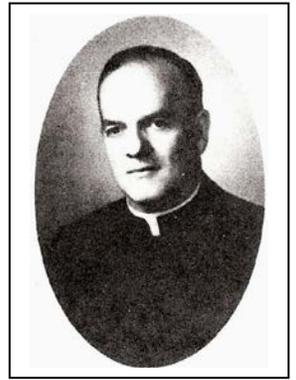


Father Maher's Knightly News

FR. PETER PAUL MAHER COUNCIL 6793 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Chartered April 21, 1976 • District 30 • Member of McNamara Chapter
Charter Council of the Sullivan Brothers Assembly 2861
P.O. Box 570 Olney, MD 20830 • www.kofc6793.org



NOVEMBER 2019 • VOLUME XLII • ISSUE 5



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<https://www.facebook.com/KnightsOfColumbus6793/>

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Reverend James Boccabella, Pastor
Our Lady of Grace Church

E-mail: jimboccabella@msn.com Phone: 301-924-0067



November, as the month of the Holy Souls, reminds us that we are all only here for a while, that another world awaits, and that it is foolish for us to fail to recognize how what we do in this world affects what we do in the next. While we begin the month with the Solemnity of All Saints, celebrating those who have completed their journey to everlasting life in Heaven, we are immediately reminded, and are called to keep in mind for the whole month, those who are continuing their journey through Purgatory to their blessed home in God's Presence. It is unfortunate that we do not pray for these souls in Purgatory as we used to, because love requires that we help those who cannot help themselves. The Holy Souls can and do pray for us, but they cannot pray for themselves, other than indirectly, asking God to remind us of their suffering. We can help them by "offering it up" as the good Sisters used to direct us, taking advantage of our everyday opportunities: by praying, by helping others in need, by patiently enduring any hardships we are going through, with the intent that, just as Jesus' suffering was the cause of our redemption, our suffering can serve to help our brothers and sisters to their Heavenly destination.

It seems a natural fit for all Knights to keep these souls in mind, especially with the many activities that are part of Faith in Action, honoring our faith, our families, our brothers and sisters in whatever manner that we can assist them. Beginning each of these activities with a moment of recognizing that we are in the Presence of God, that what we are doing has real

Motto: "Mary, fill our Hearts with Charity and Love."

spiritual value, and then intentionally offering our efforts for the help of the Holy Souls, we are benefitting ourselves through the blessings from God for the intentional prayer of our good works; we are benefitting those who are the recipients of our charitable efforts; and we are benefitting the Holy Souls in their passage through Purgatory, which will then benefit us again as they pray for us, once they get to Heaven. This is part of the great circle of love that is God's creation, and it is a shame to let any opportunity for love and grace to be wasted. It is said that among the first people we see when we get to Heaven will be those grateful souls for whom we prayed. Oh, yeah – don't forget the Council's Memorial Mass here at Our Lady of Grace on November 9 at 11:00 AM – some of our brothers are counting on our prayers. May God continue to bless us all.

Fr. Jim

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

SK W. Fred Taylor, Grand Knight

E-mail: taylorwf8@verizon.net ~ Phone: 301-871-8928



We have completed our "Tootise Roll" campaign this year. I thank all who led this effort and those who worked a shift and contributed to helping folk with Intellectual Disabilities. We will be making awards at our annual Charter Dinner in the Spring; consider attending and hearing of the great work performed by the groups we support.

Our Mass for Life was well attended and provided an opportunity for us to pray for a culture of life. Fr. Jim and Ms. Fran VanBrocklin led an interesting and provocative discussion after Mass. Thanks to all who made gift and cash donations that will benefit the Birthright Chapter led by Fran. I also thank our Brothers at the Sullivan Brothers Assembly for their Color Corps support of the 40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration at St. Patrick's Church which kicked off with a public procession

down Norbeck Road with the Blessed Sacrament and adoration and prayers in the Church. This is a very special Faith event for all of us.

We had a great turnout of support for our annual Halloween Party at the Inwood House this year, and I thank each of you for helping to bring some joy to our friends. This is always a special day for them, and it also provides me personal satisfaction and delight.

