



Corpus Christi Council No. 2502

LARION

MINEOLA, N. Y.

Volume 69 No.5/6

Winter Issue 2018

Grand Knight's Message

Dear Brother Knights, Columbiettes, Squires, and all Catholics that are united in Christ, On Wednesday, November 8th, I was fortunate to participate at a special event. A statue of our Blessed Virgin Mother Mary that was being



transported throughout the United States made a stop at Saint Ignatius Church in Hicksville. As a member of the Fourth Degree Honor Guard of the Bishop Walter P. Kellenberg Assembly Number 728, we were asked to guard the Blessed Statue during a ceremonial mass.

I was posted at the side of the wood-carved likeness of the Madonna as a member of the Knights of Columbus that travels with the statue told the congregation of its history. He explained that this year is the one-hundredth anniversary of the Marian apparitions that appeared in 1917 before three children in the town of Fatima in Portugal. During the fiftieth anniversary in 1967, the Bishop of Portugal had commissioned the making of a limited number of statues of Our Lady of Fatima that are each to be transported to different countries in order to spread the message that Mary the Mother of God had revealed to the three shepherd children.

The message that was revealed is not a conspiracy nor a secret. The accompanying Compere of the Blessed Mother Mary explained that the message stated that we should both pray the rosary and give up all of our hardships and sufferings that we

endure to God. In turn, God will receive all of our adversities, regardless of their severity, and transform them into the conversion of nonbelievers into additional believers of Jesus Christ.

I was standing at my post while I listened to the presenter explain the history of this statue and the interpretation of Blessed Mary's one-hundred-year-old request to us all. I was at attention in full Honor Guard uniform but then my mind started to wonder off as an old leg injury started to act up. It was then that I realized that I was stationed at my post for longer than usual without being relieved by another Honor Guard. Our Fourth Degree Commander was unable to inconspicuously relieve me from my post because the Blessed statue was situated in front of the altar and he did not want to interrupt the ceremony.

Suddenly, I noticed the beauty of the statue before me. It was so lifelike and as I gazed into Mother Mary's eyes, I was overcome with a feeling of calmness. This statue of our Lord's Mother is the most beautiful that I have ever seen. I silently said a Hail Mary and sent the pain of my leg over to God and before long I was relieved by a fellow Honor Guard. This day will always be remembered by me as being special and I am honored that I was able to participate in this ceremony.

Reminder that Monday, January 1st is the Holy Day of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

Come to our Council on Sunday, February 4th to watch the Super bowl with friends. For \$40 per person you get a hot and cold buffet, an open bar, and multiple big screens. Make your reservations with either Brother Bobby Redmond or Brother Danny McWeeney.

On Friday, February 9th Corpus Christi Council will host a preliminary round of the Golden Gloves boxing tournament for the third year.

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The Clarion is published upon request, or visit our web site at www.kofc@2502.net-- Corpus Christi Council #2502, Knights of Columbus, and PO Box 243, Mineola NY 11501

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The Clarion

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Ken Lyons (516) 746-8643

Deadline for submissions—**15th of the month**

If you do not have access to a computer, or if **you know someone else** who is not on Facebook, or do not go on Twitter and would like a hard copy or if you prefer a hard copy of the Clarion. Please contact Ken Lyons at (516) 746-8643 or (516) 428-6794

January Calendar 2018

Saturday, Jan.01 -- Solemnity of Mary

New Year's Day

Wednesday, Jan.03 – DD Meeting

Thursday, Jan.04 -- Business Meeting 8:00 pm

Saturday, Jan.06 -- Epiphany

NFL Football Playoffs

Wednesday, Jan.10 -- Wilmin Meeting 8:30pm

Thursday, Jan.11 – Officers Meeting 8:00pm

Sunday, Jan.14 – Football Sunday NFL Playoffs

Monday, Jan.15 – MLK Holiday

Tuesday, Jan.16 -- CWV Meeting 8:30pm

Wednesday, Jan.17 -- Squires Meeting 7:45pm

Thursday, Jan.18 -- Social Meeting 8:00pm

Friday, Jan.19 – Right to Life March in Washington, DC

Nassau Chapter 8:00pm

Sunday, Jan. 21 – Right to Life Mass 10am in St. Patrick's Cathedral

NFL Football Playoffs

Tuesday, Jan. 23 – Knight of the Year Meeting 8pm

Sunday, Jan. 28 – Long Island Conference

Monday, Jan. 29 – 2502 Association Meeting 8:30pm

Bar Team Schedule – January

Monday, Jan.01 – McWeeney's Court

Monday, Jan.08 -- Jude's Teachers

Monday, Jan.15 -- Nick's Team Best

Monday, Jan. 22 – Kelly's Heroes

Monday, Jan.29 – McWeeney's Court

February Calendar 2018

Thursday, Feb. 01-- Business Meeting 8:00 pm

Friday, Feb. 02 – Presentation of the Lord

Groundhog Day

Sunday, Feb.04 – Council's Super Bowl Sunday Party 5pm

Wednesday, Feb.07 -- Wilmin Meeting 8:30pm

DD Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 08 -- Officers Meeting 8:00pm

