor of introducing sixteen (16)
men to the Patriotic Degree.”*



New Sir Knights February 20, 2016

Priests

Bernard Carman	St. Joseph 3502
Martino Choi	The Sullivan Brothers 2861
Cornelius Ejiogu	Washington 151
Jaroslav Gamrot	Fr. Andrew White 377
Didace Kamana	James Cardinal Hickey 2534
Emanuel Margro	The Sullivan Brothers 2861
John Nguyen	Fr. Andrew White 377
Msgr. Charles Parry	St. John Neumann 1763

Deacon

Ryan Pineda	Cardinal Patrick A. O'Boyle 386
Al Douglas Turner	Bishop James E. Walsh 1548

Others

Justin Casselman	Fr. Andrew White 377
James Goebel	Fr. Andrew White 377
Jay Norris	Fr. Andrew White 377
Luke O'Boyle	The Sullivan Brothers 2861
Patrick Schoenberger	Fr. Andrew White 377
Thomas Tennant	Fr. Andrew White 377





K of C Marks 15th Consecutive Year of Sales Growth

David Benjamin, Fraternal Benefit Advisor

David.benjamin@kofc.org

202-494-6527



The Knights of Columbus recorded its 15th consecutive year of insurance sales growth in 2015, issuing more than \$8.4 billion of individual life insurance. The record sales have led to an increase of \$50 billion in the last decade..

The 15th consecutive year was also a historic one for the Order. On November 3rd, the Knights of Columbus surpassed \$100 billion of life insurance in force,

cementing its position as one of the largest life insurers in North America.

“I firmly believe that our moral compass has helped guide us through a turbulent decade and an uncertain economy,” said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. “While other companies were making ethically questionable and unnecessarily risky decisions, we were not. While others were looking for novel ways to do business and to increase profits, we were not. Our ethical practices, in fact, received international recognition in 2014 and 2015, when the Ethisphere Institute designated the Knights of Columbus as a World’s Most Ethical Company® . . .”

The Knights was one of only three companies to receive that designation in the life insurance category. In August, the Knights of Columbus earned its 40th consecutive highest possible rating for financial strength, A+ + (Superior), by ratings agency A.M. Best.

Utilizing its professional field force of more than 1,500 agents across North America, the Knights of Columbus — which has one of the lowest lapse rates in the industry — offers a product line especially designed to meet the needs of Catholic families. The line provides life insurance, annuities, disability income and long-term care policies.



David Benjamin
Fraternal Benefit Advisor

How may I help you? I am just an email or phone call away.

WALSH ASSEMBLY NEWS

G. Emeka Onwezi - Faithful Navigator
onwezi@gmail.com

240-644-3537



L/R FN Emeka Onwezi
Deacon Al Douglas Turner

It was another exciting day for the Archdiocese of Washington District (AWD) and the Bishop Walsh Assembly as 16 brother Knights successfully completed their Fourth Degree Exemplification. The Priest Exemplification, which include Deacons and Lay Candidates, was held at the John Paul II Shrine in Washington, DC on Saturday, February 20th.

The class consisted of 8 Priests, 2 Deacons and 6 Lay Candidates. Included in the class was Deacon Al Douglas Turner, who is now the newest member of the Bishop Walsh Assembly. Deacon Turner serves as St. Joseph Catholic Church in Largo, Maryland, and is the Associate Chaplain of the

James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422.

The AWD Exemplification for Lay Candidates and Permanent Deacons will be held on the weekend of April 1-3 at the Colony South Hotel and Conference Center in Clinton, Maryland. Bishop Walsh Assembly will be well represented with candidates in this class.

Do not forget to be your brother’s keeper. Check up on brothers that you have not seen at the meeting, and make sure that they are doing great and find out if there is anything we can do to help in any way we can.

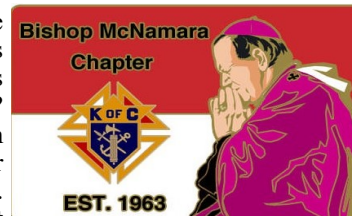
REMEMBER THAT WE HAVE CHANGED OUR MEETING TIME FROM 8 P.M. TO 7 P.M., WITH REFRESHMENTS SERVED AT 6:30 P.M.

McNAMARA CHAPTER

Tom Firestone - Chapter President
tf6687@aol.com

240-753-5200

Would you believe that we are now into the 9th month of this Fraternal Year. Time flies when you are having fun? Yes, it has been fun and I am proud to say that the Chapter is having a magnificent year. The revised meeting format has proven to be very successful and the attendance and members participation has increased significantly. I do look forward to our meetings.



I am sad to say, yet happy to say that we are now in the Chapter Officer Election Cycle. At our meeting in February, I appointed the Nominating Committee to pull together a slate of candidates to run for each of the Chapter officer positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Marshal. Nominations will commence at our March meeting and the elections will be held at Columcille Council 5317 on May 18, 2016.

Due to schedule conflicts the Annual Past Chapter President Ball is now tentatively scheduled for May 1, 2016 at Sacred Heart Council Home in Bowie. More information is forthcoming.

Please join us at our next Chapter meeting on March 16th at Patuxent Council 2203, 113 St. Mary’s Place, Laurel, MD. Meetings start at 8 P.M.

Vivat Jesus!



PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Alan M. Davis, DGK

adavis1960@verizon.net

301-808-8009

Brothers,

Fletcher Council has had a very productive year thus far in completing all of our scheduled service programs. In all six service areas, **Church, Community, Family, Pro Life, Council and Youth**, Fletcher Council has again shown why it is one of the premier councils in the state of Maryland.

The final months of this fraternal year are full of programs which are in dire need of volunteers or coordinators to ensure a successful finish for this administration. Brother Peter Methodius is soliciting volunteers for the **40 Days of Life Campaign**. Brother Cal Thompson needs assistance for the **March 4th Lenten Fish Fry**. Brothers Bernard Broadus and John Huntley request assistance with the bread and food pickups and deliveries from Costco and Panera Bread to local homeless shelters and churches. Brother Alan Davis needs help with Church Activities, Brother Gabe Nmorka with Family Activities, Brother



Phil Beaubouef with Youth Activities and Brother Vernon Hawkins with the **Knightlife Newsletter**.

Remember gentlemen, we are in the **Season of Lent**, a season of prayer fasting and alms giving. If you have yet to participate in any of our activities, I urge you to contact me or any of the brothers listed above and **VOLUNTEER!!**

This council has over 110 member and I challenge all members to commit to one activity before the end of the year. Serving our fellow brothers and sisters is the essence of who we are as Christians and as Knights.

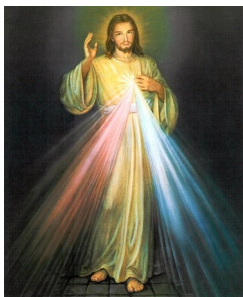
Brothers, remember we are strongest when we are united together!
UNITY IS THE WORD FOR 2016.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

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



301-808-8009



March, is a month of change, a month when daylight lengthens and the earth begins its renewal for spring. Change always takes effort, commitment and a will of spirit. When we change for **Christ**, we allow ourselves to be open to His love and then share that love with others. We are now in the season of **Lent** and we as Catholics know we must change our hearts and souls in preparation for **Christ's** resurrection on Easter Sunday. Easter Sunday is in March this

year, so any changes we make must occur before March 27th.

The church provides us the opportunity to change our souls through the sacrament of Reconciliation or confession as it is commonly known. "The basic requirement for a good Confession is to have the intention of returning to God like the prodigal Son and to acknowledge our sins with **true sorrow** before his representative, the priest". "The Light is on For You," offers us the sacrament of Reconciliation each Wednesday night during Lent from 6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. and Saturday from 3:30 P.M. to 4:40 P.M. at St. Joseph.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is also available at St. Joseph every Tuesday evening from 6:00 P.M. to 6:45 P.M. and all day until 7:00 P.M. on Friday, March 4th.

Brother, please resolve to spend some time during this Lenten Season to prepare your soul for Christ's triumphant victory over sin and death on **Easter Morning**.

CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITIES

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

301-728-7827



Dr. Peter Methodius, Fidelis Ajudua, and GK Ike Agbim

As was customary in the past, the Knights of Columbus, Fletcher Council 11422 were informed of the impending Kickoff Rally regarding the 40 Days for Life. The Kickoff Rally was held Saturday January 30, 2016, from 10am-12pm at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden's Ministry Center, located at 3600 Brightseat Road in Landover, Maryland.

The Kickoff Rally "...an educational and motivational program to reinforce faith and family values and encourage our local communities to build a culture of life".

