



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS®**

The Courier

Montgomery Council 2323

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May-June 2016 • 301-977-2644



Mike Bean, GK

Grand Knight's Message



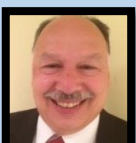
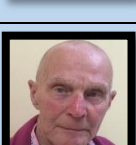
Looking Fondly Back On A Fraternal Year—And Ahead

As my year as Grand Knight comes to an end, I'd like to thank you for your support, especially my officers and directors and trustees. You gave me support and knowledge from your past experiences. My report of what we accomplished this year follows—and the year isn't over, so some events are yet to come.

The installation of Council officers for the 2015-16 fraternal year was held Saturday, Aug. 22 after the 5 p.m. Mass at St. Mary's in Rockville. **Msgr. Robert Amey**, head of the area deanery, and a brother Knight, attended after celebrating the 5 p.m. Mass, and **Fr. John Dillon** of St. Francis Parish was sworn in as our Worthy Chaplain. A formal reception with dinner followed at Father Cuddy Hall where all the officers and their ladies looked great in their tuxes.

As always, our Council is very active. We have about 375 members and conduct 30 events through the year, posting 1,250 man/lady hours to conduct charitable activities, and donating about \$31,000 a year. Please look at the depth and breadth of these events:

A bowling event in July with local college students as a recruiting activity; it worked well and four young men joined our Council. **We've been holding a 5th Sunday Mass** since August 2015 at St. Francis with our worthy Chaplain leading us in prayer; the last Rosary for this fraternal year will be on May 29. **At St. Mary's in Rockville**, we donate \$500 each year for a substance-abuse poster contest with monetary awards for winners in each of the grades, 2nd-8th. The kids do a great job. **In September, we sponsored the Special Olympics picnic;** we did the cooking, the kids do the dancing. A week later, we hosted a special Olympic BBQ fundraiser to help support Special Olympic activities. **We hosted a senior dinner for about 200 people in September, too;** we served a full meal and a D.J. played music till 11 p.m. We've hosted this activity since 1975. **Throughout the year,** we hold Family Knight Fundraisers for different organizations. We charge \$10 a person or \$25 a family, maximum. Our donations went to Stepping Stone Shelter, which helps young mothers get on their feet; Special Olympics Montgomery County; and Maryland Life Connection Mission in Haiti. Our last fundraiser supported the solid organ transplant program for children at the Alfred DuPont Hospital in New Jersey. **In October, we held a Memorial Mass** to honor our fallen brothers. **Each year, we hold a pumpkin carving** for Council kids; we had 22 kids show up this year. **Brother John K. Leighten, SK** and his wife, Lisa, donate pumpkins each year, which is very nice of them. **In November, we start again our Tootsie Roll** fundraiser for intellectually challenged persons. For the last two years, we've finished first in funds raised in our district. This shows the character of our council members.

	Grand Knight	John DeMaré
	Deputy Grand Knight	Ed Day, SK
	Chancellor	George Silvas, SK
	Warden	W. Bruce Cathie
	Recorder	Ross Woodward III
	Treasurer	Bernie McGuire
	Advocate	Joseph M. Kempf
	Guard	TBD
	Trustee (3 year)	Mike Bean
	Trustee (2 year)	Mike Joseph
	Trustee (1 year)	Larry Royster
	Delegates to the Convention	John DeMaré
	Alternate Delegates to the Convention	Mike Bean and Mike Joseph



Fr. John Dillon

Chaplain's Message

On Love In The Family: Through Christ, Renewed

On March 19, 2016, Pope Francis signed the apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (*On Love in the Family*). There will be much written and spoken over time about this exhortation that Pope Francis wrote after the Synod Bishops met in October 2014 and 2015.

Cardinal Wuerl has produced a very balanced early

commentary on *Amoris Laetitia* (hereafter referred to as AL) in his April 8 “Seek First the Kingdom of God Blog.” I want to bring to your attention to excerpts here in this column. If you want to read the whole text, you should know that Cardinal Wuerl’s blog can be found online at www.cardinalsblogadw.org.

Cardinal Wuerl notes that marriage and family, as we know from personal experiences, endure all the pains and sufferings, the trials and tribulation of the human condition. But through the Risen Christ, all things are made new. Marriage and family are revitalized and are made into the marriage and family that God wants for us.

His Eminence also remarks that throughout the Synod Process there was universal recognition by all of the critical importance of marriage and family to humanity. Moreover, it was widely understood that a special task of the Church was to help pastorally those who find themselves in unique or challenging situations and to accompany them patiently and lovingly with special concern. In this way, we help them to live as fully as possible the life-giving experience of Christ and his Church.

Pope Francis has used these discussions to inform the exhortation, his own personal teaching to aid in reflection, dialogue, and pastoral practice. Over the course of 325 paragraphs in nine chapters, the Holy Father points the way as to how the Church might take steps to support married couples and families in their lives and to bring hope and healing to those who find themselves in broken and wounded situations, with a sensitivity toward the diversity of particular relationships and cultures.

At the end of AL, Pope Francis included a prayer to the Holy Family that we all might do well to use in our own prayer:

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love; to you we turn with trust Holy Family of Nazareth, that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection, and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, graciously bear our prayer. Amen.



PUT ON THE CALENDAR: JUNE 18; SHRIMP FEAST AT FATHER CUDDY HALL, RAISE LEAGUE REGISTRATION FUNDS FOR KNIGHTS' SOFTBALL. FOOD SERVED FROM 5-8 P.M.!

Catholic College Scholarships

Knights of Columbus Supreme Awards New Freshmen In U.S.



The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council awards Fourth Degree Pro Deo and Pro Patria Scholarships annually to U.S. students, who will be entering *The Catholic University of America in Washington D.C., or other*

Catholic colleges or Catholic universities in the United States. The number of scholarships awarded is determined by the earnings of the scholarship trust. An applicant must be:

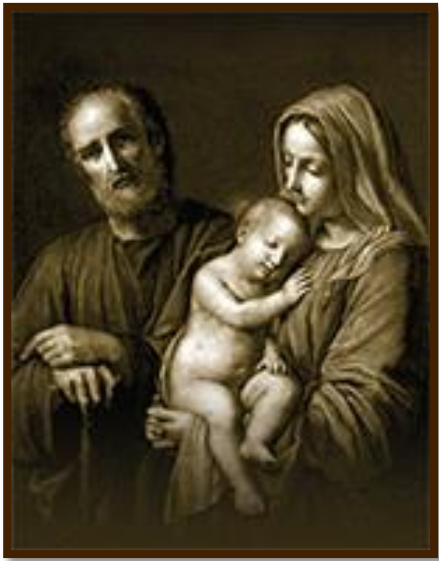
- **Entering freshman year of an undergraduate program** leading to a bachelor's degree at a Catholic college or Catholic university in the United States.
- **A member in good standing of the Knights of Columbus,** the son or daughter of such a member or deceased member, or a member in good standing of the Columbian Squires. (Not limited to Fourth Degree members.)

The scholarships of \$1,500 each are awarded on the basis of academic excellence and are renewable each year of study, pending satisfactory academic performance, to a total of four years.

Students applying to The Catholic University of America indicate their eligibility for a Knights of Columbus scholarship on the university's admission application.

Incoming freshmen planning to attend other Catholic colleges or Catholic universities may obtain applications for Fourth Degree Pro Deo and Pro Patria Scholarships after Oct. 1. For more information, see

<http://www.kofc.org/un/en/members/programs/scholarships/4thdegreepatria-scholarship.html>.



The Holy Family Prayer Program is meant to strengthen Catholic Families and their prayer lives.

Maier Council Hosts Icon

30th District Plans Prayer Ceremony At Our Lady Grace Church In Silver Spring

A District-wide Holy Family Icon ceremony will be hosted by Fr. Peter Paul Maier Council #6793 at Our Lady of Grace Church on Norbeck Boulevard, off Norbeck Road at the north end of Leisure World, on Saturday, May 21 at 11 a.m.

The Knights dedicated its 17th Orderwide prayer program to The Holy Family. The original etching is housed in the Pontifical John Paul Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family in Rome. The images were blessed by Pope Francis, who said, *"In the family, we learn solidarity, how to share, how to discern, to walk ahead with each other's problems, to and reflect on what your marriage and your family means to you."* The Orderwide programs have brought together more than 17 million participants.



District Deputy's Message

Use Your Precious Time Wisely—It Makes a Difference

"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" - Micah 6:8

The recent passing of several friends and relatives of mine reminds me of our mortality and the fragile existence we lead during our short time

on this Earth. As we advance in age, it seems that we hear all too often of the passing of someone younger than us. It reminds me of the need to use our precious time wisely and get the most you can out of every day in service to God and others in our lives so that when your earthly pilgrimage ends, you can be proud that you've made a difference in some peoples' lives.

