



# KNIGHT LETTER

September 2016

COUNCIL 816 MARY QUEEN OF THE KNIGHTS

## Grand Knight's Report

Brothers;

### **Charity is adhering to a new commandment**

*A new commandment I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. - John 13:34*

Jesus' disciples were arguing about which of them would be the greatest in the kingdom. They were on an ego trip; they were being selfish, self-centered, self-indulgent, and insensitive to Jesus and the pain and sin He was about to bear. Finally, Jesus did what they wouldn't do for each other. He washed their filthy feet. Then He said, "A new commandment I give you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you." By washing their feet, He showed that where there is a need, love acts, sacrificially. This is the husband's role in marriage. Paul says true love "does not seek its own ( 1Corinthians 13:5)." As long as a man is looking for what it is to love his wife as Christ loves the Church, and he can never experience the richness of self-giving and its amazing dividends.

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



The world teaches us to "be the macho man, the big shot. Don't let anyone step on your territory, fight back, grab all that you can because you deserve it." But the Bible simply says, "Set yourself aside."

When was the last time you made a sacrifice for your wife? When was the last time you changed your own carefully laid plans to accommodate her wishes?

*If you are to love that woman in your house like Christ loves the Church, you will have to see the death of your own selfish desires. - John McArthur, Jr.*

**I would like to wish all my brothers and their families a Happy and Safe Labor Day.**  
Vivat Jesus Herbert D. Hagmann  
Grand Knight

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

# The Spiritual Corner

by Deacon John Kopcak PGK

A CCD teacher asked one of her students, "Johnny, can you tell me what we have to do to have our sins forgiven?" "Yes ma'am," Johnny replied, "We must sin." Next Sunday's gospel which consists of three parables tells us about forgiveness and the nature of God. The first two parables share common themes. In the first parable, a shepherd leaves his flock in search of one lost sheep. In the second parable a woman stays up all night sweeping her home to recover a paltry sum. It seems that both acted foolishly. What shepherd would abandon his entire flock to look for one lost sheep? What woman would turn her house upside down to look for a coin that was practically worthless? The point is that the shepherd and the woman went to great lengths to find what was lost just as the Father goes to great lengths to find us when we are lost. His mercy is as foolish as the shepherd who abandons his flock or the woman who turns her house upside down looking for a paltry sum. Repentance and forgiveness begins not because of what we do but because of what God does. The last parable is probably the most famous of the three. The Prodigal son. It could have just as easily been called the Prodigal Father. You see the word prodigal has two meanings: recklessly wasteful and profuse in giving. The father was certainly profuse in giving. To begin with he gave his prodigal son his share of his inheritance before his death. This was extremely rare and for the son to even ask for his inheritance before his father's death was tantamount to saying, "I wish you were dead." He cut himself off completely from his family, lost his faith by becoming a gentile and went on to live a life of debauchery. When things get bad he undergoes a conversion. He turns back to the father and the prodigal father is profuse in giving. The son is received with open armed acceptance. He is given shoes, a robe, a ring and the fatted calf is slaughtered for a great feast in his honor. The prodigal father is filled with joy and the prodigal son who was lost and unhappy now shares in the father's joy. The parable of the Prodigal son is a story of two lost sheep. When the younger son returns the older son becomes lost. He cannot share in the father's joy. He is lost in a world of bitterness and resentment. There is much Pharisee in him. He like the Pharisees does what he is told but like he Pharisees he is inflexible. He lacks forgiveness and compassion and is incapable of bending. How then can he return to the father? How can we return to the Father? The answer is to trust in God and practice gratitude daily. We must thank God for what He has given us each day. Gratitude and resentment cannot exist together. To return to the father means to become the Father. We must become compassionate as the Father is compassionate.

Many of us have a fear of God. Henri Nouwen calls this a great human tragedy. To fear God is to put limits on His love and compassion. We must rid ourselves of this concept. How can we be compassionate if we believe that God himself is vengeful and angry? Doesn't this concept lead us to do the same. We become compassionate through grief, forgiveness and generosity. Grief is seeing the sinfulness in the world and knowing it is the price we pay so that love can bloom. Without freewill there would be no sin but without free will we could not willingly love and be loved. Our forgiveness must be complete and unconditional and generosity must be a complete pouring out of what we have. We must practice these things daily. They do not occur spontaneously. All of us have both sons within us. The two sons must be transformed into the compassionate Father.

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**Dinner Alert!**

Spaghetti and Meatballs.

## September's Events

Sept 8 **Business Meeting**

Sept 10 Farewell to Fr. Wallack after the 5:30 Mass

Sept 17 Installation of Officers

Sept 18 Holy Innocents' Picnic

Sept 28 **Breakfast Buffet and Raffle Drawing**

## Upcoming Events

Oct 6 **Officer's Meeting**

Oct 8 & 9 **Membership Drive Ascension**

Oct 13 **Business Meeting**

Oct 22 **Halloween Party (more info next month)**

Oct 23 **Breakfast Buffet and Raffle Drawing**

Oct 29 & 30 **Membership Drive Holy Innocents**

Nov 12 **Memorial Mass & covered dish**

Dec 10 **Council Christmas Party**

## September

### Birthdays

### Brothers

### Happy Birthday!

Anthony Cashman

Jason Castillo

Raymond Fedak

Emil Fortunato

Big Al Freda

Sam Fusaro

John Grasso PGK

Joe Lesniewski

Peter Pojero

Thomas Polk

Don Rydell

Guy Scarpelli

Felix Spano

## Installation of Officers

September 17, 2016

Church of the Ascension

Bradley Beach

after the 5 PM Mass

Dinner following at the

Council Home

### August's Raffle Winners

1st Prize Bruce Tiso \$89.17

2nd Prize Tracy Neiby Jr. \$44.58

3rd Prize Frank J. Masco \$44.58

4th Prize Dave Reeves \$22.29

5th Prize Lillian Mosley \$22.29

### 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.

## **Editor's Note**

Brothers, The 2017 Raffle Tickets will be available at this Month's Business Meeting. This year we sold 107 tickets netting the Council \$2500. for our charity work. We would like to sell all 300 tickets this time netting us a total of \$7500 for charity and \$7500 in prizes. The tickets will also be available at September's breakfast. If you don't want to sell them then buy one for yourself. You have 60 chances to win all year (such a deal).  
God bless. Joe Lynch PGK