



THE KNIGHT CHATTER

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In This Issue

<i>Chaplain's Message</i>	1
<i>Grand Knight's Report</i>	1
<i>District Deputy</i>	3
<i>Community</i>	3, 5
<i>Council</i>	2, 6, 10
<i>Culture of Life</i>	10
<i>Teacher Appreciation Night</i>	1, 7
<i>Kay-Cee Club</i>	6
<i>Membership</i>	4, 5
<i>Club News (Lounge)</i>	6
<i>Fourth Degree</i>	5
<i>Fraternal Benefits</i>	4
REFLECTIONS	8, 9
<i>Seniors' Club</i>	11
<i>Sick & Distressed</i>	6



Teachers Night Out! For more of the revelrie at the Council's Teacher Appreciation Night, see page 7

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

FR. MARK HUGHES

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

JOSEPH DONIGER

Brother Knights,

Who picks these lists anyway? I have to admit (rarely) I give in to the temptation to review the top 20 (or so) lists that come up on the computer. The lead will say, Top 30 pitchers in Baseball history or the top 20 Quarterbacks ever. Recently, I ventured into Rock 'N' Roll lists. Top 45 Guitarists ever. I never heard of most of the folks listed. I just wanted to see where Eric Clapton was ranked (#2). Jimi Hendrix was ranked #1. Today it was the top 25 Drummers. Again, I never heard of most of them, and not even some of the bands they were part of. Ginger Baker was #3 and Ringo was #10. But my original question still stands: Who makes these lists? Who picks the best?

When it comes to our faith, our Church, the history of Christianity, we know where the picks come from. The Gospel of John (15:16) tells us: "It was not you who chose me, it was I who chose you".



Fr. Mark Hughes

(Continued on page 2)

Worthy brothers all,

As my last Grand Knights Report for the second time, I want to thank all of the membership of Rock Creek Council No. 2797 for their unconditional support this past Columbian Year.

While I desire to keep this address brief, I thought about a few things regarding the Knights and my experiences over the 16 or 17 years in which I have been active in three different states and held a few different posts.

We here at Rock Creek Council have done a fantastic job of bringing in new members into our ranks over the past ten years. And we have done mostly a good job of performing charitable works for our parish communities, families and council. We have definitely displayed our unity and fraternalism regarding our outwardly support of our council facilities, also known as the Knights Lounge. This isn't a knock on the Lounge or the members who frequent the lounge. I love the fact that members enjoy coming in and meeting up for many different reasons. What I have no-



Grand Knight Doniger

(Continued on page 2)

**CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE***(Continued from page 1)*

On Pentecost Sunday, we just finished the 50-day Easter season. Each day at Mass we heard from the Acts of the Apostles. The book covers the first 30 years (or so) of Church history. We hear about all the great leaders and their activities. Peter had a dream in which he realized the Church had to go beyond the Jewish community to the Gentile world. Paul had the "humility moment" to switch sides and preach for Jesus. Barnabas took leadership positions with the community in Antioch and at the Council of Jerusalem (49 AD). These actions (and those by other leaders) were not their own ideas. They did not choose. God did. They just responded by saying "Yes". They cooperated and followed the lead of the Holy Spirit.

If the leaders were the ones who chose and made the decisions on their own, the Church would have failed before Peter and Paul ever got to Rome (62 AD). Because the leaders accepted the challenge and the roles assigned by the Holy Spirit, the Church flourished and is the vibrant community of today. Because each of those early Christians made the same decision to accept the "choice" made by God, the Gospel is still being proclaimed all over the world these many centuries later.

Thank you for your decision to say yes to God, to accept Christ and to follow the Holy Spirit. Your life, your family; the Knights of Columbus and the world are way better because you said yes.

Fr. Hughes

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT*(Continued from page 1)*

ticed is that we as a council could be doing so much more regarding increasing the number of the membership involved in planning, assisting and executing all of the activities of our council. We shouldn't have to rely on the same group of 20 men for the next 10 – 20 years to carry out the council's various missions.

To the members both new and old, please take it upon yourself to talk to the incoming leadership and offer them your support by asking how you may be of assistance. We are in need of help with everything that happens here at Rock Creek. The last thing I think anyone would want is for the council to falter in any way due to the absence of historical leaders in different categories of responsibility.

