



Knights' Courier



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

April, 2009

FROM OUR CHAPLAIN, FATHER ZYLLA

Dear Brother Knights,

The transition between Lent and Easter is Holy Week, meaning the week in which the Church (but not the modern world) commemorates the most solemn events in the history of mankind: the events in which the Son of God who is also the Son of Man gave the most stupendous proof of God's love for man. Not only words, even solemn words and promises, but deeds which prove that love. The Father graciously gives his Son over to the most excruciating torments and the most ignominious Death to show what He is willing to suffer to prove His surpassing love for us all.

We are accustomed to say that the Easter joy will be in proportion to the Lenten sacrifice. This is doubly true of Holy Week: our Easter joy will be proportioned to our Holy Week participation. Just as we would consider the lack of concern for the sufferings of a member of our family to be cruel and callous, even so—and more—is it for us to be unmoved and unconcerned for the Passion and Death of our most beloved Brother and Savior, Jesus Christ. Especially because His sufferings, torment and Death are precisely and deliberately endured for us. As one of the Fathers of the ancient Church expressed it, "*The divine Word of the Father freed us from our sins...taking them upon Himself **as if He were answerable for them.***" **There is no love equal to that!**

Brothers, may our participation in the Holy Week be a sign and a cause of our deep love for Christ and of our never-ending communion with Him!

Happy Easter!

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

FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY

April is here! Our Spring Membership Blitz is complete and we now look forward to welcoming our new brothers into our Councils and the Order. Grand Knights, Membership Directors and Brother Knights should encourage all new members to take advantage of the Fraternal Benefits offered by the Order. That is Father McGivney's dream that all families be provided for in the event of loss of income by either/or both parents. Providing income for those we leave behind is a SELFLESS act of love that provides us with peace of mind and at the same time allows our Order to provide marvelous benefits to our Church, Holy Father and to many other activities around the world, some of which are catastrophic. All of us should do our part. **Become an Insurance Member of the Order.**

If we need to schedule more first degrees in the District let me know so they can be set up for the convenience of everyone.

We are now in the final three months of this fraternal year and all councils in the District with the exception of Our Lady of Guadalupe are far from the goals set at the beginning of the year. Do not be discouraged! There is still time to add to our number and make our councils grow.

Please continue with the outstanding "Surge with Service" programs you have planned. The reports for this fraternal year ended April 1, 2009, but the activities from April 1 through June 30 may be reported by the next Grand Knight and his officers. On behalf of Nancy, Jill and Jack and Phyllis, I wish all of you and your families a very Blessed and Happy Easter from the District staff.

May God Bless our work,

John L. Durbin, District Deputy

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

On Shrove Tuesday we held our annual Mass and Pancake supper. Our prayers were with Father Zylla. He was fighting an infection in his left leg. I am very happy to say that his condition is improving, and we hope to see him back at the council soon. Monsignor Brennan from Saint Martin's parish graciously filled in to say the Mass for us. The crowd was larger than normal, with more than 80 guests. And as usual, Tom Banfield's signature pancakes and sausage were delicious.

Congratulations to Pablo Dean on winning the 10 year old division of the State level free throw championship. Pablo made an amazing 24 out of 25 during the district finals. We are proud to have 2 consecutive years with a State Champion from our council.

Our 1st fish fry for 2009 was a great success. It was busy, with the largest crowd in years. Special thanks to our Chancellor John Leighton for a fabulous job organizing this one. And thanks to Tom Banfield (PGK) and Ron Dunn (PGK), and everyone else that helped make this such a great event. I hope you all make it to our second fish fry on March 27th.

The March Family Night was another amazing success for our council. This month's Saint Patrick's theme party was a wonderful time for everyone involved. Entertainment was provided by the "Expanding Waistlines" featuring Montgomery Council's own Kevin Ginley, PGK. A larger than normal crowd of over 170 guests, a mixture of adults and children, joined us for the evening. Net proceeds of \$1000 will be donated to St Ann's Infant and Maternity Home. Mike Bean and Pat Gilroy have a great thing going with this series of events. Over \$7600 has been raised for worthy causes. If you didn't make it to this one, please check the schedule and plan to join us next time.

