



# PATAPSCO KNIGHT

## Supreme Chaplain's Message

**A**s Christians in the world, we must replace divisiveness and snark with charity and civility. Labels are useful. When buying milk, I look for a label that tells me it contains 2 percent milk fat. If I'm shopping for a shirt, I read the label to see the size and material. When taking medicine, I read the label to find out the dosage and possible side effects.

However, labels don't tell us everything. They won't tell me if a particular food is actually good for my health. They won't say who designed a product, how it was manufactured or how much it cost to make. In truth, labels often provide more hype than help, and many are misleading.

Labels can be even more inappropriate and misleading when they are applied to persons. Our society rightly rejects labels that demean or humiliate a person on the basis of race, ethnicity, sex, looks, mental capacity, illness, disabilities and so on.

The Church embraces societal efforts to speak with charity and goes further by teaching that a person is not the sum of his or her weaknesses or sins. No one's humanity should be reduced to and summed up by labels such as "cheater" or "liar" — even if one may be guilty of those offenses. Such labels do not do justice to the whole person, nor do they recognize the possibility of repentance and reform. Rather, they are a way of writing off that person as unworthy of our consideration.

All around us, we find disparaging labels applied to others with little hesitation — and sometimes with outright enthusiasm. We saw this in the bruising 2016 political season and have sadly seen it even in some Catholic journalism. We who are consumers of the news media — both secular and Church-related — too readily apply pejorative labels to other people.

In the heat of political battle, for example, candidates often hurl epithets at one another and their supporters. Last year's presidential race in the United States gave us many painful examples of this. Ad hominem insults such as "crooked" and "deplorable" took the place of the reasoned political discourse that candidates owe to one another, to the electorate and to the country.

Of course, the fault for the negative personal tone of politics does not lie entirely with politicians. Rather, it reflects a society already accustomed to snarkiness.

Added to this are two other currents in political life. The first is to reduce an opposing point of view to a malevolent ideology. For example, Christian teaching on marriage and sexuality is increasingly labeled as bigotry, especially when Christians seek to live according to their beliefs. Indeed, a host of "isms" and phobias are tossed about and attributed to people with minimal regard for what these terms actually mean or for the persons



**Archbishop William E. Lori**  
Supreme Chaplain  
so described.



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Grand Knight's Report 3



Programs 6

Knights Out Inn Specials 7

State Deputy's Report 9

Supreme Council News 10

Council Officers 12



## Supreme Chaplain's Message (Continued)

Related to this is another current: so-called identity politics. It is, of course, reasonable that people with common backgrounds and interests who feel oppressed would come together to improve their lot in society. That has always been a part of politics. Yet this form of politics, which involves self-labeling, is now pursued so vigorously and single-mindedly that it has deepened divisions in the country along lines of racial, ethnic and sexual identity. It's as though we're all consigned to World War I-style trench warfare. This sort of "self-branding" actually discourages tolerance and compromise, especially when it slaps disparaging labels on those who seem to hold contrary views.

Unfortunately, the Church is not immune to all this. While not "of the world," the Church is most assuredly "in the world." The style and content of the speech all around us affects us deeply. Yet, if we are striving to follow Christ and live the Beatitudes, our regard for others should be markedly greater than what we find in the secular media. We should be very reluctant to pin labels on others.

Labeling a Church leader is a way of putting that person in a box so that one does not have to deal thoughtfully with what the leader actually says or does. For example, some parishioners may readily refer to their priest as "conservative" or "liberal" without

ever really talking to him. Though labels may contain a grain of truth, they often short-circuit important conversations. And, sadly, ideological labels readily degenerate into uncharitable, ad hominem attacks on the integrity, abilities and worth of fellow Christians with whom we are supposed to be united in the Body of Christ.

The net effect of labeling our fellow Christians is to weaken the Church's mission by weakening the Church's unity. This unity is based on truth — not only the revealed truth but also basic truths about our common humanity and what constitutes a just and peaceful society. If, instead of building bridges, we find ourselves obscuring the truth by pitting Church leaders and fellow parishioners against one another, we are breaking down that oneness that the Lord willed for his followers — so that the world may believe (cf. Jn 17:21).

So, here's an idea for Lent 2017. Let's abstain from labels. Let's abstain from snarky, uncharitable speech. Let's contribute to making our society a less divisive place by making the Church less divided. Doing so will take a lot more grace, self-control and self-sacrifice than giving up candy, liquor or caffeine. Yet, as winter gives way to spring, such a sacrifice will yield a harvest of truth, joy, peace and love.

