



May 2016

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Official Publication
of the
**NEW JERSEY
STATE COUNCIL
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**



The Cavalcade

Father McGivney Healing Mass

Brother Ron Hall and his wife Grace considered how to further Fr. McGivney's cause for sainthood. They deliberated and prayed on "how do you increase his chances?" The answer they received was to seek his intercession in a grander way, with a bigger prayer then what was on his prayer card, and for more than a single favor, for a single person – it was a Healing Mass asking for Fr. McGivney's intercession in healing the afflictions of all those in attendance. They approached Camden Diocese Fr. McGivney Guild Chairmen Phil Pfaffman. Phil supported their idea, organized it, and solicited Associate State Chaplain Rev. Msgr. Michael Mannion for his help. Fr. Mike thought it was the perfect venue. And so the Healing Masses became a reality and began just over a year ago. Councils in the Camden Diocese have stepped up to sponsor a Mass every other month. During the Mass, there is meditation, music, and prayers. Just before the conclusion, Fr. Mike, and his concelebrants, hold a relic on the people and pray over them, one-by-one. No matter how many times you attend one of the Healing Masses – you are moved physically, emotionally, and spiritually. A very positive sign of the power of the Mass is that it now has a regular following. I invite you to attend the next Healing Mass and consider taking it back to your council and your parish. Yours might be the miracle for the first American born parish priest saint: Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney.

The photo is Msgr. Mannion praying for Fr. McGivney's intercession while holding a relic of Fr. McGivney on the individual.



State Deputy's Message

Brothers,

We are now entering the last quarter of the fraternal year. My sincere thanks to all the District Deputies, Grand Knights, Directors, Chairmen and Councils for their commitment and dedication. The New Jersey State Council continues to grow in membership and programs because of your efforts. I also wish to remind all councils that the state council will give \$10.00 to every council per new or reactivated member, less suspensions (net number). This amount will be credited to the council's state per capita mailed out in the fall of 2016. The Supreme Council will also award \$4.50 per active member on the council's roster that makes Star Council. We encourage all councils to continue to recruit and make every effort to attain star council.

The State convention will be held very shortly. Our Deputy Supreme Knight, Logan Ludwig has advised that he will be at our convention. Please make every effort to attend. We need all councils to register and participate. Our committee is working very hard toward another successful convention. The Supreme Convention this year will be held in Toronto, Canada on Aug, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. More information will be available shortly at our Convention meeting to be held on

May 24, at the Carteret Council **1280**.

Due to the continued reporting, posting, and communication by the Regional Aides, District Deputies and Councils, our membership continues to grow. As of this writing, New Jersey has brought in 1540 new members. More degrees are now being held and posted on our web site.

Thank you very much for your continued dedication and commitment to our order. We hope to see you at our state convention in Wildwood on May 13-14.

God Bless,
Bruce De Molli, KSG
State Deputy



General Program Director's Message

Brothers,

We are now in the home stretch with the start of the fourth quarter of the Columbian year. It is a time for us to reflect upon our plans for the year and determine what we still need to get done. It could be time for us to support our Parish's with landscaping, cleanup or painting around the facilities. We can also support our communities by participating in Memorial Day ceremonies or parades. Finally, we can wrap up the year by honoring those who have done so much for our Parish, Council and Community, with a Council Award's Night. But, you better get moving because May is already here and time is running out.

This is also a time when we, as Knights, can shine. Remember, being a Brother is not just about putting ideas forward in activities. It is a way to live the new evangelization, bring like-minded Catholic men into our Order, and have some fun together in the name of Fraternity: The Knights of Columbus.

The NJ State Knights of Columbus Convention will be held on **May 13th** and **May 14th** in Wildwood, NJ. We will get together at the convention to have a great time, celebrate, and make some memories. We will especially gather to honor the exemplary Knights,

Councils, and others who have scarified and contributed. Be there to congratulate them for allowing our Order to be all that it can be.

Make your voice known and submit a resolution to the convention. Be there to share in the resolutions others have submitted. Take advantage of the night life in Wildwood and stay a night or two. Visit the different chapter hospitalities. All of this is held as a fraternal benefit for you. When you see me there, please do not be a stranger! Stop me and say, "Hello!" I look forward to seeing you, hearing about your council and its activities, and personally shaking your hand to thank you for all of the many things that you do!

June will be here before we know it and we will be congratulating our newly elected Council officers. Why not kick off their term by putting together a team to participate in the Tank Pull on **Sunday, June 25th**, in Clifton.

(continued on page 5)



State Membership Chairman's Message

As this Columbian year winds down we still have time to meet our goal of **STAR COUNCIL**. To date we have brought in 1543 new members. We are definitely on a positive upward turn in membership. The membership team is and will always be there supporting District Deputies, Grand Knights and Council Membership Teams. Retention, as always, should be utmost on our minds. Doing our retention procedure correctly will give us peace of mind that we've done everything to retain a brother.

