



Maryland State Council Newsletter

October 2016 Volume 1, Issue 4

State Deputy's Report



Stephen M. Cohen
State Deputy
Maryland Knights of Columbus

My Brothers All,

Well, Fall has arrived. The summer is over and from a Knights of Columbus standpoint it was a good summer. Our membership numbers were good, our programs were even better and we keep right on helping people, because that is what we do. Everything we do is about service and when we provide these services, We Are Advocates of the Lord.

As October approaches, we will get very busy. First, the Columbus Parade in Baltimore; the longest running parade to honor Christopher Columbus in the nation. I hope that you and your council are planning on being there. Remember there is a full day of activities planned and something for the entire family. Then we have our premier event of the year, the Ball. Things are shaping up extremely well for this to be another great event. Then, on October 22 we will have the first ever Statewide Domestic Church Day. This will be at

the School of the Incarnation in Gambrills and families from all parishes in Maryland are being invited. It should be a great day. All of these events, take a lot of members to run and I want to thank each and everyone of them for their tireless effort in making sure the events go smoothly.

Are you ready for your Church Drives? Have you reported where and when they will be held to State Membership Director Thom Partenope? Then, don't forget to report your numbers to him. Recruitment is important to everything that we do. To provide the manpower and services that we do, we need more men. When recruiting, tell them what we do. We help people. Once recruited hold that Admission degree, don't make them wait. Then get those form 100's to Supreme.

How is your Domestic Church program progressing? Make sure that you are aware of the changes to the Columbian Award in regards to the Domestic Church Program. Review page 5 of the latest Knightline to check these changes. Continue to bring the activities of your council to the parish and invite the parishioners. Make the Family – priority one.

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State Chaplain's Message

Reverend Jason Worley



Rev. Jason Worley
State Chaplain
Maryland Knights of Columbus

Brothers! Vivat Jesus!

As of 10:21 A.M. Eastern Standard Time on September 22, the beginning of Autumn occurred with the Autumnal Equinox. Believe it or not, I did not realize we had changed seasons for a good day or two. Which begs the question that the majority of us have at these moments of the year, where has the time gone?

Indeed, where has the time gone? What have I done with the time the good Lord has given me? What am I going to do with the life I have left.

I have often said that when my time comes, I do not want to leave this world with one of those sad phrases such as, "if I had only..." or, "I wish I had...."

My dear brothers, let us truly use the time we have been given wisely. Let us take the time to build up God's Kingdom here on earth, and each member of that Kingdom rather than destroying it stone by stone, person by person.

May God continue to bless each of you and your families as He continues to bless our Family in the Knights of Columbus!

Vivat Jesus!
 Fr. Jason

The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild

The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney. The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics. Guild members receive regular updates on the progress of Father McGivney's cause for canonization and are invited to participate in promoting devotion to this Servant of God. Members of the Knights of Columbus are not automatically Guild members and must elect to join the Guild. The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild Newsletter is published bimonthly except July-August, and is sent free to Guild members. To join the Guild, fill in the form found on this website:

<http://www.fathermcgivney.org/mcg/en/contact/register.html>

(State Deputy Report con't)

Coats for Kids is coming. Please participate in the fund raisers, so that we have another banner year with this program. A lot of work has already been done by a lot of people for this effort.

Vicki and I are looking forward to seeing everyone at the Ball. Keep up the great work of our Order and stay involved.

Vivat Jesus!

State Membership Report**Thom Partenope**

The Maryland jurisdiction came into this fraternal year promising our State Deputy that we would recruit 100 new members a month. As of today, 9/16, we stand at 156 with 81 new insurance members. Outstanding job and we still have more to come once the Form 100s hit Supreme! Don't forget: do not hold candidates for degrees; hold degrees for candidates. Get 'em in and get 'em busy!

Our goal for membership for this year is 1250. Okay, that's a little over the 100 per month I mentioned but we all like to have those extra few come into the Order. Don't forget the slogan: One Member per Council per Month. One Admissions Degree per District per Month. One Star Council per District per Fraternal Year. Maryland still has a couple of councils who have not yet been able to recruit a new member but the membership team will be working with them, as with all of you, to reverse that fact. The District Deputies have been asked to submit recruitment plans for those councils who still have not brought in a new Knight this year.

