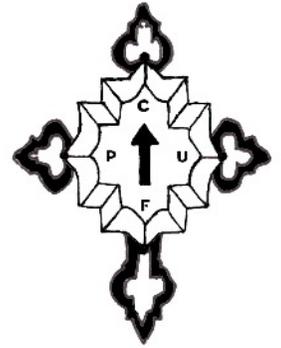




The Council Compass

Msgr. Henry O'Carroll Council #444

Knights of Columbus



Editor: Paul Desroches

1899 - *Over 118 Years* - 2017

August 2017

Officers

Chaplain: Fr. William Damroth
845-561-1317

Associate Chaplain: Fr. Fernando Hernandez
845-561-0885

Associate Chaplain: Fr. John Vondras
914-805-5698

Grand Knight: Joe Coyle
845-561-7384

DGK: Charles Smith (Patricia)
845-926-2096

Chancellor: Raymond Lopez (Gloria)
845-561-2003

Warden: Vincent Calosso (Romy)
917-825-3299

Treasurer: I.Scott Watkins, PGK, (Bea)
845-564-0339

Financial Sec. Anthony Cracolici, PGK
845-569-1985

Recorder: Paul Desroches (Joanna)
845-564-3642

Inside Guard William Kuntz
201-697-9920

Outside Guard: Domingo Ampil
914-850-0181

Advocate: Jude Martini, (Carolyn)

Trustees: Darren Gamma, PGK (Adene)
(914) 213-0865
Rich Irons (PGK) (Mary)
845-565-5045
Kennan Ryan (PGK) (Annie)
845-565-8015

Lecturer: Curt Moran (Pat)
845-564-3239

District Deputy: Deacon David J. Nash
845-625-4823

Insurance Agt: Greg Soboleski (PGK)
845-782-4681

Navigator: Paul Plate
845-774-9964

Editor: Paul Desroches, (Joanna)
845-564-3642
Pauldesro@aol.com

CONGRATULATIONS TO COUNCIL 444 KNIGHT OF THE YEAR **WILLIAM KUNTZ**



Join us at the Annual Columbus Day Ball to honor Bill and the many works he has accomplished for the Knights of Columbus, Council 444.

The Ball will be held at the Ramada Inn on Union Avenue, on October 8, from 5 PM to 10 PM. There will be a cocktail hour from 5 - 6 with various hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Dinner is from 6 - 10 with music and dancing, door prizes, cash bar, and lots of fun. The cost is \$50 per person. Please contact Vincent Calosso at 917-825-3299 or Bill Kuntz at 201-697-9920.

Rooms have been reserved at a Discount rate if you desire to stay the night. The rooms are \$85 per night and the group code is CG171008. Contact the Ramada directly at 845-275-0111. To get this rate you must make your reservation by September 8.

Journal ads are also available. They can be from your business or personally. Journal ads are a great way to honor Bill as well as supporting the Knights of Columbus, Council 444. (All proceeds go directly to the Council) Please contact Vincent Calosso at 917-825-3299 or Bill Kuntz at 201-275-0111.

Grand Knight's Thoughts

I am starting my column with the listing that I have submitted to qualify our Council for the following completion of events and awards to the Supreme, State Councils as well as our District Deputy. The documentation is for this past Columbian Year, beginning with the fifth Sunday Rosary program, chaired by Ted Coughlin. The next item is the Food for Families Reimbursement Program, followed by the Columbian Award Program. The RSVP program consisted of our Council sponsoring a seminarian at St. Joseph's Seminary in Peekskill, N.Y., as well as volunteering at food pantries/soup kitchens, driving a senior citizen to her doctor's appointment and the emergency room. Moral support of keeping the word "God" on the Town of New Windsor's Veteran's Memorial. In addition we sponsored the Columbus Day Ball, chaired by Vincent Calosso, Super Bowl party and the bus trip to the Knights of Columbus Museum, all chaired by Bill Kuntz. We also had the Car & Truck & Motorcycle show and the Annual Alter Server Appreciation Day. As part of the Culture of Life activities, four of our Knights attended the Annual March for Life and we donated to pay for two bus seats to Washington D.C. We continue to keep two "Respect Life" signs on our Council's front lawn. They state "Women Regret Past Abortion" and "Father's Regret Lost Fatherhood". In the Family Activities area we completed the Food for Family Program as well as the Coats for Kids program.

