

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 18, Issue 12

December 2017

Page 1 of 9

In This Issue

- Mr. Bill's Corner
- Chaplain's Corner
- uber Knights
- Field Agent Update
- Membership Report
- Bellarmine Retreat
- Photo Album

Upcoming Events

December

- 12/09 Knight Before Christmas (1st, 2nd, 3rd Degree) -SJN
- 12/10 Breakfast with Santa -SPCR
- 12/11 Social meeting with spouses

January

- 01/02 Officers' Meeting
- 01/08 Business Meeting-SJN

February

- 02/05 Ladies Auxiliary
- 02/06 Officers' Meeting
- 02/12 Business Meeting-SJN

March

- 03/05 Ladies Auxiliary
- 03/06 Officers' Meeting
- 03/12 Business Meeting-SJN

1st Degree Schedule

Saturday Dec. 9, 1:00 pm
St. John Neumann

Orientation Schedule

TBD

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



Saint Charles
Knights of Columbus
UNITAS



Mr. Bill's Corner

Dear Brothers,

It is hard to believe that it is already the end of 2017. My first 6 month as Grand Knight has flown by. Like I always like to say, "**Time flies when you are having Fun!**". I really would like to thank all of the Knights that have contributed their time and talent over the last 6 months. Without your participation, we would have not have been as successful as we were.

For the month of December, we have the following events occurring:

12/09/17	Knights Before Christmas at SJN
12/10/17	Breakfast with Santa at STPCR – Dempsey Hall
12/10/17	Keep Christ in Christmas at STPCR – Dempsey Hall
12/11/17	General Council Meeting at SJN – Christmas party

If you have not been to a Council meeting in a while, please come this Monday (12/11/17) for our Christmas Social at St. John Neumann's Hoffman Center. We forego a monthly council business meeting in December, and replace it with a social meeting celebrating Christmas. Spouses are invited to this fun event. Our council provides wine, beer, soft drinks, water and coffee. Please bring an appetizer or a dessert for the buffet table. Doors open at 6:30 pm. No work, just an evening of fraternity and fellowship!

With the year coming to an end, have you contributed 24 hours this year to helping out the Knights at some of our events? Start thinking and planning on those events you can help out with in 2018. Remember, if we can get every Knight to contribute just 24 hours of their time to events in 2018, we will have one of the most successful Councils in the country.

And lastly, I would to give my Thanks to all of my fellow Knights who help to make this such a successful Council in 2017. May your Christmas and New Year bring you many blessings and happiness.

God Bless

Bill Roth

Mystic Monk Coffee

Support the Ladies
Auxiliary



Support the Ladies Auxiliary by
ordering Mystic Monk Coffee.

Just go to

mysticmonkcoffee.com/store/?aid=

[1017](http://mysticmonkcoffee.com/store/?aid=1017)

Council Officers

Grand Knight	Bill Roth
Chaplain	Fr. David Peck
Deputy Grand Knight	Burt Brown
Chancellor	Gary Stopka
Recorder	Bob Girdwain
Financial Secretary	Ed Mundt
Treasurer	Dan Kadolph
Advocate	Roman Seckel
Warden	Hank Brill
Guard	Jeff Bowgren
Guard	Greg Sengstock
Trustee (3 Year)	Bob Gilmartin
Trustee (2 Year)	Jim Gebhardt
Trustee (1 Year)	Fred Karl
District Deputy	Jason Lynch
Field Agent	Greg Paul 708 601-5489

Council Directors

Membership Director	Paul Braddock
---------------------	---------------

Chaplain's Corner

by Fr. David Peck

What is Advent truly about? It's not about getting ready for Christmas. It's about getting ready for Christ. Prepare the way of the Lord! Christ doesn't care if the halls are decked or the stockings are hung. He's not listening to hear what carols are playing on rotation in the mall.

He wants nothing more than to dwell in our hearts. But we make the path to our hearts so confusing sometimes with detours of self-delusion or pride or pettiness or sin. The scripture calls on us to make those paths straight. Smooth out the rough spots. Clear out the clutter!

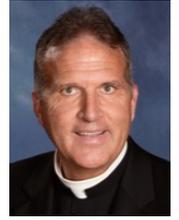
So, look more deeply into what this season is about. It is about warmth in a time of cold, light in a period of darkness. It is about salvation that came to us as a child and that will come again at the end of time as the king of glory. Advent calls on us to be ready for that. To pray more intently. To hope more fervently. To love more generously.

That is how we prepare the way of the Lord. That is how we make it easier for him to enter our hearts this Christmas. This is nothing less than a call to conversion. He's reaching out his hand to pull us to someplace better; to renewal, salvation and hope. He's offering us a second chance.

Let this Advent make a difference. Prepare for something wondrous and new. Prepare the way of the Lord!



Fr. David Peck



Attention First Degree Knights

Did you know that on **Saturday afternoon, December 9th**, you can advance to both Second/Formation and Third/ Knighthood degrees in one afternoon and do so right in your own neighborhood? This is the easiest and most convenient way to advance to full knighthood you will ever have the opportunity to enjoy.

Our council annually hosts this Major Degree at St John Neumann. The exemplification of the Second degree starts around 2:00 pm, and the Third degree follows thereafter. Do both or just the next degree for which you are eligible. An optional social / dinner follows the exemplifications.

More information can be learned from the State website, or from DGK Burt Brown. A state ceremonial team will conduct these two beautiful exemplifications. C'mon you First Degree Knights - come and enjoy these wonderful ceremonies.

Church Directors	Gary Topacio David Richter
Community Director	Jim McNamara
Council Director	Tom Rasmussen
Family Director	Roman Seckel
Youth Co-Directors	Jason O'Sullivan, Keith True
Culture of Life Director	Jerry Pietryla

4th Degree Exemplification February 17

All 3rd Degree Knights in good standing are invited to take the step to Sir Knight at the Exemplification of the 4th Degree at the Hilton Oak Brook Hills Resort on Saturday, February 17, 2018.

The principle of the 4th Degree is Patriotism, and the exemplification is one of the most beautiful ceremonies you will ever attend.

NOTE: YOUR APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED EARLY AND REQUIRES SEVERAL SIGNATURES BEFORE SUBMISSION. Our council liaison, John Blozis has the Form 4 application that you need. Contact him at jblozis1@gmail.com / 630-479-6709.

Please consider advancing in your knighthood to the 4th Degree.

Ladies Auxiliary Report

Advent Blessings!

On November 14th several Auxiliary members participated in food packing at the Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva. This is the second time members from our group have been able to participate in this activity. This time family members and friends joined the group to package gravy mix – just in time for Thanksgiving (see photo album below)! Thank you, Charity for coordinating this service project for us!



Several members of the Auxiliary attended the annual Women and the Well event, "Advent by Candlelight" in early December. We were able to fill 2 tables – including potential new Auxiliary members! This was a wonderful opportunity for our group to get together for a faith sharing experience.

We are looking forward to providing the crafts and fleece blanket project as well as moderating the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest on Sunday, December 10th during the Knights' annual Breakfast with Santa! This is always a fun way to get together as a group and provide Christ centered activities for the families. Once the fleece blankets have been completed, one of the priests will bless them before they are donated to Corbella Clinic.

Beginning in January, we will be partnering with Village Tavern in South Elgin for a fundraising opportunity. Each 3rd Thursday of the month Village Tavern will donate 10% to the Auxiliary for those who dine at Village Tavern and present the coupon for the event. Please watch the bulletins at both parishes for the coupon!

The Knights' Christmas Social is an annual event that we are looking forward to attending again this year! This is always a great opportunity to get together with the Knights' and Ladies for a fun, social gathering after a year of many events and hard work!

May you grow closer to Christ during this Advent season!

Alice Sury
Ladies Auxiliary President

Bibles for St. Patrick Preschool

On Tuesday December 5th, Grand Knight Bill Roth presented a check from the St. Charles Knights of Columbus Council 12497 to Veronica Day (St. Patrick Preschool Director) and Monsignor Knox for the purchase of new bibles to be used at the preschool.



Fourth Degree Regalia Donated

Many thanks to Sir Knights Bob and Craig Mayberry who recently donated two complete sets of regalia to our Council for use by our Sir Knights. The regalia is available to any Sir Knight to borrow for an Assembly event. The regalia is currently stored at our SPDT storage locker. Our council Warden Hank Brill or Assembly Liaison SK John Blozius can arrange to get you access to the locker if you would like to borrow any of the regalia, in whole or in part. Anything borrowed from the council should be returned shortly after the event so that it will be available to your brother Sir Knights for their use.

Even if Supreme Council goes forward with the adoption of the new blazer/beret regalia after June 30, 2018, the baldrics and swords will still be useful to our council's Knights. Do not let the cost of regalia, whether old or new, prevent you from advancing to the Patriotic Degree. Let the sets of donated regalia support you as you gather your own set over time.

For many years, Bob and his wife Doogie have been active members in our council. They are now moving to a senior housing development in south Aurora near Waubonsie High School. We all wish them well and many more years ahead.

Council Awards Received

Our Council was recently presented two awards shown in the photo.

The **Columbian Award** recognizes excellence in a council's programming and charitable outreach. Councils must conduct and report at least four major programs in each of the Service Program categories: Church, Community, Council, Family, Culture of Life, and Youth.

The **Father McGivney Award** recognizes excellence in your council's membership growth. Your council must meet or exceed its yearly membership quota to be eligible.



Knight of the Month



Congratulations to our October Knight of the Month, Dan Rothengass!

Mercy For the Starving – Final Update

468 Boxes of Food
101,088 Meals Shipped!!!



Mercy for the Starving

360 boxes/77,760 meals have gone to Haiti with our partner, Food for the Poor. Food for the Poor's mission is to link the church of the First World with the church of the Third World in a manner that helps both the materially poor and the poor in spirit. Food for the Poor helps provide food, housing, health care, education, water projects, emergency relief, and micro-enterprise assistance in the Caribbean and Latin America. To learn more about Food for the Poor, please visit www.foodforthe poor.org

108 boxes/23,328 meals have gone to Burkina Faso (country in West Africa) with our partner, Reach Now International. Reach Now International seeks to reach the devastated and desperate with the gospel and practical help, targeting orphans, refugees, internally displaced people, those affected by war, governmental situations, poverty, persecution, and other natural conditions and calamities. Through projects and outreach done through strategic partnerships, Reach Now International serves populations around the world. To learn more about Reach Now International and the work they do, please visit www.reachnow.net

What an incredible impact these 468 boxes of food will have in these areas! With the 101,088 meals packed in St. Charles, 276 kids could eat a meal every day for an entire year! What an absolute blessing to those most desperately in need.

To the 500 volunteers who gave from their heart at this community service event. THANK YOU!!!



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
-------------	--------------	-----------	--------------

East of Fox River between Army Trail and East Main Street:

Jim Gebhardt	312 405 0378
--------------	--------------

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		

Bellarmino Men's Silent Retreat, January 19-21, 2018

Please consider attending the annual Bellarmino men's silent retreat this coming January. The retreat theme is "Christ, the Wisdom and Power of God".

The Retreat Master, Fr. Keith Muccino, SJ currently works as a physician and medical educator at Loyola University Medical Center in Chicago. He directs retreats for parish and professional groups that are seeking to connect God to the busy pace and challenges that are a part of everyday contemporary life.

Join Fr. Muccino for a retreat that goes beyond the intellect and reaches the heart. The retreat will draw upon St. Paul's reflection on the power of the Christian paradox - wherein God's seeming foolishness is to be seen as true wisdom, and the humility and weakness of Christ crucified is the power that redeems all things. The silent retreat will begin on Friday evening. The weekend features talks, an opportunity for private conferences with a spiritual director, and Mass and confession. The retreat concludes after lunch on Sunday, around 1pm.

You can register in one of these ways:

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.

Chuck Jaeger, brother Knight
email charlesjaeger4564@gmail.com
Phone 630-779-4564

Field Agent: *Protecting Your Family... Business?*

You already know that the Knight of Columbus is here for all your personal and family financial protection needs, but did you know that the Order can help secure your business too? As your Knights of Columbus field agent, I can help you protect the continuity of your business for years to come.

Business insurance is the term used in the insurance industry to describe the use of life insurance and disability income insurance to solve certain financial needs of businesses and their owners. The products offered through the Order can cover many needs, such as:

- Economic loss to the business when a key employee dies
- Disposition of a business owner's interest upon death or other separation from the business

If you've worked hard to establish a business, you owe it to yourself and your family to learn about the opportunities that the Knights of Columbus can offer. With protection for the family, the business, the farm, retirement, long term care and disability coverage, the Knight of Columbus truly is your shield for all the elements of your life.

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



Please Support our Sponsors

Dan Rothengass,
Owner / Operator
www.ceiling sandmoreinc.com
email: cminc500@sbcglobal.net

Call (630) 406-5729 for a free estimate
Or send us an e-mail



Custom Basements • Semi-Custom Basements • Bars • Home Theaters • Bathrooms
Additions • Custom Cabinets • Ceilings • Decorative Trim • Light Solutions • Other Solutions

Any Knight can sponsor our newsletter for \$100 per year. Contact the Unitas editor at unitas12497@sbcglobal.net

Photo Album



Our Ladies Auxiliary recently participated in a food packing service project at the Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva.

