

Maryland State Council

October 2015

Volume 2, Issue 4

State Deputy's Report



Stephen M. Cohen State Deputy Maryland Knights of Columbus

My Brothers All:

September was a very busy month for us all. At the forefront, was Special Olympics Week. I hope all Councils participated in some way. Prince Georges Council again held their 1K run/walk, which again raised lots of money for Special Olympics. Please get your report into John Durbin stating what you did and how much you raised.

The State Council also held its Annual Family Picnic. Thanks to Bob Heverly for chairing this event and Prince Georges Council for hosting us. Remember this picnic is for the entire State not just the State team. Please plan to attend next year.

The day after the picnic marked our first ever Star Knight Gala. The Gala included pictures on the Red Carpet, Champagne, Dinner and the presentation of Awards. Look for pictures elsewhere in this issue. My thanks to Dale and Linda Trott for being the Host and Hostess for this event and for all the hard work that they put in to make this a success. Our thanks also, to Columbus Gardens for catering the event.

On September 21, 2015 we instituted a brand new council, St. Clement I in Landsdowne became our newest council. Thanks to the hard work of District Deputy Rich Boehm, New Council Development Chairman and General Agent Bob Marlowe and Field Agent Mike Hurley about thirty new members joined our order. Please welcome our newest council. Seeing the Holy Father, Pope Francis, at the Papal Mass in Washington was truly the highlight of my month. Please continue to pray for him as he continues to shepherd our flock. October is when we honor our patron, Christopher Columbus. The State will not only be hosting the Annual Ball, but will participate in the Wreath laying in Little Italy, The Columbus Day Parade, and the DC Celebration. We hope to see everyone at these events. For more information please contact the chairmen listed in the State Directory.

Please continue to keep the Power of One in the forefront of all we do. One Member per Council per Month and One First Degree per District per Month. We need new and younger members to keep Father McGivney's dream alive ASK someone TODAY to join our honored order.

As always, the STATE TEAM is here to assist, all you have to do is ask. VIVAT JESUS

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State Chaplain's Message

It would be very interesting if someone or a particular research machine would tally up one word that we have heard and will hear for the next several weeks: F A M I L Y!

Beginning last year our Church leadership accepted the baton handed on from one Pope to the next in the last few decades: The family is the Domestic Church. As the power of religion within the family structure diminished since the days of Vatican II, the family as well seemed to become a social value that was lost in the uproars of the 1960s, the increased divorce rate, the highly favored practice of birth control, the tragic loss of so many healthy lives to the increased use of abortion and the ultra-modern practice of same-sex marriage.

Finally some hearts and minds began to realize that the loss of the significance of the family structure in our society was bringing about a society that wandered, a community whose glue had dried up.

In Philadelphia there is already underway Part II of the Vatican effort to restore the place of the family among Catholics as well as others in our world. For sure, the Catholic Church is determined to revitalized what had been "the primordial institution of humankind. It is older than any society. It is older than any state." (Morgan, The Domestic Church, The Priest, October, 2015). What has become obvious and finally recognized as a failure in contemporary society is the reality that "the family has a huge, vital and crucial role in our society." (Morgan)

The Supreme Knight led the Order of the Knights of Columbus upon a determined effort to rebuild the weakened structure of the family as the Domestic Church. As I have said on a number of occasions, nothing can be more significant for each member of our Order that the effort to strengthen the impact of our faith within our families.

If we are honest, I believe, we will admit that the rush of society in our hectic world and the various attitudes that undermine the power of prayer have genuinely impacted the family life of many of our own families. Even as a priest, I know that we have been subject to the temptations that undermine the times we used to spend in prayer together each day, especially in devotions outside the daily times for Mass. Like our lay brothers and sisters, we have become so busy, so involved in a number of non-spiritual activities.

As the Congress for the Family begins its discussions and various presentations in Philadelphia in preparation for the final Synod of the Family to be conducted in Rome later in October, let us continue to rebuild our own Domestic Church beneath the roofs of our own homes and rectories!



Reverend Milton E. Jordan

Who is (443) 738-5552?

Why are you calling me?



