

December 2019

Grand Knight's Message

December is here! The last of the heat blasts have abated and the leaves are falling quickly. This time of year is both busy and joyous. There are many different things to do secularly, at church, at home, and at the Columbian Center. Please remember the **Reason for the Season**, to **Keep Christ in Christmas**, to be soberly joyous and to be present in your parish to greet the newcomers and the welcome-backers with open arms and a smiling face. To be Catholic is to be someone who evangelizes the Gospel. I've heard it is okay to do it without words.

Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year to all!

Rick Schirm, Grand Knight, Council 5480

Deputy Grand Knight's Message

WOW! Where has the year gone? It seems like we were just watching the college football playoffs yesterday. Oh, well. I hope and pray that you had a fantastic year. It is time to close 2019 and ring in 2020. But first, we must prepare for Baby Jesus' arrival on Dec 25th. Advent starts on December 1st this year. Do you have your Advent wreath ready? Will you use Advent daily prayers from a booklet picked up at church or downloaded from the internet? USCCB.org is a great site for Advent (and all things Catholic), as is catholic.org.



Issue 31

Number 12

We hope you plan on attending the Council/Assembly Christmas Party on 7 Dec at 6:30 p.m. (doors open at (6:00 p.m.). Turkey, ham and chicken are being provided; please bring a side dish or dessert. I can't wait to taste your Christmas cooking. I was told there would be door prizes also and other giveaways. Music will be played for a Christmas atmosphere and for dancing after you are done enjoying your meal and dessert. If you aren't busy, we could use your decorating expertise on 6 Dec at 6:30 p.m.

Some things can't be mentioned enough. Don't forget that January has several options for participating in Pro-Life events: 17 Jan has a dinner in the lounge, 24 Jan is the March for Life in Washington, DC, and if that isn't enough, there is the nine-day Novena from 21 – 29 Jan. Another event that will need your help this coming is PORT: in January at St. Jerome's and in February for OLMC. Check your church bulletin.

P.S. Now that I am just about finished, I remembered what my theme was going to be for this month – GIVING. Today's daily reading (Lk 21:3-4) was about giving. "I tell you truly, the poor widow put in more than all the rest; for those others have all made offerings from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has offered her whole livelihood." So, when the next batch of so-called junk mail arrives in your mailbox, can you give just a little bit more? Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Louis Federico, Deputy Grand Knight, Council 5480

This publication is for the information of Walter Pollard Council 5480 members and does not necessarily reflect the views of Supreme Council, the Knights of Columbus, or Council jurisdiction officers.



Roaring Knights Dec 2019 Bartender Schedule

Date	Day	Description	Bartenders
3	Tuesday	Assembly Meeting	Howard
6	Friday	Open Night	Hill
7	Saturday	Christmas Party	Johnson
10	Tuesday	Council Meeting	Kelley/ Humphrey
13	Friday	Birthday Night	Kerstetter
20	Friday	Open Night	Rios
27	Friday	Open Night	-

If a Knight is interested in tending bar or cannot make his scheduled evening, <u>please contact</u> Alberto Ríos at



For all Lounge Rentals, please contact





A Time for Reflection

We seem to say it every year, "It's almost Christmas, where has the year gone?" As we look back we measure the passing of the seasons, from one holiday to the next, and see how our lives have changed over that time. Christmas and the end of the year mark a milestone for most of us. The season gives us pause to thank God for sending his only-begotten Son to redeem us and it is a time to reflect on all the gifts we've received from him. God's gift to us inspires the gift-giving so many of us enjoy at Christmas time. We certainly enjoy receiving those gifts but reflect for a moment of what the giving of gifts does for the gift-giver.

Some gift-givers aren't so good with words, so they use gifts: Remember "Say it with flowers," the slogan of FTD. Some get a sense of satisfaction in seeing the happiness of the recipient, some feel appreciation that they are able to share what God has given them. It seems to fulfill the need to please, encourage or help someone. It makes us feel good to give.

