

Knights of Columbus



Perkiomen Valley Council #3633

<http://www.kofc3633.org/>

Located @ 526 Main Street, Schwenksville, PA 19473

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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



Volume 9

November - December 2008

No. 6

Grand Knight's Message

Four months have zoomed by me since I took office and I must say, I have never been busier. Many good things are happening and I am hopeful of more to come. We have just completed the celebration of our annual Memorial Mass and Communion Breakfast. You can read details in the newsletter but for those who missed this event, the mass was beautiful at the new Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Education Center. I cannot thank Fr. Paul Brandt enough for his warm reception and support of this effort. This year, the Lux Mundi award was presented at the mass to Sister Noreen, the superior of the Missionaries of Charity at the Norristown Shelter and Food Bank. With the Fourth Degree Assembly Color Guard officiating, this was indeed a grand affair and one to make all the brothers and their families in attendance proud!

At the beginning of this fraternal year, I laid out a most ambitious set of goals for the council. We are moving forward with as many of these ideas as we can but we still lack an essential ingredient---YOU. Only so much can be done with a few devoted brother knights so I appeal to you to come out and get involved. The Knights of Columbus is really a great organization and offers so much. There can really be something for everyone but a few cannot do it all.

We recently attempted a survey of members to get a better insight as to what we might be able to do better and what new ideas we need to pursue. We received maybe 30 replies to date which is not a good number---maybe 20%? Some of the ideas and comments were very useful and I invite those who did not respond to please do so by either email or regular mail.

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IMPORTANT NEWS !!!!

Knights an Ladies Evening Out

On Monday December 15th, we are having a Knights and Ladies evening out. It will be held at Mama Velia's on Ridge Pike across from Target in Limerick. Entrees **MUST** be **PRE-ORDERED**, so please see page 5 of the newsletter. Either cut the response slip off and return it to Joe Bondi at the address indicated or you can email Joe as well. We hope to see you there!



Meeting Changes!!!!!!!!!!!!!!:

Please see the Council Calendar for important news on changes to the upcoming meeting schedule.

Christ in Christmas Sale:

We will be selling signs, magnets and decals at the St Eleanor Bazaar on Nov 8 and the St. Mary Bazaar on the following weekend, Nov 14 and 15. We have 400 magnets available \$3 each w for \$5 and signs \$10 each. We need your help in selling them, call Joe Bondi.

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COUNCIL CALENDAR

<i>Business Meetings</i>	<i>Officers meetings</i>	<i>Other meetings</i>
Sunday- Nov. 9 at 7:30 PM	Wednesday- Nov. 19 at 7:30 PM	Thursday – Nov. 13 at 7:30 PM MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
Sunday- Dec. 14 at 7:30 PM CANCELLED Dinner on Dec 15!!!!	Wednesday- Dec. 17 at 7:30 PM	Thursday – Nov. 20 at 7:30 PM VALLEY FORGE CHAPTER MEETING @ Council Home

Exemplification Schedule

Sunday, November 9th, at Rev. William Fenerty Council # 7208, held at St. Joseph Parish Center, 340 Manor Avenue (Rt. 322), Downingtown, Pa, **1st and 2nd Degree - Candidates at 7:00 PM, Degree at 7:30 PM**, 2nd Degree will start immediately after 1st Degree.

Thursday, November 13th, at Mother of Divine Providence Council #14454, 405 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19405, **1st and 2nd Degree - Candidates at 7:00 PM, Degree at 7:30 PM**, 2nd Degree will start immediately after 1st Degree.

Sunday, November 23rd, Mother of Divine Providence Council # 14454, held at Mother of Divine Providence Parish Hall, 405 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406, **3rd Degree - Candidates should arrive no sooner than 12:15 PM and no later than 12:30 PM, Degree at 1:00 PM**,

Sunday, November 30th, De LaSalle Council #590, 18 Baltimore Pike, Springfield, PA , **3rd Degree – Candidates at 12:00 Noon, Degree at 1:00 PM**.

