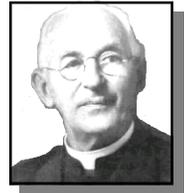




# Knight Life

The Official Publication of Father Rosensteel Council #2169



Vol. 80, No. 3, March 2014

Find us on Facebook at "Rosensteel Council"

Web site - www.Knights2169.com



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER Fr. José Cortes

### Give Me Your Sins

As we are starting Lent, I would like to tell you this anecdote from the life of Saint Jerome:

"As he was on this day meditating about the first Christmas, Saint Jerome received a glorious apparition of the Divine Infant. 'Jerome,' Jesus asked him, 'what are you going to give Me for My Birthday?' 'Divine Infant,' Jerome replied, 'I give You my heart.' 'That is very good,' said the Holy Child, 'but give Me something else.' Jerome answered, 'I give You my prayers and all my heart's affections.' 'That also is good, but give Me something else.' His Sacred Heart was yearning for still more. 'I give You,' the Saint, wishing to leave nothing behind, offered, 'all that I have and all that I possess.' 'Very good.' The smile radiating from His Holy Face showed that He was pleased. There is, however, nothing which can compare with the Divine Love and Generosity of God. 'But,' the Boy continued, 'I desire that you give Me still something more.' 'But, Divine Infant,' Jerome cried, 'I have nothing, what do You desire me to give You?' 'Jerome,' said Jesus eagerly, 'give Me your sins!' 'The Saint was shocked. 'But,' he asked, 'what would You do with them?' 'Give Me your sins,' Jesus explained, 'in order that I may pardon them all.'"

It is not possible for a Christian life to exist without purification. We cannot accomplish the mission that God entrusted to each one of us without the continual purification of our lives. As Jesus asked Saint Jerome, in the same way he asks us: "Give me your sins." Do not be afraid of that. Lent is starting. We will have many opportunities for doing that through the Sacrament of Penance.

Fr. José



**Happy Hour!**  
**Monday March 17**  
**6-10PM**  
Knights Room  
Corned Beef Dinner \$7  
All Members and their Ladies Invited!

Irish Coffee too!



Maryknights  
**Mardi GRAS**  
SATURDAY  
MARCH 1  
The Maryknights own Cajun, Mary Margaret Hathway, will be making her famous gumbo! \$30 per person, \$50 per couple. Includes beer, wine and a DJ. Contact Beth Torp (301-754-1853) for reservations.

**Join us for Breakfast!!**  
**Sunday March 2nd 8:00-Noon**  
**11 and up-\$9**  
**10-4 yrs-\$5**  
**under 4 yr-\$2**  
**What better way to follow up a Mardi Gras party than having breakfast with us! Mimosas, Bloody Mary's, & Screwdrivers available on request!**



## GRAND KNIGHTS STATION

Kenneth O'Tullis

We have certainly seen our fair share of daunting Winter weather this season. Though by the time this edition of the Knight Life reaches you, we will all be engaged and having a great time at the Annual Winter Beach Party Bash coordinated by our State District Deputy George Carter. I will be glad to see Spring roll in after being exhausted by the overwhelming cabin fever forced upon us by the snow! Thanks to all those who helped keep the Council grounds well maintained this Winter. Every little bit goes a long way representing our consideration for one another and their safe travels to and from the Council.



The season of Lent is fast approaching. For most Catholics, Lent brings to mind "giving something up of great significance and making a difference." It also encompasses many important observances of the Catholic faith, such as Ash Wednesday, Stations of the Cross, and eventually Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Of course, there is a little something called "Fat Tuesday" or "Mardi Gras" mixed in there, too. We have a dynamic Mardi Gras celebration reserved at the Council Saturday, March 1st. Please check parish bulletins and calendars for special Mass celebrations to be held at our community parishes. My wish for you this season of Lent is for peace in your lives and health for your families.