## Chaplain's Message

**Deacon Dave Ludwikoski**  
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**B**rother Knights and Lovely Ladies:  
 March brings us to the season of Lent, which occurs during the month of March, meaning that it has a two-fold purpose. We often think of March as a changeable month from the cold, bleakness of winter (usually!) to the warm, bright, colorful Spring.

Since Lent coincides with March, shouldn't that also be a time when we start thinking about making some changes in our lives? Perhaps, in addition to doing some much-needed Spring cleaning, how about considering some spiritual spring cleaning as well?

I'm sure that there are some areas of our souls that have become dirty and need to be cleaned up, from some bad habits to bad attitudes to being a little more selfish than we should be.

Lent is a great time to take stock of where we are in our life journey, and see where we have to go to get closer to God in our lives, and how we can improve how we treat others. This is how we "rend our hearts" as Scripture will soon tell us, and help us to prepare to celebrate Christ's resurrection on Easter.

If He could lay down His life for our sins, cleaning up some of our old bad habits and starting some good ones, especially in terms of spending more time with Him and helping out our neighbor is the LEAST we can do in return for all he has done for us.

Time to get out those spiritual brooms and dustpans!

May Our Lord, the Prince of Peace, give you the peace the world cannot give, and help us all overcome our sins and failings.

Vivat Jesus!

## March Events

*For more calendar items, visit  
[www.kofc1960.org/patapsco-council-calendar/](http://www.kofc1960.org/patapsco-council-calendar/)*

### Wednesday, March 8

Council Business Meeting 8:00 pm  
 (Rosary at 7:30 pm)

### Thursday, March 9

Beaumont Holding Company Meeting  
 7:30 pm, Knights Out Inn

Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights

Chapter Meeting/Honoree Night & Past Chapter  
 President's Night, 7 pm, Knights of Fatima Council #10137; 6420 E. Pratt St Baltimore, MD 21224

### Friday, March 10

Annual Irish Night Party with Rigadoo, 6:00 pm

### Wednesday, March 22

Officer Meeting 7:00 pm  
 Lecture Meeting 8:00 pm

### Thursday, March 23

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Assembly (4th Degree)  
 Meeting, St. Agnes Council Hall

## Patapsco Knight Newsletter

Send submissions  
 to Co-Editor Rick  
 Ostopowicz at  
[rickounc@gmail.com](mailto:rickounc@gmail.com) or  
 call 410-207-0939



*“God’s love is everlasting...”*

# Grand Knight’s Message

## **Grand Knight Bernie Wrisk**

*[bwriskgk1960@gmail.com](mailto:bwriskgk1960@gmail.com)*

**G**reetings to my Brother Knights and your families. Let us prayerfully enter this Lenten Season together always keeping in mind that God’s love is everlasting. “For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 9:38-39).

February was another active month for our council. To start it off we hosted the Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights monthly meeting. I owe a bunch of gratitude to Brothers Mike Karpers, Ed Fuller, Ed Schmitt, PGK Warren Norris, George Mack, and PGK Scott Luco for making that dinner a success. Some of the youth from our Council’s Basketball Free Throw competition went to the State level. See the programs and committees section of this news-

letter for the outcomes. Multiple brothers were blessed to take advantage of the quiet, meditative, and rejuvenating time at our annual Knights of Columbus retreat at Loyola on the Potomac. Our Degree Team took on a double degree night for both the Admission and Formation degrees and promoted a possible record setting 42 candidates to the 2nd degree. Many of us can appreciate the belly filling we received at our scrumptious annual Shrove Tuesday dinner.

I am looking forward to seeing you in our March Council activities. I’m sure the Rigadoo experience will be as fun as usual. I always encourage my brothers to join us in our monthly business meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. Of course, you should also invite your spouse and more family to come be enlightened at our Lecture night on the fourth Wednesday of each month. To find out the topic of the lecture night you may con-

tact our Worthy Lecturer Tim McCarthy in advance. Then again it is always nice to meet you and your family on Friday nights at our Knights Out Inn for a good meal and drink.

In efforts to build our recruitment effort up, our Recruitment Director, PGK Warren Norris is pursuing some dates in March. Please look forward to an email blast announce email with more details soon on these efforts. He is trying to

get dates in March to have a drive at both St Mark and the St Joseph Monastery churches. We would appreciate any brothers to join us then to welcome new candidates. We also are trying to pull together another wing night around the March Madness college basketball tournament. Always be willing to invite another Catholic man into our fraternity.

Vivat Jesus!





