



The Crusader



Official Publication of the New Jersey State Council Knights of Columbus

State Deputy's Message



Vincent Tavormina
State Deputy



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 1 ~ State Deputy's message
- 2 ~ Membership Corner
- 2~ Upcoming Degrees
- 3~ Upcoming Events
- 4 – Programs of the Month
- 5~ General Programs
- 5~ Patriotic Corner
- 6~ Special Programs
- 6 – Culture of Lives
- 7 – Insurance Matters
- 7 - Webmaster
- 8 - Squires Corner
- 8 ~ From the Editor's Desk
- 9 - Milestones

Brother Knights,

As I'm writing this, it's still 2019, but by the time you read it, it'll be 2020. So, HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and I wish you all and your families a Happy New Year! Here's hoping 2020 is one that you will look back upon and have wonderful memories, personally and through your involvement in the Knight of Columbus.

It's hard to believe that one half of the Fraternal Year is gone already, and a new calendar year is beginning! Wasn't it January 2019 just a short time ago? What do we keep saying? DON'T BLINK! I try not to blink, but it's hard to believe that ¼ of my term as State Deputy is over already!

These first 6 months have been very successful and rewarding. We are not quite where we want to be, but we are getting there. Membership is up, and growing, thanks to your continued efforts. Programs are also being conducted and very successfully. Just one example that I would like to share with you. A few weeks ago, I was privileged to take part in a Coats for Kids distribution at the Bishop Rodimer Center in the Paterson Diocese. Over 350 coats were distributed to inner city kids thanks to the generosity of local Councils and the Supreme Council's matching program. The look on the faces of these kids when they received their new coat, and the look of gratitude on the parents' faces was priceless. Brothers, I keep saying that this is what we, the Knights, are all about!

I'm sure you have all heard by now, but in case you haven't, starting on or about 1/1, there will be a new combined First, Second, and Third Degree Exemplification. More details, along with a video demonstration of the new Degree, will be presented at the 3 Grand Knight's meetings in January, so I urge each Council to have a representative there. It is a new and exciting time for the Knights, and with this new ceremony, I believe membership will continue to grow.

Brothers, I am challenging each and every one of you to become active in your Councils. If you already are, stay active. A few hours of your time, as your schedule permits, is all we ask. You can and will make a difference. Over the next six months, there are some worthwhile activities going on. Activities such as the Free Throw competition, Intellectual Disabilities and Alzheimers Drives, Spelling Bee and Council Poster Contest. Maybe something as simple as writing letters to our troops overseas, or visiting our Veterans at a local VA hospital. Or, how about Friday Stations of the Cross during Lent, or organizing a Rosary Hour for your Knights AND parishioners. Since we are a huge Pro-Life organization, how about the March for Life in DC or the Rally for Life locally in Trenton? This is our chance, as strong Catholics, to say NO to the legislators on the issue of abortion. And, don't forget other programs like the Policeman, Fireman, and EMT awards; Knight of the Month/Year; and Family of the Month/Year. There is so much to choose from that will do what we're here to do, so pick something that interests you and get involved. Again, only a few hours, or whatever you can afford to give. I guarantee you will feel rewarded.

Another challenge I am issuing is membership. As well as we are doing, we can do so much more. We are so close to reaching our goal for the year, and that would be a feather in YOUR cap! I've said over and over, ask yourself why you became a Knight, then ask your friends, neighbors, and relatives if they have the same feelings. Chris Duffett, the State Membership Director, always signs his emails with, "Have You Asked Someone to Join Today?" It's as simple as that! So, have you? This is the greatest organization in the world. Carl Anderson always says that only the Knights have the manpower and the resources to affect people's lives. Think how much more we can do with increased membership!

On behalf of Tamara and I, along with all the State Officers and their wives, we wish you and your families a New Year filled with Peace, Joy, Health and Happiness.

Vivat Jesus

[Vincent Tavormina, State Deputy](#)

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

SCHEDULED DEGREES

[LINK](#)  individual Degree below for details.