We have many special events to look forward to in March such as, the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Washington, DC, the St. Patrick's Day Celebration in the Knights Room, and the continuation of

(Continued on page 2)



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**Knight Life**

Published Monthly

Fr. Rosensteel Council #2169

9707 Rosensteel Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

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Hours of Operation: Sun-Thurs. 2PM-11PM

Friday & Sat: 2PM-12AM

Clubhouse Managers:

John Matosian.....301-706-9373

PGK Joseph Marks.....301-370-2012

**Council Meets First & Third Tuesdays 7:00 PM**

**COUNCIL OFFICERS**

GRAND KNIGHT.....Kenneth Tullis  
(240-876-7234)

Deputy Grand Knight.....Frank Cavaliere  
(301-681-1849)

Chaplain.....Rev. Joseph Perkins  
(301-942-1020 ext.23)

Chaplain.....Rev. Jose Maria Cortes, F.S.C.B.  
(301-589-8616)

Assoc. Chaplain.....Rev. Gerard Trancone  
(301-577-3527)

Honorary Chaplain.....Rev. Brien R. McCarthy  
(202-885-3327)

Chancellor.....Allan Jimenez (301-649-7244)

Warden.....Terrence Moore (tpmoore@pbs.org)

Financial Secretary.....Rob Seubert (301-681-8181)

Treasurer.....PGK John Fox(946-2113)

Recorder.....Patrick Warner(585-8629)

Advocate.....Harry Dunkle(240-560-7707)

Lecturer.....Ralph M. Vallone(540-0724)

Inside Guard.....Mark Borkoski(589-3743)

Outside Guard.....Tim Sharpe(585-1773)

Outside Guard.....Joe Caron(219-6540)

Trustee (1 year).....PGK Michael S. Miller(681-9040)

Trustee (2 year).....PGK Thomas Kelly(240-472-2204)

Trustee (3 year).....PGK Ralph Vallone(301-946-8633)

Fraternal Insurance.....Brian Graham (962-0045)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Forest Glen Building Association

President.....Tom Griffin (949-7626)

Vice-President.....Bob Neary (202-363-6713)

Secretary.....Phil Atzert (588-2347)

Treasurer.....PGK George Carter (949-2781)

Director.....Bill Veith (942-3267)

Director.....PGK Ralph Vallone (946-8633)

Director.....GK Kenny Tullis (240-876-7234)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Clubhouse Association

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Vice-Pres.....John Wigmore (johnwigmore@verizon.net)

Treasurer.....PGK Tom Kelley (301.593.9284)

Secretary.....Pat Warner (301.585.8629)

Director.....DGK Frank Cavaliere (301-681-1849)

Director.....Terrence Moore (tpmoore@pbs.org)

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Director.....GK Kenny Tullis (ktullis@barrie.org)

**KNIGHT LIFE**

The Official Publication of Father Rosensteel Council #2169

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*Please, remember in your prayers....*



**Friends who are ill:**

Helen Sutton  
Brian Flanigan  
Cubby LaHood

**Members who are ill:**

Joseph F. Russell, H.L.M.  
Gil Cole  
Jim Hempfling  
Jim DeVol

**Those who have died:**

Mary Smith  
Harry J. Roenick, H.L.M.  
Richard Conner



**Squires/Roses  
March Newsletter**

Thanks to all that attended and helped with the following events:

- Wednesday Pizza Night
- Monthly meeting
- St Joseph's House Fundraiser
- Date Night
- Squires/Roses Dance and Ice Cream Social
- Community Breakfast

**Upcoming events include:**

- ◆ **March 1<sup>st</sup>**, Mardi Gras
  - ◆ **March 2<sup>nd</sup>** Breakfast
  - ◆ **March 17<sup>th</sup>** St Patrick's Day with Culin Dancers
  - ◆ **March 22** Bull and Oyster Roast
- Our service may or may not be required for these events, and as always we stand ready to assist. We will be scheduling another Spring Cleanup at the council and St Joseph's house. Please stay tuned for more information on this year's "Night at the Ballpark"

Be Worthy

*(GK Continued from page 1)*

Sunday breakfasts (the first Sunday in each month). Let's all plan to welcome all family and friends to attend our breakfasts, which are spectacular and well organized for all to enjoy. As always, Janis, Kim, and I send our warmest regards and thanks for making the Council such a wonderful place to visit for so many too feel like their home away from home.