# Deputy Grand Knight's Message

**Deputy Grand Knight John Journell**  
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**B**rothers, we have entered into the Lenten Season in our Liturgical Year. Shrove Tuesday is in the rear-view mirror, as well as our past year- good, bad, or otherwise. Along with fasting and sacrifice, now is a time for reflecting on how we can better glorify and serve Christ as we look forward to celebrating

His resurrection on Easter. The past doesn't matter; We have only the future and what we make of it. We can be so thankful that we have our Brothers in the Knights of Columbus to help share this walk with each other as we work hand in hand to serve our community in Christ. Each playing a different role, but all striving for the same common goal.

Vivat Jesus!

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## Chancellor's Report

**Chancellor Rick Ostopowicz**  
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**B**rothers all, as we begin this Lenten season, many of us take part in the time honored tradition of sacrifice. "What are you giving up for Lent?" is a common question.

Yes, Lent is a season of sacrifice and self-denial. However, all too often we focus on the "loss" part of Lent. True, our Savior died for our sins, but He also rose from the dead to grant us eternal life.

To that end, Lent is not just about loss or denial. It is more

about what we gain than what we lose.

With that said, rather than focusing on what you can give up this Lent, why not focus on what you can gain? What more can you do, or give, that will prompt a spiritual awakening in you and those around you?

The Knights of Columbus is a service organization. We serve others, and we take great pride in doing so. Who can you serve during Lent?

Finally, one sacrifice that I urge you to make is to become more active in our Council. Attend an event, join a business meeting, or stop by the Council during our Knights Out Inn on Friday evenings (except for Good Friday). We ask so little of our members--only give what you are able, whether it is time, money, effort, or just prayers.

Please don't "give up" on us, Lent or not. We promise that we won't give up on you.

Vivat Jesus!





# Program Director's Report

**Program Director PGK Barry Casanova**

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**B**rothers and Patapsco Council family: At this writing I see the sun! It is 67 degrees out. Can spring really be here? Caution, I remember some knock-out snows in March and even early April, but I am optimistic. March 1st starts Lent with Ash Wednesday, so, assuming you have recovered from however you celebrated Mardi Gras, hopefully at our Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper, now it is time to begin thoughtful preparation for Easter. We have the basketball free-throw competition, Council, District and State done, Council Blood Drive done, with the District we donated an ultrasound machine to the Pregnancy Center West, and a double header Degree Exemplification. It has been a busy year so far. With more activities coming we are in for a busy spring too. Although Karen and I are headed South for a short trip, I leave the third period reports either done or in good hands to submit by the early March deadline. This will be my last set of reports as Program Chairman and after several years of serving the Council in that capacity, I just need a rest. The baton can be passed to a younger good writer/editor who can come up with some fresh ideas and perhaps a more successful style that pleases the Surge judges. We never lack for activities in Patapsco Council so I am sure that the program can continue with success. Yes, I will be back for Rigadoo to celebrate St. Patrick's Day a little early on the 10th. Events to the South (DC) seem to be shaking up the rigor mortis on Capitol Hill, but the positive proof will be seen in the coming months if the over-reactions can be tempered enough to at least give a chance for some good government. Elections do have consequences—where did I hear that line. So, let's give it a chance to play out a bit and see what can be accom-

plished. My beef: Who made Hollywood the arbiters of our society and experts in governing? Many of them live in posh worlds unrelated to reality and can't even handle their own relationships—how many divorces per capita? Potty mouthed, spoiled children? So much for that rant; guess I am becoming the definition of old curmudgeon. Anyway, stay busy attending Council events, reflect on the meaning of Lent as we prepare to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection on April 16th, and Brothers—ATTEND a business meeting. We are seeing some new faces; how about seeing more old ones? Taxes are not due until Easter Monday, oh joy. There always is something to do. It is also NOT too early to think about next year's Council leadership positions—are you willing to serve and take some responsibility? We always need fresh thoughts and new enthusiastic hands are of great benefit to Patapsco Council. Volunteering insures members and their families of a memorable KofC life experience. Keep up the prayers for those threatened with religious violence worldwide and our men and women in uniform, including those wearing blue. Mary, Queen of Knights, pray for us.



## God is Listening

**Co-Editor Tim McCarthy**

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**S**ince 2008, thousands have prayed for an end of abortion with 40 Days for Life. In our last campaign, last fall, our leadership used a donated bus that toured across the country. We had a praying presence in all 50 states.

Between Europe and the United States, we have 725,000 volunteers.

Our next campaign starts on March 1. Patapsco Council will be present at the Hillcrest abortion facility at 11:00 am on Thursday, March 2, for one hour. The facility is on Route 40 at Johnnycake Road.