In short, welcome to the Knights of Columbus. Thank you for joining, and most importantly, get involved!

With that, I bid you farewell from the podium of the Grand Knight. Thank you for everything that you have done and will continue to do.

Joe Doniger, Grand Knight II

Council Officers and Chairmen for 2018-19

Chaplains

Fr. Mark Hughes
Deacon Robert Hubbard

Grand Knight

Mike Houlihan

Deputy Grand Knight

Jon Schneider

Chancellor

Ivan Gallic

Warden

Alex Lieb

Financial Secretary

Douglas Yeatman

Recorder

Jason Wong

Treasurer

Charles Gormly

Advocate

Kevin Kittka, PGK

Inside Guards

Mike Naas
Aston Williams

Outside Guards

John Titus
Phil Sheridan

Trustees

1-Year - Rich Heim, PGK
2-Year - Tom Tappan
3-Year - Joe Doniger, PGK

Programs Director

Mike Horan

Community Activities

Chris Horan

Faith Activities

Robert Hubbard

Family Activities

Matty Moran

Life Activities

Larry Grayson, PGK

Membership Director

James Bergmann

Recruitment Committee

Bret Strachan

Vocations Chairman

Mike Houlihan

Retention Chairman

Jon Schneider

Lecturer

Michael Newman

President, Seniors Club

Robert C. Waters, PGK

First Degree Team Captain

Neil Dorian, PGK

Fourth Degree - O'Boyle Assembly

Neil Dorian, PGK

President, Kay-Cee Club

Thomas W. Tappan

Webmasters

Matt Flynn
Ivan Galic

Chatter Editor

Lawrence P. Grayson, PGK



DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT

Worthy Brother Knights and Friends,

As we move toward the end of the fraternal year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Grand Knights, our council officers and program chairs who have provided leadership and managed the good works of our councils in 2018 – 2019. I would also like to thank all those who said “Yes” to service by participating in the charitable work of our councils. Your hard work and dedication to “Serving Christ by Serving Others” is a gift - a gift to your brother Knights, to our families and most importantly to those we serve. The benefits and blessings of your selfless dedication and commitment to service may never be fully known to you. But be assured that the good work you do uplifts lives and provides hope and healing in a broken and suffering world. Likewise, your acts of kindness and generosity mark you as a sign of contradiction against the times in which we live. You are a visible sign of Christ's love for us all and your good works serve to evangelize the hardest heart.

I am particularly grateful for the willingness of our council officers and program chairs to take on the yoke of leadership at a time when fewer and fewer are willing to “get involved” or take on any commitment. We tell ourselves, that we are just too busy. We have a lot on our plates and in some cases, we do. As my wife frequently reminds me, with the Knights “family comes first!” and that is true. There are family commitments that need to be tended to and no volunteer time should come before family. But remember, the example we set for our families, especially our children comes a close second to family obligations. And no lecture that you give to your kids will

ever to compare to the impact of seeing you put your faith into action.

And, the Knights of Columbus gives us all the opportunity to put our “Faith into Action” like no other organization. Whether it be through participation in a council, district, parish or state sponsored event; whether it be support for persecuted Christians or the collection of food for a local food pantry; whether it be providing “Boxes of Joy” for the poorest of the poor children at Christmas time or providing coats for kids in the cold of winter; whether it be providing a much needed wheelchair or **standing up for the dignity of every human life** – we are given amazing opportunities to say “Yes” to Christ's call to love one another. But be under no illusion, the membership card in your pocket, will not feed a single hungry person or uplift a wounded veteran. **Only your “Yes!” to service will do that.**

And so, as we look toward the coming year, let's work hard to balance our home lives with our work lives and our charitable work. And the next time you enter the council chamber, take a look at the council charter hanging on the wall. That charter lists the founding members of our councils. Take a moment to offer a little prayer of thanks for those brother Knights and their families (most of whom you have never met) who founded our councils. Thank them for the opportunity to put your faith into action and offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the life and vision of our founder and holy priest, Fr. Michael J. McGivney.