Our State and Supreme incentive programs are still in effect and definitely can assist you in making **STAR COUNCIL**. A quick review:

For each member that a council recruits between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016 less suspensions that council will be paid \$10.00 per new/reactivated member from the state council (net total). The amount will be issued as a credit towards their state per capita bill mailed in September.

For each new member or reactivated member, the sponsor will be entered into a state drawing to be held at the end of the fraternal year.

For councils that achieve the highest membership intake by diocese and by membership size will be invited to the end of the year Founders' Day Dinner.

Supreme is offering a credit of \$4.50 per billable mem-

ber if you reach **STAR COUNCIL**.

Just as hard as you are working to make **STAR COUNCIL**, our insurance agents are aggressively working to make your dream come true. Your support of the insurance program at your meetings and when interviewing candidates to become members, makes their job that much easier.



Our January Grand Knight's meeting was well attended. We went over membership as well as programs. Both of these are needed to make **STAR COUNCIL**. Now is the time to see where you stand on those goals. If you have not brought in a new member or are struggling to bring in members, it's time to get together with one of our Diocesan Membership Chairmen or give me a call to start forming a positive membership plan.

Pat and I hope you had a Happy and Holy Easter and a strong finish to your Columbian Year.

Your friend in Christ,
Mike Vaclavicek, FDD
Membership Director

Christmas Poster Contest

This year's first Annual Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest was sponsored by the Ocean City Knights of Columbus Council **2560** and "The Quintin Group at Keller Williams Jersey Shore". Participants from St. Damien's CCD program ages 7 thru 14 submitted poster entries to display their creative talents and imaginations while understanding the true, spiritual meaning of Christmas. The winning poster in three age groups will advance to the District Level and may ultimately compete in the Regional/State Level. Father Thomas F. Blake Council **2560** would like to thank all those who submitted entries. Also special thanks to "The Quintin Group at Keller Williams Jersey Shore" for offering their support to the program. The following are the winners and runner-ups from Council **2560**.

	<u>Winners</u>	<u>Runner up</u>
<u>Ages 5 to 7</u>	Sarah McAlister	Marcos Gonzalez
<u>Ages 8 to 10</u>	Drin Fredericks	Drew Young
<u>Ages 11 to 14</u>	Allie Sutter	Sofia Keir



Pictured left to right; Barry Anes Grand Knight, Erin Fredericks, Marcos Gonzalez, Sarah McAlister, Drew Young, and Allie Sutter, Sofia Keir (not present).



Culture of Life Program Director's Message

Brothers:

Being a mother is not an easy job, and those that do it should be in our prayers. As May is the month of mothers, our prayers should not only be for them, but for those who are facing motherhood as well. For most, this is an expected event (or a happy accident) that has them celebrating with family. But for some, it is something that has shattered their world and has them facing a gut-wrenching decision. Do they end the pregnancy (as many of their friends and family are probably pressuring them to do), or do they choose life and thus irrevocably change theirs?

It is for this latter group of women that we do what we do in Culture of Life. Yes, we should pray for them that they make the right decision (our Life Chains and Prayers for Babies). But they need more than our prayers; then need material as well as moral help. They need counseling on adoption as a possible choice (Adoption as an Option), enlightenment on what hangs in the balance of their choice (Ultrasound Initiative; Truth Booth Cards), knowledge that their material needs will be met (Diapers for Babies), and that they will have a place to live if they need one (Homes for Mothers).

In all of this, we need to be compassionate and supportive. We must acknowledge publicly how difficult a decision this is, especially in instances of rape or other sexual abuse. We should be uncompromising on the sanctity of life, but mindful at the same time that these are not easy decisions made in a vacuum.

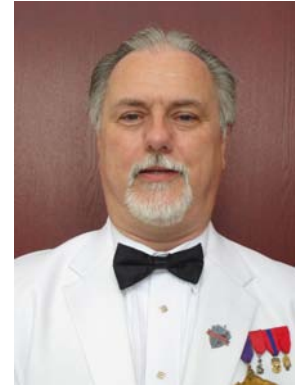
Presidential candidate Donald Trump gave us a great

opportunity to be heard on this (and to emphasize its importance) when he initially said that women who have an abortion should be punished. The media then reported the outcry from the pro-life movement in denunciation of this statement and allowed us to be seen as compassionate, not

judgmental. In abortion, women are always the victim, whether of an abusive spouse/boyfriend/father or an abortion industry, who sees choice as paramount, as long as it is not one for life. They face what they see as insurmountable odds against them, and need to know that they are not alone in this decision.

Through our prayers this month let us rededicate ourselves to the support of women facing this choice. Let us make sure that they never want for the help that they need. But this help also comes at a price, and those that render it have to have the money to pay for it. So we need to redouble our fundraising and donation efforts and be sure that those funds go to support many different initiatives, as help is needed on many fronts. Each of us can make a difference; but through Unity and a united effort, we can change our society. We can do it!

Steven J. Richardson, FM
Culture of Life Programs Director



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Program Director (continued from page 2)

You can register on line at www.tankpullkofc.org. Pulling an 80,000 lb. tank is a great way to unite your brother Knights in a common cause. It is also a great way to honor our veterans!

I hope you all have a great time at the convention, and a safe Memorial Day with a big thank you to all of our Veterans!

Let us, together, do our best to complete calendar of programs with the tools supplied by our State Council and Supreme. Remember to have fun and work together to "Protect God's Kingdom".

Keep the Faith,

Jim Sweeney, FDD
NJ State Program Director



Veteran's Memorial Home

For our 7th year St. John XXIII Council **6621** in East Vineland has been recruiting other councils in the area and has gone to the NJ Veteran's Memorial Home and distributed Palm to ALL the residents and staff. This year we were at the Vet home on March 19th at 10:00am.

The day starts out with everyone assembling in the home's chapel followed by a short service and blessing of the Palm by Deacon Lagares. Then everyone walks throughout the home wishing everyone a Blessed Easter. We would like to thank the members from our council **6621**, Millville Council **1778**, Bridgeton Liberty Council **1910**, Woodbury Msgr. McCorriston Council **1994** St. Margaret Council **13259** and Msgr. Strenski Assembly **1849** and Millville Assembly **1749** for their participation.

The expressions of thanks on the faces of the residents shows what our faith means to those who cannot get to church every week.



First Degree Ceremony

Ocean City Knights Of Columbus Council **2560** of St. Damien's Parish welcomes 6 new members following their indoctrination to the First Degree.

Pictured with the six new members in dress robes is the indoctrination team who performed the ceremony on Friday evening February 5th.



These men they call Knights volunteer they're time to raise money in support of Charitable Causes.

Burlington Third Degree

The Burlington Chapter sponsored Third Degree Exemplification conducted at Burlington Council #**58** home in Burlington March 18, 2016. The Third Degree exemplification was well attended with 49 candidates from various councils within the Trenton Diocese. The last time Third Degree exemplification was conducted in Burlington County was almost 7 years. Receiving the Third Degree is prerequisite for running for council office and beyond. Photo credit: SK Eduard Fuentecilla, DD33.



Ramp Project

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 shone again and helped one of their own residents in their time of need.

South Plainfield resident Kathy Tracy who is also a Past South Plainfield Columbiettes President had become very ill lately and had become wheelchair dependent. Her husband Jay, a fellow Knight of Columbus asked Past Grand Knight Bill Butrico if the Knights could help build a handicap ramp as they have done for so many residents in South Plainfield.

With the need to install the ramp quickly and because of the winter weather, the Knights purchased an aluminum ramp.



The Knights Volunteers and master builders pictured left to right (Charlie Butrico, Harold Bolton, Grand Knight Tom Pollock, Brian Cargill, Jason Bolton, John DeAndrea, Gerry Butrico and taking the picture Project Manager Bill Butrico).

The ramp was built and installed in a record 5 ½ hours on Saturday February 6th and unlike the wood ramps the Knights have built in the past, this one is fully reusable and can be moved to other houses.

The Knights donated the cost of the ramp which was \$3600 which came from their Special Charity fund. This fund is funded by the yearly NY Giants Season tickets fundraiser which is donated to the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus by a very special brother Knight.

If any residents would like to donate to this ramp project or any future wood ramp projects, you can mail your donations to the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus at 334 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and make checks payable to the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus.

Seminarian 6621



Left to right Carmine Amico, Grand Knight; Ray Yansick, Deputy Grand Knight; Steve Bertonazzi Jr.; Fr. Robert Sinatra, Pastor; Deacon Rich Sampson.

Ray Yansick, Deputy Grand Knight of St. Padre Pio Parish Knights of Columbus Saint John XXIII Council 6621 presented a check for \$500.00 to Steve Bertonazzi, Jr., a seminarian from our parish from the proceeds of our Pizza Sale which the council ran during the Lenten season.

Carmine Amico, FDD, GK 6621



Coats For Kids

Recently Ewing Council 3756 donated 2 cases of Coats for Kids to Catholic Charities in Trenton, NJ.



Richard Ferreira from Catholic Charities, Ewing Council member John Flanagan and Grand Knight Michael Murphy are shown admiring the coats.



Council 14483 Soup Kitchen

On Saturday, February 6th, 2016, Knights of Columbus Council # **14483**, members of NJ Knights of Columbus Motorcycle Ministry, along with State Secretary Robert E. Hatler along with CCD students, parishioners and friends from of Our Lady of Victories R.C. Church in Harrington Park, N.J. worked at the Soup Kitchen, helping to feed approximately 200 homeless people, at St. John's R.C. Church in Newark.

Thank you SK John Antonacci, GK, FN Coronation Council # **1863**, St. Pope John XXIII Assembly



On Saturday February 6th, 2016, New Jersey Knights of Columbus and friends, helped feed approximately 200 homeless people at St. John's Church.



Altar Server Party

The Padre Pio Council #**14191** in Hammonton, NJ held a "Thank You Party" for the Altar Servers of the St. Mary of Mount Carmel Parish. The servers families were also invited and a great time was had by all. The altar servers were also given certificates' of appreciation for their service to the religious community. The council is going to make this a yearly event.

Grand Knight
Anthony Melora



Baby Goods Collected

The Bourbon Street Wine & Spirits stores in Califon, Clinton and Lebanon in Hunterdon County are drop off points for donations of baby items like blankets, clothes, baby formula, diapers, or even usable furniture intended for women's health centers. The effort provides area residents with a way to donate baby items all year long. Several times each year, the gifts are delivered to the Life Choices Pregnancy Center in Phillipsburg. The St. Joseph Council Knights of Columbus in High Bridge also solicits items useful for a newborn baby and the group recently concluded their 6th annual "Baby Shower" at St. Joseph Church in High Bridge. The Knights project was organized by Culture of Life Director, Rich Mirocco of High Bridge, to coincide with the "International Day of the Unborn Child" celebrated on March 25, (nine months before Christmas). This year's collection began with a Pasta Supper at St. Joseph Church in High Bridge hosted by the Knights when families were encouraged to bring a gift for the baby shower. When the collection ended, the Knights had hundreds of gift items received from parishioners at the High Bridge church. Bourbon Street Wine & Spirits also partners with the Knights by providing the use of their box truck for delivery of the donated items to the Life Choices Pregnancy Center in Phillipsburg and the Friendship Center for New Beginnings in Flemington. The recent delivery produced a truck that was full from one end to the other. Residents who are interested in helping can bring items during normal business hours to the Bourbon Street locations in Califon on County Route 513, Clinton on NJ Route 31 North, Flemington on NJ Route 31 adjacent to Stop & Shop, and Lebanon on US Highway 22 West.

Greg Boyle, Hampton 908-730-8737



Knights Andrew Kin & Rich Mirocco.



Bergen County Breakfast

On Sunday, February 7, the Bergen County Federation gathered for their 8th Annual Communion Breakfast. Traditionally, the annual Communion Breakfast is held on the Sunday prior to Ash Wednesday. This year, the Bergen Federation welcomed Rev. Chris Keenan, OFM as the guest speaker. Fr. Chris was appointed a Chaplain of the New York City Fire Department after the attacks on 9/11 after the death of his Franciscan Brother, Fr. Mychael Judge.



In the picture:

State Secretary Bob Hatler; Fr. Chris Keenan, OFM; Master of the 1st NJ District Russell D. Petrocelli.



Citizen Award

On March 25, 2016, The Keyport-Matawan Elks Lodge # 2030 presented "The Citizen of the Year Award" to William Horton, Jr., District Deputy from the 22nd District in New Jersey.



Making the presentation (Left to Right), Stephen Szczepaniak, Exalted Ruler for the Lodge and William Horton, Jr.



Paterson Coffee Drive

Ever mindful of our primary responsibility of charity, the Paterson Federation of the Knights of Columbus has embarked on the second annual coffee drive for Eva's Village in Paterson. Eva's Village, among the multitude of charitable endeavors they support, serves breakfast to 150 people and lunch to over 350 daily, in their Community Kitchen. During the months of October through April they serve coffee during these meals. Eva's purchasing agent, Paul Fierro, estimates for the upcoming winter season 2016/17 they will need 1,000 lbs. of coffee. The Paterson Federation of the Knights, with about 50 Councils in the area, is collecting coffee at individual councils to meet this need. The 2015/16 coffee drive was a huge success! The Federation Councils in total donated over 1,000 pounds of coffee, 2,000 pounds of sugar and financial donations for other supplies totaling \$1,500. St. Philip the Apostle Council, 797 Valley Road, Clifton has also volunteered to serve as the host collection site for this appeal. Although being spearheaded by the Paterson Federation everyone is invited to participate in this project by either providing monetary or coffee donations. Donations should be sent to Knights of Columbus Council **11671** c/o St. Philip the Apostle, 797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013 Attn: Eva's Coffee Project. Checks should be made out to Eva's Village and those choosing to donate should donate cans of regular ground coffee, Lipton Tea bags or granulated sugar.



Left to right are: Sal La Rosa Grand Knight St. Michael's, Paterson, Rich Donkersloot Grand Knight St. Philip the Apostle, Clifton, Paul Fierro Eva's Village, Bruce Di Molli, State Deputy, Tom Ciborski, Past State Deputy, Leo Miller, Paterson Federation Chairman and Ray Lill, Past District Deputy.

DPD Award

The NJ State Council Religious and Civil Rights Committee chaired by PSD W. James White met at a recent meeting.

Pictured are: Standing Robert Hatler, State Secretary, Ray Sands, State Warden, Vince Tavormina, State Treasurer, James Stoeber, State Advocate. Steve Richardson, Director of Culture of Life Programs, Reggie Beckett, PSD VSM, Tom Ciborski, PSD.

Seated: Ronald Prykanowski, Chairman of Our Catholic Voice in the Media, Dr. Daniel Rossi PSD, Robert Mate, PSD, W. James White PSD Chairman of R & C Comm., Christine Flaherty, Executive Director Life Net and guest speaker, Bruce De Molli State Deputy, Andy Lipenta PSD, Gil Scutti, ESQ.



Picture of State Deputy Bruce De Molli receiving the "Person of the Year" Award from the Paterson Diocese Department of Disabilities and a Congressional Citation from Congressman William Pascrell.

Pictured are: Scott Milliken, Executive Director DPD, Joseph Duffy, President, Congressman Bill Pascrell, Dr. Anna De Molli, State Deputy Bruce De Molli, Dennis Murray, 2nd Vice President.



Food Pantry Donation

St. John Neumann Assembly in Millville, NJ recently presented donations to the St. Vincent Depaul Food Pantry at St. Padre Pio Parish in East Vineland, NJ and to the St. Vincent Depaul Food Pantry at the Parish of All Saints in Millville, NJ.



In the photo on the right, Faithful Navigator Bernard Germanio presents a check in the amount of \$500 to Sophie Adelhoch from the St. Padre Pio Food Pantry and in the photo on the left, he presents a check in the amount of \$500 to Cheryl Testa from the Parish of All Saints Food Pantry.

Fourth Degree Knights

The Fourth Degree knights of Columbus, John Tatham Assembly #648 of Burlington County conducted its Annual Seminarian Appreciation Dinner on March 9, 2016 at Maple Shade, NJ. The event recognized the 22 seminarians from Trenton Diocese and 2 Franciscans who are on their theological formation leading to their vocation to priesthood. The honorees received \$1,500 each to assist with their incidental expenses while in the seminary. In attendance at the 2016 Annual Seminarian Appreciation dinner are the New Jersey State Council officers, Supreme representatives and Rev. Msgr. Thoman Mullelly, Trenton Diocesan Vocation Director who represented Most Rev. David M. O'Connell, Bishop of Trenton. Photo credit: SK Eduardo Fuentecilla, DD33.



High Bridge Free Throw

Since 1972, local Knights of Columbus councils have sponsored the Knights of Columbus International Free Throw Championship. The championship is set up to have the contestants compete within their own gender and age group. Winners move on to the district, regional, and state or provincial levels. From there, some make it to the international level for championship competition in their group. The St. Joseph Council Knights of Columbus Council **10627** in High Bridge began sponsoring the event locally soon after the council was chartered in 1991 and consider it one of their best service opportunities to assist youth. Competition is open to girls and boys between the ages of 9 and 14. This year, at the suggestion of council Youth Director Chris Denis who also serves as President of the High Bridge Youth Basketball (HBYB) Program, the local Knights tried something different. Whereas previous competitions were held on a single night at one of the High Bridge schools, this year, the competition was expanded to four nights at each of the HBYB practices and Lebanon Township Athletic Association (LTAA) practices. Each contestant was allowed 15 free throw attempts in the contests. An additional night was set aside for participants who do not participate in the HBYB or LTAA programs. For 2016, participation more than tripled, with 125 competitors in all brackets resulting in some very impressive contests. Loughney thanked the youths who participated and thanked their parents adding, "This was our best Free Throw event ever and could not have been successful without the wonderful cooperation of the High Bridge Youth Basketball and Lebanon Township Athletic Association, and the many Knights who helped during the full week of competition."



(Greg Boyle Photo) Front row: Alina Staten, Natalie Bavo-Chen, Toni Ann Brezina. Michael Bradow, Maya Wurst, Joseph Furka, Ian Carlson, Cameron Croghan and Maansi Patel. (Missing from photo: Mark Walker, D'Angelo Elijah Creagh and Molly Parsons.) Back row: Knights Andrew Kin, Chris Denis, Kevin Loughney and James Codd.

Surrogate Michael Dressler

March 13, 2016 Grand Knight John Hernandez presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Bergen County Surrogate Michael R. Dressler speaker at the Knights of Columbus Queen of Peace Council **#3679** Memorial Communion Breakfast. The annual event was held in memory for their deceased Knights at Madeleine's Petit Paris Restaurant in Northvale, NJ.



8733 Celebrates 30 Years

The Tabernacle Council **8733** First Degree Team recently celebrated 30 continuous years of exemplifying new members into the Knights of Columbus.

Originally certified in November, 1985, some 17 months after the council was chartered, the team has exemplified hundreds of degrees at both their home council, and has often traveled to neighboring councils when requested. They take great pride in exemplifying the principle of Charity.



Pictured after their 30 year milestone are, from left to right, PGK Edward Mooney, GK Anthony Panico, Robert Proto, Jr., PGK James Kukura, PGK William Price, Raymond Hartman, PGK John Nowicki, FS Kenneth Kolano, and PGK James Bonn. PGK's Kukura, Price, and Nowicki have been with the team since it was first certified in 1985.

Free Throw Tournament

The 2016 Free Throw Tournament had another outstanding year with more children competing at the Council level this year. The Diocesan Coordinators did a great job again this year, with many parents actually enjoying the competition this year. While there were a few glitches along the way, which will be addressed when the time is right, I feel we had a much smoother run Tournament this year, smoother than in any other year I have chaired this event.

At the State Competition, Camden had 5 State Champions, Newark 3, Trenton & Metuchen had 2 each. The 2 girls from Trenton were sisters, 12 & 13 yrs. old. The 13 yr. old girl was a repeating Champion, she won as a 12 yr. old last year. Her sister was a first time shooter, inspired by her big sister. I am hopeful at least 1 of our State Champions will be crowned an International Champion. Two years ago, 2 of our Champions were named International Champions.

I look forward to an even larger group of children competing at the Council level next year.



The winners with their respective awards

Marian Icon Donation

After the completion of the 2013-2015 Marian Icon program, honoring the Immaculate Conception, the Marian Icon for the Archdiocese was donated by State Secretary Bob Hatler to the Immaculate Conception Seminary at Seton Hall University.



Pictured from left to right are: Rev. Fr. Matt Dooley, Archdiocesan Vocations Director, Bob Hatler, State Secretary, Rev. Msgr. Joseph R. Reilly, Dean and Seminary Rector and Rev. Fr. Robert Suszko, Vice Rector.

Spaghetti Dinner

On January 29, 2016, St. Joseph Council # 3402 sent fifteen of its members up to the South Amboy Council # 426 to help support their Fundraiser Spaghetti Dinner. The dinner was to help raise money for one of its members who lost everything in a house fire. Joyce and Anthony Afriyie were overcome by the support of the community who came to their aid. 200 dinners were served that night. St. Joseph Council # 3042 's Grand Knight, Caremlo Bagnato presented a check to Anthony Afriyie in the amount of \$500.00 from the council.



Attached is a photograph of the presentation. (L to R): Caremlo Bagnato; Grand Knight, St. Joseph Council # 3402, Anthony Afriyie and Kenneth Smetana; Grand Knight, South Amboy Council #426.

Penguin Plunge

The always active group of Knights at St. Philip the Apostle once again participated in the Polar Plunge at Seaside Heights on Saturday February 20th. This annual activity brings thousands of participants every winter to this seaside resort to take a chilly dip into the Atlantic for the benefit of the Special Olympics. The Knights of Columbus throughout the State participate in this event and this year raised over \$35,000 for this worthy charity, of which St. Philip's Council contributed almost \$12,000. Fortunately for these brave hearty gentlemen the weather cooperated this year with unseasonably warm air temperatures however, plunging into forty degree water is still a chilling task. Over 6,000 people participated in this year's event with approximately another 40,000 spectators. There is still time to donate to this worthy charity and to view pictures of the event at the Polar Penguins website <https://www.classy.org/fundraise/team?ftid=57211>



Left Side Back row l-r: Bill Kelliher, Bob Martin, Michael Martin, Ray Lill, Rob Martin. Front row: John Martin, Anthony Kulesa, Brian Kulesa, Steve Shukitis. Right side: Paul Kearney, Dave Cappola, Ken Hauser, Mark Garutto & Gary Klunder.



Triple Star Award

State Advocate James Stoever and District Deputy #29 James Mlodgenski recently presented the Triple Star Award to St. Barnabas Council #8603. This is the second year in a row that St. Barnabas has achieved this award. Over the past 2 years they brought in over 90 new members.



Pictures are from left to right Robert Livingston, PGK, Paul Insaloco, Membership Director, James Mlodgenski, DD#29 and State Advocate James Stoever.

Police Bumper Stickers

Another fund raiser embarked upon by the Knights is a bumper sticker sale with the quotation: "Shoulder to Shoulder with our Brothers in Blue". The fourth founding principle of the Knights, "Patriotism" directs much of our charitable efforts toward those who serve us in the military and other domestic services. Our local police are our unsung heroes; protecting us, assisting us and generally being there to serve our community in sundried other ways. Many of our local police are Knights and there is a common bond between both groups in performing charitable works. In particular our police provide school supplies to needy children in our community. Our Knights wish to assist in these efforts so 100% of the profit from the sale of these bumper stickers is given to the police charities. The Knight's encourage everyone in the community to show our solidarity with our police officers by displaying one of these on their vehicle. Bumper stickers are \$5.00 each, are magnetic and can be obtained from any Knights member, by sending an email to rdunker-sloot@verizon.net or by sending a letter to Knights of Columbus, 797 Valley Rd. Clifton, N.J. 07013.



l-r: Knights Former District Deputy, Past Grand Knight-Ray Lill, Grand Knight- Rich Donkersloot, Clifton Police Chief John E. Link, Passaic County Sheriff Richard H. Berdnik .

