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THE CAVALCADE

Remembering Bishop Charles J. McDonnell



The Most Reverend Charles J. McDonnell, Retired Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, was born in Brooklyn, NY on July 7, 1928. Charles was ordained to the priesthood in 1954. He served in the United States Army and NJ Air National Guard. During this time he received many awards and decorations for his service. In 1986 he was raised to the rank of Brigadier General in the army and was appointed the Deputy Chief of Military Chaplains in the Army until his retirement in 1989. During this time he received many awards and decorations for his service.

Bishop McDonnell then received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Classical Languages and Philosophy from Seton Hall University and a Masters of Science in Counseling and Education from L.I. University.

In addition to the 66 years as a priest and 26 years as Bishop in Archdiocese, Charles provided valuable assistance to the Knights of Columbus in programs and activities as well as traveling to various functions. In 2004, he was appointed State Chaplain to the NJ State Council, serving with dedication and distinction until 2016.

Bishop McDonnell stood as a model for all Catholic gentlemen to emulate. We are truly grateful for the support of his ministry to our Church, Country and Order. May he Rest in Peace.

The Cavalcade

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The Cavalcade

Washington Mass

The Annual Fr. Washington Mass was held on Sunday, February 2 at St. Stephen's Church in Kearny - The Archdiocesan Sanctuary of the Four Chaplains. The Mass is held on the first Sunday of February every year to remember the four chaplains who died when the USS Dorchester was torpedoed by Nazi U-boats and gave their life preservers to other service men so that they had the chance to survive. The 4th Degree Color Corps participated in the procession that included veterans, police, and scouts.



State Deputy

Brother Knights,

As this is the April Cavalcade, it is hard to believe that we are through nine months of the Fraternal Year. We would normally be coming into one of the busiest times of the year, but these aren't normal circumstances.

Unless you have been asleep for the past couple of months, you know we are facing a very serious crisis with the COVID-19 Virus. Serious enough to put everything into perspective. Last week, we were planning for the Convention. Now, we are holding conference calls instead of regular meetings, planning a virtual Convention, and, most of all, praying for everyone's health.

That last is extremely important, because we are all Brothers, and that's what we do. We look out for each other, care for each other and pray. Not only for each other, but for all those affected in any way by the virus, and for this crisis to pass as soon as possible. As I've said before, I truly believe in the old saying – "If God takes you to it, He'll see you through it." And, He WILL see us through this, because He's got it! Trust in Him.

Despite all that's going on, we have been busy the last few months conducting Knights' business. Though, me from a hospital and rehab bed for 2 of those months! And, I can't say enough about the other State Officers who picked up the slack while I was recovering. If there was ever any doubt, you should know that they are all worthy of their Office.

In January, we had three very productive Midterm Grand Knights meetings in three different parts of the state. They were conducted a little different than what's been done in the past, and I hope they were very helpful and informative. Most Councils also conducted their Free Throw contests in January with the Districts being held in February. Even though the Free Throw program has been stopped dead in its tracks by the Coronavirus, please know that we will do all in our power to see to it that it is a postponement and not a cancellation.

We have also continued to make great strides in membership, thanks to the new combined Degree and the Online Membership program. We were well on our way to reaching our intake goal for the year

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General Programs

Brother Knights,

While spring has arrived, we are dealing with a situation that none of us have experienced ever in our lifetime. The COVID 19 Virus is something that I find not only concerning for us as an Order, but also on a very personal level for all my Bother Knights. Please stay safe, wash your hands frequently, and keep your distance.

As we all know the physical NJ State Convention has been cancelled for this year; however, that does not mean that Programs have stopped. While they are on a temporary hiatus please consider that you have one more quarter of this fraternal year. Take this final quarter to reflect on your Council's accomplishments, and decide what you need to do to achieve your goals for the year. Remember that Programs drives Membership and if you utilize certain programs, you can increase your membership. While during these trying times, membership is struggling but we can still work to increase our ranks.

Please continue with a positive attitude in the remaining months to finish a successful year for your Council! Remember if you are struggling to find a program that fits your needs in this final quarter take advantage of worthwhile programs from the State and Supreme Councils that will help those less fortunate, evangelize our faith, and bring renewed closeness within our families, in our parishes, and among Brother Knights. For ideas, see www.kofc.org/faithin-action, the State Council's monthly Crusader newsletter, or the Grand Knight Handbook.

Please take note of the State Deputy's recent e-mail requesting assistance for nursing homes in New Jersey. Whether it is money/food/specific items, please consider the situation and if you have the means be generous. Also, let us be smart and work through the State or Chapter/Federation. Coordinate through the State Deputy so there is no confusion and duplication. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to the Knights of Columbus.

Finally, by June 30, make sure your council meets all the requirements for the Columbian Award and submits Form SP-7 to recognize the numerous hours of work by your dedicated officers and

(continued on page 3)



Little Falls Free Throw

Knights of Columbus Council **3835** in Little Falls had their free throw contest for ages 9 to 14. This event was held at the Little Falls Recreation Center on Saturday, January 18. We had at least 50 total participants. The list of 1st place finishers is in the Windows Excel file. I hope you can open this file.

Winners:

GIRLS

9 year old---Victoria Macaluso
10 year old--Lindsay Russo
11 year old--Lucy Jandoli
12 year old--Maddie Natale

BOYS

9 year old---Adam Stuber
10 year old--Victor DePadova
10 year old--Nathaniel Redden
11 year old--Jayden Findlay
12 year old--Alexander Rizo
13 year old--Mateo Moreno
14 year old--Jacob Blunt

In the group photo, front row (from left): Lindsay Russo, 10; Victoria Macaluso, 9; Ada Stuben, 9. Back row (from left): Christopher Troyano; Mateo Morino, 13; Jacob Blunt, 14; Ron Yutko, project chairman; Gerry Occhiuzzi; Jayden Amico, 13; Ryan Blunt, 11; Mike Vaclavicek; Jay Findlay, 11; Colin Findlay, 11; Nathaniel Redden, 10.



High Bridge Free Throw

St. Joseph Council **10627** in High Bridge has been conducting its annual Free Throw tournaments for youths ages 9 through 14 since 1992. During the 28 years, the council event has grown to be what may be one of the largest local Knights of Columbus Free Throw competitions in the country.

Previously, the council invited youths to come to a school for the competition on an evening or weekend. In recent years, the council has been conducting the competition during local youth basketball program practice sessions. Thanks to St. Joseph Council's event director, Chris Denis of Lebanon Township, it also now includes three local programs in High Bridge, Lebanon Township and Califon. The High Bridge Youth Basketball Association and the Lebanon Township Athletic Association co-sponsor the event and set aside a portion of the High Bridge Middle School, Lebanon Township Woodglen School and Califon Borough Elementary School gymnasiums for the Knights' competition. Knights monitor the events at each school.

The 2020 local champions were:

Age 9 Boys: Caleb Good
Age 9 Girls: Ruby Collett
Age 10 Boys: Jack Castellano
Age 10 Girls: Gabriella La Marca
Age 11 Boys: Alex Beswick
Age 11 Girls: (Council Shoot Out): Winner: Taylor Baykowski, Finalist: Karlee Curtis
Age 12 Boys: Dillon Devine
Age 12 Girls: (Council Shoot Out): Winner: Sophie Guzzino; Finalists: Ava Frelig, Amanda Korfin
Age 13 Boys: (Council Shoot Out): Winner: Wyatt DeMao, Finalist: Alex Kinsky
Age 13 Girls: Winner: Maansi Patel
Age 14 Boys: Riley Hogan
Age 14 Girls: (Council Shoot Out) Winner: Gabriella Yerian, Finalist: Maya Wurst

Download a copy of The Cavalcade from our web site: www.njkofc.org.

