

MARYLAND STATE COUNCIL

126th CONVENTION

AWARDS CEREMONY



Public Relations Director: **By: Vernon Hawkins, Jr. (vhawkinsjr@aol.com)**

WOW. What a great time we all had at the State Convention in Annapolis, Maryland, May 3-5, 2024. The Golf Tournament, Grand Knight Olympics, State Banquet, Hospitality parties and food, Awards Program and Mass celebrated by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori S.T.D. Oh yes, we did have some meetings thrown into the mix. A good time was had by all. Congratulations to all the 2023-2024 Plaque and Certificate award winners. Listed below are all the award winners.

GROWTH AWARDS

Highest total increase in council growth per division:

Division "D"

3rd with 14 new members

Sedes Sapientiae Council No. 13295

Grand Knight – Patrick James

2nd with 19 new members

Commodore John Barry Council No. 14534

Grand Knight – Thomas V. Joseph, IV

1st with 39 new members

Loyola University Council No. 15000

Grand Knight – Joshua Thomas

Division "C"

3rd 2-way tie with 12 new members

Cardinal Sheehan of Baltimore Council No. 205

Grand Knight – Renard I. Gardner, Sr.

Bethlehem Council No. 2605

Grand Knight – James E. DiBlasio

2nd with 13 new members

Father Horace B. McKenna Council No. 11024

Grand Knight – Frank Uyakonwu

1st with 17 new members

San Juan Nuemann de Baltimore Council No. 16611

Grand Knight – Jose Ramirez

Division "B"

3rd with 12 new members

St. John Neumann Council No. 11618

Grand Knight – Paul J. Peyla

2nd with 13 new members

Archbishop Neale Council No. 2279

Grand Knight – Justin J. Meeder

1st with 15 new members

Immaculate Lady Council No. 5208

Grand Knight – Thomas F. Harwell

Division "A"

3rd with 24 new members

Annapolis Council No. 1384

Grand Knight – John Paraschak

2nd with 32 new members

Rock Creek Council No. 2797

Grand Knight – Alex Lieb

1st with 38 new members

Father Rosensteel Council No. 2169

Grand Knight – Michael Maddox

Highest percentage of growth goal

Division "D"

3rd with 280% of goal

Sedes Sapientiae Council No. 13295

Grand Knight – Patrick James

2nd with 380% of goal

Commodore John Barry Council No. 14534

Grand Knight – Thomas V. Joseph, IV

1st with 780% of goal

Loyola University Council No. 15000

Grand Knight – Joshua Thomas

Division "C"

3rd with 183% of goal

St. Francis Xavier, The Missionary Council No. 10957

Grand Knight – Mark Coontz, Jr.

2nd with 200% of goal

Cardinal Sheehan of Baltimore Council No. 205

Grand Knight – Renard I. Gardner, Sr.

1st with 283% of goal

San Juan Nuemann de Baltimore Council No. 16611

Grand Knight – Jose Ramirez

Division "B"

3rd 2-way tie with each council achieving 122% of goal

Regina Coeli Council No. 2274

Grand Knight – Max Cerna

Mother Seton Council No. 5381

Grand Knight – Kenneth Osuji

2nd with 133% of goal

St. John Neumann Council No. 11618

Grand Knight – Paul J. Peyla

1st with 167% of goal

Immaculate Lady Council No. 5208

Grand Knight – Thomas F. Harwell

Division "A"

3rd with 160% of goal

Annapolis Council No. 1384

Grand Knight – John Paraschak

2nd with 213% of goal

Rock Creek Council No. 2797

Grand Knight – Alex Lieb

1st with 243% of goal

Father Rosensteel Council No. 2169

Grand Knight – Michael Maddox

DON KUTZERA AWARDS FOR TOP RECRUITER

3rd 2-way tie each person recruited 10 members

Thomas F. Harwell – Grand Knight of Immaculate Lady Council No. 5208

Justin J. Meeder – Grand Knight of Archbishop Neale Council No. 2279

2nd with 11 members recruited

Tim Stocker of Father Rosensteel Council No. 2169
Grand Knight Michael Maddox

This year's winner of the Don Kutzera Award for top recruiter with 20 members recruited is – Williams Castillo of San Oscar Arnulfo Romero Council No. 17192
Grand Knight Eduardo Chicas.

INSURANCE AWARDS

Highest percentage gain in council insurance members.

