

Father Wessel's Knightly News



FR JOHN P WESSEL COUNCIL 6530

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Chartered January 11, 1974 † District 33 † PO BOX 16, Marlton, NJ 08053

www.stjoans.org/ministries/knights-of-columbus/

2018 - 2019 Fraternal Year, Issue 6

December 2018

Motto: "We are one body in union with Christ" – Romans 12:5



GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Vic Libetti, Grand Knight

Brother Knights,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving with family and friends, and now as the Advent Season approaches and we welcome the new liturgical year, it's time to switch our thoughts and preparation to the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Thank you to all who participated in our busy November events. We had a good turnout for the parish Pasta Dinner and the Veteran's Day celebration where our vets enjoyed the special attention received from the parish and school children. As usual Fr. Richard and Fr. Rich did a wonderful job celebrating the mass with a very entertaining homily. The Christmas bazaar kicked off our formal "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnet and lawn sign sale and was a great success. This year we introduced a variety of new KCIC magnets and tree ornaments which seem to be selling better than those from prior years. The November hoagie sale had a slow start but finished well and was the most profitable of this Columbian year. The memorial mass in remembrance of our deceased knights was also well attended, as was our farewell to PGK Mike Carey and his lovely wife Kathy as they relocate their residence a little further north. We're definitely going to miss our faithful brother and friend, and wish them the very best in their new home. In spite of the heavy rain during our weekend masses, the New Lisbon collection was a huge success with a consolidated collection of \$2402 thanks to the generosity of our parishioners.

Brothers, thank you again for your support. Successful events start with solid participation from our council brothers, and we had much of that this month.

As you can see from our list of events and programs for December, we continue with a very ambitious and busy schedule. Please familiarize yourself with the schedule in this newsletter, and let your DGK know if you are available to participate. We hope we can count on the same level of support and participation that made November a success.

I hope to see all Virtus trained brothers at our new Lisbon party on Saturday Dec 1st, and everyone at our next business meeting on Thursday, Dec 6th in the cafeteria at 7:30 pm.

Have a safe holiday season and a Holy, Merry Christmas.

Vivat Jesus! †

EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

DECEMBER SCHEDULED EVENTS

Dec 1 st - 2 nd	After All Masses	KCIC Magnets, Ornaments, and Signs
Dec 1 st	3:00 pm - Pedata Hall	1 st Saturday Rosary & Divine Mercy
Dec 1 st	8:00 am – 2:30 pm Cafeteria	New Lisbon Christmas Party
Dec 6 th	10:30 am Active Day Center	Adult Pastoral Care Visit
Dec 6 th	7:30 pm Cafeteria	Monthly General Business Meeting
Dec 7 th - 9 th	All Day	Malvern Retreat House
Dec 18 th	7:30 pm Cafeteria	Planning & Officers Meeting
Dec 20 th	10:30 am Active Day Center	Adult Pastoral Care Visit
Dec 24 th - 25 th	See Dean for Assignments	Ushers Needed for Mass
Dec 31 st	8:00 pm Ramblewood CC	New Year's Eve Party

DECEMBER 2008						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 KCIC Magnets New Lisbon Party Rosary
2 KCIC Magnets	3	4	5	6 Active Day Business Mtg.	7 Malvern	8 Malvern
9 Malvern	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Planning Mtg	19	20 Active Day	21	22
23	24 Christmas Ushers	25 Christmas Ushers	26	27	28	29
30	31 New Year's Ramblewood					

JANUARY COMING EVENTS

1. Business Meeting
2. Meatball Rolling Party for February Pasta Dinner
3. Parish Pizza Social
4. Hoagie Sale
5. Planning and Officers Meeting
6. Rosary for Life
7. March for Life
8. Roses for Life Collection
9. Youth Free Throw
10. MLK Blood Drive

JANUARY 2008						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Dec 31st New Year's Ramblewood	1	2	3	4 Business Meeting	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Meatballs am Pizza pm
13 Hoagies	14	15 Planning Meeting	16	17 Rosary for Life	18 March for Life	19 Roses for Life Yth Free Throw
20 Roses for Life	21 Blood Drive	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	Feb 1st Business Meeting		