Don't forget our annual Memorial Mass to remember and pray for our deceased Brother Knights. Chris Romano and Martin Peschke are organizing the Mass this year at Our Lady of Grace Church on November 9. I hope you will join us to pray for our Brothers and show our support for their widows. Tickets are going fast for our annual Olney Theater event on November 15 to see "Singing in the Rain". You don't want to miss this evening of fun and fellowship so contact Joe Feakes at Tel:301-774-0137 for tickets.

Growth of our Order is always our priority and a hot topic. We have recently heard of a new approach to sharing information about our goals, programs, and outreach and will be implementing a "Delta Church Drive" model. I hope you will help us when we call to bring our message to our fellow parishioners and community at large.

We have recruited an exceptional group of new Knights in recent years. We must engage them and their Ladies and families, let them know they are welcome, wanted and needed, and make room for them in our upcoming schedule. They are the life's blood of this Council. Join us at a meeting, become a more active member of our Council, and help plan and execute our activities for the year. Please take the time to care for and love each other and pray the Rosary frequently.

Visit our website at www.kofc6793.org or Facebook page at www.facebook.com/KnightsOfColumbus6793/ to stay informed of our future activities. Attend our business meetings and read our Newsletter to find activities that interest you and join in. Become a more active Brother Knight and support our Council activities.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Jim Street, Chairman, Church Activities

E-mail: streetjames@aol.com ~ Phone: 301-717-2667

Brother Knights, we will soon embark on a New Year's Day in 2020. Perhaps we as Knights should gear up and show our pledge to the Queen of the Knights and our council by lining up to sign up to recruit new members. Furthermore, we should challenge ourselves to aid in maintaining the active participation of our new and old Knights in all of our catholic fraternity's many charitable activities.

According to *KnightLine* (Volume 36, issue #1), involvement in Knights' activities is the best way to attract new members because by doing so, their example speaks multitudes of encouragement for others to join and do the same. In our prayer to the Lady Queen of the Knights, we ask her to "bless all the activities of our order and keep us true to the pledge to extend the kingship of thy Divine Son on earth. Through [her] intercession, win the grace ever to exemplify in our public and private lives the virtues which should characterize those specially dedicated to the service of the heavenly court."

We ask her to "make us always aware that, as [her] Knights, we are constantly observed, our faith judged, and our Order appreciated..." Meet the pledge!!

CHURCH NEWS

Jim Street, Chairman, Church Activities

E-mail: streetjames@aol.com ~ Phone: 301-717-2667

OUR LADY OF GRACE

Website: <http://ourladyofgracelw.weebly.com/>

Reverend James Boccabella, Pastor



A Workshop for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

On Saturday, November 16, there will be a workshop held from 9 AM to noon at Saint Francis of Assisi in Derwood. This workshop is open to all. The cost is \$5. Please RSVP to liturgy@adw.org. For more information, call 301-853-4594.

St. Patrick's Leisure Club

Mark your calendar for the club's upcoming luncheon on Thursday, November 14 at 11:00 AM. There will be Rosary and Mass with Father Early, followed by lunch at noon in Our Lady of Grace's parish center. Reservations will be taken for the catered Christmas luncheon.

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

Website: <http://www.stpatricksmd.org>

Monsignor Charles J. Parry, Pastor



Quo Vadis Come and See Retreat

Young men in grades 11 and 12 and between the ages of 15 and 17, who are interested in learning more about priesthood and seminary, are invited to Saint John Paul II Seminary from Friday, November 8 to Sunday, November 10 to experience seminary life firsthand. This is an opportunity to meet and talk to our seminarians, pray with them, listen to great talks, and enjoy time for sports and recreation.

Please encourage high school juniors and seniors to consider attending this great weekend event. Please visit www.DCpriest.org and select "Events" to register. Please call the Office of Priest Vocations, 202-636-9020 or email Father Mark Ivany at vocations@adw.org with any questions.

2019 Saint Patrick's Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive

For the last six years, parishioners at Saint Patrick's have come together and collected thousands of cans to feed the poor and needy right in our area.

We know we can do more, but we need your help! Don't miss this opportunity to serve in our community with your family, friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners. Bags will be delivered in neighborhoods the week of November 10 and this year's drive is Saturday, November 16.

