



COUNCILAIRS

Bel Air Council 4714



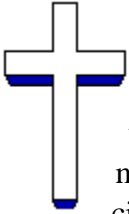
Phone: (410) 893:6442

23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050

Initiated Dec 1958

January 2018

Chaplain's Corner



With the start of a new civil year coming so close to the Christian celebration of the Incarnation of the Christ, we have a chance to ask ourselves an important question: "Does my life reflect the values of the civil year and civil society or the values of God and of the faith community?"

For many people driven by the civil society's need to gather things to increase one's self-worth, the buying season of Christmas becomes to debt season of the New Year. For Christians, the celebration of the Incarnation, calls us to count the blessings God has already given us in our bodies, our minds, our souls families and our faith communities. When we Mary, Joseph and Jesus revel in these natural gifts from God, we are directed back to them and away from buying more stuff that divides us from others.

For civil society, the New Year is a time to make private decision that are meant to improve ourselves. For Christians, the Incarnation teaches us that God has a plan that includes us and that the Divine Plan is good for all people. It teaches us that we are called by God to take part in this plan by doing good deeds for the benefit of others. As we live for others, God will take care of our life's deepest being.

For civil society, the New Year is a time to party, get drunk and let go of ourselves. For Christians, the Incarnation shows us that disciplining ourselves to follow God's commands is the only way to become our true selves and to find the deepest joy in who we are and who we are becoming. Because we are on a journey to full life, we never need to escape from it or forget who we are. We rejoice in who we are in Christ Jesus.

When the civil New Year comes, we might do well to celebrate in a time of prayerful self- examination. We can ask which year is better for us to exist in: the civil year or the Year of Life in Christ Jesus?

Fr. Michael

Grand Knight

I want to wish everyone a Blessed and Happy New Year. A time for resolutions! See if you can find time to donate to the Knights in any of the current programs. We are in need of bingo workers to fill in for those who need to take off, board members for the Kay Cee club, a membership chairman, fund raising ideas, and help with any activities. Ask me where you can plug in and I will find a place.

We started the Fraternal year with the Patriotic rosary and ended this year with a Fifth Sunday mass. Thanks to all who helped with the Tootsie roll drive, car raffle, Perry Point, Night of Entertainment, and all the other activities. We need to keep up and continue to support the remainder of the year as we have done in the past. The Community awards dinner, Baby boomerang, Marian Devotion, just to name a few of the events that will be coming up.

The December social featured the Just Having Fun singers. They provided a Christmas program that was enjoyed by all and of course we collected gifts for Birthright and Anna's House. Pictures on later pages.

The 2018 Knights of Columbus Supreme Convention will be held in Baltimore in August. Opportunities to volunteer are available from August 3 to August 11. For more information contact Jack Giacalone, Volunteer Coordinator, 301-774-6338 or email jgical48@gmail.com

John Knapstein, Grand Knight, 410-692-9823

Jdk920488@gmail.com

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

Fraternal Benefits

Insurance Check-Up for 2018

Where did 2017 go? It seems like it was summer yesterday and Easter was last week. I hope you and your family had a great finish to 2017. Now, the first quarter of 2018 is flying by.

Hopefully, you've established a few goals for this year. I've learned a great tip regarding resolutions. First, write them down. It's not too late if you haven't already done this. Commit your goals to paper and post it someplace you will see it often. Writing down a goal is the first step towards achieving it. It may not make sense at first, but I'm sure you have heard stories of the success this simple task can bring. Whether your goal is to exercise more, give more to charity, read more or watch less television, you're more likely to accomplish it if you write it down.

Second, resolve to have an expert look at your finances. I recommend that you have a team of experts help you, and I would love to be the first you sit with. Let's schedule some time to meet together, and I, your Knights of Columbus Financial planner, will provide a "financial check-up" (at no cost!) that will evaluate any gaps in your family's life insurance protection and financial goals. Now might be the perfect time to fill those gaps, not later. Keep in mind that unlike many other products, you don't just need money to obtain life insurance; you also need good health, and no one knows when your health could change.

Did I mention my check-up is free of charge? When was the last time you received something for free that could provide value to you and your family for generations? Call or email me today.

Edward A. O'Keefe, CLU, ChfC, CASL
410-569-6141

Edward.okeefe@kofc.org

<http://Okeefefinancialplanning.com>

Council Activities

Alive and Well

"Brothers Helping Brothers". If you need transportation to a doctor's office or hospital, call me. I will make every effort to find someone in our council to provide that transportation. Also, if you are available and can provide transportation to a fellow brother, please let me know. Your help is needed and will be greatly rewarded in Heaven.

Joe Pisani, 443-955-9428

Sick and Deceased

Please continued to pray for the following brothers and sisters: Pat Ruckle; Al Kramer; Chuck Duvall; Ray Caralle; Vernon West; Edie Krebs, wife of brother Ron Krebs; Tony Grato; Pete Kozak; Margie Mack; Gilly Ann McNamara, wife of PGK Kevin McNamara; and Father Michael Buttner, our Chaplin, David Lavin, and Tom Krista. Also, please remember Mr. James Knorr, father of Brother Bob Knorr. Mr. Knorr passed away suddenly on December 15. The funeral service was held at Miller-Dipple Funeral Home on Thursday, December 21.

Joe Pisani, 443-955-9428,
joebluegrass@hotmail.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 December meeting for \$30.00 was Paul Roeger and he was in attendance. At the December meeting, names are called until a winner is in attendance. There were many names called before we drew the winner. The drawing at the January meeting will be \$5.00.

Tom Sutera

Admission Degree

We will exemplify the Admission Degree at our January 2, 2018 business meeting. Team members, please continue to rehearse your parts. At the request of the WGK, we will present the degree in suits/coats and ties. I ask all the brothers to come so dressed, firstly to honor our new brothers, secondly in case you're needed to fill a non-speaking role. Please make every effort to be in the chamber by 7pm for the 7:30 degree.

Kevin McNamara, PGK, Team Co-Captain

Patriotic Degree

The Patriotic Degree is the culmination of Knighthood in our Order. St. Francis Xavier Assembly meets at 7:30pm on the third Monday of every month at Newport Terrace. To become a 4th Degree Knight, ask any current Sir Knight for a Form 4. Get them in soon: The next exemplification is March 24, 2018 at the Princess Royale in Ocean City.

Kevin McNamara, PFN

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 January (7th) 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. If you want more information call Tom Sutera at (410) 638-1096 or Pat Dolan at (410) 679-7058. Our thanks to all of our members, wives, and friends that help us aid our veterans each month. God Bless All of You.

Tom Sutera

St. Mark Blood Drive

St. Mark Held its annual Christmas Blood Drive on Thursday, December 21. The campaign theme was "Give the Gift of Life This Christmas". Council members were recruited to help sign up parishioners after Mass on Saturday and Sunday on the weekends

of the December 10, 11 and 16 and 17. The recruiting drive was so successful that the Red Cross asked us to discontinue recruiting blood donors after the first weekend.

The day of the blood drive was very busy from the very start. We had a total of 37 presenting donors, however only 33 could give blood. The Red Cross gave Tee shirts out to all the donors as a thank you for their donation. One unit of blood can save up to three lives. So, although the donors may never know whose lives they saved, they are truly heroes, one and all. Many thanks to the council members who helped make this blood drive so successful. Bob Jump, Joe Potter and Chuck Lasik help recruit parishioners after the weekend Masses. Al and Linda DiCocco, Charlie Belli, and Dick Kozlowski were the council members who helped with signing in the blood donors on Thursday.

May God bless all who participated in this blood drive.
Joe Pisani, 443-955-9428



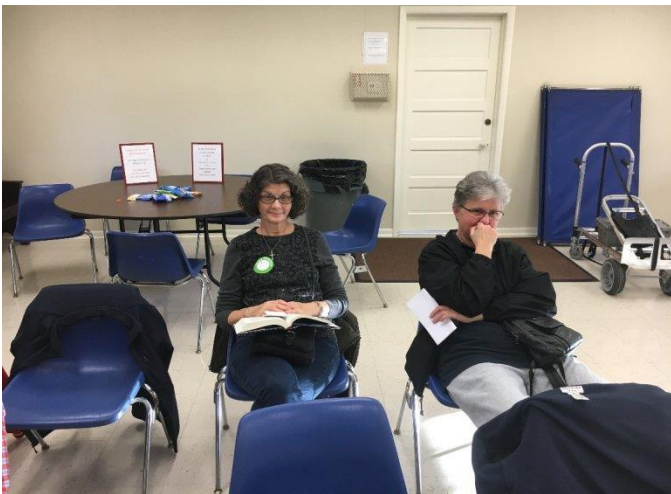
Parishioner Frank being prepped to give blood.



