



# Knights' Courier



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - MONTGOMERY COUNCIL #2323**  
P.O. BOX 5626 DERWOOD, MARYLAND 20855-0626 301-977-2644  
[www.kofc2323.org](http://www.kofc2323.org)

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December, 2008

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## **FROM OUR CHAPLAIN, FATHER ZYLLA**

Dear Brother Knights,

It is a great joy for me to be speaking with you at this time of the year when we re-live the coming of the Son of God as Man among us on the first Christmas. We had been created from the beginning in the image and likeness of God, a glorious and unique privilege amidst God's vast creation. But after the Fall of Adam, we had so much lost our way to our eternal Home, that God graciously chose to take on Himself our human nature, to become one of us, in order to show us the way home.

Creation had rejoiced mightily before to have God's own image living in its midst. Now it rejoices exultantly to have not only the image, but God Himself living amongst us. What a great day for the universe! What a great day for man himself! It's no wonder that man had gone overboard to celebrate this immense gift with such jubilation. And now, to our dismay, the celebration itself has taken the pride of place, and the *reason* for it has been lost sight of. Millions celebrate Christmas, but not Christ's coming among us. Feeling uneasy, naturally, they want to replace Christmas with "Holiday." But that rings hollow, for we have dozens of "holidays" every year.

For ourselves and our families, first of all, and then for the rest of mankind, we come back to the original and irreplaceable meaning and worth of this celebration. Every other meaning pales in comparison. This is the one meaning that will last, through whatever vicissitudes. So let us gird and reinforce ourselves to celebrate Christmas properly and worthily, even when society around us ignores or disdains it. Above all, let us make sure that for ourselves and our families at least, we *will keep Christ in Christmas!* How much greater and deeper will be the joy of the rest of our friends and neighbors when they come to know and appreciate what we do. Then, once again, the understanding will result in a great and lasting public cry of MERRY CHRISTMAS!

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

## **FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY**

December is here and the fraternal year will be at the halfway point on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Have we reached the goal that we planned to attain at the beginning of July? If the answer is yes, you are to be congratulated. The rest of us still have another six months to get our mission accomplished.

Nancy and I, along with Jack and Phyllis and our families, wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with blessings.

God bless us all,

**John L. Durbin**, District Deputy

## **GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT**

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

I would like to thank again everyone that supported this year's Tootsie Roll Drive. The financial results of the drive are still being tallied and will be made available on our website ([www.kofc2323.org](http://www.kofc2323.org)) as they arrive. The awards distribution dinner is being scheduled in February. Please check back for details.

Congratulations to Clare and Wilbur, and Joey and Jimmy Wingo - Our Family of the Month for November. Wilbur and his family have done so much to help our council over the years. This recognition was long overdue.

The Children's Halloween Party was held on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 3PM. Thanks to Laura and Matt Mongelli for making this event a success. Lots of children had a great time face painting, coloring, playing with pottery crafts, and other games.

Please mark your calendar and spread the word about the Children's Christmas party on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM.

During November we held a Dinner to honor the Past Grand Knights of our council. Thanks to Chris Dierken for organizing this event and taking the role of emcee. Thanks to the building corp and it's members for preparing an excellent meal. Steve Adamczyk, our State Advocate, was there to express his appreciation and to honor the great legacy of leaders of our council. Our District Deputy, John Durbin, succinctly expressed his feelings of the great effect these men had on his own life as he called names of PGK's in the room. It was a wonderful evening.

A Joint Communion Breakfast will be held on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM. Mass will be followed by Tom Banfield's signature pancakes, eggs and sausage. We have invited both Mayanet and Father Peter Paul Maher councils to join us this year. Please try to be there with us. This is always a special event, and it's only \$5 for breakfast with the proceeds earmarked to benefit seminarians.

And don't forget to attend our Council Christmas Party December 14<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM. The Sullivan Brothers Assembly will be joining us. If you were there last year you already know this is great time for all. I hope to see you there.

Please check this issue and the calendar. There are many other items of interest.

Have a very Merry and Holy Christmas, and may the New Year be filled with joy and blessings for you and your families.