Go to www.ggcfcd.org today to learn more and sign up to help. We need Territory Leaders and Helpers to deliver bags and collect cans in neighborhoods, and we need volunteers to sort cans at the Parish Center collection site. Service hours are available. For any questions, please email GGCFDstpatrik@gmail.com.

ST. PETER'S PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

Website: <http://www.stpetersolney.org>

Reverend Thomas M. Kalita, Pastor



Boxes of Joy

Our goal for our 7th to 12th graders is to put together 100 shoe boxes that will be sent as Christmas presents to children overseas. We will fill 50 boy boxes and 50 girl boxes. If you would like to donate and/or assemble the boxes, go to: <https://bit.ly/2m2rkSN>.

We need all the items by November 3 at 1PM to put the boxes together. Parents are needed to help, too.

FAITH IN ACTION

John Feldmann, Chairman, Faith Programs

E-mail: jif3353@comcast.net ~ Phone: 301-924-3353

Holy Hour of Spiritual Reflection

Fr. Jim Boccabella led the council in a Holy Hour of spiritual reflection at our September social meeting. He provided two short talks about Christ's body and blood in the Eucharist and visiting with Christ in the tabernacle or Exposition. In between his talks, Knights and family members experienced quiet time in adoration of the Exposition of the Eucharist. What a blessing it was for all in attendance to take time out of their daily lives and share in a spiritual reflection.

Raffles are Going to Change

We have just learned that we can no longer continue to use U.S. Mail to conduct our annual Council Raffles. This applies to all people and organizations including KofC Councils

who send out raffle tickets with a document identifying the cost of each raffle ticket in the same envelope/package. We are investigating various options to work around the revised interpretation of current regulations. Most importantly, the new changes are not expected to impact your ability to contribute to the raffle as currently done, and our Council ability to collect funds for our many council charitable programs. Our first raffle impacted by these revised procedures will be the Council Fall Raffle benefitting our council Seminarian Fund with drawings to be conducted at our Council Christmas party in December.

Thank You for Your Support

The council thanks you so very much for your continued support of the 2019 State Car Raffle and the 2019 Tootsie Roll Collections! This means both your financial support and your volunteer support to make these two efforts successful this year. The Tootsie Roll effort is just completing at the writing of this note, but both efforts look to be close to record efforts! These fundraising efforts are the lifeblood of the Council charities! Well done guys!

Don Hemke, Council Financial Secretary

\$1000 Anonymous Challenge Returns

Again, this year a council brother knight has challenged the council to donate to the Council Seminarian Fund which he will match up to \$1000! Yes, \$1000!

In previous years, the council has indeed donated more than the \$1000 challenge, so we again look forward to your continued generosity which will help keep us the biggest sponsor of Seminarians in the state of Maryland....something we all can be very proud to achieve!

ST. MARTIN'S FOOD PANTRY

As part of our Faith in Action Family service programs, we have instituted our Food For Families program. We will be collecting food for St. Martin's Pantry, who provides food to needy families.

There will be a box at all meetings for collecting food items. All food must be unexpired, sealed items. Items in shortest supply are canned soup, canned fruit, pasta sauce, "meals in a can (canned pasta, canned chili, etc.) and dry, unsweetened cereal. So, when you are grocery shopping this month, pick up an item or two and help feed those in need.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Program

Our Council will be hosting the Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose program on Sunday, November 17 at Our Lady of Grace Church. This is a pro-Life event reaffirming our commitment to the Sanctity of human life.

All Knights and their families are encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact: Stephen Goldhammer at email: segoldham@aol.com or call 301-570-9613.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep these Knights and families in your prayers.

