



Knights' Courier

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

March, 2010

FROM OUR DISTRICT DEPUTY, JOHN DURBIN

As I write this I am looking out the window at (3) feet of snow. It is the middle of February and I can hardly wait for Spring. I hope March will bring some relief, but that is no sure thing.

March is when we traditionally hold our Spring Membership Blitz and this year is no exception. All councils in District #30 need to put forth an all out effort. I congratulate Our Lady of Guadalupe #12127 for reaching their membership goal set by Supreme. I am sure it is not the goal set by Our Lady of Guadalupe's Grand Knight and council members.

I ask all Knights in District #30 (Councils #2323, #6793, #12127 and #13463) to offer every man not a Knight the opportunity to become a Knight of Columbus and join your respective councils. Many of you find it hard to approach a man at church or a social function and ask him to become a Knight, but, if you do not, you may be denying him the opportunity.

Many of our members, when asked why they did not join us earlier, respond, "No one asked me." They may say no or may not be interested at this time, but, please, ask them. You have at least given them the chance. Do not take it personally if they say no, you have planted the seed and they may eventually decide to say yes. Membership is up to all of us, not just your membership chairman.

Haiti Earthquake Relief:

I am sure all of us have been given the opportunity to contribute to those in need by our parishes, our councils and other agencies. The Supreme Council sent an initial contribution of \$50,000 to Catholic Relief Services for immediate humanitarian needs and other state and local councils contributed \$144,000 to the relief effort. If you wish to make a contribution through the Maryland State Council, as a council, assembly, or personally, you can make out a tax deductible check to the Knights of Columbus Charities Inc. with "Haiti Earthquake Relief" on the memo line, and give it to any of the State Officers or mail it to:

State Secretary Peter Davio
23004 Timber Creek Lane
Clarksburg, MD 20871

Maryland March for Life:

The Maryland Candlelight March for Life will be on March 8, 2010 in Annapolis, Maryland. Mass will be at 5:30 PM at St Mary's Church, 109 Duke of Gloucester Street. The celebrant will be

Baltimore Archbishop O'Brien. The March will begin at 6:40 PM. The Knights are relied on heavily for both financial and physical support. All Councils, Assemblies, Ladies and Circles are asked to make monetary donations to offset the cost of the march. The Maryland State Council will match \$0.50 for each dollar contributed up to \$50 that each council donates to the march.

Donations payable to the Maryland March for Life
Send to Pro-Life Chairman John Eure
10225 Frederick Ave. #208
Kensington, MD 20895

May God Bless our Efforts.
Vivat Jesus

John L. Durbin, District Deputy

FROM OUR GRAND KNIGHT, CHRIS DIERKEN

As we moved into the Lenten Season, many of us again felt the loss of Father Zylla, and remembered him fondly. The following is an excerpt from his message this time last year.

As the Lenten season begins we would do well to have ready a pattern of observances that we will keep. For many of those who are older, the value and possibility of fasting diminishes, but that leaves more room for acts of charity, of kindness and helpfulness towards others in need. And since the object of Lent is to become more like Christ in our interior as well as our outward deeds, such acts of helpfulness towards others should be at the top of our lists, always but especially during Lent.

May we all, young and old, have a truly Blessed Lent!

Fr. Robert Zylla, O.S.C., Chaplain - February 2009

Lew Tillis has arranged three opportunities in March for us to work with Hershey's Restaurant toward our acts of charity, kindness and helpfulness towards others in need. Please plan to support the fundraisers described later in this newsletter. Remember to mention the Knights of Columbus, not only to assure that a share of your dinner check will be contributed, but also to promote our organization and its good works in the community.

We'll have a First Degree on Tuesday, March 2, and Second Degree just a few days later on March 6. This is a perfect opportunity to bring in new members, and move them along the path without a long break between progressions.

In March we are planning a membership blitz at each of our Parishes; St. Martin's, St. Mary's and St. Francis of Assisi. We have plenty of Form 100's on hand. All we need are active members, ready to buttonhole every Catholic male over 18, in his Parish, who is not a member of the knights. All you have to do is ask. Think about how good you will feel when someone you have contacted asks you when he can take his First Degree.

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

www.kofc2323.com

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

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH IS EVERYONE'S GOAL

The membership blitz is a tried and true way for councils to increase their numbers. We see these pushes often in March, in celebration of Founder's Day, and again in October. These drives are successful because brother Knights are more visible than normal, during and after Masses and at special events. We remember to ask each and every Catholic gentleman to join our ranks for the good of the Church, community and Order.

At the beginning of the fraternal year, we set our eyes on the goal of achieving the Star Council Award. This means running many successful and varied programs throughout the year and using this activity to spread the word about the Order. This will bring in new members.

Don't forget the strength of our life insurance, long-term care and annuities products is also a selling point of membership. For more than 125 years, our insurance has been "making a difference for life." Our ratings are among the best in the business. For the 16th consecutive year, the Knights of Columbus insurance program has earned Standard & Poor's highest rating, and for the 33rd consecutive year, A.M. Best Company has given us its highest financial strength rating.

I can help not only in explaining to prospects our outstanding insurance products, but also on the many other benefits of becoming a knight. I am happy to be an advocate for the Order and for our council. Even better, I can help you feel more comfortable in making the membership "sale" to prospects yourself.

As your professional Knights of Columbus insurance agent, I look forward to helping us grow in fraternity.

Call me – let's talk.

