



# Knights' Courier

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - MONTGOMERY COUNCIL #2323**

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[www.kofc2323.org](http://www.kofc2323.org)

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**January/February, 2010**

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## **DEACON DATOVECH – A TALK ABOUT MEDICAL DIRECTIVES AND CATHOLIC TEACHING**

Many of us at one point or another in our lives are faced with guiding future healthcare decisions for ourselves, our parents, or another loved one perhaps in the form of a living will or advanced healthcare directives. Recent Federal and State laws obligate hospitals and other facilities to specifically ask patients to consider advanced directives, sometimes in stressful crisis situations.

How do we know that what we think is appropriate is in concert with Catholic teaching? We live in a time where medical technology is advancing sometimes with controversial methods and interventions. It is also a time when medical intervention can sustain life and manage pain.

What are we, as Catholic Christians, called to do? Are we obligated to take any and all interventions? Do we have the option to withdraw intervention or resuscitation and, if so, under which situations?

The discussion will be guided by the document *Comfort & Consolation: Care of the Sick and Dying*: a Pastoral Letter on End-of-Life Care from the Catholic Bishops of Maryland. We want to share with everyone the helpful and comforting guidance that the Church offers about medical decision making in time of serious illness.

The purpose is to share with you as clearly as possible the Church's teaching on respect for human life in the context of sickness, suffering, and dying.

Presented by Deacon Jim Datovech, Associate Chaplain of Montgomery Council 2323. All Knights and wives are welcome and encouraged to attend this session on Tuesday, February 16 at 7:30 p.m. The talk will be about an hour and fifteen minutes.

Please feel free to bring a dessert or finger food to share and nibble during the evening.

## **FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY, JOHN DURBIN**

Happy New Year! We have completed half of our fraternal year and it has really been great. Our Councils have held so many activities in the Surge with Service areas that it is hard to believe there is more to come. I know there will be more and I look forward to taking part in as many as I can. Keep up the good work and do not coast for the second half. There are so many things we can accomplish.

A good start for January would be to take part in the Basketball Free Throw competition. I would really like to see all councils in District 30 participate in some way. The kit is available from Supreme. Give it some thought and even if there are only a few participants, it will be something to build on for the coming years. The District competition under the direction of District Warden Jack Giacalone will be in February and will be hosted by Terry Waters of 12127 Our Lady of Guadalupe Council.

**Membership** is also critical during the second half of the fraternal year. We have the opportunity during January to really build on our membership numbers. I encourage all of you to ask just one man at mass to join us and bring his family into the Order of the Knights of Columbus. We have First Degrees scheduled for **January 27 @ 6793 Father Maher** and **February 16 @ 2323 Montgomery**. The Second Degrees scheduled near us are **January 14 @ Rock Creek Council**. The Third Degrees scheduled for our area are on **January 15, 2010** at Rock Creek Council in Bethesda and Holy Family Council on **February 19th**. This is a chance to bring many of our First Degree brothers through the second and third steps of their journey to Knighthood.

We need to be mindful that the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Exemplification is fast approaching. April 18, 2010 is the date set aside for this very important event. I am sure there are many 3<sup>rd</sup> degree Knights that need to be asked to step up to the Patriotic Degree. Grand Knights our time is running out. Please remind your councils that you whole heartedly support the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree and encourage all 3<sup>rd</sup> degree members to contact the Faithful Navigators of the Assemblies covering District 30 and get the information that they need to apply. I too have the information and I will gladly share it and pass your applications on to the Assembly of your choice.

The March for Life is scheduled for January 22, 2010. If for some reason you can not participate in the March, I encourage all councils to plan some sort of Church activity to pray for Life. We live our Faith when we serve those in need and strive for justice. It is vitally important that we turn out and show our opposition to the so called "Freedom of Choice Act" that destroys everything we have gained opposing Roe v Wade.

