



KNIGHTLIFE



Volume 22 Issue 3

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

September 2016

*OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF JAMES C. FLETCHER, JR. COUNCIL NO. 11422
HOME OF DISTRICT DEPUTY G. EMEKA ONWEZI, FORMER DISTRICT DEPUTIES
MICHAEL P. DAVENPORT, VERNON HAWKINS, JR., DAVID D. MARTIN & CARLTON L. WILLIAMS
"HAPPY 22ND ANNIVERSARY FLETCHER COUNCIL"*



James C. Fletcher, Jr.



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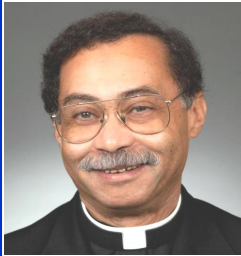
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Chaplain Thoughts . . .

“Humble yourself and you will find favour with God.”

by Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.

Humility, what is it that makes a person truly humble? Is it a person’s modesty, meekness or unassuming nature? What would we see in a person who projects the opposite of humility? Most of us would call that arrogance.

I have been a fan of Superman since I could read comic books and saw the television show as a boy. I read the Superman comics and saw the original Adventures of Superman TV show. I also watched all of the Superman shows that followed, and especially like the Superman movies.

Superman, for all of his strength and superpowers, was truly humble. He knew that his powers were a gift, from the effects of our “yellow” sun. He also knew that his parents sent him here so that he could use those powers for good. Superman did not lose sight of fact that his super powers were meant to be used for the good of others and not for his own glory and gain. He went to great lengths to make sure that people did not know the person who possessed those powers. He was happy to give credit to a super hero whom no one really knew.

Jesus tells us about true meaning of humility in the Gospel, Luke 14:1, 7-14. When one is truly humble, not arrogant, that person does not seek attention for himself or herself. In our Lord’s eyes, humble people are those who see to put others before themselves. Humble people give credit for their gifts to the One who rightly gave them — God.

Humble people do not exalt themselves, but exalt God instead and uses what they have to help others. Humble people look to help those who are helpless and do not look to be repaid.

**FOR EVERYONE WHO
EXALTS HIMSELF
WILL BE
HUMBLED
BUT
HE WHO
HUMBLES HIMSELF
WILL BE
EXALTED
[Luke 18:14]**

The first step to humility for us is “fear” of the Lord. That is, we recognize that all we have is a gift from God. We realize that we always need God’s grace to do good in our lives and in the lives of others. This realization will allow God to lead us to do His will for ourselves and for others. When we are humble of heart and spirit, then God will exalt us as Jesus said, “For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”





Your Grand Knight For The 2016 - 2017 Fraternal Year

Remember our Motto For This Year
"Charity is Love"

By Grand Knight Alan Davis



When we were young, September meant "back to school", the end of summer vacation, a new academic year, new friends and new horizons to explore. Fletcher Council is now two months into the new fraternal year and I can honestly state that the members of this council have been steady on the job. We have had numerous events, activities and programs during the summer months and the word "vacation" wasn't part of our vocabulary. Since July 1st, the council has completed and filled the Awards Display Cabinet, held 2 Flea Markets, helped with Vacation Bible School, made weekly donated bread pick ups and deliveries to shelters and churches, held a Silent Auction for Fletcher Scholarships, distributed 12 college Scholarships to deserving students and sold over \$600 dollars in Maryland State Car Raffle Tickets. So in reality, we as a council never left for vacation and "back to school" for this council means continuing on our current path. The officers and members of this council extend an invitation to those not yet involved in activities and programs to volunteer for our Fall schedule. There is a place for you at the Soccer Shootout (Oct. 1), Halloween Party (Oct. 28), Tootsie Roll Campaign (Oct-Nov), 5th Sunday Rosary (Oct. 30) and Christmas Tree Sales (Nov, 25-Dec.24). Please contact Deputy Grand Knight Bernard Broadus to sign up for one or more of these activities. Remember our motto for this year, "Charity is Love." Show your charity this Fall Season by giving of your time.

Protect Your Family With

Knights of Columbus Insurance The Knights of Columbus Guarantees

David Benjamin, Fraternal Benefit Advisor
David.benjamin@kofc.org

202-494-6527



There's much risk and speculation involved in life these days. With a volatile market and an unsettled economy, there's too much left to chance.

In an ideal world, every product would come with clear-cut guarantees that would put you at ease and eliminate the guesswork, or at least some of it.

Here are six guarantees from the Knights of Columbus that you and your family can count on when you do business with the Knights.

(1) **We guarantee the cash value in your whole life insurance.** The beauty of whole life — or permanent — insurance is that it is truly permanent. It's a way to insure your life for life. That's true not only of the death benefits, but of the cash value, which is guaranteed provided that you continue to pay premiums according to the contract.

(2) **We guarantee the rates on your level term insurance.** Just like permanent insurance with the Knights of Columbus is predictable, so are our level term policies. Your rates as laid out in your contract will not change. No surprises — just reliable, affordable coverage.

(3) **We guarantee a minimum interest rate on your retirement annuity.** Your retirement is not something worth leaving up to chance. A knights of Columbus annuity can help to remove some of the uncertainty. Your contract includes a guaranteed interest rate that you will continue to earn for the life of the contract. The actual rate you earn may be greater than that — and often is — but it will never be lower.

(4) **We guarantee high-quality, professional services.** We're not just an insurance company. We're an insurance company for brother Knights, run by brother Knights. We pride ourselves on the quality of service that we provide to members and their families. Our dedicated, full-time, professional agents will be there for you and your family whenever you call on them.

(5) **We guarantee not to purchase "junk" bonds or derivatives.** We do not take brother Knights' financial futures lightly. We invest carefully and make business decisions motivated not by profit or greed, but by service and commitment. Our safety, security and fiscal responsibility are the principle reasons why we have earned A.M. Best's highest financial strength rating, A++ (Superior), for 39 consecutive years.

