



THE KNIGHT CHATTER

October-November 2018 Published Monthly, at no charge, by Rock Creek Council, 5417 W. Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814 Year 81, No. 3

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Having fun at the Seniors' Halloween Party: (L-R) Marcy Pekar, Feryal Barakat, Helen Brennan, Floranne Sirilla and David Schultz. See Bob Waters report on p. 13.

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

FR. MARK HUGHES

Brother Knights,

John Dilabio was a homeless man I knew for 22 years. He grew up in a poor part of Baltimore in a abusive alcoholic home. He was discharged from the Army for instability. At 29, he lost his job as a stock clerk in a grocery store when it closed. He died in a VA hospital at 54. I was the only one at this burial.



Fr. Mark Hughes

John had very significant emotional issues and lived his last 25 years in shelters and cheap hotels. But, John had hope in the future. He knew his Catholic theology. He kept up on politics. John's favorite saying was that he was seeking truth in his life. He found it in faith. He was ahead of a lot of people.

Our bond with our Church is physical, emotional, spiritual, and intellectual. We need truth as human beings. We are at our best when we are seeking that truth. We who are members of the Catholic faith are so fortunate that we have

(Continued on page 2)

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

JOSEPH DONIGER

Worthy Brothers All,

The Fall is upon us. The temperature has started to drop, the leaves are starting to put on a show, the Caps and Redskins somehow find a way to (win/lose), and we at the council are starting to get very busy.



Grand Knight Doniger

At the end of September, we had a good 1st degree class. Also, I would like to extend my congratulations in print, to all of our new members, for having joined this great organization of ours. And, to say to them, welcome, and we need your help.

In the months of November and December, we have many events and activities being planned or already scheduled. Please check in with your activities director/chairs if you see anything that you may be interested in participating in. Remember, we're not mandating a brother Knight spend an additional 20 hours a week or month here with us at the council, but maybe 2 hours a month would be nice. If you have more time to give, that's great. Try to partner with a

(Continued on page 2)



GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

(Continued from page 1)

member that has been running an event for awhile and get to know how things are getting done. All new ideas are welcome and encouraged

Don't forget to check the calendar for the next two months, as it is already filling up with various events. Also, I want to remind everyone that in November we will be holding our Annual Thanksgiving Party for Members Only on Tuesday, November 20, 2018. Again, all members are encouraged to attend.

We are also hosting another 1st degree in the month of December. Please, I would like to get everyone who is even thinking of joining to attend on Tuesday, December 18, 2018. Candidates should arrive at the Lounge entrance at 7:00 PM.

Also, we will have our Memorial Mass, at a date to be announced. Please try to attend as this is a meaningful event as a Knight and a worthwhile use of your time.

Joe

Grand Knight II

Helping the Intellectually Disabled

One of the oldest and most visible programs conducted by our council is the campaign to raise funds for the intellectually disabled. As we stand outside of the five churches we serve, after weekend Masses, we wear a yellow apron and hold a can asking those who pass by to contribute. If they do – and even if they don't – we offer them a "Tootsie Roll."

The proceeds from the drive, which runs through November, is donated to various organizations in the state that serve the intellectually disabled.

We are looking for volunteers to man the tables after all Masses. Please let us if you can help at a Mass at your church. Dates to follow. Contact Mike Horan at 240-793-1169.



Could
This
Be
You?

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 1)

our Theology to challenge and invite us into the eternal truth that is God. We understand salvation history: that Jesus is the fulfillment of God's plan to save us from the meaningless of life in our world. Eternal life with the community of believers in God's kingdom is our destination.

We gain certainty by practicing our faith. We understand God when at Mass we recite the Nicene Creed – the theological prayer that goes back to the 4th century. Through our understanding of faith we can see beyond the need to fill our lives with material objects, experiences and the need for self-glory. We can live for a purpose beyond our own desires. We can withstand the temptation to just exist for the moment.

To truly practice our faith, we must understand the theology that is its foundation. We must understand why the tragedy of the Cross took place. We must have knowledge of God and what our Church teaches and why.

John Dilabio may not have had much success in our world, but he knew where to find the truth. He pursued that truth and I believe now knows the fullness of what he sought in this world, life with God.

Vivat Jesus!

Sincerely,

Fr. Hughes

Membership

Initiation Degree– It is easy to recruit a new member. All you have to do is ask a friend, a neighbor or someone you know from church. Ask your candidate to arrive in the lounge at 7:00 pm on the date of the degree for paperwork and a brief interview. The degree starts at 8:00 pm with dinner to follow.

The upcoming degrees scheduled to be held at Rock Creek Council for the current Fraternal Year are:

Admissions (1st) Degree:

- December 18, 2018
- February 19, 2019
- April 16, 2019

Formation (2nd) Degree:

- January 15, 2019

Knighthood (3rd) Degree

- January 18, 2019

If you are not already a 2nd degree member, plan to do so now..If these degrees are inconvenient, speak to one of the officers. There are degrees being held at other councils that you can take.



DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT- OCTOBER

Worthy Brother Knights and Friends,

October is a special month for our Order as we honor and celebrate the memory of our great namesake, Christopher Columbus. Many books have been written, detailing the boldness of his vision and the bravery of his exploits. Unfortunately, today we find the memory of Columbus more often pilloried than revered. In his essay honoring the life of Christopher Columbus, the historian Dr. Warren Carroll wrote: "For some strange reason, heroism is almost anathema to our age...But heroes and the inspiration they give are essential to uplift men and women. Without them, faceless mediocrity will soon descend into apathy and degradation. Heroes need not be perfect; indeed given the fallen nature of man, none can be perfect. It is right to criticize their failings, but wrong to deny greatness and the inspiration they give."