All the best and *Vivat Jesus!*

William Newbrough

Support Our Veterans

In keeping with the efforts of supporting our veterans, the Rock Creek Council would like to present a wreath at The Tomb of The Unknown Soldier in honor of all who have served and died for our country.

We will assemble a team of four presenters. Alex Lieb is organizing the presentation and will be one. Who else is interested?

The presentation will take place either on Saturday, July 13 at 1:15 pm, or on Sunday, July 14 at 1:15 pm.

Let Alex know if you are interested, and on which date. Depending on the number of interested and date that works best, Alex will randomly select the three members.

Contact Alex Lieb at either cell 301-233-0125 or email alexusaf82@yahoo.com

As the outgoing Grand Knight, I will put my name on the list of candidates.

Joe Doniger

Some Thoughts for July 4

Of the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence, only one was Catholic — Charles Carroll. When signing his name, he added of Carrollton to make sure there was no misunderstanding of who he was.

This was a brave and bold act for the signers, all of whom were British citizens, for it was an act of treason against the king of England. They fully understood the consequences of their act, for the Declaration concludes, “with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.”

Carroll was the wealthiest man in the 13 colonies at the time, and most highly educated of the signers. His ancestral home is located in Annapolis on property now owned by St. Mary's parish. Carroll was the last living signer of the Declaration, dying in 1832 at the age of 95.

Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died on the same day, July 4, 1826, exactly 50 years after they signed the Declaration.



Never Invest In an Annuity!!



Steve Upton, PGK, FDD

You've no doubt seen this kind of headline in the financial pages or you've seen pop-up ads on your computer or you've heard some friend repeat what he's heard from his buddy's uncle. Are they serious?

Let's start with the basics: An annuity is a tax-favored savings instrument. The government gives it special tax treatment because it's designed for retirement income. An annuity can be qualified or in other words, funded with money that you have not yet paid taxes on, like an IRA. Or non-qualified, that is, funded with money you've already paid the tax on. Like money you take from your paycheck or out of your savings account. Either way, the tax on the growth in your Knights of Columbus annuity each year is deferred...you pay no current tax on it and pay only when you withdraw money.

I'll tell you that I think an annuity is a great product in the right situation. Especially a Knights of Columbus annuity. In addition to tax deferred growth, here are a few more reasons why I think that way:

1. Your minimum interest rate is guaranteed...for life! There is a floor that the interest rate will never drop below. The good news is that we've always paid a higher current interest rate than the guarantee. This feature means nobody has ever lost a dime in a Knights of Columbus annuity...and never will!
2. Your principal is guaranteed by the Knights. Now that kind of guarantee is only as good as the company backing it...and we've had 40+ years of Superior ratings from A. M. Best for financial strength. (As of January 2019, rated A+ Superior by A. M. Best)
3. You are charged no administrative fees each

year...100% of your money goes to work for you earning interest from day one.

4. Even though annuities are designed for long-term growth, after one year you can access 10% of the value without any KofC penalty.
5. Owners of annuities name a beneficiary; this means that at death, the proceeds bypass probate. This saves time and usually money, too.
6. You can enjoy an income that you (and if you wish, your spouse) can never outlive!

But let's be fair; an annuity is not the answer every time. It's not a short-term product. It's not designed to be a "put and take" account where you stick some money in and then take it out a short time later. There is a reducing early withdrawal penalty over the first seven years if you take out more than the 10% free withdrawal. That feature, in all annuities, not just the KofC, is to encourage people to leave the money alone until retirement age.

So, although there are situations where an annuity is not the proper product, there are many where it is...And we haven't even talked about triple compounding, protection from creditors and other features.

How do you know if an annuity is right for you? Meet with me and let's look at your goals. Call, email, text or message me today to set at appointment. It might be the perfect fit. Where do you keep your safe money?

Vivat Jesus!

Steve Upton

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Welcome to Our New Members

Welcome to our new members, who entered the council on April 2.

We are glad to have: Ian Dexter of St. Jane de Chantal; Patrick Dignan of St. Jude; Michael Newman and Thomas Sherman of Little Flower; Andrew Fois of Blessed Sacrament; and Kareem Watts of St. Paul.

As you will learn, the Council has an extensive set of activities, and we are open to having more. Come to the meetings, learn what is available to you. We are sure you didn't join simply to satisfy someone else, so become involved. You will meet many interesting brothers who share your values, and will help others while doing so.

Senator Defends Knights

At a recent U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee hearing, Sen. Ben Sasse asked a judicial nominee: "Are you now or have you ever been involved in the organization of a fish fry. It was funny, but not a laughing matter. At issue was the questioning of judicial nominees by some senators about whether their membership in the Knights of Columbus would prevent them from "fairly and impartially" hearing cases, as the Knights had "taken a number of extreme positions" on the issues of same-sex marriage and abortion.

This is the second time Sasse has defended the Order. In January, he introduced a resolution adopted by unanimous consent that "disqualifying a nominee to federal office on the basis of membership in the Knights of Columbus" violates that anti-religious test clause of the U.S. Constitution.



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

The next Assembly meeting — and the last one of this Columbian Year — is on Thursday, June 20, to be held in the Emerald Room in Father Rosensteel Council at Forest Glen. Rosary will begin at 7:30 pm and the meeting at 8 pm. As usual, a social will follow.

On Memorial Day, May 27, the Assembly was very involved in patriotic activities. Members of the Color Corps participated in services at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, while a group of members placed flags on the graves at the small cemetery adjacent to old St. John the Evangelist Church in Forest Glen. The land originally was part of the estate of Daniel Carroll, a signer of the U.S. Constitution. The first pastor of the church was Daniel's brother, Fr. John Carroll, who later became the first bishop in the United States.

The Archdiocese of Washington District (AWD) Day at the Ballpark (Nationals Park) is Sunday, June 23, 2019. Price is \$17.00 which pays for admission ticket. Our group will sit in right field. First pitch is 1:35 pm. Make reservations by May 23.

The Assembly is the patriotic arm of the Knights of Columbus. If you have interest in such activities, join us.

For more information or to join the Fourth Degree, please contact SK Neil Dorian at 301-237-0552, neildorianke@yahoo.com.

SK Neil Dorian, PKG
Past Faithful Navigator



**Daniel Carroll's Memorial Marker
In old St. John Cemetery**



At Gate of Heaven Cemetery

Drop in the Bucket Campaign

This year, the folks who visit the Lounge have had an opportunity to support a charity, while doing so. They can drop a buck — or two, or three — in a bucket and the proceeds will go to a local charity. It is a great way to help those in need, while enjoying the camaraderie of friends. Each month, the designated charity changes.

The charities being supported this year are:

- January: United Soldiers and Sailors of America
- February: Save a Child Heart Foundation
- March: Gary Sinise Foundation
- April: Rock Creek Teachers Appreciation
- May: Yellow Ribbon Fund
- June: Salute Military Golf Association
- July: Special Olympics of Maryland
- August: Aleethia Foundation
- September: Coats for Kids
- October: Give an Hour
- November: Fisher House Foundation
- December: Wheelchair Mission

Upcoming Degrees at the Council

The Council will be hosting Admission (1st), Formation (2nd), and Knighthood (3rd) degrees this coming Columbian Year. So everyone can advance through all three levels without having to travel to another council.

The schedule is:

Admission Degree

- September 3
- October 15
- December 3
- February 18
- April 7

Formation Degree

- January 21

Knighthood Degree

- January 31

The dates are set. Now let's recruit Catholic men to join our ranks. You know how beneficial the Order is, and how much you are enjoying the council. Share your enthusiasm with others.



ROSARY AT 7:30 P.M.

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

The Rosary is a proven, effective prayer in meeting individual and national needs

Come and join us!



Kay-Cee Club

Hall rentals continue at a high level. Julie has booked \$108,000 so far for 2019. Our projection is \$150,000 for the year.

Architectural plans are complete for a new vestibule to be built at the side entrance to Cantrel Hall. These plans have been submitted to Montgomery County Permitting Services for a building permit. This project is out to bid with three contractors presently. The permit is expected in early July and construction is expected to begin in August.

The Kay Cee Club's annual Shareholders Meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 following the Council's social meeting. Some initiatives which need a vote will be raised. So please, let's have a good turnout.

Tom Tappan, President

Remember Our Sick and Deceased

Sick and Distressed:

PGK Roberto Ibáñez, Leslie Ibáñez (wife of PGK Tony Ibáñez), PGK Victor Khayat, PGK Vince and Glenda Bunag, Greg Curtin, Angela Waters (daughter-in-law of Bob Waters), Joan Nalls, and those on the Seniors' sick list (p. 11)



Deceased:

Mary Ann Ferrigno (wife of the late PGK Peter Ferrigno), and Charles Interrante

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



Club News

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

The summer is a great time to come to the Lounge. Bring your family and friends and socialize with your brother Knights. Enjoy the patio, while the children have fun on the extensive back lawn.

Watch the listserve to learn about the many events that will be scheduled during the summer.

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

Rental Corner

We are gearing up for a fun-filled spring and summer of rentals, including a birthday parties, Cinco De Mayo celebration, bar and bat mitzvahs, and a number of lovely weddings. We are steadily booking in 2020. Believe it or not, bar and bat mitzvahs book two years ahead of time. And we have many of these scheduled.

Remember, Rock Creek 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



Rock Creek's 30th Teacher Appreciation Night

The Council's 30th Annual Teachers Appreciation program was held Friday, May 10, with 113 teachers and clergy attending. Gift Certificates to Starbucks Coffee were presented to each of them. There was an extensive buffet, plenty to drink, lots of socialization, games, and of course awards to the teacher-of-the-year at each school.

Honorees were: Barbara Brown, St. Bartholomew; Catie Skibo, St. Jane Frances de Chantal; Kristin Addison, Our Lady of Lourdes; Danielle Trotta, Holy Redeemer; and Nicci Falcone Overall-Teacher-of-the-Year, Holy Cross. The Distinguished Ministry Award was presented to Jennifer Tifford, Holy Cross School, and the Dale J. Gordon Outstanding Service Award to Christine Davison, St. Bartholomew School.



Photos by Andrew McDonald



REFLECTIONS - MAY

Lawrence P. Grayson, FDD, PGK, PFN

The States Battle for Life

Life in the womb is the most polarized issue in our nation today. There are profound ideological differences in how the pros and cons -- those who believe in the unborn child's right to life and those who are committed to a woman's right to abortion -- view the matter. Presently, 18 states have laws to limit abortion, while 10 states have laws to protect the right to abortion. Not since slavery was debated and fought over has there been such a stark contrast in the beliefs of the opposing sides and in the state laws they are enacting.

Kentucky, with a pro-life governor and a pro-abortion attorney general, looks like a border state for the conflicting positions. After a U.S. District Court judge, last September, ruled that a 1998 state law requiring abortion clinics to have signed agreements with an ambulance service and a hospital was unconstitutional, the matter was raised to the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals. Briefs were soon filed by 16 attorneys general from politically-red states arguing that the 1998 law should be upheld, while attorneys general from 20 politically-blue states and the District of Columbia filed in support of the ruling. No date has yet been set for the hearing.

With a strongly pro-life president, a presumably more constitutionally-conservative Supreme Court, and the success of the abortion-revealing films *Gosnell* and *Unplanned*, pro-life advocates hope that *Roe v. Wade* may be overturned and the regulation of abortion returned to the states. Pro-life legislators have been energized, introducing over 250 pro-life bills in 41 states since the beginning of this year.

There are "trigger bans" that will automatically prohibit abortion if and when *Roe v. Wade* is repealed; "fetal development bans" that make abortions illegal after a certain point in a pregnancy, such as when an unborn child can feel pain or its heartbeat can be detected; "method bans" that bar dismemberment and other specific procedures; and "fetal characteristic bans" that prohibit abortion based on race, sex or disability.

Statutes banning abortions after a heartbeat is detected could protect almost all unborn children. With a vaginal ultrasound, detection can occur at [about six weeks of gestation](#), a time when many women do not even know they are pregnant. Arkansas, Louisiana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kentucky, Mississippi, Georgia and Ohio have enacted heartbeat laws, while Missouri, Tennessee, Florida, Texas, South Carolina and Oklahoma are advancing similar measures.

Alabama voters approved a state constitutional amendment last November that affirms the right to life for unborn children. Another bill was recently introduced that would make abortion at any stage of pregnancy a felony, except if the mother's life is at risk.

WHERE DOES *Your* STATE STAND?

2019 AUL LIFE LIST

1. Arizona	11. Missouri	21. Idaho	31. Iowa	41. Massachusetts
2. Arkansas	12. Pennsylvania	22. South Carolina	32. Delaware	42. Connecticut
3. Louisiana	13. Texas	23. North Carolina	33. New Hampshire	43. New York
4. Oklahoma	14. Indiana	24. Wisconsin	34. Alaska	44. Nevada
5. Kansas	15. Alabama	25. Utah	35. Wyoming	45. Oregon
6. South Dakota	16. North Dakota	26. Florida	36. Maine	46. Hawaii
7. Mississippi	17. Ohio	27. West Virginia	37. Illinois	47. New Jersey
8. Georgia	18. Tennessee	28. Rhode Island	38. Maryland	48. Vermont
9. Michigan	19. Kentucky	29. Minnesota	39. New Mexico	49. California
10. Nebraska	20. Virginia	30. Colorado	40. Montana	50. Washington

The Tennessee legislature is considering a bill that would prohibit abortion completely once *Roe v. Wade* is overturned. Trigger laws banning abortion have already been passed in Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Utah and Kentucky recently enacted laws to protect unborn children diagnosed with a disability such as Down syndrome. The Texas legislature is considering a bill to remove fetal anomaly as an exception to an existing ban on abortions after 20 weeks gestation, forbid all abortions motivated by the unborn child's sex, race or disability, and expand perinatal palliative care for families whose children-in-the-womb are determined to have life-limiting disabilities.

Utah passed a law to ban abortions after 18 weeks gestation. The Arkansas House recently passed a similar bill.

North Carolina and Texas are debating bills to require appropriate medical care for newborns who survive abortions. The bills are similar to *The Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act* that pro-abortion legislators are blocking in the U.S. Congress.

North Dakota enacted a law to prohibit dismemberment abor-

(Continued on page 10)



REFLECTIONS—JUNE

Lawrence P. Grayson, FDD, PGK, PFN

Promoting Equality Through Coersion

The misnamed *Equality Act of 2019* -- perhaps the most egregious and far-reaching assault on religious freedom, individual conscience, and free speech ever put forth in this nation -- was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on May 17.

The bill, if enacted, would make sexual orientation and gender identity equivalent to existing protections for race, color, national origin, sex, disability and religion under the *1964 Civil Rights Act*, while negating the free exercise protections of the First Amendment as reaffirmed in the *Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA)*. It would affect virtually every aspect of American society, as it would apply to "any establishment that provides a good, service, or program," including those engaged in public education, lending, housing, employment, federal assistance, health care, transportation, entertainment, recreation, exercise, public facilities, and more.

The title, Equality Act, is an alluring bromide, meant to disarm a not-very-aware public. It illustrates the hypocrisy of a government that proclaims the absolute equality of all its citizens, but gives special privileges to a small segment. To paraphrase George Orwell in his novel *Animal Farm*, under the Act, "All people are equal, but *some people are more equal than others.*"

Perhaps, the most publicized provision of the bill is its mandated access to communal facilities "in accordance with an individual's gender identity." Women and girls would be required to share restrooms, locker rooms, dressing rooms, and even showers, in schools, university dorms, retail stores and other venues, with biological males.

A sampling of current government overreach foreshadows an ominous future, if the Act becomes law.

The federal government, for example, would be able to dictate the hiring and firing of staff and the admissions policies in Catholic schools. In 2018, a Catholic elementary school in Florida fired a female teacher for marrying another woman. A kindergarten-aged child in Kansas was recently denied admission to a Catholic school because his parents are in a same-sex union. In both of these cases, the schools would have been forced to take the opposite actions, in spite of Church teaching.

The legislation would encourage LGBTQ-inclusive educational

curricula for children in public schools. When accrediting agencies follow suit, will Catholic schools be able to resist including material about same-sex lifestyles? A few days before the House passed the Equality Act, the popular PBS television cartoon series *Arthur*, which receives significant federal funding, showed Arthur and his classmates joyously attending their male teacher's marriage to another male. And, there currently are numerous examples of "drag queens" holding story hours in libraries, schools and book stores to affect the minds and imaginations of young children with glamorous, positive role models of gender fluidity.

Catholic adoption ministries could be shut down nationally. Pennsylvania, Illinois and Massachusetts have already effectively

closed Catholic adoption agencies in those states by requiring them to place children with same-sex couples, which violates Catholic convictions about marriage and family.

Last year, a girl was removed from her parents' custody when they refused to have her medically transition to a male, but instead wanted her to receive counseling for her gender confusion and remain a girl. Under the Equity Act, government agencies could take children from their parents, if

they refuse to provide transitional treatment.

Retail service companies, such as florists, bakers, caterers, photographers, and event consultants, that willingly serve all customers, but will not in good conscience help celebrate same-sex weddings, will be driven out of business. Jack Phillips, owner of Masterpiece Cakes, legally fought the Colorado Civil Rights Commission for several years before the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Commission had acted prejudicially in upholding the complaint of a gay couple that he refused their request for a specially-designed wedding cake.

Even though the Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriage in 2015, the Equality Act goes beyond mere approval to require total acceptance of these unions. It defines belief in traditional marriage as a "sex stereotype" and makes a sex-stereotype illegal under federal law. If churches do not at least recognize, if not celebrate, same-sex marriages, it is possible that they could be sued or lose their tax-exempt status.

(Continued on page 10)





REFLECTIONS-MAY

(Continued from page 8)

tions, a brutal procedure typically used in the second trimester, in which a living unborn child is torn apart in the womb and removed in pieces. Indiana is advancing a similar measure.

South Dakota recently passed several laws that require abortionists to give women the chance to see a sonogram of their baby and listen to its heartbeat, inform women about abortion pill reversal, ban abortions on pain-capable children, and make the sale of aborted baby parts a felony.

In contrast to the pro-life efforts, abortion advocates have been working to expand access, remove restrictions and codify abortion rights, as well as challenge the new pro-life state laws. New York, New Mexico, Maryland, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Virginia have passed or are trying to pass bills that allow abortion up to the moment of birth or even after a child is delivered.

New York recently expanded access to third-trimester abortion in cases where a woman's health is in danger or where a fetus is not viable, permit non-physicians to perform abortions, and remove all criminal penalties for the procedure.

The Vermont Senate overwhelmingly approved an amendment to the State Constitution that would legalize abortions up to birth and deny legal rights to children-in-the-womb. The amendment must be approved by Vermont voters if it clears several more legislative hurdles.

The governor of Illinois has pledged to make that state "the most progressive state in the nation for access to reproductive health care." Two bills currently being debated would allow abortion for any reason up to birth, remove the ban on partial-birth abortion, permit non-doctors to perform the procedure, and strip away conscience protections for medical professionals who oppose abortion.

Did You Know?

Our website (<https://www.kofc2797.org>) 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 - www.kofc2797.org/events
- Contact your officers - www.kofc2797.org/officers
- Access our monthly newsletter, the Chatter - www.kofc2797.org/chatter
- Recruit a Catholic brother - www.kofc2797.org/become-a-knight
- Follow Us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/Rock-Creek-Council-2797-Knights-of-Columbus-161422011011482/
- If you are not a member of the council's Google Group to receive notices of events, contact either Matt Flynn or Ivan Gallic listed at www.kofc2797.org/officers

REFLECTIONS-JUNE

(Continued from page 9)

The claim that the Act will create equality in athletics is a sham. When Title IX, which prohibits sex discrimination in education programs, was enacted, women's sports at the high school and collegiate levels expanded enormously. Then, in 2016, the Obama administration interpreted the term "sex" under Title IX to include "gender identity," which allowed any male who claimed to identify as female the right to participate in women's sports. The result was inevitable. Biological males, who have natural physical advantages in size, strength and speed, dominated events when competing against females. Although President Trump revoked the Obama policy, the Equality Act would write gender identity into law. The many legal protections women now enjoy would be effectively eliminated, with the result that women's athletics would be essentially destroyed.

