

# Book of Reports

## 127<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention Maryland State Council Knights of Columbus



May 2, 3, & 4, 2025  
Annapolis, Maryland

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## **State Officers**

**Rev. Donald Grzymski, OFM**  
**State Chaplain**

**Anthony N. Salvemini (Kathy)**  
**State Deputy**

**John F. Winfrey (Gloria)**  
**State Secretary**

**Ronald G. Hassan (Yolonda)**  
**State Treasurer**

**Thomas O. Greul (Heather)**  
**State Advocate**

**Michael E. Lynch (Amy)**  
**State Warden**

**Christopher L. Powers (Annie)**  
**Immediate Past State Deputy**

*MD State Council  
125 Years of Service*



*Make a Difference in  
Someone's Life*

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## **Book of Reports – Membership**

### **Terry Waters – State Growth Director**

#### **Council Growth in the Maryland Jurisdiction: 2024-2025**

The Maryland Jurisdiction has experienced solid membership growth this fraternal year and is on pace to achieve its Circle of Honor goal of welcoming 1003 new members into the Order.

The significant drivers of growth this year can be attributed to the following:

**Incentive Programs:** Our Q1 Fast Start program inspired 14 councils to achieve their annual goal by September 30 and as a result, were exempted from paying their Jan-Jun per cap fees. Our Q2 and Q3 programs both involved awarding three top performing councils with an opportunity to win \$500 in a raffle drawing. In addition, we offered a \$10 cash incentive for each new member welcomed from mid-March through April.

**New Council Development- UMBC:** In an effort led by Fr. Matthew Himes, over 40 men were exemplified on February 19, 2025 as they formed new college council UMBC No. 18656.

**Immaculate Conception Council No. 8159** welcomed over 30 members into the Order by extending their reach to Catholic men involved in one of their international projects.

**Naval Academy:** This council of midshipmen welcomed 25 men into the Order during an exemplification conducted on February 12, 2025.

**Engagement with Council Membership Directors:** The State Membership Director continually included these important members in all membership communications.

**Church Drives:** At the Mid-Year Meeting in early January, we launched an intentional focus on council activation of church drives. Dave Czarnecki created and maintained a calendar that was distributed monthly.

**State Membership Team:** This group of dedicated men included Terry Waters, Bill Newbrough, Bill McMahon, Bob Sweitzer, John Hershberger, John Ohmer, Peter Hammerer, Greg Lynch, Buzzy Stockman, Gus Gusman, David Czarnecki, Larry Houck, Charles Doherty, Mickey Dillow and Armando Fernandez and all contributed to the team's success.

**Online Membership:** Bill Newbrough continued to lead this initiative and provided continuous training and development of Maryland leaders, in addition to serving as the initial voice welcoming new members into the Order. With approximately 75% of new members entering through this option, our jurisdiction ranks among the top in the Region with this metric.

The Maryland jurisdiction is well positioned to experience continued growth in membership as we move forward with men in our councils embracing the importance of expanding our mission as Knights in service to our parishes and communities.

## Report of the Maryland State Council Program Director

The annual report of the Maryland State Council Program Director is submitted for your review and consideration.

The 2024-2025 fraternal year was another successful year for Faith in Action programs. Councils across the Maryland jurisdiction put their faith into action to “Make a Difference in Someone’s Life” by planning and conducting meaningful programs in their parishes, communities, and beyond.

Activity Directors for this fraternal year included: Faith – Michael Watson (9774); Community – Walter Leskuski (14011); Family – Gregory McClain (3413); and Life – Rick Casazza (1622). The program team remembers the memory of Family Activities Director Gregory McClain who passed on to his eternal reward in February 2025 and with continued prayers for Lady Cathy.

The Leadership Seminar was held at Holy Family Catholic Church in Davidsonville on June 21 (DD’s) and June 22 (GK’s). Several topics were covered and included: introduction of the State activity directors, explanation of the importance of conducting FIA programs, FIA reporting process and procedures, program planning, and key highlights for the fraternal year.

Program and Membership Seminars were conducted over the course of three evenings during July and August which enabled each program activity director and activity chairs and co-chairs to highlight his programs and answer questions from councils. The State Program Director hosted these seminars, which were well attended.

The Fall meeting was held on October 26, 2024 at the Shrine of Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg. A formal presentation regarding Programs was given by Alan Pultyniewicz with each Activity Director highlighting upcoming programs and events through the mid-term meeting.

The Mid-term meeting was held at Columbus Gardens on January 4, 2025. Alan Pultyniewicz provided an update on FIA Programs conducted to-date and provided important upcoming deadlines for program reports. The new Pilgrim Icon Program – the Sacred Heart of Jesus, was displayed for all DDs and GKs and a status update on the schedule for the Icon Program was shared with all present.

The Spring meeting was held at the Easton Elks Lodge in Easton on March 8, 2025. Alan Pultyniewicz provided a status update on programs that included: success stories, status of FIA report forms submitted, reporting process, and upcoming program and activities through the end of the fraternal year. Each activity director also provided updates on specific programs and answered questions from the DDs.

The State Activity Directors are responsible for judging the activity reports submitted by the councils. To be eligible for the **Faith in Action** program awards that are presented at the state convention, councils had to conduct an activity in each of the four program areas during each reporting period and then submit the State Council Program Award reports to the State Program Director by March 7. A **Faith in Action** participation plaque will be presented to each council that

conducted and reported their FIA activities from March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2025. Special thanks to Peter O'Sullivan who maintained the FIA program matrix tracking form.

The State Program Director and Activity Directors provided guidance to councils and discussed reporting requirements during council and District Deputy meetings, and at Chapter meetings. In addition, the Program Director sent periodic email updates to each District Deputy with a summary of the FIA reports submitted by councils in his district.

The program team also hosted two (2) FIA Program Zoom calls during the fraternal year and provided important reminders about upcoming events and activities, including dedicated sessions to discuss reporting requirements for the recognition program and for the State "Best of the Best" awards. These sessions provided participants with an opportunity to ask questions.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our Worthy State Deputy Anthony Salvemini for appointing me as the Maryland State Program Director. It has been a most rewarding experience to work with the DDs and GKs of the Maryland jurisdiction and with the State Council Growth Team. I also thank each of the FIA Program Activity Directors and their Chairmen for their outstanding efforts this year, as well as to Executive Secretary to the State Council Dale Trott, PSD and Executive Secretary to the State Deputy Jeff Wilk for their assistance and guidance.

I also want to thank the activities director's wives – Karen Watson, Beth Leskuski, Cathy McClain, and Regina Casazza for their support throughout this fraternal year. It takes a significant amount of time for the directors to perform their duties, and I appreciate each of these wives for their willingness to share that with the Knights.

Fraternally,

Alan Pultyniewicz  
Program Director

## Community Activities

### Walter Leskuski, Director

The Faith In Action Community Programs had a very successful year providing services to both our communities and our Parishes. The smiles, excitement and fun generated by the many recipients of these programs are evidence of the impact to "Make a Difference in Someone's life!"

**Helping Persons with Special Needs Program:** During this fraternal year, 49 Councils participated in the Helping People with Special Needs Program. A total of 223 cases of tootsie rolls were ordered. Councils collected approximately \$93,000, netting approximately \$89,000 after the cost of the tootsie rolls. A total of 73 checks were distributed to 58 organizations who help individuals with special needs. A special thank you to co-chairmen John Strawbridge and John Weaver for their tireless efforts.

**Coats for Kids Program:** The Maryland State Council distributed 175 coats to students at St. Agnes school, who were greeted by Archbishop William E. Lori, with other coats designated for students at The Loyola School in Baltimore, Head Start and Catholic Charities locations throughout the area. In total the Knights distributed 720 coats locally. Many councils, assemblies, chapters and others provided coats in their geographical areas within the state. Thanks to program co-chairmen Rob Van Rite and Mike Mitchell for spearheading this effort.

**State Sports Programs:** The Maryland State Council sponsors a youth soccer shootout and basketball free throw competition contests yearly. Both events were very well attended this year by the District winners. Thank you to all the Knights from the Maryland State Council and the individual councils who came out to these events to help support the youth participants and to ensure they had a wonderful experience during these competitions. A special thank you to co-chairmen Walt Williams and Brian Trott for their continued commitment and leadership.

**Box of Joy Program:** This is a growing program for the Maryland State Council. This year the number of boxes collected was over 5,900, which is an increase from last year. Thanks to co-chairman Alex Lopez-Bueno and Mike Bir for their leadership, promotion and support for this program.

**Recognition Program:** The Maryland State Council annual Founders Day event recognized Catholic educators, healthcare providers, first responders and citizens from the many councils that submitted nominations. A thank you to each council that took the time and energy to provide submissions. A thank you to the co-chairmen, Harold Sanders, Rick Przybylski and Mike Landolt for their leadership and promotion of the Program. A special thank you to Mike Dunn for coordinating the recognition dinner and attendance.

**Incentive Raffle Program:** This year's Incentive Raffle Program was a first in a new direction for the State Council. Tickets were itemized and distributed at the Leadership Seminar. This bold new approach was cost saving as well as a better delivery experience for the individual

councils. A special thank you to our Worthy State Deputy for taking this vision into reality and to both Frank Attard and Thom Partenope in the delivery support.

**Columbus Day Ball and Commemoration Activities:** The Columbus Day Ball this year was very successful sell out event being hosted for the first time at Columbus Gardens. A special thank you to Past State Deputy Stephen M. Cohen for offering his leadership and to the co-chairmen E. Paul Jones Sr., Gil Boisvert and Ray Cilento. A special thank you to Steve Upton for his leadership and management of the Columbus Day activities in Washington, DC.

**Little Sisters of the Poor:** Councils across Maryland collected and provided over \$27,000 in cash, on-line donations and gift cards and over 24,000 pounds of food to supplement needs for their serving the elderly needy. Brothers knights also donated and supported in the Nun Run and Newark's Swing for the Little Sisters golf outing. A special thank you to chairman Richard Opatick for his leadership and management of this program and to the following councils for being a hub collection site across the state: Councils #2521, #1622, #11898, #2169 and # 2203.

In conclusion I would like to acknowledge the entire Faith In Action Community Activities team. Fulfilling the Knights of Columbus' second core principle of Unity, with these men's hard work together we were able to build another successful year serving our church and community while enabling the Maryland State Council to meet its Community programs goals for the one hundred twenty-fifth year in the state of Maryland while making a difference in someone's life.

I would like to acknowledge my thanks and appreciation to the following Faith In Action Community Program Chairmen:

- John Strawbridge and John Weaver: Helping People With Special Needs
- Harold Sanders, Rick Przybylski, Mike Landolt: Recognition Programs
- John Navarro, Wayne Davis: Wheelchair Program
- Alex Lopez-Bueno and Michael Bir: Box of Joy
- Mike Mitchell and Rob Van Rite: Coats for Kids
- Walt Williams, Tom Reumont and Brian Trott: State Sports
- Charles Kohler: Disaster Preparedness Coordinator
- Steve Upton: Columbus Day Activities Washington DC
- Stephen M. Cohen, E. Paul Jones Sr., Gill Boisvert: Columbus Day Ball
- Raphael (Ray) Cilento: Columbus Day Ball Program Book
- Frank Attard and Thom Partenope: Incentive Cash Sweepstakes
- Rick Opatick: Little Sisters of the Poor
- Thom Partenope: Navy Football Game

I would like to also thank my fellow Faith In Action Team Directors: Michael Watson, Gregory E. McClain, and Rick Casazza for their support and guidance this year and Alan Pultyniewicz, our State Program Director, for his leadership, friendship and guidance. To the Maryland State Deputy Anthony N. Salvemini for providing me the opportunity to serve and to my wife Beth for our shared support to the Knights of Columbus, for her understanding and being my driving force to complete my duties to the Program Director, the Maryland State Deputy and to the Knights of Columbus of Maryland.

## **Faith Activities Report**

**Michael Watson, Director**

The Maryland State Council is blessed to be included in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the premier See of the Catholic Church in the United States, established as a Diocese in 1789; the Diocese of Wilmington, established in 1868 and the Archdiocese of Washington, established in 1939. In addition, we have the unique privilege that our Supreme Chaplain of the Order is also the Archbishop of Baltimore, Archbishop Lori, giving Maryland a unique place and responsibility in the Order.

The Faith Activities team is grateful to our State Deputy, Anthony Salvemini and First Lady Kathy, and his Maryland State Team for the opportunity to evangelize our Faith in Action this year. One of the key responsibilities of the Faith Team is to conduct all the State Masses throughout the year. This year we did seven Masses and would like to thank the State Liturgy Team for their unstinting devotion to commemorating our Masses and Holy Hours which allowed our State family to enjoy and be enriched by the Eucharistic celebrations of our Holy Catholic Faith: Fr. Donald Gryzmski, OFM Conv., State Chaplain, Deacons David Ludwikkoski and Stephen Roscher; cantors Steve Hubbard and Roger Szabo, musicians Mary Jo Sierco and John Hershberger along with Jeff Maynard. A special thanks to PSD Chris Powers and Annie for heading the Liturgy team in developing and coordinating the music and prayer aids for these Masses. Also, thanks to all of our 4th degree color corps, altar servers, ushers, lecterns and Eucharistic Ministers and all who helped during the Masses. Finally, I would like to thank all the parishes, priests and laity that opened their parish churches for our use and all the assistance they provided us.

The State Memorial Mass and Founder's Day Mass and receptions this year were headed up by Michael Dunn. Najin Kim, a concert violinist, played Ave Maria at the Memorial Mass in remembrance of her uncle, Michael Little. These Masses and receptions gave us an outstanding opportunity to remember the Knights and Ladies who have gone before us and recall our origins in honoring those who have used their time, talent, and faith to show a willingness to give of themselves to help others. These Masses are a time for us to say thanks so be sure to participate in the future.

This year we unveiled a new Book Of The Names Of The Dead that contains all the names of those deceased brothers enrolled in the State Perpetual Memorial Society. This book was blessed by Archbishop Lori at the Supreme Convention in Quebec. The Memorial Book is placed at the Altar for each of the Maryland State Masses. It is a reminder to all of us to pray for those who have "gone before us" and to remember our watchword ... "Tempus Fugit, Memento Mori." I want to thank PSD Dale Trott for continuing to coordinate all the activities around this.

The Pilgrim Icon program unveiled a new icon to the Sacred Heart of Jesus this fraternal year. This is chaired by Michael Novak, who has been shepherding the rollout of the new icon for the Districts and Councils who are participating in the devotion this year. The response to the new

icon has been enthusiastic and I hope to see more Councils participate next year as there was a delay in receiving the icons this year.

The need for priests and the religious is of the highest priority for our Church and our Faith. As Pope John Paul II wrote in 2004: "There can be no Eucharist without the priesthood, just as there can be no priesthood without the Eucharist". The Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP) enables Councils to offer financial support to those studying for the priesthood or religious life in each of the Archdioceses the State supports. Never forget that it is not just for the seminarians, several Councils are supporting Sisters at different locations. RSVP Chairmen Nick Clemens (Archdiocese of Baltimore), Michael Davenport (Archdiocese of Washington), and John Vasallo (Diocese of Wilmington) are actively working with each Diocese to be certain that there is no seminarian in need of financial aid. Our goal across the State is to support every seminarian in all three Dioceses.

Holy Hour is our opportunity to devote our time and faith in a personal and prayerful adoration of our Lord in the Eucharist. It has been estimated that only 30 percent of Catholics fully believe in the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. It is our mission, through our prayers, to help others to come to know that Our Lord is always with us in the form of Bread and Wine. We conducted Holy Hours at three State events this year led by Fr. Don and will continue to do so at future State events.

Sacramental Gifts are a positive means of memorializing those special occasions when we and our families pass on our Faith through the Sacraments, especially Baptism and Confirmation. We continue to encourage Councils to participate in these activities at their parishes as we strengthen the faith in our next generation. Please continue to support your parishes.

A Mass was held on the anniversary commemorating the Ordination of Fr. Michael J. McGivney at the Basilica in Baltimore on December 22. Archbishop Lori presided with an Honor Guard of the Fourth Degree and with the Maryland State Officers to show our devotion to Our Lord in the Eucharist. We hope for even greater turnout from Brother Knights at future celebrations as we honor our Founder who started his priestly vocation right here in Maryland.

An Archdiocese of Baltimore Blue Mass was celebrated at the St. Joseph Monastery in Baltimore honoring the Police, Fire and EMT personnel in Maryland with a dedicated portion of the Mass remembering our fallen First Responders. The 4th Degree Color Corps participated in making this Mass an honor for those that protect and serve us across the State. The Mass was led by Archbishop Lori and with great support from Mike Dunn on coordinating the Mass.

I especially would like to thank my wife, Karen, for her support, patience, and guidance with me in helping to meet these important activities for our State Council and Order and along with my kids (grown-ups now!). Vivat Jesus!

## **Family Activities Report**

### **Gregory E. McClain**

#### **A Year of Leadership, Service, and Fraternal Unity**

The Maryland State Council Family Activities Team remained steadfast in its commitment to providing leadership and guidance to councils across the state. With the unwavering support of State Deputy Anthony N. Salvemini, State Council Officers, State Council Program Director Alan Pultyniewicz, District Deputies, fellow Directors, and dedicated Program Chairmen and Chairladies, we ensured that family-oriented programs continued to flourish.

Through these initiatives, families across Maryland gathered in fraternal solidarity, strengthening their bonds and deepening their commitment to service.

#### ***In Memorial: Honoring Gregory E. McClain***

Amid our efforts this year, we faced a profound loss. Our esteemed State Family Activities Director, Gregory McClain, passed away on February 10, 2025, after a lengthy illness. His absence left a void that continues to be felt, but his legacy of dedication and vision lives on.

Greg was not just a leader, he was a doer, a philosopher, and a shining example of what Knighthood represents. His steadfast commitment to service inspired us all, and in his honor, we press forward, ensuring that the objectives he set forth are realized. May his soul rest in peace.

#### **Food for Families: Combating Hunger with Compassion**

The Maryland State Council, Knights of Columbus, remains committed to addressing food insecurity through the Food for Families program. Millions of dollars and pounds of food have been donated to local food pantries, food banks, and soup kitchens to support this critical initiative.

Thanks to the leadership of Food for Families Co-Chairs Joseph M. Feakes and Andrew Michaels, Maryland councils continued to organize food drives and distribution events under the Leave No Neighbor Behind banner. Our annual Tri-Chapter Food Packing Event at Cardinal Gibbons Council #2521, in partnership with Cross Catholic Outreach, was a resounding success—further cementing our commitment to serving those in need.

#### **Family of the Month & Family of the Year: Celebrating Outstanding Families**

The Family of the Month program provides councils with a meaningful way to honor families for their contributions to the church, community, and council. This year, participation in the program remains quite low, thus families are not receiving well-deserved recognition. Since July 2024, at least thirty-nine councils have participated in the FOM program. Twenty submissions were from the Archdiocese of Baltimore (AOB) Councils, while nineteen were from the Archdiocese of Washington DC (AWD). No submittals were noted from the Archdiocese of Wilmington.

Building upon this success, the Family of the Year program celebrated extraordinary families who exemplify faith and service. The 2025 Family of the Year honorees were G. Emeka and Chizara Onwezi from James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council #11422. Their dedication was recognized during the Founder's Day Awards event on March 23, 2025, at Cardinal Gibbons

Council #2521, Columbus Gardens.

A heartfelt thanks to Program Coordinator Vernon Hawkins for his leadership in ensuring the success of these programs, along with Chairmen Frank Klein (DC), Thomas P. Devin (Baltimore), and Joseph L. Lazzan (Wilmington).

### **Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest: Inspiring Creativity & Faith**

Each year, councils across Maryland participate in the International Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest—an initiative encouraging communities to focus on Christ rather than commercialism during the holiday season.

This year's competition was more vibrant than ever, with over 70 talented artists submitting exceptional entries. After a rigorous selection process, first-place winners in each age category (5-7, 8-10, and 11- 14) were awarded \$50, with second and third place winners receiving \$25 and \$10, respectively.

The state's winners were announced in the April 2025 State Newsletter, and first-place entries were submitted for international competition. Special recognition goes to Chairman Timothy Fitzmaurice, whose dedication ensured a successful contest despite the challenges of the year.

### **Widows' Program: Honoring the Legacy of Our Knights**

The Widows' Program continues to resonate with councils across Maryland, offering heartfelt recognition and support to widows of past members. Led by Chairman Dick Bissell, this program stands as a testament to the Knights' enduring commitment to fraternity and care.

For councils not yet participating, contact Dick Bissell, Jan McGinley, Harold Sanders, or Paul Girolami to learn how to bring this meaningful initiative to life.

### **Upcoming Events: Strengthening Fellowship & Fun State Family Picnic**

A time-honored tradition, the State Family Picnic is set for May 17, 2025, at Seneca Creek State Park. Co-Chairs Joseph L. Lazzari and Craig Van, along with assistants Larry Perkins and Karl Caton, have been working diligently to ensure another fantastic gathering for our families.

### **Camping Trip**

Following past successes, our annual camping trip will take place from Friday, June 27 to Sunday, June 29, 2025, at Homestead Campground, Georgetown, Delaware. This cherished event will be coordinated by Tom Reumont, promising a weekend of adventure and bonding.

### **In Conclusion: A Year of Gratitude & Triumph**

As this fraternal year draws to a close, I extend my deepest gratitude to all Chair-people of the Family Activities Directorate for their dedication, resilience, and passion. Thank you to State Deputy Anthony N. Salvemini for allowing me the opportunity to serve the Maryland State Council, and to Program Director Alan Pultyniewicz, along with my fellow Activities Directors, for their invaluable support and guidance. Through collaboration, unity, and unwavering faith, we have forged a path of service that strengthens families, uplifts communities, and honors the spirit of Knighthood. Together, we continue to build a legacy that inspires generations to come.

*Prepared By Vernon Hawkins, Jr.*

## **Life Activities Report**

I would like to thank our Worthy State Deputy, Anthony Salvemini, the Maryland State Program Team and the Chairmen of the Life Activities for the opportunity to work with all throughout the fraternal year. I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of this team.

**March for Life:** Our state legislative liaison, John Eurie, was key in promoting membership participation in the 2025 National March for Life held in the nation's capital on January 24<sup>th</sup> of this year. Held annually at the National Mall, councils organized bus transportation and carpools so that no member was denied participation. Similarly, John organized prolife activities focused on our Maryland State legislature asking members to participate in the "Maryland Catholic Advocacy Day, February 19, 2025, and the Maryland March for Life held in Annapolis on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**Pregnancy Center Support:** The Maryland State Council initiative to a live-in addition to the Gabriel Network Maternity Home in Bowie, Maryland exceeded their goal with \$65,000 in donations from 50 Councils, Chapters and individuals and receiving an additional \$10,000 in ASAP matching funds from Supreme.

The Gabriel Network home in Bowie was not the only ASAP achievement in the Maryland jurisdiction. More than 18 Maryland Councils and Assemblies donated more than \$34,000 in cash and products to more than 15 pregnancy centers and maternity centers. The Supreme ASAP program provided an additional \$5,100 in grants to these organizations. These centers cover the whole state: CareNet Pregnancy Center of Southern Maryland in Lexington Park, Birthright of Prince Frederick and Birthright of Frederick, Forestville Pregnancy Center, Howard County Pregnancy Center in Columbia, Pregnancy Center North in Towson, Shady Grove Pregnancy Center, Mary's Place in Pasadena.

**Ultrasound Program:** The 5 councils in District 16 have pooled their resources and fund-raising efforts to generate \$22,000 to assist the Choice of Hope Women's Center to secure a new ultrasound machine. Hopefully delivery will take place before the end of the year.

**Silver Rose Program:** We honor not only Our Lady of Guadalupe, but also reaffirm, as Knights, our dedication to the sanctity of human life. This year 17 councils, across the state, participated in the Silver Rose Program by hosting prayer service in their communities. The logistics of this program is unique as each participating council must on their own initiative contact the preceding council to successfully create the hand off of the icon and prayer booklets.

**Special Olympics Programs:** Chairman, Calvin Anthony, reports that 15 councils submitted Faith In Action reports this year cataloging fund raising events and volunteer activities. The events Knights of Columbus members participated in include: the Golf State Tournament, Fall Sports Festival, Soccer State Championships, Interscholastic Unified Sports Tennis Tournament, Bowling Regionals, the Winer Games at Wisp Resort, Deep Creek Dunk and Polar Bear Plunge.

**MaryGold Program:** We are all tasked by our Pope, our Bishops and our Supreme Knight to build a Culture of Life. To that end there is no greater gesture of appreciation than by honoring the women who have accepted the burden of bearing our children. The standing tradition of passing our marigold plants on Mothers' Day Sunday Mass was, like many other events and activities, disrupted by the COVID pandemic. The Maryland State Council had not assisted local councils with securing the plants for distribution since 2019. Chairman, Thom Stevenson contracted, Maryland Flower and Foliage Company to supply all participating councils with fresh, healthy marigold plants. We anticipate the distribution of 6,500 plants this May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Respectfully submitted'  
Rick Casazza  
Life Activities Director

### **Maryland State Council Knights of Columbus Financial Assistance Fund**

The Maryland State Council Financial Assistance Fund is part of Maryland State Council Knights of Columbus Charity Fund, Inc., the State Council's IRS recognized 501(c)(3) charitable entity. The Financial Assistance Fund was established when the State Council Charity Fund was incorporated on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 1984. All contributions to the Financial Assistance Fund are 100% tax deductible.

The purpose of the Financial Assistance Fund is to provide financial assistance to anyone who finds themselves in urgent, temporary financial need. Applicants need not be Brother Knights or Catholic. It is, however, important to note that the Financial Assistance Fund is not designed to take the place of local Council Charity/Financial Assistance Funds, but to supplement them. A Council sponsoring an application for financial assistance from the State Council Financial Assistance Fund must have provided, or be planning to provide, some form of financial support to the applicant before the State Council can assist.

The Financial Assistance Fund only exists thanks to the generosity of donors who have supported it over the years. We rely on donations from Brother Knights, families, friends, and local Councils to provide the resources needed to make grants. Donations can be made directly to the Financial Assistance Fund or through fundraising campaigns such as the Combined Federal Campaign for Federal Employees and Retirees and the Maryland Charity Campaign for Maryland State Employees and Retirees. Local Councils are strongly encouraged to budget for an annual donation to the Financial Assistance Fund. Except for minor administrative costs (i.e. postage, the annual audit, etc.), all funds donated are available for distribution.

As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, the Financial Assistance Fund has granted a total of \$1,293,018 to needy individuals and families in the name of the Knights of Columbus of Maryland. This fraternal year, from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, through March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, \$6,548 has been granted to three applicants. One application was denied, and another application is pending. Grants this fraternal year have assisted with nutritional support, health care services, and funeral expenses for a departed Brother Knight. Past grants have assisted with mortgage and rent payments, funeral expenses, car insurance and maintenance, and utilities, and more.

We wish to thank our worthy State Deputy, Tony Salvemini, for appointing us to manage the Financial Assistance Fund this fraternal year and for his support and guidance. Our thanks also go out to our Worthy State Chaplain, Fr. Donald Grzymski, for his spiritual guidance and assistance this year, in particular with updating the bylaws of the Maryland State Council Charity Fund. Thanks to the State Officers for their enthusiastic support of the program.

In closing, we ask everyone to continue to support the Financial Assistance Fund, enabling it to continue to provide financial assistance to applicants in urgent, temporary financial need well into the future.

Jimmy Williams  
Chairman

Greg Lynch  
Vice-Chairman

Jose Rivera  
Secretary

*MD State Council  
125 Years of Service*



*Make a Difference in  
Someone's Life*

**Reports  
from  
Chapter Presidents**

## **Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights**

**Peter D. Hammerer, FDD, PGK, PGN, Chapter President**

The Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights was founded in January 1910. The Baltimore Chapter meets the second Thursday of each month at one of its affiliated councils on a rotating basis. The primary purpose of the Chapter is to assist affiliated councils in charitable programs that may be too big for them to handle alone. It serves as a forum for the exchange of information between Chapter Officers, Past Grand Knights, current Grand Knights and the State Deputy and Program Officers of the Maryland State Council. Any Brother Knight or Lovely Lady can attend the meetings. The general meeting begins promptly at 8:00 with a meal starting around 7:00. When possible, the Chapter will arrange for a guest speaker to speak about their organization and how councils may be able to assist them.

**Chaplain:** Msgr. Richard Bozzelli

**Associate Chaplain:** Father Donald Grzymski

**Assistant to the Chaplain:** Deacon David Ludwikkoski, FDD, PGK, PFN (1960)

Deacon Helgi Nelson, FDD, PGK (2604)

**Vice President:** Mike Novak, FDD, PGK, PFN (11372)

**Secretary:** Jim Goldbeck, FDD, PGK, PFN (15768)

**Treasurer:** Erwin Lacanienta, DD, PGK, PFN (9462)

**Marshal:** Joe Knight, DD, PGK, (11898)

**Special Projects:** David Love, FDD, PGK, PFN (7612)

**IPCP:** Buzzy Stockman, FDD, PCP, PGK, PFN (10137)

**Chapter Honoree:** Gary A. Gray, FDD, PCP, PFK, PFN (205)

**Webmaster & Group IO Moderator:** George Markelonis, FDD, PGK [10966]

The Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights has been in existence for 115 years. Over those many years they have worked well with their affiliated Councils performing many charitable acts. The Chapter conducted the following charitable activities and events during the 2024-25 fraternal year with help from various affiliated Councils:

1. July 2024: the Chapter provided over \$1,200 in assistance to a brother Knight. The Chapter's July meeting was hosted by Fr. A. Leo Abendschoen #11615.
2. August 2024: the Chapter contributed \$500 to the Oblate Sisters of Providence after their presentation to the attendees of the monthly meeting. The Chapter's August meeting was hosted by Cardinal Shehan of Baltimore #205.
3. September 2024: the Chapter hosted the Cross Catholic Outreach Food Packing at Columbus Gardens and contributed \$5,600 to help cover the cost. Volunteers helped pack 50,000 meals for distribution to impoverished counties. During their September meeting the Chapter contributed \$300 to St. Bernadette Council for Afghan Refugees. The September meeting was hosted by William E. Baldwin, Sr. #17990.
4. The Chapter held its annual shrimp night during the October meeting which was hosted by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen #7612.
5. November 2024: the Chapter held its annual Memorial Mass and honored 17 Past Grand Knights. The Chapter's Memorial Mass was held at St. Ursula Catholic Church.
6. December 2024: the Chapter with help from volunteers from several Councils prepared

breakfast and passed out gifts to the residence of the Gallagher Center. The Chapter covered the \$1,749.31 expense. The Chapter's July meeting was hosted by the Chapter hosted its annual Christmas Party. A large box of socks was collected and distributed through the Basilica. The Chapter's Christmas Party was hosted by St. Agnes Council #4449.

7. January 2025: The Chapter's meeting was hosted by Resurrection #11341 on a very cold night after a few days of very inclement weather.
8. February 2025: A long-standing tradition of the Chapter was brought back this year with the annual recognition of the ladies. Each lady in attendance received a special gift from the Chapter President. The Chapter's meeting was hosted by Father Burggraff #6021.
9. March 2025: Each year at this time the Chapter asks each of its affiliated councils to submit their Honoree to be recognized. This year 17 councils submitted names. Each received a certificate of recognition. The Chapter's meeting was hosted by St. Charles Borromeo #3960.
10. April 2025: the Past Chapter Presidents were recognized and receive a gift from the Chapter President. This year each received a pullover V-neck top with the Chapter's logo and their named embroider on it. The Chapter President also recognized his Honoree, Gary A. Gray, Sr., the Chapter Chaplain, Msgr. Richard Bozzelli, and the recipient of the Samule P. Orlando President's Award, Stepen M. Cohen. The Chapter's meeting was hosted by Bel Air 4714.
11. May 2025: The Chapter donated \$500 to the Special Olympics of Maryland after their presentation to the attendees of the meeting. Nominations of Officers for the 2025-26 fraternal year were made. The Chapter's meeting was hosted by St. Bernadette #11214.
12. June 2025: Elections of Officers for the 2025-26 fraternal were conducted. The Chapter's meeting was hosted by Fr. Maurice J. Wolfe #11372.

The Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights took the lead in promoting the Gabriel Network house located in Bowie, MD. The Chapter collected \$10,335 from its affiliated Councils and individuals. The Chapter itself contributed another \$5,000 bringing the total to \$15,335. This does not include those Councils that contributed directly to the State ASAP Program. Because of these contributions the goal set by Supreme for them to contribute another \$10,000 was surpassed. This is truly how a Chapter comes together and works together.

The 2024-25 fraternal year was very productive for our Chapter. As President I am grateful for the support received from the Chaplains, Officers and PCPs. My appreciation goes out to all Knights, their Ladies & families who volunteered to propose, organize, coordinate, work, attend, and execute our events and the majority of charitable work we endeavor to perform. Lastly, I would like to recognize my loving wife, Anita, who supported me throughout the fraternal year.

Respectfully submitted:  
Peter. Hammerer, FDD, PGK, PFN  
President  
Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights

## **Bishop McNamara Chapter of Grand Knights**

### **Book of Reports**

**2024/2025 Fraternal Year**

**Steve Law, Chapter President**

**The Bishop McNamara Chapter of Grand Knights meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday monthly at the normal meeting place of one of its 59 member councils. The locations are selected to best rotate geographically around the coverage region.**

**The Chapter provides a forum for meaningful exchange of information between the State Council and the Councils and offers the opportunity for councils to join collective charitable activities.**

**Supported programs this year include The Gabriel Network Organization, which offers safe housing, counseling, and resources for mothers and their children. The Chapter collaborated with the State Council and Baltimore and St Elizabeth Ann Seton Chapters to raise funds to build a much-needed addition to the Gabriel Home in Bowie. The Chapter also teamed with those groups to fund and execute a successful food packing event sponsored by Cross Catholic Outreach, as over forty thousand Vitafood meal packets were assembled and prepared for shipment to hungry children and families in developing countries.**

**Other programs and organizations supported are Coats for Kids, MD Special Olympics, Care Net Pregnancy Center, Habitat for Humanity, and Catholic Charities.**

**At each meeting the Chapter provided a guest to speak on behalf of their organization or mission area. In addition to those mentioned above, those in attendance were enlightened by information provided by representatives from Catholic Cemeteries, Birthright of Prince Frederick, Build A Bed, along with State Council Officers and Program Directors.**

**As in past years the Chapter hosted its Officers Installations and Christmas dinners where all were welcome and collaborated with Calvert Council 7870 for a Crab and Shrimp Dinner and Silent Auction.**

**The Chapter remains committed to supporting our priests and parishes. It will continue to assist and mentor its councils and work diligently in all it does, for the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. Thank you to State Deputy Tony Salvemini and the State Council for their leadership and support.**



## Reports from District Masters



**Knights of Columbus  
Fourth Degree  
Maryland District  
Calvert Province**



This year marks the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fourth Degree. To commemorate this event, an Exemplification was held in St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, NY on 22 February 2025, where over 700 new Sir Knights were welcomed into the Fourth Degree. The newly Revised Exemplification of Patriotism was also presented to those in attendance marking the beginning of open attendance to ALL exemplifications.

I wish thank all 24 Assemblies in the Maryland District for their cooperation, support and hospitality throughout the year. Congratulations to the Assemblies on their many and varied patriotic and civic programs and events during the year. Through their untiring efforts, many of our veterans were recognized for their valuable contribution to this great country. Through their participation at the many civic activities in which they participated, they proclaimed how one can be a faithful Catholic and a patriotic American Citizen.

Thank you to District Marshal Rick Przybylski, and Executive Secretary Jeff Wilk, for their dedication, assistance and advice this past year. A special thank you to their wives, Beth and Linda, for their understanding of their husbands' commitments to the order. I also wish to thank SK Steve Cohen, PSD, for serving as Chief of Staff, and to the Assistant District Marshals Marty Nau, Thom Partenope, Dave Bellistri, Mike Ragolio and Bill Copes. Thank you to District Friar Father Jason Worley for his spiritual guidance and direction.

I also wish to thank the District's Exemplification Team, under the direction of Team Captain SK Edgar Haynes, PSD, FM, for their dependability and professional presentation of the Degree of Patriotism. Thank you, gentlemen, for your friendship and support.

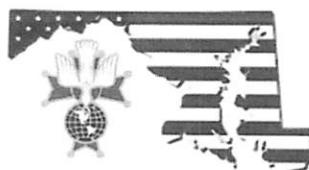
To the State Chaplain, State Officers, Directors and Chairman, congratulations on a most successful year of meaningful programs.

To the Master of the Calvert Province, Vice Supreme Master Fritz Leach, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Fourth Degree as Master of the Maryland District. It has been a very rewarding experience, and your support and guidance has been very much appreciated.

To State Deputy, Anthony Salvemini, thank you for the support and encouragement you have given me and to the Fourth Degree in the State of Maryland.

Finally, thanks to my wife, Joan, for her understanding and patience and for being my companion to the many Supreme, Provincial, State, District, and Assembly functions.

Fraternally and Patriotically,  
Jim Duryee  
Master  
Maryland District



## **Report of the Master of the Archdiocese of Washington District 2025**

Worthy Brother Knights, as Master, I am privileged to report to you on the condition of The Archdiocese of Washington District Fourth Degree. I assure you that the District is healthy and growing due to the actions of our Patriotic Knights and families! We are financially sound, strong in Faith and patriotic program execution, and blessed with the finest Color Corps in the Order. Our members can be justifiably proud of this superb characterization of AWD due to their individual and team dedication.

I was fortunate to assume leadership of the district on September 1, 2024, and found it to be in excellent shape. The fine status of AWD is largely a credit to SK Joseph Feakes, Immediate Former Master, and his strong staff. The Archdiocese of Washington District is blessed by the active involvement of every living Former Master. Their guidance and examples help to keep AWD on the path to improving our Patriotic Degree each year.

All Knights focus first on our Faith, and our Fourth Degree Knights live as visible Catholics each day in service to our Church. We hope to serve as examples for all who witness our actions. In particular, our Color Corps members are among the most active in the Order. From local parish Masses to the installation of the new Cardinal, AWD Color Corps members are always on call for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington and the Archdiocese of Military Services, USA. AWD Marshal SK Harold Sanders leads the Color Corps and provides continuous training to improve our members while giving them greater confidence with each turnout. He's ably assisted by District Marshals SK Stephen Coker, SK Michael Davenport, DC State Warden SK James "Eddie" Oxford, Jr., SK Isidore Sobgo, and Provincial Marshal Steven L. Law.

Our Faith focuses our patriotic service. We share the Supreme Master's vision that all Sir Knights are religiously devoted and patriotically proud. In this regard, we continue to be more than just Color Corps. We strive to steadily improve our programs focusing on Church, Fraternity, Patriotic Support, and Patriotic Education. Our Catholic American Patriots support our first responders and Veterans, as well as our bishops and priests, all while teamed with our 86 local councils.

Executing our broad mission throughout the Archdiocese of Washington relies on a strong and dedicated AWD Staff. My thanks first to SK Reverend Monsignor Karl "Elvis" Chimiak, Faithful Friar. Msgr Karl inspires everyone he encounters, and we're blessed to have him on our team. Our Secretary, SK Gus Gusman, Comptroller, SK Joe Massimini, Membership Director SK Gary Patishnock, and Warden, SK Larry Perkins, dedicate many hours to make AWD successful and free our members to focus on growing in their Faith and serving those in need.

Our Patriotic Education Chairman SK Jeff Koscho, and VAVS Chairman SK John Weaver, Jr. help focus our patriotic efforts through education and invitations to serve. The results are visible in Wreaths Across America participation, gift items to Charlotte Hall, and DC VA Medical Center, donations to the Archdiocese of the Military Services Chaplain Scholarship Fund, Living Rosaries, casket watches, and many more local events.

This year, we had the privilege of presenting the Revised Exemplification of Patriotism. This is the first full update to the ceremony since its inception 125 years ago. AWD debuted this new ceremony for 29 new Sir Knights at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Lexington Park, MD, under the direction of

Degree Team Captain SK Rob Van Rite. This public ceremony enables us to share the great message of the exemplification with our families and parishioners. It is sure to draw more members to the Fourth Degree.

This year, AWD lost two inspirational and dedicated leaders. SK Dr. Reginald C. Grier served as the degree team captain and a ceremonialist for many years. He drew out the best from every team member for each ceremony. He also served as AWD's liaison to Scouting for decades helping Scouts strengthen the message that a Scout is reverent. SK Joseph E. Murtha, served as AWD Master 2004-2008, though his impact was felt throughout the district and state at every level. As AWD Master, SK Joe initiated the transition from 35mm slides to a more complete exemplification message through his development of a PowerPoint presentation. His vision was recognized by the Supreme Master's office. They adopted his presentation, refined and improved it, then made it the national standard for 20 years. SK Joe's dedication and manner personally inspired thousands of Knights to grow into better Catholics and Knights. We continue to keep these men and their families in our prayers. The powerful impact of these two AWD leaders will continue for many years to come.

Finally, I thank my wife of 46 years, Lady Annie, for her love and support in all that we do.

Fraternally and patriotically,  
SK Christopher L. Powers  
Master Archdiocese of Washington District

*MD State Council  
125 Years of Service*



*Make a Difference in  
Someone's Life*

**Reports  
from  
State Ladies Activities Committee  
&  
State Ladies Auxiliary**

## Ladies Activities Committee (LAC)

This year, Josie Boisvert chaired the Ladies Activities Committee with Vicki Cohen, Linda Wilk, Maria Little, and our Angel in Heaven, Kathy Vassallo. The Ladies Activities Committee (LAC) provides a vital function within the State Council leadership group by encouraging fellowship, socialization, and community service by entertaining the wives of the District Deputies, District Wardens, Grand Knights, Deputy Grand Knights, directors, and committee chairmen, while their husbands are in organizational meetings throughout the fraternal year.

The year began with the Leadership Meeting at Holy Family Catholic Church in Davidsonville, MD on the very hot days of June 21 & 22, 2024. On Friday, we got to know our District Deputies' wives with a great team-building exercise, and we ate a tasty lunch at Wilder Café in Annapolis. We returned to the Church for a presentation by the Anne Arundel County Office of Emergency Management. They provided a program of home safety information, and we even got to put out a fire! (Digitally, of course). Saturday, the District Wardens' and Grand Knights' wives joined us. After a PowerPoint training session presented by First Lady Kathy and a question/answer session, we carpooled to Annapolis with our boxed lunches for a scenic cruise to the historic Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse in the Chesapeake Bay. We returned to Holy Family in time for Mass and dinner.

Cooler weather brought the Fall Meeting at The National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg on October 26, 2024. The ladies were asked to bring items to fill **Boxes of Joy**® for Cross Catholic Outreach. Box of Joy gifts are Christmas gifts sent to children in developing countries like Haiti, Malawi, and the Dominican Republic. We were able to fill 135 boxes! We car-pooled to the Mansion House 1757 Restaurant in Fairfield, PA, where we had a delightful lunch. We then headed to the Gettysburg Railroad Station to A Ticket to the Past where we journeyed back to June 1863 for an immersive virtual reality experience. Each woman chose one of three real-life people in history to view the events surrounding the Battle of Gettysburg through their eyes. After free time for shopping in historic downtown Gettysburg, we returned to The Shrine for Mass and dinner.

At the State Christmas Party on December 14, 2024, at Columbus Gardens in Nottingham, MD, the LAC created themed baskets to raffle as a fundraiser to support the Maryland State Council's Ladies' Activities. The funds raised helped to support the Convention Ladies Luncheon, evening entertainment, door prizes, and other activities throughout the year. This event was highly successful, and the winners happily carried their baskets home.

The new year came fast on the heels of Christmas, which meant the State Midterm Meeting on January 4, 2025, at Columbus Gardens. The ladies met briefly for introductions and door prizes, and then boarded buses provided by State Deputy to The Maryland Science Center in downtown Baltimore. Box lunches were delivered to the Science Center by Trinacria. All the ladies enjoyed walking through the exhibits and participating in the hands-on experiments. We watched the IMAX movie "The Coral Sea" on the biggest indoor screen in Maryland before boarding the buses again. We ended our day back at Columbus Gardens with Mass and light fare before heading our separate ways.

The weather was still cold, and the Spring Meeting was held on March 8, 2025, in Easton, MD. We started with a Baby Shower for Baywater Women's Clinic (formerly Choices Pregnancy Center), with their CEO providing a brief presentation and accepting the shower gifts. We carpooled to Kiln Born Creations in Easton to design a bisque-fired pottery mug. The completed masterpieces were placed in the kiln for firing and were picked up a week later by Josie Boisvert for distribution at future state events. We carpooled to a tasty lunch at Suicide Bridge Restaurant on the beautiful Choptank River in Hurlock, MD. Mass was held in the Chapel of Sts. Peter and Paul with dinner at the Elks Lodge before returning home.

On May 2, 2025, the LAC closed the fraternal year with the 127th State Convention at the Crowne Plaza Annapolis. An invitation-only luncheon was held for the wives of the men holding state positions, State Ladies Auxiliary Co-Chairs, State Auxiliary Presidents, and the wives of Council Grand Knights. The theme was The Mad Hatter's Crazy Hat Tea Party, and the ladies were asked to come dressed for tea and wear a funny hat (or even make a crazy one). Comfort items were collected to give to patients at the Rebecca Fortney Luminus Health Breast Cancer Center, and as always, our Ladies were very generous. The Wives of the State Officers presented a skit about kindness (the First Lady's theme) featuring Dr. Seuss characters, and the LAC presented a skit based on Alice in Wonderland characters. A delicious buffet with tea fare such as finger sandwiches, tarts, scones, and mini pastries (and of course, tea) was enjoyed by all.

In the evening, all registered women at the State Convention were invited to a show performed by award-winning actress and Smithsonian Scholar, Mary Ann Jung. Ms. Jung researches and writes her own scripts and portrays famous women and their times using authentic costumes and accents. This show featured the actress portraying Juliette Gordon Low, founder of the Girl Scouts – the largest and most successful organization for girls in the world. Many of our ladies are former Girl Scouts and former Scout Leaders, so this was an interesting and relevant character choice for them.

Serving on the Ladies Activities Committee has allowed Josie, Vicki, Linda, and Maria to get to know ladies from across the state. Using the First Lady's theme of kindness & thoughtfulness, they have strived to promote a welcoming atmosphere that facilitates friendship between all women in the State, regardless of State or other Leadership positions. Josie, Vicki, Linda, and Maria have enjoyed serving the Maryland State Jurisdiction as members of the LAC. They appreciate the trust placed in them by the Worthy State Deputy, Anthony N. Salvemini, and his wife, First Lady Kathy, and look forward to the next Fraternal year.

## State Ladies Auxiliary Co-Chairs

This year was the first as Co-Chairs of the Maryland State Council Ladies Auxiliaries for Ruth Gusman, Juana Fernandez, and Annette Bishop. The Co-Chairs conducted several installations of Auxiliary Officers throughout the State. In July and August, they conducted sessions at each State Program Seminar to provide information on how to start new auxiliaries, promote growth, and retain membership. They included ideas and handouts to keep the auxiliaries moving forward with fundraising and social activities.

At the close of the Fraternal year, there were 37 Ladies Auxiliaries in the state. One new auxiliary was instituted, and several inactive auxiliaries were revitalized. These auxiliaries are now active and vibrant in their communities.

An Auxiliary article is now provided for each monthly State Newsletter, with a Spanish translation.

This year the first-ever Zoom meeting for Auxiliary Presidents and members was held in September. During this meeting, auxiliary procedures were reviewed, questions were answered, and “best ideas” were shared. Another Zoom meeting was held in early January to help auxiliaries navigate the award packet reports and answer questions. The Zoom meetings allow all Auxiliary Presidents to meet together and will continue to be scheduled moving forward. To be inclusive, the Zoom meetings offer a Spanish translation feature if needed.

During the year, our auxiliaries held an amazing number of creative events to benefit their members, parishes, and communities. Here are some of the highlights:

Activities for foster children in the CASA program

Baby showers to benefit pregnancy centers

Boxes of Joy

Care packages for chemo patients

Christmas cards and shoeboxes for troops

Christmas events

Easter, Christmas, and Halloween parties for children in the community

Estate planning seminar

Lenten Soup and bread dinners

Making of adult bibs for nursing homes

Raffles, book sales, and dances to fundraise for charities

Sock donations to local homeless shelters

Teddy tea-stuffed animals were collected for first responders and a local hospital

The auxiliaries have been the backbone of many Knights of Columbus council events. They regularly help with dinners, Rosary prayer services, hall decorations, council fundraising, and other council events.

The Ladies Auxiliaries in the State of Maryland have a lot to be proud of this year, and their continued support of their members, parishes, and communities is much appreciated.

The Co-Chairs have placed an emphasis this year on updating the state's auxiliary information and keeping the auxiliaries informed and up to date. Many auxiliary documents, auxiliary procedures, and the State Auxiliary FaceBook page have been updated this year. It has been a lot of work, but they have enjoyed serving the Maryland State Jurisdiction and meeting auxiliary members from around the state. They thank the Auxiliary Presidents and their members for their support and understanding during this first year of service.

Ruth, Juana, and Annette appreciate the trust placed in them by First Lady Kathy Salvemini, and they thank her for her advice and support as they learn to navigate their positions as State Ladies Auxiliary Co-Chairs.

*MD State Council  
125 Years of Service*



*Make a Difference in  
Someone's Life*

**Reports  
from  
District Deputies**

## DISTRICT 1

**District Deputy: Matthew Warehime**

**District Warden: Rob Farrell**

Worthy State Deputy, Officers & Delegates  
127th Annual State Convention,  
Maryland State Council  
Annapolis, Maryland

Worthy State Deputy and Brother Knights,

The Councils of District 2 submit for your consideration the reports that follow. The councils and their Grand Knights are:

Sacred Heart Council No. 2577  
St. Mary of the Assumption Council No. 9302  
Father Peter C. Boyle Council No. 12254  
Father Michael C. Kidd Council No. 14455

Tim Fitzmaurice  
Britt Howard  
Karl Caton  
Roy Cobo

I want to thank all the Councils in the District for their cooperation, support and hospitality throughout the year. Congratulations to all the Councils on their many and various programs and events held during a most successful year.

I also thank Sacred Heart, Peter Boyle, Father Michael C. Kidd, and St. Mary of the Assumption Councils who held Exemplifications of new members for bringing in new members. Thank you, gentlemen, for your friendship and support.

Thank you to District Warden Rob Farrell for his dedication, assistance and advice these past few years.

To the State Chaplain, State Officers, Directors and Chairman, congratulations on a most successful year of excellent programs which made my job easier.

To State Deputy, Anthony Salvemini, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Maryland State Council as one of your District Deputies. It has been a rewarding experience. Your interactive training was fantastic and much appreciated.

Last but not least I thank my family, especially my wife, Cherie, for her understanding, support and patience, to me for many State, District and Council functions.

Matthew J. Warehime

District Deputy

## District 2

District Deputy - Charles I. Briscoe

Council 2809 - Grand Knight John Foley  
Council 10085 - Grand Knight David Pitts  
Council 11422 - Grand Knight Jerome Swann

District Warden - Hyacinth Uzoma

Council 5381- Grand Knight Ike Udejiofor  
Council 10046 -Grand Knight Luis Martinez

### Notable Activities by Council

#### **Council 2809:**

The District Deputy (DD) of District 2 installed new officers of Council 2809 on Sunday 8/10/2024, for the 2024-2025 fraternal year. He ensured that Forms 185 (Election of New officers), form 365 (FIA Directors) and a list of delegates and alternates for the 2025 State Convention were submitted to the Supreme and/or State councils on or near the schedule due dates. Members of council 2809 sponsored an annual “.1-Kilometer marathon” walk and picnic on 9/21/2024; an annual crab feast on 9/29/2024, and a Classic Mustang and Ford car show on 8/5/2025. The council’s financial secretary participated in the annual Super Ice Water Plunger fund raiser in February 2025 to support the Special Olympics. The council made substantial donations to the state annual Coat Drive, a local Pregnancy Center, and their seminarian program. The council also sponsored a “Keeping Christ in Christmas” poster contest, and invited special guests to council meetings share spiritual guidance on the Catholic Faith and their KofC Field Agent who shared information on fraternal benefit investment opportunities. The council held Fall and Spring Delta Church drives that resulted in new members joining the order. Council 2809 will make Star Council for the 2024-2025 fraternal year.

#### **Council 5381:**

Council Installation of Officers was held on Wednesday 7/14/2024, following the 6:00pm mass at St. Matthias the Apostle Church in Lanham, Md. The council raised over \$60,000 for volunteer work at all Washington Commanders home games. Over \$40,000 of the funds were donated to the St. Matthias School Scholarship program and over \$9,000 was donated to the church for upgrades to its IT video/monitor hardware systems. On 10/6/2024, members of council 5381 went on a pilgrimage to Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg, MD and served as ushers at the Annual Pilgrimage for the Sea Service mass. The council donated infant food, diapers, clothes, and toys along with \$500 to the Bowie Maryland Pregnancy Center and two \$500 in donations to the seminarian tuition program. The council sponsored a dinner on 2/18/2025, to honor the retirement of the council’s Associate Chaplain after 25 years of service to the church, and a farewell reception in July 2025 for a visiting pastor. On 3/4/25, council members prepared and served a “free to all” Shrove Tuesday pancake supper for the community and a Christmas recognition awards dinner for council’s families and fund-raising volunteers. The council collected and donated infant food, diapers, clothes, toys, and a \$500 check to the Bowie Maryland Pregnancy Center. Council 5381 also donated \$1,000 to the Bishop James E. Walsh Assembly to support their assembly activities. In February 2025, Council 5381 established a secure online website to share information online with its council members. From 3/10 to 3/23/2025, Council 5381 hosted the Icon of The Sacred Heart of Jesus at various masses during its stay in District 2. On 5/11/2025, the council distributed flowers with an attached note “Happy Mother’s Day, Thank You for Choosing Life.” to mothers after each mass for Moher’s Day. The council held quarterly COR group meetings. Council 5381 should make Star Council for the 2024-2025 fraternal year.

#### **Council 10046:**

The Council Installation of Officers was held on Sunday July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, followed by a reception in the church parish center. The council purchases can and dry goods for the St. Mary’s of Landover Hills Church food pantry and provided hundreds of service hours to support the Ladies of Charity soup kitchen for those in need program. The council sold large sums of raffle tickets to support the church’s building fund and church school programs. Council 10046 held Fall and Spring Delta Church Drives to recruit new members into the Order, and two Fraternal Financial Benefit drives during the year. The council stuff over two thousand plastic eggs and conducted their

annual Eastern Egg Hunt for children in the parish and community after each easter church service and distributed flowers to mothers after masses on Mother's Day.

### **Council 10885:**

On August 6, 2024, the District Deputy installed the new council officers for the 2024-2025 fraternal. The council held a Labor-fest over the 2024 Labor Day weekend and a Tour De Greenbelt bike-a-thorn through Greenbelt City to raise funds to support scheduled council events and an Empty Bowl Event on 11/17/2024, followed by a Community Thanksgiving Dinner 11/27/2024. The council sponsored a community Youth Haunted House event on 10/25/2024 and a Joint Christmas Bazaar with the Ladies of Charity on 12/3/2024. The Council also sponsor a Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest and made a \$500 donation to the Coats for Kids program on 12/15/2024. The council held a community pancake breakfast and Poor Man's suppers during the Lenten Season and gave flowers to mothers after each church service on Mother's Day. Council 10885 will make Star Council for the 2024-2025 fraternal year.

### **Council 11422:**

The council's installation of new officers was performed by the DD on Sunday 8/27/2024 and followed by a reception in the parish Ballroom. This council also has an active Ladies Auxiliary. Throughout the year, and Lenten season, the council held fund raising fish fries, yard sales, collected and purchased coats for kids, sponsored a Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest, and Box of Joy program. The council sponsored a "name engraved buy-a-brick" fund raiser to a sitting area adjacent to their council's church. Council 11422 held a fund-raising Mardi Gras Ball On 3/1/2025, and distributed flowers to Mothers after each mass over Mother's Day weekend. The council made generous donations to the Seminarian program and Pregnancy Center. A sir knight and a Family from James C. Fletcher Council were named "State Citizen of the Year" and "State Family of the Year" during the state awards competition at the Maryland State Council 143<sup>rd</sup> Founders Day Recognition reception on 3/22/2025. Council 11422 should make Star Council again this year.

**In Summary** the DD & DW conducted annual, Mid-year, and impromptu council meetings, when necessary, after each state leadership, fall, midterm, and spring meeting. He attended several councils' fund-raising events throughout the fraternal year. In concert with the District Warden, the DD attended council monthly business meetings and provided guidance on council 'protocol and advice on policies and procedures when required. The DD attended assembly and chapter meetings, when possible, to share and exchange information. During the months of July and August of 2024, the DD conducted official visits to all councils in District 2 and audited their business records and business practices for process and process compliance. Reports of findings were provided to each Grand Knight for corrective action(s). Follow-up meetings were conducted to verify that all audit findings were corrected. On 11/10/2024, the DD announced names of recently deceased brother knights at the State Annual Necrology Mass. On 10/6/2024, the DD served as a flag bearer at the Annual Red Mass for the Chief Justices of the US Supreme Court and served as an usher at various March for Life Masses at the Basilica of National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in January 2025. DD also served as color corps team flag bearer at the Youth Special Olympics competitions in May 2025 at the Catholic University sports center in Washington DC and served as flag bearer at various 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Exemplifications in Washington, DC, and Maryland. The DD authored monthly articles regarding upcoming State/Supreme activities and events and submitted them to the GKs in his district to be included in their monthly or bi-monthly newsletters. The DD and DW of District 2 maintained an excellent rapport with their councils' Grand Knights, officers, and members to help ensure that required reports and other deliverables were submitted to intended receivers on time.

**Conclusion:** The Councils in District 2 are alive and well and will continue to serve our parishes, families, and communities through our FIA initiatives and programs to help "Make a Difference in Someone Life."

Submitted by,  
Charles Briscoe, District Deputy #2

## District 3

District Deputy: Mike Thompson  
Igoe

District Warden: Jay

Fr. Michael J. McGivney Council #7025 – Grand Knight lyke Okoro, Sr.

Our Lady of the Chesapeake Council #10881 – Grand Knight Josh Frank

Archbishop Francis P. Keough Council #10966 – Grand Knight Dennis Bryant

St. Bernadette Council #11214 – Grand Knight Bob Welenc

St. Philip Neri Council#14612 – Grand Knight Chris Figueroa

### **Notable Activities by Council**

#### **Council 7025:**

The council's Installation of Officers was held on August 31, 2024 at Christ the King Catholic Church, followed by a reception in the parish hall. Council holds monthly 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Rosary prayer times. Council Chaplain both sponsored and presided over a Blue Mass, a special Mass for all First Responders. Council collected 28 Boxes of Joy to donate. Council held St. Patrick's Day dinner, raising money for the council, for St. Vincent DePaul, LSOP, and Helping People With Special Needs. Council consistently nominates a Knight of the Month and a Family of the month. Council holds a Fish Fry each Friday during Lent.

#### **Council 10881:**

The council's Installation of Officers was held on July, 2024 at Our Lady of the Chesapeake Catholic Church, followed by their business meeting. The council has participated in many activities including: Rock'n'Roll Dinner, OLC's Trunk or Treat, Nun Run supporting LSOP, and OLC Day of Service at Baltimore Station assisting and serving veterans. Upcoming events include OLC Easter Egg Hunt, Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast, and Father's Day BBQ.

#### **Council 10966:**

The council's Installation of Officers was held on July 20, 2024 at St. Jane Frances de Chantal Catholic Church, followed by a reception in the parish hall. Council has participated in the RSVP program, providing a monetary donation to a local Seminarian. Council has participated in the ASAP Program, providing a monetary donation to the Mary's Center, a pro-life organization. Council Faith Activities director and members held a "Everyone Needs Fatima" Rosary on a busy corner in Pasadena, MD.

Council has held 2 Exemplifications and welcomed a few new members. Council holds Fish Fry events each Friday during Lent. Council achieved Star Status last year and hopes to do it again this year.

### **Council 11214:**

The council's Installation of Officers was held on July 13, 2024 at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, followed by a reception in the parish hall. Council holds monthly 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Rosary prayer times, as well as 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Rosary times in months that have a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Council rotates between having a pancake breakfast and supporting the parish movie night each month. Council has also been asked each year to cook pancakes for Shrove Tuesday dinner. Council supports the parish through various ministries and setup/break down for parish events.

### **Council 14612:**

The council's Installation of Officers was held on 27, 2024 at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church, followed by a reception in the parish hall. The council has participated in activities and programs such as the "Leave No Neighbor Behind," RSVP Program, ASAP Program, Cor, and the Sacred Heart Icon. The council holds regular 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Rosary prayer times and has held an overnight Adoration event. The council collected over 1200 coats for families in need at St. Philip Neri and St. Clement Parishes. Council achieved Star Council honors last year and is on course to earn it again this year.

## **Summary**

The District Deputy and/or the District Warden is/are present at every council business meeting and important dates and messages from the State Council are delivered. Both DD and DW have established good communication and a working relationship with each of our councils. We held quarterly district meetings as dictated by the State Council. Councils 11214 and 14612 are on course to achieve Star Council this year.

## **Conclusion**

District 3 is alive and well and each council continues to serve their respective parishes and communities by putting their faith in action, thereby "Making a Difference in Someone's Life".

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Thompson

District Deputy, District #3

## **District 4**

Westminster Council 1393  
St Charles Borromeo Council 3960  
Immaculate Lady Council 5208  
Archbishop Sheen Council 7612,  
St Bartholomew Council 9127

### District Deputy Dennis Ford

### District Warden David Clement

District 4 is comprised of Westminster Council 1393 (GK Daniel C Lech), Saint Charles Borromeo Council 3960 (GK E. Paul Jones), Immaculate Lady Council 5208 (GK Michael Ford). Archbishop Fulton J Sheen, Council 7612 (Alan Grasley), and Saint Bartholomew's Council, 9127 (GK Mathew Morley). The district encompasses all of Carroll County and parts of northwestern Baltimore County.

### Notable Activities by Council

Council 1393 under the Leadership pf GK Daniel Lech was again a leader in programs. They continued to host all the parish pancake breakfasts and did very well raising funds during the tootsie roll and cash incentive raffle campaigns. They conducted 2 food drives the benefited the local community, as well as a Christmas Party for the Head Start Program, sponsored a bus to attend the MD March for Life in Annapolis, and once again this year their annual Golf Tournament will support St John School, Carroll Food Sunday, and Carroll County Special Olympics. They also started the COR program.

