



The

# Explorer

## GRAND KNIGHT MESSAGE

Brother Knights,

I hope all my brothers and their family are well and keeping safe, wearing your mask and waiting for your turn to get the vaccine so we will be able to return to a normal life again. Our March Meeting will be held in McCawley Hall on March 11 at 7PM for the Rosary and meeting start @ 7:30PM. March 1<sup>st</sup> we have a new Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly.

Lent has started Station of the Cross on Friday at 7:00PM at the Church. State Convention has been cancelled. We will send out email with details. The North East Caucus is schedule on March 21st at 1PM on Zoom. Two delegates and 2 Alternates will be notified to register.

If anyone that still missing some degrees St. Matthews Council will be doing a First, Second, and Third Degree. All new members can receive all three degrees. Mark the date Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> and degree will start 6:30PM. Please let me know if you interested in receiving these degrees. You can contract me at [jnbg9981@aol.com](mailto:jnbg9981@aol.com) or phone me @ 1-570-977-1787.

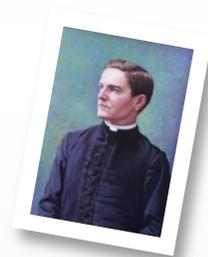
Easter Egg Hunt has been cancelled. We are looking into doing something different this year. We will let you know what we are doing by email and the Church Bulletin.

Please stay safe and may God Bless you and your family.

Vivat Jesus

Leo GK

## Our Council, Our Church



*The Knights was formed to render financial aid to members and their families. Mutual aid and assistance are offered to sick, disabled and needy members and their families. Social and intellectual fellowship is promoted among members and their families through educational, charitable, religious, social welfare, war relief and public relief works.*

**Council #7141, Knights of Columbus,** bears the name of Monsignor Connel A. McHugh, who was Pastor of the Pocono Missions.

**Our Lady Queen of Peace Church** is the spiritual home for Catholics in the West End



## “Lent in the Catholic Church”

What is Lent?

The season of Lent is a Catholic liturgical season consisting of forty days of fasting, prayer, and penitence beginning at Ash Wednesday and concluding at sundown on Holy Thursday. The official liturgical color for the season of Lent is violet. Lent begins on February 17, 2021. The observance of Lent is related to the celebration of Easter.

In the first three centuries of the Christian era, most Christians prepared for Easter by fasting and praying for three days. In some places this was extended to the entire week before Easter (now known as “Holy Week”). There is evidence that in Rome, the length of preparation was three weeks. The word derives from the Middle English word Lenten, meaning springtime the time of lengthening days.

Traditionally, Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday** and ends at sundown on **Holy Thursday**. Since this is more than forty days, some contend that Sundays are not counted and that Holy Thursday, **Good Friday**, and Holy Saturday are counted instead. Others say that it begins on the first Sunday after Ash Wednesday. No one is exactly sure how Ash Wednesday became the first day of Lent.

The name “Ash Wednesday” comes from the blessed ashes that are applied to the forehead of the faithful who receive them as a sign of the beginning of the season of Lent, the season of penance and preparation for Easter. Being marked with ashes is a public acknowledgement that one is a sinner, as we all are. The ashes are a symbol of penance and reconciliation, which are used in the Catholic Church not only on Ash Wednesday, but also in the rite for consecration of an altar and the dedication of a church. The ashes are the burnt palms used on Passion Sunday/Palm Sunday of the previous year. Many parishes allow for you to bring back your palms so that they may be used on the next Ash Wednesday.

On Ash Wednesday, ashes may be distributed during Mass, usually after the homily or outside of Mass. When done outside of Mass ashes are distributed as part of a Liturgy of the Word. Ashes are typically placed on one’s forehead in the shape of a cross. The traditional formula for placing the ashes on the forehead is, “**Remember you are dust and will return to dust**”, however, “**Turn away from sin and live the gospel**” is typically what is said today. Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence from meat. All who have reached their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday are to abstain from eating meat on **Ash Wednesday** and on all Fridays during lent. All those who are 18 and older, until their 59<sup>th</sup> birthday, are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed. The obligation does not apply to those whose health or ability to work would be seriously affected. People in doubt about fast or abstinence should consult a parish priest.