**2014 ROSENSTEEL OPEN**

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2014

8:30 SHOTGUN START

BLUE MASH GOLF COURSE

**COST—\$80**

PRICE INCLUDES:

GOLF & CART  
PRIZES GALORE  
FOOD AND BEVERAGES BACK AT COUNCIL



FOR RESERVATIONS CALL  
PGK JOE MARKS 301-370-2012

**Save the Date!**

Annual State Convention  
Ocean City, MD

May 2, 3 and 4  
Princess Royal Hotel

**Fr. Rosensteel Convention Home :**

**Clarion Hotel  
410-524-3535**

**Call PGK Joe Marks 301.370.2012**  
for more information

**Mary's Widows**

We begin our meetings again this month! You will be called soon about where we will meet for lunch. If you would like to join our group please call  
Lois Devlin, 301-681-7448.



**ROSENSTEEL RETIREE'S CLUB  
OFFICERS 2013 - 2014**

**Chaplain** ....Rev. Joseph Perkins  
301-942-1020 x23  
**President** .....Nancy Marchone  
301-288-7808  
**Vice Pres.** .....Thomas Leonard  
301-871-2995  
**Treasurer** .....John Fox PGK PFN  
301-933-7246  
**Secretary** .....Marge Fait  
301-598-7064

We have had some bad weather this winter, but it's almost gone. The official arrival date of Spring is March 20<sup>th</sup>. However, we always see the arrival of colorful tulips and many more birds much sooner.

Did you realize that over twelve million people traveled from Ameri-

can ports on cruise ships in 2012. It's a staggering figure, but if you were one of that number you realize how many advantages you can enjoy while on a shipboard vacation. A great convenience for those of us in this area are the nearby ports of Baltimore and New York which are much closer than the ports in Florida.

Somewhat related to a cruise is a short trip on a ferry. Have you ever taken the ferry from Delaware to Cape May, New Jersey? It's an hour ride across Delaware Bay to that city of historic Victorian homes on the Atlantic shore. Another wonderful trip in this area is the ferry from Crisfield on the Eastern Shore to both Tangier and Smith Island in the Chesapeake Bay. Just spend a day with the people of those islands and marvel at their lifestyle. Don't miss the delicious crab cakes just caught the day before or the fried chicken cooked "Maryland Style". If you've ever been to Italy perhaps you rode the ferry from Sorrento or Naples out to the island of Capri. Once you step ashore on Capri everything may look very familiar to you. You might ask yourself, Have I seen this place before? If you saw the 1960 movie, "It started in Naples", with Clark Gable and Sophia Loren, then you did see it before. Almost nothing has changed on the island.

This is an exciting month with the start of Lent on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Then we all celebrate the "luck o' the Irish" on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The Feast Day for Saint Joseph, the Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary is on the 19<sup>th</sup>, and the Annunciation of the Lord is on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Don't miss out on the upcoming events at the Council. March 1<sup>st</sup> is the Maryknights' Mardi Gras and you don't want to miss the good food and festivities. Mark your calendars with the dates of all the other announced upcoming exciting events you don't want to miss and make an extra effort to attend.