Council 3960 following the leadership of GK E. Paul Jones had a successful year bringing in new members and are expecting to meet their quota by the end of the year. The Council is consistent with programs in supporting both Holy Family and St. Charles Borromeo parishes. They also collaborated with the Catholic Daughters in supporting the Apostleship of the Sea. The Council continues to support the Coats for Kids program, ASAP, RSVP, and Baby Bottle programs. They also worked with BCPD and collected over 1,000 pounds of food for the hungry, they supported the Pregnancy Center West, Special Olympics, family of the month programs and parish fish Frys. The Council will be celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year with a banquet.

Council 5208, under the leadership GK Michael Ford is a hard-working GK looking for every opportunity to make his Council the best it can be. They continue to work in the community with the monthly Our Daily Bread Casserole baking and providing support for their brothers. They exceeded their membership quota this year and are on track to become STAR COUNCIL again this year. The Council has great relationship with the Hispanic Community including Our Lady of Guadalupe procession in December. They support the Veterans, Meet the Knights events, and assist the widows. They also have a great relationship with Parish by supporting the Prish Picnic, as well as the Parish Lenten Meal. And the Parish Golf Tournament,

Council 7612 has a strong group of leaders working with GK Alan Grasley, who has made it a point to try new activities this fraternal year. They continue to increase the recruitment of new members and are on target to meet their membership quota. They have started holding recruitment events that think ‘out of the box’ creating new and devise ideas to attract younger families to the order. The council does, an amazing job in fundraising for various scholarships and programs for the Church. and their M&T Bank concession stands and pit beef team’s support organizations such as Carroll Conty Pregnancy Center Baltimore Appalachia Work Camp, Vacation Bible School, Blood Drives, Prison Ministries. They have popular Family programs for the Church such as Movie Night & Lenten dinners. They have outstanding community programs where they are working with an inner-city School, Mother Seton Academy, to continue to support and mentor students and they participate in many other youth programs like the soccer shootout.

Council 9127 and GK Matthew Morley have a strong council supporting their various programs and their Church. They have positive recognition from the community for their work in maintaining the Ellsworth Cemetery, the highway cleanup program, Coats for Kids program and their support of the ARC of Carroll County. They made it a priority to support the year of the Eucharist and held a Eucharistic procession in both in November and as part of Holy Thursday services. The council participated in many youth activities including hosting a soccer shootout. Bike rodeo and Halloween trunk or treat. The council has also been very active in pro-life activities supporting both the Westminster and Catoctin Pregnancy centers.

All the Councils in District 4 are in the process of creating their own degree teams within their own councils, this in an effort to be more independent when it comes to timely exemplifications.

I would like to thank our Worthy State Deputy, Anthony Salvemini for having confidence and Faith in me and for giving me the opportunity to serve the State Council as District Deputy. I would also like to thank all the State Officers for their help and mentorship this past year. They have always been very helpful and responsive to my requests. To my District Warden David and Lady Elaine thanks for always being there to support Gail and I and covering for me when necessary.

Respectfully submitted  
Dennis Ford  
District Deputy #4

## **District 5**

District Deputy Donald Kinler

District Warden Frank Uyakonwu

Council 6901 - Grand Knight Timothy Flynn  
Council 11024 - Grand Knight Dante Preciado  
Council 11105 - Grand Knight Donald Cooke  
Council 12127 - Grand Knight Luis Gorres  
Council 14297 - Grand Knight Paul Mehraban

### **Notable Activities by Council**

#### **Council 6901**

Council installation of officers was held on July 20 with a reception following. The council provided support to Maryland Special Olympics by sponsoring a Picnic and Halloween Dance. The council also conducted a “Keep Christ in Christmas” poster contest. The council provided support for one seminarian and was an avid supported of the “Family of the Month” program. The council hosted weekly Lenten Fish Dinners for the parish and surrounding community. The council also supported several Pro-Life groups and projects including attendance at the annual National March for Life.

#### **Council 11024**

Council installation of officers was held on August 24 with a reception following. The council conducted two cash bingos where the proceeds were used to support eleven seminarians who received their awards at a council sponsored bar-b-que at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary. The council conducts monthly memorial Masses for deceased members and their widows. The council also hosted a free “Breakfast with Santa” for the children of the parish and surrounding community. The council hosted several family night dinners featuring African, Indian and Polynesian cuisine. The council supported and attended both the National and Maryland Marches for Life. The council hosted its fifth annual “St. Joseph’s Altar/Table” featuring a children’s pageant and Irish/Italian dinner for the parish and surrounding community.

#### **Council 11105**

Council Installation of Officers was held on July 27 with a reception following. The council supports many parish activities including the Christmas Bazaar, leading the Rosary on Marian Holy Days as well supporting the Faith Formation Program of the parish. The council hosted a Rosary making class for the fourth-grade faith formation class. The council also conducted two fundraising activities at a local restaurant where the council received twenty percent of the night’s proceeds. The council community outreach programs include participation in a local parade where candy is distributed to the spectators and works in conjunction with the American Legion accepting worn American Flags that beyond repair for proper disposal.

### **Council 12127**

Council Installation of officers was held on August 3 with a reception following. The council achieved its membership quota prior to the September 30 deadline and qualified for the Fast Start Initiative Award. The council hosted a “Breakfast with St. Nicholas” for the children of the parish. The parish hosted monthly food collections supporting the St. Martin of Tours parish food pantry. The council hosted several family events including a chili cook off, St. Patrick’s Day dinner and silent auction. The council conducts a “Baby Bottle Campaign” to support the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. The council holds a social meeting for members every third Thursday of the month.

### **Council 14297**

Council installation of officers was held on October 3 with a reception following. The council conduct monthly food drives for various community groups including the St. Martin of Tours Food Pantry and the Little Sisters of The Poor. The council conducted the St. Joseph Icon program. The council provided support for various parish events including the Christmas Tree sale and Cinco de Mayo celebration. The council hosted a bi-lingual Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity in both English and Spanish. The council hosted a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, proceeds were used to support three seminarians. The council hosted a presentation on “The Shroud of Turin” where the parish and surrounding community were invited.

### **Summary**

DD and/or DW attend every council business meeting where the State Deputy’s message is delivered as well as other important council and district information. DD and DW have established an excellent working relationship with council leadership. Four district meetings were held during the year following Leadership, Fall, Midterm and Spring meetings. Council 12127 is on track to achieve Double Star Council, while Councils 11024 and 14297 are on track to make Star Council. DD attends as many council events when possible.

### **Conclusion**

District 5 remains engaged and membership active achieving its membership quota early in the fraternal year. The district continues to serve our parishes, families, communities and seminarians through many successful FIA programs while striving to **“Make a Difference in Someone’s Life.”**

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald Kinler, District Deputy #5

## **District 6**

District Deputy – Charlie E. Widmayer Sr.

District Warden – James Bernen Jr.

Worthy State Deputy, State Officers, & Delegates

127<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention

Maryland State Council

Annapolis, MD.

District 6 of the Maryland State council submits the following report for your consideration. Council and their Grand Knights are as follows:

St. Mary's Council # 1470

Steven Tomaszeski

St. John Francis Regis SJ Council # 7914

Michael Little

Immaculate Conception Council # 8159

Mearl Rusaw

St. Francis Xavier the Missionary Council #10957

Brandon Witt

Our Lady of the Wayside Council # 16986

James Dorsey

I was asked to take over in January of this year because of DD Dan Greenwell illness. Thanks to James Bernen for stepping into DW position. Also, Thanks to the officers and membership of the councils in District 6 for their cooperation and support during the past year. The hospitality shown to me and to my District Warden is especially appreciated. I congratulate the councils in District 6 for their numerous and varied programs of Faith, Life, Community and Family which were performed during the past year. Special recognition to Council 8159 and Grand Knight Mearl Rusaw for qualifying for Star Council.

I especially thank Council 1470 and Grand Knight Steven Tomaszeski for weekly community Friday evening BINGO games at FAW gym, quarterly Red Cross Blood Drives at Knights Hall, Christmas in April. They also coordinated the first annual District 6 Clergy Appreciation Dinner at St. Aloysius parish hall.

I also thank the brother knights who recruited new members during 1024/2025 fraternal year. Council 8159 has used online recruiting with great success. They have gotten 14 new members with it. They were also successful on raising funds to drill a well in Tanzania. The priest in Tanzania was so grateful and wanted to join the Knights. They worked with State Council and Fr. Allan became a Knight. The council made him their Chapline since they did not have one at that time.

Fr. Allen came to USA and went New York to become 4th Degree Knight. Since then, 16 others in his village have joined the Knights of Columbus, they are the first Knights to join from Africa.

Council 16986 has been busy with their Programs and held Church Drives, but they only have one new member this year. Sam Williams took his Exemplification January 22,2025.

Council 10957 has been busy with their Programs and held Church Drive, but they only have one new member this year. Rick Ray took his Exemplification February 9, 2025. Mark Coontz had to stand down from Grand Knight because of illness. Brandon Witt has taken over as Grand Knight.

Council 7914 because of the St. John's Church renovation has not had a successful Church Drive. They have been working on their programs the best they can and are planning to get their pancake breakfasts in full gear after Easter.

To District Warden James Berned, a special thanks for his dedication and assistance during our time this year. James accompanied me willingly assisted when asked to perform special tasks. I also thank his wife Debi for her supporting James and her understanding, which enables James to attend numerous meetings and events during the year.

Respectfully Submitted  
Charlie E. Widmayer Sr. DD#6

## **District 7**

**Joseph Knight**  
**District Deputy**  
**5874 Steepridge Dr.**  
**Elkridge, MD. 21075**

**Worthy State Deputy, Officers & Delegates**  
**127<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention**  
**Maryland State Council**  
**Annapolis, Maryland**

**The councils of District 7 submit for your consideration the reports that follow. The councils and their Grand Knights are:**

<b>Bethlehem Council No. 2605</b>	<b>James E. DiBlasio</b>
<b>Dundalk Council No. 2940</b>	<b>Ian Budny</b>
<b>Knights Of Fatima No. 10137</b>	<b>Joseph Nichols</b>

**I thank all of the Councils in the District for their cooperation, support, and hospitality throughout the year. Congratulations to all the Councils on their many and varied programs and events during a most successful year.**

**I thank all of the Councils for their recruitment efforts in the past year. Also, I thank Dundalk Council for hosting the first and third quarterly meetings, Bethlehem Council for hosting the midterm meeting as well as the fourth quarter meeting**

**To the State Chaplain, State Officers, Directors and Chairmen, congratulations for a most successful year of meaningful programs.**

**To State Deputy, Anthony Salvemini, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve Maryland State Council as one of your District Deputies. It has been a very rewarding experience. I am eternally grateful for your support and guidance during the past year.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
**District Deputy #7**  
**Joseph Knight**

## **District 10**

### **District Deputy Rick Askins --- District Warden Gary Patishnock**

Council 14099 Grand Knight Michael McNally  
Council 2203 Grand Knight Frederick (Rick) Krutz  
Council 5564 Grand Knight John Wells  
Council 11619 Grand Knight Tom Deramo  
Council 9808 Grand Knight Richard Ochai

#### **Notable Activities by Council**

##### **Council 14099 - Resurrection Council**

Resurrection Council supported the Laurel Pregnancy Center with donations during the year. They sponsored Hospitality Sundays serving doughnuts and coffee for the Church. The Council also has Ice Cream socials each month during the warmer months of the year. They cooked meals at Sarah's house, they held Fish Fry's and held a Pancake Dinner for the parish on Shrove Tuesday. The Council hosted a day long retreat for men which was well attended. This year they did a unique activity by installing large monitors in the entrance of the church and in the main Church to post information for the parishioners and to provide songs and verses during Mass.

##### **Council 2203 - Patuxent Council**

Patuxent Council participates in the Food for Families program by sponsoring a SHARE host site, where the Council purchases bulk food from the SHARE warehouse, volunteers break the food down to fill individual bags and donate it to clients once a month. They also take bulk food from SHARE to Elizabeth House, a community soup kitchen, and Laurel Advocacy and Referral Service (LARS). They worked with LARS and the Laurel Police Department to distribute the eight cases of coats purchased from the Coats for Kids program. The Council made up Box of Joy gift boxes this year, hosted a Coffee for Seminarian activity every month to raise money for seminarians and prayed an online Rosary every week for life. They hosted Fish Fry's during Lent and a Pancake Dinner on Shrove Tuesday. The Council also held a Lenten's men's retreat and a Memorial Mass in November for their departed members. The Council continued their longstanding participation in the RSVP Program this year.

##### **Council 5564 - St. Jerome's Council**

One feature activity for St. Jerome's Council is organizing talks during the year on different topics, which are very popular, for example, one talk featured the Chairperson of the National March for Life and another a writer from the Pillar Catholic newsletter. They also help with Church and school dinners, Fish Fry's and sponsor a BBQ for the parishioners. They decorate the Church for Christmas and help the pastor with many items during the year. The Pastor attends as many meetings as he is able. They also volunteer with St. Jerome's Academy school. They have a softball team which has brought in some younger members. Because of their activities, they have met their membership goal this year.

### **Council 11619 - Deacon Lynn Council**

Deacon Lynn Council continues to host a popular monthly Parish movie night. They also hosted a Palm Sunday Easter-Egg Roll and provided critical volunteer support to multiple family-friendly parish events throughout the fraternal year. They volunteer monthly at Elizabeth House to cook meals for people in need. The Pastor attends as many meetings as he is able. They support the annual LARS Turkey Trot fundraiser on Thanksgiving Day. They helped the Pastor with a large celebration this year where the new parish hall was paid off.

### **Council 9808- Father Pennington Council**

Father Pennington Council prepared food baskets for families in need at Thanksgiving. They also collect non-perishable food at the meetings to help support the Church's Parish pantry. The Council sells a very popular steak and cheese subs on Super Bowl weekend as a fundraiser to help support the Church. They also run the Flea Market in June to raise money for the Church. The Council continued their longstanding participation in the RSVP Program. They donate to a local pregnancy center and work to help host Burtonsville Day. They also host a joint Council and Michael J. Curley 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly Christmas Party, which is well attended.

### **Summary**

All councils in District 10 conducted Installations of Officers and held receptions afterwards. Most of the Ushers and Eucharistic Ministers at their respective parishes are Knights of Columbus members. The councils are following recommended meeting protocol.

The District Deputy and / or District Warden attended council business meetings where we delivered the State Deputy's message. We held four District meetings during the FY year after the DD / GK Leadership, Fall, Mid-term, and Spring Meetings. The DD / DW also attended some of the activities of the councils. District 10 should have at least three councils that will meet their membership goals this year.

### **Conclusion**

All District 10 councils are serving their parishes well and have their Pastor's support. Overall, the councils of District 10 are living up to "Make a Difference in Someone's Life" by participating in the K of C FIA program activities.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rick Askins, District Deputy 10

## **District 11**

### **Franklin Morton, District Deputy**

***Worthy State Deputy, Brothers All,***

***It is my privilege to submit the District 11 Annual Report for Fraternal Year 2024 – 2025 for your review. The Councils and Grand Knights comprising of District 11 are as follows:***

I would like to congratulate the Grand Knights, Council Officers, and Brother Knights of District 11 for a successful fraternal year, for your cooperation, hospitality, and support. District 11's success is a direct result from the successes of the Councils. This will be demonstrated by their individual reports below. These Knights have dedicated significant personal time while performing their works of charity simultaneously sacrificing time away from their families. For that very reason, I would like to thank the wives of the Brother Knights and their families for their dedication and support to the Order and to their men who serve it. I would also like to acknowledge the time, support, friendship, and advice given to me by Former District Deputy Gus Gusman for his mentorship.

#### **St. Maximilian Kolbe Council 16634**

#### **GK Robert Dowlut**

This small Council serves Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish and its Pastor and Chaplain Father Jerzy Frydrych. They guard Adoration, serve in processions of the Padre Pio Relic, usher Sunday Parish and Basilica Masses. They honor Polish Constitution and US Veteran's Days. They participate in Right to Life Activities, participate in several Food Programs and winter Coat Drives. They participate in Blood Drives, Ukraine Charity, and Dominican Sisters of Warsaw Charity. They are consistent supporters of Maryland State Council Little Sisters of the Poor initiative.

#### **St. Michael the Archangel Council 15084**

#### **GK Catalino Freolo**

This Council works closely with their Chaplain Monsignor Eddie Tolentino in their charitable outreach within the Parish and community. This includes a Cup of Joe food-packing event with Knights and Parishioners, a monthly pancake and bingo with Little Sisters of the Poor; an annual picnic with Missionary Sisters of Charity celebrating St. Teresa Feast Day. They donated 70 Boxes of Joy and 48 Coats for Kids for a local charity. They collected baby clothes for the Gabriel Project Cluster and participated in National Rally for Life activities. They hosted Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner for the parish. Members usher at the parish and Basilica Sunday Masses. They hosted a Blessed McGivney Prayer Hour and participated in a Lenten Retreat led by the Chaplain and Pastor. They celebrated the first anniversary devotion to Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians; they staff a Right to Life Booth at the Montgomery County Fair and once a month pray the entire Rosary outside a local abortion facility.

#### **Holy Family Council 5547**

#### **GK TBD**

The Council is currently inactive. Historically the Council had outstanding rapport with their Chaplain. They supported several Faith Programs including a memorial mass and luncheon for beloved deceased PGK, displayed St. Joseph Icon for veneration, donated \$500 to a Seminarian, reimbursed travel

expenses for the Chaplain after death of father and brother within a month. Made \$1,800 food packing donation with Maryland Chapter of Grand Knights. Conducted Delta Church drive where over 600 Consecration to the Holy Family prayer cards were distributed and prayer led at end of mass by the Chaplain. Council supported ASAP and also donated to St. Ann's, provided carnations for Mother's Day masses. Also held a Living Rosary in the month of October. The Council has a proud history supporting St. Camillus Parish and School, which supports 3 parishes. The Council will be dearly missed.

**Father Rosensteel Council 2169**

**GK Michael Quinn**

The Council enjoys a close partnership with their Chaplain Father Joesph Calis. Father Calis is well known for conducting a “pop-up” confession after a Membership Meeting. The Council holds a long-standing Friday Knight Rosary, an annual Rosary for the Unborn and the 32<sup>nd</sup> Pro March Rally Kick-Off Dinner hosting Right To Life speakers while raising donations for the Gabriel Project and the Northwest Center. The annual Nun’s Appreciation Dinner is an annual initiative together with a bicycle donation program for seminarians. The Council Knights raised funds for the Special Olympics in the Polar Plunge. The Council is a hub for Little Sister of the Poor monthly collections; it hosts dinners for Catholic Terps; and supports 8 different Parishes and organizations with their Food Basket Program at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. The Council also supported Parish Picnics at two of the Churches they serve. The Council hosted the Maryland State Council Founders Day Mass and Awards Dinner and the IPSD Christopher L. Powers Testimonial Dinner. And the Council is on pace to surpass their membership quota, two-fold.

All the Councils in the District hosted many activities this fraternal year. In spite of challenges resulting from the tail end of the Pandemic, the Councils successfully completed all Faith in Action activities. Following the pandemic, they creatively provided Faith and Community Programs in support to members and the community. I am very proud of their progress and their dedication. This resulted in financial, and manpower support for their communities and parishes.

To State Deputy Anthony Salvemini whose motto is “Make a Difference in Someone’s Life,” I thank you for your confidence in me and asking me to serve as District Deputy during the 2024-2025 fraternal year. I especially wish to thank you and the State Officers for their support and guidance. I have strived to serve you and the Order well and generate enthusiasm in the Councils I serve to exemplify the principles of the Knights of Columbus.

And finally, I want to thank my family for the love, support and understanding they have given me throughout my term as District Deputy. During my tenure with the Knights, and in my service as District Deputy, Lady Marta and I continue to build numerous new friendships and to deepen our faith while in service to the Parish, District 11, and Community. Lastly, I would especially like to thank my wife Marta for her many personal sacrifices and unwavering support as I performed my duties as District Deputy this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Franklin Morton District 11  
Maryland State Council

*“Make a Difference in Someone’s Life!”*

## **District 12**

*Anthony McGrath District Deputy  
Tom Birmingham District Warden*

Worthy State Deputy, Officers & Delegates 127th Annual State Convention  
Maryland State Council Annapolis, Maryland

Worthy State Deputy and Brother Knights,

The Councils of District 12 submit for your consideration the reports that follow. The Councils and their Grand Knights are:

Archbishop Neale Council #2279 -- GK. Michael Mickey  
Dr. John Henry Griffin Council #2293 -- GK. Adam Lanore  
John Fitzgerald Kennedy Council # 5482 -- GK. Marty Carts  
Holy Ghost Council #11484 -- GK. Joseph Hayden  
Maurice McDonough Council #12128 -- GK. John Mitchell

I thank all the Councils in the district for their cooperation, support and hospitality throughout the year. Congratulations to all the council on their many and varied programs and events during a most successful year.

Thank you to District Warden Tom Birmingham for his dedication, assistance and advice this past year.

To the State Chaplain, State Officers, Directors and Chairmen, congratulations on a most successful year of meaningful programs and thanks for your help in making my job easier. To State Deputy, Anthony Salvemini, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Maryland State Council as one of your District Deputies. It has been a rewarding experience. Your support and knowledgeable guidance throughout the year were very much appreciated. Finally, to all my Fellow District Deputies, thank you for all you do for the State Council.

Anthony McGrath District Deputy

## District 13

District Deputy Chris Daigle

District Warden David Bellistri

Council 13859 GK Joe Mizel, Council 6021 GK William Lane Council 2521 GK Robert Baumgartner Council 370 GK Paul Brennan

Council 13859, established in 2005, meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Middle River, MD. In August 2024, they held a mass and lunch to celebrate the installation of officers.

- **Faith:** Members serve in various roles at OLQP, such as ushers and Eucharistic ministers, and support fundraisers and church maintenance. They also support seminarians and plan a spiritual retreat to the Seton Shrine.
- **Community:** The council runs monthly Bingo, Breakfast with Santa and the Easter Bunny, and a free breakfast for the community. They host the annual Lenten Fish Fry and encourage youth involvement through the Soccer Challenge and Free-throw Challenge.
- **Life:** Fundraisers support pro-life causes, including the Center for Pregnancy Concerns, Ukraine Relief, and a local food bank.
- **Family:** They organize family-focused events like the Knight of the Month recognition, the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster contest, Family Movie/Prayer Nights, and Family Turkey Bingo before Thanksgiving.

The Grand Knight thanked everyone for their contributions, especially Father Patrick for his support. The council continues to thrive, following the legacy of their founder, Father Michael J. McGivney.

Father Burggraaff Council #6021 holds weekly meetings on Thursdays at 7 PM, beginning with a Rosary. Monthly meetings occur on the second Thursday, officer planning on the fourth, and the first Thursday is dedicated to a family social. The Council's Fraternal Year started in July 2024 with an Installation of Officers and fellowship. They have achieved Star Council status for 11 consecutive years and aim for 12.

**Faith Activities** include supporting seminarians, attending the 2025 Catholic Men's Fellowship Conference, helping at parish events, and planning the Sacred Heart Icon veneration. The Council also holds a monthly Rosary after Sunday Mass.

**Family Activities** involve supporting St. Vincent de Paul's casserole collection, coordinating a Christmas poster contest, distributing prayer cards, and leading the Prayer for Consecration to the Holy Family.

**Community Activities** include monthly donations to the Little Sisters of the Poor, a Soccer Challenge, coat collections, a Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser, honoring veterans, and fundraising for the Maryland School for the Blind. They also hosted the Free Throw Competition and supported multiple local charities.

**Life Activities** see the Council involved in pro-life events such as the March for Life, supporting Special Olympics, and fundraising through a Baby Bottle Campaign for the Center for Pregnancy Concerns. They also participated in the Silver Rose ceremony and sponsored a table at a Women's Care Center fundraiser.

In conclusion, the Council reflects on a successful year of charity, unity, and fraternity, thanking Fr. Jesse Bolger, District Deputy Chris Daigle, and District Warden David Bellistri for their support. Vivat Jesus!

### **Summary of Council #2521 Activities and Events:**

- **Meeting Schedule:** Two meetings per month, business meeting on the second Wednesday and social meeting on the fourth Wednesday. Meetings are held at Columbus Gardens, 4301 Klosterman Avenue, Nottingham, MD 21236.
- **Council Milestone:** Celebrated its 100th year in February 2024.
- **Key Figures:** Home to Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori and Past State Deputy Steve Cohen.
- **Recent and Upcoming Events:**
  - **Installation:** On July 27th, with a mass, installation, and refreshments.
  - **Fifth Sunday Mass:** Celebrated at St. Michael's on Sept. 29, 2024, and March 30, 2025, with breakfast at Overlea Diner.
  - **RSVP Program:** Donated \$500 to five seminarians during the year.
  - **Rosary:** Prayed with Father Donald and Deacon Mike Baxter on March 12th.
  - **Mass for Blessed Mother:** On May 28th with light refreshments.
- **Community Outreach:**
  - **Youth Programs:** Basketball Free Throw and Soccer Challenge with St. Vincent's Villa, with assistance from Calvert Hall students.
  - **Thanksgiving:** Provided meals for 78 troops at Aberdeen Proving Ground.
  - **Coats for Kids:** Donated two boxes to St. Vincent's Villa.
  - **Community Events:** Open meeting with baseball game viewing, Breakfast with Santa, Box of Joy program, and donations to Special Olympics.
- **Life Issues:**
  - Participated in a special mass, procession to Women's Health & Abortion Center, and March for Life in DC.
  - Donated to Hurricane relief.
- **Council Functions:** Annual events like crab, bull, oyster, shrimp feasts, Valentine's and St. Patrick's Day dances, and weekly bingo, attracting around 150 participants. The Ladies Club hosts events like a Tea Party and bingos.
- **Special Thanks:** Acknowledges Father Donald Grzymski, Deacon Mike Baxter, and volunteers for their help throughout the year.
- **Leadership:** Grand Knight – Robert G. Baumgartner, JR; Deputy Grand Knight – Neil Lockwood; Warden – Fran Marinaro.
- St. Patrick council # 370 has been successful with baby bottle campaign, large donations to its new parish Mt. Carmel, and other large donations due to the sell of their old council home, Tom Greul can explain the finance of the council because everyone State and Supreme has been involved. Grand Knight is waiting for results from FS Edward Hoffman and has not sent me or State their book of report. They have been Meeting every third Tuesday of the month and just got a Chaplain from Mt. Carmel Father Sampson and Grand Knight Paul Brennan is working with Deacon Oscar getting their Spanish parishioners-Ed Hoffman does reports for council because Paul's computer crashed.
- **Summary:** DD is in attendance of every council business meeting, DD has attended every meeting and every function the State has held, the DW has been informed of all meetings because his new schedule put him on nights and made it impossible for him to attend. I have held three quarterly meetings so far and our fourth is due in May.
- **Conclusion:** District 13 has three councils who have completed all their FIA, and one council St. Patrick is in need of only 4 events to complete and give our District 100 % FIA. Still, I feel we all are Making A Difference in Someone's Life by working in harmony together. All our parishes, communities, and Families are extremely supportive of what we do.

## **District 14**

**Armando E. Fernandez, District Deputy**

**Jhon Jairo Neira, District Warden**

Worthy State Deputy, State Officers & Delegates of the 127<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention  
Maryland State Council Annapolis, Maryland 2025;

District 14 is composed of the following Spanish Councils:

San Juan Nuemann de Baltimore (16611) in Highlandtown Baltimore.

San Oscar Arnulfo Romero (17192) in Hyattsville MD.

San Bernardino de Siena (17545) in Suitland MD and

San Jose Custodio de Columbia (18170) in Columbia MD.

On August 4, 2024 San Juan Nuemann de Baltimore installed Worthy Grand Knight Omar Meza and council officers at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, which they support and is where the council meets every second Thursday of every month, they also support St Patrick Church in Baltimore City, they have a total of 125 members at the time of this report

On August 18, 2024, San Oscar Arnulfo Romero installed Worthy Grand Knight Genaro Mina and council officers at St. Mark the Evangelist Church, where they are based and where they meet every second Friday of the month, with 56 members strong they are very active and supportive of their parish and community.

On August 11, 2024, San Bernardino de Siena installed Worthy Grand Knight Moises Fuentes and Council Officers at St. Bernardine of Siena Roman Catholic Church, where they meet every fourth Friday of the month; they have 28 members providing support for their parish and community

On August 23, 2024, San Jose Custodio de Columbia installed Worthy Grand Knight Jhon Jairo and Council Officers at St. John the Evangelist Church in Columbia MD. There they meet every third Monday of the month, they provide support for their parish and fellow parishioners, are in the process of starting to start the COR program and have 43 strong members at the time of this report.

I want to thank all the councils of District 14 for their hospitality, cooperation, support and their vote of confidence throughout the fraternal year. The district is very much alive and will continue to receive the State Deputy's message and call to Make a Difference in Someone's Life.

Thank you, District Warden Jhon Neira for his dedication and support this past year thank you to the Spanish exemplification team of brothers who assisted when called to help in various councils in our state.

To the State Chaplain, State Officers, all the Directors and Chairmen, District 14 and I would like to thank you for your support and your presence when needed, we would like to congratulate you

on a successful year of meaningful programs and thank you for all the reminders that make my job as a District Deputy easier.

Worthy State Deputy, Brother Anthony N. Salvemini. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Maryland State Council and my Spanish speaking brothers as one of your District Deputies on your team, it has been a pleasure and a great learning experience, thank you for your support, inspiration, guidance and leadership. It is greatly appreciated.

I would like to give special thanks to my wife Juana Fernandez for all her support giving, for all her patience with me throughout the year, for going with me to all the many K of C events, no matter the day, no matter the hour, no matter the distance she will always go with me rain or shine, hot or cold, ice or snow we will go together in the effort to serve and Make a Difference in Somebody's Life one visit at a Time!

Respectfully Submitted,

*Armando E. Fernandez*

District Deputy 14

## DISTRICT 15

**District Deputy** Michael E. Maxey

**District Warden** Ryan J. Estorninos

**Council 4076** (St. Pius X) – Grand Knight Robert White

**Council 5317** (St. Columcille) - Grand Knight Robert Butto

**Council 11171** (St. John the Evangelist) – Grand Knight John (Andy) Harris

**Council 11511** (Most Holy Rosary) – Grand Knight Jean Cherry

**Council 16499** St. (John Fisher) – Grand Knight Shawn Williams

### Notable Activities by Council

#### **Council 4076:**

The Pius X Council #4076 sponsors a weekly bingo which is the main source of funding for the six parishes it supports. In addition, the council supported the Forestville Pregnancy Center with a donation of \$5,000. The council held a Priest and Nun Appreciation dinner on October 16, 2024. Bishop Cambell and several other priests and nuns attended the event. The council donated \$30,000 to purchase winter coats for children under the “Coats for Kids” initiative. The council also provided a set of vestments for the Mt. Calvary parish priest and deacon.

#### **Council 5317:**

The St. Columcille Council #5317 installation of officers was held on Saturday September 12, 2024, at St. Columba Church in Oxon Hill, Maryland with a reception at the Mama Stella’s Restaurant in Clinton. Active involvement in parish and community has been a key goal of the St. Columcille council. The council provided support for the Forestville Pregnancy Center and Donated \$3,800 via a baby bottle campaign. The council donated \$4,800 to have security gates installed on the parish grounds.

#### **Council 11171:**

The St. John the Evangelist Council #11171 installation of officers was held on Saturday July 19, 2024, at the St. John the Evangelist Church in Clinton. A reception was held at the Mama Stella’s restaurant in Clinton. The council has actively participated in all the Faith in Action (FIA) programs. They donated to the Gabriel Project, held fund raising events to fund many of their FIA programs. The Council conducted a monthly Holy Hour and conducted Rosary program in front of the local Police Station. The council has also provided support for the Youth programs including a soccer shootout, Catholic Bee and Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest, helped collect food donations for the local food bank and provide support for the Parish priest.

### **Council 11511:**

The Most Holy Rosary Council #11151 Installation of Officers was held on Sunday August 25, 2024, at the St. Joseph Center in Rosaryville. A reception was held in the hall following the installation. The council conducts a “holy hour” on first Thursday of every month. The Council participates in all Faith in Action (FIA) programs and raises funds by sponsoring a monthly “Flea Market at the former Council Hall.”

### **Council 16499:**

The St. John Fisher Council #16499 held its Installation of Officers during a council meeting on Sunday August 18, 2024, at the St Luke’s / St. Ignatius Church in Fort Washington. Father Robert (Bob) Kosty was installed as Council Chaplain at the installation. He passed away three weeks later. The Council actively participated in FIA programs and organized a Pig Roast to raise funds for the parish. On March 4, 2025, the council sponsored a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper featuring pancakes and sausage. The funds collected were donated to the parish.

### **Summary**

DD and / DW attend every council business meeting where a message from the State Deputy is delivered as well as other important council and district information is relayed. The DD and DW have established good working relations with council leadership. Four district meetings are held during the year following the leadership, fall, Midterm and Spring meetings.

The St. John the Evangelist Council #11171 will make Star Council again this year. The DD attends as many important council events as possible.

### **Conclusion**

I offer appreciation and thanks to District Warden Ryan Estorninos for all his unyielding support, advice, and encouragement. I also give my sincere thanks to his wife, Lady Agnes, for her understanding of his obligation of time and talent needed in support of the Knights of Columbus council in our district. To the State Chaplain, State Officers, Directors, and Chairs, I give my sincere congratulations on a job well done and a successful year of delivering impactful and charitable faith-based programs throughout the state of Maryland. In addition, I thank you for all the guidance and support given to me throughout the year.

To State Deputy, Anthony N. Salvemini, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Maryland State Council as one of your District Deputies. Your faith and trust in my abilities has allowed me to have a rewarding experience. Your leadership, guidance and support have been stellar, and I will be forever grateful for the opportunity.

Finally, I give my heartfelt thanks to my family and especially to my wife, Lady Sharon, for understanding, support, and companionship as I dedicated numerous hours to Council, District and State events while performing my duties as a Maryland State Council District Deputy.

Respectfully Submitted, Michael E. Maxey, District Deputy 15

## **District 16**

### **District Deputy John Marley**

### **District Warden Stephen Michael**

Council 2002 Grand Knight - Paul Hinton

Council 2427 Grand Knight - Keven O'Donnell

Council 4714 Grand Knight - Bruno Baran

Council 6188 Grand Knight - John Dittus

Council 9729 Grand Knight - Robert Rinaca

### **Notable Activities by Council**

#### **Council 2002**

Council Installation of Officers was held on Saturday September 14<sup>th</sup>, after the 5 o'clock Mass. With a reception in the church hall after. The Council cooked 8 Community dinners throughout the year. Participated in the Alzheimer's Walk, and Polar Bear Plunge. Helped with activities at Good Shephard School, like the Strawberry Festival and Christmas Bazaar. At St Joan of Arc School, we did Trunk or treat, Opening Day of Baseball with cooking hot dogs for lunch. Christmas Dinner for Vets at a group home. They supported 4 Seminarians 2 in Baltimore 2 in Wilmington. Wreaths Across America, Flags on Vets graves on Memorial Day. Help with weekly Mass at Perry Point VA Hospital. Supported Golf outings at Good Sheppard and St Joan of Arc and St Patrick's Churches. Held a Free-throw Contest in February.

#### **Council 2427**

Council Installation of Officers was held on Saturday July 27<sup>th</sup> at ICC in Elkton, Md with a reception at a local restaurant. Held 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Breakfasts after Mass. Held 2 Cigar Nights. Helped with October Fest. Christmas Bazaar, Breakfast. Held a movie night/ ice cream social. Set up Christmas Chresh. Gave pens to Dads on Father's Day. 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Christmas Parade. Icon program. Blood drive in September.

#### **Council 4714**

Council Installation was held at St Marks in Fallston, on Sunday July 28<sup>th</sup>, reception at BelAir Hall. Held blood drives every Month. Held weekly Bingos. Ran the into the Breach program on September -November. Held a Council picnic. Helping to get an Ultra-sound machine for Choose Hope Pregnancy Center in BelAir.

### **Council 6188**

Council Installation was held July 30<sup>th</sup> at Prince of Peace Church, reception following at the church hall. Bull and Oyster roast, Shrimp Dinner. Free-Throw Contest. Lunch for teachers at St Steven School. Easter hunt. Marigolds for Mother's Day. St Nick Breakfast. This Council has had a new Church and School to serve, St Stevens. They were also informed that one of their churches was closing (Prince of Peace). The Grand Knight has been working through all the changes and making new roads with St Stevens. Things look good for this council.

### **Council 9729**

Council Installation was held on July 18<sup>th</sup> at the Historic St Ignatius Church, with a reception to follow at the church hall. Held a Rosary every last Tuesday each Month. Wine tasting. Helped at the Church Christmas Bazaar. Held a car wash. Got more involved at Perry Point VA Hospital. Taking patients to Mass.

### **Summary**

DD and / or DW attended most council Business meetings, where we delivered important information from the District and State. We established a good working relationship with all councils. Helping with membership drives and other activities. We held 4 District meetings, Summer, Fall, Mid-term, and Spring. Worked on getting better participation at Perry Point VA hospital with 796 hours of service on Sundays throughout the year. All councils are now helping at Perry Point VA Hospital.

### **Conclusion**

District 16 is alive and well and will continue supporting and serving the Parishes, families and communities through our FIA programs and "Make a difference in someone's life"

Respectfully submitted, John Marley District Deputy #16

## District #17

**T. Gregory Crist**, District Deputy

**Edgar A. Hurtado**, District Warden

### **Patapsco Council #1960**

Daniel Young, Grand Knight

Joseph Melchor, Deputy Grand Knight (Acting Grand Knight)

### **St. Agnes Council #4449**

Roger Andreas, Grand Knight

### **Woodlawn Council #5466**

Edward Randel, Grand Knight

### **Our Lady of Angels Council # 13069**

Richard Tymoch, Grand Knight

### **Our Lady of Victory Council #16104**

Michael Nguyen, Grand Knight

### **St. Benedict Council #10648**

Merged

I take this opportunity to thank the Councils in District #17 for their support of the Knights of Columbus Faith in Action Programs. Cooperating with their Parish Pastors, the councils have shown an increase in membership in the Knights of Columbus. And by holding District Meetings and frequent communications, the Councils have been updated and stayed informed.

My sincere thanks to District Warden Edgar Hurtado, whose invaluable assistance and support enabled the District to successfully install the officers of all the Councils in the District. Additionally, we installed the Ladies Auxiliary of our Lady of Angels Council.

The beginning of the Fraternal year brought many challenges to District #17. Only 1 Council had a returning Grand Knight. Two Councils have had new Financial Secretaries appointed. One of our Grand Knights was deployed into military action. And St. Benedict Council merged with Our Lady of Victory Council.

To the State Chaplain, Assistant State Chaplains, Deacons, State Officers, Directors, Chairmen, Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights, and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Assembly our sincere gratitude for the counsel, guidance, programs and encouragement that you provided to each of the Councils in the District.

To State Deputy, Anthony N. Salvemini, thank you for giving me the honor of serving you and the Maryland State Council as District Deputy of District #17. To our First Lady Kathy, thank you for all that you and the ladies of the Knights of Columbus do in support of the Knights.

To my wife Carole, thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigated through this difficult year. I Love You!

In conclusion, District #17 is alive and well as we serve our parishes, families, and communities through our faith in Action Programs and continue to ***Make a Difference in Someone's Life.***

Fraternally submitted,  
***T. Gregory Crist***, District Deputy #17

## DISTRICT 18

District Deputy Danilo Oriño

District Warden Gavin Pereira

Council 2797 Grand Knight - Alex Lieb  
Council 5567 Grand Knight - Paul Lindekugel  
Council 9774 Grand Knight - Thomas DeGraba  
Council 13008 Grand Knight - Jaime Narbon  
Council 18156 Grand Knight - Isidore Sobgo

### Notable Activities by Council

#### **Rock Creek Council 2797**

Council 2797 has been instituted on June 12, 1938. They have their business meetings on first Thursday and social meetings on every third Thursday at 7:30 pm at 5417 W Cedar Lane, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. The main focus of the council is doing a monthly food drive to support USASCA, Nourishing Bethesda and the Children Inn. The council also sponsored organizations to allow them to hold fundraisers at the Rock Creek Mansion namely; Sports Plus (autism), Nourishing Bethesda, Operation Second Chance, Disabled Veterans of America and USASOA. They also donated \$26,562 to 6 parish schools under their umbrella. They also donated and supported Rockville Women's Center, Special Olympics of Montgomery County, ASAP, Just Trying It, Becky's Fund, 480 Cares, Turkeys for Troops, Bethesda Fire Department, Catholic University of Maryland, Habitat for Humanity, Bishop Carroll Coats for Kids, Wounded Paw, Project Saluted Military Golf, Little Sisters of the Poor, San Miguel School, Catholic Coalition and So What Else?. The council is expected to win a Star Council Award just like the last fraternal year 2023-2024.

#### **St. Joseph Manyanet Council 5567**

Council 5567 was instituted on May 14, 1964. It meets for officers for planning at 7 pm at St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic School, Our Lady of Guadalupe Room and the business meeting every 4th Thursday at St. Catherine Laboure Catholic Church- Avalon School, Room 11 at 8 pm, 11801 Claridge Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20902. The council supports the St. Stephen Food Pantry at St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church School, Little Sisters of the Poor, Soup for Souls, Rockville Women's Center, and Gabriel Project. The council regularly donates funds to the Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation to support the Persecuted Christians. The council supports a seminarian financially to assist him in completing Seminary Studies to become a priest. The council also gives turkeys to fifty poor families on Thanksgiving Day and hams on Christmas Day. The council was number one for five years in a row in the State of Maryland Boxes of Joy Program. 885 Boxes of Joy was collected on last fraternal year 2023-2024. 1,151 Boxes of Joy was collected on the current fraternal year. The second-place council collected 443 Boxes of Joy. The council needs to recruit four new members to be a Star Council.

#### **Mater Dei Council 9774**

Council 9774 was instituted on March 29, 1988. The officers meeting for planning is every 4th Thursday at 7:30 pm and the business meeting is every second Thursday at 7:30 pm at

St. Raphael Catholic Church School, Library Room, 1513 Dunster Road, Rockville, Maryland 20854. Currently the council has 243 members who participate in a wide variety of charitable activities. The council prides itself on the activities that it conducts; large Garage-to-Attic Charity Sale in June which generate \$35,000 plus, the Columbus Day Raffle, Tootsie Roll Drive to assist the mentally disadvantaged, and breakfast with Santa, among others. The council was Star Council on last fraternal year 2023-2024, Maybe not, this time.

### **Monsignor Thomas Wells Council 13008**

Council 13008 was instituted on September 30, 2001. Their council business meeting is every 2nd Wednesday, and the officers and planning meeting is ever 4th Wednesday at 7:45 pm at St. Andrew Catholic Church School Multipurpose Room. The current membership is 105. The council has established an impressive history of service to church, youth, family, community and support for seminarians. The council raised \$27,000 last year that benefited local charities and has provided 5,000 service hours from the members. The council also supported Special Olympics of Maryland, Sisters of the Poor and the March for Life. The council assist parish and local charities, enhance the fellowship of the members, the welfare of the families and promote Catholic beliefs and values. The council is expected to win another Star Council Award, same as last fraternal year 2023-2024.

### **Saint Terre D'Accueil Council 18156**

Council 18156 was instituted on February 2, 2023. They have their officers and planning meeting every 2nd Wednesday and the business meeting every 4th Wednesday at 7:30 pm at St. Jane Frances de Chantal Catholic Church School, 9601 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. Current membership is 35.

A very young French Council is very proud on their achievements on the different programs. It concentrates in recruitment of French speaking people in Montgomery County. The Council was a Double Star Council last fraternal year 2023-2024. It is going to be a Double Star Council again this fraternal year 2024-2025.

### **Summary:**

District Deputy and District Warden have been attending all council meetings and some of their events.

### **Conclusion:**

The five councils have been implementing all the programs. They agreed to do a fundraising to purchase a new ultrasound machine for Rockville Pregnancy Center. The cost of the machine is \$25,000. Two councils will win the Star Council Award, one council will get a Double Star Council Award.

Respectfully submitted:

SK Danilo C. Orino, PGK PFN District Deputy  
District 18

## District 19

District Deputy Greg Leftwich

District Warden Robert Medeiros

Council 2901 Notra Dame Grand Knight Bradley Easthun

Council 4011 Father O' Neill Grand Knight John Meredith

Council 14102 St. Philip And James Grand Knight Mike Pollard

### Notable Activities by Council

#### Council 2901

The council had their installation of officers on Sunday July 21<sup>st</sup>, at council home St. Pius X Church with a lunch reception that followed at Pappas Restaurant in Cockeysville. The council participated in several activities this year. One example is 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday where the council attended mass as a council at a local Catholic Church in the Baltimore County or City area chosen by Council's Lector where we would breakfast afterwards at a nearby restaurant. The council served as the home for the Maryland State 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Exemplification in October. The council held their annual Memorial mass in November mass with a reception afterwards. The council participated in their annual Food for Family program on Sunday December 22<sup>nd</sup> at St. Elizabeth School in northern Baltimore City. The council made several donations to several local organization that they supported throughout the fraternal year and to the State ex. Women Care Center and the Gaberial Project. The council hosted a Poker/Social Fundraiser in April which the funds went towards the Grand's Knight Charity Andrew's Laughing Gas. The council conducted their annual Marigolds program at the Cathedral during Mother's Day weekend. The council was affected by the Seek the City movement which the Council moved from their current home St. Pius X Church to Cathedral Mary Our Queen.

#### Council 4011

The council had their installation of officers on Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph Church with a reception that followed in the church The council has an active Kaycee lady club and O'Neil Charity Club. The council hosted their lector series on the third Wednesday of the month where they would invite guest speakers from the State level and Non-profit organizations in the community in which they give presentations. The council hosted their council's Memorial Mass in November at Immaculate Conception Church in Towson MD. They also hosted several dinners throughout the year ex St. Patrick Day Dinner, Priest Appreciation Dinner, Oysterfest, Crab feast and end of the council cookout. In the community the council participated in the annual Jessica Meredith 4k race at Immaculate Conception Church which was named after the daughter of the Grand Knight , completed gardening worker around the council hall, the Newman Center at Towson University and participated in several Christmas related events at several senior living

facilities. The council hosted several exemplifications this year where several new members were welcome into the knights and to their council.

### Council 14102

The council hosted a Welcome Back BBQ for the students at John Hopkins University in September. At the council, they participated in their council's Rosary program at their parish church Saint Philip and James every 10:00 am before the church's scheduled 10:30 pm mass. The council hosted several social nights which included two Catholic TV show such as the Declin series and The Chosen which was held in the church hall at St. Philip And James. After struggling with many challenges this fraternal year such as membership and declining attendance at their council meeting and activity, the council's officers made the decision disband or merge with another council. After an agreement with Council 2901 they decided to merge with them which is currently still pending until approved by the Supreme Board of Directors.

### Summary

The DD and /or DW attended every council business meeting and delivered their district deputy report as well as important council and district information and as well as State events that were attendance. DD and DW have established good relationships with all the councils and their officers. The council held 3 meetings after the Fall, Mid-term, and Spring meeting. The DD and DW attended many events when available

### Conclusion

District 19 is currently going strong as the councils are handling different obstacles, but they are all using the motto of State Deputy in their action which is to "Makes A Difference in Someone Life".

Faithfully Submitted By

Greg Leftwich, District Deputy 19

## District 20

District Deputy: Larry Smith

District Warden: Aaron Clark

Council 586: Grand Knight - Louis Lindner

Council 1442: Grand Knight - Nicholas Costello

Council 1771: Grand Knight - George Lander

### Activities by Council:

#### **Council 586:**

Council held its Installation of Officers Mid July. This council participates in the RSVP Program and several Local Charities. This Council's major fundraiser is the Annual Corn & Weenie Roast in August which coincides with the August SEAS Chapter Meeting attended by the State Officers. Council is organizing and implementing many Faith and Family Programs including COR. Council works extensively to support its Parishioners and Priests. Council is supported by its Ladies Auxiliary.

#### **Council 1442:**

Council held its Installation of Officers Mid-August. Council holds weekly events including Trivia Night and Card Night. Council supports Parishes through many events including Fish Fries during the Lenten Season. Council participates in the RSVP Program, Box of Joy Program and the Tri Chapter Annual Food Packing Event. Councils hosts and sponsors several events during the Fraternal Year including Spaghetti Dinner, Breakfast Socials and supports a variety of activities of the Parishes.

#### **Council 1771:**

Council held its Installation of Officers end of August followed by a reception. Council welcomed a newly formed Ladies Auxiliary. Council also welcomed a new Priest with members of the State 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Color Corps his Installation. Council held fundraising events including a booth at the Garrett County Fair and the Annual Shrimp & Bull Feast. Council supports its Parish and Community with the formation of St Joesph's Craftsmen. Council actively supports MD Special Olympics with Coaches for Garrett County Athletes. Participates in a variety of Parish and Community Activities including Food Connect and the House of Hope.

## In Summary

As District Deputy, worked hand in hand with the District Warden to maintain constant communication with each Council to ensure their success. We alternate in attending Council Meetings to ensure all State communications and directives are known to the Councils.

## Conclusion

District is working hard to serve its Parishes, Families and Community to make sure that through their continued efforts they will certainly “Make a Difference in Someone’s Life”

Respectfully Submitted  
Larry Smit, District Deputy

## District 21

District Deputy: Herman Stewart Jr.  
District Warden: John Snizek

District 21 is an active District comprised of the following five outstanding Councils.

#9638 Father Joseph J. Comyns; Grand Knight: Michael Harrison  
#11341 Resurrection; Grand Knight: Martin Fienkeng  
#11898 St. Louis the King; Grand Knight: Frank Arlinghaus  
#12584 St. Francis; Grand Knight: Anthony Gigioli  
#13294 St. Alphonsus Rodriguez; Grand Knight: Barry Frederick

Membership Growth in District 21 has been exceptional this fraternal year. As of April 1, the District has welcomed 44 new men into the Knights of Columbus. All five Councils are membership active, and all five Councils are on track to earn Star Council this year.

District 21 holds monthly District meetings on the first Tuesday of every month. These monthly meetings allow the Grand Knights and Deputy Grand Knights of District 21 to share successes and failures with each other and promote their Council activities within the District. This monthly collaboration has led to an increase in intra-District participation in the Council activities. These monthly meetings will continue next fraternal year.

District 21 is currently engaged in a project to raise \$20,000 for a new Ultrasound Machine for the Columbia Pregnancy Center. Funds are being raised through District fundraisers with over \$17,000 currently raised. We will reach our \$20,000 goal with a District wide bingo on July 25 at Resurrection Parish in Ellicott City.

The financial status of each Council is strong. Each Council is participating in numerous effective fund-raising programs and activities. Collectively, the Councils of District 21 have donated in excess of \$70,000 to worthy charities this fraternal year.

District 21 continues to hold extraordinarily strong Faith in Action programs which “Make a Difference is Someone’s Life.” Supreme featured programs were very well supported with 12 Seminarians supported via the RSVP program. Through the ASAP program, over \$30,000 was donated to local Pregnancy Centers. In addition, the Councils’ Food for Families programs resulted in over 30 tons of food donated to local food pantries and over \$10,000 in cash and gift cards to the Little Sisters of the Poor. In addition, Father Joseph J. Comyns Council continued a yearlong program bringing meals to homeless people in Baltimore.

Additional Faith Programs of note in the District included: St. Joseph masses and devotions, Perpetual and Living Rosaries, Eucharistic Adoration and Holy Hours, Men’s Retreats, Council Bible Studies, Men of Virtue and Core sessions, Sacramental gifts, and serving the parishes as Hospitality and Eucharistic Ministers.

Additional Community Programs of note in the District included: Coats for Kids, Boxes of Joy, Community blood drives, school supply drives, school scholarships, 10K community races, charity golf tournaments, and financial support to other unstable parts of the world.

Additional Family Programs of note in the District included: Keep Christ in Christmas poster contests with several State winners and two international runner ups, Council picnics, Easter Egg hunts, Christmas family parties, Memorial Masses, and special events for the widows.

Additional Life Programs of note in the District included: March for Life bus sponsorship, MD March for Life Sponsorship, 40 Days for Life, lobbying in Annapolis against Physician Assisted Suicide, donations to Special Olympics and Camp Glow and numerous Life prayer events.

District Deputy Herman Stewart Jr. and District Warden John Sniezek have enjoyed working with the Councils of District 21 and are very grateful to all the men of the Councils and especially the Grand Knights for all the time, talent, and treasure they have expended truly making a difference in many people's lives.

## **District 23**

**District Deputy: Nathaniel Tablante; St. John Neumann Council 11618**

**District Warden: Michael Lappe; St. John Neumann Council 11618**

District 23 consists of three councils:

- Columbia Council 7559, Grand Knight Dr. Boniface Nwugwo
- St. John Neumann Council 11618, Grand Knight JD Parsons
- Fr. Bernard Harding Council 12180, Grand Knight Alan Andrysiak

Each council holds a monthly Membership (Business) Meeting and an Officers Planning meeting and actively participates in the Faith in Action program activities. Membership meetings are held in-person with a virtual option for those who are not able to attend the meeting in person. Because the Membership Meetings of St. John Neumann Council 11618 and Fr. Bernard Harding Council 12180 are held on the same day and hour (every 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month from 7:30-8:30pm), the DD and DW take turns attending each meeting to present the DD report on behalf of the State Deputy.

### **District Accomplishments**

- Installation of Council Officers was completed in July and August 2024 for all three councils; all ceremonies were conducted in-person.
- As of this writing, Columbia Council 7559 has met 71% of its membership quota (5/7); St. John Neumann Council 11618 has met 78% of its quota (7/9) and Fr. Bernard Harding Council 12180 has met 60% of its quota (3/5).
- Several in-person Exemplifications of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity were conducted in District 23 this year. By the close of the Columbian Year, each council has held, or would have held, at least one Exemplification. Each of the councils has a well-rehearsed and very active Exemplification team.
- District meetings were held via Zoom to achieve optimal attendance. Summaries (minutes) of the meetings were submitted to the State Deputy by the District Deputy.
- Each council conducted Tootsie Roll Drives this year and raised substantial funds for various Maryland-based charities that help individuals with disabilities.
- Councils share information about their special events/programs with other councils in the district.
- Several traditional Delta Church Drives and some non-traditional membership drives (such as inviting new members during Donut Sundays) were held throughout the District.
- All three councils participated in the order-wide Fraternal Benefits Seminar throughout the Columbian year.
- All three councils are actively participating in the required Faith in Action programs and are on track to receive the Columbian Award.
- All three councils are fully SAFE compliant.

### **Status**

By Convention time, all three District 23 councils will have completed or will be close to completing the required reports and forms:

- Faith in Action reports (Form 10784)
- Council semi-audit reports for the July-December and January-June time periods (Form 1295)
- Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (Form 1728)
- Report for Officers Chosen for the Term (Form 185)
- Program Personnel Report (Form 365)
- Columbia Award (Form SP-7)
- The council reviews were completed in a timely manner. Thus far, the Councils have all abided by the requirements. by-laws, rules, and regulations of the Order.

## **Progress**

Membership growth in 2024-2025 in District 23 has been quite impressive this year despite a slow start in one council. All three councils of District 23 are membership-active and are close to achieving 100% of their respective membership quotas on or before the end of this Fraternal Year.

## **Conclusion**

As District Deputy, I would like to thank each of the Grand Knights, council officers, and program leaders for their continued support and tireless efforts in the implementation of various Faith in Action programs. Their actions are a true testament to our core principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. I am also extremely grateful to our Worthy State Deputy, Anthony N. Salvemini, for inviting me to serve as District Deputy for District 23 and providing strong and constant support and guidance during my first year as DD. Finally, I would like to thank the Maryland State Council Officers and Program Leaders for providing me with the tools, training, and guidance to make this year a success! Vivat Jesus!

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Nathaniel Tablante  
District Deputy 23**

## **District 24**

### **DISTRICT DEPUTY Michael G. Dickey**

District 24 is led by District Deputy Michael Dickey. The district currently does not have a District Warden as I was in that position and promoted to the District Deputy position when the District Deputy (Kevin Burgess, PGK) resigned due to family obligations (father-in-law and daughter are both ill). The District is comprised of six councils in southern Anne Arundel County: Annapolis council #1384 (Star Council 2023-2024), GK Jim Ryan; Holy Trinity council #3413, GK Joseph McInerny; Archbishop Francis P. Keough council #5263, GK Derek Simard; South County council #8251, (Star Council 2023-2024), GK Frank Kline; St Andrews by the Bay council #11552, GK Joe Walker; and William E. Baldwin, Sr. council #17990 (Star Council 2023-2024), GK Pat Brady.

The original District Deputy kicked off the fraternal year hosting the Grand Knights at his home in Annapolis. The event focused on getting to know one another and setting strategic objectives for council growth and program scheduling for the year.

Throughout the fraternal year, the Councils conducted many and varied programs and events, such as the Coats for Kids, RSVP, ASAP, and the People with Special Needs programs, as well as crab socials, Breakfast with Santa, St. Patrick's Day parties, as well as Lenten Fish-Fries. The Councils support their respective parishes through fundraising and hands-on activities. I thank all the Councils in the District for their cooperation, support, and hospitality during a most successful year.

Within the District, the Councils regularly deliver the Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity and have seen significant growth. Most of the Councils participated in the Fraternal Benefits webinars and conducted live Fraternal Benefits Events during the year.

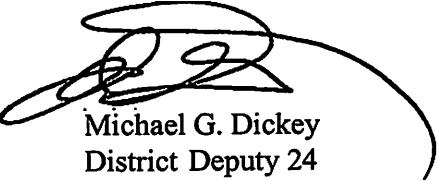
The District hosted the Sacred Heart of Jesus icon in February and March with 3 councils participating- we were one of the first districts to get the icon, so scheduling with the parishes was an issue. We also held a district level free throw competition at Annapolis Council.

District 24 held District meetings following the fall, mid-term, and spring meetings via email. The District Deputy shared the State vision and provided instruction and information to all the Grand Knights of the District. The email meetings were very well received with 17 of 18 possible responses to the email results. The Grand Knights provided feedback on the information presented and appreciated the use of time (they could peruse at their leisure and were not required to leave for a meeting at a set time and location).

I would like to thank the original District Deputy (Kevin Burgess) for his assistance and guidance in providing me with the information to take on the challenge of being District Deputy. He continues to forward to me emails that are mistakenly sent to him by the State officers for me to take for action.

In conclusion, it has been a good year for District 24, despite some challenges (District Warden assuming District Deputy role three months into the year; one council moving from a council home to a church-based council). Several Councils in the District are on track to obtain Star Council for Fraternal Year 2024-2025. The District looks to build on the lessons learned this

fraternal year and carry on the charitable works of the Order. It has been an honor to serve as the District Deputy for the fine men of District 24.



Michael G. Dickey  
District Deputy 24

## District 26

District Deputy: Craig Clagett

District Wardens: Bernie Liswell / Tom Lough

District Meetings / Quarterly - 1<sup>st</sup> Mondays following a State Council Meeting - 6:00 PM Location: St. Benedict Church Hall, Ridgely MD

The Installation of State Officers took place, with District Deputy Craig Clagett receiving his Jewel of Office from State Deputy Anthony Salvemini.

The District Deputy and assigned District Warden conducted the Installation of Officers for all Councils in the District.

### Council's Faith in Action

#### Faith Activities

**Father Bradford Council** changed its location from Chestertown to Galena

**Regina Coeli Council** had a Memorial Mass in January 2025. Council supports a Christmas Cards and Keeping Christ in Christmas program. The Sacred Heart Icon was coordinated with their Pastor. The Council supported a seminarian through the RSVP Program.

**The John Raskob Council** supported Keeping Christ in Christmas poster contest. The Council arranged a weekly Rosary Program for members of their parish. Council provided Confirmation gifts, First Communion gifts, to the children of their parish. The Council participates in the Annual Boys2Men Clay Shoot fund raiser. The council supported a seminarian in the RSVP Program.

**Saint Joan of Arc Council** provides a Rosary Program for members and families, preceding the Council's Social Meeting each month. The Council supported Keeping Christ in Christmas through a poster contest. A pilgrimage to the St. John Paul II Shrine will take place March 29. The Sacred Heart Icon will be displayed for the weekend of 29-30 March. The Council will support in the Boys2Men Clay Shoot on April 19. The Council has a COR Program the second Saturday of each month. Council provides ushers for all Masses. The Council supports three (3) seminarians, all of whom are members of their parish.

**Father McManus Council** will display the Sacred Heart Icon at St. Christopher's. Chris Powers made a permanent donation of the St. Joseph Icon to Father Gabage, and his parish. The Council will participate in the Boys2Men Clay Shoot. Council participates in the Usher Program for all Masses. The Council supports the RSVP Program.

#### Community Activities

**St. Joan of Arc Council** ran a roast beef sandwich booth at the Summerfest in Denton in August 2024, with a Sweepstakes booth selling tickets supporting of the Scholarship Program, as well as

a booth set up during the Caroline - Dorchester County Fair. A Helping Hands activity took place during the 2024 Thanksgiving Holiday in Caroline County by participating in the Neighbors United to Serve Program (NUTS) with over 1200 meals served. A Coats for Kids Program was conducted, open to members of the parish for donations. During the summer the Council collects and distributes peanut butter and jelly jars to needy families with school children. Food donations are conducted throughout the Fraternal Year for His Hope Haven Shelter in Caroline County.

**The John Raskob Council** operated a roast beef stand on US Route 50 in Queenstown, each Sunday during the Summer of 2024. The Council participated in the Coats for Kids Program.

**The Regina Coeli Council** participates in the Basketball Free Throw Championship.

**Father Bradford Council** raises money at the Annual Tea Party Festival in Chestertown each May.

**Father McManus Council** supported a formal dinner and dance for the mentally challenged at St. Christopher's Parish Hall in Chester, Maryland.

### **Family Activities**

**Regina Coeli Council** held its Annual Crab Feast.

**St. Joan of Arc Council** will conduct a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic in Ridgely. The Council serves a monthly parish breakfast at St. Benedict's FLC. Christmas Dinners were held by all the Councils.

### **Culture of Life**

All the Councils supported the Choices Pregnancy Center (now Ignite) in Easton.

All Council's support a baby bottle program.

District 26 sponsored a bus for March for Life in Washington DC in January 2025.

### **Membership**

This continues to be the biggest challenge in the District for several Councils. The E-Membership is beginning to be used more often. The Delta Church Drive has been beneficial for the Councils that participate. **Father McManus Council** and **St. Joan of Arc Council** were awarded Star Council last year and should repeat again this year.

### **Retention**

The Councils have been actively trying to retain its members by involving as many members as possible to participate in Council events.

