



COUNCILAIRS

Bel Air Council 4714



Phone: (410) 893:6442

23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050

Initiated Dec 1958

March 2014

Grand Knight's Message

Happy St. Patrick's Day – and more!!



The best known Saint in March is St. Patrick (389-460AD). A missionary to Ireland, that all can be proud of. We celebrate his martyrdom on March 17 each year because of his spirit of Christ-centered determination to see the knowledge of Christ prevail over the pagan strongholds of his day.

St. Patrick's Breastplate is contained in the ancient Book of Armagh, from the early ninth century. St. Patrick is said to have written this prayer to strengthen himself with God's protection as he prepared to confront and convert Loegaire, high king of Ireland.

As a Knight you continue St. Patrick's quest for Christ to prevail. You are armed with faith and fight to bring God's Charity, Love, and Morals to our Community. This is why you should be proud to be a Knight. This is why I am proud to serve you as your Grand Knight.



More importantly (I believe), March is the month of devotion to St. Joseph, whose feast falls on March 19th. The date of the solemnity of St. Joseph dates to the end of the 15th century; within a few centuries, the entire month, as a time for devotion to St. Joseph, became a tradition.

In a society which seems to discourage the importance of marriage and fatherhood, St. Joseph, the spouse of the Virgin and the man given the responsibility of raising Jesus, is an incredible model of an obedient, faithful, Christian father.

The Knights of Columbus has an initiative for Men entitled FATHERS FOR GOOD

<http://www.fathersforgood.org/en/index.html>.

Whether you are a seasoned dad, a new dad, a dad to be, or a single guy wanting to know more about fatherhood, this Web site is for you. Take some time this month, honor St. Joseph, and checkout FATHERS FOR GOOD. There is a role only a father can fill and gifts only a father can give. In a culture that often does not favor fatherhood or masculine virtue, the Knights wish to highlight the unique contributions of men, husbands and fathers. The world would be lacking without them. We also welcome wives who want to support their husbands in becoming the best fathers they can be.

As a Council, over the next few months we will continue our efforts to create a presence with more programs, some new and some tried and true. A short list follows:

- 3/4- We are providing a Shrove Tuesday Dinner at St. Mark's. Talk to Dick Kozlowski and register quickly. **Our March business meeting slips to Thursday March 6th at 7:30pm.**
- 3/14- We are extending our Community presence by hosting a business seminar series at the hall for local small business owners.
- 3/18- We are holding our Annual Community Service Awards Dinner. Talk to Pat Ruckle and again register quickly.
- 3/25- The Day of The Unborn, our Council and Birthright will join with The John Carroll School Right for Life Club and conduct a Culture of Life Event.
- 3/26- We are hosting "A Catholic Knight with the Orioles." Registration is open. With your support we could potentially see a few thousand Catholics attend this game and truly make a statement showing how the Knights of Columbus make a difference. Join us for this historic event.
- 4/27- We are gathering at St. Mark's for the 11:00AM Mass. Fr. Jerry would like our Council to attend, support, and pray the Devine Mercy chaplet following Mass.

Bel Air Council 4714 Monthly Schedule of Events

First Tuesday - 7:30 pm - **Business Meeting** - open to KC members only

Second Tuesday - 7:00 pm - **Home Corporation Meeting** - open to KC members and invited guests

Third Tuesday - 7:00 pm - **Social Meeting** - open to general public

Fourth Tuesday - 7:00 pm - **Officers' Meeting** - open to KC members and invited guests

All Fridays - 7:00 pm - **Bingo** (board is lit) - open to the general public

As you can see our Council does a multitude of good works. BINGO however, is the mainstay that enables our Council to do a myriad of charitable works. BINGO a weekly event takes volunteers to run. Some brothers are consistently available and others work when they can. I ask that you think about supporting this program. Contact Tom Rappold, 410-682-0568 and help keep this important effort going with some of your time.

Creating a presence also means new members. We would like to see a minimum of another 12 new members before May. With your support we can make this happen. Change means new programs and new members to support those programs. Invite someone you know and let's make a difference together.

This is an exciting time of the year and now is an exciting time to be a part of our Council, the Bel Air Knight of Columbus. Thank you for all the great work you continue to do and the wonderful support you give to our Bel Air Council 4714.

