

# **ROCK CREEK COUNCIL, NO. 2797**

# THE KNIGHT CHATTER

November 2019 Published Monthly, at no charge, by Rock Creek Council, 5417 W. Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814 Year 82, No. 4

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The Council's Fall 2019 Semi-Annual Scholastic Charity Chess Tournament was a great success. For details, see pages 6 and 7..

### CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

FR. MARK HUGHES

# Brother Knights,

Every year each parish in the country does a head count in October. It is meant to create statistics, which measure church attendance and provide vital information of trends and growth. This effort is also done on a national and international level in things like baptisms, weddings, and the number of clergy and of parishes.



Fr. Mark Hughes

My guess in looking at some of the statistics is that in the United States, the church is treading water. We are in a holding pattern. Church attendance is slipping a bit overall, despite strong growth in some areas. The number of clergy is declining by a small percentage, despite some strong signs of renewed interest in Ordination and some Religious Orders. The number of adults who identify as Catholics is holding steady (a positive sign), but the number who go to Church each week is less.

The three things we can do to help reverse the negative

# GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT MICHAEL HOULIHAN

Brothers.

At this time of the year, a number of events occur that call us to reflection and gratefulness. All Saints' Day calls us to reflect on the lives of the Saints who went before us and left us such great examples of charity and love. Veteran's Day calls us to remember with appreciation the sacrifices made by those who defend

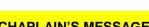


**Grand Knight Houlihan** 

us in the line of duty, many of whom gave their lives. Our Annual Memorial Mass is an opportunity to remember and appreciate Brother Knights from our Council who have died. Thanksgiving is a call to remember our blessings and celebrate them with family and friends. I hope you are able to slow down at this time of year and remember, with humility, how fortunate we all are as individuals, as a nation, and as a Council. We've been given a lot, and much is expected of us in return.

Our Council has given back a lot this past month, as you will see in this edition of The Chatter. Our outreach to our community and support of those in need is an impor-

(Continued on page 2)



# **CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE**

(Continued from page 1)

trends and support the positive ones are:

Prayer. We need to pray for the Institutional Church. Our prayer should include petitions that our Church remain true to the Gospel amid the rush to a secular mindset going on in our culture. We cannot compromise what we teach. We must pray that we communicate effectively both what we teach and why we teach it in a way that is inviting and not condemnina.

Commitment: We must hold strong in our own personal commitment and be patient and forgiving as others give in to weakness. We should always be encouraging to others.

Evangelization: We must as a Church and individuals look for ways to correct the misinformation that is out there. There is so much that is false that people accept without knowing better. We must help people see that the Catholic Church is doing the same thing we have always done. Our job is to educate people about ETERNITY and the way there through Jesus Christ.

Our Church has had difficult periods before. We have endured and grown stronger. There is no reason why this is not happening again.

Sincerely,

Fr. Hughes

### **GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT**

(Continued from page 1)

tant contribution, and our duty as Catholic men and Knights. There are many opportunities for you to participate in these efforts, and we're trying to make it as easy for you to participate as possible! We need **you** to volunteer for some of these events – please consider whether your level of participation is what it should be, and then look for the email I sent to you on October 18 at 10:15 am, which shows you where to sign up to volunteer for all of our events.

Our Council is committed to providing opportunities to grow in our faith together, as Brothers. As we enter the end of the year, we will be holding our annual Memorial Mass on Saturday, November 30, in honor of our brother Knights who died. Mass will be followed by breakfast and a short morning service of reflection led by our Council Chaplain, Fr. Mark Hughes. Look for the detail on this in the Chatter. Please find time to join us so that we can reflect as brothers, share our appreciation for our Veterans, and grow in faith together.

Have a great month, Brothers.

# Michael Houlihan

**Grand Knight** 

# Knight of the Month

This month's Knight of the Month is Kyle Bausch.

Kyle lead the planning of the Special Olympics Fundraiser. He worked with Special Olympics Maryland, Montgomery County and teamed up with Mike Horan to line up participants, volunteers, and donors to create an event that was successful at raising both funds and awareness.

Kyle's a great example of what it means to be a Knight.

# Cardinal Patrick A. O'Boyle Assembly, No. 386

The Assembly's Knight of the Month for October is Sir Knight Wayne Miller. Wayne has served as Grand Knight, Faithful Navigator of our Assembly, Color Corps Commander, and Advocate. He is a counselor at the Silver Spring Veterans Center and recently received the Governor's Citation from Governor Larry Hogan for military service, sacrifice, and lifelong commitment to our Nation's Veterans.

