



# THE KNIGHT LIFE



Newsletter of Father James J. Kelly Council #3632 Verona, Cedar Grove, W. Orange May, 2016

## GRAND KNIGHT

**GARY**

**WILCZEWSKI**  
**973-432-0923**

## DEPUTY GK

**TONY DITRI**

## CHANCELLOR

**DAN**

**FITZPATRICK**

## WARDEN

**TIMOTHY MURPHY**

## FINANCIAL

## SECRETARY

**PJ HANLY**

## LECTURER

**JOHN SOMMER**

## TREASURER

**ROGER ELLERT**

## ADVOCATE

**JOE CUBERO**

## INSIDE GUARD

**PAT MULLEN**

## OUTSIDE

## GUARD

**JAMES**

**MISERENDINO**

## CHAPLAIN

**FR. JOSEPH**

**D'AMICO**

## DISTRICT DEPUTY

**CHUCK COLLINS**

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## MEETINGS

**2ND & 4TH**

**THURSDAYS**

**OF THE MONTH**

**7:30 PM**

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**KOFC3632@AOL.**

**COM**

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**WWW.KOFC3632**

**.ORG**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 21-22	Special Citizens Drive @ SCS
May 23	8th Annual Golf Outing
	2nd Degree—Secaucus
May 25	3rd Degree—North Arlington
May 26	Social Meeting @ SCS
May 30	Memorial Day Parade in Verona
June 2-5	Carnival @ St. Catherine's
June 9	Regular Meeting @ OLL
June 11	Rosary For Life
	Jerry O'Conner Picnic for Special Citizens
	Blood Drive @ SCS
June 11-12	Special Citizens Drive @ OLL
June 19	Father's Day
June 23	Meeting @ SCS: Election of Officers

## GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Dear Brother Knights,

Did you make your personal contribution to the Special Citizen's/Mentally Handicapped Drive yet? If not, please do so. We are so close to our goal of \$10,000, which we have achieved for nine consecutive years. Did you know we are one of only a handful of councils in the State of NJ to achieve that lofty goal?

There are several more events before the summer comes. One is the Special Citizens Picnic. If you have never gone to it before, you should. Then you will see why we stand in front of supermarkets collecting money. Memorial Day means a parade. Come march with your council and let everyone in town know you are a Knight. Volunteer to work our booth at St. Catherine's Carnival. And hopefully you participated in some way at our golf outing that supports our parish youth groups.

Three things are for certain. The sun will set tonight. The sun will rise tomorrow morning. And I will not seek, nor will I accept, your nomination for a third term as the council's Grand Knight. I already bought my Past-Grand Knight hat. It's time for new leadership and fresh ideas. I stepped up two years ago, now it's someone else's turn. Please consider becoming an officer and leader of our council.

Vivat Jesus,  
Gary Wilczewski  
Grand Knight

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Dear Friends,  
Peace and blessings to you!

As we come to the conclusion of May I'm drawn to reflect one of the greatest flowers in the garden of our Lord, The Blessed Virgin Mary. The month of May is dedicated to her in a special way. Our parish school has retained the very beautiful tradition of doing a "May Crowning". That's the crown on the head of Our Lady on the statue in our shrine room. Giving honor and prominence to Mary is so important in our Catholic lives. I stress the word "Catholic" as not all Christians are on the same page in our understanding, respect and reverence for the mother of Jesus.

We all know that St. Joseph, her husband, is known as the silent saint in the scriptures and for good reason. He says nothing! Not exaggerating here. He literally says nothing. His actions speak louder than words. Mary's not too far behind. Although her words are very few, there are a few instances where Mary speaks. The encounter Mary had with the Angel Gabriel during the annunciation can be summed up in one word; "YES", or better in Latin "FIAT". Her fiat was more than just an agreement with the Angel. Mary responded to the angel Gabriel with the understanding of "let it be done to me as God wills". Our spiritual mother then journeys to visit her kinswoman, Elizabeth, at the angel's bidding and there reminds us that the Jesus that lives inside of each of us is meant to be shared. Upon meeting Elizabeth, Mary utters her great prayer of praise, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord". This "magnificat" gives us such a great insight into Mary's soul. She feels humbled, blessed and acknowledges God's power through her lowliness. When Jesus enters his pre-teen years, Mary and Joseph find him in the temple area speaking, debating, and challenging the religious leadership. After having been lost for a few days, Mary asks "Where have you been? I've been looking for you." And finally we hear Mary's last spoken words in the Scriptures at the wedding feast of Cana. When the wine ran out, Mary instructed the head waiter, "Do whatever He (Jesus) tells you".