On Sunday, June 25, our council had a very successful car, truck and Motorcycle show for the first time at the Newburgh Mall parking lot. Sixty five cars, five trucks and two motorcycles were on display. The People's Choice Award went to Vincent Calosso for his 2011 Chevy. The Best in Show went to Frank Costello for his 1930 Ford. Earnest Lyon's 1970 Brockway won the Best in Show Truck trophy. Nunzio Greuevrieo won the Best in Show trophy for his Harley Davidson motorcycle. This event was chaired by PGK Ken Ryan with help from his wife Annie. Co-chair was PGK Dan Keenan and DGK Charlie Smith. They were assisted by other Knights as well as Justine Kuntz and our Brother Knight DJ Domingo Ampil who provided musical entertainment. My Thanks to all who helped.

I now have to tell you that Brother Knight Deacon Peter Haight fell down some time ago and spent time in the hospital. He is now at Windgate Nursing Home at 10 Hastings Drive in Beacon, N.Y. Windgate's phone is 845-440-1600. Please call Windgate prior to visiting Deacon Peter.

Our Council upcoming events are as follows: Annual Summer Lawn/Garage sale is scheduled for Saturday, August 19 from 10 am to 5 pm at our council house front lawn, Little Britain Road, Town of Newburgh. Items that

you want to donate can be dropped off at our council's upcoming open meetings on the first and third Tuesday of the Month. Please do not bring any Computers, TV's or electrical equipment of any kind. Feel free to recite the rosary with us at 7:30 pm.

Our Founder's day picnic is on Sunday, September 3, from 2pm to 5pm at our Council. PGK Dan Keenan is chairing this event. Please call him at 845-562-9353. Please bring a side dish or desert.

The annual Blue Mass will be at St. Patrick's church at 10:30 am on Sunday, September 10. Please try to attend this Mass. The chair for this event is Greg Gaetano.

Chairman Bill Kuntz is in the planning stage of a bus day trip to Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine at Auriesville, NY on Saturday, September 16. Please call Bill at 201-697-9920 if you are interested in attending this event.

On Sunday, September 17, Will will have our Altar Server Appreciation day from 2:30 to about 5:30 at St. Frances of Assisi Church's O'Connor Hall. The contact is PGK Rich Irons and he can be reached at 845-565-5045. Please spread the word about this event and have the parents contact Rich.

Finally, our Columbus Day Ball will be held on Sunday, October 8, from 5 - 10 PM. It will be at the Ramada Inn at 1289 Route 300 in the Town of Newburgh. There will be a cash bar and door prizes. Please RSVP to Vincent Calosso at 917-825-3299 or Bill Kuntz at 201-697-9920. The cost is \$50.00 per person.

I would like to welcome our two new Brother Knights to our Council. They are Frank Gerbes and Nunzio Guerro. Another good bit of news is that Brother Knight Tom Shustack has moved to his house from the nursing home.

As a reminder, if you receive religious items in the mail from various Catholic Orders and Ministries and do not know what to do with them, please bring them to a meeting and I will be happy to deliver them to St. Mary's Food Pantry Outreach on the third Friday of each month, so they can be distributed along with the food as Catholic Evangelism. As a reminder, we also have St. Francis and St. Patrick's food pantries that continue to need us to volunteer.

Our Council continues to collect Box Tops for Education to benefit the Nora Cronin Academy. A lot of your dry food boxes in your pantry have the Box Tops Education label in red printed on the top of the box. Please bring the labels with you to our Council meeting.

If you can assist with any Council events, please do. You can always call me at 845-561-7384 if you have any questions.

God Bless and Vivat Jesus!