What is the 'robocaller', and why doesn't it call me?

The Maryland State Council contracted with a telephone messaging system to automate the phone tree. The purpose of this system is to quickly and consistently share messages approved by the State Deputy with members of the state team.

Calls can be sent to every phone number in the system, or limited to specific subgroups such as District Deputies, Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, etc.

The telephone number database was updated on August 28th. If a recent 'robocall' was received on your preferred phone number, you have no action.

If your phone number is in the State Directory, but you haven't heard 'robocall' messages, send an email with your name, position, and phone number to:

kofc.md.robo@gmail.com

If you did receive this recent message, but prefer a different phone number, send an email with your name, position, and phone number to:

kofc.md.robo@gmail.com

Finally, if you're not in the current State Directory, but wish to be included, you may be added to the database (if the limited space permits). Please send an email with your name, position, and phone number to:

State Program Report

CHURCH

- Fifth Sunday Rosary Program: Councils are encouraged to come together and promote devotion to Mary by leading a community rosary on every fifth Sunday that falls within a month. The next fifth Sunday is <u>November</u> <u>29th</u>. By conducting this program on each of the fifth Sundays during the 2015-2016 fraternal year, your council will qualify as fulfilling all four Church Activity requirements of the Columbian Award. Rosary program kits (#SR-KIT) can be ordered from the Supreme Council. These kits contain a supply of rosary rings, promotional materials and prayer cards on how to pray the rosary.

- The Usher ministry at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington staffs all the National Shrine's Sunday, Holy Day, and pilgrimage Masses as well as concerts and other special events. The usher program is seeking brother Knights who can pledge three hours of service a month to Our Lady's National Shrine. For more information please contact Chairman Pat McAleer at <u>patrick.mcaleer@kofc.org</u> or 301-253-3856.

COMMUNITY

- On **November 7th** the State Council will present a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown at Arlington National Cemetery at 1:15 PM. See Looking Ahead –30 Days below

- We are accepting donations to the State Wheelchair Fund. We are hoping to collect \$16,500 for a container of wheelchairs, 110, to be distributed to those in need in Md. and beyond. All this thru the American/Global Wheelchair Mission that has partnered with KoC for this program. Please contact Chairman Bernie Classon for additional information.

- Coats for Kids – if you council is interested in participating in this great program you should be starting your planning now for fall and winter distribution. Additional information can be found on the State web site under Community Activities or contact Chairman Yen Lee.

- Intellectual Disabilities Program (Tootsie Roll Program) - Remember, ALL dollars collected are to be turned in no later than <u>December</u> <u>1st</u>, Tootsie Roll Awards will be presented at the Mid Term meeting in January. A time line and turn in form is available on the state web site, Community Programs

- If your council is thinking of submitting a nominee for EMT, Fire Fighter, Law Enforcement Officer, chaired by Mike Dunn or Citizen, CCD Teacher, Catholic Teacher of the year chaired by Ed Padgett or Family of the Year chaired by Mike Clemens, begin your search, in your communities, as soon as possible. The program officially kicks off in Dec and the nomination forms are due on February 1 to be awarded at the Founders Day Mass on March 13. 2016. The current nomination forms are on the State Web Site, Community Activities.

- Food for Families is a non-stop program working to feed the hungry in our local pantries throughout the year. By splitting the chairmanship of the Food for Families program by Archdiocese, we feel that we can develop a better sense of urgency to the needs of the hungry and better serve the community at large.

This past year we donated 100,158 pounds of food. This is an increase of 56,047 from last year. Additionally, we increased the dollar amount to a total to \$22,704. This is an increase of 10,097.00 from last year. These are impressive numbers and everyone who helped in anyway no matter how big or small should be congratulated.

<u>COUNCIL</u>

Columbus Day Parade and other Columbus activities see October Events below

CULTURE OF LIFE

- The 2016 March for Life in Washington DC will be on January 22nd – the 43rd anniversary of Roe v. Wade. Start planning now to have your family, friends, fellow parishioners and council members there.

- The Silver Rose's journey through Maryland starts on October 18. Thanks to the councils who have stepped up to host this beautiful Marian devotional service!

Jack Giacalone

State Program Director

FAMILY

- We have about 15+ brother knights that have asked us to help them look for work. A brief profile for each have been posted to the web site and additional information will be provides to potential employers. Go to the state website select Help a Brother Knight then see Brothers in Need. If you or if you know of anyone looking to hire please look at those profiles for a skills match and contact Chairman Joe Feakes

- Navy Football Game - see Looking Ahead – 30 Days below

YOUTH

- Catholic Bee - consider running a Catholic Bee at your council or make it a district event. Contact Chairman Mike Jacobs. For more information see the September State Bulletin or State Web Site, Youth Activities and a flyer is in the mail to Grand Knights

- Maryland State Soccer Shoot Out – November 1st at Archbishop Spaulding HS Field, Flyer on the State Web Site, Youth Activities. See Looking Forward 30 days below

- Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest – see Looking Ahead 90 Days

October Events

- Columbus Day Ball, <u>October 10 2015</u> at the BWI Marriott in Linthicum @ 7:30, \$65 per person or \$125 per couple. Incentive Car Raffle tickets must be turned in at the ball to be eligible for the raffle. Please ensure the Turn in form is also includes and can be found on the state web site, Council Activities, Incentive Car Raffle Turn In Form. Consider participation in the Columbus Day parades in

Baltimore and DC. Additional information can be found at the state web site, Program Activities Council Programs.

- Silver Rose arrives in Maryland on October 18th

- Jesus The Divine Word Council and Parish have agreed to sponsor a Pro Life Mass on

State Program Report (cont.)

October 20, 2015 at 7:00 PM. Father Dakes will celebrate the Mass.

- Please submit your FOM application for September by October 15th In addition to your local recognition each month, on the 15th of every month Supreme randomly selects 100 Family of the Month reporting forms and the families chosen receive a Holy Family Plaque. This is a great way to recognize those families that are work hard to make your council successful. Remember the Family of the Month does not have to be a knight family it can be a family in your church that you or your pastor/chaplain want to recognize, they just will not be entered for the plaque drawing. If you need additional information please contact Mike Clemens.

- There will be two Financial Secretary Seminars in October. <u>October 24th</u> at St Pious the X Council #4076 in Forestville, 9am – 12pm. A Continental Breakfast at 8:30 and light lunch after the seminar.

and <u>October 31st</u> at Regina Coeli Council #2274, Columbian Manor, in Easton, 8am – 11am. A Continental Breakfast at 7:30 and light lunch after the seminar.

- Navy Football Game is scheduled for Saturday, October 31, 12:00 kickoff. For more information see the flyer in the August State Bulletin and on the State Web Site, Program Activities, Family Programs

LOOKING AHEAD

30 Days - Order Soccer Challenge Kit, SC-KIT, and think about your own council's "Shoot Out. Soccer Challenge medallions can be ordered from supreme by contacting Claudia at 203 752 4016, they are generic and can be used for council or district presentations. The state Soccer Shoot Out will be held on Sunday, <u>November 1st</u> 2015 at Archbishop Spaulding HS, Severn. Flyer is on the State Web Site, Youth Programs.

- Our State Deputy will lay a wreath at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington on <u>November 7th</u> at 1:30. Plan to arrive by 12:30. Please add this to your calendars and plan to attend to support our State Deputy in this patriotic activity. Look for the flyer in the September State Bulletin and on the State Web Site, Community Activities

60 Days - The State Memorial Mass will be held on Sunday, November 8th at St Mathias the Apostle Church located at 9475 Annapolis Rd, Lanham, MD 20706. The necrology will be read at 1:30 PM followed by Mass which will be celebrated by Fr. Milton Jordan, our State Chaplain. Councils are requested to send a list of those brother Knights and the wives of brother Knights of your council who died between October 16, 2014 and October 15, 2015 so we may remember and honor them at the Memorial Mass. Please email your list of names to be included in the Memorial Mass Program to Memorial Mass Chairman Walt Williams at wjw5115@hotmail.com no later than October 23, 2015.

