



# KNIGHTLY NEWS



SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2017 ISSUE

ST. STEPHEN COUNCIL 14084



From Our Worthy Grand Knight

## Farewell, Sir Knight



### Celebrating and Respecting Life

This past month we said good bye to our Brother Sir Knight **Joe Rynne**, a dedicated Knight since 1974, and a 30 Year Army veteran who dedicated his life to serving our country and community, especially to veterans in our Tampa community.

It was a moving celebration of life, especially at the end as Joe's casket was surrounded by family members, Knights of Columbus Color Corps, members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a detachment of AMVETS who provided a cordon of American flags.

The entire I9 Sports teams stopped playing their games, faced the church as taps was played and the American flag was folded, and reverently stood as the 21-gun salute was finished. What a great way for our council and community to honor a respected veteran of our country.

This month, we throw our support to the *40 Days for Life* campaign that started on September 27. Many Knights will lead a decade of the rosary before each of the

Sir Knight **Joe Rynne, Jr.** passed away on September 23, 2017 at the James Haley Veterans Hospital after a long illness. He was 77 years old. Joe was a Vietnam veteran and retired from the Army after 30 years of service. The funeral Mass was held at St. Stephen Church, at which eleven Sir Knights from Mother Seton and Monsignor Scully Assemblies participated in a Color Corp for the ceremony.

Joe had a distinguished military career, reaching the rank of Command Sergeant Major, the highest possible rank for a non-commissioned officer. CSM Rynne's served two tours of duty in Vietnam, two in Germany and one in Korea. Joe was

awarded many decorations including two Bronze Stars, a Legion of Merit, and four Meritorious Service medals.

Joe joined the Knights of Columbus in 1974 and had been an active member of Mother Seton Council. He transferred to St. Stephen Council about ten years ago when the council was formed. Sir Knight Rynne was a member of the Bishop McLaughlin Assembly where over the years, he held many of the officer positions including Faithful Navigator.

Joe had a passion for supporting the veterans at the Haley VA hospital. He was the Knights' representative to the Veteran

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Masses from September 30 through November 5, and hopefully our example will encourage others to be more active in pro-life activities. At the very least, everyone who comes to Mass at Saint Stephen will pray for the lives of the innocent and for the conversion of minds, hearts, and souls. We do this because we believe we believe in the dignity of everyone made in our Lord's image. We know we need to do our part in bringing this message of joy and hope to our parish, our community, and those most in need of our prayers.

I write in every e-mail and say at every business meeting, "Can you make yourself available?" I know that everyone has multiple demands on their time, but I want to do my part in encouraging our brother Knights to be active in our faith in order to grow in our faith. When we perform good works, we do them in part to spread the Good News of our faith. As we pray in every business meeting, "Make us always aware that as your Knights we are constantly observed, our faith judged, and our order appreciated."

Since Hurricane Irma disrupted the publishing of last month's newsletter, here are several past items worthy of mention, along with some thoughts on upcoming events.

- Knight of the Month for September: Brother **Michael LaPollo**. As President of the Saint Stephen Men's Club, he organized a morning of landscaping for the home of Mary Jo Smith, widow of S/K Bill Smith and mother of brother Knight, Patrick.

- Knight of the Month for October: S/K **Shawn Ryan**. Shawn is the 4th Degree Assembly's Color Corp Commander and organized the detail for Joe's funeral Mass. For the past several years, he has been working behind the scenes to make sure our web site is in order and everyone's e-mail addresses are updated.

Association of Voluntary Services (VAVS). He organized and conducted many events in support of the vets including organizing food and hygiene item collections, spring BBQ cookouts and Christmas parties, and raising funds for needy veteran families and homeless veterans.

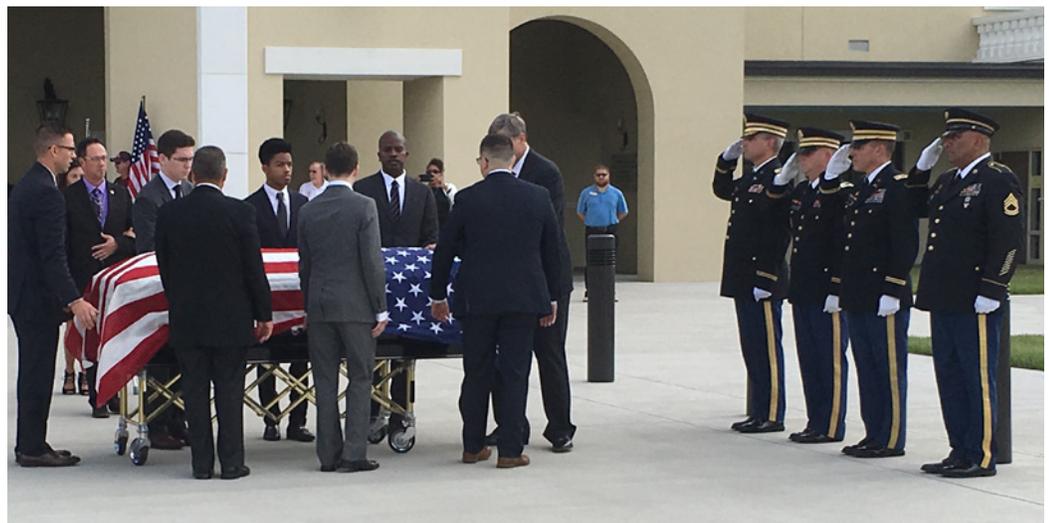
Command Sergeant Major Joseph M. Rynne, Jr. was drafted into the Army on November 18, 1959, from Cambridge, Massachusetts. His first duty assignment was to the 549th Quartermaster Company (Air Supply), Sagami Depot, Japan. CSM Rynne then served in various aviation assignments including two tours in Germany, two tours in Vietnam, and a tour in Korea. In his last three years, he served as CSM for the 17th Area Support Group, Camp Zama, Japan. CSM Rynne retired on November 30, 1989, with more than 30 years of service.

At the time of his retirement, CSM Rynne was eligible to wear on his uniform two Bronze Star Medals, the Legion of

Merit, four Meritorious Service Medals, the Air Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, ten Good Conduct Awards, the National Defense Service Medal, six Vietnam Service Medals, five NCO Professional Development Ribbons, the Army Service Ribbon, five Overseas Service Ribbons, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Army Valorous Unit Citation, Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, his Master Aircrew Badge, the Air Assault Badge and the Korean Senior Aircrew Badge on his uniform. CSM Rynne received Outstanding Service Award of Department of Veterans Affairs for Voluntary Service Program from James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital.

Joe is survived by his wife of 57 years, Tomiko, two sons, Stephen and Ron, a daughter, Donna, and their families.

Command Sergeant Major Joseph Rynne, Jr. will be buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.



# THE WITNESS OF FRATERNAL COMMUNION

By Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson

## THROUGH OUR PRACTICE OF CHARITY AND FRATERNITY, WE ARE CALLED TO BRING THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL TO OTHERS

**I**N MY COLUMN last month, I discussed some of the ideas I proposed in my keynote address to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops sponsored Convocation of Catholic Leaders. I would like to follow up in this column with some additional thoughts.

In July, approximately 3,000 Catholic leaders from organizations and dioceses around the country met on the topic of “The Joy of the Gospel in America.” The convocation was inspired by the apostolic exhortation of Pope Francis titled *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel).

There were many impressive aspects of the convocation. But to me, one of the most important was the evidence that the Knights of Columbus in every diocese throughout the country is already bringing the “joy of the Gospel” to millions of our fellow Catholics and to those outside our Church through our works of charity.

In *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis calls Catholics to be “an evangelizing community” that is “filled with joy” (24), a community that is “permanently in a state of mission” (25), and a community that practices a “fraternal communion and missionary fruitfulness” (89).

We don’t often think of our local councils in precisely these terms. But if we do, we can see how our councils meet these criteria in so many different ways.

Elsewhere in *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis urges Catholics to “live in fraternity” (91) and to share “a fraternal love capable of seeing the sacred grandeur of our neighbor, of finding God in every human being” (92).

He writes: “I especially ask Christians

in communities throughout the world to offer a radiant and attractive witness of fraternal communion. Let everyone admire how you care for one another, and how you encourage and accompany one another” (99).

Last month, I wrote that this is a special responsibility for every Knights of Columbus council throughout the world.