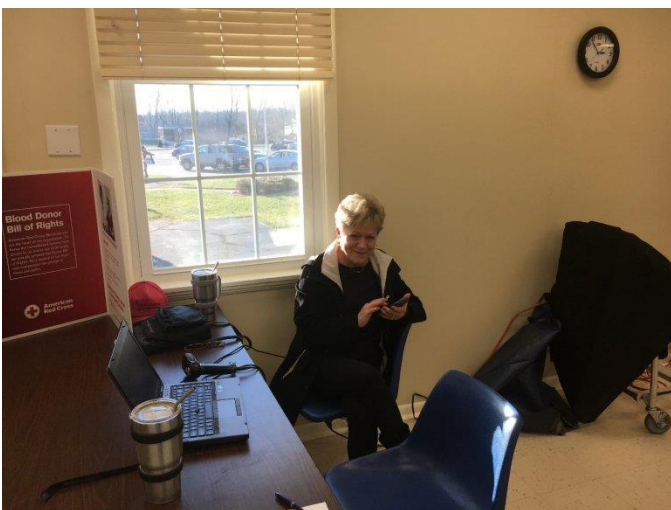
Parishioner Tom in the process of donating blood.



Several donors waiting their turn to donate blood.



Other parishioners awaiting their turn to donate.



Linda DiCocco at the registration desk during a slow period at the donation center.

FIELD Christmas Party

For several years the Council has sponsored a Christmas party for the FIELD Organization. This year the party was held on December 21 at the Council home. Santa showed up and gave goody bags to 30 of the FIELD attendees. Natalie Boyd provided music for dancing and Jerry Wagner prepared an outstanding meal that was served by ladies of the CSLO Virginia Berkowitz, Sharon DiMatteo and Karen Warner.





Youth Activities

On September 14, the Bel Air Council approached St. Margaret School with the “KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST.” The principal, Mrs. Hobik assigned the project to the school’s art teachers. They instructed the students, grade 2 through 8 on the rules of the contest. A total of 261 students submitted posters to be judged by the Council members and the Ladies Auxiliary. Judging took place at the November social meeting.

Prizes were awarded to the top 3 winners in each grade. 3rd prize was a \$10 gift card, 2nd prize \$15 and 1st prize \$25. The award ceremony was held at St. Margaret’s Church on December 15. All students, teachers and parents were in attendance. Mrs. Hobick announced the winners while the prizes were awarded to the students.

Helping with the contest were Brothers Tom Krista and Tony Lamancusa.

We will be holding the 2nd Annual Altar Server Celebration at St. Mark on Saturday, January 13, 2018. An inclement weather back up date has been scheduled for Saturday, March 3 should Mother Nature misbehave. Each altar server will receive a \$10 gift card and a “Family Prayer Card”. The families, including siblings are also invited to this event.

Joe Pisani, Youth Activity Chairman

Joe Pisani

Catholic Ladies Service Organization

Happy New year Everybody! Hope you had a very happy Christmas. Now that the holidays are past, we can look back and take moment to reflect on past few weeks. I think most of us were so busy we deserve a little break.

Our Saint of the month for January is St. John Neumann and our color is Purple. Be sure to wear or carry something purple to our next meeting. Our next CLSO Business Meeting will be held at Sharon Di Matteo’s house, on January 12, 2018 12:30pm, please contact her if you plan to attend. Our birthday lady for January is Marie Frank – January 18. Our Anniversary Couple is Diane and Dave Custer – January 5, 1963, celebrating their 55th.

Hope to see you at Sharon’s.

Dee Kozlowski, President Catholic Ladies Service Organization, 410-676-2862, mtmama624@aol.com

December Social Meeting



Just Having Fun Singers

News from the Supreme Council

A SAINT IN THE MAKING 12/18/2017

***THE CAUSE FOR THE KNIGHTS' FOUNDER
MARKS 20 FRUITFUL YEARS***



Christmas program was enjoyed by all.



