



# KNIGHT LETTER

April 2016

COUNCIL 816 MARY QUEEN OF THE KNIGHTS

## Grand Knight's Report

My Brothers:

April is going to be a busy month with the Birth Rite Dinner, Birth Rite raffle, the Benefit Dinner for Madonna House, monthly breakfast and the Pride in the Priest dinner. With all these things happening, I was praying to the Lord to help us be successful with all these functions. Then I came across a short story I recently read and it was similar to task that our council was asked to do.

### **Pray until something happens.**

A man was sleeping when the Savior appeared. The LORD told him there was work to be done, and showed him a massive rock which he was to push with all his might. For many years the man toiled. The Adversary sensed his despair and placed thoughts into his weary mind: "You are never going to move it."

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



"Why kill myself over this?" the man thought. He decided to make it a matter of prayer and take his troubled thoughts to the LORD. "I have labored long and hard in Your service. Yet, I have not budged that rock

by half a millimeter. Why am I failing?" The LORD responded compassionately, "When I asked you to serve me, your task was to push against the rock with all your strength. Never once did I mention that I expected you to move it. And now you come to me, thinking that you have failed. But now you are strong and muscled.

Through opposition your abilities now surpass that which you used to have. Your calling was to be obedient and to exercise your faith in Me, and you have done so. I, my friend, will now move the rock."

By all means, exercise the faith that moves mountains, but know that it is god who moves them. Author unknown  
Do you entertain thoughts from the Adversary when you grow weary?

*When everything seems to go wrong, just **PUSH!** When the job gets you down, just **PUSH!***

**P.U.S.H.** – Pray Until Something Happens - Author unknown

God bless our council and its members

Vivat Jesus Herbert D. Hagmann Grand Knight

# **The Spiritual Corner** by Deacon John Kopcak PGK

The fourth Sunday of Easter and is also known as Good Shepherd Sunday. At first I planned to do a homily based on the idea of Jesus as the Good Shepherd and us as His Flock. But as I reread the Gospel one word kept on jumping out at me, HAND. There are all different kinds of hands. Big hands, small hands, rough hands, smooth hands, strong hands, weak hands, gentle hands. I once knew a woman whose husband was a hand model. He must have had handsome hands because they used his hands to make TV commercials. One thing that all hands have in common is that they can give peace, comfort and security when used to hold a child. Think of a time when you were 3 or 4 years old and in a large crowd. Think of how afraid and confused you got in the midst of all those people who were bigger than you. Those feelings seemed to disappear when your mother or father took your hand.

In John's Gospel, Jesus tells us that we are in His hand and no one can take us out. Being in the hands of Christ and the Father should be a source of great comfort and strength for us and if we choose to remain in His hands we will continue to have those feelings of safety and comfort. As Catholics and followers of Christ we are called TO BE HIS HANDS by giving consolation and comfort to one another especially the poor and the spiritually and physically sick. In fact we are called to be God's hands for anyone who is hurting.

Let's face it. There are times in our lives when it seems that God no longer holds us in His hand, especially times of great tragedy. Where is His comfort then? I believe that it is there but our anger and frustration block God's healing presence. Why doesn't God take away our hurt? Why does God allow this to happen? Why doesn't he force His Healing presence on us? Why does He allow bad things to happen? When I was in kindergarten I lived about five blocks from school. I had to walk to school with my older sister who would walk me across the streets. I begged my mother to let me cross streets alone. Finally one day she said that she would watch me cross the street alone. If I did it carefully I could walk to school with my friends. I will never forget how alone I felt that day when I first crossed a street by myself. But you know I really wasn't alone. My mother was watching to keep me safe. She allowed me to feel alone because she understood that by crossing the street by myself I was growing, taking a small step toward adulthood. I think God does the same thing by not forcing His healing presence on us. He wants us to turn to Him and love Him by using the greatest gift He has given us, OUR FREE WILL. Only when we use this free will to turn to God in our time of need can we feel the presence of His hand in our lives. Only then can we GROW SPIRITUALLY.

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## **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.

**April Birthdays Brothers, Happy Birthday!**

Giacomo Bertini  
 Daniel Brown PGK  
 Gerard Brown  
 Robert Brown PGK  
 Nicholas Burke  
 Michael Freeman  
 Gerald Freda  
 Pascal Gambardella  
 Anthony Gesualdo  
 John Kiernan  
 Frej Krook  
 Joseph Marmora  
 Mark Mastrorilli  
 Jose Pastrana  
 Ken Roberts  
 Robert Shafer Jr.  
 Walter Thompson  
 Richard Weber  
 Bruce Wescott  
 Michael Yezo

**April Events**

April 7 Officer's Meeting  
 April 14 Business Meeting  
 April 16 Birthrite Dinner  
 April 23 Sitdown Dinner for Madonna House  
 April 24 Breakfast Buffet & 4th Raffle Drawing  
 April 28 Pride in Priests Dinner

**Upcoming Events**

May 8 Mother's Day  
 May 13,14,15 Convention  
 June 25 Pasta Dinner

**April 24,2016  
 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 .  
 Call Brother Felix Spano  
 732-585-8281 for more info**

**Dinner Alert!**

Chili, Salad & Bread  
 7 PM before the meeting

**March Raffle Winners**

1st Prize Jonathon Fabbriatore \$89.17  
 2nd Prize Dave Reeves \$44.58  
 3rd Prize Nancy Costa \$44.58  
 4th Prize Joseph Lynch \$22.29  
 5th Prize Joe Salvatore \$22.29

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

**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 Ray Barnes (732-998-0882 ) 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!"

**Troop Morale-Soldier Boxes**

Council #816 is dedicated to supply our troops with "care packages". These donations are collected year-round and are sent to our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan four times a year. Unscented toiletries and personal care items are needed, individual snacks and entertainment items or anything that shows them that we care. We will be shipping the next collection in February, which is also Girl Scout Cookie month. Donations of cookies and care items are on the list. God Bless our Troops.

# **Knights of Columbus # 816**

**Benefit Dinner For:**

**The Madonna House**

Saturday April 23, 2016 7:00PM

\$35.00 per Person

**Menu Selection:**

Chicken Marsala            Flounder Franchisee

Pasta Primavera

Peas/Risotto

Includes: Salad, Dessert and Coffee/Tea

**BYOB *Limited Seating***

**Place: 203 West Sylvania Avenue**

**Neptune City, New Jersey**

**For Reservations Call:Herb Hagmann GK**

**732-245-5388**

**(hagdonher27@aol.com)**

**Joe Lynch    732-682-1331**

**(jalynch696@verizon.net)**