All who read this are invited to join us.

# Programs and Committees

## Church

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 28 was another successful event. The Stations of the Cross were presented by the St. Joseph Monastery youth following the supper. Many thanks to all who attended and/or volunteered.

## Community

The Patapsco Council #1960, Knights of Columbus will hold our spring Document Destruction/Electronics Turn-in Day on Saturday, April 22, 2017, from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm at our Council home, located at 1010 Frederick Road in Catonsville. For additional information, please call (410) 744-8754 Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 am and 1:00 pm, or call Chairman John Journell at (703) 725-4692.

## Council

There are many restaurants looking to pay our nonprofit charitable fraternity for dining out with them. We need some brothers to step up and plan the dates and advertise them to our community to help us with these easy fundraiser opportunities. Please contact

your Grand Knight if you can help us run one of these.

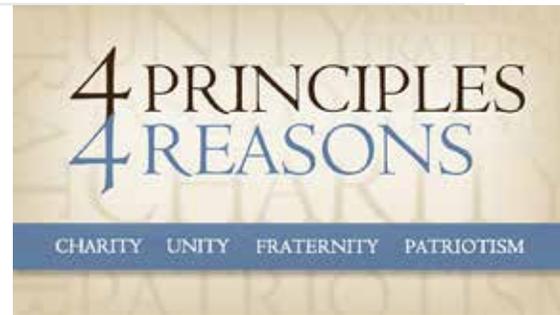
The next council Flea Market date has been set for April 30.

## Culture of Life

On February 16, the House of Representatives began legal action to defund Planned Parenthood. For the past eight years, some 725,000 volunteers in Europe and the United States have been praying for this. Please join us in a peaceful, prayerful presence at the Hillcrest Abortion Center (Route 40 & Johnnycake Rd) for the 18th 40 Days for Life Campaign March 1 – April 9. Sign up to pray in 1 hour timeslots, 7am-7pm every day. Pray and fast for women contemplating abortion, the center workers & the healing of those who chose abortion. To sign up, please visit [www.40daysforlife.com/baltimore](http://www.40daysforlife.com/baltimore).

## Youth

The Basketball Free Throw competition at the State level took place in February. Out of 17 competitors that started from our Council, 7 of them won at the Regional level; and one, Kate Wilking,



won at the State level. Congratulations to all and thanks to Paul Buckley and Scott Fridley for putting this together.

## Charity

Our Scholarship support funds need some extra help due to some lower than expected turn outs at some recent fundraisers this year. Please consider purchasing an additional Scholarship raffle ticket this year or help to sell them to others. For other means of supporting this fund via donations please contact Dennis Brose at 443-498-3898.

## Fourth Degree

The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Assembly No. 1620 meets every fourth Thursday at the St. Agnes Council Hall. All Fourth Degree Sir Knights are welcome.

## Milestones

**Financial Secretary Michael Doetzer**

[mdoetzer@aol.com](mailto:mdoetzer@aol.com)



*Note: To provide information for this column, please contact Michael Doetzer at 410-242-6130*

John Mohler Jr took his Formation Degree on Feb. 15.

Charles Myers transferred to Father Edmund Julien Council #11616, Westover, MD

Robert Hibbert transferred to Archbishop Francis P. Keough Council #5263, Odenton, MD



# District Deputy's Report

*District Deputy PGK Scott Luco*

*lucogk1960@gmail.com*

I wish everyone a very productive and Faith-filled Lent! Lent is a time specially set aside for prayer, fasting and almsgiving, and the Knights of Columbus has plenty to offer to help you on your way! I particularly recommend a Lenten Pilgrimage to the St. John Paul II Shrine in Washington, D.C. The Shrine was built and is now run by the Knights of Columbus, and it is a wonderful experience. Be sure to allow plenty of time for Mass and a thorough tour of the museum. Also, the State Council will host a Pilgrimage to the Shrine on April 1, so please check the State website, [www.kofc-md.org](http://www.kofc-md.org).

On the recruiting front, Patapsco Council will pick up in April with an Admissions Degree, so you have the entire month to get a Form 100 in front of your Catholic friend and sign him up! It only takes a minute or two to show your friend what has drawn you into the Order, and it will make a significant difference in both your life and his!

Vivat Jesus!

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## Beaumont News



Our Knights Out Inn that provides wonderful meals to our council family and guests at great prices could use some additional helping hands. We have certified cooks that can help to teach you the ropes of how they work there labor of love on Fridays. Please

consider volunteering one Friday a month or every other month or as often as you can. To do so just call our Beaumont office at 410-744-8754 and let them know. We need to have more members trained to continue to provide all that we do each Friday night.

# Knights Out Inn Specials

March 3  
*Baked Salmon*

March 10  
*Irish Night in the Main Hall*

March 17  
*Seafood Platter*

March 24  
*Imperial Crab*

March 31  
*Shrimp Creole*

April 7  
*Shrimp Salad Platter*

April 14  
*Closed for Good Friday*

In addition to our specials, we serve a regular menu of crab cakes, chicken tenders, shrimp salad, fried shrimp, cheese steak subs, and rib eye steaks.

All meals are served with delicious sides and salads.

Please come and join us for a great evening of fraternity and family fun.

## Join Us!



# Reflections

*Lawrence P. Grayson*

## A NATION DIVIDED

“A house divided against itself cannot stand,” said Abraham Lincoln in June 1858, less than three years before the Civil War began. “It will become all one thing or all the other,” he continued. “Either the opponents of slavery will arrest the further spread of it...or its advocates will push it forward, till it shall become lawful in all the States.”

Today, the social compact of the United States is again being severed, not by the issue of slavery, but by race, sex, ethnicity, color, national origin, religion, immigration status, sexual orientation, gender expression, and other lines of fragmentation that can be exploited by wedge politics. As intense as the controversies arising from these matters are, they are more like lacerations on the surface of society. The underlying, fundamental chasm centers on divergent beliefs in God and the importance of religion for leading one's life.

The divide was exemplified by two recent events held days apart. On Jan. 21, hundreds of thousands of women gathered for the first Women's March on Washington and its companion demonstrations in other cities and nations. They claimed the recent presidential election insulted, demonized and threatened women. Those favoring pro-life, however, were not welcome because the core issue of the demonstration was a woman's right to abortion. On Jan. 27, hundreds of thousands of people participated in the 44th annual March for Life in Washington, with companion parades across the United States and the world. They had one message: every human life is valuable and must be protected from conception until natural death. The opposing views expressed at the two gatherings are irreconcilable.

The divergence in dealing with religiously-based issues is clearly exhibited in opposing actions of the Obama and Trump presidential administrations. Forty-eight hours before the end of Obama's term on Jan. 20, a rule went into effect to prohibit states from withholding federal funds for family planning from Planned Parenthood. Four weeks later on Feb. 16, the House voted to void the rule. Senate action and the President's signature are expected soon.

Under the Obama Administration, annual funding to Planned Parenthood increased significantly, rising to \$554 million in 2015. On Jan. 30, the Protect Funding for Women's Health Care Act (S.241), which would prohibit Planned Parent-

hood from receiving any federal funding and redirect the amount it would have received to health care providers that do not perform abortions, was introduced in the Senate.

Last August, a Federal District Court enjoined the Obama Administration from enforcing a directive ordering public schools to allow students to use bathrooms and locker rooms consistent with their gender choice, rather than biological sex. The Obama Administration appealed, but on Feb. 10, the day after Jeff Sessions was sworn in as Attorney General, the Justice Department withdrew the petition.

On one side of the divide are religiously-committed people who uphold the innate dignity of every human being, the sanctity of human life at all stages, marriage as only between one man and one woman, and freedom of conscience in guiding one's public actions. On the other side are the religiously-indifferent. They overwhelmingly view human dignity as being conferred when one can function as a person, a woman to have a right to abort her own child, marriage as a union between consenting adults regardless of gender, and a religious-formed conscience as subordinate to LGBT demands. The two groups conflict not only theologically, but clash culturally and politically, as well. They allow no middle view, no room for compromise.

America is a pluralistic nation, in which people of numerous persuasions must live and work together in freedom, peace and justice. This can only occur and be sustained if the people are bound together by common principles, shared values and underlying societal mores. It is morality, not laws, which forms such bonds. Throughout most of America's history, morality and its attendant virtues were rooted in Judeo-Christian teachings. These religious ideas shaped people's beliefs and convictions, and guided their behavior. They provided the basis for the nation's social policy and law, and created a framework for the nation's public life.

The various Christian denominations have many differences, but they share more convictions than separate them. The gulf between belief and unbelief, or commitment and indifference, borders on the unbridgeable. The religiously-committed and the religiously-indifferent have very divergent perspectives on the purpose of human life, on the reason for creation. A person who believes that life on earth is transitory and that one will spend an eternity in heaven or hell depending upon how that life is lived will make vastly different choices than one who believes that the here and now is all there is.

A large and increasing component of the religiously-indifferent are nones, that is, those who are atheists, agnostics or have no religious affiliation. According to Pew surveys, the number of Americans identifying as nones was just under 23 percent in 2015, compared to 15 percent in 2007. A most distressing finding is that the largest single factor driving the rise of nones is Catholic defections. About 28 percent of nones are former Catholics. In the eight-year period between the two Pew surveys, the number of Americans claiming to be Catholic decreased by 3 million, shrinking their share of the U.S. population from 24 to 21 percent, which now is less than that of nones.

Although one-third of American adults were raised as Catholics, four in ten no longer identify themselves as such. Beyond defections, there are those who claim to be Catholic, but do not faithfully practice it. Among self-identified Catholics, only 64 percent are absolutely certain that God exists, 58 percent consider religion important in their lives, and a mere 35 percent attend Mass each Sunday.

This apathy, along with desertions, has consequences. The future of religious freedom in the United States may well rest on the outcome of the struggle to establish a materialistic, religiously-intolerant society, spurred by the growth of the religiously-indifferent, or a religiously-tolerant, secular society grounded in spiritual values, advocated by the religiously-committed. Like Lincoln's view of slavery, this struggle will end only when the supporters of one of these immutable views have no further means to resist the supporters of the other.



# State Deputy's Report

**State Deputy Stephen M. Cohen**

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**M**y Brothers All:  
January was another busy and productive month throughout the State. Besides the Mid Term Meeting. The Archdiocese of Baltimore held two events. The Ordination of two new Auxiliary Bishops – Bishop Parker and Bishop Brennan. The second event was the Pro Life Mass. Thank you to members of the Color Corps for participating in both of these events.

The Father Rosensteel Council held its 25th Pro Life Kick Off event. This is always a great evening with good speakers. It gets us ready for the March For Life. Many of our members attended the March in Washington D.C. The good weather this year proved to be a plus.

Members also participated in the Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge and the

Family Night with the Baltimore Blast.

As a State we continue to grow. Thanks to everyone who has recruited at least one new member this Fraternal Year. It is not too late to get onboard. Remember everyone is a member of the Membership Committee. Look past your parish, each one of us knows a Catholic gentleman that is eighteen or older. Ask them to join us. Help us as we look to encourage young men between the ages of eighteen and thirty to join us. Remember, we are looking for an hour of their time each month.

On February 5th, we welcomed our second new council this year. The Father Maximilian Kolbe Council was instituted at the JP II Shrine. How fitting to be at the Shrine as these new members of Polish decent became part of our Honored Order.

Now is the time to start planning for our Annual Convention in Ocean City. Chairman John Trainor and his team have been working hard to make this year enjoyable for all. If you have any question do not hesitate to contact John.

Now is also the time to contact your Insurance Agent and schedule your Benefits Night. Hold this as an open meeting and invite the families. This could be combined with an Open House. Invite the parish families and tell them about the great works the Knights of Columbus do.

In everything that we do - We are Advocates of the Lord.

Vivat Jesus!



Visit the State Council website: [www.kofc-md.org](http://www.kofc-md.org)



*We believe in the power of prayer! Please join us in praying for the following people:*

George Mack, Dave Leinhardt, Fr. Francis Butler, and Mike Blair

If you have any prayer intentions for someone in your family, please contact Chancellor Rick Ostowicz via e-mail at [rickounc@gmail.com](mailto:rickounc@gmail.com) to get the person's name included in our prayers. You may also fill out a prayer request form on our Council website.

*Our Lady, Queen of the Knights, bless all the activities of our Order. Keep us true to our pledge, to extend the kingship of thy divine son on earth. Through Thine intercession, win for us the grace, ever to exemplify in our public and private lives, the virtues that should characterize those especially dedicated to the service of the heavenly court. Make us always aware that as your Knights, we are constantly observed, our faith judged, and our Order appreciated. Accept, O Mary, this renewed pledge of fealty and devotion, of Thy Servants, the Knights of Columbus.*



# Supreme Council News

## THE COURAGEOUS WITNESS OF 17TH-CENTURY MARTYRS INSPIRES US TO PRAY FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS TODAY

By Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson

Last month, I wrote about Martin Scorsese's remarkable film *Silence*, based on the historical novel of the same title by the Japanese Catholic author Shusaku Endo. Through the journey of two young Jesuits, Father Francisco Garrape and Father Sebastião Rodrigues, *Silence* explores the 17th-century persecution of Christians in Japan — and the consequences of the apostasy, after torture, of Father Cristóvão Ferreira, the Jesuit provincial there.

As I wrote last month, Scorsese views his film as a sort of pilgrimage, and I encouraged those who see it to do so in the same light. *Silence* presents in an extraordinary way an important chapter — but only one chapter — in the long history of missionary activity and evangelization. What is missing from *Silence* is also worth recalling.

When news of Father Ferreira's action reached Europe, many Jesuits sought to travel to Japan

not to ascertain the facts but to join those who were suffering martyrdom. Among them was a group of Jesuits led by an Italian, Father Marcello Mastrilli.

Before leaving for Japan, Father Mastrilli composed a new novena asking the intercession of St. Francis Xavier, one of the first Jesuits, for the success of the missions and especially for those suffering overseas for the Catholic faith, that they would "live and die in the state of grace." Father Mastrilli's novena, traditionally recited in March, has come to be known as the Novena of Grace.

Father Mastrilli and his companions were captured shortly after their arrival in Japan. Horribly tortured, they suffered martyrs' deaths. Indeed, Father Mastrilli's witness, not Father Ferreira's apostasy, better represents the Jesuit mission in Japan.

A Japanese account from the time states that during the 17th century approximately 100 Jesuits died as martyrs while only five renounced their faith, after torture.

There is even evidence that toward the end of his life Father Ferreira recanted his apostasy, after which he, too, was tortured to death.

And regarding the question of whether Christianity could take root in Japan, the fact remains that when Commodore Matthew Perry entered Japan's Edo Bay in 1853 there were thousands of Japanese Christians.

Today, we see throughout parts of the Middle East, Africa and Asia the brutal persecution, torture and killing of Christians. The daily heroism of these brothers and sisters in the faith is an inspiration to their fellow Christians everywhere.

As we know, the situation is particularly acute in the Middle East, where so many Christians have been targeted for genocide and hundreds of thousands have lost virtually everything. During the past several years, the Knights of Columbus has become one of the international leaders in helping these people — providing thousands with food, clothing, shelter and medical care.

This year, we will continue our leadership role and we will look for ways to provide even more help. The corporal works of mercy continue to be indispensable.

But we can also do more to foster a greater spiritual solidarity with Christians who are suffering. This month, we will launch a new initiative to pray for

those Christians suffering persecution. In this way, we will join a new spiritual work of mercy with our ongoing corporal works of mercy.

We are proposing a new prayer, a Novena of Grace and Solidarity (see page 15), based on the prayer of Father Mastrilli. I urge all brother Knights and their families to join in this Novena of Grace and Solidarity for persecuted Christians throughout the world March 12-20. The novena may also be prayed any time throughout the year.

In many ways, 2017 may be the decisive year in determining whether many Christian communities throughout the Middle East will continue to exist. Many Christians in the region tell me that our efforts give them renewed hope and determination.

Let us pray that, in spite of all the tribulations they face, they will remain faithful and that we will remain worthy of their trust in us.

Vivat Jesus!

Visit the Supreme Council website at [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)



# Fraternal Benefits News

## THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GUARANTEES

**T**hese days, in the midst of a volatile market and an unsettled economy, there's too much left to chance. In an ideal world, every product would come with clear-cut guarantees that would put you at ease and eliminate the guesswork, or at least some of it.

The reality is that guarantees are hard to come by. But not for the Knights of Columbus.

Here are eight guarantees from the Knights of Columbus that you and your family can count on when you do business with the Knights.

### **We guarantee the cash value in your whole life insurance.**

The beauty of whole life — or permanent — insurance is that it is truly permanent. It's a way to insure your life for life. That's true not only of the death benefit but also of the cash value, which is guaranteed provided that you continue to pay premiums according to the contract.

### **We guarantee the rates on your level term insurance.**

Our level term policies are predictable. Your rates as laid out in your contract will not change. No surprises — just reliable, affordable coverage.

### **We guarantee a minimum interest rate on your retirement annuity.**

Your retirement is not something worth leaving up to chance. A Knights of Columbus annuity can help to remove some of the uncertainty. Your contract

includes a guaranteed interest rate that you will continue to earn for the life of the contract. The actual rate you earn may be greater than that — and often is — but it will never be lower.

### **We guarantee the principal on your retirement annuity.**

Not only will the rate on your Knights of Columbus retirement annuity never fall below your guaranteed minimum, the principal in your Knights of Columbus annuity will never decrease, guaranteed. If you put \$10,000 into your annuity, the value in your account — before you begin to withdraw funds — will never drop below \$10,000. If you put \$20,000 in, it will never drop below \$20,000. Quite simply, unless you execute an early surrender or withdrawal, you will never lose money on a Knights of Columbus annuity.

### **We guarantee an income stream for life.**

With a properly structured Knights of Columbus annuity, you can be assured of a guaranteed income stream for as long as you live. Whether you live 5 years, 15 years or 25 years into retirement, by working with your Knights of Columbus field agent, you can be assured that you will have guaranteed income during each of those years.

### **We guarantee high-quality, professional services.**

We're not just an insurance company — we're an insurance company for brother Knights, run by brother Knights. We pride ourselves on the quality of service that we provide to members and their families. Our dedicated, full-time professional agents will be there for you and your family whenever you call on them.

### **We guarantee not to purchase “junk” bonds or derivatives.**

We do not take our brother Knights' financial futures lightly. We invest carefully and make business decisions motivated not by profit or greed, but by service and commitment. Our safety, security and fiscal responsibility are the principle reasons why we have earned A.M. Best's highest financial strength rating, A++ (Superior), for 41 consecutive years.

### **We guarantee not to invest in companies that deal in abortions, contraception, human cloning, embryonic stem cell research, for-profit health care that pays for any of the aforementioned, and pornography.**

The Knights of Columbus is Catholic both professionally and fraternally. Our faith informs our work at every level, including the evaluation of each investment we make. Father McGivney wouldn't have wanted it any other way.

The Knights of Columbus should be different than all other insurance companies — and we are. We are looking out for you in a way that no other company can because we're your brothers.

So, join the hundreds of thousands of Brother Knights who have chosen to help protect their future with the Knights of Columbus. Talk to your agent and see what options are available to you and your family.

**Contact your Knights of Columbus Fraternal Benefits Advisor Mark T. Bateman FIC [Mark.bateman@kofc.org](mailto:Mark.bateman@kofc.org) 410-340-8561**



## Council Officers

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## Your Opportunity to Lock in Future Scholarship Support

This Council takes pride in having awarded Catholic elementary and high school scholarships since 1985. During that year, a carnival was conducted on the Council/Beaumont grounds for a whole week. The proceeds from it were placed in separate accounts and invested until 1998 when the Patapsco Council No. 1960 Charities was formed. This Charities corporation run by members of our council is a separate entity from the council so that all contributions to it can be tax deductible. It was formed to raise funds for scholarships and the other charities of the Council. One of the funds maintained by this Charities corporation is an endowment account from which the earnings only are used

to provide for the scholarships awarded. We have earned over 8% return on this special account, and it currently is used to completely fund our elementary school scholarships. This endowment account has grown from \$5,000 to over \$20,000. This fund receives all personal contributions of \$250 or more to help us always be there for scholarship support. We would like to ask you if you can help us to grow this endowment account to ensure a greater amount of scholarship support to go on into perpetuity. If you can assist, please send your check or cash to the Council marked for this purpose. Contributions to this charity are tax deductible. Contact PGK Dennis Brose at 443-575-6445 for more information.



Patapsco Council # 1960

presents its

Annual Irish Night Party

featuring

*Rigadoo*

Friday Night

March 10, 2017

1010 Frederick Rd.

Catonsville, MD

21228

Free Parking



Dinners

6 to 8 pm

Music 8 to 12

\$6.00

at the door

Beverages available at popular prices

Reservations recommended:

Mike Karpers: 410.744.1472

Council Home: 410.744.8754

Light fare available until 9:00 p.m.



PATAPSCO KNIGHT NEWSLETTER

Knights of Columbus Patapsco Council

No. 1960

1010 Frederick Road

Catonsville, MD 21228

www.kofc1960.org

March 2017 (Issue 17.03)

# **AN ALL AMERICAN 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY CELEBRATION FUNDRAISER!**

**SPONSORED BY**

**THE PARADISE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH**

**OUTBACK STEAK HOUSE**

**SUPPORT THE CATONSVILLE 4TH OF JULY  
COMMITTEE & HELP THEM MAINTAIN**

**THEIR 70 YEAR OLD 4TH OF JULY PARADE AND FIREWORKS  
DISPLAY TRADITION.**

**WHEN:** Wednesday, May 24, 2017

**TIME:** 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

**WHERE:** Nine Mile Circle, Catonsville, MD 21228 (THE F.O.P. LODGE)

**COST:** \$15.00 PER PERSON (TABLES OF 10 AVAILABLE)

## **DETAILS:**

- Tickets must be purchased in advance.
- When buying your ticket, please let us know if you would prefer a chicken dinner instead of steak.

For ticket information, email **Joe Pallozzi** [atjpallozzi@juno.com](mailto:atjpallozzi@juno.com) or **Stuart Merenbloom** at [smerenbloom@verizon.net](mailto:smerenbloom@verizon.net).