This month's Luncheon will be on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

VP Tom Leonard



**Wednesdays  
Early Bird 7:15**



**MARYKNIGHTS  
OFFICERS 2013-2014**

**Chaplain** .....Rev. Gerard Trancone  
301-577-3527 deafmindc@aol.com  
**President** .....Margie Cuff  
301-949-1715 [margiecuff@gmail.com](mailto:margiecuff@gmail.com)  
**Vice President** .....Brenda Graninger  
240-912-9950 [bgrani27@aol.com](mailto:bgrani27@aol.com)  
**Treasurer** .....Kathy Arvedlund  
301-681-7254 [kathyarvedlund@comcast.net](mailto:kathyarvedlund@comcast.net)  
**Secretary** .....Polly Seleski  
301-260-9757 [paseleski@gmail.com](mailto:paseleski@gmail.com)  
**Historian** .....Sue Wiant  
301-593-8689. [susanwiant@gmail.com](mailto:susanwiant@gmail.com)

If you weren't at the February meeting, you missed a great talk by Joy Patil of the Montgomery County Police Department, Silver Spring District. She was very informative and she had a great sense of humor too! For those of you that couldn't attend here are a few nuggets of information and/or suggestions:

♦ 85-90% of all burglaries occur during the daytime. If you don't answer that knock at the door, it might be a bad guy who now assumes no one's home. Don't

open the door, but consider answering and telling them that you're busy. Those little window peep holes are a handy thing, but don't count on that little chain keep a bad guy out. Keeping a radio on can give someone the impression that someone's home. Get a dog!

♦ The most vulnerable part of your house is the back where no one can see anything from the street. The 9-pane cafe doors are the most vulnerable because the bad guy can knock out a little pane and then maybe unlock the door. Sliding glass doors are actually safer because burglars don't want to take a chance getting cut on all that glass.

♦ The Montgomery County Police Dept offers FREE Home Security Surveys —give them a call.

♦ Do a home inventory and include make, model, and serial number of electronics, tools, etc. and take pictures of other valuables. It'll be handy if you need to file an insurance claim and if the police do recover items from a burglar, it'll help you get your stuff back and help put the bad guys away.

♦ Call anytime you hear or see something suspicious ... the police really do want hear from you.

♦ The Non-Emergency # is 301-279-8000. Program it into your cell phone NOW.

♦ Theft from vehicles is a major issue in Montgomery County. Don't leave valuables in your car. Lock your car.

♦ Consider carrying a smaller purse ... you really can leave the kitchen sink at home! And definitely don't be carrying your social security card with you.

If you haven't made your reservation for **Mardi Gras** on **March 1**, contact Beth Torp (301-754-1853). This is our annual Special Activity. *All* our proceeds from this even go right back to the Council. And you can cross 'try Mary Margaret Hathway's Gumbo' off your bucket list ... not often you get a chance to do that.

The **Card Party** will be **March 24** from 1-4pm. Tickets are only \$8 and Helen Damiano is waiting to take your reservation (301-593-4730)! We still need lots of desserts and sweet treats and unwrapped door prizes. Contact Lois Devlin (301-681-7448) if you can bake or otherwise help.

Our **Anniversary Party** this year will be chaired by the Executive Committee (along with anyone who would like to lend a hand. Mark your calendars for **Sunday April 27** from 2-4 for an **Afternoon Tea**. More information to come.

Our next meeting will be **March 10**. Don't forget our usual list of cell phones, glasses, toiletries, items for the soldiers, stamps, baby blankets, etc. This is our annual **pot luck**: **A-H** bring salad/side; **I-P** bring main dish; **Q-Z** bring dessert. See you there.

## Clubhouse Report

March 2014

Spring is around the corner. A Clubhouse Spring cleaning will be scheduled for April. Please check back or look for details in the Knights Room in March. It would be great to see some new members show up and get involved.

Sunday Breakfast had the best attendance it has seen in quite some time. Thank you for your continued support. Please pass the word and remember we serve until Noon. See everyone on Sunday, March 2. Best deal in town.

Pizza night has taken off. For those of you who don't know the details, get your e-mail address in to us and you can get reminder notices, place your order in advance, or dine in the Knights Room, and enjoy really, really good, fresh dough pizza. Bring the family, and take a night off kitchen duty. Mark your calendar for March 12 and 26 and stop by the Knights Room between 6 and 8 pm to enjoy. Give a big "shout-out" to Terrence and Cheryl Moore, Geoff Conway and Kevin Carey for making it happen.

St. Patrick's Day Parade and Council festivities are listed in this issue. Grand Knight **Kenny O'Tullis** promises a great day. March Madness is upon us. There is a square pool to support the "Capital Improvement Fund" posted in the Knights Room with all the details. \$2500.00 in cash prizes to be won. Get your squares now.

Don't forget Joe Marks March Madness pool. This is always an early sellout.

The "Date Night" dinner was held on Saturday, February 15, 2014. Thanks to all who attended and all who volunteered. We look forward to another dinner/dance in the very near future

At the last business meeting there was a plea for every member to get involved in helping the Council book events and rentals of the Columbian and Emerald Rooms. Without everyone's best efforts to support their Council, we won't survive for very long and that would be a very sad day. One that, I believe, no one wants to see.

Clubhouse is in need of new barstools, among other things, and that comes with a price tag. Please try to attend some events in March: Friday night dinners, Pizza night, Breakfast, Bingo, Business and Social meetings, etc. in support of your Council.

F&R,  
Mike Miller, Clubhouse President

## Update on the Forest Glen Building Association's Capital Improvement Fund "CIF"

Thanks to the Clubhouse Director PGK Michael Miller and Warden Terrence Moore, both of whom made the recent *Date Night* possible and such an enjoyable event, the Capital Improvement Fund "CIF" Committee was able to launch "Phase One" of the fundraising effort. Our goal is to raise \$20,000 in 2014 for use by the Forest Glen Building Association to modernize the aging infrastructure at the Council. At the present time, there are no reserve funds to pay for replacement, major repairs, and or upgrades to the HVAC systems, roof, carpets, furniture, etc. that has been used by our members and their families for many years. Several examples of the needs were mentioned by PGK George Carter, treasurer of the Building Association, which has the responsibility to maintain the Council's property on Rosensteel Avenue.

Members of the CIF Committee are: D.G.K. Frank Cavaliere; MaryKnights President Margie Cuff; Past President of the Forest Glen Building Association Joe Damiano; Attorney-at-Law Walter MacDermid; Rosensteel Retirees Association President Nancy Marchone; PGK Dave Morgan; G.K. Kenny Tullis, and I. We all spoke at *Date Night* about the need for you to make a financial contribution. All checks should be made payable to the Forest Glen Building Association and noted for the CIF account. This is a separate account earmarked and dedicated to the capital improvement projects.

The CIF Committee currently has two programs in place:  
**The March Madness Final Four Basketball Pool: purchase a square for \$50 for a chance to win one of the two \$500 semifinal prizes or the \$1,500 grand prize. Presuming all 100 squares are sold, the CIF Fund will receive \$2,500. We thank Brother Stan McLeod for his assistance.**

Anyone donating at least \$250 will receive recognition in the Knight Life beginning in May. Levels of giving are Bronze \$250, Silver \$500, Gold \$1,000, and Platinum \$2,500.

Regrettably donations are not tax deductible.

Please support our fundraising projects and help preserve our Council home.

Sincerely,  
J. Patrick Warner, chairman  
Capital Improvement Fund Committee  
Forest Glen Building Association, Inc.

## Tootsie Roll Update

The Fr. Rosensteel Council collected \$5210.00 for the 2013 Tootsie Roll Campaign, which was the most collected by any Council in Montgomery County. The monies primarily came from the following: A check in the amount of \$2500 from Holy Cross Parking rental is set aside annually for the fund.; a 50/50 Redskins final game square pool raised \$1000 and 2 Sunday breakfasts provided over \$1200.; a Thanksgiving Poker Tournament and tips from the Knights Room, as well as a few private donations filled in the remainder.

The Fr. Rosensteel Council will be delivering a voucher worth \$4500 to St. Joseph's House as a result of the efforts.

The remaining dollars cover expenses and a contribution to the general fund that supports other charities that make requests.