Grand Knight Joe Coyle

Memorable moments from Council 444's annual car show at Sears, Newburgh.

(Photos provided by Jim Peloso.)



THE BLUE MASS

The Blue Mass dates back to 1934, when a Catholic priest from the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Maryland, organized the Catholic Police and Firemen's Society while stationed at St. Patrick Church in Washington, D.C.

More than 1,000 police and firemen, dressed in their blue uniforms, attended that first Blue Mass, which was celebrated on September 29, 1934. The tradition of showing gratitude to emergency responders and their families in this way has continued throughout the United States.

This Mass honors those currently serving as emergency responders (Police Officers, Firefighters, Correction Officers, 911 Operators and EMS Personnel) as well as those who have died in the line of duty and brings a greater awareness of those who serve us so faithfully, often placing others' lives and safety above their own. Our lives are a gift from God, given to us that we might in turn give our lives in service to Him and to others. Those who have dedicated their lives in service as emergency responders are living out this truth, and we gather together today to celebrate them.

The Knights of Columbus has a long history of supporting the brave men and women of the emergency services community. Within a few days of the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the Knights began distributing nearly \$1.5 million in direct aid to the families of slain police and rescue workers.

The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council began the Blue Mass in New Haven in 2002 and has hosted it annually each year since. Similar Blue Masses have been organized by Knights of Columbus Councils nationwide, including Council 444, who will be celebrating this year's Blue Mass on September 10, at St. Patrick's, St. Mary's church in Newburgh. (Please see Council activities on Page 8.)

A Brief History of the Knights of Columbus:

THE FOUNDING: 1882-1899

Late-19th century Connecticut was marked by the growing prevalence of fraternal benefit societies, hostility toward Catholic immigrants and dangerous working conditions in factories that left many families fatherless. Recognizing a vital, practical need in his community, Father Michael J. McGivney, the 29-year-old assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Conn., gathered a group of men at his parish on Oct. 2, 1881. He proposed establishing a lay organization, the goal of which would be to prevent Catholic men from entering secret societies whose membership was antithetical to Church teaching, to unite men of Catholic faith and to provide for the families of deceased members.

As a symbol that allegiance to their country did not conflict with allegiance to their faith, the organization's members took as their patron Christopher Columbus — recognized as a Catholic and celebrated as the discoverer of America. Thanks to Father McGivney's persistence, the Knights of Columbus elected officers in February 1882 and officially assumed corporate status on March 29.

In addition to the Order's stated benefits, Catholic men were drawn to the Knights because of its emphasis on serving one's Church, community and family with virtue. Writing in *The Columbiad* in 1898, a year before he was elected supreme knight, Edward L. Hearn wrote that a Knight should live according to the virtues of loyalty, charity, courtesy and modesty, as well as "self-denial and careful respect for the feelings of others." Fraternity and patriotism were added to the Knights' founding principles of charity and unity in 1885 and 1900, respectively.

EARLY GROWTH: 1900-1910

The first exemplification of the Fourth Degree takes place Feb. 22, 1900 in New York.

Along with the addition of "patriotism" to the Knights' principles came the first Fourth Degree exemplification, which took place Feb. 22, 1900, in New York City, with 1,100 Knights participating. A similar event took place in Boston in May with another 750 candidates taking the patriotic degree.

By the beginning of the 20th century, the fledgling Order was growing dramatically. Councils had been chartered throughout the United States and Canada, and international expansion continued to Mexico and the Philippines in 1905, along with Cuba and Panama in 1909.

The Knights also turned their attention to college campuses, and in more ways than one. In 1904, more than 10,000 Knights and their families attended ceremonies at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., in which the Order presented the school with a grant for more

than \$55,000. The funds, used to establish a K of C chair of American history, began a long history of support for CUA. In addition, students at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana soon organized their own K of C council. Chartered in 1910, Notre Dame Council 1477 was the Order's first college council, launching a subset of the Knights that today includes councils at 244 schools worldwide.