Please forward all Cavalcade articles to:

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS JUNE 15, 2020.

Please share this copy of The Cavalcade with a Brother Knight.



THE CAVALCADE

Wheel Chair Lift

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 saves the day for a local resident

Fellow Knights member Gerry Butrico was contacted by local South Plainfield resident Nancy Guarraci, asking for help assembling and installing a wheel chair lift that she purchased for her husband who is wheelchair bound.

The Knights sprang into action and took on the task and completed the lift installation in just one afternoon.

Over the years, the Knights have installed many handicap ramps and lifts around town for needy residents.

The following Knights members and friends helped build the lift: Peter and Ian Tomasello, Gerry, Anthony and Angelo Butrico, Joe Lammi, Joe and Nick Mcgeehan, and Walter Adenau.



Food for the Needy

The Hamilton Council #6213 Knights of Columbus has been providing "Food for the Needy" for many years. This year the Council is extremely proud of their new endeavor and the amount of food they are supplying to local food banks within Mercer County New Jersey. Upon taking the helm of Grand Knight, Gino Melone gave all Directors and Chairs a charge and goal to double all efforts to increase all monetary and physical donations within their Churches and community. The Councils "Food for the Needy" Chairman Robert "Bob" Hope did just that, with two (Thanksgiving & Christmas) distributions of more than 8,000 lbs. of canned goods. Photoed is one of the councils most recent distributions.

Hamilton Council. #6213 Grand Knight Gino Melone, is presenting Director of the Bromley Center CYO food pantry Patrick Hardiman, a case of canned vegetables with Chairman Bob Hope, Deputy Grand Knight Michael Santilla and Paul Santilla.

Quilts for Kids

Representatives of The Knights of Columbus Bishop Edward T. Hughes Council 15540 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Three Bridges, NJ were greeted with organizational enthusiasm and gratitude when they delivered a Quilts for Kids donation of 100 quilts to The Children's Hospital at Saint Peter's University Hospital on January 23rd, 2020. Quilts for Kids is a nonprofit organization with a network of volunteers who produce and deliver thousands of patchwork quilts to comfort children facing serious illness, injury or trauma in hospitals throughout the country. The quilts are placed on the hospital beds of admitted children and then given to them to take home. More information can be found at www.quiltsforkids.org. The Knights also delivered their second \$1,000 contribution to Quilts for Kids for fabric purchases earlier in the day.

On the 3rd Floor: Nurses Monica Marrone and Joe Mcallister with K of C representatives displaying a few of the 100 quilts.



Exemplification Ceremony

Andrew Rispoli of Glen Gardner became the first member of St. Joseph Council in High Bridge to enter the Knights of Columbus via the newly combined Charity, Unity and Fraternity Degree ceremony. Andrew did so with members joining other Knights councils in Hunterdon County on Friday, February 21 at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Pittstown.

Andrew, a Project Manager for MAI Insulation in Montville, lives with his wife, Jennifer and their three sons, Jacob, Caleb and Micah. They are parishioners of St. Joseph Church, High Bridge, where Andrew conducts a weekly Bible Study program. Andrew's father, James Rispoli, recruited the new Knight,

The exemplification ceremony is an important step, not only for Andrew and the other new Knights, but for the Knights of Columbus order. As well as combining three separate degree ceremonies into one, it removes the condition of secrecy at degree ceremonies and families and friends are encouraged to attend. As did other fraternal organizations, the Knights of Columbus imposed the secrecy restrictions for ceremonials when it was founded in the late 19th century.

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson spoke of the new degree ceremony at the last Knights of Columbus Convention, saying, "It presents a fuller and richer understanding of who we are, what we stand for and what we are called to be. . . . With families and friends seated in the pews. They will see firsthand, the organization that their husbands, fathers, brothers, sons and friends are joining — the principles and values they are committing to and why it matters."

The ceremony was organized by Knights' District Director Daniel Murphy of Lebanon and hosted by St. Catherine of Siena Council **15217**. Members of St. Catherine of Siena Council also provided attendees with a great dinner of meatballs, pasta, chicken, salad, bread, and beverages.

St. Joseph Council Knights and officers in attendance: (l-r) Treasurer Richard Mirocco, Deputy Grand Knight James McCloskey, James Rispoli, Grand Knight Mario Bernardo, Trustee & Past Grand Knight Kevin Loughney, Andrew Rispoli, Chancellor Thomas Klawunn, Warden Andrew Kin, Past Grand Knight William Cerwinski, Dennis Baucom and Trustee & Past Grand Knight Thomas Corrado



Wine Tasting

Knights of Columbus Mother Seton Council #5427 hosted its 11th Annual Wine Tasting fundraiser on Saturday, February 8, to celebrate Valentine's Day. The event was held at Seasons Catering in the Township of Washington, NJ, and featured a six-course dinner with complimenting wine and an open bar, all for \$110 per person.

Over 400 people attended the night that featured a DJ, 109 tricky tray baskets, silent auctions, wine pull, 50/50 raffle, and the infamous heads or tails game. A net profit of \$39,100 was raised at the event.

The charities receiving benefits are:

- Breast Cancer - Dr. Norton Research
- Our Lady of Good Counsel Church
- Paramus Veteran's Home
- Several Sources of Washington Township
- Sgt. First Class Michael Goble
- Tackle Kids Cancer
- Various Knights of Columbus Charities
- Villa Marie Claire Hospice
- Vito Trause Scholarship Fund
- Wrestling Takes Down Drugs

Grand Knight Fran Sullivan said, "It is occasions like this, helping friends in need, that makes me proud to be a Knight of Columbus."

He gave special thanks to the many couples that form the committee...the Brophys, Brunellis, Kuzmas, Licinis, Pimpinellas, Rappaports, Scorzellis, and Sullivans....and to the businesses and individuals who donated cash and gifts for the auctions.

The Knights of Columbus was founded in 1882 at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut, by Fr. Michael J. McGivney. It is the world's largest Catholic fraternal organization with nearly 1.9 million members worldwide. In the past year, they have raised more than \$4.4 million for Christian and other religious minority refugees in the Middle East. The Knights also set new records in fiscal year 2018 for charitable giving with donations of \$185.7 million and 76.7 million hours of hands-on service to charitable causes. In calendar year 2019, Mother Seton Council contributed \$68,785 to charities and awarded \$4,000 in scholarships.



Culture of Life Programs Director

Brothers:

We are certainly living in interesting times, as the Coronavirus keeps us in our homes and many out of work. We know that this “social distancing” is for the greater good to slow the spread of the disease, but it is still disheartening to see so many of our events and activities (including our convention in Wildwood) canceled. Despite all of this, the work of our Order can and must continue. This includes our battle to restore a Culture of Life. We cannot let up in our efforts, no matter what!

Our pregnancy care centers still need your support as they struggle to keep their doors open. Fortunately, you can still help while “sheltering in place” by buying the diapers, wipes, and other needed items on Amazon and have them delivered directly!

Remember also that we are not the only group canceling events because of COVID19. For example, Options for Women in Cherry Hill had to postpone their annual dinner from March 24 to June 2. Since that is their major fundraiser for the year, they need financial help in the meantime. I am sure they aren't the only ones! The virus can't stop us from writing a check (unless you lost your job because of it, and then our prayers are with you), so why not make a donation to a care center?

Our religious freedoms continue to come under attack! At the mid-term Grand Knights Meetings, I challenged you to raise and donate money to the Alliance Defending Freedom, which continues to battle organizations like the ACLU. Together we can achieve a 2- or 3-1 match of the State Council's donation of \$5,000. Just go to www.adflegal.org/donate from your home and make a donation.

