

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Monthly Newsletter

February 2018

Remember our New Year's resolution: Take the acronym STG, meaning "same ten guys," and change it to mean the "same twenty guys," or even better, "same thirty guys." Can you be one of them? We certainly hope so.

IMPORTANT DATE CHANGE

In recognition of Ash Wednesday AND Valentine's Day (take advantage of the date change on BOTH accounts!), our February, Pope John Paul II Council 4522 Meeting, will be moved to Thursday, February 15th, at 7:30 pm at the Council Home. Rosary prayers will begin at 7:10 pm. Please make a note of this change!

IMPORTANT DATES THIS MONTH:

- Officers' Meeting Wednesday, February 7th
- Ash Wednesday February 14th
- Members' Meeting **Thursday, February 15th** – Haven't been in a while? Come out and enjoy the refreshments, food, prizes, and fraternity...see what you're missing?

AND DON'T FORGET:

- Fish Fry at Queen of Apostles, Friday, March 2nd AND Friday, March 16th
- Council 4522 60th Anniversary Celebration, Saturday, April 7th at Queen of Apostles School Gym – PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR!

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

"Am I my brother's keeper?" This is a crucial question for today. Do we, as Brothers, as Knights of Columbus, have responsibility for others?

Cain asked the first question by a human being in the Bible: "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Genesis 4 v.9b). Cain wanted to avoid responsibility. He was saying, "Do I really have responsibility for anyone other than myself?' One resounding answer is that we do have responsibility for others. We cannot exempt ourselves from responsibility for what is happening around us—in our Council, in our parish(s), in our neighborhoods, our city, nation and the world. For example, we cannot accept that thousands of children die every day as a result of extreme poverty or abuse or abortion (see the March for Life article elsewhere in this edition) and simply say it is not our responsibility.

Not only do we have responsibility towards our fellow human beings, it should be our privilege to bring blessing and joy to our friends, family and all those around us, especially those marginalized in society even more so for those that simply can't take care of themselves. WE need to make a difference in the lives of as many people as possible.

As the Lenten season nears, I ask that you think about your responsibility—to yourself, your family and friends, your Brothers of the Order and all those we support to see how else you may be able to step up and be responsible...on some level you have committed, pray now that you can follow through on that commitment.

I leave you this month with this prayer, "Lord, thank you for creating this wonderful universe for us to enjoy. Thank you that you are always searching for me, and that through Jesus my relationship with you is restored. Help me this year to fulfill the potential I have to make a difference in other people's lives."

May God continue to bless you and your families. - GK Roger

Council 4522 Knightly News

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Remember our new year's resolution, STG? Well, this month's Knight of the Month is one of those "Same Ten Guys," our Worthy Warden, Joseph (Joe) King. Warden King's second Knight of the Month designation this fraternal year shows his commitment to the Council and making a difference in the lives of others. Throughout the Christmas season, Brother Joe continued to make his scheduled Bread Runs, along with standing in for other Knights when situations precluded them from taking their turns. He also decorated and set up the Council Home for several functions, then took everything down, stored it and set the Home back up for business-all before the January Business Meeting. When other Officers couldn't attend the Vigil and Spanish Masses during Membership weekend because of other commitments, Brother Joe gathered all the membership materials, set up the table, monitor etc. and made sure the Knights had a presence at those masses. On Sunday, he donned his 4th Degree Regalia and proudly participated in the Council's Corporate Communion activities.

Our Worthy Warden, Joe King, is ready at the asking to make a difference in someone's life and richly deserves February's Knight of the Month title.

FAMILY OF THE MONTH

Remember our new year's resolution, STG? Well, this month's Family of the Month are some more of those "Same Ten Guys." Starting to see the trend here?? Team Guevara, as they are known, once again stood out this month as a sterling example of a Family of the Month. The family all participated in the Corporate Communion activities, then the family patriarch, Vincent (Sr.) camped out at the Membership table for a couple of Masses and hopefully was able to recruit not one, but two new Knights to the Order (we're still waiting on their final decisions, but ask them once...then again...then again). Just a few days later, Youth Director Vincent (Jr.) and Brother Mark were leading other Knights in supporting the annual Basketball Free Throw Contest at Queen of Apostles School gym (see the article elsewhere in this edition).

Again, this is a family Pope John Paul II Council can count on to make a difference in others' lives time and again (demonstrated by their second designation as such this fraternal year). Many thanks to the (Team) Guevara Family and congratulations on being the February Family of the Month.

HELP FAIRFAX COUNTY FAMILIES: "STUFF THE BUS"



Although shelves are full during the holidays, after the New Year, most community food pantries are depleted. To help fill the need, Fairfax County operates "Stuff the Bus," a food pantry giving program that partners with nonprofit organizations, grocery stores, and MV Transportation to restock depleted food pantry shelves. In its eighth year, Fairfax County will host 14 separate "Stuff the Bus" events, through Saturday, February 24, 2018, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at local grocery stores.