(6) **We guarantee not to invest in companies that deal in abortions, contraception, human cloning, embryonic stem cell research, for-profit health care that pays for any of the aforementioned, and pornography.** The Knights of Columbus is unapologetically Catholic both professionally and fraternally. Our faith informs our work at every level, including the evaluation of each investment we make. Father McGivney wouldn't have wanted it any other way.

The Knights of Columbus should be different than all other insurance companies — and we are. We are looking out for you in a way that no other company can because we're your brothers.

So join the hundreds of thousands of brother Knights who have chosen to help protect their future with the Knights of Columbus. Talk to your agent, and see what options are available to you and your family.



District Deputy's Report

State Deputy's Report



G. Emeka Onwezi
District Deputy

Happy 22nd Anniversary to the

James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422

As the summer is winding down, the councils within District 2 are busy preparing for their First Quarter Activity Reports that due on or before September 15, 2016. James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422 has been in the forefront in preparing and submitting these reports on time and has been one of the top winners at the State Council Convention for outstanding activity reports. Each report has to be in one of the six programs that council participate during that quarter, namely, Family, Youth, Council, Church, Pro-Life, and Community. I am looking forward to receiving the reports and looking forward to seeing Fletcher council's Grand Knight to stand up not once, but numerous times at the next State convention, as the awards keep coming in.

Fletcher council also has been known in the State as one of the heavy membership recruiter. That tradition needs to continue. Part of being an active council is also increasing the membership. We are now in the third month in this fraternal year, and the council members should be recruiting Catholic men, who are 18 years of old and a practicing Catholic to join our ranks.

Districts 2 and 5 are still in the planning stage of organizing soccer challenge competition for the councils within those two districts. Individual councils are encouraged to conduct their individual soccer challenge shootouts with the youths in their respective parishes before the District soccer challenge shootout.

Do not forget that the Columbus Day Ball will be on October 8, 2016. Please reserve for your seat now and do not forget to sell your car raffle and submit the raffle receipt on time so that you may have a chance to win when the raffle is drawn on October 8, 2016, at the Ball.

Council officer training will be coming soon, as soon as District 2 is assigned with regional advisor. Grand Knights and the council officers should be ready for this important training.

Vivat Jesus,

"BREAKING NEWS"

With gratitude to all that worked tirelessly behind the scenes and on the front-lines, it is with a great sense of accomplishment that I announce that the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422 has achieved the prestigious **"Star Council Award"** for Fraternal Year 2015-2016. This is the highest honor that a council can achieve. Team work, perseverance, and attention to the minutest details made this possible. ***The Award is for the Council and not any one individual.***

Ike Agbim
Past Grand Knight (PGK)



Stephen M. Cohen
State Deputy

My Brothers All,

It is September already. The State Installation of Officers was a great success. I want to again thank Archbishop Lori, our Supreme Chaplain for officiating at this year's Installation. The Archbishop spent the entire day with us, taking time out of his very busy schedule. We are very lucky and blessed to have our Supreme Chaplain here in Maryland with us.

Remember our tenants set at Leadership this year. ***NO PROCRASTINATION - EXCUSES ARE NOT REASONS*** and ***NO VACATIONS*** in July and August. Keeping these in the forefront will allow us to continue the mission set for us by the Venerable servant of God - Father Michael J. McGivney. Not taking the summer off from the good works that our councils do, allows us to be fully engaged in the tasks that we need to accomplished. There should be no scrambling once September hits; for new members, for new programs or new ideas. This keeps our process continuous.

It's not too early to be thinking about the Columbus Day Activities. The Parade in Baltimore, The Ball and the DC Celebration. Plan to honor our namesake this year. We are asking for participation at each event.

Let's not forget our Building the Domestic Church, while Strengthening our Parish program. Implement these now with your Pastor, plan ahead and include all in your Parish. The state is planning a statewide event for this program. Parishes across the state will be invited. It is going to be an Educational Day for families with speakers and vendors. This will be held in October. Plan to attend with your family. Father Jason and I are also working on a Chaplain's Summit to be held very soon in connection with the Domestic Church program.

Please pray the prayer ***"Lord make me an instrument of your peace"***. So much violence has occurred lately across the world and here in the United States that we need to say this prayer in our homes and at our council and Chapter meetings.

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



SUPREME KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Carl A. Anderson - Supreme Knight

The Ongoing Work of the Order Testifies to the Laity's Vocation and Mission in the Church



THIS PAST JUNE, I had the privilege of attending the 28th plenary assembly of the Pontifical Council for the Laity. I had been appointed a member of the council by Pope John Paul II and reappointed by Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis.

At the start of the meeting, the president of the council, Cardinal Stanisław Ryłko, observed that Pope Francis recently reminded us of a phrase that was popular following the Second Vatican Council: "The hour of the laity has come." But then, the pope added, "it seems that the clock has stopped."

In his direct and often provocative way, the Holy Father was raising the issue of whether the laity today lives up to its vocation and mission in the Church. He went on to say that the laity is called to many initiatives exhibiting "the necessary boldness to enable the Good News of the Gospel to be brought to all areas of the social and, above all, political sphere."

Pope Francis rejects a view that minimizes the role of the laity and "gradually extinguishes the prophetic flame to which the entire Church is called to bear witness."

Reflecting on these words, Cardinal Ryłko stated, "The missionary Church, a Church that goes out with courage toward the peripheries of the world, sees the urgent need to rekindle the flame that animated the life of the prophets. In order to do this, lay Christians must rediscover the beauty of their prophetic vocation in the world! They must allow themselves to be inflamed by this fire and missionary zeal."

Obviously, there is much here for us to think about. But the first thing we may say is that the clock has not stopped for the Knights of Columbus. To the contrary, as the world's premier organization of Catholic men, we are in many ways ahead of time. That is to say, we continue to hold high "the prophetic flame" to which Catholics are called to bear witness.