As I look back at 2019, I can't help but think of all of the selfless members of the Order who gave gifts to help others. As our Supreme Knight highlighted in is address at the Supreme Convention just a few months ago we are "Knights of Charity." And we prove this every day with the many people who give of themselves—their time, talent, or treasure—to help those less fortunate and those in need.

The Supreme Knight spoke about the disaster relief provided by our Knights of Charity: \$4.2 million supporting hurricane victims alone. The 1,000th ultrasound machine has been placed in service to help save more unborn children. He talked about our mission of charity to the Middle East and the Christian community there that faces extinction. More than \$20 million has provided food, shelter, clothing and a new 140-unit apartment building for Christians and those of other religions who need our help. Knights of Charity helped provide coats for more than 105,000 kids who will now stay warm this winter.

Knights are known for their generosity. We are, indeed, Knights of Charity.

All of these important initiatives help many others, but don't forget about your own family...and I'm not talking about gifts that you'll put under the tree. This holiday season as we think of giving and receiving, when we think of all the good gifts we have been given and all we are able to give, make sure you give your family the gift of peace of mind. Secure in the knowledge that whatever challenges they may face, you have protected them.

The Knights of Columbus has the products that will do just that: Provide financially for your family if you aren't here, make sure you have enough for a comfortable retirement, give the care needed if you can't care for yourself, and make sure all of this comes to pass if you are sick or hurt and can't work. It's painless to sit down with me to analyze your particular situation.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, let us be thankful for all the graces God has showered on us, especially the gift of his Son, our Savior! As Isaiah 9:5 says: For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. (New American Bible, Revised Edition)

God Bless, **Todd Curtis, FIC – Your Field Advisor** Phone – (757) 495-1492 Email – todd.curtis@kofc.org

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Attention All Hands!				
Family Christmas Party	Our combined Council and Assembly Family Christmas Party is on 7 December 2019. The Worthy Deputy Grand Knight addresses this quite well in his article. Please understand that the idea is to relax and enjoy each other's company. To bring a dish to pass is not a challenge to try out for the English Baking Contest. Bring something simple, purchased or made. We have a good time at the Assembly Dining In because of who we dine with not necessarily the wonderful food that is brought. Same thing for the Christmas Party.			
Breakfast with St. Nicolas	The Children's Breakfast with St. Nicholas will be on 14 December 2019 at 8:00 a.m This event will be a wonderful exploration of the real reason for the season versus the secular one.			
Memorial Mass	The 26th of November was our annual combined Council and Assembly Memorial Mass . Thank you for all who contributed to this Mass and a special thanks to the St. Jerome's Choir for helping us with the songs.			
Annual Survey	It's time for the annual Survey of Fraternal Activity, Form 1728 which was email to every Knight in the Order. If you don't have one, please contact the Deputy Grand Knight for help.			
Dues	The annual dues are coming due very soon. Please be ready to support our Financial Secretary as he supports us year round.			
How Do We Matter?	The question remains: If your Council was not here, who would miss it? I have a few clues based on the mail we receive requesting donations. But more importantly, would the Parishes miss us? If all the KofC families went on a month long retreat would it impact the parishes? <u>Hopefully so</u> . <i>But do the parishioners know?</i> Do you wear your name badge or wear KofC branded clothing? Can the wife of a potential Brother Knight identify a KofC wife and ask her a question? As Sir Knight John Edward says as a bingo caller: "Be Loud, Be Proud" Announce yourself to the world as part of the varisty team. Then reach out to those sitting on the bench to come join the team. The best and cheapest advertisement is you doing good deeds, while wearing a KofC name tag.			

Knight of the Month

December's <u>Knight of the Month</u> is Sir Knight **George Koch**. George is a very dedicated husband, father, and Brother Knight. He is not a front-of-the-house sort of guy to use restaurateur's lingo but is a very hard working behind the scenes sort. He works picnics, the lounge, the kitchen, as a Worthy Guard, and recently as a Bingo Instant floor worker and QA computer guy. It is always pleasant to see George and you know things are going to be okay if he is around. Please join me in congratulating Sir Knight George Koch as our Knight of the Month for December 2019.

Family of the Month

The December 2019 <u>Family of the Month</u> is the **Weischedel** family. Jason and Sarah work hard at OLMC School, OLMC Church, and as our Family Program Directors. Sarah spends hours and hours at OLMC School volunteering planning women's retreats. Jason devotes his few off hours to Sarah, the kids, the Scouts, and the Knights of Columbus. Jason works bingo shifts when he can both for the school and for the Council. Please join me in congratulating the Weischedel family for being selected as Family of the Month for December 2019.

Walter Pollard Council 5480 Directory

COUNCIL OFFICERS:			KOVAR Co-Chairmen:		
Grand Knight	Rick Schirm	310-3242	· OLMC	Jessie Powell	254-2181
Deputy Grand Knight	Louis Federico	870-0573	• St. Jerome	Carroll Kelley	877-4865
Chamlain			KCIC Chairman	Jim Healy	867-5145
Chaplain			Charities	Jim Hooker	596-4765
Financial Secretary	Jessie Powell	254-2181	Adopt-A-Spot	Alberto Rios	814-5393
Chancellor	Bill Johnson	309-1135	Boy Scout Liaison	Jonathan Sargent	525-0077
Warden	Wilfried Wotke	877-3316	Nocturnal Adoration (OLMC)	Dave Mazary	881-9332
Recorder	Garth Hallenbeck	602-3913	Widows & Orphans	Clement Danish	877-2751
Treasurer	David Kerstetter	872-0624	Sick and Distressed	Clement Danish	877-2751
Advocate	Carroll Kelley	877-4865	Scheduling	Bernie Gerlach	877-0126
			District Deputy	David Brin	851-0907
Guards:			District Warden	Tony Velez	
• Inside	George Koch	660-1049	Food Service	Jessie Powell	254-2181
• Inside	Reco Cotton	508-1398			
 Outside 	Steve Chipman	707-303-5852	Church Bulletins:		
· Outside	Mike Creamer	410-5257	· OLMC		
			\cdot St. Jerome	Gemma Kerstetter	877-5021
Trustees:			\cdot St. Vincent de Paul	Jeannie Klump	245-4234
• One Year	Jonathan Sargent	525-0077	\cdot Queen of Peace	Mike Lennartz	234-0886
• Two Year	John Edwards	876-8386	VA STATE COUNCIL OF	FICIALS FROM 5480:	
• Three Year	Harold Hairston	877-1566	New Council Dev Chair	Thai Nguyen (FDD)	232-0889
			<u>5480 CLUB, INC:</u>		
Lecturer	Thai Nguyen	232-0889	President	Alberto Rios	814-5393
DIRECTORS/CHAIRS:			Vice President	Bernie Gerlach	877-0126
Membership Director	Bill Johnson	309-1135	Secretary	Harold Hairston	877-1566
Programs Director	Louis Federico	870-0572	Treasurer	John Edwards	826-8386
Faith Directors:			Grand Knight	Rick Schirm	310-3242
· OLMC	Pat McFadden	593-0238	Faithful Navigator	Tee Fuller	746-0125
 St. Jerome 	Gabriel Franco	877-4423	Past President	Jonathan Sargent	525-0077
• Queen of Peace	Mike Lennartz	234-0886			
Family Director	Jason Weischedel	910-381-5643			
Community Director	Joe O'Brien	874-7965	Directors:		
Life Director	Dave Mazary	881-9332	3 Year	Carroll Kelley	
Youth Chairman	Jason Weischedel	910-381-5643	3 Year	Tee Fuller	
Youth Outreach	David Kerstetter	872-0624	2 Year	John Silva	
Youth Outreach	Dean Jernigan	596-4034	2 Year	Gabe Franco	
Communications Director Photographers			1 Year 1 Year	Jeff James Kevin Konouck	
Filotographers	Kiet Nguyen Angelo Cavone	469-8303	Chairmen:	Kevili Kollouck	
Health Services	Leonard Carota	469-6505 877-6993	Building & Grounds	Alberto Rios	814-5393
Vocations Chairman	Louis Federico	870-0573	Lounge Manager	Carroll Kelley	872-7840
Public Relations	Jonathan Sargent	525-0077	Rental Agent	Bernie Gerlach	877-0126
Knightly News Editor	Garth Hallenbeck	602-3913	Kitchen Manager	Tee Fuller	746-0125
Recruitment Chair	Bill Johnson	309-1135	Michell Mallagel		/ +0-0123
Retentions Chairman	Louis Federico	870-0572			
Insurance Promotion	Todd Curtis	847-9981			
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December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesd	lay	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 7:30 pm - Assem- bly Meeting	4		5 8:30 am - Adora- tion (St.J)	6. Open	7 Assembly/Council Christmas Party - 6:00 pm
8	9 3:30 pm PAA Packing 5:30 pm - Bingo	10 7:30 pm - Council Meeting	11			13 6:30 pm - Birthday Night	14 Breakfast with St. Nicholas
15	16 5:30 pm - Bingo	17	18		19 5:30 pm - Bingo	20 2:00—7:00 pm - Blood Drive	21
22	23 5:30 pm - Bingo	24	25 Christmas		26 5:30 pm - Bingo	27 Open Night	28
29	30 5:30 pm - Bingo	31					
	1	Mark your c	alendars j	for upco	oming events.	1	
January 2020				February 2020			
 2 Jan: Adoration (St. Jerome) 3 Jan: Adoration (OLMC) 7 Jan: Assembly 2430 Meeting 10-12 Jan: State Meeting in Dale City, VA 				 4 Feb: Assembly 2430 Meeting 6 Feb: Adoration (St. Jerome) 7 Feb: Adoration (OLMC) 8 Feb: Polar Plunge (Va. Bch) 			