90 Days – Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest, as the Christmas season is rapidly approaching (less than 100 days!), PLEASE encourage the youth that your parish supports (parish schools, elementary and middle schools, CYO, etc.) to participate in the 2015 Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. As our faith is constantly under attack by secularism, the contest teaches our youth how to 'speak up' and defend what we believe, boldly and courageously. It's their first lesson in apologetics! Don't let the opportunity go by without giving them this wonderful experience. The flyer and forms are available on the web site, Program Activities, Youth Activities. In addition program information will be in a mailing to Grand Knights. Deadline for all poster submissions is December 11, 2015.

REPORTS DUE

July 1 – Report of Officers Chosen for Term #185 – <u>as of 9/25 – 7 councils not</u> reported

August 1 – Service Program Personnel Report #365 – <u>as of 9/25 - 27 councils not</u> <u>reported</u>

August 15 – Semiannual Council Audit #1295 – <u>as of 9/25 - 22 councils not</u> reported

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Next Fraternal Leader Training and Best Practices Webinar will be held on <u>Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at 8:00 p.m.</u> Please register be selecting the following link <u>http://event.on24.com/wcc/</u> r/1042473/928D6923297B71CB2E7A13B98 D588838 The focus of our webinar will be on how to plan, promote and implement council programs:

• Positioning your council for long-term growth by conducting well-rounded programs in order to earn the Star Council Award.

• Best practices in using the Fraternal Leader Success Planner as a tool to plan and evaluate council programs in order to chart a more successful course.

• Working with strategic alliance partners to help your council be or become the "go-to charitable service organization" in your parish and community.

• Effective use of "An Invitation", a video resource for use with prospective members.

Questions and Answer session.

- Special Olympics Week was held the week of September 13 -19. Please be sure to report your activity to John Durbin by completing the Special Olympics Event Reporting Form, available on the state web site, right side, select forms. You can also call or send John a note with your information. In addition please remember to keep track of the hours and dollars your council contributed to Special Olympics this past year. This information is important to help you accurately complete the Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics #4584 due in January

- Consider placing your council's or district upcoming events on the Regional Calendar on the State web site. It's a great way to publicize your event for all to see and possibly increase participation. Double click on Regional Calendars Online and follow the directions.

- Remember, the program team is available to assist you in any way we can to help make your programs a success.

- Please review your council programs to identify which programs you will continue to support and where you might need some help. Program Activity Directors are always available to help and answer any of your questions, and work with you and your councils to make your programs successful.

- Visit us and like us on Facebook "Maryland State Council Knights of Columbus" it is a public group. You will have to request to join the group. Then you can view event, pictures, notices and you will also be able to post KoC related events, pictures and notices.

- Please contact me or any of the Activity Directors if you have any questions or need any additional information on any of the above.

Vivat Jesus!

Knights of Columbus Insurance

Fraternal Benefits

Robert S. Marlowe, Jr., Clu, Ficf, Lutcf 410-823-3800 Robert.marlowe@kofc.org

"Who cares?"

When someone dies there are typically lots of folks who come to the wake and funeral. Lots of well wishes, tears and prayers. Everyone cares! But...caring is different from paying. What I mean by this is that while family and friends care about you – very few, if any, will be there to financially support those you leave behind. It's up to you and only you to do that now, while you're living. So don't forget to do the one thing Fr. McGivney wanted all of his good Catholic families to do – take care of your families.

See your council Field Agent. He's the connection to YOUR Knights of Columbus Insurance program. You have access to one of the safest, strongest financial institutions in the world – all backing our risk and accumulation products. AND – our assets are continually tested to comport with Catholic values.

Tempus Fugit.

Knights of Columbus 4th Degree

Thomas Greul PGK PFN FDD Master, Maryland District

God Bless America,

The Maryland District has been very busy lately. On Sept 12th we held an exemplification of the 4th degree at the Annapolis council home. I want to thank the Annapolis Council for hosting the exemplification and for cooking a fabulous meal for us, you were so supportive and helpful We had 59 of 60 candidates show and the degree went off flawlessly. The degree team did an excellent job, the color corps looked great and our new Vice Supreme Master Wayne Freet had nothing but good things to say. I want to thank my team for an outstanding degree and all of their hard work leading up to the degree.

