



# KNIGHT LETTER

May 2017

COUNCIL 816 MARY QUEEN OF THE KNIGHTS

## Grand Knight's Report

My Brother Knights,

**CHARITY is sharing**

**Good News with others**

*Rather, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it. ~Luke 11:28*

James is sometimes referred to as St. James "the Lesser." To distinguish him from St. James :the Greater," who was also an apostle and the brother of St. John, James' brother. St. Jude was also an apostle, and their mother Mary was a close relative of the Blessed Virgin; for that reason, James was sometimes called the brother (cousin) of the LORD. But James' holiness came not from being related to Jesus in a biological way, but in a spiritual one and this is a relationship Our LORD offers to every one of His followers.

[www.kofc816.org](http://www.kofc816.org)



**Why aren't all Catholic men Knights? They weren't asked! Ask a fellow Parishioner, You'll be surprised!**

When Jesus called Philip as an apostle, his first impulse was to share the news with his friend, Nathanael, describing Jesus as "the One of Whom Moses spoke." At the Last Supper, it was Philip who asked Jesus to show them the Father (John 14:8-9); he, like the other disciples, was slow to realize the union between God the Father and Christ. But Philip's example reminds us that, as Good News, the Gospel is meant to be shared with others; every Christian is called to evangelize in one way or another.

Do we hear Good News at every council meeting and how are we sharing it with others?

I would like to wish Great Grand Mothers, Grand Mothers, Mothers and Wives a **Happy Mothers' Day.**

Thank You

God Bless Our Council and members

Herbert D. Hagmann  
Grand Knight  
Vivat Jesus

## 2017-2018 Columbian Year Slate of Officers

Grand Knight Sebastian Pasquale Vaccaro Jr  
Deputy Grand Knight Paul J Charette  
Chancellor Christopher J Piazza  
Recorder Stephen Grandinetti  
Treasurer Joseph A Lynch - PGK  
Advocate Daniel J Maxwell  
Warden Richard Coscarelli  
Inside Guard Michael F Maugeri  
Outside Guard Anthony R Pappa

One Year Trustee James A Emmons - PGK  
Two Year Trustee Dominick P Pondaco - PGK  
Three Year Trustee Herbert D Hagmann  
Financial Secretary Deacon John M Kopcak - PGK

**Dinner Alert**  
Sandwichs and Salad

# The Spiritual Corner

by Deacon John Kopcak PGK

A pastor of a rich parish was speaking to the kids in Sunday school. He explained that as pastor he was the shepherd and the members of his parish were the sheep. "Now," he asked, "What does the shepherd do for his sheep?" One little boy raised his hand and answered, "He fleeces them." Actually his answer was correct. That's what shepherds do today but he didn't understand the Biblical concept of the shepherd and his flock. To be honest with you I found this past Sunday's gospel puzzling. Jesus is the shepherd, He is the gate, and you must walk through Him. Those who don't pass through the gate to get to the sheepfold are thieves and robbers. But if you are His sheep you will follow Him because you know His voice. Finally, the Pharisees didn't know what he was trying to tell them. What does it all mean? It has to mean more than Jesus is the shepherd and we are his flock or followers. But in order to understand the significance of today's gospel it is necessary to understand the role of a Palestinian shepherd in Jesus time. So I decided to do some research and this is what I found. Every night the shepherds brought their sheep into a sheepfold to protect them and keep them from running away. The sheepfold was a circular stonewall with an opening in the front. At night the shepherd would sleep in that opening. If the sheep tried to leave they would have to walk over the shepherd. His presence kept them from roaming about and getting lost during the night. But more importantly if wolves tried to attack the sheep by going through the gate they would have to attack the shepherd first. So in effect the shepherd could be laying down his life for his sheep. Does that sound familiar? In Hebrew scripture God's anointed deputies were often referred to as shepherds because their role was to nurture and protect God's people. Very often they didn't feed and nurture God's people but fed on them and led them astray as in the case of the Pharisees. They taught that people were made for the law not the law for the people. That's why Jesus was condemned for helping the sick on the Sabbath. The law was the important thing not the people who were cured. The Pharisees were leading the people in a direction that God didn't want. They were bad shepherds. That is why Jesus is called the Good Shepherd. He protects, nurtures and lays down His life for His flock. We are taught that Jesus laid down His life to save all people so in effect all people are members of His flock. If that's the case why don't all people recognize and follow the voice of Jesus. In my research for today's homily I read how sheep recognized the voice of their shepherd even when they were mixed in with other flocks in the presence of other shepherds. When their particular shepherd called they responded by following him. EXCEPT WHEN THEY ARE SICK. I think the same is true of people. Sickness implies being weak and it is because of human weakness that we don't always recognize the voice of Jesus and that can cause us to follow the wrong shepherd. So what does all this mean for us in today's world? I think to answer that question lies within ourselves and is different for each one of us. I would like to close with some questions we can all think about. Are faithful members of God's flock? Do I always hear the voice of Jesus or does our own weakness cause me to be misled by the modern day Pharisees of SECULAR HUMANISM and CONSUMERISM which teach us to be self-centered, self gratifying and covet more than we actually need? As members of Christ's flock we are called to pass through His gate and follow Him by sharing in the shepherding of His flock. How can I a better shepherd to those around me. Do I reach out with understanding and compassion to the weak and the misguided SO THAT THEY MAY HEAR the loving voice of Jesus the Good Shepherd?