On **Saturday, February 10th**, the "Stuff the Bus" program will be at the Annandale Giant, 7137 Columbia Pike, and will benefit the Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA)—whom Council 4522 partners with throughout the year. There will be a Fastran bus, staffed by MV Transportation personnel, parked at the Giant from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm to collect food donations. As a Council, let's see what we can do to FILL that bus! ACCA supports the Council and Queen of Apostles' parish (among many others) throughout the year—let's return their charity!

For more information about the "Stuff the Bus" program and a list of donation sites, collection dates, and times, call 703-222-9764; TTY 711, or visit the Website. <u>www.fairfaxcounty.gov/neighborhood-community-services/stuff-the-bus</u>.

FATHER MICHAEL J. BADER SCHOLARSHIP Applications Accepted January 1 Thru March 31, 2018

The Father Bader Scholarship Program honors the legacy of its namesake, the Reverend Michael J. Bader as a Brother Knight and late arrival to the priesthood in Virginia. Father joined our Lord on April 5, 1992. The program awards monetary scholarships in two different categories as follows:

• Brother Knight Financial Need Program: Brother Knights in good standing and their wives, or the widows of brother Knights, who resided in Virginia at time of death and were in good standing, can apply for a scholarship to assist them in their educational goals. The amount of the scholarship will be based on the dire financial need of the applicant. Scholarships under this category can be made by an applicant at any time during the fraternal year and the number of awards each year is at the discretion of the Virginia State Deputy and is governed by the available balance of the scholarship program fund account(s).

• High School Graduate Program: Annual competition is among eligible graduating High School seniors who are going on to higher education in the fall. This program is open to all children of Knights who are in good standing in a council in Virginia, or were in good standing at the time of death. Scholarship awards under this category will be based on the whole person and the financial status of the applicant. The application period opens annually on January 1st of each year and closes on March 31.

If you have any questions regarding the Father Bader Scholarship Program, please contact Brother Steve Payne at 703-489-8107 or via email at spayne9932@verizon.net.

FREE-THROW CONTEST RESULTS

Pope John Paul II Council 4522 held its Annual Basketball Free Throw Contest Wednesday, January 17th, at Queen of Apostles School Gym. Nearly 20 competitors lined up to take their, "best shot"! Competitors were given 15 shots at the charity stripe and the best are moving on to the District Championship to be held, February 11th at 2:30 pm at St. Leo's Catholic School Gym in Fairfax. Council 4522 Champions are:

Age 10: Boys, Noah Lenn; Girls, Emma Novcheva Age 11: Boys, Mhlawa Dumbo and Jesse Kasenge Age 12: Boys, Josiah Grant; Girls, Kori Grant Age 13: Boys, Sebastian Gongora; Girls, Emily Reagan

Age 14: Girls, Jessica Gongora



Many thanks to PGK, PFN, FDD Dennis Brown, Brother Jordan Ryan, DGK Ray Venero, Brother Mark Guevara, and of course, our Youth Director, Brother Vincent Guevara for making this another successful and fun event!

MARCH FOR LIFE – "LOVE SAVES LIVES"



Pro-life advocates have sat in the shadow of the U.S. Supreme Court's infamous 1973 Roe v. Wade decision for 45 years. However, to the hundreds of thousands pro-life advocates. of including Knights of Columbus and their families, gathered at this year's national March for Life—under the theme. "Love Saves Lives"-the

last four decades have offered an irreplaceable opportunity to demonstrate their perseverance, love, and commitment to the defense of all human life.

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The thousands of attendees from various political parties, creeds, ethnicities, ages and backgrounds reflect the diversity of the current pro-life movement and all are convicted that every single unborn child should be afforded the dignity and protection due all human life, from conception until natural death.

President Donald Trump addressed the rally via a live-stream video from the White House Rose Garden saying he was "really proud" to be with pro-lifers on the day. "Because of you, tens of thousands of Americans have been born and reached their full God-given potential."

Speaker of the House, Paul Ryan (R-WI), followed President Trump noting, "It is so exciting to see so many young people here today. Your energy is so infectious." Ryan, who is a member of Knights of Columbus Father Gilbert Carlton Council 9360 in Janesville, WI, explained that the presence of the youth "tells us that this is a movement that is on the rise. You know why the pro-life movement is on the rise? Because truth is on our side. Life begins at conception. Because science is on our side. Most importantly, the pro-life movement is on the rise because we have love on our side."



Pictured here is current Deputy Grand Knight Ray Venero (on the left) PGK and Joe the Lynem (on right), who helped lead and guide the crowd. PGK Carroll Glass (not pictured) gave back as well, as he often does, by manning the First Aid tent.

After the rally, families joined the marching crowd, which reached tens of thousands, according to EWTN. Together, they traveled the march's nearly two-mile route from the National Mall to the Supreme Court building, passing the U.S. Capitol amid a sea of pro-life signs.

Of course, we would be remiss if not to mention our Brother and Culture of Life Chairman, Larry Cirignano, who works tirelessly on this most important mission 365 days a year! Brother Larry and Brother Dave Cook, the Director of Operations and Stewardship at Queen of Apostles Church, were instrumental in coordinating the feeding, boarding, and transporting 100s of pilgrims who gathered in and around the parish for the event.