DEGREE/DATE	COUNCIL	LOCATION
<u>CAMDEN:</u>		
1 st – Jan 15	Council 1910	Cedarville
<u>METUCHEN:</u>		
<u>No Degrees Reported</u>		
<u>NEWARK:</u>		
1 st – Jan 8 **	Council 6209 **	Union City
1 st – Jan 14	Council 2188	Westwood
2 nd – Jan 16	Council 2586	Teaneck
3 rd – Jan 17	Council 2853	Fair Lawn
1 st – Jan 20	Council 3428	No Arlington
1 st – Feb 5 **	Council 6209 **	Union City
3 rd – Feb 7	Council 1345	Dumont
<u>PATERSON:</u>		
1 st – Jan 9	Council 2248	Florham Pk
2 nd – Feb 20	Council 2248	Florham Pk
<u>TRENTON:</u>		
1 st – Jan 6	Council 6213	Hamilton
1 st – Jan 8	Council 636	Princeton
1 st – Jan 28	Council 14615	Little Egg Harbor
3 rd – Feb 7	Council 836	Brick

Degree Notes:

- **Degrees with asterisks (**)** are Spanish Language Degrees
- Candidates and observers should be dressed appropriately, jacket and tie.
- Candidate escorts should have all Degree paraphernalia when arriving at Degree location.
- Please remember, Degrees are a special night in a candidate's KofC life, please keep the dialogue to a minimum

Dear Brother Knights,

I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

As we begin this calendar year, we stand at 732 new members, a little over 34% of the quota set by Supreme. This is not great. I was hoping that we would be closer to the 50%.

This past December we held the Mid-Year DD meeting and we discussed growth in our order and we allowed time for questions.

We will be holding the Mid-Year GK meetings and we will also be discussing growth and will ask you invite your questions. We are here for you and more than willing to answer your questions. If you have a question, comment ahead of time or will not be attending the meeting please reach out to me at cduffett1@gmail.com.

I want to hear from you.

The meetings all start at 8:15 am – 2:00 pm and are:

- Metuchen/Paterson – January 4
St. Elizabeth (# 2393) Parish Center 184 South Finley Ave Basking Ridge, NJ 07820
- Camden/Trenton – January 11
St. Anthony of Padua Meeting Room (# 14191)
285 US Route 206 Hammonton, NJ 08037
- Newark – January 18
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center 149 Copeland Ave, Lyndhurst, NJ 07071

At these meetings we will also be discussing the new Degree that Supreme is rolling out at the beginning of the year.

As we generally make a New Years resolution for better health, better organization of things, why not make a resolution to bring in a new member or two? We cannot have great programs without members and without great members we cannot have programs.

When you get a new member and submit the form 100 to Supreme please make sure all the information is filled out correctly as we had several returned for missing info. Also, please email the forms to membership@kofc.org
This is the new email address.

[Chris Duffett, FDD](#), Membership Director

Upcoming Events:

* PLEASE NOTE – **ALL MONTHLY REPORTS ARE DUE AT THE STATE COUNCIL OFFICE ON THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH**

Be sure to make a note of the activities that are scheduled for the next several months. Click the specific underlined activity to obtain more information, details and forms. Log-in required

JANUARY 2020

- Jan 1st – [New Year's Day](#)
- Jan 4th – [Mid-Term GK Meeting - Metuchen / Paterson](#)
- Jan 5th – [Feast of the Epiphany](#)
- Jan 6th – [Little Christmas](#)
- Jan 11th – [Mid-Term GK Meeting – Camden / Trenton](#)
- Jan 12th – [Feast of the Baptism of our Lord](#)
- Jan 18th – [Mid-Term GK Meeting – Newark Archdiocese](#)
- Jan 20th – [Martin Luther King Day](#)
- Jan 22nd – [Rally for Life - Trenton](#)
- Jan 24th – [March for Life in Washington, D.C.](#)

FEBRUARY 2020

- Feb 1st ~ [State Bowling Tournament forms due](#)
- Feb 2nd ~ [Candlemas Day](#)
- Feb 2nd ~ [Super Bowl](#)
- Feb 12th – [Abraham Lincoln's Birthday](#)
- Feb 14th – [Valentine's Day](#)
- Feb 17th ~ [President's Day](#)
- Feb 22nd ~ [Polar Bear Plunge](#)
- Feb 22nd ~ [George Washington's actual Birthday](#)
- Feb 26th ~ [Ash Wednesday](#)
- Feb 29th ~ [Leap Day](#)
- Feb 29th ~ [Catholic Men's Conference – Seton Hall](#)

MARCH 2020

- March 8th ~ [Daylight Savings Time Begins](#)
- March 17th ~ [St Patrick's Day](#)
- March 29th ~ [Founder's Day](#)
- March 29th ~ [Free Throw – State Finals](#)
- March 29th ~ [Spelling Bee - State Finals](#)

Please forward this Newsletter to all your council members.