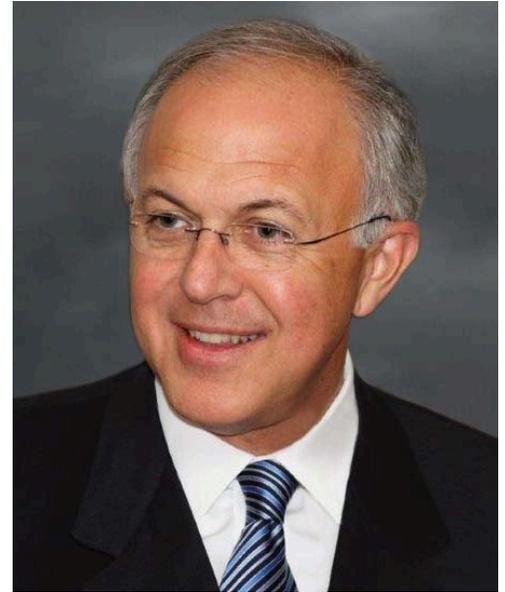
### **It is a special responsibility in two ways.**

First, the pope’s words are a good way for us to measure how our councils are living up to our principles of charity, unity and fraternity. We should ask ourselves just how our councils offer “a radiant and attractive witness of fraternal communion” and how we care for each other as brother Knights and for our families. Many of our councils offer such a witness, but for others there may be room for improvement. In any event, every Knight should take these words of Pope Francis to heart as he approaches the work of his local council.

Second, we must make a greater effort to demonstrate within our parishes how the Knights of Columbus offers an authentic model of fraternal communion. We can offer a witness of fraternity to show how all of us as Catholics can do a better job of caring for one another and how we can encourage and accompany one another in our parishes.

It might be too much to say that Knights of Columbus are experts in building fraternal communities, but for more than 135 years, Knights have experienced a fraternal communion based upon the principles of charity, unity and fraternity.

The insights of *Evangelii Gaudium* can



help us live those principles as brother Knights in a more profound and authentic way.

The convocation was a historic opportunity given to us by our bishops to respond to the pope’s call for “a new chapter of evangelization.” But its lasting importance will only be realized if enough Catholics respond to this opportunity and write a new page in the history of Catholicism.

Let each of us do our part in the days ahead.

*Vivat Jesus!*

# Building the Domestic Church

## THEME – TOGETHER ON MISSION

By understanding its mission, the family can more fully embrace God's plan for the fullness of divine life and love that he wishes to share with the family.

### Meditation

From Carl Anderson and Father José Granados' *Called to Love*

Jesus said to the disciples: "You are the light of the world" (Matt 5:14). The Lord's words apply in a special way to the family. Light, after all, fulfills its "mission" of bestowing warmth and visibility not by some extra activity added to its nature, but simply by being what it is. Similarly, just as the mission of the sun is nothing other than to shine, the mission of the family is just to be itself. John Paul II was calling the family to this essential mission when he exclaimed: "Family, become what you are!" What happens when the family becomes what it is? Here is John Paul II's answer:

... the family has the mission to become more and more what it is, that is to say, a community of life and love. ... The family has the mission to guard, reveal and communicate love, and this is a living reflection of and a real sharing in God's love for humanity and the love of Christ the Lord for the Church His bride. (*Familiaris Consortio*, 17)

... The family, we said, is the hearth from which the light of love spreads out to vivify the structures of society. ... Significantly, the mission of the Church can be described in similar terms. The Church exists, after all, to radiate God's love into the world. The Church is the sacrament of love that both shows forth and effects man's union with God and man's union with man (see LG [*Lumen Gentium*], 1).

How do we as a family allow our light to shine before others in the world? How do we think of and care for others outside of our family?



What can we do to allow ourselves to be God's missionaries and to radiate his love into the world?

Do we live our family life as missionary disciples? Do we allow Jesus' word to dwell in our family and to teach us what it means to love? How can we do more to build up one another for the mission of love?

### Scripture Reading – Psalm 144:1-3; 9-15

A prayer of thanksgiving for God's faithfulness

*Blessed be the LORD, my rock,  
who trains my hands for battle,  
my fingers for war;*

*My safeguard and my fortress,  
my stronghold, my deliverer,*

*My shield, in whom I take refuge,  
who subdues peoples under me.*

*O God, a new song I will sing to you;  
on a ten-stringed lyre I will play for  
you.*

*You give victory to kings;*

*you delivered David your servant.*

*From the menacing sword deliver me;*

*rescue me from the hands of foreign  
foes.*

*Their mouths speak untruth;  
their right hands are raised in lying  
oaths.*

*May our sons be like plants  
well nurtured from their youth,  
Our daughters, like carved columns,  
shapely as those of the temple.*

*May our barns be full  
with every kind of store.*

*May our sheep increase by thousands,  
by tens of thousands in our fields;  
may our oxen be well fattened.*

*May there be no breach in the walls,  
no exile, no outcry in our streets.*

*Blessed the people so fortunate;  
blessed the people whose God is the  
LORD.*

### Family Project

Set aside a Sunday afternoon this month to pray the rosary together as a family. Consider having a family brunch before praying, and talk to your children about the rosary and how it is prayed. Pray especially for peace in your family and for the healing of family wounds.



Everything has been going smoothly as we transitioned to the new web site largely due to his yeoman efforts.

• Family of the Month for September: The **Milbrandt family**. They have been active in our parish for years, and recently RJ enthusiastically joined the Knights in August and already has contributed during our most recent planning meeting.

• Family of the Month for October: The **Alvarez Family**. Both Julio and Emily stepped up to support Tomiko Rynne both emotionally and with funeral Mass and reception arrangements. Their many phone calls and genuine care for the widow of a deceased Knight efforts ensured for a smooth and dignified week for the Rynne Family and exemplified the best of our Order.

• Save the date: 3rd Degree Exemplification at Mary Help of Christians on November 4. We want to advance as many 2nd Degree Knights as we can that day.

• *Angels Among Us* is on Saturday, November 11. About 12-15 Knights will be needed to tend bar and serve as casino dealers.

• Brother **Don DeCort** has information

about HomeMakers of Hope in this newsletter. This is a great service opportunity and a chance to evangelize to our community.

• There are plenty of training dates available for working RJS events – 11/9, 12/9, & 12/13 at 6:30 PM at RJS. This certification is good for three years and allows us to give to the many charities we support financially. Contact **Julio Alvarez** to sign up.

• **Jeff Stephanz** and **Jerry Coffey** are doing a great job in our membership retention and advancement efforts led by PGK **Mark Lovejoy**. We are starting to see real progress on these efforts thanks to them.

• Our new web site looks great, and it will help us better communicate with the membership. PGK **Ed Sleyzak** is the heart and soul for this much needed improvement in our ability to provide information to our membership.

• We still are looking for a new Youth Director. Also S/K **Rick Armstrong** needs assistance in the Community Committee due to his work schedule. Just let me or the DGK know that you want to help out.

Our Order's steadfast defense and promotion of a Culture of Life is grounded on our ultimate assurance that in the natural law written in the heart of every person is the recognition that human life is sacred from its very beginning to its end. In the depths of our consciousness, human intellect knows that the very source of its existence—i.e. human life—ought to be protected and celebrated. In that regard, the message of the Knights of Columbus extends far beyond our Order and our religious creed; it is a universal message that every person of good will can come to affirm.

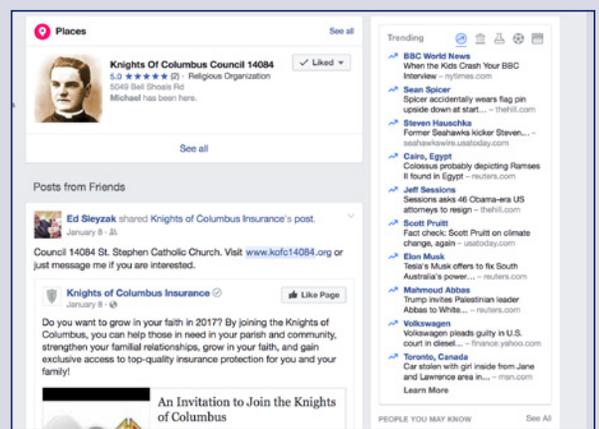
*“Human life is sacred and inviolable at every moment of existence, including the initial phase which precedes birth. All human beings, from their mother’s womb, belong to God who searches them and knows them, who forms them and knits them together with his own hands, who gazes on them when they are tiny shapeless embryos and already sees in them the adults of tomorrow whose days are numbered and whose vocation is even now written in the ‘book of life.’ There too, when they are still in their mothers’ womb—as many passages of the Bible bear witness—they are the personal objects of God’s loving and fatherly providence.” (Evangelium Vitae, 61)*

St. John Paul II famously noted that if human life itself is not respected, then respect for all other rights—for example, the right to health, to marriage, to culture, to religion—is “false and illusory.” Human rights of every kind are “incomprehensible” without the right to life. Our Order, therefore, joins the universal Church in acknowledging the dignity of human life in its efforts to achieve legal and constitutional protection for every human person at the international, national, state, and local levels. 🇺🇸

## Find Us On Facebook

Did you know that we have a Facebook page? We would like to hear your comments about the posts that are downloaded. Please feel free to comment or hit the LIKE button and let us know.