Thanks again to all who helped



## Bull and Oyster Roast

Saturday March 22nd

3-7 pm

\$30 per person

Contact GK Kenny Tullis  
240-876-7234  
ktullis@barrie  
for tickets



## Children's Easter Party

Sunday April 13  
1-4pm

Lunch & Activities

Bring your Easter baskets  
for the Egg Hunt!

Special visit from  
The Easter Bunny!



## Wednesday Pizza Night is back!

Wednesday Feb. 26, and Mar. 12 & 26 2014

6:00pm to 8:00pm

\*Fresh dough \*With or without sauce

Cheese, pepperoni, sausage, peppers, onions, bacon,  
mushrooms, Olives, red pepper flakes

\*Suggestions accepted but not guaranteed

Text your order to 571-436-5776 with your name

Or come by, sit down and share with friends  
and brother Knights.

## Attention Please!!!

We are still hoping to have the 6 Round Tables that were borrowed by a member returned to us. These tables will be marked as belonging to the Knights.

## Knights of Columbus Insurance

The following was written by a K of C agent in Kansas.

Every time I made an appointment with Kevin Flynn, his wife, Dorothy, creatively came up with a reason not to meet with me to discuss their insurance needs.

They were a young family, caught up in the joys and challenges of raising a family, and life insurance was the last thing she wanted to think about.

When I was finally able to sit down and meet with them, she told me they needed time to think. I began to realize that she did not understand the immediate need. I became committed to giving her time as well as getting to know her better. I spent the time needed to get to know them, and I answered all their questions. And even on the day we wrote those policies, I am certain that she still did not fully understand their value; but now she is my greatest advocate for life insurance. Many times she has offered to visit with people and encourage them to understand and provide for their life insurance needs.

Why the change?

On October 6, 2007, Kevin, then only 50 years of age, the father of two young boys ages 7 and 2, and the husband of Dorothy, then pregnant, was diagnosed with stage four terminal lung cancer and given two years to live. He knew he was going to die. It was at this point that I knew my role as agent was even more important than when I was writing their policies. I had to assure him that his policies were in order and that his family would be taken care of. After we met, and when we finished, Kevin said that he would not change anything.

Knowing what he knew now, he said he would have purchased more coverage, but he did not need to change anything. His disease was devastating and progressed rapidly, and seven months later on May 1, 2007, Kevin lost his battle with the cancer. He left behind his wife, two sons, and newborn daughter of one month. His death rocked our community, and though I knew I had lost my friend, I also knew that the greatest gift I could have given his family was my persistence, patience, knowledge, professionalism, and time. In the many conversations I had with him, like any father and husband, he did not want to leave behind his family, but he was at peace knowing that financially he was supporting and caring for his family, even in his death.

**Brian Graham**

**310-962-0045**

[brian.graham@kofc.org](mailto:brian.graham@kofc.org)

## Family of the Month

This Family continues to do amazing things here at the Council. They never seem to run out of energy and always have the best interests of the council at heart! They are the best examples we could hope to have for the Squires and Roses who are in their care. From Pizza Night to Dinner Crews 1 and 9, Bingo and the Maryknights the entire family is involved! Congratulations to our Warden Terrence Moore, his Lady Cheryl, and sons Joe and Hunter! They are the March Family of the Month!

## Knight of the Month

This Knight is a constant but steady presence here at Rosensteel Council. Not only does he head up a Friday night cooking crew (#8) but he has taken on the huge job of Financial Secretary and is committed to bringing our extensive membership list up to date. He is supported by his wonderful Lady Carol and sweet daughter Sarah. He is often asked to Emcee our Council events because of his good humor and easy-going nature! Please congratulate Rob Seubert, our March Knight of the Month

## Community Activity Nursing Home Party

Our next visit is at the Springbrook Nursing & Rehab Center, 12325 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20904 on April 17th at 3PM.

The Home is next to St. John the Baptist on New Hampshire Ave..

I would like to thank my wife for baking cookies and making punch, as well as, helping at the parties along with Paul Grake and John Gibljin.

At our first party at Althea Woodward Allen Jiminez and I were under the weather so Paul, John, and my wife pulled it off. Allen and I and the the others made the second party..

Joe Rogers



There is a feeling of hope among pro-life advocates that after 41 years of battling legalized abortion their efforts are bearing results. The Guttmacher Institute recently reported that the number of abortions in the United States decreased from 1.21 million in 2008 to 1.06 million in 2011, a dramatic 13 percent decline, while the number of abortions per 1,000 women fell to 16.9, a historic low. In addition, 87 abortion clinics closed or stopped offering surgical abortions in 2013, reducing the total number of such facilities in the United States to 582, which is 73% below a high of 2,176 clinics in 1991. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention declared that “abortion is a failing business.”

While abortions are decreasing and children in the womb are being saved in significantly increasing numbers, there is a disturbing trend that may be the forerunner of increased abortions, but at earlier stages of pregnancy. There is a shift from surgical abortions to medication abortions, that is, through the use of the pill. While the number of abortions continued to decline from 2001 to 2011, medication abortions increased from 6 percent to 23 percent of all abortions in that decade.

Contraceptive pills operate in one or more of three ways. First, they attempt to prevent ovulation. If ovulation does occur, they then try to block the sperm from joining the ovum or egg. When this fails, the drug acts to prevent the fertilized ovum from attaching to the uterus. The earliest birth control pills, approved for use in the United States in 1960, operated to prevent ovulation, and secondarily to inhibit fertilization. These two effects are truly contraceptive, for the ovum is never fertilized. Although the Catholic Church disapproves of all contraceptives because they thwart the generative aspect of the conjugal act, these first two actions do not involve the destruction of new life. The third effect – to impede the fertilized ovum from attaching or remaining attached to the mother’s uterus -- terminates a life. That is abortion.

A fertilized ovum, called a zygote, is the first stage of human life. This simple cell has all of the genetic information and capabilities to continue developing through its embryonic and fetal stages into a newborn child, and then toward becoming an aged adult. This is a continuous progression, and the pre-born stages only require nourishment and protection gained through attachment to the mother’s uterus. The process of life begins at fertilization; there is no scientific disagreement on this.

Organizations such as the Guttmacher Institute and Planned Parenthood, as well as some federal government policies, attempt to finesse the fact. They state that pregnancy starts not at fertilization, but when the fertilized ovum is implanted in the uterus. The distinction between the beginning of a child’s life and the onset of a mother’s pregnancy is critical. It allows drug companies to claim that a drug which prevents implantation is a contraceptive since it prevents pregnancy, rather than an abortifacient that terminates a life.

In September 2000, the Food and Drug Administration approved mifepristone (previously known as RU-486) for abortions. The drug, taken as a pill, blocks the action of the hormone progesterone, which is necessary to sustain a pregnancy. The result is that the embryonic child is detached from its mother’s uterine lining and expelled.

Ella, a relatively new drug, has been included among the contraceptives to be provided to women under Obamacare-mandated health insurance plans. It has been approved for use, according to its manufacturer, in case of “birth control failure.” This “morning-after” pill acts to prevent the attachment of the fertilized ovum to the uterus and, thus, like mifepristone, is an abortifacient.

As medication abortions replace surgical ones and contraceptive drugs become more effective and even easier to obtain, more and more abortions will occur by simply “popping a pill.” There will be no need to go to an abortion clinic, face pro-life prayer warriors and counselors, possibly see graphic images or view an ultrasound picture, and undergo a surgical procedure. The woman will have less anxiety or feelings of guilt, as her actions will seem akin to taking an aspirin or a vitamin.

An unaddressed challenge for the pro-life movement is that many who claim to be pro-life approve of contraception. At the 2014 March for Life, Michael Voris of Church Militant TV interviewed a large number of the young, pro-life marchers about whether they thought birth control was wrong. Although the poll was admittedly more representative than precise, nearly one-third of these young people, the majority of whom are likely Catholic and who by their presence showed themselves to be strongly pro-life, thought that birth control was acceptable in some circumstances.

