



COUNCILAIRS

Bel Air Council 4714



Phone: (410) 893:6442

23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050

Initiated Dec 1958

December 2015

Grand Knight

My brothers all, lovely ladies and faithful families,

Congratulations to brothers Jeff Allen, Lamont Harbison, John Sanza, and Terry Speiss, who made their third degree on November 6 at St. Joan of Arc in Aberdeen. As you new third degree Knights were told that night, you now have two new opportunities opened to you: You can become officers in the council and help to guide its future; and you can take your fourth degree as early as March 2016 in Frederick. To those who attended in support of them, my deepest thanks.

November is, as much as a month to give thanks, a month to remember those who have gone before us. Last night as I write this we remembered those in our council who have carried the cross of Christ and now rest from their labors. We are thankful for their companionship, their comfort, their confidence, their example, their support.

We turn our attention to the coming of Christ. Historians and theologians tend to agree that Jesus was not born at the turn of the winter season. For one thing, shepherds would not be in the fields keeping watch by turns over their flocks at the turn of the season, because even in the Middle East, it can get bitterly cold at that time of year. For another, the when of Jesus' birth is a lot less important than the fact of Jesus' birth. Regardless of what time of year Jesus was actually born, the fact of the matter is that the Son of God took human form and entered into our history, and thus conveyed to all mankind the immense love God has for all His creation, and His desire that each and every man, woman, and child be turned to the heart of their Father in heaven.

You will notice that the Scripture readings of Advent, particularly the gospels, point not to the birth of Christ (at least, not until we get within the week before Christmas), but to Christ's return as king over all

creation. We recall the first coming to prepare us for the second coming. And there are many, many passages that counsel us to be about the work of Christ as we prepare for his return.

How do we do the work of Christ? Being about our mission as Knights is an excellent way of doing the work of Christ. Keeping our many programs running, finding new ways to serve, making ourselves available to our parishes, our communities, our brothers and sisters is doing the work of Christ, fulfilling our destinies as Knights and Knights' families, participating in the new evangelization, preparing for Christ's return. When we pray "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven," we are praying for His kingdom to come here, now; we are praying for His will to be done here, now. In the words of a deacon I recently heard, heaven is not a geographic location in some distant galaxy. Rather, it is in the hearts of every man, woman, and child who hears the word of God and keeps it. This is what it means to be Christian. This is what it means to be Catholic. This is what it means to be a Knight of Columbus. This is what it means to improve our serve.

Speaking of improving our serve, my thanks go out to Paul Zarachowicz, to Tony Lamancusa who helped Paul this year, and to all the brothers and family members who participated in our Tootsie Roll drive this year. Thanks to the leadership of Paul and Tony, and thanks to all your efforts, we raised more money for the ARC and the Harford Center than we have ever raised. We even set a record at our Redner's location, raising more than \$1,000 in one weekend alone. Heartiest congratulations to Paul, Tony, and all!

Lastly, don't forget that our brothers and sisters in the Middle East are being persecuted for belonging to Jesus, driven from their ancient homelands, martyred for being believers. Let's continue to pray for them, for their safety, for their lives. I encourage you to wear orange to remember to pray for them.

Bel Air Council 4714 Monthly Schedule of Events

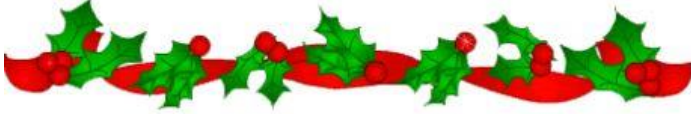
First Tuesday - 7:30 pm - **Business Meeting** - open to KC members only

Second Tuesday - 7:00 pm - **Home Corporation Meeting** - open to KC members and invited guests

Third Tuesday - 7:00 pm - **Social Meeting** - open to general public

Fourth Tuesday - 7:00 pm - **Officers' Meeting** - open to KC members and invited guests

All Fridays - 7:00 pm - **Bingo** (board is lit) - open to the general public



First Lady Gilly-Ann and I pray for each and every one of you, and for all of your family members wherever they may be, a holy, happy, and safe holiday season. Merry Christmas!

Vivat Jesus.

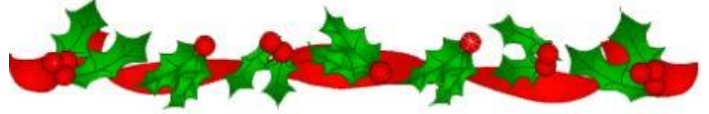
Kevin McNamara, Grand Knight

District Deputy

Dave and Kathy Meneghini, LuAnne and I wish all of you a blessed Advent and Christmas season. Our hope is that you will be able to be with your family and friends and experience the peace of the season. We trust that your council Christmas gatherings will be a blessing to all. Don't forget to invite the widows of your deceased members.

I know that Corpus Christi Council and Bel Air Council both hosted the Silver Rose ceremony this year. It was the first such event that I attended. The icon is beautiful and the associated prayer service is a meaningful way for us to pray together as a council. Supreme provides a fully contained package of materials so I encourage every council to consider hosting it next year.

Dave and I completed our official visits for the first half of the year and we found that councils are making adjustments where warranted based on earlier visits. I even got a note from one officer saying that the changes they've incorporated as a result of our visits have made a change for the better in his council. I tip my hat to the state officers who understood that there needed to be some mechanism to share experiences across a district and state so that we all better understand how Supreme laws and rules should be applied to our councils.



Thank you to Havre de Grace Council for hosting a successful third degree on November 6. Thank you to all councils who had members that helped out with registration or in the kitchen, sponsored candidates or attended the exemplification. It was teamwork at its best.

Thank you to the several councils that sponsored a Keep Christ in Christmas contest this year. Your support to the youth in your schools and parishes is important.

State Events

- State Memorial Mass to be held on November 8 at St. Matthias the Apostle Church in Lanham, MD beginning with the reading of the necrology at 1:30 p.m. More information is on the state website.

District Events

- First degree at Corpus Christi Council, on December 1 at 7:30 p.m. and January 5 at 7:30 p.m. at Bel Air Council.
- The next second degree will be held on Monday, January 11 at 7:30 p.m. at Bel Air Council.

Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knight Events

- December 10 - Chapter Christmas Party at 7 p.m. Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, 10003 Bird River Rd., Middle River, MD 21220
- January 14 - Bishop Sebastian Council #5058, 8 p.m. 7910 Harford Rd. Baltimore, MD 21234

Richard Belmonte, District Deputy #16,
rbelmon@gmail.com

Fraternal Benefits

LTC Is an Important Piece of the Puzzle

There are many financial consultants and retirement authorities who emphasize the need for a long-term care (LTC) product for estate preservation and family protection. While many commercial life insurance companies have gotten out of the long-term care business, the Knights of Columbus considers LTC a very important piece of the family protection puzzle. The Order has been actively offering our members this product for nearly 15 years without a premium increase on current policyholders. Members who wisely purchased an LTC plan from the Knights in 2000 are still paying the same premiums today. Even better, our LTC coverage is backed by the full strength of the Order, which remains rooted in our strong Catholic values. Talk about stability when it counts.

If we have not spoken about your need for LTC coverage in your family portfolio, please take some time out of your schedule to meet with me.

Remember, long-term care policies are underwritten based on your health, and you most likely will never be any healthier than you are today.

Edward A. O'Keefe, CLU, ChFC, CASL

<http://okeefefinancialplanning.com>

Council Activities

Social Meetings

Our November social was our annual memorial Mass. Many thanks to Brother Eric Tiso, who coordinated this year's Mass. Special thanks, of course, to our Worthy Chaplain, Fr. Jerry Francik, for celebrating our Mass and delivering an excellent homily. Thanks also to Brother John Knapstein, who proclaimed the readings to us, to Brother Bernie Classon, who pronounced the necrology, and to Brother Charlie Belli, striking the bell of remembrance. Those widows who attended were offered poinsettias from Brother Wayne Davis. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the services of Susan Baker, wife of Brother Keith Baker, as our keyboardist and cantor; of Sophia Tiso, Eric's daughter, as our altar server; and last but certainly not least, of Roxanne Tiso, Eric's wife, who not only helped Eric organize the dinner that followed the Mass, but also prepared every dish on the table with the exception of the ring subs and perhaps the potato chips. This included not only salad, but also

Italian wedding soup and at least two cakes for dessert. Delicious, all of it!

- Our December social will be our annual Christmas party and presentation to the ARC and the Harford Center. Please plan now to join us on December 15 for this celebration.

- January-Souper bowl

Kevin McNamara, Grand Knight

Sick and Deceased

Please remember in your prayers Don Litz, Al Kramer, Bill Edge, Tom Krista, Vernon West, Ray Caralle, Chuck DuVall and Edie Krebs wife of Ron Krebs. Pray for Frank Conley, deceased father of PGK Stephen Conley

John Knapstein 410-692-9823 jdk92048@aol.com

Pot of Gold



Each month at the Business Meeting, the Council conducts a "Pot of Gold" drawing. All that is required is your attendance. The prizes range from \$5.00 to \$50.00. After there is a winner, the prize starts at \$5.00 and each month that a name is drawn and the winner is not in attendance, \$5.00 is added to the kitty until it reaches the maximum prize of \$50.00. You must be in attendance to win. See you at the next meeting! The name drawn at the October meeting was Ray Potacki and he was not in attendance. The drawing at the December meeting will remain at \$50.00.

Special Note – Since we have not had a winner in quite some time, we are going to continue drawing at the December Meeting until we pick a winner. Be in attendance at the December meeting and you could go home with a check for \$50.00. We will start the new year with a \$5.00 prize.

Tom Sutera

Program Chairs Needed

We need chairmen for our Family program and our Church program. Please step up. Contact any chair officer (GK Kevin McNamara, DGK John Knapstein, Chancellor Eric Tiso, Warden Bob Knorr) to volunteer.

Community Activities

Perry Point Program

The Bel Air Council will be assisting patients at Perry Point on the first Sundays of the month. We will once again be looking for help on the first Sunday of December (6th) for our turn to aid the patients at Perry Point. If you would like to join us, we leave from the McDonalds on 543 in Riverside at 9:30 AM, or you may want to join us at the Chapel in Perry Point at 10:00 AM. Mass is at 10:30 AM. After returning the patients to their various buildings, we usually return to Riverside by noon. If you are unable to help with patients, you are very welcome to join us at Mass with Father Jonathon. If you want more information call Tom Sutera at (410) 638-1096 or Pat Dolan at (410) 679-7058.

Special Note – With Christmas in the month of December, anyone that would like to celebrate Christmas Mass at Perry Point, please join members from other Councils that help our Veterans attend Mass on Christmas Day. Mass again will begin at 10:30 AM so allow extra time to wheel patients to the Chapel.

Tom Sutera

Church Activities-



St. Mark Blood Drive:

St. Mark blood drive has been scheduled for Thursday, December 12, from 2:00pm until 7:30pm. I will be contacting Council members who attend St Mark Parish to help sign up parishioners for this event. The theme for this drive is "Give a special gift of life this Christmas, please give".

Joseph Pisani

Youth Activities

Troop 999



The troop committee was reorganized at the meeting of October 21. All key positions were filled, to include recording secretary, treasurer, committee chair and scout master. Parents of the new scouts stepped up to fill some of these positions. The Committee members who were present for Oct. 28 scout meeting took an oath to uphold their post at this meeting.

The troop meeting of November 11 was very special. Life scout Michael Aaron Tarcza was promoted to Eagle Scout, passing his board of review with honors. Once promoted to the rank of Eagle Scouts, the individual is an Eagle Scout for life.

At the conclusion of this meeting, the Scout Master held his Scout Master Minute which on this evening included a flag retirement ceremony with special tribute to those serving in the armed forces and honoring those adult troop leaders who served.

Pack 999



The Pack currently has 43 active scouts. The meeting held on October 21, took place at the YMCA where the scouts climbed the rock wall. Two cubs made it to the top. In all 32 cub scouts and 7 siblings attended the outing.

On October 26, the senior Webeloes earned their BSA swim badge.

On Sunday, November 8, the pack held its' annual Cub Mobile Races on Newport Drive. The road was partially closed to impede the flow of traffic during this event. Nineteen scouts Participated in the event with 3rd place going to Rocky Gensel, 2nd place to Brayden Cornmann, and 1st place to Logan Cavileer.

The pack met at the council on Thursday November 12, for their annual Paint Night. Approximately 25 cub scouts and siblings enjoyed the activity. Ms. Essie from Wine and Canvas conducted the art class. The cubs painted a wooded campsite scene with tent and campfire.

Soccer Challenge:



The District held its Soccer Challenge Competition on Saturday, October 24 at Holy Spirit Church in Joppa. Of the 5 winners we had in our Council Meet, only 1 participated in the District event. Although he

won his age group, he did not attend the State Challenge. The State Soccer Challenge was held at Archbishop Spaulding HS in AA County on Sunday, November 1. Seventy-five boys and girls in all eligible age groups attended. Awards were given out to the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners.

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship



We have scheduled the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship for Saturday, January 16 at the John Carroll School. Boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to join the fun and competition. The event will run from 10:00am until 3:00pm or whenever all competitors have taken their shots. We need judges and scorers to help with this event. At present we will need at least 2 judges,6 scorers to run the event. If you are interested in lending a hand, please contact Joe Pisani at 443-299-6211 or 443-955-9428. The date and place of the district event has not yet been announced. I will have more information as it becomes available.

I am looking for someone to help with our council's Youth Activity Program. Anyone interested in helping to organize and participate in these fun activities, please call me at 443-299-6211 or 443-955-9428.

Joseph Pisani

First Degree

The next first degree in Bel Air Council is scheduled for our first business meeting of the new calendar year, January 5, 2016. Plan on a rehearsal between now and then. For brothers who are interested in taking a role in the degree, especially if you've already been approached by a team member to take a part or if you've already expressed interest in taking a part, watch this space for the announcement of the rehearsal date and time.