Sunday, December 7th at James A. Flaherty, Council # 3128, 235 Limekiln Pike, Glenside, PA, **3rd Degree – Candidates should arrive no sooner than 12:15 PM and no later than 12:30 PM**, Degree at 1:00 PM.

Sunday, March 1st, at Msgr. Schuyler Council # 1333, 110 W. Market Street, West Chester, Pa, **3rd Degree - Candidates should arrive no sooner than 12:15 PM and no later than 12:30 PM**, Degree at 1:00 PM.

RECENT EXEMPLIFICATIONS:

3rd degree- Congratulations to **B. Scott Shirley** and **Jason McLead** who received their third degree on Sunday October 26.

2nd degree- Congratulations to **Chuck Kane** and **Todd Marinelli** who received their second degree on Sunday November 2

Grand Knight's Message continued:

Some said they did not like Sunday evening meetings but we have no real constructive comments on a better time. What I can say is that in the coming year, you will see at least two meetings at a different time or day. Some said they want to see more social/family related activities. To that end we will have a Christmas get together and details are presented inside this newsletter. Please support this. I must admit I was very disappointed given this response with the attendance at the Communion Breakfast- maybe 15-20 brother Knights?

We are moving forward with our membership efforts and have a newly designed table top display and up to date information to use. We have a slide presentation developed for the membership drives and information sessions and will be showcasing these in the upcoming months. We need brothers to work on the membership committee and ask you to step forward. If you are enthusiastic about the Order, we need you to be out there. However, do not wait for a membership drive to ask your neighbor or close friend to join. We can provide you the materials needed to put into their hands so just ask us. Check out the web site that is still being built but there is a lot of useful information now at www.kofc3633.org.

Forty Hours will be held Sunday, November 23rd, Monday, November 24th and Tuesday, November 25th at St Eleanor Church. Please come out to attend this exceptional devotion to our Lord in the Eucharist.

Lastly, let me suggest to those who have not been involved for a few years to give us another try. Come to a meeting and meet some of brothers. Since we have adopted the use of name tags, you are not starrng at a face you do not know but now have a name to put with that face.

Also, a most Happy Thanksgiving and Blessed Christmas Celebration to all and their families. May the coming year be a blessing to us all.

GK Joe Bondi

Field Agent's Message:

William G. Bushéy, Sr. FICF, CSA
 P.O. Box 81 Frederick, PA. 19435
 610-754-0888
bbkofc@dejazzd.com
 Insurance calculator
<http://www.kofc.org/un/insurance/index.cfm>

**Q. "I've heard about nursing home insurance and how expensive it is."**

A. Actually paying 20 years of premiums, could be much less than 1 year cost of a nursing home.

Q. I think I'm better off financially if I self-insure myself.

A. You may want to rethink that, look what has happened to the markets recently. If you had a million dollars in principal, that would generate about \$50,000 income. Cost of care could be \$50,000 to \$125,000 a year, depending on where you live. Where would you find the additional funds without getting into your principal?

Q. Am I missing something, because I hear of more people are buying LTCI?

A. Yes, especially with the market like it is. One must be able to protect their assets and income.

Give me a call to discuss this beneficial addition to your portfolio.

Fraternally, *Bill Bushéy*



COUNCIL NEWS

**2008 Memorial Mass & Breakfast:**

The memorial mass was held October 12 at the new Blessed Teresa of Calcutta site in Limerick. The mass was celebrated by Fr. Paul Brandt and Deacon Burns and Deacon Rott were on the altar. The Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Assembly Color Guard under the capable coordination of Larry Concio provided that added touch that always stirs the heart of those in attendance. This year, the Council elected to give the Lux Mundi (light of the world) award to the Missionaries of Charity in Norristown. Because of the founding of the Missionaries of Charity by Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, it seemed appropriate to present the award at the mass rather than at the communion breakfast. Sister Noreen, superior of the convent in Norristown accepted the award and was most touched by the entire setting.