3756 Christmas Sign

Ewing Council 3756 purchased a new Keep Christ in Christmas sign and placed it in front of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in West Trenton, NJ.

The sign was a reminder to all who drove past of the true meaning of the Christmas season. Trustee Gary Vanderbilt was instrumental in the mounting and set up of the sign.



Polar Bear Plunge

On February 20th, 53 members of the NJKofC Polar Penguins "took the Plunge" for Special Olympics NJ as a team in the 2016 Polar Bear Plunge. For the 3rd Consecutive year, the Penguins had the 3rd highest total money raised. This year, the Penguins raised \$35,770, more money than 450 other teams. The team has been credited with raising a total of \$159,483 over the last 7 years.

Council **8415** and Simons Kitchen provided team members with a continental breakfast before the plunge and a hot lunch afterward. Father Bart Karwacki, Pastor of OLPH Parish in Seaside Heights, again permitted the team to park on Parish property and allowed us the use of the Parish Hall as a gathering location, before and after the plunge.

Dave Coppola, FDD, was our largest fundraiser, credited with bringing in a total of \$7,745, with Gary Seals, FDD, placing 2nd on the team with \$5,276 being credited to him. I say that because knowing these 2 fine Catholic gentlemen, I believe they raised more than that, but had some of the money they raised sent in as being raised by others,

The next Plunge is set for February 18th. We look forward to more KofC Members joining our team and setting a new Team Record next year.



Trenton Pilgrimage

Brother Knights from John P. Wessel Council **6530** participated with the Trenton Diocese Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The main celebrant was the Most Rev. David M. O'Connell, Bishop of Trenton flanked by essentially all newly ordained priests assigned to various parishes. The pilgrimage was attended by parishioners and students from various parishes and schools within the Trenton Diocese. Photo credit: SK Eduardo Fuentesilla, DD33.



High Bridge Award

St. Joseph Council Knights of Columbus Council **10627** in High Bridge has received the distinction of Star Council, the international organization's top award.

The Star Council award recognizes overall excellence in the areas of membership, promotion of the fraternal insurance program, and sponsorship of service-oriented activities.

The award was presented by District Deputy Wayne J. McKay. Council Grand Knight Kevin J. Loughney of High Bridge accepted the award on behalf of the membership. "Receiving this Star Council Award is quite an honor for us. We're extremely proud of this accomplishment," said Loughney.

In addition to performing various ministries at local parish churches, members of the St. Joseph Council support numerous area charitable activities such as volunteer service at the Open Cupboard Food Pantry in Clinton, annual collections for the ARC of Hunterdon, assisting US veterans at the VA campus in Lyons and Veterans Haven North in Glen Gardner, assisting US military through Operation Shoebox, awarding annual scholarships to high school seniors and conducting annual youth soccer and basketball tournaments.


With more than 1.7 million members, the Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic lay organization. It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, the community, families, and young people. With more than 1.8 million members in over 15,000 councils worldwide, the Knights of Columbus annually donates more than \$170 million and 70 million hours of volunteer service to charitable causes.



Midland Christmas Sign

Our "Keep Christ in Christmas" sign was erected on December 11, 1971. This sign was displayed annually on the Midland Park municipal grounds until 1980 when atheists objected to the constitutionality of the display. From that time the sign has been displayed on the grounds of the United Methodist Church directly across from the municipal building.

Brother George E. Thompson Sr. has been caring and erecting the sign since that year painting and repairing it.

The area churches came for the dedication of this sign for many years on the First Saturday of December with members. We also display a sign on the grounds of the Church of Nativity in Midland Park, New Jersey. 



Pictured: George Thompson proudly stands by the sign that he has cared for all these years.



Seminarian Letter Project

With the help of the New Jersey State Council of the Knights of Columbus, the Seminarian Letter Project encourages children in the Catholic School and religious programs to send encouraging cards and letters to the men studying for the priesthood in both the United States and Rome. Since its start in 1999, this campaign has allowed thousands of heartwarming (and sometimes comical) letters to reach and motivate the men studying in these seminaries.

The Seminarian Letter Projects was started by Knight John Tirado by proposing it to council **12092** in Blackwood, New Jersey. He was then appointed as the statewide chairman of the on going event.

Last year 17 local councils participated and produced thousands of letters that were forwarded to our future priests.