When was the last time you visited our Website [www.kofc14084.org](http://www.kofc14084.org)? This is constantly being updated with different things and is a good source of information. We would like to hear from you on this as well. Every item that is downloaded on the webpage gives you an opportunity to comment and let us know what you think about. Please take the time and visit our website.



# A Day at the Rays



## St. Stephen Council Officers Fraternal Year 2017-2018

### Chaplain

Father Dermot Dunne

### Grand Knight

Bruce Czaja

### Deputy Grand Knight

Guillermo Bambach

### Chancellor

Tim Donahue

### Warden

John Columbia

### Advocate

Steve Haines

### Lecturer

Ross Lowery

### Recorder

Paul Spindler

### Financial Secretary

Alex Czopek

### Treasure

John Laughman

### Trustees

John Berrie, Ed Sleyzak,  
Mark Lovejoy

### District Deputy

Steve Jarosz

### Field Agent

Chuck Lusky

### Guards

Bob Haley  
Randy Lee  
Chris Hobbs



Last August, our council, family, friends and parishioners enjoyed watching the Rays defeat the Milwaukee Brewers. This game was the 10th annual "Day at the Rays" and was attended by 115. Thanks to the great grilling of Brother **Steve Haines** and **Gene**

**Batroni**. This annual event is just another way for us to enjoy the brotherhood we all share and enjoy one of America's favorite pastimes. Hope to see you all back again next year for the 11th Annual game!

## Council Helps Hurricane Victims

This month, our Council has stepped up to support numerous communities affected by hurricanes over the past two months. Using funds raised through Knights volunteering their time at Raymond James Stadium, the following \$1,750 worth of donations were approved by the membership:

- \$250 to Texas State Knights for Hurricane Harvey relief
- \$500 to Florida State Knights for Hurricane Irma relief
- \$500 to Key West Knights for Hurricane Irma relief
- \$500 to Puerto Rico Knights for Hurricane Maria relief

A special donation is being made to Council 3652, the Rev Francis Xavier Council in Key West. They have many

needs including repairing the Star of the Sea mission and food pantry, which distributes hundreds of tons a food a year. For the foreseeable future, restoring normalcy to their community will be that Council's sole mission, so every bit helps.



# Supporting “Home Makers of Hope”



If it has been on your heart to do something more to help the community here is your chance to really make a difference. If the Lord is calling you please answer his call to help Home Makers of Hope.

Home Makers of Hope began in 2008 after the discovery that families in our area were sleeping on the floor. It seemed hard to imagine that in a country as rich as ours, so many families didn't have basic household necessities. We originally began as a ministry of St Stephen Catholic Church helping farm families in the Dover area who had little or nothing and few ways of getting help. Some of them lived at the San Jose Mission and some were crammed into small trailers with multiple families on farm camps. But they all were given anything they needed if we had it. One time we even furnished a shed with a mom, dad and 7 children living inside.

Over the last 8 years Home Makers of Hope has expanded to cover most of Hillsborough County. We are supported by local Catholic Churches and generous private donors. We help regardless of race, religion or country of origin. We receive hundreds of referrals from over 50 agencies, churches and school social workers across Hillsborough County each year. We help the formerly homeless, veteran, families in crisis from fires or floods, single moms,

women with crisis pregnancies, domestic violence survivors and many more. We have 2 warehouses, one in Brandon and one in Tampa. We have 3 box trucks and we need approximately 30 volunteers each week to pick up donations, do home visits, decide on the interior design and muscle to pack up furnishings and deliver to families.

We furnish 2 to 6 homes per week, only taking off for major holidays. We are a 100 percent volunteer 501c3 organization. We fully furnish and decorate these homes. We provide living room furniture including couches, loveseats, coffee tables, end tables, lamps, decorative items and rugs. We give them bedroom furniture including a bed for each person, with sheets, comforters and dust ruffles, as well as dressers, nightstands, lamps and pictures. All beds are made. We provide dining room furniture to make sure families have a place to do homework and eat together. We set the tables to show them how it is done. We provide nursery furniture for families with babies including toys, books, linens and cribs. But we do not stop there. Dishes, pots, pans, shower curtains, bathroom rugs, towels, and curtains are provided. Appliances, and light fixtures are given if the family needs them. The family Liaisons go to great effort to make sure these dwellings are “homes” when we leave.

The goal of Home Makers of Hope is not only to provide the physical needs to the family but to let the families know that someone out there cares about them and their daily struggles. Sometimes just the hugs and prayer at the end of the delivery is what they really needed most. They just needed someone to say there is hope.