"EVERYBODY WELCOME, EVERYTHING FREE": 1911-1918

As membership in the Knights of Columbus grew, the Order became increasingly known as a force for public good. Following the dedication ceremony for the Christopher Columbus Memorial Fountain in Washington, D.C., in 1912, a reporter for *The Washington Star* noted that the large number of Knights in attendance "marked anew the important position of the Knights of Columbus as an order in the social fabric of the United States."

In response to growing anti-Catholic hostility and the rise of socialism, two Knights, David Goldstein and Peter W. Collins, embarked on an extensive, 27,000-mile lecture tour throughout North America in 1914. Later that same year, the Order established the K of C Commission on Religious Prejudice. The commission's work concluded in 1917, when the United States entered World War I.

During the Great War, the Order provided rest and recreational facilities and social services to Allied servicemen of all faiths. K of C Huts throughout the United States and Europe provided religious services, supplies and recreation under the motto, "Everybody Welcome, Everything Free."

Everybody meant everybody. Whatever your race or creed, you were welcome at K of C facilities. In fact, the Order was praised by a contemporary African American historian of World War I, because "unlike the other social welfare organizations operating in the war, it never drew the color line."

As a result of the Order's wartime work, which earned high praise from Pope Benedict XV, nearly 400,000 men joined the Knights between 1917 and 1923.

IN SEARCH OF LIBERTY: 1919-1929

After the Great War, the Order continued its charitable work, offering education and employment services to returning servicemen. In less than two years, the Knights of Columbus Bureau of Employment placed some 100,000 people in jobs. The Order's presence in Europe continued as well. In August 1920, when a delegation of 235 Knights made a pilgrimage to Rome, Pope Benedict XV invited them to build several recreation centers for Roman youth. In response, the Knights constructed five playgrounds throughout the city. The architect, Count Enrico Galeazzi, went on to serve as the Knights' representative in Rome for more than six decades.

(Continued from page 4)

Throughout the 1920s, the Order's anti-defamation work also continued on several fronts. When the Ku Klux Klan and other "nativist" and anti-Catholic groups launched campaigns to make students attend public schools, Church leaders enlisted the Knights' support. The K of C Historical Commission, meanwhile, worked to overcome racial prejudice in American society, publishing books on the contributions of African-, Jewish-, and German-Americans.

Finally, when the Mexican government began enforcing the anti-clerical provisions of its 1917 Constitution, the Knights responded with one voice. Under President Plutarco Elias Calles, who took power in 1924, priests and religious were exiled and the free exercise of religion was forbidden. In *Iniquis Afflictisque*, his 1926 encyclical on the persecution of the Church in Mexico, Pope Pius XI praised the Knights' tireless work, which included a major public education campaign, diplomatic efforts and charitable support for refugees.

HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS: 1930-1940

The Great Depression initially had a detrimental effect on the Order's membership and finances, but it also led to a renewed sense of volunteer service. The success of an extensive membership campaign in 1935, titled Mobilization for Catholic Action, led to the establishment of the Order's Service Department, which subsequently launched a "Five-Point Program of Progress." The program encouraged councils to play a more active role in the life of the local parish and community, and included five categories: Catholic activity, council activity, fraternal protection, publicity and maintenance of manpower.

Also in the early 1930s, violent persecution resurfaced in Mexico, prompting the Order's leadership to strongly urge the U.S. government to take action. Tensions in Mexico eventually eased in 1937, but the threat of atheistic communism was growing in Europe. In response, the Knights organized anti-communist rallies in early 1937. When Pope Pius XI's encyclical on the subject, *Divini Redemptoris*, was released in March of that year, the Order printed and distributed a million copies. The Knights also sponsored a new lecture tour and expanded its anti-communism program to include a Crusade for Social Justice. "Injustice to man is the seed of communistic growth," Supreme Knight Martin Carmody said. "With Truth and Charity as your weapons, go forth as a Crusade."

WAR AND PEACE: 1941-1950

By the time Pearl Harbor was attacked and the United States entered World War II in 1941, a K of C welfare program for servicemen had been well established by Canadian Knights, built and modeled on the Knights' World War I work. In the United States, the Order's outreach to soldiers was conducted through the National Catholic Community Service organization, which itself modeled many of its programs on the Knights' war efforts.

