



# ***KNIGHTLIFE***



*Volume 24 Issue 3*

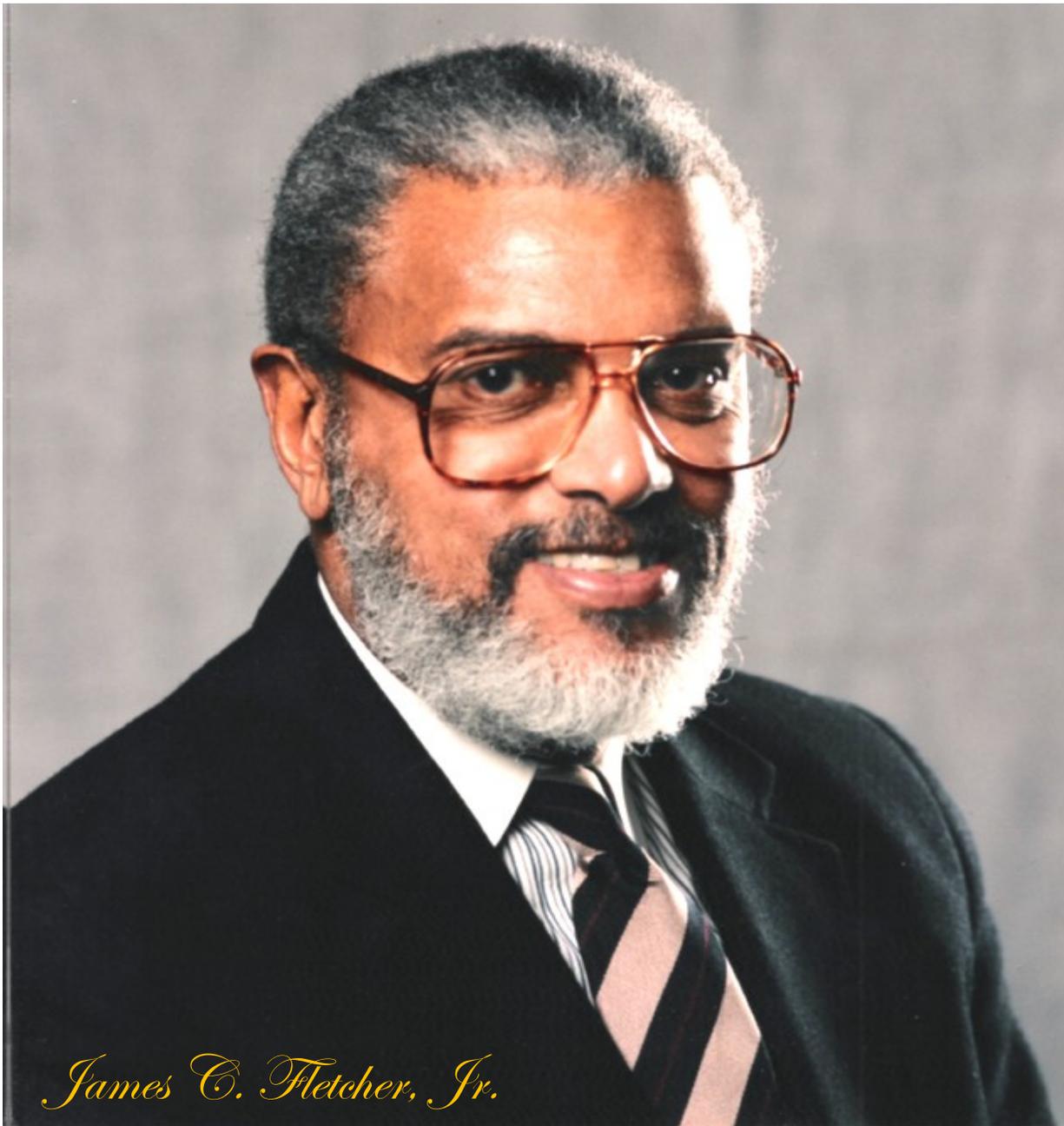
*KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS*

*September 2018*

*Winner of the Supreme and State of Maryland Council 2017-2018  
Program Director's Awards*

*OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF JAMES C. FLETCHER, JR. COUNCIL NO. 11422  
HOME OF PAST CHAPTER PRESIDENT VERNON HAWKINS, DISTRICT DEPUTY MICHAEL AKPAN,  
FORMER DISTRICT DEPUTY G. EMEKA ONWEZI, MICHAEL P. DAVENPORT,  
VERNON HAWKINS, JR., DAVID D. MARTIN & CARLTON L. WILLIAMS*

***"HAPPY BIRTHDAY FLETCHER COUNCIL"***



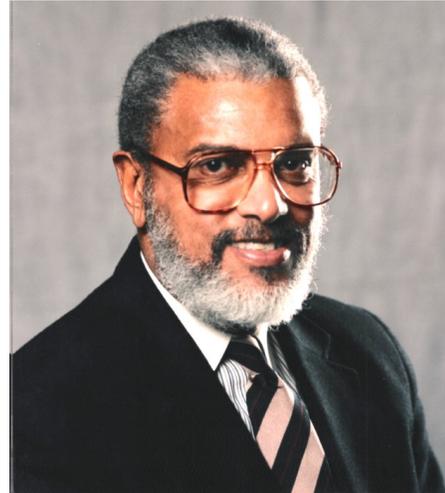
*James C. Fletcher, Jr.*



# KNIGHTLIFE

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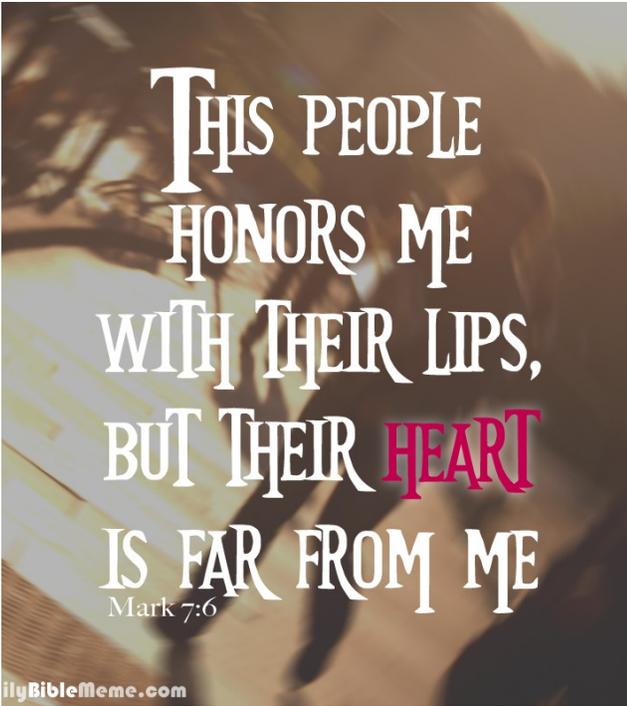
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# Chaplain Thoughts. . .