As we prepare to celebrate Columbus Day commemorating the landing of Columbus and his fellow voyagers in the New World on October 12, 1492, we recognize and honor a remarkable man who - like all men-- was flawed and in need of God's Grace. Columbus' own words provide the best illustration of his motives and mission as he addressed Queen Isabel and King Fernando of Spain: "I have to say that if devout religious persons know the Indian language well, all these people would soon become Christians. Thus I pray to Our Lord that Your Highnesses will appoint persons of great diligence in order to bring the Church such great numbers of peoples, and that they will convert these peoples.....and you will be well received before the Eternal Creator."

In his essay, Dr. Carroll goes on to write, "His discovery would bring the Catholic faith, to which he was devoted, to the people who lived in that land. It is for the boldness of his conception and his magnificent courage in laying his life on the line to carry it out that Christopher Columbus is most rightly honored." The very day Columbus selected to launch his voyage of discovery, August 2nd 1492 – the

Feast of Our Lady of Angels provides us with a window into the mind of the great discoverer. I encourage each council in the District to honor and celebrate the memory of our great patron and namesake through your participation and support for the following upcoming events:

- Columbus Day Ball – Saturday October 6 – 7:30 pm at the BWI Marriott
- 128th Columbus Day Parade – Sunday October 7 in Baltimore's "Little Italy" beginning with Holy Mass at St. Leo's Church at 9:30 am followed by 11 am wreath laying ceremony; then a parade from Camden Yards to Little Italy from 1 pm – 3 pm, finishing up with Wine Festival and Outdoor Dining!
- National Columbus Day Ceremony – Monday October 8th at the Christopher Columbus Monument in front of Union Station in Washington DC. Program begins at 10:45 am and includes music provided by President's Own US Marine Band; US Joint Armed Forces Honor Guard; KofC Color Corp with historic flags; Diplomatic Corp. in attendance from embassies of Spain, Italy and Bahamas and presentation of the National Youth Essay Contest Winner

And as we celebrate the memory of Columbus, I echo the words of the National Christopher Columbus Association encouraging each of us to honor "his faith, the courage of his convictions, dedication to purpose, his perseverance in effort, professional excellence and boldness in facing the unknown." I look forward to seeing you as we gather to honor and celebrate our great patron.

Vivat Jesus!

William Newbrough

District Deputy No. 18

Remember Our Sick and Deceased

Sick and Distressed:

Leslie Ibáñez (wife of PGK Tony Ibáñez), PGK Victor Khayat, PGK Vince and Glenda Bunag, Greg Curtin, PGK Joseph Murphy, PGK John Vivian, Tom Lynch, Maria Johnson, Joan del Castillo, and those on the Seniors' sick list (p. 11)



Deceased:

Frank Reinzo, and

Pray for our ailing and deceased members, families and friends, both those listed and those who are not.

A BROTHER KNIGHT NEEDS YOU

Tom Lynch, a member of Rock Creek Council and Cardinal O'Boyle Assembly is at Genesis Health Care, Fairland Center, 2101 Fairland Rd, Silver Spring 20904. Room D3B.

Tom would greatly appreciate a visit anytime. To make sure he still is there, either contact the nursing home at 301-384-6161. or his wife, Maria, at 240-360-8162.



DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT- NOVEMBER

Worthy Brother Knights and Friends,

The 1st quarter of the fraternal year can be a bit overwhelming. Officer installations and banquets are quickly followed by an intense period of activity including tootsie roll campaigns, raffle ticket sales and Columbus Day festivities. Perhaps we've hosted a crab feast to benefit a worthy cause and held a membership drive at one of the parishes we support. In many councils, our Knights have collected food items at area super markets for our "Food for Families" program and provided volunteer help at area food banks. Maybe you've purchased "Coats for Kids" to deliver during the winter months and staffed a Special Olympics event or two. Councils may have hosted a patriotic event and shown their appreciation for wounded warriors. Some councils have sponsored a Box of Joy program - filling shoe box size containers with fun, practical and religious items for the poorest of the poor to be delivered at Christmas. Hopefully, we've held a degree or two. And in every council, I pray that we are diligently working to promote a culture of life by our prayerful, public witness against the great evil of abortion.

Hopefully by now, we've met with our pastors to offer our support in the upcoming fraternal year. Let me tell you that they need to hear from us, especially during these dark days. One important way to live out the vision of our founder Fr. McGivney is to support our priests and seminarians practically and spiritually. As we assist them in their pastoral and spiritual mission, let us always remember to thank them for the great gift of their vocations. And as we honor God's gift of the sacramental priesthood, let us give thanks for the vocation of one holy priest, Father Karol Wojtyla who was elected pope 40 years ago on

October 22nd 1978 and took the name John Paul II.

Indeed the 1st quarter of the fraternal year, can feel like a fire hose of charitable and fraternal activity that at times can seem overwhelming. I would suggest that this is a good time to start to plan for that slower period of the fraternal year that falls between New Year's and Easter. Consider hosting one of the 4 required programs of the new "**Faith in Action**" service model. In January, as we plan for the National March for Life, let's consider scheduling a "**Novena for Life**". During Lent, a council "**Spiritual Reflection Program**" and "**Helping Hands**" initiative to feed those in need would be timely. And as we celebrate Mother's Day in May and Father's Day shortly after, let's consider hosting a "**Consecration to the Holy Family**" prayer service in our parishes.

The new Faith in Action program helps to focus our efforts by identifying the 4 priorities of our charitable work as living our **Faith**, supporting our **Families**, serving our **Communities** and affirming a culture of **Life**. As we move toward Advent and the joy of the Christmas season, I ask that each council continue to focus on the core principles that guide and motivate our charitable work. That principle was best summarized by a holy priest, St. John Paul II when he referred to our charitable work as "The charity that evangelizes." May our Lady Queen of the Knights continue to assist our good works and watch over our families and councils in the days to come.

Vivat Jesus!

William Newbrough

District Deputy No. 18

Rental Corner

We celebrate Rock Creek Council members who chose our Mansion for their wedding celebration!

Keep us in mind for your milestone events - weddings, anniversary and special birthday celebrations, family reunions, graduation parties... and pass the word to your family, friends, colleagues and neighbors. And remember, Rock Creek Council members get a rental discount!



Contact me for information and a tour . We are booking into 2019!

Julie Buckingham Carter

Event Coordinator

cell phone: 240-426-1220,

email: rcmansion@gmail.com

website: www.rockcreekmansion.com

LIKE us on Facebook





Club News



**Hours: Monday Thru Thursday 2-10
Friday 2-Midnight, Saturday 2-11, Sunday 2-8,**

The football season is well underway.

Come in for Redskins, other NFL games and all the big college games. Hours will be extended for big games.



Patio Time

Fall means nice evenings on the patio. Stop in for a drink with your brother knights, bring a potential member or have a nice quiet drink with your wife. Best patio in Bethesda!

New MENU

The lounge is rolling out the new fall menu. Food will be available on Friday nights and for Redskins games. The menu will include burgers, chicken, dogs, wings and some very nice specials. The kitchen opens at 5:30 pm on Fridays and a half hour before Redskin games.

Trivia Night

There will be another one of the popular trivia nights on an upcoming Saturday. Watch for the notice via the listserve. Registration will take place at 7pm, trivia starts at 7:30.



Teams of up to 6 people with a \$10 team entry fee. Winning team takes all. The competition is 6 rounds of 10 questions. The trivia host for the night is Lesley Stroot.

Live Music

Live music is scheduled for many Saturdays in the coming months. Watch for the announcements..

Blue Crabs w/ Redskins

Some of The Redskins Alumni will once again join us. Watch for the announcements. Members of Redskins Alumni who



already have recently come to the Lounge include Mike Nelms, Rich Milot, and Darryl Grant. These events have raised money for The Children's Inn at NIH. For more information, contact Mike Horan at 240-793-

1169.

We hope to have a full fall and winter schedule of events this year. Anyone with an idea and interested in hosting an event let me know.

Sign up for the list serve. Make sure you get the frequent emails about special events and food in the Lounge.

It's your lounge. Have fun. And don't forget to sign the BOOK!

Lounge phone: 301-530-1628

Mike Horan: 240-793-1169

The Knights in Solidarity With Persecuted Christians

At the 136th Annual Supreme Convention held in Baltimore in August, the delegates passed the following resolution regarding persecuted Christians throughout the world especially those who have been the target of a genocide by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus stands in solidarity with all Christians around the world who are suffering from violent persecution, and we call on all Christians and people of good will to do the same; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus dedicates its 18th Marian Prayer Program to Our Lady, Help of Persecuted Christians, and encourages all Knights of Columbus families to pray that the Blessed Mother intercede on behalf of all those persecuted for their faith in her divine Son; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commend those nations providing support to religious minorities seeking to rebuild their lives after persecution by ISIS in Iraq and Syria, and call on all governments and legislative bodies around the world to recognize this genocide against Christians and other religious minorities and to assist these persecuted communities; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commend the Government of the United States for its changes in policy designed to assist these vulnerable communities and for its promise of assistance to them, and call on it to direct the designated funding to these communities with all possible speed; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on the Government of the United States to take quickly the following three steps: (1) continue to demand the United Nations assist the communities that have suffered genocide by including them in humanitarian and reconstruction aid; (2) demand the appropriate international body prosecute those guilty of genocide in Iraq and Syria; and (3) continue to work with the international community to defeat the Islamic State and similar terrorist groups; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on the United States Senate to quickly pass H.R. 390 and for the President to sign it into law; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus pledges to continue to provide assistance to those who are victims of atrocities, especially those Christians who have faced violent persecution because of their faith.





Ten Reasons Why Men of Faith Should Support K of C Insurance



Steve Upton, PGK, FDD

This past July, General Agent Daniel Schachle spoke to a group of agents, explaining that it is our job as Knights to show the world that faith-based values matter. He noted that we must seek to promote those values in every aspect of our lives, including in how we plan our families' financial future. Here's why:

1. The Knights of Columbus has products that help families all across the economic spectrum. If a Catholic family needs a strong insurance company, we are it.
2. Knights of Columbus Field Agents serve their members with high integrity, and so does our organization, which was named a World's Most Ethical Company® by the Ethisphere® Institute for the fifth consecutive year this past February.
3. Your local Knights of Columbus Field Agent is committed to you. His working mission and purpose is to provide the best advice and service to you and your family.
4. Your dollars with the Knights do triple duty: They are invested in a Catholic way, they help those less fortunate and they help your family.
5. The Knights of Columbus offers more than life insurance. We also have insured retirement plans where your IRAs, Roth IRAs, 401ks or non-qualified funds can be placed to maximize your retirement income.
6. Knights of Columbus Field Agents can help members create a solid financial legacy plan. Remember, you don't choose if you leave a legacy — you either leave your family a legacy of love or you leave them burdens.

7. The Knights of Columbus offers long-term care insurance, a product that helps you pay for your extended medical needs in a nursing home facility or in the comfort of your own home. The Knights allow you, not someone else, to decide how and where you should live. It's up to you.

8. With the Knights of Columbus you can guarantee that, even if you run out of money, you will never run out of income.

9. The Knights of Columbus offers disability-income insurance, a product that helps replace lost income if you are unable to work due to a disability resulting from an illness or accident.

The Knights of Columbus help to ensure that the dreams a father has for his children can come true — even if he's not here to see to it and provide it himself.

The Knights of Columbus is committed to being a Catholic company that upholds Catholic values and supports Catholic causes. The Knights of Columbus adheres to a strict investment screening protocol developed in part with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Contact me today to see how Knights of Columbus Insurance can help protect your financial assets and help plan for your family's financial security.