To prepare for the Kickoff Rally, our council worked closely with Tom Trunk of St. Hugh's Parish to plan, coordinate and communicate the various activities and events to other members of the council, including the parishioners and non-parishioners of St. Joseph's Parish community in Largo, Maryland.

Considering a Vocation to Priesthood?

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





COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Bernard Broadus, Community Activities Director
bbroadus53@gmail.com



202-359-7781

Annual Lenten Fish Fry



They came from far and near on February 19th for the very best Fish and Vittles in all of Prince Georges County. The Fletcher Council's cooking and serving team laid out a spread that our customers looked forward to. There were carry-outs, special deliveries, and there were some set right down and enjoyed the meal on the spot. Well, we are going to do it again on March 4th at St. Joseph Catholic Church, from 12-noon to 5 P.M. Our fish are Whiting and Croaker. Costs are: Dinners \$10.00, Fish Sandwich \$7.00, with a selection of side dishes. BTW, our lead chefs for this event are Cal Thompson and Bernard Broadus, with much help from their friends.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

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



301-928-2157

The council's Annual Mardi Gras was a fantastic event. It was held on Saturday, February 6th in the beautifully decorated Rosemont Room at St. Joseph Catholic Church. It was a sell out, with many on the waiting list for tickets. The Decorating Committee, provided the true New Orleans décor flavor to the Rosemont Room. Cal Thompson and his crew provided exquisite bar service.



During the festivities, *Sir Knight William "Billy" Tolbert* was recognized for his outstanding and continuing support that he has provided provide to the church, council and the St. Joseph community. The festivities reached a crescendo with the selection of its Mardi Gras Queen, Lady Yolanda Jenkins of Baltimore, Maryland. Our ecstatic King for the evening was Grand Knight Ike Agbim, who proudly danced and pranced during the Mardi Gras Parade, to the foot stomping tune of "When The Saints Go Marching In."

Much thanks go our to our co-coordinators *Cal Thompson* and *Vern Hawkins* for a fabulous evening. Also, special thanks to brother *William "Bill" Harris* and the *Exclusives Band* for providing just the right music and songs to keep the crowd "a jumping". Also, much credit goes to the Fletcher Council members and their Ladies and our guest. Finally, a world of thanks to *Lady Gloria Newman* and her catering team for a magnificent dinner. The Gumbo, as usual was delicious.

BTW, folks were calling in for Mardi Gras tickets for 2016 before they were available for sale, as early as November of the previous years. We had a sell out by January 1, 2016. Now, would you believe that several parishioners have already placed ticket orders for the council's 2017 Mardi Gras? Well, it is happening.



MEMBERSHIP QUEST

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



240-441-9086



During the month of March, we will be conducting a membership drive at St. Joseph parish. Do support this drive by passing the word to your friends, relatives and those next to you in the church pew. We are looking for Catholic men, 18 years and older. **Now, spread the word!**

Remember, becoming a Knight of Columbus can transform a person's life. As a Knight, you have the opportunity to support your parish, give back to your community, grow in your faith and gain exclusive access to our top-rated insurance program to protect your family. These are just some of the reasons to become a Knight.

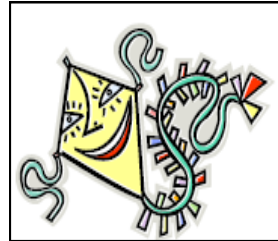
We are a band of brothers, a network of men in communities around the world dedicated to doing good in the service of God and our neighbor.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

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



240-353-1460



The council will be hosting its **Annual Kite Flying Extravaganza** will be held on April on the St. Joseph Church parking lot. We will have music, food and of course kites of many colors. Bring the family, bring the kids and come out and fly **your** kite with us. Kids of all ages are welcomed. The date of the event will be announced shortly and council members support is always welcomed.

Heads Up! Coming in May is the always magnificent and enjoyable **"Who's Got Talent"** youth program. We have added some surprises to the program this year. There will be more details coming your way shortly, look for the flyer and keep an ear for pulpit and church bulletin announcements. **Our youth are amazing!**



KC LADIES AUXILIARY

Cathy Gresham, President

catstew@aol.com



We did it again. Yes! The KC Ladies Auxiliary put on another fantastic Valentines Day Pancake Breakfast. Much thanks go out to our brother Knights of the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council. They were there throughout the morning.