• 11 Feb: Council Meeting

• 25 Feb: Council Meeting

• 26 Feb: Ash Wednesday

- 10-12 Jan: State Meeting in Dale City, VA
- 14 Jan: Council Meeting
- 17 Jan: March for Life Dinner • 21 Jan: Begin Novena for Life
- 24 Jan: March for Life Trip to D.C.
- 28 Jan: Council Meeting

Upcoming Degree Ceremonies

The following exemplification ceremonies are taking place soon:

First (Admissions) Degree: 14 Dec, 9:30 a.m., Council 16226

If you would like to participate in a degree ceremony or just need more information, please contact Louis Federico at federicolouis98@gmail.com or 757-870-0573.

Knights of Columbus – Our Principles: kofc.org/un/en/todays-knights/our-principles.html

Check the Virginia K of C Calendar for additional degree events: <u>vakofc.org/calendar</u>

Fr. Michael J. Bader Assembly 2430



ASSEMBLY DIRECTORY		Faithful Admiral	
		SK Rick Schirm	310-3242
Faithful Navigator			
SK Tyrone Fuller	746-0125	Faithful Inner Sentinel	
-		SK Jose Velez	
Faithful Friar		SK Reco Cotton	508-1398
VACANT			
		Faithful Outer Sentinel	
Faithful Captain		SK Stan Zduniak	
SK Juan Rodriguez		SK Juan Rodriguez	
Faithful Pilot		Color Corps Commander	
SK Wilfried Wotke	877-3316	SK Louis Federico	870-0573
Faithful Comptroller		Sick and Distressed	
SK Harold Hairston	877-1566	SK Tony Merendino	872-7113
		5	
Faithful Purser		Trustees	
Faithful Purser SK Bernie Gerlach	877-0126	,	
	877-0126	Trustees	509-0177
	877-0126	Trustees 1 Yr - SK Kiet Nguyen 2 Yr - SK Stephen Raschke	509-0177
SK Bernie Gerlach	877-0126 593-1141	Trustees 1 Yr - SK Kiet Nguyen	

Pro-Life Events: Save the Dates!

January 17: There will be a pro-life dinner in the lounge. The cost is \$10 and you can sign up in the lounge or contact Dave Mazary.

January 24: National March for Life. We will provide free bus transportation to Washington, D.C. for this annual event. Contact Carroll Kelley to reserve your seat.