The reason for the endeavor was quite simply a shortage of priests. John's church had merged with another parish because of this and lost the opportunity for further memories from his parish.

Since 1960 almost half of the 125 parishes have been dissolved. The shortage is also affected by the few numbers of seminarians currently studying possibly without graduating and being ordained.

Priests and nuns serve those during sacraments such as baptism, communion, confirmation and marriage. These people counsel people from all walks of life, from the Halls of Congress to convicted murders serving prison sentences. It is easy to forget that they forgo having a family of their own and earn less than those working in fast food restaurants.



Pictured is John Tirado with youth from the parish.

The 120th Annual Convention Convention Business Schedule Friday, May 13, 2016

9:00 am	Opening Mass	St Ann's Church, Wildwood
11:30 am	Wreath Laying Ceremony	Columbus Monument
12: 00 pm	Business Session-Call to Order	Bruce De Molli, State Deputy
	State Wardens' Report	Raymond Sands, State Warden
	Opening prayer	Msgr. Michael Mannion
	Pledge of Allegiance	Raymond Sands
	National Anthem	
	Opening Ode	
	Introduction of Dignitaries	Bruce De Molli
	Reading of "Call to Convention"	Bruce De Molli
	State Deputy's Remarks	Bruce De Molli
	Appointment of Convention Committees	Bruce De Molli
12:30 pm	Membership Director's Report & Awards	Michael Vaclavicek
	General Program Director's Report & Awards	James Sweeney
2:55 pm	Closing Prayer	Rev. Msgr. Michael Mannion
3: 00 pm	Adjournment	Associate State Chaplain
3: 05 pm	Committee Meetings	

Saturday, May 14, 2016

9:30 am	Business Session, Call to Order	Bruce De Molli, State Deputy
	State Warden's Report	Raymond Sands, State Warden
	Opening Prayer	Msgr. Michael T. Mannion, ASC
	Pledge of Allegiance	Raymond Sands
	National Anthem	
	Opening Ode	
	Introduction of Dignitaries	Bruce De Molli
9:50 am	Associate State Chaplains Remarks	Msgr. Michael T. Mannion, ASC
10:00 am	State Deputy's Report	Bruce De Molli
10:25 am	Introduction of General Agents	Jason Valdez
	Insurance Agency Remarks	General Agent
10:45 am	Reports of Standing Committees	
	Distribution	Reginald F. Beckett, PSD, FSD, VSM
	Per Capita:	William J Birtwistle, PSD
	Mileage:	Herbert Meyer, PSD
	Good of the Order	Robert Mate, PSD, FVSM
	Religious & Civil Rights	W. James White, PSD, FSD
	Appreciations:	Andy Lipenta, PSD
	Credentials	Robert Hatler, State Secretary
	Resolutions	James Stoeve, State Advocate
12:15 pm	State Council Auditor's Report	Michael Fabian, CPA, FM
12:20 pm	Chief Squires Report	Peter Briody, Director
	Father Murray & John Attardo Scholarships	
12:45 pm	Nominations & Elections of Officers	
2:00 pm	Nominations and Elections of Delegates and Alternates to the Supreme Convention.	
2:15 pm	Deputy Supreme Knight Remarks	Logan Ludwig, DSK
2: 35pm	State Deputy's Closing Remarks	Bruce De Molli
2:55 pm	Closing Prayer	Msgr. Michael T Mannion, ASC
3.00 pm	Adjournment	
4:30 pm	Closing Mass	St. Ann's Church, Wildwood



The Cavalcade

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Spelling Bee Champions

On Saturday, March 5, eighth grade students from Middlesex, Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties participated in the Diocese of Metuchen annual Spelling Bee conducted at the community room in St. Ann Church, Raritan. The event was open to students who advanced through local and district spelling bees conducted by Knights of Columbus councils in the Diocese of Metuchen. Chapter 4 of the New Jersey Knights of Columbus conducted the event which was hosted by the Sgt. John Basilone Council **13264**.

The four students are eligible to participate in the Knights of Columbus State Finals Spelling Bee to be held on Sunday, April 10 at 1 PM at the Church of the Epiphany in Brick, NJ. Officiating were Diocese of Metuchen Spelling Bee Chairman Steven Bauernfeind of St. Joseph Council #**10627** in High Bridge, assisted by Hugh Gallagher, Past Grand Knight, host council **13264**, and Jim McCloskey, Thomas Klawunn and Andrew Kin, Knights from the St. Joseph Council, High Bridge.



Photo: (L to R) Front row: First place Kristen McGuire St. Ann School, Raritan; Second place Nadeen Choudhury, St. Helena School, Edison; Third place Lauren Ellis, St. Ann School, Raritan; Fourth place Hannah Nacamuli, Old Turnpike School, Califon, Second row: Spelling Bee Chairman Steve Bauernfeind, Jim McCloskey and Tom Klawunn. Photo by Andrew Kin.



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