May God Bless our Efforts.  
Vivat Jesus

*John L. Durbin, District Deputy*

**FROM OUR GRAND KNIGHT, CHRIS DIERKEN**

Dear Brother Knights,

Many months ago, Mike Thomas started his annual arrangements for the Spaghetti Dinner to aid the Medical Mission to Haiti. It goes without saying that our support is now all the more critical. Details about the January 31 dinner are later in this Courier.

Thank you, too, to Pat Gilroy and Mike Bean for coordinating the January Family Night and changing the beneficiary of proceeds to Catholic Relief Services International for the sake of Haiti assistance.

The Sullivan Brothers Assembly will host an Open House on Thursday, February 18, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at Montgomery Council. The purpose of this event is to educate brother Knights about the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree of membership and to answer any of your questions.

The next 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Exemplification is coming up on April 18 at the University of Maryland. This is a perfect opportunity to join the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree and experience the patriotic degree of our order. Light refreshments will be served. Hope to see you there on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

We are mid-way through the fraternal year. I want to again thank everyone who has contributed to the success of events and activities already. Please don't be shy in suggesting activities or events, volunteering to help, or simply to attending and supporting activities. All members are valued, and ideas for keeping our momentum are welcome.

**DUES PAST DUE!!!**

Many members are way-past due in paying their 2009-10 dues. If you've not paid your share already, please send your dues payment of \$48.00 to Faithful Secretary, Pat Cribbin. If you have any question about your payment status for the year, please contact Pat for clarification.

You may mail your check, payable to "Knights of Columbus, Montgomery Council 2323," to Pat, 1802 Henry Road, Rockville, MD 20851. If you have questions, you may reach Pat at (301) 770-7784, or Cribbin1@msn.com.

## **LEADERSHIP (2009-10)**

### **Council Officers**

Chaplain		
Associate Chaplain	Deacon Jim Datovech	
Grand Knight	Christopher H. Dierken	301-948-4238
Deputy Grand Knight	John K. Leighton	301-340-9143
Chancellor	Lewis D. Tillis	301-330-7317
Warden	David Ball	301-924-1179
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	Russell P. Kennedy	301-977-1804
Inside Guard		
Outside Guard	Michael H. Cox	240-678-3702 or 301-962-6581
Outside Guard	Nicholas A. Kendros	240-221-3515
Trustees	Randy A. Drago, PGK	301-963-7521
Trustees	Patrick B. McAleer, PGK	301-253-3856
Trustees	Shannon H. Doherty, PGK	301-963-5027
Delegate	Randy A. Drago, PGK	301-963-7521

### **Council Activity Directors**

Council	Shannon H. Doherty	301-963-5027
Church & Vocations		301-340-9143
Community	Lewis Tillis	301-330-7317
Pro-Life		301-208-1170
Family	Michael E. Bean	301-460-6193
Youth	Matthew E. Mongelli	301-251-2949
Membership		301-948-4238
Retention	Christopher H. Dierken	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**

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

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

Deadline for entries is approximately 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)

## **RETIREMENT BALANCING ACT**

Think of retirement as a three-legged stool. In order to maintain balance, you need all three legs... or there is a real possibility of a crash!

One leg consists of the benefits the government offers you. Debate rages about the viability of future benefits, and my best advice is to stay tuned to the discussion and make sure you are aware of what is planned for those benefits. Any change in future promises should be accounted for when we get to the third leg.

The second leg is your company's pension plan, either defined benefit (such as a traditional pension: you work so many years and the company provides you with so much monthly benefit) or defined contribution (such as the popular 401K plans). Some of these plans, particularly traditional ones, are under stress, have been frozen or pared back. Learn how yours works; read the plan description; stay on top of the news coming from the company. On the 401K side, become a good investor. Teach yourself the fundamentals of good diversification and know how much you have and when you will need it.

Finally, the third leg is the saving you do yourself, and this is the only aspect you can control completely.

