



The Knightly News

K of C Newsletter for Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council, Mitchellville, MD

MAIL: P.O. Box 4051, Upper Marlboro, MD 20775 / HALL: 12010 Woodmore Rd, Mitchellville, MD 20721

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Knights of Columbus Council #14455

June 2008

MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT

Brother Knights,

Our Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council is on the move! The Grand Knight and our convention delegate, Saturnino Forondan, attended the Maryland State Convention at Ocean City, Maryland on May 16th through 18th. This was a special year for our council because we are just under five months old and we received our first state sponsored award. It was for the 'surge' report we filed in April of this year. Also, this was an election year for State officials. A new State Deputy and State Warden were elected. The remaining state officials moved up one chair.

Even though we are no longer considered the "baby" council and we stood next to last in the line of Grand Knights, we stood proud. State councils are ranked A, B, C, or D in according to the number of members. Father Michael C Kidd council is in the D ranking because of its membership numbers. To date, we have 52 council members. I'm proud to say most of our members are 3rd and 4th Degree Knights.

We must give thanks to our Chaplain, Father Joe for his spiritual guidance and the Lord for our initial success. We have also been gifted with outstanding leaders and program activities directors.

June and July of this year are going to be very busy months. The council is planning an Awards and Fraternity Night for June 21st. At that time, we will honor council members who have achieved outstanding accomplishments in their fields and our police and firefighter members will also receive certificates. Our first meeting in July will be a special affair. We will receive our Council Charter from the State office of the Knights of Columbus. On August

17th, we will have our first formal installation of officers in the Church immediately after the 5:30 PM Mass. This will be followed by a reception in the hall.

May Jesus, our Savior, flourish the council with blessings and prosperity so that we may continue to be helpful to our church and community.

George H. Johnson, GK

CHAPLAIN'S COUNSEL

When I was new at Holy Family, I jumped up one day when I heard a voice that was immediately recognizable. It was Francis "Jerry" Clark, one of Washington's most beloved and familiar radio personalities. I recognized his face immediately from his participation on television with the local affiliate involved with the Jerry Lewis Telethon. Now, it may be that you cannot imagine my excitement, but I have been a long-time fan of radio. I have collected recordings of thousands of old radio shows. I lament the direction radio has gone and actually liked the "polite" chatter that was once common between musical selections and on talk-radio. Here I had a parishioner who had been an anchor in the business! As you can well imagine, I was delighted when Francis G. Clark became a charter member of our council and volunteered to be our first Deputy Grand Knight. In May, he told the council that for personal reasons he would have to step down from his position in the coming fraternal year. While he only held his office for a short time, I want to commend Jerry for his willingness to come on board when he was needed. I remain a fan of his and am deeply indebted for his professional presence at meetings and at Mass.

CHAPLAIN'S COUNSEL continued on page 2...

CHAPLAIN

Fr. Joseph A. Jenkins - 301-249-2266

ASSOCIATE CHAPLAIN

Deacon Hank D. Dardy - 301-259-0129

GRAND KNIGHT

George H. Johnson, GK - 301-249-9520

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT

Francis G. Clark, DGK - 301-249-6894

CHANCELLOR

Dr. Ujuchris Okereh - 301-249-5222

WARDEN

Mark M. Manapul - 240-253-7119

TREASURER

Kevin Renze - 202-314-6538

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Porfirio Concepcion - 301-218-1549

INSURANCE AGENT

John Canter - 301-261-3231

Contributions, gifts, etc. to Fr. Kidd Council #14455 are not tax-deductible as charitable contributions.

FROM THE EDITOR

Brother Knights and friends: Welcome to the premiere edition of our Council’s official newsletter, *The Knightly News*. We hope to become an informative and sometimes inspirational voice to “Fr. Kidd” council members, their families and the church we have chosen to serve. In the first few months of existence, our small council has witnessed a series of remarkable growth. As in every other worthwhile venture it takes time, perseverance and the dedication of all involved to ensure a successful outcome. Our internal committees are planning upcoming events designed to improve our visibility within the community. We’ll have more news about those in future editions. A final note, we welcome newsletter submissions from all members. The address for your thoughts can be found in the Chaplain’s Report. Thank you for your continued interest and support.

Jerry Clark, DGK, Editor

DISTRICT DEPUTY’S REPORT

Vernon Hawkins, PGK, FN, FDW
(301) 336-0284 vhawkinsjr@aol.com

All of us should be filled with new energy and enthusiasm as spring arrives. It is a time to offer every Catholic man the “Experience of a Lifetime.” If you have not submitted the Columbian Award Application (SP-7), please don’t forget to do so, it is required for the Star Council Award and must be filed by June 30th.

Vivat Jesus!

CHAPLAIN’S COUNSEL continued...

I hope that he will remain a member at Father Kidd Council and that he will be as active as his health and local proximity to us allows.

He is a true Catholic gentleman; he is everything to which we aspire as Knights of Columbus.