Many other Brother Knights and their families helped support the pilgrims and/or the rally as well. A warm and special thanks to ALL who supported the commitment to the defense of all human life, during the annual March for Life event and throughout the year. To read/learn more about the March and ways you can support life visit <u>http://www.kofc.org/un/en/liberty-lifefamily/culture-of-life.html</u>.

TOWARD A MISSIONARY FAMILY: FEBRUARY'S TOPIC – MERCY STARTS AT HOME

Pope Francis spoke of the importance of family life and spending time with each other to cultivate the "plant" of marriage. In that context, the Pope insisted in the value of mercy in the family: "Let us focus on mercy, in our everyday relationships, between husband and wife, between parents and children, between brothers and sisters; and let's take care of grandparents. The Lord loves those who practice mercy under ordinary circumstances. This is what I want to wish you: that you may experience the joy of mercy, beginning with your family."

Mercy starts at home in the sense that we care for one another and that we are patient with the spiritual and physical challenges of our spouse, children, siblings or parents. Not in vain, many of the deeds of mercy can first be exercised at home: taking care of the sick, feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, comforting the afflicted, forgiving offenses, bearing wrongs patiently... practically all of them apply to our own families.

Family is the place where we are taught mercy. How many times have we been forgiven, how many times have we been cared for, how many times have we been served? And most of all, we were brought to life and born not because we decided to do so, but because of a love (that of our parents) that preceded

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us. What we should have learned in our families is that we are loved for who we are and not for our merits or possessions.

We must not forget, however, that among the spiritual works of mercy there are those which refer directly to the teaching of the truth: counsel the doubtful, instruct the ignorant, admonish sinners. The work of evangelization, the missionary work of the Church, starts at home and it is one of the most merciful actions we can perform because the thirst for truth and meaning is as strong as it is the thirst for the satisfaction of our physical and emotional needs. Do not be shy! During the upcoming Lenten season, share God with your family members, those closest to you and with your extended family. This work of evangelization will be more pleasing to God than many other Lenten sacrifices we may offer.

Blessing of the Month:

Bring Mercy to My Family t God of Mercy, your compassion and kindness never fails. Help me to reflect your mercy within my extended family, especially where relationships are strained, and to reach out to family members who are alone. Help me bring words of comfort to those who are sorrowing. Help me make the effort to visit those who are sick, or at least to call if they are far away. May my extended family members experience your love and blessing through me. Amen.

CASEY WOMEN'S CLUB

Our January meeting opened with a new venue; hostess Marion Scafidi and Peggy Puritano offered something different for the New Year. They hosted a pizza lunch prior to our meeting. Thank you, ladies, it was an enjoyable lunch menu.

- Ruth Zirkle reported on deposits and disbursements, the See's candy fundraiser was very profitable and was added to our treasury.

- The Casey Foundation Committee has approved our donation request to the St. Jude Research Hospital for Children.

- Marion Scafidi reported the "Christmas Bags for Women" included a grocery gift card. The Bags were part of the Christmas Food Baskets prepared by KC-4522 Council.

- Ethel requested temporary assistance for the Membership/Telephone Committee, Jean Hughes has volunteered.

Pope John Paul II Council 4522 will celebrate their 60th Anniversary in April. The Casey Women's Club was invited to participate in the planning, our members approved the CWC participate and recommend Marion Scafidi and Connie King to represent the women in planning the 60th Anniversary.

Retiree lunch is the last Tuesday of every month; February lunch is Tuesday, February 27th, noon; cost is \$5.00. Bunco at 12:45, call Geri, 703-941-3848.

Member birthdays in February are Jean Hughes 8th, Alice London 16th, Linda Lipari 26th. Happy & Blessed Birthday ladies!

God Bless,

Connie King, President

FEBRUARY MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| William A Ussher | 02-05 |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Jean Roger G Bion | 02-06 |
| Jacob P Manley | 02-06 |
| John M Maloney | 02-08 |
| Nicusor G Serban | 02-08 |
| William J Kayes | 02-09 |
| Jay Allen Simon | 02-11 |
| James M Dillon | 02-14 |
| Msgr. Michael K Carroll | 02-15 |
| Mervin L Daly | 02-17 |
| Charles K Green | 02-18 |
| John William Ray | 02-23 |
| Tobias C Amadi | 02-25 |
| Marvin C Rodney | 02-27 |
| | |

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The submission deadline for the March 2018 Newsletter is February 20th.

MAY THE HOLY NAMES OF JESUS BE PRAISED AND HONORED BY ALL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AND THEIR FAMILIES, AND MAY IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY RULE IN ALL OF OUR HEARTS UNTIL WE ATTAIN TO EVERLASTING LIFE! AMEN! ST. JOSEPH AND ST. DOMINIC, ORA PRO NOBIS!

For questions or comments, please contact the Editor, Daniel Zaharevich at dan.zaharevich@gmail.com. Additional information and points of contact will soon be posted on our website at www.kc4522.com.

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