Friday, Feb. 09 – Golden Gloves Fights

Sunday, Feb.11 – Our Lady of Lourdes

Wednesday, Feb.14 -- Ash Wednesday

St. Valentine's Day

Thursday, Feb. 15 – Social Meeting 8pm

Friday, Feb.16 -- Nassau Chapter 8:00pm

Monday, Feb.19 – President's Day

Bar Team Schedule – February

Monday, Feb.05 -- Jude's Teachers

Monday, Feb.12 -- Nick's Team Best

Monday, Feb.19 – Kelly's Heroes

Monday, Feb. 26 – McWeeney's Court

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Come see a possible future world champion at this community event. Food and drinks will be available to purchase. Tickets cost \$30 per person if purchased before the event or \$40 per person at the door. Seating is limited so contact Trustee Paul Kelly, PGK for tickets at 347-886-0071.

This year on Wednesday, February 14th will be Saint Valentine's Day but also the start of Lent, so don't forget your spouses and don't forget Jesus Christ.

Feliz Navidad y Prospero Ano Nuevo, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Vivat Jesus,

SK Peter Zayas, Grand Knight

Chaplain's W.I. Message:

Happy New Year!

As we begin a new calendar year, we realize that there are matters which await our attention and decision, some of them being "hold-overs." The first of these of course is a topic I introduced back in September of last year. It's our identity as a council of the Knights of Columbus. As much as we want to advance our council by reaching out to others, we want at the same time to *protect* our council from civil law suits, monetary damages and just plain bad publicity. Having spoken of this subject several times in public at regular meetings and using my space here in *The Clarion* a few times to address this issue, I introduced a resolution at our December 7th meeting. It was read aloud and the text was circulated among members. It has also been forwarded to Kenny Lyons for publication in this newsletter.

I ask you to support my resolution when there is a vote on it. I cannot emphasize the importance of this issue enough. Other councils, in different parts of the country and in Canada, have been embroiled in controversy because there weren't safeguards in place to protect those councils with buildings. More than ever, we need our council, we need our building and we need rentals to continue our mission!

Another holdover is a suggestion I made at a recent meeting. We ought to get a copy of "Called and Chosen," an hour and a half movie of the life of Fr. Vincent Capodanno, a Catholic Chaplain in the Vietnam War who was slain on the battlefield in 1967, won the Medal of Honor for his courage and bravery and whose cause for sainthood has been introduced. We could schedule a meeting night to view the film together and build up our fraternity watching on the screen how another Catholic man

lived out the call to holiness. We all need good role models. Fr. Capodanno is one of the best of those role models!

As promised, I will soon be making the initial preparations for another afternoon of recollection in the late spring. If you have any recommendations, kindly let me know.

In Christ,

Msgr. Bob Batule

Council Chaplain

RESOLUTION

Corpus Christi Council

Mineola, New York

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus is a known and recognized Catholic fraternal organization.

WHEREAS Corpus Christi (#2502) in Mineola, New York is a duly constituted and certified council of the Knights of Columbus.

WHEREAS we Knights of Columbus hold to certain principles and values derived from our Catholic faith.

WHEREAS we ought to do all that is in our power to preserve and perpetuate those same principles and values.

WHEREAS we have a concomitant responsibility not to be seen as endorsing things and events in conflict with our Catholic faith.

Be it **RESOLVED** then that we make explicit in our constitution, by-laws and rental agreements that this council of the Knights of Columbus will not host or otherwise be party to any activity or function which contradicts the said principles and values of the Knights of Columbus.

Be it further **RESOLVED** that we insert into the documents cited above terminology which gives our council protection against having to provide services to any party or parties who will use our building for a purpose opposing our principles and values, and provide protection against civil discrimination suits and any monetary damages that might result from legal action against our council.

Be it **RESOLVED**, finally, that this action on our part be accomplished as expeditiously as possible after the necessary consultation with legal counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Batule

Council Chaplain

Questions about Resolution:

- 1) What is the Nassau Chapter, the Nassau Conference opinion on this resolution?
- 2) Does the New York State Deputy have an opinion or a state by-law concerning this resolution?
- 3) What does the Supreme Council in New Haven and what does the Supreme Knight say about this resolution?
- 4) What is New York State position?
- 5) Do any other Councils have similar wording in their contracts with outside rentals?
- 6) Have we consulted outside lawyers for their opinions concerning the wording in this resolution?
- 7) Are we in any violation of New York State or Federal laws by picking and choosing who will rent our hall?
- 8) Will the Bakers Case in the Supreme Court have any affect about the wording in the resolution?
- 9) Will this resolution open us up to lawsuits by individuals, the ACLU or County, Town, N.Y. State or Federal Government?

These are some questions that must be discuss and answer by the members, the Advocate and possibly civil rights lawyers before making any decision about the resolution.

Ken Lyons, Editor

The Right Corner:

Have you made a New Year's resolution this year? Do you really think you will stick with it this time and keep your resolution? If you are like most people today, you make grand plans, only to struggle to actually carry them out.

The practice of making New Year's resolutions goes back over 3,000 years to the ancient Babylonians. There is just something about the start of a new year that gives us the feeling of a fresh start and a new beginning. In reality, there is no difference between December 31 and January 1. Nothing mystical occurs at midnight on December 31. The Bible does not speak for or against the concept of New Year's resolutions. However, if a Christian determines to make a New Year's resolution, what kind of resolution should he or she make?

Many Christians make New Year's resolutions to pray more, to attend church more regularly. These are fantastic goals. However, these New Year's resolutions fail just as often as the non-spiritual

resolutions, because there is no power in a New Year's resolution. Resolving to start losing weight or cut down on drinking or smoking has no value unless you have the proper motivation for stopping or starting that activity. Most people start off strong, which is why gyms and rehab centers are full of people at this time of year. But most people end up failing at their resolutions around the middle of February.

Why do you want to pray more or attend church more regularly? Is it to honor God and grow spiritually, or is it because you have just heard that it is a good thing to do? Why do you want to lose weight? Is it to honor God with your body, or is it for vanity, to honor yourself?

Does this mean you shouldn't make New Year's resolutions anymore? Absolutely not. It just means that you should start small and be realistic. If you want to lose weight, do so according to a realistic timeline. If you want to save money, set small goals to create a budget and spend less.

If God is the center of your New Year's resolution, it has chance for success, depending on your commitment to it. If it is God's will for something to be fulfilled, He will enable you to fulfill it.

Psalm 37:5-6 says, "Commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him and He will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun."

Ken Lyons, Editor

AROUND THE COUNCIL:**Christmas Poinsettia's Report:**

Once again PGK, Jim Corrigan, GK Peter Zayas, Kevin Kenan, Bill Gyves and Dan Albano deserve a round of applause for delivering poinsettia's to the widows and the Columbiettes of our Council. Many of the widows they visited were extremely happy that we took time to remember them throughout the Christmas season. This year we included the Columbiettes for all their good works in helping out the Council. They played an instrumental part in the success of our picnic and most recently children's Christmas party.

Ken Lyons, Editor

Children's Christmas Party Report:

It's all about the kids to begin with. I don't care where the kids come from or what religion they are, it's just to watch them come up and see Santa. Following a tradition set forth many years ago by the Council by adopting struggling poorer families in both St. Aidan's and Corpus Christi Parishes.

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And inviting them to attend our Children's Christmas Party. This year only (2) families from Corpus Christi Parish and no families from St. Aidan's Parish were able to attend the Council's Christmas Party.

The job of planning the Council's Children's Christmas party can often seem something of an unwelcome and scary prospect. But, there's a power in a group of people who work together toward a shared goal. A properly managed team, boost strengths and brings out the best in each member.

Tim Clarkin with special help from the Columbiettes and their husbands face the extra challenges of budgeting and planning for an unknown number of children in attendance, attracting volunteers, buying and wrapping presents, supplying food and drinks, providing entertainment, takes special energy and commitment. The Knights of Columbus, like many organizations, depend upon volunteers who have day jobs, family commitments, and other hobbies, unless members are recognized for their achievements, it's easy for them to lose interest. The words "Thank you" to Santa (Mike Kiesel), Tim Clarkin, Barbara and John Mallon, Lisa Simeone, Marge and Stu, Mike and Lorraine seem totally inadequate.

The Council has come to see how valuable you are and how much you have going for you, the smiles will return, the sun will break out, the music will play, and you will finally be able to move forward the life that God intended for you with grace, strength, courage, and confidence.

Ken Lyons, Editor

Member's Christmas Party Report:

On a chilly Saturday night in December our Annual Member's Christmas Party was held in the Columbian Lounge, with many people in attendance. Lou Librandi and Tim Clarkin brought an evening of enjoyment to many of our members and their friends.

Given a chance to escape the hustle and bustle of the Christmas rush, many brothers and their wives came this year. Chef Peter Augello supplied pass around food and Ardito supplied two hot trays of pasta and a (4) foot chicken hero, light array of Christmas music and of course (2) raffles.

Once again they set tone for the year by creating another successful Christmas Member's Party. We appreciated their unfailing attention to detail. If someone asked me to describe the ambience of the party in one word, I would say it was vivacious.

Thank you Lou and Bernadette for all your hard work and dedication.

Ken Lyons, Editor

Pro-Life Mass:

On Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018 at 10:15 a.m. Cardinal Timothy Dolan will celebrate the Respect for Life Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. The Pro-Life Mass educates and advocates for all life from the unborn to the aged. Fifty billion babies aborted is enough for a hundred thousand lifetimes. Please contact the Grand Knight @ (516) 456-6610 if you are interested in attending.

Pro-Life March:

The 45th annual March for Life will take place Friday, Jan. 19, 2018 in Washington, D.C., and tens of thousands of pro-life marchers from New York and around the country are planning to make the trip to the nation's capital to call for protection under the law for human life at all stages. The march marks the 45th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision, which made abortion legal throughout the United States. It also is a sign of the strength of the pro-life movement in the United States, and of the growing opposition to abortion and other attacks on life, including euthanasia. "And if we can accept that a mother can kill her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another?" – **Saint Mother Teresa**

Ken Lyons, Editor

Super Bowl Party:

When it comes down to breathtaking, nail-biting excitement, it's tough to top the Super Bowl. The Super Bowl draws millions of viewers from around the world. Many of them don't tune in to watch the game. They watch the Super Bowl for the commercials.

This year's Super Bowl 52 will be played on Sunday, Feb. 4, 2018 in U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, Minnesota. And the hype and hoopla for the 51st Super Bowl has begun. Our **GIANTS** and **JETS** are still deciding where they will be watching the game this year.

Where will you be watching the Super Bowl this year? Why not watch the game at the Council with your friends?

So if you watch the Super Bowl for commercials, the game itself or root for the numbers you have in various football pools, you cannot beat the Super Bowl Party at the Council.

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2502 Association will hold its annual Super Bowl Party. The cost is \$40 per person with reservations and \$45 at the door, Open bar and buffet one hour before game and one hour after.

Snacks, drinks and hot and cold buffet will be available. For additional details please contact Danny McWeeney @ 516 835--0449 or Bobby Redmond @ 516 741-8930 or call the council @ 516 746-8643.

Ken Lyons, Editor

Golden Gloves 2018 Event:

On Friday, February 9, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., Corpus Christi Council Number 2502 of the Knights of Columbus will be fortunate to partner with the New York Daily News for a third time to host a preliminary round of the 91st Annual Golden Gloves boxing tournament at our council in Mineola. This is one of the premier amateur contests in the United States, if not the world.

We are located in 186 Jericho Turnpike, Mineola, NY 11501 and in the past year our fundraising efforts has supported both the parishes of Corpus Christi and Saint Aidan, students in the seminary, retired priests, as well as many local charitable and nonprofit organizations. Tickets cost \$30.00 per person in advance and \$40.00 at the door and I hope that you can join us this evening. Please contact Golden Gloves Chairman Paul Kelly at (347) - 886-0071 or at lindalovespaul98@aol.com for tickets or if you require any additional information.

We are also seeking local businesses who are willing to sponsor one of the upcoming bouts. For a minimum \$200.00 tax-deductible donation we will announce your support to the audience between rounds. We expect to have over two hundred fans in attendance and we can distribute any brochures or business cards that you can provide to us. Sponsors who have an available banner can have it hung up at our council during this event. We are also looking for gift certificates from local businesses that we can raffle off as a fundraiser.

Your tax-deductible donation can be accepted by a check made out to "Corpus Christi Council #2502." Please contact Peter Zayas at 516-458-6610 or at iplaychess@optonline.net if you require any additional information.

God bless you and thank you again for your support in helping to make this a successful community

Vivat Jesus,

SK Peter Zayas, Grand Knight

cc: *Golden Gloves Chairman Paul Kelly*

Saint Patrick's Day Parade:

The Annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade will kick off on Sunday, March 4, 2018 at 1:00 PM at the Nassau Courts and continue up Mineola Blvd. and onto Jericho Turnpike pass the Knights of Columbus hall and ending at The Irish American

Center on Willis Ave. Following the parade come in to the Council for a bite to eat, a cold drink and listen to the music. All food and drinks will be available at Council prices.

The Knights will hold its traditional breakfast before the parade at 10:30 AM. Following the parade all are invited back to the Council for drinks and corn beef sandwiches at Council prices. There will be **NO COVER CHARGE.**

Saint Patrick's Day Dance:

The St. Patrick's Day Dance will be held on Saturday, March 10, 2018, 8 pm to Midnight. The cost of \$60 per person includes dinner, open bar and music.

This year's Irishwoman is none other *Bernadette A. Ferguson*. Bernadette was among (3) names nominated for this honor she was chosen for her contributions in the many events held at our Council. I am writing today to endorse a highly suitable individual, Bernadette. In many ways exceeding the challenging requirements and expectations for the Irishwoman of the Year, Bernadette's ambitions, intelligence, and accomplishments complement precisely the stellar community of past recipients and make her highly deserving of the honor and opportunity bestowed by the committee. For reservations on the dance please contact PGK Jim Corrigan @ 282-6774

Ken Lyons, Editor

Donations Corner:

Donations made from September to December:
St Pius X, Telecare, Ultra Sound Nassau Chapter, Long Island Sled Hockey League handicap & disabled men, Corpus Christi annual drive, Interfaith Nutrition Network, Family and Children Association of Mineola, Water collection for Puerto Rico hurricane, Vicardi Center, Village of Mineola senior appreciation day, Mgr. Batule for the memorial mass, Special Olympics Nassau Chapter charities, Nassau Chapter magazine add, Annual Christmas donations to Corpus Christi and St Aidan's Church's.

Denis O'Sullivan

Donations Chairman

Fraternal Corner:

Please keep in your prayers the following brother knights and their families. PGK Ken Lyons, PGK Danny Lynch, PGK Marcel Chaillol, Vilma and Teresa Doherty, Tommy Hayden, Arline Cavanaugh, Tommy Rudolph, John O'Shea,
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PGK John and Hilda Macejka, Paul Libassi, PGK Richie Ryan, PGK, Ray and Donna Andanuy, Danny Donovan, PGK Carl Marchese, John Spellman, PGK, Ed Panzella, Bernadette Ferguson's father, Gertrude Passarella, Suzanne Drake Corsentino, Maryann Ribando, Pat Mulrooney, Lisa Bartell, Pamela and Nancy Driscoll, L Robert Dwyer, Columbiette Lisa Simeone's Father, Brother Joe Conlon who recently passed away, for all the people affected by Harvey, Irma and Maria hurricanes, the souls in Purgatory, for all our first responders – Police Officers, Firefighters and EMT's, safe return of all our soldiers in harm's way, and an end to abortions. *Four things let us ever keep in mind: God hears prayer, God heeds prayer, God answers prayer and God delivers by prayer.*

2018 COUNCIL DUES

Brother Knights of Corpus Christi Council this is a reminder that your 2018 Council Dues are now due. If you have not yet sent in your dues, feel free to use the attached notice to remit your payment. Also, if you have not paid last year's dues please remit them with your 2018 dues. Remember, annual dues for regular members are now \$40 and dues for honorary members are \$15. Make your check payable to Corpus Christi Council #2502 and send payment to:
Nick Pennacchio, Financial Secretary:
P.O. Box #243
CORPUS CHRISTI COUNCIL #2502 K OF C
MINEOLA, NY 11501
Name (print):

Address:

E-Mail Address (if available):

Tel. #: _____

Catholic War Veterans News:

Post 1949 is open to all veterans with at least 30 days active duty. New Council members who are veterans can speak with the Post Commander at any time about joining this fine organization. We meet ten times a year on the third Tuesday of the month, excluding the summer. Our dues are a reasonable \$40.00 per year. We march in parades and raise money for various veterans' causes.

Any veteran interested in joining should contact me at (516) 662-5576.

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

John Fitzgerald Kennedy
Bill Kessler, Post Commander

Squires Corner:

Our Squires volunteer at the Bridge of Life in Flushing last month. The Bridge of Life helps pregnant women and their families. The Squires sorted clothes, toys and books and other items that were donated to the facility. They also need help so if you are interested in volunteering your time please contact me or Tom Kelly at the Council. Pictures of this Squire event and other Squire endeavors will be located in the photo galley section of the Clarion. The following Squires, Knights and parents were among the volunteers helping out at the facility.
Squires: Nick and Mike Librandi, Peter Kelly, Mark DaCosta Gunnar Christianson and James Tremblay
Knights: Lou LiBrandi, Jim Tremblay and Tom Kelly, PGK
Parents: Maria Kelly and John DaCosta
Nicholas Librandi, Chief Squire

Columbiette's Report:

The primary requirements to be a member of this organization is to be a Catholic female in good standing with her parish and to be 17 years of age or older. Secondary purposes include the spiritual, social and charitable welfare of their members. One of its purposes is to aid that Council spiritually, socially and financially in all its endeavors. Corpus Christi Columbiettes meet the second Monday of each month at 7:30 pm.A

Answering the Last Call:

Joe Conlon answered his last call on Monday, November 27th at 0955 hours at 300 Old County Road. Most people remember Joe Conlon as a police officer, a NYC PD detective, a member of the Knights of Columbus or a member of the Mineola Fire Department. As time has passed history has been able to define his accomplishments and they are quite clear. After a tour in the army, Joe joined the NYC Police department, he was a policeman for over 30 years rising to the rank of detective.

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He was a member of the Knights of Columbus over 36 years. He was very involved in the Council including serving as President of 2502 Association. Joe joined Engine Company #1 In April of 1964. He quickly rose through the ranks to Vice President in 1968 and then president from 1969-1970. After serving as a Company Officer Joe took on the challenge as a department line officer and became 2nd Lieutenant from 1973-1975.

In 1976 Joe became a Charter member and co-organizer of the Mineola Junior Fire Department (which has become the best Junior fire department in the state of New York). As Joe continued to serve through the ranks he became Captain Of Engine Company #1 from 1977-1979

After serving his beloved Department, Joe would continue to serve many county organizations. He has served as the 1st Battalion Delegate from 1980 to present. Warden from 1986-2002. Joe's hard work and dedication won him Firefighter of the year for Engine Company #1 in 1990. As the years progress, Joe served as Chairman of the 1st Battalion, numerous Nassau County Fire Commission positions and Chairman of the Nassau County Fire Commission from 1995-1996. Joe didn't stop there he went on to serve as delegate to the Association of Fire Districts, Nassau County Fire Commission Awards Committee and the Association of Fire Districts Award Committee. Joe served his country, the City of NY as a NYPD Detective, and his home town Village of Mineola. He was an out spoken advocate for the wellbeing of all Firefighters and would never give up. He was a true friend of the fire service and will be missed by all who knew him.

*Some people come into our lives and quickly go.
Some stay for a while, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never, ever the same.*

Ken Lyons, Editor

Letters to the Editor:

Corpus Christi Council #2502;

It is my pleasure on behalf of the Board of Directors and the staff of the Sr. Services Case Management and in-Home Assistance Program of Family and Children's Association to gratefully acknowledge your generous contribution in support of this essential community program.

Your donation is a recognition of our work with the many seniors in Nassau County.

Again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Lisa Stern, Director

Corpus Christi Council #2502:

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your generous gift in response to our recent appeal. Your gift will be used to provide food, shelter and supportive services for hungry and homeless Long Islanders. Your kindness and concern inspire The INN's staff and volunteers to continue our efforts to care for all those who come to us for assistance. We are truly blessed to be able to include you among our family of friends.

Sincerely,

Jean Kelly, Executive Director

Thank you cards for the Poinsettia Plants:

Dear Kenny, I want to thank you and your fellow Knights for the lovely poinsettia you gave me this Christmas. It always reminds me of how thoughtful and caring you all are, not only during this season, but all year long. May God bless each and every one of you with a Blessed Christmas and a very Healthy and Happy New Year. Again, thank you.
Love, Mary Peppard

Corpus Christi Council #2502

Thank you so much for the lovely poinsettia plant and for remembering our family. Although he was not a very active member, John enjoyed being a part of you.

Maureen Reedy

Corpus Christi Council #2502;

Thank you for the lovely poinsettia, I still have last years and now I can enjoy them both. Wishing the Council a very happy, healthy New Year.

Sincerely,

Flore Rowe

Dear Knights,

Your beautiful poinsettia plant arrived today as it has yearly for the last eleven years since my husband and your brother knight, Angie Plaia passed away.

It is a living tribute to your deceased brother knights and much appreciated. It is a loving tribute to your deceased brother knights and much appreciated. It is also comforting to know that your prayers are also offered at this time for him and his family God Bless you all.

Sincerely,

MaryAnn Plaia

Thank you note from Corpus Christi Church:**Dear Brother Knights:**

Thank you for your generosity to our parish at Christmas and always.

God bless you

In Christ!

Father Malcolm Burns

Communications Corner:

Being able to communicate effectively is the most important of all life skills.

Communication is simply the act of transferring information from one place to another.

In this way we are able to promote both our Super Bowl Party and our Golden Gloves Fights. Tom Kelly is largely responsible in seeing that all local papers and other Councils are aware of these social events in our Council.

As a dedicated Brother Knight in our Council promoting our future events he believes that when he acts selflessly, such a philosophy is what has helped give purpose to our organization and meaning to our efforts.

Ken Lyons, Editor

Final Food Drive Report:

On the 22nd of December the following letter along with the check for \$250 was drop off at Corpus Christi Rectory.

As the end of the year approaches, our thoughts turn to those who are less fortunate than us in our community. "The love we give is the only love we keep" I feel the quote by Elbert Hubbard really explains what the Knights of Columbus is all about. Giving love to someone is what makes us feel good inside.