Vivat Jesus,

Stephen Conley, Grand Knight, 443-417-7538,
knightsfc@gmail.com

District Deputy

March is the month for Order-wide membership drives. All councils around the world are expected to hold some kind of membership drive this month. It can take any form, but it is an opportunity for your council to advance toward its goal of Star Council. Your council will be asking you to assist with this activity. It shouldn't take much of your time - probably just a half hour after mass on a Sunday. However, initiating the next generation of Knights is extremely important to the short and long term viability of your council. Don't underestimate how your work toward increasing your membership can help your council, and in the long run, help your church and community, too. While I'm on the topic of membership, I'd like to

see better attendance at our degree exemplifications. We have two first degrees coming up on 4 March at Corpus Christi and 6 March at Bel Air. We will also have a second degree on 7 April at Bel Air. The degree is enhanced for the candidate by the presence of a large, supportive group of brother Knights.

If you haven't already, now is the time to send in your registration for the MD State Convention in Ocean City on 2-4 May. After 1 April, there will be an additional registration fee of \$10. You will not regret attending. This is an excellent opportunity to meet brother Knights from across the state. Anyone interested in the convention golf tournament on Thursday, 1 May, please contact me soon.

We will have a busy month of March! (See the upcoming events below.) Again, let me remind you to support Corpus Christi and Havre de Grace councils in their Fish Fry Fridays for Lent. You will help them, while also fulfilling your obligation to abstain from meat on Fridays in Lent.

Upcoming district events:

- 4 Mar - Shrove Tuesday at both Corpus Christi (Prince of Peace church) and Bel Air (St. Mark's)
- 4 Mar - First degree at Corpus Christi
- 5 Mar - Ash Wednesday Soup and Sandwich dinner at Havre de Grace
- 6 Mar - First degree at Bel Air
- Fridays in Lent (except Good Friday) - Fish Fry at Havre de Grace (Good Shepherd church) and Corpus Christi (Prince of Peace church)
- 9 Mar - Patriotic Rosary at Holy Spirit church in Joppa (11:15 mass)

Upcoming State Council events:

- 1 Mar - Convention delegates' credentials due
- 8 Mar - Fourth degree exemplification in Frederick
- 10 Mar - MD March for Life in Annapolis
- 15 Mar - Third quarter reports are due to the state program chairman
- 23 Mar - Founder's Day Mass at Sacred Heart Council

Vivat Jesus,

Walt Williams, District Deputy #16

Fraternal Benefits

One of our founding goals: to protect widows

As a member of this council, you know how important spouses can be to the charitable works of the Order. If you're married, your wife is probably involved in a few of the many events that happen each fraternal year. This support adds great value and impact to what a council can achieve.

When the Order was founded in 1882, Father Michael J. McGivney and the other brave men were setting out to protect Catholic families, but especially wives and children. We know today this is done through our insurance products which are designed with that goal in mind. One specific policy rider that you may not know about is called Spousal Waiver of Premium. This rider is unique to the Knights of Columbus philosophy of helping our widows.

This rider is available on most permanent and Discoverer plans purchased at standard rates by a member and his wife on the same day. When both spouses apply, the rider provides for waiver of premiums on the spouse's contract in the event of the insured's death. Best of all, for members and spouses ages 18 to 60, this waiver can be added for no charge. The rider stays in effect until the spouse attains age 65 or certain other triggering events occur.

Our products are designed with your needs and budget in mind. With a solid portfolio of life insurance, long-term care, disability income and retirement products, the Knights of Columbus can help you meet all of your financial goals. To learn more about these solutions, contact me today.

Edward A. O'Keefe, CLU, ChFC, CASL

Chartered Financial Consultant

<http://okeefefinancialplanning.com>

edward.okeefe@kofc.org 410-569-6141

Council Activities

A Word from Your Financial Secretary

Brothers; We are approaching the time when your 2013 Membership cards will no longer let you enter the Council Chamber. Please check the date on your card. If you do not have a 2014 Membership card, you probably have not paid your dues. Please send your invoice with a check to me as soon as possible and I will return a receipt and your current membership

card. Presently, members that have not paid their dues for 2014 will soon be receiving a "Knight Alert Letter", which is an indication that you are in jeopardy of suspension. Please remember, if you have a problem in sending a check, please call me and we can discuss your situation privately. We do not want to lose any of our members. Try to attend a meeting (Business or Social) soon. The Council is doing well and some exciting things are happening. God Bless All Our Brother Knights!