At the Supreme Convention in 1944, the Order established a \$1 million trust fund for the children of members who died or became disabled in World War II. Following the end of the war in 1945, the Order turned its attention to the growing threats of communism and fascism. To combat these dangers, the Knights launched in 1946 the Crusade for the Preservation and Promotion of American Ideals, which published books and pamphlets to educate the public on "the perils of communism."

Meanwhile, the postwar years saw a membership boom for the Order in the Philippines. Jesuit Father George J. Willmann envisioned the Knights as the premiere lay society in the Philippines and set about establishing new councils and recruiting new members. He appealed to the Supreme Council in 1947 for permission to establish three new councils there and served as the country's first district deputy. By the time Supreme Knight Luke E. Hart visited Manila in 1955, the Order had expanded to include 50 Filipino councils.

ONE NATION UNDER GOD": 1951-1960

The Knights of Columbus initiated a campaign in 1951 to lobby for the public adoption of the phrase "under God" in the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance. The Order's Board of Directors had amended the pledge's recitation at Fourth Degree assembly meetings and encouraged congressional representatives to adopt the same language nationwide. One year after Supreme Knight Hart took office in 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a law that officially added the words "under God" to the pledge.

In the following years, the Knights made significant contributions to the Catholic Church in America. In 1953, a Catholic advertising program launched by Knights in Missouri was officially adopted by the Order as the Religious Information Bureau. Through the bureau, which later became known as the Catholic Information Service when its operations moved to New Haven in 1969, the Knights printed and disseminated brochures and pamphlets about the Catholic faith. The program also included a correspondence course in which subscribers could learn about or clarify their knowledge of Church teachings.

Finally, the close of the 1950s saw the completion of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The Order contributed \$1 million toward the completion of the church's bell tower, known as the Knights' Tower, and more than 1,000 Knights formed an honor guard for the shrine's dedication.

INTO THE MAINSTREAM: 1961-1978

The early 1960s marked a period of transformation and upheaval for the Church and society, as the Second Vatican Council convened and the civil rights movement emerged in full force. Both the universal call to holiness and the call for dialogue and justice in civic life found open ears in the Knights of Columbus. By embracing the challenge of authentic ecclesial and societal reform, while remaining faithful to timeless truths and traditional values, the Knights transcended the political divide.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

At the 1966 Supreme Convention, Supreme Knight John W. McDevitt said it was time to see the Order as more than just “a fortress” for its members in a world hostile to the Catholic faith. In revising its admission policies and supporting a number of social justice initiatives, the Order took positive steps to eliminate racial discrimination within its ranks and in society at large. Recognizing the potential to share the Gospel through modern technology, the Knights also began a long history of support for the Church’s social communications initiatives, providing a shortwave transmitter for the Vatican radio station and funding the Vatican’s satellite “uplink” transmissions for worldwide broadcasts.

During this time, the Order’s insurance program also began a period of dramatic growth. The amount of insurance in force tripled from \$1 billion to \$3 billion from 1960 to 1975. And in 1969, the Knights built its seventh national headquarters, its current location, to better serve the Order’s members and their families.

ONE CHRISTIAN FAMILY: 1979-1999

In his 1981 apostolic exhortation *On the Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World*, Pope John Paul II wrote, “The future of humanity passes by way of the family” (*Familiaris Consortio*, 86). The pope’s emphasis on the central importance of the family for the health of the Church and society reinforced the Knights’ mission. Likewise, when John Paul II published an apostolic exhortation on the role of the laity in 1988 and an encyclical on the Gospel of Life in 1995, the Order urged Catholics everywhere to embrace these teachings and even published study guides to accompany the documents.

During John Paul II’s pontificate, the Knights also strengthened their ties to the universal Church through increased support of the Vatican. In 1981, the Order established the Vicarius Christi Fund, annual earnings of which are presented to the pope for his personal charities. The Knights then underwrote a series of major restorations at St. Peter’s Basilica in anticipation of the Jubilee Year.