Following mass, we convened at the St. Mary Hall in Schwenksville for the Communion Breakfast which was attended by about 65 members and family members of the Council. Following the awards presentation (see article), Transitional Deacon and 3rd degree Knight of our Council, Jeff Rott talked to the group about Risk and Trust, explaining to us the nature of the risk God took in sending Jesus to us and the aspect of trust both we and God have in each other. Thank you, Jeff for your thoughtful words. Thanks also to SK Sam Augustine who planned the entire breakfast event.

Next year's memorial mass is at St Eleanor on October 18 at 9 AM with Communion breakfast to follow in Vianney Hall.

The following Essay contest winners were recognized at the Communion Breakfast:

- 1st Margaret Folkes - St. Stanislaus
- 2nd Caitlin McCabe - Mary Mother of the Redeemer
- 3rd - Katie Hinderliter - St. Stanislaus



Council Awards

This year, the Knight of the Year award was presented to SK Joseph Stephey by PGK Reggie Hill. Reggie noted that Joe, over the past several years has continued to step up to the plate to handle the many challenges with trying to coordinate the membership efforts for the Council. Joe currently serves as Membership Chairman and is working to establish a more formal process to oversee our Council efforts in recruiting; assuring potential members are well acquainted with the order before joining, and establishing programs to keep members active and interested.

Also presented at the Breakfast were several Certificates of Appreciation to members whose service should be recognized. GK Joe Bondi presented the following awards: PGK SK Steve Bette for his 16 years of service as our Financial Secretary; PGK SK John Warner for his work as editor of the Council Newsletter; SK Jody Shollenberger and Dave McDermott for their work with the youth and the Free Throw Championship the last several years and SK Dave Gullick for his coordination of the volunteer efforts for the Council, especially his work with the Missionaries of Charity in Norristown. Congratulations to all.

We received the following note from Sr. Noreen, recipient of the Lux Mundi award for the Missionaries of Charity:

“Dear Knights of Columbus, A big thank you from the depths of our hearts for accepting, recognizing and acknowledging our humble works of love, which we do for Jesus by serving the poor. Thank you to each member of the Knights for your generosity and fidelity to which you are called to serve. This you have proved through the years by helping in our work in various ways. When we encounter deeply thankful, it is a real joy, and for us, by the gratitude you showed us, it is like an experience of grace. Also, we are aware that the very expression of your gratitude witnesses to the Gospel truth. Our thanks remain in our prayers for you and your families. With gratitude in Christ, Sr. M. Noreen, MC, Superior.”

Degree Team:

Our council would like to form a first degree team. We need 6 individuals who will participate. Three major speaking parts are needed and the others have either no lines or only one or two. Dan Keefe and Don Barbuto will lead this team and take two of the major speaking roles. Please contact GK Joe Bondi if you can participate. We would like to get this off the ground as soon as possible.

COAL (Chance of a Lifetime) Raffle:

PGK Reggie Hill reports: We ordered 450 booklets and as of today I have received 244 back. We paid for 250 at \$3.00 each at a total of cost \$750. This is a yearly task and has been for the fifty-five years of the Knight's of Columbus. With the help of SK Milton Johnson who chaired this last year, we had the new ideas of selling after mass at St. Mary's and St. Eleanor's and had great response. So again, thanks for your great participation this year and hope we can do this again. We are going to try to sell tickets at the November 8th Bazaar/Craft Show at St. Eleanor's. If you have not sold your tickets and are not sure that you will, please return them to PGK Reggie Hill with the return envelope that was sent to you with the tickets. We need them by October 31,2008 as we have to pay for all the tickets outstanding.

Pro Life Voter Guide Distribution:

As you know Tuesday Nov. 4 is Election Day. On Saturday and Sunday Nov. 1 and 2 we can make a difference. That's because on that weekend we can distribute 1800 Pro Life Voter Guides to our fellow parishioners at St. Eleanor's. These guides could be a difference maker to a voter on Tuesday, a difference that could make history. To do that we need help. There are six masses at St. Eleanor's that weekend and there are three exit driveways that must be covered - ideally with at least 2 people per driveway exit or 6 per Mass. So it's a total of 36 "slots" in that we need to cover. The way this works, as most of you know, is that you pick up your Voter Guides at the Narthex five minutes before a Mass ends and I send you to a place on the sidewalk at one of the three driveway exits. Hand out the guides for about 15 minutes to your fellow parishioners as they head home for Mass.

Can you take 20 minutes out of your weekend on Saturday or Sunday Nov. 1 and 2 to pass out the Pro Life Voter Guide on one of the slots? That's it. It's simple and easy. And it could make a huge difference on Nov. 4. Please reply if you can help. My email is jj.gman@verizon.net. My cell is 215-880-1868. *John Giorgis*

Rose for Life Drive:

Thanks to all who participated in this year's Rose for Life drive on October 4 and 5. Thanks to all your efforts, we went over the top with a grand total of \$5,146 collected. Coordinators Matt McCloskey at St. Mary's with a total of \$2,046, PGK Sam Augustine at Blessed Teresa of Calcutta with a total of \$682 and GK Joe Bondi at St Eleanor's for a total of \$2,417. In addition, we received a check from Fr. McElroy for \$125 as 50% share in the Rose for Life on the altar each week so we will be turning over \$5,271 to the Valley Forge Chapter at their meeting at our Council Home on November 18. Thank you to all the brothers who gave of their time to collect for this worthy cause.

Home Association Meeting Announcement:

There will be a Home Association Meeting prior to the 7:30 PM General Meeting on January 11, 2009. The status of the basement upgrade, and expenses to date will be provided, with a cost estimate for completion of that and other projects.

New Caps

We have a new supply of hats with our logo and Council name available. These are still \$10, our cost, and available next time you come to a meeting. Thanks to Brother Tom Lukens of Alacarte Designs for his handiwork.

Council 50/50 Drawings:

We've had another winner in our 50/50 Drawing. Ed Kaeser was in attendance when his name was drawn for the 50/50 Prize at the September General Meeting. Ed went home \$14 richer. Of course with Ed's luck, after not missing a meeting in many years, he hits the 50 / 50 the month after GK Joe Bondi cleaned it out for \$584!

*Happy Thanksgiving and our best wishes for a Blessed and Merry Christmas Season
From the Officers of Perkiomen Valley Council #3633*



Knights and Ladies Get Together

When: **Monday December 15 at 6:30 PM**
Where: **Mama Velia Restorante- Ridge Pike across from Target in Limerick**
What: **Informal evening of fellowship**
Cost: **\$18 per person (tax and tip included- wine and beer included)**
Must confirm reservation by December 11 by email or mail to Address below.

MENU:

Appetizers

Bread- Our Italian bread we get from Chestnut Hill at Bakers Street bakery along with Olive Oil and grated Parmesan cheese;
Calamaretti Fritti- Fresh squid fried to perfection served with a tangy marinara sauce and lemon wedges; Bruschetta- Fire grilled Italian bread topped with chunks of fresh, vine ripened tomatoes mixed with olive oil and garlic; Spinach con Aglio olio- Sauteed spinach with olive oil, garlic and red pepper flakes

-----**MUST PRE-ORDER ENTRÉE cut and return by mail or send email with preference**-----

Entrees-salad included (indicate number for each entrée)

- _____ Salsa Marinara: Plum fresh, homemade marinara sauce mixed with basil, garlic and olive oil spread over penne pasta.
- _____ Fussili alla Siciliana: Our homemade marinara sauce mixed with sautéed eggplant spread over fussili pasta topped with melted homemade mozzarella cheese.
- _____ Pollo alla Parmigiana: Chicken lightly breaded, deep fried and covered in our marinara sauce topped with Fontina cheese and homemade mozzarella.
- _____ Melanzane alla Parmigiana: Eggplant lightly breaded, deep fried and covered in our marinara sauce topped with Fontina cheese and homemade mozzarella

Name _____ Number attending _____
Phone _____
Payment enclosed _____; Pay at door _____
Send confirmation to: joseph.bondi@verizon.net
Or mail form to Joseph Bondi, 110 Glenwood Avenue, Collegetown PA 19426



Spiritual Message By Deacon Jim Burns

Can you believe we are in the last two months of 2008? November is also the end of the Church year and the beginning of the special season of Advent.