Membership drives were held at our parishes during March. Please don't wait for the next drive to begin your recruiting efforts. Pay attention to members of your parish at Mass. Find opportunities to say "hello" and introduce yourself. Wear Knights of Columbus clothing articles, and wear your council badge whenever possible. Always be ready to say a few words about our organization to encourage potential new members. Don't miss any valuable opportunities to help our organization grow.

Council elections are just around the corner. Please prayerfully consider what you can do for your council.

Happy Easter to you and your families !

Fraternally,
Randy Drago, Grand Knight

IN A TIME OF FINANCIAL TURMOIL, YOU CAN TRUST THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Perhaps the worst thing about the difficult economic times we're going through is not being sure who we can trust, and whether the financial "experts" really understood the risks they were taking.

At the Knights of Columbus, we know that you trust us to safeguard your family's future. For 127 years, we've honored that trust by investing our assets carefully and conseratively. That's why we continue to maintain one of the highest surplus ratios in the life insurance industry, and why, despite all the turmoil of the past year, we finished 2008 in the black.

Solid. Reliable. Trustworthy. **Run by brother Knights for brother Knights.** There when you need us the most. That's the Knights of Columbus. Take the time to visit with me, your K of C agent today, and learn more about how we can protect you and your family in these uncertain times.

Fraternally,
Patrick B. McAleer, PGK, FICF
301-253-3856 KofC Office
301-802-5850 Cell / patrick.mcaleer@kofc.org

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

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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 Randy Drago, (301) 963-7521

FROM THE SUPREME COUNCIL

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

The Knights of Columbus sponsor numerous information sources, especially on line. Be sure to browse your *Columbia* magazine each month, and visit some of the various links at **kofc.org**.



<http://www.headlinebistro.com>

Current Events from the Catholic point of view . . . Coverage of Church, National and World News . . . including editorials, blogs, podcasts . . .



Keeping Your Kids Catholic

How do you raise Catholic kids in a culture that can be hostile to the faith? In this Fathers for Good feature, the answer begins at home.

<http://www.fathersforgood.org>



Serving Those Who Serve

This month www.kofc.org/military features an article on Father Eric Albertson, a U.S. Army chaplain who served two tours of duty in Iraq. And if you want to find how the Knights, through its Serving Those Who Served program, works with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs see **www.kofc.org/veterans**.

FROM THE MARYLAND COUNCIL

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

Reflections

Lawrence P. Grayson

Divine Mercy

On the Sunday after Easter, the Catholic Church commemorates Divine Mercy. In one sense, this is a recent devotion, having been established by Pope John Paul II on April 30, 2000, the same day he canonized Sister Faustina Kowalska as the first saint of the Great Jubilee Year. St. Faustina had visions of our Lord, who revealed to her His desire for people to turn to and trust in His Mercy.

The doctrine of Divine Mercy, however, is not new, but is rooted in Holy Scripture and the faith that we have received through the apostles and their successors. The Old Testament contains numerous references to God's mercy. King David, in Psalm 50, begging forgiveness for his sins of adultery and murder, cries out to the Lord:

“Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy great mercy;
And according to thy tender mercies blot out my iniquity”

We read, in Psalm 24, that “All the ways of the Lord are mercy and truth,” while Psalm 135 contains the frequent refrain, “His mercy endureth forever.” When Moses went to Mount Sinai with two tablets on which the Lord inscribed the Ten Commandments, God proclaimed that He was “a merciful and gracious God.” Even when God exercised Divine Justice in bringing on the flood as a punishment for man's sins, He displayed Divine Mercy in telling Noah to build an ark so that Noah and his family might be saved, thus giving mankind a second chance.

The early church celebrated the Resurrection, the clearest manifestation of the Divinity of Jesus, with eight days of commemoration, which St. Augustine referred to as the “days of mercy and pardon.” The octave began with Easter Sunday and concluded with *Dominica in Albis*, or Sunday in White, which Augustine referred to as “the compendium of the days of mercy.”

The revelations to St. Faustina, therefore, do not present new teachings, but rather provide a reminder of God's love and compassion. The messages were recorded in Sister Faustina's *Diary*, a document she wrote at the behest of her spiritual director. God's desire for the world is made clear in His recorded words:



“I am Love and Mercy itself. When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls”...“I do not wish to punish aching mankind, but I desire to heal it, pressing it to My merciful Heart. I use punishment when they themselves force Me to do so; My hand is reluctant to take hold of the sword of justice. Before the Day of Justice, I am sending the Day of Mercy.” (*Diary*, 1074, 1588)

Divine Mercy is the result of God’s love for us extended in our time of anguish or adversity, whether caused by sin, suffering or the death of another. Pope John Paul II, in his 1994 *Regina Caeli Address*, rhetorically asked:

“What is mercy if not the boundless love of God, who confronted with human sin, restrains the sentiment of severe justice and, allowing himself to be moved by the wretchedness of his creatures, spurs himself to the total gift of self, in the Son’s cross?”

As a visual reminder for us, our Lord asked St. Faustina to create an image of Himself, standing with mercy radiating from His heart as two large rays, one of red and the other pale, symbolizing the blood and water He shed for us. The image is to bear the words, “Jesus, I trust in you.” The image, the chaplet, which repetitively requests God’s mercy and is said on the beads of the Rosary, and the commemorative Sunday are means for us to personally recall and proclaim the love of God.

At the present time, we are confronted with movements throughout the world that defy the teachings of our Church. Abortion, euthanasia, the redefinition of marriage, genetic manipulation and other abominations against human dignity are daring God to release His justice. Pope John Paul II, in 2002, concerned about the future of mankind, consecrated the world to Divine Mercy. Today, our request, both as individuals and as a community of believers, for God’s mercy and our declaration of trust in Jesus, who already paid the price for our salvation through the cross, are essential. Our Lord told St Faustina, “mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy.” (*Diary*, 300) The directive is clear; the response desired is prescribed

We in Maryland should be especially compliant. Our State Deputy, Richard Siejack, has dedicated his Administration to fostering an awareness of and a devotion to Divine Mercy. Of even greater moment, the final miracle that elevated Sister Faustina to sainthood occurred in our State. Father Ronald Pytel, the now-deceased pastor of Holy Rosary Church in Baltimore, had a very serious and worsening heart ailment that even made it difficult for him to mount the steps of the altar. Through the intercession of Sister Faustina, he was miraculously cured, totally and rapidly, without medical intervention. Holy Rosary Church now contains a shrine to Divine Mercy that is well worth visiting at any time, but especially on Divine Mercy Sunday. This month on April 19, with well over a thousand people expected to be in attendance, Color Corps from Maryland will participate in the church’s liturgical celebration. This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your family to express your gratitude for God’s love.

Vivat Jesus!

COUNCIL LEADERSHIP FOR THE NEXT FRATERNAL YEAR

It is time again to begin considering leadership roles for our council. The election of officers will occur at our business meeting on June 2nd, 2009.

Following is a list of tentative nominees for the fraternal year 2009-2010:

Grand Knight: Christopher H. Dierken	Advocate: Joseph M. Kempf
Deputy Grand Knight: John K. Leighton	Inside Guard: George F. Griffin, Jr.
Chancellor: Lewis D. Tillis	Outside Guards: Russell P. Kennedy Charles R. Durbin
Warden: Jon W. Benjamin	Trustees: Kevin M. Ginley (1 Year)
Recorder: Larry J. Royster	Shannon H. Doherty (2 Year)
Financial Secretary: James P. Cribbin, PGK	Randy A. Drago (3 Year)
Treasurer: Edwin E. Dudenhoeffer	Delegate: Randy A. Drago, PGK
Lecturer: Wilbur G. Wingo	

Nominations will be accepted from the council floor during the months of April and May – right up until the election. Please prayerfully consider what you can do for your council.

PULL TABS FOR CHARITY

Our Council is collecting pull tabs from canned sodas, beer, small cans of juice, soups, pet foods, canned fruits, soy, and many other dietary supplements. The net proceeds from the Pull Tabs for Charity fund-raising efforts are donated to the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health (located in Bethesda) and the Ronald McDonald House Charities. The Ronald McDonald House offers a place where families stay while their family member is receiving treatment for a serious illness or injury. For more information about these two organizations, you may go to their websites at www.cancer.gov or www.rmhc.com.

If you would like a collection canister to take to work or your home, please call Mike Thomas at (301) 330-5970.

TWO FREE CHARITY FUNDRAISERS

Campbell's Labels for Education and Box Tops for Education programs are two free fundraisers that the Council can implement in order to help our Catholic Schools. Their websites are www.labelsforeducation.com and www.boxtops4education.com respectively. If any brother is interested in coordinating either of these free fundraisers, please contact Mike Thomas at (301) 330-5970 or cinnabarmike@verizon.net.

ST. MARTIN'S PANTRY NEEDS AND APPRECIATES OUR HELP

This year, we have renewed our critical support for the St. Martin's Food Pantry. Each month, as part of our social meeting (second meeting each month), we accept monetary donations for the Pantry.

St. Martin's Food Pantry is working hard to keep its shelves stocked. As you can imagine, current times have increased the numbers of families requesting help from the Pantry. People in need arrive in pre-dawn hours in hopes of receiving a ticket for later admission to the Pantry to obtain groceries. Our Council's help is vital to the Pantry and families it serves.

Contact Leo Snyder (301) 208-8930 if you have specific questions about the Pantry or other ways you might help.

FAMILY NIGHT

There will not be an April Family Night due to the Easter holidays. Watch for news about our May event.

If you didn't already, please read about the March celebration in the Grand Knight's article.

FISH FRIES

Thanks to all who came out to support the first Lenten Fish Fry Friday, March 6. Attendance was great, beyond expectation, with about 140 meals served. The 50-50 raffle was so successful we ran out of tickets! A great time was had by all.

Special thanks to Tom Banfield and his kitchen team, and Ron Dunn at the ticket booth. Also, thanks to all others who helped out with the set up and clean up, with special thanks to Lisa Wei and Brenda Hoffmaster, who stayed though and helped out with the clean up. We could not do it without you!

Let's hope the second fry on March 27th goes as well!!

John Leighton
Chancellor

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK SALES RESULTS

The 2009 Entertainment Book Sales netted us a profit of \$2,797.50. This has been our best year ever in sales. This was mainly due to efforts of several of our Council Members who were proactive in selling books. My sincere thanks to all who participated in this effort.

We sold 200+ books. It should also be noted that since we have been selling Entertainment Books over the years, we have netted an overall profit of \$14,049.11. This function has proven to be our major fund raiser for the Council.

Gary Palmer
Entertainment Book Chairman

ANNUAL GRANT AWARD PARTY **SATURDAY JUNE 6, 2009**

On Saturday, June 6, 2009, Montgomery Council #2323 will exemplify the first principle of the Knights of Columbus - **CHARITY**. Last year we made grants to each of our home parishes for their religious education programs. We want to continue the practice of annually donating grants to these and other worthwhile causes. This year's grants will again go to the religious education programs at each of our three parishes, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Martin of Tours and St. Mary's.

So that all members might have a chance to attend, the event is scheduled at the hall from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. as an upscale barbeque.

The cost for the party is planned to be \$10.00 per person not to exceed \$25.00 per family. Bob Mongelli will head our cooking team for the party, so you know you are in for a real treat.

Reservations for this event are preferred for planning and food preparation. Please contact one of the following to reserve:

Shannon Doherty	301-963-5027
Charles Durbin	301-460-4808
Mark Lynch	301-977-0890

. . . . **A N D**

**PLEASE HELP US UPDATE OUR
MEMBERSHIP ROSTER THIS MONTH**

We are planning a program book for the Grant Award event. We plan to include a new Council directory of members' and spouses' names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail, and parish affiliation as currently showing on our Courier mailing list.

Please make sure that your information is current by contacting Brenda Hoffmaster at kofcmontgomery2323@yahoo.com, or

Call at 301-770-7840 (if no answer, please leave a voice mail message with your name and phone number), or

Send the form below to Brenda, 1923 Henry Road, Rockville 20851.

The program book can also be used for remembrances and advertisements; cost for ads is \$50/half page and \$100/full page. If you wish to include an ad, please send the wording with payment to:

Mark Lynch
17083 Briardale Road
Derwood, Md 20855 or to kofcmontgomery2323@yahoo.com

All advertisements must be received by April 30, 2009. Proceeds will be used to cover expenses and donations for the grants.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Is the mailing address on your label current? If not, please supply the current address you'd like us to use:

Current Phone: _____ E-mail for the Directory: _____

Parish Affiliation: St. Francis St. Martin's St. Mary's Other: _____

TOGO Update



Regular readers will remember that Sister Colette, being a woman of action, wasn't waiting for the school to be built to open classes. Here's the first class gathered under their school tree. She would very much appreciate some foam mats to sit the class on. These would continue to be used in the school and around the parish even after the school is finished. Nine interlocking tiles to make a 6ft x 6ft square mat cost \$30. 15 families at \$30 each can supply all the tiles the mission needs. The medical clinic has opened and among the needs are a couple of robust trolleys that a nurse can wheel up to a bed, with her supplies in lockable drawers, locking wheels and a flat top to give a stable work surface and in materials that can be cleaned easily. The more astute will realize that I've just described a Craftsman Tool Trolley. There is an offer on one right now, \$300 reduced to \$190. A big gift, but tough enough for many years of desperately needed service. Too much for your pocket? \$10 buys a 4 pack of CFL light bulbs. Remember all gifts are tax deductible.

We would like to join the K of C effort to support St. Martin's Sister Parish in Togo by donating
Nurse Trolley \$190 6ft x 6ft Foam Mat \$30 4 Pack of Light Bulbs \$10 Other ____

Our family donation is _____

**Please make checks (tax deductible) payable to: Togo Mission Inc
Send to Togo Mission Inc PO Box 130 Gaithersburg, MD 20884-0130**



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 and Relief from Worry, we especially pray for:

Paul Barrett, Jr., Guy Beaven, Catherine Burke, Laura Collins, Christine Cribbin, Father Jim Downs, John Hannan, Tyler Hendricks, Kevin Hulse, Luis Jovell, Jr., Maurice Kennedy, Rosemary McAleer, Tim McKinna, Joan Osmond, Fran Paepeke, Bill Ponton, John Rivera, Mike Scanlon, Sarah Schneider, Jim Scoli, Dick Sherwood, Leo Snyder, Thomas Spurrier, Nan Thomas, Kelly Tillis, Celia Toner, Nancy Torr, Oswald Zammichiaks, Father Zylla, and Military Personnel Worldwide, Unemployed and People Suffering Economic Strain

Special Note:

We are keeping our beloved **FATHER ZYLLA** and our beloved **FATHER DOWNS** on our prayer list as they continue convalescing from their recent illnesses. We look forward to seeing these highly esteemed Knights soon!



FATHER, HEAR OUR PRAYERS . . .



For Peaceful Rest for the Deceased and Consolation for their Loved Ones:

CeCe Cooney, Military Personnel Worldwide,
Victims of Natural Disasters, War and Violence, and Victims of Accidents and Crashes

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

COUNCIL SCHEDULE

March 27	Lenten Fish Fry	6-8 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
March 29	Founder's Day Mass	3:00 p.m.	St. John's, Severna Park, MD
April 7	Council Business Meeting	8:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
April 9	Holy Thursday		
April 10	Good Friday		
April 12	Easter Sunday - Alleluia!		
April 21	First Degree/Council Social Meeting	8:00 p.m., Candidates 7:30	Father Cuddy Hall
April 25	Cardinal's 2009 Charity Ball	6-11:00 p.m.	
May 5	Council Business Meeting	8:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
May 15-17	Maryland State Convention		Ocean City
May 19	Council Social Meeting	8:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
June 2	Council Business Meeting - ELECTIONS	8:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
June 6	Grant Award Event and BBQ (please reserve, if possible)	3-7 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall



Knights of Columbus
Montgomery Council No. 2323
P.O. Box 5626
Derwood, MD 20855-0626

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