In the health sector, the ramifications of the Act would be enormous. Puberty-blocking hormonal treatments for children could be deemed necessary and standard health care. Doctors and nurses would be required to provide gender transition treatments and sex-change surgeries, even if these procedures violated their medical judgments and religious beliefs. Further, the language in the Equality Act is general enough so that courts could interpret it to mandate taxpayer funding for abortions and to nullify conscience protections for medical providers who object to performing these procedures.

Inevitable conflicts will arise between those who wish to adhere to their religious beliefs and advocates for LGBTQ "rights." Persons and groups holding traditional Christian beliefs about marriage, the distinction between sexes, and gender being determined at birth would be marked as bigots and exposed to legal action. Without the protection provided by RFRA, the Equality Act would tip the judicial scale against

Pro-Life Prayer Vigil

LeRoy Carhart, a late-term abortionist who kills babies in the womb up to the point of birth, is located in the Medical Building at Wildwood Shopping Center on Old Georgetown Road. Several prayer initiatives are underway to drive this business out of Maryland.

The 40 Days for Life prayer vigil is being held outside his facility daily during Lent, from 7 AM to 7 PM. For more information about the 40 Days for Life campaign, contact Jill Gadwood, 40DaysBethesda@gmail.com.

In addition, a more intense sidewalk vigil and public education campaign is being held each Monday from 9 AM to 11 AM, year-round. For details about the Monday morning vigils, contact Dick Retta at dickretta61@verizon.net or 301 538 2500.

And on the first Sunday of the month from 1:00-2:00 PM, Msgr. Edward Filardi, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, leads a prayer session.

Please join the group, and rid our area of this evil.



SENIORS' CLUB REPORT

By PGK Bob Waters, President

We now have had two Seniors functions since the last issue of The Knight Chatter. Our St. Pat's meeting and party was held on March 31. We had 50 members and guests attend.

Our guests were Msgr. Jack MacFarland, Fr. Joe Perkins, Fr. Ryan Pineda, Fr. John McKay, Fr. Keith Burney, Br. Ed Adams, and Deacons Chester Chin and Bob Hubbard. Thanks to Sean Culkin and the Culkin Irish Dancers who put on fantastic show.

Thanks also to Marcie Pekar for chairing this event, and the "Fab Five" who continue to tell me what to do! Mike Horan did a great job with the food, a usual.

We prayed for Angela Waters (my daughter-in-law), Dennis Dorian (Neil's brother), Barbara Dolan (widow of Joe Dolan and daughter-in-law of PGK Ray Dolan).

On June 15, we again celebrated a Hawaiian meeting and party. We prayed especially for PGK Roberto Ibanez, PGK Vince and Glenda Bunag, Dennis Dorian, and Jim Harbour (a friend) who are ill, and for Mary Ann Ferrigno (widow of PGK Peter Ferrigno) and Charles Banaz (Rockville Elks) who have died.

Over 30 members attended. Fr. Joe Perkins, Fr. Ryan Pineda, Br. Ed Adams were guests. Everyone looked great in their Hawaiian attire!

Many thanks to Ted and Dora McIntosh



PGK Bob Waters

for chairing the event, and again to the "Fab Five", and a special thank you to Helen Brennan for much extra effort! Mike Horan provided a special luncheon, with Hawaiian-style food.

We will be holding our annual summer picnic on July 23.

There seems to be some confusion about free drinks for workers. We did away with that many years ago, as there were misunderstandings about who should be considered workers. The drinks are cheap and I always pay for mine — and I guarantee no one works harder than I do to keep out functions going.

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, Estelle Stoltz, Stephanie Suff, Alex Swanke, Marge Swanke, Regina Walter, Barbara Waters, and Fran and Frank Zello.



Who said you have to travel almost 5,000 miles to enjoy a Hawaiian bash?

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July-August CHATTER Deadline:
July 15, 2019

ROCK CREEK COUNCIL CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day 	5	6
7	8	9 Rosary 7:30 PM Business Meeting	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 K-C Club 7:00 PM	18 O'Boyle Assem. Rosary 7:30 PM Meeting 8:00 PM	19	20
21	22	23 Rosary 7:30 PM Social Meeting 8:00 PM	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	July		