



Knights' Courier



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - MONTGOMERY COUNCIL #2323
P.O. BOX 5626 DERWOOD, MARYLAND 20855-0626 301-977-2644
www.kofc2323.org

May, 2008

FROM OUR CHAPLAIN, FATHER ZYLLA

Dear Brother Knights,

While Easter season proper is coming to a close, to be followed by the Season of Ascension, our Easter joy received an immense lift by the visit of Our Holy Father to our area and to that of New York, and by television to our whole country. Perhaps some of our members or acquaintances participated in the visit to the White House or to the National Shrine. But undoubtedly the majority who were able to participate in person would have been among the thousands at the Nationals Park on April 17th.

I was privileged to be able to concelebrate the Mass of the Holy Spirit there. All of our Seminary Faculty and students went down for that Mass. We boarded the four busses at 4:15 and left the Seminary at 4:30 a.m. We arrived at RFK stadium at 6 a.m., transferred to shuttle busses and arrived at the Nationals stadium about 6:30 a.m. The priests were able to vest in the Presidents Club, and we were in our places on the field by 8 a.m. The security was very tight, but I got an ok from a secret service agent to visit at the site of the altar; the podium and the papal throne had been built by Deacon David Cahoon, who serves at the Barnesville parish where I also assist on weekends. I told the secret service agent, "I need to inspect the work of our parish deacon!" He allowed me to enter the area.

The Mass, concelebrated by all the American bishops and many hundreds of priests (I met numerous Mount alumni priests from Louisiana, Georgia, Alabama, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and all points east.) The Mass was awesome and the Holy Father's homily was inspiring and challenging beyond belief. Deacons from the Mount, and others, distributed Holy Communion throughout the stadium to some forty thousand participants.

The power of Christ's presence was palpable, as was His peace. God is so good to us, in Christ! My sentiments were like when I concelebrated with Pope John Paul II in his private chapel at the Vatican, way back in 1995. What a joy for us Catholics to have Christ present to us in the Eucharist and in the Holy Father! I will bring some photos of these events to our next meeting, May 6th.

May the Lord continue to bless you all, dear brother knights, and your families most abundantly throughout this Easter season!

Fr. Robert Zylla, O.S.C., Chaplain

FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY, JOHN DURBIN

Convention time is here and I hope all Grand Knights, delegates and alternates are already registered. This is election year for the Maryland State Council and our Grand Knights and Delegates have the responsibility of electing a State Warden who in the future will in all probability be our State Deputy. This responsibility should not be taken lightly.

The month of May will go very quickly for our district because of the many things that are going to take place. There is one 1st degree scheduled for May 13, 2008 at Our Lady of Fatima at 8:00pm and one scheduled for May 20, 2008 at Montgomery Council candidates report at 7:30pm. This is another opportunity to add to our number on our quest for Star Council. Many of you are so close to attaining the goal, you have to want it bad enough.

I encourage all members to call our Fraternal Benefits Advisor right away to set up an appointment to become part of our excellent benefits program. This is a part of helping your council achieve Star Council and it is a gift of love to those we love.

Grand Knights go into training now, to prepare for the Grand Knight Olympics at the beach. Grand Knights and the DW must be in excellent shape in order to out score the other districts and prevent the possibility of a tie. Ties will be settled by the DD's scores. It must not come to that!

God bless you and your families.

Vivat Jesus!

John L. Durbin, District Deputy

FROM OUR GRAND KNIGHT, SHANNON DOHERTY

My Brothers All:

Our fraternal year is winding down, but it's definitely NOT over!

Elections will be held at our first Council meeting in June – June 3. The current nominations are published later in this newsletter, and additional nominations may be made at the May meetings – May 6 and May 20. Please make a point to attend these important meetings.

As always, keep in our mind our goal for increasing membership. Remember that for each new member between now and June 30, our beloved Father Zylla will have a chance for an annuity to be granted by the State Council.