Fraternally,

Randy Drago  
Grand Knight

### **MONTGOMERY COUNCIL SUPPORTS ST. MARTIN'S PANTRY**

This year, we want to renew our support for the St. Martin's Food Pantry. Each month, as part of the social meeting (second meeting each month), we'll accept monetary donations for the Pantry. Contact Leo Snyder if you have specific questions, (301) 208-8930.

### **TOOTSIE ROLLS UPDATE**

The Tootsie Roll Campaign recently concluded in this very challenging economic year. To date, our Council reports collections of just over \$4,200. Several collection sites/dates are not yet recorded. Updated information will soon be posted on the website, and additional information will be published in the January Courier.

John Leighton, Chancellor

### **DUES ARE DUE!**

Well, really dues are past-due. Please be sure your dues for the current fraternal year are paid. If you are unsure, just contact the Financial Secretary, Pat Cribbin, 301 770 7784, or [cribbin1@msn.com](mailto:cribbin1@msn.com). Dues may be mailed to Knights of Columbus, Montgomery Council 2323, P.O. Box 5626, Derwood, MD 20855-0626.

# **LEADERSHIP**

## **Council Officers 2008-09**

|                     |                              |              |
|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Chaplain            | Rev. Robert V. Zylla, O.S.C. | 301-447-5641 |
| Grand Knight        | Randy A. Drago               | 301-963-7521 |
| Deputy Grand Knight | Christopher H. Dierken       | 301-948-4238 |
| Chancellor          | John K. Leighton             | 301-340-9143 |
| Warden              | Victor Somado                | 301-869-5950 |
| Recorder            | Larry Royster                | 301-424-5674 |
| Financial Secretary | James P. Cribbin, PGK, FDD   | 301-770-7784 |
| Lecturer            | Wilbur G. Wingo              | 301-869-6254 |
| Treasurer           | Edwin E. Dudenhoeffer        | 301-774-4262 |
| Advocate            | Joseph M. Kempf              | 301-460-8918 |
| Inside Guard        | George F. Griffin, Jr.       | 301-424-5074 |
| Outside Guards      | Russell Kennedy              |              |
|                     | Charles R. Durbin            | 301-460-4808 |
| Trustees            | Leo H. Snyder (1 yr.)        | 301-208-8930 |
|                     | Kevin M. Ginley, (2 yr.)     | 301-208-1170 |
|                     | Shannon H. Doherty (3 yr.)   | 301-963-5027 |
| Delegate            | Shannon H. Doherty, PGK      | 301-963-5027 |
| Delegate Alt. #1    | Patrick B. McAleer, PGK      | 301-253-3856 |
| Delegate Alt. #2    | John L. Durbin, PFN, PGK, DD | 301 762-4448 |

## **Council Activity Directors 2008-09**

|                    |                           |              |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Council            | Shannon H. Doherty        | 301-963-5027 |
| Church & Vocations | John K. Leighton          | 301-340-9143 |
| Community          | Calvin J. Ogden           | 301-990-8641 |
| Pro-Life           | Kevin & Bernadette Ginley | 301-208-1170 |
| Family             | Michael E. Bean           | 301-460-6193 |
| Youth              | Matthew E. Mongelli       | 301-251-2949 |
| Membership         | Christopher H. Dierken    | 301-948-4238 |
| Retention          | Randy A. Drago            | 301-963-7521 |
| 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   | Randy A. Drago            | 301-963-7521 |
| Fraternal Benefits | Patrick B. McAleer, PGK   | 301-253-3856 |
| Necrology          | Joseph P. Zetts, PGK      | 301-762-6792 |

## **Building Corporation Board of Directors 2008-09**

|                |  |              |
|----------------|--|--------------|
| 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](http://www.kofc2323.org)

Published monthly by the members of Montgomery Council No. 2323 for members and their families.

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](mailto:hoffmast13@msn.com)

For questions or problems, please call Randy Drago, (301) 963-7521

## **FROM THE SUPREME COUNCIL**

Information for this section is drawn from the Supreme's website,  
<http://www.kofc.org>

### **Wake-Up Message for Men**

The Knights of Columbus Web site [Fathers for Good](#) is featuring an article about an inspiring Catholic men's conference that featured former gridiron great Danny Abramowicz and Supreme Chaplain Bishop William E. Lori. The secret of becoming a true man of God was the focus of the conference.



### **Worried About Your Retirement Money?**

The ongoing [turmoil in financial markets](#) has left many people worried about their retirement accounts. If you're one of them, it's time for you to take a close look at [our annuities](#)! Interest rates on a Knights of Columbus Retirement Annuity are currently 4.50% in the United States. The current interest rate is 3.75% in Canada for new deposits. Contact Pat McAleer, PGK, (301) 253-3856 or [mckofc@verizon.net](mailto:mckofc@verizon.net). our agent today for more information on how to get started!

## **FROM THE MARYLAND STATE COUNCIL**

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

### **Father McGivney Guild - Working For Sainthood**

Have you taken the time, about one minute, maybe five if you still use dial-up like me, to join the Fr. McGivney Guild? Go to [KofC.org](http://KofC.org) and scroll down to the Guild icon, click it and follow the simple instructions to subscribe. While you are there, sign your wife up at the same time. There is NO COST! You will receive a quarterly newsletter with updates on the progress of his cause for sainthood, as well as stories submitted by member as of favors granted through his intercession. Remember that we are called to serve. Let us serve through prayer. Pray for our troops, both home and abroad. Pray for our Bishops and Priests. Pray for Fr. McGivney's Cause. Pray for one another.

Vivat Jesus!

Steve Thomas -

State of Maryland Council, Church Activities Director ([RST822@aol.com](mailto:RST822@aol.com))

## **KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS**

Students of St. Mary's Parish and St. Martin's Parish submitted entries for the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest. Council "grand prize" winners are being forwarded to the State Council competition.

7th-8th Grade Category Winner is Bridget Finnell (St. Mary's) for her rendition of the Christ Child as the true gift of Christmas. (colored pencil)

4th-6th Grade Category Winner is Terrance King (St. Martin's) for his scene of the Holy Family in the stable receiving a visit from a king. (water color, crayon and foil)

1st-3rd Grade Category Winner is Kyra King (St. Martin's) for her view of Mary, Joseph and an angel smiling over the baby Jesus saying "He's the reason for the Season." (watercolor, pencil, foil and glitter)

Additionally, the first annual Father Zylla Award (obviously named in honor our beloved Chaplain) goes to Lauren Antonucci (St. Mary's), 2nd Grade, for her depiction of an Angel overlooking a haloed figure holding a child's hand. They are by a Christmas tree with a single star on top and a bright shining star in the sky. (pencil and crayon)

Thank you to all artists, and thank you to Shelley Ward of St. Martin's and Brenda Hoffmaster of St. Mary's for bringing the program to our parishes.

## **FAMILY NIGHT**

The November Family Night was a big success. We had over 110 adults and children and raised \$715 for the St. Martin's Pantry.

The December Family Night is Friday, December 12, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. We will be donating the proceeds to help needy families during the Christmas season.

December's menu will include fried chicken, dino nuggets, salad and French fries, all for just \$25 per family or \$10 a person.



Just showin' off!

# LAST CALL:



2009

Montgomery Council is once again providing Entertainment Books to enhance the various charitable efforts that we support. I need your help to make this year our best year ever. Last year, almost 200 books were sold. While I need all my brother Knights to become involved, those who are still working could be of big help by letting your co-workers know about the availability of the Entertainment 2009 books.

What are Entertainment Books? Save up to 50% on Dining, Travel, Shopping, Theater, Sports and more! Over 100 new offers can be found in the Book, plus four \$5.00 off coupons for Safeway...A \$20.00 value. Dine at your favorite fine, casual, and fast food restaurants. Enjoy top local and national attractions; save on airfare, cruises, car rentals, and over 1,200 hotels, expanded discounts for the Eastern Shore, plus much, much more — all at up to 50% off.

There are Entertainment 2009 Books that cover virtually every major city in the United States. Example, our immediate area is the Maryland/Washington, DC book. Other example of areas is: Northern Virginia/Washington, DC; Baltimore, and literally any major metropolitan area in the United States.