Our Ultrasound Initiative, for instance, has placed 600 state-of-the-art ultrasound machines in pregnancy resource centers that are saving thousands of lives every month.

Our programs to strengthen Catholic family life, such as Building the Domestic Church, the Holy Family Holy Hour, and family consecration to the Holy Family, will help develop a network of family friendly parishes in all the countries where we are active. These programs will encourage millions of families – many of whom are wounded and struggling – to more fully live the joy of the Gospel. Our efforts to protect religious liberty and end the scourge of Christian genocide have already achieved important results, not only in the courts but also in the U.S. Congress and the State Department. And we have become a leader in providing direct aid to and raising awareness about persecuted Christian refugees in the Middle East.

Each year, our councils undertake many thousands of locally inspired programs at the parish level, making life better for millions of people. And all of this is the legacy of our founder, Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, whose spiritual genius inspired generations of Catholic men to step forward with courage to confront the challenges of their day by living out the principles of charity, unity and fraternity in a distinctly Catholic way.

The prophetic flame that Pope Francis speaks about continues to burn bright in the hearts of our brother Knights around the world. That flame ignites in them a true sense of Catholic charity – a charity that evangelizes and that brings, in a very concrete way, a light to the nations.

Vivat Jesus!





McNAMARA CHAPTER

Thomas Santangelo - Chapter President



Bishop McNamara Chapter of Grand Knights

Memorial Mass and Silent Auction

(and abbreviated November Chapter Meeting)

November 16, 2016

Sacred Heart Council No. 2577

611 Columbian Way

Bowie, Maryland 20715

Memorial Mass at 7:30 P.M.

Silent Auction before and after Mass
Jacket and tie and Ladies are invited

Send your council Necrology to

Chapter Vice president,

Vernon Hawkins - vhawkinsjr@aol.com - 301-336-0284

For More Information, Contact Chapter Marshall

Jack Giacalone - jgiacal@verizon.net - 301-774-6338

It's not too early for you to mark your calendars to ensure you attend and help to support the important work of our Chapter. Mass is celebrated to remember and pray for our brother Knights and spouses that have gone to their eternal reward. The silent auction helps us to raise money for our Chapter's charity for this fraternal year "CareNet Pregnancy Center of Southern Maryland." Your donations of auction-able items are greatly appreciated, and we will begin collecting those items at the August 17th, September 21st, October 19th Chapter meetings and before the auction on November 16th. With your help we can make this the best silent auction we have ever had. If you have any questions you can contact Jack Giacalone at 301 774 6338 or at jgiacal@verizon.net.

WALSH ASSEMBLY NEWS

Ikechukwu R. Agbim - Faithful Navigator



We continue to make great strides towards our goals for the Fraternal year. our plans to bring patriotic education to our local schools and churches has reached a mature stage of planning. In the next few weeks we will roll out our schedule for this initiative.

Our Assembly's installation, which was held on Sunday, July 31st was very successful. We are delighted and very many thanks to all those who worked tirelessly for the success of the event. We are indebted to SK Thomas Firestone who despite all odds of death in his family made time to be with us representing the Master of the 4th Degree AWD.

Also special thanks to SK Vernon Hawkins, SK Andreas Padilla, SK David Martin, SK Gabe Onwezi and SK Mike Davenport for their assistance. Our Color Corps under the direction of SK James Agboli and SK Bob Sistare performed exceptionally. I must also commend our Host Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council 14455 under the leadership of SK Roy Cobo, GK for their wonderful hospitality and assistance.

Our continued gratitude to Faithful Friar, host Parish Priest Joe Jenkins. As we continue to pray for him and for the soul of his recently deceased mother. May her soul and that of all faithful departed rest in perfect peace, Amen!

Vivat Jesus

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

J. Bernard Broadus, DGK,
bbroadus53@gmail.com

301-262-2350

September for most of us means the end of summer vacation, back to school and a return to everyday routines. Brothers, let us break with that tradition and explore new ideas, programs and concepts for this fraternal year. Grand Knight Alan Davis and myself encourage all members to submit new programs and initiatives they would like to see the council undertake.

Some of the events coming up through December are: Cup of Joe/Feed the Homeless (September 8th); Planning a Funeral (September 17th); Youth Halloween Party (October 28th); Thanksgiving Baskets (November 21st); and the Council Christmas Party (December 15th).

Happy Birthday

James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422

September 1994 - September 2016

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

J. Bernard Broadus, Activities Director
bbroadus53@gmail.com

301-262-2350



Mervyn Chancellor has requested that he be provided communion on the weekend, Sunday. Brother Vernon visited with him recently. Mervyn is doing quite well. He is looking much better, his speech has greatly improved, some walking, cracking jokes with that Mervyn smile. However, the most impressive revelation is that he is now eating solid food and will soon be able to receive Holy Communion., which he has requested. Mervyn is one of several homebound, hospitalized and rehabilitation center council member who have requested to receive weekly communion.

Volunteers are requested from Fletcher Council members who are Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to take our precious Lord to brother Knights and/or parish families on the weekend/Sunday. Thus far, Phil Beauboeuf and Vernon Hawkins have so graciously volunteered. I am sure others would like to do the same. It's a great time to visit with our brothers and parishioners and fellowship.

More Volunteers Are Needed! Please respond to me if you are willing and able. I would like to perhaps have a different brother per weekend/Sunday so that one person doesn't have to do it all the time. Great time to establish our team of James C Fletcher Jr Council 11422 Knights Sick/Home-bound Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. **Thanks in advance to responding to this noble cause.**



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Cal Thompson, Council Activities Director
calthompsn@msn.com



301-249-2955

We are continuing to collect donations from Costco and Panera Bread and deliver to the different Shelters, food pantries and churches in the Maryland and District of Columbus metro area. Help is need to assist with the pick up and weekly deliveries. Please see me if you can dedicate a little of your time.



We are currently providing food products to the following organizations every week:

- St. Joseph, St. Vincent De Paul Society
- Little Sisters of the Poor
- Capital Area Food Bank
- Empowerment Ministries Community Outreach
- Empowerment Ministries Good Samaritans
- Jehovah Christian
- Holy Family Catholic Church (Mitchellville)
- So Others Might Eat (SOME)
- Prince Georges County Men's Shelter
- Mikey Leland Halfway House
- The Big Chair Chess Club for Youth
- St. Luke Catholic Church

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Michael Younger, Community Activities Director
mrwhy@verizon.net



*The PRIDE of our
Flea Market
Hot Dogs & Burgers*

Brothers, our August and final flea market for the year is in the books and was a success. The day was sunny and warm with a pleasant breeze blowing under the trees. All vendor spaces were sold out. Once again the early morning crew were on site at 6:00 am to assist me and waiting for our vendors to start showing up. Brothers arrived and departed throughout the day to help out on the grill, assist in taking orders, collecting payment and handing out the food and beverages. There was a steady flow of customers and most left with full bags. We received numerous "atta boys" for the way everything is setup and the ease of participating as a vendor. Of course everyone was sad that this was the last one until next year. Clean up went smoothly at the end of the day and I was "almost" sorry to see the last vendor leave.

I would like to thank my co-chairman, our Worthy Grand Knight, for his invaluable efforts to ensure we had balloons and signs put up advertising every event. I also need to thank the church office personnel for answering the many calls from customers and vendors requesting flea market information. And last but not the least, a big "Thank You" to my fellow knights for their time, work, and comradeship. All of these things added together made for a very enjoyable way to spend three Saturdays.

CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITIES

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

301-728-7827



There has been an on-going debate among pro-life groups about the use of graphic images at public protests. Now image are having an effect in showing the dark side of the abortion industry. On July 13th, the Center for Medical Progress released on the Internet the first of a series of videos illustrating the crassness and coldness of Planned Parenthood officials pursuing profits through the harvesting and sale of human organs gained from abortions. The

videos are the result of a three-year undercover investigation. As of today, three videos have been released with the expectation that as many as nine more will follow.

The effects have left Planned Parenthood reeling. Most of the major broadcast TV and cable news shows, as well as the progressive daily papers, have given little or no coverage to the stories. The videos, however, have gotten major attention from radio talk shows, several national TV anchors, a number of Republican presidential candidates, and on social media. As a result, to-date, at least five major corporations have withdrawn their donations to Planned Parenthood, Congressional hearings have begun, several states have begun investigations of the organization in their states, and legislation has been introduced to halt the \$500 million of annual federal funding to this national abortion provider. None of this would have happened without the video images, as graphic and abhorrent as they are, of the operation of Planned Parenthood.

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*

Please, Remember In Your Prayers

Members Who Are Ill

Howard Wynn	James Shorter
Mary Julius	William Missouri
Joseph Marshall	William Tolbert
Ken Hinton	Donald Wilson
Mervyn Chancellor	Charles Ratcliff



FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Eprain Anderson, Family Activities Director

canal511@aol.com

301-372-6426

The Barnes Family July Family of the Month



James and Roberta Barnes along with their sons, Marquis and Ramon have been members of St. Joseph's for 34 years. James is a charter member of the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council and was the 1st Recording Secretary for the Council. James later was nominated and became the 6th Grand Knight of the Fletcher Council. James also served as a member of the First Degree and Second Degree Team of District Council.

James later served as a Trustee of the Council. James is a 4th Degree member of the Bishop James E. Walsh Assembly in Forestville, Maryland. He also serves as the Chief Shrine Usher at the 2nd Sunday 7:30 A.M. Mass. At St. Joseph's, James is an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist and a Member of the St. Joseph's Gospel Choir's, Baritone Section. He is also a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Throughout all these years Lady Roberta and their sons have been in partnership. Roberta have served as Past President as well as Secretary of the KC Ladies Auxiliary. She continually contributes to all the Council and Church activities. Their son Marquis is a 2nd Degree Knight of the James C. Fletcher Jr. Council. While growing up, he was an Altar Server at St. Joseph's under the direction of Ms. Helen Harley.

Ramon was a member of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Squires Circle. Ramon is currently one of the Audio Visual Technicians here at St. Joseph. He normally is seen at the 5 P.M. Vigil Mass on Saturdays. He also aides in the Annual Gospel Choir concerts here at St. Joseph.

The family continues to be active in various church functions.

The Neal Family August Family of the Month



Cherry Neal has been member of St. Joseph Church since 2001. Cherry visited St Joseph Church in the summer of 2001 and never left. Initially, she just attended Sunday mass. However, God always has a plan. Unexpectedly, one day, her Mother telephoned her at work and asked her how she plan to contribute to the church. In her Mothers' words, "are you just a Bench Member, or are you willing to work in the church to thank God for the many blessings bestowed upon you". After that conversation with her Mother, she joined the Hospitality Ministry.

In September 2007, Cherry enrolled in the RCIA class and started the journey to receive the sacrament of confirmation. She was confirmed at the 2008 Easter Vigil. She was so inspired by the RCIA team she joined the team the following September.

As Cherry became more active in the parish, she joined the Good Samaritans, Bereavement, and the Arts and Environment Ministries. She is the current secretary for the Good Samaritans and has served as the coordinator of the Arts and Environment ministry for the past two years. Cherry was a member of the St Joseph 90th Anniversary Committee and is an active member of the Black Catholic and Black History month committees.

Her granddaughters Kameron and Amiya received the sacraments of baptism, first holy communion and confirmation during the 2015 Easter Vigil. Granddaughter, Amiya is a former member of the St Joseph's Liturgical Dance Ministry, Children on Virtue.

Cherry is a volunteer receptionist/ counselor at the Forestville Pregnancy Center. She loves working with the young women that come to the center. Not only has she found this ministry to be a rewarding experience but also a true blessing. She prays that she has made a difference in their lives.