This weekend Fritz and I attended the provincial meeting with our new VSM. After a day of training and mass we said good bye to outgoing Vice Supreme Master Richie Head. Richie did a great job working with the Calvert province and he will be missed greatly. I presented a plaque to Richie that contained all of the flags we as a province supported. American flag, the papal flag and all five flags of the five states in the Calvert Province, and a Vice Supreme Masters mini Jewel on the papal flag. We wish Richie well and hope that he comes to visit us frequently.





The Patriotic Christmas Card Program that I am very excited about is rolling out

now. The Maryland State Council is encouraging all of the councils to take part in this program. In the newsletter you should find a flyer for the program. We have chosen a design and I have copied it in the article. We hope to put all 10,000 cards full of positive messages in the hands of our deployed men and women this Christmas. They can not be home with their families this Christmas, let us know show them that a grateful nation prays for their safe return.

Our Great country needs us now more than ever! Let us band together and stand as Catholic American citizens. Go to your assembly meetings and find out what patriotic programs your assembly is active in. If they are not, speak up and suggest something that you and your assembly can do to make a difference. If you are not a fourth degree member, lets talk!

"Together we can make a difference",

From the desk of the Master Thomas Greul



Brothers,

I am very excited to introduce a brand new program to support our Troops! The Program is called the Patriotic Card Program. The program works like this. We have partnered with the same local company used by the State Council to print Christmas Cards. They are printing a special card, just for us that shows our appreciation for the sacrifices these brave men and women make to keep us safe and free.

These cards are not for sale! We don't want to compete with the sales of Council Christmas Cards for personal use. We do want your Assembly or Council to purchase boxes of these patriotic Christmas Cards and make them available to your parishioners to fill out and return to you. The Assembly or Council will then be able to mail these Christmas Cards to forward deployed troops to let them know that we, back home, remember them and pray for them especially during the holidays!

If possible, ask your pastor to make a pulpit announcement that "the Knights of Columbus are asking you to stop by and write a quick note to deployed soldiers and they will be sent to a forward operating base this Christmas. This is a great way for you to show support for our deployed men and women and to let them know that we are thinking about them at Christmas when they are not with their own families."

We will sell boxes of 25 cards for \$10 to any council or assembly. If your council or assembly doesn't want to pay for the cards, you can ask parishioners to sponsor a card or two to get your money back.

The goals of this program include:

- 1. Remember our service men and women during the holidays
- Provide a Fourth Degree presence (in regalia) to spur question about the order that may lead to recruiting a new member
- 3. Draw attention to Christmas Card sales for the local council

Even if your council doesn't participant in the State's Christmas Card program, please consider participating in this Patriotic program. If you have questions please reach out to the Master Tom Greul.

To order boxes of these special Christmas Cards, please contact ______ or return the form below to ______.

 Yes! We want to join the Patriotic Card program!

 Assembly/Council # _____ Contact Person _____

 No. of boxes of Cards (25 cards/box) _____ Amount enclosed (\$10/box) \$ _____



Maryland State Council

Knights of Columbus

Memorial Mass & Reception

Sunday, November 8, 2015



1:30 PM Necrology Reading/2:00 PM Mass St. Matthias the Apostle Church 9475 Annapolis Rd Lanham, MD 20706

Open to all Brother Knights, Families and Guests

Reception immediately following in the Church Hall

The Cost is \$10.00 per person

All reception reservations must be paid in advance. No later than October 24, 2015

NO TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

For reception reservations, please mail your payment to:

Walter Williams 1322 Cooptown Rd Forest Hill, MD 21050 410-692-6461

Please reserve tickets at \$10.00 each. Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$_____ for ____ persons, payable to the Maryland State Council.

Name(s) _____

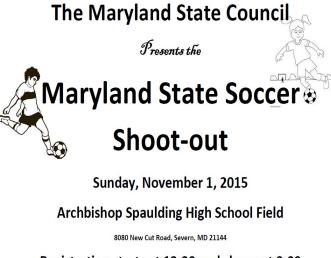
Title Council

Address

Phone Email

Please list names of everyone that you included in your ticket payment. Use back if necessary.