Looking for a gift for someone out of town, then the Entertainment Book 2009 is your answer. Prices for out-of-town books vary based on the location. In order to ensure holiday delivery, orders should be turned in by Friday, November 3, 2008.

You can start using the book immediately for discounts up to November, 2009.

Now you ask, just how much is such a book. Great News! **The Entertainment 2009 Books this year cost \$25.00.** For each book sold, our Council will receive \$12.50.

The Entertainment 2009 Books are available for purchase immediately through December, 2008. Obtain your book now! To order your book, or if you have any questions contact:

**Gary Palmer at 301-948-6494 or by e-mail at [gtdbpalmer@verizon.net](mailto:gtdbpalmer@verizon.net). You can also contact Ed Dudenhoeffer at 301-774-4262 or by e-mail at [edduden@verizon.net](mailto:edduden@verizon.net).**

Let other family members or friends know about these Entertainment Books. Those of you with businesses that would be willing to host a display and assist with selling books to your customers, please let me know. The sale of these books are NOT limited to just Knights, but to anyone. These also make great Christmas gifts. Your support of this fund raising effort will allow our Council to expand its charitable giving.

Gary Palmer, Chairman

## **COUNCIL CHRISTMAS PARTY**

This year, the Council/Sullivan Brothers Assembly Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 13, at 1:00 p.m. We heard loudly and clearly last year that earlier is better.

Meat dishes will be prepared by Wilbur Wingo and Friends. They ask only three things:

- 1) bring a tax deductible donation or gift for the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center; and
- 2) bring a package of men's white athletic socks for the Sullivan Brothers Assembly to deliver to veterans recovering at Walter Reed and Bethesda Naval (to cover healing wounds and wear in physical therapy); and
- 3) bring a dish to share (4-6 servings) - last names A-M, please bring side dishes or salads; last names N-Z, please bring a dessert.

## **VOCATIONS BENEFIT - WAGON OF CHEER**

Seminarians at Mount St. Mary's are the beneficiaries of our annual Wagon of Cheer Raffle. You can help the Council help seminarians in several ways. You should have received information and raffle tickets in the mail, plus tickets will be available before each meeting outside the Council chamber. Sales will conclude just prior to the drawing at the Council Christmas celebration on Saturday Afternoon, December 13. Tickets are \$1 each or 12 tickets for \$10. PLEASE BE SURE TO RETURN ALL TICKET STUBS AND PAYMENTS TO JOE KEMPF PRIOR TO THE 13th!

If you have contributions for the wagon, please tag them as being "for Joe for the Wagon of Cheer," and bring them to any meeting or function. Donations of wines, mixers, beers and liquors, as well as items to complement these, will be gratefully accepted.

Please be generous with your support in wagon contributions and in ticket sales. Remember that proceeds will benefit our seminarians. Contact Joe Kempf, 301-460-8918, to help or with questions.



Also, I want to offer particular thanks to the students with special needs at Kilmer Middle School in Vienna, Virginia. These students are responsible for collating, inserting, labeling, and stamping the 2008 Wagon of Cheer materials. We couldn't have done it without them!

Joe Kempf

**and also supporting vocations . . .**

**JOINT COMMUNION BREAKFAST**

Another chance to benefit seminarians is our Joint Communion Breakfast. This Mass and traditional breakfast will be held on December 7<sup>th</sup> at Father Cuddy Hall. Mass will begin at 9:30 a.m., and will be followed by Tom Banfield's signature pancakes, eggs and sausage.

We have invited both Mayanet and Father Peter Paul Maher Councils to join us this year. Please try to join us. This is always a special event, and it's only \$5 for breakfast, with the proceeds earmarked to benefit seminarians.

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS CHRISTMAS PARTY**

We'll be hosting a Christmas Party for the Special Olympics on Friday, December 19, from 7 t 9:30 p.m. at Father Cuddy Hall. Contact John and Nancy Durbin, (301) 762-4448, if you'd like to join the fun putting this party on. It's usually simple set-up and clean-up, as well as joining the dancing.

**MARK YOU CALENDAR FOR THE MARCH FOR LIFE: JANUARY 22, 2009**

**THE COUNCIL HAS A VERY LIMITED NUMBER OF CHRISTMAS CARDS  
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.  
CONTACT JOHN LEIGHTON, 301-340-9143 OR [cin2mon@verizon.net](mailto:cin2mon@verizon.net).**

**THE MARYLAND CATHOLIC CONFERENCE WILL PROVIDE E-MAIL  
UPDATES REGARDING THE UPCOMING MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE  
SESSION. CONTACT CHANCELLOR JOHN LEIGHTON, 301-340-9143, OR  
[cin2mon@verizon.net](mailto:cin2mon@verizon.net).**

## **CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN OUR AREA**

We are blessed to have not one, but two, Catholic schools attached to "our parishes." In addition, all three of "our" parishes have active CCD programs and Youth Groups, plus RCIA for Adults exploring the Faith.

Several Catholic High Schools are also located within commuting distance to serve our students in Grades 9 through 12.

Believe it or not, ***NOW*** is the time to be taking steps for applying for admissions and tuition assistance for the school year beginning in Fall 2009.

**St. Martin of Tours School** is holding an Open House for Kindergarten through Grade 7 on January 27, 2009, from 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Browse the website <http://www.smsmd.org>, or call the school office at 301-990-2441.

**St. Mary's School** is holding its Open House for Pre-K 4's and Grades K through 7 on January 12, 2009, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Open House for Pre-K 3's is set for January 13, from 9:45-10:30 a.m. Browse <http://www.stmarysrockville.org/school>, or call the school office at 301-762-4179.

**The Archdiocese of Washington** has posted information regarding the 2009-10 tuition assistance program. **The deadline for applications for tuition assistance is December 5, 2008.** Visit <http://www.adw.org/education/assistance>.

Information regarding the **High School** Placement Test is also posted at [adw.org](http://www.adw.org) under the "Education" tab. Additionally, [adw.org](http://www.adw.org) has extensive information and links to the individual high schools for application processes and deadlines. Each of the Catholic High Schools has its own process.

**St. Francis of Assisi** Religious Education Office may be reached at 301-258-9193 or by calling the rectory 301-840-1407. The parish website is <http://www.sfadw.org>.



**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:***

Dana Baker, Paul Barrett, Jr., Guy Beaven, Helen Dunn, Joseph B. Good, Chrissy Graff,  
Kevin Hulse, Luis Jovell, Jr., Rosemary McAleer, Joe McNulty, Bill Ponton,  
Jim Scoli, Hugh and Louise Virts, Mary Washington and Military Personnel Worldwide



**FATHER, HEAR OUR PRAYERS . . .**



***For the Peaceful Rest and Consolation of Loved Ones.***

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

## **COUNCIL SCHEDULE**

|              |  |   |                   |
|--------------|--|---|-------------------|
| December 2   | Council Meeting and 1st Degree   | Candidates 7:15 p.m;<br>meeting 8:00 pm | Father Cuddy Hall |
| December 7   | Joint Communion Breakfast -<br>Montgomery, Mayanet & Peter Paul<br>Maher | 9:30 a.m.                               | Father Cuddy Hall |
| December 12  | Family Night   |   | Father Cuddy Hall |
| December 13  | Council & Sullivan Brothers Assembly<br>Christmas Party                  | 1:00 p.m.                               | Father Cuddy Hall |
| December 14  | Children's Christmas Party   | 3-5:00 p.m.                             | Father Cuddy Hall |
| December 16  | Council Social Meeting   |   | Father Cuddy Hall |
| December 19  | Special Olympics Christmas Party   | 7-9:30 p.m.                             | Father Cuddy Hall |
| NOTE: Dec 31 | No New Year's Eve Party  |   |                   |
| January 6    | Council Business Meeting   | 8:00 p.m.                               | Father Cuddy Hall |
| January 20   | Council Social Meeting   | 8:00 p.m.                               | Father Cuddy Hall |
| January 22   | March for Life   |   | Washington, DC    |



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