**District Deputy Note:** I thank my District Warden's and Grand Knight's for all the excellent work that they do. I have modified this report submitted by Bernie Liswell to support the limited page space allowed. District Deputy Craig S. Clagett, District 26

This Report is respectfully submitted by: Bernie Liswell, District Warden

## **District 27**

**District Deputy: Christopher Phillips**

**District Warden: Lee D. Surkin**

The 27<sup>th</sup> District of the Maryland Jurisdiction consists of four councils: Long Green Valley Council #8736 in Hydes, Our Lady of Grace Council #9815 in Parkton, Mason-Dixon Council #10100 in Pylesville, and Father Wolfe Council #11372 in Abingdon. The councils are very active and are in good standing at the time of this writing, and all reports, youth safety training, and payments are complete.

Installation of Officers for the councils took place in July and August of 2024, assisted by District Warden Lee Surkin. All councils are membership active, having had at least one new member added during the fraternal year. Mason Dixon council is currently 110% of their annual goal, followed by Long Green Valley at 55%, Fr. Wolfe at 43%, and Our Lady of Grace at 20%. All councils are doing Delta drives, and Our Lady of Grace is looking into providing their own Exemplifications by the end of the fraternal year. District Meetings have been held quarterly within the different council territories. Communication of all current and upcoming State requirements and activities is communicated to attendees, which include Grand Knights and Deputy Grand Knights. There is also time for a roundtable of upcoming council activities that allows each council to promote their council's activities.

As District Deputy, I make it a point to visit each council once a month during their business meeting. During this visit State and District news and events are communicated. It is also a time to remind Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries of upcoming reports that are due from the State and Supreme. These reminders help keep the District compliant and current throughout the year. I also try to participate in at least one event for each council during the course of the year. This has included a Basket Bingo and the Charity event to raise money for scholarships.

During the course of the year, each council holds multiple activities and should easily reach the requirements of the Columbian award. These include Seminarian support by all councils, community outreach and food for families by all councils, pregnancy center support by all councils, and various parish-based needs where the Knights are prominent in most activities and answering the requests of their pastor. Having met all the pastors within the District, I am pleased to say that all are supportive of the Knights, and most are strong supporters of the Order. Recognition of the work of the Knights is appreciated and received gratefully.

Insurance has had a significant change for the first time in decades. The two insurance agency representatives have changed within the State, and new assignments have been made. Most of the needs of the membership have been met, but there was some time early in the process where communication wasn't forthcoming, and direction needed to be defined. This communication has continued to get better throughout the year, although insurance agents at council meetings is rare. This needs to be improved.

Continuing objectives for each council will be based on several factors. First, to continue membership growth not just to meet goals, but for the sake of the new members who will find a new purpose and maturity in their faith. A second goal is to increase the faith of each member or at least provide the tools to help them do so for themselves and their families. A goal in our fraternal principal will be to invite all current members who haven't attended a meeting or engage in a council event to join their council with newfound purpose.

We will continue the activities and look to grow where there's desire and need, always keeping charity at the center of our works.

Perhaps the best that I have seen in almost every council has been when a member dies, or needs help, and how the council responds to help. Each council has answered this call during the year in a loving and caring way.

## District 28

### District Deputy Benjamin A. Romero

Council 14535 Grand Knight  
Council 15768 Grand Knight  
Council 4606 Grand Knight  
Council 11615 Grand Knight

Frank Corrazza  
Peter Gandt  
Andrew Smith  
Michael Feibel

### Notable Activities by Council

#### Council 14535 - St Vincent Pallotti

This council is having an extremely productive Fraternal 2024 - 2025 year. They have their sights set on becoming a Star Council with all of the many good things they do. They are bringing in new members, new transfer members, and there are a number of things St. Vincent Pallotti #14535 involve themselves with being available to their new Pastor after the previous Pastor was recently transferred to a new parish. The worthy officers and members are always looking for ways to reach out to their fellow parishioners and immediate community of their neighborhood of Little Italy in the city of Baltimore, MD. The monthly general membership meetings are always productive, and the entire parish and community are always reaching out to this great council. I know how much this council does to help in every way possible and that they will only get more productive and stronger every day. Like I've said, this council is going to attain Star Council status, and I look forward to following their progress.

#### Council 4606 - Our Lady of Lourdes,

This Council located in the Locust Point neighborhood in Southeast Baltimore is another Council that is doing their best to reach out to the Parish (s) they serve. Grand Knight Andrew Smith has shown his Council the meaning of hard and diligent work. This Council 4606 has access to their own Meeting Hall, and this gives them the opportunity to serve their immediate community. Council 4606 is always looking for ways to bring in new Membership, and the support of their Pastor helps in every way. There are a lot of younger faces in this Council, and the new ideas presented are always welcome. This young Council is always ready to host fundraisers to support their Parishes and they host a few Crab Feasts ,as well as Bull Roasts during the Fraternal Year. This is not the biggest Council in District 28, but it is the most established Council that dates back to 1958. I expect many good & worthy things from this Council in the years to follow.

#### Council 15768 – Baltimore Basilica

This is a very unique council to say the least. Although this council is not very big, with less than thirty (30) members, they do their very best to stay focused and productive. GK Peter Gandt is a very young man, but he has the guidance of a veteran Financial Secretary. I have a lot of respect for this council. They may not have a hall or a large location to conduct their

officer's planning and general membership meetings, but the council does quite a few important duties that make a world of difference in the community that they serve. There are many less fortunate men and women in the immediate surrounding area on Cathedral and Mulberry Streets in the downtown area of Baltimore City. This very productive council collects blankets, socks, gloves and other items to make life a little bit better for the community they serve. It isn't very easy to bring in new members, but they have the attention of the Basilica parishioners. They collect contributions for Pro-Life projects by way of the "Baby Bottle Campaign" and they collect many donated toiletries and necessary items for the Little Sisters of the Poor. They also volunteer once a month at the Basilica Café serving coffee and sweets after the 10:30 Mass on Sundays. This council is going strong after more than a year and have recently established a "Lending Library" of donated books for Baltimore Basilica parishioners. They are doing well and make themselves visible as Lectors, Greeters, Ushers, and Eucharistic Ministers. A small, but great council.

#### **Council 11615 Fr. A. Leo Abendschoen**

can't say enough about this great Council. At this time, this Council is going through a transition period, to say the least. Council 11615 was deeply affected by the closing of Parishes in the City and surrounding area of Baltimore City, and it almost caused the Abendschoen Council to lose their Charter Membership, the Council managed to stay active, although not as productive as the previous years. Even though Council 11615 lost their Grand Knight and their Financial Secretary at the halfway point of the 2024-2025 Fraternal year, the Membership was determined to stay together. Council 11615 lost their immediate Parish, Church of the Annunciation, the opportunity to meet and serve their other Parish is what was needed to continue on. The Officers and Membership wanted to give it their best and it will be noted that the best is yet to come, considering the unfortunate circumstances. The Abendschoen Council will take time to find their way back to prominence and with the dedication of Grand Knight Mike Feibel, this work in progress is going to pull through.

#### **Summary:**

I have tried to do my best to be there for my District 18 Councils, and I have confidence in the Leadership that keeps my Councils focused on completing their tasks and stay in compliance. I am still trying to get a District Warden to assist me, but it hasn't happened yet. I have recently heard from our State Advocate in regard to this matter, & I hope to produce a DW soon

**Conclusion:** I want to thank all of the State Officers, starting with State Deputy Anthony Salvemini for giving me the opportunity to make a difference in someone's life, & I hope to do even more in the upcoming days ,months,& years. Thank you, Worthy State Executive Secretary, for your patience & understanding with me. I don't have competence computer skills, & I don't think I ever will. Have a Blessed Sunday,& week ahead Vivat Jesus

## DISTRICT 30

**District Deputy: Yen Le**

**District Warden: Jeff Hafner**

### **COUNCILS & GRAND KNIGHTS:**

Montgomery Council 2323 – GK Kevin McClintock

Peter Paul Maher Council 6793 – GK Eugene Kanes

Saint John the Baptist Council 11106 – GK Michael Chu

Our Lady of Vietnam Council 11769 – GK Khoa Le

San Juan Diego Council 13463 – GK Jose Orellana

### **COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Montgomery Council 2323**

Held officer installation on July 13, 2024, followed by a reception. • Serves three parishes: St. Mary, St. Francis, and St. Martin of Tours. • Strong commitment to Faith in Action programs. • Key events include Senior Dance, Family Fun Nights, Veterans Appreciation Dinner, March for Life participation, and RSVP Seminarian support.

**Father Peter Paul Maher Council 6793**

Installed officers on August 17, 2024, with reception followed. • Meets the second Wednesday of each month, beginning with Divine Mercy Prayer. • Excellent participation with in-person and Zoom attendance. • Provides support under the RSVP to 12 seminarians. • Excellent in conducting community programs, family programs, council, church and youth programs. • On track to achieve Star Council through robust programming and recruitment.

**Saint John the Baptist Council 11106**

Officer installation took place on August 24, 2024. • Active in Faith in Action and membership growth. • Will reach membership quota by April 10, 2024, following council CUF Exemplification. • Conducts biweekly food drives for St. Camillus food pantry. • Other activities: Clergy Appreciation Dinner, PGK Roast, Pancake Sundays, and St. John Joggers fundraiser.

**Our Lady of Vietnam Council 11769**

Officers installed on July 14, 2024. • Has met membership quota and on track for Star Council. • Parish engagement is strong. • Notable events: Annual Vietnamese dinner at Mt. St. Mary's for

seminarians and clergy (~125 attendees), Mother's Day luncheon at Little Sisters of the Poor (~100 served), and participation in RSVP, Tootsie Roll Drive, and Special Olympics.

**San Juan Diego Council 13463 •**

Officer installation held August 27, 2024. • Meets third Wednesday of each month. • Actively supports parish needs and pastor's requests. • Monthly food collection to support the church's pantry. • Membership growth is on track.

**DISTRICT SUMMARY:**

District Deputy Yen Le and District Warden Jeff Hafner have remained active, regularly attending council meetings to offer guidance and support. District-wide meetings were held:

July 8, 2024 – Beginning of Fraternal Year

October 2024 – Post State Fall Meeting

March 2025 – Following State Spring Meeting.

Overall, District 30 is doing well with councils demonstrating strong engagement in Faith in Action programs and sustained membership growth.

Respectfully submitted, Yen Le, PGK, PFN, FDD

**District Deputy #30**

## District 31

**District Deputy William Hammett**

**District Warden Mike Abel**

Council 10525 Grand Knight Dennis Sauer

Council 13290 Grand Knight Robert Drotter

Council 11815 Grand Knight Matthew Lenz

Council 15985 Grand Knight Joseph Bassford

### **Notable Activities by Council**

#### **Council 10525:**

This council participated in the State Incentive Sweepstakes selling over 1000 tickets. 10525 holds an annual golf tournament to support Operation Second Chance. Annual Christmas Card sales to support the RSVP program. Each Fall, the Council holds a Memorial Mass for our deceased brother Knights and ladies, Assembly 2595 dresses graves in our cemetery for veterans and conducts a flagpole rededication. St Michael is developing a OR program through the Faith chair. The effort is combined with Man Alive and Young Adult Ministry, both led by Knights. St Michael recognizes Youth liturgical ministers; supports Box of Joy with 225 boxes in 2024. This council holds a Catholic Bee annually and participates in Keep Christ In Christmas. This council hosts Breakfast with Santa annually, we served over 450 meals this in 2024. Council 10525 has a First Rosary Program for all new baptisms, donated \$550.00 to Arc of Carroll County and collects clothing and housewares for donations to Wells House and Md. Patriot Guard.

#### **Council 13290**

St Peter's offers a free luncheon for First Responders at their local stations. SK Mike Jacobs leads "Coats for Kids" Program through this council and through SEAS Chapter of Grand Knights. Mike raised thousands of dollars and purchased and distributed over 1000 coats. Breakfast is served monthly to Frederick Rescue Mission. During this fraternal year, the program has expanded to include donuts, too. This council works with Sleep In Heavenly Peace, to build beds for children; St Peter's purchases small American Flags to hang on streetlights on MD Rte. 26 through Libertytown; 13290 has a trash pick-up MD 26 three time per year. SK Mike Bir 13290 is a state leader in "Box of Joy" program 2024 they had close to 500 boxes! During Easter 13290 conducts a Family Easter Egg hunt then on Memorial there is a memorial service in the church grotto honoring the deceased men of their council and parish members. The Color Corps Honor Guard presents the Gettysburg Address, then read the names of those who have died. After, Taps is played. 13290 is allied with the Frederick Right to Life organization helping fund various activities and financially support the "Students for Life" organization. Supported 3 RSVP candidates, Presented a parish seminarian an ordination gift. council holds a "Baby Bottle Campaign for Mary's House each year as well as answering the call for needed supplies and furniture.

### **Council 15895**

Council 15985 prepared, cooked, and served dinner to ladies in the Gathering in Grace women's group. A guest speaker, Kevin Wells, shared God's active involvement in healing his wife. Supported pastor by planning, prepping, and serving a meal in conjunction with Father's men's formation night. Volunteers were able to take part in formation as well. Charles Carroll Council 15985 was asked to plan, prepare, and cook food for the St. Joseph on Carrollton Manor Annual Country Fair. Also, Council 15985 held a Parish Picnic. Charles Carroll Council planned and implemented a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser. We served approximately 100 customers following both masses on Sunday. 15985 conducts Breakfast with Santa's annually and three road clean ups on Manor Woods Rd. 15985 holds Lenten Fish Fry Friday dinners. The council offers a voucher to youth liturgical ministers to redeem at any one of their fish dinners. This council started the Box of Joy program for the first time. 15985 engages in the Tootsie Rolls program. Donations fund those with intellectual/developmental disabilities. This council initiated a bingo fundraiser to benefit the council scholarship fund. The American Red Cross came to St. Joseph on Carrollton Manor. We collected 25 units of blood. Brother Knights aided technicians, provided snacks and drinks to donors, and assisted with registrations. CCC is a Faith oriented council involved with Sacred Heart Icon and Rosary programs and Formation programs with pastor Rev John Williamson.

### **Council 11815**

11815 Has become "The Place" 40 Days for life baby bottle campaign supporting Care Net. Each meeting starts in the Sanctuary Faith Director Bill Kallos leads Vespers. RSVP active; This council supports the Silver Rose Program. 11815 Volunteers to pray Rosaries when parishioners pass away. During Easter 11815 organizes an Easter Egg hunt for parish kids. This council has the privilege of a ladies Auxiliary which teams on Box of Joy and a Valentines Day dinner (which I am promoting others in D31 emulate) 11815 holds Breakfast with St. Nick and installed a manger scene for the parish Christmas tree. The council has Charity Funds. 11815 has the customary fish fry and fund raising meals throughout the fraternal year.

### **Summary**

DD and / or DW attend all the business meetings. Mike Abel and I encourage the men to discover their self-image in God and act in accordance with His will. We emphasize how councils need to embrace new ideas and to help new members become leaders. We have our usual quarterly meetings Council growth is where it can be hard sell.

### **Conclusion**

District 31 is strong at 15985, 11815- they have both become revitalized. 10525 needs me to take over recruitment and St Peter's is the same. All our councils do well in Faith in Action; growth is the key for 10525 and 13290 My theme is "Vine and Branches" for perpetual growth.

Vivat Jesus!

Bill Hammett, District Deputy 31

## District 32

District Deputy: Erwin Lacanienta

District Warden: Renard Gardner

COUNCIL #205 Grand Knight - Christopher Williams

COUNCIL #5058 Grand Knight - Kevin Kelly

COUNCIL #9462 Grand Knight - Dr. Jay Penafiel

COUNCIL #11787 Grand Knight - Declan Eleanya

### **NOTABLE ACTIVITIES BY COUNCIL**

#### **COUNCIL #205 Cardinal Sheehan**

Council Installation of Officers was held on Sunday, July 28th at St. Bernadine Roman Catholic Church (Rev. Msgr. Richard Bozzelli presiding) in Baltimore, MD with a reception held at the Parish Center.

The council maintains an active role in their local parish community ushering at every Sunday Mass and providing support the Parish's Catholic Sisters and community events. The merger of several Parishes to St. Bernadine has increased the council's exposure to new prospects to the Order.

The council held their annual fundraising bull-roast in March at Columbus Gardens with over 300 attendees. The council hosted the District co-sponsored Coats for Kids Program as the councils purchased and distributed over 150 coats to underprivileged children.

The council is on course to achieve Star Council Status 5 consecutive years in a row (6 out of the last 9 years)

#### **COUNCIL #5058 Bishop Sebastian**

Council Installation of Officers was held on Saturday August 24 at St. Isaac Jogues Roman Catholic Church (Rev. Jim Kiesel presiding) in Parkville, MD with a reception held at the Parish Center.

The council maintains an active role in their local and parish community. The council donated many socks and useful items to the Assisi House in Fells Point, MD. The council hosted Holy Hour, the Pilgrim Icon and Rosary with Pizza nights, along with participating in the Poster Program which concluded with a Communion breakfast for the Poster winners. The council hosted their first Free-throw competition with over 21 participants, 4 advancing to the District competition. The council also participated many State sponsored programs, the District co-sponsored Coats for Kids, Box of Joy, March for Life, Marigold & Silver Rose programs among others. The council will be the host for the District planned Pilgrim Icon on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at St. Ursula Roman Catholic Church in Parkville, MD. The council continues to make strides to achieve their recruitment goals.

#### **COUNCIL #9462 Santo Nino**

Council Installation of Officers was held on Saturday August 17th at Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church (Rev. Jeffery Dauses presiding) in Towson, MD with a reception held at Columbus Gardens. The council is active within the IHM Parish community providing manpower at parish "clean-ups" and ushering at Sunday masses. The council also participated in the Poster and Free-Throw programs involving the parish school students and distributed marigolds on Mother's Day Masses. Most notably, the council donated \$5,000 towards the Parish's capital improvement projects.

The council also has a deep-rooted affiliation with the Baltimore-Filipino community and has spear-headed the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Filipino Archdiocesan Saints Mass and Fiesta held at the Cathedral Mary Our

Queen and also organized its 29<sup>th</sup> annual Filipino Pilgrimage of Healing Mass at the National Shrine of Elizabeth Ann Seton for the anointing of the sick. The council participated in over 20 Faith in Action Programs such as the RSVP Program, District co-sponsored Coats for Kids Program, MD Knights food-packing event, Tootsie Roll Program to name a few.

The council held its annual bull-roast fundraiser in March at Columbus Gardens with over 147 attendees. The council will co-host its annual Golf Tournament , May 31<sup>st</sup> to benefit Pregnancy Center North. It will be held at Oakmont Green in Hampstead, MD.

The council is on course to achieve Star Council Status 3 consecutive years in row.

### **COUNCIL #11787 St. Mathews International**

Council Installation of Officers was held on Saturday August 24 at St. Mathews Roman Catholic Church (Rev. Patrick Carrion & associate pastor Rev. Evan Ponton presiding) in Baltimore, MD with a reception held at the Parish Center. The council participated in the District co-sponsored Coats for Kids Program. The council has a deep-rooted affiliation with the Baltimore-Nigerian community and is planning to hold their much anticipated “Uniform Launch and Fundraiser” on Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at the Igbo Community Center in Rosedale, MD. The council has many challenges ahead of them to reach Star Council Status and are hopeful to achieve their goals in the new fraternal year.

### **SUMMARY**

DD and / or DW attend every council business meeting where the State Deputy’s message is delivered as well as other important council and district information. The DD and DW continue to strive to maintain the best working relationship with council leadership to ensure the District’s conformity with Supreme and State Guidelines. DD attends as many important council events as possible.

Councils #205 & #9462 are on course to achieve Star Council again this year, which will make District #32 a STAR DISTRICT three consecutive years in the running.

### **CONCLUSION**

District 32 is alive and well and will continue to serve the Order, our parishes, families, and communities through our FIA programs in their continued resolve to “Make a Difference in Someone’s Life”.

**Respectfully Submitted, Erwin Lacanienta, PGK,PFN,DD32**

## District 33

### **Introduction:**

Over the course of the 2024-2025 school year, the Knights of Columbus College Councils continued their mission to foster fraternity, faith, and service among college students across the state. This report provides an overview of the accomplishments, challenges, and future outlook for our esteemed organization.

### **Membership:**

Membership growth in the Knights of Columbus College Councils remained robust in 2025. The majority the five college councils surpassed their membership quotas by a considerable margin, resulting in a massive collective district growth. The largest gain from an existing council was made by the Commodore Barry Council (#14534), who welcomed 29 new brother knights in a single exemplification ceremony in February.

Also in February, a knight's circle of 35 newly exemplified brother knights was created to support the emerging campus ministry at University of Maryland, Baltimore Country. This effort was spearheaded by the example and leadership of Fr. Matt Himes and GK Luke Kudwa. All these newly welcomed brothers in our fraternal Order come from highly varied backgrounds yet share a strong sense of uniting in their values and commitment to service.

The high gains in membership of the college councils have been noted by the State Council and their recruitment methods are being surveyed by the Young Men's Advisory Team to replicate their success in other districts.

### **Faith and Spirituality:**

With our organization's core principle of faith, our college councils led a wide variety of spiritual activities. 1000 Rosary drives during Lent, Eucharistic Adoration, and Knight's Masses represent a small fraction of the methods these councils used to facilitate the faith life of their members, as well as the faith of the larger community. Notably, Commodore John Barry Council (#14534) hosts a Bible Study, often including guest speakers and presenters, as a regular part of their bi-weekly council meetings. Many of these faith-based events are done in collaboration with campus ministries and other religious organizations to promote interfaith dialogue and understanding.

### **Service and Philanthropy:**

Service to others is a cornerstone of the Knights of Columbus, and our college councils demonstrated their dedication to this principle throughout the year. Through volunteer initiatives, fundraisers, and charitable events, we made a tangible impact on our campuses and in our communities. Whether serving meals at homeless shelters, organizing coat drives, participating in the March for Life, praying outside abortion clinics, our members embodied the spirit of charity.

More established councils such as Sedes Sepiente (#13295) have continued their various service traditions, while recently reestablished councils like Commodore John Barry Council (#14534) and Loyola University Maryland Council (#15000) have been experimenting with various service opportunities that they can continue in future years. We've been meeting with newly christened Knight's Circle of UMBC to provide them ideas on various service opportunities their members could engage in.

### **Leadership Development:**

Continued emphasis has been placed on leadership development within our college councils. This is a particularly important factor given the four-year turnover rate that college councils experience. The current roster of officers for each of the college councils has been encouraged to keep a written record of their activities and experiences to pass onto the next generation of officers, thus helping to ensure a degree of programmatic continuity. By empowering the next generation of leaders, we ensure the continued success and sustainability of the Knights of Columbus.

### **Challenges and Future Outlook:**

Looking ahead, the future of the Knights of Columbus College Councils is bright. Most of the college councils have surpassed pre-COVID levels of recruitment and activity. The college councils that were reestablished in the last few years have done a particularly commendable job of establishing a strong membership foothold, marking their presence in their campus communities, and creating their own unique council traditions. All the while, the Knights of Columbus has been expanding its presence to new college campuses, like UMBC. Although the college councils themselves have become self-sustaining, ensuring the continued participation of these brother knights post-college has been a notable challenge we've been working to address.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Hollister, District Deputy #33

*MD State Council  
125 Years of Service*



*Make a Difference in  
Someone's Life*

## Reports from Councils

## **Westminster Council, No. 1393**

**Daniel C. Lech, Grand Knight**

Westminster Council #1393 meets at 7:30 PM on the first Tuesdays of every month at the Portico at St. John Catholic Church, 43 Monroe Street, Westminster, Md. 21157 for a membership/business meeting and again on most third Tuesdays for a social meeting. Many member Knights arrive early to the membership meeting to recite the Holy Rosary at 7:00 PM. Officers and Program Chairmen meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the St. John Parish Center in the Fr. McGivney Room.

Westminster Council #1393 has served St. John Catholic Church in Westminster for 115 years, and due to a merger with Council #11631 on February 29, 2020, we have also served the St. Joseph, Taneytown, Maryland community. On Tuesday, July 1, 2024, after a special 6PM Mass, the incoming officers were installed by District Deputy Dennis Ford.

Sadly, this year, Westminster Council lost two brothers to their eternal reward.

With over 290 council members, we are very active.

- The Council held a breakfast the First Sunday of the month and raised \$500 for multiple organizations including St. John Youth Ministry, Fr. Gerard Scholarship Fund, SVDP Adopt-a-Family program at Christmas, Carroll County Food Sunday, St. John School, and Pregnancy Support Center of Westminster.
- In August, we were able to once again hold the Council's Annual Crab Feast to raise money for our Charity Fund.
- On August 4, 2024, the Council began the new COR program for the men of the Pastorate. The COR group meets monthly on the third Sunday evening at 7 PM in the Portico and 25-30 men consistently attend.
- The Cash Raffle in September and October was very successful even with the shortened time.
- The Council raised \$4,200 for the Intellectual Disabilities Program by spending four weekends at various businesses, including McDonald's and at the parishes after weekend Masses.
- Knights, along with Color Corp, were requested to help as ushers, lectors and EMC's for the All Souls Mass on November 2, 2024.
- Over 200 students from our parish school participated in the Keep Christ in Christmas program.
- We were able, once again, to hold our annual Christmas Dinner for the Head Start Program in Westminster, MD. We prepared 6 hams and 15 pounds of chicken nuggets for over 200+ children and adults.
- In February, we held the Council's Annual Bull and Oyster Roast to raise money for our Charity Fund.
- On March 27<sup>th</sup>, in conjunction with St. John Parish, the Council sponsored a bus to transport marchers to the MD March for Life in Annapolis.
- The Council conducted two food drives in support of the SVdP and Carroll Food Sunday food banks. The Fall drive collected over 1000 pounds of food and over \$100 and the Spring drive collected over 1500 pounds of food and over \$200.

- On April 26th, we will be holding the Council's Annual Sock Hop Dance to raise money for our Charity Fund.
- The Council will be holding its annual golf tournament on June 6, 2025 to raise funds for St. John School, Carroll County Special Olympics, Carroll Food Sunday and the Council Charity Fund. Last year we raised over \$12,000 and hope to do better this year.

The members have been of invaluable service to help the Council fulfill its goals for the year. The active Past Grand Knights are always so willing to share their knowledge and experiences with me and have been invaluable with their advice. Also, the Worthy District Deputy, Dennis Ford, the Worthy District Warden, David Clement, and Past District Deputy Chris McGrath have assisted me in so many valuable ways. I look forward to continuing service to the Council and the Church with the support of our Chaplain, Fr. Mark Bialek, and our council members, as we continue our mission of Charity, Unity and Fraternity.

Vivat Jesus,

Dan Lech, Grand Knight  
Westminster Council #1393

## **St Mary's Council, No.1470**

### **Steven Tomaszeski, Grand Knight**

Council #1470, chartered on April 24, 1910, begins our 116th year of service in 2025. We meet at 7 PM the last Thursday of the month for our Planning meeting; the first Thursday of the month for our Council meeting. Meetings are conducted at our Knights Hall, 41605 Fenwick Street, Leonardtown, MD., 20650 (PO Box 152). Council members are invited to attend both meetings. Our streams of charitable income flow from weekly BINGO games at Father Andrew White School (FAWS) and our Knights Hall rentals (142/yr) managed by our Club INC. On Saturday, August 10th, 2024, the officers and directors of St. Mary's Council #1470 were installed at St Aloysius Church following the 5 PM Holy Mass. The IPSD/AWD District Master, District Warden and District Deputy officiated. A Family picnic for all Council members, widows and guests was held at the Avenmar Community Center the Sunday prior to the installation.

**PROGRAMS DIRECTOR:** Christopher McDaniel, Deputy Grand Knight

**FAITH ACTIVITIES:** Deacon Joseph Vavrus

**COMMUNITY:** James Hoffman, Past Grand Knight

**FAMILY:** Deacon Joseph Vavrus

**LIFE:** SK Jim Kane

**WARDEN:** SK Roger Splain

**RECORDER:** PGK Peter Friesen

**Repetitive Events:** Weekly community Friday evening BINGO games (~89 patrons/wk) at FAWS gym; quarterly Red Cross Blood Drive at Knights Hall (avg 40 donors/drive); weekday Eucharistic Guardians (2) and Holy Mass ushers (4) every weekend Mass (3/weekend); Member: BOD, "Christmas in April"; Member: BOD, Special Olympics. Knights Hall rentals

- **JULY:** Semiannual #1470 Financial Audit successfully conducted; Welcomed new DD Dan Greenwell; GK met with Principal Janet Szoch, FAW, discussed scholarship support. Coordinated with FAW to refurbish/replace worn gym equipment, paint gym and consolidate all gym data wiring/lighting; Exemplification of new KofC member conducted at St Aloysius
- **AUGUST:** Annual Council Family Picnic held. Over 70 attendees including IPSD; Participated in 11<sup>th</sup> annual SMCR Solomons Island Dragon Boat Festival; attended IPSD Chris Powers' testimonial dinner; Chasubles gifted to Fr. Chris Feist (former #1470 seminarian)
- **SEPTEMBER:** Southern Maryland Roots' HS Pilgrimage to Saint Clements Island. Provided "Living Rosary" and Pilgrimage volunteers; Continued providing Knights Hall for Catholic Homeschooling Parents for 1.5 hrs/wk through May 2025 in coordination with local attorneys teaching students how our judicial system works; Annual "Ride For Vocations." Provided a hydration/energy Rest Stop at FAWS. Supported St. Al's "post-Covid" annual Parish picnic. Led by Council Chaplain, supported & participated in Center for Life Enrichment/Special Olympics, MD 30<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament. Supported 15th Annual, ADW "White Mass" at St Aloysius. "White Mass" celebrates people living with disabilities, deaf persons and people living with chronic illness or mental health challenges and the gifts they bring to our Church and communities. Supported FAWS' 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass. Cardinal Gregory presided
- **OCTOBER:** Donated 90 novels for FAWS students; supported Friends of the Poor Walk; hosted St Aloysius "Community Sunday"; CareNet Clergy Cycle; 11<sup>th</sup> Red Cross Blood Drive

- **NOVEMBER:** Hosted Annual Council Fall Dinner. A Memorial Mass (#1470 Necrology) conducted at St Aloysius. 135 deceased #1470 members acknowledged & remembered; Attended 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans of Helen Veterans Day Observance program; Delta Drive for new KofC membership conducted at St. Aloysius; Supported Sisters of Charity fundraising event to benefit Camp Maria Retreat Center; supported OLC Medley's Neck "Cemetery Tour"
- **DECEMBER:** "Boxes of Joy" program (433 boxes): Coordinated participation with St. Aloysius, Mother Catherine, Our Lady's Church, Holy Family, Sacred Heart, FAW, Chesterton Academy. St Aloysius' Nativity Scene set up/ breakdown; Council & Family Christmas parties held; "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest, 330 entries from our Catholic elementary schools (cash prizes); "Sensory Friendly" Mass held at St Aloysius. Served as ushers, provided Boy Scout representation; Supported annual St Aloysius Parish Hall 25 December community Christmas dinner; Initiated FAWS scholarship recognizing student Community Service; Supported Missionaries of Charity Sisters trip to Christmas Fair for homeless DC children
- **JANUARY:** Supported 55 passenger bus for Washington, D.C. March for Life; RSVP: Supported 2 Seminarians; Held 12<sup>th</sup> Red Cross Blood Drive
- **FEBRUARY:** Coordinated 1<sup>st</sup> Annual District 6 Clergy Appreciation Dinner at St Aloysius Parish Hall. 14 of 17 Clergy attended including 7 Servant Sisters of the Lord. 68 attendees. Catholic Charities D.C CEO guest speaker. Parish Clergy celebrated from: St. Aloysius, Our Lady's Church, Sacred Heart, Holy Angels, Our Lady of the Wayside, Immaculate Conception, St. John's, St. Francis Xavier; Participated in "Project Warm" at Holy Angels Parish Hall; Hosted District Six Basketball shootout; Semiannual #1470 Financial Audit successfully conducted; Exemplification of new KofC member conducted via Zoom; Charitable contributions presented to Hospice of St. Mary's, Camp Maria renovations, SoMD CareNet, vestments for deacons/seminarians, St Vincent dePaul Society, Chesterton Academy, Mother Catherine Academy; Knights Hall renovation plans prioritized and funds identified
- **MARCH:** Detective Zach Farrell, NAS Patuxent River, selected as KofC Maryland State Council's "*Police Officer of the Year*." Honored at the Founder's Day Mass and Awards dinner; #1470's MD State Council "People of the Year" nominees: Leonard Wathen: Faith Formation Teacher of Year (St Aloysius), Linda Greer: Catholic Teacher of the Year (FAWS), Linda Szymkowiak: Catholic Teacher of the Year, St Mary's Ryken; Served as St Aloysius "Greeters" at "Adoration, Praise & Worship" Event; RSVP: Requested & supporting 4 new seminarians; Attended & supported Chesterton Academy Gala. Supported MD "March for Life"
- **APRIL:** Supported St Mary's Ryken annual "Knight Gala;" attended and supported CareNet SoMD 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet; Exemplification conducted for a new #1470 Knight; Delta Drives conducted at St Aloysius, OLC, Sacred Heart, Holy Angels; Held 13<sup>th</sup> Red Cross Blood Drive
- **MAY:** Attended MD State KofC convention in Annapolis, MD; Venerated Sacred Heart icon in our parishes; Conducted Fraternal Benefits briefings; Hosted McNamara Chapter meeting
- **JUNE:** Council Financial Audit conducted; 2025/26 Slate of Council officers submitted

**CONCLUSION:** A productive Fraternal year for our Council. #1470's charitable impact made possible by the support and guidance received from our Chaplain, Trustees and nine active PGKs. We are especially blessed by our "core vanguard" of Knights who execute the majority of the charitable work we accomplish. "WELL DONE" to all Knights, their Ladies & families who propose, organize, work, attend and coordinate our events. Without this Team effort my wife Liz and I would not have been able to navigate, evaluate, direct and support the ever-expanding list of deserving programs and events in our growing southern Maryland Catholic community.

## **Oakland Council, No. 1771**

**George Lander, Grand Knight**

Council 1771 meets the first and third Thursday of each month, General Council Meeting occurring on the first Thursday and Council Business Meeting occurring on the third Thursday. Meetings are held in the Parish Hall of St Peter the Apostle Church in Oakland MD beginning at 7:00 PM. All Brother Knights are invited to attend. Council 1771 offers a Hybrid Meeting with the online option for Brothers who are either out of town or severe weather conditions. Major sources of income for the Council are the Fair Booth at the Garrett County Fair and the Shrimp & Bull Feast along with other County and Community events.

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR:** Thomas Briggs, PGK

**FAITH DIRECTOR:** Deacon John Hess

**COMMUNITY DIRECTOR:** Daniel Clark, PGK

**FAMILY DIRECTOR:** George Lander, Grand Knight

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR:** Larry Smith, DD, PCP, PGK

Reoccurring Events include weekly Rosary's lead by Brother Knights, participation in local Food Connect Distributions and Community Supper. St Joseph's Craftsmen tasked with small jobs for the Church and Parishioners. Support of St Peter's Church in Oakland and the Lake Center located in McHenry MD.

In July, Installation of Officers is held. The Semi-Annual Audit is conducted and is turned into the State Council. Preparations are made for the major fundraiser at the Garret County Fair. August is a continuation of fundraising activities in conjunction with the Community Events. September, the Council participates in the Living Rosary. October sees the Tootsie Roll Campaign in full swing. November is the Annual Shrimp & Bull Feast, a Memorial Mass held in Honor of Brother Knights. December is active with Keep Christ in Christmas and supporting the Church with all Christmas activities. The remainder of the Year has the Council focused on maintaining an active invitation to become a member of our Order. Keeping up with the State directives in Programs. Faith in Action and other Community Support efforts.

**In Conclusion:** I would like to thank all my Brother Knights who have given of their time and resources to help make this year a banner year. I am honored to call you "Brothers" and I am looking forward to our continued mission of charitable works and Community Outreach through Programs and Faith.

Respectfully Submitted  
George Lander, Grand Knight

**FATHER ROSENSTEEL COUNCIL, No. 2169**  
**GRAND KNIGHT MICHAEL QUINN**

The following report is submitted on behalf of Father Rosensteel Council – a leader in membership and programs.

Father Rosensteel Council #2169 meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at our council home which has 104 years of tradition and history. On July 14, 2024, we celebrated the installation of officers with a Mass at St John the Evangelist Church in Silver Spring, MD. The Mass was followed by dinner and dancing attended by 138 members, family, and friends. This year, a number of our brothers were called to be with Our Lord and Savior. On November 7<sup>th</sup>, Father Rosensteel Council held a Memorial Mass at St John the Evangelist with the Cardinal O'Boyle Assembly Color Corps presenting the colors.

**FAITH ACTIVITIES (Director Kevin Nolan)**

Father Rosensteel Council #2169 is comprised of three parishes in Montgomery County -- St John the Evangelist, St Bernadette's and Christ the King. We have a very active council when it comes to faith programs. Every Friday night, our council holds a rosary where we pray for our family and friends, the sick and in distress and souls of the faithfully departed. We hold our annual flagship faith program--Nun's Appreciation Dinner--where we serve dinner to the sisters and nuns in our community. We held a collection for bikes for the seminarians this year. At St Bernadette's parish, we donated kegs of beer and served at a fundraiser to help the parish raise money for their various parish ministries.

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES (Director PGK Mike Miller)**

Father Rosensteel Council #2169 holds a monthly collection for the Little Sisters of the Poor to help support our community. We also participated in the Coats for Kids program as well as the US Marine Corps Toys for Tots drive to support less fortunate kids. One program that we have a lot of success with is that we hold two separate University of Maryland Catholic student dinners where our council buys, prepares, delivers and serves meals to about 200 Catholic students at the University. Father Rosensteel Council also held a CYO fundraiser spaghetti dinner to support St John the Evangelist sports programs. Lastly, we held a lobster seafood oyster fundraiser to raise more money for our Food for Families program.

**FAMILY ACTIVITIES (Director Dennis Bassisch)**

Father Rosensteel Council #2169 has many programs to promote and strengthen families. Our biggest and most generous program for over 52 years is our Food for Families program where we support our local community with gift cards for the Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. The churches we support in our community are St John the Evangelist, St Bernadette, St Michael the Archangel, Christ the King, Holy Cross, St Catherine Laboure, a local pregnancy center and the Gabriel Project where they use the gift cards to purchase baby formula. We participated in three picnics for families; the St John the Evangelist school and parish picnic, St Bernadette's fall festival, and our council picnic. Other programs to strengthen families are: our

weekly family Friday night dinners, dinner with Santa, Halloween kids party, Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest and a very successful father-daughter dance. This year we held a huge Oyster seafood bull and pig roast fundraiser serving about 145 guests, plus 38 volunteers to help support our Food for Families program.

### LIFE ACTIVITIES (Director PGK Jim Mannion)

This year we participated in a number of life programs. Our flagship program is our Pro-Life Kickoff Rally. This year was our 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary and we hosted a number of pro-life speakers as well as many State officers including our current State Secretary John Winfrey. In addition to the pro-life dinner, we held our annual Candlelight Rosary for the Unborn where we raised money for two pregnancy centers, the Gabriel project and the NW Center in Washington, DC. This year we did two Novenas for Life, a Divine Mercy Novena and Novena for special pregnancy needs.

It has been a sincere pleasure and honor to serve as Grand Knight on behalf of the membership and families of this great Council. They have lived our motto of “Love is Repaid by Love Alone.”

“Make a Difference in Someone’s Life”

Respectfully submitted,

GK Michael Quinn

## **Patuxent Council, No. 2203**

### **Frederick Krutz, Grand Knight**

#### **Rick Krutz, Grand Knight and Membership Director**

Patuxent Council was established in November 1920 and is currently in our 105th year of service to Saint Mary of the Mills Parish and Laurel, Maryland communities. The Council meets in the Kutzera Room of the Keesler Center on first and second Tuesdays of each month. We use a hybrid meeting approach that allows for both in-person (preferred) and virtual attendance via Zoom when needed. Our Installation of Officers was held on Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024. State Secretary John Winfrey and his wife Lady Gloria joined us for the 5:00 PM Mass that was celebrated by our Pastor and Chaplain Father Larry Young. The Installation and Celebratory Dinner immediately followed the Mass. Council Awards were presented with special emphasis to the “Dick Stevick Award” for Knight of Year to Stan Potter for his coordination of fundraising activities and the “Ed Langr Award” to Steve Hubbard for the many behind the scenes activities throughout the year. Our council conducted two Delta Church Drives in this Fraternal Year in October and March. Our Chaplain and Pastor Father Larry Young and Associate Chaplain Father Mattia Cortigiani both helped to inspire men of the parish to join the Knights by talking about all the good things that we do for our parish and the local community. We have so far added 8 new members.

#### **Chieloka Ifudu, Deputy Grand Knight and Community Director**

The SHARE Program has been a flagship charitable program of Patuxent Council since 1996. It is the embodiment of all we are called to do as Knights: “To put our Faith into Action” and to “Make a Difference in Someone’s Life.” Through SHARE, our Brother Knights and family members have stepped up to serve the poor and the needy of our community. It is currently led by PGK Jimmy Williams, his hardworking mother, Phyllis, and PGK and current DD Rick Askins. During the 12-month period from March 2024 through February 2025 we purchased and distributed more than 21 tons of food to the needy in our community. This took about 1500 volunteer hours from brother Knights and our families and friends. Each month, Patuxent Council collects and distributes items to the Little Sisters of the Poor in Washington, D.C. Our group is a regional drop-off center. We primarily receive non-perishable food items along with cleaning and office supplies. We continued our 5th Wednesday support for Elizabeth House this year. Four times per year we cook and serve an evening meal and make bag lunches for those who come to dinner at this local kitchen to support food insecure people in our community. In November we donated and helped to distribute 228 Coats for Kids. This included 9 cases that were provided to the Laurel Police Department and 10 cases that we personally distributed at the Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services. We also participated in the Box of Joy program, organizing efforts for our parish along with being a drop-off center for the Cross Catholic Outreach program. Our Council donated 174 Boxes of Joy and collected a total of 469 Boxes over the program period with five other councils and organizations. In March, we were able to honor those in our parish and local community who truly made a difference in people’s lives this year. This included: Laura Bradley (Catholic Teacher), Dave Muzzy (Faith Formation Teacher), Detective Lamar Gayle (Police Officer), Lt. Justyn Jefferies (EMT/Firefighter), Lost ‘N’ Found Band (Citizens) the Ippoliti’s (Family) and Dr. Ikechukwu Mbonu (Health Care Worker). Dr. Mbonu also won the State Award for Health Care this year.

#### **Mike Turek, Chancellor and Faith Director**

Our council is part of the Archdiocese of Washington. The need for priests in our area and across the entire nation is great. The reported cost to bring a single seminarian through the full program to priesthood is estimated to be \$200,000. Every dollar that we raise to support this effort will truly come back to us in the

future as it will ensure that we have new priests to take care of our parishes. We held a Pasta-For-Priests event in February that netted over \$1,000 in sales and donations that we could then use to provide RSVP support to two additional seminarians. We had already provided for two earlier in the year but when we heard that not all the seminarians received funds we were motivated to act. Where there is a need, you can find a Knight! We held our annual Lenten Men's Retreat in March. All men in the parish were invited to this gathering to reflect, refresh, renew and prepare for the Lenten season. 23 men attended the retreat which began with Mass, followed by a continental breakfast. We then moved to the Pallotti Chapel where Mike Tenney led us in prayer, music and reflection. Deacon Bob Gignilliat led the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. Father Larry also gave us an opportunity for Confession. The Retreat concluded with lunch in the Breen Room.

### **PGK Augustine Nwabueze, Family Director**

The Food for Families program in our council is a labor of love. Past Grand Knight Jerry Gager has been responsible for this effort for the past five years. Assisting PGK Jerry, during his travel, has been PGK Steve Hubbard and Brother Mark O'Dea. PGK Jerry picks up soon-to-expire baked goods from two different grocery stores in the Laurel area three times per week and then delivers those goods to multiple food pantries. We estimate that we will pick up and distribute about 240 lbs. of goods each week with a retail value of \$500. This provides more than \$26,000 of value to our community in this effort. We continued the Family of the Month program, recognizing twelve active parish families throughout the year. Additionally, we designated the Ippoliti Family as our Family of the Year in our annual Community Awards. In OCT and NOV, we conducted the Keep Christ in Christmas poster competition with students from the St. Mary's CCD program and St. Mary's school submitting entries. In JAN through MAR, we also held Free Throw Championships at the team, district and state levels. We also honored the Feast of the Holy Family at all seven parish Masses over the 28/29 December weekend.

### **Ben Turek, Life Director**

The Cafe4Life program is the cornerstone of Council 2203's Life activities. On the last Sunday of each month, the Patuxent Council Knights sell coffee and light breakfast fair in the basement of St. Mary of the Mills Church in Laurel. The coffee is purchased from the Lady of Guadalupe Monastery in New Mexico where it is roasted by the monks. The coffee can also be purchased by the bag for use at home between events. The proceeds from the sales, donations, and ASAP funding from Supreme allows us to provide support to the Laurel Pregnancy Center. In the past six months this program has been so successful that we have donated more than \$2600 to LPC. We are considering expanding the program to another local pregnancy center to optimize the support we can get through ASAP. This is our council's way to help moms and save babies! The Council hosted a virtual/livestreamed, weekly, bilingual Rosary for Life from January to October. The Council also participated in the Cemetery of the Innocents Program, where volunteers placed crosses around St. Mary's Church for two weeks. The memorial consisted of 52 red, white and blue crosses representing the states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. Our Annual Tootsie Roll Drive raised \$1,268 to support people with intellectual disabilities. We also held quarterly blood drives through the INOVA Blood Donor Services program.

### **Conclusions**

We have a very busy council and none of the above would be possible without the active participation from the core team which consists of many Past Grand Knights. Donations require work and time to organize; hosting dinners, fundraisers, fish fries, and working UMD concessions. Thanks to everyone that helped this year – especially my loving wife Liz who often joined me in many of these activities.

## **Archbishop Neale Council #2279**

**Grand Knight – Michael K. Mickey**

### **Deputy Grand Knight & Program Director – John M. Lee**

Archbishop Neale Council #2279 continues to be active throughout the community and the parishes of Sacred Heart, St. Catherine of Alexandria, St. Ignatius of Loyola - Chapel Point and St. Ignatius of Loyola - Hilltop. We continue to support various activities throughout these parishes, such as the Food Pantry Program, Clothing for the Needy Sheds, Community Sundays, and other activities supporting the Clergy at these locations. The Council continues to support the Refund Seminarian Vocation Program by sponsoring RSVP Seminarians. In addition, we have completed nearly two hundred individual programs. In supporting our parishes facilities, we held an attic cleanup at the Manor House St. Ignatius Loyola-Chapel Point, as well as an elevated deck demo above the Parish office, and fencepost replacement. At Sacred Heart, the Council in collaboration with the Ladies Sodality gave the Friendship Room a fresh makeover. These activities served to advance the goals of the Order and to glorify God. Below are just some examples of our Faith in Action for the 2024-2025 Columbian Year.

### **Chancellor & Membership Director – Victor A. Kline**

The Council continued to grow its membership during the 2024-2025 Columbian Year. The Council accepted four new knights to the Council, and transfer requests. The Council extended welcome by conducting Church Drives, greeting our parishioners at various events, and through personal invitations to join the Order; with the drive to continue to serve the Church, Families, Pro-Life efforts, and the Community. This year, the Council instituted a New Member Mentoring Program, where every new member was paired with a current member. This created a more personal point of contact for direct engagement and encouragement to participate in council activities. Through this and other efforts toward member engagement, the Council has increased new member participation and increased the rate of elevation to the Fourth Degree.

### **Faith Program Director – John Lee**

Our Council began the year by hosting the seminarians from the Archdiocese of Washington at our August 1<sup>st</sup> Seminarian Picnic. On September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Council sponsored and organized the Ride for Vocations. Additionally, we supported four seminarians through the RSVP program with Christmas cards, prayers, encouraging words, and \$500 each. Our Council continues to pray many rosaries during the year, praying before each officer and council meeting, as well as on the First Sunday of each month with the Ladies Sodality of Sacred Heart. We recognize the sacrifices of our mothers on Mother's Day with "Marigolds for Moms." We recognize our dads on Father's Day with the St. Joseph Prayer Card. And we recognize all our Families with the Holy Family Prayer Card on the Feast of the Holy Family. We also started a Spiritual Gifts program to welcome new Catholics who joined the Church during the Easter Season. We participate in two Eucharistic Processions, one on Holy Thursday and one on Corpus Christi. And during this Jubilee Celebration Year, as a designated Jubilee Church, on April 5<sup>th</sup>, we will be participating in a Eucharistic Procession from St. Joseph's Church in Pomfret to Sacred Heart Church in LaPlata. On April 8<sup>th</sup>, Sacred Heart will host the veneration of the Pontiff's Pilgrim Icon – the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

### **Family Program Director – Lawrence G. Miller**

Archbishop Neale Council continues to recognize those families of Faith having a significant contribution to their parish with the selection of the Family of the Month/Family of the Year

program in the 2024-25 Columbian Year. The Council continued its long-standing tradition of sponsoring the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest. The contest entries were primarily from Archbishop Neale School, however this year we opened the contest to Faith Formation programs which allowed home-school and public-school children to participate. We were pleased to have such creative entries submitted in all five grade categories with awards of \$25 being given to each winner. Mary Patterson, one of our Kindergarten entries, was chosen as the winner at the State Level, and went on to represent Maryland at the Supreme Level. Council 2279 was again proud to be a partner with Archbishop Neale School's Breakfast with Santa event. The Council coordinated Santa's arrival and cooked a breakfast of pancakes, scrambled eggs, and sausage for all attendees.

**Community Program Director – Perry Giovacchini/George C. Liebal, Jr.**

Partnering with the Maryland Food Bank, the Council supported Mary's Food Pantry, which provides food distribution every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, from 8:00 – 11:00 am., and St. Catherine of Alexandria Food Bank provides food distribution every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday. The Council also hosted many community meal gatherings: a Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser, Community Breakfast Sundays in October, the Restorers of Carmel Annual Dinner and Horse Race Fundraiser, the Parish Breakfast with Santa, Sacred Heart Evening Out, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, St. Patrick's Day Irish Coffee and Donuts, Lenten Fish Fries, and a Breakfast for the Archbishop Neale School Class of 2025 Graduates in May. In addition to our Church Drives, the Council supported the Boxes of Joy at Sacred Heart and St. Ignatius Loyola – Chapel Point. Our Council also resurrected the Basketball Free Throw Contest in February for the first time in 12 years.

**Life Program Director – Victor A. Kline**

The Council, with parishioners from Sacred Heart La Plata, took part in the Rosary for Life for the Unborn in September and hosted the Silver Rose Prayer Service at Sacred Heart. The Council also partnered with Charles County Right to Life to pray the rosary near Planned Parenthood, Waldorf, MD. In addition, I attended the Catherine Foundation Right to Life Gala, presenting them with a \$300.00 donation. The Council also funded a replacement for the Gabriel Project signage in front of Sacred Heart Church. The Gabriel Project is instrumental in providing resources for women expecting the birth of a baby. In January, Council members supported the Annual Right to Life in Washington, D.C. and supported the Maryland March for Life in Annapolis on March 27. We also participated in the Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities (Tootsie Roll Drive), and presented a check to Southern Maryland Community Resources, a group that supports and advocates for individuals with special needs, offering social and educational opportunities to individuals in our community.

**Grand Knight – Michael K. Mickey**

Archbishop Neale Council #2279 continues to lead our parish communities in faith and charity. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve this council as its Grand Knight for the past year, and hope to continue its success for another year. Thank you to all my Brother Knights and their families, for your time, talent, and treasure, as we continue to grow in faith, and help our parishes and community to see the glory of God. Thank you to my wife, Heidi, and my sons, Joseph, and James, for your support. My time as Grand Knight, though a small part of this council's long and storied history, is due in no small part to the amazing members of this council, who helped to make the accomplishments of this year possible, and I thank you. Know that I will keep this council in my prayers for the rest of my tenure, and beyond.

## **Dr. John Henry Griffin Council, No. 2293**

### **Adam La Nore, Grand Knight**

Council 2293, charter on July 31, 1921, meets on the second Tuesday of the month for our Planning meeting, the fourth Thursday of the month for our Council meeting. Planning meetings on the second Tuesday of the month are conducted at Our Lady Help of Christians, 100 Village St, Waldorf, MD 20602. Council meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month are conducted are conducted at St Mary's school, 13715 Notre Dame Pl, Bryantown, MD 20617. All Council members are invited to attend both meetings. Our charitable income comes from dues, Super Bowl Pool, Incentive Sweepstakes, providing concessions services for a fall festival in the community. On Tuesday, August 27th, the officers of Dr John Henry Griffin 2293 were installed at St Mary's Bryantown with the Worthy District Deputy and Worthy Warden officiated. A reception for all Council members and guests was held after the installation at St Mary's Hall.

**PROGRAMS DIRECTOR:** Michael Rauer, Deputy Grand Knight

**FAITH ACTIVITIES:** Alex Lapinski

**COMMUNITY:** Steven Law PGK

**FAMILY:** Anthony McGrath PGK

**LIFE:** Sidney Marcus

**WARDEN:** Alfred Fierro

**RECORDER:** Mark Potter

**Repetitive Events:** pray the Rosary monthly with Charles County Right to Life outside near a Planned Parenthood, Eucharistic Ministers and Holy Mass Ushers every week, Family of the Month

- **July:** 2293 Semiannual Financial Audit was successfully conducted. Restocked Domestic Church Kiosk with English and Spanish booklets for our Parishioners. Several Brother Knights attended the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, IN. Several Council Brothers assisted with the annual food packing event; 50,000 meals were packed for developing countries.
- **August:** Delta Church Drive was performed with some interested parishioners, no new members. Held one Exemplification to bring one new member into our Council.
- **September:** Assisted Our Lady Help of Christians with their annual Parish picnic
- **October:** Purchased "Support Life" signs which were installed at the entrance to St Mary's Church to encourage Support Life Vote No. Soccer Shoot-out was held with 25 youths from the age 6yrs to 18 years old, Trophies were given to each participant
- **November:** Tootsie Roll Drive was conducted with money donation collected to assist the Intellectual Disable people a normal life. Memorial Mass held for those Brother Knights and Spouses who have recently passed away. Assisted at St Peter's Church with Parish breakfast, one person was recruited into the Council. Participated in RSVP program, gave 500 dollars to support Seminarian John Patrick with his studies. As part of the ASAP program, program Council donated 500 dollars to support the Gabriel Network House in Bowie MD. Money was

designated for the building project to support mothers after pregnancy. The Silver Rose program was held with Father Carlos leading the prayers. 35 people participated in the prayers.

- **December:** Held a Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest at our schools and CCD Classes as well. Christmas party and dinner was held, the dinner was attended by Council members, families and parishioners. Several Brothers assisted the Council's auxiliary prepare food for this in need, the fed a total of 230 people.
- **January;** Members of the Council with Clergy, and parishioners attended the National "March for Life." Donation of 250 dollars given to OLHC Church to help provide the homeless with warm clothes and propane to keep them warm during the cold winter.
- **February:** Donated 250 dollars to a Boy Scout's project to become an Eagle Scout. We donated another 500 dollars another Seminarian as part of the RSVP program.
- **March:** Collecting food for those in need, food to be given to the Catholic Charities pantry. Purchased 130 rosaries to be given to the upcoming Confirmation of children at our Parishes
- **April:** Sacred Heart icon is to arrive at Our Lady of Christians, we are preparing to have a ceremony with prayers, reading of the Gospel. Will put the date in the Church's bulletin, as well as invited other Councils in our district. We will reach out to other Churches in our area to invite parishioners to come as well.
- **May:** Giving Marigolds to mothers program is being planned at this time, we will be providing flowers to each mother thanking for giving life. We will be honoring our Catholic Teachers as well, we will be treating teachers in both of our schools, as well as CCD teachers as well.
- **June:** We are in the process of obtaining permission from our Pastor to have a Holy Hour in honor of fathers. We hope to have it a week prior to father's day

**Conclusion:** We been having a busy year, This GK is thankful for the support we have received from our Chaplain, our Priests, District Deputy, and our officers. Thankful to all the Brother Knights, that took the time to become involved in our programs to make them successful. Also, I want to be thankful to our families, who tolerate the time we spend away from home . Without them, we would not be able to do our programs

## **Montgomery Council 2323**

### **Kevin L. McClintock, Grand Knight**

Our council meets on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Rd., Derwood, MD 20855. Our council was founded in 1921 and serves three parishes; St. Martin of Tours in Gaithersburg, MD, St. Mary's in Rockville, MD and St. Francis of Assisi in Derwood, MD. Meetings start at 8:00 pm. Our building corporation meets on the second Monday of each month and our executive committee on the fourth Tuesday. We also offer the hall to our 4<sup>th</sup> degree Sullivan Brothers Council including Color Corp practices, as well as various State and Parish groups as requested.

Our installation of council officers was conducted on Saturday July 13, 2024 at 5PM. The ceremony commenced with Holy Mass at St. Martin of Tours Church, home parish of Grand Knight Kevin McClintock. Pastor David Wells presided as Kevin was inducted as Grand Knight, Steven Willer as Deputy Grand Knight, Scott Peters as Chancellor and Joe Merritt as Warden. All council officers and trustees were attired in business suits or white tuxedo jackets with black slacks. Following Mass and the installation, a dinner was held at Father Cuddy Hall.

As always, our council is very active. We have 273 members and about 30 events each year. We logged in over 4,400 volunteer hours and donated almost \$25,000 to various worthy causes

Some of the events that we conducted this year include:

- In September, we held our annual Senior Dance – 3 years post Pandemic. Over 80 seniors enjoyed a delicious spread and dancing with DJ until 11 pm. We have hosted this since 1975.
- We hosted 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Rosaries again this year at St. Francis Church with our Chaplain Father Dillon. Our first Rosary was on December 29. We also met on March 30 and will meet in June 2025.
- In September and October, the Council conducted our annual Tootsie Roll Drives at all 3 parishes to benefit individuals with intellectual differences. We again donated to Special Olympics Montgomery and Upcounty Community Resources - \$3,005.
- For the 4th year Montgomery Council has revived the Family Fun Night on several first Fridays of the Month. These dinners highlighted games and Arts & Crafts for the children. Additionally, this year 1 social meeting per quarter hosted a family Potluck Dinner for Knights and their wives.
- We purchased six cases of beautiful new winter coats which were distributed to children last Fall and our Rice Program will contribute an estimated \$3,504 or 3.9 tons of rice to St Martin's Food Pantry.
- New this year Montgomery Council hosted a Veterans Appreciation Dinner at the hall. This was in conjunction with the Sullivan Brothers Assembly.
- We also entertained parish families with our Halloween pumpkin carving event at the hall where we purchased the pumpkins, and the kids carved them up! Hall cleanup is always a challenge but well worth it.

- In November we held our annual PGK luncheon at the hall to honor the worthy knights who have led our council for so many years. We also celebrated our Memorial Mass for those brothers and family members lost in the last 12 months.
- Then, on Thanksgiving Day, we served coffee and donuts after Mass at St Mary's and St Francis parishes, This has been a tradition of our council for many years.
- In December, we sponsored the Special Olympics Christmas party, with Santa Claus and a DJ. The hall was packed and everyone had a ball.
- The following day, we held our council Christmas party where we donated proceeds to 4 Seminarians (\$500 each). A wagon of cheer sweepstakes raised over \$1,470 for the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center.
- January 2024 saw our Knights participate in the March for Life in Washington DC and the Polar Bear Plunge in the Chesapeake to benefit Special Olympics. This effort continued into February with the council's Polar Bear Plunge netting \$1,723 to the KofC State Special Olympics charity.
- On February 4, 2024, we held our annual spaghetti dinner where we raised \$1,300 benefitting the St. Francis of Assisi Parish medical mission to Haiti. This was our 27th year hosting this worthy event.
- In March & April we held our three excellent Friday Lenten Fish Dinners at Father Cuddy Hall. Parishioners from all 3 parishes look forward to those. This year the donations will be made to Fisher House Foundation, Little Sisters of the Poor, and Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. Donations are expected to exceed \$4,000.
- In May, we are planning the Annual Shrimp Feast on Preakness Day – May 17<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds will benefit the Sleep in Heavenly Peace Charity to build beds for youth in Montgomery County.
- We are planning a Family Night in June with games and crafts for families in our parishes. A council Poker Night is in the works as well.
- This year we have conducted 2 in person or virtual Exemplifications and may have another before the end of the fraternal year.

As Grand Knight, I am proud to have successfully continued the traditions of our great council and have seen a significant growth in our programs of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. I am also confident that our incoming Grand Knight and Officers will build on this success in the new fraternal year ahead. Vivat Jesus!

Kevin L McClintock, Grand Knight Montgomery Council 2323

## **Bishop Becker Council, No. 2427 Elkton MD**

**Kevin O'Donnell, Grand Knight**

Bishop Becker Council #2427 has been serving Immaculate Conception Parish in Elkton, MD since December 10, 1922. We conduct our planning meetings, on the first Tuesday of each month, and our business meetings the second Tuesday of each month. Our meetings are held in Immaculate Conception's parish office building. Our current officers were installed on July 27, 2024. Our income is generated by a combination of fundraising as well as dividends from investments.

Our Directors are:

Program Director - Robert Boyer

Faith Activities- Robert Boyer

Family Activities – Michael Cunha

Community Activities – Jake Schaible

Life Activities – Tom Podlesak

**July** – Conducted our Installation of Officers, followed by dinner.

**August**- Provided the opportunity for parishioners to attend Adoration in our Chapel; Assisted veterans at Perry Point get to and from Mass; Purchased and assembled a shelving unit for the Pregnancy Center.

**September**- Supported the Parish Golf Outing by sponsoring a hole and providing four golfers ; Attended 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Mass as a council and provided the opportunity for a Sacred Heart Prayer service; Provided the opportunity for parishioners to attend Adoration in our Chapel; Organized a Blood Drive for Blood Bank of Delmarva. We had 35 donors.

**October** – Provided Adoration for the Parish; Attended 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Mass, followed by Sacred Heart Prayer Service; Organized, set-up, and funded an Octoberfest (Parish Picnic). It was estimated that we had 150 in attendance; Contributed to the Hurricane Relief Fund.

**November**- Attended 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Mass as a council and provided the opportunity for a Sacred Heart Prayer Service; ; Provided the opportunity for parishioners to attend Adoration in our Chapel. Held a Tootsie Roll Drive at the local Redner's Grocery Store. Purchased and distributed hat pins for the veterans in our parish; Purchased and distributed Coats for Kids.

**December**- Conducted judging of the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest; Cooked Breakfast for our annual Christmas Bazaar; Purchased Advent Booklets for the Parish.