*“You disregard God’s commandment but cling to human tradition.”*

*by Bishop Roy E. Campbell, Jr.*



Jesus talks to us today about commandments and traditions that are necessary for our spiritual welfare. Yet, how many of us, for example, follow our own traditions before, during or after Mass, Holy Communion or prayer? How important is it for us to follow OUR traditions above all else?

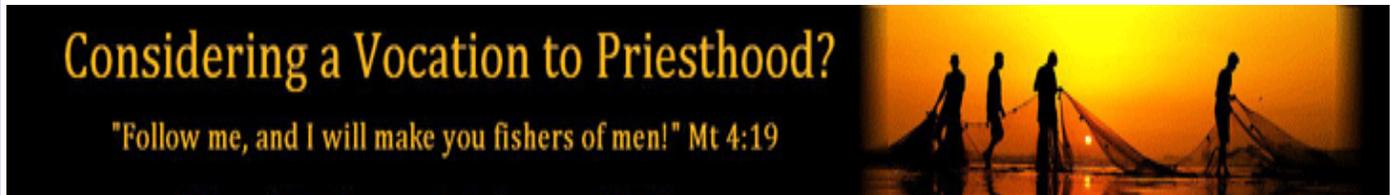
How often do we pay attention to what we eat, so that we can live healthier, longer earthly lives? How often do we pay attention to what we say and do, so that we can be prepared to enter eternal life? Do we believe what Jesus said: “Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile.”?

Sometimes the longest journey for our spiritual growth is from our heads to our hearts. Jesus calls us to live our faith in our hearts and to put that faith into action in what we do in our lives. Jesus cares more about what happens on the inside of our lives than what happens on the outside: He wants our hearts. Jesus doesn’t care about how we appear to others; He cares about how we appear to God, that is, what is in our hearts. And, that’s what we should care about too.

A hypocrite is one who “says one thing,” but does something else. Jesus told the Pharisees that they were hypocrites. Do we sometimes act like Pharisees, giving only “lip service” to our faith? Are our own traditions and practices more important to us than following our Lord’s call to complete faith in His commandments?

The Pharisees were obsessed about washing their hands before eating. Today, most of us feel it is a good sanitary practice to always wash our hands before eating. Yet, how many of us wash our hands before eating at a restaurant or sporting event? Are these places that much cleaner than our homes? Is hand washing before eating always necessary, or just a tradition to be followed?

**Join With Me And Our Parishioners  
At St. Joseph Church  
Every Friday For An  
Exposition And Adoration  
To Pray for the Church  
3-7 PM  
Holy Hour  
6 - 7 PM**





**GRAND KNIGHT'S CHRONICLE**  
*Michael Younger*



A Worthy was riding in my car after the burial of SK Mervyn Chancellor. He made the comment about the number of brother he has buried in the past two years. Father Joe made a comment about the number of burials he has presided over. That is why we should reach out to every spouse of fallen knights. Another stage of the funeral is the widow and family. That is why I will be submitting paperwork to the state's "Widow Program" and make sure council 11422 is counted. Last Christmas we put Christmas lights on Judge Missouri's house. I challenge the council to pick another widow to do the same type of thing or something different. Sometimes we relate the declining numbers to the death of brothers and forget about their spouse. Lets' remember the widows.

***From The Fletcher Council's Archive***  
***How Many Brother Knights?***  
***Who Are These Distinguish Looking Brothers?***



Fletcher Council support of Mass on Knights Sunday is a Spiritual Tradition. How many Brother Knights are in the picture above and can you name them? What are they doing?



**STATE DEPUTY'S REPORT**  
*Dale W. Trott*



Let me first begin by thanking *ALL* of the Chairmen and Volunteers for an absolutely outstanding job at the *Supreme Convention!* Compliments have come from the Supreme Chaplain, Supreme Officers, Supreme Board of Directors, State Deputies and, the list goes on and on. The hard work and dedication of so many

made the Maryland Jurisdiction a **"STAR"** in the eyes of many and set the bar high for those that follow us. Linda and I feel very honored and blessed to have this auspicious event happen during our time as State Deputy and First Lady. We have so many wonderful memories that we will cherish for the rest of our lives and from the bottom of our hearts, thank you all!

As we begin the month of September, we are beginning the last month of the "First" quarter. Have you begun preparing your *First Quarter Reports*? If not, please don't delay – be proud of your accomplishments! These reports not only let the State Council know what your council has accomplished in the four program areas, they are also historical in nature and are great recruiting tools.

Please join us on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at North Point State Park for the **"Annual Family Picnic."** Our Chairman, Buzzy Stockman, has done a wonderful job of coordinating this annual event and it's a great time to come and enjoy some "fun" time with other families and to enjoy some great food and refreshments. Please don't forget that the week of September 16<sup>th</sup> is *"Special Olympics"* Week. Please plan to hold an activity or event which supports the *Special Olympics*. The first of three *Financial Secretary Seminars* will be held on Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Council, No. 2452 from 8am to Noon. I highly recommend Financial Secretaries attend these information seminars and I encourage Grand Knights, Council Chair Officers and Treasurers to attend as well. Also, in September, many of us will be heading out to Branson on the first tour of the fraternal year.