Our acts of citizenship are more important than ever, even though we have a Pro-Life President. New Jersey still has no limits on abortion and a pro-abortion governor. We can continue to write letters, send e-mails,



etc., and speak out for Life! We may be staying at home, but that does not silence our Catholic Voices!

Get the message out! You can still purchase and display a Choose Life banner in front of your church. Traffic may be lighter with more folks staying at home, but the message will still be received by those who pass by. You also continue to pass on the message when you are on the road with Pro-Life magnets, like those for the 20/20 Project.

Finally, staying at home can't stop us from using the Power of Prayer. The Holy Father called us to prayer on the Feast of St. Joseph by praying the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary to help us all get through the Coronavirus crisis. Let's keep this going and, while we are at home, say the Rosary daily for the Cause for Life.

Don't let the Virus keep you from the fight! There is still so much we can still do!

Vivat Jesus!

Steven J. Richardson, FM
Culture of Life Programs Director

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State Membership Chairman

Dear Brothers,

As of the writing of the article we stand at 1181 new members for slightly over 55%.

In the beginning of the fraternal year we talked about an incentive program for the council and member who brought in the most new members. The winners are:

Camden St. Vincent de Paul #3451

Metuchen Our Lady of Victories #2061

Newark Union Council #4504

Paterson Dr. McDowell #2248

Trenton St. Joseph #4969

Also, the individual member winners are Fr. Carlos Aguirre of Trenton and Teodoro Diaz of Metuchen.

Congratulations to the winners for your hard work.

Who will win for the second half of the fraternal year? Will it be you, or your council?

With the new degree having been utilized this year we have had an increase in degrees with an increased number of new members, and advancement of 1st and 2nd degree members. But unfortunately, as we started to see an increase in numbers, we were hit with the Coronavirus Pandemic.

With that being said, please use the online membership to attract new members. So, if your council has a Facebook page, twitter, or other social media account let them know about the order and your council. The website to join is www.kofc.org/joinus.

We are asking all the councils to start a "Knighthly Check In". This is where the officers and members contact the older members by phone and/or email and see if they need anything. Due to the pandemic do they need a prescription picked up or some items from the store, and they cannot get there or may be afraid to go, we could help them with these chores. Not only does this follow our orders first pillar of charity but lets the member know they are not forgotten.

As we enter these unprecedented times of uncertainty, if anyone has a suggestion on Membership please reach out to me or any member of



the Membership team. Their contact information can be found in the state directory.

Be safe and please wash your hands.

Chris Duffett, FDD
Membership Director

State Deputy (continued from page 2)

before the events of the past few weeks. No matter what the rest of the Fraternal Year holds, I would like to personally thank everyone of you for your efforts in growing the Order.

Please continue to watch your email for updates on our activities/events, and, more importantly, on how we are going to conduct the State Convention online. That information will be made available as soon as we can get it set up.

I am super confident that we will get through this and be all the better for it. We are Americans. We are Catholics. And we are Knights of Columbus. Who, or what, is going to beat us? Nobody, not as long as we put our faith and trust in Our Lord.

With that, Tamara and I want to wish you and your loved ones a very Happy, Holy and Joyous Easter. Thank you for all you do, and God Bless you and your families.

Vincent Tavormina
State Deputy

General Programs (continued from page 2)

membership. Also, ensure key personnel have met the Safe Environment Training requirements (deadline May 1), not only for the safety of our youth and vulnerable individuals, but to protect your council's reputation and maintain the good name of the Knights of Columbus. In closing, the NJ State Council General Programs Team and I, along with our families, hope you have a joyous Easter and extend our best wishes and prayers for good health, happiness, and success as we grow spiritually and celebrate His Resurrection.

Please stay safe and stay in good health, and let us always answer with enthusiasm by our words and especially in our actions, "Vivat Jesus".

Fraternally,

Scott C. Williams, FDD
NJ State General Program Director