On behalf of our Grand Knight, Officers and Members, please accept this small token of love for your Parish Outreach Program.

Kindest regards,

Ken Lyons, PGK

Supreme News:**Not just an Insurance Company**

A new home for a Vietnam War veteran and his family in Hamden tops the list of charitable donations totaling \$256,000 by the New Haven headquarters of the Knights of Columbus to area charities in 2017.

The home was built with \$75,000 in funding from the Knights under the direction of Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven. It is the fifth home built in the New Haven area with the support of the Knights in partnership with Habitat.

On December 22, the Knights presented a gift of \$50,000 to the Connecticut Food Bank.

The Knights donated \$7,000 for the purchase of Thanksgiving turkeys for New Haven's annual "Day of Joy." Since Thanksgiving Day, the Knights has also given away approximately 2,000 "Coats for Kids" in Connecticut valued at \$39,000.

Among those receiving gifts are: St. Ann's Soup Kitchen, Columbus House, Connecticut Hospice, Farnam Neighborhood House, Christian Community Action, Community Soup Kitchen, Little Sisters of the Poor, Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry, St. Luke's Lunch for Women and Children, St. Thomas More Soup Kitchen, The Salvation Army, Immanuel Missionary Baptist Church, Beacon on the Hill, Caring Cuisine, Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen, Life Haven, Community Dining Room and Mary Wade Home.

In the period leading up to Christmas, the Catholic fraternal organization has sent contributions to more than 20 area charities, which puts its giving for the year in excess of a quarter of a million dollars.

New York State News:

NYS Knights of Columbus has a new web page with pictures, bells and whistles unfortunately very little information. I believe I would have an easier time getting information from the CIA than from the NYS web page.

What separates design from art is design is meant to be functional.

Ken Lyons, Editor

Conference News:

Our 2018 Nassau Conference Raffle Calendars are available now at \$20 each from either your Worthy DD Jim or any conference officer.

Nassau Chapter News:

Charity Ball April 15th 2018 @ Chateaubriand in Carle Place. Cost \$ 80 per Person. Honoring Dominican Nuns of Amityville – let's make this year's event the most successful ever!

Chapter Scholarships – Remember the following scholarship/Grants are available

Religious Education (CCD) Grant – Deadline -- May 18th, 2018.

Catholic Elementary School Grant – Deadline -- May 18th, 2018.

Catholic High School Scholarship – Deadline -- April 20th, 2018.

Fourth Degree News:

Congratulations to our new Scribe, SK Michael Duffy! We wish him our best in helping with this most important part of our Assembly's work, and thank him once again for stepping up. Our next meeting is on 01/15/2018 – Joseph Gorman Council (5091), Syosset.

Lastly, one more thank you to my officers for all their help and invaluable advice and support in making my first few months as Navigator go so smoothly. We are blessed to have so many wonderful officers who put in so much time into our Assembly's various endeavors.

A BRIEF REMINDER THAT YOUR 2018 DUES ARE SOON DUE. SEE PAGE TWO FOR INFORMATION ON SENDING YOUR CHECKS TO CHARLIE PRANCL.

Vivat Jesus,

Peter Accardi, FN

Fr. Michael J. McGivney:

The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild serves as a source of information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney. The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics. There are more than 155,000 members of the Father McGivney Guild.

The purpose of the Guild is to inspire greater personal holiness and cooperation with God's grace by disseminating information about Father McGivney. The Guild's goal, as stated by Dominican Father Gabriel B. O'Donnell, guild director and vice postulator of Father McGivney's cause for canonization, is to, "spread the good word about Father McGivney's holiness of life, to encourage devotion to his memory, and to seek his intercession before the throne of God."

Any questions about the Guild can be sent to mcgivneyguildchairman@kofcnc.org

Ken Lyons, Editor

Vocations Prayer:

O Holy Spirit, Spirit of wisdom and divine love, impart Your knowledge, understanding, and counsel to youth that they may know the vocation wherein they can best serve God. Give them courage and strength to follow God's holy will. Guide their uncertain steps, strengthen their resolutions, shield their chastity, fashion their minds, conquer their hearts, and lead them to the vineyards where they will labor in God's holy service.

Amen.

Seminarian News:

Vocations to the priesthood rose sharply under the pontificate of St. Pope John Paul II. In 1978, his first year, there were 63,882 seminarians worldwide, but by the year of his death in 2005 there were 114,439.

Total seminarians continued to rise modestly under Benedict XVI, reaching a peak of 120,616. They then started a slow decline, when there were 120,051.

That decline has accelerated under the pontificate of Pope Francis. Total seminarians have dropped from 118,251 to 116,843.

The Catholic Church has, overall, been experiencing a crisis in vocations to the priesthood. Bishops have been forced to close down parishes where there are simply not enough priests to run them.