Please remember that our annual *Columbus Day Ball* will be held on Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at the BWI Marriott. This is the premier event of the year to celebrate our namesake, to enjoy dinner and dancing and, to learn the winner of our annual *Incentive Car Raffle*. The following day, we will celebrate Columbus Day in Baltimore beginning with Mass at Saint Leo's Church in Little Italy followed by the annual wreath laying ceremony followed by the longest running *Columbus Day Parade* in the country at 2pm. We NEED a tremendous turnout of Col- or Corps, Districts, Councils, Chapters and, *Knights on Bikes*. Bring your banners and let's let the city of Baltimore know that *Christopher Columbus* is a part of our country's history and that it should always be recognized. On Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, (a Federal Holiday) we will gather in Washington, D.C. at the Christopher Columbus Statue in front of Union Station to celebrate *Columbus Day*. Once again, I ask that you come and show that we, the *Knights of Columbus*, want to protect and support our namesake.

In closing, please continue to put your:

***Faith into Action*** as you  
***Serve Christ by Serving Others.***



**DISTRICT DEPUTY REPORT**  
*George T. Riddle*



# *District #1*



*District Deputy George T. Riddle & District Warden Terry Reinhart* and bring us closer together, so please attend as many of these events as you can.

*My Brother Knights,*

We got off to a pretty good start in our District, but as always we need to step it up a notch. We had two Admission Degrees and added 5 new Knights to our ranks, two from our District, and three from out of District. We have a chance to add to that with a Admission Degree coming up September 17<sup>th</sup> at Fr. Kidd Council. Let's get out there and find those men who haven't been asked yet.

We as a District have been slow to get paperwork in. Please **DO NOT** wait until the last minute to get forms in to the State or Supreme.

October will be a busy month with all of the **Columbus Day** activities planned including the Ball and the parade. Please see the State website for details. These activities give us all a chance to meet Knights from other Councils and Districts

October 7<sup>th</sup> will be our District # 1 **Soccer Shootout**. It will be at St. Edwards Church in Bowie following the 11:30 Mass. It will be held in conjunction with the St. Edwards Family Fun Day, so bring your kids for a fun day. We need volunteers from each Council to help chase down balls so please come down. Please have this activity announced in your parishes to bring more youth out to participate.

Winners in each age group move on to the **State Soccer Shootout**.

With school starting this month **Please, Please, Please** be more aware on the roads for children and school buses.





# SUPREME KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Carl A. Anderson - Supreme Knight

## SUPREME KNIGHT LETTER TO CHAPLAINS



### *Worthy Chaplains and Dear Brother Knights,*

The issues that have come to light concerning sexual abuse by Archbishop Theodore McCarrick and in the Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report are cause for grave concern among Catholics and Brother Knights. Many feel deeply betrayed by those whom they long held in high regard. Such concerns are shared not just in the United States, but in Europe, Latin America and elsewhere.

These sins of commission and omission have sent the Church we love, the Church we serve and the Church that Jesus Christ established into convulsions. Sadly, the disgrace not only is borne by the perpetrators, it hurts us all, as does the silence of shepherds who have ignored the cries of their flocks.

There are many wonderful and faithful laborers in the vineyard of the Lord among our priests and bishops. However, it is clear that in addition to devastating criminal acts, we have seen many other moral failings by clergy that represent a crisis of commitment to the Gospel.

Too often the needs of victims have been subordinated to a distorted sense of mercy toward the perpetrators or an instinct for clerical self-preservation. The sexual acts — both criminal and non-criminal — highlight the need to recover a respect for and a renewed commitment to the priestly promises of celibacy.

The Knights of Columbus has supported the pastoral and charitable work of our bishops and priests since our founding by the Venerable Father Michael McGivney. We understand that the priest should lead the parish and the bishop should be the center of unity in a diocese. But we — like all Catholics — are painfully aware of the wreckage that ensues when elements of this leadership are abdicated by evil actions whether directly perpetrated or covered up.

Now, the Knights of Columbus — laymen, priests and chaplains together — will have an important role to play in rebuilding the Church. We must commit the Knights of Columbus to work for repentance, reform and rebuilding of the Church.

Repentance should include a full accounting of the misdeeds by those who have committed them. Archbishop McCarrick and others at fault owe us a full account of their actions, motivations and cover-ups. After years of having us confess to them, it is now time for them to come clean about what they have done and what they have failed to do.

This will also help increase the recognition that clerical sexual abuse is a global problem that must be addressed at the highest levels of the Catholic Church. Moreover, priests and bishops who refuse to live according to their promises of celibacy should be removed from public ministry, not out of retribution, but for the protection of the faithful and to prevent future variations of the scandal we now suffer.

Reform must include many good ideas that have been proposed, such as a full and complete investigation of sexual abuse led by an independent commission that includes laity; complete transparency by the Catholic hierarchy into all matters of criminal sexual misconduct past or future; an expansion of the zero tolerance policy to include sexual activity or misconduct by clerics including bishops, and by seminarians; and a call for faithfulness by all members of the clergy, including bishops. There must also be an independent ethics hotline for reporting of criminal and other conduct at odds with Catholic teaching on the clerical state of life; and there must be protections against retaliation.

Such reforms will be difficult for a Church largely unused to them, and we must support our bishops and our priests in embracing these reforms in order to rebuild.

We can help to rebuild our Church in several ways. Above all else, Knights — and our chaplains — must embrace love of God and love of neighbor. This is Christ's great commandment and the founding mission of our Order. It is also exactly the opposite of the rejection of God and exploitation of neighbor that our Church has witnessed in these scandals.

Shortly before becoming Pope Benedict XVI, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger decried the "filth" in the Church "even among those, who in the priesthood, ought to belong totally" to Christ. He also provided the antidote, stating at other times that what the Church needs now more than anything else is "saints." Pope Francis reiterated Pope Benedict's sentiments in his letter on Aug. 20.

In the days ahead, the Knights of Columbus will help renew our Church on a national level through a Novena of Masses in reparation for these sins that have so grievously wounded the Body of Christ. I take this opportunity to ask that you offer this Novena of Masses for our Church at your earliest opportunity.

Beginning in November, the Knights of Columbus will sponsor, in cooperation with the Shrine of St. Jean Vianney in Ars, France, a national tour of the relic of the heart of this great patron saint of priests. In the coming weeks, I will share more details with you about this initiative.

We will also continue to strengthen and rebuild our Church at the level of our families and parishes through our Building the Domestic Church program. Its twin elements of imbuing families with faith and strengthening parish life are critical to providing a Catholic Church that rebuilds based on the Gospel principles of love of God and love of neighbor. Together with our recently announced "Faith In Action" initiative, we will strive to make our parishes truly become, in the words of Pope Francis, "a family of families."

Now is the time for all brother Knights to stand steadfast in faith, as Catholics and as gentlemen. We will assist priests, bishops and our fellow Catholics in helping the Church chart a course for the future that puts Christ at the center, so that truly we may say, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

This is the moment in which Knights — including in a special way our priest members — can be part of a great renewal for good in our Church. And as we strive to follow the Lord more closely in the days ahead, may he deliver us from every evil and in his mercy graciously grant his Church peace and unity.

In closing, know that your faithful witness and sacrifice can bring inspiration and hope to millions of your fellow Catholics. It will be needed in the days ahead more than ever before. And to every priest and bishop whose commitment and dedication to our Order and to our Church has been faithful and exemplary, please accept my gratitude in both a personal way and on behalf of the Knights of Columbus.

Let each one of us prayerfully invoke the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, so that in the words of St. Maximilian Kolbe, our hearts "would be cleansed and themselves become immaculate, similar and like unto her own heart."

Fraternally,  
Carl A. Anderson Supreme Knight



## FRATERNAL BENEFITS

Harold Sims, Fraternal Benefit Advisor

harold.sims@kofc.org

202-701-2415

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE

#### Ten Reasons Why Men of Faith Should Support K of C Insurance

*This past July, General Agent Daniel Schachle spoke to a group of agents, explaining that it is our job as Knights to show the world that faith-based values matter. He noted that we must seek to promote those values in every aspect of our lives, including in how we plan our families' financial future. Here's why:*

1. The Knights of Columbus has products that help families all across the economic spectrum. If a Catholic family needs a strong insurance company, we are it.
2. Knights of Columbus Field Agents serve their members with high integrity, and so does our organization, which was named a World's Most Ethical Company® by the Ethisphere® Institute for the fifth consecutive year this past February.
3. Your local Knights of Columbus Field Agent is committed to you. His working mission and purpose is to provide the best advice and service to you and your family.
4. Your dollars with the Knights do triple duty: They are invested in a Catholic way, they help those less fortunate and they help your family.
5. The Knights of Columbus offers more than life insurance. We also have insured retirement plans where your IRAs, Roth IRAs, 401ks or non-qualified funds can be placed to maximize your retirement income.
6. Knights of Columbus Field Agents can help members create a solid financial legacy plan. Remember, you don't choose if you leave a legacy — you either leave your family a legacy of love or you leave them burdens.
7. The Knights of Columbus offers long-term care insurance, a product that helps you pay for your extended medical needs in a nursing home facility or in the comfort of your own home. The Knights allow you, not someone else, to decide how and where you should live. It's up to you.
8. With the Knights of Columbus you can guarantee that, even if you run out of money, you will never run out of income.
9. The Knights of Columbus offers disability-income insurance, a product that helps replace lost income if you are unable to work due to a disability resulting from an illness or accident.
10. The Knights of Columbus help to ensure that the dreams a father has for his children can come true — even if he's not here to see to it and provide it himself.



# McNAMARA CHAPTER

Joseph Massimini - Chapter President



## Chapter Officers For 2018 - 2009

L/R Roger Lie	Michael Davenport	Jeff Koscho	Fr. Joe Jenkins	Joe Massimini	Vernon Hawkins	Phil Tabbita
Activities Director	Treasurer	Secretary	Chaplain	President	Past Chapter President	Marshal

# WALSH ASSEMBLY NEWS

John O. Grier - Faithful Navigator



On August 30, 2018, the Walsh Assembly made a school supply donation to Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Academy at 2700 O. Street, SE, Washington, DC. The teachers, administration, and students were all very happy with the collected items provided by Walsh Assembly. Items supplied included pencils, crayons, erasers, glue, notebook paper, pencil sharpeners, boxes of tissues and hand sanitizers.

In continuing our efforts to “Give back to our Community”, the Assembly is accepting additional school supplies of the type mentioned for another school (yet to be determined) supply donation for the month of September. In addition, the Assembly is accepting Comfort Kit donations marked for the Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital and scheduled for October donation.





## PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Fidelis Ajudua, Deputy Grand Knight  
ajudua32@yahoo.com 301-283-1985



Summer is ending, James C. Fletcher, Jr. Charities Scholarship award recipients are smiling back to school and the council return to everyday routines. Brothers, let us continue to explore new ideas, programs and concepts for this fraternal year.

The **Flea Markets** are over with the last one on August 25th. The market days were a huge success. Thanks to council members for their active participation. The council will also like to encourage members to participate in the Holy Hours devotion every Friday between 3 pm to 7 pm for the Exposition and Adoration to pray for the church. Knights are called to engage in this **Faith in Action** initiative as promoted by our chaplain, Bishop Roy Campbell.

Finally, council members are encouraged to submit new programs and initiatives they would like to see the council undertake. Some of the upcoming through December are Cup of Joe/Feed the Homeless, Youth Halloween Party, Thanksgiving Baskets and the Council Christmas Party.

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Michael Younger, Grand Knight  
mrwhy@verizon.net 301-980-6779



### *We Salute The Magnificent Efforts of The St. Joseph Good Samaritan Ministry*



*We salute the gallant giving effort of the Good Samaritan Ministry and St. Joseph parishioners and community members for their collection of school supplies for children at local schools.*



## FAITH ACTIVITIES

Alan M. Davis, Faith Activities Director  
adavis1960@verizon.net 301-808-8009



**Brothers**, when we were young, September meant "back to School"; the end of summer vacation, a new academic year, new friends and new horizons to explore. Fletcher Council is now two months into the new fraternal year and I can make the statement that the members of this council have been steady on the job. We have had numerous events, activities and programs during the summer months and the word "vacation" wasn't a part of our vocabulary.

Since July 1st, the council has held the Officer's Installation, 3 Summer Flea Markets, a Fifth Sunday Rosary Prayer service, Helped with Vacation Bible School, made weekly donated bread pick ups and deliveries to shelters and churches, held a Silent Auction for Fletcher Scholarships, distributed 17 College Scholarships to deserving students and sold over \$400.00 in Maryland State Car Raffle Tickets. In reality, we as a council never left for vacation and "back to school" for this council means continuing on our current path.

I extend to the members an invitation to those yet not involved in our activities to volunteer for our Domestic Church, Pro Life or Family Programs. The council, the church, our parishioners and the clergy need the assistance of the Knights to help the church advance the Kingdom of God now more than ever before.

## MARIAN ICON PRAYER OUR LADY HELP OF PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS Coming To Fletcher Council

A Higher Purpose Spread devotion to Our Lady and pray for our brothers and sisters of faith who are at risk around the world through the Marian Icon Prayer Program. As the new Marian Icon is brought on pilgrimage through the jurisdiction, councils will host the Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians Icon for a prayer service at their parish.

Overview The 2018-2019 Marian Icon Prayer Program presents the 18<sup>th</sup> Marian Icon sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Like its predecessors, the program features a Marian image, this time of Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians.

Each Knights of Columbus jurisdiction receives several Marian images, which serve as the centerpieces for prayer services conducted in churches and council meeting places throughout the Order for the duration of the initiative. This year, the prayer service is intended to raise awareness of the plight of Christians perse-





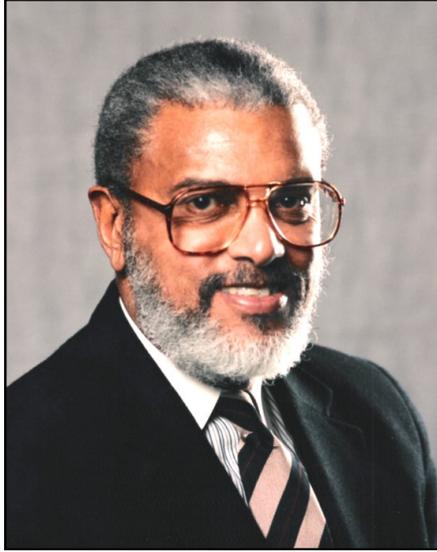
# COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Cal A. Thompson, Council Activities Director  
calthompsn@msn.com 301-249-2955



## James C. Fletcher, Jr. A Man Devoted to His Community

**JAMES C. FLETCHER, JR.** (May 20, 1934-June 28, 1994) was born to James Sr. and Marguerite Fletcher and was the eldest of nine children. He attended the Bowie Demonstration School, Fletcherstown School, Lincoln Elementary, Armstrong Senior High School, Howard University and the American University. Mr. Fletcher served four years in the United States Air Force. After his service in the military, he began a career with the Federal Government as a computer specialist and retired as a Management Information Specialist.



Since the early 1960's until his death, Mr. Fletcher was active in community service in Prince George's County. He was the Chairman of the Glenarden Recreation Council and President of the Civic Association. He was the Ward I Councilman for nine years prior to becoming Mayor of Glenarden, MD. He served three terms as Mayor and ran successfully for the Prince George's County Council in 1990 and was about to announce his bid for re-election. Mr. Fletcher's passions were community development, balanced affordable housing, economic empowerment and revitalization. He served as Chairman of the Public Safety and Health Committee and the Prince George's Board of Services, a member of the County Council's Fiscal Policy and Government Operations Committee, the Legislative Committee, and the Prince George's Board of Social Services.

Other memberships include the Prince George's Municipal Association and the Public Safety Committee of the Metropolitan Council of Governments. He chaired the Prince George's County Substance Abuse Council and co-chaired the County's Revitalization Task Force. He was the past president of the Prince George's Municipal Association and former member of the Board of Directors of the Maryland Municipal League. Mr. Fletcher also had membership in the Maryland Association of Counties and the National Association of Counties. He was also a member of the American Legion, Glenarden Post #275.

Mr. Fletcher was a devoted parishioner of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. He served as an usher, a moderator of the youth ministry and was on the Board of Directors of the Catholic Youth Organization. He was also a member of the Men's Club.

Mr. Fletcher was a devoted family man. He married Vernell Hammett and they and their two eldest children settled in Glenarden, Maryland in 1962. He was always available for whomever needed him. His constituents and friends knew that they always had someone who would listen and care. Jim was first a Christian and second a philanthropist. Whether with his family, or in a professional setting, Mr. Fletcher loved people. Next to God, he loved people second. People were his most important business.

### Happy Birthday James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422

James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422 was instituted at St. Joseph Catholic Church on Thursday, September 15, 1994 to serve the church community of St. Joseph Parish, Largo, Maryland and the surrounding communities. Instrumental in its establishment was the Pastor and its first Chaplain, Reverend Michael J. King.

#### Grand Knights

John Ramey	1994-1995
Robinson Gary *	1995-1996
James B. Harris *	1996-1997
Deacon Leon Bechet *	1997-1998
Reginald Grier	1998-1999
James Barnes	1999-2000
Carlton Williams *	2000-2001
Floyd Duckett	2001-2002
Joseph L. Marshall, Sr.	2002-2003
Vernon Hawkins, Jr.	2003-2004
Kermit E. Gresham *	2004-2005
Kenneth P. Hinton *	2005-2006

#### Grand Knights

John A. Adeleye, Sr.	2006-2007
Michael P. Davenport, Sr.	2007-2008
James Brown, Jr. *	2008-2009
Michael P. Akpan	2009-2010
Anthony K. Fidelis	2010-2011
Charles N. Okpah	2011-2012
G. Emeka Onwezi	2012-2013
John W. Huntley	2013-2014
Thomas F. Matthews, III	2014-2015
Ikechukwu R. Agbim	2015-2016
Alan M. Davis	2016-2017
J. Bernard Broadus	2017-2018



## FAMILY ACTIVITIES - FAMILY OF THE MONTH - JULY & AUGUST

*Efrain Anderson, Family Activities Director*

*iagbim@gmail.com*

*202-276-7796*



The John and Toni Grier Family have been members of the Saint Joseph Parish community since 1998. The family consists of four children, Nick, Charisse, Renee and LaShonn.

Toni is a member of the Arts and Environments committee, and a Lector. She is also Vice President of the Hospitality Committee, where she is very active, serving regularly at the 11am mass. John has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 2014. He is very active with the Knights, and is a 4<sup>th</sup> degree Sir Knight. John has held numerous positions in both the Council-3<sup>rd</sup> Degree and Assembly-4<sup>th</sup> Degree. He currently serves as Financial Secretary of the James C. Fletcher Council here at St Joseph and Faithful Navigator of the Bishop James E. Walsh Assembly, #1548. Before being elected as Faithful Navigator, John led the Assembly in detailed insights on Patriotic education and awareness for support of ex-service men and women in our community.

Their grandson, Jalen, is an altar server and has been very active since.

Toni and John both serve in their residence community of Woodmore: John as Chair of the Architectural Committee, a position he has held for the past eight (8) years. And Toni as an Executive member of the Woodmore Homeowners Association, a member on the Grounds and Covenants Committees.

The Grier's state that their motivation for service to church and community stems from the desire that to be a part of anything you should contribute to it. They also believe that as there are many members in our church community, each member's participation can add to the strength of the church. This is a central theme they both find rewarding and uplifting. The Grier'S pray the Rosary ardently and wish to do more to encourage Marian devotion by Catholic families.

For the above notable services to St. Joseph Church and the Community, the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council #11422 of the Knights of Columbus would like to acknowledge John and Toni Grier Family as the July, 2018 Family of the Month.

Heavenly Father, guide and richly bless the Grier Family forever and ever in Jesus Holy name. Amen!

Chris and Mma Nwabinele have been married for 15 years. Out of this blessed union came four children, 3 boys and 1 girl. Chris's mum Mrs. Nwabinele and Mma's mum Mrs. Patricia Iweanoge are also a part of this loving family, especially during their extended stay in the USA. The Nwabinele family reside in Bowie, Maryland. Both Chris and Mma are actively working parents. They enjoy spending time with their extended family and in their free time, they both love to go dancing, taking family trips and going to the movies.

The Nwabinele Family have been members of St. Joseph Catholic Church for over 10 years. This young blessed family joined St. Joseph in 2008, when they came for New Year Mass and was attracted by the preaching from the pastor and the songs from the choir. Ever since then it has been their home base church.

Chris has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for over 7 years and is a 4th Degree Sir Knight of the Bishop James E. Walsh Assembly 1548. He is an member of James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council here at St Joseph, where he has served in all facets of council activities, including Church, Council, Community, Family, Youth and Pro-Life. He is a participant of the Council's Annual Mardi Gras where he has served as bartender. Chris also participates actively in the Church Picnic, often helping with set up and break down at picnics. He also assists during Lent as a worker for the Fish Fry and during the summer at the Flea Markets refreshment stand. Chris also serves as a vector in 11am Sunday masses. He is An Educator, a High School Special Education Math teacher, a substance abuse counselor and a part time worker with The Coalition for the Homeless with District of Columbia, Washington DC.

Mma is a member of the Sodality Ladies for Our Mother. Mma goes to retreat with these ladies where she helps them whenever their need extra assistance, womanpower. She also works with the Youth Choir, in support of the youth choir coordinators. She is also an active member of the Saint Joseph Community of Africans and Friends, where she plays an important role as a planning committee member and African choir member. Above all she is a devoted mother, a 3<sup>rd</sup> order Franciscan and a role model to all that know her. Professionally, Mma is a Respiratory Therapist and works at Walter Reed Military Hospital Center in Bethesda Maryland where she works in support of our wounded warriors and their families.



## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

*Phil Beauboeuf, Youth Activities Director*

# Our 2018 Graduates And Scholarship Winners



GRADUATES	College / University
Mark Anthony Fidelis	Lycoming College, Williamsport, PA
Ogechi Obizuo	Towson Univ, Towson, MD
Naana Adomako-Arhin	Towson Univ, Towson, MD
Kimberly Okpah	UMES, Princes Anne, MD
Azubuike Agobukwu	Univ. of MD, College Park, MD
Tailor Hayling	Molloy College, Long Island, NY
Okechukwu Oboh	Univ. of MD, College Park, MD
Rune Jackson	Anne Arundel Comm College, MD
Obianuju Osuorah	McDaniel College, Westminster, MD
Pamela Bechet	Towson Univ, Towson, MD
Chidinma Nnaka	Towson Univ, Towson, MD
Gloria Nwanwa	Univ. of MD, College Park, MD
Chigemezu Uzuokwu	Towson Univ, Towson, MD
Keivana Wallace	Fordham Univ, New York, NY
Tochi Ngobili	Seton Hill, Greensburg, PA
Abongnwi Neba	Towson Univ, Towson, MD
Nwamaka Agbim	Howard Comm College, Columbia, MD



## REFLECTIONS

Lawrence P. Grayson

### *The Barque in a Raging Sea*

*Suddenly a violent storm came up on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by waves; but he was asleep. They came and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" He said to them,*

*"Why are you terrified, O you of little faith?" (Matthew 8:24-26)*

The Barque of Peter is now being buffeted by revelations and allegations of clerical immorality and hierarchical cover-up. The recent report of the Attorney General of Pennsylvania describing widespread sexual exploitation of seminarians and adolescent males by priests in that state, coupled with the accusations of the obscene behavior of Archbishop Theodore McCarrick, have been devastating. Many people in the Church, clergy as well as laity, have feelings of shock, anger, sadness, shame and betrayal.

Yet, this may be only the beginning of an investigative frenzy. The attorneys general of Missouri and Illinois have announced they will conduct investigations of the Catholic dioceses in their respective states, while the attorneys general of New York and Nebraska appear to be preparing to conduct similar probes. Several seminaries also have announced they are undertaking independent examinations of accusations of sexual abuse within their institutions. Various media outlets are suggesting that comparable investigations should be conducted in every state, and that the U.S. Department of Justice file federal racketeering charges against the Catholic Church under the RICO Act. The Vatican is sending Archbishop Charles Scicluna, its most experienced sex-crimes investigator, to study the situation in the United States. His previous investigation into sex abuse cover-ups in Chile led to the mass resignation of the entire conference of Chilean bishops. The hierarchy in America may soon face greater scandal, a torrent of litigation, and hierarchical upheaval.

Pope Francis, in his *Letter to the People of God* on August 20, adopted the words of then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger: "How much filth there is in the Church, and even among those who, in the priesthood, ought to belong entirely to [Christ]!" Some may consider that the clerical abuses are no greater than what has occurred among media moguls, public school teachers, athletic directors and others in lay positions of power. But clerical abuses are worse because those in religious vocations are responsible for the faith and the salvation of souls.

Most bishops and priests are faithful to their vows, lead chaste lives and are wonderful shepherds to their people. This does not, however, lessen the malefaction in the Church.

Bishop Robert Morlino of Madison stated: "[W]e are talking about deviant sexual – almost exclusively homosexual – acts by clerics. We're also talking about homosexual propositions and abuses against seminarians and young priests by powerful priests, bishops, and cardinals...It is time to admit that there is a homosexual subculture within the hierarchy of the Catholic Church."

There will be significant changes in church operations and oversight. Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, has called for "a full and complete investigation of sexual abuse led by an independent commission that includes laity," and "complete transparency by the Catholic hierarchy into all matters of criminal sexual misconduct past or future," adding that "priests

and bishops who refuse to live according to their promises of celibacy should be removed from public ministry." Similar recommendations have been made by several bishops and archbishops, including Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, USCCB president. But, the issue of sexual abuse and cover-up in the Church demands more than administrative changes. There is no shortage of effective policies and procedures already in place in many dioceses. The problem, as Bishop Edward Scharfenberger of Albany described it, is a "profoundly spiritual crisis." Archbishop Samuel Aquila of Denver went a step farther, stating: "We have also failed to recognize that the spiritual battle is real. Some say the Lord has forsaken the Church, but this is not true. Rather, there are some within the Church who have forsaken Jesus and the Gospel. The devil is real and uses confusion, chaos, discouragement, and negative thinking to draw us away from Jesus."

With this turmoil, some may regard the Church to be a failed institution and turn from the faith. That is exactly what the devil wants. As Cardinal Raymond Burke has stated, "What we must never permit is that these gravely immoral acts, which have sullied so much the face of the Church, permit us to lose trust in Our Lord." Bishop Robert J. Baker of Birmingham gives us a path forward: "We cannot allow these scandals to destroy our faith...Only by turning to prayer and penance, and by living a life of sacrificial virtue, steeped in the sacraments of the church, does any one of us stand a chance against the great evils of our time."

Repentance, reform and rebuilding are needed. While action is necessary to address the temporal aspects of the problem, prayer is essential in order to center the activities on God. Prayer and action, the spiritual and the temporal -- when the two are combined the Church can be rebuilt on a foundation of Biblical principles, on the love of God and charity to our neighbor.

We must strengthen our devotion to the Mass, the rosary, Marian hours of prayer, retreats, spiritual readings, Eucharistic adoration, and other means to connect with the will of God. We must pray for the Pope, cardinals, bishops and priests that they are faithful to Christ. We must pray that the Church, though it is composed of members with human weaknesses, remains one, catholic, apostolic and holy.

We must fast to atone for the sins of depravity committed by members of the clergy for, as Bishop Morlino reminds us, "Some sins, like some demons, can only be driven out by prayer and fasting."

*With faith in God's mercy, the Barque will survive the storm.*





**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**FREE EVENT!** **DON'T MISS OUT!**  
 Saturday, October 27, 2018  
 Registration begins at 7:30 am  
 Race begins at 9:00 am  
 Watkins Regional Park  
 301 Watkins Park Dr, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774



**SHATTER THE SILENCE**  
 on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault  
**5K RUN/WALK**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 27, 2018 and plan to join with members of St. Joseph Catholic Church, Maryland National Capital Park Police and the University of Maryland Capital Region Health Center for its Third Annual "Shatter the Silence" on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault 5K Run/Walk.

T-Shirts: \$10.00 (SML) \$12.00 (1X - 4X)

CONTACTS AT ST. JOSEPH SOCIAL JUSTICE SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY  
 Lisa Smith . . . . . 301-390-1137  
 Roger Brooks . . 240-476-7930 Vernon Hawkins . . 301-336-0284

Save the DATE  
 for the  
*Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary*  
 "SENIOR TEA"  
 (FOR THOSE 70 YEARS YOUNG AND ABOVE)



**SATURDAY**  
**SEPTEMBER 29, 2018**  
**1:30 PM – 4:30 PM**

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Rosemont Room, Largo, MD  
 Sponsored by the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council Knights of Columbus

Points of Contact  
 Etoile de Hawkins - 301-336-0284 - etoile1706@aol.com  
 Deborah Robinson - 301-332-1793 - deborahjrobinson@comcast.net



Only \$1 for your chance to WIN a  
**2019 FORD MUSTANG**

**48th Annual Car Raffle Benefit**

- 2019 FORD MUSTANG  
 or \$18,000.00 Cash Option
- 2nd Prize: iPad Air
- 3rd Prize: \$200.00 Gift Card



**\$1.00**



MARYLAND STATE COUNCIL  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

DRAWING: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2018

Contributions, Gifts, etc., paid to Maryland State



# Smiley Central™

An old guy was working out in the gym when he spotted an attractive young lady.

He asked a nearby trainer, "What machine should I use to impress that lady over there?"

The trainer looked him up and down and said, "I would try the ATM in the lobby."

\*\*\*

The young man ahead of my father at the flower shop was taking an unusually long time to place his order. When the clerk asked how she could help, he explained that his girlfriend was turning nineteen and he couldn't decide whether to give her a dozen roses or nineteen roses -- one for each year of her life.

The woman put aside her business judgment and advised, "She may be your nineteen-year-old girlfriend now, but someday she could be your fifty-year-old wife."

The young man bought a dozen roses.