If you can arrange a weekend for a membership blitz at your parish, please let me know ASAP. These don't need to be a formal presentation or anything. It can be a simple coordination with your parish and a few friends who are members at your parish, with an announcement during Mass that Knights are available.

The Family Socials continue to be well attended. In April, Mike Bean and Pat Gilroy and their team arranged a chili dinner and more, and attendees contributed to the Gabriel Project. The next Family Social is May 16. Come join the fun!

St. Francis Parish is having a yard sale on May 10. They have asked the Knights to provide help – for set up on Thursday and Friday (5/8 and 5/9) beginning around 2:00 p.m., and then general help during the sale on Saturday, May 10. The sale runs Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

One special request is for people who have pickup trucks. Contact Cathy (and Richard) Cornwell at St. Francis.

And, finally, May brings the State Convention in Ocean City. Our District Deputy, John Durbin, has already mentioned this above.

Fraternally,

Shannon H. Doherty, Grand Knight

What Might You be Missing?

This past month, if you were on the e-mail list, you should have received information for obtaining tickets to see Pope Benedict, and you should have received an e-vite giving details about the menu and time for Family Night.

These are samples of information that we can really only distribute by e-mail.

If you're not currently receiving our e-mails, please send us your current e-mail address to add to Council records: Please send the e-mail to:

KofCMontgomery2323@Yahoo.com.

Please be sure to provide your name so we can identify your name and e-mail together.

Parish Round Tables

Please check the mailing label on this issue of the *Courier*. It should indicate your parish affiliation as currently reflected in Council records – or you may see only your name and address which means we have no parish information. Please send corrections or updates to KofCMontgomery2323@Yahoo.com, or call the Hoffmasters at (301) 770-7840.

Occasionally, pastors of our primary parishes ask for assistance with projects. Round Tables are simply the lists of our members according to parish. These lists need to be updated so that we can more easily respond to our pastors. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Sullivan Brothers Assembly – 4th Degree

The Sullivan Brothers Assembly meets on the third Thursday of each month at Montgomery Council's Father Cuddy Hall. The Assembly is made up of brother Sir Knights from the councils in the middle of Montgomery County (Montgomery, Peter Paul Maher, Mater Dei, Manyanet, St Elizabeth's) and members from other councils who desire to join us.

“We stick together”

S/K John L. Durbin, PFN, PGK, DD

301-762-4448 email jndurbin@att.net

LEADERSHIP (2007-08)

Council Officers

Chaplain	Rev. Robert V. Zylla, O.S.C.	301-447-5641
Grand Knight	Shannon H. Doherty	301-963-5027
Deputy Grand Knight	Randy A. Drago	301-963-7521
Chancellor	Christopher H. Dierken	301-948-4238
Warden	John K. Leighton	301-340-9143
Recorder	Drew J. Hoffmaster	301-770-7840
Financial Secretary	James P. Cribbin, PGK, FDD	301-770-7784
Lecturer	Wilbur J. Wingo	301-869-6254
Treasurer	Edwin E. Dudenhoeffer	301-774-4262
Advocate	Michael S. Hamm	301-251-0939
Inside Guard	George F. Griffin, Jr.	301-424-5074
Outside Guards	Charles R. Durbin	301-460-4808
	Joseph M. Kempf	301-460-8918
Trustees	Guy W. Beaven, PGK (1 yr.)	301-921-9881
	Leo H. Snyder (2 yr.)	301-208-8930
	Kevin M. Ginley, PGK (3 yr.)	301-208-1170
Delegate	Kevin M. Ginley, PGK	301-208-1170
Convention Alt. #1	Open	
Convention Alt. #2	Open	