**January** – Awarded Family of the Year at Sunday Mass, with several Knight's in attendance; Provided the opportunity for parishioners to attend Adoration in our Chapel; Attended 1<sup>st</sup> Friday

and hosted a Sacred Heart Prayer Service. Purchased and assembled seven office chairs for the Pregnancy Center's staff.

**February-** Provided the opportunity for parishioners to attend Adoration in our Chapel; Attended 1<sup>st</sup> Friday and hosted a Sacred Heart Prayer Service; Organized and hosted a kids movie night, with pizza and ice cream. They viewed a movie about St. Bernadette. We had twenty children in attendance.

**March-** Cooked breakfast to help with the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians fundraiser; - Provided the opportunity for parishioners to attend Adoration in our Chapel; Attended 1<sup>st</sup> Friday and hosted a Sacred Heart Prayer Service. Purchased Lenten Booklets to be distributed to the parishioners; Assisted veterans at Perry Point with getting to and from Mass.

**April-** we will be assisting with our Religious Education Program with an Easter Egg Hunt. We will help "stuff" eggs with prizes, as well as help supervise the event; Attended 1<sup>st</sup> Friday and host a Sacred Heart Prayer Service; Provide the opportunity for parishioners to attend Adoration in our Chapel

**May –** We will purchase and distribute flowers to the mothers in our parish, on Mother's Day; Attended 1<sup>st</sup> Friday and host a Sacred Heart Prayer Service; Hold a Tootsie Roll Drive after Masses during a weekend; Attended 1<sup>st</sup> Friday and hosted a Sacred Heart Prayer Service; Provide the opportunity for parishioners to attend Adoration in our Chapel

**June-** Distribute pens to the fathers in our parish, on Father's Day. Provided the opportunity for parishioners to attend Adoration in our Chapel; Attended 1<sup>st</sup> Friday and hosted a Sacred Heart Prayer Service.

## **Cardinal Gibbons Council, No. 2521**

**Robert G. Baumgartner, Jr., Grand Knight**

Our Council #2521 has two (2) meetings per month.

The second Wednesday is our business meeting, and the fourth Wednesday is our social meeting.

St. Michael the Archangel is our parish. We meet at Columbus Gardens located at 4301 Klosterman Avenue, Nottingham, MD 21236.

Cardinal Gibbons #2521 celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> year as a Council in February, 2024.

The Council is also the home of Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori and Past State Deputy, Steve Cohen.

Installation was on Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> with a mass at the Council, installation, and refreshments.

### **FAITH**

Fifth Sunday Mass – celebrated at St. Michael's September 29, 2024 and March 30, 2025, with breakfast at Overlea Diner.

RSVP – (5) \$500 donations to several seminarians thorough out the year.

Prayed the rosary with Father Donald, Deacon Mike Baxter, and 25 members of the Council on March 12<sup>th</sup> prior to business meeting.

May 28<sup>th</sup> will celebrate mass for Blessed Mother at our social meeting with family, light refreshments served.

Keep Christ in Christmas posters with Fr. Leo Abendschoen Council #11615.

Family of the Month program helps with interest in Council during the year.

### **COMMUNITY**

Basketball Free Throw in March & October and Soccer Challenge with the youth at St. Vincent's Villa. Students from Calvert Hall help with the youth, pizza and snacks for all after completion.

Feed troops for Thanksgiving at Aberdeen Proving Ground, 78 troops

Cardinal Gibbons, Fr. Wolf and 2 Assemblies Keough & John Carroll

Coats for Kids – St. Vincent's Villa, 2 boxes of coats

Open meeting to watch Oriole's vs Yankee's baseball game – served hot dogs, popcorn & beer

Breakfast with Santa at Council – sellout crowd, visit from Santa, food, gifts for children by the Ladies Club

Participated in Box of Joy program

Special Olympics- Polar Bear Plunge, Super Plunge – Council donated \$2,000

## **LIFE**

Participated in special mass at St Michael's followed by procession to Women's Health & Abortion Center, prayed rosary, sang hymns while walking. Benediction upon return to church followed by refreshments.

Participated in March for Life at DC

Donated money for Hurricane relief.

## **SUMMARY**

Have COR meetings two times a month.

Knights Insurance agent did a presentation at our February business meeting.

Will have mass on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at John Paul the Great Council #13859 for the Icon for the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Rosary calls for deceased members upon family request.

## **IN CONCLUSION**

We have several functions/events during the year; such as annual crab feast, bull, oyster, shrimp feast, Valentine's, St. Patrick's Day dances, all open to the public. Also, our Ladies Club holds annual events; such as their Tea Party and bingos. We have a weekly bingo which brings in upwards 150 people.

I would like to thank all those who chair, help and attend these events to make them successful each year.

Special thanks to Father Donald Grzymski and Deacon Mike Baxter for their help and devotion throughout the year.

**Grand Knight – Robert G. Baumgartner, JR**

**Deputy Grand Knight – Neil Lockwood**

**Warden – Fran Marinaro**

## **Sacred Heart Council, No. 2577**

**Grand Knight Tim Fitzmaurice**

Sacred Heart Council was established in 1925 and is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. The Council supports four parishes: three in Bowie - Sacred Heart, St. Pius X, St. Edward the Confessor, and one in Crofton – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, and serves two grade schools: St. Pius X and School of the Incarnation. The Council has approximately 525 members of age groups from the 20s through the 90s. The Council meets at its Home Corporation, Boswell Hall, for an Officers / Planning meeting on the Second Thursday of the month and for the Membership Business Meeting the Fourth Thursday of the month. The fraternal year started with the Installation of Officers at St Edward the Confessor Parish with mass conducted by Pastor and Council Chaplain Rev. Andrew Clyne, followed by the Installation and a reception at Boswell Hall. The Council was honored that State Deputy and fellow Council member Anthony Salvemini attended. The Council has had three Exemplifications.

While it has been five years since the Corona Covid 19 Pandemic, the Council is still recovering from its impact on programs, volunteers, and decreased income for charities. However, Council brotherhood remains strong and vibrant. The Council hall is aging, and the Council is starting to think about its future.

**Officers:**      Chaplain: Rev. Andrew Clyne, Pastor St. Edward the Confessor  
                         Grand Knight: Tim Fitzmaurice  
                         Deputy Grand Knight: Lee Bud Dumais  
                         Chancellor: Greg Franklin  
                         Warden: vacant because of illness  
                         Financial Secretary: Don Tallmadge  
                         Treasurer: Rob Van Rite

### **Faith Activities – chair GK Tim Fitzmaurice**

First Friday masses / communion services held at Boswell Hall. November Memorial mass and laying of flowers and remembrance of deceased Knights of Council 2577 in historic Sacred Heart Cemetery. All Souls Memorial mass for deceased Brother Knights, followed by reading of the necrology in which the name of every deceased brother Knight from founding of the Council in 1925 through the present is read. October month of the rosary Living Rosary, in which approximately 50 Knights and family members hold a rosary so large it has to be conducted in the Council Hall ballroom. Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest with School of the Incarnation, winners announced at school assembly before entire student body and some parents. Attendance at deceased Knights' wakes with recitation of the rosary. FOCUS missionary Dominic Fatzinger spoke after membership meeting regarding his role with FOCUS and assisting Catholic students on university campuses.

### **Family Activities – chair PGK Romeo Paternoster / Rob Farrell**

- Children's Halloween Party, approximately 200 children and parents/grandparents participate in this outdoor event that includes games, trunk or treat, and costume contests.
- First Friday family dinners. Have not rebounded since prior to Covid pandemic, attendance averaging 15 – 20.
- Shrove Tuesday dinner.
- St. Patrick's Day party

### **Community Activities – chair Bill Dzwura**

- Soccer Shootout conducted at St. Pius X grade school.
- Free throw Competition conducted at City of Bowie Gym.
- Blood Drives held at the Council Hall
- Coats for Kids / Box of Joy
- Crab Feast (first crab feast since prior to the 2020 Covid pandemic), chair Bill Sapero.

### **Life – chair Jack Carey / assisted by GK Tim Fitzmaurice**

- For the first time since prior to Covid pandemic, Council welcomed an out of state group, Pro-life Wisconsin, to Boswell Hall, after driving for 15 hours, for lunch and rest, before continuing on to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life, Five buses and 250 people came from Wisconsin.
- Former Maryland State Senator and Brother Knight Ed Reilly spoke to Council regarding attempts to defeat pro-abortion amendment to Maryland Constitution. Amendment passed in 2024 election, a defeat for pro-life efforts.

### **Bingo – chairs Steve Dobrosielski and Joe Massimini**

Weekly bingo Tuesday evenings at Council hall, primary source for charitable contributions. The bingo program has struggled since the Covid pandemic, participants have decreased from 80-90 to 40-50. Volunteer teams have also not returned since prior to Covid, going from six to three teams. Revenue has decreased. A committee has been established to review the program in an attempt to increase participants, volunteers, and revenue.

### **University of Maryland Catholic Student Center – chairs Tim Fitzmaurice / Rob Van Rite**

- Prepare dinner for over 200 students.

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** – Council was chartered on June 21, 1925. Committee Chair Rob Van Rite is planning a weeklong celebration, starting with a mass on Sunday June 15, 2025 at Sacred Heart Chapel, followed by a picnic at Boswell Hall, Monday 6/16 Gold Tournament, Tuesday 6/17 Special Bingo, Thursday 6/19 Welcome and Remembrance Night at Boswell Hall, Friday 6/20 Boat Cruise out of Annapolis, and 6/21 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala at Boswell Hall.

## **Bethlehem Council, No. 2605**

**James Di Blasio, Grand Knight**

Brother Knights in our council who died in 2023-2024 James Bayer, Donald Capp, Egar Herman

Bethlehem Council (Chartered June 8, 1926) meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month the Council Home, Bethlehem Landing, on the shore of Old Road Bay in Edgemere. An Officer's Meeting is held on the fourth Wednesday of the Month. All meetings start at 7:30pm. Bethlehem Council supports the Pastorate of Saint Luke in Edgemere and Our Lady of Hope in Dundalk.

**The Programs Director** – Anthony Kosiba. Anthony has continued to organize our activities and help make us more efficient. We provide families support when they are in need. Many thanks go out to Anthony and our council members for their hard work and success during this time. Although a small council we continue to grow and be active.

**Church Activities** – This year we were able to support the Holy Hour at Our Lady of Hope Church every Tuesday's evening with member participation and attendance. We provided support to our church functions, bringing in new parishioners into our faith. Our Deacon and members serve baptisms, and we provide the family of the newborn support and a free meal at our monthly dinner. We participate in other activities involving the school's events, to include the yearly carnival that proceeds go to help the school and community.

**Council Activities** –We continue to host “Third Sunday Dinners” providing an economical dinner with a warm sharing of friendship and fellowship in our community. We also provide and support our 4<sup>th</sup> degree Christopher Columbus assembly with their meetings and functions.

**COMMUNITY** –The Council participated once again in the Tootsie Roll Drive, raising funds for the Battle Monument School. This year we also raised funds to contribute to the “Coats for Kids Program” and the “Christmas Wreaths for Veteran Cemeteries.” We also sponsored Flag Retirement Programs with BSA Troop 1814 from Scared Heart of Mary and plan to do so again in May of 2022. We support a fundraiser for the Pregnancy Center to help with needy expecting mothers.

**FAMILY** –During the year we were only able to host a picnic last Summer. We are still trying to recover from the past disruption of events due to Covid. It is always nice to be able to share the friendship and fellowship with Brothers and their families.

**YOUTH** –Last year we had more than 240 student participants in the “Keep Christ in Christmas” poster contest from Our Lady of Hope/St. Luke School. In addition to donating charity funds to the Battle Monument School we offer to sponsor a picnic for the children. we continue to be allowed various youth groups to use our facilities and outside areas while following all Baltimore County and their internal organization's restrictions.

CONCLUSION – Bethlehem Council is challenged in driving up its membership. I can say with firsthand experience that east Baltimore is facing smaller numbers of potential men in our congregations. Much effort is put into our membership and our plan is to become more helpful and visible in the Parishes. In my experience, I can say that some of our new recruits have only joined now because they were never asked in the past.

Submitted,

*James Di Blasio.  
G.K. Bethlehem Council #2605*

## **Rock Creek Council, No. 2797**

**Alex Lieb, Grand Knight**

Rock Creek Council 2797 has their business meeting the first Thursday of each month (with Rosary before the meeting) and a social meeting on the third Thursday. Meetings are held at Rock Creek Mansion 5417 W. Cedar Lane Bethesda MD 20814.

The main focus of our council is food insecurity, and we do monthly food drives on top of other activities and organizations we support.

The three main organizations we support for food drives are USASOA – United Soldiers and Sailors of America ([www.usasoa.org](http://www.usasoa.org)), Nourishing Bethesda ([www.nourishingbethesda.org](http://www.nourishingbethesda.org)) and The Children's Inn ([www.thechildrensinn.org](http://www.thechildrensinn.org)). From Jan 1 to date, we have collected over \$69,058 in nonperishable food items that go towards low-income military families, homeless veterans, elderly veterans, children/families at the Children's Inn and families in need of food in the local Montgomery County area.

We have also sponsored organizations to allow them to hold fundraisers. This includes Sports Plus (autism), Nourishing Bethesda, Operation Second Chance, Disabled Veterans of America and USASOA.

The Fish Fry season, which covers 6 Fridays from March 7<sup>th</sup> to April 11<sup>th</sup> will produce a donation check of approximately + or - \$1,500 to The Children's Inn.

Dinner for the students at the Catholic Student Center at the University of Maryland which costs about \$1,500. This is an event that university students always look forward to.

Donations from the council total approximately \$23,562 that went to:

The 6 parish schools under our umbrella, Beyond Your Doors, USASOA Sandwich Saturdays, March For Life, Rockville Women's Center, Special Olympics of Montgomery County Maryland, ASAP, Just Tryan It, Becky's Fund, 480 Cares, donation to a Vietnam Viet who was being displaced out of his home, Turkey's for Troops, Bethesda Fire Department, Catholic Students of U of MD, Habitat for Humanity, Bishop Carroll, Coats for Kids, Wounded Paw Project, Saluted Military Golf, Little Sisters of the Poor, San Miguel School, Catholic Coalition and So What Else?

Youth Chess Tournament on March 30<sup>th</sup> that usually produces about \$2,500 in donations for charity TBD.

This year, we'll be holding two Crab Feasts that generate about \$2,000 for charitable donations TBD.

Teacher's Appreciation will be held on May 2<sup>nd</sup> where the teachers from the 6 parishes are recognized.

Scholarship program for students who qualify to apply.

USASOA will be sponsored by the council to hold a BBQ at the mansion that supports our veterans.

Nourishing Bethesda will be holding a fundraiser that we sponsor in mid-September.

Vivat Jesus,

Alex Lieb/Grand Knight  
Rock Creek Council 2797  
5417 W. Cedar Lane  
Bethesda MD 20814  
301-233-0125  
[Lieb2797koc@gmail.com](mailto:Lieb2797koc@gmail.com)

## Prince George's Council, No. 2809

### John Foley, Grand Knight

Prince George's Council #2809 received its charter on June 18th, 1939, which makes the 2024-2025 fraternal year our 85th year as council. Prince George's Council currently holds an Officer's meeting on the second Monday of the month and a business meeting on the fourth Monday of the month. Members are invited and encouraged to attend both meetings. Meetings are held at our Council home at 9450 Cherry Hill Road in College Park, MD.

Currently, Prince George's Council has 711 members on its membership rolls, with 17 new brothers added during this fraternal year. The announcement of the State Council's FAST START programs seemingly encouraged all brothers to reach out and recruit. Prince George's Council was able to meet our recruitment goal by mid-September 2024, a mere two months into the fraternal year. Going by council data in the State Directory, Prince George's Council should be the second largest council in Maryland.

Prince George's Council holds many events and fundraisers, which will be highlighted below. Our recurring events include Red Cross blood drives, SHARE Food distribution and Bread for our brothers.

*Red Cross Blood Drives* - Held bi-monthly at the Council Home.

*SHARE* - Members coordinate community orders to the SHARE food network and pick up the food. The food is then divided up and packaged and distributed to participants. Several orders are also taken directly to the St. Joseph's Catholic Church food pantry in Beltsville, MD.

*Bread for our Brothers* - Members pick up bread at bakeries in Rockville, MD and deliver to those in need.

Aside from the recurring events, Prince George's Council holds many events on a month-by-month basis.

**JULY 2024** - The council helped fund and coordinate the annual Fourth of July Celebration. Members help run games for council and community families at this event all day on July 4th.

**SEPTEMBER 2024** - The council held a Labor Day mass followed by a breakfast. The day that followed was full of council sponsored games and activities. Later in the month, the Council also held our annual .1k run/walk. \$2000 was raised to be donated to Special Olympics Maryland. The council also partnered with the clubhouse association to put on a highly successful crab feast, which was able to raise around \$2000 for the council.

**OCTOBER 2024** - The council hosted our annual Mustang Car show. Around 20 participants entered the show, with around 60 people attending. Proceeds from this event go to Special Olympics Maryland, with around \$1000 being raised. Another small but notable event was a council T-Shirt fundraiser, which allowed our members to showcase pride in their council and also raised around \$300.

**NOVEMBER 2024** - The council hosted our annual memorial mass, which honors all of our fallen brothers and family members. The memorial mass was well attended, with around 25 people in attendance. A small meal was served after the mass. The council also raffled off a “back yard bundle,” which raised around \$1000.

**DECEMBER 2024** - The council hosted our annual children’s Christmas party, which was well attended and has become a yearly fixture within our community. The council also partnered with St. Joseph’s Regional Catholic School to host a “Keep Christ in Christmas” poster contest.

**MARCH 2025** - The council volunteered to work the clubhouse bar and kitchen on a Saturday evening with all gratuities collected being donated to the St. Joseph’s (Beltsville) Youth Group. The council collected \$541 which was directly donated to the youth group. The council also hosted a small Priest Appreciation Luncheon, which provided a gourmet, home cooked meal to local priests.

**APRIL 2025** - The council will sponsor our annual Easter party and egg hunt in mid-April. The council also plans to provide food and manpower to a St. Joseph’s Parish cookout.

**MAY 2025** - Several events are planned for May, starting off with our annual support for the Duckworth School’s Special Olympics, in the form of monetary donations and volunteers. We will also host our annual widow’s luncheon. We will wrap May up with our annual Memorial Day mass and family activity day.

## **Dundalk Council, No. 2942**

**Ian Budny - Grand Knight**

**Council Meetings: First Thursday of Every Month / Ladies Auxiliary: First Tuesday Sept- June / 4<sup>th</sup> Degree (Christopher Columbus Assembly): Meets last Thursday of Every Month Parishes Supported: St. Rita's and St. Casimir (Current Membership: 165; Seminarians Sponsored: 3 Chaplain: Vacant)**

Our Council hosted several family events including our Children's Parties (Halloween, Christmas, and Easter), our Second Annual Octoberfest, and our Ladies Appreciation Dinner. Month award several times this year as well as Knight of the Month recognition. *Chairperson for Council Activities- Richard Rawlings*

Our community events were well attended and included a Fall Fish Fry, Valentine's Day Dance, A Lenten Fish Fry, and participation in the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Dundalk, MD. We also donated to the Box of Joy Program and Coats for Kids. We hosted a Soccer Challenge for the first time at our council this year.

Our Faith is ever strengthened by our coming together in Prayer and Service. We held many Rosaries for our fallen brothers this year. We held a Memorial Mass in memory of recently deceased brothers in November. During Lent, we operated the 40 Cans For Lent Program to help stock church food pantries. We also donate money to food pantries throughout the year as well as other charitable donations. *Faith and Life Chairmen- Ryan McGrath*

Our brothers took to the community and raised money for People with Intellectual Disabilities. We supported a Living Rosary for the victims of 9-11 at Sacred Heart of Mary on Sept 11,2024

We are blessed with a home council building in our town which hosts our monthly meetings, held on the first Thursday of every month. While we have not filled the chair of chaplain this year, our Treasurer, William Aimes has stepped up and done a nice job leading us in prayer. Our council also hosted a Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights Meeting in January which was attended by our State Deputy on his birthday. *Corporation President- James Rutter, Jr.*

As always, we wish to do more. What we were able to do this year we accomplished together and that is by our brothers continually coming together for a cause greater than self. It has been my pleasure to serve with this fine group of men. As Grand Knight, I would like to thank the officers, members, and our building corporation as well as the State Officers, our District Deputy, and our clergy for all their hard work and support.

*Honorable Mentions go to the following Brothers: Ian Budny, Gerard Novak, James Chachulski, Vincent DiPaula, Ronald Gontasz, Sr., Nicholas lukanich, George Behr, William Aimes, Richard Rawlings, Andre Tremper, Michael Rutter, Sr., Walt Walton, Ryan McGrath, Thomas Trentowski*

## **HOLY FACE COUNCIL, No. 3849**

**Carl S. Wolf, Grand Knight**

**OVERVIEW:** Holy Face Council 3849 meets the first and third Tuesday of each month. The officers and directors meet on the first Tuesday for a planning meeting. The regular membership meeting is held on the third Tuesday. We have focused on drawing members into more active service to others with meeting attendance up and we reached 45% Council participation in some of the large events, strengthening the bonds of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. We have been blessed with a Chaplain, Reverend Father Scott Holmer, who enthusiastically supports the Knights and is one of our most vocal recruiters. We have recruited a new member who is also undergoing discernment for ordination.

**FAITH ACTIVITIES:** **Bernie Kneeland**

Accomplishments: Held 12 monthly Holy Hours; prayed 15 Novenas; held the St Mary's Youth Memorial (SMYM) Mass of Remembrance and All Soul's Candlelight Vigil; Prayed the Living Rosary at outdoor events; Knights fill roles of Pastor, deacon, lectors, choir members, sacristans, and ushers in the Holy Face parish. We met the featured program requirements for Supreme's Icon Program, this year focusing on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We continue our support to seminarians through letters of encouragement and donations of \$1,000 and received Supreme RSVP refunds which we also send to our seminarians. Holy Hour participation continues with the Council's leadership and support. Communal prayers of intention are offered. During the time for reflection Knights pray the Rosary, read the Bible, receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and offer themselves to the service of Christ. We contributed \$1,000 to our parish school, Little Flower School, for scholarships and provide Rosaries for First Communion.

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:** **William Campbell**

Accomplishments: Southern Maryland Spring Festival Food Booth; LFS Patriot's Day 5k; Coats for Kids car washes where again we bought and distributed four cases of coats; SMYM maintenance; Veteran's Day flag placement; Catholic School Citizenship Essay; Catholic School Teacher appreciation banner for Catholic School's Week. We donated hundreds of pounds of clothes for homeless and Hurricane relief. Knights played critical roles in the extremely successful Southern Maryland Spring Festival held at the St Mary's County Fairgrounds. PGK Beckman chaired and directed the event attended by over 4,500 people. County residents enjoyed food, crafts, entertainment, carnival and car show as well as weekend Mass held on site. Knights ran the food and slushies booths contributing all the net earnings of \$6,891 to the church; 17% of the total net proceeds. Brothers also did the heavy lifting for set up/clean up, Moving yard sale items from the church to the fairgrounds and staffing many of the activities with over 669 hours of donated labor. We also delivered meals to the Lexington Park Volunteer Fire Department several times throughout the year.

**FAMILY ACTIVITIES:** **Pat Hunt**

Accomplishments: Food for Families (over 1,000lbs of food and over 100 hours of service to St Vincent de Paul Food Pantry) and received grant from Supreme that also went to SVPD; Completed a Helping Hands Program through cooperation with the St John's Chartable Society-Wrapping Arms 'Round Many (WARM Program) where we provided food and supervision for the homeless at Camp Maria during harsh winter weather; Parish cemetery lawn work and maintenance; Oktoberfest and Parish Social Soup and Salad Dinners; decorating the church for holidays; Advent Festival booth; Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest; church spring deep

clean. We hold monthly pancake breakfast from September through April to raise funds for our charitable activities. The Advent Festival committee, chaired by one of our Community Director, created a village of booths in the Church/Little Flower School gym designed to flow participants to each of 10 different booths and several large pavilions decorated by the Knights, parish groups and vendors. Admission was donating one canned food item to the local food pantry. The festival attracted hundreds of families and members of the community. People were truly pleased to be out and about. Our booth "O Holy Knight" served free, hot chocolate and Tootsie Rolls which was a real success as was distributing Christmas coloring books and crayons to all the children who attended. We also sold religious themed Christmas cards. The Knights supported our booth but also the parish council booth, cookie decorating pavilion. The event was also used to showcase all the entries to the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster contest. Several times throughout the year we provided labor to move items for one of our council widows and shovel snow for some of our senior Knights during the harsh winter

#### **LIFE ACTIVITIES: Ed Szymkowiak**

Accomplishments: Continued our support to Care Net Pregnancy Center under the Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) Program. We also made cash donations to support maintenance of their ultrasound machines. We also held: CareNet Pregnancy Center car wash; Tootsie Roll Campaign; Life Chain; Cemetery of the Innocents with Maryland Right to Life. The biggest effort in our Life Program, the Annual Tootsie Roll Campaign is specifically conducted to help the Maryland Special Olympics chapter in St. Mary's County and the ARC of Southern Maryland. Council members participated as both volunteers and athletes at the Special Olympics Spring Games held at Ryken High School. This year we worked to continue expanding collaboration with Special Olympics and beside our site at a local shopping plaza, we sponsored a booth at the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Oyster Festival at the St Mary's County Fairgrounds. We were joined by athletes, coaches and family members who helped Brothers distribute Tootsie Rolls and collect donations for Special Olympics totaling over \$4,500. Countless people came up to us during our Tootsie Roll Campaign and thanked us for collecting donations for such worthy causes. We even received praise and a donation from the winner of the US National Oyster Shucking Contest. The Knight who puts in the most effort each year is recognized with our custom made "Tootsie Trophy." We are building a strong relationship with our friends at Rotary International who sponsor the Festival are also listed in the Oyster Festival pamphlet and website and as Sponsors of the Special Olympics Spring Games.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

It has been a busy and tremendously rewarding year for Council 3849. We adapted to the changing world and never stopped working for those we serve. Even in the midst of difficulty, our Brothers came together and led by example to fulfill our commitment to serve others through our programs of Faith, Community, Family and Life. Vivat Jesus!

**ST. CHARLES BORROMEO COUNCIL, No. 3960**  
**Grand Knight E. Paul Jones, Sr.**

**Community Programs: Damon Fisher**

Brother Damon is a new member who accepted the role as Community Director. With assistance from Brother Knights Mark McGregor and Stephen Roscher we distributed 101 coats to Hebbville Elementary School. Future events include our Easter Egg Hunt chaired by Mark McGregor, FS. Joining with and the BCPD we collected over 1,000 pounds of food for the needy. Both programs were chaired by Deacon Steve Roscher. In coordination with Catholic Daughters, shoe boxes were assembled and filled with toiletries and other items for Apostleship of the Sea. Raffle tickets were sold, and the proceeds were used to fund the Vocations Support Program.

**Faith Programs: Deacon William Arther**

Deacon Bill coordinates the council's Holy Hours, Building the Domestic Church, Monthly Rosary and the RSVP Program as well as being the council treasurer. Our monthly rosary is held on the second Tuesday of each month. It is well attended by Brother Knights, widows and parish members. The council sponsored three seminarians, with one being a member of the council. The council members lead the Stations of the Cross at St Charles Borromeo. The Council members in collaboration with the Catholic Daughters at St Charles Borromeo, led the St. Faustina Stations of the Cross.

**Family Programs: Adewale Obanla**

The council took part in the Family of the Month program. Families were selected from Holy Family and St. Charles Borromeo churches. Council members helped Holy Family parishioners with their annual breakfast with Santa and Lenten Fish Fries, both chaired by Brother Knight Terrence Sheppard. We held an Easter Egg Hunt chaired by Mark McGregor, FS. Over one hundred children participated.

**Life Programs: Michael Alegieunu**

The council collected donations for the ASAP and Baby Bottle programs and coordinated the purchase of a new ultrasound machine. All donations went to the Pregnancy Center West. Monetary donations were also made to the Special Olympics of Carroll County, MD. The council will give out carnations to mothers on Mother's Day at Holy Family and St. Charles Borromeo churches. On Father's Day the council members will hand out rosaries to the fathers of Holy Family and St. Charles Borromeo churches.

## **Conclusion:**

This year the council will celebrate its' 70th year anniversary and we are planning a dinner to commemorate this milestone.

The success of any council can only be achieved by the dedication and commitment of the Brother Knights, and their families, especially out wives.

My many thanks to the Brother Knights of St. Charles Borromeo Council and their families, District Deputy Dennis Ford, his warden Dave Clement and the Maryland State Team.

I would be remiss if I did not thank the pastors Fr. Raymond Harris, Jr. (Holy Family) and Fr. Canisius T. Tah. (St. Charles Borromeo) churches. The council is most appreciative of their support of the council and the order of the Knights of Columbus.

God Bless our Order.

*E. Paul Jones, Sr.*

Grand Knight

Vivat Jesus

## **Father O'Neill Council, No. 4011**

**John Meredith, Grand Knight**

The Fr. O'Neill Council #4011 was established in Lutherville, Maryland, on May 5, 1955, and currently has 256 members. The Council serves 5 Parishes in the Towson, Lutherville and Cockeysville areas of northern Baltimore County: The Church of the Immaculate Conception in Towson, Christ the King Church in Towson, The Church of the Nativity in Timonium, St. Joseph's Parish in Cockeysville, and The Catholic Community of St. Francis Xavier in Hunt Valley. The Fr. O'Neill Council Hall was built in 1975. This building serves as a meeting place for the Council Members and as a venue for Council Fund raisers. The hall is rented about 8 times per month to Community and Family groups for events such as wedding receptions, birthday parties, memorial services, and Dance Classes. The annual Christmas party is held in the Hall every December and checks are given out to many Charities. Here are some of the Council Activities:

### **FAITH ACTIVITIES:**

1. The Council participates in the RSVP program by supporting 3 Seminarians: Connor Guidera, Robert Bart and Alex Kulik at a level of \$540 each.
2. Monthly Rosary. Our Council Business Meeting is on the first Wednesday of the month. At 7:30 PM, before the meeting, we have a group Rosary. About 10-15 Brother Knights participate each month.
3. Holy Hour. Brother Knights regularly attend Holy Hours at the Adoration Chapel at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Towson MD. We fill 1 timeslot per week: Sunday Midnight -1:00AM. About 15 brothers alternate according to a schedule maintained by our Faith Director.
4. Men's Group. At least 20 Brother Knights led and participated in the That Man Is You Men's Group on Saturday mornings at the Church of the Immaculate Conception. This Program addresses the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture, especially relating to their roles as husbands and fathers.
5. Spiritual Reflection. Msgr. James Farmer, a former Associate pastor and pastor at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, will speak to Knights and their families at the Council Hall during a Social meeting. The topic will be "Going from desire to action by reading Scripture". In addition, about 15 Knights are participating in the "Consecration to St. Joseph"
6. On May 14, 2025, the Council will have a Priest Appreciation Steak Dinner. 15 Priests from our sponsored Parishes will be invited along with brothers, families, and friends.

### **LIFE ACTIVITIES:**

- 1 ASAP, Pregnancy Center Support. On December 11, 2024, our Council donated \$2000 to the Pregnancy Center North in Towson, MD and \$2000 to the Center for Pregnancy Concerns in Baltimore, MD.
2. March for Life. On Jan.24, 2025, approx. 5 Brother Knights and their families participated in the National March for Life in Washington, DC. They also helped with the Life Fest at the DC Armory. On March 27, 2024, 10 Brother Knights and their families will participate in the Maryland March for Life in Annapolis.

3. On December 11, 2024, the Council donated \$11,244 to the House of Ruth. This Center assists victims of spousal abuse.
4. Pregnancy Center Banquets. In Sept. of 2024 , about 10 Knights and their Families attended the Pregnancy Center North Gala and the Center for Pregnancy Concerns Banquet. Over \$60,000 was raised at these events.
5. On Jan. 20, 2024, The Council donated \$400 to the Chesterton Academy to support their bus to the National March for Life. Two individual Knights also contributed.

#### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:**

1. Bicycle program .During the past year, we collected 150 Bikes from various sources, including the Police Dept. and the Bicycle Connection Store. The Bikes were repaired and donated to Parolees, Tides of Grace, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Vincent's Villa, and Police Community events
2. St Nicholas Festival. On Dec. 7, 2024, the St Nicholas Festival was held at the Immaculate Conception School in Towson, MD. One Knight dressed as St. Nicholas. Three other knights helped to take pictures of the children and their families. The photos were immediately given free of charge to the families. Also, about 15 Knights cooked and served breakfast to about 200 parishioners.
3. Jessica Meredith Jacobsen Memorial 5K Race. This Race, now in its 17th year, honors Jessica Meredith Jacobsen, who died in 2007 due to domestic violence. Many members of the Council promote and organize the Race. Over 500 Runners and walkers participated, and, with the help of several generous sponsors, over \$40,000 was raised for charity.
4. Family Picnic at Immaculate Conception Church. On 9/8/2024, Immaculate Conception Church had a Cookout/Picnic on the Parish grounds after the Noon Mass. Brother knights and their families supplied the grills, bought the meat and rolls, and cooked and served the food to over 500 parishioners.
5. On March 17, 2025, The Council will have a St. Patrick's Day Dinner.
6. On March 28, 2025, The Council will have an Oysterfest.

#### **FAMILY ACTVITIES:**

1. Winter Wednesdays. These were programs for children and their caregivers held in the Council Hall on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the Winter months. They featured mornings of education, play, and fellowship. Each session featured engaging activities including art, music, science, and crafts for the entire family.
2. Together in Holiness Series. This year-round marriage enrichment series of small groups of spouses helps them to grow together in holiness and to form their children in the Catholic Church. It is co-sponsored by the Council and Immaculate Conception Parish. Five groups of 5 couples have been meeting for the past year.
3. Food for Families. At our Christmas party on 12-11-24, Our Council donated: \$2000 to the Assistance Center of Towson Churches, and \$1000 to the United Churches Assistance Network.
4. On Feb. 15, 2025, the Knights in the Council presented a Valentines Luncheon, honoring their wives and other ladies belonging to the K-Ladies Women's Auxiliary.

## **ST PIUS X COUNCIL, No. 4076**

**Grand Knight, Robert White**

Council # 4076, meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month at 7:00pm at The SPX Building Corporation in Forestville, MD. This is our council home and clubhouse which is a corporation council. We are Celebrating 70 years as a council.

### **Faith Activities**

During the past fraternal year St. Pius X Council established a prayer email chain to continually pray for the sick of our council, their family & friends. The council also hosted a priest & religious sisters dinner at the council home with members of the Bishop James Walsh assembly assisting. We maintain and stock “Build the Domestic Church Kiosks at 3 of the six parishes we serve as well as in the clubroom of the council home. We provided monies for the purchase of religious education materials at St. Phillip the Apostle. In addition, we are providing rosaries for the newly confirmed at St. Bernardine of Siena Parish

### **Family Activities**

During the fraternal year, the council provided over \$12,000 in direct financial assistance to the six parishes of our council for their parish food banks. We also participated in the family of the month program

### **Community Activities**

St. Pius X this year spent over \$30,000 to provide over coats for at need children at our local parishes, several middle and elementary schools and through the Prince Georges County Sheriff Department. This activity was funded through our weekly bingo which regularly draws 100 plus players. In addition, the council holds monthly dinners in the clubroom open to the membership and members of the community to foster fellowship.

### **Life Activities**

This year the council provided uniforms for Southern Maryland Special Olympics for their bowling and golf teams. We also hosted an end of season pizza party for the golf teams. Financial support was provided to Elizabeth Arms and the Forestville Pregnancy Center to sustain their crucial works. The council also participated in Tootsie Roll program and provided funds to the State’s Ultrasound program

### **Conclusion**

I would like to thank the council officers, the council members, our Queens Auxiliary and our friends and families for all their hard work this year in providing for the needs of others in our community. Collectively we were able to supply much more than we could individually. I pray daily that we as Knights of Columbus continue to provide for the needy in our community.

## **Bel Air Council, No. 4714**

**Bruno Baran, Grand Knight**

Council 4714 has been an active council for 58 years. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month. Meetings are held at council home 23 Newport Drive, Forrest Hill MD. We also have started social meetings every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month.

### **Program Director – Bruno Baran, GK, DGK**

### **Church Activities**

4714 is comprised of 2 parishes in Harford County, Saint Mark's Fallston, and St. Margaret's Bel Air. Our members serve as Corporators, Parish Council members, Lectors, Ushers, Eucharistic ministers, and occasionally altar servers. Several major fundraisers including "The Tootsie Roll Campaign" were held each year and profits were shared with the parishes etc. We had to reschedule our Memorial Mass several times due to scheduling problems and the health of Monsignor Kevin Schenning. We are aiming for end of April, beginning of May to have our Memorial Mass.

### **Faith Programs**

Faith Programs for the past year included RSVP, Stations of the Cross, Facility maintenance, quarterly 125 hand-made rosaries to first communicants and 138 hand-made rosaries to first communicants monthly support to the Perry Point VA where our members bring wheelchair bound members to the chapel for Sunday mass. Again, our council participated in Rosary Devotion the month of December. Our Council has again supported Seminarians through the RSVP program, with \$500 honorariums. Our annual Marian Devotion activity is normally scheduled for May as well as our MaryGold Program for Mother's Day.

### **Family Programs**

The annual Coats for Kids program provided six dozen coats to children Community Programs. We again supported a Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest at St. Margaret's Elementary School, and had the posters judged by our membership at our December Social meeting, and prizes were awarded to the top entries in each grade 2-8. We had Holy Family Adoration in December. Our council has started Into the Breach Video Series as part of our Social Events which take place on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

### **Community Programs**

As a Helping Hands activity, we supported by volunteering at a Soup Kitchen in Bel Air, MD. We also provided \$500 to both of our parishes at Thanksgiving (and will again at Easter) in support of their food pantries in addition to about 500 pounds of food. Throughout the year, we provide collected Perishable food donations to Calvary Baptist Church, in our community, and will often provide extra food from events held in our hall. We again made our annual donation of \$500 to the wheelchair fund. Through November and December of 2024, we provided a collection point for Toys for Tots, and our local Marine Corps Reserve who manage that charity. We have hosted

10 blood drives in our parishes through the year, with our 3 more scheduled for April, May and June now being hosted at our Council home this continues relief for the Red Cross who is always in serious need for blood. Community was completed in March with several awards for Police, Fireman, And Teachers as well as the local Health care workers Service awards. March only we collected over 50 pints of blood. We are holding an all-day bingo for Tunnel to Towers Organization for support of our fallen Heros and their families.

### **Life Programs**

As an ongoing Brothers helping Brothers project, we ensure that any of our members that may need a ride to or from critical appointments are able to be matched with someone that can drive them as needed. Novena for Life Program – One of the Knights of Columbus recommended programs is a Novena for Life. For the past four years, we have had a novena that was convened via Zoom. We will continue this program from January 15-23, 2025, starting at 7:00 p.m. each evening. The National March for Life was scheduled for January 24, 2025, in Washington DC and many Knights attended. The council supports Choose Hope of Harford County through the ASAP & Ultrasound programs, which we have raised over \$5000.00 with our “Tootsie Roll Campaign” this year striving for over \$12000.00. for a mobile unit. Alzheimer's Walk was completed in September and will continue for next year.

### **Membership Director**

We have recruited 3 new members for our Council, with the possibility of adding another 5 in April-May with one e-member to bring aboard at the time of this writing.

### **Conclusion**

I would like to thank our Program Director, and all our Faith in Action Directors for their continued support over this past fraternal year, and I look forward to continuing to work with you in the coming year. The Grand Knight would like to thank all the officers, members, wives, Worthy DD John Marley, Worthy DW Stephen Michael and the State Council for their help and support this year. A special thanks to the members that give so freely of their time and effort to make our Council a success.

## **BISHOP SEBASTIAN COUNCIL, No. 5058**

**Grand Knight, Franco A. Crispi**

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

For the Assisi House at St. Patrick's Parish in Upper Fells Point, MD., we collaborated with Sr. Michele Reed, coordinator of the Assisi House, to collect men's clothing, along with socks (men, women, children) and blankets to help with the great need in this community. We decorated trees for the annual Festival of Trees at the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium, MD. The funds for purchasing trees support the Kennedy-Krieger Institute. We managed the Box of Joy activity to gather assorted items to provide children in developing countries with an opportunity to have a Merry Christmas and collected 119 boxes. We participated in the district-wide Coats for Kids activity to distribute coats for needy children in West Baltimore, MD. The council organized a basketball free throw competition at St. Ursula school with twenty-one participants.

### **FAITH ACTIVITIES**

We organized a rosary tailgate outside of the parish for a time of food, fellowship, and prayer in October and May. Special focus was placed on getting youth to participate in leading rosary decades. We conducted our Council Memorial Service to honor our Council members and our Ladies Auxiliary, Daughters of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, who passed away within the past year. Brothers participate in weekly Holy Hour adoration on Fridays at St. Ursula Parish. We Plan to host the sacred heart icon in conjunction with Holy hour in May.

### **FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

Families joined together for fellowship at Aberdeen Ironbirds game. For the Keep Christ in Christmas activity, we invited the children of the Catholic Communities of St. Ursula and St. Issac Jogues to provide their drawings based on Christ-centered themes of Christmas. Winners were presented awards at a communion breakfast held after Mass with the church community.

### **LIFE ACTIVITIES**

We distributed marigolds to Moms and Moms-like at the Parishes of St. Ursula and St. Issac Jogues after all Masses on Mother's Day weekend. This is our way of honoring and thanking these women for their involvement with raising our children. The silver rose program was hosted at Saint Ursula church to promote respect for life through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe. For the National March for Life activity in January 2025, we donated funds for the bus taking participants to Washington, D.C.

## **SUMMARY**

Council #5058 continues to serve the churches of St. Ursula and St. Isaac Jogues as active members of the parish ministries. This year we have increased visibility by hosting meetings within the churches and participating in monthly Mass together. We are committed to increasing faith, building the domestic church, promoting life, and building community within our parishes.

## **Saint Columcille Council, No. 5317**

**Robert J. Butto, Grand Knight**

The Saint Columcille Council No. 5317, 7804 Livingston RD, Oxon Hill, MD 20745, meets on the 2d Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in the Fr. Dewan Hall, St. Columba School. (A Zoom link is available for members on travel or ill). The Council also conducts a Planning-Social meeting to plan upcoming activities and programs at 7:30 PM, on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month.

On Saturday August 17, 2024, Saint Columcille Council officers were installed following a Mass, at the Saint Columba Church, which was presided over by the Chaplain, Reverend Gary Villanueva. A reception was held at Mama Stella's restaurant in Clinton, Maryland following the installation. The council implemented a robust Faith-in-Action Program for the Council Year (CY) which adhered to the State Deputy's charge to all councils, ***“Make a Difference in Someone’s Life.”***

### **PROGRAM DIRECTOR – Joseph Creasey, Deputy Grand Knight (DGK),**

During the year, project leaders collaborated with the DGK, as needed, to ensure planned events and programs are well coordinated and successful.

**FAITH ACTIVITIES – Assistant Chaplain, Deacon Robert Villanueva.** Recognizing our commitment to nourishing our faith through service, the Council serves Saint Columba Parish. During Parish Masses, our Knights participate as deacons, sacristans, lectors, extraordinary ministers of the Holy Communion and ushers. The Council is committed to supporting our Seminarian, Chukwuma (Chuck) Odigwe, under the Refund Support Vocations (RSVP) initiative. Prior to the Council's Business Meeting each month, members gather to pray the Rosary. Council members support the Parish's Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) and Parish School of Religion (PSR) programs. Several Knights serve as catechists and instructors. Knights occupy leadership roles on the Parish Council, Pastor's Finance Council, and with Liturgical Ministries. Also, two members of the Council serve as Youth Group leaders. To continue our Council's commitment to faith through service, we recognize the need to recruit new members. During November'24, the Grand Knight Robert Butto invited potential members to join our Council, as part of Fall Delta Drives. Similarly, the Spring Drive is held in May'25. In February, we promoted devotion to Jesus by sponsoring the Icon of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Icon was prominently displayed during Masses, weekday morning Rosary service, and a Novena held during the same period. Our pastor, and chaplain, Father Gary Villanueva, encouraged devotion and prayer services. Our last (4<sup>th</sup>) Holy Hour of the year is held on the first Wednesday, in June 2024.

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES - Gregory Mathis.** Active involvement in our parish and surrounding community has been a key goal of the St. Columcille council. Finally, the council conducted outreach and community activities. This CY Knights supported the St. Columba Church “Green Project,” by refurbishing the school's playground, by sprucing up the Parish campus and removing dead tree limbs and shrubs. The Green Team ensured safety for parishioners and all children by coordinating and procuring three roadway gates to discourage loitering and vandalism and by painting curbs and lane directions for traffic. In November, the Council purchased 24 winter coats, under the Coats for Kids program, and distributed them to the community through the Ministry of St. Therese de Lisieux (MCST). The council also donated \$3,500 dollars to St. Phillip's School, in Camp Springs for its refurbishments. On Saturday

December 7, 2024, Brother Knights of the Council prepared meals for parents and children attending the annual “Breakfast with Santa” event sponsored by the school. On Shrove Tuesday, in March 2025, Knights prepared the pancake lunch for the school children and faculty—serving nearly 700 hundred pancakes! Other CY events included the Free Throw competition (March), and hospitality for First Sunday Coffee and Donuts after all Masses through June’25.

**LIFE ACTIVITIES - Ryan Casey Past Grand Knight, Faithful Navigator (PGK, FN).** Supporting respect for life is another key aim of our Council. The Council members are encouraged to take part in the “respect for life” activities. In August 2024, the Council donated \$250 to the Forestville Pregnancy Center This Fall. Knights participated in the Tootsie Roll program to raise money for the intellectually disabled. In December, we held our 3d successive ASAP fundraiser with donations totaling over \$3800 dollars, \$1200 dollars more than the previous year! Again, we invited participation by the Lady’s Sodality to promote ASAP. In January-March 2025 period our Life Director, Family and friends attended the March for Life in Washington, D.C. and the Director went to the State Capital on “on wheels” to defend Life. In addition, we participated in the USCCB 9 - Day Respect for Life Novena. This May the council will assemble at its Monument for Life, in the Butterfly Garden of our Parish school, to pray for the sanctity of all lives.

**FAMILY ACTIVITES - Michael E. Maxey District Warden #15, Past Grand Knight, Past Faithful Navigator (DW, PFN, PGK).** Recognizing the need to be a family-friendly organization, the council conducted to encourage family involvement, closeness, fellowship, and fraternity. In November, Council members partnered with the African American Ministry at Saint Columba Church, to distribute food store gift cards to families with food insecurity, in our community. Over 2,000 lbs. of food were collected this CY for distribution to local food banks. Brother Knights organized the “Keep Christ in Christmas,” contest in November-December 2024. Members of the council served as judges for the combined PSR and Parochial school’s contest. Cash prizes were awarded to the winners. Council members, their wives and children also took part in the sale of the “Maryland State” cash Sweepstakes for Catholic education. Again, this Easter our council will sponsor the Parish Easter Egg Hunt providing 1500 eggs for kids of all ages. Finally, the council administered the “Family of the Month / Family of the Year” program and gave nominations to Supreme. Winners will be presented with a certificate of recognition at Mass or celebratory gathering, in May 2025.

**CONCLUSION - CY 2024- 2025** was a tremendous success: “*We followed the State Deputy’s charge by making a difference in many lives.*” The Grand Knight Robert J. Butto is appreciative of the efforts all the Council members, who worked to make this a successful year. Thanks are extended to the program director, program chairs, officers, event chairs and brothers of this Council for their outstanding support. Throughout this past year, we had a wonderful time meeting and getting to know the other Knights in Maryland. We thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with the District Deputy Michael E. Maxey and District Warden, Ryan Estorninos, and the other State Officers who helped sustain Maryland as one of the premier State Councils in the country.

## **MOTHER SETON COUNCIL, No. 5381**

**Ike Udejiofor, Grand Knight**

Our council meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at the Hughes Center, St. Matthias the Apostle Catholic Church, 9475 Annapolis Road, Lanham, Maryland, at 8:00 p.m.

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR – Cosmas Nwokeafor, Deputy Grand Knight**

**FAITH ACTIVITIES – Don Aitcheson, PGK**

Mother Seton Council members serve the parish as ushers, Eucharistic ministers, lectors, altar servers, sacristans, choir members, and most ministries in the church. The installation of the new officers for the fraternal year took place on Sunday, July 14, 2024, at Saint Matthias Church. The Mass was celebrated by our Associate Chaplain, Father Canice Enyiaka, assisted by Deacon Alton Davis, our assistant to the Chaplain. Several members participated as ushers in the Annual Seas Services Mass at the Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg, MD. This is a 30+ year tradition. Led by Deacon Davis, the Council hosts a monthly Knight's Zoom Rosary prayer meeting open to all members, parishioners, and friends. This event started during the pandemic and continues to grow with the strong participation of the Ladies of Charity and other parishioners.

**FAMILY ACTIVITIES – Sylvester Ikpi, PGK, PFN**

The Council continued participating in the Family of the Month program.

Our annual Christmas Party, held on January 25, 2025, continues to be a holiday celebration for our families, especially our widows.

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES – Aneurin M'Carthy**

The efforts of the Council paid off generously with member and volunteer participation in our annual fundraising activities at Northwestern Stadium in Landover, MD. PGK Emmanuel Sony Ajayi chairs the council's effort as volunteers operating concessions at Northwestern Stadium for Washington Commanders Football games and other events. This effort supports the Council in providing the finances for the Council Scholarship fund and allows Knights of the Council to provide over 1000 hours of community service annually. This year, the Council provided approximately \$50,000 to students attending our local parish and area Catholic high schools. The Council donated \$1000 to Stewards of Hope Foundation, Incorporated, led by Father Canice Enyiaka, our Associate Chaplain. This is a wheelchair program that supports disabled individuals in Nigeria. The Council also attended, acknowledged, and recognized Dr. Chris Agboli, one of our PGK who turned 90. We also made generous donations to Bishop Walsh Assembly and the Ladies of Charity to help defray the costs of running the parish food pantry. Special thanks also go to Bob Worthington, PGK, PFN, FDD, Charles Briscoe, DD, PGK, PFN, and Don Aitcheson, PGK team leaders for the Northwestern Stadium activities.

**LIFE ACTIVITIES – James Kalshoven, PGK**

Council members partnered with neighboring Councils to support the National Right to Life March was held in Washington, DC, and the State of Maryland March was held in Annapolis. The Council supported the local pregnancy center by providing baby items and products. These two events were strongly supported collaboratively by the Council's Leadership Team.

#### MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR – Emmanuel S. Ajayi, PGK

Membership growth was a continued priority this year, and our Membership Director, Emmanuel Ajayi, PGK, and our Financial Secretary, Don Aitcheson, PGK, did an outstanding job in organizing the degree process. The Council participated in a multiple and successful membership drive and was the proud recipient of the Star Council Award for FY 22-23 under the leadership of PGK Aneurin M'Carthy. We are poised to repeat this feat as our membership goals are well within our reach.

#### CONCLUSION

We had a very successful fraternal year. Our meeting attendance numbers were significantly impressive as we continued recruiting younger men to the Council, hoping to maintain our energy and vibrancy. We held a very successful Gala event and an evening of pancakes. This was a great opportunity to look back and thank the great men who put much work into making our Council a successful one. It is also a challenge and an inspiration to keep building our outstanding legacy. Our Council also received multiple awards: (i) Supreme Council and (ii) Columbia Awards, respectively.

I extend my sincere appreciation to all my brother knights, whose contributions measurably led to the success of our Council in meeting our goals. I extend a special thanks to my leadership team, all the wives who allow their husbands to participate in our Council's programs and activities and give their quality time to accomplishing our Council's goals and aspirations, our family members, and the Saint Matthias faith family in general for their continued prayers and support of our Council's mission.

Vivat Jesus  
Ike Udejiofor  
Grand Knight  
Mother Seton Council #5381

## **WOODLAWN COUNCIL, No. 5466**

### **Edward Randel, Grand Knight**

Woodlawn Council meets every first and third Tuesday of the month at the St. Gabriel Parish, 6950 Dogwood Rd, Windsor Mill, MD at 7:30 PM. Some of the meetings were hybrid in-person and virtual.

Program Director: Greg Crist

#### Faith:

For support of vocations Woodlawn Council donated \$500 each to Seminarian Khoa Tran.

Sacramental Gifts: the Council will give rosaries and booklets to First Communion and Confirmation children and OCIA candidates in May.

#### Community Activities:

On Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras) our brothers cooked pancakes and sausages for the parish community. The council bought two boxes of Coats for Kids. The coats were distributed to the needy in the Windsor Mill community.

#### Family Activities:

We supported the St. Gabriel Church food pantry with donations and volunteer time (Food for Families). We also pick up diapers, etc. from Share Baby for distribution at the food pantry. The council donated funds to the Wheelchair Mission.

#### Life:

The council sent \$500 to Pregnancy Center West as part of the ASAP.

On Mother's Day we give carnations to the mothers at St. Gabriel church.

#### Conclusion:

I thank all the active brothers of Woodlawn Council for all the work on our activities and participation in running the Council. Thanks also to my wife Sharon for assisting me throughout the year. Finally, thanks to District Deputy Greg Crist and DW Edgar Huerta for their support of our Council.

## **Father Burggraff Council, No. 6021**

**William P. Lane, Grand Knight**

### **Program Director:** Deputy Grand Knight Benjamin Lelonek

Father Burggraff Council #6021 meets each Thursday at 7 PM at our Council Home, praying the Rosary before the start of our meetings. Monthly Membership meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. The Officers Planning meeting is held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. The first Thursday of the month is a social event with food and families.

Our Fraternal Year officially began July 29, 2024 with an Installation of Officers at St. Joseph Church, followed by fellowship with family and friends in the parish center. We have achieved Star Council for 11 consecutive years and are hopeful to make that 12 by the end of this Fraternal Year! We have also been blessed with numerous transfers to our council from neighboring councils this year, including several who have made a definite impact on the life and activities of our council.

### **Faith Activities** – Chairman: Paul Drinks

The 2025 Catholic Men's Fellowship of Maryland Conference will take place on April 5 at St. Joseph Church, our home parish. In addition to anticipated attendance from many council members, our brothers will direct parking and serve as ushers during the concluding Mass.

We identified four seminarians we have supported or plan to support this Fraternal Year as part of the RSVP program, including Andrew Meisel of the Blessed Michael McGivney Propaedeutic House and Corey Kinna, Martin Jauquet, and Stephen Kirby of Mt. St. Mary's Seminary.

Knights of the council regularly support parish family events and initiatives, including help serving at a parish Oktoberfest celebration, Lenten fish fry, and Pentecost celebration.

The Sacred Heart Icon is scheduled to visit our District in early June, and we are arranging to host a veneration ceremony in the chapel at St. Joseph Church.

We hold a Rosary at St. Joseph Church every "fifth Sunday" of the month following the 8:30 AM Sunday Mass, open to all parishioners.

### **Family Activities** – Chairman: Vince DiPaolo

St. Vincent de Paul collects casseroles on first Friday of the month for Beans and Bread in Baltimore, which members of our council deliver to Beans and Bread each month. We also take up an ongoing collection of non-perishable food items for delivery to the food pantry at St. Clement's Church.

We coordinated the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest with St. Joseph School for over 400 students. The 4 winning posters were made into banners and displayed in front of the Church the week prior to Christmas, and the finalists for each category were honored at a daily Mass before the whole school.

The priests of St. Joseph Church partnered with the council to lead the congregation in the Prayer for Consecration to the Holy Family the last weekend of December, and brother Knights distributed over 1300 prayer cards to attendees.

### **Community Activities** – Chairman: William Lane

We collected much needed donations each month for the Little Sisters of the Poor, with about 250 to 300 lbs. of food and personal supplies collected and delivered each month.

We coordinated the Soccer Challenge through the St. Joseph Athletic Association in September 2024, and had about 120 students kick and throw for the high score. We drew a large crowd by scheduling the same day as team photos and received help from older students and Confirmation candidates.

Proceeds from the annual Incentive raffle were distributed to the Daniel Carl Torsch Foundation, Women's Care Center, and Autism Society of Maryland.

We procured 72 new children's winter coats as part of the Coats for Kids program to donate to organizations including the Assisi House of St. Patrick's in Baltimore, Mitch Bricks, and the Women's Care Center. The council also held a collection of new and used coats in November 2024, donating over 300 items to Mitch Bricks for use at a local women's shelter.

The council hosted a Spaghetti Dinner in November 2024, donating \$1,500 of the proceeds to St. Joseph Church.

Our Knights honored veterans at St. Joseph Cemetery by placing flags at their gravesites on Veterans Day, with assistance from middle school students. Additionally, under the Wreaths Across America program, community members and brother Knights placed over 200 wreaths in December 2024.

The council's Tootsie Roll Campaign benefited the Maryland School for The Blind. A check for \$7,457 was delivered in January 2024 to support those with physical and intellectual disabilities.

Nearly 80 participants met at St Joseph's in February 2025 for the Free Throw Competition, with several winners attending the State Competition. Partnership with St. Joseph Athletic Association helped boost attendance this year.

### **Life Activities** – Co-Chaired by Mark Hicks and Glen Sauer

Members of our council participated in and financially supported the National March for Life in our nation's capital, and participated in the Maryland March for Life in Annapolis, MD.

Brothers and friends of the council helped raise over \$4,100 for the Special Olympics of Maryland in the lead-up to their Polar Bear Plunge in February 2025.

Our Baby Bottle Campaign for the Center for Pregnancy Concerns began the first weekend in Lent. After three weeks, we have collected about \$12,000 and we aim to double that to break last year's record.

The Council hosted the Silver Rose at St. Joseph Church in a beautiful ceremony in November 2024.

Brother Knights and spouses regularly assist with mail out campaign for Defend Life to promote awareness of news in the battle for life.

Members of our council supported both the Center for Pregnancy Concerns and the Women's Care Center by attending fundraising events, including sponsoring a table at the Women's Care Center Luxury Bingo.

**Conclusion** – Thanks be to God for another good year of charity, unity, and fraternity. We appreciate the assistance from our Church Pastor and Council Chaplain, Fr. Jesse Bolger, along with all the members of the Fr. Burggraff Council #6021, all of whom have helped make this another strong fraternal year. We have deep gratitude to our District Deputy, Chris Daigle, and District Warden David Bellistri, for their role in our success.

**Vivat Jesus!**

## **CORPUS CHRISTI COUNCIL, No. 6188**

**John Dittus, Grand Knight**

Council 6188 has been an active council for 55 years. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month. Meetings are held at Prince of Peace church hall and Holy Spirit Church Hall. We also hold social meetings every 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.

Major changes are underway within our Parish and Council. With the merger of St. Francis de Sales and Prince of Peace Church our Council will now be aligned with Holy Spirit in Joppa and Saint Stephen Church in Bradshaw and the Saint Michael (chapel at Aberdeen Proving Ground). We will continue to meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month with meetings taking place at Holy Spirit until we are able to move our activities to Saint Stephen Church.

In November we held our memorial service to remember those worthy brothers who are now with our Heavenly Father.

### **Program Director – John Dittus, GK**

#### **Church Activities**

6188 is comprised of 3 parishes in Harford and Baltimore counties, Holy Spirit Joppa, APG Chapel and St. Stephen Bradshaw. Our members serve as Corporators, Parish Council members, Lectors, Ushers, Eucharistic ministers, and occasionally altar servers. 2 major fundraisers were held each year and profits were shared with the parish.

#### **Faith Programs**

Faith Programs for the past year included RSVP, Stations of the Cross, Facility maintenance, quarterly rosaries and presenting Sacramental gifts to First Communicants, monthly support to the Perry Point VA where our members bring wheelchair bound members to the chapel for Sunday mass.

#### **Family Programs**

Family Programs included collecting more than \$7,000 in food donations for the Harford County Sharing Table, a very successful breakfast with Saint Nicolas; a very successful breakfast with St. Nick, quarterly senior lunches

#### **Community Programs**

Community Programs included Coats for Kids, Flag Day, Lenten Fish Frys, quarterly Senior Luncheons, Helping Hands in conjunction with the Sharing Table and support to the Scout Troop at Saint Stephen Church, Quarterly lunches provided to the teachers at Saint Stephen and support to the Saint Stephen School Fathers Club

#### **Life Programs**

The council supports Choose Hope of Harford County through the ASAP & Ultrasound programs.

## **Conclusion**

There are exciting times ahead! The parish merger allows us to focus specifically on the Pastorate of Holy Spirit and Saint Stephen, along with the school at Saint Stephen. This is providing challenges short term as we transition, however, in the long run will provide many opportunities to grow our council and add new members to our committees – ensuring the longevity of our Council.

The Grand Knight would like to thank all of the officers, members, wives, Worthy DD John Marley, Worthy DW Stephen Michael and the State Council for their help and support this year. A special thanks to the members that give so freely of their time and effort to make our Council a success, especially to Earle Prior for chairing our two major fundraising events. My sincere gratitude to: Father Johathan Morse for his guidance and support; to, PGK Tom O'Hara and his wife Kathi for chairing our Breakfast with St. Nick and co-chairing the fish fry. Without their support none of this would be possible.

## **Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council, No. 6793**

### **Eugene I. Kane, Jr., Grand Knight**

Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council - 6793 is in northern Montgomery County, and supports three (3) parishes: St. Peter's Catholic Church - Olney, MD, Our Lady of Grace - Silver Spring, MD, and St. Patrick's Catholic Church - Rockville, MD. The Executive Meetings are held at 7:30 pm, on the first Wednesday of each month using our online Zoom account, while the Business Meetings are held at 7:30 pm, on the second Wednesday of each month at Our Lady of Grace in a hybrid format. Social Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. We have utilized our social meetings for the praying of the rosary with lights.

#### **Seminarian Support**

Each year, the Council supports ten (10) seminarians for their academic needs. We invite the seminarians to our Christmas Party and End of Year Awards Event. As always, the members of Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council are asked to support these efforts and the ADW Seminarian Day event.

#### **Food Banks at St. Judes and St. Martins**

Recognizing that many community members have lost their jobs during the pandemic and economic layoffs, Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council has continued to support and donate non-perishable food items to the food banks at St. Jude's and St. Martin's. On the third Sunday of each month (9:00 am - 1:00 pm), a collection truck arrives to deliver food items to St. Jude's and St. Martin's food pantries. Several hundred pounds of food is collected each month. Each month the Council donates hundreds of pounds of food.