On Dec. 18, 1997, a press conference was held announcing opening of cause for sainthood for Father Michael J. McGivney by the Hartford Archdiocese. Pictured are then-Supreme Knight Virgil Dechant, Archbishop Emeritus Daniel Cronin, then-Supreme Chaplain Bishop Thomas Daily and Dominican Father Gabriel O'Donnell.

His life inspires and his vision still lives as the process toward sainthood continues for Father Michael J. McGivney. In the 20 years since the cause for his canonization was opened, devotion to the founder of the Knights of Columbus has grown throughout the Order and spread widely among the Catholic faithful.

The humble parish priest, who founded the Knights with a handful of parishioners at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Conn., was declared venerable by the Vatican in 2008. His intercession is sought by priests and laypersons in all the challenges of life, and he still is known as a friend of the poor and neglected; an advocate for widows and orphans and those affected by divorce and family breakup; a supporter of Christian family life; a trustworthy guide to the young; a promoter of the Catholic faith; and above all, a champion of charity, the first principle of the Knights of Columbus.

The canonization cause was opened on Dec. 18, 1997, in the Archdiocese of Hartford, then under Archbishop Daniel Cronin, with the Knights of Columbus serving as the "actor" or prime supporter. Dominican Father



There were more singers than there were Knights and families, a sad commentary.

Gabriel O'Donnell, the first postulator in charge of the cause, set out to compile the positio, a deeply researched and carefully footnoted document drawing upon all historical evidence attesting to Father McGivney's holiness and virtue. After review and approval at the archdiocesan level, the positio was sent to the Vatican and on March 15, 2008, Pope Benedict XVI declared Father McGivney a "Venerable Servant of God," recognizing that he exercised the theological and cardinal virtues "to a heroic degree."

During his apostolic visit to the United States the following month, Pope Benedict called Father McGivney an "exemplary American priest" whose work was key to the "impressive growth" of the Catholic Church in America during the 19th century.

With his cause active at the Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of Saints, a miracle attributed to Father McGivney's intercession is required for him to be declared Blessed, and then another such miracle would be needed for canonization or sainthood. All Knights and their families, as well as everyone devoted to Father McGivney, are encouraged to implore Father McGivney's intercession in all struggles in life, especially in times of serious illness, and to report any favors or healings to the Father McGivney Guild, the office that promotes the sainthood cause.

But the cause is about more than seeking miracles, as vital as that is to its successful completion. The cause also involves learning about the many practical virtues of this exemplary priest and the ways he responded in an informed and practical manner to the serious challenges facing his immigrant parishioners. His cause for sainthood also encourages us to emulate him in our daily lives, as Knights and as Catholic laypersons, and pray for his help in our daily struggles.

The vitality of the Father Michael J. McGivney Guild is prime indicator of his continued popularity and presence in people's lives. With close to 170,000 members throughout the world, the Guild has received reports of thousands of favors over the years, a testament to the intercession of Father McGivney and the trust that people place in him. These favors fall generally into four categories that Father McGivney was concerned about during his earthly priesthood:

1. Employment and finances. Just as his parishioners looked to Father McGivney for guidance at a time when the words "No Irish need apply" were often included in job postings, so today many receive help when they are laid off or seeking a better job.
2. Substance abuse. In Father McGivney's day, alcoholism afflicted the immigrant population, and he founded a parish "total abstinence" society. Many now find relief from drug or alcohol abuse through praying to him.
3. Family reconciliation. Divisions occurred within immigrant families struggling to make ends meet, and they are not uncommon today with the increase of divorce. Father McGivney continues to respond to the prayers of families.
4. Return to the faith. Father McGivney founded the Order to keep men from leaving the Church to join anti-Catholic secret societies. Today, many Catholics receive favors when calling upon him to help their fallen-away children return to Mass.

Twenty years may seem like a long time to wait for a holy person to be canonized, but it is far from an unusual period for a sainthood cause. We can use this time to renew our faith, deepen our prayer life, join the Guild and unite our prayers for the good of the Knights of Columbus and for an increase of devotion to its founder.



In 2009, officials of a supplemental tribunal, constituted by the Archdiocese of Hartford, formally sent a new report to the Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of Saints. The tribunal interviewed additional witnesses, including several medical doctors, about the circumstances of a reported miracle attributed to the Venerable Michael McGivney's intercession. The report was signed and presented to Archbishop.