Everyone needs this third leg. It consists of the money you personally set aside on a disciplined basis to help in retirement. You don't directly control government benefits and you don't directly manage your company's pension plan, but you must manage your money and your life.

Establish a retirement plan of your own. Here at the Knights of Columbus, you can open a retirement annuity for as little as \$300. Consistent and disciplined savings placed into that annuity over time can guarantee you an income that you cannot outlive at retirement. That's right – guarantee you an income you cannot outlive. That really will provide you with peace of mind.

As you ponder all the things that may not work out as you proceed toward retirement, think about the one thing you can do to help yourself. It's reasonably priced, guaranteed and controlled by someone you trust: you!

Call me – let's talk.

Patrick McAleer, FICF, PGK  
301-253-3856  
[patrick.mcaleer@kofc.org](mailto:patrick.mcaleer@kofc.org)

## **MARYLAND STATE COUNCIL CHARITY APPEAL**

It is time once again for our annual **Maryland State Charity appeal**. This fund has raised over \$925,000 since it began in 1984. The purpose of the fund is to serve as a bridge for financial recovery, not for long-term cases, and the need this year is greater than ever.

For more information about the history of the Charity Fund, and its goals, please see the State website: (<http://www.kofc-md.org/docs/CharityFund.pdf>).

Please use the envelope in this Courier to support the Charity Fund. Thank you to all in advance for your help.

If donating to the Maryland State Council Charity Fund through United Way type of campaigns please use the following code numbers.

- (1) Combined Federal Campaign - 78166
- (2) United Way of Central MD or Private Sector Campaigns - 4632
- (3) Maryland Charity Campaign - 5834.

Whether a code is listed or not be sure to include the Fund's name and address as shown below on your pledge card in the "Donor Option" section.

Maryland State Council Knights of Columbus Charity Fund, Inc.  
10815 Stang Road  
Owings Mills, MD 21117

These campaigns run from September thru February. Thanks for all of your support.

John Leighton, Deputy Grand Knight

## **SPAGHETTI DINNER**

As many of you know, Montgomery Council has been hosting an annual Spaghetti Dinner to raise funds to support a Medical Mission in Haiti. Even before the earthquake, the Mission was in dire need of funds for medications and vitamins, hospital expenses for patients, and other necessities.

Please mark your calendar for Sunday, January 31st from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The dinner will include a salad bar, bread and drinks. Tickets are only \$10.00 for adults (ages 14 and above); \$7.00 for children (ages 7 to 13); children (6 & under) free; or, just \$35.00 for a family.

Call Mike Thomas at (301) 330-5970 for tickets or information.

Monetary donations will be accepted by making check payable to Knights of Columbus and sending it to Mike at 7436 Cinnabar Terrace, Gaithersburg, MD 20879.

## **CHRISTMAS PARTIES AND WAGON OF CHEER**

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way, shape or form to various Christmas Festivities. The parties for the Council and Sullivan Brothers Assembly and for the Special Olympics were well attended and jolly. Collections of gifts were gratefully received by the favored charities. The winner for the Wagon of Cheer was drawn, and then the winner requested a second drawing to split the bounty.

Again, many thanks to all!

## **ENTERTAINMENT BOOK SALES RESULTS**

The 2010 Entertainment Book Sales netted us a profit of \$2,212.50. This has been somewhat of a down year as last year we netted \$2,700.00. This, I suspect, was because of the economy. Many thanks to the efforts of several of our Council Members, who were proactive in selling books. My sincere thanks to all who participated in this effort.

It should also be noted that since we have been selling Entertainment Books over the years, we have netted an overall profit of \$16, 261.61. This function has proven to be our major fund raiser for the Council.

Gary Palmer  
Entertainment Book Chairman

## **PULL TABS FOR CHARITY**

Brothers, please continue saving the pull tabs from canned sodas, beer, small cans of juice, soups, pet foods, canned fruit, soy, and many other dietary supplements. The net proceeds from these will be donated to the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, and to the Ronald McDonald House Charities. The Ronald McDonald House offers a place where families stay while their family member is receiving treatment because of a serious illness or injury. The pull tabs can be placed in the container in the Hall. If you need a container, or need to turn some in, please call Mike Thomas at (301) 330-5970.

## **TOOTSIE ROLL AWARDS**

The awards dinner and presentations to recipients for the 2009 Tootsie Roll Drive will be at St. Raphael on Saturday, February 20th, at 6:30 PM. This is an inspiring, low-key evening, and all members are invited to attend. Cost is \$20 per person. Please contact Deputy Grand Knight, John Leighton, 301-340-9143, if you would like to attend.

## **ST. MARTIN'S NEW ORGAN FUND**

The Knights are very generous to our church, and we are blessed at St. Martin's to have so many active Knight members. There is a problem with the 1982 organ St. Martin's currently uses. It has reached the end of its life and now causes the loud interference that sometimes disrupts our Mass; also it has become increasingly difficult and often impossible to mask the distortion of its sound and produce music worthy of our sacred liturgy.

St. Martin's is currently in the process of raising the funds for this new organ, which will not only eliminate the problems caused by our broken organ, but greatly enhance the music at Mass every Sunday. Over \$67,500 has already been donated to our new organ fund; we need to raise an additional \$35,000 to cover the cost of our new organ. A generous donor has come forward and offered to match any donations to a parish organ fund, dollar for dollar, hoping to encourage broad participation and enable St. Martin's to get the new organ it needs. Any Knights who wish are invited to make a contribution to this worthy cause; donations can be given in the name of individuals, families, or in memory of deceased families members or Knights of the order. God bless you for your generosity!

St. Martin of Tours Church  
Pastor, Fr. Mark Brennan  
201 S. Frederick Ave.  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877  
301-990-3203

**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.*

*Let us always remember to pray for those who have  
no one to pray to for them.*

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

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

Don Bowman, Lauren Collins, Rose Cox, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cribben, Ron and Helen Dunn,  
Veronica Datovech (mother of Deacon Jim Datovech), Joan Dudenhoeffer, Jim Heithze,  
Bill Hornish, William Hornish, Carol Illig, Bill Kornet, Elizabeth Kron, Rosemary McAleer,  
Paul Noga, Fran Paepeke, Nan Thomas, Bill Toner, Courtney Vaughn, Wilbur Wingo,  
A Special Intention of Deacon Jim, Armed Forces Worldwide, and  
Victims of the Haiti Earthquake, their Families and Friends, and those who have been called  
to aid the rescues, clean-up and restoration.

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

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

Jack Drescher (Council #6901 member), John "Jack" McAleer, Ruth "Boots" McCrossin,  
Anne Pisone, Jeff Simms, Armed Forces Worldwide, and Victims of the Haiti Earthquake

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

***And, finally, Prayers of Gratitude for the Lives and Gifts of our Members  
Celebrating Birthdays in January and February.***

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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Derwood, MD 20855-0626



**COUNCIL SCHEDULE**

DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME	PLACE
January 22	March for Life		
January 31	Spaghetti Dinner to support Haiti Medical Mission	3-7:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
January 27	First Degree		Father Maher Council
February 2	Council Meeting	8:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
February 12	Family Night	6-10 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
February 16	Presentation by Deacon Datovech: <i>Comfort &amp; Consolation: Care of the Sick and Dying</i>	7:30 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
February 17	Ash Wednesday		
February 18	Open House, Fourth Degree, The Sullivan Brothers Assembly	7:30-9:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
February 19	Third Degree		Holy Family Council
February 20	Tootsie Roll Awards Dinner (all welcome, see article)	6:30	St. Raphael's Church
March 2	Council Meeting	8:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
March 12	Family Night	6-10:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
March 16	Council Meeting	8:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
March 18	The Sullivan Brothers Meeting	7:30 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall