

Please come to our business meeting every 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm (usually at St. John Neumann's Family Center – see schedule)

Volume 16, Issue 11

November 2016

Page 1 of 11

In This Issue

- Bob's Blurb
- Chaplains Report
- Ladies Auxiliary Report
- Field Agent
- Salute to PGK Kevin Morency
- Service Opportunities
- uber Knights!
- Football Mania
- Bellarmine Retreat
- Reflections on Family
- Membership Report
- Perennial Sale 2016
- Photo Album

Upcoming Events

November 2015

- 11/06-07 Pies By The Guys-SPCR
- 11/09 Business Meeting-SJN
- 11/13 Family Bowling / Funway

December 2015

- 12/06 Knight Before Christmas (1st, 2nd and 3rd Degree) - SJN
- 12/07 Ladies Auxiliary
- 12/08 Officers' Meeting
- 12/13 Breakfast with Santa at SPCR
- 12/14 Social Meeting with spouses

January 2016

- 01/05 Officers' Meeting
- 01/04 Ladies Auxiliary
- 01/11 Business Meeting-SJN

February 2016

- 02/01 Ladies Auxiliary
- 02/08 Business Meeting-SJN



Saint Charles
Knights of Columbus
UNITAS



Bob's Blurb

Congratulations and thanks to our many brothers who have made the first few months of the fraternal year such a success in raising monies to support our worthy charitable causes. It is good to occasionally review what we have done and whom we have benefitted.

First, \$16,500.00 was given to the Fox Valley Pregnancy Center to support the great work that they do to help parents with troubled pregnancies. Second, we collected over \$11,000.00 by our IDF/Tootsie Roll drive that will be distributed to organizations that help the intellectually disabled. In recent years, these organizations have included Misericordia Heart of Mercy Home, Marklund at Mill Creek, Giant Steps Illinois, Special Camps for Special Citizens, Special Olympics, Association for Individual Development dba Pederson Place, St. John Neumann's Special Education programs via Sister Judy, and St. Patrick's Special Education programs. Third, your Fall Classic 5k run/2K walk raised over \$7,000.00 of which half will be split between Special Olympics and Hope for Haitians. That's a total raised for charities of approximately \$34,500.00 in four months! A really great effort by our participating brothers, their families, and our generous sponsors to fulfill our commitment to the principle of Charity.

On a more somber note, we may not have been as diligent in informing prospective members of the opportunities to grow their Catholic faith and put it into action that the Knights of Columbus affords them. We have a Major Degree on Sunday, December 6th at St. John Neumann. Let's each pledge to ask one Catholic gentleman "Would you be interested in learning about the Knights?" in the next thirty days. If you get a "Yes" in reply, forward the prospect's contact info to Membership Director Paul Braddock at trombone_55@yahoo.com or 630 901 3164, and Paul will take it from there.

We also need all hands on deck over the November 6-8 weekend for Pies by the Guys. This is one of our three events where we raise funds for our council's general use. Without these events we could not have council funded picnics, Christmas parties, donations to college evangelization programs, gifts to our priests, nuns, and seminarians, equipment purchases, etc. So please, pitch in and work a shift sometime that weekend. Help out our event chairman by signing up online so he knows you are coming.

Finally, let's have some fun and fellowship at our November Family Bowling event, Breakfast with Santa, and our Council's December 14th Social meeting with our spouses. You deserve it for all you do!

Upcoming Events Continued

1st Degree Schedule

Dec. 6, 1:00 pm at SJN

Orientation Schedule

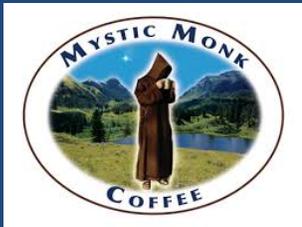
TBD

Everyone is invited, but please call Paul Braddock, 630-901-3164, in advance to ensure preparations are made for you.

Mystic Monk Coffee

Support the Ladies

Auxiliary



Support the Ladies Auxiliary by ordering Mystic Monk Coffee.

Just go to

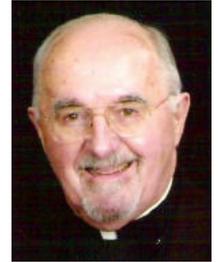
mysticmonkcoffee.com

May God bless you and your families always.

Bob Gilmartin – Grand Knight

Chaplain's Report

by Fr. Joe Lutz



Giving Back To God

Message for 11/8/15 - 32nd Sunday in OT (B)

Dear friends in Christ,

A poster slogan at a fiscal management conference caught my attention: "If God thought money would solve everything, he would have sent a check instead of his Son." Wow! That is profound when you stop and think about it. What a gift he has given us: his only Son to break the barrier between God and man. Jesus came as one like us to make known, in a personal way, the ways of God. Not only that, but he came to reconcile us to God the Father through suffering, death and resurrection. Jesus gave us his very self, his life for the redemption of our sins. Why? Because he loved us. This sacrificial love is the key to all giving; no greater gift can be given than that kind of giving. We've got a long, long way to go to even come close to that kind of giving, yet, that is what Jesus continually asks of us: we must 'die' to self in order to rise with Christ; that is, our giving should take on the nature of a self-giving sacrifice with love, not as an inconvenience due to an obligation. This is what today's Scripture readings are all about.

In the first reading from the book of Kings (1 Kgs 17:10-16), Elijah, a man of God, imposed upon a poor widow to give him a drink and a bit of bread. She was down to her last bit of flour and oil because of the drought, but she willingly shared it with Elijah when he promised that the Lord would provide. Through her faith and love of God, she gave her all, and both she, her son and Elijah survived the drought for a year together. This sacrificial giving by a poor widow was repeated in today's gospel from Mark (Mk 12:38-44) when Jesus called his disciples to observe the crowds putting money in the collection box in the temple. He noted that the poor widow, who put in two small copper coins, had given more than all the others who donated to the treasury, because they gave from their surplus wealth, but she gave from her want, all that she had to live on.

Responsorial Psalm 146:7-10 spells out some of what the Lord gives to us: *"Praise the Lord, my soul! The LORD keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets captives free. The LORD gives sight to the blind. The LORD raises up those who were bowed down; the LORD loves the just. The LORD protects strangers. The fatherless and the widow he sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts. The LORD shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia."* All this makes us think: what are we giving back to the Lord?

Today's second reading from the letter to the Hebrews (9:24-28) reminds us of the greatest gift of all time that Jesus gave us through his life, passion, death, and resurrection, the gift of eternal life: *"But now, once for all, he has appeared at the end of the ages to take away sin by his sacrifice. Just as it is appointed that human beings die once, and after this the judgment, so also Christ, offered once to take away the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to take away sin but to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him."* Wow! What a gift! What about our giving habits? Do we freely give of ourselves as the poor widow did and Jesus did, or do we give from our surplus, as the scribes and the rich people did in today's gospel from Mark (12:38-44)?

Council Officers

Grand Knight	Bob Gilmartin
Chaplain	Fr. Joe Lutz
Deputy Grand Knight	Bill Roth
Chancellor	Burt Brown
Recorder	Bob Girdwain
Financial Secretary	Bill Goetz
Treasurer	Dan Kadolph
Advocate	Jim Gebhardt
Warden	Steve Schnulle
Guard	Art Barsema
Guard	Doug Ollie
Guard	Jeff Bowgren
Guard	Matt Kling
Guard	Jim Webb
Trustee (3 Year)	Fred Karl
Trustee (2 Year)	Sean Morgan
Trustee (1 Year)	Jason Lynch
District Deputy	Jason Lynch
Field Agent	Greg Paul 708 601-5489

Council Directors

Membership Director	Paul Braddock
Church Director	Gary Topacio
Co-Community Directors	Jim McNamara, Tom Sikorski
Council Director	Tom Rasmussen
Family Co-Directors	Nathan Marchese, Roman Seckel
Youth Co-Directors	Jason O'Sullivan, Kevin True
Culture of Life Director	Jerry Pietryla

Sacrificial giving hasn't been a forgotten virtue in today's modern world, especially by our men and women in the armed services who have sacrificed their lives protecting our country from terrorism. We remember them this Memorial day and pray that God will grant them everlasting life for their gift to their country - their lives. In these times of economic depression and loss of jobs, in reality, there are even greater opportunities to be generous givers, as the poor widow was, because there are so many more now who are in need. This will certainly test our faith that God will provide for generous givers as well as for the poor.

Love and Prayers,

Fr. Joe

Useful Links

Did you know there is a **LinkedIn** group for KofC 12497? For those interested in networking professionally with other BKs and exchanging job opportunities, LinkedIn is a useful tool. Connect at www.linkedin.com/groups/St-Charles-Knights-Columbus-Council-6532622/about. We have over 40 members!

To help our families better become what they are called to be, the Knights of Columbus launched an initiative entitled: "**Building the Domestic Church: The Family Fully Alive.**" Monthly themes, meditations and activity ideas can be found at www.kofc.org/un/en/domestic-church/. Theme for this month: *Because God rested on the seventh day, we want to celebrate Sunday as a family.*

Exemplifications of Second and Third Degrees

Just a heads up that First Degree Knights who aspire to full Knighthood can take their Second and Third degree together in one afternoon right here in our Council's sponsored Major Degree on Sunday, December 6, 2015, at St. John Neumann. Reserve the date on your calendars today. Registration starts at 1:30 pm. Supper and beverages follow at about 5 pm.

Knight of the Month

Congratulations to Gavin Burke, the Knight of the Month for September!



Ladies Auxiliary Report



Hello All!

Do you smell Coffee? I hope so because we are going to be selling our Mystic Monk coffee at Pies By the Guys pickup. Coffee and apple pie. Mmmm.

Also... This year, as in past, we will be participating in Carson's Community Days. For \$5 you will receive a booklet which includes a great variety of coupons, including a \$10 off coupon. Great for Christmas shopping!!! (At the time of writing this I realized it was 57 days away. eek)

In an ongoing effort for parish community involvement and spirituality, a Recitation of the Rosary will be held on the First Saturday of the month. 3:30 p.m. (Before 4:00 Mass) at St. Patrick – Crane Rd.

Be good, play nice. Think God!

Thea Stowell

President, Ladies Auxiliary

Service Opportunities

Pope Francis recently said "No one can remain insensitive to the inequalities that persist in the world." Two local organizations help the homeless and poor of our area and are always looking for help working an occasional shift. Hessed House in Aurora provides supper, overnight shelter and breakfast to the homeless. St. Patrick parish provides volunteers four nights per year. Lazarus House in St. Charles provides similar services to the needy. If you would like to learn more, contact Ms. Corey Remus about Hessed House at 630 262 1366 or Brother Jon Mielke about Lazarus House at 847 863 1264.

GKs salute Kevin Morency

Several of our council's Past Grand Knights joined GK Bob Gilmartin and all attending brother Knights in saluting Kevin Morency at our October council meeting.

Kevin was our first elected Grand Knight in 1999 and served the council in that capacity until 2001. Since then, Kevin has continued as an active participant by cooking at numerous events and by collecting during many fund raising drives. As he relocates to Tennessee, his brothers wish him continued success and happiness.

Pictured, front row, left to right: Mike Safranski, Kevin Morency, Bud Howatt, Sean Morgan.
Back row: Jason Lynch, Paul Herrmann, Fred Karl, Bob Gilmartin.



Interested in becoming more involved in the Council?

Are you interested in learning about opportunities to become more involved in the Council and its programs? Do you have an interest in a particular event or program, but don't know whom to approach or how to get your questions answered?

Our Council has many events and programs that constantly have a need for more leaders and helpers to share the workload and the fellowship. Service programs include Church, Council, Community, Youth, Family, and Culture of Life. Events include, but are not limited to, our Golf Outing, Fall Classic 5Krun/2Kwalk, the Intellectual Disabilities Fund/(Tootsie Roll) drive, Pies by the Guys, and our Council picnic etc. Officer positions start with Inside/Outside Guards, Warden, Advocate, etc.

So, if you have an interest and would like to learn more, contact Grand Knight Bob Gilmartin at 312 771 6685 or bobonfox@gmail.com. You won't regret it.

Need a ride to a meeting or event? Call uber Knights!

The Knights listed below have agreed to give you a ride, at a mutually agreed time, to and from a Knights meeting or event if they are also attending. Please call an uber Knight in your geographic area, as identified below, if you need this free service.

Don't let winter weather, car repairs, injury, or unavailability of the family car keep you from participating. Call an uber Knight!

East of Fox River and North of Army Trail Road:

Gavin Burke	630 262 5318	Fred Karl	847 373 2922
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East of Fox River between Army Trail and East Main Street:

Jim Gebhardt	312 405 0378
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East of Fox River and south of East Main Street:

Volunteer needed

West of Fox River and north of Red Gate:

Kevin Malooly	806 881 9770	Manny Fragoso	847 946 4915
Art Barsema	630 443 8991	Ken Konetzki	630 745 0519
Dennis Marquis	708 476 1151	Gary Topacio	847 888 3599

West of Fox River between Red Gate and West Main Street:

Ed Mundt	847 609 1636	Bob Girdwain	630-584-9217
Steve Pentek	630 715 0230	Paul Herrmann	630 485 0784

West of Fox River and south of West Main Street:

Greg Sengstock	630 770 5348	Steve McAuley	630 208 0467
Jim Webb	630 514 7703		

Field Agent: *Update Your Beneficiaries*

Sometimes it is easy to overlook the simplest of things.

Take, for example, the beneficiaries on your life insurance policies. If your policy was applied for and issued several years ago, it may very well be that the person you originally selected as the beneficiary is no longer the person you would want to receive the policy proceeds. If you bought the policy when you were single, for example, you may have named your parents as beneficiaries. If you have since married, your policies should be updated to reflect your spouse as beneficiary. Maybe you've had children since, who are not named on the policies.



Most people list a primary beneficiary, who is specifically designated as the first in priority to receive policy proceeds. We also encourage the naming of a contingent beneficiary, an alternate person designated to receive policy proceeds, usually in the event that the original beneficiary pre-deceases the insured.

I routinely call all of my policyholders for annual review appointments, usually near the anniversary date of your policy – that is, the date it was originally issued. One of the matters that I'll discuss during this review is the status of your beneficiary designations. If they need updating, and they often do, I can complete the paperwork during that appointment.

I look forward to meeting with each of you to discuss your family's needs.

Contact me today to learn more about our products.

Gregory Paul, FIC
(708) 601-5489
gregory.paul@kofc.org

Moved? Temporary Hardship? No Longer Wish to be a Member?

Your Council does not want to see any of our brothers leave us. We know, however, that sometimes brothers move away, have financial hardships, or want to leave the brotherhood and stop receiving emails and communications from Council. Let's talk frankly about each of these situations.

First, if you move and want to join your new local council, we need to fill out a special **transfer** form to give you to present to the new council. The problem is we don't have your new address and contact info, and you may have lost ours. So, if you need a transfer form, try these approaches: get your form from our Financial Secretary before you move, or get our contact info from *Unitas*, or call an old friend and have him give us your contact info and ask us to call you. We will get you properly set up so you can enjoy brotherhood at your new home and council.

Second, If you cannot pay your annual dues because of an illness, job loss or other temporary situation, by all means contact the Grand Knight, who can work out a suitable workaround program or consider a hardship excusal to satisfy your obligation.

Last, if you are no longer interested in being a Knight, please reconsider and try to remember the good things we stand for and do. If you still want to leave, please send us a written letter or an Email, and use the specific phrase "I want to withdraw from the Knights." Supreme will only honor a request to leave if it is framed as a withdrawal in writing. We will do the rest to get you off the rolls and mailing lists.

We will be happy to work with you on any of these situations. Contact Grand Knight Bob Gilmartin at 312 771 6685 or bobonfox@gmail.com , Deputy Grand Knight Bill Roth at wmroth@sbcglobal.net or 630 443 1701, or Financial Secretary Bill Goetz at 847 303 7844 or 5goetz@sbcglobal.net.

R U READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL ?!!!!

The Football Mania fundraiser began on September 10th, but it's not too late to join in!

For \$20 per ticket you can enter as many times as you wish. Tell your family, friends, neighbors, fellow parishioners. Buy as gifts. For your donation you also can download music from a wide range of musical genres. The majority of your donation goes directly to support the needs of our parishes and the many worthwhile organizations we support.

The link to register is: <http://www.charitymania.com/register/A5247> -- or contact John Hofmeyer for paper tickets.

John Hofmeyer
815-370-1919
John.hofmeyer@att.net



Bellarmino men's silent retreat, January 2016

Please consider attending the annual Bellarmine men's retreat this coming January.

Fr. Michael Sparough, S.J. is a member of Bellarmine's resident staff, the founder of Charis Ministries (a Jesuit retreat ministry for outreach to young adults), and has trained spiritual directors at Loyola University Chicago's Institute of Pastoral Studies. Fr. Sparough has published on prayer and the sacraments with St. Anthony Messenger Press, Loyola Press and other publications.

The January 22-24, 2016 silent retreat with Fr. Sparough will begin on Friday evening. The weekend features eight talks, an opportunity for private conferences with a spiritual director, and Mass and confession. The retreat concludes after lunch on Sunday, around 1pm.

There are three ways to register:

1. Call the office at 847-381-1261. You can make the \$85 deposit payment over the phone with a credit card.
2. Register online at www.jesuitretreat.org.
3. Mail in a registration form with a check or credit card information to:
Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House, 420 W. County Line Rd., Barrington, IL 60010

Note: I am looking for 1 or 2 Co-Captains to help me recruit new men to attend our Bellarmine Retreats in January every year. Please contact me if you can help.

Chuck Jaeger, brother Knight
email prdonearth@aol.com
Phone 630-779-4564

Reflections on Marriage and Family Life

By David Stowell

Over the past few months it has been exciting to be a Catholic Christian. We had our Pope visit America and give us a ton of hope and love to hold us through just about anything. We had the World Meeting of Families which was the main purpose of Pope Francis' visit. And recently ended was the Ordinary Synod on the Family in Rome. Despite all of the various media reporting this political agenda or that, The Pope was giving one singular message to the entire world. The doctrine of the Catholic Church cannot change, as it was given to the Church by Jesus Christ himself, and we must always act with love and charity in our dealings with others.

So we must act with love and charity in all of our dealing with others. And it may come as a shock to some but those others include our families. Okay we have all been there, "it slipped out - I didn't mean to say that to her but man now she isn't even looking at me. Maybe if I play along with her little game and not look at her she will learn her lesson that I am right." Okay you probably guessed where I am going here. Of course that is just a recipe for disaster... but we all have played it, haven't we? Okay after a bit we apologize to each other, go to confession repent for our sin, and try to improve in the future.

We really do have to make treating others with love and charity a primary principal of our lives. But perhaps we need to think of our family life in a new and radical way. I think I was introduced to this concept by Monsignor Joseph Linster, and I have heard it in numerous places since then. But take a look at your family. These are the people that you are trying to get to Heaven. And look even closer because these same people are working on getting you to Heaven. That's what love is all about. Those human beings, one of whom you professed vows and married, and the others you have also vowed your love to. Each of those people you have sacrificed for. In the end these sacrifices have but one purpose, their entry in the eternal life in Heaven.

That is the coolest thing about family. When it gets right down to it all of the lessons that we all learn throughout life get passed along and we all become richer and stronger in our love. There is a communion there with your family. Each of you independent but working together for the family. And those in the "That Man is You" program will recognize this... "In communion, there is God." That is the ultimate purpose for the family and why it is the cornerstone of human community. This pathway of course is not smooth and placid. But what is worth having that is ever that easy? Teenagers are still going to feel their oats. Husbands and wives are going to have differences of opinions that at times move past the discussion stage. But each of those encounters changes us just a little bit and brings us a little closer to perfection.

No, don't start a fight with your wife to get closer to perfection... it just isn't going to work. That is because we go back to the message of Pope Francis. Fighting isn't in those doctrines and we must always act with love and charity in our dealings with others. Keep those principals always at your side and perhaps take a little bit of a different look at those people closest to you. God Bless.

Membership Report

We have reached the two most charitable months of the year...Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you witnessed the path paved by Pope Francis while in the U.S., you will easily be led to conversation with your fellow Catholics. Pope Francis has an open heart of love for all those he comes in contact with and then he shares his life with them. We, too, can become more open in all we do and treat others with love. Actively seek to have the Holy Spirit be part of our daily life.

The most inspirational time of the year to become a Knight will be on **Sunday, December 6**. The birth of Jesus is God's gift to us. Allow yourself to give this gift of love to others.

Supreme is encouraging each of us to invite someone to become a **(K)night Before Christmas**. If you recruit a new member between now and Dec. 31, you will be awarded a **medallion** commemorating **Pope Francis' visit** to the United States. You will also be awarded 2000 VIP points for each new member you recruit during this period. These VIP points can be redeemed at the Supreme Knight's store.

Becoming a **(K)night Before Christmas** allows your recruit to become a *FIRST, SECOND, and THIRD DEGREE* Knight all in the same day. On December 6, the St. Charles Knights are the host of the Major Degree. There will be Knights from all around the area coming to join us. This is a day to set aside to be with us so you can meet a number of Knights from outside your Council and to show your Fraternal Spirit.

Can't wait to see you and meet your Recruits!

Your faithful servant of Membership,

Paul Braddock
Membership Director
trombone_55@yahoo.com
630-901-3164

GET READY! 2016 PERENNIAL SALE

At our September meeting Dennis Marquis spoke about our new fund raiser – Knights of Columbus springtime **perennial plant sale** with the Ladies Auxiliary.

One might ask: why are we talking about growing plants in the face of impending winter months?

Au contraire: his request focused around the fall season being the appropriate time for plant donors to dig and divide their overgrown perennials. He asked that the divisions be set aside to winter over in their yards for potting next spring. Many perennial plants are best divided in the fall.



Information on how to divide and what plants are best can be obtained by calling Julia Cooper 630.248.0413 or Lorna Marquis 630-450-5958. We have a list of desired plants that can be emailed to you for more information. Our goal this year is to have at least 1500 plants available for sale.

The 2016 plant sale is scheduled for Saturday May 14 at the Crane Road Church grounds.

Photo Album



Manny – pitchin' pies at our
October business meeting

For some great pictures from
the Knights 5K Run
in October, go to
<http://reg3.smugmug.com/>

Do you have photos to share?
Send `em in!

Remember to take a few at the next
Knights event you attend.