Our growth since February is truly amazing. Now that we are learning our jobs and members are becoming accustomed to the operations of the Knights, I look forward to an active and fruitful fraternal year. You all

have my deepest respect and gratitude. Please do not become discouraged at any mistakes we make; we are a young and learning council. God bless you all, and to all our men with children and families, have a healthy, holy and happy Father’s Day!

Your servant in Christ —*Father Joe (Jenkins)*

MCNAMARA CHAPTER

We meet on Wed., June 18th at Mater Dei Council in Potomac, MD. Exchange of jewels will be held. All GKs, PGKs and Council Officers are urged to attend.

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

As Catholic Christians and Knights, we are called to pray for those suffering, ill and recently departed. This report is to assist you in fulfilling this obligation. If you, or a Knight you know, is in need of our prayer, please take a moment, offer a personal prayer and then contact me so that we can combine our prayers to the Almighty and give the support we are all called to provide one another. —*Dr. Ujuchris "Chris" Okereh*

MCNAMARA CHAPTER

The Bishop McNamara Chapter is open to all Grand Knights, Past Grand Knights, Chair and Committee Officers. We are scheduled to meet on June 18 at Mater Dei Council #9774 in Potomac, MD for the Exchange of Jewels

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES—*Geony J. Provido*

Saturday, June 21 - Dinner/Auction - An opportunity for Knights and their wives or girlfriends to get acquainted and have a fun evening. The ladies may even make a few rudimentary connections for a possible Auxiliary Group.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES—*Fred F. Laureles*

The Maryland State Council urges some form of involvement regarding Holy Land Outreach. Saturday, June 28 and Sunday, June 29, the vendor Luai Helal will come to Holy Family and sell olive wood carvings after all Masses. We could help set up, distribute flyers and maybe purchase some of these wonderful items (images of Jesus, Mary, Nativity scenes, the Last Supper, etc). These objects would edify our homes and we would help the struggling Christians of the Holy Land. The Christians of the Holy Land have suffered terribly given the loss of tourism, especially in Bethlehem. We might not be able to get to them but they can reach us. Our generosity can make a big difference in their lives.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES—*Andres Padilla*

We participate with the SHELTER MEAL PROGRAM in the parish. It serves the surrounding community with

monthly visits to the SHARE pantry and S.O.M.E. (So Others Might Eat). The upcoming service day is Saturday, June 21. Volunteers are always needed!

FAMILY ACTIVITIES—*Dr. F. Daniels & Tim Adams*

The Child Protective Services workshop here at Holy Family is a must for any who would be involved with children. Both the Family Activities and the Youth Activities implore interested volunteers to take part. Please note that because of bad weather and power loss, the workshop was moved from June 5 to June 12 from 7 PM to 9:30 PM. Please register online or seek help from the parish by contacting the DRE Pam. We are looking into a presentation for Father's Day that will match the flowers given out last month for Mother's Day.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES—*Ramon G. Evasco*

Friday, May 9 - Our brother Knight, Andres Padilla grilled hotdogs and hamburgers for the Youth Group teens who gathered for fun and games. Although attendance was low, the young people who came had a good time. Photos are available.

The parish DRE Pam has suggested dates and activities for in June: June 8 - cook food for the Youth Group carwash & June 11 - help with the Baccalaureate Mass reception.

PRO-LIFE REPORT—*Paul A. Batson*

The bottles are due in the Baby Bottle Program to assist the Bowie Crisis Pregnancy Center. They average about \$25 in donations each. Please return them to the church as soon as possible. Flyers and applications were passed out at a recent meeting for a Golf Tournament to assist the Gabriel Project. In the future we will try to get this information to you earlier. It was published in the weekly bulletin at Holy Family Church. Thanks to those who prayed the rosary at the dedication of our Memorial to Unborn Children on May 31. Pictures are posted online.



The 9th Annual Gabriel Golf Tournament will be held at 8:30 AM on Friday, June 20th, 2008 at the Bowie Country Club Golf Course. The event will be a semi-shotgun limited to the first 64 players to sign-up. The cost for Brother Knights is \$75 per player and Brother Knights 65 and older pay \$65. Prizes will be awarded and dinner follows at the Hall. The cost to sponsor a hole is \$125. Business card size ads in the tournament brochure cost \$60 and individual patron ads are \$20. Funds donated to the Gabriel Network are tax deductible. Checks should be made payable to the Gabriel Network. Funds raised from the tournament will be used to pay the costs of housing mothers and their new born babies and providing job skill training and scholarships. If you have not helped this cause in the past, please consider helping out with a donation. The Gabriel Network operates 4 homes and their utility costs alone have increased tremendously this year. To obtain a sign-up form, sponsorship form, or volunteer to help with player registration or preparing food, call David Grabowski at (301) 464-2059 at SACRED HEART COUCIL or Holy Family rectory.