#### **Halloween Party**

Every year for the past 18 years Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council sponsors a Halloween Party and dinner for the disabled residents of Inwood House, located in Wheaton, Maryland. during the afternoon of the event (Oct. 25th) council members arrive and decorate the meal room. Guests arrive, typically around 06:00 pm, in costume and sit down for a Knights prepared meal. Following dinner, all proceed to an adjoining room for the evening of entertainment. (This gives the Knights time to clean the dining room and kitchen) Entertainment has included magicians, glass harp player, cowboy guitarists, and soloists. We conduct competitions and provide awards for costumes. This event is a treasured event for the residents at Inwood House.

#### **In Person Activities**

As long as an event can be held safely, the proper precautions are made, and the event occurs. Some of those events beyond those noted above include:

- Promotion and contributions to SOME multiple months. Separately, Council supports Food for Families on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday monthly
- Promote and Participate in Marches for Life in both Washington DC and Annapolis (3/28).

- Tootsie Roll - Donations for the Disabled – Collections over several months. Provided 3 groups financial support of approximately \$1600 each for service to our challenged members.
- State Annual Raffle (online and in person) during September 2024
- Annual Coats for Kids program (four cases) each year.
- Annual Support of 10 Seminarians – provide 10 scholarships (as noted above)
- Support financial & with attendance at the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center Dinner in the fall of 2023 & 2024 in support of Life of the Unborn.
- Support for Project Gabriel Cluster in 2023 & 2024 & 2025
- Council conducts leadership role in St Peter's Parish Christmas with St Nick in December in 2023 and 2024 & projection for 2025. Purchase supplies and team of 15 Knights manage all aspects including cooking pancakes and sausage.
- Leadership role in St Peter's Shrove Tuesday Pancake & Sausage for student & families 2/28/2023 and 2/13/2024 and most recently March 4, 2025
- Promote and support Post Cana programs at OLOG
- Promoted opposition to Assisted Suicide legislation in Annapolis
- Divine Chaplet before each Business Meeting monthly and pray as a Council the Living Rosary each month as a part of our social meetings (4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays) in 2024 & 2025
- Support with assistance manning the phone for the Share-a-Thone for Guadalupe Radio Network twice a year in 2024 and 2025
- Arrange and lead Community Event for Members at local theatre – Beauty & the Beast, Fiddler on the Roof 2023 and Frozen in 2024. (Fall)
- Promote Olney One Life Fitness for Heroes Movement
- Fraternal Pot-Luck Family Dinner 2023, 2024 and 2025
- Promote programs for Widows and Widowers each year. Acknowledgement of members who have passed to eternal life with a special Mass and Celebration of Life luncheon afterwards with the widows and widowers.
- Promote and support financially Mulholland Foundation for Summer food banks at St Peters
- Eucharistic Procession in Community of Rockville and Adoration afterwards at St Patrick's Church:10/29/2023 & October 20, 2025 with extensive program. Council provided Color Corps in coordination with Assembly
- Purchased and Distributed 1750 books faith based books to all participants in Christmas Mass in three parishes in 2023 and the Easter Masses in 2025
- Christmas Potluck Family Party 12/16/2023, 12/14/2024 with food, singing and prayers.
- Conduct Chili Cook-Off for Council and members of the public in early Spring of 2024 and 2025 .
- Support & Host the Silver Rose Icon 11/28/23 & 11/22/2024 with Mass and Rosary and Sacred Heart Icon in May 2025

Eugene I. Kane, Jr. Esquire  
 Grand Knight  
 Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council - 6793

# **OUR LADY OF FATIMA COUNCIL, NO. 6901**

**Timothy J. Flynn, Grand Knight**

**MEETINGS:** First and Second Tuesday of each month - 7:30 PM

**LOCATION:** Saint Mary's Pavilion

Barnesville, Maryland 20838

The year got off to an Official start with Grand Knights' Leadership Training last weekend in June. The Installation of Council Officers was held on July 22<sup>nd</sup> at Saint Mary's Church and Shrine in Barnesville.

The Installation ceremony followed Mass and was conducted by District Deputy No. 5, Donald Kinler and District Warden Frank Uyakonwu. Maryland State Warden, Michael E. Lynch, served as State Representative and Master of Ceremonies at the Reception. The Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Assembly Fourth Degree Color Corps added color and dignity to the day.

Due to the hard work of council officers, chairmen, members, their families, and friends, our council was able to support the following activities this Columbian year:

## **COMMUNITY**

- \* Sponsored a booth in support of Poolesville Day
- \* Conducted Incentive Raffle and Tootsie Roll Drives
- \* Sponsored a Special Olympics Picnic and Halloween Dance
- \* Contributed to several community programs and groups.
- \* Conducted a Basketball 3 – on - 3 contest & Food Drive

## **FAITH**

- \* Contributed to and sponsored a Seminarian
- \* Supported several activities at St. Mary's Chicken Dinner in July
- \* Conducted a Memorial Mass for the Council and District
- \* Supported and sponsored a Vacation Bible School
- \* Conducted a "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest

## **COUNCIL**

- \* Conducted a Council Appreciation Dinner

## **FAMILY**

- \* Conducted Family Dinners with special Family Price
- \* Conducted a Family Breakfast with Santa
- \* Supported the Family of the Month Program

## **LIFE**

- \* Supported and attended the annual March for Life
- \* Contributed to several Pro-Life groups and projects

## **CONCLUSION**

Being a Grand Knight is an excellent learning experience in many ways. One of the most significant things you learn is just how much you can do with team work, and just how limited you are on your own. Our Lady of Fatima Council is made up of team players and any success is theirs. I thank my Brother Knights and their wives and families for having the chance to lead them in so many of these activities. We are also grateful for the support of several organizations in the area for supporting the Knights and making their facilities available for our use.

A special thanks to the Friends and Ladies for allowing and encouraging their Knights to do their thing.

Fraternally,

Timothy J. Flynn

## **Fr. Michael J. McGivney Council, No. 7025**

**Iyke Damian Okoro Sr., Grand Knight**

The current officers of the council were sworn on Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, at Christ the King Church in Glen Burnie, Maryland during mass celebrated by our Chaplain, Rev Dr, Vincent Arisukwu and officiated by the District Deputy – District 3, Michael Thompson and the District 3 Warden, Jay Igoe. A reception dinner followed immediately after at the Church Social Hall and was well attended by family, friends and well-wishers.

The Council meets every 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month at the Council home by 8 PM. Our 4point/Officers meeting is Tuesday of the preceding week at 7025 McGivney Way Glen Burnie MD 21060.

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES — Marck Sprucebank & Daniel M . Cryan – Program Director**

During the year our Council completed some notable/commendable activities: (1) Helping Hands - provided financial assistance to Hope for All as well as to Marley Glen Special School and Ruth Parker Eason Special Schools. The Council had a community service Award for our Firefighters, police, health care worker and teacher of the year award. Two of our honors were also recognized at the State Level. We had Easter Egg Hunt - Packed eggs with toys and candies for council, parish and community children. Individual juice drinks, pretzel bags, cookie bags and prizes were awarded. We do have English Spanish Classes for the Community. Council provided financial assistance to Afro Catholic Community, Baltimore Archdiocese (ACCB). Through the Grand Knight and the wife, Dr, Chinwendum Okoro, the Council gifted Christ the Church (CKC) in Imo State Nigeria.

### **FAITH ACTIVITIES: Daniel M. Cryan, PD / Iyke D. Okoro, Sr. Grand Knight**

A special memorial service for our late PGK (Bill Penkala) was hosted at the Church Hall. The Council and the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree participated in the Church service as well as hosted the luncheon afterwards. Supported Christ the King church during the Easter Triduum. Set up the benches for the washing of the feet on Holy Thursday and drove the pastor and the Blessed Sacrament to the Chapel after Mass. Decorated the church for Easter vigil and Easter Sunday. Council members also participated in decorating the parish for Christmas services - put up and decorated trees, decorated altar and church and put together the manger set. The council hosted a Saturday Rosary service on the third Saturday of each month at the Council home followed by a social with refreshments. Under my leadership, our Council started the COR with our brothers from St Bernadette Church – COR – a prayer, formation and fraternal opportunity for the men our Pastorate. The council also supported the Parish during the Christ the King Procession for the Feast of Christ the King by leading the entry procession at the beginning of Mass, conducting readings during the service (in multiple languages to include sign-language) and leading the Eucharistic procession with the Blessed Sacrament to the site of the Altar where the new Church will be built with 430 participants including the Pastor and Council Chaplin.

## **FAMILY ACTIVITIES — Thomas W. Speck, PGK & Iyke D. Okoro, Sr. Grand Knight**

Our Council continued to support the Saint Vincent De Paul program and the North County Emergency Outreach Network (NCEON) with donations of food and cash. In November, Brother Knights from Council 7025 judged the posters from the Keeping Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. The McGivney Council also participated with the Tri-Chapter Food Packing Event Hosted by Cross Catholic Outreach. Packed 15 boxes, 36 bags of food, enough to feed 3,240 people. In August 2024, the Council supported the African Catholic Community, Archdiocese of Baltimore (ACCB). In December, the Council also hosted the Feast of the Holy Family Prayer Service and fellowship. This year, the Council observed the Lenten season by executing the “Friday Fish Fry”

## **LIFE ACTIVIES — John G. Nangle, PGK,**

The council collected \$400 to sponsor a participant in the Polar Bear Plunge in Chesapeake Bay in support of the Special Olympics (Polar Bear Plunge). In May, the Council provided financial support to the MD State Council Ultrasound Program with the request that it be used towards the purchase of an Ultrasound Machine as well as donations to local pregnancy centers; Mary's Center Inc (Glen Burnie, MD) and Wellspring Life Ministry (Severna Park, MD) to provide assistance to help with increased costs due to baby formula shortage. In September, the Council provided support via the Aid and Support after Pregnancy (ASAP) program to mothers and babies by supporting Mary's Center in Glen Burnie. In January, members participated in the march for Life in Washington, DC. In March, the Council participated in March for Life in Annapolis. Prayed outside of Planned Parenthood facilities in Baltimore and Annapolis, MD. 40 Days for Life

## **Ladies Guild**

Ladies Guild of our Council has been very supporting and a of a tremendous help to the good order of McGivney Council. The Ladies Guild meet every 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month at 4:30 PM. All our event halls are always decorated and beautified by the Ladies Guild. We have been able to successfully accomplish our programs with both their moral and financial support. Kudos to the Ladies and their president, Mrs. Cathy Nangle

## **Conclusion**

My heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all council members, my fellow executives and Ladies Guild for all the hard work and teamwork attitude. Collectively, we have continued to maintain, grow and better our council. May Lord Almighty continue to bless us all with His Grace of good health. Amen!

Fraternally submitted,  
Iyke D. Okoro, Sr.  
Grand Knight - #7025

**“Let us continue to protect and preserve the glue that binds us together – our Catholic Faith”**

## **Columbia Council, No. 7559**

**Boniface Nwugwo, Grand Knight**

Columbia Council 7559 is located at the St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church, Wilde Lake Interfaith Center located at 10431 Twin Rivers Road, Columbia, Maryland 21044. Our Council has continued to work closely with the new clergy to support the St. John the Evangelist parish community. The Council's regular business meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of every month starting at 6:30 pm at the Wilde Lake Interfaith Center with social dinner and the official meeting starting at 7:00 PM. To prepare for the business meetings, officers meet on the first Thursday of the month beginning at 6:30 pm for a social dinner with the actual Officers' meeting starting at 7:00 PM. Our social meetings, which are open to friends and family members, and the parish community at large, is held on the 4th Thursday of the month beginning at 6:30 pm. The Columbia Council 7559 Installation of Officers was held on Saturday July 30, 2024, at the Oakland Mills Interfaith Center during a Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Mel Portula, the Council's Chaplain. The installation was followed by a reception at the Interfaith Center. The installation ceremony was attended by approximately 30 brother knights and their family members.

### **PROGRAMS DIRECTOR: Tim Lynch, PGK, FDD**

The Program Director works with our dedicated brothers who serve as Activity Directors to accomplish these programs.

### **FAITH ACTIVITIES: Brother Stan Godlewski**

**September 2024:** English Council 7559 and Spanish Council 18170 sponsored a Mass in honor of Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney. There was a procession of entry with Brother Knights and the Presider, Fr. Mel Portula. C.I.C.M. Prayer cards were distributed to the attendees. Refreshments were provided after Mass. Members of both councils served as ushers.

**November 2024:** The council Memorial Mass was combined with the parish All Souls Day Mass. Eight council members attended and the names of 65 deceased members were read during the Mass. The council hosted a social gathering after Mass attended by about 35 people.

**December 2024:** The council's vocational director chose and submitted the name of seminarian IV Jordan Damewood of SJP II college. The seminarian preaches at the St. Louis, Clarksville MD and St. Francis of Assisi, Fulton MD parishes. The council voted to accept the seminarian and sent a check for \$500 to him. **January 2025:** The Pilgrim Icon was introduced to the parish on 1/16/25 (35 people were in attendance) and again at the noon Mass on Sunday, 1/21/25 (175 parishioners in attendance). Prayer cards were distributed at each presentation. The Icon was displayed for the entire week.

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Brother Tobechi Amata**

**August 2024:** 250+ students in Howard County, Maryland requested backpacks and school supplies from the St John's Social Concerns group. Seven members of Columbia Council 7559 joined the Social Action Committee and 15 parishioners volunteers to fill and distribute 275+ backpacks.

**November 2024:** The council provided volunteers and monetary support to the parish Hospitality Christmas Giving Program, which distributed gifts to less fortunate adults and Children of Columbia, Maryland. Over 100 needy families of the Columbia Community benefitted from the Council's support. Ten voluntary service hours and \$250 were expended for this activity consisting of the purchase of the coats for an elementary school in Columbia, MD. The staff discretely selects children of families in financial need. A letter of thanks was sent to the council by the school principal.

**December 2024:** Council member Stan Godleski dressed up as Santa Claus along with Mrs. Claus

greeted 150 children after all five Sunday Masses. About 250 family and individual photos were taken. Four council members assisted with prop setup and crowd control. Children were able to select a small gift. Coordinated a parish fundraising drive (Alternative Giving at Christmas) to support the work of Challenging Heights (Ghana), JA Clermont Foundation (Haiti), CIS (El Salvador), and the Immigration Outreach Services Center (Baltimore, MD) to support our neighbors in need. Over \$7500 raised to-date.

**FAMILY ACTIVITIES:** Brother Alexander Onukwuga

**October 2024:** The council nominated and chose its family of the month recipients who work closely with the altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, lectors, sacristans and ushers at weekly Masses making it possible for parishioners to enjoy their worship experience. They support special events and feasts, and recruit help as needed. This recognition involved the council presenting a personalized certificate award from the Supreme Council to the recipient family after communion on October 27. The Mass was well attended by members of the Columbia Council and the parish community.

**November 2024:** Coordinated an interfaith & parish-wide food for families collection drive to support neighbors receiving services from the Columbia Community Care Food Pantry in Columbia, MD. A total of 2,235 lbs. of food was collected from St. John United.

The religious education ministry hosted a family bingo fundraiser. Proceeds were shared with the Tanzanian Children's Project founded by the Columbia Council in 2008. Each game's winner received a prize. Included were auctions, raffles, door prizes, pizza, beverages, and fun. Six Knights assisted.

**LIFE ACTIVITIES:** Pat Murphy

**September 2024:** 16 Knights & parishioners (60%/40% split) enrolled online to participate in the Novena. Intentions, reflections, prayers & further readings were emailed daily. The parish priest was supportive of the activity. The feedback received was positive. It will be repeated next year. Volunteer hours were 13.

**October 2024:** Conducted a special needs Tootsie Roll drive. Money was collected for three local charities, the Athelas Institute, the Arc of Howard County, and Special Olympics of Maryland - Howard County. Each charity received an equal donation. Monies were collected at two shopping centers and on one weekend at the council's parish after all Masses.

**November 2024:** The Silver Rose of Life was hosted by the two councils: Councils 7559 and 18170. They jointly held a religious service at 7:00 p.m. The Silver Rose of Life was presented before a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The service consisted of Holy Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Holy Rosary. About 25 members from both Councils joined the event.

**CONCLUSION:**

In conclusion, the Grand Knight (GK) wishes to thank our parish Pastor, Rev. Fr. Mel Portula, who is also the Council Chaplain. The GK extends his gratitude to the Associate Pastors, Rev. Fr. Sonny. The GK is especially grateful to the Officers, Program Director and Chairs, and my brother Knights of Columbia Council 7559 for their tireless dedication and unwavering support to the Columbia Council. A special thanks goes to the Ladies of Mary Auxiliary and the Religious Education ministry, who have supported TCP and our council many times. I also appreciate all the parish staff and parishioners of St. John the Evangelist parish community for their continued support of our many programs. This is my second and final term as Grand Knight and I must say that I have learned a lot these past one and half years. It has been an honor and privilege to work with all of the officers and I must say that they are some of the finest K of C men to work with. Thank you all for your help in continuing to build the Domestic Church and for making a difference in someone else's life.

## **Archbishop Fulton J Sheen Council, No. 7612**

### **Alan Grasley, Grand Knight**

The Archbishop Fulton J Sheen Council #7612 is scheduled to meet at 7:30pm for the monthly business meeting on the second Wednesday of every month. Those Knights arriving early for the business meetings enjoy a social hour with dinner provided and occasionally a guest speaker. The Officer's and Planning meeting is scheduled for Wednesday preceding the business meeting. The Social meeting is on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm. The Sheen Council has served the Saint Joseph's Catholic Church community, 915 Liberty Road, Eldersburg, MD 21784, since June 24, 1980. Saint Timothy's Ordinariate Catholic Church, 7604 Mellor Ave., Sykesville, MD 21784, is our roundtable partner and corresponding parish. Several members are from Saint Timothy's Ordinariate Catholic Church, we have a thriving community of men between the two parishes. On Sunday, July 24th, 2024, The Grand Knight and the incoming council officers were installed by District 5's District Deputy, Dennis Ford. In attendance was Father John Worgul as the Council Chaplain and St Joseph's Pastor, State Warden Thomas Greul, council PGK, and District Warden Dennis Ford as well as several Knights and families. Our officers include Grand Knight Al Grasley, Deputy Grand Knight Rob Summerville, Chancellor Greg Ohrin, Chaplain Fr. John Worgul, Chancellor Richard Perron PGK, Recorder Chris Martian, Treasurer David Love PGK, FDD, Advocate Thomas Partenope PGK, Inside Guard Alec Kerr, Outside Guard George Snediker, Outside Guard Franz Martin FN, and Board of Trustees, PGK Josh Flatly, PGK Eric Horne, and PGK Gary Lyles.

We are a very active council, as of 3/26/2025, we have 270 Knights. With this large number of Knights, we are blessed to be very active in the Parish and the community. There are several events happening every month, and I could not be prouder to help serve with the Knights beside me at each of these events. Some of the notable events from this year include, but are not limited to the following:

- Saint Josph's Catholic Church Block Party preparation, cooking and serving chicken for the parish and all the community.
- Family Movie Nights throughout the year, open to all in the Parish, with Spaghetti Dinner served and a children's movie shown and raffled off to a lucky child at the event.
- Lenten Fish Fry every Friday through Lent open to the Parish
- American Red Cross Blood Drives hosted quarterly at the Saint Joseph's Catholic Church Highway Clean Up events hosted by the Knights along Rt 32 north of Sykesville Freedom Fire Department to the intersection of McBeth
- Prison Ministries, providing eucharist and service to the inmates at the Central Maryland Correctional Facility
- Oktoberfest celebration at the Saint Joseph's Catholic Church for the entire Parish and community.
- Knights' membership drives and informational night dinners
- WSJF 92.7 FM "Knights Around the Table" radio show with Knights discussion.

- Fundraising at the M&T Bank Stadium at all home games of the Baltimore Ravens and associated events, concerts, MLS games, etc.
- Knights Raffle Sales for the State raffle
- Attend the State Columbus Day Ball in Annapolis, MD
- Knight Veterans Day Flag Pins- after Masses, hand out pins to all Veterans of the parish
- District 5 Grand Knight quarterly meetings
- Knights Council Christmas Party/Tree lightening Ceremony with a free Dinner and Christmas themed movie for the parish.
- Baby Bottle pass out and collection of donations for the Carroll County Pregnancy Center
- Saint Timothy's Ordinariate Church Gala for fundraising for the proposed new church building and catholic school, land purchases were being discussed.
- Weekly Rosary for World Peace led by PGK Peter O'Sullivan
- SJCC Vacation Bible School help, set up, assistance through the week, breakdown
- Sponsoring member of the Baltimore Appalachia Work Camp. Youth and teen programs assistance in West Virginia and Baltimore, MD.
- Knights Soccer Shootout Challenge at the SJCC Block Party
- Knights Christmas Card Sales
- Sheen's Colleens Ladies Auxiliary Seniors Prom
- Sheen's Colleens Ladies Auxiliary Valentine's Day flower program.
- Supported Shephard's Staff of Carroll County
- Mother's Day Marigolds handed out to all mothers after masses on Mother's Day weekend
- Father's Day recognition gift program
- Retiree's Luncheon

There were several events that the Knights attended in their many roles throughout all of the mission councils. We had representation at every mass as Ushers and servers, eucharistic ministers and support.

It has been my honor to be the Grand Knight this year and I hope that I benefitted the council in ways that will keep us thriving for many decades to come. I am very appreciative of the PGKs and the officers that guided me throughout this year, and I hope that I have served you and the council well.

Vivat Jesus,

Alan Grasley,  
Grand Knight 2024-2025  
Saint Joseph Pray for Us

## **Father Joseph G. McManus Council, No. 7941**

**Kenton Kilgore, Grand Knight**

Father McManus Council #7941 meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. The meetings take place in the hall of St. Christopher's Catholic Church, located at 1861 Harbor Drive, Chester, Maryland 21619. Meetings have clearly defined agendas, are run efficiently, are limited to 45 minutes or fewer, and are well attended. At 6:30 on the Fourth Tuesday of each month Knight Gil Boisvert leads us with praying the Rosary in the church hall. Our Pastor, Father John Gabage, a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knight, is our Council Chaplain

Grand Knight Kenton Kilgore has developed four goals for the council:

1. Respect life;
2. Assist our Brothers' widows;
3. Remember our fallen Brothers;
4. Tell the parish about our council;
5. Tell the community about our council.

### **Church Activities- Jose Lovo**

Chancellor Sir Knight James Clark directs St. Christopher's Church usher program in which Brother Knights are involved before and after each Mass. Many Brother Knights serve as Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors. Brother Jose Lovo and Brother Mike Koszalka take care of the broadcast of the weekly church services on the internet. Knights participated in the Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival held from December 3-12, 2024.

### **Community Activities- James Clark**

Sir Brother James Clark (Chancellor) headed up our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, as well as five fish fries during Lent. These were free to all parishioners and coordinated to increase attendance at Stations of the Cross immediately following the fish dinners. In addition, James led the other Knights in holding a free breakfast once a month for the parish. In November 2024, Brother Knights James Clark, Dan McCabe, and Mike Koszalka coordinated with Queen Anne's County Feed-a-Family Thanksgiving Program by collecting food from area schools and business and setting up tables in a warehouse. The food baskets were constructed and distributed to needy families. Brother James Clark also coordinated our Council Christmas Turkey Dinner Program in December. All items were collected by Brother Knights, placed in baskets, and distributed to needy families in our community.

### **Council Activities- Kenton Kilgore**

Grand Knight Kenton Kilgore is the President of the Parish Finance Council, and a member of the Parish Council. Brother Steve McCartin coordinates a Basket of Cheer raffle. We sold tickets for these raffles at church, and during fish fries and breakfasts.

### **Family Activities- Scott Harash**

We held a raffle for a bushel of crabs and a case of beer; Brother Scott Harash chaired this event. The tickets were sold at the church hall. We held this event in the fall of 2024. Knights also assisted at the parish Fall Festival in October.

**Youth Activities**- Greg Denny

Brother Greg Denny chaired this event, and with Brother Knights held the Soccer Shootout, and Archery competitions in the fall. Brother Greg Denny and his wife held poster contests for "My Favorite Saint," and "Keep 'Christ' in Christmas."

**Membership Director**- Andy Polley

Brother Andy Polley does an outstanding job with recruitment, leading a membership drive in October 2024. Brother Phil Boos leads our Exemplification Team. Phil is the Deputy Grand Knight for 2024-25.

**Conclusion**

This council dedicates an extraordinary amount of time to the parish. Its members are enthusiastic, hard-working, and adaptable. We have a large and solid core of reliable Knights who serve, week in and week out, as the strong right arm of St. Christopher's church. The parish has come to recognize the Knights as a motivated and dependable group, and that reputation is attracting new, younger members.

## **Immaculate Conception Council, No. 8159**

### **Grand Knight Mearland Rusaw**

**Council 8159**, chartered on June 28, 1982, meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday for our Business Meeting at 7:30 pm, and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday for our Planning/Social Meeting at 7:30 pm, in the Immaculate Conception Parish Center. Our Chaplain, Fr. Allan Bukenya, is the #1 recruiter – 32 men. Our charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism made a difference in many people's lives. Vivat Jesus!

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR:** SK Michael Munshaw, PGK

**FAITH:** SK Mearland "Mearl" Rusaw, Grand Knight, and Lady Deborah Rusaw

**FAMILY:** SK David Adams, FDD, PGK

**COMMUNITY:** Stephen Vallandingham, Deputy Grand Knight

**LIFE:** Brian Easter, Chancellor

**WARDEN:** SK David Skarwecki, PGK

**RECORDER:** SK Joe LaBille, PGK

- **JULY:** Sponsored Fr. Allan Bukenya, SAC, and 13 other men into the Knights. Fr. Allan offered Mass for the Knights of Columbus. Mearl & Deborah made and sent 300 mission Rosaries to Cross Catholic Outreach (CCO). Completed the Fast Start Challenge (234%).
- **AUGUST:** Sponsored 7 more men into the Knights (+21, 350%). Installed our Council Officers. Fr. Allan offered Mass for Blessed Fr. McGivney on the 13th. Donated 75 memorial Rosaries to Brother John Becker's family, Conducted an emergency GoFundMe for the Helping Hands Food Pantry. Received and donated \$1,445. Sent 600 mission Rosaries to CCO. Completed the Council Audit.
- **SEPTEMBER:** Sent 300 mission Rosaries to CCO. Held a Cor meeting and watched Into the Breach – Spiritual Warfare – on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Learned that the Memoare Prayer was the block for spiritual attacks and the St. Michael Prayer is the counterstrike. This was verified by the closing prayers of Mary's Chaplet of Virtues, given by Immaculate Mary on the beatification day of Blessed Fr. McGivney, October 31, 2020. Hosted Breakfast after all Masses and manned a Knights of Columbus information table at the Church Ministry Fair. Hosted a Red Cross Blood Drive – 30 pints of blood. Hosted a Ride for Vocations Rest Stop. Served more than 100 riders drinks and snacks.
- **OCTOBER:** Sent 300 mission Rosaries to CCO. Participated with Assembly 377 and the Ridge Lions Club in the collection and delivery of 41,500 pounds of Hurricane Helene relief items to Asheville, North Carolina. Informally formed the Southern Maryland Proactive Alliance of Community Emergency Relief Services (SOMD PACERS), a multi-fraternal-organization group, including the Knights of Columbus, Lions, and the Women Veterans Committee. Assisted by Lady Deborah, Debbie Tucker, and Joleen Dubry,

continued collecting relief items. Debbie and Joleen made and delivered 500 Hurricane Halloween Bags of candy (“Halloween Bags of Hope”) – 15 pieces of candy each, with toothbrushes and toothpaste – to the children of Asheville, NC for Halloween.

- **NOVEMBER:** Sent 300 Rosaries to CCO. Packed 58 Boxes of Joy and delivered them to St. Francis Xavier. Working with Dean Home Supply President Joanne Dillow, campaigned for, collected, processed, boxed and delivered 348 boxes of Hurricane Helene Relief Items, including 33 boxes of coats, 25 boxes of blankets, and 5,700 bottles of water. Began a Knights of Columbus Council 8159 campaign for collecting Christmas toys for the children of Asheville. Set up and cooked for the Fall Parish Picnic.
- **DECEMBER:** Sent 300 mission Rosaries to CCO. Collected, processed, boxed and delivered 2,875 Christmas toys – roughly \$43,125 worth – to Parish Life Coordinator, Mary Ellen Shephard, of St. Eugene Catholic Church, and Regional District Deputy, Tom Kotz, of St. Eugene Council 11911, in Asheville, NC, for 748 hurricane victim Angel Tree children – 3 toys each for Christmas, the balance on Epiphany. Conducted the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. Forwarded \$2,000 hurricane relief to State Council.
- **JANUARY:** Sent 300 mission Rosaries to CCO. Worked with Assembly 377 to raise \$1,800 for Fr. Allan Bukenya to fly to the USA for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree. Coordinated Basketball Free Throw. Completed the Council Audit.
- **FEBRUARY:** Sent 500 mission Rosaries to CCO. Hosted the annual Council pig roast BBQ on Superbowl Sunday. Flew Fr. Allan to the USA and hosted him in the Grand Knight’s home. I traveled with him to NYC and attended the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. He received the new exemplification and became the first 4<sup>th</sup> Degree native African priest in Africa. Gave him a tour of Washington DC. He saw the original U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights, and Declaration of Independence. Gifted him with a traveling Mass kit. Provided the host and altar wine and Fr. Allan offered Mass for SK Deacon Ammon Ripple’s wife Eleanor, who was in hospice care, in their home on the 28th. She received the Eucharist. Lady Eleanor passed into eternity on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Hosted a Pizza Social Reception and Awards Ceremony for Fr. Allan – Shining Armor Award, Chaplain Charge, and 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Membership Card – by State Officers Terry Waters and Bill Newbrough, District Master Chris Powers, and District Deputy Charlie Widmayer.
- **MARCH:** Sent 300 mission Rosaries to CCO. Sponsored 12 men into the Knights. Hosted the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Hosted a Fraternal Benefits Event with General Agent Stephen Regan for 18 Knights. Total new Knights 34 (567%), 8 pending.
- **APRIL:** Send 300 mission Rosaries to CCO. Exemplification on the 27<sup>th</sup>.
- **MAY:** Send 300 mission Rosaries to CCO. Mother’s Day Breakfast. Memorial Day Cookout for Veterans at Charlotte Hall Veteran’s Home.
- **JUNE:** Send 300 mission Rosaries to CCO. Parish Spaghetti Dinner. Parish Dance.

**CONCLUSION:** Gave 4,275 free Rosaries. Fr. Allan offers Mass for Disabled People monthly.

## **South County Council, No. 8251**

**Frank Klein, Grand Knight**

South County Council #8251 serves Holy Family Catholic Church in Davidsonville, MD, and Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in West River, MD. We are a faith-based council, embracing the lessons of the order. We strive to serve our Pastors, our community, and the Order. We are a parish-based Council, conducting a Membership Meeting on the second Thursday of the month at Holy Family, an Executive Meeting on the second Monday of the month, and a social meeting 4 - 8 times a year. I thank the officers and Council Knights who are the “engine of charity” for the Council’s great work.

### **Program Director – Mike Cecil, Deputy Grand Knight**

#### **Faith Director - Peter Stengel**

South County Council continues to support Archdiocese of Baltimore seminarians. This year we sponsored Mr Jhonny Escobar (St. Mary's Seminary), Mr Ryan Gerbes, (Mount Saint Mary's Seminary), Rev Mr Shiadrik Mokum, (Mount Saint Mary's Seminary), Mr Nicholas Hays (St John Paul II Seminary) and Mr Pascal Atunzu (St Mary's Seminary). We were able to provide small gifts to all of the parishes' first communicants this year. The Council conducts a Rosary open to all in the parishes. We participated in and successfully recruited new Knights at parish men's retreat. Council also organized and conducted Divine Mercy Sunday Eucharistic Holy Hour and devotional service. Two Council Knights facilitate parish men's ministry program, integrating Order's *Cor* evangelization effort into ministry.

#### **Family Director – Kevin Burgess, PGK**

South County Council recognizes a family of the month at each membership and social meeting. This year's honorees:

Apr – Leo & Juliet Loughlin  
May – Marty & Leslie Luff  
Jun – Cecil & Elizabeth Brownlee  
Jul – Gerald “J” & Jennifer Atkinson  
Aug – John & Cyndi Zajic  
Sep – Todd & Lauren Reinecker

Oct – Shaun & Elizabeth Bromley  
Nov – Matthew & Shaina Cullens  
Dec – Jonathan & Michelle Dobbs  
Jan – Kyle & Julie Gentry  
Feb – Jeremy & Myllisa Kennedy  
Mar – Jeff & Lourdes Krause

The Council conducted “Breakfast with Santa,” “Keep Christ in Christmas” poster contest, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, and Lenten Soup Supper events for Parish & community families. Council Knights organized and conducted family games and contests as part of parish picnic and ministry fair events. Knights also raised and donated \$5000 to South (Anne Arundel) County Assistance Network food pantry and collected over 400 pounds of food for Our Lady of Perpetual Help food pantry as part of Order's “Food for Families” program. Council also hosted family events at Chesapeake Baysox baseball game and US Naval Academy men's ice hockey game.

### **Community Director - Anthony De Laurentis**

Our Council held another successful Campaign for People with Differing Abilities (Tootsie-Roll) attending Anne Arundel County Central Special School in Edgewater, MD. Over past 42 years, the Council has raised over \$211,000.00 in funds for the school. Council conducted “Call for Coats” drive in Fall 2024 collecting & donating 144 coats to local charities. The Council participated in nationwide Wreaths Across America campaign at Annapolis National Cemetery. In addition to the funds raised, members participated in the laying and removing wreaths at a local cemetery. Our Council participated in Tri-Chapter Food Packing Event for those in need locally and internationally. Our Council played an integral role in parish “Winter Relief” program providing 19 homeless individuals with food and overnight shelter.

### **Life Director - Tom Weigand, PGK**

The Council conducted a Novena for Life with nine days of prayer, concluding with a Rosary dedicated to the unborn. We sent participants to a local Walk/Run for Life in 2024 and to the National and State Marches for Life in 2025. Our Council successfully raised and donated \$5000 to the Gabriel Network pregnancy resource center; some as part of the Order’s continuing “Aid & Support After Pregnancy” effort and the rest as a direct donation to help build an extension to Gabriel Network’s Bowie Maryland maternity home. Council Knights once again performed pro-life education event for parish faith formation classes consisting of mock Maryland General Assembly debate of proposed legislation affecting dignity of life.

### **Conclusion**

The Catholic men of South County Council live their faith and conduct the good work of the order. Our continued efforts to attract more like-minded men bring about slow but sure growth. Next year's planning of activities has already commenced. I sincerely offer my thanks to the Officers, Directors, Chairs, and brothers of this Council who make a difference in people's lives.

## **Long Green Valley Council, No. 8736**

**John Stansfield, Grand Knight**

**The Long Green Valley Council convenes on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Long Green Valley Council, located at 13305 Long Green Pike, Hydes, MD 21082. Meetings begin promptly at 8:00 PM. Established in 1984, our council serves the Parish of St. John the Evangelist in Hydes, MD.**

**The installation ceremony for council officers occurred on Tuesday, July 23, 2024. The event commenced at 6:00 PM and concluded at 6:45 PM, followed by a reception.**

**The following individuals were installed in their respective offices:**

- Chaplain: Father Peter Literal**
- Grand Knight: John Stansfield**
- Deputy Grand Knight: Tom Rowan Sr.**
- Warden: Charles Wenger**
- Chancellor: Michael Talipan**
- Advocate: Michael Sallese, PGK**
- Financial Secretary: A. Paul Weber, PGK**
- Treasurer: James Cross, PGK**
- Recording Secretary: Mark Bittle**
- Trustee: Christopher Phillips, PGK**
- Trustee: Ed Cogswell, PGK**
- Trustee: Paul Wimmer**
- Inside Guards: Peter Stankoski, James Martino**
- Outside Guards: John Reed, Augie Schmidt**

**The Grand Knight appointed the following positions:**

- Lecturer: Joe Wenderoth, PGK**
- Membership Director: Christopher Phillips, PGK, DD**
- Program Director: Michael Sallese, PGK**
- Faith Director: Pat Donahue**
- Family Director: John Stansfield (Grand Knight)**
- Life Director: James Cross, PGK**
- Community Director: Charles Wenger**
- Youth Director: Augie Schmidt**
- Membership Director: Chris Phillips**

**The Long Green Valley Council is a distinguished and active assembly of Catholic gentlemen. Our membership currently stands at 198, and we organize approximately thirty events annually. In the past year, we have convened sixty-two meetings in person. During this fraternal year, the council welcomed six new members.**

**We recorded over 1,648 volunteer hours and contributed \$14,000 to various esteemed causes. Noteworthy events undertaken this year include:**

- From August through November, our council executed a food drive primarily aimed at Thanksgiving. However, in response to the pandemic, we extended our donations to multiple charities throughout the Baltimore metropolitan area as required.**
- In December, we conducted the installation and illumination ceremony for the Crèche.**
- We provided support and assistance for the Advent Extravaganza held at St. John's Church.**
- The Long Green Valley Council regularly supports the Pregnancy Center North, a non-profit medical clinic that offers complimentary, life-affirming services to women and families facing unexpected pregnancies.**
- Additionally, our council issues monthly updates in church bulletins to engage parishioners and encourage their involvement in faith-based initiatives. For instance, this month we promoted participation in an online Novena.**
- Each Lenten season, we organize two Fish Frys to generate funds for the various programs that we support throughout the fraternal year.**
- During the annual Spring Fling at St. John's, we donate all proceeds from beverage sales back to the Church.**
- We also actively participate in the RSVP program through our archdiocese, supporting seminarians during their journey to priesthood. This year, we successfully aided three seminarians, with the valuable contributions of our Knights Ladies.**

I take immense pride in having served as the Grand Knight for this exemplary council, composed of resolute and talented individuals who contribute significantly to our mission of making a positive impact on the lives of others. I am confident that our incoming Grand Knight and officers will uphold and advance our esteemed tradition. Long Green Valley Council #8736 remains vibrant and engaged.

Vivat Jesus,

*John L. Stansfield*

**John Stansfield**

**Grand Knight, Long Green Valley Council 8736**

## **Saint Bartholomew Council, No. 9127**

**Matthew Morley, Grand Knight**

Council 9127, chartered November 1985, holds its regular Business Meeting on the first Thursday of the month at 8:00 PM, Parish Center, Saint Bartholomew Catholic Church, 3071 Park Avenue, Manchester, MD 21102. Planning Meetings typically 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday. The Council held its Installation of Officers on Saturday, July 13, 2024, in church after 4 PM Mass. The Worthy State Advocate, District Deputy, and District Warden conducted the Installation. A reception with light refreshments followed in the narthex of the church.

**PROGRAMS DIRECTOR:** Gary Pohlner, Deputy Grand Knight

**FAITH:** Ben Hall

**COMMUNITY:** Lou Konior

**FAMILY:** Bill Morley, Past Grand Knight

**LIFE:** Jonathan Edwards, Past Grand Knight

**WARDEN:** Casey Gresey

**RECORDER:** Grant Kajihara, Past Grand Knight

**JULY:** The Council held its annual Council Picnic.

**AUGUST:** Semiannual Audit of 9127 done. Held the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Don Kreseski Memorial Golf Tournament at Oakmont Green Golf Course in Greenmount, MD, with Catoctin Pregnancy Center, the Veterans Independence Project of Carroll County, and the Sparrow's Nest Food Pantry of Westminster Rescue Mission as the three main charitable beneficiaries. Did Highway Cleanup under SHA "Adopt-a-Highway" program on two stretches of MD 30, including one in front of the church. Assisted the parish Moms Group with their Music Festival (setup and food serving) at Creeping Creek Farm ("CCF") to raise money for future playground at parish.

**SEPTEMBER:** Supported Fall Plant Sale for parish Respect Life Committee, which benefits local pro-life pregnancy centers / pro-life charities. Bill Morley, PGK, chaired/ran sale, mainly assisted by another Knight (9127), with Knights and wives of 9127 helping at the Mass they attended. Ran Ice Cream Social/Bike Rodeo at church for parish kids. Triple Feast was held at CCF, 65 customers. Held Delta Drive after early Masses last weekend of month.

**OCTOBER:** Assisted with the Parish Picnic. Held Rosary Making Night with parish Rosary Guild. Did Highway Cleanup. Ran Soccer Shootout event at Cape Horn Park in Greenmount (local event only) for over 50 children. Ran annual Tootsie Roll Drive to raise money for The ARC of Carroll County after all Masses. Held Trunk-or-Treat event for children of the parish in the parking lot of the church.

**NOVEMBER:** Memorial Mass for deceased Knights and wives on All Souls Day at the 4:00 Mass for the Parish. Following Mass had Memorial Service with reading of names of deceased Knights and wives. Had reception with light refreshments after the Memorial Service. Had table in narthex of church for pictures of departed loved ones throughout day. Ran the kitchen for parish WinterFest (Christmas bazaar). Our Coats for Kids drive collected coats in the back of church, receiving 93

mostly new coats and some cash donations. Adult coats received donated to local charity for the needy.

**DECEMBER:** Held annual Light the Night for Christ event with blessing and lighting of Christmas tree outside church, light refreshments after. Took part in Wreaths Across America at Ellsworth Cemetery in Westminster, MD. Held annual Adult Christmas Party, 65 people, including representatives of the three main charities from Golf Tournament. Presented large donations from tournament proceeds to each charity. RSVP Program, 1 seminarian supported.

**JANUARY:** The Council attended the viewing at Eckhardt Funeral Home for Romeo Gauthier, PSD, a Past Grand Knight of our Council, praying the Rosary with the State Officers. Did Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity.

**FEBRUARY:** The Council attended the funeral for Romeo Gauthier, PSD (and PGK of 9127), and worked the funeral luncheon afterward, held in the Manchester VFD Activities Building. Semiannual Audit (9127) done. On three weekends, we gave out tickets at church for the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Tickets are free to parishioners, with envelopes to return at the Pancake Supper with a free will offering for the Parish. Lenten Guides from Magnificat made available at the table also. Held a second recruiting drive at church for new members.

**MARCH:** Held Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Held annual Saint Patrick's Day Dinner, presented large donation from Tootsie Roll Drive to The ARC of Carroll County. Raised money for hurricane relief in North Carolina from donations to "Pot o' Gold" at the dinner.

**APRIL:** Held our Highway Cleanup. Held Delta Drive on first weekend of the month after all Masses. We carried the canopy as part of the Eucharistic Procession for the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. We held an Easter Egg Hunt with the parish Mom's Group for the children of the parish. Helped with a Farewell Luncheon outside the church for our seminarian, providing the beverages for the event.

**MAY:** Attended State Convention. Supported the Spring Plant Sale for Parish Respect Life Committee, sale chaired and run by Bill Morley, PGK, mainly assisted by another 9127 Knight, with some Knights and wives helping at the Mass they attended.

**JUNE:** Held our Highway Cleanup. Our Social Meeting on June 19 was our Awards Dinner, held at Creeping Creek Farm. We awarded Knight of the Year and Family of the Year. Thank you to the Council for its hard work.

The Grand Knight wishes to thank the Officers of the Council for their help and guidance this year, as well as all Members, their wives and families for their work on the Council's events and activities. This Council has a wealth of knowledge and experience from all our Past Grand Knights who remain active in the Council, so that there is always someone who can answer questions that come up. Thank you to everyone in the Knights, wives and families of Saint Bartholomew Council 9127.

## **Our Lady Star of the Sea Council, No. 9258**

**Pete McDevitt, Grand Knight**

Our Council meets on the first, third and final Tuesday of every month at Our Lady Star of the Sea church in Solomons, MD. Monthly council meetings are the first Tuesday, council social meeting is the third Tuesday, and our officers' meeting is the final Tuesday in the Chesapeake Room below our historic (old) church.

On Sunday August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, our Installation of Council Officers was held in the historic church following the 11am Mass, led by Council Chaplain Reverend Father Robert Kilner. Immediately following the installation, a reception was held in the Chesapeake Room – a good time had by all. The following officers of Immaculate Heart of Mary Council were installed by the worthy District Deputy, Chris Woehrer: Grand Knight Pete McDevitt, Deputy Grand Knight Shane Gahagan, Chancellor Michael Luebkert, Financial Secretary Jim Huse, Recorder Dave Sydnor, Treasurer Michael Jaffee, Advocate Mike Kelly, Warden Jason Lusby, Inside Guard Karl Szlendak, Outside Guard Ford Cox, One Year Trustee Vince Maldonado, Two Year Trustee Richard Anderson, and Three Year Trustee Terry Singer.

Below are some of the more noteworthy events held in fraternal year 2024-25:

- In July of 2024, Council 9258 Knights visited CareNet crisis pregnancy center in Prince Frederick, Maryland for a tour of the facility and a briefing on the services provided by CareNet. Before departing, the OLSS Knights presented a donation of \$500 to the CareNet staff.
- Our DGK and Recorder attended a state seminar in Forestville, MD in August.
- Our council assisted with the setup, execution and cleanup of the OLSS parish picnic and ministry fair on October 6, 2024. The Knights conducted a membership drive in concert with this parish event.
- On October 18, 2024, Council 9258 hosted a spaghetti dinner for the parish and community, followed by a Living Rosary conducted on the front lawn of the OLSS Historic Church in Solomons. The Living Rosary was graciously facilitated by the team from the Immaculate Heart of Mary council.
- GK and/or DGK attended the OLSS Parish Council meeting each month and reported on KofC council activities and topics of mutual interest.
- On two dates in October 2024, council members conducted a tootsie roll/fundraiser drive outside Giant and Ace Hardware stores in Lusby, MD. Between the two dates, the council collected \$441.26 to be distributed to organizations that assist people with special needs.
- In November 2024, we received the sad news that Council 9258 brother Joseph Hamilton lost his wife due to an illness.
- In early December as Advent began, we assembled our full size creche on the lawn in front of our historic church, compete with nativity scene figures and lights for nighttime display. This creche hosted a live nativity scene during the Solomons Christmas Walk on Dec 14, 2024.

- On February 16, 2025, our council hosted a Seminarian Breakfast for our parish and guests that our knights cooked and served in the Providence Room of our parish. Approximately \$300 was collected towards Council 9258's seminarian donation.
- On February 22, 2025, Council 9258 Knights showed out in force at the annual OLSS Father Alexander Gala. During the event, GK Pete McDevitt gave a special presentation to recently retired OLSS Deacon and 9258 brother Emmett "Chad" Martin. The presentation consisted of a portrait of Deacon Chad painted by our own brother Dave Spigler, one of the founding members of Council 9258.
- On February 25, 2025 Council 9258 conducted an Exemplification Ceremony and welcomed a new Brother Knight into the council.
- On March 4<sup>th</sup>, our council started the 2025 Lenten Season with a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. Knights cooked and served pancakes for the Parish.
- On Marcy 14<sup>th</sup>, OLSS Knights assisted in setting up the Providence Room for the Women of Worship retreat the following day.
- Council 9258 held three "Drive Thru" Lenten Fish Fry dinners, on March 14<sup>th</sup>, March 28<sup>th</sup>, and April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Knights of OLSS again supported the "Christmas in April" charitable event in Calvert County, MD.
- On May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Knights hosted a Mother's Day Brunch and handed out flowers to all mothers and grandmothers after each Mass.

It has been an honor to be the Grand Knight of OLSS Council 9258 this past year. Special thanks to all brothers, wives, and friends who contributed to what has been a very successful year. We've had good member participation in events and some successful fund-raising events, whose efforts have ensured our successful year.

Vivat Jesus  
 Pete McDevitt, GK  
 Our Lady Star of the Sea Council 9258

## **St. Mary of the Assumption Council, No. 9302**

**Britt Howard, Grand Knight**

Council 9302, chartered on April 29, 1986, meets on the first Monday of the month for our Council Meeting. Meetings are conducted at the St. Mary of the Assumption Church PCR building. Meetings begin at 7:30 pm. All Council members are invited to attend both meetings.

Our streams of charitable income flow from occasional fish fries and special events.

On Sunday, July 7, 2024, the officers of St. Mary of the Assumption Council, No. 9302, were installed at St. Mary of the Assumption Church following the 11:30 am mass. The Worthy District Warden and District Deputy officiated. A reception for all Council members and guests was held at the St. Mary of the Assumption Church Family Life Center.

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR:** David Boone, Trustee

**COMMUNITY:** James McFetridge, Warden

**FAMILY DIRECTOR:** Andrew Breen

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR:** Britt Howard, Grand Knight

**RETENTION CHAIRMAN:** Daniel Hall

**Repetitive Events:** Monthly Food Bank Breakfast Preparation and Serving, annual Boxes of Joy, annual St. Mary of the Assumption School Open House breakfast preparation and serving.

- JULY: Council Officers Installation, Food Bank Breakfast
- AUGUST: Ice Cream Socials after masses, Food Bank Breakfast
- SEPTEMBER: St. Mary of the Assumption Church Hill's Chapel Mass setup and breakdown, St. Mary of the Assumption Church Parish Picnic setup/breakdown/cook/serve, Food Bank Breakfast
- OCTOBER: Soccer Shoot Out, Food Bank Breakfast
- NOVEMBER: Boxes of Joy Program, Food Bank Breakfast
- DECEMBER: St. Mary of the Assumption Church Decorations, Santa Claus appearance at St. Mary of the Assumption School's Winter Festival and school day, Food Bank Breakfast
- JANUARY: St. Mary of the Assumption School Open House breakfast preparation and serving, Food Bank Breakfast, Food Bank Breakfast.
- FEBRUARY: Food Bank Breakfast
- MARCH: District Free Throw Competition, Food Bank Breakfast

- APRIL: St. Mary of the Assumption Church Decorations, election Nominations, St. Mary of the Assumption Church Mass of the Lord's Supper (assist with setup for feet washing), St. Mary of the Assumption Church Easter Vigil flyer distribution/assist OCIA team, Fish Fry, Food Bank Breakfast
- MAY: Will attend MD State Knights of Columbus Convention in Annapolis, MD, Council #9302 First Ladies Tea Party, Food Bank Breakfast
- JUNE: Homes and Gardens Tour, Pilgrim Icon Program, Food Bank Breakfast

This was a productive Fraternal year for our Council. We were able to maintain our charitable efforts across the board with the assistance of our Chaplain and Ladies Auxiliary.

## **Santo Niño Council No. 9462**

**Dr. Jay Penafiel, Grand Knight**

### ***REFUND SUPPORT VOCATIONS PROGRAM AND MASS OF THANKSGIVING (FAITH PROGRAM)***

The council supported Rev. Franz Belleza with the RSVP program in 2024. He was ordained into priesthood on June 22, 2024. On June 23, 2024, Fourth Degree members of our council were the Honor Guard for his Mass of Thanksgiving (his 1<sup>st</sup> mass) at St. Joesph Parish in Cockeysville, MD.

### ***KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TRI-CHAPTER FOOD PACKING EVENT (FAMILY PROGRAM)***

On July 24, 2024, the officers and members led by GK Jay Penafiel joined other councils at Columbus Gardens to pack 50,000 meals to feed the hungry in developing countries and share God's love by putting faith into action.

### ***2024 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SANTO NINO COUNCIL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS***

We had our Installation of Council Officers at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church Chapel on August 17, 2024. Fr. Jeffrey Dauses, DD Erwin Lacanienta, and DW Renard Gardner presided over the installation. The Worthy State Deputy Tony and Lady Kathy Salvemini were in attendance. The reception was at the Columbus Gardens. We are thankful for the efforts of IPGK Modesto Carbon, Jr as chair of the event. FFL Vivian Carbon and Mrs. Norma Velasquez led the effort to decorate the venue. DGK VeeGee Pineda was the DJ. We also presented a \$5000 grant to Fr. Jeff Dauses for capital improvement projects at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

### ***29th ANNUAL FILIPINO PILGRIMAGE OF HEALING (Faith Program)***

On September 14, 2024, the Santo Niño Council led the effort for the 29th Annual Filipino Pilgrimage of Healing at The National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. IPGK Modesto Carbon, Jr., was the event chair. We partnered with Katipunan and the Joy in the Spirit Group. IPGK Modesto Carbon, Jr., SK Jessie Sayo, and GK Jay Penafiel, M.D. were members of the Honor Guard for the mass. Fr. Franz Belleza (2023 recipient of RSVP grant) and Dcn. Jun Guamil (2024 recipient of the RSVP grant) and A picnic was held in Emmitsburg Memorial Park immediately after the mass. September 14, 2024 was the 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the canonization of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

### ***ARCHDIOCESAN MASS AND CELEBRATION OF THE TWO FILIPINO SAINTS***

On September 29, 2024, SK Jesse Sayo, SK Nestor Fernando, and PGK D'Gee Abad helped set up for the Archdiocesan Celebration of the Two Filipino Saints at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen. SK Jessie Sayo, IPGK Modesto Carbon, Jr., DD Erwin Lacanienta, and GK Jay Penafiel, M.D. were members of the Honor Guard for this mass. Br. Neil Armstrong was one of the caterers for this event. PGKs, current council officers, members, and their wives attended a celebration honoring the two Filipino saints, San Pedro Calungsod and San Lorenzo Ruiz.

### ***STATE DEPUTY PRESENTS STAR COUNCIL AWARD***

On October 3, 2024, IPSD Christopher Powers presented the Triple Star Council Award to GK Jay Penafiel, M.D. and the council officers at our monthly council meeting.

### ***HATS AND MITTENS PROGRAM (ORIGINAL LIFE PROGRAM)***

On October 17, 2024, GK Jay Penafiel, M.D. presented 500 sets of hats and mittens to Pregnancy Center North (PCN). This helped keep an infant warm and keep face scratch-free. PGK D'Gee Abad arranged for the purchase. The hats and mittens were accepted by Cindi Ritter, executive director of PCN.

### ***TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE (LIFE ACTIVITY) AND DELTA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE***

On October 20, 2024, the Santo Niño Council held a Delta Membership Drive and Tootsie Roll Drive at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. 100% of the proceeds were donated as a grant to the Autism Society of Maryland. A second Delta Drive was held on March 30, 2025.

### ***EXEMPLIFICATIONS OF CHARITY, UNITY, AND FRATERNITY***

We held an Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity on September 5, 2024, December 6, 2024, and March 1, 2025. We welcomed Ronnie Medina, George Martinez, David Baltizar, Jaime Gomez, Laureano Lobangco, and Rodel Dapul to our council and the Order.

#### **COATS FOR KIDS (COMMUNITY PROGRAM)**

On December 7, 2024, The Coats for Kids program was held at St. Bernadine Roman Catholic Church in Baltimore. The Santo Nino Council No. 9462 joined Cardinal Sheehan of Baltimore No. 205, Bishop Sebastian No. 5058, and St. Matthew's International No. 11787 for this District 32 event. Each council contributed at least \$400. DD Erwin Lacanienta coordinated the efforts of the four councils to host the event. We had light fare entrees for lunch. PGK D'Gee Abad shopped, found great deals for coats, and procured 150 winter coats in various sizes in boy's, girl's, and adult's sizes. The distribution was very orderly and efficiently done by the team of PGK D'Gee Abad, SK Jessie Sayo, Bro. George Martinez, SK Ronnie Medina, Br. Jack Penafiel, IPGK Modesto Carbon, Jr, WFS Al Velásquez, and GK Jay Penafiel.

#### **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY (FAMILY PROGRAM)**

On December 14, 2024, the council co-hosted our Annual Christmas Party at the Immaculate Heart of Mary School gym. FFL Vivian Carbon, FFL Juliet Verzosa, SK Nestor Fernando, Catherine Anonuevo, Bro Matthew Provonche, Bro. Dave McCleland, and Bro. Jack Penafiel decorated the gym in Christmas decor. We had a luncheon. Entertainment was provided by Philip Inocencio Saxophone Group and SK VeeGee Pineda. A good time was had by all. Bro. Steve Kipke was Santa Claus.

#### **FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP (COMMUNITY PROGRAM)**

On January 18, 2025, the Santo Nino Council No. 9462 hosted the Council and District 32 Free Throw Championships at the Immaculate Heart of Mary School gymnasium. IPGK Modesto Carbon, Jr was the chairman of this event. Light refreshments were also offered.

#### **ANNUAL SANTO NINO COUNCIL BULL AND OYSTER ROAST (FAMILY PROGRAM)**

On March 1, 2025, the council hosted our annual Bull and Oyster Roast at Columbus Gardens. IPGK Modesto Carbon, Jr was the chairman of our single largest fundraiser for our council. Proceeds from this event fund our faith in action programs throughout the fraternal year. Nearly 150 guests attended and enjoyed the fellowship and dancing. The décor and menu reflected the Mardi Gras theme.

#### **MARYGOLDS ON MOTHER'S DAY (LIFE PROGRAM)**

On May 11, 2025, the Santo Niño Council celebrated one of God's greatest gifts on Mother's Day with "Marygold" program at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. The program recognizes motherhood and Mary the ultimate mother. IPGK Modesto Carbon, Jr was the chair of this event and was assisted by council officers and members to distribute the marigolds.

#### **18TH ANNUAL DR. RAY S. MAGNO MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT (COMMUNITY PROGRAM)**

On June 1, 2025, the Santo Niño Council co-hosted with Katipunan the 18th Annual Dr. Ray S. Magno Memorial Golf Tournament at Oakmont Green Golf Course in Hampstead, MD. An ASAP \$1000 grant to the Pregnancy Center North was accepted by Amy Fuchsluger (PCN Development Director). GK Jay Penafiel, MD and Bro. Cris Maralit chaired this event.

#### **MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (COMMUNITY PROGRAM)**

On June 3, 2025, the Santo Niño Council awarded merit scholarships to two graduating 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Mrs. Sue Surine, principal at IHM School selected the two graduating students. IPGK Modesto Carbon, Jr, PGK Ernesto Rivera, DD Erwin Lacanienta, and GK Jay Penafiel, M.D. presented a framed certificate and scholarship grant to two students at the IHM School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation Ceremony.

Conclusion: Our council completed over 20 Faith in Action programs, recruited 100% of our membership quota, and fulfilled the Financial Benefits Night requirement to earn a third consecutive Star Council Award. Vivat Jesus! – GK Jay Penafiel, M.D.

## **Father Joseph J. Comyns Council, No. 9638**

**Michael P. Harrison, Grand Knight**

Our Council meets on the second and fourth Monday of every month at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Ellicott City, MD and/or virtually. The meetings start at 7:30 P.M. The Officers and Programs meeting is on the first Monday at 7:00 P.M in the same venue.

Our Council is blessed to have our Pastor, Fr. Mike Triplett (Chaplain), Associate Pastor Fr. Anthony Abiamiri, Deacon Mike Sindall and Deacon Roch Kallmyer as active Brother Knights.

We held our Council Installation on August 26th with Fr. Mike presiding, District Deputy Herman Stewart and District Warden John Sniezek were our honored guests.

Program Director – Gilbert Conner, Deputy Grand Knight

At the beginning of our fraternal year, Worthy Chaplain Father Mike chartered the Knights to continue our leadership role in finding ways to engage the parish and help the OLPH School.

### **Community – Stephen Lucas, PGK**

The Knights provide a large fraction of our Parish's SALT initiative to prepare and bring food and other needs to the homeless of Baltimore twice a week. They reach out in conversation, fellowship and prayer to the less fortunate. A brother Knight started taking prayer requests for us to add to our nightly Rosary intentions.

In October, the Knights worked at several tables at the OLPH School Fall Festival and also handed out cookies and hot chocolate at the OLPH school Trunk or Treat. Several of the Knights dressed as knights for the event. We expanded our program of Boxes of Joy in November. We filled 38. Three Knights went on a shopping spree to fill the boxes.

In December and January, the Knights repaired, set up and took down the parish Creche and several Knights helped with parking for the school Christmas Concert and for the Christmas Eve masses.

In February, the Knights continued our “Souper Bowl” fundraiser. We sold our famous Crab Soup, and Shrimp Salad and hosted an online Superbowl Squares game. \$2400 of profits went to our charitable causes.

The Knights partnered with the parish's Cornerstone Men's group to host a Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner for the parish. Over 200 parishioners were served.

We made Crab Soup for the parish Lenten Soup Supper and collected over \$100 in donations for the District's Ultrasound initiative.

In March, the Knights ran two fundraisers for the parish Bull Roast, raising over \$1000 for the school. We also hosted the Council Basketball Free Throw competitions. 65 of our parish students

The Council handed out tootsie rolls and collected money for the ARC of Howard County. We collected over \$600 for the disadvantaged.

### **Faith – Bob Mayer, PGK**

Our Council has just passed its 5-year mark for praying a Daily Scriptural Rosary on Zoom with the Men's Cornerstone group and other parishioners. We also pray the Father McGivney Prayer and multiple intentions.

In May, we will host our annual Patriotic Rosary over Zoom, complete with music. In October we held a living rosary in front of the church.

Our Council hosts the popular Domestic Church Kiosk in our parish. We are on our third book reload this year!

Our Council is now the go-to for Eucharistic processions, bearing the canopy for Corpus Christi and Holy Thursday.

### **Family – Ed Schluth – Financial Secretary**

Knights prepare food each week to help the parish ongoing SALT initiative to aid the homeless.

Our Council headed up food prep for the Parish annual picnic. Over 500 parishioners were served. The Knights again hosted the annual Trunk or Treat for parish schoolchildren. Over 100 children participated. Our Council teamed with SVdP to deliver hundreds of Thanksgiving dinners to needy parishes in Baltimore.

Over 100 Children participated in our Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest. Our Council awarded \$25 checks to each of the age group winners and recognized the runners-up at a school awards ceremony

The Knights ran the hot chocolate table for the OLPH school "Breakfast with Santa," raising nearly \$400 for the Parish school. On Easter our Council held our annual Resurrection Easter Egg hunt. Approximately, 300 children attended.

### **Life – Benjamin Hung**

In August several Knights worked at Mary's Land Farms for the weekend. Proceeds from the Knights work were donated to the District's Ultrasound initiative.

The Council collected baby bottles after masses in October and raised 3,000 to support a local pregnancy center. In May our Council will continue our annual State MaryGold for 400 mothers.

Our Council teamed with St. Louis to get bus space for our parishioners to attend the March for Life in DC.

### **Conclusion:**

The Grand Knight thanks the many people who made this year successful and helped the Council thrive. Our Worthy Chaplain, Program Directors, Officers and Brothers contributed a great deal of time, treasure and humor to the cause. Thank you to my wife Cindi, my two sons and my granddaughter for their support and patience! And a big Thank You to DD Herman Stewart, DW John Sniezek and all of the State officers for their encouragement and fellowship. Vivat Jesus!

## **Our Lady of Grace Council, No. 9815**

**Sean R. Priest, Grand Knight**

Council 9815 meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month at Gunpowder Manor Hall, which is our Council home located on the church campus in Parkton. This year of 2025 will mark 37 years since our Council was founded.

We celebrated our Installation of Officers on August 3, 2024, with Mass at Our Lady of Grace followed by dinner attended by 30 Knights, family and friends including several widows of our Past Grand Knights.