INDIVIDUAL'S NAME	RELATIONSHIP
Rev. Fr. Thomas Kalita	Pastor/St. Peter's Church
Rev. Fr. Louis Tou	Past Chaplain/Council 6793
Kayla MacBride	Niece/Fr. Kalita
Bill Gulban	Brother Knight
Barbara Mazonkey	Brother Knight
Karen Mazonkey	Daughter/Bob and Barb Mazonkey
Hunter Shaffer	Brother/ Ed Shaffer
Rae Romano	Mother/Chris Romano
Rick Lanham	Brother Knight
Pat Gauthier	Wife/Romeo Gauthier
Romeo Gauthier	Brother Knight
Kathy Spade	Music Ministry/ St. Peter's Church
Antonio Brown	NFL Player
Kate Coppi	Friend/ Kevin Kennedy
Tony Laing	Friend/ Kevin Kennedy
Donna Conway	Wife/ Gerald Conway Jr
Michael Williams	Father to friend/ Chris Romano
Jani Whitney	Mom to Co-worker/ Chris Romano
Oliver Nelson	Grandson/ Harry Bushar
Elaine Burch	Friend/Fred Taylor
Donna D'Almeida	Wife/ Innocent D'Almeida
Innocent D'Almeida	Brother Knight
Norman Salem	Brother Knight
DECEASED'S NAME	DATE OF DEATH
Peter Davio	09/06/2019
Ed Padgett	09/06/2019
Noah Sweitzer	09/25/2019
Eileen Goggin	09/09/2019
Sister Joan Dropski	10/03/2019
Gergor Mierychlo	10/04/2019
Jennifer Morbelli & her aborted baby	02/07/2013

Continue to pray for the souls of our deceased armed forces.

CULTURE OF LIFE NEWS

**Steve Goldhammer and Marco Colombini,
Co-chairs, Life Programs**

E-mail: segoldham@aol.com ~ Phone: 301-570-9613

"Christ our hope in every season of life. We are all called to be people of hope, people who are committed to building a culture of life." Archbishop Joseph Naumann

Council Pro-life Mass

On Saturday, October 19, the Council held its annual Pro-life mass at Our Lady of Grace Church. Fr. Jim Boccabella, our Council Chaplain, conducted a beautiful celebration of life attended by about 30 council members, their spouses, and others from local parishes.

In his homily, Fr. Jim (pictured) said we need to try to discern the reasons for the recent denigration of the value of life. We can't second guess God's plan. There are so many things that had to happen for us to be here as part of God's plan for our eternal life. We need to offer our bodies as a living testimony

of life in the presence of God. We're members of the Body of Christ. We need to help people to preserve lives. Our lives are valuable. God put enough thought into our lives to give us eternal life. Jesus said: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' Care for one another and recognize the humanity of our lives.



Mass was followed by a most interesting and thought-provoking 65-minute discussion on contemporary Pro-life issues led by Fr. Jim and Mrs. Fran VanBrocklin, a parishioner of St. Peter's and the Director of Birthright of Montgomery County. Fr. Jim said that Pope Paul VI should have been canonized a saint just because he wrote 'Humane Vitae.' He said that abortion should be Pope Francis' #1 issue because, without life, every other issue is secondary. We need to pray for a just society and that legislators will publish laws respecting human life. Every life is important, even those who have or perform abortions. Aborted fetuses have eternal life. None of this surprises God; He knows what is coming. We need to stay on our path to eternal life. Those with contrary opinions from ours about life are hard to love. They need our help to stay on the path.

Fran said the number of reported abortions may not have decreased lately because some states don't report the number. The reality of medical abortion is horrible. There's been a sad shift in those seeking abortion; they don't value themselves. The mission of Birthright is to offer alternatives to those women seeking abortions. Women who come to Birthright are lost. They come out of fear and desperation. They deserve better. If you don't value a relationship, how can you value a child. Men need to face the consequences of their actions. 99.9% of those seeking an abortion wouldn't give up their baby for adoption because they 'wouldn't want to do that to their baby.'

Fr. Jim said the church needs to improve its formative stages of children by instilling in them their moral responsibilities of adulthood and living a life of virtue. Also, those who are dying appreciate the gift of accompaniment so they're not alone in their suffering. People aren't evil; they're letting the devil control their consciousness and not using common sense. Fran said that perfect love casts out fear. Fr. Jim said that Pro-life supporters need to be all-in or not. We need to care for each other.

Light refreshments and mingling followed. Several participants brought baby supplies and \$314 was collected and donated to support Birthright.

Looking for a place to use your gifts in service to others? Birthright is seeking volunteers who will walk alongside women and men who are facing an unexpected pregnancy. If you feel called to this vocation of life and nonjudgmental love, give Birthright a call at 301-570-3339, ask for Fran, and learn more about the Birthright mission and training opportunities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Saturday November 2 – Sunday November 10 – 27th International Week of Prayer and Fasting (IWOPF) Mercy, Forgiveness and Healing.** The Opening Eucharistic Prayer Vigil will be held on Saturday November 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. This event is free. Confirmed speakers include Abby Johnson, former director of Planned Parenthood; Father Ubald Rugirangoga, <https://youtu.be/is-C7U33Ic8>, Rwandan healing priest, Father Chris Alar, M.I.C., Director of the Association of Marian Helpers and author of the new book *After Suicide: There's Hope for Them and You*; Kristan Hawkins, President of Students for Life of America. For more information, please go to www.iwopf.org or call 888-478-PRAY.
- **SAVE THE DATE: Monday, November 18, from 7-9 P.M. Come hear two powerful testimonies about the secrets of the abortion industry and its impact on racial minorities at St. Patrick's Parish Center.** Joyce Tabb, Regional Director of 'Silent No More,' will discuss her own abortion, path to healing, and work with other women devastated about their abortions. Dr. Natasha Wilson, from the Archdiocese of Baltimore Office of Respect Life, will share her journey from pro-choice to pro-life and why it makes a difference. Light refreshments will be served.

MARYLAND STATE COUNCIL NEWS

[Website: www.kofc-md.org]

REFLECTIONS

When is a Child a Child?

(by Lawrence P. Grayson)

Maryland State Council Pro-Life Director

Two court cases, one currently being considered, the other soon-to-be, raise numerous questions about when a child has legal rights and under what conditions.

In California, David Daleiden, Sandra Merritt and three others associated with the Center for Medical Progress are being tried for surreptitiously videotaping conversations of Planned Parenthood officials, who were discussing the organization altering abortion procedures to harvest marketable baby body parts. In closing arguments for the preliminary criminal hearing, the California attorney general stated “that a fetus is not a ‘human being’ or a ‘person’ within the meaning of the” state Penal Code. Since a fetus occasionally will survive an abortion procedure, one of the defense attorneys said this argument implies that in California killing a “fetus” born alive during an abortion is not considered infanticide.

This view is not unique to the California prosecutor. Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, a physician, defending a state bill that would allow late-term abortions, stated that if a child should survive an abortion “the infant would be resuscitated if that’s what the mother and the family desired, and then a discussion would ensue between the physicians and the mother.” Their option for the infant – life or death!

Washington Sen. Patty Murray, in objecting to the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, said that the choice to let a baby who survives a failed abortion die is up to “a woman and her doctor.” These were virtually the same words used by a Planned Parenthood official when she testified before Congress.

Is infanticide becoming acceptable in America, at least for children who survive a botched abortion? Since when do all children born alive not have the protection of the law? Does the Fourteenth Amendment -- “No State shall...deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law” -- apply only to certain births, but not others?

Should a child surviving an abortion attempt not be entitled to receive the same immediate, lifesaving care as would any other child born at the same gestational age?

If a physician can legally deny medical care to a child surviving an abortion and let it die slowly, why is taking action to kill it quickly illegal? Why was Kermit Gosnell convicted?

If an abortion survivor can legally be left to die, how long can the baby linger before the inaction becomes infanticide? One minute? One hour? One day?

A mother carrying twins may go into premature labor and deliver one child, before her labor stops. The second child may be born several days, weeks or even months later. In that interim period, one twin has the protection of law, the other does not. Does this make sense?

If a woman delivers a child, but within moments decides she does not want it, should she be allowed to let it die?

If partial-birth abortion is illegal, how can killing a child in the womb immediately before delivery or purposely letting it die after delivery be legal?

These questions and others about the rights of the pre-born and newly-born are raised not only by the Daleiden-Merritt trial, but by an upcoming Supreme Court case. The Justices recently agreed to review *June Medical Services v. Gee*, in which abortion advocates are challenging a Louisiana law that requires abortionists to have admitting privileges at a nearby hospital.

Although this case will not directly affect the legality of abortion, it may indicate how the Supreme Court will treat state laws that set limitations on when and under what conditions abortions can be performed. An increasing number of states are enacting TRAP laws, which target the regulation of abortion providers. They have banned abortions based on disability, sex, after a child is viable outside of the womb, can feel pain, or when a fetal heartbeat is first detected, among other restrictions.

While TRAP laws aim at protecting the unborn child and mother, there are wide variations among the laws that have been passed, even among those with the same purpose. If states can ban abortions after the child can live outside of the womb, why do some states set 28 weeks as the limit for abortions, others 26 or 24 weeks, when children are known to survive as early as 20 weeks or less of gestation?

If the aim is to prohibit abortion when the preborn child can feel pain, what should be the gestational-age limit? The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology holds that a fetus cannot feel pain until the third trimester of pregnancy, that is, at about 27 weeks. The Charlotte Lozier Institute, in contrast, claims that a fetus can feel pain at 20 weeks or earlier. Some neurologists have found that a fetus is “extremely sensitive to painful stimuli” starting at the 15th gestation week. Advanced 4-dimensional ultrasounds show that a fetus may react to noxious stimuli at 8 weeks or less. Still others hold that as pain is subjective its onset cannot be inferred from anatomical developments. With such a lack of agreement, should not the laws reflect a cautious approach and prohibit abortions after the minimum possible age of pain consciousness?

If the aim is to protect the fetus after a heartbeat is detected, when does this occur? Vaginal ultrasounds show heartbeats occurring at 5-1/2 to 6 weeks of gestation, although science has detected heartbeats at 22 days. Some scientists, however, claim these are not true heartbeats, but flutters caused by the developing heart’s ability to fire electrical signals, as the heart does not become a four-chambered organ until week nine. When, one may ask, is a heartbeat a heartbeat?

The Supreme Court’s ruling on the Louisiana law will be carefully analyzed, for other TRAP law cases are likely to follow. Justice Harry Blackman, in writing the majority opinion in Roe v. Wade, stated that when it is established at what point “the fetus is a ‘person’ within the language and meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment,” the case for abortion will collapse “for the fetus’ right to life would then be guaranteed specifically by the Amendment.”

Science has shown that life begins at conception. The nearly half-century of legal battles over abortion will continue until the Supreme Court considers the question of when the living, fetal child gains personhood.

FAMILY NEWS

Innocent D’Almeida, Chairman, Family Programs
E-mail: ipdalmeida@verizon.net ~ Phone: 301-871-6156

SAVE THE DATE
Olney Theatre, November 15, 2019



"SINGING IN THE RAIN"

Our annual gathering includes a pre-performance reception, first-class seating, intermission snacks and an all-around great time.

MORE INFO TO COME. TICKETS \$45 Show at 8PM, reception begins at 7PM. The show will go on come snow or RAIN!!!

Contact Joe Feakes by phone at (301) 774-0137, or email: josephfeakes@aol.com.

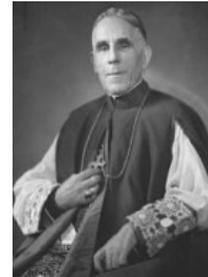
The Chaplet of Divine Mercy Returns

The council is bringing back the praying of The Chaplet of Divine Mercy prior to each council business meeting. Open to all brother knights, please arrive at Our Lady of Grace Church at 7PM, prior to the business meeting at 730PM. Prayer materials will be provided. Also bring your prayer intentions. This is in keeping with the council “Faith in Action” emphasis.

W. Fred Taylor, Grand Knight

CHAPTER NEWS

Bishop McNamara Chapter - Established 1963
 [Website: <http://kofcknights.org/ChapterSite/?D=103>]
McNamara Chapter Marshall – Michael P Davenport



The November meeting will be hosted by Fr Peter Paul Maher Council #6793.

Date: November 20, 2019

Time: Memorial Mass and Silent Auction, Mass starts at 7 PM

Location: Our Lady of Grace Church, 15661 Norbeck Rd, Silver Spring MD, 20906.

FOURTH DEGREE NEWS

SULLIVAN BROTHERS ASSEMBLY 2861
“WE STICK TOGETHER!”

SK George Silvas, Faithful Navigator [www.sullivan2861.org]



Assembly Business Meetings are held the **third Thursday** of each month at 8PM. See this newsletter’s calendar for details.



Visit our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/KnightsOfColumbus6793/>

SUPREME NEWS

[WEBSITE: <http://www.kofc.org>]

Source: K of C Supreme Website

A SURE PATH FOR RENEWAL

(by Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson)



THE CHALLENGE OF REFORM AND PRESERVING UNITY WITHIN THE CHURCH CALLS FOR NATURAL AND SUPERNATURAL VIRTUE

EARLIER THIS YEAR, I attended the consecration of a beautifully restored church. As the Blessed Sacrament was placed in the new tabernacle, I thought of the Ark of the Covenant, which was the place of God's presence among his people, beginning in the time of Moses. Now, in the New Covenant, the Lord's true presence is a reality wherever Mass is celebrated and wherever the Eucharist is reserved.

As Catholics, we may take this reality for granted today, but the initial reaction to Jesus' discourse on the bread of life was one of disbelief — the Jews saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" and his disciples saying, "This is a hard saying, who can listen to it?" Most of his disciples actually left, and Jesus then turned to the Apostles: "Will you also go away?" As we know, Peter answered, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (Jn 6:68).

Jesus' question remains painfully real in light of the devastating scandals that have recently rocked the Church and the declining church attendance among Catholics. And if Jesus' question has new relevance, so does Peter's answer. If we were to turn away from the presence of the Lord, where would we go?

There is a growing trend, especially among young people, to say that we can be "spiritual" while also rejecting organized religion. Pope Benedict XVI addressed this issue in his encyclical *Spe Salvi* (Saved in Hope) when he asked, "Is Christian hope individualistic?" He answered that "salvation has always been considered a 'social' reality," adding that we are called "to a lived union with a 'people,' and for each individual it can only be attained with this 'we'" (14).

We see this social reality, this unity within the Church, most beautifully in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in the hundreds of thousands of tabernacles throughout the world. And this call to communion is especially important for us as Knights of Columbus, committed this year in a special way to the principle of unity.

As we pray for and seek renewal in our Church today, I am reminded what the 18th-century British statesman Edmund Burke said about institutions in need of reform. He argued that the virtue of prudence is necessary to find the right combination of "conservation and correction."

We should keep in mind Burke's recommendation of prudence. In the foreseeable future, however, the most important of the cardinal virtues may not be prudence but fortitude, which the Catechism of the Catholic Church defines as "the moral virtue that ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good" (1808).

And as St. Thomas Aquinas taught, fortitude is dependent upon yet another virtue: justice — certainly today, justice for the victims of sexual abuse and their families as well as justice for the People of God.

Indeed, all four of the cardinal virtues — prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance — will be necessary to achieve "correction" while preserving the unity of the Church.

In *Spe Salvi*, Pope Benedict further reminded us: "God is the foundation of hope. ... His love alone gives us the possibility of soberly persevering day by day, without ceasing to be spurred on by hope" (31).

In the days ahead, therefore, let us rededicate ourselves to the practice of the moral virtues and pray for an increase in faith, hope and charity. In this way, we will continue to move forward, meeting whatever challenges may arise.

The Lord remains in the midst of his people, and he will never abandon us. He calls us to unity. He calls us to virtue. And in him, we will find a sure path for renewal.

Vivat Jesus!

Maryland's KofC Ultrasound Program

Save lives and help women choose life by giving them the opportunity to view their unborn children on ultrasound machines at pro-life pregnancy centers. This initiative is funded by Knights of Columbus state and local councils with matching grants from the Supreme Council's Culture of Life Fund.

The Knights of Columbus works together as an organization to purchase ultrasound machines for qualifying pregnancy centers. After the state and/or local council raises 50% of the cost, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council will provide the other 50% to complete funding for purchase of an ultrasound. Or, if the council raises 100% of the cost of a vehicle outfitted to serve as a mobile medical unit for a pregnancy center, the Supreme Council will provide 100% of the funds for an ultrasound machine to be used in that vehicle.

In Maryland, the KofC has donated 23 ultrasound machines to Pregnancy Care Centers throughout the state. Several councils are working with other PCCs to raise funds and prepare applications to receive ultrasound units. The State Ultrasound Program, however, needs additional funds to meet all requests. For more information about the ultrasound program in Maryland or to make a donation, contact Lawrence Grayson at LPGrayson@verizon.net.