There is a discontinuity in the beliefs of the marchers. They profess to be pro-life, yet, approve of contraceptives, many of which have abortifacient effects. Young people, particularly those who are Catholic, are not being taught the Church’s position. But who will teach them? A recent global survey on social issues, commissioned by Univision, indicate that four out of five self-identified Catholics in the United States support the use of contraceptives, while three out of four say that abortion should be allowed at least in some cases.

Not too many decades ago, Church teachings were presented in Catholic elementary and high schools by nuns, priests and brothers. Today, that is not the case. Catholic schools and religious teachers do not exist in adequate numbers. Despite self-identified Catholics in America increasing from 49 million in 1965 to 78 million in 2013, the number of students in Catholic elementary and secondary schools plummeted from 5.2 million in nearly 13,000 schools to 2.0 million in 6,800 schools in that same period. As for religious teachers, they are almost non-existent. There were 180,000 nuns in 1965 and most of them taught; today, there are 51,000 and most of them do not.

The pro-life movement is faced with a growing, significant challenge. As increasing numbers of abortions are done at earlier stages with pills, not only the hearts and minds, but the consciences of people must be formed to recognize the existence and dignity of the human person at the earliest stages of development and the evils of contraception and abortion in all its forms. This will be counter-cultural and not easy, but must be done.

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COMING EVENTS...

**April 2014**

13-Children's Easter Party  
17-Nursing Home Party  
27-MK Anniversary Party



**MARCH 2014**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1.  <b>Mardi Gras</b> 7-11pm
2. <b>Breakfast</b> 8 am- 12noon Bar: 5-8 ? 8-11	3. Bar: 5-8 D'Antuono 8-11 McNamara	4. Business Mtg. Bar: 5-8 ? 8-11:	5. <b>BINGO</b> <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Bar: 5-8 ? 8-11	6. Bar: 5-8 ?	7. <b>Crew #4</b> Paul Neff Fried Shrimp, fries, slaw Bar: 5-8 R. Horner, Pistol Pete 8-11 Hardman	8. Bar: 5-8
9. Bar: 5-8 ? 8-11 Cassagnol	10. Maryknight Mtg Bar 5-8 D'Antuono 8-11 McNamara	11. Bar: 5-8 ? 8-11 DeVol, Carey, Conway	12. <b>BINGO</b> <i>Pizza Night 6-8pm</i> Bar: 5-8 ? 8-11 Tullis	13. Bar: 5-8 ? 8-11 McNamara	14. <b>Crew #5</b> Joe Marks Garlic Shrimp & pasta Bar: 5-8 DeVol, Carey, Conway, Wigmore	15. Bar: 5-8 8-11 ?
16. Bar: 5-8 ? 8-11 Dassing	17. St. Patrick's Day  <b>Bar: 5-8 D'Antuono</b> <b>8-11 McNamara</b>	18. Social Mtg. Bar: 5-8 8-11 Jimenez	19. <b>BINGO</b> Bar: 5-8 8-11	20. <b>March Madness</b> Bar: 5-8 ? 8-11 Moore & Langley	21. <b>Crew #6</b> Paul Girolomi Fish 'N Chips <b>March Madness</b> Bar: 5-8 8-11	22. <b>March Madness</b> Bar: 5-8 8-11 Maddox /King
23. Bar: 5-8 ? 8-11 Seubertr	24. Bar: 5-8 D'Antuono 8-11 .Grey	25. Retirees Luncheon Bar: 5-8 ? 8-11	26. <b>BINGO</b> Pizza Night 6-8pm Bar 5-8 8-11 Miller	27.	28. <b>Crew #7</b> Chris Langley Grilled shrimp/Dirty rice/ Caesar Salad /grilled cheese Bar 5-8 Spike & McCaw 8-11 ?	29.
30. Bar: 5-8 8-11	31. Bar: 5-8 D'Antuono 8-11 McLeod					