\*\*\*

The farmer's son was returning from the market with the crate of chickens his father had entrusted to him, when all of a sudden the box fell and broke open. Chickens scurried off in different directions, but the determined boy walked all over the neighborhood scooping up the wayward birds and returning them to the repaired crate. Hoping he had found them all, the boy reluctantly returned home, expecting the worst.

"Pa, the chickens got loose," the boy confessed sadly, "but I managed to find all twelve of them."

"Well, you did real good, son," the farmer beamed. "You left with seven."

\*\*\*

Recently while we were eating lunch after church one Sunday, my youngest son asked me what the highest number I had ever counted up to was.

I said I didn't know. Then I asked him how high he has counted.

"5,372," came the prompt reply.

"Oh," I said. "Why did you stop there?"

"The sermon was over."

\*\*\*

A regular customer walks into the bar and says, "Bartender, one round for everyone, on me!"

The bartender says, "Well, seems you're in a really good mood tonight."

The man replies, "I sure am! Yesterday I was hired by the city to go around and collect money from the parking meters!"

The bartender congratulates the man and proceeds to pour the round.

The next night the same man walks back in, "Bartender, TWO rounds for everyone, on me!"

The bartender says, "If you're so happy just over having this new job, I can just imagine how happy you'll be when you get your first paycheck!"

With a wondrous look on his face, the man pulls out a handful of quarters from his pocket and says, "You mean they're gonna PAY me too?"

## Marian Title for September

# Our Lady of Sorrows



Our Lady of Sorrows, the Sorrowful Mother or Mother of Sorrows, and Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows or Our Lady of the Seven Dolours are names by which the Blessed Virgin Mary is referred to in relation to sorrows in her life. The Seven Sorrows of Mary are popular Roman Catholic devotion. There are devotional prayers which consist of meditation on her Seven Sorrows: examples include the Servite rosary, or the Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady. Also, there is a corresponding devotion to the Seven Joys of Mary. The term "Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary" refers to the combined devotion of both the Immaculate Heart and the Seven Sorrows of Mary as first used by the Franciscan Tertiary Berthe Petit. The Seven Sorrows are events in the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary which are popular devotions and are frequently depicted in art:

1. The Prophecy of Simeon. Luke 2:34-35 or Circumcision of Christ.
2. The Flight into Egypt. (Matthew 2:13)
3. The Loss of the Child Jesus in the Temple. (Luke 2:43-45)
4. Mary Meets Jesus on the Way to Calvary. (Luke 23:26)
5. Jesus Dies on the Cross. (John 19:25)
6. Mary Receives the Body of Jesus in Her Arms. (Matthew 27:57-59)
7. The Body of Jesus is Placed in the Tomb. (John 19:40-42)

It is common devotion for Catholics to say daily one Our Father and seven Hail Mary for each sorrow.



## \*\*SEPTEMBER - 2018\*\*

- 01 Uzochukwu E. Nnanna
- 04 Oscar R. Argueta
- 05 Archa Obele
- 05 Peter Methodius-Ngwodo
- 10 Udomah C. Chiri
- 11 Michael P. Akpan
- 12 **Fr. Robert P. Boxie, III**
- 16 Christopher I. Nwabinele
- 17 Roberto L. Hylton
- 17 Linus O. Alozie
- 21 Carlton L. Williams, II
- 22 Uche S. Osuorah
- 22 Wilson T. Wiley
- 22 Ikenna J. Dike
- 30 Charles L. Ratcliffe



***“The Joy  
Of An  
Autumn  
Birthday”***

### Maryland State Council Officers

State Deputy	Dale W. Trott
McNamara Chapter President	Joseph Massimini.
District Deputy	George T. Riddle
District Warden	Terry Reinhart

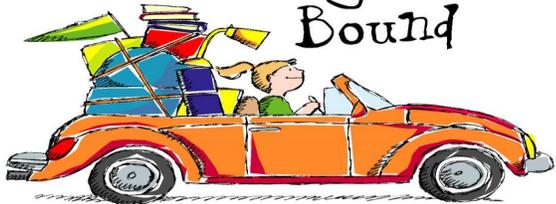
### James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council Officers

Chaplain	Bishop Roy E. Campbell, Jr.
Associate Chaplain	Rev. Robert P. Boxie, III
Assistant to the Chaplain	Deacon Steven Nash
Grand Knight.	Michael Younger
Deputy Grand knight	Fidelis K. Ajudua
Chancellor.	Harold Countee
Warden.	John Bechet
Financial Secretary	John O. Grier
Recorder.	Efrain Anderson
Treasurer	Harold F. Sanders, Jr.
Lecturer.	Calvin A. Thompson
Advocate	David D. Martin
Trustee 3 year	Bernard Broadus
Trustee 2 year.	Alan Davis
Trustee 1 year.	Ikechukwu R. Agbim
Inside Guard.	Charles N. Okpah
Outside Guard.	Gilbert Neblett

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### \*\*SEPTEMBER\*\*

*College  
Bound*



- 03 **Labor Day**
- 06 **Fletcher Council Meeting, 7:30 PM**
- 08 State Council Family Picnic
- 09 Grand Parents Day
- 11 **Patriot Day**
- 10 Bishop Walsh Assembly Meeting, 7:30 PM
- 14 Exaltation of The Holy Cross
- 15 Financial Secretary Seminar
- 15 McNamara Chapter Meeting, Out Lady of Guadalupe Council 12127, Warfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20882
- 16 *Knights Sunday, 11 A.M. Mass*
- 19 McNamara Chapter Meeting
- 20 **Fletcher Council Meeting, 7:30 PM**
- 23 First Day of Autumn
- 29 KC Ladies Seniors Tea



### **SURVEY TIME**

The objective of the Fletcher Council's Newsletter is to keep our council members informed of recent and planned Council/Order activities and at time to put a smile on your face.

Has it met these goals?

***What say you?***

What changes would you recommend?

***What say you?***

Do you recommend that the council continues this form of communications, the Newsletter?

***What say you?***

***Email Your Survey Comments To  
Grand Knight-Elect***

***Mike Younger***

***mrwhy@verizon.net & vhawkinsjr@aol.com***