### **Church Activities**

The Knights of 9815 decorated the Church for Christmas, served as ushers, lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. Knights of our council also started and developed Holy Grounds as a gathering space for parishioners after Sunday morning Masses to enjoy fellowship, coffee and a dazzling array of baked goods which coincided with a 30% increase in Mass attendance a year later. More and more parishioners have volunteered to help, and recent weeks has seen the start of live music at after Mass gatherings.

### **Community Activities**

Our Knights grilled hot dogs and hamburgers for a parish picnic in September following 5pm Mass in the courtyard. 90+ parishioners attended to enjoy food, fellowship and corn hole at the church pavilion. We also hosted an Oktoberfest evening which was attended by 87 parishioners with good food, beer and company enjoyed by all. The Knights of 9815 hosted a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper with 130 parishioners packing the hall to load up on calories ahead of Lenten fasting. Twenty Knights volunteered ranging in age from 30 to 85 to make it a memorable night for the parish. In May we will be serving a lavish Mother's Day Breakfast to recognize and celebrate all mothers young and old and all that they do for us all. In June we will be hosting a cookout at the church pavilion to celebrate Fathers in a similar way.

### **Family Activities**

The Knights of 9815 gathered to make 20 casseroles each quarter for Our Daily Bread which feed 160-200 people each time.

## **Faith Activities**

The Knights of 9815 gather in the chapel each Tuesday to pray the Rosary followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet for those in the parish who are most in need of our prayers. A Knight of 9815 also will be walking the Camino de Santiago in April during which he prays the Rosary for the intentions of people especially in need of his prayers.

## **Conclusion**

The Grand Knight would like to thank all his Brother Knights for their support, for all their tireless and hard work throughout this year and for their faith sharing, comradery and fellowship. Thanks, and appreciation also to the Knights who have decided to join our Council this year and who have volunteered in every event since. He would also like to thank his mother, Mary, and his late father, Lou for raising him in the Catholic faith and being great examples of service to the church and instilling Catholic values that have guided his life.

## **Immaculate Heart of Mary Council, No. 9968**

**Peter J. Worrell, Grand Knight**

Council 9968 meets on the first Wednesday of the month in one of the classrooms and on the second Wednesday in the Parish Hall of the church at 6:00 PM in Lexington Park. The council has been established for 36 years.

The council celebrated the installation of officers following the 4:00 PM Mass on July 13, 2024, held in the church. After the installation ceremony, a reception was hosted for friends and family, featuring a meal in the Parish Hall.

**Program Director** – BK Miguel J. Canales, DGK

**FAITH** – SK Raymond Dion

Financial Secretary SK Jeffery Harmon kept the Building the Domestic Church Kiosk stocked, pleasing several parishioners. BK Peter Ricket led Knights and parishioners on the 5th Sunday Rosary before the 8:30 AM Mass on September 29th, December 29th, March 30th, and June 29th. We provided free rosary handbooks and finger rosaries at church entrances. In April, our council hosted the Sacred Heart of Jesus Pilgrim Icon for a week and held a special prayer service honoring The Sacred Heart.

**FAMILY** – SK Scott A. Mewhinney

Our council selected a Family of the Month each month of the fraternal year and presented them with an award. In November, SK Peter Worrell introduced the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest to CFF students. Many participated, making judging difficult at the Deck the Halls Party on November 30, 2024. Winners in each age group were awarded after a CFF class in the Parish Hall.

On October 26, 2024, our council partnered with Fr. Sebastian de Rose Council 13091 for a Food Drive at NAS Patuxent River, MD Commissary. Knights from councils 9968 and 13091 logged thirteen hours for the Stuff-A-Truck food drive, collecting 3,433 pounds of food donated to four local pantries. Four other Knights shopped and donated food.

Our council supported the Gobble Gallop on Thanksgiving, with proceeds benefiting St. Vincent de Paul of Immaculate Heart of Mary Food Pantry. Our council members also provided one hundred and sixty hours of service to Special Olympics of Maryland.

**COMMUNITY** – SK Anthony F. Spadarella

Our council hosted fundraising meal events in September, November, January, February, and March. Proceeds from two of these events benefitted Christmas in April, which supports housing repairs for low-income and handicapped residents in St. Mary's County. The other events supported our faith and family programs.

Anthony Spadarella and brother Knights volunteered on April 26th to assist with housing repairs sponsored by Christmas in April. On August 17th, eight knights spent sixteen hours on road cleanup, and on March 22nd, four knights dedicated eight hours to the same purpose.

On July 20th, four knights helped our raffle lottery winner with twelve hours of free yard cleanup. On September 22nd, seven knights assisted with cooking and cleaning at the parish picnic. In October, eighteen knights participated in the Tootsie Roll campaign, raising \$1,391 for community social programs. On November 11th, twelve knights displayed a Veteran's Day float in the annual parade, presenting the Knights of Columbus message.

Two knights placed American flags on veterans' graves in November, while five knights cleared snow from parish sidewalks and parking areas over the winter months, providing thirty-four hours of service. Eleven knights also contributed one hundred and twenty-six hours to support the annual WARM program. Our members also provided one hundred and ninety-two hours to local nursing homes.

#### **LIFE** – BK Mark O. Baysinger

Our council erected the Cemetery of the Innocents to raise awareness of abortion. On September 27, seven Knights installed crosses, flags, and a sign despite the wind and rain. The following Sunday, members and parishioners participated in the Life Chain along RT 235 outside the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church to promote personhood for the unborn. In October, our Parish Baby Shower collected \$2,029 worth of baby supplies, reaching the maximum donation under Supreme's ASAP program, and provided an additional \$400 to the Care Net Pregnancy Center of Southern Maryland. At our May Pancake Breakfast, all mothers received a Marigold as thanks for choosing life. In March, three knights joined the annual Maryland March for Life.

**OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE** – In March we had the honor to host the first 4<sup>th</sup> degree exemplification using the newest format at our parish. SK Craig Davie did an awesome job giving time and treasure ensuring a positive experience to our guests. SK Jeffery Harmon and SK Adam Miller moved council funds to a new bank due to discontinued Zelle support. The new donation account is active. SK Peter Worrell set up a Facebook page for our council to promote social breakfasts and dinners. One of our knights provided two hundred hours delivering food to the parish food pantry. Two knights provided sixteen hours support to a clothing giveaway at the parish on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Also in September, three knights hosted the annual soccer shoot out competition.

**CONCLUSION** – The Grand Knight thanks all members and families for supporting our council and parish. We met many goals and positively impacted the parish and community. Our charity and practice of Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy embodied our State Deputy's motto: Make a Difference in Someone's Life.

# MASON-DIXON COUNCIL, No. 10100

Venis P. Knight, Grand Knight

Our council meets at 7:00 pm on the second and fourth Mondays of each month in the Parish Hall at St. Mary, Pylesville, 1021 St. Mary's Road, Pylesville, MD 21132. The Officers and Directors meeting is held on the first week of the month, with the Membership meeting held on the second Monday and social meetings on the fourth Monday. The fraternal year began with the installation of Officers on July 20, 2025 at 5:15 pm in the church with reception in the parish hall. Attending was the Council Chaplain, Associate Chaplain, District Deputy, District Warden, and all officers to be installed.

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR** – Mark Fetter, Deputy Grand Knight

**FAITH DIRECTOR** – Lee Surkin

As indicated last year, our Faith Activities once again formed the cornerstone of our council. No activity was omitted, and our Technology Director live streamed the events; consequently, all council members as well as parishioners were able to view and/or participate.

- Our **Rosary Program** was very active this year. A **Living Rosary** was held on This fall to kick off the Rosary Conference at St Mark's Church in Fallston, MD. We also kick off our Novena for Life with a Living Rosary. And just recently the Mason-Dixon council held a special Living Rosary for Holy Father.
- On October 9 the Mason-Dixon Council assisted St Mark's church in Fallston, MD with conducting living rosary. This decreased the number of participants as well as assisted social distancing requirements.
- *First Friday Eucharistic Adoration* started beginning on Friday, September 1, 2024. This **Holy Hour** begins at 6:00 pm and ends at 8:00 pm. This adoration starts off with a speaker given witness to faith in the Eucharist followed by Eucharistic adoration, self-reflection, and confession. This Adoration is live stream and posted to the Parish and Council web site.
- A **Living Rosary** dedicated to St. Joseph was held on January 23, 2024, in the Parish Hall. This event was live streamed.
- Council members presented the *Centurion's Way of the Cross* on Friday, March 14, 2025. This marks the seventh year the Knights have presented the **Stations of the Cross**, and the council and the entire parish looks forward to this yearly activity, now live streamed.
- **Relics of St Faustina** – Mason-Dixon Council sponsored the Relics of Saint Faustina on September 27th. The program was a 90-minute meditational experience supported with Eucharistic Exposition, music and prayer, culminating in relic veneration.

**FAMILY ACTIVITIES** – Mike Dodson

- Our biggest and most recurring Family/Community is our monthly Doughnut Fellowship after each Mass on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month. This provides parishioners a chance to social after Masses once a month
- The Council assisted other community Parish Activities such as providing lunch on the final day of VBS. Assisted with serving hotdogs and drinks at our annual Trunk-n-Treat on November 28, 2023.
- The **Family of the Month** program continued again this year but was more difficult to handle because of pandemic restrictions. Presentations at Mass were live streamed.
- A **Memorial Mass** for deceased council members and Belles (Ladies Auxiliary) took place on November 9, 2024.
- **Keep Christ in Christmas** was successful although entries were limited this year.

## **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES** – Daniel Culver

This category of activities has recovered from all COVID-19 restrictions; consequently, all popular events have been reinstated.

- **Roadside Cleanup** continues. Approximately 12 – 15 Knights helping at each clean up.
- **Annual Country Classic Car Show** – our 7<sup>th</sup> annual car show was held on August 10<sup>th</sup> with over 80 entrants. This is one of our key fundraisers and way to advertise the things our councils do or the community.
- **Jarrettsville Sunflower Festival** – The weekend of 5-6 October our council was invited to provide a food concession for the weekend to help draw people and raise money for the needy in the local area. Being part of the interdenominational Ministerium in Northern Harford County and southern York County PA, the council gladly accepted. All proceeds were donated back to the festival organizers to assist in local assistance program for needy families.
- **Lenten Fish Frys** – Twice a year our council hold a Lenten Fish Fry for the surrounding community. This event is not only a great fund raiser it is more importantly an excellent forum for our community and parish to socialize and enjoy each other's fellowship. It allows all to see the great things the Knights of Columbus do, how our Parish contributes to the community and excellent time to recruit new members.
- **Live Streaming** – Our Technology Director stepped up and is live streaming the weekly 10AM Sunday Mass, Special Masses, special Parish events, and Council activities such as the Living Rosary and Stations of the Cross, the Holocaust Talk and the Relics of the Passion.
- **Community Publicity Program** – With a new editor and staff, the council newsletter took on a new look and focus so that not only the membership but interested parishioners could be informed as well. Also, our Chancellor has been sending in the newsletter to the local paper, and selected items are printed for the entire community to read about what our council is doing. It is a fantastic membership opportunity.

## **LIFE ACTIVITIES** – Aaron Burkindine

- The Knights participated with our parish Right to Life ministry, which we have been asked to chair, have collected over \$3000 for the Choose Hope Women's Center of Harford County and the Gabrielle Network. We held a Novena for Life and held a prayer service for the March for Life in support of those attending the March.

## **CONCLUSION** – Venis P Knight, Grand Knight

I am honored to have served as the Grand Knight of the Mason-Dixon Council #10100 in District #27 for my first fraternal year. Working with the faith-filled, dedicated, hard-working, and creative council officers and members has been especially rewarding during this year. We are especially indebted to the strong support, guidance, and encouragement of our Worthy District Deputy Greg Ward. He has been a valuable resource and provided helpful suggestions for keeping the membership dynamic going. My fellow Grand Knights in District #27 have also been a major source of support, idea development, and fellowship during the past two years. We have worked together for the betterment of the district and the improvement of our councils' programs and activities. Also, thank you to Past Grand Knight and former District Warded Robert McConnell for his on-the-job-training, advice, encouragement, and unfailing mentorship. Finally, our Mason-Dixon Knights' effectiveness can be measured by the myriad ministries they head, committees they chair; their helping hands not only reach out regularly to our Pastor and Deacons, but to the entire St. Mary's Parish and our greater community. They live the motto: *Where there is a need, there is a Knight.*

## **Knights of Fatima Council, No. 10137**

**Joe Nichols, Grand Knight**

Council #10137 was chartered on August 13, 1989. We meet the first Wednesday of the month for our council business meetings, and the third Wednesday of the month for planning meetings. We meet in the Brother DeSales Hall, the lower level of Our Lady of Fatima Church, 6400 E. Pratt St. Baltimore, Maryland 21224. We gather at 7pm with networking and refreshments before the meetings which begin at 7:30 pm so that all members can attend both.

**Program Director:** Jim Bocklage, PGK PFN PDD Color, Guard Commander

**Faith Activities:** Deacon Al Bankard

**Community Director:** Jim Bocklage, PGK PFN PDD, Color Guard Commander

**Family and Life:** FS John Luczkowski, PGK PDD

**Warden:** Eugene Wendler, PFN

**Recorder:** Paul Bankard, PGK

**Membership Director:** Michael Stachorowski

**Treasurer:** Tony Reina

**JULY:** We successfully completed our Semiannual Audit. We hosted our public rosary led by Deacon Al Bankard. Jim Bocklage leads a group of Knights from our council to a protest at the entry to Johns Hopkins Hospital with signs and banners to protest abortions.

**AUGUST:** Deputy GK, Finance Secretary and Delegate, attended the mass for Father Michael J McGivney, Founder of the Knights of Columbus birthday. We host our monthly public rosary, protest at the entry to Johns Hopkins Hospital to protest abortions.

**SEPTEMBER:** In honor of 9-11, we had a cookout at the Baltimore County Police Dept, Eastern Baltimore County District 12. We take grills, table, and chairs and cook hamburgers and hotdogs, and provide chips, cookies, fruit cups, water, and sodas for the police officers and local fire dept. We thank them for their service. This is an annual event for our council. We host our monthly public rosary.

**OCTOBER:** On Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, we held our fall Church Drive, with all masses covered at the pulpit with the help of Armando. We have the Spanish masses covered, but we did not attract anyone at the time. The council attends Faith in Blue with prayers and rosary at the local police station of the BCPD. We had our monthly rosary. We had three weekends of selling Tootsie Rolls at all masses, at Redner's grocery store, and the local flea market.

**NOVEMBER:** Our council donates money, along with the Holy Name, to the Food Pantry. We also give gift cards from grocery stores to add to the food for Thanksgiving dinners, in addition to the food. We go to a local bakery and have loaves of bread made to give out at Easter Mass – a

special part of our mass. Father will bless the bread and at the end of the mass, the Knights give out to all the families to share at their Easter dinner. We host our monthly rosary .

**DECEMBER:** We participate in the Keep Christ in Christmas program. We are doing this on our own as the Sister in charge of the CCD program does not want their identity given to anyone, so we encourage the classes to draw the posters. We pick the winners at our planning meeting and give gifts of art supplies to the winners. We also give to the food pantry and give gift cards for groceries for Christmas gifts for needy children in church, We also set up manger outside church for Christmas.

This December was special to our Parish as we had our first mass for the combined churches of Our Lady of Pompei and Our Lady of Fatima. Mass occurred in the front parking lot. We set up an altar and 1500 chairs as well as 100 tables in the rear of church for food and drinks. We helped with directing traffic. Then we disassembled and cleaned up everything the next day.

**JANUARY:** We had our monthly rosary. We had an appreciated Church Drive with no Pulpit readers but did have greeters at entries to church handing out literature. This happened at all masses on Saturday and Sunday. Michael Stachorowski headed up a collection for the MD Splash for the Special Olympics. We sponsored a day in the chapel for Adoration with a 3pm mass.

**FEBRUARY:** Semi annual council audit was successfully completed. The Best of the Best forms were completed. We hosted our monthly public rosary. We had two priests join our council.

**MARCH:** We hosted our Church Drive. All masses were covered with pulpit speakers and doors covered, handing out over 450 packets of Knights information. No one to join 27<sup>th</sup>. March for Life in Annapolis was attended by several Knights of our council. We held our monthly rosary. On March 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> , our council sponsored a 40 Hours.

**APRIL:** We made a monetary donation to the Food Pantry. The council also collects money for the Seminarian Escobar at St Mary's Seminary in Baltimore. We have a container at all fundraisers, and a permanent wood collection bin with seminarian signage in church. We send money of 100.00 at a time. We end the year with about \$500-\$600. We give grocery gift cards for East dinners.

**CONCLUSION** Our council has had a very active Fraternal year. We have the support of Father Claudio (recent New Member) and Deacon Al Bankard. We thank the Parish members as they have been supportive in all our fundraising efforts. Our officers and members have been active and reliable Knights. I thank my wife Maureen and ,most of all, God for letting me lead this Council in the right direction.

Respectively.

Joe Nichols GK ,PFN  
Knights of Fatima. 10137  
Baltimore, MD 21224  
443-838-2463

## **St. Michael's of Poplar Springs Council, No. 10525**

### **Dennis A. Sauer Grand Knight**

Council #10525 meets in the Knight's room at St. Michael Catholic Church, 1125 St. Michael's Road, Mount Airy (Poplar Springs) MD 21771. Business meetings are held at 7:00pm every second Wednesday of the Month, and social meetings are every fourth Wednesday of the month. The installation of officers was held on July 20, 2023 after the 5:00pm Mass, then followed by a celebratory banquet attended by State Secretary, John F. Winfrey and Lady Gloria. The installation banquet was presided over by PGK Bob Rossomondo and attended by 70 guests and friends.

**Council Activities:** Our fund-raising allowed us to execute planned events and fund chosen charities.

- The annual State Incentive Sweepstakes generated vital Council revenue from donations by offering 1,144 tickets plus 133 free tickets.
- The successful "Knight's on the Green" golf tournament at P.B. Dye G.C. hosted 54 golfers which benefited our Council's chosen charities including Operation Second Chance.
- The popular semi-annual "Authentic Pasta Dinners" served a combined 250 total meals.
- Our annual Christmas Card sales led by our Grand Knight Dennis Sauer. The proceeds from the sales went to support our donation to the RSVP program.
- On November 11<sup>th</sup>, the Council held the 28th annual Memorial Mass for our deceased brother Knights and ladies followed by the Veterans Day flagpole rededication, and Parish Veteran's recognition mass. These Council activities were also supported by Assembly #2595's Color Corps and our parish Boy Scout troop
- We celebrated our 31th Christmas Social and our 26th Ladies appreciation dinners.
- Our Lenten Friday fish dinners, our largest fund-raising activity, served 900 meals.

**Faith Programs, Bill Hammett, Chairman:**

- Made annual RSVP donation to three seminarians studying to become new Priests.
- Our *Man Alive Ministry* is led by PGK John Sotak every Thursday morning. Recognized as a "Cor" approved program; showcased the new "Into the Breach Mission of the Family" series.
- Brother Jonah Wisniewski resurrected the Parish's Young Adult ministry after multiple failures by others. Jonah has 12 core Young Adults attending weekly discussions and prayers.
- Recognized ten new youth liturgical ministers (altar servers, lecturers and Eucharistic ministers). Also recognized existing youth ministers for their continued service to the parish.
- We sponsored/held the annual Catholic Bee in April for our faith formation classes.

**Family Programs, Chuck Young, Chairman:**

- We recognized deserving families via the Family of the Month program. Paul and Paula were our Family of the Year for leading our Box of Joy program and supporting lunches for those in need.
- Sponsored the "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest for our faith formation classes. We had 110 submissions and chose winners from five age groups. Winners were given their certificates and ornaments at a special presentation during the 10:30am Sunday Mass.
- Oversaw the "Gift of Lights" tree honoring families and loved ones who have passed away by placing their name on an ornament to be displayed every Christmas season.

- We made a \$500 donation to the parish food pantry. We helped to set up the gym to prepare for the distribution of food & gift baskets three times this year.
- We sponsored and presented six college scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,000 given to deserving high school seniors this April.

**Community/Parish Programs, Paul Burkett, Chairman:**

- Recognized Eddie Stubbins as our Knight the Year for his unwavering service to St. Michael Parish by volunteering his time to set up the multipurpose room for parish events. Eddie through the Council's Scrap Metal Activity raised \$450 in support of our council charities.
- Presented a \$250 "Coats for Kids" donation to the SEAS Chapter of Grand Knights which funded fifteen coats to children in need throughout western Maryland.
- Hosted our annual "Breakfast with Santa" featuring our resident Santa Claus, PGK Carmen Peltzer. Our event served over 450 breakfasts along with many memorable family photos.
- SK Paul and Paula Klein family spearheaded the "Box of Joy" program collecting donations and filling 246 Christmas boxes for children world-wide; an increase from 2023.
- Collected business suits, clothing, and household goods supporting substance abuse recovery at the Wells House Rehabilitation Center in Frederick. We donated other items to Maryland Patriot Guard who honors fallen veterans and first responders at memorial services as well as

**Life Programs, Bob Rossomondo, Chairman:**

- Presented 46 Rosaries and certificates to newly baptized members of the parish through our "First Rosary Program."
- Held our Tootsie Roll drive in October. Our Warden, David Okofoh and others collected \$550 in one weekend and donated the funds to the ARC of Carroll County supporting the intellectually disabled citizens in our community.
- Led the annual parish nine-day annual UCCSB Novena for Life program showcasing our support to sanctity of life from conception to natural death. On January 11<sup>th</sup>, we hosted a day-long Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament demonstrating a strong commitment to life.
- We partnered with the Respect Life Committee to hold the annual baby bottle drive. The proceeds collected went directly to the Columbia, MD Crisis Pregnancy Center.
- Held our Mother's Day "Mary-Gold" program distributing 320 flowers mothers/ladies.

Conclusion: I thank all my brother Knights who supported our mission to deepen our faith, protect family values, serve others through charitable works, and defend our Catholic values. I also want to thank my Officers, Past Grand Knights, District 31 Deputy Bill Hammett, and other D-31 Grand Knights whom I worked with and supported this year. On a more somber note, we lost five brother Knights and two ladies during the fraternal year. Each loss had a lasting impact on the members of our Council and our parish family. Finally, I want to thank my fellow knights wives for their support planning and decorating for our Officer Installation, Christmas Social, and Ladies Appreciation Dinner.

Vivat Jesus!

Dennis Sauer, Grand Knight

## **Our Lady of the Chesapeake Council, No. 10881**

**Joshua Frank, Grand Knight**

Council 10881, chartered on April 20, 1992, meets the last Wednesday of the month for our officers planning meeting, the first Wednesday of the month for our council meeting, and the third Wednesday of the month for our social meeting. Meetings are being held at Our Lady of the Chesapeake Classrooms at 8325 Ventnor Road, Lake Shore, Maryland 21122. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. All Council members are invited to attend all meetings. On Wednesday, July 17th, 2024, the officers of Our Lady of the Chesapeake Council 10881 were installed at Our Lady of the Chesapeake Church in the fellowship hall at 7:30 PM. The Worthy District Warden and District Deputy officiated.

**Grand Knight:** Josh Frank

**Finance Secretary:** Kyle Butters

**Deputy Grand Knight:** Pat Cappelaere

**Chancellor:** Pasquale Carannante

**Recorder:** John Donnelly

**Treasurer:** Alan Laing

**Warden:** Glen Shorter

**Inside Guard:** Jim Jewer

**Outside Guard:** Luke Hogue

**Trustee 1 Year:** Paul Reinke

**Trustee 2 Year:** Michael Schroeer

**Trustee 3 Year:** John Thomas

**Repeating Activities:** Sacramental Gifts Program – Our council helps assists the priest and deacon with Baptisms and presents a KofC certificate, a rosary, how to pray the rosary card and a rose to the families.

- **JULY:** We held our Officers Installation, assisted with transporting large set pieces from Galilee Lutheran to Our Lady of the Chesapeake for Vacation Bible School, and provided financial support to the Youth Ministry to help offset costs for their youth retreat.
- **AUGUST:** We selected our Delegates and Alternates for the Maryland State Convention, completed our annual council audit, and we hosted our inaugural Rock N' Roll Dinner Event, which brought together over 50 attendees for a night of great food, music, and camaraderie.
- **SEPTEMBER:** We participated in the annual Nun Run, supporting the Little Sisters of the. Additionally, we took part in the annual Axe Throwing event, hosted this year at St. Jane Frances, our Pastorate parish. This event provided a great opportunity for fellowship and friendly competition among our Pastorate members.
- **OCTOBER:** We took part in our parish's Trunk or Treat event dressed up as Knights and handing out candy to the children. Alongside the treats, we distributed Join the Knights flyers to parents, sharing information about our mission and encouraging others to join our brotherhood.
- **NOVEMBER:** Our council partnered with volunteers from Our Lady of the Chesapeake Catholic Church for a day of service at The Baltimore Station. Our members assisted by unloading supplies, cooking, and serving meals to veterans in need. Beyond providing meals, we also spent valuable time engaging in conversations and showing our appreciation for those who have served our country.
- **DECEMBER:** Our council introduced two new events: the St. Nicholas Day Toy Drive and the Breakfast with Santa & Craft Fair. These initiatives were a tremendous success,

allowing us to collect a large assortment of toys and generous monetary donations. Thanks to the incredible support from our parish and community, we were able to send all collected items to aid victims of the devastating hurricane in North Carolina.

- **JANUARY:** Our council helped in supporting the Winter Relief program at Our Lady of the Chesapeake providing shelter and meals to those in need. We helped prepare the OLC parish hall to welcome 25 guests for the week, ensuring they had a warm and comfortable stay. Additionally, we provided a pizza lunch on Saturday, not only serving food but also sitting with the guests to share in fellowship and conversation.
- **MARCH:** Our council actively supported the Boy Scout Troop 412's Spaghetti Dinner, assisting with setup, kitchen prep, and cleanup. We also helped raise funds for the troop by selling 50/50 raffle tickets during the event. This collaboration strengthened our partnership with the scouts, fostering future opportunities to work together.
- **APRIL:** Our council will partner with the Our Lady of the Chesapeake Youth Group to host the Annual Easter Egg Hunt! Families and children are invited to join us for a fun-filled event featuring an exciting egg hunt, activities, and delicious food cooked and served by the Knights.
- **MAY:** Our council is excited to bring back the annual Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast this year to celebrate the mothers of our parish. The event will feature a delicious menu, including pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon, fruit, crepes with whipped cream, and a selection of beverages including mimosas. Additionally, we are supporting Our Lady of the Chesapeake's 45th Anniversary celebration on May 31st by selling raffle tickets to help raise funds for the event.
- **JUNE:** Our council is planning to introduce a new event in June to celebrate Father's Day. We will host a Father's Day BBQ Pig Roast and Cornhole Tournament to celebrate our fathers in the parish

**CONCLUSION:** Our Lady of the Chesapeake Council, No. 10881, had a productive year, introducing new events that we hope to continue annually building on their success and fostering even greater camaraderie and service. I extend my heartfelt thanks to our council members for their hard work and dedication to making these events a success, and I look forward to achieving even more together in the coming years.

## **St. Hugh of Grenoble Council, No. 10885**

**David Pitts, Grand Knight**

### Summary

Knights of Columbus Council #10085 was chartered on May 6, 1992. Its planning and Council meetings alternate being held on every third Thursday of every month. Meetings are held in the parish's Grenoble Hall at 135 Crescent Road in Greenbelt, MD. Meetings begin at 7:30 pm and all Council members are invited to participate in all meetings. The St. Hugh of Columbus and its activities are supported by several sources.

### Council Officers

<b>Grand Knight:</b> David Pitts	<b>Warden:</b> Matthew Davino	<b>Treasurer:</b> Jerome Smallwood,	<b>Lecturer:</b> Michael Burchick
<b>Deputy Grand Knight:</b> William Donahue	<b>Inside Guard:</b> Ezra Pitts	<b>Recorder:</b> Matthew Dobson,	<b>Trustees:</b> Carmen Davino, Brian Mangino, Christopher Emelife
<b>Chancellor:</b> Christopher Irwin	<b>Outside Guard:</b> Ricardo Guerrero	<b>Advocate:</b> Vacant	

### Annual Activities

#### **April 2024**

Three Knights managed the participation of supplicants attending Reconciliation.

**Total Hours Volunteered:** 13

#### **May 2024**

Three Knights managed the participation of supplicants attending Reconciliation.

**Total Hours Volunteered:** 13

#### **June 2024**

Three Knights managed the participation of supplicants attending Reconciliation.

**Total Hours Volunteered:** 13

#### **July 2024**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of this month, four Council members led the Rosary prayer after Saturday morning Mass.

#### **August 2024**

Four Knights planned a bowling party for a deserving family. Four Knights hosted the reading of the Rosary after the daily Mass of each 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month. Three Knights managed supplicants attending Reconciliation. The St Hugh Council sold hot dogs and hamburgers to the festival celebrants at the annual Greenbelt Labor Day festival.

**Total Hours Volunteered:** 130 **Total Donations Collected:** \$430.00

#### **September 2024**

Three Knights rode in the annual bike tour of Greenbelt, MD. **Total Hours Volunteered:** 6

### **October 2024**

Four Knights hosted the reading of the Rosary after the daily Mass of each 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month. Three Knights managed supplicants attending Reconciliation. Twelve Knights facilitated a pancake breakfast after each Sunday Mass as part of the Spring Delta drive. Four Knights provided logistical help and security during the St Hugh Youth Group's annual Haunted House event. **Total Hours Volunteered: 140**

**Total Donations Collected: \$3400.00**

### **November 2024**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of this month, four dedicated Knights prayed the Rosary prayer after Saturday morning Mass. Three Knights managed supplicants attending Reconciliation. Three of the newest Knights, all younger, helped the Ladies of Charity break down and clean up the parish hall after the event ended. The Ladies of Charity, the Greenbelt Potter's Guild, and the Knights of Columbus hosted an "Empty Bowls" event. A simple soup and bread were served in purchased bowls with all proceeds going to the parish food pantry. The Council hosted Thanksgiving dinner for the parish and local community. With the parish Ladies of Charity, the Knights placed ornaments that represented families from the Food Pantry list on a Christmas tree in the rear of the Sanctuary so that parishioners could collect them and donate gift cards for those families. **Total Hours Volunteered: 143 Total Donations Collected: \$9500.00**

### **December 2024**

Four Council members hosted the reading of the Rosary after the daily Mass of each 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month. The Knights of Columbus continued its efforts to help with the state council's "Coats for Kids" drive by donating \$500.00.

### **January 2025**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of this month, four dedicated Council members prayed the Rosary prayer after Saturday morning Mass. Four St. Hugh Knights of Columbus managed supplicants attending Reconciliation. **Total Hours Volunteered: 32**

### **February 2025**

Four Council members hosted the reading of the Rosary after the daily Mass of each 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month. Four St. Hugh Knights of Columbus managed supplicants attending Reconciliation. **Total Hours Volunteered: 68**

### **March 2025**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of this month, four Council members prayed the Rosary prayer after Saturday morning Mass. Four Knights managed supplicants attending Reconciliation. For Lent, twelve Knights prepared a pancake supper for the students and their families prior to CCD classes. After Stations of the Cross, a simple meal of soup and bread was served. Donations were collected and given to the Poor Box. During its Delta Drive, the Council served a pancake breakfast after each Mass. One Knight assisted with the day-long retreat for catechumens at the Shrine of St. Anthony in Ellicott City, MD. In addition to providing transportation and logistical support, the Knight also led one activity and helped facilitate others.

**Total Hours Volunteered: 152 Total Donations Collected: \$1,025.00**

### **Conclusion**

The St. Hugh Council shows creativity and dedication. We continue to explore new ways of contributing to the parish, such as the Family Game Night being held in April and new fundraising opportunities with local businesses. Finally, the last quarter of this fraternal year also allows our Knights the chance to exercise our Easter duties and as well as celebrate our Charter anniversary.

## **St. Francis Xavier, The Missionary Council, No.10957**

**Mark Coontz, Jr., Grand Knight**

Our council meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the St. Francis Xavier Church Hall, 21370 Newtowne Neck Road, Leonardtown, MD. Meetings start at 7:00 PM. The Council General Membership meeting is held on the second Tuesday of the month, while the Officers' Planning Meeting is held on the fourth Tuesday. The 2024-2025 officers of St. Francis Xavier Council were installed on 18 August by our District Deputy, SK Dan Greenwell. Our Grand Knight SK Mark Coontz thanked the 2023-2024 officers for their efforts during the previous fraternal year which resulted in the council earning the prestigious Star Award.

### **Program Director- PGK Herbert Male**

SK Herbert Male in his role as Program Director for the 2024-2025 fraternal year, in addition to acting as Program Director, was also a past Grand Knight and has done an outstanding job organizing and leading our programs and is an invaluable asset to our council.

### **Faith Activities – SK Paul Roman**

SK Jim Howe organized the recitation of the Rosary at daily Mass and also led its recitation on the first and fifth Sundays of the month. The Knights assisted with the church's upkeep to include the parish hall, rectory, church grounds and cemetery. On 4 through 12 August the Knights recited a nine-day novena for the canonization of Blessed Father Michael McGivney. The council also sponsored a special Mass for Blessed Father Michael McGivney on his feast day, August 13<sup>th</sup>. On September 15<sup>th</sup>, the council assisted the parish CCD team by sponsoring a Living Rosary as a kickoff to the 2024-2025 academic year. At the conclusion of the Living Rosary, the Knights held an ice cream social for the students in the church hall.

### **Family Activities Chairman – SK John Breck**

Again, this year, the council continued to recognize parish families through the Family of the Month program. The council also supported the Food for Families program by collecting and distributing non-perishable foods for the local food pantries. On 24 August, the Knights of Columbus sponsored a family fishing derby and picnic at St Clements Shores. On 23 December, the Knights set up the Nativity Scene in the courtyard and also assisted in decorating the church for the Christmas season. Our annual "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest was well received this year, and we presented awards to each of the first-place age-group winners. The Council also held memorial Masses on December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> where we recognized all our deceased Knights and wives.

### **Community Activities Chairman- James Morgan, PGK**

The Council held its annual children's Easter egg hunt on March 10, 2024 at St. Francis Xavier Church. On September 29, we supported the annual parish Picnic by providing parking assistance, cooking hot dogs and hamburgers and providing set-up and tear down activities. On October 26<sup>th</sup>, the Knights sponsored an Oktoberfest dinner in the church hall after the Saturday 4 PM Mass. On November 23rd, the

council supported the annual Christmas Bazaar by providing parking assistance and set up and tear down activities. The council also provided gift cards to less fortunate parishioners to purchase food for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. The council also collected 70 Boxes of Joy for less-fortunate children in Central America. On 17 February, the council assisted in the local Knights of Columbus free-throw basketball contest crowning council and district champions.

#### **Life Activities Chairman- SK Michael Holton, PGK, Trustee**

On October 17, 2024, the council held our annual charity golf tournament at Wicomico Shores Golf Club. The proceeds were distributed to Care-Net of Southern Maryland, Special Olympics and other local charities. Our Council also sponsored a parish-wide novena. 9 Days for the Unborn, from 16 to 24 January 2025, Flyers, handouts of the daily prayers/reflections, and registration were distributed by the Knights. The Novena was recited at daily mass. Those who could not attend Mass participated remotely.

#### **Membership Director- SK James Berned, Jr., PGK**

Our Council conducted a church drive during all weekend Masses on the first weekend in November and the first weekend in March. Council members provided the congregation with cards and an overview of the Council's contributions at each Mass. We also participated in a benefits Seminar in the fall and another one in January. The Council conducted a Charity, Unity and Fraternity Exemplification on February 9<sup>th</sup>, welcoming Rick Gray as a new Knight into our council.

#### **Planned Activities**

In April 2025, we plan to hold a Lenten Fish Dinner and an Easter Egg Hunt for the Children of the Parish. We are also planning to provide volunteers for the Special Olympics spring games on April 24 and support the local Christmas in April event on April 26. The council will again provide Mother's and Father's Day carnations and will host a Mother's Day Breakfast. In addition, the council will participate in the Baby Bottle Blitz to raise money for Care-Net, our local pregnancy center.

#### **Conclusion**

Our Council has had a very busy fraternal year. The support from our Knights and their families has been outstanding. We would not be able to accomplish our many programs without their support. I'd like to especially recognize the efforts of two of our members, our Warden, George Morgan, Sr. and our Financial Secretary, SK James Howe, Jr. Without their tireless efforts, our council would not be nearly as effective. Our District 6 District Deputies, SK Dan Greenwell and SK Charlie Widmayer and their District Wardens, SK Charlie Widmayer and SK James Berned, Jr. have provided invaluable guidance and encouragement. Together, our council will continue to lead, serve others, be solid defenders of our faith and make a difference in our parish and community.

## **St. JOHN the EVANGELIST (SJE) COUNCIL, No. 11171**

### **GRAND KNIGHT JOHN ANDY HARRIS**

Our council meets on the second and third Tuesdays each month at the Church Rectory, 8908 Old Branch Road, Clinton, Maryland. Meetings start at 7:30pm. An Officers and Programs meeting is held the third Tuesday of each month at the Church Hall, beginning at 7:30pm.

On Saturday, July 19, 2024, the officers of St. John the Evangelist Council were installed after the 5pm mass celebrated by Fr. Dan Leary at St. John the Evangelist Parish. A reception was attended by 20 knights and family and guest and held at Mama Stella's Restaurant in Clinton, Maryland.

Sadly, this year Sir Knight Donald Duane Faust was promoted to Glory on April 25, 2024, after a long battle with several different strokes. Don was a founding member of the council. He was a respected brother who was a dedicated past Grand Knight three times. He received Star council each year.

Sadly, this year Sir Knight Pablo A. Publico III was promoted to Glory on March 31, 2025, after having Cardiac arrest. He was a respected brother who was a dedicated past Deputy Grand Knight three times. He assisted with the annual Rosay outside the front of Division V Police Station in Clinton.

#### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES** – Deputy Grand Knight, SK Ernesto (Ernie) Santos-DeJesus

The parish had a Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil, and the council members led and supported the procession around the church grounds and the GK led the sorrowful mystery of the rosary. Members from the council supported the SJE food pantry. The council supported the parish Hoodies program for children. The council provided labor picking up clothing and delivering clothing to registered children. SJE has a Thanksgiving and Christmas basket program that the council members provided labor hours. The council hosted on March 28, 2025, a meager meal of soup, salad, bread, and coffee and water for over 100 parishioners after the 6:30pm Stations of the Cross at SJE.

#### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES** – Past Grand Knight, Lecturer, SK Christopher Page

The council hosted their annual chili cookoff on February 18, 2025. The council hosted a Pre-Lenten Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner from 5pm to 7pm on March 4, 2025. The knights provided pancakes, sausage, bread, and water in March before Lent. One of the Grand Knight's original faith programs from his first fraternal year continues to be hosted by the council as an outside rosary in front of the Division 5 Police Station in Clinton, Maryland in April and the other councils in District 15 are invited. The council hosted an Altar Server appreciation hamburgers and hot dogs luncheon on June 23, 2024. The council will provide flowers for Mother's Day at SJE, and the Roundtable at St. Andrews Chapel located on JB Andrews.

#### **COUNCIL ACTIVITIES** – Warden, SK Charlie King and SK Pablo Publico III

The Grand Knight continues to support the Knight of the Month program to recognize the many knights that go out of their way to volunteer without being requested on a monthly, weekly, and daily basis. The council has a new treasurer, Knight Christopher Correa, who replaced Knight Steve Jacob.

**FAMILY ACTIVITIES** – Family Director, Knight Christopher Correa

The Grand Knight continues the Family of the Month program to provide recognition to the Catholic families that put their Catholic Faith into action by volunteering for many hours to the parish and roundtable on a monthly, weekly, and a daily basis. The Grand Knight is Making a Difference in Someone's Life! and considers this program to be a catalyst to a successful parish and chapel. GK added a religious statue raffle at SJE that the families love, and they suggest differing ones.

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES** – Past Grand Knight, Advocate, SK Jeff Koscho

We have a new Family Director that is ready to start working with our families and especially their children. The council did not host the Soccer Competition Shootout due to no field availability. The council continued the Keep Christ in Christmas poster program and had over 120 students from SJE. The past four years at least one student from SJE placed at State level and one placed at Supreme. This past year one received a \$30 check from State. The Catholic Bee was very fun for over 70 students and teachers and knights in March.

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR** – Past Grand Knight, Advocate, SK Jeff Koscho

The council's membership quota was 5 new members for the fraternal year. The council recruited 6 new members before the end of September. The Grand Knight achieved by God's grace Star council for his first three fraternal years with 400% and 200% and 120% respectfully of his Supreme goal. GK is on target for Star council this current year with possible 200%.

**CONCLUSION**

The Grand Knight continues to encourage everyone to speak to someone daily and ask them to join the council. The Grand Knight always tells the council "A team does not win with great players; they win because they work together as one!" The Grand Knight thanks the past Grand Knights and program leaders and brothers of the council for their outstanding support this past year. A special thank you to my wife Vilma and her understanding and support this past year. Throughout this past year, I had a wonderful time meeting and getting to know the many knights in Maryland. I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with District Deputy Michael Maxey and the State Officers to help sustain Maryland as one of the premier State Councils in the country. The Grand Knight is looking forward to next year!

## **Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Council, No. 11259**

**John Weaver FDD, PGK, PFN, Grand Knight**

Our Council meets at St John Vianney Church on the second Wednesday of the month. The Officer's Planning Meeting is held virtually on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month

The Council serves two Parishes: St John Vianney 105 Vianney Lane Prince Frederick, MD 20678 and St Francis De Sales, 7185 Benedict Ave Benedict, MD 20612. We have approximately 124 members.

Council officers were installed July 27, 2024.

### **Program Director – SK Glen Rauner PGK**

### **FAITH ACTIVITIES – Phillip Mancini**

Council members and their families continued to serve as Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Cantors, Altar Preparation, and Ushers. We lead the Rosary prior to the Saturday 5:00 Vigil Mass that has been well received. We regularly participate in Eucharistic Adoration during the week and from 1:00 AM – 3:00 AM on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday (Saturday). We sponsor two seminarians, Dalton Newsome and Ryan Miller at the St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington DC. We provide a welcome package for the newly baptized including a letter from the Grand Knight, a prayer for the Mother, Father, a Rosary, a card instructing how to pray the Rosary, and a prayer card for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney. We hosted the Sacred Heart icon in April and had an accompanying prayer service. Members participate in the Healing Ministry program as prayer partners for parishioners.

### **FAMILY ACTIVITIES – Jakenburg Almuete**

Under the direction of Larry Donnelly, FDD, PGK, our parish continued to operate our food pantry that serves 80 -150 families every Wednesday and approximately 40 – 70 families on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month from March through October. Knights and their families constitute many of the volunteers. Our clothing shed is filling yet another vital need for the less fortunate in our community and provides funds for our charitable endeavors. The Family of the Month program chooses active families of the Parish who provide a wide variety of services to the church community. Knights and their families continue to teach Religious Education and run the OCIA program. We also held a Keep Christ in Christmas poster competition featuring our parish children's artistic interpretations of the birth of Christ. Finally, we participated in the Consecration of the Holy Family on the Feast of the Holy Family.

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES – Robert Gionfriddo**

The Council provides financial support to non-profit agencies such as Project Echo, Little Sisters of the Poor, and Religious retirement funds. We held our annual Oktoberfest to support our local charities and a decorative basket raffle to benefit the parish. At the request of our Pastor, we moved furniture that was donated by a parishioner to the Youth room at the parish to benefit the youth ministry. We also moved donated furniture from a Council member to our retired Priest in Residence. We held a successful Soccer Challenge during our parish picnic and Free Throw contest in February. We staff, cook and clean for our 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Breakfast with that parish ministry. We held our annual Helping People with Special Needs aka "Tootsie Roll Drive" to support those with

intellectual disabilities. We conducted a Box of Joy drive sponsored by Cross Catholic Outreach and delivered over 120 boxes for children in third world countries. We continue to support a scholarship for grades K through 8 for those wishing to attend Catholic schools.

### **LIFE ACTIVITIES – SK Jerome Cleveland PGK**

The Knights continued to donate towards for the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound program and provide financial support to the Care Net Pregnancy Center and Birthright Pregnancy Center. We held a parish-wide Novena for Life to coincide with the National March for Life and attended the March in January. In February, we held a Baby Shower for Birthright Pregnancy Center and, in combination with the \$400 Supreme Council Grant from the Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) program, almost \$4,200 in cash and materials was donated. On Mother's Day weekend, we distributed carnations to all mothers to thank them for choosing life.

### **CONCLUSION**

It has been a very productive Fraternal year culminating with the Council earning the Star Council award. We are especially grateful for the support of the parish community of St. John Vianney to enable us to succeed in our Programs. We would also like to thank our District Deputy, Dennis Haspert and the Maryland State Council, for their support.

## **Resurrection Council, No. 11341**

**Martin N. Fienkeng, Grand Knight**

Resurrection Council #11341 meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month in Church of the Resurrection facilities, Ellicott City, MD. For the fraternal year, our Council conducted its Membership Meetings in the parish's multipurpose rooms 1 & 2 located adjacent to the coffee bar on the lower level our church building; an occasional meeting was conducted in the Resurrection Chapel (when the multipurpose rooms were not available). On July 18, 2024, our Council celebrated the Installation of Officers in the Church of the Resurrection Chapel in Ellicott City, MD. Spouses proudly watched their Husband-Knights assume the mantle of council leadership.

This year our Council lost one elderly Knight who was called home to be with our loving Father; Arnold Aquiliano passed to his eternal reward on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024. All our deceased Council's Knights were remembered during our Council Memorial Service conducted on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in our newly renovated church. This Mass was celebrated by our Council Chaplain and new Parish priest, Father Aaron Andy.

### **Council Program Director – Paul Reif, DGK**

#### **Church/Faith Activities – Director Tom Shenk**

Every weekend our Council's Knights are visible during Masses, serving as Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Sacristans, Ushers, and Livestream/Simulcasting Techs...and when there are no Altar Servers for the Mass, the Knight Sacristans fill in as Altar Servers. Knights also lead the Rosary every that precedes Benediction and Adoration.

Our Council's annual Memorial Mass is always linked to a Clergy Appreciation Dinner. Since our Parish became a Pastorate in 2021 (merging with St. Paul's Church in Old Ellicott City), we have conducted a Clergy Appreciation Dinner that honors the Priests and Deacons assigned to both Church of the Resurrection and St. Paul's Church. The Clergy and the Deacons' Spouses are treated to a catered meal and provided a monetary gift that demonstrates our Council's appreciation. Last year's dinner was an opportunity for the knights to welcome our new Parish pastor who took over from Pastor, Msgr. John Dietzenbach.

First Communicants received Rosary Rings, and youth Confirmands received Rosaries in felt Bags, just prior to their First Communion/Confirmation. They also receive brief words of encouragement and instruction from our Council's GK or DGK regarding praying the rosary at home with their families.

Council #11341 once again supported 4 Archdiocese of Baltimore seminarians during FY25.

#### **Community – Director Kevin Knorr**

In May 2024, our Council hosted the annual Parish Golf Tournament which raised ~\$7K for the parish and our school. The annual Tootsie Roll Campaign provided another annual opportunity for Council Members to collect donations for Champions for the Challenged and Camp Glow. Over \$4000 was submitted to the State Council because of these weekend collection efforts.

Our Council's Community activities also included planning and hosting a quarterly Parish Blood Drive with the American Red Cross; conducting Safe Parking Management for the crowded Church of the Resurrection Masses celebrated on Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday; and the always well-attended Annual Parish Easter Egg Hunt conducted 1 week prior to Easter Sunday.

Our Council also conducted 1 military support luncheon for deploying service members at the BWI Airport USO during FY24.

#### **Life – Director Ted Rieve**

During multiple 40-Days of Life Campaigns, Council Knights were seen silently protesting and praying the Rosary across from the Catonsville, MD, Planned Parenthood Abortion Clinic. Our Knights also participated in the State Right to Life March in Annapolis.

Our Council conducted its annual Ultrasound Collection after weekend Masses; the Resurrection Bulletin and preceding Flock Notes advertised this collection. Our Council raised ~\$4600 that will be pooled with other District 6 Council and used to purchase an Ultrasound Machine for the Columbia Pregnancy Center.

During the 2024 and 2025 Mother's Day Weekend Masses, our Council's Knights honored our parish's mothers, grandmothers, and great grandmothers who said "Yes to Life" during their lifetimes. These Moms were gifted with a beautiful carnation tagged with a Knights of Columbus-branded label and the words "Thanks for Choosing Life!" Church of the Resurrection Moms are always appreciative of both the recognition and the gift.

#### **Family – Director Greg Jollisaint**

Just prior to Halloween Weekend, our Council hosted a Trunk-or-Treat event in the Parish Parking Lot – and our local Cub Scout Pack was part of the planning and conduct. The Pastoral Council hosted the follow-on crafts and free hot chocolate in the tent.

Our Council then planned and conducted Maryland's best Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest in November and December; Resurrection Saint Paul School students and parish Religious Education students both participated; awardees were recognized and rewarded during a Sunday Mass in January. Of our Council's 5 winners, 2 went on to win 2 second place awards at the International Level. at the Maryland State Council judging.

In April 2025, our Council is hosting the annual SSSMILE Village "Evening in India" Dinner with the pastoral council's Social Justice Committee; last year, we raised funds for the 120 previously homeless people living in the village of Kerala, India. We hope to have a repeat. This ministry provides solidarity and financial support, and it provides villagers an environment where their dignity and worth are affirmed.

**END NOTE:** Throughout the fraternal year, Council #11341 also donated budgeted funds to the Resurrection Knights Charities Catholic High School Scholarship Program; to the Little Sisters of the Poor; to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. We remain very active in the Parish and can be counted upon for any services the Pastor needs done.

**Fr. Maurice J. Wolfe Council, No.11372**  
**Philip Pfarr, III, Grand Knight**

Throughout the fraternal year 2024-2025, our Council remained committed to faith, service, and charity by organizing various events and initiatives that benefited our community.

**Summer and Fall 2024:**

On August 25, 2024, we hosted our annual social event at Abingdon Gardens senior residence, featuring an ice cream social and musical entertainment. Nineteen volunteers contributed 38 hrs. including three youth volunteers, fostering intergenerational community service. During September and October, we conducted a fundraiser to purchase and distribute new coats for 24 foster children through CASA of Harford County. We also held a Bridges for Life program, displaying banners on the I-95 overpass in Abingdon, reaching over 3,060 individuals with a pro-life message. On October 19, we hosted a Pasta Dinner fundraiser, raising \$2,100 toward the Capital Campaign of Love II for infrastructure repairs at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church. On November 3, we organized a Pit Beef fundraiser, contributing \$2,000 toward the salary of an interim priest at the church.

**Winter 2024-2025:**

On December 7, 2024, we co-hosted a free community breakfast in celebration of Jesus' birth, supported by council funding and volunteers. Our Christmas Family Bingo event on December 13 attracted a record 177 players and 24 volunteers, raising \$4,350 for St. Francis de Sales Church and outreach programs. On December 14, 2024, we hosted a National Wreaths Across America ceremony, honoring 52 veterans at St. Francis de Sales Cemetery with participation from local youth and our pastor. Additionally, we distributed Christ-centered Christmas greeting cards in English and Spanish to emphasize the season's religious significance. In January, we hosted a Virtual Polar Bear Plunge, raising \$500 for the MD State Special Olympics. In February, our Family Game Night encouraged community participation following Saturday Mass, with all 44 children in attendance winning prizes and a prospective member showing interest.

**Spring 2025:**

On March 2, we held a Pit Beef fundraiser and open house, raising \$1,500 for our charitable work and attracting potential new members. In addition, during March 2025, our council organized a men's retreat at Malvern PA, with nine attending, and hosted the Pilgrim Icon of the Sacred Heart at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church in Abingdon. On March 29, 2025, our Charity Corporation organized the Helping Hands Charity Luau, benefiting Hartford Academy for students with disabilities, the St. Francis de Sales Outreach Programs, and our Scholarship Program. During Lent, we conducted three Seafood Chowder sales, raising over \$1,000 to support our Faith programs and secured a new member.

## **Additional Initiatives and Community Involvement throughout the year:**

- **Volunteer Service:** We contributed 104 hours to food distribution at the St. Francis de Sales (SFdS) Church food bank and 52 hours to casseroles collection for the Our Daily Bread program at SFdS. We plan to contribute 70 volunteer hours at Harford Academy's annual fundraiser on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 108 volunteer hours at Preakness 2025 to raise funds for our charities.
- **Fundraising for Local Causes:** We contributed \$300 for the Sexual Assault/Spouse Abuse Resource Center (SARC), and \$500 for Alpha Glory Pregnancy Support Center's sonogram program. We plan to raise \$700 for the SFdS Pre-School Program via a pit beef sale on April 26th at SFdS.
- **Faith-Based Programs:** We conducted four 5th Sunday Rosary prayer sessions for community prayer intentions. Throughout the year, our Council supported three seminarians with a total donation of \$1,500, under the RSVP program increasing from two seminarians supported last year. Additionally, we facilitated monthly Lecturer's agenda meetings to reflect on faith-based discussions and prayer sessions following the Into the Breach program guide.
- **Outreach Programs:** Under our Food for Families program, our council contributed \$2,700 to the SFdS Church Outreach Program Food Pantry. Our Charity Corporation contributed \$1,000 to a brother Knight in financial distress and was able to support financially a parish family during financial hardship.
- **Pro-Life Advocacy:** Our Life Program Director organized 61 individuals to participate in the MD Face the Truth Tour, spreading the message of life to over 50,000 individuals. Under our Bridges for Life program, we displayed banners advocating for the sanctity of life on the I-95 Overpass on Abingdon Road, impacting individual transiting I-95; our next Bridges for life event is planned for April 5th. On Mother's Day 2025, our council will be gifting carnations to all mothers after each Mass at SFdS symbolizing the fragility of life. We plan to host a ceremony in memory of the unborn at our Unborn Memorial site at SFdS on May 10th; the event coincides with the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the placement of the memorial stone.
- **Community Support:** We participated in a Rise Against Hunger food-packing event, contributing 49 volunteer hours to help pack 16,000 meals for impoverished children. Our monthly Family Bingo events raised an average of \$1,000 per event, providing entertainment for seniors and those living alone while funding charitable programs.
- **Educational Support:** Our Charity Corporation awarded seven scholarships, totaling \$2,000, to students attending Catholic high schools or accredited colleges and plan conducting the Scholarship program again in June 2025.

## **James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council, No. 11422**

### **Jerome E. Swann, Grand Knight**

The James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council #11422 meets the first and third Thursday of each month in the Rosemont Room of St. Joseph Catholic Church Largo, Maryland. Our meetings begin with refreshments at 6:30 PM followed by the meeting starting at 7:00 PM.

Fraternal year 2024-2025 began with the installation of Officers after the 12 noon Mass on Sunday, July 11, 2024. The Mass was celebrated by our Chaplain, Bishop Roy E. Campbell Jr. The installation was in the Rosemont Room followed by a brief reception and a program recognizing our outgoing officers and welcoming the new officers.

Program Director – DGK Harold F. Sanders

Faith Activities Director - PGK Bernard Broadus

During the fraternal year the council hosted a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday rosary after the 8 am Mass in the months of September, December and March. Our Brother Knight, Assistant Chaplain, Deacon Steve Nash led the rosaries attended by council, family members and parishioners. Each third Sunday of the month is Knights Sunday. Council members serve as Hospitality Ministers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) and Altar Servers. Knights who are trained as EMHC, take communion each week to the parish's homebound parishioners. Council members also participated in the parish's Men's Retreat. Council members were also readers for the Lenten Stations of the Cross and volunteered as ushers at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Community Activities Director - PGK Alan Davis

This year the Council participated with the St. Vincent DePaul Society assisting with food packaging and delivery to needy families in the church community. Each month, 50 -70 families receive 2 bags each of non -perishable goods, canned goods, fruits, vegetables and frozen meats. The council also assisted the St. Vincent DePaul Society with providing Thanksgiving food baskets for 100 needy families in the fall of 2024. Each week council members partner with Panera Bread and Bold Ministry of Beltsville to pick up donated bakery items, fruits, vegetables, non -perishable food items and other goods to be distributed to local churches, shelters and other organizations. The council held an All Hallow's Eve celebration with the St. Joseph Religious Education Program and Father Vincent Vu in November 2024. Children dressed as Saints and Historical figures to honor them and inform the community of the accomplishments of the people they represented. From September through November, the council participated in the Box of Joy Program delivering 84 Boxes of Joy and \$153.00 in donations to the Cross Catholic Organization. In October, the council participated in the Coats for Kids program and donated coats to local

schools and churches. The council held its Annual Mardi Gras Dinner Dance on March 1, 2025. The event was a sellout and provided goodwill to the St. Joseph community. The council held three Lenten Fish Fry events during March and April 2025. This is the council's biggest fundraising event. Finally, the council will hold the first of its annual summer Flea Market in June 2025. Proceeds from these markets support the James C. Fletcher, Jr. Charities College Scholarship Program. The Council nominated PGK Alan M. Davis, and he was selected as the Maryland State Council's Citizen of the Year.

### Life Activities Director- PGK Harold Countee

The James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council 11422 sponsored a Baby Bottle Campaign where baby bottles were distributed to parishioners over a period of eight weeks from September through October 2024. Parishioners who participated in this campaign filed the bottles with loose coins, checks and paper money to be donated to the Forestville Pregnancy Center in Temple Hills, Maryland. A total of \$2,720.89 was collected and donated to the Pregnancy Center. As a result of the successful Baby Bottle Campaign, an ASAP application was submitted in January 2025 to Supreme. This recognition provided an additional \$400 stipend to the Forestville Pregnancy Center. This additional check signed by Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly, was presented to the Pregnancy Center Director on March 5, 2025. In recognition of "Mother's Day 2025" the Council will participate in a Mother's Day Marigold Program distributing Marigold Flower seed packets as a gesture of love and respect to all mothers and grandmothers following Mother's Day Masses on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

### Family Director- PGK Ike Agbim

Each month the Council sponsors a Family of The Month at Saint Joseph Catholic Church. This family is recognized and awarded a certificate during the third Sunday's noon Mass which is Knights Sunday. The family of G. Emeka Onwezi was the council's Family of the Year (FOY). As the council's FOY, their name was submitted, and they were selected by the Maryland State Council as the State Council's Family of the Year. In August of 2024, ten college bound students from the parish were recognized and presented with checks to be used towards tuition and books.

### Conclusion:

As the Grand Knight I wish to thank my Program Director, Faith Director, Life Director, Community Director, Family Director, Council Officers and the KC Ladies Auxiliary for their outstanding support during this past fraternal year. A special thank you to our Chaplain, Bishop Roy E. Campbell Jr., Father Vincent Wu, Deacons Steve Nash and Kyle Simon for their unwavering support to the council. My thanks to our District Deputy, Charles Briscoe and District Warden Hyacinth Uzoma for being thoroughly committed to ensure the success of our council. For their support, I am eternally grateful.

Jerome E. Swann

## **Most Holy Rosary Council, No. 11511**

**Jean, Chery, Grand Knight**

Most Holy Rosary Council holds its Business Meeting, starting at 7:30 p.m., on the second Monday of each month with a second Officers' Planning meeting on the fourth Monday of the month. The Council's normal meeting place is in the Church Hall located next to the Historical Church located in Upper Marlboro, MD at the intersection of Route 301 and Rosaryville Road. Since the COVID-19 Pandemic and space limitations at the Church Hall, our meetings have been held virtually via Zoom.

**Programs Director:** Dave C Desmarais, Trustee

**Faith Director:** Lewis H Smith Jr., Financial Secretary

**Community Director:** Ronald S Nosalik, Treasurer

**Family Director:** Ernest S Washington, Recorder

**Life Director:** Unassigned

**Warden:** Dr Edward P Donovan

**Recorder:** Ernest S Washington

**Repetitive Events:** On the 1st Thursday of each month, the parish holds a Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary, and Benediction. The Knights are tasked with leading the Rosary. To increase interest, congregates are invited to lead a decade of the Rosary. While Rosary and litany of the Precious Blood of Christ or the Sacred Heart of Jesus are being recited, our chaplain Father Rudy hears confessions.

**APRIL:** Council sponsored and hosted an Easter Egg Hunt which featured Peter Cottontail in costume for the children of the parish. The council purchased over 300 plastic eggs and filled them with candy. The hunt occurred after the 11 AM Mass on Easter Sunday. Kids were divided into 2 age groups. Kids accompanied by parents took photos. Knights delivered palms to residences of 4 families on Palm Sunday weekend. Additionally, palms were delivered to the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home in St. Mary's County, MD.

**MAY:** The council hosted an Exemplification for the first, second, and third degrees on May 26 at Most Holy Rosary, St. Joseph Center, after the 11:00 Mass.

**JUNE:** The church sponsored the Parish Community Day Picnic held on June 22, 2024, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. at St. Joseph Center. The Council was asked to plan and execute the picnic to include the management of food, tents, tables, and chairs, etc. The Council donated 2 roasted pigs and \$600.cash. Also donated 3 swamp coolers to make the 100-degree temperature bearable. Council had a Father's Day handout. Gifts were presented to all fathers and men of the parish. DGK Colabucci and Advocate Al Camp coordinated this activity. Council also donated \$250.00 to the Bishop McNamara Chapter of Grand Knights to help its effort to feed the needy.

**JULY:** Council donated \$200 to the Alzheimer's Association in memory of Mary Farrimond (who was the Director of Religious Education at Most Holy Rosary Church).and the presentation of the donation took place at the 5 PM Mass on July 6. Council donated \$200 to the Forestville Pregnancy Center.

**AUGUST:** Most Holy Rosary Parish announced a Pamper Drive to benefit the Forestville Pregnancy Center during month of August. To support this effort, the council decided to donate Pampers to this worthy cause. Drive was extremely successful! All told, over 10,000 pampers were collected. Father was grateful.

**SEPTEMBER:** Parish community picnic held on Saturday 14 from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Location: on West side of the St. Joseph Center. Parish rented large tent with chairs and tables. Grills fired and cooking started at 9:30 A.M. Knights cooked hot dogs and hamburgers. Potluck style event: parishioners brought side dishes. Knights assembled to prepare the grills for cooking, to chill the sodas, water, and drinks, to prepare the serving tables for food, to erect the games such as horseshoes, Bocce Ball, corn hole, and to perform other duties as necessary to get ready for the large influx of attendees which came after the 11:00 A.M. Mass. The Deputy Grand Knight, the grill master, cooked all the meats. Parishioners started to bring in their dishes about 11:00 A.M. Shortly after the meal started, children ventured outside the tent to enjoy the games mentioned above. There were special drawings for the children who delighted in winning prizes of candy that were supplied by a parishioner. The prizes for adults consisted mainly of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

**OCTOBER:** Several Knights (and a spouse) including the DD attended the viewing of SK Ralph Nasatka to recite a decade of the Rosary and to offer words of comfort. FS Smith recounted how Br. Nasatka advocated for Korean War Vets and proudly drove his vintage military Jeep in several Columbus Day Parades. Council donated \$500 to the Gabriel Project to construct a live-in unit to a house located in Bowie, MD to afford a family a life affirming alternative to abortion while helping to avoid homelessness. This is an aggressive initiative with a goal of \$100,000; it's an ASAP program.

**NOVEMBER:** Most Holy Rosary Parish, in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus, will host Veterans' Recognition Masses in honor of Veterans' Day (November 11, 2024)--and our Parish Veterans including Active-Duty Members of our Armed Forces, will be recognized on Saturday, November 9, 2024, at the 5:00 p.m. Mass and on Sunday, November 10, 2024, at the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the Church and the 11:00 a.m. Mass in the St. Joseph Center. Council donated \$250.00 for 10 food gift cards in the amount of \$25.00 each for Thanksgiving to the parish. Council also made two separate donations of \$150 each to provide relief to hurricane victims. One donation to the parish and the other to the Maryland State Council

**DECEMBER:** The Delta Church Drive was conducted at all Masses during the weekend of November 30/December 1<sup>st</sup>. Announcement was made from altar; pamphlets, prayer cards, and other literature were distributed to eligible men. The Council presented the parish with food gift cards (\$25 each) in the amount of \$250 to assist families with food insecurities for Christmas. All Family of the Month honorees for the period July 2023 to November 2024 received their FOM certificates during Masses on the weekend of November 30/December 1.

**JANUARY:** A donation was made to the Wheelchair Foundation in the amount of \$150. A Korean War donation of \$75.00 was also made in honor of Brother Ralph Nasatka's memory. A \$250 donation was also made to Progressive Equestrian Therapeutic Services (P.E.T.S.).

**FEBRUARY:** The FOM certificates have been presented to awardees. Parishioner Sean Oden was selected as FOM for December. Brother David Desmarais was selected as FOM for January 2025. Semiannual 11511 Financial Audit successfully conducted and completed February 15, 2025

**MARCH:** Sacred Hearth Pilgrim Icon travelling our State, was held within our Council from March 1-6, 2025. Icon was displayed on our 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, March 6, 2025. Our Worthy DD attended.

**CONCL.USION:** I am grateful and thankful for the support received from our Chaplain and our Council Members: Trustees, FS, Recorder, Warden, DGK, and the active PGK, etc. In addition, I am extremely grateful to the District Deputy (15) Michael Maxey for his advice, support, prayers, and attendance at our council meetings. I thank my wife Michelle Hawkins, for all her support and patience. I am especially blessed with our "core vanguard" of Knights who execute most of the charitable spiritual and corporal works of mercy that have made this a successful Columbian Year for Most Holy Rosary Knights of Columbus. "KUDOS" to all the Knights.

## **St. John Neumann Council, No. 11618**

### **JD Parsons, Grand Knight**

Our council was founded in 1995 and serves the Catholic Community of Ascension and St. Augustine (CCASTA). Council meetings are held from 7:30-8:30 pm every first Thursday of the month. Officers' Planning / Social meetings are held every third Thursday of the month from 7:00-8:00 pm. Historically, our income flows from 2 fundraisers (3 Fish Fries during Lent and a Mulch in March). Our council is no longer able to continue the Fish Fries since we will not agree to sign an MOU/contract with the parish. The Mulch fundraiser was moved off church property due to the MOU issue.

Our installation of council officers was conducted at St. Augustine School in Elkridge, MD on Sunday, July 21, 2024. Following the induction ceremony, reception/dinner was served at the St. Augustine school Hall.

We currently have 163 members. In CY2024, we logged 3251 volunteer hours and donated \$27,277 to various worthy causes. Below are some of the major completed/planned activities for FY24-25.

**PROGRAMS DIRECTOR:** Tom Kennedy, Deputy Grand Knight

**FAITH:** Tom Devlin, PGK

**COMMUNITY:** Howard Johnson, PGK

**FAMILY:** Tom Floresch

**LIFE:** John Skrynecki

**WARDEN:** Jeremy Hass

**RECORDER:** Joe Kumor

**Repetitive Events:** Red Cross Blood Drive average 3 per year, Donut Sundays average every other month, Jesus and Me Youth ministry at most 9am masses, Youth Faith Formation ministry one Sunday a month, monthly food drive "Our Daily Bread", Rosary for Life prior to council meeting unless an exemplification, Family of the month selected.

**JULY:** Semiannual Financial Audit successfully conducted; Cooked and served dinner for vacation Bible School.

**AUGUST:** Social with members including Trivia Night, Blood Drive on 8-24.

**SEPTEMBER:** Exemplification on 9-5 (1 member) and 9-26 (3 members), assisted St. Augustine's school with their Fall Festival on 9-6, COR-EFF on 9-7 and 9-21.

**OCTOBER:** COR-EFF 10-5, 10-19, council hosted MD Cath Conf to speak about Ballot Q1, Both the Baby Bottle Campaign & Tootsie Roll campaign go for 3-4 weekends during Oct.

NOVEMBER: COR-EFF and retreat 11-2 & 11-16, blood drive 11-2, Exemplification on 11-7 (3 members) helped with Veterans Day Luncheon 11-9, assisted school with run/race 11-16, food drive for LSOP 11-23, Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest.

DECEMBER: cooked/served spaghetti/meatballs for school Xmas event 12-6, Set up creche 12-7, Xmas party 12-8, set up and participated in parish caroling after Sat mass on 12-14. Christmas eve parking mgt.

JANUARY: attended mid-term meeting 1-4-25, blood drive 1-4, Membership Drive on 1-19, March for Life in DC 1-24, and Embracing Grace on 1-25.

FEBRUARY: COR-EFF 2-8 & 2-22, Trustees completed audit, Social at Guinness 2-20, previously sched Free throw tournament (2-22) cancelled since it was going to be held in the school hall and our council did not agree to sign MOU.

MARCH: COR-EFF 3-1, 3-8, & 3-22, previously sched Fish Fries canx since parish did not renew Howard County kitchen license (3-7, 3-21), mulch fundraiser 3-29, membership drive is currently scheduled for 3-30. Follow up with Father on RSVP candidate.

APRIL: previously sched Fish (4-4) canx because no kitchen license, Catholic Men's Fellowship sched for 4-5, Easter parking mgt 4-20. Begin confirmation of Officers for the upcoming fraternal year. Make efforts for additional members to reach Star Council.

MAY: Will be attending MD State Convention in Annapolis. Need to follow up with confirmation of Officers for the upcoming fraternal year. Make efforts for additional members to reach Star Council.

JUNE: Confirmation of Officers for the upcoming fraternal year. Make efforts for additional members to reach Star Council.

It has been a privilege to serve as Grand Knight of a faithful, dedicated, and hardworking group of Catholic men. Currently, we have voted unanimously not to sign the MOU. This decision changes the council's income flow and will need to adjust charitable giving and our expenses. As I continue moving forward as Grand Knight, I would like to thank my brother knights for their help and support. Nothing would be possible without the efforts from all the brothers and support from our spouses.

Vivat Jesus!

St. John Neumann #11618  
JD Parsons Grand Knight

## **Deacon John Lynn Council, No. 11619**

**Tom Deramo, Grand Knight**

11619 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm at St. Nicholas Catholic Church social hall. We are nearing our 30 years as a council.

On August 11, we celebrated the installation of officers with a reception.

### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES**

Our Knights were very active in St. Nicholas' parish. The Knights led the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary every Sunday. The Knights led the Chaplet of Divine Mercy every Friday. Our Knights served as ushers, Eucharist ministers, cantors, lecture, choir members and more. Our Knights formed a Canopy Team for the Eucharistic procession on Holy Thursday, Corpus Christi and at the conclusion of the 40 Hour Devotion. Our Knights ushered at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC monthly and for special events. Our Knights helped the St. Nicholas Social Committee with many events through the year including the church picnic the St. Nicholas Feast Day dinner and the St. Nicholas Fall Bazaar.

### **FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

The fourth Saturday of each month our Knights hosted a dinner and movie night with a different homemade entree served each month. Movies are Catholic or Christian based including movies produced by Angel Studios. Lenten simple supper was served Friday evenings after Stations of the Cross and Benediction. Light refreshments were served the first Friday of each month after the evening Mass. Our Knights hosted a super bowl party on super bowl Sunday featuring "tailgate food."

Our Knights hosted an Easter egg roll on Palm Sunday for the children. The youngsters were treated with candy at the end of the event. Our Knights hosted a Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest for the children. The winners received prizes.

All of our activities are open to the parish and the community.

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

Our Knights collected requested items for the Little Sisters of the Poor and delivered them to the central distribution point. Our parishioners were very generous supporting this program. Our Knights volunteered at Elizabeth House on the first Monday of each month. We made lunches and set up for the evening dinner for the needy of the community. Our Knights participated in the Blessed Michael McGivney Feast Day Food Packing event hosted by Bishop Macnamara Chapter providing over 50,000 meals for the needy in foreign countries.

## LIFE

Our Knights celebrated life by giving marigolds to Mothers on Mothers Day and the Our Lady of Guadeloupe Guide to Praying the Rosary to Fathers on Fathers Day. Our Knights supported the National March for Life by hosting a Rosary for Life at St. Nicholas and we ushered 3 Masses at the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC.

I wish to thank all the Officers of Deacon John Lynn Council 11619 for their tremendous support and exceptional volunteer activities. Without their intense involvement, none of the above activities would be possible.

## **St. Ignatius of Loyola Council, No. 11815**

**Matthew Lenz, Grand Knight**

Council 11815 meets on the first Monday of every month at St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Church. Officers' meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month. Exemplifications and social events are scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month at various locations.

Our Installation of Officers was held on August 24, 2024, after our 5:30 pm Mass. The installation was held in conjunction with the Ladies Auxiliary. . A reception followed in Polk Hall, and was well attended, with Knights, Ladies Auxiliary, and families enjoying a meal and fellowship.

This year our brother Paul Kane, died 9/20/24 and SK Michael Lipchock passed away on 8/8/24.

### **Life Programs**

The Council Life programs include a baby bottle campaign in support of Care Net in Frederick, participation in the 40 Days for Life, attendance at the Frederick County Right to Life Banquet, and other activities. The baby bottle campaign was able to raise over \$6,500 for Care Net, which is a local pregnancy center that supports women facing pregnancy decisions. Multiple Knights participated in the 40 Days for Life program, which involved standing vigil and praying near a local abortion center in Frederick. Multiple Knights attended the Care Net gala in Frederick, MD. We also extended the invitation to our two resident Priests. Father Brian and Father Ron.

### **Faith Programs**

The Council Faith programs include many events such as the weekly praying of vespers, led by our Worthy Lecturer. The council regularly prays the rosary before council meetings and has led rosary sessions at funerals. The Council Vespers prayer program draws several regular participants every Monday in the church. Additionally, support for our seminarians and religious is recurring, as the council has three individuals in the convent or seminary who receive direct financial gifts and support. This is further aided by the RSVP program. This past year in November we held the Silver Rose prayer service as well. We also annually purchase rosaries for the confirmation catechist. This year we purchased over 60 of them. The knights are the backbone

### **Family Programs**

On Easter Sunday, we hold an Easter Egg Hunt for the Youth where multiple areas in our Church field are filled with Easter Eggs. The areas are divided into different age groups, to ensure that all children have a fair chance to come away satisfied. The council also grilled and served all the food for the parish picnic in September, which included over three hundred participants. The grill

that we cooked the food on was donated by a fellow knight, our PGK and SK Tom Waters. The council helped to construct a manger scene and decorate and light the Christmas tree. This is an annual event. Council members also partnered with the Church, Ladies Auxiliary, and other community members to put on the annual Breakfast for St. Nick. The Council also honors mothers every Mother's Day, by presenting women with carnations following mass. Finally, the Council has a Charity fund, which is tasked with doling out money to local charities, including student scholarships. This year, the Council put together a St. Valentine's Day dinner in February and renewal of vows for the parish. Members of the council and the lady's auxiliary planned, organized, decorated and helped fund the event. It was a tremendous success and over 50 couples from across the parish attended the event.

### **Community Programs**

The council is excited by the increasing number of community programs and strong participation by the parish. These events were highlighted by in-person fish fries, which provided over one thousand meals during 7 Fridays in Lent. The Council also participated in the Box of Joy program, SWAT highway clean-up, and a well-attended Superbowl party. The Council also holds regular Chicken Dinner sales, which routinely sell out. This year the knights were asked to support the monthly community Sunday event. This involved setting up the social hall and serving doughnuts, pastries, coffee and juice after all 3 Sunday masses for all of the summer, fall and winter months. Recently we have gotten more support from the parish but will continue to help with the event. This year the knights took some of the proceeds from our various community fundraisers and put them back into the parish. We purchased and installed a new commercial grade stove and deep fryer for the parish free of charge. Additionally, our Grand Knight procured a commercial grade ice maker for the parish to replace the one that had broken. All of these kitchen equipment items help us with our fundraisers but are used by others at the parish for other events.

### **Conclusion**

Council 11815 is a true community that comes together in support of each other and the Church. We appreciate the partnership with our Church community, especially the efforts of Fr. Brian Nolan, assisted by Father Ron Howard, whose energy and welcoming spirit have led a revival at St. Ignatius.

## **ST. LOUIS THE KING COUNCIL, No. 11898**

**Francis A. Arlinghaus, Grand Knight**

Council #11898 holds meetings on the first two Mondays of each month. The first is the planning meeting held at 1900 hours on the first Monday at the St Joseph Cupertino Franciscan Friary (the Shrine of Saint Anthony) at 12290 Folly Quarter Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21042. The general business meeting is held at the same location on the second Monday, and begins with Mass at 1830 usually said by our Chaplain Father Franceline Javlon in the Friary Chapel, followed by dinner, with the general business meeting at 2000 hrs. In August 2024 our Installation of Officers of St. Louis the King Council #11898 was held at St. Louis the King Church followed by a reception in the parish Social Hall.

### **PROGRAMS DIRECTOR – Paul Pellegrino, Deputy Grand Knight**

Our council benefits by partnering with our parish on many of our efforts this year under every one of our activities, and we expanded our partnership with several other councils. This fraternal year, we'll donate more than \$30,000 from our charity account, and more than \$10,000 from our council account in addition to the many hours our Knights have put into volunteering and putting their faith into action.

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES – Francis J. Arlinghaus**

Early in our council year, our August School supplies, and coat collection provided over \$1000 in school supplies. Our efforts to staff a concession stand at the Baltimore Ravens games included 12 events and raised over \$20,000 for our charity fund and over \$6000 for our partner councils from four partner Knights Councils including Saint Agnes. We also raised \$8,000 for council efforts in August through December working at Mary's Land Farm. We collected for the Little Sisters of the Poor monthly, delivering 12 vehicle loads of food and more than \$6000 in cash and gift cards (including \$5000 from monthly collections at the Shrine of Saint Anthony), over \$2000 in donations from the council, and more than 100 pounds of frozen turkeys at Thanksgiving. We also delivered over \$5000 in gift cards, 70 pounds of chocolate, and gifts of slippers and cardigans from the parish Advent Giving Tree. In September, we held our annual fall race for charity and held a charity bingo event, raising over \$6000 between the events with another spring bingo event scheduled for April 25. Our charitable efforts include providing for a parish in Ghana, a church building project in Cameroon, and an orphanage in Cameroon. Our fall blood drive raised over 40 pints of blood, and our April blood drive should exceed 40 pints this spring. Our July crab raffle fundraising helped us support 6 seminarians with \$500 grants each. In November our council stepped up again, raising nearly \$800 for the Coats for Kids campaign and with the parish collected more than 50 blankets for Saint Benedict's Outreach, and provided an additional 50+ coats to a local Baltimore school. In addition to an October tailgate rosary, we joined our Saint Francis brothers for a fall Soccer Challenge. Our March mulch sale fundraiser provided an additional \$1700 for charitable and council efforts, and we still have our huge volunteer effort at the church's Clarksville Picnic and White Elephant sale in June. Beyond that our council has supported the community with the Adopt a Highway program.

### **LIFE ACTIVITIES – John Sniezek**

Our Life activities focused on the three pillars of Prayer, Advocacy and Works. A balance of prayer, advocacy and works leads to a Life culture in the Council. Our focal Life program this year was the ASAP program. Under the ASAP program we funded five separate life affirming organizations with \$2,000 + in contributions including: The Columbia Pregnancy Center, Mary's Home, the Center for Pregnancy Concerns (Options@328), Women's Center West, and the Gabriel Network. Each organization qualified for an additional \$400 ASAP grant from Supreme. This spring, we also provided Mary's Center with about \$2000 worth of diapers and wipes, qualifying them for a \$400 grant as well.

We worked to support the state Gabriel project and the District 21 Ultrasound project through our fundraising. We also had many traditional life activities for each pillar. Examples include: Prayer: We had a dedicated prayer for life at each Knights meeting, and held a 365 day perpetual rosary to Our Lady of Guadalupe for Life causes. Advocacy: The Knights went to the National March for Life and contributed \$500 to help sponsor the bus from the pastorate of Saint Louis and Saint Francis. Four Knights served as Marshals at the Maryland March for Life, and the council became a bronze sponsor of the March. Multiple members lobbied our legislators in Annapolis on Life Causes. We also participated in the 40 days for Life activities in the Fall and Spring. Works: The council has multiple activities supporting Camp Glow and Special Olympics, Knights from the council hosted tables at the galas for both the Columbia Pregnancy Center and Mary's Home maternity home, contributing thousands of dollars to each cause. The Knights also assisted the Respect Life committee at St. Louis parish with the Columbia Pregnancy Center baby bottle campaign and with honoring our mothers by funding and handing out carnations.

### **FAITH ACTIVITIES – Ryan Dworski**

The Knights continue to restock our Building the Domestic Church kiosk in the church narthex multiple times. We also meet Sunday evenings via zoom for our Bible Study (finishing Matthew's Gospel recently and starting the Book of Job). We also have a mass before our monthly business meetings at the Shrine of Saint Anthony, usually with our chaplain. In October we helped with the pastorate Tailgate Rosary. November featured our Memorial Mass for our departed brothers (and we would lose 3 more between then and now) and expanded to include our brother council from Saint Francis. Support to the parish at Christmas included directing parking on Christmas Eve and providing extra ushers at Christmas masses. In April, we will host the Sacred Heart icon at Men of Virtue and at the mass before our meeting. March also saw Knights attending a silent Ignatian retreat and in April attending the Men's Catholic Fellowship Conference. We also support the parish "Men of Virtue" program, modeled similarly to the COR program—two younger Knights led us in the "With a Father's Heart" program focused on Saint Joseph as a model, and then we moved to a virtue-based program. Easter will see us help with the Holy Thursday procession and hold vigil until midnight, provide extra help with ushers, and direct parking on Easter Sunday. The council supports three hours during Eucharistic Adoration on each Sunday. This spring will see the council give religious gifts of rosaries to graduating eighth graders from the parish. The council supported 6 seminarians through the RSVP program and provided a cash gift to Franciscan Father Richard Rome as he began his priestly ministry.

### **FAMILY ACTIVITIES – Keith Coates**

The council's Food for Families effort complements our LSOP efforts mentioned above. Over the past year, 24 monthly collections and many special pickups have supported 6 different charities with over 30 tons of food and supplies, with most of it going to FISH, Our Lady of Victory Food Bank, Assisi Center, and My Brother's Keeper. The Christmas holiday is very active with the Council promoting the annual Keep Christ in Christmas poster program with the parish and school and selling Keep Christ in Christmas magnets. During Lent, Easter magnets were given away. The Council does not forget the widows of deceased Brothers; the Grand Knight offers all widows a poinsettia and widows are invited to the Council's Christmas Dinner without charge. The widows are also provided free Bingo tickets for our semiannual bingo fundraisers. The council supports these efforts via a football squares program and other efforts. We recognize at least one Knight of the Month and one Family of the Month as approved by a committee. During Lent, our council will serve over 600 dinners at 4 Fish Frys (including one at Saint Francis) providing a family atmosphere and free dinner before Stations of the Cross.

In Summary, we've had a very active and very successful year in partnership with the council, the parish, and the community only made possible through the efforts of many of our Knights

## **Our Lady of Guadalupe, Council, No. 12127**

**Luis Gorres, Grand Knight**

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Council 12127, meets the first Thursday of the month for our Planning and Council meetings. The meetings are conducted at the Neumann House, 9001 Warfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD., 20882. Meetings begin at 7 PM. Our charitable income mainly come from our yearly St. Patrick's Dinner and Auction (150+ patrons). On Saturday, September 31, 2024, the officers and directors of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Council 12127 were installed at St John Neumann Church following an exemplification of 2 new Knights. The Worthy State Warden, District Warden and District Deputy officiated. A reception for all Council members and guests was held at the Parish Center immediately following the installation. Subsequently, the Council admitted a total of 14 new members to the Council

**PROGRAMS DIRECTOR:** Jim Wasel, Deputy Grand Knight

**FAITH ACTIVITIES:** Michael Gladu, Past Grand Knight

**COMMUNITY:** Terry Waters, Past Grand Knight

**FAMILY:** Steve Rhodes

**LIFE:** Shaun Allen

**COMMUNICATIONS:** William Tulskie

- **JULY:** Brother Don Geiger has assumed the duties and responsibilities as the new treasurer. The council donated \$1,000 to support the Maryland Tri-Chapter Food Packing event on 27 Jul 2024 which was facilitated by Cross Catholic Outreach.
- **AUGUST:** A food drive was conducted at the local Safeway Store on Saturday, 17-18 Aug 2024. 64 hours of work were performed. A collection of over 63 large boxes weighing 2050lbs. of food was donated to the St. John Neumann parish food pantry, Loaves and Fishes. The Grand Knight and another member knight assisted with building 85 beds at the Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) program.
- **SEPTEMBER:** A Delta drive was held on 7-8 Sept 2024 after all the Masses. Tickets for the 55th Annual Maryland State Council's Sweepstakes were sold after all the Masses on 21, 22, 28, and 29 of Sept. 422 tickets were sold. After the 5 p.m. Mass on 30 Sept 2024, the new council officers for the next fraternal year were installed. A celebration dinner was subsequently held in the parish center. The knights participated in the 40 Days of Life event. The program started on Wednesday, 25 Sept and continued until 3 Nov. Parishioners and the knights were invited to pray for the rosary on Mon and Fri from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. One of the Knights from our council performed charity work for Saint Louis the King Council in Clarksville. He staffed the concession stand at a Ravens game on behalf of our council and donated the proceeds of over \$450 from his efforts to the council's list of charities. Several Knights attended the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center's Annual Gala on 25 Oct 2024.
- **OCTOBER:** The Council donated \$250.00 to assist with financing the expansion of the Gabriel House. The Box for Joy was distributed after all the Masses on the weekend of 12 and 13 Oct 2024 and collected on 26 Oct 2024. Over 210 boxes will be sent to several third-world countries to assist families in need. It will also ensure a child will receive a present at Christmas. As part of the 40 days of Life, the Youth Group led by one of our knights participated in a Youth Prayer Day on 26 Oct 2024. Parishioners were encouraged to accompany the group. The council co-sponsored the Family Fall Funfest with St. John Neumann Church. The council donated all the pumpkins and volunteer time. It is a time when both adults and children can socialize, have fun, and get dirty carving pumpkins. The

event was scheduled at the Neumann House on Sat, 12 Oct 2024. A Pint with Padres was organized by the Knight to introduce and welcome the St. John Neumann parishioners to the clergy.

- **NOVEMBER:** Veterans Day Mass was scheduled for 11 Nov 2024. Food and supplies for the reception after the Mass were provided by the Knights. The Saint John Neumann and Knights of Columbus Safeway food drive was scheduled for 23-24 Nov 2024. The knights collected more than 3,500 lbs. of food for St. John Neumann's Loaves and Fishes Pantry. Mary Louise Mahoney, the manager of the food pantry, noted that this food valued at more than \$5,000 was enough to feed at least 150 families for two distributions! In addition, we collected \$450 in gift cards which were given to 18 families as \$25 emergency food gift cards. The chili cook-off was scheduled for Sat, 9 Nov 2024 in the parish center. Brother Brian Graham, the insurance agent, attended the Council Meeting on 7 Nov 2024. This was the first meeting he attended since assuming responsibility for Montgomery County. He introduced himself and explained the insurance programs available for the 26 brothers present at the meeting. He answered questions and spoke to a few brothers after the meeting.
- **DECEMBER:** Tootsie Roll Distribution was scheduled for the weekend of the 14-15 of Dec 2024. The proceeds of \$902.80 were donated to Maryland Special Olympics to support the children with Developmental Disabilities. Breakfast with Saint Nick was scheduled for Sat, 14 Dec 2024. 82 adults and 65 children attended. The proceeds of \$311.00 were added to our account. The Holy Family Mass was held on Sun, 29 Dec 2024. This mass celebrates their life together and it focuses on religious family life.
- **JANUARY:** The membership drive was scheduled for the weekend of 18-19 of Jan. There was a membership social and potluck dinner at the Neumann House on Thu, 16 Jan 2025.
- **FEBRUARY:** The council planned, prepared and collected donation to support the Auction at the St. Patrick's Dinner,
- **MARCH:** A successful St. Patrick Dinner was scheduled for 15 Mar 2024
- **APRIL:** The Council obligated \$500.00 to support a seminarian. Grand Knight directed the Youth Groups Living Station of the Cross, a live representation of the Passion of Christ at St. John Neumann Church. The Council sponsored a BBQ on 26 Apr 2025 for men of the parish for fellowship and possible recruitment.
- **MAY:** Attended MD State K of C Convention in Annapolis, MD. On 2-4 May 2025. Distribution of Baby Bottles was scheduled for 10-11 May 2025 for the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. Safeway Food Drive was scheduled for 17-18 May 2025.
- **JUNE:** Council audit conducted; Sacred Heart of Jesus Pilgrim Icon Program scheduled for 8 Jun 2025. Collection of Baby Bottles was scheduled for 14-15 June 2025. Installation of Council officers scheduled for Jul/Aug. Support for the Ordination of Deacon Danny Morrison to the priesthood and first Mass scheduled for 22 June 2025 and Ordination of Eugene Deribeaux to the Diaconate on 28 June 2025

**CONCLUSION:** This was a productive Fraternal year for our Council. This GK is grateful for the support received from his Chaplain, Trustees and the active PGKs. I am especially blessed with over 25 Knights who attend most of the council meetings and execute most of the charitable work we endeavor to perform. "Vivat Jesus" to all Knights, their Ladies & families who propose, organize, work, attend and coordinate our events. I also recognize that many of our brother knights are not able to attend or provide physical work, but volunteer in other ways including providing funds to help our council with its operating costs.

## **Maurice J. McDonough Council, No. 12128**

**John Mitchell, Grand Knight**

Council 12128, charted on 07 January 1998, meets on the first Tuesday of the month for our Planning and Council meetings. All meetings on the second Tuesday of the month are conducted at The Parish (or Activity) Center, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 4590 St. Joseph's Way, Pomfret, MD 2067502. All Council members are invited to attend both meetings. Our charitable income comes from dues, quarterly Parish breakfasts, and providing concession services at periodic parish community or special council sponsor events (e.g., Ladies' Group Purse Bingo, Lenten Fish Fry, Parish supported yard sale, and related events). On Tuesday, August 13th, the officers of Maurice J. McDonough (Council # 12128) were installed in the Parish Center at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Pomfret, MD with the Worthy District Deputy and Worthy Warden officiating. A reception for all Council members and guests was held after the installation at Parish Center.

**PROGRAMS DIRECTOR:** John Wegand, Deputy Grand Knight

**FAITH ACTIVITIES:** Ben Shelak

**COMMUNITY:** Rich Muscato

**CHRISTMAS:** Delbert Gibson

**FAMILY:**

**LIFE:**

**WARDEN:** Delbert Gibson

**RECORDER:** William Baker

**Repetitive Events:** pray the Rosary monthly prior to all council meetings and prior to all Masses for months containing a fifth Sunday, as well as assist routinely a Masses as Eucharistic Ministers and Holy Mass Ushers every week.

- **March:** Donated \$500 to support the local Catherine Foundation procurement of a new ultrasound. Specified and installed a new security system within Parish Center (completed August 2024). Council members participated in the State of Maryland March for Life. Coordinated and sponsored a Fish Fry to support Lent.
- **April:** Coordinated and sponsored a Sunday breakfast on the 14<sup>th</sup>, donated basis, for the community post 9 am, prior to the 11 am, Masses.
- **May:** Gave Marigolds out to support Mother's Day. In support of the Angie's Fund—the council manages said fund—reviewed and dispersed a \$1,000 sponsorship to deserving high student within Charles County in light of the Fund's established parameters.
- **June:** As noted above, the council members led Rosaries prior to the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday (as well as the Saturday) Masses.
- **July:** 12128 Semiannual Financial Audit was successfully conducted. Council members assisted in initiating preparation and organization of a Right Booth for the Charles County Fair (September 2024), as well as a church fund raiser, New Year Eve's Dinner & Dance. Supported funeral and reception of a long-time parish member.
- **August:** Only supported normal council activities.
- **September:** Supported the Right to Life booth at Charles County Fair. Provided food services and operational support for the Parish Ladies' Group, purse bingo. Executed several repair and maintenance functions at St. Joseph's (e.g., parking lot lighting and shelving installation).

- **October:** Tootsie Roll Drive was conducted with money donation collected to assist the Intellectually Disabled people a normal life. Repaired the Church's HVAC. Traced and repaired a shorted, exterior electrical feedline to the Churches parking lot, which was causing consistent blowouts, as well as executed other repairs for the Parish. Donated to the Hurricane Relief Fund.
- **November:** Memorial Mass held for those Brother Knights and Spouses who have recently passed away. Supported repair and purification processes (ended in January) for the well water feed system, as well as repaired kneelers in the Church and Parish Center's ice maker. Held a Taps Across America Event at the Church. Stocked the Church food pantry to support needy individuals within the community in support of Thanksgiving.
- **December:** Held a Wreaths Across America event honoring veterans within the church cemetery. Organized, collected and delivered presents in support of The Angel Watch Tree at the Church. Procured and donated 48 sets of winter hats, gloves and neck gators to the Charles County Community Schools Program, which provides students and families with the physical and mental health, academic and extracurricular support needed to thrive. Gave donation to the Carmelite Sisters in La Plata, MD, and procured gift cards for Church staff.
- **January:** Supported the Parish Fund Raiser, New Year Eve's Dinner/Dance, by serving food, DJing and MCing the event. Donated to the KofC Charles Community to assist needy gentleman requiring significant dental. Members supported the National March of Life. Members of the Council with Clergy, and parishioners attended the National "March for Life." Assisted Cardinal Hickey Academy in Calvert with specifying need, equipment and proposal submittal for replacement sound to support school activities for their stage/auditorium facility. Completed repairs in two of the classrooms in the religious education/activity center for St. Joseph Parish.
- **February:** Completed repairs to the lady's restroom in the Parish Center. Donated \$250 to the Catherine Foundation.

**Conclusion:** We have been busy over the past year. This GK is thankful for the support we have received from our Chaplain and Assistant to the Chaplain, our Priests, District Deputy, and our officers. Thankful to all our Brother Knights, that took the time to become involved in our programs to make them successful. Also, I want to thank our families, who tolerate the time we spend away from home. Without them, we would not be able to do our programs

## **Father Bernard Harding Council, No. 12180**

**Akan Andrysiak , Grand Knight**

The Council meets at the St. Lawrence Martyr Church, located at 7850 Parkside Blvd, Hanover MD, at 7:30 on the first and third Thursdays of each month.

On Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Council officers were installed. The installation followed a Mass celebrated by our Chaplain, Fr. Tom Dymowski O.SS.T, D.Min. District Deputy Nathaniel Tablante presided over the installation.

**Program Director:** **Milt McKenna, Past Grand Knight**

### **Faith Activities**

As Knights, families, and friends, we have been praying the Rosary every day. We currently pray 542 Rosaries per month (6,504/year) for the following intentions: The Intentions of the Holy Father, Persecuted Christians, Vocations, The Unborn, Our priests and chaplains, Our troops, especially those in harm's way, Our brother Knights, especially those sick and deceased, Our fellow parishioners, especially those sick and deceased, World Peace, The special intentions of all those who pray the Rosary, Individual special intentions and The physical and spiritual health of our world.

On November 12<sup>th</sup> 2024 members of the Fr. Harding Council #12180 hosted a prayer Service for the Silver Rose Icon at St. Lawrence Martyr Church and on April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025 our Council hosted a prayer service honoring the Sacred Heart of Jesus Icon. Several members of the Council participated as readers etc.

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 a Mass was offered for deceased Knights. Widows and family members were invited to attend.

### **Community Activities**

The Father Bernard Harding Knights of Columbus Council #12180, in order to encourage attendance at the Parish Friday Lenten services, (Stations of the Cross), prepare and serve crab cakes, steamed shrimp, pizza, salad, and beverages before and after Stations during Lent.

AS part of our support for the World Day of Prayer for Peace, our Council was honored to have the opportunity to have members of the Keogh Council present the "Living Rosary" on October 1 2024. We always invite local Police, firefighters and other emergency responders to attend.

Council 12180 supported St. Lawrence Donut Sunday 7 times this past year.

### **Life Activities**

Knights from Fr. Harding council attend both the National and the Maryland March for Life events.

Knights and parishioners gather at our Historic Church the last Thursday of each month to say a prayer and recite a Rosary for the Unborn.

### **Family Activities**

Approximately 152 family members (64 children) from the St. Lawrence community came on December 14<sup>th</sup> 2024 to have breakfast and meet with Santa. A council member played the role of Santa. Several of the council members' children assisted Santa and took pictures of the

children. All of the children receive coloring books, crayons and candy canes. Local firefighters attended with their emergency vehicles and transported Santa to Breakfast.

When children are Baptized in St. Lawrence, the Council has a Knight in attendance who, at the conclusion of the Baptism, presents a Rosary and Certificate to the parents and offers some brief comments about the importance of Mary and the Rosary in our lives.

On Mothers' Day in May we host a Mothers' Day Brunch for the community – moms & grandmoms eat FREE.

### **Conclusion**

The Catholic men of Father Harding Council are living their faith and conducting the good work of the order. We continue our efforts to attract more like-minded men. Next year's planning of activities has already commenced. As Grand Knight, I sincerely offer my thanks to the Officers, Directors, Chairmen, and brothers of this council who make a difference in our local and faith communities.

## **Fr. Sebastien DeRose Council, No. 13091**

**David A. Reumont IV, Grand Knight**

**Overview** - Father Sebastien DeRose, a Capuchin Priest who came to the United States with Lafayette, was one of the first pastors of St. Nicholas Chapel, located at Naval Air Station Patuxent River (NAS PAX), in Lexington Park, Maryland. The Council was instituted on December 4, 2001, at NAS PAX and moved to St. George Catholic Church, Valley Lee, Maryland, on June 14, 2015.

**Council Meetings** - Monthly Council Membership Meetings are held at the Community Center of St. George Catholic Church, 19199 St. Georges Church Road, Valley Lee, Maryland 20692, at 6:30 PM on the first Tuesday of the month, and Planning Meetings are held on the last Tuesday at 6:30 PM.

### **Program Director - Tan Pham (Deputy Grand Knight)**

### **Faith Director - Harold Grider**

Six Knights led 171 rosaries before weekend and Holy Day Masses. Knights supplied Fr. John with 13 rosaries for the 1st Communion classes. Nine Knights and fifty-five parishioners and children participated in the living rosary led by the 4th Degree. Sixteen Knights were selected for the Holy Thursday Mass, twelve for the washing of the feet and four to carry the canopy for the Eucharistic Procession from the church to the community center. This was followed by Eucharistic Adoration, where our Knights had prepared the hall for the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Our Faith Director and our Chaplain led the Saturday morning Men's Group meeting discussing the Sunday liturgy. Knights and Fr. John are leading bible studies after the Sunday 7:30 AM Mass. We supported two Seminarians under the Refund Support Vocations Program, one who was ordained a priest. On Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, fifty parishioners including eight Knights and their Ladies traveled to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception to witness the ADW Ordination. The next day, Knights organized, decorated and assisted serving lunch during the reception held in the parish community center following Fr. Joseph Heisey's first Mass. Fr. Paul Nguyen and Fr. John Nguyen were celebrated as our outgoing and incoming Pastor, respectively, at dinner at local restaurants.

### **Family Director - David Nguyen**

The Food for Families program, led by PGK SK Francis Santiago, distributed 19,666 pounds of food collections among four local food pantries in an area in which 13% of the population is poor and needy. On September 22<sup>nd</sup> fifteen Knights and 10 ladies took orders, collected money, bagged and delivered takeout dinners for the St. George Annual Crab Cake Dinner, a fund raiser for the Church. On October 20th, Knights, their ladies and family members helped with the setup, cooking and cleanup for the Annual Parish Picnic, which was attended by over 135 parishioners. November 10<sup>th</sup>, five Knights and their ladies hosted the Festival of the Saints for the YFF. December 12<sup>th</sup>, Knights hosted the Council Christmas party. December 21<sup>st</sup> Knights awarded \$5 to each of the participants in the YFF for Keeping Christ in Christmas posters. May 10<sup>th</sup> the Knights hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Reception with six Knights and their ladies. Our Knights sponsored five Saturday family movie nights with faith-based movies. At our Chaplains request, the Council sponsored and hosted the Coffee and Donut Social after each of the two Sunday morning Masses in the Church vestibule beginning in January until the week before the beginning of Lent. This event will resume after Easter.

### **Community Director - Jason Stewart**

The council regularly participates in maintaining our Church grounds and the Community Center upkeep and did so on June 1st. In the fall, Knights began collecting used coats, hats, gloves, and scarves to be given to the NC Hurricane Relief effort. In January additional clothing collections were donated to Helping Hands of St. Mary's County. The Box of Joy program began in October and concluded in November, with the collection of 48 boxes. Ladies and Knights staffed the Friday Lenten dinners serving fried fish or steamed shrimp. These dinners are the council's major source of income.

### **Life Director - Michael L'Heureux**

PGK Charles Shilling organized and led the Life Saving effort for NC Hurricane Flood Victims resulting in much needed food, supplies and clothing which concluded on January 27<sup>th</sup> in a delivery of over 35 propane tanks with heaters in lanterns. The Helping People with Special Needs Program (Tootsie Roll Campaign) was held at the Weis Food Market in Callaway. We collected over \$4,700 in donations and invited the three charitable recipient representatives to lunch to provide each of them a check for a share of the donations collected. Several Knights also assisted in WARM (Wrapping Arms Around Many), where the homeless are provided food and shelter at local churches during the fall and winter months. On April 4th two Knights, a Lady and visiting relative assisted in the Special Olympics Games at St. Mary's Ryken High School in Leonardtown MD. On April 19<sup>th</sup>, three Knights and their Ladies attended the Care Net Pregnancy Center's Support for Life Annual Banquet. The Council supplied over 38 knotted rosaries to Fr. John Nguyen to give to those who are in distress, sick or dying.

### **Remaining Fraternal Year Program and Activities**

We plan to continue reciting the Rosary before weekend masses, collecting and distributing food for families, and conducting the six Friday Night Lenten fish fry dinners. On April 4<sup>th</sup>, Knights and their ladies from our Council will attend the Care Net Pregnancy Center's Support for Life Annual Banquet. We will assist staffing the St. Mary's County Special Olympics Spring Games, conduct a Stuff the Truck food collection campaign aboard NAS Pax River in May, and continue maintaining our Church and its surrounding property along with its Mission Chapel. Council members will continue to lead and attend bible studies, lead at least one Eucharistic Procession, and hold monthly potluck family movie nights. We are planning to have another Living Rosary in May in the vicinity of the Grotto of the Blessed Virgin Mary to highlight Mother's Day, along with hosting another Children's Beach Day on St. Georges Island.

### **Summary**

Our fellow Knights and experienced Past Grand Knights have assisted in my personal growth and understanding of the goals and requirements required of this Grand Knight position. Without the time, knowledge and efforts of these Knights, and their ladies, the Council would not be able to carry out the mission and reach the goals we set before ourselves. I thank my wife Diane for her continued love and support for the time spent in all manner of the Council's affairs. Fr. Sebastien DeRose Council has a great team, and I am humbly just its administrator. Our team is a dedicated fraternity in making things happen for our Church, community, the Order, nation, and the world.

## **St. Peter the Apostle Council, No. 13290**

**Robert J. Drotter, Grand Knight**

**General Council Operations:** Our council continued to be very active concerning programs this fraternal year. We raised substantial funds through our fund-raising efforts, allowing the council to support many of the organizations who help the needy in our parish and Frederick County communities. We also provided many volunteer hours serving these organizations. As a result, our program director, was able to submit well over the required number of program reports for each quarter.

**Membership:** This fraternal year has been very difficult recruiting new members. As a result, we are assessing our parish population with our pastor and the heads of the various parish ministries. It is our belief that the best way to secure new members is through one-on-one invitations and through programs. As to programs, our council initiated " Group Ministry Support", an e-mail notification and participation program. We advertise each other's events and have a "Ministry Information Kiosk" at each-other's events. As for Fraternity, we gather and eat lunch once a month at Frederick Airport. Our members can also be found serving our parish as Lectures, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Crossing Guards, and at several other parish fund raising events. We, as a membership, are greatly entwined in the operations of our parish.

**Community:** We are continuing many of the programs developed in the "COVID" years. This is one of our council's best program areas. This fraternal year we: Recognized our local First Responders with an on-site lunch at fire and police stations; Served lunch at the Frederick Mission once a month as well as fixing a breakfast once a month and provide donuts once a month to them; . Provided a crew to make youth beds; and Supplied help to get furniture to those moving into an empty home .We purchase and deploy American Flags on MD Rte. 26 through Libertytown; Pick up trash on MD 26 three time per year. Perhaps our greatest contribution to our community is our outstanding "Coats for Kids" Program. We raised thousands of dollars and purchased and distributed over 1000 coats; Our local elementary school needed funds beyond what the staff and the county could supply for their needy students concerning lunch money. Our council covered their needs with a check. As to "Helping Hands" our council financially supports our parish youth as they help rebuild housing in Appalachia as well as providing adult supervisors. At the parish picnic, our council made and gave away funnel cakes and snow cones. We financially support the Little Sisters of the Poor. Our council took over the operation of the parish Can Recycle Bin. We transport the cans to the recycle center and give the funds raised to the parish "Outreach Ministry. The "Box of Socks " event is an annual program.

**Faith:** This fraternal year our council operated the Domestic Church Kiosk in the church Narthex and the parish social hall; We operate a "First Rosary Program" giving for rosaries to the new born at baptism; fill a 3 am Parish Adoration position twice a month; Supported 3 RSVP candidates, Presented a parish seminarian an ordination gift (Travel Mass Kit); Participate in and support the parish TMIY ministry; Supply Canopy taters, food and Color Corps Honor Guard, and prayer leaders for the Corpus Christi March through Libertytown; Supply workers for the parish Lenten Fish Fries. Our

council also supplies a continental breakfast for our parish "CHURCH CHAT" program on Sundays during Advent and Lent as well as sponsor and operate a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper which is not a fund raiser. Our council provides the "End of the Program" cookout, celebrating the final day of the parish's Vacation Bible School. The "Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Program is another great program we conducted. We operate a "Rosary Tree" in the church narthex, a lend or keep program.

**Family:** Members help the parish "Backpack Ministry, by helping deliver meals to the needy. We participate in the Family of the Month Program as well as naming a Knight of the Month, and when appropriate, a parish or community Youth of the Month. The council also has a Family, Knight and Youth of the Year Program. We hold a "Breakfast with Santa event and Participate in our Order's "Food for Families" program. Our council also holds three council family socials in the Fall and Spring as well as a Christmas social. We also sponsor and operate an excellent "Box of Joy" program. Each year we operate an Easter Egg hunt for the youth of our parish. On Memorial Day we hold a memorial service in the church grotto honoring the deceased of our council family and the names submitted by our parish members. The Color Corps Honor Guard participates as well as the reading of the Gettysburg Address, the deceased names and the playing of Taps.

**Life:** Our council holds a "Baby Bottle Campaign for Mary's House each year as well as answering the call for needed supplies and furniture. We support the parish March for Life, D.C. with financial support for transportation and serve a dinner for the marchers and their families when they return to the parish. We support Special Olympics at the Frederick County and State levels through our Tootsie Roll program as well as providing manpower to help Frederick County with their qualifying programs. We also work closely with the Frederick Right to Life organization helping fund various activities and financially support the "Students for Life" organization. On Mother's day we hand out Marigold Flowers and on Father's Day we hand out " Thanks for Being a Dad" ball-point pens.

**Summary:** This year our council is 22 years old. Over the past two decades our leadership has gone through the pains of recruiting men to serve as officers. We have had to "recycle" several PGK's due men dropping out of the officer corps through illness, jobs and moving away. Even though this problem exists, we have been blessed with sound leadership. Our leaders have also served as Faithful Navigators, District Deputies, and a Fourth Degree Marshall as well as serving the State Council as Membership Area directors and Program event Chairmen.

Submitted By  
Robert J. Drotter, GK

## **St. Alphonsus Rodriguez Council, No. 13294**

### **Barry A. Frederick, Grand Knight**

St. Alphonsus Rodriguez Council No. 13294 was chartered in December 2002, making this our 22<sup>nd</sup> year ... 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. Since that time, we have enjoyed continuous support from our pastoral staff and parishioners. We have benefited from a steady increase in council membership over that time and have achieved Star Council during many of the past fraternal years, including our last fraternal year and are tracking towards a second year in a row for Star Council. It is to that end that we strive to continue our service of excellence. This year that excellence was put on display by completing two church projects including the purchase and installation of a Public Address system in our church Hall, and a total refurbishment of the church's nativity set.

### **FAITH ACTIVITIES**

Our Faith Activities over this past fraternal year have been numerous and effective under the leadership of PGK and Faith Director, Bob McAllister. The fourth Saturday of each month he leads "Saturday Scripture Sharing" and on the second Wednesday of each month our council says the rosary before each business meeting. In addition, our Grand Knight and his wife, Lori, have led both a fall and spring bible study featuring studies from Ascension Press, and each has been attended by Knights and spouses of Knights. Further, Brother McAllister has organized other Faith Activities including the council Memorial Mass last November 2024, and the Sacred Heart of Jesus Pilgrim Icon and prayer prior to our 9 April 2025 business meeting. Also, Brother Rich Baldwin organized the Consecration of the Holy Family prayer following each Mass on the weekend of 28/29 December 2024. Finally, many of our council Knights participated in the Christ the King Procession prior to each Mass on the weekend of 23/24 November 2024. Our council continues to put our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at the forefront of all our activities to remind brother Knights where we get our direction and spiritual fulfillment, notwithstanding the intercessions asked of Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney.

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITES**

Like our Faith Activities, we have been blessed with great leadership by Community Director, Scott Ichniowski. He along with other council Knights, including Brother Rich Baldwin, PGK Luke Browning, PGK Walt Chahanovich, and Chancellor Dave Schwark, have all contributed to ensuring our Community Activities were organized and run well. Those activities included our ongoing support of the Lazarus Caucus Men's Shelter in Catonsville, MD. Council Knights have participated in birthday parties for the men at that shelter and participated in the annual golf tournament fundraiser in September 2024 for Lazarus Caucus. Other activities include the annual Bull and Oyster Roast held on 16 November 2024 with over 190 parishioners attending. That fundraiser surpassed our goal for raising council funds. Finally, Brother Scott Walker organized a Christmas Caroling event at Waverly Woods Garden, in Woodstock, MD. This event was held on 17 December 2024 and featured four singers from our council. They sang an assortment of carols to over fifteen senior residents. This event along with the other Community Activities continue to show how our council Knights have great care for our local community.

## **FAMILY ACTIVITES**

Our Family Activities are led by Family Director, Rich Baldwin. He along with many other council Knights, including PFS Ed Pelsinsky and Recorder Chris Timberlake, organized and participated in many Family Activities including participation in the church's annual Oktoberfest event on 5 October 2024, and our annual KofC Christmas Party on 21 December 2024 given free to council Knights and their families. Another family event includes our annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration party, which was held on 15 March 2025 and was attended by over 150 parishioners. Like our other activities, council Knights are always at the ready to help at a moment's notice to ensure success of each event.

## **LIFE ACTIVITES**

Our Life Activities are led by Life Director Dan Donoghue, Sr. Brother Donoghue has continued the energy of our prior Life Director, Chris Jermann, by keeping the council informed and ready to promote Life. He has organized all the Life Activities of our council including our bi-annual "40 Days for Life" prayer vigil outside the Hilcrest Abortion Clinic in Catonsville, MD. In addition, together with our PFS Ed Pelsinsky and his wife Madaline, Brother Donoghue has organized the annual "40 Cans for Life" collection during Lent. During this past fraternal year, Brother Donoghue has spoken at each business meeting to provide the members the latest information on Life issues at the local and state levels. He has also continued our support for the District 21 Ultrasound 18-month fundraiser by supporting district-wide fundraising activities and promoting donations through our council website. Like our other activities, our Knights have been generous with donations and involvement to make each of these Life Activities a success.

## **CONCLUSION**

Many thanks go out to our council Knights, the parish staff, parishioners, and our Worthy Chaplain and Sacramental Minister, Fr. Brian O'Donnell for supporting the life and spirit of this council. We continue to get the support needed to make this council a success, which allows us to continue supporting over eight various charities as well as the Fr. Kongari missions in India and the Archdiocese vocation fund. We are blessed with a very supportive and generous parish, and because of that, we can maintain a level of parish involvement that supports the joyful and spiritual fabric of our church community.

God bless our Order,

Barry A. Frederick  
Grand Knight  
St. Alphonsus Council #13294

Vivat Jesus

## **Pope John Paul the Great Council, No. 13859**

**Joe M. Mizell, Grand Knight**

Council 13859 meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, located at 10003 Bird River Road, Middle River, MD 21220. We have been a council since 2005.

On August 10th, 2024, we celebrated the installation of officers with a mass at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Middle River, Maryland, our council parish. The mass was followed by lunch and was attended by 30 members and friends.

### **Program Director - SK Gary Thurman, DGK**

### **FAITH ACTIVITIES - MARTIN MOSSA, CHANCELLOR**

Council 13859 is a single parish council for Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church (OLQP). Our members serve as ushers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, sacristans and more. At OLQP, members are the primary ushers at all masses and serve as a group, in KofC apparel, to promote the council. Members also serve in every fundraiser conducted by the parish. Members are responsible for all building maintenance and groundskeeping at OLQP. Additionally, at OLQP, Council 13859 maintains a Building the Domestic Church literature kiosk and Sacramental Gifts program for baptism parents, married couples and RCIA confirmands. Council 13859 supported two seminarians with financial and moral support during this fraternal year. In June, council 13859 hosted the Pilgrim Icon and conducted a prayer service around the icon. Finally, council 13859 is planning a spiritual retreat to the Seton Shrine in June.

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES - SK JOE MIZELL, GK**

Since inception, council 13859 has conducted a monthly Bingo to bring people from the community into the church. Many attendees have become parishioners and new council members as a result. Council 13859 also held a Breakfast with Santa and Breakfast with the Easter Bunny for the youth of the community. These are in addition to our monthly 'free' breakfast we provide for our community, to assist those in need and as a 'thank you' to the parishioners for their support to the council and parish. In December, council 13859 held a second Breakfast with Santa, specifically for needy families, where we provided 47 coats for kids. In order to get the youth of our parish & community more active in the church, council 13859 participated in the Soccer Challenge and the Free-throw Challenge. This was the third year for these events. They not only brought youth into the church, but also promoted the works of the council to the surrounding community. Finally, council 13859 conducted our 10<sup>th</sup> annual Lenten Fish Fry's, which we put on every Friday during Lent. This is a parish and community favorite!

### **LIFE ACTIVITIES - JOHN LOMBARDI, IG**

Council 13859 conducted several fundraisers for life during the previous year to include, a Baby Bottle campaign to raise money for the Center for Pregnancy Concerns (CPC), drives to raise money for the Ukraine Relief Fund, and a drive to raise money for a local food bank in our community.

## **FAMILY ACTIVITIES - STEVEN RYAN, IG**

Council 13859 continued Knight of the Month this year. It has been extremely well received. To help get the whole family more involved in the church, council 13859 participated in the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster contest. Council 13859 held a Fall and a Spring Family Movie/Prayer Night in the pavilion at OLQP. These are great events where the council conducts a prayer service and then watches a family movie. Finally, council 13859 continued it's very popular Family Turkey Bingo designed for children to enjoy. It was held on the Friday before Thanksgiving and, in lieu of cash like our regular bingos, the winners received gift cards for turkeys for Thanksgiving.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Grand Knight would like to thank all of the officers, members and parishioners for all of your help and support this year. A special thanks to Father Patrick for his continued support of our council programs and for their spiritual guidance. For over 19 years, council 13859 has been doing a fantastic job in the community and with the Knights of Maryland. May we continue the great work started by our founder, Father Michael J. McGivney.

## Saint Katharine Drexel Council No. 14011

**Brian Woerner, Grand Knight**

Council #14011, Chartered March 18, 2006, meets the first Monday each month for our Planning Meeting. The second Monday at 7:30PM is our regularly scheduled Business Meeting in Drexel Place within Saint Katharine Drexel Church. The fourth Monday each month is the council Social Meeting at the church and local restaurants. On August 31, 2024 after the 5PM Mass the fraternal year council officers and program directors were installed by the District Deputy #8 Raymond Vidal. Following the installation the council hosted a dinner and fellowship with all invited to attend.

The council installation consisted of Chaplin: Rev Fr. Matt Buening, Grand Knight: Brian Woerner, Deputy Grand Knight: Eric Waldt, Chancellor: Danial Speace, Recorder: Jeffery Ames, Warden: James Tubman, Lecturer: John Beall, Advocate: David Baldwin, Inside Guard: Frank Pisano, Outside Guard: Gary Heimes, Treasurer Richard Duthoy, Trustees 1 Year: Ray Vidal, Trustee 2 Year: Bruce Blatchley, Trustee 3 Year: Jonas Rebeiro. Additionally, the following positions were appointed: Financial Secretary Luciano Benenati, Family Director: John McElhenny, Faith Director: Deacon Kevin Kulesa, Community Director: Bruce Blatchley, Life Director: Walter Leskuski,

Council #14011 has been activity "Making a Difference in Someone's Life" and striving to abide by the Saint Katharine Drexel mission statement of "Pledging to be a Eucharist-centered, welcoming community, forming loving disciples, giving selflessly, in realization of the Kingdom of God". The Council encourage Brother Knights to volunteer for numerous liturgical positions. This report consist of activities from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

July 2024: Semiannual financial audit was successfully completed, signed and submitted to Supreme, State, and District Deputy. Participated in the Cross Catholic Food Packing Event held on July 27, 2024 at Columbus Gardens, Nottingham MD with the council program life director and wife coming together to help feed the hungry and share Christ's hope. Regular business and social meetings were held over the course of the month. During the first meeting of the fraternal year the council welcomed the new pastor and brother to the meeting. Council hosted the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Chapter of Grand Knights for the monthly meeting in Drexel Place within Saint Katharine Drexel Church. Additionally, the council provided a meal for all attendees. The Council welcome the new Priest Fr. Matt Buening and assisted in him moving into the parish rectory.

August 2024: Council hosted the Maryland State Council Programs & Membership Growth Seminar attended by Maryland State Program Directors, State Council Officers, council Grand Knights, Deputy Grand Knights, Program Directors and Brother Knights. Dinner was served to all participants of the seminar. Began signing up Saint Katharine Drexel Church parishioner for the council sponsored parish picnic. On August 31, 2024 the council officers were installed by District Deputy Raymond Vidal. Council collected money for "Coats for Kids." Collected over \$2,000 used to purchase 135 coats of varying sizes and distributed them to Frederick County schools, sheriff department and western Maryland locations in fulfilling the mission of helping and supporting local community and the needy.

September 2024: Continued signing up Saint Katharine Drexel Church parishioner for the council sponsored parish picnic. We conducted a successful council sponsored parish picnic on September 8, 2024 at Clover Hill Pavilion in Frederick MD a good time was had by All. Conducted the council quarterly BINGO on September 14, 2024 at St John's Regional School McElroy Hall. The council Grand Knight attended the Frederick County Right to Life Annual Banquet held at Dutch's Daughter Frederick MD.

October 2024: Grand Knight and 1<sup>st</sup> lady attended the Maryland State Council Columbus Day Ball. The council inside guard won the second-place prize of \$300. Began the distribution and collection of boxes in support of the Box of Joy Programs supporting Cross Catholic Outreach program. Council conducted the Supreme sponsored "Tootsie Roll Drive" with all funds raised being donated to L'Arche of Frederick County. Saint Katharine Drexel Church requested council assistance in the setup and tear down of tables

and chairs in support of the annual HarvestFest Artisan Craft Fair held on October 26, 2024. Council participated in the HarvestFest Artisan Craft Fair by selling lunch to attendees with all proceeds go to support different council activities. Council participated in the Saint Katharine Drexel Church Ministry Fair in having a membership table set up to recruit new members.

November 2024: The Council contributed funds for the purchase of Advent calendars for a local Catholic women's home. On November 2nd, Council members united to repair all the pews and kneelers at Saint Katharine Drexel Church. Additionally, the Council shipped 108 Boxes of Joy, which helped bless 135,567 children this Christmas season in impoverished nations.

December 2024: The Council organized the "Keep Christ in Christmas" program in collaboration with the art teachers from Saint John Regional School. The council judged the entries and selected first, second, and third place winners, along with an honorable mention for each age group. Each winner received a monetary gift card and a certificate of congratulations for their efforts. Additionally, the music department requested assistance from the Council to support the Christmas Pageant. Sign-ups for the quarterly Council BINGO were initiated at St. John's Regional School McElroy Hall.

January 2025: The Council supported the Saint Katharine Drexel Church Social Committee by helping with the setup and tear down of chairs and tables for the Dinner Around the World Dinner Extravaganza. The council and parish community raised funds to support seminarians and to support and stand in solidarity with our priests and religious, presented the parish assigned seminarian with a check for \$500 through the featured Refund Support Vocations Program. On January 18, 2025, the Council hosted its quarterly BINGO event at St. John's Regional School McElroy Hall.

February 2025: The Council conducted a baby bottle campaign, successfully raising over \$4,770 in support of the Frederick County CareNet Pregnancy Center within a two-week period. Additionally, the Council hosted a Town Hall Session with the Maryland State Council's State Deputy and the Supreme Membership Regional Representative. The Supreme Regional Representative provided valuable insights to the Grand Knight and attending Brother Knights.

March 2025: The Council supported the Saint Katharine Drexel Church Social Committee by setting up and taking down chairs and tables for the Mardis Gras Gala celebration. Additionally, the Council contributed three wine baskets, one hard cider basket, and one local craft beer basket for the event. Throughout Lent, the Council hosted a "Simple Lenten Dinner and Bread" every Friday at Saint Katharine Drexel Church, where parishioners and guests enjoyed homemade soup provided by both the Council and fellow parishioners. Approximately 70 individuals participated in the simple meal and fellowship before a Lenten prayer service, which changed from week to week. The Council also initiated quarterly Bingo sign-ups after all weekend masses. Council Grand Knight and 1<sup>st</sup> Lady attend the Maryland State Founders Day Mass followed by the Maryland State Council Award Ceremony.

April 2025: Council conducted the quarterly BINGO Night in McElroy Hall at Saint John Regional School with approximately 50 individuals participating and enjoying the fellowship enjoyed by all. Additionally, each Friday during Lent, the Council sponsored a "Simple Lenten Dinner and Bread" hosted in Saint Katharine Drexel Church with parishioner and guest enjoying homemade soup provided by the Council and parishioner. Approximately 45 people enjoyed the simple meal and fellowship prior to a Lenten Prayer service, which varied from week to week.

May 2025: Council participated in handing out MaryGold plants to all Mothers and Mother figures after all masses on Mother's Day Weekend. At the request of the Saint Katharine Drexel Church Environmental Committee the council volunteered to assist the Recycle 2025 in which the council membership helped direct traffic and assisted in unloading vehicles at the different recycle stations.

June 2025: The Council organized and served over 100 breakfasts at the annual Saint Katharine Drexel Church Pentecost Breakfast to parishioners and family members. The Saint Katharine Drexel Church Parish Council requested assistance with setting up and tearing down tables and chairs for the Retirement and Farewell Celebration for Father Keith Boisvert and made a donation to his years of service to the Catholic Church, Community and Parish.

## St. Rose of Lima Council, No. 14297

Paul Mehraban, Grand Knight

### Meetings

Council Officers' Meeting is held every 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at 8PM  
Council Business Meeting is held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 8PM

The 2024–2025 fraternal year launched with strong momentum, beginning with Grand Knights' Leadership Training in late June and the Installation of Council Officers on October 5 at St. Rose of Lima Parish. We were honored to welcome District Deputy Donald Kinler and District Warden Frank Uyakonwu for the occasion.

To strengthen our leadership and deepen fraternity, we hosted two Officers' Retreats—one in July and another in January—providing space for reflection, planning, and spiritual renewal. As Knights, we remain grounded in our mission: *Empowering Catholic Men to Put Our Faith into Action*.

### Community

Through our monthly food drives on the second Sunday of each month, the Council has collected over **13.5 tons of food** and **\$9,000+** to support local food pantries and outreach organizations. With leadership from Brother Felipe Teixeira, we forged a key partnership with Fitzgerald Subaru of Gaithersburg, which has extended our reach and impact through logistical support and collection efforts.

### **Monthly Food Drive Impact (Jul 2024 – Mar 2025)**

Month	Amount (\$)	Food (tons)	Location
Jul-24	\$ 1,055.00	1.5	Little Sisters of the Poor
Aug-24	\$ 750.00	1.5	Germantown Help
Sep-24	\$ 800.00	2	St. Martin's Food Pantry
Oct-24	\$ 1,060.00	1.5	Little Sisters of the Poor
Nov-24	\$ 1,100.00	1	Germantown Help
Dec-24	\$ 1,100.00	2.5	St. Martin's Food Pantry
Jan-25	\$ 1,143.00	1	Little Sisters of the Poor
Feb-25	\$ 1,116.00	1	St. Martin's Food Pantry
Mar-25	\$ 1,032.00	1.5	Germantown Help

### Faith

Faith remains the cornerstone of our mission. Under the guidance of Brothers Rene Sorra and Tom Kubarych, our Council supported faith formation at both the University of Maryland Catholic Student Center and within our parish.

