



KNIGHTLIFE



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

Volume 21 Issue 5

November 2015

VETERANS DAY

NOVEMBER 11, 2015



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED
IN TIMES OF WAR - IN TIMES OF PEACE



FLETCHER COUNCIL WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGE

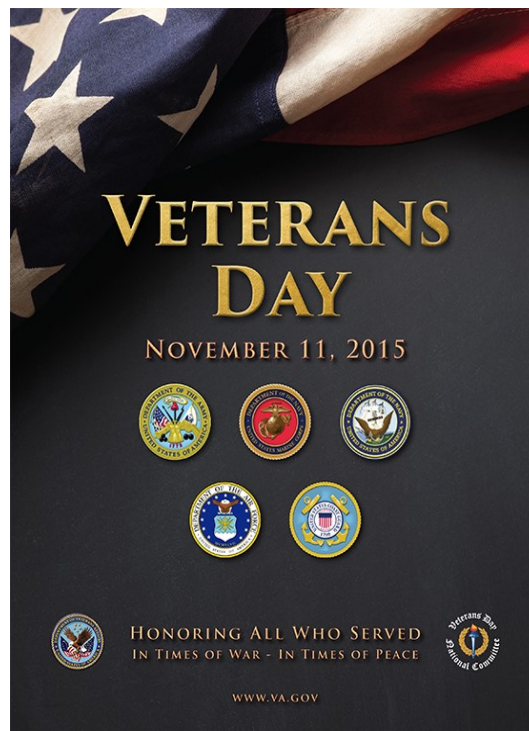
<http://www.council11422.org> & Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/JamesCFletcherCouncil11422KofC?fref=ts>



KNIGHTLIFE

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*Remember our Veterans, our Heroes,
as
"all gave some, and some gave all."*

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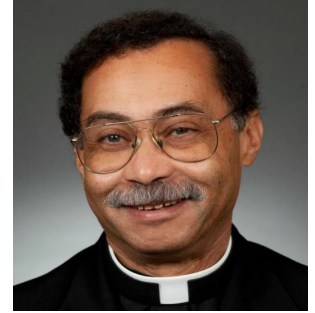


Chaplain Report

Chaplain Thoughts. . .

“You shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength.”

by Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.



Jesus answers the scribe’s question about which of Israel’s 600+ religious laws was the greatest by reciting the words of Moses (Rv 7:2-4, 9-14), “Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone! Therefore, you shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength.” He then immediately adds a second law, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” The other Israelite laws were just commentary on these Two Great Commandments of Love!

Jesus tells us that we cannot separate these two commandments of love. We cannot love God if we do not love each other, our neighbors. How can we love God, who we cannot see, if we cannot love our neighbor, who we can see? Why must we love each other? Because, we are all created in the image of God and by our baptism Jesus has restored us to the very likeness of God, we share in God’s very nature. We become brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ. We must see Christ in each other. We must see God’s image in each other. Remember what Jesus said, “Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”

God is LOVE! Love gives itself to others and it has to be re-

ceived by them. God did this when He created us in His image and likeness. He proved His love for us when He sent His only Son to die for our salvation. We receive God’s love and He expects us to treat each other the way He treats us, with love.

Love begins at home with parents loving each other and their children. It continues with children loving their parents and their brothers and sisters. When we love those whom we live with at home, it becomes easy to love those we meet outside our homes. When we see our neighbor, we must think of the Eucharist that we celebrate. We must think of what Jesus gives us out of love in the Eucharist, Himself. We must think of what Jesus gives us out of love in the Eucharist, Himself. Then when we give ourselves out of love in service to our neighbors what we do will become our works of love. When that happens, we too are not far from the kingdom of God.

Today, we celebrate the Feast of All Saints, those souls who stand in the presence of God. Every saint lived these two Great Commandments of Love so well, that they still show God their love of neighbor by interceding for us before God’s heavenly throne.

Grand Knight’s Chronicle



Ikechukwu R. Agbim

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202-276-7796

“ . . . there is no mountain we cannot climb.”

Brothers All:

We are on into Fall, and the exciting period preceding the calendar year’s end! How blessed are we to witness yet another cycle of the year of the Lord, and see it come to fruition and mature into the glorious season of Christmas.

Our programs at Fletcher Council continue to embody Charity, and our love for our neighbors and mankind in general. We’ve continued to execute our Family of the Month (FOM) program, sustained our Seminarian support initiative, and assisted our KC Ladies in executing yet another successful KC Ladies Fall Dance.

We are fully prepared now to execute the Silver Rose Prayer Service, which is scheduled to take place on October 31st, starting with recitation of the Rosary at 4:30 P.M. Our determination to do Pro-Life works cannot be more emphasized by this prayer service. Our prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe-patroness of the unborn will not only save lives but demonstrate our support and solidarity for the Holy See in defense of life. As Pope Benedict XVI (2011) said “...Through moral conscience God speaks to each of us, inviting us to defend life at all times”.

The Tootsie Roll Campaign has started, with much success in the first few days. We hope to exceed last year’s donations by a greater participation and by inviting our friends and family to donate generously to the cause.

The Halloween events is coming up on the 30th of October. With the Christmas party, parish children and parents alike look forward to the delights of these celebrations hosted by our Council.

This fraternal year’s excitement continues to grow. While more work needs to be done in some areas, especially recruiting, we feel blessed by the successes of this year. Our last recruitment event was productive as we handed over at least 5 Form 100’s.

We continue to encourage participation of greater number of Knights in our programs; so that when we “...give a couple of hours a month to our council”, there is no mountain we cannot climb!



State Deputy's Report



Stephen M. Cohen
State Deputy

In October, we honored our namesake and patron Christopher Columbus. The State Council along with many members of our local councils participated in those events to honor him. The Columbus Day Parade in Baltimore, the Columbus Day Ball. The DC Celebration for Columbus Day all kept us busy during the month. My thanks to the organizers for these events: Don Keen, Steve Upton, Sean Smith and Alex Simpson for all of their hard work and time. These brothers all did an outstanding job. In addition, my thanks to Andy Gleeson for his work on the Columbus Day Ball Program Book.

Also, October was the culmination of our Annual Incentive Raffle. From all indications our totals are all over those from last year. My congratulations and thanks goes to Bill Van Horn and Lou Woods for a spectacular job. My thanks to all of our Council for all of your hard work for this program and those less fortunate.

Our campaign for the Intellectually Disabled (Tootsie Roll Program) also got underway. Please make sure that your reports are submitted to Mike Thumm as soon as possible.

Order wide, this first quarter has been the best membership quarter in thirty-five years. Also, Maryland has seen its best first quarter over the last three years. Please keep up the good work. Continue to ask those eligible Catholic men to join our ranks. Please continue to recruit one member per council per month. Please continue to hold one Admissions (First) degree per District per month.

Our Coats For Kids Program is shaping up to really be our best year ever as well. I want to thank Mike Jacobs and the Seton Chapter for all of their hard work in the Western Vicariate with this project. Mike and his wife Robyn work tirelessly to get the donations needed to cover this expense. Under the direction of Dan Ward, we will also be working with Catholic Charities of Baltimore to deliver 1100 coats on Black Friday to those in need. The Supreme Council has give us 600 of these coats and through the generosity of the Baltimore Chapter, many Districts, Councils and individuals, we were able to purchase the other 500 coats.

As we approach Thanksgiving, I want to thank each and every one of our members and families for all they do to help promote the good works of the Order. Without each one chipping in at your council, at your church and in your community, it would not be possible to do the things we do.

Always remember, We are the Knights of Columbus, We are a people of Life, For Life, Building a Civilization of Love.

Happy Thanksgiving from all of the State Officers and our Wives.

Vivat Jesus

Have You Visited The State Website Lately?

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

District Deputy Report



Michael Davenport
District Deputy

Greetings! On October 17, 2015 the State Fall meeting was held in Cumberland Maryland. During the meeting we were reminded of the many things that needed to be done before the year is completed. Yes it's getting closer to that time. We discussed everything from no helium balloons in the hospitality rooms to the promotion of the Convention Ads and the Program Book. It's important to remember to send your ads and proofs for the Program Book in black and white format to reduce the cost of the program. There will be no late fees for convention registration. The Grand Knight Olympics will be extra special this year and all Grand Knights and DD's are encouraged to participate.

We have a special drive for *Coats for Kids* which we are encouraged to sponsor by purchasing cases of coats. One case has already been purchased for on behalf of District #3. We were also encouraged to participate in the *Widows Program* and to suggest to Councils to appoint a chairman and contact Kendra Hunt, the Program Director as soon as possible.

The Soccer Shootout was a success this weekend. Congratulations to Fletcher Council and the brothers who were able to participate. It was a last moment opportunity. Some of the scores were very high and may move to the State level on November 1, 2015 at the State event. Also, thank you to DW Gabe Onwezi and GK Ike Agbim, DGK Alan Davis, DGK Carlos Pla from St Mary of Assumption and all who supported the Shootout. Team Fletcher of the Maryland State, Knights of Columbus once again exemplifies successful support of our youth! State Championship, Sunday November 1, 2015 here we come!!!!!!

Retention and recruitment was a big topic during the Fall Meeting and the Regional Advisors and District Deputies will be working closely with Councils for the remainder of the year. Once a prospect is identified through Church drives, Open House and other activities get his information and engage your wives to do the same throughout the parish. Many Knights found out about our Order through their wives. Schedule activities to support this initiative as it is the life blood of the Council. All Councils should have an Admission Committee that follows up with candidates and completes the admission committee forms. Contact your prospect and explain the programs to him and/or his wife.

This past Sunday my church family greeted me with the glow of "*After Mass Happiness*". It felt like a family reunion and not because I had been away. It was the joy that a family brings to each other, plus the sermon, I'm sure, had something to do with the smiling faces. While I was standing in the lobby a parishioner walked up to me and said, "*I've been looking at the Knights and it's about time for me to act*". I congratulated him on his decision and commented that he had just made a life changing commitment. There wasn't anything else that needed to be said. A few moments later our Worthy Grand Knight walked up and had a Form 100 ready. I took his name and number and told him that I would follow up with him on Wednesday. On Wednesday afternoon I will call him and go to his home if I need to pick up the form. A degree calendar will be handy to plug him into the next First Degree Ceremony and a follow up reminder will be made to see if he needs a ride. Brothers it's very easy and even comes to you when you hold your head high, smile and glow with the pride that comes with being a Knight!

As said in the past, remember that every time you wear the Knights of Columbus logo on your shirt, cap, tee-short or jacket, you are evangelizing our Order and its principles. Your actions could encourage a man to join our Order. Be ready with a form 100 (or have your Grand Knight standing nearby) and offer the chance to be a brother Knight. Your destiny as a Knight will continue. Please keep the entire State team, along with Steve Adamczyk and his family, in your prayers.



Master' Log



John F. Winfrey
Master 4th Degree

Our military personnel voluntarily act as the protectors of our nations, standing on the front lines while keeping us safe behind them.

The Knights of Columbus acknowledges this unselfish act of patriotism by promoting the "Serving Those Who Served" program. There are 26 million U.S. veterans and hundreds of thousands of men and women currently serving in the military. Meeting the needs of such a large population is the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) of the Department of Veterans Affairs, which operates more than 1,000 facilities throughout the United States, ranging from full-service hospitals to nursing homes and home-care programs.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Program is the vehicle that the Knights of Columbus uses in the Serving Those Who Served program. The Vice President for Fraternal Services has oversight of the VAVS program. The program is directed and managed by the Assistant for Military and Veterans Affairs who also serves as the National VAVS Representative to the VAVS National Advisory Committee (NAC). The K of C VAVS program is executed through the Fourth Degree chain of command through the U.S. Vice Supreme Masters and District Masters. Under the program, a Knight of Columbus is certified as a VAVS representative or deputy representative at a VA medical center. Our certified and deputy representatives attend hospital meetings and organize efforts for K of C volunteers..

The Knights of Columbus currently has VAVS representatives at almost every VA medical center (VAMC) and many clinics in the United States. There is one certified representative and, up to, three deputy representatives from the Knights

of Columbus at these VAMCs. Representatives recruit and manage K of C VAVS volunteers in developing activities and programs that target the most essential needs of the patients.

In the United States, the VA hospitals, clinics and facilities need all types of volunteer services – from program planning to visiting veterans. For more information on this outstanding program, please contact your Fourth Degree district master, the Voluntary Service Chief at the nearest VA Medical center, or use this form.

The philosophy behind "Serving Those Who Served" is simple: the men and women of the Armed Forces didn't let the Nation down on the battlefield, and the Knights of Columbus will not let these veterans down now.

Veterans' Day



*Remember, November 11th is Veterans' Day.
Take a moment to reflect on all of those who made
the supreme sacrifice and thank a
Veteran for his or her service to our country.*

A Moment In Fletcher Council's History Marian Hour of Prayer - Our Lady of Guadalupe



During its second fraternal year of its growth, Fletcher Council held its first Marian Hour of Prayer. Serving as its Chaplain during that year was Fr. Michael King, Associate Chaplain Leon Bechet, and Grand Knight Robinson Gary. Second from the right is Serafin Avitia (Mother Seton Council). He served as *Juan Diego* during the presentation of the beautiful image on his mantle of *Our Lady of Guadalupe*. Since 1996, Fletcher Council has had held several services at St. Joseph with the Icon on display. This year we are delighted to have had the Icon and a Silver Rose Mass on Saturday, October 31, 2015. [Contributed by: Mrs. Regina Gary]



Supreme Knight's Message

New Documentary on Our Lady of Guadalupe to Air on ABC This Fall

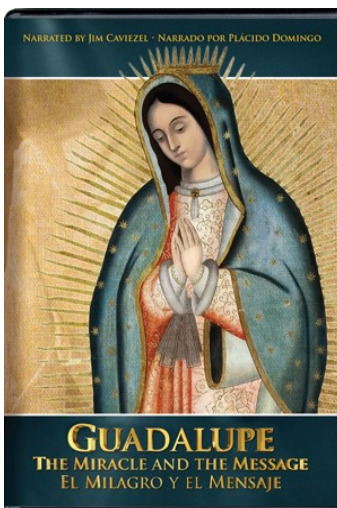
by Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson

A new documentary film narrated by actor Jim Caviezel offers original insights into the details, story and impact of the 16th century apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe — one of the most recognizable religious icons in the American hemisphere.

The Knights of Columbus-produced film, *Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message*, paints a comprehensive and inspiring picture of the history, facts and legacy of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Being aired as part of ABC's Visions and Values Series, the documentary will have a broadcast window from Oct. 11 to Dec. 10.

The film delves into the inexplicable existence of the image that appeared on the *tilma* (cloak) of an indigenous convert named Juan Diego, who, over the course of four days in December 1531, received a series of visions of the Virgin Mary. The indigenous people were amazed how the image revealed important elements of the Christian faith through native symbols — an actual codex — that they could understand. Most experts and historians affirm that the image miraculously imprinted on the *tilma* resulted in the conversion of millions to the Catholic faith.

"The message of Our Lady of Guadalupe helped to build bridges between cultures and worlds and began the transformation of our continent into a Christian continent of hope," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, executive producer of the film. "The apparition



helped to unite the entire continent in a way that didn't exist before. Through her intercession, then and now, those throughout this hemisphere have found a deep and shared sense of faith, hope and identity."

The image itself has long been puzzling to the scientific community, since it has been shown to exist without having been painted, has survived despite extreme age, adverse conditions and a bombing. The image also exhibits features reminiscent of photographs, such as reflections in the image's eyes, even though it appeared hundreds of years before photography.

The film also dispels popular myths, including that the image's impact does not extend past Mexico's border.

"Some see Our Lady of Guadalupe as a Mexican or as a Latin American, Hispanic phenomenon," said Supreme Knight Anderson. "However, this understanding is incomplete. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patroness of all of America and of the Philippines as well. She is loved and embraced across cultural lines throughout this continent and beyond."

For more information about the film, including broadcast times and the DVD release, visit www.guadalupefilm.com or follow the hashtag #guadalupefilm.

Insurance For Young Knights

David Benjamin, Fraternal Benefit Advisor

David.benjamin@kofc.org

202-494-6527



Protecting our families from financial ruin is not just a task for the oldest among us. Whether they are 18 or 81, all Knights should be thinking about how they can and should protect the ones they love.

But young Knights are different. Their needs are different. Their priorities are different. Their preferences are different. Their budgets are different.

That's why we've designed our Young Adult Insurance program for Knights and their spouses, ages 18-29. The program maximizes flexibility, convenience and affordability to enable young brother Knights, and their spouses, to get the coverage they need. Through it, members can receive an annual renewable term life insurance policy that will help protect their families and their futures.*

Many of you may think you're simply too young for life insurance, but you're not. Here's why:

- 1. You've got debt.** Maybe you have student loans. Maybe you're paying off your car. Maybe you have some credit card debt. Not all debts are forgiven when you die. Depending on the type of debt, the state you live in, and whether or not the loan is cosigned, your family could be responsible for that money. And, even if you don't have any debt, what about funeral costs and final expenses?
- 2. You want to protect the ones you love.** You don't want your family to be saddled with your debt if something happens to you. So why not make sure they won't be? It's easy. It's affordable. It's what Knights do.
- 3. You're on a budget.** Young Adult Insurance is affordable. How afford-

ble? Very affordable. The amount you pay is based on your age and medical condition, but you could get \$25,000 of coverage for as little as \$1 a week.

4. Your time is valuable. Young Adult Insurance is quick and easy. It's an annual, renewable term insurance product that you reevaluate and renew every year. It's designed with Knights ages 18 through 29 in mind, to maximize affordability and flexibility.

5. You're a Knight. Our founder, Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, started the Knights to protect Catholic families from financial devastation. Ever since, we've gone on to issue more than \$99 billion of life insurance to members and their families. They trust us with this important task. As a Knight, you've got a dedicated agent — a brother Knight — to help you. Why not begin that relationship today?

6. You're Catholic. There's an advantage to buying Catholic. You get the comfort of knowing that your money is going to a charitable organization that stands resolutely behind the Church and conducts its business in an unapologetically Catholic way, with strict rules on ethics and investments.

7. You won't live forever. We will all meet our end — hopefully not soon, of course! But what if it comes sooner than you expect? What will happen to those you love? Would you protect them if you could?

So what are you waiting for? Call me today to request a personalized quote and more information.

*Eligibility is based on age, medical condition and other factors. Spouses can apply directly through their Knights of Columbus agent.



McNAMARA CHAPTER

Tom Firestone - Chapter President

tf6687@aol.com

240-753-5200

The Bishop McNamara Chapter Annual Crab and Shrimp Feast was the “happening” last month. The host was the members of Calvert Council 7870 in North Beach, Maryland. In attendance were all comers from throughout the State of Maryland. Many thanks to the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422, they brought 25 guest to share in the feast. A **BIG THANKS** to Grand Knight Ike Agbim and PGK Thomas “Tim” Matthews for their support in making this event a success.

The next meeting of the McNamara Chapter will be on Wednesday, November 18th at Sacred Heart Council 2577 in Bowie, Maryland. The meeting will start at 7:30 P.M. The meeting will include a Memorial Mass, followed by a Silent Auction and dinner. **Councils and Assemblies are requested to send Necrology inputs for members and family member who have died during the November 2014 - November 2015 timeframe. Send your Necrology inputs to the Chapter Secretary, Vernon Hawkins at vhawkinsjr@aol.com.**



PGK Thomas “Tim” Matthews enjoying the vittles.

WALSH ASSEMBLY NEWS

G. Emeka Onwezi - Faithful Navigator

onwezi@gmail.com

240-644-3537



We are almost half way through our fraternal year and the programs we put in place for this fraternal year are in full force, especially partnering with councils, making 4th degree presence known in our community and patriotic support for veterans.

First, we had a successful Religious Night on October 22, 2015, honoring Priests and Nuns in our area. The event was co-sponsored by Bishop Walsh Assembly and St Pius X Council. The event was well attended by priests, nuns, Knights and their families. We were blessed with more than five priests in attendance and more than 20 nuns presence. Some of the nuns came from Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus, Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus & Our Lady of Guadalupe, Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent De Paul, Mother Teresa Navarro, and Religious of Mary Immaculate Centro Maria. Some of the priests at the event were, our Faithful Friar Fr. Joseph Jenkins of Holy Family Church, Fr. Thomas LaHood of St. Mary of the Assumption, Fr. Aaron Qureshi of St. Joseph Church Largo, and Fr. Mike Salah. The event was to honor the Priests and Nuns. It is a saying that when you honor one priest, you honored the priesthood. In the same manner, when you honor one nun, you honored all nuns. We had more than 100 guests at this event. We hope to make this an annual event and next year event will be bigger and better.

Also, one of the programs we are pursuing this fraternal year is to make Fourth Degree of the Knight of Columbus’ presence be known in the community. Therefore, we have applied and have been approved to participate in Adopt-A-Road program in Prince George’s County. Bishop Walsh Assembly will be adopting one mile of Maryland Route 202, starting from the beginning of Route 202 at Maryland Route 725. Mr. Joshua Dill of the Prince George’s County’s Adopt –A-Road program director has placed the order for the Adopt-A-Road sign. It normally takes about 45 days to be ready. Once it is ready, members of the Assembly will start cleaning up the one mile of MD 202, as part of our community commitment.

As for our Assembly’s Patriotic Support Program for this fraternal year, we will be providing toothbrushes and toothpaste (travel sized) to support our veterans. You do not have to be a Fourth Degree member to donate some toothbrush or toothpaste for this cause. The Assembly will be collecting the items on November 9, 2015 at the Assembly’s meeting. However, if you want someone to pick up the items from you, just send an e-mail to onwezi@gmail.com.

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH. REMEMBER THAT WE HAVE CHANGED OUR MEETING TIME FROM 8 P. M TO 7 P.M. REFRESHMENT SERVED STARTING AT 6:30PM.



PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Alan M. Davis, DGK

adavis1960@verizon.net

301-808-8009

Fall is here and as the season has changed, our council continues its strong start to the fraternal year in regards to our service programs. In September, we celebrated two Family of the month awards at our monthly **Knights Sunday Mass**. Our Family Director, Gabe Nmorka has shown great leadership and drive in helping the council honor and recognize parishioners who selfishly serve the church and community.



PGK John Adeleye lead the council committee which sponsored a **Men's Prayer Breakfast** on Saturday, September 19 for men of the Archdiocese, Knights councils and men of all faiths and denominations. The event was very well attended and was lead by our former pastor, Rev. Raymond Moore, Jr. A special thanks to all who helped make this program shine, especially John, Huntley, Bernard Broadus, Vernon Hawkins, Jr. Father Aaron and Father Roy.

This month, council members will serve various roles at the **East of the River Revival** including those of parking attendants, ushers and Revival Committee Members. Church Activities Director Alan Davis, Chaplain Rev. Roy Campbell and Associate Chaplain Al Turner serve on the committee. The Revival is sponsored by 13 churches, including St. Joseph and those in the Southeast Deanery and eastern Prince George's County. The Revival will be held at **Holy Family Church in Hillcrest Heights, October**

5-8 from 7 to 9 pm.

Finally, the council's annual **Halloween Party** under the direction of Youth Activities Director Phil Beauboeuf will take place Friday, October 30 at St. Joseph. Food, games, prizes and a Magic Show will be the order of the night.

As you can see, brothers, the council's fall schedule is off to a flying start and I hope as many members as possible **Fall** into helping us continue this upward trend.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

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



301-808-8009



Veneration of the Relics of Black Catholic Saints

This month's church calendar is full of services council members are encouraged to attend. Sunday, November 1st is All Saints Day, a Holy Day of Obligation. As we all are on our way to sainthood, this feast helps us by giving us examples of those faithful believers whose lives we try to emulate.

All Souls Day is Monday, November 2nd and Masses are at 8:15 A.M. and 7 P.M. A special Remembrance Mass in honor of those parishioners who passed on to glory this past year will be celebrated on Saturday, November 7th at 5 P.M.

Veneration of the Relics of Black Catholic Saints will be held at St. Joseph on Friday, November 13th at 7 P.M. Our Associate Chaplain, Deacon Al Douglas Turner will lead this Archdiocesan service. Color Corps members and council members will be present to assist this special service.

Knights Sunday is November 15th and the Thanksgivings Day Mass is Thursday, November 26th at 10 A.M. Brothers, please plan on attending one or all of these services of thanksgiving and remembrance this month.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

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



301-262-2350



One of the most successful and yet quiet charity related programs sponsored by Fletcher Council is its weekly distribution of bread and pastry products to needed organizations, churches and shelters. These products are donated by Costco Wholesale Club and Panera Bread. Pick up and delivery occurs on Saturday morning and only requires approximately 2-hours for pick up and delivery. Co-chairing this very success project are SK John Huntley and SK Bernard Broadus.

We are currently delivering bread to :

- So Others Might Eat (SOME)
- Holy Family Catholic Church
- Big Chevy Chase Club
- Prince George's (PG) Men's Shelter
- Empowered Ministries Inc. Outreach
- Jehovah Christian Ministries Outreach

So, my brothers, you have been wanting to volunteer for something, wanting something to do, and can share some of your Saturday morning time for 2-hours to help our brothers, sisters and families in need. Well, here is an opportunity, an established project that could use your help. To volunteer or for more details, send me give me a call, or send me an email. Lets talk about it.



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Cal Thompson, Council Activities Director
calthompsn@msn.com

301-249-2955

Happy Thanksgiving from my house to your house. In the spirit of thanksgiving, it is time to conduct the council's Tootsie Roll Campaign. Helping People with Intellectual Difficulties is a great way to demonstrate that we believe in, and practice the virtue of Charity. As Past Grand Knight James Brown once said: "God has been good to us. One element of our Thanksgiving should be the brotherhood we share in the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council of the Knights of Columbus. This brotherhood affords us the opportunity to share our talents with those who are less fortunate than we. I was particularly proud that just a couple of Knights standing front of a local food market, in less than an hour's work, was able to collect \$100.00 for the children with Intellectual Disabilities. Just imagine what more brothers' participation in this program could do for these very special children."

Heads-Up! Christmas is the next holiday on tap, the birth of our Lord and savior. In preparation for the holiday, the council will conduct its Annual Christmas Tree Sale, commencing on November 28th thru December 24th. See the adjacent flyer for details. This has been a very successful yearly endeavor due to the tremendous volunteer support of council members. Please volunteer an hour or more during the sales season.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this year, let's remember to give thanks to God for all that we have and for being able to live in this great country, the United States of America. *Sharon and I wish you and your families a Blessed Thanksgiving.*

Vivat Jesus,

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE



NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 24
ST. JOSEPH CHURCH
PARKING LOT
2020 ST. JOSEPH DRIVE
LARGO, MD 20774

WEEKDAYS 1 PM - 7:00 PM
SATURDAY - 9 AM - 7 PM
SUNDAY 9 AM - 7 PM

6' - 8' FRESH-CUT
FRASER FIRS
CHRISTMAS TREES

\$35.00 PER TREE

PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE BENEFIT THE
JAMES C. FLETCHER, JR. CHARITIES, INC.
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITIES

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

301-728-7827

40 DAYS FOR LIFE™



40 Days for Life (September 23 - November 1) is a community-based campaign that takes a determined, peaceful approach to showing local communities the consequences of abortion in their own neighborhoods, for their own friends and families. It puts into action a desire to cooperate with God in the carrying out of His plan for the end of abortion. It draws attention to the evil of abortion through the use of a three-point program: Prayer and fasting, Constant vigil, and community outreach.

On November 1st, the 40 Days For Life closing ceremony will be held. Our Fr. Aaron Qureshi will lead a solemn prayer service to memorialize the thousands of lives that were denied life at the Metropolitan Family Planning Clinic, 5915 Greenbelt Road, College Park, Maryland. Assisting with the readings will be Fletcher Council members; Grand Knight Ike Agbim and FDD Vernon Hawkins. The service will commence at 3:00 P.M. Please arrive by 2:45 P.M.

Council members and their families/friends are requested to come out to stand with us and to pray for the end of the abortion practice.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

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



240-353-1460

The things that we do for our kids are legendary. Scheduling and pulling off this year's Council and District Shootout was indeed such an example. Due to **in climate** weather last month our first attempt to conduct the shootout, it was canceled.



Then, due to a mix up in communications, Fletcher Council and several other District 3 councils did not receive timely notice of the rescheduled date, thus none of District 3 councils were able to participate.

"Not to worry", as is often said. After a concern expressed by a council member, pinging the Council/District members for a missed opportunity for our kids, wheels started to turn very rapidly. Bottom line, on Sunday, October 25th, we re-grouped and had a day in the sun with our kids and a outstanding Soccer Shootout event at St. Mary's Soccer Field in Upper Marlboro, MD. The following won the District 3 Shootout in the boys and girls age groups.

- 6 and under Boys – Obinna Onwezi
- 7-8 Boys – Obi Agbim
- 13-14 Boys – David Adeleye
- 6 and under Girls – Munachi Onwezi
- 9-10 Girls – Ifeoma Agbim
- 11-12 Girls – Chioma Agbim
- 13-14 Girls – Amaka Agbim



FAMILY ACTIVITIES

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

301-350-7637

Family of the Month The “Coy” Family



St. Joseph Church Ministries certainly comprise of goodhearted families who continuously give their precious time to serving the church and community in different capacities. Notably this period, the Coy and Barbara family’s selfless contributions have partly helped in the smooth conduction of weekly masses in St. Joseph Church. This month they ranked top of the family nominees’ list and the Knights of Columbus, James C. Fletchers, Jr., Council 11422 is therefore, proud and honored to recognize the Jefferies family as the October Family of the Month.

Coy and Barbara registered as members of St. Joseph Church in 1995 and have ever since been very active through their participations in various church ministries. They have three children: two sons, Marcus and Christopher and a daughter, Jasmyn who are often observed in the company of their parents at the 11:00 A.M. Mass on Sundays.

Coy is the parishioner we time and again notice at the church parking lot assisting with traffic flow irrespective of any inclement weather. While at home, he spends some of his time along with Barbara educating their children more about the teaching of Jesus Christ relative to the church and humanity, an embodiment they exhibit as they perform their ministerial tasks during mass.

Barbara on the other hand is a member of the Hospitality Ministry. She is one of the ministers welcoming parishioners and guests with smiles and greetings before the start of mass. And after mass, she also helps distribute the St Joseph Weekly Bulletins to worshipers as they exit the church.

Marcus, Christopher and Jasmyn, the children, serve in the Hospitality Ministry helping with collections of offerings. Furthermore, Jasmyn participates in alter service at Sunday 11:00 A.M. Mass. Church, as we meditate each day, lets remember this family and ask the Almighty Father to give us the will to continue serving Him the right way. Amen!

Pope Francis’ Prayer For Families

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love; to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division: may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may the approaching Synod of Bishops make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God’s plan.

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
graciously hear our prayer.*



MEMBERSHIP QUEST

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



240-441-9086

WANTED!
CATHOLIC GENTLEMEN
FOR AN EXPERIENCE OF
A LIFE TIME



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

JOHN HUNTLEY-240-441-9086



Our Membership Team and council members were out en masse on the weekend of October 17-18th. Manning the recruitment booth on Sunday were Sir Knight Chris Nwabine and Grand Knight Ike Agbim. New members are essential if a council is to survive, grow and be successful.

Well, how did we do, what were the results of the weekend recruitment efforts? I am delighted to report that the council is well on its way to fulfilling its membership quota for the 2015-2016 fraternal year. Five (5) potential candidates, with signed Form 100s, were acquired. Final interviews, presentation of their membership application to the council for acceptance and the First Degree Ceremony are being scheduled.

Do offer an *"experience of a lifetime"* to your Catholic brothers. The *Knights of Columbus* have so much to offer.



St. Joseph Catholic Church
The Home Of
James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422
Knights of Columbus





REFLECTIONS

Lawrence P. Grayson

AMERICA'S PUBLIC PRAYER

Thanksgiving is the time when America's religious roots and traditions are publicly displayed. While we think of feasting at tables filled with food and drink, and imagine the Pilgrims in Plymouth Colony inviting neighboring Indians to join them to celebrate a plentiful harvest, Thanksgiving Day has a much more religious meaning. It was not uncommon in the 17th and 18th centuries for individual colonies to set aside days for prayers of gratitude to our Lord.

In 1671, the governing council of Charlestown, Massachusetts proclaimed June 29 "as a day of Solemn Thanksgiving and praise to God for such his Goodness and Favor." Annually from 1777 through 1784, as the American colonists fought for their independence, the Continental Congress issued proclamations each fall, calling for days of "public thanksgiving and praise" and "humble supplication" to Almighty God for his beneficence and mercies. General George Washington, in turn, acted to assure that the troops would observe those days of prayer. In his General Orders of November 30, 1777, he stated, "Thursday the 18th day of December next be set apart for Solemn Thanksgiving and Praise; that at one time, and with one voice, the good people may express the grateful feelings of their hearts, and consecrate themselves to the service of their divine benefactor; and that, together with their sincere acknowledgements and offerings they may join the penitent confession of their sins; and supplications for such further blessings as they stand in need of."

Similar declarations followed. In 1789, the first year of his Presidency, Washington designated Thursday, November 26 as a day for "prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations" both in thanksgiving for his "signal and manifold mercies" and to request him to "pardon our national and other transgressions." President James Madison proclaimed days of prayer and fasting three times during the War of 1812, first to request God's assistance and then to thank him for a successful outcome.

During the Civil War, the Union and Confederate Congresses both called for days of thanksgiving, with Presidents Jefferson Davis and Abraham Lincoln issuing proclamations for military victories. On October 3, 1863, Lincoln urged that the last Thursday of November be observed "as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens" for his "singular deliverances and blessings" and "with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience."

The date for Thanksgiving was not fixed, but left to the President to designate. Since Lincoln selected the last Thursday in November, however, this date became the tradition for succeeding Presidents. In 1939, as the effects of the Depression lingered and with five Thursdays in that November, President Franklin Roosevelt, responding to a request from business leaders for more shopping days before Christmas, selected the next to last Thursday as Thanksgiving. There was significant public umbrage as Roosevelt kept it as this earlier date for the next two years. In 1941, Congress enacted that the holiday would be celebrated, as it currently is, on the fourth Thursday of November. In spite of commercial concerns for moving the date, Roosevelt kept the purpose of Thanksgiving in mind. In 1942, he called on the American people to observe both Thanksgiving and New Year's Day "in prayer, publicly and privately." The following year, in "gratitude to Almighty God," he requested "a nationwide reading of the Holy Scriptures during the period from Thanksgiving Day to Christmas."

The tradition of a national declaration of gratitude to God has continued, with every President since Lincoln issuing a proclamation annually. In 1953, President Eisenhower requested "all of us" to gather on Thanksgiving Day in "our respective places of worship and bow before God in contrition for our sins, in supplication for wisdom in our striving for a better world, and in gratitude for the manifold blessings He has bestowed upon us and upon our fellow men."

President Reagan, in 1984, urged: "Let us pause from our many activities to give thanks to almighty God for our bountiful harvests and abundant freedoms. Let us call upon Him for continued guidance and assistance in all our endeavors. And let us ever be mindful of the faith and spiritual values that have made our Nation great and that alone can keep us great." In 2004, President George W. Bush wrote: "We are grateful for our freedom, grateful for our families and friends, and grateful for the many gifts of America. On Thanksgiving Day, we acknowledge that all of these things, and life itself, come from the Almighty God." Four years later, he stated: "let us all give thanks to God who blessed our Nation's first days and who blesses us today. May He continue to guide and watch over our families and our country always."

President Barack Obama has continued the tradition, at least ceremonially. Although his proclamations more frequently refer to God obliquely through a statement about George Washington's or Abraham Lincoln's gratitude to the Almighty, or to express gratitude to the Wampanoag Indians for aiding the Pilgrims, in 2013, in his single reference to the Divine, he wrote, "let us lift each other up and recognize, in the oldest spirit of this tradition, that we rise or fall as one Nation, under God."

While these public prayers have been called proclamations of thanksgiving, they have expressed much more than gratitude over the years. As all prayers, they have been used to petition God for assistance, to thank him for his mercy and abundance, to atone for our personal and national sins, and to praise him as the "Lord and Ruler of Nations." These declarations are an overt recognition that while America has a government that neither promotes a given religion nor prohibits the free exercise thereof, belief in God is an integral part of the nation's history, culture and society.

In spite of continuing efforts to remove any reference to God from our public conscience --from our coinage, the Pledge of Allegiance, our schools -- the dispositions and traditions of the American people still reflect a religious, indeed a Christian, ethos within which political leaders must govern if they are to achieve their personal aspirations. As long as the people as a whole have not rejected all public reference to God nor abandoned religious practices, and if principles based on religious teachings continue to regulate their societal behavior, it will be possible to maintain a spirit of virtue to advance the well-being of our republic and its populace.

On November 26, we will celebrate Thanksgiving. It will be a day marked by parades with marching bands, floats and balloons, by football games from morning until late evening, by amounts of food and drink that surpass our capacity to consume, and by the beginning of a month-long marketing blitz seeking our consumer dollar. While we enjoy the camaraderie and festivities of the day, do not forget its central purpose -- to thank God for His innumerable blessings on us, our families, and our nation. What an expression of Faith it would be if everyone could begin the day with an act of recognition of God, attend Mass, say more than a superficial prayer, and perhaps, just perhaps, decline that extra piece of pie.



In Solidarity With Our Priest-Deacon-Seminarian



Fletcher Council members pose with Associate Chaplain Sir Knight Alton Davis at St. Joseph Church Appreciation Reception on October 4th. He was honored for his service to the St. Joseph Church and its community. After serving as Deacon at St. Joseph for 15-years, Deacon Al has been assigned by Cardinal Wuerl to St. Matthias Catholic Church in Lanham, Maryland.



Deacon Steven Nash was assigned to St. Joseph this year. He poses with his family members.



A welcome addition this year to the St. Joseph family is Rev. Aaron Qureschi, Parochial Vicar. He is shown above with his brother, mother and father.



Ryan Braam is the Seminarian assigned to Fletcher Council this fraternal year. He resides at St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington, DC.



Incentive - Car Raffle
Maryland State Council, MD

Grand Prize: 2016 Ford Mustang



Incentive Raffle Program winners.

1st (2015 Ford Mustang or \$15,000.00)

Cynthia Carter - Leonardtown, MD

2nd (IPAD Air)

Paul Acito - Severna Park MD

3rd (\$200 Gad Gift Card)

Sandra Cromwell - Edgewater, MD



Smiley Central™

A preacher went to his church office on Monday morning and discovered a dead mule in the church yard. He called the police. Since there did not appear to be any foul play, the police referred the preacher to the health department. They said since there was no health threat that he should call the sanitation department.

The sanitation manager said he could not pick up the mule without authorization from the mayor.

Now the preacher knew the mayor and was not too eager to call him. The mayor had a bad temper and was generally hard to deal with, but the preacher called him anyway. The mayor did not disappoint. He immediately began to rant and rave at the pastor and finally said, "Why did you call me anyway? Isn't it your job to bury the dead?"

The preacher paused for a brief prayer and asked the Lord to direct his response. He was led to say, "Yes, Mayor, it is my job to bury the dead, but I always like to notify the next of kin first!"

I was signing the receipt for my credit card purchase when the clerk noticed I had never signed my name on the back of the credit card.

She informed me that she couldn't complete the transaction unless the card was signed. When I asked why, she explained that it was necessary to compare the signature I had just signed on the receipt. So I signed the credit card in front of her. She carefully compared the signature to the one I had just signed on the receipt. As luck would have it, they matched.

A grizzled old man was eating in a truck stop when three Hell's Angels bikers walked in.

The first walked up to the old man and pushed his cigarette into the old man's pie, and then he took a seat at the counter.

The second walked up to the old man and spit into the old man's milk, and then he took a seat at the counter.

The third walked up to the old man and turned over the old man's plate, and then he took a seat at the counter.

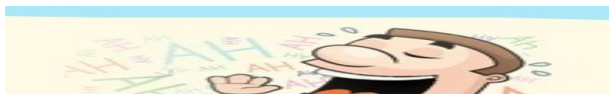
Without a word of protest, the old man quietly left the diner. Shortly thereafter, one of the bikers said to the waitress, "Humph, not much of a man, was he?"

The waitress replied, "Not much of a truck driver, either. He just backed his truck over three motorcycles."

Last summer my wife and I met a couple at a restaurant. After lunch, the women decided to go shopping and I invited the man to go sailing.

While we were out on the water, a storm blew up. The tide had gone out, and we were down wind trying to work our way back through a narrow channel. At one point the boat grounded and we had to climb overboard and shove with all our might to get it back into deeper water.

As my new friend stood there, ankle deep in muck, the wind blowing his hair wildly, rain streaming down his face, he grinned at me. With unmistakable sincerity, he said, "Sure beats shopping."



James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422 Council Officers

2015 - 2016

Chaplain
Associate Chaplain
Associate Chaplain
Grand Knight
Deputy Grand knight
Chancellor.
Warden.
Financial Secretary
Recorder.
Treasurer
Lecturer.
Advocate
Trustee 3 year.
Trustee 2 year.
Trustee 1 year.
Inside Guard.
Outside Guard.
Convention Delegate
First Alternate
Second Alternate

Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.
Deacon Alton Davis, Jr.
Deacon A. Douglas Turner
Ikechukwu R. Agbim
Alan M. Davis
J. Bernard Broadus
Errol Sanderson
Robert B. Sistare
John O. Grier
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Michael P. Akpan
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G. Emeka Onwezi, PGK
Arthur C. Osuorah
Mervyn Chancellor
Ikechukwu R. Agbim



It Is Not To Early To Say "Mardi Gras"



FEATURING "THE EXCLUSIVES"

Menu
Creole Seafood Gumbo
W/Rice Marinated Herb Baked
Chicken Leg (quarters)
BBQ Meat Balls
Southern Style Potato Salad
Seasoned Green Beans
Roll & Butter
Fench, Cake
Louisiana Coffee
"Open Bar"

Date: Saturday, February 6, 2016
Time: 7pm 'til Midnight

Mask Optional
Or
Semi-formal

Where: St. Joseph's Rosemont Room
2020 St. Joseph's Drive
Largo, MD 20774



"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
Sponsored By The James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422
Knights of Columbus



“HAPPY BIRTHDAY”
****NOVEMBER****
- 2015 -

- 02 Maurice E. Sutton
- 03 Gerard A. Johnson
- 03 Aubrey Burton, Jr.
- 05 Eric Harder
- 05 Andre P. Smith
- 15 Mark E. Blenkle
- 17 Berry F. Williams
- 18 Ikechukwu R. Agbim
- 19 Rev. Roy E. Campbell
- 19 Kenard E. Taft
- 20 Alan M. Davis
- 20 Kingsley N. Anuruawo
- 20 Harold F. Sanders, Jr.
- 22 Terrance Holmes
- 24 Vincent U. Akas, Jr.
- 24 Joseph L. Marshall, Sr.
- 24 Andre D. Nottingham
- 30 Dannie E. Smith, Jr.



**“The Joy
 Of A
 Birthday”**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



*Happy
 Thanksgiving*

****NOVEMBER****

- 01 All Saints Day
- 01 Daylight Saving Time Ends
- 02 All Souls Day
- 05 Fletcher Council Meeting, 7:30 PM
- 08 MD State Council - Memorial Mass, St. Matthias Church, Lanham, MD
- 09 Bishop Walsh Assembly Meeting, 7:30 PM
- 11 Veterans Day
- 15 Knights Sunday, 11:00 PM Mass
- 18 McNamara Chapter Meeting, Memorial Mass & Silent Auction, Sacred Heart Council 2577, 7:30 PM
- 19 Fletcher Council Meeting, 7:30 PM
- 26 Thanksgiving Day
- 28 Christmas Tree Sales Begins
- 29 Advent Begins

Marian Title for November
**Our Lady of
 Kibeho**



The apparitions of Our Lady of Kibeho began on November 28, 1981 in the African college of Kibeho, Rwanda. The Virgin Mary repeatedly appeared to Alphonsine Mumureke, NTHALIE Mukamazimpaka, and Marie Claire Mukangan-go. The apparition identified herself in the native Rwandan dialect as “Nyina wa Jambo”, (“Mother of the Word”) which is synonymous to “Mother of God.”

The apparitions communicated various messages to the schoolchildren, urging the people to love each other, and warning of an apocalyptic vision of Rwanda descending into violence and hatred, foretelling the 1994 Rwandan Genocide. In 2001 the Holy See released a declaration approving the apparitions. The Marian sanctuary at Kibeho was named “Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows” in 1992, two years before the genocide. An estimated 500,000 pilgrims visit the site every year.

Please, Remember In Your Prayers

Members Who Are Ill



Howard Wynn
 Mary Julius
 Joseph Marshall
 Ken Hinton



James Shorter
 Hugo Braden
 William Tolbert
 Donald Wilson