Summer's over but we are still participating in Supreme's Membership Summer Games and are still competing well. The Summer Games allows each district to compete for monies for the State Council to help in our good works in Maryland. This contest is per district throughout the Order worldwide. We are in district 2, are in 6th place and are currently 51 members away from the next tier of 6%. We know that those Catholic men are out there. It's our job to make the opportunity to talk with them and share our joy and passion in being a Knight.

The other section of the Membership Summer Games is the opportunity for all of us to earn V.I.P. points which are used to get K of C gear and supplies from KnightsGear. These points never expire. Remember, though, that the contest ends on September 30th. I hope you all hit your numbers and rewards.

Church Recruitment Drives

Please send me the dates for the Church recruitment drives for October and November. My report is due to the State Deputy and Supreme by NOW. Let me know what you have scheduled and keep filling me in as you add more dates to the calendar.

Supreme Webinars

Hopefully you are all taking advantage of the Supreme webinars. They have provided a treasure-trove of ideas and concepts toward recruiting, membership and Star Council planning. Just register and you will be able to revisit these offerings at any time.

The membership team is ready to help the councils in Maryland achieve and exceed their goals. Just let us know when and where.

Vivat Jesu!
Thom Partenope

State Program Report**Mike Sallese**

Worthy Grand Knights, Dear Brother Knights and Ladies,

September 15 has come and gone as the date for submitting first period reports. We received approximately 110 sets of reports for a total of 142 active councils in the Maryland State Council. Of these we received approximately 65 sets of reports electronically. This amounts to 66% of all reports submitted, but only 45% of our councils submitted electronically. Over the next two years, we will work with the councils to increase these percentages to at least 90%. If I can be of any assistance to you in this endeavor, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Have you made your plans to take part in the various Columbus Day activities. The parade in Baltimore is Sunday October 2, 2016. The activities to honor Columbus in Washington are on Monday October 10, 2016, the observed holiday. The State Council sponsored Columbus Day Ball is Saturday October 8, 2016. Please contact General Chairman Steve Upton about participating in the activities and bring your family and your council family. Remember that October 12 is the actual Columbus Day Holiday. Honor our namesake in your council this month.

The drawing of the winners for the incentive raffle will be drawn at the Columbus Day Ball, so please make arrangements to get your sold raffle tickets to the ball for the drawing. The incentive program co-chairmen are Bill Van Horn and Lou Woods.

The fall campaign for the 40 Days for Life is September 28 to November 6, 2016. Can your council provide assistance praying outside a Planned Parenthood center either for an entire

day or at a set hour for a week or even the entire 40 days? Please visit <https://40daysforlife.com/> to find your local campaign.

If you have had Brother Knights or Ladies go to be with the Lord between November 1, 2015 through October 31, 2016, please provide those names to Memorial Mass Chairman Pat Corcoran for inclusion in the list of deceased to be honored at our annual State-sponsored Memorial Mass on November 27, 2016.

Are you working with your Chapters on the Literacy Program or the Coats for Kids Program? These are two extremely effective programs, helping our youth. Please get involved.

Please read the September issue of Knightline, Supreme's monthly publication for council officers. On page 5, there is information about changed requirements for the Columbian Award and a list of activities that councils should perform.

In closing, the Program Team is available to help you with your program ideas, or offer other activities that have been successful for other councils. Don't hesitate to contact us. We are at all three Chapter of Grand Knights meetings every month.

Vivat Jesus!

Fraternally yours,

Mike

Mike Sallese
State Program Director

State 4th Degree Report**Tom Greul, Master**

I have lots of great news so let's get to it!

When you received your issue of the Columbia magazine this week, if you read through it our district was highlighted on page 27 for our Christmas Card Program and the 5,732 cards we sent around the world to our active duty troops. Awesome to be recognized for our efforts and to bring a bright moment to our heroes during a difficult time.

Big news!! I invited the Supreme Master, Dennis Stoddard, to our Exemplification to be held March 4th 2017 in Ocean City, and I just received confirmation he WILL be joining us! Dennis is very pleased with all of the VAVS support Maryland has shown. When I sent him the Masters challenge flyer, he was very excited and he wants to be there to help present the awards to the Assemblies that participate. I hope every assembly takes up the challenge and earns the new Masters Challenge so our veterans benefit from the hospitality of our Assemblies.

Look in the newsletter for all of the info for the Exemplification. The trifold, the room reservations and the ladies are doing something cool this year, a Murder Mystery. I encourage all Assemblies to take a hospitably room at the Exemplification so that your candidates have a place to get a bite to eat after the degree and relax before the Mass. This is also the perfect time share fraternity and welcome them into your Assembly. If your Assembly wants to share a hospitality room with another Assembly, and share the cost that would be great. Start recruiting in your councils! Tell your councils the great things we are doing as fourth degree Knights and that they should become a Sir Knight so they can be part of this as well. We will be honoring Ron Sunny as our honoree for of his endless dedication to the fourth degree and our Order in Western Maryland. Ron and his wife Bonnie attend all of the State events and spend hours in their car for our Order. Thank you Ron and Bonnie for all you do!

Columbus Day is coming up quick so we will be turning out all over our District in Color Corps. Please, if you have the desire to turn out in colors, do it. Most Assemblies have extra regalia that any member can borrow. Whether it is marching in the parade, riding on a float in the parade, attending the wreath laying at the Columbus statue or coming to the Columbus Ball. The Calvert Province, especially the Maryland District has the best color guard in our order. If you have never done it and want to give it a try, let your Navigator or Commander know and they will help you. The Marshals are executing training and certifications for anyone that wants it; just ask. Finally for the Color Corps we will be having a competition again like we did in years past. More info will be coming soon, but Mike Dunn promises another great event.

We are working on a calendar for the website. Big thanks to George Markelonis and Steve Furth who are trying to make this an interactive calendar where you will be able to see all events coming up, where and when, and contact information for them. It will be a great tool when finished.

Christmas Cards have been ordered and I still have some from last year. Get them now so you can start getting them filled out. All cards must be back by December 1st this year. I will have them at the fall meeting in Cumberland so tell your DD now how many boxes you want and he can pick them up there. \$12 a box of 25 cards. This is a great way to say thanks to our troops and a great way for you to interact with your parish or schools and possibly find new members.

See the flyers in the newsletter for Wreath's Across America and National Cemetery in Catonsville. Also for the ladies activities, and Exemplification information.

Remember, everything we do, we do for God, Our country and our Order.
God Bless you and God Bless America.

(Ed. note - the newsletter referenced is the October 4th Degree District newsletter)

First Lady's Message



First Lady's Message
Vicki Cohen

October is a busy month for Knights and Ladies, beginning with activities to celebrate the namesake, Christopher Columbus, and ending with celebrating and honoring the Domestic Church, the FAMILY !!!

Sunday, October 2nd is the date for the Baltimore Columbus Day parade and festivities, which begin with Mass at 9:30am at St. Leo's Church in Little Italy, followed by a wreath laying ceremony at Christopher Columbus' statue near the Inner Harbor. For those interested, there will be a 5K run/walk at 1pm and the parade will begin at 2:30pm. All weekend, Little Italy holds a street festival with music, sidewalk paintings---and of course, there are many restaurants to enjoy a delicious homemade Italian meal. Bring your family and come join us for the day (or part of the day).

The premier event of the year is the Columbus Day Ball. It is being held at the BWI Marriott on Saturday, October 8th and is always an enjoyable evening with a delicious dinner, dancing, laughter, socializing, and of course, culminating with the winner of the car raffle!

Monday, October 10th is the Columbus Day ceremony held at Union Station in Washington, D.C. This is an impressive ceremony with our 4th degree in force along with the U.S. Marine Band.

The State Council Fall Meeting is being held October 14th through the 16th in Cumberland. The Ladies Activities Committee and I have planned a very enjoyable day for the ladies attending. As a reminder, our charitable activity for Make a Difference Day 2016 will be the local Family Crisis Resource Center, which assists victims of domestic violence and their children. All women's, children's, and household items are gratefully accepted, including gift cards to Walmart and food stores.

October will wrap up with the new state-wide Domestic Church Program. This is being held on Saturday, October 22nd from 10am to 4pm at the School of the Incarnation in Gambrills and is a day for families with speakers and vendors. Mass will be celebrated at 4pm. We hope many families will enjoy this day.

The 2nd annual Star Knight banquet is being held Sunday, October 23rd. This is to honor all the Star Councils and Star Districts from the Columbian year that just ended.

I hope to see many of you at all of these activities. Happy Fall !!! Happy Haunting !!!