We hosted two powerful Bishop Robert Barron video series—*Untold Blessings* and *Conversion*—and many of our members also engaged in *That Man is You!* programming. A highlight of the year was the **Shroud of Turin Presentation** on March 27, which drew nearly 100 parishioners for a night of deep spiritual reflection.

### **Family**

With strong leadership from Brother Mike Williams, we continued to strengthen parish family life. Highlights include:

- **St. Rose Petition Well:** A sacred space for family intentions.
- **Crèche Setup:** Enhancing the Advent and Christmas experience.
- **Bilingual Las Posadas & Novena:** A vibrant, cultural celebration attended by 250–300 parishioners.
- **Upcoming Events:** Family Stations of the Cross (Good Friday) and Easter Vigil breakfast for RCIA candidates and families.

These moments build bonds and bring faith into the heart of our parish homes.

### **Life**

Uplifting the dignity of life, we offered direct support to expectant mothers and individuals with disabilities:

- **Shady Grove Pregnancy Center Dinner** (Dec 11): Providing care and encouragement to women choosing life.
- **St. Rose of Lima House:** Monthly food deliveries and fourth-Sunday meals for disabled residents, promoting both nourishment and fellowship.

Led by Brother Rene Sorra, these efforts embody our call to serve with compassion and presence.

Vivat Jesus!

**Paul Mehraban PGK**  
Grand Knight

Knights of Columbus St. Rose of Lima Co. 14297  
Gaithersburg, MD  
240-423-3584

*Empowering Catholic Men to Put our Faith into Action*

## **Father Michael C. Kidd Council, No. 14455**

### **Romero (Roy) Cobo, Grand Knight**

The Father Micheal C. Kidd Council #14455 meetings held at 7:00 P.M every first and third Monday of each month at the Cobo-Romero meeting room at Holy Family Catholic Church, 12010 Woodmore Road, Bowie, Maryland. The installation of Officers was held Sunday, July 21,2025 at Holy Family Church and they were installed by our Worthy District Deputy Matt Warehime and assisted by our Worthy District Warden – Rob Farrell with our special guest MD State Deputy Anthony Salvemini and Lady Kathy Salvemini.

### **PROGRAMS DIRECTOR: Morgan Walubita – Deputy Grand Knight**

#### **Faith Program: James H. Murry, Trustee, PGK, PFN**

**Meditation upon the Passion of St. Bridget 07/23/2024** -- Meditation Upon the Passion: The prayers of St. Bridget held Tuesday July 23, 2024, 7PM at Holy Family Church. Our Pastor Rev. Father Joseph Jenkins created the magnificent prayers and hold service in the church to introduce to everyone the prayers of St. Bridget the saint of the month.

**Mabuhay Way of Sanctity 10/18/2024** -- Mabuhay Way of Sanctity was October Filipino American month to commemorates 14 Holy men and women from the Filipino history.

**RSVP 11/11/2024** -- Father Michael C. Kidd Council # 14455 supported the seminarian Elmer Rodriguez for Year 2024 and mailed the check of \$500.00 at his mailing address: St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto Canada.

**Traveling Chalice 07/01/2024 – 12/31/2024** -- Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council # 14455 Traveling Chalice is a weekly program of prayer to pray for vocations and priests where we transfer a symbolic Traveling Chalice from household to household.

**Church Storage Shed 08/28/2024 – 12/31/2024** -- The Knights of Columbus of Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council #14455 installed a Church Storage Shed behind the Knights Meeting Room at Holy Family Church in Mitchellville, Bowie, MD.

**Soup & Stations of the Cross 03/07/2025** -- The Knights volunteers came to the Parish Hall about 4 P.M. to set up tables and chairs and to prepare the meal. The meatless soup began at 6 P.M. and continued until 7:15 PM. The Station of the Cross started inside the church at 7:30 P.M attended by 90 people & after the prayer we clean up the hall.

**St. of the Month (2023-2024)** -- The Mass to All Saints included a short litany of the Saints where we recalled all our saints of the month at Holy Family over the last 12 months. Twelve Knights held up the monthly portraits as the names were called off. The Knights and parish community attended the Mass service.

**Cross Decorations – 04/11/2025** -- Members of the Knights of Columbus – Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council #14455 will install the 14 crosses Station of the Cross and decorate one of the crosses assigned to our council.

#### **Station of the Resurrection 05/09/2025**

The Knights, LOHFM and the church Ministry will do the Station of the Resurrection prayer inside the church and will assign 14 readers to be part of this prayer

#### **Family Program: Larnell Johnson, Trustee, PGK**

**Holy Family Parish Picnic 08/18/2024** -- The Parish Picnic hosted by Fr. Joe, the Knights of Columbus and the Ladies of Holy Family Mitchellville. The parish picnic bolstered everyone and was attended by diverse groups & ethnicities.

**Food for Families Thanksgiving 11/23-24 /2024 and Christmas Gifts 12/22/2024** -- The Knights of Columbus, Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council # 14455 held the Thanksgiving Food for Families initiative for the collection, sorting, distribution, loading and delivery of food donation to more than 85 needy families in our parish community.

**Knights & LOHFM Christmas Party 12/30/2024** -- The Knights and Ladies (LOHFM) sponsored a Christmas Party on December 30, 2024, at Holy Family Church Heritage Hall. The event was participated by 65 adults and 15

children. The program comprised with a welcome remark, invocation and blessings of food, games, performances, and Santa gift giving.

**Blessings of Homes 01/01/2024 – 12/31/2024** -- Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council #14455 Blessings of Homes. Father Joseph Jenkins went to see families of the parish community assisted by the members of the Knights of Columbus to bless their homes.

**Family of the month/year 2024-2025**

**Family of the month** -- Twelve families were selected for the family of the month.

Terry Fisher, Emmanuel Nneji, Kevin Renze, Saturnino Foronda, Innocent Okeke, Charles Pollock, Larnel Johnson, Mike Turner, Terry Reinhart, Michael Brillantes, Gloria Swann, Ken Zemrowski, Leon Alexander, Jr, Perry Concepcion

**Family of the Year** -- Terry & Pat Reinhart was chosen as the family of the year and very active in many council 'and parish activities.

**Mother's Day – Distribution of Flowers 05/10-11/2025** -- The Knights will offer flowers on Mother's Day on Saturday and Sunday masses.

**Life Program: Nino Foronda**

**Bowie Pregnancy Center Support ASAP** -- We've conducted the Baby Bottle Campaign to collect funds to support The Wellspring Life Ministry of Bowie-Crofton Pregnancy Center. Ms. Angela Murry was invited to receive the donation.

**Silver Rose – 11/18/2024** -- The Silver Rose was received by the Grand Knight Roy Cobo from James C. Fletcher Council # 11422. The mass was held at Holy Family Parish on Nov. 18 at 7PM.

**Novena for Life 11/04/2024** -- The Knights and parishioners gathered near the Parish Grotto and the Memorial for the Unborn Monday November 4, 2024, at 7 P.M. and recited the Novena for Life.

**Cemetery of the Innocents 11/16/2024** -- Members and volunteers of the Knights of Columbus of Father Michael C. Council # 14455 put up the Cemetery of the Innocents at Holy Family Church grounds on Nov 16th, 2024, in Mitchellville, the crosses were on display until last week of January 2025.

**Baby Bottle Program – 04/19/2024 – 06/15/2025** -- April 19 starts the distribution and collection ending June 15, 2025, to support the Bowie-Crofton Pregnancy Center ASAP Program.

**Diapers Donation 05/03/2025** -- The Knights will Initiate the collection of diapers to support the Bowie-Crofton Pregnancy Center.

**Community Program: Peter Rozanski**

**Soccer Challenge 10/05/2024** -- The District 1 (One) Soccer Shoot-out Challenge successfully took place at the St. Pius X school grounds. The participants included boys and girls from 7-14 years of age with their families present.

**Boxes of Joy 09/07/2024 – 11/09/2024** -- There were 52 Boxes of Joy were collected by the Knights of Columbus, Fr. Michael C. Kidd council #14455 at Holy Family Parish for the needy children in the 3rd world counties.

**Coats for Kids 11/23-24/2024** -- Coats for kids were distributed to the needy parish families, PG County Infants and Toddlers Program and Parentless Immigrant Teens at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Kettering Elementary School, PG County Health Dept. Coats were distributed to 80 families. Total cost for the Coats \$ 2,758.10.

**Security Camera 02/08/2025** -- The Knights of Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council #14455 put up the parish surveillance camera due to a couple of crimes occurring in the church and the recent trespasser. The cameras covered the modular, front of the hall, the church, rectory and the prayer center, food pantry and the parish meeting room.

**Basketball Free Throw 03/02/2025** -- The District One (1) Basketball Free Throw Competition took place at Bowie City Gym, Quad 4. We had 5 participants in our council and there were a lot of volunteer brother knights present at the various stations of the event.

**Fish Fry Fundraiser 03/16/2025** -- The Knights of Columbus, Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council #14455 organized the Fish Fry Fundraiser to raise funds for the parish security camera and other council program activities. The event was very successful, and all the volunteers were highly motivated and very happy with the success of the event.

**Golf Tournament Fundraiser 04/26/2025** -- The golf tournament will be held on April 26, 2025, and the registration will start at 7 AM at Bowie Golf Club.

## **Saint Philip Neri Council, No. 14612**

### **Chris Figueroa, Grand Knight**

Our Council meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at St. Philip Neri Parish Hall in Linthicum, Maryland. The 2nd Wednesday is Planning, during which we prepare budgets, propose initiatives, conduct exemplification ceremonies, and present Fraternal Benefits. The 4th Wednesday is reserved for the Business Meeting. Officers' Meetings alternate between in-person and Zoom sessions according to needs, as the hall is utilized by other ministries from October to March. Our 2024-2025 officers were installed on July 27, 2024, following the 5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Philip Neri, accompanied by refreshments. We welcome Fr. Richard Grey as our chaplain, effective July 1, 2024.

#### **Programs Director – Daniel Young, Deputy Grand Knight**

#### **Community Activities - Travis Bateman**

On October 2, the Council continued its "Leave No Neighbor Behind" initiative, collecting items for the Homeless Outreach Ministry, including gloves, socks, and 1,200 pounds of non-perishable food. From late October to November, we gathered over 250 coats for families at St. Philip Neri and St. Clement parishes, organizing hangers with tags for easy donations. We participated in the local winter relief program 'Helping Hands' and collaborated with Pack 447 Cub Scouts to collect socks, hats, and gloves. The Soccer Challenge on September 8, 2024, sent winners to the state level. The Free Throw Championship on March 5, 2022, drew a crowd due to the youth basketball picture day. The "Keep Christ for Christmas" event took place during the Christmas party, which had a small turnout. Winners advanced to the State competition.

#### **Faith Activities - Philip Snyder, PGK**

Thanks to ongoing tech support via Zoom, we have maintained our Saturday morning Rosary in the Council's Cor Program for nine years, primarily due to the efforts of Brother John Canterna. Each weekend, 30 to 40 men gather for prayer. John now leads in-person meetings on the second Saturday of the month, followed by a Zoom session, with breakfast and other Cor Program activities organized by the Knights of Columbus. We hosted an overnight rosary and adoration event, which was well received, with several attendees praying for veterans. We also honored the retiring altar server, the son of PGK Alvin Jordan, Andrew, during the Altar Server Recognition Program. Gifts were presented during his final Mass. We anticipate that he will join our council after his birthday in May. We distributed \$500 each for the RSVP Program to support two seminarians in January and March. On March 5, we held the Prayer Pilgrimage for the Sacred Heart. Some brother knights will attend the Catholic Men's Fellowship Conference on April 5 at St. Joseph's Church in Fullerton, MD, where Brother Al Jordan serves on the CMF board.

#### **Family Activities – Greg Werner, PGK.**

The Family of the Month Program promotes vibrant families. Br. John Canterna initiated monthly Family Rosary Nights from January to May, with over thirty parishioners participating regularly.

The council collected over 1,200 pounds of food for the SPN Food Pantry and the Maryland Food Bank. We encourage participation in Good Friday services and will join the annual Eucharistic Procession in Linthicum for Corpus Christi in June. In early November, the council hosted a Food Drive honoring Brother Jeff Tirschman, benefiting the St. Philip Neri Food Pantry and Operation Mato Grasso, collecting over 1,200 pounds of food. Another Food Drive is planned for April or May. On Ash Wednesday, we featured the Sacred Heart of Jesus Pilgrim Icon during evening prayers, ending with a sorrowful rosary. The icon will be shared among the Grand Knights of District 3 before being passed on to the next district on the Eastern Shore.

**\*\*Life Activities - Barry Catterton, PGK\*\***

In August, PGK Alan Schaffers and Brother Knights delivered a hospital bed worth over \$1,000 to the Mary Center. The Novena for Life/40 Days for Life campaign begins on November 3, advocating against abortion. The council will participate in "40 Days for Life: A Virtual Rosary," hosted by Br. John Canterna, along with 24-hour Adoration at St. Philip Neri for individuals and families. On January 24, 2025, council members attended the March for Life in Washington, D.C., including representatives from St. Clement and St. Philip Neri Churches. Members joined Mass, a pre-rally concert, and March for Life activities, with the council providing signs for marchers. Another March for Life is scheduled for March 27, 2025, in Annapolis, with several members planning to attend. Additionally, through the ASAP program, we will donate \$500 to Woman's Care Mary's Center, Inc. in Glen Burnie, MD, to support new moms.

**\*\*Membership Activities - Chris Figueroa, GK\*\***

On November 2, 2024, we hosted a Delta Church Drive during Fellowship Sunday, featuring speakers such as Brother Mark Douglas, who distributed holy cards and pamphlets. Several members joined the following week. By the end of Q3, we had gained six new members: two candidates who joined, one who will be eligible next year, and one new insurance member. We are optimistic about reaching our goal of seven new members by the Fraternal Year's end. Membership promotion included waiving fees and encouraging donations. All new members attended online exemplifications due to work. An in-person exemplification is scheduled after the 5 a.m. Mass, pending room availability, and our team is practicing for a successful turnout.

**\*\*Conclusion\*\***

The Grand Knight expresses gratitude to District Deputy Mike Thompson, District Warden Jaye Igoe, and the four other Grand Knights from District 3 for their collaboration. He values the guidance of the Past Grand Knights. Special thanks are extended to Deputy Grand Knight Daniel Young for his role as Program Director, which has contributed to fulfilling the requirements for Faith in Action and the Columbian Award. Lastly, he thanks the Nominating Committee for presenting strong candidates for the 2024-2025 Fraternal Year, ensuring our future success.

## **Jesus the Divine Word Council, No. 14775**

**Gary R. Nagy, Grand Knight**

Jesus the Divine Word Council meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Doran Hall of Jesus the Divine Word Church, 885 Cox Road, Huntingtown, (Calvert Co.) Maryland. The second Thursday is our monthly Council Meeting and the fourth Thursday is our monthly Social Meeting. Our Officers' Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding our Council Meeting.

On July 21, 2024, the current officers of Council 14775 were installed after the 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass, celebrated by Rev. Fr. John Dakes, the council's Chaplain. A reception followed in Doran Hall and was attended by approximately 40 Knights, guests, and dignitaries, including Maryland State Growth Director Terry Waters, representing the State Council.

### **Program Director – Jeff Miller, Deputy Grand Knight**

### **Faith Activities - Tom Couteau, Director**

Our council sponsored three Seminarians and presented them with checks for \$500 each. We led parishioners at all Family Rosary Programs throughout the year after each Mass on every 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday and Sunday of the year. We ensured our “Building the Domestic Church” kiosk remained stocked throughout the year. Many of our Knights attended monthly First Friday Adoration throughout the year, with some staying for multiple hours each time.

### **Community Activities - Kyle Pellegrino, Director**

We assisted other Knights and non-Knights by driving them to and from doctor appointments and other daily tasks, and we participated in a 5K Run & Walk to support the St. Vincent de Paul Society, an organization that helps those in financial distress. We cooked a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and served the dinner to our parish. We sponsored our 13th Annual Chili Cook-Off, one of our more popular events, raising funds to support our charities. The council continued its sponsorship of a monthly Community Breakfast, which not only raised funds for local charities, but brought parishioners closer together with good food and good conversation. We also held our annual Yard Sale and our annual Christmas Craft Fair which brought community members to our parish and helped to raise funds for local charities. We will hold our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Fish Fry 11 April 2025.

### **Life Activities - Bill Chomicki, Director**

The council installed and maintained approximately 500 crosses in the field across from our parish for the Cemetery of the Innocents, reminding everyone of the sanctity of life. At least one Council member and his spouse attended the March for Life in Washington, DC this year. We conducted a Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser at our Parish 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic 6 October 2024, raising \$1,200 for Birthright of Prince Frederick.

### **Family Activities - Dennis Haspert, DD, Director**

Our Community Breakfast each month brought many families of our parish together for a hot, fresh breakfast and fellowship before and after Mass. We sponsored our annual Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. Three \$1,500 scholarships are available to high school students about to enter college or trade school and will be awarded in June, at a Sunday Mass. Our "Restaurant Knights" at local restaurants aim to both raise money for these scholarships and to bring families closer together by having dinner together as a family. On Easter Sunday, the council will sponsor its annual Easter Egg Hunt after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. We will present Mother's Day flowers on Mother's Day and recognize Fathers on Father's Day with a Community Breakfast.

### **Conclusion**

Council 14775 continues to serve our parish and community, and has increased its charitable activities and charitable giving, and we plan to continue to do so going forward.

I would like to especially thank Fr. John Dakes for his continued support and commitment to the Knights of Columbus and, in particular, our Council. Also, I would like to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of all the members that help with our many events and fundraisers. And my special thanks to the Past Grand Knights that are still very active in our Council and instrumental in making our Council successful in all of our endeavors.

Vivat Jesus!

Respectfully submitted,

Gary R. Nagy  
Grand Knight

## **St. Michael the Archangel Council, No. 15084**

**Catalino Freolpo, Grand Knight**

Our Council meets on the first and second Monday of each month at St. Michael the Archangel Parish Resource Center located at 824 Wayne Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The officers planning meeting on the first Monday of each month begins at 7:00 PM and the membership meeting on the second Monday of each month begins at 7:30 PM.

On Sunday, September 29, 2024, the officers of St. Michael the Archangel Council #15084 were installed at 11:00 AM following the 10:00 AM Mass celebrated by our Chaplain and Pastor, Monsignor Eddie Tolentino, at St. Michael the Archangel Church. A reception was held with the brothers and their families following the installation in the Williamsburg Room of St. Michael the Archangel Church. We were honored to host our Worthy District Deputy, Franklin Morton, for the installation and reception.

### **Program Director – Brian McKay, Deputy Grand Knight**

### **Community Activities – Michael Spraggins**

Throughout the year, the Council hosted a monthly pancake breakfast and bingo activity with the Little Sisters of the Poor in Washington, D.C. From October 1 through November 5, the Council collected 50 Boxes of Joy with the help of the parish for the Cross Catholic Outreach program. On December 19, 2024, we spread the joy of the Christmas season singing carols with residents at Marian Assisted Living, where Brother Stephen Holowenzak resides.

### **Faith Activities –**

Throughout the year, several brothers collectively devoted several hundred hours serving as ushers at Sunday Masses at St. Michael the Archangel Church as well as the National Shrine of the Immaculate Reception in Washington, D.C. In May 2024, the Council purchased a Building the Domestic Church kiosk to provide those booklets to the parish and have maintained it since then. We appended some business card holders to the kiosk to include prayer cards and Council business cards to attract new members. On October 13, 2024, we participated in a Rosary Crusade with the Sodality of Mary at St. Michael the Archangel to pray the Holy Rosary with the parish to commemorate the month of the Holy Rosary.

### **Family Activities – James Robertson**

We did not host our annual crab feast this year, but on August 6, 2023, the Council sold pints of crab soup from our crab feast caterer to the parish for \$5. The Council partnered with the Sodality of Mary at St. Michael the Archangel to sell gazpacho soup, empanada, and brownie takeout meals on September 22, 2024. The Council split the proceeds we received, and the Council donated to the Supreme Disaster Relief Fund.

### **Life Activities – Gregory McFadden**

Brothers from the Council promoted the right to life by praying all 20 decades of the Holy Rosary outside a local abortion facility every Saturday morning. On August 9-17, 2024, brothers promoted the right to life. After the rally, the brothers added their voices to thousands of others with the message that all lives matter and stood up for life in the 2025 National March for Life. On March 27, 2025, Brother Greg McFadden represented the Council at the 2024 Maryland March for Life.

## **Baltimore Basilica Council, No. 15768**

**Peter Gandt, Grand Knight**

Council 15768 was instituted in July of 2013. We meet on the second Sunday of the month in the undercroft of the church located at 400 N. Cathedral St. Baltimore Md. During the past year we have exemplified three new members. Our current head count is twenty-five members. Among our accomplishments are the following.

We held our second annual sock drive for the homeless in November. Parishioners donated over four hundred pairs of socks in addition to eight hundred dollars that was used to purchase socks, but gloves and hats as well.

In December we held our annual blanket drive for the homeless. Parishioners donated over two hundred blankets and over 1800 dollars was raised to purchase additional blankets by the knights.

Both the socks and blankets were given to the parish missionaries known as the Source of all Hope and the Sisters Poor of Jesus Christ for distribution to the area homeless.

The council also conducts a continuous food drive of non-perishable food items. the donations are given to the Sisters of the Poor Jesus Christ and Assisi House to be distributed to families. The sisters use their donations to hold Saturday meals for the homeless.

The Basilica now has a café that is open on Sundays after mass. Coffee and sweets are offered free to parishioners and homeless for fellowship and conversation. The council supports this effort by manning the café once a month.

Our most recent effort has established a free /lending library in the rear of the Basilica. Donated books are offered free, or on loan to anyone who may want to read one of our many titles. They may keep the books but are encouraged to return them for others to enjoy.

Lastly, we have started a bible study using Men of the word, Good News, which is conducted immediately after our business meeting.

In conclusion, our members can be found as lectors, altar servers, sacristans, and ushers. Although we have no facility to hold large fund raisers or events to raise large sums of money, we have found a way to support our parish in downtown Baltimore where supporting the homeless who live in the streets all around Basilica has the most impact.

The council is currently preparing to hold an ASAP Baby Bottle Campaign to run through Lent.

It will support the Center for Pregnancy Concerns, our neighbor on Howard St.

Submitted by Jim Goldbeck,

Financial Secretary

## **Charles Carroll Council, No. 15985**

**Joe Basford, Grand Knight**

Council 15985, chartered on June 14, 2014, is having another impactful fraternal year. We continue to deepen our faith, serve Him by serving others, and grow in membership. We hold our monthly business meetings on the first Monday of each month and assemble for our officers' meetings on the third Monday of each month. All meetings are held at St. Joseph on Carrollton Manor in Frederick, Maryland.

Program Director: Tony Fioravanti  
Faith - John Hintermeister  
Community - Dave Esh  
Family - Fred Genau  
Life - Ed Haynes

**JULY:** rehearsal for installation of officers; Installation of Officers Ceremony and 10-Year Council Celebration / Reception

**AUGUST:** parish shed clean out; meal preparation and distribution for parish Faith Formation picnic

**SEPTEMBER:** 9/11 Rosary led by the Fourth Degree Assembly 3162; brothers attended an Online Fraternal Benefit; conducted a road clean-up on Manor Woods Road; conducted a Blood Drive; coordinated a Parish Picnic; prepared and served a meal for the women's Gathering in Grace group; prepared and served food for High School Youth Ministry; held a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser after both masses

**OCTOBER:** participated in the 40 Days for Life Prayer Campaign; Tootsie Roll Fundraiser for the Intellectually Disabled, delivered a donation check to the L'Arche of Frederick; prepared food and coordinated the food court for the Country Fair (one of the parish's biggest annual fundraisers); Bingo fundraiser to support our Scholarship program; guarding of the Relics of Padre Pio; led a Solemn Rosary at St. Joseph; prepared and served a meal for the women's Gathering in Grace group; council members took part in the novena for life leading up to the election

**NOVEMBER:** reception following All Souls Mass; Box of Joy, new council program this year, invited parish women's faith group to join with us for this new initiative

**DECEMBER:** goodie bag assembly for our annual Breakfast with Santa event; prepared and served a meal for the women's Gathering in Grace group; decorated church and parish hall with Christmas trees and nativity; Formation Feast with Father Matt; Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass support; Annual Breakfast with Santa event; Advent 24 of Adoration; conducted a road clean-up on Manor Woods Road; setup overflow Christmas Mass seating in LaPointe Hall; Knight Before Christmas initiative after all weekend masses; LaPointe Hall reset following Christmas masses

JANUARY: took down Christmas trees and nativity in the church; Star Council Recognition for the last fraternal year along with St. Ignatius council; held an Exemplification for four new Brothers; prepared and served a meal for the women's Gathering in Grace group

FEBRUARY: council rosary before business meeting; a few brothers attended the Town Hall meeting at St. Katherine Drexel; soup making and kitchen clean-up Saturday in preparation for the Lenten Fish Fry season; prepared and served a meal for the women's Gathering in Grace group

MARCH: Sacred Heart Icon Prayer Service; council rosary before business meeting; four Fish Fry Fridays, preparation on each of the four Thursdays beforehand; GK coordinated with Altar Server Coordinator and sent message of thanks along with a free fish fry dinner to each altar server; planned, prepared, and served a meal for Men's Faith Formation Night with Father Matt; moved St. Joseph statue to the church in preparation for Feast of St. Joseph Day; Grand Knight took Father John out for breakfast along with the DGK, as well as the GK and DGK from our pastorate parish council, #1622; sponsored a free Pancake Breakfast for the Feast of St. Joseph following both masses; hosted the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (SEAS) Chapter Meeting and prepared a meal

APRIL: council rosary before business meeting (invited women's prayer group to attend); two Fish Fry Fridays, preparation on each of the two Thursdays beforehand; setup overflow Easter mass seating in the hall; set luminaries out leading from the church to the historic church; welcome gifts for all new Catholics in our parish from our council; award council scholarship winners

MAY: Grand Knight to attend the State Convention; Delta Drive the first weekend in May; prepare and serve a meal for the women's Gathering in Grace group; Bingo fundraiser to support our Scholarship program; Marygold Program on Mother's Day; reception for Father John following mass for his 25-year ordination anniversary; Blood Drive; Exemplification planned

JUNE: plan, prepare, and serve a meal for Men's Faith Formation Night with Father Matt; prepare and serve a meal for the women's Gathering in Grace group

#### CONCLUSION:

Our council is vibrant, charitable, unified, and poised to continue to put our faith in action. We are a group of men that heeds the call to serve others. We continue to do so in meaningful, impactful ways. We are steadfast in our pursuit to give using our time, talent, and treasure.

Blessings and peace to you and yours,  
Joe Basford, Grand Knight  
Charles Carroll Council 15985

## **St. John Fisher Council, No. 16499**

### **Shawn C. Williams, Grand Knight**

The St. John Fisher Council No. 16499 meets on the third Sunday of each month in St. Ignatius/St. Luke's (Ordinariate) Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus Office, 2315 Brinkley Road, Fort Washington, Maryland. Meetings are conducted in-person and via (Zoom). The meetings start at 1:00 p.m. An officers' planning meeting is held prior to each of the council meetings, starting at 12:30 p.m.

On Sunday, 18 August 2024, the Council's Officers were installed by District Deputy Michael E. Maxey following Mass at St. Ignatius/St. Luke's Catholic Church in Fort Washington, Maryland.

The Council had one Brothers Knights depart from this life during the 2024-2024 Columbian year—name provided on page 3.

#### **Programs Director, Shawn C. Williams, Grand Knight**

#### **Life Director, James Hepburn, Recorder**

During the First and Second Quarter of the Columbian Year, St. John Fisher Council, a sizeable number of Knights continue to focus rosary prayers for the unborn and unwed mother's need.

#### **Family Director, David Lewis, Treasurer**

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, held the Tuesday [21 February 2023] before Ash Wednesday of 2023, was the first major gathering for the communities of St. Ignatius and St. Luke's Catholic community since Christmas 2022. The Knights also remain as the foundation for things like the Sunday Coffee Hours.

#### **Community Chair, James M. Guinivan, Financial Secretary**

During the First and Second Quarters of the Columbian Year, the Council Knights provided transportation for parishioners that either had no vehicle or had a disability that restricts them from operating a motor vehicle. The goal of the Knights' transport service was to ensure the faithful who had a desire to attend Mass be able to do so. Council altruistically identified the need for those that did not have transportation and took the initiative to address their needs. Every Sunday, holiday, holy days of obligation, and during other parishes community events, the Knights provided transportation to those who needed our services.

#### **Faith Chair, Cesar Andaya, Chancellor**

During the First and Second Quarters of the Columbian Year, St. John Fisher Council increased its support of Mass, Music, and Religious Education. Knights serve the Masses, Knights lead the Music Program—the Director is a Knight—Knights are in the Choir, and Knights teach in the religious education program—one Knight is RCIA Lead.

## **Conclusion**

I, the Grand Knight, Shawn C. Williams, would like to thank the Brothers Knights of St. John Fisher Council No. 16499 for their unsurpassed support. We had a successful year with strong membership participation, strong growth, and excellent program execution. I appreciate everyone's help and support during this time. In addition, as Grand Knight I'm extremely grateful to District Deputy (15) Michael Maxey and District Warden (15) Ryan Estorninos for their guidance, support, prayers, and attendance at our Council meetings. I thank the State Deputy, Anthony N. Salvemini, and State Officers for their efforts in providing me with the tools, training, and directions to help make this year successful this far.

## **Saint Maximilian Kolbe Council, No. 16634**

**Robert Dowlut, Grand Knight**

The Saint Maximilian Kolbe Council # 16634 meets on the first Friday of each month at the Parish of Our Lady Queen of Poland, 9700 Rosensteel Avenue, Silver Spring (Forest Glen), Maryland 20910 at 8:30 pm. Prior to each monthly Council Business Meeting, Council members attend the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass beginning at 7:30 pm followed by Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament and Benediction from 8:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

The monthly Council Business Meetings are convened at 8:30 pm in the Parish Social Hall of the Rectory of the Parish adjacent to the Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish Church (Old Saint John's of Forest Glen). These meetings are held in a hybrid format. Both in person and an online Zoom option are available to our members. The Council was instituted on February 5, 2017, at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, DC. Several Council activities continue to return to normal in this post COVID-19 Pandemic era.

### **PROGRAM DIRECTOR – Dave Birley FAITH DIRECTOR – Robert Dowlut**

The Council participated in several liturgical activities in support of initiatives requested by the Pastor. Additionally, the council provides considerable manpower and administrative support to the Knights of Columbus Shrine Usher Ministry at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. This is a program supported directly by the Supreme Council. In April, Knights will stand guard at Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Holy Thursday and assist with the procession during the Easter Sunday Morning Mass. In June, the Knights will have an instrumental role participating in the outdoor Corpus Christi Procession on the Parish grounds. Also, Knights participated in various events scheduled on November 11, 2024, honoring both Polish Constitution Day and the United States Veterans Day. During the month of December 2024, the Council led a procession in honor of the arrival of the Bethlehem Peace Light that arrived at the Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish. On December 31, 2024, the Council honored the Holy Family with a parish-wide recitation of the Prayer of Consecration and passed out Holy Family cards to all parishioners attending Mass. Finally, the Council provided financial support to the St. Maximilian Kolbe Council seminarian under the RSVP program.

### **COMMUNITY DIRECTOR – Andrew Michaels**

The Council participated in several Winter Coat drives. Coats are crucial in keeping the needy in Maryland and the DMV area healthy and warm. We learned that more work is needed in the pursuit of this and plan to continue our efforts in providing coats. The brothers of Council 16634 have been both assisting and providing food for families in Maryland. The pandemic made this effort even more important as the number of Maryland households struggling to afford enough food has significantly increased. Each week the council collects and distributes bakery products to a nearby nursing home for needy patients. The council donates needed whole blood and platelets for research and treatment through the National Institute of Health in Rockville, Maryland. On a global community scale, the war in Ukraine resulted in Ukrainian families facing food insecurities have reached an all-time high. The brothers from Council 16634 donated funding to the Dominican Sisters of Warsaw who are taking care of over 500 war refugees from Ukraine. The council participates in collecting

and distributing needed personal care items, food, water, and sanitation supplies to the Little Sisters of the Poor in Washington DC. The council collects and donates quality books, records, tapes, and DVDs for use in parish school classrooms. The council collects and donates furniture, bedding, clothing, and various household items for redistribution to needy families through arrangements with established community programs. These ongoing community service projects have provided significant assistance toward improving the quality of daily life for scores of needy individuals and families.

#### **LIFE DIRECTOR - Tom Kolodziej**

Knights participated in the Right to Life Masses at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC during the annual Right to Life March Weekend. Members will participate in the Maryland March for Life to the Maryland State Capitol in Annapolis, Maryland on March 27, 2025. Council members continue to participate in various Pro-Life events throughout the fraternal year. Furthermore, members participated in the letter-writing campaign to companies that support abortion.

#### **FAMILY DIRECTOR – Franklin Morton**

To help end hunger within the DMV area, St. Maximilian Kolbe purchased prepackaged groceries that will be directed to local civilian and military food banks. The council also participated by collecting and donating over 2,350 pounds of fresh bread and bakery goods for distribution to local food pantries and soup kitchens for the disadvantaged. The Council assisted in packaging 4,000 mac-n-cheese meals and donated them to local pantries in Maryland to feed local undernourished children. Lastly, the Council participated in the Cross Catholic Outreach food packaging event aimed at providing nourishment for children in dire need in developing countries. St. Maximilian Kolbe's goal is to aid not long local families but also global family facing food insecurities.

#### **MEMBERSHIP AND DEGREES – Janusz Bilinski**

The Council continues to try to strengthen the Council by forging new paths to encourage new members to join the Council. In preparation of this initiative, the Council was prepared to conduct four Admission Degrees during the fraternal year in support of the Districts' "one degree per month" schedule. Council members were available to escort new members to the new streamlined Admissions Degree process. The Council was prepared to hold an Admission Degree each first Friday of the month at 7:30 pm.

#### **CONCLUSION**

The Grand Knight thanks the Deputy Grand Knight, the Council Officers, the Program Director, the Membership Director, all Committee Directors, and every brother of the Saint Maximilian Kolbe Council for their outstanding dedication and support this year. Our Council has had a successful year as its seventh full year since its institution on February 5, 2017. It has been a pleasure serving the Council as the fifth elected Grand Knight and to be the fourth Grand Knight to serve a full term. Finally, I extend and special thank you to our District Deputy Franklin Morton, and all the Knights of Columbus Maryland State Council Officers. It has been a joy to serve with each of you!

## **Our Lady of the Wayside Council, No. 16986**

**James Dorsey, Grand Knight**

Council 16986 meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm at the Loretto Hall, which is our Council home. We will be celebrating our 7th year as a council on April 10, 2025. Our council celebrated and completed the installation of our Officers on August 25, 2014 following the 11:00am mass at Our Lady of the Wayside Church located in Chaptico, MD. We held a light social gathering after the Installation with guests including State District Deputy Jose' along with their family and friends in attendance.

### **PROGRAM DIRECTOR- SK JAMES DORSEY.**

James oversees all of the activities and various events

### **FAITH ACTIVITIES - JAMES SUMMERS (DEACON)**

This program has been supported well as we have had the privilege of having a Deacon as a council member. James became a Deacon on June 3, 2023 and was assigned to our parish. Deacon Jim was assigned to work with the special needs group locally in the county. Deacon Jim has spent numerous hours assisting the special needs community. There are numerous events that the special needs members that are faith based. A couple of members that serve as ushers and Eucharistic ministers of holy communion. There are some members that attend Holy Hour each week and we have a member that takes part in the Living Rosary. Our council had the St Joseph's icon on display at our Church one week during May 2024. We held a prayer session while the Icon was on display at our church. We had several members participate in manning a rest stop for the rides for Vocation that was held September 28, 2024. Our council held the Delta Church Drives, April 6th and April 7th 2024 and again October 26th and October 27th 2024. From the October Delta Drive, we managed to get a new member who was turning 18 during the month of December 2024.

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES-RONALD PHETTEPLACE**

During this activity, our council has performed numerous activities. There were a couple of weekends that we served coffee and donuts for our parishioners. We held 2 Krispy Kreme donut sale weekends, and they were a great success. Our council held a pulled pork barbecue drive thru on June 9<sup>th</sup> 2024. The turnout was very good, and this event was a great success. Our council handed out Carnations to the moms on Mothers Day May 12<sup>th</sup> 2024. We held a breakfast with Santa in December that was a very good event, and we had a great turnout. Several of our members participated in our parish Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner and the parish fish fry dinner.

### **FAMILY ACTIVITIES – ERICK HOFFMAN**

Our council and their families participated in numerous activities held at our parish, assisting with the donuts and coffee weekends along with the selling of Krispy Kreme donuts. Our members along with members of the Ladies Auxiliary support events that take place. Families also participate in events and activities that are held through the CCD program that are held during the Holidays particularly Thanksgiving and Christmas. We supported the ladies Auxiliary as they held their first trunk or treat feast for Thanksgiving 2024, and it went very well.

### **LIFE ACTIVITIES – STEVE ESTEVEZ**

For this program, each of our families come together and support each other's families and our parish Priest. We come together to pray for families in need of prayer, for the sick and suffering and any family dealing with things that may be unexpected. Our Deacon also work with the special needs for some of these activities. Steve lost a couple of in-laws during the 2024 year.

### **CONCLUSION**

Grand Knight James Dorsey would like to thank each member and each officer for a good and productive year. We were able to get a new member in January of 2024 and a new member in December 2024. We will be looking to recruit a few more in the coming year. Thanks to our parish pastor, our parish families and community for supporting our council. We have had a very good supporting parish. Also, thank you to our Ladies Auxiliary for their help and support that they offer, along with other nonmembers that take the time to help in many ways. We are looking for another good and productive year.

**Fraternally,**

James Dorsey  
Grand Knight  
Vivat Jesus

## **Sainte Terre D'Accueil Council, No. 18156**

### **Isidore Sobgo, Grand Knight**

Council 18156, chartered on February 20, 2023, meets on second Wednesday for officers meeting and the fourth Wednesday for the business meeting at Saint Jane de Chantal Parish located on 9701 Old Georgetown Rd Bethesda, MD 20814. (PO Box 122 Beltsville MD 20705). Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. All Council members are invited to attend both meetings. Sainte Terre D'Accueil is the first and only French Speaking Council of Knights of Columbus in USA. Our members come from the DMV area. We started our council with 20 formers members and 10 news members who joined the council at the institution date. From 30 members in February 2023, we grow, and we are now 44 members with 2 priests and one deacon. 5 of our members live out of state. The meeting attendance is between 15 to 20. At the beginning Prince George Council hosted us from February 2023 to June 2024. From July 2024 our permanent meeting place is Saint Jane de Chantal Church. On Saturday, July 13, 2024, the officers of Sainte Terre D'Accueil were installed at Saint Jane de Chantal Church after 6:30 PM Holy Mass. The Worthy Assistant to the State Secretary Gil Boisvert, District Deputy and District Warden officiated. A reception for all Council members and guests was held in the community room immediately following the installation.

**PROGRAMS DIRECTOR:** Herve Segbaya, Deputy Grand Knight

**FAITH DIRECTOR:** PGK Frank Boccovi

**COMMUNITY DIRECTOR:** Gilbert Tagne

**FAMILY DIRECTOR:** Thierry Kengni

**LIFE DIRECTOR:** Karl Ndibi Meka

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR:** Jacob Ghemning

**REPETITIVE EVENTS:** Holy Mass ushers every week; 2 RCIA teachers, 2 Eucharist extraordinary Ministers, 2 Sunday mass readers, 6 members of choir.

**JULY:** For the first time Sainte Terre D'Accueil had regular installation ceremony done in the church after mass. Sainte Terre D'Accueil conducted a visit to the French Community at Saint Martin of Tour in Gaithersburg. We participated in the Holy Mass by doing the ushers and collection. At the end of mass, we made the presentation of Knights of Columbus and our new council. We done the membership drive by giving information and flyers to better promote the Knights of Columbus. 6 men were interested to join the Knights. We done an exemplification and 2 brothers joined the order.

**AUGUST:** The semi-annual audit was completed and sent to the State and to the Supreme. French Community at Saint Martin of Tour in Gaithersburg requested our council members to do the parking ministry during 3 days from August 22 to 24 from 5 PM to 10:30 PM for their annual three days' charismatic prayers. 10 brothers attended. On August 22 we participated at our brother Knight mother funeral mass. 8 members were present. On August 24 we participated at priesthood 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Saint Camillus Parish. Knights from our council provided drink and food for the reception after the mass. The Color Corps team led by the Grand Knight participated in the mass.

**SEPTEMBER:** The Annual Council Family Picnic was being held on September 7 for the first time. Over 75 attendees including Worthy District Deputy. We participated at the Ministry Fair at Saint Camillus parish. It was an opportunity for our council to conduct a membership drive and 3 men were recruited.

**OCTOBER:** Led by the French community at Saint Camillus our council participated at the Pink Rose

on October 27. After the mass we provided information about breast and uterus cancer screening. Flyers were distributed. Led by our Council Chaplain we had a Silver Rosary on October 30<sup>th</sup> and over 50 people attended. We conducted Rosary prayer on October 16, 23.

**NOVEMBER:** We visited the French community at Mother Seton Catholic Church in Germantown and it was an opportunity to promote the Knights of Columbus. We hold an exemplification at Saint Camillus parish after Sunday French mass. We invited French community to attend at the ceremony to allow them to better know our fraternal organization.

**DECEMBER:** Led by our Council Chaplain and our Council Assistant Chaplain a Spiritual reflection was held on December 4<sup>th</sup>, during the advent. Over 70 people attended. Our second Christmas Party was on December 21<sup>st</sup> at Montgomery Council in Derwood. The number of children grows from 13 to 35. During the event the award plaque was handed over to the Former District Deputy Harold and the District Deputy Charles for their support at our council institution. Also, the award plaque was handed to Father Samuel, the Pastor of Saint Jane Parish for donate a room to host our council. Sainte Terre D'Accueil participated at fundraising led by the French Community of Saint Camillus parish on December 7<sup>th</sup>. About \$10,00.00 were raised and the Knights donated over \$ 1,500.00

**JANUARY:** At January business meeting the Field Agent was invited to attend and give a speech about the fraternal benefice to our members. Father Pierre, the new Pastor of the French Community of Saint Louis de France attended to the meeting, and he wanted to join the Knights. One man joined our organization and an exemplification was conducted.

**FEBRUARY:** We conducted 2 visits to the French community of Saint Louis de France on Saturday February 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday February 9<sup>th</sup>. The Knights were the ushers and the readers during the mass. At the end we presented our fraternal organization and flyers, and information were given to the community members

**MARCH:** Father Pierre the Pastor of Saint Louis de France joined the Knights of Columbus. He was nominated as a Chaplain Associate. Our Chaplain Father Barthelemy, our Chaplain Assistant Deacon Yannick and worthy John the State Secretary attended the ceremony. The semi-annual audit was conducted, and the report was sent. We raised \$ 200.00 to support the pregnant lady auxiliary of Knight and Saint Gabriel Project

**APRIL:** We will conduct the parking ministry at Saint Camillus parish on Palm Sunday April 13<sup>th</sup>. We will participate at funeral mass for our brother Knight relative on April 5<sup>th</sup>. A box of wipers and underwear for the baby will donate to the lady auxiliary of Knight who is pregnant. We will also drop a box of underwear for the Saint Gabriel project.

**MAY:** Delegates and Alternates will attend the State Convention in Annapolis on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Our council will participate at St. Camillus parish annual festival by providing hamburgers, hot dog and drink.

**JUNE:** Council officers' election and installation will be conducted. Pilgrim for the Holy Year will conduct in Emmitsburg. Eucharistic procession will conduct on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**CONCL.USION:** Here is so far what our new council has done for this fraternal year. Our gratitude to Father Samuel from Saint Jane de Chantal, our Chaplain Fathers Barthelemy and Pierre, Maryland State Council officers and Program Directors for their support. *Notre gratitude et notre reconnaissance a tous les officiers, a tous mes frères Chevaliers pour leur délicatesse et leur dévouement pour faire de ce nouveau conseil un modèle pour inspirer les francophones des Etats Unis. Sans le soutien de mes frères Chevaliers, nos épouses les Clémentes de Sainte Terre D'Accueil et spécialement mon épouse Monique ce travail colossal n'aurait pu être accompli.*

## **San Jose Custodio Council, No. 18170**

**Jhon Neira, Grand Knight**

On March 20, 2025, we celebrate our second anniversary. At this time, we are 43 Knights of Columbus, without any doubt that all the efforts from the Knights of Columbus Fraternal leader webinar series along with the assistance of our District Director #14 Armando Fernandez, improved with new ideas and ways to approach and obtain results from our community. Also, our eternal gratitude to former State Deputy, Knight Chris Powers, current Deputy, Knight Antonio Salvemini, and the entire State Council for their invaluable help and support.

### **FAITH ACTIVITIES:**

Last summer our council prepared and presented a conference named ONLY FOR MEN! It was around 90 men that attending that wonderful night, the speaker father Eisen who latter entered in our council as second Champlain, travel from Colombia South America, to personally expressed he and his community grateful salute, for our work and assistance in the renovation and reconstruction of the Parish San Jose at Palocabildo, Colombia. Father Eisen words move the public and all our hearts were touched it, one of the attendants request to speak in public and mentioned that now he did not have any doubt in his heart that he will be a Knight of Columbus and certainly he is now. Our Council presented the Silver Rose service with excellent support from the community, we presented the Icon of St. Joseph, which allowed our community to understand why we are St. Jose Custodio. We participated monthly in the celebration of the Holy Hour; we prayed there the Rosary for the unborn babies with our priest and deacons. We prayed at the Novena for Life, we will be part of the group of servers who will perform in the living Stations of the Cross live, that we will present on Holy Friday.

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:**

Our main project was to continue and finish the restauration of San Jose Church in Colombia, which is led by Father Eisen. When we saw the videos and photos of the condition of the church, and heard the priest's plea for help, the decision was to restore this parish and not wait for a serious situation to occur. We sold food, we had a raffle, activities that allowed us to complete the funds that the project required. The parish was restored in total.

During the Christmas season, we joined Father Eisen's efforts and brought joy, food, and gifts to a group of more than 250 abandoned children. In addition, a group of older adults received the Christmas dinner with the community, a moment of happiness and great company. In our Parish we helped to plant trees and flowers, along with assisting during Easter Sunday taking control of the parking lot and during the Family Festival organized by the Archdiocese of Baltimore we helped in the parking and bringing food and deliveries.

### **FAMILY ACTIVITIES: ELIZABETH'S and CARLITO'S HISTORY**

Carlito's story (a 6-year-old quadriplegic who miraculously survived from accident) moved our hearts. After we discovered the great necessity of this family, we prompted acting and obtain assistance like family and baby food along with baby clothes and diapers and funds for all family. During the year we delivered around 600 casseroles of frozen food prepared to Elizabeth house in Laurel to assist poor people and homeless population there. San Jose Custodio participated for the first time in the Box of Joy program. We received and handed out 100 boxes, and all boxes were brought to our brothers in charge of this wonderful project.

### **LIFE ACTIVITIES:**

We worked hand by hand with our brothers from the Columbia Council and carried out a fundraising campaign under the Tootsie Rolls program and baby bottles to assist local organization in Columbia, Maryland. This year in both campaigns we passed the results, we increased the collection of funds by around 150% compared with last year.

### **COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:**

This 2025 year, we started helping a small parish in Michoacan, Mexico with the funds that we obtain during a food sale we assisted a Rv. Octavio to repair completely the roof of the parish. In our plans we have a widow with 3 children that request assistance remodeling her house. Our Religious Sisters of Our Lady of Matara request assistance to help with the renovation and remodeling their convent house.

### **CONCLUSION:**

Only have in my heart a word of gratitude for our Past Estate Deputy and our current Estate Deputy brother Antonio Salvemini for your assistance and collaboration. To all my brothers Knights my gratitude for the efforts in every activity, hand by hand, we were able to make a difference in our community. The faces and words of the people that we have been able to help materially, and the testimony received from each other, will never erase from my heart.

We always keep our eyes on our founder father Michael J. McGivney, and we will follow in his footsteps.

God Bless our Order.

Jhon J. Neira

Grand Knight.

**VIVAT JESUS**

*MD State Council  
125 Years of Service*



*Make a Difference in  
Someone's Life*

**Reports  
from  
State Chairmen**

## ASAP

Jeff Koscho, Pregnancy Center (ASAP) Chairman

The Aid and Support After Pregnancy After Pregnancy (ASAP) program is alive and well in the Maryland Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus. At the Start of the Fraternal year, State Deputy Anthony Salvemini secured a commitment from Supreme to support the Gabriel Network home extension in Bowie, MD.

The Gabriel Network provides comprehensive, compassionate support to pregnant and parenting moms and their families. The Gabriel Network operates a home for parenting moms in the Bowie area. The home was in need of an extension for a live-in couple to provide for the needs and security for the residents of the home.

State Deputy Salvemini made arrangements with Supreme under the ASAP program to provide a \$10,000 grant to the project if the State could raise \$50,000 for the project and have at least 25 councils contributed.

At the State Leadership meeting at the beginning of the year, State Deputy Salvemini challenged the Grand Knights and District Deputies. The Maryland State Jurisdiction rose to the challenge. The donations exceeded \$65,000 with more than 50 councils, Chapters, and individuals. Councils that participated in this effort receive Program credit in the Life category for this ASAP donation.

The Gabriel Network home in Bowie was not the only ASAP achievement in the Maryland jurisdiction. More than 18 Maryland Councils and Assemblies donated more than \$34,000 in cash and products to more than 15 pregnancy centers and maternity centers. The Supreme ASAP program provided an additional \$5100 in grants to these organizations. These centers cover the whole state: CareNet Pregnancy Center of Southern Maryland in Lexington Park, Birthright of Prince Frederick and Birthright of Frederick, Forestville Pregnancy Center, Howard County Pregnancy Center in Columbia, Pregnancy Center North in Towson, Shady Grove Pregnancy Center, Mary's Place in Pasadena.

Thank you to all the Brother Knights and their Ladies that support our pregnancy centers and maternity centers in Maryland. Thank you for working with your councils to submit for the additional grants through the Supreme Knights of Columbus ASAP program.

Vivat Jesus!

## **FAMILY OF THE MONTH/YEAR**

The FAMILY OF THE MONTH/YEAR PROGRAM is a SUPREME COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS program under the Faith-In-Action heading that seeks to establish strong and vibrant families through the recognition of families in a Parish community.

Each month, a Council's Family of the Month committee selects one Parish family that models Christian family values and visibly lives them every day. Once a year, each participating Council also selects one of the previous twelve Family of the Month winners to represent the Council/Parish as the potential International Family of the Year. The Knights of Columbus Family of the Year is chosen by the Supreme Council and recognized each year at the annual Supreme Convention. The winning family for each State is announced at the Annual State Convention. For Maryland the State Convention is generally held during the first week of May.

Since July 2024, no fewer than thirty-nine Councils have participated in the FAMILY OF THE MONTH PROGRAM through their entry submittals via SUPREME PROGRAM FORM 10784. Twenty submissions were from the Archdiocese of Baltimore (AOB) Councils, while nineteen were from the Archdiocese of Washington DC (AWD). No submittals were noted from the Archdiocese of Wilmington. A total of 146 Councils are noted in the Maryland State Directory.

Thirteen Councils submitted entries at least five times over the reporting period, while remaining Councils made submittals less than five times since July.

Eight Councils faithfully submitted entries every month while eight other Councils omitted one or two months over the period. Some Councils chose to make submittals every other month. Of the thirty-nine reporting Councils, seven submitted two or fewer entries since July.

The Supreme Council picks monthly Winners of Families based on its own criteria. Since July the AOB scored five winning months, while AWD scored four winning months. Monthly winning families receive some form of recognition from sponsoring Councils in the form of a certificate and/or public announcement during a Parish Mass and in the Parish bulletin, as well as recognition from Supreme Council.

### **Conclusion**

Congratulations to all the participating Councils, especially the ones who submit entries monthly. Congratulations to all the respective winning monthly families.

Stronger efforts should be made to increase Council participation in promoting strong Catholic family values through the FAMILY OF THE MONTH/YEAR PROGRAM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Devlin, Family of the Month Chairman for the Archdiocese of Baltimore

## **Food for Families Program**

**Joseph Feakes, Chairman**

Over the past year, I have had the privilege and opportunity to visit many councils and assemblies. It is clear that dozens of councils and assemblies have established a food for the hungry program.

I also realize that very few were participating in the Maryland State Council “Food For Family Program.” This is most likely due to their not understanding the requirements provided by Supreme by which they can qualify for a cash rebate.

I have made presentations at all the Chapters of Grand Knights as well as councils and assemblies explaining the details. Information has been inserted on our social media platforms and the Maryland State Council’s Newsletter.

In light of these circumstances, it becomes even more important to keep councils and assemblies aware of this opportunity and direct them to KofC.org/food as often as possible.

Respectively Submitted,

Joseph Feakes, FM

# Special Olympics

Calvin W. Anthony - Chairman  
John Durbin - Co-Chairman  
Jim Russell - Co-Chairman

Worthy State Deputy, Officers, and Delegates  
127th Annual State Convention  
Maryland State Council  
Annapolis, Maryland

The Special Olympics Committee submits for your consideration the following report.

On behalf of SD Anthony N. Salvemini and all the State officers, "Thank You" to the following Councils who submitted form 10784 for the Special Olympics this past year: Council #1384, #1393, #2279, #2323, #2809, #6021, #6901, #9968, #10957, #11372, #12054, #12127, #14775, #16986, and #18170.

This is the report of the Councils who submitted the form 10784 to Supreme. I know that there are several Councils who raised money for the Special Olympics and are not included with the above-mentioned Councils, probably due to not getting the report in on time.

Some activities Councils participated in included: the Summer Games at Towson University, which this year is June 20-22, 2025, Golf State Tournament, Fall Sports Fest, Soccer State Champs, IUS Tennis, Bowling Regionals, and the Winter Games at Wisp with Skiing and Snowboarding plus the Deep Creek Dunk and the Polar Bear Plunge.

Since COVID the State's participation with the Special Olympics has declined, but we are working to increase council participation by providing information during the Leadership Seminar, at the Program and Membership seminars, and in the state newsletter. As you can see, the Special Olympics offers many volunteer opportunities. Please accept the challenge to participate in one or more of the events this Fraternal Year.

## Conclusion

I would like to "THANK" the Grand Knights, Officers and Council members who participated in a Special Olympics event or Fundraiser helping for a successful year.

To my wife Ann, I cannot "THANK YOU" enough for your support allowing me the time to perform my duties. Your participation in the Council and State events is greatly appreciated.

To State Deputy Anthony N. Salvemini "Thank You" to you and all the State officers for your support and guidance this past Fraternal year.

Least but not last, I wish to extend a "Thank You" to all the Priest and Chaplains who have supported us this past year and provided us with inspirational guidance.

Vivat Jesus

*Calvin Anthony*  
Calvin Anthony

*MD State Council  
125 Years of Service*



*Make a Difference in  
Someone's Life*

## Necrology

# Necrology

4/1/2024 to 3/31/2025

## St. Mary's Council, No. 1470

Lawrence A. Forte  
Stanley A. Konopka

## Regina Coeli Council, No. 2274

Robert W. Orme  
Kenneth L. Rosette

## Patuxent Council, No. 2203

Rev. Msgr. Oliver McGready (HLM)  
James H. Gordon  
Vince Knox  
Thomas J. Mitchell  
John P. Moir  
George Supic  
Barnard Walsh

## Archbishop Neale Council, No. 2279

Hugh C. Gardiner, III (PGK)  
John J. McNulty  
Jerome L. Michael, III  
Timothy G. Moore (FDD, PGK)  
Leonard H. Winkler (PGK)

## Montgomery Council, No. 2323

Thomas E. Banfield (PGK)  
Edwin E. Dudenhoffer  
Ralph J. Piernunzi  
Thomas A. Scafide

## Bishop Becker Council, No. 2427

John Guertin  
Vincent Siedlecki  
Keith Werner

## Cardinal Gibbons Council, No. 2521

Edward M. Amrhein  
Gary G. Beck  
Frank T. Cimino  
Jerry A. Connolly

## Cardinal Gibbons Council, No. 2521

William V. Cullison  
Victor W. Fuentealba  
Ronald E. Gary  
John J. Grabowski (PGK)  
Charles Francis Herr, Sr. (PGK)  
Gerard J. Hild  
Jack Kerner

William E. Lukowski  
Michael J. Magee  
Robert J. Matlick  
Dr. George H. Miller  
Richard K. Patton  
Thomas A. Penkilo  
Angelo Puglisi  
Joseph E. Robel, Sr.  
Raymond M. Schulmeyer  
Edwin C. Sokel, Jr.  
James A. Van Detta  
Thomas W. Ward  
Michael Franci Weigman

## Sacred Heart Council, No. 2577

Christopher D. Crosby  
William J. Decker  
Michael J. Galiano  
Gerald R. Jenkins  
Rosario Jldeo  
Robert Kennedy  
Joseph T. Laidley  
Francis X. McCaffrey  
Daniel H. Melvin  
George H. Messenger (PGK)  
James P. Murray  
Kenneth R. Parisi  
Philip J. Peluso  
Claudio S Poiani (PGK)  
John G. Richardson  
Jesse C. Ricketson  
Kenneth R. Wander

**Prince George's Council, No. 2809**

John Davey (HLM)  
John Joynt, Sr. (HLM)  
James McAuliffe  
Paul McKenny  
John O'Brien  
Raymond Sciannella, Sr. (PGK, HLM)  
Edward L. Sinsky (HLM)  
Robert C. Smith (HLM)  
Rejean Talbot

**St. Charles Borromeo Council, No. 3960**

Tom Emerson  
Charles Graham (PGK)  
Barry Hartley  
Joseph Perozziello  
John Stell

**Father O'Neill Council, No. 4011**

John Donnelly (PGK)  
Richard Guntner  
Patrick Keehan  
George Reda  
William "Bill" Santo (FDD, PGK)

**St. Columcille Council, No. 5317**

Isagani D. Poblete  
Thomas F. Moran (PGK)  
Clifford L. Woods, Jr. (PGK, PFN)

**Woodlawn Council, No. 5466**

Joseph Drasal, Sr. (FDD, PGK, PFN)  
Edmond A. Di Giorgio

**Father Burggraff Council, No. 6021**

Anthony J. Butt  
John E. Gallup, Sr. (PGK)

**Corpus Christi Council, No. 6188**

Rev. Larry Kolson  
Dominick Butindaro  
George Fabula  
Michael Linder

**Fr. Michael J. McGivney Council, No. 7025**

Alexander B. Graboski  
Jarret L. Hicks  
Charles A. Kozub  
William J. Penkala, Sr. (PGK)

**Calvert Council, No. 7870**

Jerel Wert

**Fr. Joseph G. McManus Council, No. 7941**

Randy Martin (FS)  
Frank Marzullo

**Immaculate Conception Council, No. 8159**

John Becker  
Joseph Luskus  
Joseph Owens  
Jerry Wakeen

**South County Council, No. 8251**

Elmer B. Gibson  
Henry Lazzaro (PGK)  
David A. Littleton

**Long Green Valley Council, No. 8736**

Howard J. Kline  
Richard J. Knauer, Jr.  
Richard A. Lanham, Sr.  
Jack Lindung (Charter Grand Knight)  
Joseph E. Shimanek  
Robert L. Torr

**St. Bartholomew Council, No. 9127**

Tim Black  
Romeo Gauthier (PSD, FDD, PGK, PFN)  
Bob Price

**Our Lady Star of the Sea Council, No. 9258**

Deacon Emmet Chad Martin

**St. Mary of The Assumption Council, No. 9302**

Joseph F. Hogan, Jr.  
William Ebersold

<b>Santo Nino Council, No. 9462</b>	<b>St. Louis the King Council, No. 11898</b>
Rodolfo Aparentado (PGK)	David J. Hensing
Nicasio Dematera (PGK)	Richard G. Jensen
Jose "Pete" SySantos (PGK)	Thomas J. McKeever (PGK)
<b>Fr Joseph J. Comyns Council, No. 9638</b>	<b>St. Joan of Arc Council, No. 12054</b>
Ron Slowik	Daniel T. Finnerin
<b>Immaculate Heart of Mary Council, No. 9968</b>	<b>Our Lady of Guadalupe Council, No. 12127</b>
Michael Dougherty	Allan B. Wester, Jr.
Michael Whitaker	
<b>Mason-Dixon Council, No. 10100</b>	<b>Fr. Bernard Harding Council, No. 12180</b>
Donald T. Kloch	John (Ray) Ogden
<b>St. Michael's of Poplar Springs Council, No. 10525</b>	<b>St. Peter the Apostle Council, No. 13290</b>
Christopher T. Burnett	Kenneth Dockens
 	Joseph W. Dombek
<b>St. John the Evangelist Council, No. 11171</b>	Joseph Kutlik (PGK)
Donald D. Faust	Richard Lapan
Pablo A. Publico, III	
<b>Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Council, No. 11259</b>	<b>St. Alphonsus Rodriguez Council, No. 13294</b>
Robert Hawkins	Dexter (Bud) Housel
Franz Lengenfeder	James Hull (Treasurer)
<b>Fr. Maurice J. Wolfe Council, No. 11372</b>	<b>Pope John Paul the Great Council, No. 13859</b>
Dennis T. Feehley	Norman T. Hillenburg
Stephen J. Wisniewski	
<b>James C. Fletcher, Jr. Council, No. 11422</b>	<b>John Jakob Raskob Council, No. 14189</b>
Roberto L. Hylton	Kenneth J. Houtz
 	Charles "Buck" Otis, Jr.
<b>St. John Neumann Council, No. 11618</b>	
Thaddeus Grey	
<b>Deacon John Lynn Council, No. 11619</b>	<b>Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council, No. 14455</b>
Samuel Kwabena Owusu-Acheaw	Kurleigh Bayrd
 	Manuel Rodriguez (PGK)
<b>St. Ignatius of Loyola Council, No. 11815</b>	
Paul N. Kane	
Michael J. Lipchock	
<b>Jesus the Device Word Council, No. 14775</b>	<b>St. Philip Neri Council, No. 14612</b>
Rev. Charles McCann	James R. Cashour
Dennis Campbell	William D. Willis

**Charles Carroll Council, No. 15985**  
Cecil (Sonny) A. Grubbs  
Deacon Franklin K. Hung

**St. John Fisher Council, No. 16499**  
Rev. Robert J. Kosty (Chaplain)

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and  
let perpetual light shine upon them. May  
their souls and the souls of all the faithful  
departed, through the mercy of God, rest  
in peace. Amen!**