In *Evangelium Vitae*, the pope called the Church “a people of life and for life,” a description that the Knights sought to live up to through personal witness and efforts to build a pro-life culture. The Order also furthered the work of re-evangelization within the Church through several initiatives in Catholic education: support of Catholic schools, scholarship funds for Catholic seminaries and universities, and the establishment of a North American campus of the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family.

In addition to celebrating the fifth centenary of the evangelization of the New World, the Order also honored contemporary models of holiness. Supreme Knight Virgil C. Dechant presented Mother Teresa with the inaugural Gaudium et Spes Award in 1992, and the Archdiocese of Hartford officially opened the cause for Father McGivney’s canonization, with the Knights’ support, in 1997.

THE NEW MILLENNIUM: 2000 AND ONWARD

On May 21, 2000, Pope John Paul II canonized 25 martyrs of Mexico, including six members of the Knights of Columbus. Less than one year later, Carl A. Anderson was installed as the 13th supreme knight in Mexico City and dedicated the Order and his administration to Mary under her title Our Lady of Guadalupe. As Patroness of the Americas and Star of the New Evangelization, Our Lady has inspired the Order’s efforts, just as she inspired the steadfast faith of the Knights of Columbus martyrs.

In the past decade, the Order has continued to build upon its rich tradition of charitable work and spiritual formation. Various new charitable initiatives, as well as ongoing partnerships with organizations such as Special Olympics, have given Knights countless opportunities to practice what John Paul II called “a charity which evangelizes.” Organizing increased outreach to pregnancy resource centers, providing greater spiritual support for men and women in the military and playing a significant role in World Youth Days are just some of the many ways that the Order has worked in recent years to promote a true culture of life.

Pope Benedict XVI, in his first encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est*, wrote that a Christian must have “a heart which sees” — that is, which “sees where love is needed and acts accordingly.” For Knights, this often means recognizing where people are most in need and responding with material or volunteer support. After the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the Order delivered immediate assistance to the families of fallen first responders. And when natural disasters struck, such as Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and the Haitian earthquake in 2011, Knights similarly responded with immediate aid.

Finally, just as they responded to the forces of secularism and prejudice in the past, Knights have stood by their bishops and have witnessed to the importance of religion and religious liberty for society. As the cause for canonization of Venerable Michael McGivney moves forward, so too do his Knights, seeking to build a civilization of love.

Fifth Sunday Rosary Program

The fifth Sunday Rosary program is sponsored for all the local town and city of Newburgh parishes by the Msgr. Henry O’Carroll Council #444, Knights of Columbus. The service takes place anytime there is a fifth Sunday in a month. It normally will take place immediately following the last Mass for the particular parish at which it is scheduled. All are welcomed to participate. The power of the Rosary is increased tremendously when prayed in a group. So, please join us! You may contact Ted Coughlin at 845-913-5631 with any questions.

A Summer Break to Relish Life's Goodness
by Cardinal Timothy Dolan

Let's talk about something pleasant, shall we? Too often in my column I have to write you on tough issues, bad news, worrisome developments.

Not today: Let's think about vacation!

As a boy, my family had the happiest vacations. But, get this; the first time the family ever left home for a vacation somewhere else was when I was sixteen years old!

Yet, summer vacations are part of my most cherished memories. Dad would get his two weeks off work, and we'd have a blast. Almost every day we'd take a ride somewhere—the zoo, a Cardinal ballgame, a picnic, to visit friends or relatives, a swimming pool. We'd all be in on the planning. Each night Dad would barbecue, and we'd have treats like root beer, ice cream, strawberry shortcake, or watermelon. I watched as other families on the block left home for a trip or a cabin on a lake, but I was hardly envious, because we were having a great time at home.

I guess, in retrospect, it was the simplicity that made it so special. We kids figured Mom and Dad chose to stay home. Now I realize they could not afford an out-of-town holiday. But, I wouldn't trade it. We felt as rich as could be...in fact, when we finally did take that vacation away—two nights at a cabin on the Lake of the Ozarks, a three-hour drive away—we wished we had stayed home.