Many of us have been or are currently "caregivers" to someone we know and love. Only you know how difficult, and rewarding, that can be. It reminds me of a saying an

old boss of mine had about someone who had accomplished something significant: “You’ll get your reward in Heaven.” Someone recently sent me a Prayer for Caregivers that I’d like to share: “Heavenly Mother, you know that illness affects not only the sick person, but also the family, friends, and professionals who provide care in pursuit of healing and comfort. Please be with all caregivers; grant them strength and courage, and guide the healing hands of the doctors and health-care workers on whose care we rely. Amen.”

Happy belated Mothers’ Day to all the lovely ladies of the Council! Your support of your husband’s KofC activities is heartily appreciated. ~ *Vivat Jesus! District 30*
Deputy Steve Goldhammer



At right, Chancellor Ed Day, SK, and his wife, Carole, with friends at Father Cuddy Hall.

the Caps’ post-game locker room. The Caps went down to the Penguins, tying the series. (At press time, the Caps were down three games to two, heading into Game 6.)

Pizza, fries, salad, desert and beverages eased the pain of the loss for those in attendance. **Grand Knight Michael Bean, Deputy Grand Knight John DeMaré and Chancellor Ed Day** represented the Council as hosts, bartenders, cooks and scullery crew. Thanks to their efforts, \$180 was raised for this worthwhile effort.

Co-Prefects of the St. Mary’s Sodality, Cindy Selby and Carole Day, also attended and provided homemade cookies and brownies, to everyone’s delight. St. Mary’s Sodality generously supported the event by contributing funds to cover supplies.

From Your Field Agent

A Founding Notion: Protecting The Breadwinner’s Income



David Luksic

While jobs may be safer in 2016, accidents, injuries, and illnesses that can impact your ability to work still happen. Most, in fact, do not happen on the jobsite or place of employment. Did you know that a 2011 study revealed that more than 95 percent of the long-term disability claims on file were not work related? The Knights have always sought to protect members’ families from the “loss” of a breadwinner.

Caps Family Night

Knights Support St. Mary’s Adult Ed

A “Rock the Red” evening to support St. Mary’s Adult Education, in cooperation with St. Mary’s Sodality, helped raise funds toward the purchase of a big-screen TV planned for St. Mary’s Parish Hall. The television will help facilitate adult education programs, St. Mary’s School activities and as social events.

Eighteen people gathered at Father Cuddy Hall to cheer on the Caps April 30, as the team continued its quest for the Stanley Cup. Unfortunately, there was more team spirit at the Knights’ hall than in

I'm sure you know all about Fr. McGivney's vision for our insurance program. But you may not know that Father also wanted to find a way to help members who couldn't work because of an illness. After all, the "loss" of the breadwinner does not have to mean that person's death; it can also mean the loss of the breadwinner's income.

Consider that loss for a moment. How would your family fare if a source of income suddenly stopped? Could a dual-income family manage on one income? What about young families with a working father and a mother who cares for the children? What if his income halted due to an accident or illness?

I've heard some people say they have coverage at work, but too many aren't sure what this coverage entails, how much income it would provide or for how long. Having this protection counts for something, certainly, but it isn't "yours;" it's provided by the company for which you work at their discretion. It could be eliminated tomorrow.

That's where a personally-owned disability income insurance product comes into play. It can offer valuable income replacement in the event of an injury or illness. If you have a job, you must know about this coverage. ~ *By David N. Luksic, Field Agent for Montgomery Council 2323, 301-370-1907.*

Spring 2016 Recruitment Drives

Knights Lead Drives At St. Mary's, St. Martin's and St. Francis

April was recruitment month for Montgomery Council 2323. The spring initiative kicked off following Masses at St. Martin's on Sunday, April 10. **Warden George Silvas, SK** spearheaded the effort and was assisted by **Leo Snyder**. A display was set up in the gathering space, offering parishioners the opportunity to stop by and chat with Knights about the Council and its activities. The following weekend, April 16 and 17, the St. Mary's fair was organized by **PGK/Trustee Larry Royster** who was assisted by **GK Mike Bean**. Finally, on April 23-24, it was recruiting day at St. Francis. **Deputy GK John DeMaré** headed up that effort, assisted by **Treasurer Bernie McGuire, Membership Chairman Gary Palmer, Mike Thomas, W. Bruce Cathie, Wayne Burnside, Steve Willer, Frank Wayne Burnside, Steve Willer, Frank Obidike and Mike Joseph, PGK, Trustee.**

The events offered the brothers the opportunity to chat with interested parishioners and to collect several promising form 100's. Another recruiting initiative is being planned to coincide with the Tootsie Roll drive in the Fall.



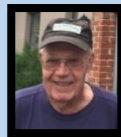
Treasurer Bernie McGuire; Fr. John Dillon, Chaplain and St. Francis pastor; Ed Dudenhoeffer and W. Bruce Cathie, Warden candidate.



Also at St. Francis, Membership Chair Gary Palmer chats with a prospective Knight.

From A Humble Invitation

St. Martin's Parochial Vicar Becomes First-Degree Knight



Fr. Angel Gabriel Fermín, 1st Degree Knight, Parochial Vicar, St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church, Gaithersburg, Md., a Leo Snyder (right) recruit to Council 2323 in Derwood, Md.

Fr. Angel Gabriel Fermín was ordained at the National Basilica of the Immaculate Conception by His Eminence Donald Cardinal Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, on June 20, 2015.

It was a long way from the Dominican Republic where Father grew up. He came to the U.S. to study for the priesthood and got to know the Knights while at Catholic University of America. He saw that the Knights worked for the Church, and he grew to appreciate their mission. As a deacon in his last year of seminary, he was sent to St. John the Evangelist Church in Clinton, Md. and was given a Form 100 by a

member, who told him the pastor also was a member. The Council also gave him an ordination present and attended his first Holy Mass—he was very touched. Still, he did not join, not having the time to truly give the Council what it deserved.

“I saw many brothers—and they called me ‘brother’ ... If they need something, I will respond. I admire the spirit of fraternity ... We need to be together and share.”

At St. Martin of Tours, as a Spanish-speaking priest, he got to know the St. Juan Diego Council, and went to a few meetings, but it was the “gentle and meek” approach of Leo Snyder, a Knight at Council 2323 for 55 years, asking, “How about joining the Knights of Columbus, Father?” that drew Fr. Fermín’s attention and got him to join. He became a 1st Degree Knight on March 15. It was this gentle approach that did it, and Father also knew Fr. John Dillon, Knights 2323 chaplain.

Knight Jack Jones picked him up for the ceremony and he found many parishioners at Father Cuddy Hall, so he felt right at home. “I saw many brothers—and they called me ‘brother,’” he says. He believes he will get his 2nd Degree and move up as well. And, he says, “If they need something, I will respond.”

“I admire the spirit of fraternity, and these are indeed brothers,” he says. “We need to be together and share. I see their great generosity.”



Ed Day, SK

Knights Lives: The Moment Christ Drew Me In
Patient Wife Sees Non-Practicing Husband Become Daily Communicant
Deputy Grand Knight Candidate Shares His Faith Journey

Carole was a devout Catholic at St. Mary's Church in Rockville, Md. her entire life. When she married Ed, who came from a non-religious family, she let him evolve at his own pace. "She was working on me in a benevolent way," says the Knights Chancellor.

Both their boys went to Catholic school. Still, Ed resisted. "I was hands off," he says. "I didn't mind my wife's involvement with the Church of that the children were raised in the Church, but for me, I felt it did not have much to offer. "It was not something Carole ever tried to force on me. In her intelligent way, she let me do my own things. It took a long time. It was a long journey."

Asked about the turning point, Ed says he recognized—and he did not fully know this at the time—that he had a strong inclination toward God. "I had a natural inbred need toward God that we all have, that I suppressed or tried to ignore," he said. "Maybe it's the wisdom of age. I was a policeman for 28 years, I was a homicide detective, I was in the military, I spent a year in Iraq. I spent my life in the underbelly of the world, and I was dealing with lot of tragedy. Why would a benevolent God allow all this to happen? That was my big question. But it wasn't God, it was man. Men have feet of clay, but God is God and He is consistent."

One Sunday, he told Carole he was joining her at church. "She was shell-shocked at first, amazed, but she stayed quiet, and guided me without pressing me. She was there for me, encouraging me." That was about 2005. He started RCIA at St. Mary's with Roger and Norma Langley. He now is a daily Mass-goer, to St. Mary's 7 a.m. Mass.

It was John Durbin, SK, who first asked Ed about becoming a Knight. Now he is on "the ladder," himself a fourth degree Sir Knight. "I enjoy it, I enjoy helping out and volunteering and what the Knights stand for, that concern of taking care of one another in a lot of ways being like in the military, the fraternity of the military and police work, the brotherhood of things, with a goal: this is not a drinking party but we are goal-oriented for a greater good. That always appealed to me on some level."

Ed says he has no real agenda for the future, he is just happy to be a Knight. "If called upon, I serve—that is the attitude I have," he says. "If they need something, I help. I have no agenda, no timeline, no five-year plan. I go with the flow."

Carole has asked what it was that made his faith increase, but Ed can't put a finger on it. "It was something germinating inside, and it finally blossomed, it was there," he says. "It was compelling. It forced me to take it to the next step. I am recently back after a year in Iraq. Maybe that had something to do with it."

He says his love of God now is always top of mind. "When dealing with people in situations, that love of God is fresh in your mind. It whispers in your ear and that helps you out, and those whispers are a little louder perhaps."

Although he's retired from police work, he's a special investigator with Montgomery County's States Attorney's Office and is a consultant to the State Department, teaching anti-terrorism and investigative techniques. And at home now, he has six grandchildren ... and with each one, he can now share his lessons in Faith.

So Long ... But Not Goodbye

Editor Reflects On Helming The Knights' "Old School" News Source



Joe Schuler, Jr.

So here's the thing: plans always change.

When I stepped into this role about 19 months ago, I knew it would be a great way to get to know the Council. And I did! Thankfully, I traded in information under two of the most generous, kind-hearted Grand Knights I know: **Mike Joseph** and **Mike Bean**. Not to mention **Deputy Grand Knight John DeMaré**, and many others who were always "go-to" for information: **Mike Thomas; John Durbin, SK;**

and the indefatigable and always cheery **Gary Palmer**, Membership Director. I'm sure I'm forgetting a few folks—please forgive me.

I learned a lot for these generous, patient and giving Knights, and best of all, they put up with me, as my work schedule went from bad to worse, and deadlines were missed again and again.

This is my last issue.

I highly recommend this job to anyone who can string words together, cut and paste photos, and use the Knights' Website to pull calendar items or phone numbers. It's that simple. While the electronic version of the **COURIER** is valuable, I think the old printed ones also serve a purpose, and I do hope the tradition of this publication continues.

I always tried to provide a variety of news, and to try new things, such as "Knight Lives," which shares a Faith story from one of our brothers.

Our Faith is so vibrant and can be expressed in so many ways, such as in all the charitable acts that our Grand Knight details in his Message, beginning on the front page of this issue. This witness to others shows them, as we sometimes use words, what is to be Catholic and to be a Knight of Columbus.

While I'll cherish many memories as Editor, which coincided with my first two years as a Knight in Montgomery Council 2323, one of the most interesting was when a U.S. Army Major reached out to me as a brother Knight. While his duty at the Pentagon rarely permits free time to share a beer at Father Cuddy Hall, this Silver Star recipient helped me share a gritty story of heroism and patriotism with all of you. What an honor that was.

Now I can relate to him because my free time is being absorbed with similar demanding work.

I'm not saying I won't share a beer or contribute to the **COURIER**. But circumstances change, and it's nice to know that the Knights of Columbus, particularly Council 2323, will always be a welcoming place to come home to. I look forward to seeing you at Father Cuddy Hall, maybe as we taste the latest Mike Bean keg arrival.

Switching gears ... as you know, our founder, Ven. Fr. Michael J. McGivney, was a man of the people, zealous of the people's welfare, and all the kindness of his priestly soul asserted itself strongly in his unceasing efforts toward the betterment of the human condition. *I wish you continued success in sharing all of this Council's heroic and serving efforts to that end, on these 12 pages.*

Montgomery Council 2323 Calendar

May

- May 17, Social Meeting, 8 p.m.
- May 21, Armed Forces Day
- May 30, Memorial Day

June

- June 7, Business Meeting, 8 p.m.
- June 14, Flag Day
- June 18, Father's Day
- June 21, Social Meeting/1st Degree, 8 p.m.

Upcoming - Highlights

***** SHRIMP FEAST JUNE 18 - SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS. *****

Exemplifications:

1st Degree:

- Initiation Degree May 25, Father Peter Paul Maher Council, Olney, Md., 7:30 p.m.
- Initiation Degree June 21, Montgomery Council 2323, Father Cuddy Hall, 7:30/8 p.m.

2nd Degree: Formation Degree, none until new Fraternal Year (after July 1)

3rd Degree: Knighthood Degree, none until new Fraternal Year (after July 1)

*Note: Dates/locations change. Visit <http://www.kofc-md.org/> for latest information.

All meetings at Fr. Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Rd., Derwood, Md. 20855 – unless indicated.

May-June 2016

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