On Sunday, November 10, at noon, the O'Boyle Assembly Color Corps will participate in a Wreath Laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns located at Arlington National Cemetery.

The annual Cardinal O'Boyle Assembly Memorial Mass and Pot Luck Dinner will be held on Thursday, November 21. The Mass commemorates and honors the deceased Assembly Sir Knights who have passed away this past year. Mass is at 7 pm and will be celebrated by the Assembly Friar Fr. Ryan Pineda at St. John's Historic

Church (aka Our Lady Queen of Poland Church) located across the street from Fr. Rosensteel Council. During Mass, the Fr. Robert V. Zylla O.S.C. Memorial Chalice, engraved with the names of the past year's deceased Sir Knights, will be presented to a transitional deacon who will be ordained to the priesthood within the next year. Everyone is invited to attend this Memorial Mass. Dress is coat and tie. Following Mass, a brief business meeting and a a Pot Luck dinner will be held in the Fr. Rosensteel Emerald Room.

For more information or to join the Fourth Degree O'Boyle Assembly, contact SK Neil Dorian at 301-237-0552 or neildoriankc@yahoo.com.

Neil Porian, SK Past Faithful Navigator

# DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT



Dear Brother Knights, Friends and Family,

It's hard to believe that we are only a few short weeks away from Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Advent. Our time is precious and the older we get, the faster that time seems to pass. During my tenure as District Deputy, I have greatly enjoyed serv-William Newbrough, DD ing our brother Knights, their families

and the parishes associated with the five councils of District 18. I am daily amazed and energized by the countless acts of faith filled good works performed by our councils. Having spent over a year and a half in this post, I have begun to recognize a formula for success that when utilized by our councils - delivers amazing results every time.

That formula includes identifying a program leader/chairman who will diligently work to insure the following:

1) Obtaining the pastor's support and participation;

2) Thorough planning; 3) Promotional activity and good communication (bulletins, emails & pulpit announcements); 4) Inclusion of Knights, their families and parishioners to carry out the program; 5) Inviting potential new members to join our ranks; and 6) Creating a program report that can be used in the future as a blueprint for success.

But above all, our programs should begin and end with prayer. Each of our programs should be an extension of our holy religion guiding us to put our Faith into Action. As I mentioned, our time is precious and yet we waste so much of it on pursuits that frankly lack any real value. I don't mean to say that our leisure time, our gaming or our channel surfing are not at times, well deserved. We all need a break from the crush of our work and daily responsibilities. Downtime matters. But for many of us (including myself) "MY" time is often just that, time for me and no one else.

This past week, after coming home late from a degree – I was surprised to see the light still on at home. My wife usually goes to bed early and that night she had stayed up to watch the Nationals in the World Series. As I came in the front door, I yelled "Hello" to my wife upstairs and said......"What did I do with myself after work before I joined the Knights of Columbus?" Without hesitating she replied....."You watched TV!" And she was right! So, how has the Knights of Columbus changed my life? Quite simply, by affording me a near endless series of opportunities to live out my faith. Consequently, I have been blessed to meet and work with some of the finest Christian men and women I have ever known. What a great gift those Knights and their families have been! It's hard for me to put into words. Membership in the Knights of

Columbus has changed my life by giving me opportunities I could never have imagined!

As we move into the month of November, may we all consider the abundant gifts that have been ours in this life. As my mother would say, "Blessings pressed down and overflowing." Let us consider the great gift of our families, our friends and our faith. And reflect that one day we will all stand before the throne of God. And in that moment, outside of time -- we will be asked to answer for the manner in which we spent our minutes, our hours and our days. I would suggest that at that moment, looking back across the years, each of us would give anything for one more chance to reorder our priorities and how we spent our time.

As Knights, we are truly blessed to be part of a fraternal Order, second only to Holy Mother Church in providing opportunities to put our Faith into Action. Whether it be standing up for the dignity of every human life or celebrating the beauty and sacredness of the Christian family – we do not stand alone. As we serve the hungry, the disabled and the persecuted – we offer public witness to the truth of the Gospel and we do not stand alone. As signs of contradiction to the times in which we live, we offer our time and our talents selflessly out of love for God, our neighbor and our country. We stand in solidarity with our holy priests and bishops and we honor the holy priest who founded our Order over 100 years ago. United with his mind and mission, we remember that charitable works form the foundational bulwark of our Order. We are not just good deed doers. We are Catholics guided by faith!