Yes, that is Fr. Campbell pictured above. Like many others, he too was mesmerized by the awesome menu selections. It proved to be a very success Valentines Day Pancake Breakfast. To one and all, we say **THANK YOU** and **LETS DO IT AGAIN.**



KC Ladies Auxiliary

Cathy Gresham
Gladys Ramey
Carleen Akpan
Benedicta Okpah

Sharon Thompson
Etoile de Hawkins
Deborah Robinson
Cynthia Williams



FAMILY ACTIVITIES

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

301-350-7637



Family of the Month The “Starks” Family



On a Knights Sunday as this, we proudly honor our Parishioners who selflessly provide services that exemplify our Christian Values. From our reviews, during Fr. Raymond Moore’s tenure as the Pastor of St. Joseph Church, one of our very active Parishioner’s, Beverly Starks, became a registered member of St. Joseph’s Parish.

As a devout Christian who attends mass regularly, she humbly accepted the role of the Lector Ministry Coordinator. Along with that, she functions as the Vice President of the Hospitality Ministry that welcomes Parishioners and Guests with smiles and greetings as they arrive at the Church for Masses. This Ministry not only welcomes the Worshipers, but also coordinates the collection of offerings and selection of Parishioners to carry the gifts during offertory procession at each Mass.

Beverly as well spends her time serving as a member of St. Joseph’s Good Samaritans and the Repast Ministry that comfort bereaved Parishioners with fellowship after funeral and interment. She organizes the combined Liturgical Ministries Calendar used by Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Hospitality Ministers and Alter Servers. We are really proud to also mention her membership in the Archdiocese’s Sisters in the Spirit and her willingness each time to lend assistance to the Knights Lenten Fish Fries, Cup of Joe annual programs and the Summer Bible School.

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

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

EACH OF US IS A
MASTERPIECE
OF GOD’S CREATION.



Priests and Deacons Appreciation Dinner

January 30, 2016



Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr. Rev. Aaron Qureshi Deacon A. Douglas Turner Deacon Steven Nash

Grand Knight Ike Agbim, Reports: This evening is for our Honorees, our Clergy who work so hard to guide us spiritually and shape our lives and that of our families as true and worthy Christian citizens of the Catholic Church. Following examples of the manner in which Christ led his disciples, and his disciples led a flock of followers in the church. We have been very well led by our Clergy. Hence, we have a very compelling reason to organize this program to give each and every one of our clergy a hearty appreciation.

To our Honorees: It is for what you do, that we remain on course as Christians and Catholics bearing testimony in truth of the goodness of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We are equally very grateful to your families for making you available to us, for without this support, you would not be able to make the sacrifice, to be here with us.

Speaker Bureau



Melody Atkinson
Sodality Ministry



Isiah Scott
Squire Circle



Burma Hill
Cursillo



Justin Bechet
Altar Server



Etoile de Hawkins
Bereavement Support



Judge William D. Missouri
Council & Parish





REFLECTIONS

Lawrence P. Grayson

To Be or Not To Be a Person

“The Doctor Will Kill You Now.” This chapter heading in Ramesh Ponnuru’s book, *The Party of Death*, reflects the chilling view of a detached, business-like, dystopian society. It also is a prescient and ominous description of an expanding culture of death.

Procured human extermination, whether at the beginning of life or at its end, is becoming socially acceptable and more commonplace. A clinic in Maryland is attempting to make abortion chic. Its facility resembles a high-end salon with wood floors, plush upholstery and attractive pictures on the walls; its clients are offered hot tea and soft robes as they wait to have their children killed. The now-defunct Dalton Books chain once categorized a book on how to commit suicide under the heading: “Self-Improvement.” In the Netherlands, there now are traveling teams of euthanizers to dispatch the elderly, the feeble, the lonely and the terminally ill.

Proponents of a culture of death try to blur the knowledge of when life begins and when it ends so that they can more readily justify abortion and euthanasia. Through philosophic arguments and euphemistic terms, they save their consciences as they legally rid themselves of the disruption of an unwanted pregnancy or the hardship of caring for the terminally ill, the severely disabled, the permanently comatose, and those with extreme cognitive impairment.

A convenient approach to confound the issue is to separate the notion of person from that of human life by conferring personhood only if an individual possesses certain functional capabilities. If those capabilities are missing or do not meet a given norm, the individual is considered a non-person and not entitled to rights granted to others. Specifically, the right to life, guaranteed by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, does not apply to them.