Tom Sutera, FS, 410-638-1096

Sick and Deceased

Please remember in your prayers all the Brothers, Ladies, Family Members and Friends who are experiencing serious health problems at this time, especially:

Brothers: Ray Caralle; Bernie Classon; David Custer Jr.; Frank DiAngelo; William Edge. Sr.; John Grigaliunas; Raymond Horney; Peter Kozak; Al Kramer; Vince Lagrotteria; Ross Liberati; Bernie Sporney; Vernon West; and Bill Wilcox, who just had knee surgery.

Ladies: Olga Barkkume, Jean DiAngelo, Kitty DiDio, Juliette Drouin, Joan Keenan, Charlotte Kozak, Owena Liberati, Jean Monohan, Marguerite Ward, Martha West, Mary Sporney, Pat Wilhem, and Pat Bucci.

Family and Friends: Dorothy Dimler, mother of LuAnne Belmonte; Bernice Wilhelm, daughter of Pat and Bill Wilhelm; Tom Ellis, son of Ann Stallings; Joe Fantacone, husband of CLSO Lady Dolores Fantacone; Barbara McMillan, daughter of Earl and Anna Marie McMillan; Molly Murphy, 25 years old in a coma and needs prayers, Jean Potter, wife of Joseph Potter; Regina Pisani, wife of Joe Pisani; John Wills, grandson of Betty Bourgeois; and John Zito Jr., son of John Zito, Sr.

May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Every time you pick up a three leafed clover you behold the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity!

Victor V. Ferrara, 410-569-4171

First Degree Team

We will exemplify the first degree at our next business meeting, THURSDAY, MARCH 6, at 7:30pm. Team members, please arrive by 7pm. A reminder to those who have taken their first degree and are awaiting the second: A second degree will be exemplified at Bel Air Council on Monday, April 7, at 7:30pm. Candidates, please arrive by 7pm. Thank you.

Kevin McNamara, DGK, Team Captain

Fourth Degree News

Brother John Majeski of our council will make his fourth degree at the exemplification in Frederick on Saturday, March 8. Congratulations to John on becoming a Sir Knight.

As was mentioned last month, the assembly exemplified its Renewal of Obligations at its January meeting. As the Worthy Master reminded us, this is the only opportunity Knights have to renew all the obligations they took as they made their degrees. The photo of assembly and district officers was taken after that meeting.



Front (L-R): Faithful Pilot Don Kern (2002), Faithful Trustee Mike Linder (6188), Faithful Navigator Kevin McNamara (4714), District Master Steven Thomas, District Marshal Dave Bellistri. Back (L-R): Faithful Comptroller Pete Bogdan (6188), Faithful Purser Guy Williamson (6188), Faithful Admiral Andy Branigan (2002), Faithful Captain Mike Clemens (6188), Faithful Scribe Bob Persson (6188), Faithful Trustee Tom Classon (4714), Faithful Trustee Bernie Classon (4714). Not pictured: Faithful Inner Sentinel Dave Meneghini (6188), Faithful Outer Sentinel Jerry Wagner (4714).

Youth Activities

Cub Pack 999

Cub Pack 999 held their Pine Car Derby in January at the Church of the Nazarene. The scouts designed, built and painted the miniature cars which were made from pine wood. Fifty elimination heats were run

leaving the top three winning cars. The fastest car consistently ran over 211 plus mph to capture first place. The proud owner of that car was scout T. J. McHugh, son of brother knight Tom McHugh. Congratulations to son and father! The track was connected to a computer which recorded the speed of the cars and determined the winner of each heat. Lots of fun was had by all attendees.

Scout Troop 999

Scout Troop 999 held a CPR/AED training program on January 15. Among those who received this life saving training and were certified were 12 adults and 10 scouts. Five of the adults were ushers from St. Mark Parish, two were from our Council.

On the weekend of January 24-26, the troop attended the annual Operation Icicle Event at Broad Creek. Mother Nature helped out by supplying plenty of cold temperatures and white stuff. All troops in the Harford County District attended the event. This year's theme was "Communication Nation", the competition included such events as scrabble, Morse code, grammar archery, translator and charades, among other fun programs. About 15 troops, including approximately 300 scouts and leaders attended this year's event. Our scout troop 999 placed 3rd in the competition. This marked the first time the troop ever placed in the top 10. Congratulations Scouts!