Here is how you can help....Home Makers of Hope is in desperate need of men to help drive the trucks and lift furniture on Saturday mornings, or weekday Evenings for Pick-ups, and Wednesday during the day for deliveries. It takes strong men working together to help this desperately needed ministry continue. Please pray about answering this call. We need you.





## St. Stephen Council Directors and Committees

### Membership Director

**Gerald Coffey**

*membership@kofc14084.org*

### Program Director

**Guillermo Bambach**

*deputygrandknight@kofc14084.org*

### Church Committee

**Chuck Alaynick**

*church@kofc14084.org*

### Community Committee

**Rick Armstrong**

*community@kofc14084.org*

### Council Committee

**Ed Veronick**

*council@kofc14084.org*

### Family Committee

**Ed Skrobacz**

*family@kofc14084.org*

### Youth Committee

**Vacant**

*youth@kofc14084.org*

### Squires

**Ed Veronick**

**Bob Haley**

*squires@kofc14084.org*

### Right to Life

**Bob Kines**

*RightToLife@kofc14084.org*

### RJS Fundraising

**Julio Alvarez**

*rjs@kofc14084.org*

### Degree Team Leader

**Rick Hughes**

*rhughes14084@gmail.com*

### Communications

**Ed Sleyzak**

**Scott Huetteman**

*communications@kofc14084.org*

# Columbiettes Auxiliary Officers

Recently, Columbiette Auxiliary 14084 officer attended officer training classes held at Incarnation Catholic Church in Tampa. In attendance were the following officers:

President **Heidi Noyes**, immediate past president **Rita Joyce**, vice president **Dot Foley**, financial secretary **Jan Goldonowitz**, treasurer **Cathleen Jackson**, secretary **Amy Garcia**, and sentinel **Denise Lee**. The group found the training to be interesting and educational.

The Columbiettes meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month at St. Stephen Family Life Center. Ladies 18 years and older are



welcome to join our growing and active Auxiliary. They do not have to be married to a Knight of Columbus to join our group. If you know of any interested lady, please have them contact us at [columbiettes@kofc14084.org](mailto:columbiettes@kofc14084.org).

## Bishop Avenya Thanks the Council

Last month, we had a wonderful visit from the Most Reverend William Avenya, the Bishop of the Diocese of Gboko in Nigeria on August 29. Bishop Avenya visited and presided over a mass at Saint Stephen two years ago as part of an appeal for assistance for his diocese, and he was back in the U.S. attending various meetings. Since he was hosted by parishioners in Riverview, he didn't want to miss a chance to thank Saint Stephen Parish and the Knights of Columbus personally for our generosity.



During the visit, Bishop Avenya said that a priest from his diocese was going to be in our diocese for the next year as a visiting priest and also making appeals for assistance. The Bishop said that his diocese is the "most Catholic" in Nigeria in terms of percentage of Catholics, and

the government is not providing much in terms of the basics. So the Church is taking the lead to build schools and hospitals in Gboko.

Another tidbit of information - he has 109 seminarians from his dioceses. Some of them are studying in Savannah, GA, and in Miami. So a surprise visit turned out to be a wonderful respite from several hours of planning meetings!



# 2017-18 RAYMOND JAMES STADIUM FUNDRAISING EVENT SCHEDULE & STAFFING REQUIREMENT



as of: July 1, 2017

EVENT #	DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	REQ. STAFFING
1	SATURDAY	AUG 12	10:00 AM	PRE-SEASON SHAKEOUT	12 + 4
2	SATURDAY	AUG 26	7:30 PM	CLEVELAND BROWNS	12 + 4
3	THURSDAY	AUG 31	7:30 PM	WASHINGTON REDSKINS	12 + 4
4	SUNDAY	SEP 17	1:00 PM	CHICAGO BEARS	12 + 4
5	SUNDAY	OCT 1	1:00 PM	NEW YORK GIANTS	12 + 4
6	THURSDAY	OCT 5	8:25 PM	NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS	12 + 4
7	SUNDAY	OCT 29	1:00 PM	CAROLINA PANTHERS	12 + 4
8	SUNDAY	NOV 12	1:00 PM	NEW YORK JETS	12 + 4
9	SUNDAY	DEC 10	1:00 PM	DETROIT LIONS	12 + 4
10	MONDAY	DEC 18	8:30 PM	ATLANTA FALCONS	12 + 4
11	SUNDAY	DEC 31	1:00 PM	NEW ORLEANS SAINTS	12 + 4
12	MONDAY	JAN 1, 2018	1:00 PM	OUTBACK BOWL	12 + 4
13	SATURDAY	JAN 13	7:00 PM	MONSTER JAM I	12 + 4
14	SATURDAY	FEB 3	7:00 PM	MONSTER JAM II	12 + 4