January 21—29: We will be encouraging brother Knights, families, and parishioners to participate in the "9 Day Novena For Life."

For more details on any of these events, contact Dave Mazary at davemazsr@gmail.com or 813-5272.



Sick, Recovering, and Deceased: Brothers, we ask for your prayers and support for Brothers in need of healing. We also ask for prayers for the deceased. If you are aware of a Brother Knight or family member in need of our prayers, contact Dave Mazary (813-5272) or the Grand Knight.

• **Sick and Recovering**: Daniela Wotke-Jones, Kelwyn D'Souza, Mary Litzinger, Blanca O'Brien, Dean Jernigan, Craig Jernigan, Jean Teta, Jim Buckman, John Hilt, Cornelius Mitchell, Joseph Robicseau, Gabriel Franco, Stan Zduniak, Amy Federico, Lily Mayher, Pete Powell

NAMES WILL REMAIN ON LIST FOR ONE MONTH. PLEASE RENEW YOUR PRAYER REQUEST IF CONTINUED PRAYERS ARE DESIRED.

CALL DAVE MAZARY (813-5272) OR THE GRAND KNIGHT WITH REQUESTS OR QUESTIONS.

Almighty and everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in You, hear us on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in Your Church, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

December Birthdays:

Mark A Harvey 12/01 Ben Richard M Diongzon 12/02 Richard J Serge 12/02 Mark F D'Souza 12/03 Ralph A Varhalla 12/03 Kevin L Conlin 12/04 Shannon J Gillian 12/04 Mark D Pinkerton 12/04 John R Pugh 12/04 William J Wandersee 12/04 Daniel J Wright 12/04 Adm Joseph J Caden III 12/06 James P Ellis 12/06 Kevin A Shaw 12/06 Sterling R Brightman 12/07 Kevin P Brink 12/07 Umit Davulco 12/08 Charles M Frechette 12/08 P Gregory Mc Carthy 12/08 Donnie B Marcella 12/09 Silvio Scigliano 12/09 Cory D Carlino 12/10 Remo L D Antonio 12/10 Christopher L Shelton 12/10 Patrick J Mendola 12/11 Robert E Schrock 12/11 John J Bosco 12/12 John E Bandy Jr 12/13 Narciso J Gomez 12/13 Erik W Joy 12/13 Michael L Mannoia 12/14 Don J Tillotson 12/14 Charles A Collins 12/15 Jack D Hall 12/15

Carl R Vieitez 12/15 Jose R Murga 12/16 John H Soter 12/18 Eric E Tillotson 12/18 Matthew A Ward 12/19 Jose Jr Ramon 12/20 Roger A Scott 12/20 Joseph A Filippone 12/21 Jeffrey C Lee 12/22 David M Smith 12/22 John F Topp 12/22 Michel R Noel 12/24 David M Taylor 12/24 Stephen J Taylor 12/24 Brian A Lemmert 12/25 Anthony A White 12/25 Ralph E Atkinson 12/27 Randall D Crum 12/27 Clay B Hester 12/27 William J Renner Sr 12/27 Edwin Nieves 12/28 Rev Peter Tien Va Tran 12/28 PSD Ronald P Gorman 12/29 Jerry Hernandez 12/29 Leonard J Safford 12/31

December Anniversaries:

Dave and Gemma Kerstetter 12/2 Lance and Carlovn Warner 12/6 Bobbie and Florence Salire 12/9 Tony and Katia Busquet 12/11 Gary and Elizabeth Brown 12/12 Dan and Deb Mccusker 12/16 John and Regina Pugh 12/17 Daniel and Fabiola Curran 12/18 Art and Gina Kietlinski 12/19 Errol and Agnes Lewis 12/19 Sam and Karen Abi-Saab 12/19 Joseph and Mary Stark III 12/19 Edward and Heidi Curran 12/20 Garard and Pat McGough 12/22 Steven and Betty Sprinkle 12/22 Angel and Johanna Pereira 12/23 Frank and Jean Grim 12/23 Kermit and Denise Ashby 12/24 Kevin and Connie Topp 12/26 Edwin and Geri Kuster 12/27 James and Kathy Patrie 12/27 John and Patti Clements 12/27 Timothy and Feves Roscoe 12/27 Erik and Patti Joy 12/28 Jeffery and Ann Kincaid 12/28 John and Donna Crane 12/28 Joseph and Carlina Ras 12/28 Joseph and Marge Peters 12/29 Mike and Clare Maliniak 12/29 Will and Marijo Heitman 12/29 David and Jerri Delahoy 12/30 Peter and Robin Thielen 12/30





Merry Christmas!