Council Activity Directors

Council	Randy A. Drago	301-963-7521
Church & Vocations	Christopher H. Dierken	301-948-4238
Community	Calvin J. Ogden	301-990-8641
Pro-Life	Kevin & Bernadette Ginley	301-208-1170
Family	Shannon H. Doherty	301-963-5027
Youth	Matthew E. Mongelli	301-251-2949
Membership	Shannon H. Doherty	301-963-5027
Retention	Shannon H. Doherty	301-963-5027
Fourth Degree	John L. Durbin, DD, PGK	301-762-4448
Refreshments	Michael F. Ambrosia	301-869-5115
Hall Rental	Robert E. Mongelli	301-984-9272
Public Relations	Guy W. Beaven, PGK	301-921-9881
Fraternal Benefits	Patrick B. McAleer, PGK	301-253-3856
Necrology	Joseph P. Zetts, PGK	301-762-6792

Building Corporation Board of Directors

President	Robert E. Mongelli (2 yr.)	301-984-9272
Vice President	Kevin J. Bean (1 yr.)	301-253-5512
Secretary	Mark F. Lynch (1 yr.)	301-977-0890
Treasurer	Paul J. Barrett, Sr., PGK, PCP (3 yr.)	301-762-3612
Maintenance	Paul M. Noga (3 yr.)	301-977-7922
Director	Michael E. Bean (1 yr.)	301-460-6193
Director	Matthew E. Mongelli (2 yr.)	301-251-2949
Director	Shannon H. Doherty (2 yr.)	301-963-5027
Director	Charles R. Durbin (3 yr.)	301-460-4808

www.kofc2323.org

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Deadline for entries is the 15th of each month (but earlier is better, if possible!)

Brenda Hoffmaster, Editor (301) 770-7840, e-mail: hoffmast13@msn.com

For questions or problems, please call Shannon Doherty, (301) 963-5027

Council Leadership for the Next Fraternal Year

We are currently seeking members willing to step up and serve our council in leadership roles. If you feel running for a chair office might be too much for you, please consider becoming a director of one of the Surge with Service programs.

The Surge With Service programs are envisioned by the state as the 5 areas of Church, Council, Community, Family and Youth. Each of these has a few activities that occur during the fraternal year. Serving our council as director of one of these areas is as simple as helping us organize the events. If you are already helping in one or more of these areas, you should step up to own the director title and be recognized for your efforts.

Beyond Surge With Service programs there is a "Life Chair Couple". You may already be working with your parish on Right to Life issues. Bringing your current activities into our council and sharing this work with us is invaluable in our growth together as a council.

We are also looking for members to take a leadership role recruiting new members from their parish. If you would be willing to help organize one or more of the membership drives that occur throughout the year, please step up and take the lead.

And don't be afraid to introduce new ideas you may have. It is by working together that we grow as a council. Any small contribution to the efforts of our council will lighten the workload for all of us.

Randy Drago

Nominations and Elections 2008-2009

The election of Officers will be held during the first business meeting in June. Nominations from the Council floor will be accepted by the Grand Knight at all business meetings until the time of the election.

Please be sure that each nominee has been contacted and has agreed to serve, if elected, to the office for which he is nominated.

The incoming Grand Knight appoints the positions of Chaplain and Lecturer.

The following named Brother Knights have each been contacted and have agreed to serve, if elected, in the positions and terms specified:

Grand Knight: Randy A. Drago	Advocate: Joseph M. Kempf
Deputy Grand Knight: Chris H. Dierken	Inside Guard: George F. Griffin, Jr.
Chancellor: John K. Leighton	Outside Guards: {candidate needed}
Warden: Victor Somado	Charles R. Durbin (tentative)
Recorder: Larry Royster	Trustees: Leo H. Snyder (1 Year)
Financial Secretary: James P. Cribbin, PGK	Kevin M. Ginley (2 Year)
Treasurer: Edwin E. Dudenhoeffer	Shannon H. Doherty (3 Year)
Lecturer: Wilbur G. Wingo	Delegate: Shannon H. Doherty, PGK

Additional nominations from the Council floor will be accepted by the Grand Knight at all business meetings until the time of the election.

Knights Name Tags

Do you have a name tag to identify yourself as a Knight? Wearing these to Mass or functions not only identify you by name, but also as a Knight of Columbus. These can spark conversations, or allow others to seek you out to inquire about our organization. They are signs that we are a service organization, and are proud to be Catholic men serving our families and church.

