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January 2023 *(Vol. 42, No. 1)*

Grand Knight's Message

John Buck

Brothers,

We are beginning a new calendar year and the start of the final 6 months of the council fiscal year. With the start of January, the council officers have many items on their business agenda and the general membership will have many decisions to make in the coming months. We will also start asking for members to volunteer to be on planning committees. Brothers, there is always a job/office to fill within the council, make this your New Year's Resolution—become a council officer, director, committee chairman, volunteer or just a more active Council 2917 Brother Knight.

How do you become a better, more active Knight of our Order and of Council 2917? There are so many opportunities for you to become a better knight—attending council meetings; offering a ride to the council meetings to a neighboring knight that can no longer drive; volunteering in council prayer and event programs; inviting a "stray Catholic," due to COVID 19 or other reasons, back to in-person Mass; participating in Council 2917 and our Order's Pro-Life/Culture of Life Programs; how about just asking someone that you know to join you in Mass or ask a current Catholic to become a Knight of the Order of the Knights of Columbus?

Brothers, just by taking part in any of the above ideas, you are practicing the 3 Principles of our Order—Charity, Unity and Fraternity and with these you are becoming a better Knight and Catholic.

Assistant Chaplain's Message

Deacon Will Hunter

Offerings to the Lord

How often do we give praise and thanksgiving to the Lord for what he has given us in our lives? How often do we respond to him with the phrase "thank you Lord?" Every day of our lives the Lord is offering something to us that will benefit our lives and our relationship with him. Do we in turn do the same thing with the Lord daily?

What are we willing to offer the Lord so that he might use it to bring someone else closer to him? We should give to the Lord in the same way and with the same generous heart that the Lord gives to us. When we stop and take inventory of the people and material things in our lives, we should realize that none of it would be possible if it were not for the grace and mercy of the Lord. Everything in our lives should be used to bring praise and glory to the Lord so that others will see that the Lord lives in us and we live in the Lord.

There is a simple way for each of us to show our relationship with the Lord to others. We can use two simple words that will explain to all we meet that the Lord has our heart. Those two words are thank you. Saying thank you to everyone we meet gives them the fullest picture of the Lord. It allows others to see that we are grateful to the Lord for each of our gifts without saying anything else.

These two simple words can be used to help someone who is having a bad day and turn it into a great day. The simple gratitude which these two words illustrate shows others that we are connected to the heart of the Lord. Christ himself used these two simple words in the gospel of Matthew (11:25-27) when praying to the Lord God. These two simple words gives an offering to the Lord in a way that no one knows except the Lord and the person who is receiving this simple offering.

Many of us take this simple offering to the Lord for granted and use it as a way of deflecting what our true intent might be. When these two simple words are used to glorify the Lord they have a significant impact on others as well as on ourselves, because at that moment, we are offering a piece of the Lord to others who might desperately need him.

Saying thank you brings forth the glory and majesty of the Lord in a simple form. It allows the person who is saying these two simple words to show the person who is receiving these words they appreciate them and what they are doing for them. The moment these words are spoken the presence of the Lord is upon those individuals that are involved. This exchange of words brings the holy presence of the Lord into the lives of those involved. When the presence of the Lord comes forth, good things soon follow. Think carefully before uttering these two words to others because when you use these two simple words you are offering the Lord and all of his holiness and majesty to another person.

Assistant Chaplain's Message *(continued)*

Deacon Will Hunter

Do not take these two words lightly or for granted because you are offering the Lord in a way that only the Lord can reveal himself to you and to others. Do not forget to say thank you to the Lord for all that he has offered you in this life. Give thanks to the Lord for every blessing he gives to you daily so that others will see that you live in him and that he lives in you.

Thank you Lord for your mercy and kindness to us this day. Thank you Lord of heaven and earth for the grace and generosity you have shown each of us today. Thank you Lord for the blessings you have bestowed on us today, may these blessings and all blessings that you offer to us be used to bring praise and glory to your holy name.

It will never hurt to say thank you to anyone, no matter what the circumstances might be. For when we say thank you, we are offering a piece of the Lord to someone.

Congratulations to

- David Roe, Knight of the month for November.
- Mike & Mary Goins, Family of the month for November.

The Holy Father's Intentions for January

For educators—

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

Congratulations to

TWO POLLOCKS AND A BUCK Cooking Team

They won :
1st place Chili,
1st place Brisket,
3rd place Ribs and
Master Chef Award
at the 2022 Toys
for Tots Cookoff.

Team members are: Brother Knights Jimmy Dziedzic, Bennie Bronikowski and John Buck

Council Officers meeting is **Jan. 4**

Council meeting is **Jan. 9**

Northside Columbus Club meeting
*Wednesday, **Jan. 18 at 7:00 p.m**.*

Workday is Saturday, **Jan. 21**

Financial Secretary

Benny Okruhlik

We take a moment to thank all of the members that remitted dues for 2023. The Supreme Council requires that all Financial Secretaries mail SECOND NOTICES by January 2023. Dues must be remitted before January 31 to avoid consideration for the Affiliated Member Initiative (AMI) program. Effective March 1, 2023 there will be no grace period and admission to all events and meetings will not be granted until the dues are paid. Your membership card is printed and ready for mailing upon receipt of your dues. We take a moment to thank all of the members who remitted dues despite the Holy Season of Christmas. We wish you a very good and prosperous 2023 and hope to see you at our meetings and events. VIVAT JESUS.

Pray for our Military

Especially:

Tyler Kubiak, serving in the U.S. Navy. Tyler is the son of Brother Michael Kubiak and grandson of Brother Dennis and Birdie Kubiak.

Noah Clark, U.S. Army Drone Program, grandson of Brother Alvin and Bobbie Clark.

Shawn Hrncir, son of Brother Bob Hrncir.

If anyone has a relative in the military and would like his/her name added to our prayer list, please submit the name and branch of service to kbroniko@hotmail.com

NSCCBS

Jose Limas, President

Hello Brother Knights,

Hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Make plans to join us for a **SUPER BOWL PARTY** On ***Sunday Feb. 12.*** Doors open at 1:00 p.m. Potluck meal and chances to win. Bring your family and friends.

On November 28, 2022, we held our Memorial Mass to honor our deceased members for this past year: *Ismael Jalomo, Edward Okonski, Sr., Michael Nowak, Robert Braun, Danny Naskey and Harold Fenn.*

Thank you to Father Hieu Nguyen (pastor at St. Ambrose) for presiding over the Mass and to Deacon Will Hunter (Assumption) for assisting Father Nguyen.

Thank you to Brother Knight John Bates, (Principal of Assumption School) for his assistance with the Assumption School Choir.

Thank you to the cooks, Brother Knights Richard Pavlas and Dennis Roeder, and the Ladies Auxiliary for providing the desserts .

Congratulations

KNIGHTS & FAMILIES OF THE MONTH FOR 2021-2022

	Knight	Family
July	Nick Navarro	Felipe & Maria Ramirez
August	Roger Rodriguez	Greg & Darlene Okonski
Sept	Larry Tobias	James & Amy Dziedzic
Oct.	James Urbanovsky	Floyd & Sandra Rekieta
Nov.	David Roe	David & Lillian Cornelius
Dec.	Dennis Roeder	Don & Mary Louise Eisterhold
Jan.	Don Christen	Edward & Janet Ruhnke, Jr.
Feb.	Monserato Rivera	Miguel & Linda Navarro
Mar.	Floyd Supercinski	Mike & Mary Goins
Apr.	Richard Pavlas	Charlie & Angie Heinriich
May	JJ Limas	Bennie & Kathy Bronikowksi
June	Anthony Zuccarini	Benny & Earline Okruhlik

Knight of the Year: ***Roger Rodriguez*** ★ Family of the Year: ***Charlie & Angie Heinrich***

The Galveston-Houston Chapter Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Knights for Life Raffle

Donation: $5 per ticket or $20 for 5 tickets

(Winner need not be present to win)

Drawing will be held on ***Friday, Feb 3, 2023***
at Clergy Appreciation Night, Bayou City Event Center

1st Prize - $5,000
2nd Prize - $2,000
3rd Prize - $1000
4th Prize - $1000
5th Prize - $500
6th Prize - $500

All prizes are paid in Visa Gift Cards

Profit from the raffle will go towards funding pro-life activities.

To purchase raffle tickets, please contact John Buck.

DOMINO RESULTS

Moon Tournament Winners for Dec. 5

1st Place: Glen Miller
2nd Place: Marion Lewandowski
3rd Place: David Jozwiak

Next Moon Tournaments are Jan. 2 & Jan. 30

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Brother Knights,

Last year we sold nearly 75 raffle books for the **Knights for Life Raffle**. This year we are right now at about 35 books. Brothers, please purchase a book to help us match last year's sales. ***It's only $20 a book and it goes towards a really good cause—LIFE!*** Come to the January Meeting or Friday bingo to make your purchase.

Fun and Fellowship at our 2022 Christmas Party

Northside Columbus Club

Meeting Place of Bishop Odin Council 2917

I want to thank the following volunteers that came out on the NSCC December 17th workday: Kenneth Bollom, Kathy and Bennie Bronikowski, John Buck, David Cornelius, Jose Dominguez, Jerry Gorney, Paul Heidbreder, Edward Ruhnke Jr., and Nick Navarro. The weather was very cold that day, so we accomplished a lot inside.

I want to especially thank the following volunteer knights that came out in December to help park cars for either the Kids Meals Christmas Event or the Marek Brothers Christmas Party or both: Kenneth Bollom, John Buck, Jerry Gorny, Mike Goins, Roger Rodriguez, Larry Tobias and Jose Dominguez. We could not have successfully parked the number of cars we parked without your help!! THANK YOU.

I also want to give a special thank you to Delores and Ed Tobola for donating a self-propelled push mower to the NSCC for us to use around the hall. We will put it to good use.

The next NSCC board meeting will be on Wednesday, January 18th at 7:00 PM in the pub.

Paul Heidbreder, NSCC President

NEXT WORKDAY WILL BE **Saturday, January 21** **starting at 7:30 a.m.**

Program/Family Director

No new programs to report on, however the council is still looking for a Program Director and a Family Director. How would you like to be the director of one of these council programs and as the director, how would you promote these 2 programs?

John Buck, GK, Council 2917

Celebrate Mardi Gras with Mark Halata & Texavia

Sunday, February 19, 2023

1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

KC Hall
607 E. Whitney St.
Houston, TX 77022

Admission: $12.00 per person
Doors open at 12:30

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 2917 Ladies Auxiliary and North Side Columbus Club

For more information contact Kathy at 281-356-3535.

Happy Birthday Greetings

to all Brother Knights celebrating the gift of life

Rev. R.H. Latremouille	Jan. 1
Monserato Rivera	Jan. 3
Jerry R. Garcia	Jan. 3
Larry J. Hernandez	Jan. 5
Michael R. Schaad	Jan. 7
Philip A. Wagner	Jan. 7
Anthony Gonzales	Jan. 9
Daniel L. Hablinski	Jan. 9
Wilbert A. Storemski	Jan. 11
David J. Wendt	Jan. 11
Rudy Cuellar	Jan. 12
Joe P. Kitkoski, Jr.	Jan. 13
Jerome A. Ingerman, Jr.	Jan. 14
Jerome J. Malek	Jan. 14
Rev. John P. Meister	Jan. 14
Joel Syzdek	Jan. 14
Clement Laskowski	Jan. 20
Joshua R. Ritchey	Jan. 20
Ronald W. Warzon	Jan. 20
Jesse T. Escamilla	Jan. 22
Russell S. Solice, Jr.	Jan. 22
Miguel Navarro, Jr.	Jan. 25
Floyd L. Supercinski	Jan. 25
Joe L. Pavlik	Jan. 26
Michael J. Galla	Jan. 28
Jimmy L. Patke	Jan. 28
Christopher G. Kmiec	Jan. 30

Pro-Life Program Director

Floyd Supercinski

The public is invited to join our Brother Knights and their families as they pray the Rosary to end abortion.

Our next rosary is

January 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Brother Knights, please invite your families and friends, to attend this event.

A light meal will be served afterwards.

http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/pro-life

Please pray for our sick:

- Brother Knight Leo Landry
- Brother Knight Jim Azzarello
- Brother Knight Michael Goins
- Brother Knight Gene Walkoviak
- Brother Knight James Urbanovsky
- Brother Knight Benny Okruhlik
- Rosemary Adamo, Ladies Auxiliary member
- Christine Swiech
- Danette Burnett, daughter of Brother Knight Clem & Marie Laskowski
- Betty Jackowski, wife of Brother Knight Robert
- Rita Ann Jalamo, daughter of Brother Knight Ismael
- Janie Okonski
- Rosalie Lobpries
- Star Ellis, granddaughter of Brother Knight Felipe & Mary Ramirez
- Carmen Buck, mother of GK Brother Knight John Buck
- Robin Bronikowski, wife of Brother Knight Johnny
- Christine Piwetz, daughter of Cecelia Piwetz
- Katelyn Dempsey, granddaughter of Brother Anton Wagner

IN MEMORIAM

Mary Ellen Morrison, sister of Brother Knight Thomas Gorka, was guided by the angels to heaven on December 5, 2022 and now is eternally joined with her husband, Donnie Wayne Morrison, and her parents Stanislaus (Stash) and Theodosia (Tilly) Gorka. Mary Ellen was born on December 9, 1943 at St. Joseph's hospital in Houston, to Stash and Tilly Gorka, the eldest of 6 children. She is survived by daughter Kathryn (Kathy) Heinze and spouse Christopher (Chris) Heinze; son, Donald (Donnie) Morrison and spouse Silvia Morrison; grandchildren Jacob Heinze, Emery Heinze, and Hannah Morrison; five siblings: Thomas Gorka, Sandra Timte, Janice Moore, Deborah Borski, and Geoffery Gorka; and several nieces and nephews and numerous cousins from the Gorka family, Laskowski family, and Morrison family.

Mary was an authentic person who was an extraordinary wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, sister and friend. She was generous with her time and talent as an educator, a religious education teacher, a church and community volunteer.

May God have mercy on Mary Ellen's soul and grant her eternal rest. Please remember Mary Ellen and her family in your prayers.

Names on our "Sick Prayer List" will appear in our newsletter for *3 months,* after which they will be removed unless notification is received to have the name remain.

Please contact Brother Floyd Supercinski, Chancellor, at 713-861-6725 if you would like to add anyone or have the name remain on our prayer list. You can always read the prayer list on our website as well.

http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/sick-distressed

Pray to Protect Human Life!
January 19-27, 2023

9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Click on the link to sign up and get more information

https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-for-life

LADIES AUXILIARY

Kathy Bronikowski, President

Dear Ladies,

I wish you and your family a wonderful and healthy New Year!

I want to thank all ladies who brought desserts and/or dips for the council Christmas party. We had a great turnout!

Thank you to Cecelia Piwetz for doing the centerpieces for the tables. Thank you to Doris Henderson who did a great job putting the baskets together for our Christmas raffle. We made $975.00.

Our first meeting of the new year is **Jan. 9.** Dinner starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7 p.m. The attendance prize is $20.

*The ladies who volunteered to bring **desserts for January** are: Maria Ramirez, Cecelia Piwetz, Kathy Bronikowski.*

Thank you to the following ladies who helped in the kitchen in December: Earline Okruhlik, Gloria Gutierrez, Cecelia Piwetz, Kathy Bronikowski.

Thank you to the following ladies who provided desserts for bingo in December: Earline Okruhlik, Gloria Gutierrez, Cecelia Piwetz, Delores Tobola, Sandra Rekieta, Lydia Mendoza, Gladys Tobias, Kathy Palasota, Kathy Bronikowski.

Happy Birthday to our members:

Fabiola Beltran	*Jan. 18*
Earline Okruhlik	*Jan. 21*
Rosemary Adamo	*Jan. 25*

NEXT MEETING: JANUARY 9

http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/ladies-auxiliary

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

Court Christ the King #1750

Next Meeting is **Tuesday, Jan. 3**

This meeting will be on Zoom

If you would like information on joining the Catholic Daughters, please contact

Marianna Olivarez 713-501-8004

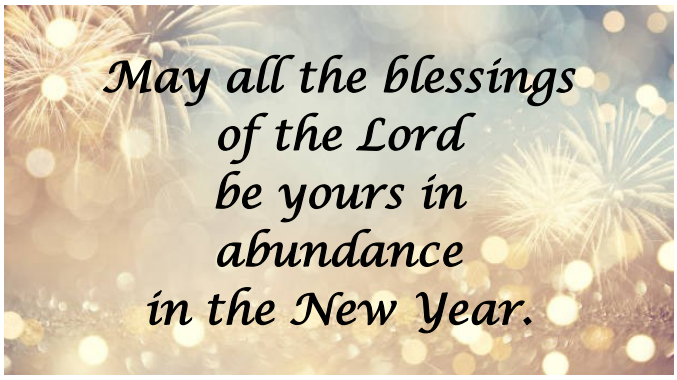
http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/catholic-daughters

Deadline for the February newsletter is January 16.

Upcoming Events

http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/calendar

Jan. 1	Happy New Year!
Jan. 2	Domino Tournament
Jan. 4	Council Officers' Meeting
Jan. 6	BINGO
Jan. 9	Council Meal at 6 pm/Meeting at 7 pm
Jan. 9	*Ladies Auxiliary Meeting/meal at 6 pm*
Jan. 13	BINGO
Jan. 18	Northside Columbus Club Meeting
Jan. 20	BINGO
Jan. 21	Council Work Day
Jan. 23	Pro-Life Rosary *(Knights)*
Jan. 27	BINGO
Jan. 30	Domino Tournament
Feb. 1	Council Officers' Meeting
Feb. 3	BINGO
Feb. 6	Domino Tournament
Feb. 10	BINGO
Feb. 13	Council Meal at 6 pm/Meeting at 7 pm
Feb. 14	HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY
Feb. 15	Northside Columbus Club Meeting
Feb. 17	BINGO
Feb. 18	Council Work Day
Feb. 19	**Mardi Gras Dance with Mark Halata & Texavia**
Feb. 22	Ash Wednesday—Lent begins
Feb. 24	BINGO
Feb. 27	Pro-Life Rosary *(Ladies)*



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Play or Support Houston's Catholic Rugby Club
Blake Pellerin, President
Council 2917 Member
blake@civilsearch.com
713-206-0795
ARROWS RFC
10 Players are Council 2917 Knights
Most Events are at NSCC
Players AND Non-Players Welcome!
www.ArrowsRugby.com
Rugby | Faith Formation | Fellowship

If you would like to advertise in this newsletter, please email Kathy Bronikowski
kbroniko@hotmail.com

Hall Rental

Rental of Council 2917 facilities are available for Wedding Receptions, Company Events, Quinceanera's, Birthday Parties, Christmas Parties, Graduation Celebrations, Funerals, etc.

For details contact
Paul Heidbreder
281-726-3390