Division "D"

3rd **Sainte Terre D'Accueil Council No. 18156**

Grand Knight- Frank Boccovi

Field Agent- Matt O'Hare

2nd **Baltimore Basilica Council No. 15768**

Grand Knight – Gerard Mullin

Field Agent – Bob Marlowe 3rd

1st **Sts. Phillip and James Council No. 14102**

Grand Knight – Michael J. Pollard

Field Agent- Frederick Reinecke

Division "C"

3rd **Father A. Leo Abendschoen Council No. 11615**

Grand Knight – Barry Sewell

Field Agent- Bob Marlowe III

2nd **Holy Family Council No. 5547**

Grand Knight – Patrick J. Fitzgerald

Field Agent- Dan Garrigan

1st **St. Alphonsus Rodriguez Council No. 13294**

Grand Knight – Barry Frederick

Field Agent- Michael Hurley

Division "B"

3rd **St. Pius X Council No. 4076**

Grand Knight – Robert White

Field Agent- Harold Sims

2nd **St. Francis de Sales Council No. 3489**

Grand Knight – Jonathan L. Stafford

Field Agent- Bob Marlowe III

1st **St. Katharine Drexel Council No. 14011**

Grand Knight – Jonas T. Rebeiro

Field Agent- Jonathan Rock

Division "A"

3rd **Westminster Council No. 1393**

Grand Knight – Roger Cooper

Field Agent- Sam Stark

2nd **Cumberland Council No. 586**

Grand Knight – Louis Lindner

Field Agent- Jim Ulmer

1st **Mater Dei Council No. 9774**

Grand Knight – Matthew W. Hoyle

Field Agent- Brian Graham

INCENTIVE CASH RAFFLE AWARD

3rd **Westminster Council No. 1393**

Grand Knight – Roger Cooper

Total number of tickets sold – 3,276

2nd **Fr. Burgraff Council No. 6021**

Grand Knight – John J. Mulcahy

Total number of tickets sold – 5,837

1st **St. Michael's of Poplar Springs Council No. 10525**

Grand Knight – John Visina

Total number of tickets sold – 7,247

SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM

Most funds collected and submitted by Dec 1st, 2023

Division "D"

1st **Fr. Sebastien de Rose Council No. 13091**

Grand Knight – David Reumont

Total Dollars Collected \$4,656

Division "C"

1st **Resurrection Council**

Grand Knight – J. Gregory Jolissaint

Total Dollars Collected \$4681

Division "B"

1st **Father Burgraff Council No. 6021**

Grand Knight – John J. Mulcahy

Total Dollars Collected \$7,604

Division "A"

1st **Westminster Council No. 1393**

Grand Knight – Roger Cooper

Total Dollars Collected \$5,725

BOX OF JOY PROGRAM

3rd **St. Mary's Council No. 1470** – with 469 boxes

Grand Knight – Steven Tomaszkeski

2nd **St. Peter the Apostle Council No. 13290** – with 540 boxes

Grand Knight – Michael Bir

1st **St. Joseph Manyanet Council No. 5567** – with 885 Boxes

Grand Knight – Stephen York

Box of Joy Ladies Auxiliaries:

3rd **Ladies of the Maryland State Council** – 196 boxes

First Lady Annie Powers

2nd **Queen of the Knights Auxiliary – St. Pius X Council No.**

4076 – 202

boxes President – Catherine Weiler

1st **K of C Ladies – Fr. Maurice J. Wolf Council No. 11372** - 250 boxes

President- Brenda Wieczynski

LADIES AUXILIARY AWARDS

Best New Activity

Division "D"

1st **Our Lady's Angels**

Resurrection Council No. 14099

President – Debbie Gardner

Division "C"

2nd **Immaculate Conception Angels**

Immaculate Conception Council No. 8159

President – Jan Jarboe

1st **Ladies of Holy Family Mitchellville**

Fr. Micheal C. Kidd Council No. 14455

President – Ngozi Maria Bernadette Ikeji

Division "B"

3rd **The Knights' Ladies of Father Burgraff Council**

Father Burgraff Council No. 6021

President – Christine Hurley

2nd **Daughters of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**

Bishop Sebastien Council No. 5058

President – Jeanine Colburne

1st **KC Ladies**

James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council No. 11422

President – Alicia Sanders

Division "A"

3rd Maryknights

Father Rosensteel Council 2169

President – Teresa Sutton

2nd Ladies of the Knights

Cardinal Gibbons Council No. 2521

President – Diane Gough

1st K of C Ladies

Fr. Maurice J. Wolfe Council No. 11372

President – Brenda Wieczynski

Best Recurring Activity

Division "C"

1st Ladies of Holy Family Mitchellville

Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council No. 14455

President – Ngozi Maria Bernadette Ikeji

Division "B"

3rd Daughters of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Bishop Sebastian Council No. 5058

President – Jeanine Colburne

2nd 2-way tie

Catholic Ladies Service Organization

Bel Air Council No. 4714

President – Dee Kozlowski

and **Queen of the Knights Auxiliary**

St. Pius X Council No. 4076

President Catherine Weiler

1st KC Ladies

James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council No. 11422

President – Alicia Sanders

Division "A"

2nd Maryknights

Fr. Rosensteel Council No. 2169

President – Teresa Sutton

1st K of C Ladies

Fr. Maurice J. Wolfe Council No. 11372

President – Brenda Wieczynski

Best Full Year Activity

Division "D"

1st Our Lady of the Angels Auxiliary

Our Lady of the Angels Council No. 13069

President – Roseann Tymoch

Division "C"

3rd Immaculate Conception Angels

Immaculate Conception Council No. 8159

President – Jan Jarboe

2nd Damas Auxiliadoras del Pertetuo Soccoro

San Juan Nuemann de Baltimore Council No. 16611

President – Ana Mendoza-Ramirez

1st Ladies of Holy Family Mitchellville

Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council No. 14455

President – Ngozi Maria Bernadette Ikeji

Division "B"

3rd Daughters of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Bishop Sebastian Council No. 5058

President – Jeanine Colburne

2nd KC Ladies

James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council No. 11422

President – Alicia Sanders

1st Queen of the Knights Auxiliary

St. Pius X Council No. 4076

Catherine Weiler

Division "A"

3rd Maryknights

Fr. Rosensteel Council No. 2169

President – Teresa Sutton

2nd Ladies of the Knights

Cardinal Gibbons Council No. 2521

President – Diane Gough

1st K of C Ladies

Fr. Maurice J. Wolfe Council No. 11372

President – Brenda Wieczynski

FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAM AWARDS

Faith Activities

Division "D"

3rd Holy Face Council No. 3849

Grand Knight – Christopher McGraw

2nd Most Holy Rosary Council No. 11511

Grand Knight – Jean Chery

1st Fr. Sebastien de Rose Council No. 13091

Grand Knight – David A. Reumont

Division "C"

3rd Father Michael C. Kidd Council No. 14455

Grand Knight – Ansu S. Monoh

2nd St. Columcille Council No. 5317

Grand Knight – George B. Hendrix, Sr.

1st Knights of Fatima Council No. 10137

Grand Knight – Paul J. Blankard

Division "B"

3rd St. Peter the Apostle Council No. 13290

Grand Knight – Michael Bir

2nd St. John Neumann Council No. 11618

Grand Knight – Paul J. Peyla

1st Archbishop Neale Council No. 2279

Grand Knight – Justin J. Meeder

Division "A"

3rd Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Council No. 7612

Grand Knight – Joshua A. Flatley

2nd St. Louis the King Council No. 11898

Grand Knight – Frank Arlinghaus

1st Father Maurice J. Wolfe Council No. 11372

Grand Knight – Philip Pfarr, III

Family Activities

Division "D"

3rd Most Holy Rosary Council No. 11511

Grand Knight – Jean Chery

2nd Holy Face Council No. 3849

Grand Knight – Christopher McGraw

1st Fr. Sebastien de Rose Council No. 13091

Grand Knight – David Reumont

Division "C"

3rd St. John the Evangelist Council No. 11171

Grand Knight – John (Andy) Harris

2nd Resurrection Council No. 11341

Grand Knight – J. Gregory Jolissaint

1st Father Michael C. Kidd Council No. 14455

Grand Knight – Ansu S. Momoh

Division "B"

3rd St. Peter the Apostle Council No. 13290

Grand Knight – Michael Bir

2nd Archbishop Neale Council No. 2279

Grand Knight – Justin J. Meeder

1st St. John Neumann Council No. 11618

Grand Knight – Paul J. Peyla

Division "A"

3rd Annapolis Council No. 1384

Grand Knight – John Paraschak

2nd Father Maurice J. Wolfe Council No. 11372

Grand Knight – Philip Pfarr, III

1st St. Louis the King Council No. 11898

Grand Knight – Frank Arlinghaus

Community Activities

Division "D"

3rd Fr. Sebastien de Rose Council No. 13091

Grand Knight – David Reumont

2nd Most Holy Rosary Council No. 11511

Grand Knight – Jean Chery

1st Holy Face Council No. 3849

Grand Knight – Christopher McGraw

Division "C"

3rd St. John the Evangelist Council No. 11171

Grand Knight – John (Andy) Harris

2nd Our Lady of Vietnam Council No. 11769

Grand Knight – Phuong K. Pham

1st St. Columcille Council No. 5317

Grand Knight – George B. Hendrix, Sr.