But that is not the case for all dioceses.

A number of dioceses in the U.S. have found that where there is faithfulness to Catholic doctrine, vocations to the priesthood flourish. The Vatican statistics show that the majority of new vocations are coming out of African countries. Which does not yet seem to be affected by the crisis in vocations and is confirmed as the geographical area with the greatest potential.

Although there seems to be a shortage of priests today, the Vatican has found a rich harvest of candidates in third world counties to serve the church.

Ken Lyons, Editor

Membership:

I don't know about you, but I have found far too many Councils in decline due to such things as apathy, lack of relevance, or just bad public relations.

Regardless of the reason, when membership declines, the first knee-jerk reaction by the powers that be, is to raise the price of dues. Again, I am reminded of the old expression, "Rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic." Instead of applying energies to fixing the hole, officials decide to shackle more weight on the passengers. I never understood the logic of such action.

This is just plain irresponsible and reckless behavior on the part of the members in charge. The first step is to recognize that something is wrong; you're membership wouldn't be in decline if everything was working properly. Find out what it is and correct it. Face the problem, do not evade it.

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Unfortunately, too many officers do not understand the basics of business and are at a loss as to what to do. There is also the possibility they fear change of any kind and do not want to be held responsible for failure. Consequently, they opt for the easy solution of raising the price of dues, an option that will ultimately encourage more members to quit, thereby compounding membership decline and hurrying the destruction of the organization. Raising dues to keep pace with inflation is one thing, raising dues because you are in a death spiral is another. To me, the answer is obvious: fix your membership and the money will take care of itself. Then again, the obvious is not always obvious. Increased membership is a much better alternative than raising dues or charging an assessment. Then again, I'm a capitalist. Let's consider how this applies in the corporate world. Instead of paying more taxes and enacting more regulations on business, government should reduce taxes and regulations thereby freeing business to produce more, hire more people, and stimulate the economy.

Ken Lyons, Editor

Insurance News:

Where did 2017 go? It seems the years are just flying by. I feel like it was summer yesterday and wouldn't mind some warmer weather right now. I hope you and your family had a great 2017. Now is the time to start planning for 2018 before it too flies by.

Hopefully, you've established a few goals for this year. I've learned a great tip regarding resolutions. First, write them down. It's not too late if you haven't already done this. Commit your goals to paper and post it someplace you will see it often. Writing down a goal is the first step towards achieving it. It may not make sense at first, but I'm sure you have heard stories of the success this simple task can bring. Whether your goal is to exercise more, give more to charity, read more or watch less television, you're more likely to accomplish it if you write it down. Second, resolve to have an expert look at your finances. I recommend that you have a team of experts help you, and I would love to sit with you. Let's schedule time to meet to perform an "insurance check-up" to evaluate any gaps in your family's life insurance protection. Now might be the perfect time to fill those gaps, not later. Remember that we don't plan to fail, but sometimes we do fail to plan.

Keep in mind that unlike many other products, you don't just need money to obtain life insurance; you also need good health, and no one knows when your health could change.

Did I mention my check-up is free of charge? When was the last time you received something for free that could provide value to you and your family for generations? Let's have a conversation today.

Will Havron, CLTC

516.578.6452

Knights of Columbus Field Agent

KofCWillHavron@gmail.com

Editorial:

I am writing a response in anticipating all of the negativity responses I will receive from the bar room Monday morning quarterbacks upon hearing that the committee has selected a woman to be Irishwoman of the year for 2018. What I can't figure out is why brother knights tear apart every single new idea presented? I don't understand how it affects their lives? If it doesn't affect you and it doesn't affect your families, why do you care? It just pointless to pick apart every little thing you disagree with the selection.

I must admit it gets tiring after a little while constantly hearing brother knights tearing new ideas apart.

We should practice kindness and compassion or just ignore what you don't like.

If you took the time you used in bashing others and used it in a more positive way you would feel better.

Ken Lyons, Editor

Sightings:

Louie and Nancy Librandi were enjoying a beverage in Murphy's Bar on Saturday night, December 23rd.

Tim Clarkin sipping on a beer in Murphy's before setting out to St. James for more liberations.

Cuz and Norma Morris always enjoys playing lotto games with their drinks at the Recovery Bar. Cuz has also been known to frequent the Double HH from time to time.

Rich Lindeman now works at the Recovery Bar as a bartender and manager.

Saw Jimmy Agnew at the 7am Mass on Christmas Day, he is also an usher at that Mass.

Marian Redmond and Val Passarella continue their tradition of after Christmas Day shopping for wrapping paper and cards.

Tom Kelly e-mails may be on the decline but his phone calls and texts are on the rise.

Still no sightings of Sal Contessa.

K. Lyons, reporter for Clarion