Registration starts at 12:30 and closes at 3:00

To qualify for the State Soccer Shoot-out the participant must win at a District Soccer Shootout

Shootout starts at 1 and goes until all contestants have a chance to participate.

All ties will be broken at 3:30 with Awards presentation to follow.

Refreshments will be provided to the participants at no cost.

We will be following the Maryland State Council Rules for the Soccer Shootout found on the State Web Site.

If you need any help setting up a Council or District Soccer Shootout, feel free to contact Joe Massimini, joemassi@comcast.net, 240-997-0402





Want to have fun and at the same time help our youth brush up on our Catholic Faith

Similar to a spelling bee but the questions are about our Catholic Faith

A great Youth activity for your council

.....

All you need to do is

Contact our State Catholic Bee Chairman

Mike Jacobs

301 865 9984/bsketlady@comcast.net

Select a date, at least 60 days out

Secure a location

We have the questions and will run the Catholic Bee with your assistance

We will guide you thru the entire program!

Call Mike Today!!

Knights of Columbus Maryland State Council

2015 "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest

Eligibility

- The Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest is open to all young people between the ages of 5 and 14. Age eligibility is determined by the age of the contestant as of November 1.
- Age Group
- Contest entrants compete in one of three age groups:
- I. Ages 5 through 7 II. Ages 8 through 10 III. Ages 11 through 14 Rules
- Poster must reflect the theme of KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS with large visual image. There is no limit to the number of posters each contestant may submit.
- Each poster should be the original work (including concept, layout, slogan and any visual images) of a single person Poster MUST be 11" x 17" inches in size. If pastels, calk or charcoal are used, the
- poster must be laminated or covered with clear plastic. Posters may be in color or black and white.
- . Each poster must be submitted with a Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest Entry Form." The name and age of person entering the poster should be included on the back of the poster as well.
- All entries will be made available for pick up at the State Mid-Term Meeting. Judging
- Judging will be done by a team of knights selected by the KCIC Chairman. A 100 point scoring system will be used to determine the winner.
 - - 30 points: Slogan How clearly is the theme presented?
 - 30 points: Visuals How well do the visuals convey the message? 40 points: Overall Impact - How effective was the poster in capturing your
 - attention and causing you to reflect on the topic.

Contest Deadline: December 11, 2015. All entries MUST be mailed to Jay Konar, KCIC Chair, 10813 Cherry Blossom Court, Adelphi, MD 20783 and received by the deadline date. Awards

- For each age category: 1st place \$100; 2nd place \$50; 3rd place \$50
- The winning entry in each age group will be given recognition by the Maryland State Council and published in the Maryland State newsletter and website
- Winning entries to be recognized at State Mid-Term & presented to GKs Visit the State web site for entry forms, select Program Activities, Youth Programs
- Questions: Jay Konar, jay.konar@kofc2809.com (301) 937-8321

BEST COUNCIL NEWSLETTER CONTEST COMPETITION INTEREST FORM

Yes, we are interested in submitting our Council newsletter for competition judging!

Council Name: Council #

Grand Knight Name:

Grand Knight E-mail address:

Newsletter Editor Name:

Newsletter Editor E-Mail address:

How often is your council newsletter sent to your members?

Is your council newsletter sent...

[] by mail only [] by email only [] by mail and email [] by other means If other, please specify

Mail this form to:

Thom Stevenson MD State Council Newsletter Editor 3419 Northwind Road Baltimore, MD 21234

Submit this form electronically to: tnpstevenson@verizon.net

DEADLINE: All interest forms must be received by December 1 to compete. See the complete rules for instructions about how and when to submit your newsletters for judging.

Rules will be emailed to you upon receipt of interest form

State Tours

Maryland State Council, Knights of Columbus Museum Tour / Religious Freedom Dinner

New Haven, Connecticut. November 13th, through 15th 2015 Depart From Cardinal Gibbons Council 10 AM November 13th, 2015

Superior Motor coach Transportation with refreshments and Entertainment on board

Deluxe accommodations at the Trumball Marriott for 2 nights Friday evening welcome Italian Feast

Hospitality room available afterwards

Saturday Breakfast at the Hotel Museum and Headquarters Private Tour

Religious Freedom Fundraising Dinner at the Hotel Guest Speake

Dine with New England States Knights Members (and their wives)

Sunday Morning Early Breakfast at Hotel Mass at St Mary's Church A Stop at Hershey on the way home (Either Chocolate World/Hershey Bears Hockey Game or the Hershey museum)

(Majority vote and availability determined) Single Occupancy \$470 Double Occupancy \$720 Triple Occupancy \$961

Deposits of \$100 Per Person Due August 15th Make checks payable to Maryland State Council Send to PO Box 165, Westminster, Maryland 21158

Come and enjoy some time with brother knights, and their wives, sharing Fraternity and good times!

> For Reservations Romeo Gauthier, PSD -- 410-521-6200 Send Deposit to Maryland State Council P.O. Box 165 Westminster, MD 21158

Maryland State Council Knights of Columbus Presents ...

12 NIGHTS BALTIC CRUISE - ROYAL CARIBBEAN'S NAVIGATOR OF THE SEAS SAILING DATES: JUNE 16-28, 2016

Category D3 Stateroom with Balcony Category H Stateroom with Ocean View (double occupancy)

Total per person: \$4,730.96 Total per person: \$4,180.96

INCLUSIONS: Round-trip air BWI | London, Heathrow. Round-trip transfers in England. All meals, snacks and entertainment. Cruise Travel Insurance. All Taxes and Fees

ITINERARY

June 19 June 20 June 21 June 22 June 23 June 24



St. Petersburg, Russia

Southampton, England

Southampton, England

Copenhagen, Denmark

Cruising

Cruising

Oslo, Norway

\$200.00 deposit per stateroom will reserve your space and due no later than 07/31/2015

Legal names & 2nd deposit due by 09/15/2015

Balance due March 2, 2016

FOR RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION CONTACT:

CREATIVE INCENTIVE GROUP 177 Defense Highway, Suite 7 Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 224.0101 or (800) 217.6963

NITA KREUZBURG or MICHELLE CORPUZ



REFLECTIONS

Lawrence P. Grayson

Selective Enforcement is Persecution

Mike Huckabee, former governor of Arkansas and presidential aspirant, recently asked why the government is willing to make religious accommodations to Muslims detained at Guantanamo Bay's military prison, but not to Christian county clerks who abide by their faith. Kim Davis, the subject of his concern, is the clerk of Rowan County, Kentucky. After the Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriages, she refused to issue marriage licenses for such unions. Her faith holds that same-sex marriages violate God's law. Even though religious freedom is the first of this nation's explicitly stated constitutional rights and the Kentucky state constitution, which she swore to uphold, defines marriage as only the union of one man and one woman, Davis was jailed.

While bakers, photographers, caterers, and others in wedding-related industries have been fined for following their consciences and not supporting what they consider sin, Davis is the first to be imprisoned for her Christian beliefs.

Similarly, in May 2014, when a federal court ruling made same-sex marriage legal in Oregon, Marion County Judge Vance Day felt that he could not perform these ceremonies because of his religious tenets. He instructed his staff to refer same-sex couples seeking to marry to other judges. Last fall, he stopped performing weddings altogether. Now he is being investigated by a judicial fitness commission, in part because he acted on his religious beliefs.

The plight of these individuals reveals how the legalization of same-sex marriage and penalties for non-adherence are leading to crises of conscience for Christians. In contrast, significant tolerance has been shown to people of non-Christian faiths. A large and growing number of cases illustrate the differences in treatment.

At Guantanamo Bay, both men and women serve as guards. Several Muslim men, who are high-value detainees -- one of whom was an al-Qaida leader and others who are reputed to have been involved with the September 11 attacks -- have objected to having female soldiers shackle and escort them when they leave their cells because Islam teaches that a Muslim man can only have physical contact with women who are related to him. A judge initially banned the use of female guards, but earlier this year rescinded the order based on the Pentagon's gender non-discrimination policies.