Division "B"

3rd St. John Neumann Council No. 11618

Grand Knight – Paul J. Peyla

2nd Archbishop Neale Council No. 2279

Grand Knight – Justin J. Meeder

1st St. Peter the Apostle Council No. 13290

Grand Knight – Michael Bir

Division "A"

3rd St. Louis the King Council No. 11898

Grand Knight – Frank Arlinghaus

2nd Father Maurice J. Wolfe Council No. 11372

Grand Knight – Philip Pfarr, III

1st Father O'Neill Council No. 4011

Grand Knight – John Meredith

Life Activities

Division "D"

3rd St. Michael the Archangel Council No. 15084

Grand Knight – David F. Bludis

2nd Holy Face Council No. 3849

Grand Knight – Christopher McGraw

1st Fr. Sebastien de Rose Council No. 13091

Grand Knight – David Reumont

Division "C"

3rd Immaculate Heart of Mary Council No. 9968

Grand Knight – Craig E. Davie

2nd Brute Council No. 1860

Grand Knight – William Troxell

1st Father Michael C. Kidd Council No. 14455

Grand Knight – Ansu S. Momoh

Division "B"

3rd St. John Neumann Council No. 11618

Grand Knight – Paul J. Peyla

2nd St. Peter the Apostle Council No. 13290

Grand Knight – Michael Bir

1st Archbishop Neale Council No. 2279 Grand Knight – Justin J.

Meeder

Division "A"

3rd Fr. Rosensteel Council No. 2169

Grand Knight – Michael Maddox

2nd St. Louis the King Council No. 11898

Grand Knight – Frank Arlinghaus

1st Fr. Maurice J. Wolfe Council No. 11372

Grand Knight – Philip Pfarr, III

GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Division "D"

3rd Most Holy Rosary Council No. 11511

Grand Knight – Jean Chery

2nd Fr. Sebastien de Rose Council No. 13091

Grand Knight – David Reumont

1st Holy Face Council No. 3849

Grand Knight – Christopher McGraw

Division "C"

3rd St. John the Evangelist Council No. 11171

Grand Knight – John (Andy) Harris

2nd St. Columcille Council No. 53171

Grand Knight – George B. Hendrix, Sr.

1st Father Michael C. Kidd Council No. 14455

Grand Knight – Ansu S. Momoh

Division "B"

3rd St. Peter the Apostle Council No. 13290

Grand Knight – Michael Bir

2nd St. John Neumann Council 11618

Grand Knight – Paul J. Peyla

1st Archbishop Neale Council No. 2279

Grand Knight – Justin J. Meeder

Division "A"

3rd Annapolis Council No. 1384

Grand Knight – John Paraschak

2nd St. Louis the King Council No. 11898

Grand Knight – Frank Arlinghaus

1st Father Maurice J. Wolfe Council No. 11372

Grand Knight – Philip Pfarr, III

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S AWARD

Archbishop Neale Council No. 2279

Grand Knight Justin J. Meeder

HONOR DISTRICT AWARD

District No. 13

District Deputy – Calvin Anthony

District Warden – Chris Daigle, Sr.

The Councils that are included in District 31 are:

St. Patrick Council No. 370

Grand Knight – Paul Brennan, Jr

Cardinal Gibbons Council No. 2521

Grand Knight – David Price

Fr. Burggraff Council No. 6021

Grand Knight – John J. Mulcahy

Pope John Paul the Great Council No. 13859

Grand Knight – Joe M. Mizell

SUPREME COUNCIL SERVICE PROGRAM AWARDS

Faith Activities

3rd Father Maurice J. Wolfe Council No. 11372

Grand Knight – Philip Pfarr, III

2nd Archbishop Neale Council No. 2279

Grand Knight – Justin J. Meeder

1st Fr. Sebastien de Rose Council No. 13091

Grand Knight – David Reumont

Father Paul Nguyen, Pastor and Council Chaplain, began this program by asking the Knights to recite the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary before each weekend and Holy Day Mass. His wish was to provide a more solemn atmosphere before Mass to set the tone and put parishioners in a reverent frame of mind.