Visit our page and Like us on Facebook---The Ladies of the Maryland Knights of Columbus



Montgomery County Special Olympics Golf Qualifier at Rattlewod Golf Course

Special Olympics Montgomery County (SOMO) held their area golf qualifier on September 3, 2016 for athletes from several counties to qualify for the State Competition to be held at Queenstown Golf Course on October 2, 2016.

The Montgomery County Knights of Columbus from Councils 2323, 6793, 11105, 12127 and 12796 officiated at the (6) skill stations that included: Short Putt, Long Putt, Chip Shot, Pitch Shot, Iron Shot and the Wood Shot. We were blessed with a total 22 volunteers from these councils.

The weather was perfect in spite of the dreadful forecast of the previous week and allowed approximately sixty Level 1 athletes to display their hard work at practice for the previous four weeks. It was also our task to identify two athletes that displayed something extra special in the course of the day. Once they were identified, it was my privilege along with the Knights, who worked the stations where the skill was identified, to present to the two, and believe me there were several others in the running, with Special Golf Medals that were provided by Pam Yerg, Area Director for Montgomery County and Chuck Hellmuth, Golf Coach for Montgomery County.

Event time was 10:00 am until 3:30 pm

Report by: John Durbin
Special Olympics Chairman
Maryland State Council



Special Olympics T - Shirt Fundraiser



A planning meeting with Special Olympics Maryland, the Maryland State Deputy and the Special Olympics Chairman of the Knights of Columbus Maryland State Council was held on June 15, 2016 to discuss our mutual goals for the coming two year term. During the meeting one concept that we thought would generate income for Special Olympics is the sale of T- Shirts with the Knights of Columbus Logo and that of Special Olympics Maryland Logo designating our Partnership.

Because our three Chapters reach all of our Councils, the Chapter Presidents are given ownership of this fundraiser, which can be used as a September activity. Selling these T-Shirts for \$15.00 will generate a great deal of funds for Special Olympics Maryland. They will not only have the Logos but will have the Special Olympic Athlete's Oath on the front. The word BRAVE will contain words describing the Knights of Columbus mission. The target time for purchasing these shirts is the months of September, October and November. We are asking each Chapter to sell 500 shirts through the participation of the Grand Knights, the council members, family members, friends and everyone who wishes to support the program. The shirts must be pre-ordered and paid for before delivery. All money will go through the Special Olympics Chairman, John Durbin, checks are to be made out to Special Olympics.

I know you will have questions so feel free to contact John Durbin by email preferably at jndurbin@msn.com or by phone (h) 301-762-4448 (c) 240-620-4360. He will not have all the answers but knows where to go to get them. There will be fliers and additional information coming out as the event gets closer.

We know we can count on the Chapter Presidents to make this drive a success.

Vivat Jesus

Stephen M. Cohen

State Deputy

John L. Durbin

Special Olympics Chairman



The State Deputy will decide the color

Reflections
Lawrence P. Grayson

Casting Your Ballot, A Moral Act

Next month, we will have the opportunity to vote for the people who will lead this nation. The outcome will significantly affect our lives – and those of our children and grandchildren -- for decades.

The challenges before the nation are serious and emotion laden. They range from abortion to immigration, from redefining marriage to adequate health care, from freedom of conscience to the national debt. All have profound moral implications. Thus, as Catholics, each of us has an obligation to cast our ballot with a faith-formed conscience, aware of the teachings of our Church and of the views of those who seek to represent us. We must evaluate the candidates' promises, policy positions, and party platforms in light of the moral and social teaching of the Church.

Notwithstanding diverse prudential judgments, each of us should guide our decision making on the issues with a fundamental respect for the dignity and life of every human being at every stage of life. This foundational principle is fundamental to our nature as having been created in the image and likeness of God and is the central tenet of Catholic moral and social teaching.

The righteousness of some decisions, such as waging war, depends on the situation. Other actions, as the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops points out in *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, "are so deeply flawed that they are always opposed to the authentic good of persons. These are called 'intrinsically evil' actions. They must always be rejected and opposed and must never be supported or condoned."

Preeminent among these non-negotiable tenets is the protection of human life, from conception until natural death. This holds for every condition of the person, whether healthy or sick, whole or handicapped, young or old, born or in the womb. The Church's position on human life -- as well as on euthanasia, human cloning, embryonic stem-cell research, terrorism, genocide, other direct assaults on innocent human life and on its wellspring in the union of a man and woman in marriage -- is immutable and not open to individual judgment. Actions to deny human life are so detrimental to humanity that there can be no allowance for diverse views.

Pope St. John Paul II, in his 1988 apostolic exhortation *Christifideles Laici*, stated: "The common outcry, which is justly made on behalf of human rights -- for example, the right to health, to home, to work, to family, to culture -- is false and illusory if the right to life, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition of all other personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination."

Issues that do not promote an intrinsic evil require prudent judgments about the best way to apply Church teachings to deal with compelling societal problems. Health care, education, poverty, housing, immigration, jobs, taxation and national security are important concerns and their consideration should not be dismissed. They are significant, challenge one's moral sense and require action, but approaches to addressing them are open to principled debate. Morality in these cases rests not on what is done, but on how it is done, on the motives, means and circumstances involved. No matter how beneficial to society a candidate's positions on these issues may be, they cannot outweigh his or her support for an intrinsic evil such as abortion.

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, in his address at the 2016 Supreme Convention in Toronto, reminded us that: “[T]he right to abortion is not just another political issue. It is in reality a legal regime that has resulted in more than 40 million deaths. -- a figure greater than the entire population of Canada. What political issue could possibly outweigh this human devastation? The answer, of course, is that there is none.”

Closely allied with the right to life are the promotion and defense of the natural structure of the family and the protection of religious liberty. The Church is steadfast in defining the family as a lifelong union between a man and a woman based on marriage for the procreation and raising of children. And it firmly supports our right to live our lives and express our opinions, publically and privately, according to our faith.

On matters that involve an intrinsic evil, a Catholic cannot be true to the Faith and claim to be opposed personally to a political position, but support it for those who think otherwise. The person is either in self-delusion or deceitful as he or she tries to straddle contradictory positions. A Catholic who votes for such an individual, if there is a morally-acceptable alternative candidate, would be guilty of formal cooperation in grave evil.

While a candidate’s stand on a single issue may not be sufficient to guarantee a voter’s support, the Church makes clear that a single position that favors an intrinsic evil should disqualify that candidate from receiving one’s vote, regardless of the candidate’s views on issues requiring prudential judgement. In good conscience, one must give preference to candidates who do not oppose God-given moral principles.

There rarely is a candidate with whom one agrees on everything. What does one do when there is no totally acceptable alternative? Deciding not to vote is often not the best solution. When all candidates support an intrinsic evil, it is morally permissible to vote for the candidate who poses the least threat to human life and dignity and thus limit the harm. It is important, therefore, to vote with a well-formed conscience that perceives the proper relationship among moral goods.

Guidance for voting is available from the Maryland Catholic Conferences, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Priests for Life, among other sources. The information they provide can be helpful in developing one’s conscience. But advice on issues that involve reasoned judgement is not binding as sincere Catholics can come to morally-acceptable opposing conclusions based upon the same principles.

In the coming election, every voice will matter, every vote count. As you prepare to exercise your right and duty as a Catholic citizen, strengthen your understanding of the Church’s positions on moral issues, learn the views of the various candidates, give the matter prayerful reflection, and prudentially cast your ballot.

Vivat Jesus!

* * * * *

Octoberber 2016

What's coming up in the State Octoberber 2016

October 2 - Columbus Day Parade - Downtown Baltimore

October 8 - Columbus Day Ball

October 10 - DC Columbus Day Celebration - Columbus Plaza, Union Station in Washington, DC

October 14-16 - Fall Meeting, Cumberland

October 22 - F.S. Seminar, St. Pius X

October 22 - Statewide Domestic Church Program - School of the Incarnation

October 29 - F.S. Seminar, Regina Coeli

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Like & Follow



Where social media is more prevalent than ever, the Knights of Columbus Maryland State Council will be providing more state related updates via these platforms, such as Facebook, with the intent to keep all members and their families informed. Maryland State Council will also use these platforms to post event photographs from state events! We encourage all to follow us on our Facebook and Instagram pages

The new Facebook page not to replace the community-group established in the past. Members and their families should also continue to connect to this page for events in within your specific council and community; however, all official communication from your elected Maryland State Officers will be posted to the official MD State page.



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