In another recent case, Lt. Cmdr. Wesley Modder, a Pentecostal military chaplain for over 19 years, may be discharged from the Navy for cause. He has been charged with counseling sailors, in accord with his religious beliefs, against homosexuality and premarital sex. It is claimed that he is "unable to function in the diverse and pluralistic environment" of the modern Navy, even though he has consistently received glowing fitness reports and a recent letter of commendation that referred to him as the "best of the best."

The U.S. military, where uniformity and standards of dress and grooming have long been considered important to unit cohesion, is changing regulations to accommodate a variety of religious beliefs and practices. Under a recently changed Department of Defense Directive, Muslim service members can request to wear a beard and carry prayer beads; Wiccans can seek to carry "magick" wands; Jews can get permission to wear a yarmulke while in uniform; Sikhs can have long hair; tattoos can be allowed as religious body art; and piercings through the skin or body parts may be permitted.

Even with these changes, a Sikh advocacy group has complained that

the accommodations are not guaranteed, but must be requested. Hence, commanders can still deny them the opportunity to wear their religiously-mandated turbans and beards while in uniform. Last year, a cadet at the U.S. Air Force Academy posted a biblical verse on a whiteboard outside of his room. The Military Religious Freedom Foundation, an organization devoted to keeping the military free of religious expression, filed a complaint. Although the whiteboard was for the cadet's personal use and the quotation did not violate Air Force regulations, authorities quickly had the verse taken down. The militant foundation said that the Bible verse created a hostile atmosphere by elevating one religion, Christianity, over others represented at the academy.

The Defense Department also has begun to grant exceptions to a longstanding policy that bars military troops from wearing uniforms in public parades. In July 2012, it allowed troops to wear their uniforms in the San Diego LGBT Pride parade. About 350 service members marched, some waiving rainbow flags. When the military contingent stopped at an intersection, a Navy senior chief dropped to his knee and proposed to his boyfriend, who accepted. In another gay pride parade, two male service members held hands as they marched. In April 2014, members of the Missouri National Guard were invited to attend an event at a local Baptist church at which children were to thank them - as well as firefighters, police and other rescuers -- for their dedication and service in protecting this country and its religious freedom. They did not attend, citing a military regulation that prohibits their participation in any religious or ideologically-related event. Yet, a month earlier a military color guard was allowed to march in the Washington, DC gay pride parade.

Selective enforcement of policies and regulations that discriminate against Christian-related events, beliefs and actions is persecution. The nation has made religious accommodation to prisoners who are being tried for killing over 3,000 American civilians, to long-standing military dress policies to allow turbans, beards and magick wands, and to permit uniformed military to march in gay pride parades, but will not accommodate a county clerk, a cadet posting a Bible verse, or a Christian chaplain counseling sailors, each acting in accord with his or her religious beliefs.

Governor Huckabee stated that what has happened to Kim Davis is an example of the current "criminalization of Christianity." While not yet universal, a trend is developing. Christians are being penalized for living their faith in the public square.

If this movement is to be stopped, the Catholic Church must be in the vanguard with strong and visible opposition. It must begin with its own members, undertaking a major effort to catechize Catholics to the Faith. Large and growing numbers of them do not agree with the Church's teachings on contraception, cohabitation, same-sex marriage, abortion, and remarriage without an annulment. The bishops and priests must develop and lead a core of Catholics who believe in and live the Faith. There must be a Church Militant in deed, as well as in word.

October 2015

Sun	Mon	Тие	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

October 2015

- Oct 4 Columbus Day Parade in Baltimore, MD
- Oct 10 State Columbus Day Ball
- Oct 12 Columbus Day Celebration Union Station, Washington D.C.
- Oct 17 State Fall Meeting Cumberland Ramada Cumberland, MD
- Oct 18 Seton Chapter Installation St. Elizabeth Seton Shrine, Emmitsburg, MD
- Oct 31 Navy Football Game & Tailgate Party Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium

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