



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

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**St. John The Beloved Council 11796**

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Dear Brother Knights,

First things first. My apologies for the October newsletter. “What October newsletter?” you ask. My point exactly. There was none. I kept telling myself tomorrow, I’ll do it tomorrow. Then October was over. So the bad news is no newsletter last month. The good news is this one is packed with info.

The holidays approach and before you know it most of us will be gathered around the table with our families and friends. That table will be laden with a ham or a turkey and all the fixings. The air will buzz with lively conversation and sounds of laughter will fill the room. Several weeks later, that happy scene will be repeated in another room but the centerpiece will be a tree festooned with lights and decorations and surrounded by gifts wrapped with love in brightly colored paper and bows. It will be a season of happy reunions filled with good cheer and thanksgiving for all that we have.

For most of us that is. For others among us it won’t be so joyous. Factories have shut down, auto plants have closed and many small businesses have shuttered their doors forever. Layoff notices, home foreclosures, the loss of health insurance and the expiration of unemployment benefits have dramatically altered the lives of millions. The death of a loved one, divorce, illness and the stress of dealing with the aftermath of the economic meltdown will result in significantly less joyous celebrations than in time past for many others.

Should we forego our own celebrations, decide that we can’t as individuals solve such overwhelming problems by ourselves or simply avoid those who have been affected because it makes us uncomfortable when we don’t know what to say or do? The answer is “None of the above” because each of us can do something and together we can make a difference. Add one can of vegetables or a box of stuffing to your grocery list and add it to the food cart in the vestibule when you go to church. Call a friend who’s been out of work for months and invite his/her family over to dinner on Saturday evening. Your uncomfortable feelings will evaporate when you see the smile on your friends’ faces when they acknowledge times are indeed tough but your friendship and the fact that you’re thinking of them really means a lot. And, if you’re one of those who have been affected, admit times are tough but are worse for others and volunteer for something. It won’t cost anything. You’ve got the time and you’ll feel better about yourself and your situation.

Fraternally Yours,

Kevin Duffy  
Grand Knight

November 2009

## A Brother Passes

Joseph C. Pruitt passed away on September 9<sup>th</sup> at the age of 84. Joe was a fourth degree knight and a long time member of our council. Among the pictures at his viewing that remembered him during key moments of his life was a large group photo showing Joe as a proud member of the Knights of Columbus Color Guard. Joe was an usher at Sunday mass and a Navy veteran. He is survived by his wife Peggy.

## A Belated Farewell

We try to acknowledge every council member who passes from this life to the next when it happens. Life however doesn't always work out the way we planned. Such was the case when the April 2009 newsletter didn't make it to print. So, with our memorial mass approaching, we recognize the passing of John ("Jack") G. McCool on March 24, 2009. Jack had been a knight for 48 of his 84 years. He was a fourth degree member of the Cardinal Gibbons Assembly and an active member of our council who had achieved Honorary Life status in the Order. A WWII Navy veteran, Jack is survived by his wife Virginia. His obituary described him best when it said Jack "was a truly dignified individual and a consummate gentleman. We will all miss his contagious laugh, his quick wit, and unwavering love for his family and church." Jack was all of those things and more. Those who counted him as a friend had lives that were richer for it.

## Memorial Mass

A memorial mass celebrating the lives of fellow council members and their wives who have gone before us in death will be held on Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM. Dinner will follow in the hall immediately after mass. Those to be remembered include Walter Abath, Agnes Baggs, Sylvia Casas, John DalBello, Richard DeLorenzo, John DiAngelo, Michael DiCostanza, Robert Donahue Jr., Anthony Gemmola, William Gillen, Maurice Gross, John Harper, Mary Ellen Jelenek, James Lister, Sue McAllister, John (Jack) McCool, Gerald Micallef, Mario Pavesi, Ray Peden, Joseph Pruitt, William Rattenni, Rev. George Rhodes, Deacon Albert Rose Sr., James Tardona, and Anthony van Veen. Anyone wishing to assist with set up of the hall or serving the meal should contact Kevin Duffy at 366-1655 or [americor.duffy@comcast.net](mailto:americor.duffy@comcast.net).

## Knight of the Month - September

James R (Ray) McAllister was awarded Knight of the Month honors for September 2009. Ray is a fourth degree knight and charter member of our council. He was recognized for "Serving as our Financial Secretary since the council was formed in 1996" and for "working assiduously to ensure the accuracy of our council's membership rolls and financial records." His manifold contributions to the council and our parish include participating in our Pancake Breakfasts, Souper Bowl Food Drive, Tootsie Roll Drive for the Mentally Handicapped and performing our council's semiannual audits as well as being an usher at weekly mass and leading the accounting function for our annual parish carnival. Ray has been previously honored as Knight of the Month in January 2007 and Knight of the Year in 2000. It was tough recognizing Ray for all he's done for the council in a couple of paragraphs but it was well worth the effort just to see our towering figure of a Financial Secretary blush when presented with the award. Thanks for your dedication Ray.

## Family of the Month Award - September

Brian and Michele Maahs were awarded Family of the Month honors for September. Brian is a fourth degree knight and a member of the Cardinal Gibbons Assembly. He was cited for contributing “both his technical and culinary skills through many hours of volunteer service at our Pancake Breakfasts and Fish Fry’s and his organizational talents as a member of the Fish Fry Organizing Committee. Brian’s wife Michele was honored for playing “an active role in the lives of our children and our parish through her volunteer work at St. John the Beloved School” and for “contributing to the success of many of our council’s major events.” Daughters Elaina and Emily were recognized for being “representative of the excellence our Catholic youth can achieve” and Elaina was given special recognition for her hours of volunteer service to the Council. So we offer our congratulations and thanks to the entire Maahs family.

## Celebrate, Honor and Eat

Our council Christmas Party this year will be on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at the Tyler’s Restaurant. It’s located at 5343 Limestone Road (in the PNC Bank Shopping Center and across from Manor Care Rehab Center). The bar opens at 5:30 PM. Dinner will be served in the private dining room at 6:00 PM. The council has voted to keep the cost at \$15.00 per person. Our Knight of the Year and Family of the Year will be honored following the meal. This is a great time to catch up on news from your fellow knights and their families; celebrate the holidays and get a good meal for \$15.00. We will need to tell the restaurant how many are coming so contact Kevin Duffy at [americor.duffy@comcast.net](mailto:americor.duffy@comcast.net) or 366-1655 to reserve your seats.

## Accolades For Our Clerics

Our pastor Father Charlie and Associate Pastor Father Adrian were recognized on Priesthood Sunday for their efforts in ministering to our collective spiritual and temporal needs. After concelebrating the 11:00 AM mass on Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup>, both were addressed from the pulpit by Grand Knight Kevin Duffy on behalf of the parish and then presented with baskets of thank you cards prepared by students enrolled in our school, our religious education program and our Catholic Home School Program. Each was also given a \$50 gift certificate. The new Priesthood Sunday banner that hung above the main entrance to the church as a visible sign of parishioners’ appreciation was provided by our council. At the conclusion of the ceremony, both Father Charlie and Father Adrian were greeted by thunderous applause and a standing ovation by the entire congregation.

## Get in Shape for the Holidays

We all need to get in shape for the holidays. So either do a little carb loading to prepare your stomach for your family’s Thanksgiving extravaganza by having breakfast or trim an inch or two off your waistline in anticipation of meeting your in-laws by working the pancake breakfast on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Either way, you’ll be providing much needed support for our monthly event and getting in shape for whatever the holidays hold. As an added benefit, you get to sample the new and improved sausage our erstwhile event coordinator Steve Oldiges has on the menu. To help serve, cook or set up (this is one of those events where you get to choose what you want to do) contact Steve at [sjbkofc@hotmail.com](mailto:sjbkofc@hotmail.com) or 234-8150 and tell him you just have to try the new sausage.

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## Garden of Crosses

Our council made a powerful visual statement again this year on behalf of the unborn by erecting the Garden of Crosses at the Milltown Road entrance to the church grounds. Our thanks go to Dave Williams who chaired the event this year and to Mike Solomon and our other volunteers who helped set up display.

## Council Member Ordained

Our heartiest congratulations go out to council member Dennis Wuebbels who was ordained a permanent deacon by Bishop Malooly at the ordination ceremony performed at St Margaret of Scotland Church in Glasgow on October 24<sup>th</sup>. And we are twice blessed because Deacon Wuebbels has been assigned to St. John the Beloved by the Bishop. Congratulations also go out to fellow knight and current State Deputy Sherman Mitchell III who was also ordained a permanent deacon on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Deacon Mitchell has been assigned to Immaculate Conception Parish in Marydel.

## Council Wins Award

Our council was presented with the Delaware State Council 2008 – 2009 General Agents Insurance Promotion Award at the state meeting held on September 10<sup>th</sup>. This award, given for the highest gross in insurance quota, bears the Council's name and those of immediate past Grand Knight William K. Harris, Jr. and our Field Agent James T. Mullen, Jr. Well done gentlemen.

## Now, We're Legal

As you know, no one could find the council by-laws that we had when the council was formed in 1996. (Fortunately though, we've been following them just as if we actually had a set.) Council members addressed the situation at our October 21<sup>st</sup> meeting by discussing and then adopting a new set of by-laws. A copy of the approved by-laws can be obtained by contacting Kevin Duffy at 366-1655 or [americor.duffy@comcast.net](mailto:americor.duffy@comcast.net).

## Thank You

To those of you who volunteered to help with the reception in the hall that followed this year's diocesan Annual Wedding Anniversary Celebration at the 12:30 mass for those celebrating 25 and 50 or more years of marriage on Sunday September 20<sup>th</sup>. It was a successful event that showed St John the Beloved is the parish that can when our Bishop asks.

## Your Last Chance

This season anyway. Volunteers are needed to park cars at the Blue Hens' last home game on November 7<sup>th</sup>. The prediction is for dry weather and a balmy day so get in touch with Joe Mahoney at [dmyhoney2@verizon.net](mailto:dmyhoney2@verizon.net) or 998-1774 and let him know you want to help. Volunteer hours for this game will be 7:30 AM to noon.

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## Fueling the Faith of the Next Generation

Leading the young by our example will only get them so far. Some of it they have to learn first hand just like we did. So, 11 members of our Youth Ministry will do just that at the National Catholic Youth Conference this year. They will gather in Kansas City November 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> with 20,000 other Catholic youth to build their faith and share Christ's message. They've worked hard under the tutelage of our Youth Ministry Coordinator Greg Boulden to raise the funds necessary (car wash, bake sales, etc.) to pay for the trip and parents shouldered a substantial portion of the costs. Still, they faced a shortfall with a deadline looming. Presented with the situation, our council voted unanimously at its October 21<sup>st</sup> meeting to donate \$500 to help underwrite the trip. Now that's setting a good example.

## You're All Angels

On Broadway, an angel is someone who puts up the huge sums needed to stage a play. Here in Delaware, we do things on a smaller scale (and with fewer lights) but angels are still needed. So, when the Little Sisters of the Poor decided to recognize Pope Benedict XVI's October 11<sup>th</sup> canonization of their founder Jeanne Jugan with a play "The Little Saint of the Poor", they prayed for "angels". Our council collectively became one by donating \$500 at its October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Everyone is invited to see the play on November 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM in the auditorium of Christiana High School located at 190 Salem Church Road (across the street from the Jeanne Jugan Residence) in Newark. Admission is free.

## Keeping Christ in Christmas

Christmas cards are being offered by the council again this year. They are reasonably priced but only available in limited quantities. You can pick up a box of your favorites at the November 8<sup>th</sup> Pancake Breakfast. You don't have to have breakfast to purchase the cards so swing by after mass and get a start on whittling down your holiday list of things to do. Proceeds from the cards benefit the council.

## A Hat Trick Plus One

Yes sports fans, the Knights have done it again. The council's trivia team, captained by Bill Harris, won the Trivia Night competition held on October 17<sup>th</sup>. This was the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the event co-sponsored by the SJB Education Committee and our council. Attendance was down from previous years but more than a hundred participants comprising 13 teams showed up for a night of fun and a chance to beat the reigning champs. Posing as the Three Stooges and using a medical office as their backdrop, the team named "Pokem, Prodham & Billem PA" won \$50 gift certificates to a local restaurant and bragging rights for another year. Proceeds from the night will be split between the committee and the council.

## Breakfast of Champions

Speaking of champions, Principal Hart and his team are scheduling a Breakfast of Champions for the highest achieving SJB students in each grade. And since this will be a first of its kind event, the school is asking the experts at fixing breakfast for help. The plan is to provide a recognition breakfast for 25 to 30 students at the start of the school day. The event is scheduled for 8:00 AM on Tuesday December 1<sup>st</sup>. Volunteers will be needed to fix breakfast and assist parent volunteers with serving and cleanup. Contact Kevin Duffy at [americor.duffy@comcast.net](mailto:americor.duffy@comcast.net) or 366-1655 if you can help. It should take about 2 ½ hours from start to finish.

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## Event Calendar

### November

1	7:00 PM	First Degree – Pius X Council	Scott and Lancaster Streets
4	7:00 PM	Council Rosary	Conference Room
4	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Business Meeting	Conference Room
7	7:45 AM	U of D Parking (Hofstra)	Lot 9 (Hall of Fame Day)
8	7:15 AM	Pancake Breakfast	Parish Hall
14	10:00 AM	Craft Show	Parish Hall
18	6:30 PM	Council 11796 Memorial Mass	Church
21	9:00 AM	Fourth Degree Exemplification	Sheraton Hotel, Dover
21	7:00 PM	“Little Saint of the Poor” Play	Christiana High School
24	7:00 PM	First Degree – Seton Council	Elizabeth. Ann Seton, Bear

### December

1	8:00 AM	SJB Breakfast of Champions	Parish Hall
2	7:00 PM	Council Rosary	Conference Room
2	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Business Meeting	Conference Room
6	7:00 PM	First Degree – Pius X Council	Scott and Lancaster Streets
6	6:30 PM	Christmas Party/Awards Ceremony	Tyler’s Restaurant, 5343 Limestone Rd.
13	7:15 AM	Pancake Breakfast	Parish Hall
15	7:30 PM	First Degree – Christopher Coun.	Claymont
16	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Social Meeting	Conference Room

### January

3	7:00 PM	First Degree – Pius X Council	Scott and Lancaster Streets
6	7:00 PM	Council Rosary	Conference Room
6	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Business Meeting	Conference Room
10	7:15 AM	Pancake Breakfast	Parish Hall
17	1:30 PM	Fish Fry Planning Meeting	Conference Room
20	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Social Meeting	Conference Room
22	8:00 AM	37 <sup>th</sup> Annual March for Life	Washington, D.C.
24	1:30 PM	Fish Fry Planning Meeting	Conference Room
25	6:30 PM	Chaplains’ Recognition Dinner	Cavalier’s Country Club
26	7:00 PM	Second Degree – Our Lady/Fatima	New Castle
27	7:00 PM	First Degree – Holy Angels	Newark
31	1:30 PM	Fish Fry Planning Meeting	Conference Room