**Knights of Columbus
Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council 6793**

Annual Family Christmas Party



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019 (2-5 PM)

Our Lady of Grace Parish Dining Hall - 15663 Norbeck Boulevard

Pot-Luck Dinner

Family last name A-N bring a main dish for 10, family last name M-Z bring a side dish or salad for 10. Council will provide beverages and desserts.

- *Christmas Music *Great Food*
- *Christmas Raffle Drawing*
- *Introduction of Seminarians*
- *Recognition of Christmas Poster Winners*

“Chinese Auction/Yankee Swap” Gift Exchange

Bring a wrapped gift, value \$10-\$20, for each person who wants to participate in the swap

Please contact Fred Whitman (240-550-1007) or shagger43@yahoo.com

No later than December 8th!

Tell us the number of people in your group and ages of any children you'll be bringing.



NOV 09 WED -- Annual Memorial Mass to remember and pray for our deceased Brother Knights, Our Lady of Grace Church.

NOV 15 SAT -- Annual Olney Theater Event, featuring "Singing in the Rain". Call Joe Feakes at 301-774-0137 for tickets.

NOV 17 SUN Silver Rose Program, Our Lady of Grace Church

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*We proudly serve the parishes and families
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NOV 06 WED **Executive Meeting**, 7:30PM, St. Patrick's Parish Center
NOV 09 SAT Council Memorial mass, 11AM at Our Lady of Grace Church.
NOV 13 WED **Business Meeting**, 7:30PM, Our Lady of Grace Parish Center, Leisure World. **A Divine Mercy Chaplet Devotion before the business meeting at 7PM.**
NOV 15 FRI Annual Olney Theater event, featuring "Singing in the Rain". Call Joe Feakes at 301-774-0137 for tickets.
NOV 17 SUN Silver Rose Program, Our Lady of Grace Church
NOV 20 WED Bishop McNamara Chapter meeting, Fr Peter Paul Maher Council #6793 - Our Lady of Grace Church, 15661 Norbeck Rd, Silver Spring MD,20906, Memorial Mass and Silent Auction, Mass at 7 PM.
NOV 21 THU Sullivan Brothers Assembly 2861, 8PM, Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Road Derwood, MD, 20855
NOV 24 SUN Council Fundraising Dinner
NOV 27 WED Council Social Meeting (CANCELLED due to Thanksgiving Holiday)
NOV28 THU Thanksgiving Day



DEC 04 WED **Executive Meeting**, 7:30PM, St. Patrick's Parish Center
DEC 08 SUN Breakfast with St. Nick annual event, St. Peter's Church.
DEC 11 WED **Business Meeting**, 7:30PM, Our Lady of Grace Parish Center, Leisure World. **A Divine Mercy Chaplet Devotion before the business meeting at 7PM.**
DEC 15 SUN Annual Council Family Christmas Party, Our Lady of Grace Parish Hall, 2-5PM. For more information, call Fred Whitman at Tel: 240-550-1007
DEC 18 WED Bishop McNamara Chapter meeting, Fr Peter Paul Maher Council #6793 - Our Lady of Grace Church, 15661 Norbeck Rd, Silver Spring MD,20906, Memorial Mass and Silent Auction, Mass at 7 PM.
DEC 19 THU Sullivan Brothers Assembly 2861, 8PM, Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Road Derwood, MD, 20855
DEC 25 WED Council Social Meeting (CANCELLED due to Christmas Holiday)
DEC 25 WED Christmas Holiday

► **For more information about or to participate in any council event, contact Grand Knight Fred Taylor on 301-890-9308.**
► **Council Calendar:** View it at: www.KofC6793.org (Select "Event Calendar" at the left and the current month's calendar will be displayed.) Scroll forward to view upcoming events.) To view **Monthly Business Meeting Minutes** on the website: (On the HOME screen, scroll to the bottom of the page, on the right, select "Access Minutes" in the Council Minutes section.)
► **DEADLINE:** Newsletter content **MUST** be sent, via e-mail, to **Daniel Musiitwa [DMusiitwa@hotmail.com]** **NO later than the 20th of the month** to be included in the **following month's publication**. Newsletter content questions or story ideas may be sent to **Daniel via e-mail, anytime or call him on (202-320-6806).**