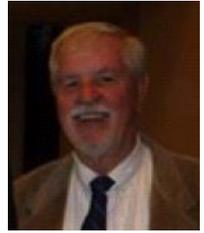
Sundays in Lent are not considered part of the forty (40) days of the Lenten season and therefore one is not required to uphold one's Lenten penitence. For example, if you gave up eating desserts for Lent, you may have a piece of cake on a Sunday. The forty (40) days of Lent are considered to be **Ash Wednesday** through Holy Saturday (up until the Easter Vigil in which it becomes the Easter Season) not including the six Sundays throughout.

Wishing everyone a very Joyous and Happy Easter.

Ralph R. Manento, PGK, FDD.

Ralph says he was *“the best security alarms salesman for several years running. The trick was to just leave a brochure on the kitchen table if there was nobody home.”*





## A Visit from the Doctor

During our life time we must constantly make choices on what to do. These choices are the vehicles which facilitate our use of the free will God gave to us. Most of us are blessed with the ability to have all our faculties; allowing us to conclude the decisions we have made, while some may have a slower version because of a deficiency in our mental makeup. This deficiency carries with it an extraordinary gift to some. Although not possessing the full faculties, these individuals sometimes have a far superior capability to the average person. These individuals are referred to as being savant. About 10% of people, who are autistic, are also savant. Savant people have genius like talents in mathematics, music, or in some other specialty. These are not retarded people and should not be identified in such a way. In my mind autistic people are special in some way. May God allow us to understand this!

One of the problems many of us have is the attitude that we take for granted; the normal things we do in life. Our ability to converse, walk or talk in what is considered a norm, when we do these without any problems. We often fail to be thankful for the things we take for granted. We should strive to be more thankful for what we have. Some of us have been blessed with good fortune; however, good health rises above good fortune. Good health is, as they say, priceless.

Sometimes it takes a failing of good health to change our mental outlook of others. When we are unable to perform our daily routine functions in the manner we are used to, it is then when we recognize what we had before. God blesses us in our every act; it is our choice to perform these acts to glorify our purpose of being on His earth. Let us attempt to improve upon our lives by the use of our compassion and assistance to those who are not as blessed as we are. A kind act goes a long way!

Our free will results in differences of opinion about certain things. Most recently one of the top things is political philosophies. When a person has an opposite viewpoint than you, try to understand they are thinking that their idea is for the betterment of all. Allowing certain situations to get out of hand must be dealt with on a logical basis. Rules must be made that are equitable to all. More importantly, rules when just in nature must be adhered to. Short cuts are good for those taking the short cut but detrimental to others. Understanding is a gift of the Holy Spirit but personal opinion sometimes overrides this gift. On earth, I feel, we will never all agree because of our free will. The day we are all in agreement: pinch yourself because you will then be in heaven!

It is good to be back with you as the Doctor. Since the last time I wrote an article, I have come to understand the importance of real doctors and hope my little contribution is a benefit to most of us, in our daily thinking process. God bless you and your family!

Tom Whitehead

## Knights of Columbus New Supreme Knight

The Knights of Columbus Board of Directors elected Patrick E. Kelly as the next Supreme Knight on Feb. 5 to continue the mission of charity, unity and fraternity established by our Order's Founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, almost 140 years ago.

Carl A. Anderson will retire February 28, 2021 after more than 20 years of service as Supreme Knight and upon reaching the mandatory retirement age of 70. Patrick Kelly's tenure as the Order's 14<sup>th</sup> Supreme Knight will commence March 1.

Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly has dedicated his life in service to the Church, his country, and the Knights of Columbus. He has served as Deputy Supreme Knight for four years and is a well-rounded public servant with diplomatic and military experience. As Deputy Supreme Knight, Patrick has played a leading role in several major initiatives, including our international religious freedom efforts, our pro-life Ultrasound initiative, and our new public initiation ceremony. He also served as Executive Director of the Saint John Paul II National Shrine. Patrick Kelly led the Knight's grassroots response to the COVID-19 pandemic titled Leave No Neighbor Behind, through this initiative, brother Knights around the world are serving those isolated and alone in quarantine, supporting food banks and blood centers in need of vital supplies, and providing other essential services.