## Good of the Order

"As a reminder, it is the responsibility of all Brothers to inform either the Grand Knight Herb Hagmann 732-245-5388, or the Financial Secretary John Kopcak (732-776-7643) upon the learning of the death of any K of C Brother, so proper actions can be taken. Don't assume that the GK or FS automatically know about all Brother's deaths, sometimes they need your help!"

## May Events

May14 Mother's Day

May19& 20 State Convention Wildwood

May25 Ascension Thursday

May28 Breakfast Buffet and Raffle Drawing

May29 Memorial Day

## Upcoming Events

June 1 Officer's Meeting

June 8 Business Meeting- Election of officers

June 24 Dinner

June 25 Breakfast Buffet and Raffle Drawing

July 15 Blueclaws Game

## May Birthdays Brothers, Happy Birthday!

Harry Devine

Anthony Goralski

John Kopcak PGK

Robert La Falce

Edward Moskal

Glenn Osborne

Donald Paccione

Robert Shafer III

Mike Strada

Michael Tomaszeski

Michael Wilcken

Mark Ziolkowski

### Charitable Donations

\$200. to Holy Innocents Booster Club

\$200. to St Jude Hospital

\$360 to Deborah Hospital

\$200 to Send A Hero Home

\$215 for ARC Drive

### March's Raffle Winners

1st Prize Ken Karmazyn \$115.00

2nd Prize Tony Mindas \$57.50

3rd Prize Mary Ann Kirk \$57.50

4th Prize Judith Glinski \$28.75

5th Prize Mike Killeen \$28.75

## Charity Our driving principal

### Foundation News

Our cleanup and maintenance will be one evening in June.

We now have new tables and chairs for the Council Home.

### Ladies Auxiliary News

Once again the Auxiliary is offering a \$500.00 scholarship to a graduating high school senior who is Catholic and who will pursue further academic studies.

This year the scholarship is in memory of Emily A. Donovan. Emily was a charter member of the Auxiliary and was devoted to its work. It was her request that donations be made to our scholarship fund. Through the generous gifts of her friends and family we are able to offer the scholarship again this year.

If you would like an application, please call Karen Kopcak (732) 776-7643.

**Degree Alert** Congrats to John Murtagh on making his Third Degree and John Ganley for making his First and Second Degrees.

Welcome Brothers.

Note: We now have two Brothers named John Ganley.

## **Editor's Note**

On May 8th I walked into the Council Home for the Chapter Meeting we hosted and I was impressed. The hall was set up as usual with one glaring difference, there were new tables and chairs. How great was it to see OUR hall set up minus those old worn out tables and chairs. Next month we will hold our election of Officers. It would be a wonderful opportunity (there's that word again) to see our new additions. It is a welcome change and you can see it for yourself at the Meeting or the Breakfast Buffet.

God bless, Joe