



Knights News

Knights of Columbus Council 544
Cathedral of the Incarnation
Nashville, TN



Grand Knight's Report

Bisell McWilliams, Grand Knight
770-789-3355, bisell3@gmail.com



Greetings Brothers,

It is hard to believe, but as we are now in the heart of the Advent season we are rapidly approaching the half-way mark in our Fraternal Year. I cannot express how grateful I am for the enthusiasm and fraternal love that each and every one of you has demonstrated over the past six months. Your dedication to this council and to each other is a true inspiration, and it is making a difference. Since my last report we have initiated three new members into the First Degree, and have welcomed several experienced knights as transfers to our council.

In the Gospel for the First Sunday of Advent, we hear Christ tell the disciples to "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." (Mark 13:33) We are in a time of preparation, a time in which we labor to make ourselves and our world ready to receive our Lord at His nativity. So how do we make ready? Pope Francis tells us that "without fraternity it is impossible to build a just society and a solid and lasting peace." As Knights of Columbus, members of the Church's largest lay fraternal order, it is our duty to be a visible and effective model of that fraternity to which all men are called. As we are faithful and charitable in our dealings with fellow Knights we set the standard; and as we give ourselves to the service of the poor and disadvantaged, we invite wider participation in that justifying and peace building fraternity.

Over the next few months, our council has several opportunities to demonstrate this fraternal example to which we are called. We will gather as brothers and sisters to celebrate the season at our annual Christmas Party (pg. 3), and again in January to celebrate the Eucharistic heart of our fraternity at our second quarterly Corporate Communion (pg. 6). During this time we will also reach out and embrace our neediest brothers and sisters as we bring warmth and hospitality to the residents of Parthenon Towers (pg. 4); and as we provide shelter, food and fellowship to the Cathedral's Room in the Inn guests (pg. 4). Each of these events offers a unique opportunity to participate in the Fraternal Growth and Renewal of the council, and I hope that each of you will participate in at least one of them. Most importantly, please continue to keep the council and your officers in your prayers, as you are all in mine.

Vivat Jesus,

Bisell

November/
December 2014
Issue 3

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Highlights

- CHRISTMAS PARTY
- Christmas Tree Sale

Website Reminder

Have you visited our council website yet? **WWW.KOFC544.ORG** is your source for latest council news, event calendar, photos, and quick links to contact any of your officers. You can also sign-up for all council events via the events calendar and contact any member via the membership directory (you will need your membership number to access sign-up and the directory). Contact FS Chris Crane if you need your membership number, christopher.e.crane@gmail.com.

Membership Blitz - Follow-Up

We are pleased to welcome three new brothers to the Knights and to Council 544. Damon Romano, Bart Stein, and Paul Padgett made their First Degree at the Cathedral on October 25th. All three will be mentored by their proposers: Damon and Bart by Brother Mark Cassman, and Paul by Brother Bryan Joyce.

Yes on 1 - Results

The passage of Amendment 1 in the November Elections was a huge victory for the cause of life in Tennessee, as the power to enact laws governing abortion practices in Tennessee has now been returned to our lawmakers. Thank you to all who participated in getting out the word and getting out the vote, most especially brothers Tony Grubbs and Roy Silveira who put in countless hours for the cause.

See's Candy Fundraiser - Results

Our thanks once again to brother Terry Hill for all of his hard work coordinating our fourth annual See's Candy Sale. As of printing we are still finalizing numbers, but preliminary results indicate that we have come in just below our goal of a \$900 net profit. This represents an approximate increase of 25% over 2013's sale.

If you placed a pre-order for candy, remember to pick it up after the morning Masses Sunday the 14th or Sunday the 21st.

Upcoming Dates

Council Meetings

2nd Wednesday of the Month
7:00PM, Rm 305, St Albert Hall

Programming Meetings

4th Wednesday of the Month
7:00PM, Rm 303, St Albert Hall

Parthenon Towers Party

December 12 - 5:00PM

Council Christmas Party

December 13 - 6:00PM

See's Candy Pick-Up

December 14 - 21

Second Degree @ Cathedral

December 18 - 7:00PM

Room in the Inn

December 23

November Awards

Knight of the Month - Mark Cassman

As our Vocations Chairman, brother Mark is a strong voice in our council for the support of our clergy and seminarians. He is also an enthusiastic promoter of our order and was personally responsible for bringing in two new members and several other prospects at our recent Membership Blitz.

Family of the Month - Bryan Joyce Family

Brother Bryan was also crucial to the success of our Membership Blitz, and we are very pleased to have him back as an active member in our council. He and his wife are wonderful and fun people, and it is a pleasure to have them as part of our 544 family.



December Awards

Knight of the Month - Andy Gamble

Brother Andy is a long time member of 544 and is always ready and willing to help out wherever and whenever help is needed. The assistance he provided Terry in our recent See's Candy sale was essential to the growth of our sales.

Family of the Month - Roy Silveira Family

Brother Roy is a stalwart knight and a tireless advocate for the defense of life. His newest role is that of husband, and we are thrilled to welcome his bride Susan into the 544 family and to honor them for the first time as our Family of the Month. (see pg 5)

Council Christmas Party

It is that most wonderful time of the year once again. Join us on Saturday, December 13th at 6:00PM in the beautiful and historic Cathedral rectory for our annual Council 544 Christmas Party.

The format is a little different this year as our food selection will be "pot-luck." With so many wonderful chefs and bakers in our council family we wanted an opportunity to taste the best that everyone has to offer.

In the interest of ensuring a complete and diverse selection, please consider committing to a particular type of food (if not a specific dish) when you RSVP so that we can make sure any gaps are covered. We need:

Appetizers
Salad
Bread
Entrée/Protein
Sides/Casseroles
Desserts
Sodas/SoftDrinks
Beer/Wine

Please RSVP to Brother Damon Romano at [615-973-8800](tel:615-973-8800) or rdromano@mac.com. Let him know that you are planning to attend, if you're bringing a date, and what dish you anticipate bringing. (You may also RSVP via the council website, www.kofc544.org.)

Kindly park in the parking lot behind the rectory and enter the doors to the right in the breezeway between the rectory and the church.



*Veni, veni Emmanuel!
Captivum solve Israel!
Qui gemit in exilio,
Privatus Dei Feilio
Gaude, gaude, Emmanuel
nascetur per te, Israel.*

Boy Scouts Christmas Tree Sale

Council #544's Boy Scout Troop 1914 will be selling Christmas trees at Villa Maria Manor (32 White Bridge Road) starting Friday, November 28. Wreaths, tree stands, and delivery are also available. Bring your tree stand and we'll stand your tree free-of-charge.

The tree lot opens the day after Thanksgiving. (8:00 AM-8:30 PM) We're open weekdays 5:00-8:30 PM, Saturdays from 8:00 AM- 8:30 PM, and Sundays from 12:30- 8:30 PM.

For more information call Scoutmaster Dave Lavell at [615-587-3342](tel:615-587-3342).
Bring this newsletter for a 10% discount!



Council Officers

Grand Knight

Bisell McWilliams
bisell3@gmail.com
770-789-3355

Deputy Grand Knight

Ken Duncan
kenrduncan@att.net
615-238-1582

Financial Secretary

Chris Crane
christopher.e.crane@gmail.com
617-869-6345

Chancellor

Dave Johnson
davejohnson2@comcast.net
615-585-3675

Recorder

Dan Gibbons

Treasurer

Terry Hill

Advocate

Frank Steiner

Warden

Roy Silveira

Inside Guard

Chris Beal

Outside Guard

Jeff Duffield

One Year Trustee

Stuart Littleton

Two Year Trustee

John Mitchell

Three Year Trustee

Mike Latterell

Program Personnel

Program Director

DGK Ken Duncan

Church Director

vacant

Vocation Chair

Mark Cassman

Community Director

vacant

San Gennaro Coordinator

John Mitchell

Council Director

Andrew Lay

Family Director

vacant

Youth Director

Chris Beal

Boy Scout Leader

Dave Lavell

Culture of Life Director

Tony Grubbs

Culture of Life Chair Couple

Roy & Susan

Yes on 1 Campaign

Tony Grubbs

Hope Clinic Coordinator

Mike Latterell

Choose Life Sign

Stuart Littleton

Membership Director

Dave Johnson

Retention Chair

Ken Thomas

Degree Opportunities

If you have not yet completed your Second Degree, please consider taking advantage of the Second Degree that our council is hosting on Thurs., Dec 18, 2014 at the Cathedral, candidates arrive at 6:30PM. Contact GK Bisell or Membership Director Dave if you are planning to attend, or if you would like to help provide hospitality for our visiting brothers.

"We shelter the homeless, educate those hungry for knowledge, and care for the sick, not because they're Catholic, but because we're Catholic. They are Jesus in disguise."

- Cardinal James Hickey

Parthenon Towers Christmas Party

We are continuing our annual tradition of joining with the Parish Nurses to bring Christmas cheer to the residents of Parthenon Towers. The theme this year is "A Tennessee Hoe Down Christmas Party." Our role is to help greet residents, serve food, facilitate merriment and help clean up afterwards. Father Steiner will be there to say a blessing at 5:15 p.m. then the residents will come in the room at 5:30. If you are able to participate, please sign up on the council website or email GK Bisell.

Room in the Inn

We are hosting Room in the Inn at the Cathedral on Tues., Dec 23rd. We need volunteers to bring, prepare and serve food, as well as to help with transportation.