If you would like a name tag, please contact John Durbin immediately: 301-762-4448. The next order will be placed shortly.

From the Supreme Council

**Information for this section is drawn from the Supreme's website,
<http://www.kofc.org>
(The following was taken directly as written, obviously prior to arrival.)**

Historic Fourth Degree Honor Guard for Pope, President



The first visit to the United States by Pope Benedict XVI as Holy Father also marked a historic first for the Knights of Columbus.

During Pope Benedict's April 16 meeting with President Bush at the White House, 30 Fourth Degree Knights in full regalia provided an honor guard for the ceremony. It was the first time the Fourth Degree stood in formation for a pope and president at the White House.

"We take this, first and foremost, as a supreme honor to be here for this historic event," said Joseph P. Schultz, supreme master of the Fourth Degree.

"We are greatly honored that we would be chosen for such an honor, and I think it's a sign of the high regard that is given to the Knights of Columbus as a whole."

The White House ceremony took place in the Rose Garden.

The Fourth Degree also is scheduled to take part at the Masses in Washington's Nationals Park and Yankee Stadium in New York, as well as at the pope's departure ceremony at John F. Kennedy International Airport.

"This is an event that all our Sir Knights will remember for the rest of their lives. Many had tears in their eyes," said Vice Supreme Master Ralph Rossi, who headed the honor guard.

"We were representing the entire Order of Knights in this historic event. Being on the White House lawn, so close to the president of the United States and our Holy Father, we were totally overwhelmed with emotions. We were in awe."

Rossi is organizing the Fourth Degree's activities for the pope's visit in the nation's capital, and Masters Martin Loughlin and Marvin Dalton are handling arrangements in New York.

Rossi said that the 30 Sir Knights at the White House represented the entire Order and the Catholic Church.

"I have told my men that we are representing not only the 1.7 million Knights and their families throughout the world, but also the 68 million Catholics in the United States and the 1 billion Catholics in the world, since people will be watching this ceremony all over the world," Rossi explained. "Any Knight who sees the Fourth Degree honor guard on TV will know that he is being represented. People all over the world will be able to see who we are and what we are, that we are Knights of Columbus."

Rossi was enlisted in the U.S. National Guard for 41 years, retiring two years ago with the rank of sergeant major. He will draw on his military training as he prepares the honor guard for its most important assignment. He said that at the White House, the Sir Knights will march in three rows of 10, with six different colored capes displayed. No ceremonial swords will be carried at any of the papal events.

At Nationals Stadium on April 17, an honor guard of 50 Sir Knights will lead the liturgical procession at the beginning and the end of Mass. At Yankee Stadium on April 20, as many as 165 Fourth Degree members will accompany priests and deacons as they distribute Communion to the thousands attending. Later that day, a contingent of 50 Sir Knights will serve as honor guard as the Holy Father departs from JFK Airport.

"This is a unique opportunity to show the world what the Knights are about," said Supreme Master Schultz.

ANNUAL RENEWABLE TERM PLAN

The Order's portfolio of top-rated products includes a variety of term and permanent plans that can be custom-tailored to meet the needs, goals and budget of every Catholic family. Among these is our Annual Renewable Term (ART) plan, which provides the maximum amount of insurance protection per premium dollar.

ART provides life insurance protection for a specific, temporary period of time. Many have likened it to "renting" life insurance protection. It is appropriate coverage when the life insurance need is temporary in nature, such as to provide mortgage protection or to cover a business loan.

Among the advantages, in addition to the economical premium, is that ART can be converted to a permanent plan of protection – with no additional underwriting required – at any time prior to age 65. In a sense, ART can be used to guarantee your insurability. If you need protection for your entire life, but the

premiums for permanent insurance just aren't in the budget right now, purchasing an ART plan with the intent to convert might just be the way to go.

Who needs ART:

- Those who want to supplement permanent insurance protection
- Small business owners who want to cover the life of a key employee until retirement
- Those who need guaranteed coverage for life, but need time to budget additional premium
- dollars and want guaranteed conversion to a permanent plan of insurance.
- Anyone who needs life insurance for only a certain period.