This attempt to depersonalize classes of individuals runs counter to the religious beliefs that humans have spiritual souls, as well as physical bodies, and that their souls are created in the image and likeness of God. All human life, from conception until natural death, has a worth and dignity simply by being human. As God-given, the right to life is intrinsic and inalienable, and does not depend on the quality of that life being up to a certain functional norm. No one has the authority to take the life of another or to discard his own.

When life begins is a biological fact. It is indisputably at conception, when the male and female components unite to create a new living organism with a complete genetic identity of a human being that is distinct from either parent. The point at which that life is considered to be a person, in contrast, is a social and philosophical construct. The separation of the two is nothing more than a sophistic attempt to justify the taking of innocent life. If the organism in the womb is not a person, then abortion -- even to the point of partial birth -- is not recognized as the killing of a child, but only as the medical excision of a growth, tissues or cells within a woman. In the United States, this jesuitic distinction has allowed over 58 million children never-to-be-born since *Roe v. Wade* was decreed in 1973.

The separation of personhood from life is fraught with danger for everyone at every stage of life. The point of partition becomes a decision of those in power, whether a dictator, autocrat or a democratic majority. When a human is declared a non-person because of

his or her inability to sustain life independently of others or is not able to perform at a certain level of mental, physical or social ability, the individual is considered to be a thing without the dignity, worth or rights of a person. This can lead, and has led, to great atrocities. At various times, in many countries, in differing circumstances, slaves, Blacks, gypsies, Jews, non-believers, and other “inconvenient” groups have been declared non-persons -- or at least treated as such -- thus justifying lynching, slavery, ethnic cleansing, genocide, gulags, jihad, and the Holocaust.

The issue of personhood was central to the decision to withhold nutrition and hydration from Terri Schiavo and starve her to death. Since she was in a prolonged vegetative state and could not perform as a human being, she was considered “dead” as a person and her life functions ended. Would American society allow a mass-killer on death row to be starved to death? Do we as a nation truly believe that a life is not valuable nor worth living if the individual is in a persistent vegetative state? If so, do we hold the same for a person who is in a long-term coma, is severely handicapped, has advanced dementia, is extremely autistic, cannot live without constant pain, or has a genetic defect?

The life of a human being follows a continuous evolution: from a fertilized egg or zygote to blastocyst to embryo to fetus to newborn, and then through childhood, young adulthood, middle age, and finally elderliness. Similarly, at each of those stages, the physical and mental capacities of an individual can vary along a continuum. Where along these unbroken chains are the lines to be drawn separating persons from non-persons, segregating lives worth living from those that are not? Who is to draw them? And once drawn, can they not be moved in the future to define new groups of non-people?

If we accept a functional view of a person, what will be the next steps -- partial-birth abortion, infanticide, mercy killing, genetic cleansing? What will be the future of this nation, as it moves farther away from an absolute morality with regard to life to one that is relative? This nation would do well to remember the words of Pope John Paul II as he concluded his visit to the United States in 1987:

“Every human person - no matter how vulnerable or helpless, no matter how young or how old, no matter how healthy, handicapped or sick, no matter how useful or productive for society -- is a being of inestimable worth created in the image and likeness of God. This is the dignity of America, the reason she exists, the condition for her survival -- yes, the ultimate test of her greatness: to respect every human person, especially the weakest and most defenseless ones, those as yet unborn.”

Let us strive to create a public consciousness that every life has value and worth. Let us demonstrate to our political leaders and the nation-at-large that abortion and euthanasia are heinous acts and that human life at all stages, from conception to natural death, must be respected. Let us develop a societal acknowledgement that ours is a nation under God.



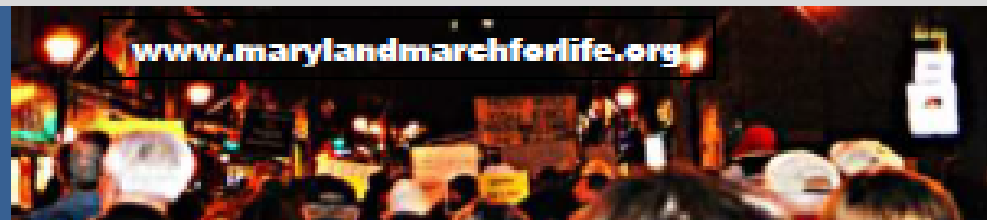
Maryland March for Life



MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016

begins & ends at St. Mary's Church, 109 Duke of Gloucester, Annapolis, MD 21401

- 4:30pm Youth Rally (pizza at 4:30)
- 5:15p Mass & Nondenominational Service
Bishop Martin Holley, Bishop Mario Dorsonville-Rodriguez, Rev. Carlos Osario, & Rev. AJ Viyas
- 6:30p Family-friendly March (& public witness)
- 7p Rally at Lawyers Mall
Ramona Trevino, former Planned Parenthood manager; Wayne Cockfield, Veteran & Disability Rights Advocate; Tracey Tiernan, 99.1 Shine FM Radio Host
- 8p Free Chick-fil-A & fellowship at St. Mary's



Top 10 Reasons to attend the Maryland March for Life

1. **Make a Difference:** Join hundreds of other Marylanders to stand up for life in our state capital.
2. **Bring Your Family:** The March for Life is a family-friendly event with something for everyone.
3. **Hear from Great Speakers:** Over the years, we've had the pleasure of featuring enthusiastic, interesting and well-respected speakers to share their stories and insights.
4. **Learn Something New:** Gain some knowledge and pass it along... you may even influence someone else's opinions!
5. **Get Some Exercise:** As you march through Annapolis, you'll hardly even notice you're exercising!
6. **Pray:** No matter your religious denomination, come witness the power of prayer throughout the evening. We also have a Catholic Mass and a nondenominational service prior to the march.
7. **Visit Beautiful Annapolis:** With the Chesapeake Bay, cobblestone streets and historic buildings, Annapolis provides a picturesque backdrop for our march.
8. **Get Involved:** Get involved with a good cause. It's a rewarding experience and a chance to stand up for something bigger than yourself.
9. **Enjoy Fellowship and Fun:** Hang out with friends and family, and even meet someone new.
10. **Free Chick-fil-A:** Who doesn't like Chick-fil-A? Join us after the march & rally for some tasty food.



**Maryland State Council
Knights of Columbus
Founder's Day Mass & Awards Dinner
Sunday, March 13, 2016**



**3:00 P.M. Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church
689 Ritchie Hwy.
Severna Park, MD 21146**

**Awards Dinner immediately following at the Columbian Center
335 Ritchie Hwy., Severna Park, MD 21146**

Open to all Brother Knights and Guests

The Cost is \$25.00 per person

Dinner will include:
Cheese and Crackers, Garden & Caesar Salads
Roast Pork Tenderloin
Steamed Broccoli Florets, Red Skin Parsley Potato Wedges
Rolls and Butter
Assorted Fruit and Sheet Cake
Beer, Wine, Sodas, Bottled Water, Tea, and Decaffeinated/Regular Coffee

All dinner reservations must be paid in advance.
No later than March 4, 2016

NO TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

For dinner reservations, please mail your payment to:

Alex Simpson
1159 Cecil Ave. S
Millersville, MD 21109
443-745-6727

Please reserve _____ tickets at \$25.00 each. Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ for _____ persons, payable to the Maryland State Council.

Name(s) _____

Title _____ Council _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please list names of everyone that you included in your ticket payment. Use back if necessary.



Smiley Central™

On New Year's Eve, Marilyn stood up in the local pub 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. As the clock struck - the bartender was almost crushed to death.

Employer: We need someone for this Job, who is Responsible.
Applicant: Sir, your search ends here, in my previous job, whenever anything went wrong, they said I am Responsible...

If I had a dollar for every girl that found me unattractive, they would eventually find me attractive

The prospective son-in-law was asked by his girl friend's father, 'Son, are you able to support a family?' 'Well, no, sir,' he replied. 'I was just planning to support your daughter. The rest of you will have to fend for yourselves.'

To surprise her husband, an executive's wife stopped by his office. When she opened the door, she found him with his secretary sitting in his lap.

Without hesitating, he dictated, "And in conclusion, gentlemen, budget cuts or no budgets cuts, I cannot continue to operate this office with just one chair."

Albert Einstein used to go to dinners where he was invited to give a speech. One day, on his way to one of those dinners, he told his chauffeur (who looked exactly like him) that he was dead tired of giving the same speech, dinner after dinner.

"Well," said the chauffeur, "I've got a good idea. Why don't I give the speech since I've heard it so many times?" So Albert's chauffeur gave the speech perfectly and even answered a few questions. Then, a professor stood up and asked him a really tough question about anti-matter which the chauffeur couldn't answer.

"Sir, the answer to your question is so easy that I'll let my chauffeur answer it!"

FINE - This is the word women use to end an argument when they feel they are right and you need to shut up. Never use "fine" to describe how a woman looks - this will cause you to have one of those arguments.

A guy tells his psychiatrist "I always have this weird dream at night. I am locked in a room with a door on which there is a sign. I try to push it with all my strength, but no matter how hard I try, it won't budge." The psychiatrist muses, "interesting." But tell me what does the sign on the door say? The guy replies, "It says, **"Pull!"**"

I didn't sleep very good last night. So this morning I put Monster energy drinks in my coffee ... I was half way to work when I realized I forgot my car.

General Beachmen had barely arrived in the forward area when a sniper's bullet removed a button from his shirt. He threw himself to the ground in terror. The men stood around with the greatest unconcern. The general yelled at a passing sergeant. "Hey, isn't somebody going to kill that damned sniper?" The sergeant looked down at the general and replied: "I guess not, general. We're scared that if we kill him the enemy will replace him with somebody who really knows how to shoot."

James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422 Council Officers

2015 - 2016

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

Please, Remember In Your Prayers

Members Who Are Ill



- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Howard Wynn</i> | <i>James Shorter</i> |
| <i>Mary Julius</i> | <i>Hugo Braden</i> |
| <i>Joseph Marshall</i> | <i>William Tolbert</i> |
| <i>Ken Hinton</i> | <i>Donald Wilson</i> |





“HAPPY BIRTHDAY”
****MARCH****
- 2016 -

- 02 Alfred M. Sibedwo
- 06 Errol Sanderson
- 08 Cal A. Thompson
- 11 Paschal I. Ejiogu
- 17 Christopher Chimezie
- 17 Kenneth P. Hinton
- 19 Anthony E. Jackson
- 21 Dennis Clifton
- 21 Wilbur S. Graves
- 22 Ben A Mensah
- 23 Kene J. Emelife
- 23 Michael T. Scott
- 28 Paul Mensah Kane
- 29 Michael A. Jackson
- 29 Steven S. Kueberuwa
- 29 Christopher D. Obiogbolu



**“The Joy
 Of A
 March
 Birthday”**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
****MARCH****



- 01 Council Quarterly Reports Are Do To State
- 03 **Fletcher Council Meeting, 7:30 PM**
- 04 World Day of Prayer
- 04 **Council Fish Fry**
- 12 State Spring Meeting, Annapolis Council 1384
- 13 State Founder’s Day Mass, St. John the Evangelist
- 13 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 14 Bishop Walsh Assembly Meeting
- 16 McNamara Chapter Meeting, Patuxent Council 2203
- 17 **Fletcher Council Meeting, 7:30 PM**
- 17 St. Patrick’s Day
- 19 State Basketball Free Throw Finals
- 20 **Palm Sunday**
- 20 **Knights Sunday, 11 O’clock Mass**
- 20 First Day of Spring
- 25 Good Friday
- 27 **Easter Sunday**

Marian Title for March
**Our Lady of the
 Poor (Banneux)**



Our Lady of Banneux’ is the sobriquet given to the apparition of the Virgin Mary to Mariette Beco, an adolescent girl living in Banneux, province of Liege (Belgium). Between January 15th and March 2nd, 1933, Mile Beco told her family and parish priest of seeing a Lady in white who declared herself to be the ‘Virgin of the Poor’, saying *I come to relieve suffering and believe in me and I will believe in you*. In one of these visions, Mariette said the Lady asked her to drink from a small spring, telling her the spring was for healing and ”for all na-

tions”. Over time the site drew pilgrims. Today, the small spring yields about 2,000 gallons of water a day with many reports of miraculous healings.

Her claims were subject to an official investigation from 1935 to 1937 by an episcopal commission. The evidence collected was submitted to Rome for further analysis. In May 1942 Bishop Kerkhofs of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Liege (Belgium) gave a first recognition of the authenticity of the facts. Then, in 1947, approval for the apparitions came from the Holy See. It was declared definite in 1949.

After the apparitions, Beco decided to remain a private person, married and had a quiet family life. A small chapel stands where the Virgin of the Poor requested it to be built.

Mariette Beco died on December 2, 2011 at the age of 90. In 2008 she made a final statement about her role in the apparitions. “I was no more than a postman who delivers the mail. Once this has been done, the postman is of no importance any more”.

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