Patrick McAleer, FICF, PGK
301-253-3856
patrick.mcaleer@kofc.org

COUNCIL'S LENTEN MEALS

The Knights of Columbus Council #2323 is hosting Lenten meals for member parishes

3/5 – St. Francis 3/19 – St. Mary's 3/26 – St. Martin's

at Hershey's Restaurant in Gaithersburg, 17030 Oakmont Avenue, from 5:00 until 9:00pm. Hershey's offers a nice selection of seafood from \$8.99 up, including cod, catfish, salmon, shrimp, crab, and so much more! Hershey's is a great family restaurant. A portion of the receipts go to Montgomery Council #2323 to assist in the charitable mission. Plan to attend each night. Thanks for your support! Be sure to mention Knights of Columbus when ordering.

THANK YOU, DEACON JIM DATOVECH

On the evening of February 16, 2010, our Associate Chaplain, Deacon Jim Datovech, presented information on "Comfort and Consolation—Care of the Sick and Dying." Deacon Jim addressed the differences between acceptable legal decisions and moral decisions, and presented guiding principles from the Church for contemplating major medical decisions. He also explained the benefits and limitations of "Living Wills," and the value and timeliness of identifying a Health Care Agent.

Hopefully, this will only be the first of this kind of presentation to enrich and guide our spiritual lives. We believe that attendance was lighter than usual because the weather.

TOOTSIE ROLL AWARDS

On February 20, 2010, the Tootsie Roll Awards dinner was held at St. Raphael's. Over 22 applications for assistance were submitted by a variety of groups and institutions serving intellectually disabled members of our local community. Approximately \$45,000 in grants were awarded.

Our Grand Knight, Chris Dierken, presented a check for the Special Olympics. John, Nancy and Jill (one of our favorite Special Olympians!) Durbin attended, along with other members of Council 2323.

If you have never attended the Tootsie Roll Awards dinner, considering doing so next year. It is a very rewarding experience and opportunity to witness first hand the joy, happiness and, maybe most important, the enablement that our Tootsie Roll Drive brings.

FAMILY NIGHT

The Family Night held on January 8th raised \$1,000.00 for Catholic Relief Services for Haiti.

The next Family Night will be March 19th to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. (We know this is the same evening as the second Hershey's Lenten Dinner. We are pretty sure that many people having dinner at Hershey's will enjoy their meal more without so many youngsters in attendance!)

SPAGHETTI DINNER – CHARITY BEGINS WITH US

On Sunday, January 31st, many of our brothers came together to host a Spaghetti Dinner at the Father Cuddy Hall to raise funds for St. Francis' Medical Mission to Haiti. Over 230 fellow Knights, their families, friends, and other parishioners from all three parishes attended this event, raising raised over \$2,750. The following brothers and family members volunteered their time to make this event very successful: Mike Thomas, Gracie Kennedy, Michael Bean, Drew Denion, Mark Arena, Kevin Bean, Lewis Tilles, Cheryl Tilles, Mike Bean, Brian Winner, and Shannon Dougherty. Special thanks to Bob Mongelli & Mark Lynch for spending two days working in the kitchen for this event. Thank you, too to the following stores that donated gift cards for food purchases: Bottom Dollar, Flower Hill Giant, Safeway, Shoppers Food & Walmart.

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.

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, Robert Cox, Rose Cox, Veronica Datovech (mother of Deacon Jim), Ron and Helen Dunn,
Martha Gillis, Judy Hoffmaster, Bill Hornish, Rosemary McAleer, Paul Noga, Fran Paepeke,
Mr. and Mrs. John Rivera, Nan Thomas, Bill Toner, Courtney Vaughn, 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:

Joan Meekin, Darlene Mikalorcla
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 March.***



Maryland State Council Knights of Columbus

Founders' Day Mass and Reception Sunday, March 21, 2010

3:00 PM Mass at St. Andrew by the Bay
701 College Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21409

Open to all Brother Knights and Guests

Reception immediately following at
The Parish Center

The cost is \$15.00 per person
Dinner will include:
Salad, Roast Loin of Pork, Mashed Potatoes
Vegetable Medley, Rolls and Butter
Dessert, Coffee, Tea and Soda

All dinner reservations must be paid in advance
no later than March 12, 2009

NO TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

For dinner reservations, please mail your payment to

Peter O'Sullivan
1909 Brightwood Court
Eldersburg, MD 21784
410-795-4379

Please reserve _____ tickets at \$15.00 each. Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ payable to Maryland State Council, Knights of Columbus.

Name(s): _____

Title: _____ Council # _____

Address: _____

City, State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Please include the names of everyone in your party who is included with your ticket payment.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #6
Rockville, MD 20855

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



COUNCIL SCHEDULE

DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME	PLACE
February 20	Tootsie Roll Awards Dinner (all welcome, see article)	6:30	St. Raphael's Church
March 2	Council Meeting – First Degree (report 7:30, please)	8:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
March 5	Lenten Meal (especially St. Francis)	5-9:00 p.m.	Hershey's Restaurant
March 6	Second Degree	2:00 p.m.	Father Cuddy Hall
March 8	Maryland Candlelight March for Life	5:30 p.m. Mass; 6:40 p.m. March	St. Mary's, Annapolis
March 19	Lenten Meal (especially St. Mary's) Also, Family Night	5-9:00 p.m. 6-9:00 p.m.	Hershey's Restaurant 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
March 26	Lenten Meal (especially St. Martin's)	5-9:00 p.m.	Hershey's Restaurant