I will be happy to meet with you at your convenience to discuss how Knights of Columbus ART life insurance, or any other of our top-rated portfolio of products, can help you meet your needs and goals.

I look forward to meeting with each of you. I'm at (301) 253-3856, or pmckofc@verizon.net – let's talk.

Patrick B. McAleer, PGK

From the Maryland State Council
Information for this section is drawn from the State Council's website,
<http://www.kofc-md.org/>

The Christian Concept of Freedom
by Lawrence P. Grayson

Pope John Paul II, addressing President Reagan during his visit to the United States in 1987, remarked: "From the beginning of America, freedom was directed to forming a well-ordered society and to promoting its peaceful life. Freedom was channeled to the fullness of human life, to the preservation of human dignity and to the safeguarding of all human rights. An experience in ordered freedom is truly a cherished part of the history of this land...The only true freedom, the only freedom that can truly satisfy, is the freedom to do what we ought as human beings created by God according to his plan. It is the freedom to live the truth of what we are and who we are before God, the truth of our identity as children of God, as brothers and sisters in a common humanity. That is why Jesus Christ linked truth and freedom together, stating solemnly: 'You will know the truth and the truth will set you free.'"

Freedom, correctly understood, is a natural right, a constitutional right, and above all a spiritual right. It has both a *material* and a *moral* aspect. From a material perspective, freedom is the right to do, to think or to say what one pleases. It allows every person to develop his own philosophy of life and to carry it out, without reference to traditions or society, or even religion. An approval of unconditional action, however, without regard for objective standards or authority, is license, not freedom.

In their desire for liberation, people too often forget that freedom requires constraint. Unfettered liberty is detrimental because it focuses on what men *do*, instead of what man *is*. People desire to be free from something, but they forgot that freedom *from* something implies freedom *for* something. Freedom from illness and pain provides a person with freedom for living one's life in goodness and love. We were created by God with a purpose – a purpose beyond our life on this earth – and were given freedom to pursue that end. Modern society extols self-autonomy, but it forgets the purpose of life. It ignores why people should be free. Without concern for the purpose of man, it is difficult to set any limits upon what a person may say, or do, or think.

Freedom as a material ability to do whatever one pleases is quite distinct from the moral responsibility to do what one ought. The power to act in a certain way does not confer the right to act in that way. A man can rob a bank, strike his wife, commit adultery, and lie about his actions, but he ought not to these things. The words *can* and *ought* distinguish between the material and the moral, and bring to the fore the choices facing us – and the world around us. Ought implies morality, rights, and duties, as distinct from a material ability to do something. St. Peter understood this as he instructed his followers to: “Live as freemen, yet not using freedom as a cloak for malice, but as servants of God.” When freedom becomes arbitrary it breeds profligacy and self-indulgence. Ordered freedom means choice with responsibility; it is the balance between anarchy and compulsion.

Every right entails responsibility and, as such, must be limited when it is used to impair another’s rights or to abuse the common good. Freedom of speech implies that it not be used to incite riots or destroy the reputation of others. Freedom of the press does not allow it to be used to corrupt public morals or manipulate public opinion. Freedom of association does not include the right to organize for unlawful behavior or against national security. In these practices, it is not the right to freedom that must be curtailed, but its abuse.

If freedom in America is to allow man to achieve his ultimate ends and not lead to a disregard for the common good, the nation’s people must act more in accord with the teachings of religion. A government of the people, that is, a democracy, assumes that its citizens will always act in the interest of justice, righteousness, and virtue. But, as Bishop Fulton J. Sheen pointed out in his book, *Freedom Under God* : “justice, righteousness, and virtue are inseparable from a conscience and a conscience is inseparable from a moral law, and a moral law is inseparable from religion with a Lawmaker whose nature is Goodness. Let religion die out of the hearts of citizens and the virtues essential for democracy die with it.”

America was established with an appeal to the sovereignty of God. The inalienable rights set forth in the Declaration of Independence were to be buttressed with moral principles and religious convictions. Democracy is more than a political activity; it is a spiritual and moral undertaking. People who wish to remain free must discipline themselves and be governed by virtue from within.

In his 1987 visit, Pope John Paul II said: “[F]reedom is indeed a great gift of God to this nation...freedom to exercise responsibility and generosity, freedom to meet the challenge of serving humanity, the freedom necessary to fulfill human destiny, the freedom to live by truth, to defend it against whatever distorts and manipulates it, the freedom to observe God’s law – which is the supreme standard of all human liberty, the freedom to live as children of God – secure and happy, the freedom to be America in that constitutional democracy which was conceived to be ‘One Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.’”

Family Socials

The April Family Night featured excellent company among 80 people. We shared chili and fixings for dinner, and raised \$450.00 for the Gabriel Project

Particular Thanks go out to Pat Gilroy for coordinating the chili donation, and helpers Bob Scanlon, Mark Stiles, Mark Hannan, and Chuck Durbin.

Join the fun of the next Family Night Out on May 16.

News from Father Ryan

Here's some good news for you - the container arrived in the village today! Alleluia.

Everything is fine now, but I am told that our container was labelled "suspicious" at the port in Lome, probably because they scanned it and all those batteries were detected. So they sent a customs officer on a motorcycle to follow the truck all the way to the village. He was a nice guy. When he saw the reality here at the mission he just smiled and sat back and watched the show, i.e. the couple hundred villagers swarming around while the container was unloaded.

One other thing - the motorcycle was removed by customs in Lome and didn't arrive here. But I was told that once the officer files his report we will be able to pick it up in Lome with no problem. So everything should be fine.

Thanks so much for your tremendous work, and that goes for everyone on the committee too. I want to assure everyone that your efforts were more than worth it. Please forward this to all the committee members, since some have been having trouble getting my messages, and also to anyone else who helped out along the way that you think should get the news.

God love you all,

Fr. Ryan



FATHER, HEAR OUR PRAYERS . . .



Help us to remember Your Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and help us to use them for the good of one another. Help us to fulfill your request for corporal works of mercy, and help us to personally reach-out to our ailing members and our bereaved families.



FATHER, HEAR OUR PRAYERS . . .



Of Thanksgiving for Many Blessings and Prayers Already Answered; and For Restoration of Health, we especially pray for:

Anthony Ambrosia, Leo Attiv, Leo Burke, Guy Beaven, Lenore Cribbin, Patty Delaney, Joe Doherty, Ruth Doherty, Helen Dunn, Grace Elsesser, Rebecca Ferrow, Martha Gillis, Joseph B. Good, Carolyn Halterman, Rosemary McAleer, Pat McKee, Bern Outsen, Father Mark Pilon, Bill Ponton, Ganon Riordan, Celia Toner, and Military Personnel Worldwide



FATHER, HEAR OUR PRAYERS . . .

For the Peaceful Rest and Consolation of Loved Ones of:



Milton, Gustafson, Tony Lamb, Barbara Lee Wilson, Cecilia Vengren

And, finally, Prayers of Gratitude for the Lives and Gifts of our Members Celebrating Birthdays this Month.

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COUNCIL SCHEDULE

May 6	Council Meeting	8:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
May 8 and 9	Set Up for St. Francis Yard Sale	2:00 p.m. - evening	St. Francis
May 10	St. Francis Parish Yard Sale	7:00 a.m.. to 5:00 p.m.	St. Francis
May 16	Family Night		Father Cuddy Hall
May 16-18	State Council Convention		Ocean City, MD
May 20	Council Meeting	8:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
May 22	Sullivan Brothers Assembly Meeting		Father Cuddy Hall
June 3	Council Meeting - ELECTIONS	8:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
June 15	Father's Day		
June 17	Council Meeting	8:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
June 19	Sullivan Brothers Assembly Meeting		Father Cuddy Hall