We also need one additional innkeeper to stay the night with our guests. If you are able to help in any way, please visit the council website or contact GK Bisell. The council is covering the cost of food for this date, but as we have a limited budget we will be asking Knights to donate food for the dates we will cover in the new year.



Free Throw Contest

Brother Stuart Littleton is chairing the effort to add a Free Throw Championship to our council's Youth Program. The Free Throw Championship is a basketball challenge for boys and girls aged 9 to 14 years, with winners having the opportunity to move onto the district, regional and state level contests. Please contact Stuart if you can volunteer to assist with this effort. Our targeted event date is in January, so that winners will be able to advance to District competition in February.

SouperBowl Party

Mark your calendar for our annual Souper Bowl Party, Sunday, February 1st, 2015 in the Fleming Center. The Chili Cook-Off last year was such a success that we will be doing it again this year, so start fine-tuning your chili recipes now.

St Patrick's Day Fish Fry Fundraiser

Our annual St Patrick's Day Fundraiser will be held Saturday, March 14, 2015 at 7:00PM. This year's fundraiser will be a return to the event's roots as an evening of "fun cheer and green beer," with a fish fry dinner, Irish Dancers, pub games and a silent auction. Complete details will be available after the new year, but please go ahead and mark your calendars and start working on securing auction items. Contact GK Bisell with any questions.

Membership Blitz

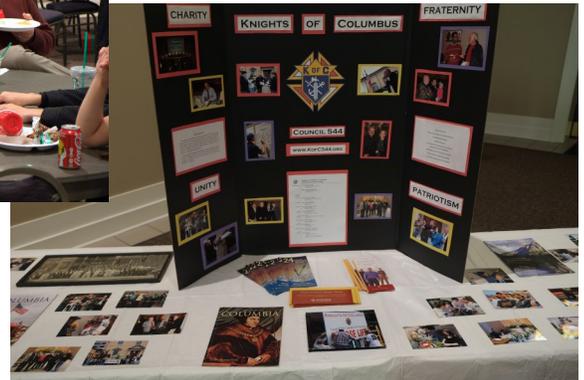
Our Membership Blitz & Titan's Watch Party on October 19th was a rousing success. Attendance exceeded expectations with nearly 90 people. We had three new members make their First Degree on October 25th, and developed several other strong prospects. We had several presentation on the order from Membership Director Dave Johnson, GK Bisell McWilliams, Agent Ernest Plus, and a very heartfelt talk from Fr Ed Steiner on the important role the Knights have played in his life.



Ernest Plus & Stuart Littleton



Fr Steiner, Patricia & Chris Beal, Jim Pareigis



Roy & Susan's Wedding



Brother Roy Silveira and Susan Heinemann tied the knot at St Mary's Church on Nov 15th.



Ernest Plüs, Insurance Field Agent

Ernest Plüs, PGK PFN
FDD
Field Agent
1784 W. Northfield
Blvd. #208
Murfreesboro, TN.
37129 US
[\(615\) 456-7587](tel:6154567587) Mobile



Newsletter Delivery

All members with an email address on file will receive the newsletter by email only. Please be sure to add kofc544@gmail.com to your address book to ensure that council communications are not caught by your spam filter. Those without an email address will continue to receive a paper copy in the post. If you do not currently have an email on file please send that info to kofc544@gmail.com. E-communications is more efficient and more economical.

CATHEDRAL ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation

Monday, December 8th

Masses at 7:00 a.m., 12:10 & 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve

Family Mass in the Cathedral at 4:00 p.m.

Quiet Mass in the Fleming Center at 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Vigil Mass at 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Mass at Midnight
with Music beginning at 11:15 p.m.

Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Mass

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation

New Year's—**January 1**

Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m.

New Year's Holy Day Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Fraternal Calendar 2014 - 2015

- December 12th, 2014
Parthenon Towers Christmas Party
- December 13th, 2014
Council Christmas Party
- December 14th & 21st, 2014
See's Candy Pick-Up
- December 18th, 2014
Second Degree
- December 23rd, 2014
Room in the Inn
- January 10th, 2015
Mid-Year Meeting @ Holy Family
- January 25th, 2015
Corporate Communion
- February 1st, 2015
Super Bowl Party
- March 14th, 2015
St Patrick's Day Fish Fry

Moonless darkness stands between.
Past, the Past, no more be seen!
But the Bethlehem star may lead me
To the sight of Him Who freed me
From the self that I have been.
Make me pure, Lord: Thou art Holy;
Make me meek, Lord: Thou wert lowly;
Now beginning, and always,
Now begin, on Christmas day.

-Gerard Manley Hopkins



More programs to be announced, so stay tuned.



Pope Francis' Intentions for Dec. 2014

- "That the birth of the Redeemer may bring peace and hope to all people of good will."
- "That parents may be true evangelizers, passing on to their children the precious gift of faith."