Steve Upton

STEVE UPTON, PGK, FDD

Field Agent

301-873-7450 cell

301-421-1430 office

steve.upton@kofc.org

Coats for Kids



At the October 3 business meeting, Rock Creek Council approved the expenditure of \$500 to purchase two cases of winter coats for deserving children to keep them warm during cold winter months. The 24 coats will help needy families who may not be able to afford the essential of a new winter coat.

The Coats for Kids program, operated through Supreme, allows councils to purchase new winter coats for children at a discount and distribute them in their local communities. Since the program began in 2009, nearly 500,000 coats have been distributed in 49 states and all 10 Canadian provinces. In winter 2017 alone, the Knights of Columbus distributed 105,192 coats in 1,600 communities, including at military bases, in Native American communities, at inner-city neighborhoods and through partnerships with local police and fire departments.



November is Long-Term Care Awareness Month



Steve Upton, PGK, FDD

Long-term care insurance may be your best option if you develop a chronic illness or become disabled and can no longer care for yourself for an extended period of time. The product is designed to help you pay for these extended medical needs in a nursing home facility or in the comfort of your own home.

What is Long-Term Care insurance? Long term care insurance helps you pay for your extended medical needs in places such as a nursing home, assisted living facility, adult day care facility or at home. Long-term care insurance can help ensure that financial resources and support are in place when you need them the most. Did you know most Long-Term Care support is not medical care, but assistance with everyday life tasks? Some of these tasks include bathing, dressing, using the restroom, housework and even shopping.

Long-Term Care Myth 1: I am too young to need long term care

Long-Term Care is not just for the elderly. According to the Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program, nearly 41% of all Long-Term Care is provided to people under 65 years old, who need help taking care of themselves due to diseases, chronic conditions, injuries, and severe mental illness.

Long-Term Care Myth 2: My family will take care of me

Even if family members can find the time to provide caregiving to a relative, it often comes at a tremendous financial cost. Caregiving can cost the average caregiver in lost wages, pension benefits, and Social Security.

Long-Term Care Myth 3: Medicare or Medicaid will pay for long term care

Medicare is generally available for people over the age of 65 and for the disabled. It also only pays a limited amount for skilled care following a stay at the hospital and it is not intended to assist people with the activities of daily living for long periods of time.

Long-Term Care Myth 4: Health insurance will pay for long term care

Health insurance rarely covers ongoing chronic care needs. Most health plans are intended to cover skilled, short term medical care as you recover from an illness or injury. Contact me today to help ensure your family and your assets are protected from the unexpected and substantial cost of long-term care.

Long-Term Care Myth 5: I can save enough on my own

Paying out-of-pocket for long-term care is neither brief nor cheap. That's why long-term care insurance should be considered part of an overall sound insurance protection strategy, and that's why the Knights of Columbus is proud to offer long-term care insurance to our members and their eligible family members. Contact me today to see how easy and affordable Knights of Columbus Long-Term Care Insurance can be.

Steve Upton

STEVE UPTON, PGK, FDD
Field Agent
 301-873-7450 cell
 301-421-1430 office
steve.upton@kofc.org

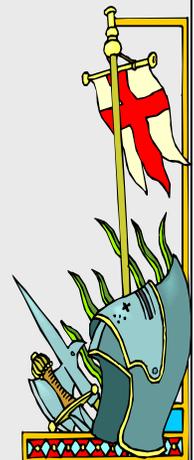
Memorial Mass

Rescheduled, date to be announced



In the meantime, pray for all of our deceased Brother Knights

For more information, please contact:
Terence Ryan, Past Grand Knight, TRyan1776@comcast.net





Knights of Columbus

Rock Creek Council No. 2797

Drawing

Tuesday Nov. 20, 2018

50-50 Raffle



5417 W. Cedar Lane
Bethesda MD 20814

Drawing

Tuesday Nov. 20, 2018

\$10 per chance, **3 for \$20**

Thanksgiving Dinner and Charity Raffle

We hope to raise enough to cover expenses AND donate to the **Holy Cross Sisters in Uganda**. Members are invited to the annual Thanksgiving dinner (**7 PM**). **Dinner is FREE**. BUT bring some canned or dry food for the poor (Bethesda Cares) and cash for our raffles. There will be door prizes and other raffles with multiple winners. Come and get to know your brother knights.

Copies are acceptable. (Use an address label. It's easier for us to read and saves you having to write in a tiny box) Allow several days for delivery, or drop off your check at the Council.

You do NOT need to be present to win, and YOU do not have to buy anything to come to dinner ! We need your company not your \$\$\$ (Great to have both, but we will settle for the former) Drawing during the Tuesday dinner party Nov 20 around 8 PM — dinner at 7, NOT 8.

\$10. per chance, 3 for \$20	\$10. per chance, 3 for \$20	\$10. per chance, 3 for \$20
Name	Name	Name
Addr	Addr	Addr
Phone	Phone	Phone

Copies of this form are acceptable. Make checks to **Rock Creek Council # 2797**

Please let us know if you can make it to dinner: I will be there

(name) _____ I can NOT make it

RSVPs help BUT come anyway if you forget



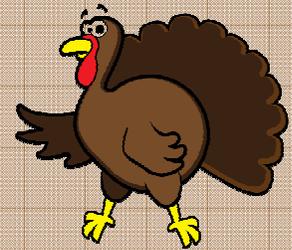
Annual Thanksgiving Party

MEMBERS-ONLY

Tuesday, November 20

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 2019 membership card early

Meet old friends and
make new ones



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

The next monthly business meeting of the Assembly is Thursday, October 18. Meetings are held in the Emerald Room at Fr. Rosensteel Council. The Rosary begins at 7:30 pm and is followed by the business meeting at 8:00 pm. A dynamic speaker has been scheduled following the business portion of this coming meeting, and a social with free meal and beverage will be provided.