Patrick Kelly has worked for over a decade at a senior level on the frontlines of the Knights' work in charity, advocacy, and the management of the organization's multibillion-dollar insurance and investment operations. Patrick Kelly joined the Knights of Columbus as a student at Marquette University in 1983 and later served as State Deputy in the District of Columbia from 2012-2013. He was elected Deputy Supreme Knight in January 2017.

Council #7141 welcomes Patrick E. Kelly as our new Supreme Knight. Our prayers are with him in his new position.

Ralph R. Manento, PGK, FDD

## *I Finished the Race*

*I read a story some time ago about an Alaskan dog sled owner who would frequently enter his prized Alaskan Husky dog in the winter races along the Alaskan wilderness. Having prepared his favored dog to be leader of the pack, and having read up on the necessary nutrition to keep his steed in perfect health, the race was held and his team of Huskies came out on top, much to his pride and joy. Shortly after the race, the dog collapsed and died. What prize was this race worth to have his pup die from the man's never ending quest for fortune and fame.*

*Recently, the Church celebrated the commemoration of the conversion of St. Paul. As scripture tells us, Saul (his former name), was a persecutor instructed to head for Damascus to locate and imprison Christian people by order of his leader. This Saul, as he was called, had a great deal of energy and was determined to carry out this heinous crime of his passion. While on this journey, he was struck from his horse by a blinding light. Jesus Christ announced His displeasure at Saul's persecution of the Christian people. Saul was*



*stricken blind at the outset of this vision and was ordered to look for a man in Damascus named Ananias who would cure him of this blindness, It is said that Saul, now to be renamed Paul, had his blindness cured and his eyesight restored.*

*This is one of the great New Testament conversions recorded. The word 'Conversion' generally can be described as a change of something or someone to a different form. We'd like to think this conversion can reflect something more favorable or useful. I can recall as a kid that many families in our neighborhood converted from coal stoves to oil heat. Oil was plentiful, burned hotter and was cleaner and with less smoke. Coal was labor-intensive, getting more expensive*

*and made soot and smoke. We can travel to Canada and pump liters of gasoline into our automobiles, but here in the States we understand the concept of gallons rather than liters. We convert our money at the border crossings into Canadian currency so as to be able to use it without issues. There are many other forms of conversion, but we generally look to them as improvements, or to make easier to understand or use, but we can also think of it as a change of heart. Do we need to approach someone with a long-standing grievance and look to forgive or be forgiven? Can we have the inner strength and resolve to look at what we can improve of ourselves? Paul was struck down and in the hardness and misbegotten zeal of his desire to imprison and persecute Christians; he had to be stricken in order to have a change of heart. Paul's change was so great that he went on to write thirteen books and become one of the most prolific writers of the New Testament, again his zeal this time to be used for the good of mankind. Being taken into prison did not stop him from finishing the race.*

*There is a sweetness to 'conversion' especially if you have been there before and are coming back. The Parable of the Prodigal Son gets to the essence of forgiveness in a most poignant way and can remind us of the times we've strayed and the sweetness of returning home. I was no angel in my young years but didn't get struck off a horse by a bolt of lightning. It happened in a quiet church on a Saturday afternoon as I was returning home from work. I passed a Catholic church on the way home every day, but this day and for some reason, the steering wheel turned left and parked in front of church. In a bolt of bravery, I walked in and sat down all alone. I could hear kids playing out in the courtyard, the candles along the memorial rack were flickering and that old familiar church smell permeated the air. It had been a long time since I had been in God's house. Just then a young bearded priest entered out of the shadows and came into my bench to say hello and exchange some pleasantries. He gave me his name and asked if there was anything he could help me with. I shared with him my plight of having been away for a long time and he invited me back with a quick and easy Rite of Reconciliation. I recall the moment; a huge weight had been lifted and I never left the Faith again to this day. The moment*

*of 'Conversion' still today makes me well up with tears, even as I write this testimony.*

*Forgiveness is precious, I have learned, and it goes both ways whether you are forgiven or have forgiven others. It brings light to a dark moment. It creates positive energy after negative energy leaves you in shambles. There is much to be done in this hurting world filled with hatred.*

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace", one good deed at a time.....*

*Paul Carpenito*

## Officers 20-21

*Grand Knight – Leo Weir (jnbg9981@gmail.com)*  
*Deputy Grand Knight – Allen Krueger (akrugs62@ptd.net)*  
*Chancellor – John Blundetto (johnablundetto@hotmail.com)*  
*Treasurer – George Koma (jokogo@ptd.net)*  
*Recording Secretary – Jim Connor (jconnor@peakpcs1.com)*  
*Advocate – Anthony Cosgrove (Cosgrove.Anthony@gmail.com)*  
*Warden – Matt Krzan (Krzmat74@pct.edu)*  
*Inside Guard – Bob Bono(bonnopapa51@gmail.com)*  
*Outside Guard – José Paulinho (jpmaintenance1971@gmail.com)*  
*Trustee 3 Year – John Dolan (jsdolan18@yahoo.com)*  
*Trustee 2 Year – Dave Mondillo (dbsdmondillo@aol.com)*  
*Trustee 1 Year – Ed Yost (edbonyost@frontiernet.net)*  
*Lector – Tom Whitehead (easter@ptd.net)*  
*Chaplain – Father Mike Quinnan (Quinnan@qopchurch.org)*  
*Financial Secretary – William Chechel (billchechel@gmail.com)*

*“I killed two birds with one stone by giving up my New Year’s resolution for Lent.”*

*Anonymous*

# Good of the Order



**You are requested to remember in your prayers:** Johnathan Altman, Adele Kliene, Ann Jenkins, Anne Whitehead, Ariel Rosa, Barbara Schneider, Bob Iannotto, Brian Howell, Carl Sever, Carol Falotico. Carter Family, Catherine Billman, Chappell Mary, Charles Kenny, Chris Sweeney, Christopher George, Kramer Family, Delta Perez, Denise Bianchi, Dennis Glowacki, Doris Dolan, Ed Connolly, Eilene & John Barittini, Frank Ferrandina, Franklyn Edwards, Fred Wieman, George Leshanski, Isabella Harris, Jack Devenney, Jim Matsko, Joan Koma, Joan Sacco, Joseph Dolan, Joe Burns, Joe Leighardt, John DeRobertis, John Mutusak, John Veit, June Weir, Kathy Hess, Kevin Dolan, Laurie Wilson, Margaret Bowers, Margaret & Keith Dillion, Martin Ritchie, Mary Devenney, Maryann McFetridge, Maureen Vagelakos, Mike Adams, Mike D'Antonio, Jim Nuyen, Patricia Tucker, Paul Walushen, Delta Perez, Richard Forte, Richard Tadrzynski, Rita Sweeney, Rose Corello, Susan Walushen, Theresa & Joe Hodnik, Thomas Basso, Tom Chappell, Thom Torode, Vinnie Castello, William Chechel, Scott Mango, Noe Bandeira, Greg Lake, Joey Gurdon, Jennifer Vales, Mason Gwarez, Jose Dantono, Marzalik Family, Terrance Duffy, Patricia Dolan, Pattie Dolan, Lyon Toppell, Jim Connor, Pregnancy Resource Center, all the families & victims of 9/11 & all Our Priests.

Our Nation, all the members of the U. S. Armed Forces; all of our law enforcement and fire fighters, and for all children (born and unborn), Our Christian Brothers and Sisters being persecuted in the Middle East, and around the world, as well as any unassisted Brother who is sick or in distress.

## Birthday Boys

George M Liebegott | Vincent L Castello | Fred C Weiman | Robert J Milano | Richard C Homoney | Thomas A James  
Curt S Valentine | Louis J Barbarino | Paul M Carpenito | Philip Taldone | Michael L Sansone

## Wives Birthdays

Eileen Nuyen | Tanya Iandoli | Gerri Fehrle | Judith Bonno | Debbie Decker

## Anniversaries

Daniel J & Deidre Tichy

## Knight of the Month

Jim Connor

## Family of the Month

Frank Ferrandina Family

# Please support those that support us!!



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