WWW.NJKOFC.ORG



Quarterly Calendar



JANUARY 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

MARCH 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Knights/Family of the Month/Year

Worthy Sirs,

We all run programs every month that are Chaired by a member of the Council, or the family of a Council member. We have Chaplains in our Councils that go over and above when it comes to programs or events run by the Council.

These are the men and families that should be nominated for **Knights of the Month**, **Family of the Month** and **Chaplain of the Month**. This is one of the easiest programs for a Council to run each month. There are basically 2 ways to handle this: a) The Grand Knight chooses the person or family to be named as Knight or Family of the Month; or b) the Grand Knight forms a committee to choose the Council's winners.

The **Knights of the Month Program** is extremely valuable for the recognition of Council Members. The recognition of a Brother Knight for exceptional contributions to the Council, a man that exemplifies his Faith through his actions, can inspire others to greater efforts. The selection should be based upon the members activities during the month. For example, a member that ran your Council's Christmas Poster Contest could be named your Knight of the Month for December at the January meeting. The form for this program can be found in section 5.5 of the Grand Knights Manual.

The **Famly of the Month** could be a member of your Council, but does not necessarily need to be a member. It could be a family that has done something extraordinary for your Council, Parish or Community. The form for this program can be found in section 5.3 of the Grand Knights Manual. The family can also be nominated for the Supreme Council Family of the Month award. This form can be found on the Supreme Website.

At the State Convention each May, the State Council announces a Knight of the Year and a Family of the Year. These nominations are due to the State Chairman by March 31.

State Chairman:

[Christopher Ege, FDD](#)

State Chairman

Knights of Columbus License Plates

Brothers,

We received a pin with the logo of the Order at our 1st Degree and we wear it proudly. Most of us have one or more shirts, hats and jackets where we proudly proclaim we are members of the greatest Order in the world, the Knights of Columbus. Why not display the same pride on the front and back of your car??? Wherever you go, people will know you are a member of the KofC. Show the world that you are proud of who we are and the many good works of the Order.

I'm calling on all brothers to order your K of C plates now! The cost of new plates is only a one time fee of \$25 personalized plates are also available for \$50 more! Contact Hank Keating FDD @ 856-627-3483



Knights of Columbus License Plates are available to all Brother Knights. If you wish to apply for K of C License Plates, please comply with the following instructions:

1. Call the State License Plate Contact and obtain New Jersey Organization Special Plate Application. Please complete the application fully including: 11.7 K of C License Plates
2. Answer all the questions under "Instructions"
3. Complete the mailing stub on the reverse side
4. DO NOT fill out the "Certification by Organization Special Plate Liaison". The State Chairman will fill out that section.

Items to be mailed:

- The application.
- A photocopy of your vehicle registration.
- A photo copy of your current Travel Card.
- A check for \$25.00 made payable to: "N. J. Motor Vehicle Dept."
- You should receive your plates about two weeks after your application is received.

Mail all of the above to the State Chairman:

[Henry J. Keating, FDD](#)

76 Chelsea Circle

Clementon, NJ 08021

PROGRAM CORNER

Hello Worthy Brothers,

We have now entered 2020 and in the second half of the fraternal year. Your Columbian Award reports should be at least half-full. Keep in mind there are three driving forces that you need to be doing to allow your Council to be successful in the **FAITH IN ACTION** program model.

First: **Contact and work with you pastor.** This is the foundation of the FIA program. While not all Pastors totally support all Councils there is no better way to bring them into the fold.

Second: **Ensure you have a strong Program Director** and utilize him as much as possible. Your Program Director will get you what you desire (The Columbian Award).

Finally, **Reporting of your Programs.** Currently, reporting of programs is very low with the State Council, and if we do not know what you are, struggling with we cannot help you. I cannot stress this enough. We are here to help you with your programs. Speaking of reporting all Councils should make sure their forms are completed and submitted. There are still Councils that have not completed their forms 185, 365, and 1295. Check your records and if you have not done them get them in. So very important for your Council. Also, remember that the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (Form 1728) is due by the end of the month (1/31). Remember all forms (State and Supreme) are on the State Website.

There are many programs yet to do and you can fill up on those that are required. **Consecration to the Holy Family** has just completed, but you do not need to conduct this program now, complete it any time before 7/1.

As we go into January, remember all the Special Olympic programs. **Polar Bear Plunge** and **Intellectual Disabilities Drives** are coming. While April may be Intellectual Disabilities month, you do not have to wait to begin; this is a year round program. Start your drives early and remember to send all collected monies to the State, IRS requirements mandate this.

January begins the **Free Throw Tournament**, as well as the **Spelling Bees** for Councils, with the Districts following in February. Regionals and State finals will be in March. You should already have your Free Throw Kits from Supreme, and your sites reserved and notifications out to the schools and local recreation centers for both activities.

For more information these and many other programs, see the NJ State Council GK Handbook at www.njkofo.org.

Vivat Jesus,

[Scott Williams, FDD,](#)

General Program Director

PATRIOTIC CORNER

Dear Brother Sir Knights:

Happy, Healthy and Holy New Year to all our Brother Knights and their families. I hope all had a Great Christmas with the Celebrating of the Birth of our Savior.

Another great year has passed with the growth of the Patriotic Degree. Both the First and Second New Jersey Districts had very successful exemplifications with adding many new Sir Knights. Keep up the Great Job that our District Teams are doing.

This year both Districts will be holding the Biennial District (4th Degree Convention) as time has flown past us so fast. Make sure that you get your paperwork in to be able to attend the conventions and that your credentials have your Assembly Seal on it. The First Districts will be on March 21st, at Le Neve's.

This past December, many assemblies and council's helped put Christmas Wreaths on our Veterans Headstones. Our States Motorcycle Ministry had the Honor to be part of the escort for "Wreaths Across America" Convoy from Norwalk, CT to Arlington Cemetery. They had 10 motorcycles, 6 Police motorcycles, 15 State Police cars from Maine, 15 SUV's and 11 tractor trailers full of wreaths, which were put on Veteran's headstones. This is what it's all about with our Patriotic Degree. They had a great time as per WFN Vinnie Mascelli of Assembly 1250.

Congratulations to all the Color Corpsmen that were honored at our November Exemplification. They all deserved the 2019 Honor of Color Corpسمan of the year. Again, another hard decision, but there could only be one and that was SK Leonard J. Komar, PFN from Assembly John F. Kennedy #0666.

The 2019 Fred Conforti Award went to SK David Cordero for all his hard work above the call for our veterans and Brother Sir Knights.

As we look into the future, the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity #1728, is due this month. Please get all the forms to you Assembly Controller.

November 2019 Fourth Degree Exemplification's honoree was a great choice of Msgr. Gino. He was well deserving of being named our honoree.

This year, 2020, is the year that our districts will have a banner year for recruitment, so start now and make New Jersey the top state in St. Isaac Jogues Province.

On behalf of Vice Supreme Master Andrew Lipenta, fellow Master Chris Tomasello and myself, keep up the Great Work.

[Paul Pinkman,](#)

Master, First New Jersey District

STATE BOWLING TOURNAMENT

Brothers,

Each year, the State Council runs a State Bowling Tournament for Councils to get together and fraternize in friendly competition, have a few laughs and just have a good time with Brother Knights, not to mention a meal together afterwards. This year the tournament is hosted by Msgr John F Baldwin Council 836 in Brick. Bowling will again be at Playdrome in Toms River, but the lunch will be at the Council home, located at 1065 Cedar Bridge Ave. in Brick. Forms are due to State Chairman Andy Kelly, PGK by February 1.

Hoping your Council will consider putting together a 5 man team (or 2) and spend some time with Brother Knights from other areas of the State.



VETERAN'S ASSISTANCE

As the cold weather continues and we all wait for Spring to arrive, there is a group that could really use your help, not just when the weather warms up, but even more now.

Many of our Veterans are living in conditions that would amaze and confound us all. Some are living in their family homes, some are in Veteran's homes, some at friends houses but many are homeless or are living in their cars. This is not what they deserve, they served our military proudly and honorably and deserve to be warm and comfortable after what they have done for this Country. Our President donates his quarterly paycheck to the Veterans Administration, but that is not enough. We could be helping as well, helping veterans in our areas of NJ.

On page 30 in the State Directory, the NJ State Council has 3 gentlemen listed that are ready, willing and able to assist you with ways to help either raise funds for veterans or finding a veterans home to go and spend some time at, talking with them and helping them if possible. Is there a veteran in your town that could use your help, either driving them to doctor appointments, helping shovel snow, or even just taking them to lunch?

CULTURE OF LIFE CORNER

Brothers:

As Messengers for the Culture of Life, many things we do deliver the Message and turn hearts even if we may not know it. Great examples of this are the March for Life in Washington, the Rally in Trenton, the Ultrasound Initiative, and 40 Days for Life.

As for the March, if you are not sponsoring a bus to Washington, there is information on the State Council website at this [LINK](#) that may help you find one leaving from your area. Be sure to check it out. If you can't do that, then plan to attend the Rally for Life in Trenton organized by New Jersey Right to Life. Details can be found on their website through this [LINK](#).

For the **Ultrasound Initiative**, reach out to the pregnancy care center in your area with one of our ultrasound machines and find out their needs. Do they need a new one? Then help raise money to buy it. Do they need help with the costs of operation? Then send them money under our Save a Life program! The vast majority of women who view an ultrasound choose Life!

For **40 Days for Life**, plan to participate starting on Ash Wednesday, and be sure to be there in your Knights jackets, hats, etc., with a good supply of Truth Booth cards to hand out. Give them the opportunity to view an ultrasound image! For other great programs this month think about Bells for Babies or Prayers for Babies. Put a Choose Life banner up in front of your church to spread the message!

We need one big push throughout the month to make the abortion issue top of mind for everyone. We need to deliver the Message!

[Steven J. Richardson, FM](#)

Culture of Life Programs Director



INSURANCE MATTERS

WEBMASTER

LIFE IS FOR LIVING

As we start the new year, I am reminded that we all want to retire on our own terms. When we want to, how we want to and with confidence that our planning will allow us to have a comfortable retirement. I was reminded of these thoughts, because one of the best agents in New Jersey chose to retire at the end of 2019. Guy Mariani, who was a great agent for almost 17 years with the Order, decided that he wanted to play more golf, enjoy warmer weather and spend more time with his wife and grown children.

He and so many of our brothers, are looking at these simple questions:

What will I get from Social Security? Should I take it now, or wait? What will my real living expenses be, when I retire? Can I afford to stay in New Jersey, or do I have to relocate to a lower tax state? Will my nest egg last?

These questions need to be asked, before you make the decision to retire, and even better if you ask them a few years ahead of time.

Social security is not an entitlement, as so many in government want to brand it. We all have paid into it for decades and it is a promise to be kept. Social security is an annuity funded by our contributions that guarantees us a monthly payout in our "golden" years.

Unfortunately, 20-25% of all Americans retiring today have only Social Security to live on. Another 30-35% will have less than \$100,000 of retirement savings on top of that. Half of today's retirees are dependent on Social Security for their survival in retirement. Social security was never intended to be the entire retirement plan for most Americans. It was intended to be a bridge to cover basics, or a safety net for the poor.

As we start the New Year, often we make resolutions. All of us need to resolve to seriously look at what we are doing for retirement. We need to look past the 40+ years of print, radio and TV advertising touting Rates of Return, (which are always given "gross" with no mention of fees etc.). The financial "entertainers" spout clichés, that no longer make sense, (and never did because they never truly factored in down years in the market). We need to see past those clichés to the real returns and not buy products based on advertising, but by what those products will really do for us in our retirement.

Resolve to meet with your Knights of Columbus agent. And ask yourself, how much of my retirement nest egg am not willing to lose? We can help, it's who we are and what we do.

Happy New Year,
[Charles Miraglia](#)
 General Agent

50 Yard Line

Now that we are in the playoff season, allow me just a bit of football analogy. Councils are on the proverbial 50-yard line, the ball is in their hands, they are half way to the end zone, and fulfilling the dreams of Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney is within your sights. You have been coached for the past six months, and that training and inspiration has gotten you this far.

The District Deputies had their half-time pep talk last month; the Grand Knights will have their chance to assess their position this month.

Through it all, the state website (www.njcofc.org) is here to help – 24/7 – in any way, and every way possible. The Grand Knight Manual is on-line; there are links to the forms needed for success – most can be filed on-line – and the state's support team is available, and accessible for authorized users, on-line at all times.

Councils have such a wealth of knowledge and assistance at their fingertips, they just need to ask.

Obviously Council's Past Grand Knights and seasoned officers and chairmen are part of your first string, then your District Deputies and Regional and State Program personnel.

If one were to scroll through just the current state directory and add up the years of combined years of service of your Brother Knights who have stepped forward to lead on the state level, the total number of service would be well into the thousands, if not tens of thousands of years of knowledge and experience. To borrow a parlance – most of us have "Been There, Done That!"

Basically, Councils have been handed the playbook, they have seen the game films, but they face the strongest defense against their own success: TIME.

The forms are posted on-line in chronological order, but the word "deadline" is posted for a reason, and a reminder...Tempus Fugit Brothers, Tempus Fugit.

The sidelines are filled with your advisors and support team; the stands are packed with people from your Church, Community and your Council with supporters of the Knights of Columbus in general and your Council in particular. Go get 'em!

OK, so now I have gone through every conceivable analogy and sports metaphor I could think of, and I don't know about you but I'm exhausted!

Vivat Jesus!!! [Bernard Ernst, FDD](#)
 NJ State Council Webmaster

SQUIRES CORNER

Brothers,

Squires Corner – January 2020

Brothers, Happy New Year, Now that the Holidays are over and we get back to business. We recently filed with Supreme to start a new Circle in Rochelle Park and they should be ready to go live in January or February.

If you can see it in your hearts and your budget to make a donation to the scholarship programs listed below. These programs are meant to help in the development of our youth. If you have or have had one of your children in private Catholic schools you know the cost is high so every little bit helps. I am asking you to contribute to these scholarships, as a Council.

Our State Squires & Squire Rose Scholarship programs

- Fr John M Murray Catholic High School Scholarship
 - Steven Martin
smartin@leahyanjohnson.com
- Fr John M Murray Catholic College Scholarship
 - Steven Martin
smartin@leahyanjohnson.com
- John Attardo College Scholarship
 - Peter Briody, PGK
NJSquires@gmail.com

Chapter 7.1.1 and 7.13 of the *Grand Knights Handbook* has the *pledge* forms as well as the *scholarship applications* for your Squires to complete for eligibility to receive a scholarship.

If you are interested in starting a circle of young men or woman contact us at the emails below or can be found in your NJ Grand Knights handbook/directory.

- **Peter Briody, PGK**
Columbian Squires/Squire Rose Director –
NJSquires@gmail.com
- **Nick Cutrone, PGK**
- Columbian Squire/Squire Rose State Chief Counselor - cutronekofc@gmail.com
- **Tom Rohe, GK**
Columbian Squire/Squire Rose Regional Chairman North - trohe4@optonline.net
- **William McCartney, DD51**
Columbian Squire/Squire Rose Regional Chairman South- MccartneyJr@lcloud.com

[Peter D Briody, PGK](#)

Columbian Squires/Squire Rose Program Director

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Brothers,

As Hugh Downs used to say years ago, "This is 2020!!!" Of course, he was hosting the tv show by that name and it was a news magazine show that went over events that at that time were controversial and sometimes explosive stories of tragedies, but it applies now that we are in the year 2020.

Let me start by saying I hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and New Year Holiday, attending Mass and having dinners with family and loved ones, just enjoying spending time with them and growing closer. I hope those trends continue deeper into the year.

Now, onto the business of the Knights of Columbus. As January goes along, we will have our Regional Grand Knight's Meetings, where we will get together and discuss ways to grow our Councils and the Order. The most important thing, in my mind, is growing the Councils, not only in membership, but also as Brothers. I joined the Order in 1994 and have seen a lot of good things that happen as a Council, but also some not so good things. Each Council has some programs they do better than others, whether it be fundraising for a cause near and dear to the hearts of the membership, collecting and distributing items needed by local families, veterans and charities, helping out at their parishes, or feeding the hungry in the area. Whatever your Council's strong program is, please continue to do what Knights do. And continue to work on growing as Brothers, that is important.

Why do I bring this up, you might be asking yourself. Well, I have been seeing a lot of disruptive comments on social media lately, mostly about the uniform for 4th Degree members, and also some about the new format for the Degrees. Please do not let the comments made by a few disruptive personalities cloud your view of what the KofC was and is. Change is never easy to accept for some of us, & those that know me know I have problems with it. I usually react first, run off at the mouth before thinking about it, and usually shoot myself in the foot. But if you sit down and think about them from a neutral position, you might be able to understand why certain things are going to happen, and believe me, they will happen. Just sit down and look at both sides of things, keep an open mind and work them out logically in your mind.

I hope we all have a successful last 6 months of this Columbian year, grow as Knights and help our Councils and Assemblies achieve more success than we have had in the past. It's all about the future!!!

[John A Gazis, FDD](#), Crusader Editor

MILESTONES



<u>COUNCIL</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>CHARTER DATE</u>	<u>YRS</u>
<u>11017</u>	<u>Piscataway</u>	<u>Piscataway</u>	<u>1/1/1993</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>4524</u>	<u>St Francis of Assisi</u>	<u>East Rutherford</u>	<u>1/5/1958</u>	<u>62</u>
<u>3485</u>	<u>Epiphany</u>	<u>Mt Ephraim</u>	<u>1/6/1952</u>	<u>68</u>
<u>3397</u>	<u>Assumption</u>	<u>Glassboro</u>	<u>1/7/1951</u>	<u>69</u>
<u>552</u>	<u>Watchung</u>	<u>Plainfield</u>	<u>1/9/1901</u>	<u>119</u>
<u>836</u>	<u>Msgr John F Baldwin</u>	<u>Brick</u>	<u>1/10/1904</u>	<u>116</u>
<u>3630</u>	<u>Madonna de la Liberia</u>	<u>North Bergen</u>	<u>1/15/1953</u>	<u>67</u>
<u>4154</u>	<u>Queen of Heaven</u>	<u>Clarksboro</u>	<u>1/15/1956</u>	<u>64</u>
<u>3946</u>	<u>St Joseph the Carpenter</u>	<u>Roselle</u>	<u>1/16/1955</u>	<u>65</u>
<u>5486</u>	<u>John Fitzgerald Kennedy</u>	<u>Lincoln Park</u>	<u>1/19/1964</u>	<u>56</u>
<u>402</u>	<u>Our Lady of Grace</u>	<u>Harrison</u>	<u>1/22/1899</u>	<u>121</u>
<u>299</u>	<u>San Salvador</u>	<u>Perth Amboy</u>	<u>1/23/1898</u>	<u>122</u>
<u>2229</u>	<u>E G Alberque, Sr</u>	<u>Ridgefield Park</u>	<u>1/23/1921</u>	<u>99</u>
<u>2560</u>	<u>Fr Thomas Blake</u>	<u>Ocean City</u>	<u>1/24/1925</u>	<u>95</u>
<u>1082</u>	<u>Moorestown</u>	<u>Moorestown</u>	<u>1/28/1906</u>	<u>114</u>
<u>835</u>	<u>Bellville</u>	<u>Bellville</u>	<u>1/31/1904</u>	<u>116</u>

State Deputy Vincent Tavormina along with the entire NJ State Council and the Crusader Staff would like to take this opportunity to wish **ALL** councils best wishes on their **Charter Anniversary**.

May your council continue to grow and do good deeds for many more years to come! Let's continue to grow our Order, expand our programs and continue to be "**Anchored in our Charity and Fraternity!**"

Happy Anniversary

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