My point is that these lazier days of summer give us a chance to relish the simple goodness of life: extra time with family, a chance to ignore the alarm clock, sit a bit longer at the table, books to read, friendships renewed, memories rekindled, walks, swims, and evenings in conversations. No sooner does it end than we're planning the next.

Let me put in a plug for the soul. Sure, our bodies and minds need a rest, but our souls need refreshment, too. Priests in parishes on the shore tell me how delighted they are to see vacationers at morning Mass, sharing their "down time" with the One who never rests or wearies. Folks tell me how days off can be a time of prayer, reflection, more spiritual reading.

August 1972 was the first time I ever saw the Pope. I was twenty-two, and had just left home with fifty-three other men to enter the North American College in Rome to begin our last four years of preparation for the priesthood. We all went out to see Pope—now Blessed—Paul VI at his summer escape in Castel Gandolfo, and gathered in the courtyard with thousands of others.

It was still high vacation time in Italy, and Pope Paul spoke of the importance of summer holidays. He cautioned that a break could distract us from God, even tempt us to forget about God for a couple weeks, or even lead us in sin. But the Holy Father did not dwell on that: vacations, he smiled, are gifts from God, a reward for hard work and attention to the daily grind. They can pump life into exhausted souls and revive weary bodies, prompting us to appreciate afresh the glow of nature, the green of the fields, the bounty of the harvest, the laughter of family and friends.

Vacations, he concluded, are a sabbath. God rested, so do we; God looked out of His work and saw that it was good, so do we.

We can't forget those folks who can't get any time off for a summer break. Perhaps their jobs allow no time off; maybe they have no money to enjoy a few extra little frills. Not fair...

We'll be grateful for what we have. The simpler, the better. I don't need the French Riviera. Just get me some corn-on-the-cob, watermelon, strawberries, time for a nap, a stack of good books, the ballgame on the radio in the background, a long daily walk, some added prayer time—and family and friends!

God is good! All the time! But especially on vacation!

CONGRATULATIONS TO PGK I. Scott Watkins District Knight of the Year

At the Annual Knights of Columbus Charity Ball, on June 24, 2017, PGK I. Scott Watkins was recognized for all his years of dedication and hard work for the Knights of Columbus by being awarded "**District Knight of the Year**".

What an honor to have a member of our Council named as District Knight of the Year! Let us all congratulate Scott on his well deserved accomplishment.

A Blessed and very happy birthday to the following council members who will be celebrating their birthdays in the months of August, September and October:

8/1	Bro. Adrian Aquinas	8/4	Thomas A. Cuti
8/4	Rev. Vincent Howley	8/5	Dominick D'Aquino
8/6	Anthony Gagliardi	8/7	Thomas Mulligan
8/8	Curtis Bourdage	8/16	Joseph Rotunda
8/21	Paul Desroches	8/23	Vincent Cracolici
8/23	George Marvella	8/25	Rev. Hakim Dario
8/26	Deacon John Buckley	8/26	Anthony Navarro
8/26	Michael Steup	8/27	Richard Ronsini Jr.
8/29	Rev. John Vondras	8/29	Arthur Whitchurch
9/1	Samuel Leghorn	9/1	Dominick Musco
9/1	Rev. John Thenen	9/2	Anthony Cracolici
9/2	Adrian Gokey	9/3	Gerard O'Donnell
9/3	James Peloso	9/6	Joseph Carver
9/9	Anthony Bilello	9/12	Carlos Martinez Jr.
9/15	Zachary Costa	9/18	Raymond Lopez
9/20	John Wenz	9/21	Lawrence Yantz
9/27	Rev. William Damroth	9/27	Vito Maiorana
9/29	Rev. Dennis Dinan	9/30	Richard Gadbois
10/1	Ronald Brophy	10/3	Joseph Dennis
10/4	Patrick Rutaquio	10/6	Anthony Buccieri
10/6	Donald Suttlehan	10/9	Daniel Keenan
10/17	Salvatore Colacchio	10/17	John Vandermark
10/18	Joseph Patasso	10/18	John Sanowski
10/19	John Post	10/20	George Quinyne
10/22	James Patterson	10/25	George Cole

(Our thanks to Tony Cracolici for providing this information)

Lift High the Cross

Annual Columbus Day Ball

Honoring Knights of Columbus Council
444 Knight of the Year

William Kuntz

Sunday, October 8, 2017, 5pm to 10pm
RAMADA INN -1289 Route 300 Newburgh,
NY 12550 - \$50/Person

Dinner • Dancing • Cash Bar • Door Prizes
Please RSVP by September 22nd
Vincent Calosso (917) 825-3299
William Kuntz ((201) 697-9920)

Bus Trip to Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine

One day bus trip to Auriesville, N.Y.

Saturday, September 16. Details are still be
worked on. Please contact Bill Kuntz at 201-697-
9920, if you have any interest in this trip.

Altar Server Appreciation Day

September 17, 2:30 P.M. at O'Connor Hall, St.
Francis of Assisi church. We need Knight
volunteers to help out. Contact: Rich Irons at
845-

Calendar of Council Meetings

- 01 Aug: Regular Council meeting at 8 P.M.
- 08 Aug: Fourth Degree meeting at 8 P.M.
- 15 Aug: Social Meeting at 8 P.M.
- 22 Aug: Officers' meeting at 8 P.M.
- 29 Aug: Corporation Meeting at 8 P.M.
- 05 Sep: Regular Council meeting at 8 P.M.
- 12 Sep: Fourth Degree meeting at 8 P.M.
- 19 Sep: Social meeting at 8 P.M.
- 26 Sep: Officers' meeting at 8 P.M.
- 03 Oct: Regular Council meeting at 8 P.M.
- 10 Oct: Fourth Degree meeting at 8 P.M.
- 17 Oct: Social meeting at 8 P.M.
- 24 Oct: Officers' meeting at 8 P.M.
- 31 Oct: Corporation Meeting at 8 P.M.
- 07 Nov: Regular Council meeting at 8 P.M.
- 14 Nov: Fourth Degree meeting at 8 P.M.
- 21 Nov: Social meeting at 8 P.M.
- 28 Nov: Officers' meeting at 8 P.M.

Note: The Rosary will be said before every regular
and social meeting at 7:30 PM

Blue Mass

Sunday, September 10 at 10:30 AM
St. Patrick's St. Mary's Church
55 Grand Street, Newburgh, N.Y.
Father Fernando Hernandez - Pastor
Please contact Greg Gaetano at
845-629-2722.

Founder's Day Picnic

September 3, from 2 - 5 PM at the Council's
house. \$5.00 per person, maximum \$25,00 per
family. Hot dogs, hamburgers, soda, coffee, tea.
Bring a side dish or desert. Contact Dan Keenan
at 845-562-9353.

Installation of Officers

August 27, after the 11 AM Mass at St. Francis
of Assisi Church, 145 Benkard Avenue,
Newburgh, N.Y. Reception to follow at
O'Connor Parish Hall.

Treasure Chest Raffle Tickets

**These raffle tickets are a major fund raiser for
our Council. It is hoped that all our Council
members can participate. We will also be
selling tickets are various events over the
next two months. If you can help, please
contact Vincent Calosso at 917-825-3299 or
William Kuntz at 201 697-9920.**

St. Mary's Outreach

Volunteers are needed the third Thursday and
Friday of every month from 8 A.M. To 1 P.M.
Thursdays are set up days and Fridays are the
"giving" days. Report to Mannix Hall (The old
St. Mary's School next to St. Mary's parking lot.)

St. Francis of Assisi Church Outreach

Need volunteers on Friday and Saturday
mornings from 9 A.M. to Noon. Report to 145
Benkard Ave, Newburgh.
If you can help or have questions, please call
Linda or Paul at 845-234-8564..