MEMBERSHIP

In honor of the Holy Father's visit to the United States, the Maryland State Council has notified all Councils of a Fourth Quarter Membership Promotion. For each new member initiated between April 1 and June 20, 2008, the sponsoring Council will be entered into one of two State Council drawings for a \$300.00 annuity for the winning Council's Chaplain or Parish Pastor. One award will be drawn for a Council assigned to the Bob Marlowe Agency and one award will be drawn for a Council assigned to the Harry Canter Agency. To qualify, Councils must submit their new members on a Form 100 to either the Marlowe or Canter Agency Offices. The Form 100s must be received at their respective offices by 5:00 p.m., Friday, June 20, 2008. We want to thank both the Marlowe and Canter Agencies for their support of this program in honor of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI. Any practicing Catholic man, 18 years of age or older, in good standing with the Church, is eligible.

FOURTH DEGREE

The Bishop James E. Walsh Assembly #1548 meets on the second Monday of each month at 8:00 PM in the

Bert Parise Room at St. Pius X Council #4076 (Sarto Hall), 3611 Stewart Road, Forestville, MD 20747.

FRATERNAL BENEFITS—John Canter (301) 261-3231

We all know the old adage – the grass seems greener on the other side of the fence. When it comes to replacing your existing Knights of Columbus life insurance with coverage offered by another company, the adage holds true. Perceptions are deceiving. A move to the other side of the fence might seem like a good one, but it can leave you with less green in your wallet – in some cases, a lot less. That's why it pays to remember another old saying – Read the fine print.

There are many reasons to keep your existing coverage in force, whether that coverage is with the Knights of Columbus or with another company. I'll focus on the potential pitfalls of replacing coverage here – pitfalls that an agent trying to convince you that the grass actually is greener might neglect to mention.

First, all life insurance contracts contain a contestability period, which allows the insurer to contest claims made for a period - typically two years - after the contract is issued. Chances are this is no longer an issue with your current coverage.

Second, it's unlikely that you can obtain the same amount of coverage, for the same premium, that you were able to obtain with your existing contract. The two factors that determine how much you'll need to pay for life insurance coverage are age and health. Certainly, you're older now than you were when you took out your current coverage. There's no way around that one. And you have to ask yourself, has your health changed during that time? Is your blood pressure the same? Your cholesterol? Have you gained weight? All these factors affect the amount of coverage you'll get for your premium dollar.

If someone encourages you to replace – or worse, drop - your existing coverage, please call me. I'll show you how your existing coverage is working for you and why replacement is rarely in your best interest.

NEWS FROM SUPREME

New polling data released May 8th by the Knights of Columbus shows that Pope Benedict XVI's visit to the

United States in April produced a sharp jump in the proportion of American Catholics with a more positive view of the pope following his trip.

The information provides data specifically about Catholics, and is a companion to the analysis released April 30th about the views of Americans generally. The Marist College Institute for Public Opinion interviewed 1,013 adults nationwide, and the survey results are from an oversample of an additional 502 Catholics nationwide, and are statistically significant at ± 4.4 percent. All polling was done between April 22nd and April 29th, 2008, immediately following the pope's return to Rome.

Of particular interest are data showing much more positive views among both practicing and non-practicing Catholics. For example, the proportion of practicing Catholics describing Benedict positively as a spiritual leader went from 70 percent before the visit to 82 percent afterward, a 12 percent jump. Among non-practicing Catholics, the proportion went from 62 percent before the visit to 79 percent afterward, a 17 percent jump.

A majority of Catholics, 54 percent, said they were more in touch with their spiritual values as a result of the pope's visit, and 41 percent said they were more likely to vote in the November elections as a result. Sixty-four percent of Catholics said they better understand the Catholic Church's position on important issues as a result of the trip.

Among the other key findings:

- 88 percent of practicing Catholic, and 73 percent of non-practicing Catholics say the trip met or exceeded their expectations.
- 72 percent of Catholics have a more positive view of the Church as a result of the visit, including 82 percent of practicing Catholics and 56 percent of non-practicing Catholics.
- 81 percent of Catholics – practicing and non-practicing – have a positive view of Pope Benedict, compared to 63 percent before the visit.

- 72 percent have a more positive view of the Catholic Church, including 82 percent of practicing and 56 percent of non-practicing Catholics.
- 82 percent of American Catholics view Pope Benedict positively as a world leader

Also important, half (50 percent) say they are more likely to lead a moral life and make family a bigger part of their lives, while nearly 40 percent say they are more likely to become more active in their community or church.

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said that the poll results "show clearly that Pope Benedict has presented the Catholics of the United States with a tremendous opportunity. Americans are a religious people, and they responded very positively to the message of faith, hope and love that the Holy Father delivered throughout his visit. It is now up to all of us in the Catholic community to walk through the door he has opened for us, and work together to build a civilization of love."

STATE COUNCIL REPORT

Now is the time to look to the future for your Council and plan for the Fraternal Year 2008-2009. The current Council Officers and program personnel should be working with the Grand Knight elect of your Council and the program personnel he has asked to be his team. Proper planning is so important to a successful term of office. The Council Activities Team is always available to assist and support our local Councils of Maryland. Do not hesitate to call and ask for our help. Our contact information is available in the Maryland State Directory and additional information can be obtained on the State web-site at www.kofc-md.org. Remember Council activities help keep good members active and will also attract new members.