Kevin McNamara, Team Co-Captain

Fourth Degree



**Knights of Columbus
FOURTH
DEGREE**

Patriotic degree of the Order.

The next exemplification of the fourth degree is scheduled for March 2016 at the Francis Scott Key Holiday Inn and Conference Center in Frederick (details when they become available). If you would like to become a fourth degree Knight, there's still time to get your application submitted. E-mail me at kgm4714@gmail.com so we can get a Form 4 into your hands and vote you in.

Kevin McNamara, PFN

Catholic Ladies Service Organization

Hello Everybody,

Although it is a bit early, I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Holy and Safe New Year.

The Annual CLSO Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 6, 2015, 2 PM at Giovanni's Restaurant, 2101 Pulaski Hwy, Edgewood, MD 21040. Price: \$33.00 pp. All are welcome! Call Sharon DiMatteo 410-879-7633 ASAP for reservations. The food is excellent and the fellowship is terrific! Hope to see you there.

Several of our members attended the Veterans' Bingo at Perry Point VA Hospital, Nov10th. As usual the veterans received all sorts of prizes including wrist watches, sweat shirts, baseball caps, baskets of personal hygiene products or tasty goodies and packages filled with puzzle books, playing cards and other pastime items, even rosaries and other religious goods! There were so many treats that every Vet, not just the ones who won bingo games, got a shopping bag full of their favorite things to take back to their rooms to enjoy later. As usual it was difficult to determine who had more fun, the Vet's or the volunteers!

The next CLSO business meeting will be held on December 8th at 7PM at the Council Home. We

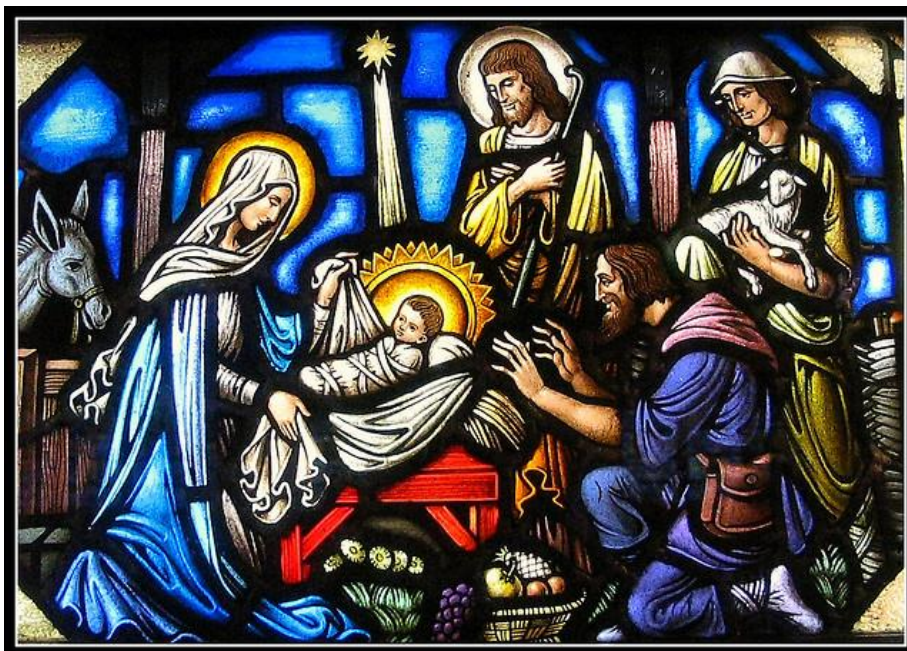
have been asked to do the preliminary judging for the "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. Our Saint for December is St Nicholas and the color is Red! Be sure to wear or carry something red and bring cookies for the cookie exchange! Come and be prepared to have fun! Our December meeting should be very special.

The F.I.E.L.D.S. Christmas Party will be held on December 17th. If you are planning to volunteer please be at the Council home by 5:30. This is another event that is so much fun that you won't want to miss it!

We offer Steve Conley, our PGK, and his family our deepest sympathy on the death of his father Frank Conley. Please pray for the repose of his soul and for the comfort and consolation of the Conley family. Please keep Vic Ferrara-oral cancer, Dave Custer-fractured wrist, Karen Warner-nasal surgery, Nancy Castle-shoulder surgery and Norma Miller-knee surgery, in your prayers.

Finally, Pray the Rosary every day! Pray for peace in our world. Let us storm heaven with prayer for our beleaguered world! Pray that this Christmas season will usher in an era of peace. Contact me if you need a rosary!

Dee Kozlowski, President CLSO, 410-676-2862
mtmama624@aol.com



Knights of Columbus

'Keep Christ in Christmas'



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Bel Air Council No. 4714

23 Newport Drive

Forest Hill, MD 21050

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