The next Exemplification Ceremony of the Fourth Degree is scheduled for Saturday, October 20 at Hollywood, MD. Any Knight who has taken his Third Degree is encouraged to take this degree, which is our Patriotic Degree. For further information, contact Neil Dorian via e-mail (neildoriankc@yahoo.com) or cell phone (301-237-0552).

The annual washing of the Vietnam Memorial Wall by our Assembly is scheduled for Saturday, November 3. Those Sir Knights wishing to assist should meet at 6:30 am at

the flagpole near the memorial. The washing will take about one hour. It is a wonderful tribute to those who lost their lives in Vietnam defending our freedom.

The Assembly annual Memorial Mass will take place on Thursday, November 15, at Old St. John [OLQOP] Church. At this Mass, we will honor all the Sir Knights who have passed away the past two years. During the Mass, a chalice engraved with the names of these deceased SK's will be presented to a seminarian who will soon be ordained as a priest. Following Mass, a brief Assembly meeting and reception will be held at Fr. Rosensteel Hall. All SK's are invited to attend this event.



Neil Dorian, SK
Past Faithful Navigator



A Brief History of the Chess Tournament

In the spring of 2017, our Council was hosting our 17th annual youth charity chess tournament. There were 84 players who competed, and now the time for the awards ceremony had come. Then-Grand Knight Rich Heim and I made the awards. The players and parents cheered, and the winning team danced and took photographs. But my strongest memory of that awards ceremony was the award for sportsmanship.

The Kevin S. Nolan Sportsmanship Award that year went to Audrey Gee, a 4th Grader at North Chevy Chase Elementary School. Audrey had won only one game and lost three, but she touched us with her positive attitude and support of her teammates and opponents. I remember her smile and excitement when she was awarded the trophy. Audrey has played in each of our tournaments since then, finishing fourth against older and very experienced competitors this year. She continues to play at school and even started a chess club at a local community swimming pool last summer. Audrey exemplifies why the council continues to conduct the tournament. She is a joy for us.

If you play chess, you know the joy of having a winning position, or pressing an advantage, or a beautiful checkmate. Or maybe your strongest memories are of your pieces being strangled by an opponent with a stronger position! Chess is a game of pure strategy, not chance, so it lends itself to instruction and learning. But it also has a human element that introduces uncertainty. Grade-school players enjoy the game because it is fun, challenging and intuitive. Studies show a strong link between chess play and academic success in math, science, technology, and music. And the game provides an opportunity to learn critical thinking, logic, planning, perseverance, patience, not underestimating an opponent and determination. Many celebrities enjoyed chess, including Ben Franklin, Ludwig van Beethoven, Ava Gardner, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Humphrey Bogart, and Cher.

Kevin Nolan, who was Chancellor of the Council, enjoyed playing chess with his children and established our tournament in 2001 as a way to bring chess-playing school children together for a day of low-stress competition. Within just a few years, the tournament was drawing 90 to 100 players from local schools. Our tournament is designed to be low-key and friendly compared to other chess tournaments, making it ideal and instructive for first-time tournament players and inexperienced players. Our goal is to help make chess a life-long enjoyable game for them and to support their coaches' efforts to teach the life lessons mentioned above.

Over the years, the tournament has had great support from members of our Council, including PGK Neil Dorian and Tom Stallone, who together managed the tournament from 2012 through 2015. They established the me-

morial Kevin S. Nolan Sportsmanship Award for the player that best demonstrates the qualities of fair play, respect of opponent and the game, and positive influence on the tournament, and it is the most highly prized award at the tournament. In 2016, I inherited management of the tournament from Tom and, with the help of Wesley Chin, Bob Metzler, Mike Horan, and Andrew McDonald, have expanded the tournament to twice-a-year at the request of our local scholastic chess coaches. The tournament draws players from over 30 schools, raises money for charity, and gives us Knights whose kids are grown a chance to work with the wonderful young people in our community.

Our chess tournament has become an institution among local grade-school chess clubs. In the elementary school at my parish, St. Jane de Chantal, the chess trophies from our tournament are proudly displayed in a case near the school entrance. In the entrance of North Chevy Chase Elementary School, which my children attended and where my son played chess, the trophies from our tournament are lined up alongside NCC's trophies from the Maryland State Scholastic Chess Tournament. Many of my neighbors' children have played in our tournament over the years, and their knowledge of the Knights of Columbus as a charitable and fraternal organization comes from those experiences. I've been told by many parents of the positive impression that they have of the Knights of Columbus based on their participation in our chess tournament. And the friendships I've made with the players and their parents extend beyond tournament day, which I enjoy greatly and am very thankful for.

Thank you all for your support of our Council's chess tournament. Through it, we accomplish a lot of good for the community, for our Council, and for the many children who play and for whom, we hope, chess will always be a joyful game.

Miké Houlihan

Congratulations to the winners of this year's Fall event:

Team Champions: 1st – North Chevy Chase; 2nd – Mater Dei; 3rd – Woods Academy

Overall Grand Prize Winner: Declan Driscoll, St. Jane de Chantal, 2nd Grade

K-2nd Grade Section: 1st – Jack Leninger, Bradley Hills ES; 2nd – Colin Shorb, Mater Dei; 3rd – Leo Rodriguez, Mater Dei

3rd – 5th Grade Section: 1st – Gregory Lanzo, NCC; 2nd – Matthew Caban, Mary of Nazareth; 3rd – Julian Saidi, Veirs Mill

6th – 8th Grade Section: 1st – Jeremy Gee, NCC/Silver Creek; 2nd – Patrick Dufour, Woods Academy; 3rd – Patrick Donahue, Roberto Clemente MS

Nolan Sportsmanship Award: Grady Jiggins, NCC, 5th



Fall Chess Tournament

The Semi-Annual Youth Chess Tournament was held on November 4, with 65 young players from 20 local schools participating. Over \$500 was raised for local charities. Thanks to our volunteers: GK Joe Doniger (awards), Mike Horan and John Schneider (concessions), Ivan Galic (set-up), Wes Chin (reception, judging), Bob Metzler (judging, scoring), Neal Dorian (judging), Andrew McDonald (photographs), Mike Houlihan (organization); to non-KoC parent volunteers Chad Charowhas, Jim Ronis, Carrie White (scoring); and Julie Carter (Mansion Event Coordinator).



Photos by Andrew McDonald



REFLECTIONS — OCTOBER

Lawrence P. Grayson, FDD, PGK, PFN

Roads That Lead We Know Not Where

"[T]he Church is facing very hard times. The real crisis has scarcely begun. We will have to count on terrific upheavals." Fr. Joseph Ratzinger, the future Pope Benedict XVI, made these comments about the future of the Church in a radio address on Christmas 1969.

Now, half-a-century later, his perceptions have become reality. Widespread sexual abuse of children and adults by priests and bishops and their cover up has shaken the Church at all levels. Revelations of immoral behavior extending over the past 70 years in countries throughout the world — the United States, Ireland, Chile, Australia and India, among others — are leading to further investigations, me-too-type accusations, massive payouts, the resignation and removal of bishops and priests, and disillusionment and possible loss of faith among the laity.

When tranquility is restored — although it appears distant -- what will the Church look like, particularly in America? Fr. Ratzinger's speculated:

"From the crisis of today the Church of tomorrow will emerge — a Church that has lost much."

In 1970, according to data from Georgetown University's Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, there were 7 million people

(3.4% of the population) in America who had been raised Catholic, but no longer identified with the faith. Today, there are 30 million (9.2% of the population) who are fallen away Catholics.

"She will become small and will have to start afresh more or less from the beginning."

The fact that there are 74 million self-identified Catholics in the country today is misleading. Only 68 million of them belong to a parish, and only about 16 million attend Mass at least weekly. In 1970, 23 million people -- almost half of the parishioners at that time -- attended Mass each week.

"She will no longer be able to inhabit many of the edifices she built in prosperity."

Between 1970 and 2017, the number of parishes declined only slightly from 18,224 to 17,156, but 3,552 of today's

parishes do not have a resident priest. Similarly, the number of elementary schools decreased from 9,366 to 5,178; secondary schools from 1,986 to 1,201; colleges and universities from 279 to 225; and hospitals from 727 to 545.

"As the number of her adherents diminishes, so it will lose many of her social privileges."

The number of adherents will likely decline in the future as the next generation is not being educated in the faith. Even as the number of parishioners has increased by 43% since 1970 -- driven by the overall population growth -- the number of students in Catholic elementary and secondary schools

dropped from 4.4 million to 2.0 million, and the number of students enrolled in parish religious education programs declined from 5.5 million to 3.0 million.

"In contrast to an earlier age, it [the Church] will be seen much more as a voluntary

society, entered only by free decision."

From 2000, just before the clergy sex abuse scandals became a public issue, to 2017, prior to the release of the Pennsylvania report on the same subject, the number of baptisms, first communions, confirmations, marriages, and converts all declined significantly. With many state investigations of the Church being initiated and continuing media reports of clerical abuse, the marginally faithful may choose to no longer identify as Catholics. Those who convert in the future will do so because they view the Church as the way to their salvation, despite the failings of its ministers.

"[T]he full-time ministry of the priesthood will be indispensable as formerly." The type of priest who will be needed is one who "in the name of God places himself at

(Continued on page 14)





REFLECTIONS — NOVEMBER

Lawrence P. Grayson, FDD, PGK, PFN

Conflicting Rights in a Divided Society

The recent Senate Judiciary hearings to confirm Brett Kavanaugh as an associate justice of the Supreme Court were brutal to his personal reputation, devastating to the comity of the congressional body, and inflammatory in an already divided nation. Protesters shouted in the hearing room, had sit-ins in the hall, accosted a senator in an elevator and another while with his wife in a restaurant, put legislators' personal information on the internet, and later assaulted congressional candidates, while receiving encouragement from legislators who opposed the appointment.

The arguments against confirmation centered on an uncorroborated allegation of sexual misconduct when Kavanaugh was a 17-year-old high school student, and whether the unsupported assertion should outweigh his denial and three decades of exemplary, unblemished conduct as a lawyer, judge and public servant.

The stated concerns, however, masked the root reason behind them — maintaining the legality of abortion and the fear that a Justice Kavanaugh might cast the deciding vote to overturn *Roe*

v. Wade. The abusive attacks were not tempered, even though just prior to the hearings Judge Kavanaugh said that he regarded the decision as “settled law.”

But what is settled? When *Roe v. Wade* was decided in 1973, Justice Harry Blackman, writing the majority opinion, based a woman's right to abortion on a penumbra of privacy rights which though unstated in the Constitution were deemed implicit in the liberty guarantees of the due process clause of the 14th Amendment. That right to abortion, the opinion continued, must be balanced by protection of the “potentiality of human life” of the fetus.

The Court in its ruling left one key point undecided. It stated: “We need not resolve the difficult question of when life begins. The judiciary at this point in the development of man's knowledge is not in a position to specu-

late as to the answer.” Further, if the personhood of a child in the womb is established, the right to abort “collapses, for the fetus' right to life is guaranteed specifically by the [14th] Amendment.” *Roe v. Wade* may be settled law and not be overturned, but it could be nullified.

Law and science are not yet in synchronization. With recent advances in obstetrics and neonatology, coupled with the increasing availability of ultrasound images, more and more people recognize that the fetus is an early stage of a preborn, developing person. Children now can survive outside of the womb at 24 weeks of gestation and less. An unborn child is known to feel pain at 20 weeks. Fetal surgery is performed at 18 weeks and earlier. People can see a human form emerging at eight weeks. And, the developing child has a DNA distinct from that of its

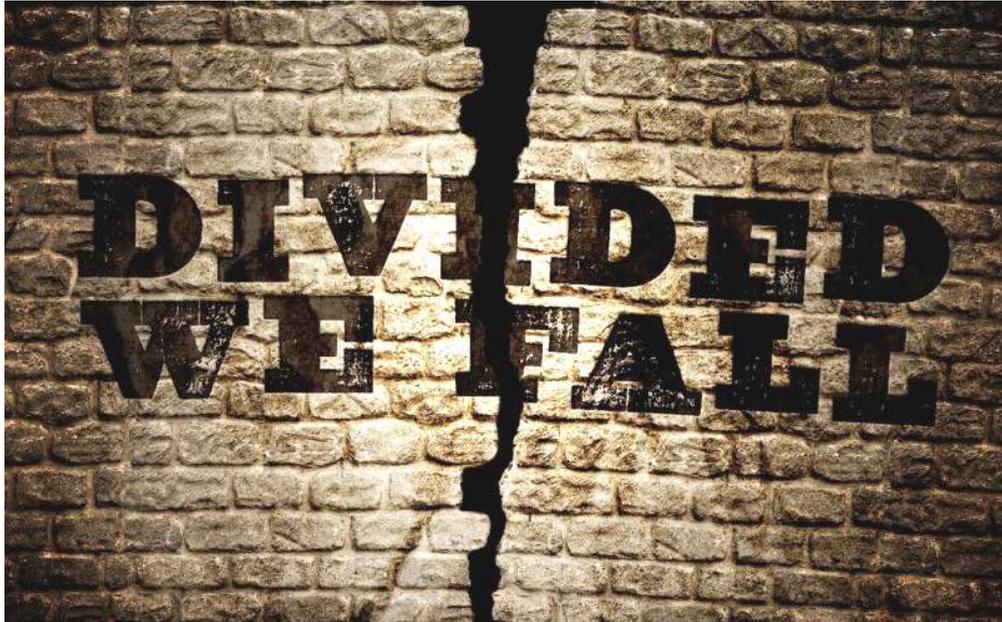
mother from the moment of conception. The science of embryology views life to begin the instant the male's sperm unites with the female's egg.

In order to bring law and science into harmony, the Life at Conception Act was introduced into both Houses of Congress in 2017. While it is unlikely to

pass in this session of Congress, it may very well be reintroduced in the next. If enacted, it would define a person as existing from the moment of conception, thus providing a Constitutional safeguard for the life of the unborn child. A woman may then have a right to an abortion, but only if from the instant of its creation her child is not harmed.

That is the fear of those obsessed with sexual freedom, who do not want consequences for their actions. They claim complete autonomy over their bodies, even to the point of destroying a distinct being within them. They rebel at the threat to their independence and irresponsibility. In contrast, those who truly believe that everyone has a right to life, that people are created by God in His image and imbued with a soul can never condone abortion.

Compromise between such resolute, incompatible views





REFLECTIONS-OCTOBER

the disposal of man, who is beside them in their sorrows, in their joys, in their hope and in their fear.”

The number of priests has declined sharply, from 59,192 in 1970 to 37,181 in 2017. About 70% of the priests are diocesan priests, while the remainder belongs to religious orders. Compounding the shortage of priests is the fact that in 1970, 90% of diocesan priests were active in ministry; today, it is only 63%.

“As a small society, it will make much bigger demands on the initiative of her individual members. Undoubtedly it will discover new forms of ministry and will ordain to the priesthood approved Christians who pursue some profession.”

There already is an extensive and growing involvement of the laity in the life of the Church. Since Pope Paul VI re-established the permanent diaconate in 1967, the number of deacons has grown rapidly. In 2017, there were 18,287 permanent deacons in the United States and another 2,670 candidates. They perform a number of functions previously limited to priests, such as baptisms, marriages, preaching, grave site services, and certain religious observances. In addition, lay people now serve as Eucharistic ministers, lectors and sacristans, as well as in a wide variety of financial, management and administrative positions in a parish.

While many of Fr. Ratzinger’s conjectures about the future of the Church have come about, there undoubtedly will be further upheavals before equanimity is restored. His comments were made just four years after Vatican Council II in which he participated as a *peritus* or expert for the Archbishop of Cologne. Changes resulting from the Council had barely begun, but theologians were already interpreting the findings of the Council in divergent ways. Some viewed them in the light of Scriptures and tradition, while others saw them as an opportunity for radical change in the spirit of the Council. The divergent views have never been reconciled and the current turmoil caused by clerical sexual abuse has given each side an opportunity to advocate for its ideas.

Many in the hierarchy have conflicting views on the involvement of the Church in society, its administration, the distribution of authority, the priesthood, the role of women, the importance of celibacy, the possibility of married clergy, same-sex unions, the reception of the Eucharist by non-Catholic spouses and those who are divorced and remarried without a decree of nullity, and other issues that once were thought to be long settled.

Until the dogmatic disputes, which can take the Church along roads that lead we know not where are settled, there will be continuing strife. But have hope. Have faith. For, as the future pope assured us, *“when the trial of this sifting is past, a great power will flow from a more spiritualized and simplified Church.”* It will arise, he said, *“from those whose roots are deep and who live from the pure fullness of their faith.”*

REFLECTIONS-NOVEMBER

can only be a temporary measure to gain a partial advance. The right to life from the moment of conception and the right to abortion cannot exist simultaneously. Passionate disagreements will continue, with one side or another having a legal edge depending on the current governmental leadership.

Fortunately, President Trump recognizes the importance of safeguarding human life from its earliest stages. In a letter to the National Right to Life Committee on June 28, 2018, he stated: “We all have a duty to defend the most fundamental and basic human right – the right to life. As President, I am dedicated to protecting the lives of every American, including the unborn.”

He is taking steps to support his belief. Shortly after his inauguration, the President reinstated the Mexico City policy to ensure that federal dollars are not used to fund non-governmental organizations that perform or actively promote abortions in other countries. The policy which was established by executive order is a political bellwether of the Administration’s support for life at conception or abortion. First established by President Ronald Reagan in 1984, it was rescinded by President Bill Clinton in January 1993, reinstated by President George W. Bush in January 2001, rescinded by President Barack Obama in January 2009, and again reinstated by President Trump in January 2017.

The Trump Administration has also proposed regulatory changes to the Title X program, which supports family planning services for low-income women. These actions would block the availability of federal funds to family planning providers like Planned Parenthood that offer abortion services.

Further, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in its 2018-2020 Strategic Plan states: “HHS accomplishes its mission through programs and initiatives that cover a wide spectrum of activities, serving and protecting Americans at every stage of life, from conception.” Undoubtedly, as these plans are implemented through regulations, the Supreme Court will be presented with a case to resolve the conflict between the implied right to abortion and a definition of when life begins. Justice Kavanaugh, as a presumed swing vote, will once again be in the midst of turmoil.

The remaining two years of President Trump’s term will be tumultuous, especially as the midterm elections has produced a divided Congress. With Nancy Pelosi, who identifies as a Catholic and “rabid supporter of a woman’s right to choose,” slated to become Speaker of the House, there will be renewed attacks on the culture of life. If adamant abortion supporters cannot win through legislative action, executive control or judicial decisions, they will do all they can to maintain the status quo through parliamentary stalemate, social disruption, intimidation and personal vilification. History has shown that to be true.



SENIORS' CLUB REPORT

By PGK Bob Waters, President

October Report

September was a slow month for Senior activities. Things will start to speed up in October with our Halloween Meeting and Party on Sunday, October 21. Reservations are required for this fun-laden event. There will be prizes for the best costumes, so make your plans now.



PGK Bob Waters

On Sunday, December 9, we will hold our Annual Christmas Party. Reservations will also be required for this event. Please make your reservations early so we will not have a problem with folks deciding to come at the last minute — as has happened in the past. This is not fair to the caterer and to those who made reservations when there is a shortage of food.

We may all work to get new members. Just ask folks to join our group. You will be amazed how many will say “yes.” Our special prayers for Leslie Ibanez, wife of PGK Tony Ibanez. Also remember our long-time friend Alfred Tighe, Jr. who passed away.

November Report

We had about 30 members and guests attend our Annual Halloween Party and Meeting on October 21. Our guests were Fr. Ryan Pineda, Fr. John McKay, Fr. Keith Burney, Br. Ed Adams, and Deacon Bob Hubbard.

In our special prayers, we remembered John Format, Kevin Duffy, and Charles Kerry.

Our next event will be our Annual Christ-

mas Party and Meeting on December 9. This will be catered by Mike Horan with a special luncheon. Make your reservations early.

After this we will plan our annual meeting and party outside of the council hall. At that meeting, to be held in January, we will hold our elections for the coming year. Candidates, start your cam-

paings now!

We still are advocating for new members. Let's all bring one in.

Many thanks to Ted and Dora McIntosh for chairing the Halloween Party, and to Helen Brennan for the arrangements and prizes, and Mike Horan for the food.

GOD BLESS AMERICA AND OUR MILITARY!

PRAYER CORNER

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

Save the Dates

There is a full calendar of events planned for the members of Rock Creek Council and their families. It will be a busy “social season,” so save the dates.

November 20 – Annual Council Members-Only Meeting and Turkey Night

December TBD – Breakfast With Santa Children's Party

December 21 – Lounge Christmas Party / Live Music / Holiday Buffet

December 31 – New Year's Eve Dance featuring King Soul

And there is more to come!

Council Leaders

CHAPLAINS

Rev. Mark Hughes—301-942-2333, x-109
Deacon Robert Hubbard—301-942-1522

GRAND KNIGHT

Joseph Doniger—240-566-2150

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT

Jon Schneider—301-279-0291

CHANCELLOR

Michael Houlihan—410-707-8550

WARDEN

Ivan Galic—301-633-3998

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

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RECORDER

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TREASURER

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ADVOCATE

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INSIDE GUARDS

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1-Year—Thomas W. Tappan—301-365-3128

2-Year—Richard Heim—240-888-1240

3-Year—Terence Ryan—301-693-6854

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COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

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Robert C. Waters, PGK—301-493-8883

FIRST DEGREE TEAM CAPTAIN

Neil Dorian—301-237-0552

4th DEGREE – O'BOYLE ASSEMBLY

Neil Dorian—301-237-0552

PRESIDENT, KAY-CEE CLUB

Thomas W. Tappan—301-365-3128

WEBMASTER

Matthew Flynn—301-942-8491

CHATTER EDITOR

Lawrence P. Grayson, PGK – 301-933-8731

e-mail – LPGrayson@verizon.net

COUNCIL OFFICES

LOUNGE—301-530-1628

KAY-CEE CLUB—301-530-0258

RENTAL COORDINATOR

Julie Carter—240-426-1220

Anniversary
& Birthday
Receptions,
Weddings,
Meetings

Rock Creek Council's

ROCK CREEK MANSION

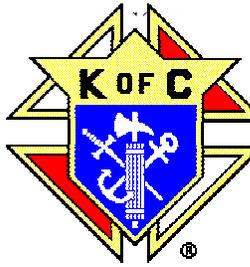
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December CHATTER Deadline:
November 24, 2018

ROCK CREEK COUNCIL CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<h1>November</h1>				1	2	3
				4	5	6 Rosary 7:30 PM Business Mtng 8:00 PM
11	12	13	14	15 O'Boyle Assem. Memorial Mass Holy Redeemer 7:00 PM	16	17
18	19	20 Members-Only Thanksgiving Party 7:00 PM	21	22  Happy Thanksgiving	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	