YES/FIAT: Are we living our lives in a spirit of Mary's Fiat? Yes, not according to my will but His.

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU: Do we realize that Mary is continually working to bring souls to her son? When we're spiritually lost, the comfort of our spiritual mother wraps us in her maternal mantle and carries us to Jesus.

DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU: Before Jesus tells us that He is the way, truth and the life, his mother and our mothers tells us to do whatever He tells us.

As Mary's month comes to an end can I make these few suggestions: pray a family rosary or at least a decade, make a family visit to the shrine in our parish church, research and study the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of our parish, learn about a new Marian devotion (how about Our Lady Undoer of Knots - Pope Francis' favorite Marian devotion), create a shrine dedicated to the mother of Jesus in your home - a statue or image of your favorite title of Mary or perhaps an outdoor shrine of Mary on the half shell, as I often jokingly say.

Fraternal Regards  
Rev. Joseph A. D'Amico

## COUNCIL WINS AWARDS AT NJ K OF C STATE CONVENTION

**Wildwood NJ—May 12-14, 2016**

Our council once again received the NJ State Intellectual Disabilities Drive award for collecting in excess of \$10,000 last year. Only 10 councils out of 366 in NJ received the award. We also qualified for the Alzheimer's Awareness Award. We were in the top 5 in the state. The third award we achieved was the Columbian Award for the programs and activities we do throughout the year.

Individual recognition was bestowed on two of our members. John Sommer was awarded the Wings For Life award for his exemplary dedication to life and participation in many Pro Life activities. District Deputy Chuck Collins was inducted into the District Deputies Ring of Honor, awarded to the top 10 DD's in the state. Congratulations to everyone involved.

## **JERRY O'CONNOR MEMORIAL**

**K OF C SPECIAL CITIZENS PICNIC—June 11**

All Knights and their families are invited to this special picnic. It will be held on Saturday, June 11, 12 noon to 4 PM at Cedar Grove's Community Park on Little Falls Rd. Beryl O'Connor and her family took this picnic to heart and have raised the funds to finance this special event. They will be the hosts. This was Jerry's special project and his family took it over after his death.

It is a special day for these special citizens. Bring your family, lawn chair, and enjoy this great day of food, music, fun and friends. If you have never been to this annual event, you should really make an effort to see your council do its best work.

## **ROSARY FOR LIFE – June 11 & July 9**

Twelve years ago, a few fellow Knights from our council joined up with a few members of the Rosary Support Group of Roseland, and began a monthly rosary to try to help save unborn baby's lives. By peacefully praying the rosary across the street from the abortuary on Bloomfield Ave, in Montclair (Pilgrim Medical Center), we hope to change mothers minds on having their planned abortions. Over the years we have been joined at times by other concerned individuals and small groups, young and old. With this visible and prayerful support, many mothers have changed their minds over these past ten years.

## **ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CARNIVAL**

St. Catherine's is holding its annual carnival starting Thursday, June 2 to June 5. Our council has, as in years past, volunteered to help run a gaming booth from 6 to 10 PM (4-8 on Sunday). It's a lot of fun and helps raise money for St. Catherine's school. Our council also sponsors the booth. Please sign up for one of these dates. You can do a 4 hour shift or a 2 hour shift. Please contact Pat Mullen @ 973-571-0056

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Election of officers for the 2016-2017 Columbian year will be held at the second meeting in June. We are asking brothers to step up to the plate and volunteer your time and leadership for some of the positions in the coming year. Elected positions are Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Chancellor, Warden, Recorder, Treasurer, Advocate, Inside Guard, Outside Guard. Contact PGK John Sommer @ 973-857-1370.

## **BROTHER KNIGHT TO BE ORDAINED DEACON**

Ralph Powell, a member of our council, will be ordained to the permanent diaconate in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark on Saturday, June 4, 2016 at 12 noon. A Mass of thanksgiving, here at Our Lady of the Lake, will take place the next day, at our noon Mass. Let's support brother Ralph with a good showing of Knights in attendance.

## **CONGRATULATIONS FR. JEROME**

Rev. Jerome Arthaserril of Our Lady of the Lake, and a member of our council, celebrated his Golden Jubilee this past Sunday. Fr. Jerome was ordained by Blessed Pope Paul VI in Rome 50 years ago. Thank you for your many years of priestly service and dedication. God Bless you.

## **BLOOD DRIVE @ ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA**

St. Catherine of Siena will be hosting a blood drive on Saturday, June 11 from 9 am to 2 pm. Let's have a good showing of Knights that donate.

To sign up:

- go to RedCrossBlood.org
- enter the sponsor code: "St. Catherine of Siena" where it asks to Find a Blood Drive
- click on a time slot; sign in or create an account; and get yourself reserved!

## **SPECIAL CITIZENS DRIVE**

The results from our store collections:

Jack's Foodtown—Caldwell	\$1,424.28
Foodtown—Cedar Grove	1,575.95
Shop Rite—West Orange	<u>1,074.25</u>
Total	4,074.48
Mail solicitation as of 5/5/16	<u>2707.00</u>
	\$6781.48

We still have the churches to collect at:

May 21-22 St Catherine of Siena

June 11-12 Our Lady of the Lake

Call John Sommer @ 973-857-1370 to collect after the Mass you attend.

Our goal is to collect \$10,00, as we have done 13 out of the last 14 years (we were \$500 short in 2006).

Brothers, you have all received a letter requesting a contribution. We would appreciate it if you could get it in the mail soon. If you lost the return envelope, just mail it to John Sommer at 172 Forest Ave., Verona, NJ 07044.

We still need volunteers at Our Lady of the Lake for June 11-12. Call John at 973-857-1370.

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**



**Your prayers are needed for our brother Knights and all those listed below:**

Regina Soboti, Hayley Pope & family, Elaine Shaffer, Christine Maccia, Stephanie Herbert, Barbara Shea, Stella & Jerry Votta, Tony LoRusso, Barbara Fergenson, a brother fighting addiction, Virginia Robertson, John Cadmus, Betty Ferrari, Pat Reynolds, Jake Hasslacher, Al Maccia, Jane Chiappara, Jean Munning, Joseph Donohue, the Robinson family, Kate W., Fr. Daniel Vitz, Claire Smith, Vern & Cindy Koppenhaver, Catherine Maccia, Joan Brown, Thomas K age 7, Nancy Shea, Frank Testa, Angelo Berardi, Bill Gleason, Ruth Edison, John Marrin, Pat Camalleri, and Doris Dolan.

Please let us know if you are well enough to be removed from the sick list.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of those members who have died and their families.

Pray for our new seminarians, Jay Joo and Juan Rojas.

Pray for peace in our world especially for the Christians who are being massacred for their religious faith, and for the safety of all our military men and women. Special prayers for our Holy Father Emeritus, Pope Benedict XVI & Pope Francis.

Say the rosary daily with your family for your own personal intentions, for the Good of the Order, and for the end of abortions.

Pray for all our parish priests, deacons and religious, that the Holy Spirit will come and strengthen and enlighten them to carry out Christ's work. Also pray for vocations to the religious life.

If there are any Knights or their family members who are sick, in need of prayers, would like visitors, or would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact John Sommer at 973-857-1370 and he will make arrangements.

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Happy Birthday to our brother Knights born in the month of May

Fr. Tesfamariam Baraki

Joseph Cafarella

Rev. Emil Jarco

James McEvoy

Chuck Pritchard

Mathew Ripoli

Joseph Cubero

Stephen Pietrucha

Robert Loffredo

## **INSURANCE**

No doubt the signs of spring have had their effect on you. Initially, getting outdoors is the obvious thing to do. We start by poking around the garden, working on the lawn, attending softball practice, dusting off the gas grill.

Beneath it all we sense that vacation time is near. This pleases everyone. It doesn't matter whether we are planning an elaborate vacation or will simply enjoy the company of our family at home - the feeling is the same. Vacations are fun.

If we've planned properly, chances are that some of our hard earned dollars have been set aside for this occasion. We recognize that if we plan to spend money in the pursuit of enjoyment, the ordinary fixed expenses - mortgage, utilities, etc. - must still be paid. So you need a vacation fund.

All this makes good sense. The soundness of the idea is obvious. Isn't it amazing that so many of us see the wisdom of planning for our vacation each summer, but fail to plan our long range vacation - retirement. The government has thought about it and encouraged your independence at retirement age. Your place of employment has probably thought about it and planned a pension for you.

The only one left is you...it's time you thought about it. Find out how you can add to government and employer programs an amount sufficient to provide for you and yours.

After all, retirement is the longest vacation you'll ever take. Call our insurance agent, Brian Baird at 201-707-6477 or [brian.baird@kofc.org](mailto:brian.baird@kofc.org) and he'll plan it with you.

## **VERONA MEMORIAL DAY PARADE**

Our Council proudly accepted the invitation to march in Verona's Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 30. This is something we really should do to show our respect for all those who died to keep us free.

The parade starts at 10 AM @ Everett Field. Give John Sommer a call at 973-857-1370 if you plan on marching. We want to arrange car pools. Meet at OLL parking lot after 9 AM Mass.