Council Officers and Directors 2018-19

OFFICERS

Grand Knight	Vic Libetti	609-992-2444	vlibettigk@gmail.com
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PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Programs	Bob Nardello
Church	Tom Kiley
Community	Dean DeRose
Council	Jim Stanley/Tom Bouillon
Wingman (WINGS)	John Carroll
Membership	Mike Mancano
Youth	Ted Shearer

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Supreme Website: www.kofc.org

NJ State K of C Website: www.njkofc.org

Cavalcade Magazine: www.njkofc.org/media/cavalcade-magazine.html

Council 6530 Facebook account (members only): <http://www.facebook.com/groups/koc6530/>

Council 6530 Face book account (Public Page): <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Knights-of-Columbus-Father-JOHN-P-Wessel-6530-St-Joan-of-Arc-Marlton-NJ/228124613915507>

Supreme Knight's Message by Carl A. Anderson

The Mission of the Laity 11/1/2018 by Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson

The renewal of the Church depends on charity and on our commitment to the common good, the family and growing in faith.

ON OCT. 16, we celebrated the 40th anniversary of St. John Paul II's election to the See of Peter.



It is easy to forget the situation of the Church at the time of his election. Since the publication of Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Humanae Vitae* a decade earlier, the Church had been embroiled in theological controversies. Many in the news media considered the Church out of touch, with a frail, elderly pope no longer able to respond adequately to the daily attacks upon Catholic beliefs.

Then, a young, dynamic pope was elected. In his first homily, John Paul II told Catholics, "Do not be afraid!" And to the rest of the world he announced, "Open wide the doors to Christ!"

And to show that he would personally open many of these doors, John Paul II traveled to Mexico, Poland and the United States in the first year of his papacy.

This year also marks the 20th anniversary of St. John Paul II's great apostolic exhortation on the vocation and mission of the laity, *Christifideles Laici*.

In its opening pages, we read, "A new state of affairs today both in the Church and in social, economic, political and cultural life, calls with a particular urgency for the action of the lay faithful.... *It is not permissible for anyone to remain idle*" (3).

Those words ring as true today as they did when written.

Christifideles Laici outlines four principles especially important for us.

First, "At this moment, *the suffering individual is the way of the Church* because that person is, first of all, the way of Christ Himself, who is the Good Samaritan who 'does not pass by'" (163).

Second, the laity has "the specific duty" and "irreplaceable" role "to work towards the Christian animation of the temporal order" by means of the "spiritual and corporal works of mercy" (41). Related to this is the recognition that charity "is never able to be separated from *justice*," and that the laity "*are never to relinquish their participation in 'public life'*" or their responsibility to promote the common good (42).

Third, "The lay faithful's duty to society primarily begins in marriage and in the family" (40), and the family as a domestic church "is a community in which the relationships are renewed by Christ" (52). As a domestic church, the family shares in the Church's mission to build up the Kingdom of God through its everyday work that expresses the love between husband and wife and between members of the family.

Fourth, the lay faithful should grow and mature in the faith in order "to overcome in themselves the separation of the Gospel from life, to again take up in their daily activities in family, work and society, an integrated approach to life that is fully brought about by the inspiration and strength of the Gospel" (34).

Christifideles Laici is an extraordinarily rich document that has provided sure guidance for the Knights of Columbus for two decades.

St. John Paul II summarized the mission of the laity in these words: “Their responsibility, in particular, is to testify how the Christian faith constitutes the only fully valid response ... to the problems and hopes that life poses to every person and society” (34).

The spiritual genius of Father Michael McGivney is that he established a way in which Catholic men could fulfill this responsibility by joining together to live the principles of charity, unity and fraternity. Now, with our new Faith in Action program model, the Knights of Columbus will demonstrate his genius in even more effective ways.

As we confront the challenges that Catholics face today, we can say of Father McGivney that he was a man ahead of his time, but more appropriately that he was a man just right for our time.

Vivat Jesus! †

Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori

THE GREATEST DAY OF OUR LIVES

11/1/2018

IN THE LIFE-CHANGING EVENT OF BAPTISM, WE ARE REBORN AS ADOPTED SONS AND
DAUGHTERS OF GOD



WHAT HAS BEEN the greatest day of your life? Was it the day you met or married your spouse? The day your child came into the world? The day you landed a job you were seeking? When I was ordained to the priesthood in 1977, someone said to me, “This must be the greatest day of your life.” And it was an incredibly joyous and grace-filled day to be sure — but it was not the greatest day. No, the greatest day was the day of my baptism.

For the majority of you, like me, the great event of your baptism probably took place a short time after you were born. Unless you were baptized and received into the Church as a young person or an adult, you won’t remember that utterly life-changing moment of sacramental grace.

This brief event, which likely took place quietly at the back of a church with only a few people present, was greater than anything else that could happen to us. In other words, our greatest day actually occurred before most of us could walk or talk or even feed ourselves. Whether or not we've thought about it or are convinced of it, the day of our baptism will be eclipsed by only one other day — the day when, by God's grace, we enter the Kingdom of Heaven, gazing at the Trinity in adoration with all the redeemed.

What, then, constitutes the greatness of baptism? Jesus answers this question in the Gospel of John when he says to Nicodemus: "No one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Holy Spirit" (Jn 3:5). Through baptism, we enter into the life of the Trinity, and this new reality can only be described as a rebirth into a wholly new way of life and love.

In his Letter to the Romans, St. Paul writes: "Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life" (Rom 6:3-4). This is to say that we begin to share God's Triune life by being immersed (baptized) into Christ, sharing personally and intimately in his death and resurrection by which he saves us from our sins.

In sharing the life of Christ, we also share in the life of his Bride, the Church. In baptism, we become members of the Body of Christ. Baptism is the gateway to the entire sacramental life of the Church, most especially the Eucharist, in which we join with our fellow Christians in sharing in the one sacrifice of Christ that brings salvation to all. Our baptismal innocence is recovered and renewed by the sacrament of reconciliation. In baptism, we also receive a vocation to love as Jesus did — to bear witness to the Gospel of Love by putting into practice a generous, forgiving love extended to all, most especially to those in need. This baptismal calling to love receives specific form as we come of age. Many are called to fulfill their baptismal call in the vocation of marriage and family. Others are called to the priesthood and consecrated life, and still others live good and holy lives while remaining single men and women.

I'd like to suggest that living and serving as a Knight of Columbus is a most important way of responding to our baptismal call to love and service. By living the principles of charity, unity and fraternity, we deepen our sharing in the life of the Trinity; we grow in our capacity to imitate Christ; and we are immersed more fully in the life and mission of the Church.

Let us therefore live each day the principles of the Order, never forgetting to give God thanks for the greatest day of our lives.

Vivat Jesus! †

Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis To the People of God

Pope Francis has responded to new reports of clerical sexual abuse and the ecclesial cover-up of abuse. In an impassioned letter addressed to the whole People of God, he calls on the Church to be close to victims in solidarity, and to join in acts of prayer and fasting in penance for such "atrocities".



"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it" (1 Cor 12:26). These words of Saint Paul forcefully echo in my heart as I acknowledge once more the suffering endured by many minors due to sexual abuse, the abuse of power and the abuse of conscience perpetrated by a significant number of clerics and consecrated persons. Crimes that inflict deep wounds of pain and powerlessness, primarily among the victims, but also in their family members and in the larger community of believers and nonbelievers alike. Looking back to the past, no effort to beg pardon and to seek to repair the harm done will ever be sufficient. Looking ahead to the future,

no effort must be spared to create a culture able to prevent such situations from happening, but also to prevent the possibility of their being covered up and perpetuated. The pain of the victims and their families is also our pain, and so it is urgent that we once more reaffirm our commitment to ensure the protection of minors and of vulnerable adults.

In recent days, a report was made public which detailed the experiences of at least a thousand survivors, victims of sexual abuse, the abuse of power and of conscience at the hands of priests over a period of approximately seventy years. Even though it can be said that most of these cases belong to the past, nonetheless as time goes on we have come to know the pain of many of the victims. We have realized that these wounds never disappear and that they require us forcefully to condemn these atrocities and join forces in uprooting this culture of death; these wounds never go away. The heart-wrenching pain of these victims, which cries out to heaven, was long ignored, kept quiet or silenced. But their outcry was more powerful than all the measures meant to silence it, or sought even to resolve it by decisions that increased its gravity by falling into complicity. The Lord heard that cry and once again showed us on which side he stands. Mary's song is not mistaken and continues quietly to echo throughout history. For the Lord remembers the promise he made to our fathers: "he has scattered the proud in their conceit; he has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty" (Lk 1:51-53). We feel shame when we realize that our style of life has denied, and continues to deny, the words we recite.

With shame and repentance, we acknowledge as an ecclesial community that we were not where we should have been, that we did not act in a timely manner, realizing the magnitude and the gravity of the

damage done to so many lives. We showed no care for the little ones; we abandoned them. I make my own the words of the then Cardinal Ratzinger when, during the Way of the Cross composed for Good Friday 2005, he identified with the cry of pain of so many victims and exclaimed: “How much filth there is in the Church, and even among those who, in the priesthood, ought to belong entirely to [Christ]! How much pride, how much self-complacency! Christ’s betrayal by his disciples, their unworthy reception of his body and blood, is certainly the greatest suffering endured by the Redeemer; it pierces his heart. We can only call to him from the depths of our hearts: *Kyrie eleison* – Lord, save us! (cf. *Mt 8:25*)” (Ninth Station).

The extent and the gravity of all that has happened requires coming to grips with this reality in a comprehensive and communal way. While it is important and necessary on every journey of conversion to acknowledge the truth of what has happened, in itself this is not enough. Today we are challenged as the People of God to take on the pain of our brothers and sisters wounded in their flesh and in their spirit. If, in the past, the response was one of omission, today we want solidarity, in the deepest and most challenging sense, to become our way of forging present and future history. And this in an environment where conflicts, tensions and above all the victims of every type of abuse can encounter an outstretched hand to protect them and rescue them from their pain (cf. *Evangeliu Gaudium*, 228). Such solidarity demands that we in turn condemn whatever endangers the integrity of any person. A solidarity that summons us to fight all forms of corruption, especially spiritual corruption. The latter is “a comfortable and self-satisfied form of blindness. Everything then appears acceptable: deception, slander, egotism and other subtle forms of self-centeredness, for ‘even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light’ (*2 Cor 11:14*)” (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 165). Saint Paul’s exhortation to suffer with those who suffer is the best antidote against all our attempts to repeat the words of Cain: “Am I my brother’s keeper?” (*Gen 4:9*).

I am conscious of the effort and work being carried out in various parts of the world to come up with the necessary means to ensure the safety and protection of the integrity of children and of vulnerable adults, as well as implementing zero tolerance and ways of making all those who perpetrate or cover up these crimes accountable. We have delayed in applying these actions and sanctions that are so necessary, yet I am confident that they will help to guarantee a greater culture of care in the present and future.

Together with those efforts, every one of the baptized should feel involved in the ecclesial and social change that we so greatly need. This change calls for a personal and communal conversion that makes us see things as the Lord does. For as Saint John Paul II liked to say: “If we have truly started out anew from the contemplation of Christ, we must learn to see him especially in the faces of those with whom he wished to be identified” (*Novo Millennio Ineunte*, 49). To see things as the Lord does, to be where the Lord wants us to be, to experience a conversion of heart in his presence. To do so, prayer and penance will help. I invite the entire holy faithful People of God to a *penitential exercise of prayer and fasting*, following the Lord’s command.[1] This can awaken our conscience and arouse our solidarity and commitment to a culture of care that says “never again” to every form of abuse.

It is impossible to think of a conversion of our activity as a Church that does not include the active participation of all the members of God’s People. Indeed, whenever we have tried to replace, or silence, or ignore, or reduce the People of God to small elites, we end up creating communities, projects, theological approaches, spiritualities and structures without roots, without memory, without faces, without bodies and ultimately, without lives.[2] This is clearly seen in a peculiar way of understanding the Church’s authority, one common in many communities where sexual abuse and the abuse of power and conscience have occurred. Such is the case with clericalism, an approach that “not only nullifies the character of Christians, but also tends to diminish and undervalue the baptismal grace that the Holy

Spirit has placed in the heart of our people”.[3] Clericalism, whether fostered by priests themselves or by lay persons, leads to an excision in the ecclesial body that supports and helps to perpetuate many of the evils that we are condemning today. To say “no” to abuse is to say an emphatic “no” to all forms of clericalism.

FRANCIS

Virtus Training

We continue to urge all brothers to complete their VIRTUS training, fingerprinting and background checks. New training sessions are available throughout the year. This training is mandated by the diocese, church, and school for everyone in contact with or participating in programs with youth, elderly, and special needs individuals. You may register for one of the scheduled VIRTUS training sessions by visiting the VIRTUS.org website, registering a login-id and password, and selecting a training session and location that fits your schedule. If you need assistance, speak with your DGK/Program Director.

Vivat Jesus! †

Meetings and Ceremonies

Brothers, please show proper respect to our parish home, to the order, and to our council at all times. Keep in mind we are grateful guests of the church, school and parishioners, and part of an international, fraternal organization charged with social programs that benefit our church community. As such, there is a decorum and respect that is due church and school property, our organization and its officers.

Ceremonials of the Order should be recognized by the brotherhood, well attended, and participate in when requested. Members should arrive on time for the formal opening of the meeting, sit in the seats arranged and provided by the council, appropriately participate in the meeting, conduct themselves within the established meeting protocol, and remain until the meeting has been formally adjourned.

We are more than the fund-raising events of our council, and certainly more than an opportunity to meet socially once a month. We need our membership to actively participate in the business of the council, to attend meetings, to help plan programs, and to support our efforts to increase our membership by attending membership drives and exemplifications.

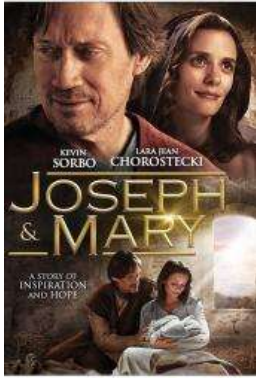
Vivat Jesus! †

Movie Knight

Chairman SK Gene Kotowski

[Email: eugenekotowski@yahoo.com †

Phone: (609) 238-6807]



On Thursday, December 20th @ 7:30pm in Pedata Hall. Come Hungry! Lite refreshments will be served. ***Plan to be fed not just with food.***

To see the complete list of planned movies, follow the "[Popcorn, Franks and a Movie](#)" ministry link at the SJA web-site. †

Recently Deceased

Brothers it is with sadness I notify you of the passing of Margaret Igoe, the Mother of brother Ted Shearer. Margaret passed on Friday November 23, 2018. Join us in praying for the happy repose of Margaret's soul, and in expressing our condolences to Ted and his family.

Margaret's viewing will be this coming Friday November 30th from 9AM to 10AM at Givnish Funeral Home in Marlton. A funeral Mass is scheduled at 10:30 at St Joan's following the viewing. Ted welcomes the support of his brother Knights during this difficult time.

Sick or in Distress

Vic Libetti – Brother and GK

Michelle Healey – Brother Russ Wells

Mary Arnold – Brother Russ Wells

Michelle, sister of Anthony Roselli

Wife of Anthony Roselli

Doris Riccardi – Wife of Carmen Riccardi

Steve Porter – Son-in-Law of Andy Kavulich

Florence Kiley – Wife of Tom Kiley

Tom Kiley – Brother Knight

Henry DeMayo – Requested by Stanley Thompson

Kathleen Jurgens – wife of Jim Jurgens

Gary Balitzky – Requested by Jim Jurgens

Please keep these Knights, their families and causes in your prayers:

Don't forget our **Rosaries**

- **Daily Rosary** – 8:25 am Monday – Saturday (*in church prior to 9:00 am mass*)
- **Weekly Rosary** – 7:00 pm (*in church*)
- **Monthly Rosary** – First Saturday of each month at 3:00 PM (*in Pedata Hall*).





Knights of Columbus
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED