



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

St. John The Beloved Council 11796

Grand Knight's Message

Dear Brother Knights,

Merry Christmas!

I remember how as a child those words would always bring me happiness because it meant Santa Claus was coming to town soon! But Christmas meant a lot more- cookies and carols, visits with friends and extended family and, of course, school vacation! Still, my favorite childhood memories of Christmas are the quiet times spent with my family - things like sitting quietly in a darkened room admiring the glimmering tree or praying in front of the manger scene at Midnight Mass.

Now that I am an adult with a family of my own, I find Christmas too often means an endless list of things I have to do to get ready: decorating, shopping, cleaning, wrapping I have to stop and make sure I don't get so busy preparing for Christmas that I don't forget to build Christmas memories for my children. That new electronic gadget may be obsolete in two years but the time spent together putting up the tree, visiting loved ones, and singing hymns at Christmas Mass will last forever. The best present my children receive every year is the affirmation of the love of God and family. Please make sure your loved ones receive the same present this year.

Speaking of friends and parties, I hope to see you at the council's annual Christmas Dinner on December 9th at the Cavalier's Country Club! This is always a fun night out for Knights and their Ladies.

Vivat Jesus!

Bill Harris



December 2007

Welcome Our Newest Members

Our council's First Degree Team will conduct an exemplification on Sunday, December 2nd, at 7:00 PM. The degree will be at the Pius X Council home located at Scott and Lancaster Streets in Wilmington. Everyone is encouraged to attend as we welcome the newest members (five at present) to our council. Pius X is a ten minute drive from SJB. Turn right off of Union to Lancaster then go one block and left onto Scott Street to access the parking lot right behind the building

The Party's On!

Our council's Christmas Dinner is set for Sunday December 9th at the Cavaliers Country Club (100 Addison Drive) in Newark. The bar opens at 6:00 PM and dinner will be served at 6:30 PM. There's a great meal for only \$15.00 per person; you don't have to stand in the cold outside a big box store at 4:00 AM to get the bargain; and the people you'll be with are those you know and enjoy that won't press you into a decal on the door as they rush to grab the bargain. There's also the element of suspense as we find out who will be honored as Knight of the Year and Family of the Year. Reservations are required and can be made with Chick Mealey at 420-8777 or chasomalley1@yahoo.com. or Kevin Duffy at 366-1655 or americor.duffy@comcast.net.

December Meeting Changes

The business meeting for December will be held in the Conference Room on December 5th as scheduled. The monthly social meeting however will be replaced with the council's Christmas Party being held at the Cavaliers Country Club on December 9th. What, you thought we were going to do both? Party animals, the bunch of you!

Football Frenzy

Those who have volunteered to park cars at the U of D football games this season have been rewarded for their efforts in a big way. After all, how often do you get to see an NCAA game go into five overtimes or witness an historic match up between the U of D Blue Hens and the DSU Hornets? Depending on what happens on December 2, you might get one more chance to volunteer. In any case, our thanks go to Joe Mahoney and his team of professional parkers, spatial specialists and motoring magicians (every possible space was filled thirty minutes before the regular season ending game started) for all they have done this season. Job well done gentlemen.

NOTE: If the team makes it to the semis and gets home field advantage, volunteers will be needed for the game so watch the sports pages and then contact Joe Mahoney at dmyhoney@peoplepc.com or 998-1774 to volunteer for the next game. GO BLUE HENS!

A Family Meal

Bill and Karen Harris and their son Brian were joined by Frank Lane on November 17th as they prepared a wonderful meal at the Ronald McDonald House for families of children being treated at the A.I. DuPont Children's Hospital. Our volunteers had fun and the families really appreciated the respite from their concerns.

December 2007

Missing Members Remembered

Approximately 40 knights and family members from our council remembered 18 missing members and spouses at our annual memorial mass on November 28th. Our council chaplain Father Cocco celebrated and our pastor Father Charlie concelebrated the mass. Bob and Karol Dayett's daughter Jackie serves as Lector and Tony Solomon and Brian Harris volunteered as altar servers to make it a true family function. Thanks also go to the Harris, Duffy, and Solomon families, Ray McAllister and everyone else who helped with set up and breakdown of the hall and providing and serving the food. Those watching from above, including our two most recently departed loved ones – Agnes Baggs and Peter Beatty – must have been pleased.

The Schedule is Set!

Spend a little under two hours parking cars, then enjoy the best meal in town and watch courtside while the Blue Hens hoopsters dazzle you with their scoring skills – all for free. You have eleven chances to participate. Four volunteers will be needed for most games, only two volunteers for several. Half the games are on Wednesdays and the other half are on Saturdays. Game times vary so you have lots of choices. The times listed in the event calendar are the reporting times for volunteers. Game times are an hour and 45 minutes later. So, pick a game you can help at and then contact Joe Mahoney at 998-1774 or dmyhoney@peoplepc.com and let him know.

Keeping Christ in Christmas

A few boxes of Christmas cards are still available through the council. You can pick up a box at our Pancake Breakfast on December 9th or you can contact Pam or Jim Walls at pamawalls@comcast.net. These are full size high quality cards in boxes of 18 to 25 cards each. This is a good way to remind everyone you send a card to who the season is really all about and you'll get a chance to reflect on the reason for the season while you're sending greetings to those you love or wish to write to.

The Council's "How To" Guide to Almost Everything

Wondering how to improve yourself for free? Consider volunteering for our last Pancake Breakfast of 2007 on Sunday, December 9th. It won't cost you anything. The council will benefit. You'll get to compare notes with Vince Gildea on the best way to maneuver in traffic at the mall or in the stores; watch Frank Lane or Brian Maahs as they demonstrate their mastery of the art of scrambled eggs; pick up a few good ideas on how to manage a crew of well intentioned but not necessarily skilled laborers from Steve Oldiges; expand your understanding of the geopolitics of the Middle East through a conversation with Sam Masso; or marvel at Rich Steffy's ability to outperform the computerized sorter systems of Amazon.com or UPS as he keeps the orders that flow in straight. Or, if you need guidance on how to manage your holiday budget, you could always buttonhole our Worthy Financial Secretary Ray McAllister and ask him for a few tips. Keep in mind though that his grandson Kyle will start billing you after your free first five minute consultation runs out.

Event Calendar

December

2	7:00 PM	First Degree – St. Pius X Council	Scott & Lancaster Sts, Wilmington
3	5:15 PM	U of D Basketball (Towson)	U of D Field House
5	5:15 PM	U of D Basketball (Albany)	U of D Field House (only 2 needed)
5	7:00 PM	Council Rosary	Conference Room
5	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Business Meeting	Conference Room
9	7:30 AM	Pancake Breakfast	Parish Hall
9	6:00 PM	Council Christmas Party	Cavaliers Country Club
17	7:00 PM	First Degree – Coffee Run Council	7200 Lancaster Pike, Hockessin
22	5:15 PM	U of D Basketball (Boston Univ.)	U of D Field House

January

2	7:00 PM	Council Rosary	Conference Room
2	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Business Meeting	Conference Room
6	7:00 PM	First Degree – St. Pius X Council	Scott & Lancaster Sts, Wilmington
9	5:15 PM	U of D Basketball (Geo. Mason)	U of D Field House (only 2 needed)
12	5:15 PM	U of D Basketball (Old Dominion)	U of D Field House
13	7:30 AM	Pancake Breakfast	Parish Hall
16	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Social Meeting	Conference Room
20	6:00 PM	Chess Tournament Set Up	Parish Hall
21	8:00 AM	Knights in Battle Chess Tourney	Parish Hall
22	8:30 AM	35 th March for Life	Washington, DC
26	2:15 PM	U of D Basketball (Georgia State)	U of D Field House
28	6:00 PM	Chaplains' Dinner	Cavaliers Country Club
30	5:15 PM	U of D Basketball (Northeastern)	U of D Field House

February

2-3	All Masses	Souper Bowl Sunday	Front of Church
3	7:00 PM	First Degree – St. Pius X Council	Scott & Lancaster Sts, Wilmington
3	12:30 PM	Polar Bear Plunge / Spec Olympics	Sands Hotel, Rehoboth, DE
6	7:00 PM	Council Rosary	Conference Room
6	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Business Meeting	Conference Room
6	7:15 PM	U D Basketball (UNC Wilmington)	U of D Field House
9	12:15 PM	U D Basketball (VA Commonwlth)	U of D Field House
10	7:30 AM	Pancake Breakfast	Parish Hall
16	12:15 PM	U of D Basketball (Drexel)	U of D Field House
20	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Social Meeting	Conference Room
24	1:15 PM	Third Degree Exemplification	Marydel Fire Hall
27	5:15 PM	U of D Basketball (Hofstra)	U of D Field House (only 2 needed)
28	6:00 PM	Preparation for Fish Fry	Hall Kitchen
29	5:00 PM	Council Fish Fry	Parish Hall

December 2007