The Rosary program was instituted on March 1, 2023 and continues today. For the fraternal year reporting period, 157 rosaries were recited with nearly 5200 participants and nearly 2700 volunteer hours. This includes the Living Rosary, presented by the Father Andrew White Assembly, with participation of the Youth Faith Formation of the parish.

Father Paul introduced, and the council implemented, a meaningful way for the youth of the parish to learn more about the teachings of Christ. This program continues to build up a community of the faithful by increasing their spirituality through simply and devoutly praying the rosary.

Family Activities

3rd Resurrection Council No. 11341

Grand Knight – J. Gregory Jolissaint

2nd St. John Neumann Council No. 11618

Grand Knight – Paul J. Peyla

1st Father Michael C. Kidd Council No. 14455

Grand Knight – Ansu S. Momoh

In January of 2022, a strong snowstorm toppled trees and covered the outdoor statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Holy Family church in Mitchellville, MD. Father Joe Jenkins, jokingly suggested it might be the perfect time to put a roof over Mary's head.

The Knights went to work, clearing and leveling the ground for the foundation. Midway through the project, in July of 2022, another storm hit the property and downed more than 50 trees. The front of the church was damaged, the renovated meeting room was destroyed and Mary was once again covered by the fallen trees. Four volunteers with help from others dedicated nearly 1000 hours over the course of 40 weeks to build the stone grotto. The grotto's dedication ceremony and Crowning of Mary on Sunday May 7th, 2023, was the most well-attended mass since before the Covid-19 pandemic. Nearly 200 parishioners gathered to dedicate the grotto with a May crowning. This program was featured in Knightline volume 41, number 22 on May 31, 2023 under the title: "Protecting Our Lady"

Community Activities

3rd Holy Face Council No. 3849

Grand Knight – Christopher McGraw

2nd Archbishop Neale Council No. 2279

Grand Knight – Justin J. Meeder

1st St. Peter the Apostle Council No. 13290

Grand Knight – Michael Bir

Council 13290 partnered with the Frederick County, Maryland Chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace. There are many children across Frederick County without a bed to sleep on. A bed, being a basic necessity for the proper physical, emotional and mental development of children, is something every child deserves. The need is great and where there is a need, there is a Knight. Once a month, Knights and their families, along with parishioners, volunteer to build and deliver beds to local families in need. The council has also donated funds for lumber, blankets, pillows and supplies. In

2023, the council volunteers helped build over 550 beds. Since the Sleep in Heavenly Peace Frederick Chapter began just six years ago, they have been able to support 1,000 families within the community.

Life Activities

3rd St. Louis the King Council No. 11898

Grand Knight – Frank Arlinghaus

2nd Archbishop Neale Council No. 2279

Grand Knight – Justin J. Meeder

1st Father Maurice J. Wolfe Council No. 11372

Grand Knight – Philip Pfarr, III

Council 11372 started this semi-annual program to provide a venue for council members and the local community to come together, organize and rally for the unborn. The goal is to raise awareness about the sanctity of human life, show solidarity with the pro-life movement, lobby for legislation that protects the unborn, and to show support for expecting mothers.

Program participants display thought provoking, pro life signs on the I-95 Abingdon Road overpass next to St. Francis de Sales Church in Abingdon, Md. During the 2 hour rally, it was estimated that over 900 people transiting the overpass saw the displays. Some even honked in support of the cause.

This program exemplifies one of the core beliefs upon which our order was founded; the importance of protecting life from conception to natural death. There is no more humbling and selfless Pro-life act than to speak on behalf of those with no voice, namely the unborn.

STATE BLESSED MICHAEL MCGIVNEY AWARD

This year's State Blessed Michael McGivney Award winner is **Reverend Daniel Leary**, Pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Clinton, MD and Council Chaplain of St. John the Evangelist, Council No. 11171.

Father Dan is sought for his inspirational retreats having led men's, women's and couples' retreats for over 20 years. He was Chaplain for the Sisters of Mary who educate and serve youth from neighborhoods in extreme poverty throughout the world. He organized and supported several mission trips each year through Mustard Seed Communities, Incorporated, and his retreat ministry, Anima Christi Retreats.

Father Dan, known for his gift of healing, serves on the board of Life-Giving Wounds ministry and offers Masses with Healing Prayers at his Clinton parish.

Father Dan's experience, passion and gift of healing have produced an impressive effect on his parishioners and Knights.

As the State Blessed Michael McGivney Awardee, he is Maryland's nominee for Supreme's Blessed Michael McGivney Medal.