Well, this may be the beginning of another ongoing conversation. Every year, I am approached by someone who will try to correct me by saying, the correct greeting should be "Happy

Holidays." Well, when I hear that, I always asked "why do you believe saying Merry Christmas is wrong?" I get a bunch of difference answers.

I understand some of their responses; however, when I say Merry Christmas, I am reminding people of the purpose of Christmas. While it would be easy for me to agree to this and bow to secularism, I think this is a time to scrutinize our own attitudes about our faith and ask ourselves, if we planted the seeds of the separation of Christ from Christmas. Is our faith in Jesus simply a belief in a historical person who lived an exemplary life, died a sacrificial death, and who left us a legacy of teachings to guide us in life's journey? Or do we also truly believe that Christ IS risen, that he is alive now, and that, even though he has ascended into heaven, he comes physically to earth as the living bread comes down from heaven in the Eucharist? Do we truly believe that a little baby laid in a manger in Bethlehem, whose birth stirs up so much joy in us? If the answer is "Yes," then we should prefer "Merry Christmas" to "Happy Holidays" because it is more expressive of the truth we are celebrating.

We should respect everyone's beliefs and religions. To me, it's a statement of positivity and joy, and when I say "Merry Christmas," I'm wishing you happiness and health. I'm wishing you a warmth that, in my experience, only Christmas can offer. Saying "Merry Christmas" has allowed me to learn more about people. It's a conversation starter that opens the door to learn who were Catholic, Jewish, and Muslim. If I said "Merry Christmas" to someone and they respond "I'm Jewish," I'll always say "Happy Hanukkah."

In the melting pot that is America, we're all entitled to express our respective beliefs. I look at it as being the perfect opportunity to talk and connect with someone about how we may be different, but the purpose of our greetings are the same: to spread joy. So, I'll continue to say "Merry Christmas" because it's the right thing to say, and I want to pass that on to you.

Merry Christmas

Summary of Important Date/Events...

December 7: Assembly and Council Christmas Party

Fraternally,

Tyrone "Tee" Fuller Faithful Navigator, Father Michael J. Bader Assembly 2430





Walter Pollard Council 5480/ Fr. Bader Assembly 2430 Christmas Party



December 7, 2019 Columbian Center 6:30-9:30 Meats are provided Please bring a dish to share Music and dancing after dessert Door prizes

We will be accepting non-perishable food donations for the needy

Breakfast with Saint Nicholas Sponsored by Knights of Columbus #5480

Saturday, December 14th - 8:30 AM until 10:30 AM At the Columbian Center, 12742 Nettles Drive, Newport News

Join us for breakfast and a visit with Saint Nicholas.

This event is **FREE** for all youth & their families.

RSVP with Jason Weischedel by Dec. 9th: jasonweischedel@me.com or (910) 381-5643

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus #5480

- The contest is open to all children between the ages of 5 and 14.
- · A first place prize will be awarded to each of the following age groups 5-7, 8-10, 11-14.
- · Each poster needs to be the original work of a single person.
- The poster should be approximately 11X17 inches.
- · Each poster should reflect the "Keep Christ in Christmas" theme.
- · Drop off the poster with entry form to the parish office by Wed, Dec 11th
- The winners will be announced at the Breakfast with Saint Nicholas on Sat, Dec 14ththis event will be held at the Columbian Center from 8:30-10:30 AM.

For more information and to print the entry form, please visit https://tinyurl.com/keepchristinchristmas5480

Please contact Jason Weischedel by text or phone call at (910) 381-5643 or by email at jasonweischedel@me.com