I hope and pray that each of you has a blessed month and that we all consider the many blessings that God has given us. I look forward to seeing you in November! All the best and Vivat Jesus!

# William Newbrough

District Deputy No. 18

# **Meeting Date Change**

The social meeting normally scheduled for Tuesday, November 19 has been changed.

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 26 and will be the annual Members-Only Thanksgiving Dinner. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM.

All members are invited to this complimentary event. It will be accompanied by a 50/50 and other raffles, door prizes, lots of food and great camaraderie.

See page 8 for more details.



# Rock Creek Council's Cantrel Hall

# Saturday, November 30

# Memorial Mass and And Morning of Reflection

# **CELEBRANT**

Rev. Fr. Mark Hughes, Council Chaplain

At 9:30 AM, we will pray the Rosary

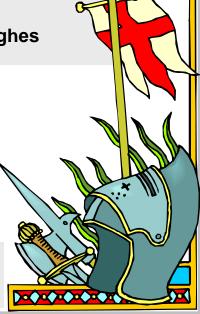
Mass will begin at 10:00 AM

A complimentary Continental Breakfast follows

with a Reflection to be given by Fr. Hughes

Everyone is welcome to join us in this memorial for our deceased council brothers

For more information, please contact: Richard Heim, Past Grand Knight gkrichardheim@gmail.com; 240-888-1240



# Have You Planned for Long-Term Care?



Steve Upton, PGK,

As Thanksgiving approaches, it's a time to take stock of all the things for which we're thankful. At the top of most lists are family and friends and the blessings we receive. Then there are the little things in life. A smile or kind word from a stranger; relishing the crisp air on an autumn day. I'm thankful for relatively good health. It's also a time to remember

those friends and family who are suffering from disease, a disability, an injury, or just the things that happen to us as we age.

And that leads me to this month's topic. November is Long Term Care Insurance Awareness Month. You may not be aware how a long-term care insurance policy helps cover the costs of care when the policy holder has a chronic medical condition, a disability or a disorder such as Alzheimer's disease. It can pay for care in one's home, a nursing home, an assisted living facility, or an adult day care center. This is how our Knights of Columbus Long Term Care Insurance plan can help.

LTC insurance helps protect all those assets you've worked so hard for over the years: your house, IRAs, savings, investments. They could all be wiped out with even a short stay in a nursing home. The website: <a href="https://longtermcare.acl.gov/costs-how-to-pay/costs-of-care.html">https://longtermcare.acl.gov/costs-how-to-pay/costs-of-care.html</a> says that Home Health Care costs about

\$22/hour, Assisted Living Facilities about \$4,245 per month and Nursing Home \$85,000 per year. In the Maryland/DC area the costs are even higher. Without LTC insurance many families would face a serious financial crisis.

We aren't always eager to talk about our human frailties; but it's important to have a plan. Some wait until they are in their 60s or 70s before they start to consider long term care. But at younger ages it's more likely one can qualify for coverage...and the price is less expensive.

So, this November, take time to give thanks for the blessing in your life. And take some time to plan for protecting your family assets in the event of needing care. I can help design a plan to fit your needs...and your budget. With that you can have peace of mind that you will get the care you need, when you need and where you want it.

Let's sit down and do some planning and put your mind at ease.

Vivat Jesus!

# Steve Upton

# STEVE UPTON, GK, FDD

Field Agent

301-873-7450 cell 301-421-1430 office steve.upton@kofc.org

# **New Members**

On September 3, eight new members joined the Council. Welcome: **Des P. Comer** (St. Bartholomew), **Christopher S. Rhodes** (Holy Redeemer), and **Ray R. Sanchez** (St. Jane de Chantal). In addition, five of the members joined Online and affiliated with the Council — **Michael DeMarco**, **Alexander Freed**, **Matthew Murphy**, **Michael Noonan**, and **James Noonan**.

On October 14, **Alex Lieb** was exemplified into the 4th Degree.

# ROSARY AT 7:30 P.M.

We pray the Rosary before our meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month



# Upcoming Degrees at the Council

The next Admissions Degree at the council will be held on Tuesday, December 3 at 8:00 PM. Candidates should arrive by 7:30 PM and report to the lounge.

Future degrees scheduled for the Council are:

Admissions Degree (1st): December 3 February 18 April 7

Formation Degree (2nd): January 21, 2020

Knighthood Degree (3rd): Januatry 31, 2020

The ceremony will be followed by a receptionin the lounge, including complimentary food and drinks. The lounge will be closed to all non-members until 10:00 PM.

Ask a fellow Catholic to join our ranks and enjoy the benefits of your council and the KofC.





# **Club News**

Hours: Monday Thru Thursday 2-10 Friday 2-Midnight, Saturday 2-11, Sunday 2-8, Meeting Nights 1-8

Fall is here and so is the nice weather! Rock Creek Council has the best patio in Bethesda. It a great place to enjoy fall evenings with friends and family.

Be on the lookout for list-serve blasts, read the Chatter and open our website. The new Rock Creek website has all the updated events. Here are the upcoming events.

# Sports, sports and more sports!!!

Congratulations to The Nationals on a super season and becoming the World Series Champions! For the seventh and deciding game, the lounge was packed. Great crowd, Great food, Great enthusiasm, And, a Great result.



If you weren't there, maybe we can have a repeat next year. In the meantime, there is football.

# Football, football, football.

The outlook for the Redskins is bleak, but that doesn't mean we don't still love our home team. The lounge will



open at noon for 1:00 pm games and will stay open for late games. The Football Sunday menu will be available for all Skins games.

The lounge will be open for all the big college games and, whenever possible, we will show the WCAC High School game of the week. Our own bartender Kevin Ricca, along with Tim Strachan and Ken Meringola, will be broadcasting the WCAC game of the week on 1<sup>st</sup> amendmentsports.com, which we will have on live on our new 70" TV.

Our two new dart boards are getting lots of play. Stop in and show off your dart skills.

### Trivia Returns with a Date Change

November Trivia Night will be on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Registration starts at 7:00 pm and the competition starts at 7:30. Teams can have up to 6 players max, and there is a team fee of \$25.



### **Upcoming Live Music-**

Friday night is a great night to bring your wife or girlfriend to the council for some wonderful music. A portion of the proceeds on band nights will go to the "Drop in the Bucket Charity" of the month.



November 1<sup>st</sup> – General MacArthur & The Boulevards 8 pm

November 15<sup>th</sup> – Tom Blood & Late As Usual

November 29<sup>th</sup> – TBD Thanksgiving Weekend Party

Check the website for additional shows.

# **Special Dinners**



Friday Night Dinners have returned. The Friday and Sunday menu will be pub fare -- burgers, dogs, fresh sandwiches, salads and wings.

### Fisher House

For the past four years Rock Creek has provided dinner one night a month to The Fisher House. The meals are for the service personnel and their families who are staying at the Fisher House, while receiving treatment at Walter Reed Hospital.



On the third Tuesday of each month, food is prepared by Mike Horan and delivered primarily by Vin George, Patrick Tuite and some of their children. Grand Knight Houlihan has agreed to add an additional dinner a month to Fisher House.

We are looking for a few people to help with the delivery on the first Tuesday of the month. Anyone interested please contact Mike Horan at 240-793-1169 for details.

For the latest information about the happenings in the Lounge, check the council website www.kofc2797.org

Lounge phone: 301-530-1628 Mike Horan: 240-793-1169

# **Chess Tournament Winners**

Congratulations to the winners of this year's Fall event: **Team Champions**: 1<sup>st</sup> – Woods Academy; 2<sup>nd</sup> – North Chevy Chase; 3<sup>rd</sup> – Veirs Mill Elementary

**Overall Grand Prize Winner**: Alex Lanzo, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, North Chevy Chase

**K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Section**: 1<sub>st</sub> – Nora Cummings, Woods Academy; 2<sub>nd</sub> – Carter Hinton, Mater Dei; 3<sub>rd</sub> – Zack Escobedo, Veirs Mill

**3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Section**: 1<sub>st</sub> – Evan Rhoman, Veirs Mill; 2<sub>nd</sub> – Thomas Palley, Woods Academy; 3<sub>rd</sub> – Gregory Lanzo, North Chevy Chase

**6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Section**: 1<sub>st</sub> – Callum Pablo, St. Jane de Chantal; 2<sub>nd</sub> – Declan Healy, St. Raphael; 3<sub>rd</sub> – Bernard Hartman, Woods Academy

**Nolan Sportsmanship Award**: Jetr Duggirala, 3rd Grade, North Chevy Chase.



# **Fall Chess Tournament**

The Council hosted its Fall 2019 Semi-Annual Scholastic Charity Chess Tournament on Sunday, October 27.