As we enter November, on the 1st day we greet and pray for the intercession of all the Saints, who surely Rejoice with us on their feast day. Then on November 2 we pray for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, who will one day be united in Heaven with all the other Saints. Members of our family, friends, and especially those who have no one to pray for them are waiting expectantly for our prayers so that their time of penance may be shortened.

Did you know that November 4, Election Day, is also the feast day of St. Charles Borromeo? If we ask his help, surely he will be with our country as we vote for our next president. May God in His goodness help us to elect a just, God fearing, pro life President!

We pray that all of us will have someone to be with on Thanksgiving Day, that it will be a time of joy and thanks to God for all His blessings, especially the gift of faith and family.

Nov. 30 is the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of a time of watching, an opportunity to focus on the attitude that is so essential to the Christian life...expectancy. It is a time of longing for and of standing on tiptoes with anticipation for the fulfillment of the promise given to us...the coming of our Messiah, the arrival of the world's Savior. You may think...the Messiah has already come. Does our world look like it is experiencing its messianic age? Do our lives feel like our Savior has arrived? To the degree that we have not yet experienced the fullness of salvation that God wills for us, then God has not yet come fully into our world and into our lives.

If the season of Advent had a patron saint, it would surely be John the Baptist. He was the last of that long line of prophets preparing God's people throughout history for the Messiah's coming. But he didn't prepare with a sweet sentimentality about a smiling baby born on a starry night. He proclaimed the message that those who were anticipating the Messiah must reform their own lives to get ready. "Reform your live," he said, "God's reign is now at hand...Prepare the way of the Lord; straighten out the paths of His coming."

In ancient times, forerunners went ahead of a king who was making a journey. They would announce the king's coming and encourage the people to prepare themselves and their town for the royal arrival. John was this kind of herald for Jesus. He was the one who prepared the way for the Messiah.

John the Baptist helps us prepare our lives so that we will recognize the Messiah and give him a welcome that is appropriate for his royal presence. The real preparation to which John calls us is transformation of life. Real conversion of our hearts must be evident in the way we live. We should heed the call of the prophet and make this Advent a time of real change so that our royal Messiah will be welcomed into our lives.

During this beautiful Advent month, we celebrate two important feasts of Mary, the Mother of God. On December 8, we have the feast of the Immaculate Conception, and on December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe. Can we take time to ponder the words of the Gospel writers, John the Baptist, Joseph, Mary, angels and shepherds as we wait in watchful hope..for the coming of our Savior. May we again experience the expectation and wonder they felt as they realized God was doing new things in the world and in their individual lives.

We await the coming of Christ, the light for the nations, the light that **will** shine on those in darkness. May we all pray the Advent prayer of the early Church, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Deacon Jim

ELECTION 2008

By PGK John Warner

Are you hitting the mute button every time your show goes to commercial? Are you throwing away more mail than you're keeping due to political stuffers? Don't know what or whom to believe? Me too. When I can't believe anything the world tells me, I go back to my faith for guidance. Maybe these quotes and resources will help you:

"Our responsibility is to measure all candidates, policies, parties, and platforms by how they protect or undermine the life, dignity, and rights of the human person whether they protect the poor and vulnerable and advance the common good."

Faithful Citizenship, US Conf of Catholic Bishops

"...it must be noted also that a well-formed Christian conscience does not permit one to vote for a political program or an individual law which contradicts the fundamental contents of faith and morals." *Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger Nov 2002*



"Not all moral issues have the same moral weight as abortion and euthanasia. ...While the Church exhorts civil authorities to seek peace, not war, and to exercise discretion and mercy in imposing punishment on criminals, it may still be permissible to take up arms to repel an aggressor or to have recourse to capital punishment. There may be a legitimate diversity of opinion even among Catholics about waging war and applying the death penalty, but not however with regard to abortion and euthanasia" *Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger's letter to Cardinal McCarrick, July 2004*

The Church does not tell us for whom to cast our vote. The USCCB specifically says that the Church is "political but not partisan." The Church is permitted to provide moral guidance on the **issues**, and *not all issues have the same moral weight*.

Need help deciding on candidates? These voters' guides will help.

<http://archphila.org/votersguide/2008/President08.pdf>

<http://www.paprolife.org/McCain%20Obama%20with%20VP%20comparison%20piece.pdf>

Here's Supreme Knight Carl Anderson's recent article:

<http://kofc.org/un/eb/en/news/supreme/detail/548076.html>

Before you vote, it may be useful to understand what the Freedom of Choice Act would do. This link will help:

<http://www.nrlc.org/foca/USCCBRigaliLetterOnFOCA.pdf>

Which candidate said this on July 17, 2007 with respect to the Freedom of Choice Act?

"The first thing I'd do as president is sign the Freedom of Choice Act. That's the first thing that I'd do."

From the Priests for Life Political Responsibility Center, you can go here to read the publication, *Voter's Guide for Serious Catholics*.

<http://www.priestsforlife.org/elections/voterguide.htm>

This site is very detailed on many of the issues, not just the Life issue:

<http://ontheissues.org/states/pa.htm>

Take a look at the document, *Faithful Citizenship*, written in 2004 by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops.

<http://www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship/bishopStatement.html#6>

Want to know whom *Planned Parenthood* endorses and vote the other way? <http://www.pppavotes.org/voters.php>

Hope that helps. If it does, please share it with every Catholic that you know! God Bless. **PGK SK John Warner**

Parish News

St. Eleanor: (Parish Rep. Charles Sauermelech):

Forty Hours will begin after the 7:00 PM Mass on Sunday and then at 7:00 Monday and Tuesday evenings.

St. Mary: (Parish Rep. PGK Matt McCloskey):

No report

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta: (Parish Representative- PGK Sam Augustine): No Report



November Birthdays:

Don Barbuto, Deacon Jim Burns, Dan Cahill, Pat Cahill, John Catanzaro, Sal Fazio, Francis Genuardi, Joe Kostusiak, Clinton Lacy, Glenn Masakowski, Bob McGinnis, Gerard Merschen, Patrick Moore, Mike Powers, Bob Rorabaugh, Bill Ryder, John Venezia, Don Viola, Mike Zavrotny, Bill Zerillo

Richard Berardi, Steve Bette, Ken Butler, Brian Cahill, Alex Charyna, Dom DiGuglielmo, Bob Donaghy, Steve Drehobl, Bob Drobile, Bob Lecher, Dave McDermott, Paul Schiele

December Birthdays:

November & December K of C Anniversaries:

None this edition

Prayer Needs

Seminarians & Clergy: Rev. Mr. Jeff Rott, PGK Brother Charlie Schreiner

Deceased: Brian Kaeser, Norma O'Hare, Tony Cicippio

Sick: Ed Clinton, Larry Pennypacker, Karen DeGennaro, Mary Anne Petitto, Joann Galiato, Peg Mason, Pete and Tanya Kaeser, Rose Kaeser, Ed Pires, Lisa Dougherty, William Turner, Dawn and Dennis Alston, Norma Drye, Lloyd Williams, Eloise Brown, Mr & Mrs Campolongo, Lester Turner, Carolyn Rye, Joan Reid, Sylvia Bondi, Jim Fenerty, Donna Gullick, Ralph Grande, William Pumilia

Special Needs: Pope Benedict XVI, Peace in the World, Our Elected Officials, Our Pastors, Priests and Parochial Vicars, the Hungry and Homeless, those suffering depression

**K of C Perkiomen Council #3633
P.O. Box 116
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