Cherry loves her St Josephs' family. On her first visit to St Joseph's, the parish community was so warm and welcoming, she knew in an instant that St Joseph's was the church for her.

Let us always remember this family in our prayers and ask the Almighty Father to reward them abundantly. In Jesus Name, Amen, Amen !



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

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



240-353-1460

Our Graduates & Scholarship Winners



Have you ever had one of those days when you say that ***“God is good, all of the time”***? That was the spirit that radiated throughout St. Joseph on Sunday, August 14, 2016 as we came together to pray together and to present the Annual Scholarship Awards. After his homily at the 11 o’clock Mass, Reverend Roy E. Campbell, Jr. turned the ambo over to SK Joseph Jenifer, representing the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Charities, Inc. for presentation of the Annual Scholarship Awards. Twelve (12) High School Graduates received scholarships, the recipients are listed below:

Osaretin L. Aimufua
Olusayo M. Adeleye
Precious A. Nwanwa
Afua N. Nyame-Mireku
Osarumen E. Bazuaye
Michael G. Ogunsanya

Cameron L. Wilcher
Bryanna D. Carter
Justin C. Okpah
Jeffrey N. Onyeador
Brittney C. Adinuba
Ikenna M. Agobukwu



MEMBERSHIP QUEST

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



240-441-9086

We are gearing up for another exciting Fletcher Council fraternal year. And, we will continue to offer an experience of a lifetime to the men of the parish and community and we encourage you to do so. All members of the council are members of the Recruiting Team., chaired by yours truly, PGK John W. Huntley. We had a spectacular year last year, lets do it again. Also, a very special **Admissions Degree Team (ADT)**, i.e., First Degree Team, has been established to assist in introducing candidates to the intricacies of the Knights of Columbus. The ADT is chaired by Harold Sanders, Jr. and co-chaired by David D. Martin. Other ADT members include: Alan Davis, Bernard Broadus, Vernon Hawkins, Emeka Onwezi, Fidelis Joseph, John Huntley, Robert Sistare, Thomas Matthews, and Floyd Duckett. Additional volunteers are encouraged to join the ADT. Take a step forward and pitch-in to help. See me or any of the above members for more information.

NEWS FROM OUR RAFFLE TICKET CONCIERGE - TIM MATTHEWS

FIRST PRIZE

2017 Mustang
or
\$18,000.00

SECOND PRIZE

IPAD Air2

THIRD PRIZE

\$200.00 Gift Card



DRAWING

October 8, 2016

ANNOUNCEMENT

Winner need not be
present to win!

First and Foremost: Have you purchased your Car Raffle Ticket? As of today we have sold approximately 800 lottery tickets. Our budget only require the sale of 600 lottery tickets. We have exceeded our budget but our Grand Knight wants us to try to sell 2000 tickets. We still have the month of September to reach this goal.

I am confident that we can do it.
Let's make our Grand Knight Proud.

Only \$1 for your chance to WIN a 2017 FORD MUSTANG

47th Annual Car Raffle Benefit

For tickets, ask a James C. Fletcher, Council 11422
member or contact Tim Matthews at
240-505-4431 or tees325@gmail.com



\$1.00



MARYLAND STATE COUNCIL
**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS®**



REFLECTIONS

Lawrence P. Grayson

Approaching the Precipice

The movement for transgender bathrooms is only the latest effort to transform America into an irreligious society. The success of militant secularism poses a grave threat to the Catholic Faith. Today, the government is banning public expressions of faith, limiting apostolic works, and restricting freedom of individual conscience, while supporting abortion, euthanasia, various aberrations of gender, and the redefinition of marriage and the family.

This nation was founded with an appeal to God for its independence, and adopted a constitution that guarantees the free exercise of religion among the people. It is secular in the sense that it separates the political realm from the religious. The state is non-devotional, concerned solely with the temporal concerns of its people. The religious sphere is to be allowed to operate, including conducting spiritual, social and charitable activities, as the communities of believers see fit.

This national secularity is distinct from secularism, a belief system which is intolerant towards religion. The latter relegates faith solely to the private sphere and leads, over time, to restrictions on religious liberty. A government based on secularism is materialistic, ignores the existence of God, disallows any public display of faith, and exerts pressure on individuals and religiously-based organizations to operate according to totally secular norms.

Secularist ideas in America can be traced back to some of the nation's Founding Fathers who subscribed to the Enlightenment thesis of the superiority of man's rationality over religious revelation. They did not advance significantly, however, until after World War II, and then accelerated following a confluence of social, military, and religious events in the 1960s which overwhelmed the existing moral foundations of the country. Judicial decisions since then have favored unbelief over belief, irreligion over religion. The rulings secularized the public school system, legitimized the notion of a "wall" separating church and state, limited the role of religion in public affairs, gave license to sexual behavior, and denigrated the sanctity of life. Each step caused an outcry, but no reversal.

Most people accept the laws, social customs, and political climate under which they are raised, without questioning the values behind them. As changes gain acceptability with time and repetition, merely existing in a militantly secular society diminishes one's notions of impiety and morality. When young people are told that it is forbidden to pray or read the Bible in school, visibly wear a religious medal or sing Christmas carols, they have the impression that religion is disruptive and should not be expressed in public.

Secularism is triumphing due to the passivity, inconsistency, and even collaboration of Catholic laity, clergy, hierarchy, and institutions. Catholic politicians can claim they are personally opposed to abortion, but will not deny others from having them, and receive no Church censure. Catholic colleges and universities openly accept and cooperate with secularist agendas -- promoting Planned Parenthood, sponsoring LGBT clubs, and staging immoral plays. Cardinals publicly disagree on age-old doctrines such as the provision of Communion to divorced and remarried Catholics, while some bishops hold there is no moral difference between meeting the needs of the poor and opposing the intrinsic evil of abortion. As a result, the majority of Catholics today are doctrinally confused and religiously ill-prepared to recognize the dangers of the culture in which they are immersed.

Can Catholicism continue to exist in such a militant secular society before there is a total loss of faith among its adherents? Can the Church accept continually declining freedom and still carry out its mission of evangelization and charitable activities? Can the Church retain any moral authority after one or two more generations of such existence?

Catholicism in America is at a critical point. The Church can either continue to try to subsist in an increasingly hostile environment or it can zealously oppose its ideas and impiety. If it adopts coexistence, it will fail and undergo severe trials, perhaps even to the extinction of the religion. The late *Cardinal Francis George, speaking about the dangers of secularism in 2010, said: "I expect to die in bed, my successor will die in prison and his successor will die a martyr in the public square."*

A glimpse of what might be was provided by Msgr. Robert Hugh Benson, in his novel *Lord of the World*. Published in 1907, he described a future which fits the present well. His world, divided into three major political blocks, Europe, America, and the East, had succumbed almost totally to secularism. Although worship was tolerated as a private matter, virtually all vestiges of religion were wiped out. Priests were required to wear secular garb in public, schools were totally secular, and most churches had been converted to societal purposes. Catholicism was the only remaining Christian religion with a supernatural focus, but Catholics were few in number. A young, charismatic, articulate American politician, whose background was obscure, became the president of Europe and made secularism the public religion, which everyone was mandated to acknowledge. The Catholic Church could not agree, and so was outlawed, with the pope and all cardinals killed. Catholicism had ceased to exist.

Do not dismiss the novel as a fantasy. We certainly are not at that stage, but many of the societal conditions in the scenario fit the present. And there is precedent for governmental "de-Christianization". The French Revolution of 1789 brought in a totally secular state, which tolerated the Church as long as the clergy remained loyal to the regime. When the Church opposed the irreligion, the government systematically closed churches, outlawed a religious press, forbade religious services, and exiled, imprisoned or executed priests and nuns. History can repeat itself.

The other option is to vigorously oppose the secularization of society. The Catholic Church must become the bulwark against the irreligious forces changing America. It must not only present the truth, but refute errors. It must defeat the continuing assault on Christianity, which is occurring overtly through governmental action, and insidiously through the everyday forces of the culture.

This will not be easy or quick, as most Catholics do not have the knowledge of the Faith or religious conviction to stand apart from the general society. But it can be done with God's help, through prayer, penance, and frequenting the Sacraments. Leadership from the Church hierarchy is critical and involvement of the laity essential. The Knights of Columbus, operating in solidarity with the bishops and priests, can have a significant effect in the evangelization and defense of the Faith.



**St. Joseph Parishioners Prepared Breakfast For
500 Homeless People
Through The "Cup of Joe" Program**



**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO CONTINUE THIS PROGRAM
JOIN US AT OUR NEXT "CUP OF JOE" PACKAGING
TO FEED THE HOMELESS**

St. Joseph will continue its support of the "Cup of Joe" program at the parish on **Thursday, September 8th**. "Cup of Joe" is a breakfast-packaging program that serves men and women in Catholic Charities' shelters. It is a wonderful service that provides a sustainable option for breakfast to a population who desperately needs it. Over 1,000 people stay in the shelters every single night, and the program helps to provide a breakfast to anyone who asks for it as they leave the shelter each morning.

It takes a lot of volunteers to make this effort a reality. Ministries and organization chairpersons or their authorized representative are requested to join us in the spirit of giving and spend some time in our "Cup of Joe" assembly line on **Thursday, September 8th at 6:30 P.M.** in the Rosemont Room.

WHEN:

Thursday, September 8, 2016

WHERE:

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

TEAM 1 - 12:30 P.M.
Unpacking and Set Up

TEAM 2 - 6:30 P.M.
Assemble Food Bags

**SIGN UP WITH ONE
OF OUR CONTACTS BELOW**

Deborah Nellums-Haley 301-350-2995
Vernon Hawkins, Jr. 301-336-0284



**PLANNING A FUNERAL
AT ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH
FINAL EXPENSE SYMPOSIUM**



St. Joseph Catholic Church
Social Justice Social Concerns
Ministry Presents

WHEN:

Saturday, September 17, 2016
1 to 3:30 P.M.

ESSENTIAL TOPICS:

- ♦ Planning a Funeral Mass at St. Joseph Church
- ♦ Funeral Service Needs & Expenses
- ♦ Cemetery Property Services & Expenses.

Professionals in each area will present information so that you can understand the requirements and decrease the stress involved in planning a home going service for a loved one.

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Etoile de Hawkins & Sandra James

- ♦ Bereavement Support Ministry

Lawrence Johnson

- ♦ J. B. Jenkins Funeral Home

Nikia Sweeney & William Mix

- ♦ National Harmony Memorial/Dignity Memorial

WHERE:

St. Joseph Catholic Church
2020 St. Joseph Drive
Largo, MD 20774

NO CHARGE

**REGISTRAR BY SIGNING
REGISTRATION BOOK IN CHURCH
FOYER OR CONTACT ONE OF
THE FOLLOWING**

Deborah Nellums-Haley 301-350-2995
Vernon Hawkins, Jr. 301-336-0284



**Join us at the Maryland State Council's Annual
Columbus Day Ball**

Maryland State Council's Premier Social Event of the Year

Saturday, October 8, 2016, 7:30pm
Baltimore Washington International Marriott
1743 West Nursery Road
Linthicum, MD 21090



Tickets \$55.00 per person and \$105 per Couple
Debut Chicken Chesapeake Dinner, Cash Bar
Dancing to the music of The Big Band Theory of Baltimore
Dress for the evening will be Formal, Business Suit Acceptable.

Due to Limited Seating all Reservations must be received by September 1st!

Discounted Hotel Room rates are available by calling hotel at 410-859-8300 by Sept 15

For ball reservations, please contact:

Sean Smith
seans@canusacorp.com
410-969-6018

Alex Simpson
Lsmfr90@gmail.com
443-745-6727



**The National Christopher Columbus Association
And The National Park Service**

CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THE ANNUAL

**Columbus Day Ceremony
Monday, October 10, 2016**

MUSIC PRELUDE: 10:45 A.M. * PROGRAM: 11:00 A.M.

"The President's Own" United States Marine Band
United States Joint Armed Forces Honor Guard
Knights of Columbus Color Corps with Historical Flags of the U.S.
Presidential and Mayoral Proclamations
Diplomatic Corps from the Embassies of Spain, Italy, Bahamas
Presentation of National Youth Essay Contest Winner
Co-sponsored by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution
and the National Italian American Foundation

Wreath Presentations
Embassies, Fraternal, Civic, Service, and Patriotic Societies

Come Join Us In

**Columbus Plaza
Union Station in Washington, D.C.**





Who is Haym Solomon?

Contributed By: David E. Martin, FDD, PFN, PGK

The fascinating History of the \$1 Bill.



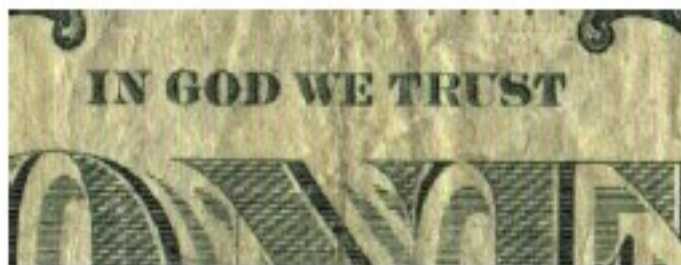
On the rear of the One Dollar bill, you will see two circles. Together, they comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a Seal. It took those four years to accomplish this task and another two years to get it approved.

If you look at the left-hand circle, you will see a Pyramid.



Notice the face is lighted, and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the west or decided what we could do for Western Civilization. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished. Inside the Capstone you have the all-seeing eye, an ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, could do anything.

'IN GOD WE TRUST' is on this currency.



The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUI COEPTIS, means, 'God has favored our undertaking.' The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means, 'a new order has begun.' At the base of the pyramid is the Roman numeral for 1776. (MDCCLXXVI)

If you look at the right-hand circle, and check it carefully, you will learn that it is on every National Cemetery in the United States. It is also on the Parade of Flags Walkway at the Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery, and is the centerpiece of most heroes' monuments. Slightly modified, it is the seal of the President of the United States, and it is always visible whenever he speaks, yet very few people know what the symbols mean.



The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons:

First, he is not afraid of a storm; he is strong, and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown.

We had just broken from the King of England. Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This country can now stand on its own. At the top of that shield you have a white bar signifying congress, a unifying factor. We were coming together as one nation. In the Eagle's beak you will read, 'E PLURIBUS UNUM' meaning, 'from many - one.'

Above the Eagle, you have the thirteen stars, representing the thirteen original colonies, and any clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. Again, we were coming together as one.

Notice what the Eagle holds in his talons. He holds an olive branch and Arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace.



The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows.

They say that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will usually never see a room numbered 13, or any hotels or motels with a 13th floor.

But think about this:

*13 original colonies,
13 signers of the Declaration of Independence,
13 stripes on our flag,
13 steps on the Pyramid,
13 letters in 'Annuit Coeptis,'
13 letters in 'E Pluribus Unum,'
13 stars above the Eagle,
13 bars on that shield,
13 leaves on the olive branch,
13 fruits, and if you look closely,
13 arrows.*

And finally, if you notice the arrangement of the 13 stars in the right-hand circle you will see that they are arranged as a Star of David. This was ordered by George Washington who, when he asked Haym Solomon, a wealthy Philadelphia Jew, what he would like as a personal reward for his services to the Continental Army, Solomon said he wanted *nothing for himself but that he would like something for his people. The Star of David was the result.*

Few people know that it was Solomon who saved the Army through his financial contributions but died a pauper. Haym Solomon gave \$25 million to the Continental Army, money that was extremely important to our independence from England.

From: <http://www.mophdepartmentpa.org/Who%20is%20Haym%20Solomon.pdf>



Who are these guys?

What is going on here?

Would you believe FedEx Field training?



Smiley Central™

Harry walked over to the Priest after services, "You know Father, I am really stuck in a quandary I would like to attend church next week but I just can't miss the big game next Sunday, it's just out of the question." "Oh Harry Harry" said the Priest putting his arm around Harry, "don't you know? that's what recorders are for." Harry's face lit up "you mean I could record your sermon?"

A man is overweight so his doctor puts him on a diet. "I want you to eat regularly for two days, then skip a day and repeat for two weeks and you'll lose at least five pounds."

When the man returns, he's lost nearly 20 pounds. The doctor exclaims, "That's amazing! Did you follow my diet?" The man nods. "I thought I was going to drop dead every third day from all the skipping!"

Tom had this problem of getting up late in the morning and was always late for work. His boss was mad at him and threatened to fire him if he didn't do something about it. So Tom went to his doctor who gave him a pill and told him to take it before he went to bed. Tom slept well and in fact beat the alarm in the morning. He had a leisurely breakfast and drove cheerfully to work. "Boss," he said, "The pill actually worked!" "That's all fine" said the boss. "But where were you yesterday?"

A woman was telling her friend, "It is I who made my husband a millionaire."

"And what was he before you married him?" asked the friend.

The woman replied, "A billionaire."

Redskins football practice was delayed nearly two hours this morning after a player reported finding an unknown white powdery substance on the practice field. Head coach, Mike Tice, immediately suspended practice while police and federal agents were called to investigate.

After a complete analysis, FBI forensic experts determined that the white substance unknown to the players was the goal line.

Practice was resumed today after special agents decided the team was unlikely to encounter the substance again.

Six guys are playing poker. After losing \$500 on one hand, Smith clutches his chest and topples over, dead at the table. To decide who's going to tell his wife, his buddies draw straws. Anderson picks the short one. "Break it to her gently," they all urge. "Leave it to me," He says. When Smith's wife comes to the door, Anderson says, "Your husband just lost \$500 playing cards." "How much?" the wife yells, eyes blazing. "Tell him to drop dead!"

Marian Title for September Our Lady of Sorrows



Our Lady of Sorrows, the Sorrowful Mother or Mother of Sorrows, and Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows or Our Lady of the Seven Dolours are names by which the Blessed Virgin Mary is referred to in relation to sorrows in her life. The Seven Sorrows of Mary are popular Roman Catholic devotion. There are devotional prayers which consist of meditation on her Seven Sorrows: examples include the Servite rosary, or the Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady. Also, there is a corresponding devotion to the Seven Joys of Mary. The term "Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary" refers to the combined devotion of both the Immaculate Heart and the Seven Sorrows of Mary as first used by the Franciscan Tertiary Berthe Petit. The Seven Sorrows are events in the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary which are popular devotions and are frequently depicted in art:

1. The Prophecy of Simeon. Luke 2:34-35 or Circumcision of Christ.
2. The Flight into Egypt. (Matthew 2:13)
3. The Loss of the Child Jesus in the Temple. (Luke 2:43-45)
4. Mary Meets Jesus on the Way to Calvary. (Luke 23:26)
5. Jesus Dies on the Cross. (John 19:25)
6. Mary Receives the Body of Jesus in Her Arms. (Matthew 27:57-59)
7. The Body of Jesus is Placed in the Tomb. (John 19:40-42)

It is common devotion for Catholics to say daily one Our Father and seven Hail Mary for each sorrow.



A MARYLAND TRADITION



"HAPPY BIRTHDAY"
****SEPTEMBER****
- 2016 -

- 01 Uzochukwu E. Nnanna
- 03 Gregory P. Harrod, Jr.
- 04 Oscar R. Argueta
- 04 William D. Missouri
- 05 Mauricio A. Gonzalez
- 05 Peter Methodius-Ngwodo
- 10 Udomah C. Chiri
- 11 Michael P. Akpan
- 13 Anthony M. Akpan
- 16 Christopher I. Nwabine
- 17 Roberto L. Hylton
- 17 Michael Y. Goddard
- 17 Francis E. Ugoh
- 20 Arthur K. Wynn, Jr.
- 21 Carlton L. Williams, II
- 22 Wilson T. Wiley
- 22 Ikenna J. Dike
- 23 Kermit E. Gresham, PGK
- 24 Alfred A. Kwentua
- 30 Michael K. Mishou
- 30 Charles L. Ratcliffe



**"The Joy
Of A
Birthday"**

Maryland State Council Officers

State Deputy	Stephen Cohen
District Deputy	G. Emeka Onwezi
District Warden	Michael P. Akpan

James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council Officers

Chaplain	Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.
Associate Chaplain	Deacon Al Douglas Turner
Grand Knight	Alan M. Davis
Deputy Grand knight	J. Bernard Broadus
Chancellor.	John O. Grier
Warden.	Floyd E. Duckett
Financial Secretary	Robert B. Sistare
Recorder.	Fidelis K. Ajudua
Treasurer	Harold F. Sanders, Jr.
Lecturer.	Calvin A. Thompson
Advocate	David D. Martin
Trustee 3 year.	Ikechukwu R. Agbimi
Trustee 2 year.	Thomas F. Matthews, III
Trustee 1 year.	John W. Huntley
Inside Guard.	Charles N. Okpah
Outside Guard.	William N. Tolbert, III
Convention Delegate	
First Alternate	
Second Alternate	

Program and Activity Committees

Service Program Director	J. Bernard Broadus
Church Director	J. Bernard Broadus
Council Director	Calvin A. Thompson
Community Director	Michael Younger
Family Director	Eprain Anderson
Youth Director	Philippe A. Beauboeuf
Culture of Life Director	Peter Methodius-Ngwodo
Vocation Chairman	Fidelis K. Ajudua
Health Services	Peter Methodius-Ngwodo
Public Relations	Vernon Hawkins, Jr.
Columbian Squires	Michael P. Davenport
Membership Director	Ikechuwu R. Agbim
Recruitment Committee	David D. Martin
Recruitment Committee	Alan M. Davis
Admissions Director	Alan M. Davis
Admissions Committee	Fr. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.
Admissions Committee	Harold F. Sanders, Jr.
Admissions Committee	Bernard Broadus
Admissions Committee	Robert Sistare
Retention Chairman	Thomas F. Matthews, III
Insurance Promotion	Robert B. Sistare
Pro-Life Couple	Peter Methodius-Ngwodo
First Degree Team Captain	Harold F. Sanders, Jr.
Asst. Degree Team Captain	David D. Martin
Newsletter Editor	Vernon Hawkins, Jr.
Web Master	Michael P. Akpan
Scholarship Program Chairman	Peter Methodius-Ngwodo
Historian	Vernon Hawkins, Jr.
Photographer	Thomas F. Matthews, III

Squires Circle Officers

Chief Squire
Deputy Chief Squire
Notary
Bursar
Sentries
Spiritual Committee Chair
Membership Committee Chair
Service Committee Chair

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

****SEPTEMBER****



- 01 **Fletcher Council Meeting, 7:30 PM**
- 05 **Labor Day**
- 05 Christmas Poster Contest Order Due
- 11 Grandparents' Day / Patriot Day
- 12 Bishop Walsh Assembly Meeting, 7:30 P.M.
- 12-18 Special Olympics Week
- 15 **Fletcher Council's 22nd Anniversary**
- 15 **Fletcher Council Meeting, 7:30 PM**
- 15 First Quarter Reports Due
- 18 **Knights Sunday, 11 A.M. Mass**
- 18 McNamara Chapter Installation, St. Aloysius Church
22800 Washington St., Leonardtown, MD
- 21 McNamara Chapter Meeting, St. Jerome Council 5564
Hyattsville, MD
- 22 First Day of Autumn / Equinox