## PLEASE DO NOT DELAY – REPLY NOW WITH YOUR COMMITMENT

We need your sign ups NOW in order to set ourselves up for success this upcoming Season. Simply pick an event or events you wish to commit to, and please send your choices to [rjs@kofc14084.org](mailto:rjs@kofc14084.org) to lock it in. If we have more committed per game than we need, we will form a standby pool for that event to account for any unexpected conflicts where a primary volunteer cannot participate.



## Soccer Challenge Winners

The challenge was held on the Saint Stephen soccer field on September 20. Several students and one parishioner challenged themselves to shoot goals from a specified distance. The contestants scored points based on the accuracy and positioning of their shots. All contestants enjoyed the competition and scored well while enjoying the brother Knights and their enthusiasm for each participant.

Winners from Soccer Challenge:

- 9 year old--Johann Cloete
- 10 year old--Christopher Lankford
- 12 year old--Allan Riker
- 14 year old--Kristi Batronic



**Monsignor John F. Scully**  
**Assembly #3418 Officers**

Friar

Faithful Navigator

**S/K Patrick Roach**

Faithful Captain

**S/K Steve Haines**

Admiral

**S/K John Montaldo**

Faithful Pilot

**S/K Ed Sleyzak**

Faithful Comptroller

**S/K Alex Czopek**

Faithful Scribe

**S/K Mark Lovejoy**

Faithful Purser

**S/K Peter Card**

Trustee - 1 Year

**S/K Rick Hughes**

Trustee - 2 Year

**S/K Julio Alvarez, Jr.**

Trustee - 3 Year

**S/K John Cirello**

Faithful Inner Sentinel

**S/K Randy Lee**

Faithful Outer Sentinel

**S/K David A Morone**

Color Corps Commander

**S/K Shawn Ryan**

# Are You a “Stephenknight?”



*By Jerry Coffey*

**F**our Catholic gentlemen completed their Admissions Degree on August 19th. I really enjoy meeting new members and being part of the admissions review team. The candidates share their lives with the team and the reason why they wish to join our organization. Some are attracted to what we do by our visible presence in our parish community and others because someone asked them to join, albeit more than one time.

Of interest to me is the diversity of our membership. No, I'm not talking about race, age etc. but of just who we are, Catholic men representing a virtual collage of talent and experience. The way I see it, membership in the Knights of Columbus mirrors our membership in the church.

We meet on a scheduled basis, celebrate special events together and value each other as brothers united in a common identity. Wherever you go, worldwide, we meet the same way, much akin to holy mother Church.

You all know the basic requirement to apply for membership is age 18 and to be a practical Catholic. That is where I believe we are different. We proudly associate ourselves with St. Stephen, the first martyr of the church.

If you read the Acts the Apostles Chapters 6 and 7, you will become familiar

with what we all should strive to be. The community of believers was growing. The apostles decided they needed assistants to help serve the community while they dedicated themselves to prayer and the ministry of the word. Seven were chosen, with Stephen receiving special recognition as “a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit” (Acts Ch 6, 1-4).

They became the first deacons of the Church. Later, in Chapter 7, Stephen is falsely accused and brought before the Sanhedrin. He proclaims his beliefs to all present and is taken out to be stoned to death. He stays true to his faith until the very end, saying “Lord do not hold this sin against them” (Acts Ch 7, 60)

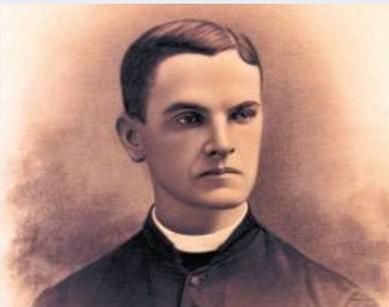
Stephen was a man of faith recognized by the community. Are you just an average man of the community of St. Stephen, or are you like Stephen a man of faith, filled with the Holy Spirit? Each of us must ask ourselves that question every day, take action to stay strong in our spiritual life and set the bar higher.

Perhaps someone may recognize you as a “Stephenknight”, a man of faith, filled with the Holy Spirit who just happens to be a member of St. Stephen Council 14084, Knights of Columbus. If they want what you have, share your faith with them. Tell them how to be a better, stronger Catholic man and give them information on the Knights of Columbus.

## August Birthdays

Paul	Archer
Richard	Armstrong
Kurt	Badertscher
Anthony	Barreto
Lorenzo	Billante
Richard	Collins
Timothy	Donahue
Paul	Dufraire
Scott	Dunlap
Dennis	Giesey
William	Haseltine
Frank	Kruk
Brian	Le Strange
Michael	Melanson
Eva	Nnamene
Osa	Penny
James	Piotrowski
Ricardo	Ponce De Leon
Michael	Specht
Mark	Vega
Frank	Wuco

## A Prayer For Fr. McGivney



August marks two special dates in the history of The Knights of Columbus and the life of Fr. McGivney. He was born August 12, 1852, and passed from us on August 14, 1890.

Father Michael J. McGivney's work and legacy did not end with his death at the young age of 38. Our council and the activities we do to build the body of the Church continues this work and legacy. This is why we must all strive to be Knights who make a difference. 🙏

# Our Guarantees Set Us Apart

**K**nights of Columbus life insurance offers something precious few other financial products can – guarantees. As long as you pay your premiums, the policy proceeds will be there for your beneficiaries should something happen to you. That's peace of mind, and that's what we offer with every product in our portfolio.

We guarantee the cash value in your whole life policies will be there. We guarantee the rates on your term insurance. We guarantee the rate and your principal in our retirement annuities.

On top of those product guarantees, I guarantee that I will offer professional, high-quality service that you would expect from our organization.

Our Order is among the highest rated life insurers in North America. AM Best has rated the Knights of Columbus "A++, Superior" for 40 consecutive years. It's a testament to our track record for excellence and security.

I would suggest that a principal reason that we were able to achieve those accolades is because we remain steadfastly committed to the vision of Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney by providing life insurance by brother Knights for brother Knights.

That commitment is an essential core value of the Knights of Columbus, and our core values permeate all levels of our organization. We pledge to serve



our brother Knights, and their families, according to our Golden Rule: "In all my professional relationships, I pledge myself to the following rule of conduct: I shall, in light of all conditions surrounding those I serve, render that service which, under the same circumstances, I would apply to myself."

Let's talk soon to discuss how our products can bring that peace of mind to you and your family

Contact me today to learn more about our products.

*Chuck Lusky*

813-728-5338

[charles.lusky@KofC.org](mailto:charles.lusky@KofC.org)

## Knight and Family of the Month

**C**ongratulations to our Knight of the Month for September, Brother **Michael LaPollo**. As President of the Saint Stephen Men's Club, he organized a morning of landscaping for the home of Mary Jo Smith, widow of S/K Bill Smith and mother of Brother Knight, Patrick.

Our Knight of the Month for October is **Sean Ryan**. Sean is a member of the color corps and has been instrumental in the conversion to the new Council website.

Our Family of the Month for September is the **Milbrandt family**. They have been active in our parish for years, and recently RJ enthusiastically joined the Knights in August and already has contributed during our most recent planning meeting.

The Family of the Month for October is the **Julio Alvarez family**. Julio and his wife are certainly no strangers to our Council and parish. As the leader of the RJS effort, Julio has been a key player in securing this opportunity to raise funding for our Council efforts.

## Prayer for the Canonization of Father Michael J. McGivney

**G**od, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor.

*Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church.*

*Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will.*

*Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request).*

*Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## KNIGHTLY NEWS

This newsletter is a publication of St. Stephen Catholic Church Knights of Columbus Council 14084.

For more information or to offer a contribution, visit our website at: [www.KofC14084.org](http://www.KofC14084.org)



## Upcoming Events

October 14	100 Knights for Life vigil, Kennedy Dr. 8:00am Rosary walk, 12pm
October 21	Columbiettes 1st degree Knights 1st degree, St. Francis
October 27	Trunk or Treat, St. Stephen school 4:45pm arrival
October 28	Columbiettes Major Degree
November 4	3rd Degree, Mary Help of Christians, 11am
November 10	Veteran's Day Parade, James Haley VA BBQ
November 11	Angels Among Us

Please check your council website calendar for more details regarding these events.  
<http://www.kofc14084.org/>



Please welcome newly exemplified 2nd degree Knights including (L to R) Leo Brubaker, Carl Alerta, Hart Fisher, Robert Ward, Christopher Gordon, Jerry Moher, and Peter Leet.



Newly exemplified first degree Knights (L to R) R.J. Milibrandt, Stephen G. McCallister, John Hollingshead, and John Clarkson.