There were about 60 players from over 20 local schools. Over \$1,000 was raised for local charities. Thanks to our volunteers from the Council Jim Enright (reception and judging), Bob Metzler (judging and scoring), Andrew McDonald (photographs), Mike Horan and John Schneider (concessions), and Mike Houlihan (organization); to non-KoC parent-volunteers Chad Charowhas from NCC and Jim Ronis and Billy Cannon from Mater Dei; and Julie Carter (Mansion Event Coordinator).



























# **MEMBERS-ONLY**

Tuesday, November 26
Cantrel Hall — starts at 7:00 pm
All (and only) members invited



Dinner: Fresh baked turkey, vegetables, pies, ice cream, beer and soda

Raffles, door prizes, and fun

Dinner is free

Net proceeds go to the Holy Cross Sisters for our Council-to-Village Charity Program

Bring your dues (\$50) and receive your 2020 membership card early



Meet old friends and make new ones



For Charity's Sake
Senior's Club
President Bob
Waters presented
a check for \$1,000
to Grand Knight
Mike Houlihan for
the Supreme
Council's Bahama
Hurricane Relief
Fund.

# Did You Know?

Our website (<a href="https://www.kofc2797.org">https://www.kofc2797.org</a>) is completely responsive and works wonderfully on your phone or mobile device? Add us to your home screen and keep us in your pocket wherever you go!

- Easily keep track of our events https://www.kofc2797.org/events
- Contact your officers https://www.kofc2797.org/officers
- Access our monthly newsletter, the Chatter https://www.kofc2797.org/chatter
- Recruit a Catholic brother https://www.kofc2797.org/become-a-knight

# REFLECTIONS

Lawrence P. Grayson, PGK

# When is a Child a Child?

Two court cases, one currently being considered, the other soon-to-be, raise numerous questions about when a child has legal rights and under what conditions.

In California, David Daleiden, Sandra Merritt and three others associated with the Center for Medical Progress are being tried for surreptitiously videotaping conversations of Planned Parenthood officials, who were discussing the organization altering abortion procedures to harvest marketable baby body parts. In closing arguments for the preliminary criminal hearing, the California attorney general stated "that a fetus is not a 'human being' or a 'person' within the meaning of the" state Penal Code. Since a fetus occasionally will survive an abortion proce-

dure, one of the defense attorneys said this argument implies that in California killing a "fetus" born alive during an abortion is not considered infanticide.

This view is not unique to the California prosecutor. Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, a physician, defending a state bill that would allow late-term abortions, stated that if a child should survive an abortion "the infant would be resuscitated if that's what the mother and the family desired, and then a discussion would ensue

between the physicians and the mother." Their option for the infant – life or death!

Washington Sen. Patty Murray, in objecting to the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, said that the choice to let a baby who survives a failed abortion die is up to "a woman and her doctor." These were virtually the same words used by a Planned Parenthood official when she testified before Congress.

Is infanticide becoming acceptable in America, at least for children who survive a botched abortion? Since when do all children born alive not have the protection of the law? Does the Fourteenth Amendment -- "No State shall...deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law" -- apply only to certain births, but not others?

Should a child surviving an abortion attempt not be entitled to receive the same immediate, lifesaving care as would any other child born at the same gestational age?

If a physician can legally deny medical care to a child surviving an abortion and let it die slowly, why is taking action to kill it quickly illegal? Why was Kermit Gosnell convicted?

If an abortion survivor can legally be left to die, how long can the baby linger before the inaction becomes infanticide? One minute? One hour? One day?

A mother carrying twins may go into premature labor and deliver one child, before her labor stops. The second child may be born several days, weeks or even months later. In that interim period, one twin has the protection of law, the other does not. Does this make sense?

If a woman delivers a child, but within moments decides she does not want it, should she be allowed to let it die?

> If partial-birth abortion is illegal, how can killing a child in the womb immediately before delivery or purposely letting it die after delivery be legal?

> These questions and others about the rights of the preborn and newly-born are raised not only by the Daleiden-Merritt trial, but by an upcoming Supreme Court case. The Justices recently agreed to review June Medical Services v. Gee, in which abortion advocates are challenging a Louisiana law that requires

Amy Elliott (R) was born 87 days before her twin Kate. For that time, she had legal rights to life and care, Kate did not.

abortionists to have admitting privileges at a nearby hos-

Although this case will not directly affect the legality of abortion, it may indicate how the Supreme Court will treat state laws that set limitations on when and under what conditions abortions can be performed. An increasing number of states are enacting TRAP laws, which target the regulation of abortion providers. They have banned abortions based on disability, sex, after a child is viable outside of the womb, can feel pain, or when a fetal heartbeat is first detected, among other restrictions.

While TRAP laws aim at protecting the unborn child and mother, there are wide variations among the laws that have been passed, even among those with the same purpose. If states can ban abortions after the child can live outside of the womb, why do some states set 28 weeks as the limit for abortions, others 26 or 24 weeks, when children are known to survive as early as 20 weeks or less of gestation?

(Continued on page 10)



# **Volunteers Needed**

As Knights, one of our goals is to be of service to the community, spreading the message of the Gospel through our charitable works. Our Council has a number of charitable events coming up for which we need your help. Our council has hundreds and hundreds of members - we are asking each of you to find some time in your schedules to participate in your Council's charitable activities. I urge you to pick a couple of these events and sign up at the appropriate link so we will know to expect you. These events are opportunities to serve others and also get to you your fellow Knights by working on worthwhile activities together.

Events are identified below, with the dates and the link to the "Sign-Up Genuis" site where you can see what times we need volunteers and register.

• **Fisher House** - First Tuesday of each month, 430 pm, done by 630 pm, one additional volunteer needed each

month. https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A48ABA8 2FABF58-fisher

- Thanksgiving Turkey Event 26 November, 10 volunteers needed 530 pm 9 pm https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A48ABA82FABF58-thanksgiving
- North Pole Breakfast, Christmas event with families and children of our Council: 15 December, 10 volunteers needed, 10

am https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A48ABA82FABF58-christmas

# Michael Houlihan

**Grand Knight** 

# Remember Our Sick and Deceased

### Sick and Distressed:

PGK Roberto and Mary Jo Ibáñez, Leslie Ibáñez (wife of PGK Tony Ibáñez), PGK Victor and Wally Khayat, PGK Vince and Glenda Bunag, PGK John Vivian, Greg Curtin, Cecilia Wan (mother of Jason Wan), Maria Johnson (sister of Bob Metzler), Andrew Dolan Miller (son of Alex Lieb), Brandon Waters (grandson of



PGK Bob Waters), Lindsay Patten (daughter of Michael Patten), and those on the Seniors' sick list (p. 11)

Pray for our departed members, families and friends.

### REFLECTIONS

(Continued from page 9)

If the aim is to prohibit abortion when the preborn child can feel pain, what should be the gestational-age limit? The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology holds that a fetus cannot feel pain until the third trimester of pregnancy, that is, at about 27 weeks. The Charlotte Lozier Institute, in contrast, claims that a fetus can feel pain at 20 weeks or earlier. Some neurologists have found that a fetus is "extremely sensitive to painful stimuli" starting at the 15<sup>th</sup> gestation week. Advanced 4-dimensional ultrasounds show that a fetus may react to noxious stimuli at 8 weeks or less. Still others hold that as pain is subjective its onset cannot be inferred from anatomical developments. With such a lack of agreement, should not the laws reflect a cautious approach and prohibit abortions after the minimum possible age of pain consciousness?

If the aim is to protect the fetus after a heartbeat is detected, when does this occur? Vaginal ultrasounds show heartbeats occurring at 5-1/2 to 6 weeks of gestation, although science has detected heartbeats at 22 days. Some scientists, however, claim these are not true heartbeats, but flutters caused by the developing heart's ability to fire electrical signals, as the heart does not become a four-chambered organ until week nine. When, one may ask, is a heartbeat a heartbeat?

The Supreme Court's ruling on the Louisiana law will be carefully analyzed, for other TRAP law cases are likely to follow. Justice Harry Blackman, in writing the majority opinion in *Roe v. Wade*, stated that when it is established at what point "the fetus is a 'person' within the language and meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment," the case for abortion will collapse "for the fetus' right to life would then be guaranteed specifically by the Amendment."

Science has shown that life begins at conception. The nearly half-century of legal battles over abortion will continue until the Supreme Court considers the question of when the living, fetal child gains personhood.

# **Drop in the Bucket**

In October, the "Drop A Few Bucks In The Bucket Campaign" went to *Give An Hour*, which provides free mental health counseling to veterans and their families

In November, the campaign will be raising money for Fisher House at Walter Reed.

The Knights are also continuing to provide dinners to Fisher House each month with lasagna (meat and veggie), Caesar's salad, garlic bread, cookies and soft drinks (thank you, PGK and Program Director Mike Horan). It's always appreciated and a pleasure to be able to serve those who served in our armed forces.

Alex Lieb
Community Activities Chairman



# SENIORS' CLUB REPORT

By PGK Bob Waters, President

There were 30 members and guests at our annual Halloween Meeting and Party. Our guests were Msgr. Jack MacFarland, Fr. Ryan Pineda, and Deacon Bob Hubbard.

Fr. Ryan led the opening prayers, which were for PGK Roberto Ibanez, his daughterin-law Leslie, PGK Victor and Wally Khayat, PGK John Vivian, and those on the Seniors' Sick List.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, we discussed our \$1,000 donation to the Supreme Council's Bahamas Hurricane Relief Fund. See page 8 for a photo of the presentation.

Our next meeting will be our annual Christmas Party, which will be held on Wednesday, December 11. This will be a catered affair, and will requires paid advance reservations (hopefully, early). We will try, as in the past, to have two or three Montgomery County Police Officers as guests.

Thanks to Ted and Dora McIntosh for chairing this event, the "Fab 5" for all of



**PGK Bob Waters** 

their work, and Mike Horan for handling the food.

Remember our Veterans on November 11 and say a prayer for their safety. Our country is free because of the sacrifice of those in our Armed Forces.

# GOD BLESS AMERICA AND OUR MILITARY!

### PRAYER CORNER

In your prayers remember: Eureka and Elizabeth Arcand, Dorothy Bush, Maureen Collins, Kevin Dyer, Helen Fincutter, Susan Gordon Garcia, Lois Gargano, Katharine Giodati, Bill Gordon, Joselyn Walter Graham, Marie Horan, Saunders Jacobsen, Alex Lee, Julia Marcus, James Marketos, Joe Murphy, Eugene O'Neill, Ralph Oviedo, Sr. Maureen Patrice, Fr. David Pollak, Joan Reed, Anne Ryan, Bridget Shanahan, Midge Shanahan, Gloria Skapik, Pilar Stark, Stephanie Suff, Alex Swanke, Marge Swanke, Regina Walter, Barbara Waters, and Fran and Frank Zello.



Who said Halloween is just for the kids? Seniors show that age is how you act, so they have fun!

# **Rental Corner**

We are now booking lots of weddings, social events and bar/bat mitzvahs for 2020. Pass the word to family and friends. And remember, council members get a huge rental discount!

# Julie Buckingham Carter

**Event Coordinator** 

cell phone: 240-426-1220, email: rcmansion@gmail.com website: www.rockcreekmansion.com LIKE us on Facebook

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### **COUNCIL OFFICES**

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Julie Carter 240-426-1220



# THE KNIGHT CHATTER

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Rock Creek Council, No. 2797

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**Address Service Requested** 

December CHATTER Deadline: November 24, 2019

| ROCK CREEK COUNCIL CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS |              |  |                           |   |                               |  |  |
|--|--------------|--|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|--|
| SUNDAY                                 | MONDAY       | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY                 | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY                        | SATURDAY   |  |
| November                               |              |  |                           | 1 Holy Day of<br>Obligation<br>All Saints Day                 | <b>2</b> All Souls Day        |  |  |
| 3                                      | 4            | 5<br>Rosary 7:00 PM<br>Business Meet-<br>ing 7:30 PM | 6                         | 7   | 8                             | 9  |  |
| 10                                     | Veterans Day | 12   | 13<br>K-C Club<br>7:00 PM | 14  | Tom Blood &<br>Late as Usual  | 16   |  |
| 17                                     | 18           | 19   | 20                        | 21<br>Cardinal O'Boyle<br>Assembly Memo-<br>rial Mass 7:00 PM | 22                            | 23   |  |
| 24                                     | 25           | 26<br>Members-Only<br>Thanksgiving<br>Party 7:00 PM  | 27                        | 28 Happy Thanksgiving   | 29 Thanksgiving Weekend Party | 30<br>Memorial Mass<br>10:00 AM<br>Rosary 9:30<br>AM |  |