



KNIGHT LETTER

November December 2019

COUNCIL 816 MARY QUEEN OF THE KNIGHTS

Brothers;

We can spread peace, not discord, wherever we go. We can try to be part of the cure of every situation, not part of the problem. We can work patiently to make things better. We can always try to build up, never tear down. We can show others by our example that happiness comes from living the right way. The power of our example is greater than the power of what we say.

For those who served in the Military, Thank you for your Service & have a Special Veterans Day.

Happy Thanksgiving to all the Brothers and their Family.

Christmas - The Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Eve, Joseph went from Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her first-born, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

On Christmas day an angel appeared and said, "Do not be afraid, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the **LORD.**"

www.kofc816.org



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

Shepherds came to adore him and wise men followed a star to Bethlehem to bring gifts.

Brother to Brother, family to family, we celebrate as Knights the birth of our Savior, the Son of God, and that in our faith we may have life in His name.

Brothers as you pass by or come to a function at the council home and you observe the Nativity scene on display, think to yourself this is really what Christmas is all about. The reason you should keep Christ in your life. Remember to say the words "MERRY CHRISTMAS." HE is the reason for the season.

Hope to see you all at our Christmas Party on December 14, 2019.

I wish all my Brothers and their families a "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Herbert D. Hagmann

Grand Knight

Vivat Jesus

**November 16
Memorial Mass 6:00 PM at
the Council Home and
Covered Dish Dinner to
follow. Bring your family's
favorite dish to share with us.**

The Spiritual Corner

by Deacon John Kopcak PGK

There is a story about a prominent family who sought the services of a man who was both a genealogist and a writer. They wanted him to write a family history but they warned him of an uncle who died in the electric chair. "Don't worry", he said, "I can handle it. I'll merely say that he held a seat of applied electricity in a famous government institution and that his death came as a real shock." You might say that he was trying to rewrite the family's heritage. Our heritage is part of who we are. We shouldn't change it.

When I was a kid people would ask me about my family heritage. I knew my mother was Irish but I didn't even know what kind of a name Kopcak was. A number of years ago I decided to investigate my heritage. After years of research I discovered that my grandfather was born in the town of Fetekekut in Austria-Hungary. Today it is called Sambron and is in the country of Slovakia. My grandmother's parents were from Drienov located in the country of Slovakia. Through research I learned that life was very hard and that the average life span for a male in Slovakia in the 1880's was only 31 years. So they came to the USA. Both my grandfather and my great grandfather worked 12 hours a day in the coal mines of Pennsylvania. Life was not easy. One thing that they held on to steadfastly was their faith.

The Irish side of the family was not much different except for the country of origin. The first Donovan came here in 1849 during the height of the potato famine. My 2nd great grandfather sailed from Cork Ireland on what was called a "famine ship". Again times were hard but their faith gave them the strength to persevere. No one can take this ancestry away. Not from me or you or any of us. That is why we celebrate St Patrick's Day, Columbus Day, Puerto Rico Day, African American day etc, etc.

In the Gospel of Matthew the ancestry of Jesus is traced back to David. David's kingship finds its fulfillment when Mary gives birth to Jesus. Jesus rules over a Kingdom with no end, the kingdom of God. As followers of Jesus His ancestry becomes our spiritual lineage. It is as much a part of who we are as our genealogical ancestry. But there is one thing that has been bothering me for several years. It has to do with our heritage. Suppose the celebration of St Patrick's Day or Puerto Rican Day or Afro-American Day was all lumped together as People's Day. How would we feel about that? Yet this is the very thing that is happening to the heritage of Christmas. Just the other day I heard the words to "We wish you a Merry Christmas" changed to "We wish you a Happy Holiday." I think things have gone too far. Some people blame the liberals. Some blame commercialism. But we have no one to blame but ourselves. We let it happen. How do we prepare for the coming of Christmas? We kick off the Christmas season by pushing and shoving each other on Black Friday. We run around shopping here, shopping there. We get angry with the people while driving. We get angry with the people in the store. We get angry with the clerks in the store. We worry about this and that. We get so wrapped up in the commercialism that we focus on **the word Christmas not its meaning**. We have to take a step back and ask ourselves if we are acting like Christians. Are we showing other people the God that dwells within us? Do we buy and send Christmas cards that reflect the meaning of Christmas. If someone wishes us a Happy holiday do we wish him or her a **Merry Christmas?** If they are Jewish do wish them a Happy Chanukah? If they are Moslem do we wish them a Blessed Ramadan. Let us keep God in Christmas. Lets not rewrite our heritage like the man in the story. Let us nourish it, and keep it, and pass it on to our children and grandchildren.

Schedule of Events

- Nov 11 - Veterans Day
- 14 - Council Meeting
- 16 - Memorial Mass 6:00 PM Council Home and Covered Dish Dinner to follow
- 18 - Turkey Basket Funding
- 28 - Thanksgiving
- Dec 5 - Officer's Meeting
- 6 Third Degree
- 8 - Immaculate Conception
- 12 - Council Meeting
- 14 - Council Christmas Party
- 25 - Christmas Day
- Jan 1 - New Years Day
- 2 - Officer's Meeting
- 9 - Council Meeting
- 26 - Monthly Breakfast & Blood Drive

**January 26, 2019
Blood Drive at the
Breakfast Buffet
9AM till 12 Noon
Donate a pint of
blood and get a free
Breakfast and a \$10.
gift card from Luigi's .**

November	December
<p>Birthdays Brothers, Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Lewis Campanile Kenneth Gerard Todd Goehring James Gorman Stanley Mann Jr. Daniel Maxwell Fr. Nolan Joseph Prati John Stuppi Mark Thomas</p>	<p>Birthdays Brothers, Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Phillip Giambalvo FDD Peter Katula Joseph Lynch PGK Robert Lynch Guadalupe Reyes Robert Simkin Thomas Taylor Jose Trejo Michael Wright</p>

Council Christmas Party

Saturday December 14, 2019
6:30 PM to 10:00 PM

All Brothers and their families are encouraged to attend.
Please bring an unwrapped toy to be given to children in the hospital (Jersey Shore Medical Center).
please, no stuffed or plush toys
**Please RSVP GK Herb Hagmann
732-245-5388, or
Email PGK Joe Lynch
jalynch696@verizon.net**

Good of the Order

“As a reminder, it is the responsibility of all Brothers to inform either the Grand Knight Herb Hagmann GK 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!”

Editor's Note

Brothers, As we enter the Holiday Season, let us be thankful for the Blessings we have received this year. We pray for our Brother's souls that have left us. And we pray for the less fortunate that their plight will improve. Don't forget the Memorial Mass held at the Council home and our annual Christmas Party(check the event listings on page 3). I hope all will have a Happy Thanksgiving, a Holy and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

God bless, Joe Lynch PGK

November 16, 2019

**Memorial Mass 6:00 PM at the
Council Home and
Covered Dish Dinner to
follow. Bring your family's favor-
ite dish to share with us.**