THE JOHN CARROLL SCHOOL
Compelling. Considerate. Uncompromising.

Bel Air Council has been working to develop a closer relationship with The John Carroll School. One item to bring to your attention this month is their ongoing Welcome Wednesday program. Welcome to John Carroll School! From 8:30-10:30 a.m. each Wednesday throughout the year, we invite prospective families (and anyone interested in learning more about our school) to come to John Carroll at their convenience, without appointment, for conversation and a tour of our campus. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to receive a personalized tour and see the school "in action." All prospective families who attend a Wonderful Wednesday session will have their enrollment application fee waived. For more information, please contact Susan Roarty in the Enrollment Office (sroarty@johncarroll.org). Help us spread the word to friends and neighbors who may also be interested!

Community Activities

Perry Point Program

As we approach the month of March, we have another change to our normal rotation for our Perry Point Sundays. Recently, we have changed from the second Sunday to the first Sunday, switching with Corpus Christie Council. For the remainder of this year, we will be helping the veterans at Perry Point on the 1st Sundays of the month. For this month, which contains five Sundays, we will be changing to the 5th Sunday since St. Ignatius Council will take our turn on the 1st Sunday. St. Ignatius Council is helping at Perry Point on months that have five Sundays. The problem is that their Council has a Special Mass on the 5th Sundays so they will be taking turns spelling the other Councils in the program. I know it sounds confusing but I will remind you whenever there is a change. Please try to join us on the 5th Sunday of March (March 30th) and we will once again go back the following week for the 1st Sunday of April (April 6th). If you have any questions about the program you may call Tom Sutera at (410) 638-1096 or Pat Dolan at (410) 679-7058.

Tom Sutera

Community Service Award Dinner

Tuesday March 18, 2014 7:00-9:30 PM

Stuffed Chicken Breast Dinner

\$5.00 per person. Deadline March 10, 2014

Contact

Patrick Ruckle

1005 Running Creek Way Unit J

Bel Air MD 21014 410-905-6002

Patrick Ruckle

Notre Dame Golf League

The Notre Dame Golf league is recruiting additional members to play in the club for the upcoming year. The all men's club plays once a month starting in April at top notch courses in and around the Baltimore area. Outings are held on Tuesday and Thursdays during the day. Golf carts are always provided and meals are sometime included in the price. Full time members are eligible for prizes. Members play off the gold tees. Part time players are welcome to join when they are available. Join the club for the camaraderie, exercise and a good time. Contact John Kovac at (443) 243 0519, johnkovac@verizon.net.

Shrove Tuesday

You may have heard that we are planning a complimentary Shrove Tuesday dinner at St. Mark's parish hall on Tuesday March 4th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. All Brother Knights are invited along with their families. Come One! Come All!

We need to obtain an accurate count of those attending because the invitation also includes St. Mark's parishioners and their families. The menu will be a traditional Shrove Tuesday menu - i.e. pancakes/ sausage/ bacon/ eggs/ pastry/ coffee /milk and juice with all the fixings.

I know that many of us are aware of the history of Shrove Tuesday but for the few that aren't, here is a short history about the origins of Shrove Tuesday.

Shrove Tuesday also known as Fat Tuesday actually originated during the middle ages, beginning on Sunday and ending with a celebration on Tuesday. Food items such as meats, eggs, milk and fish were restricted during lent and to prevent such items from being wasted and spoiled during the forty days of lent they were consumed during the Fat Tuesday celebration.

There are many Shrove Tuesday customs from various regions in Europe and the U.S.A. Certainly the most obvious to us is the pancake supper which originated in Great Britain. Hopefully this little history will entice you to come to our meal. We ask that you contact Dick Kozlowski and let us know how many are in your group.

Dick Kozlowski, 410-676-2862

Catholic Ladies Service Organization

Hi Everyone!

Did you realize 2/3 of our Fraternal year is over? Time flies but we have not been idle. The Catholic Ladies Service Organization is more than just a group of gals with a catchy name. Our wonderful ladies serve the church as Eucharistic ministers, ushers, choir members, faith sharing co-coordinators and religion teachers. Several of our ladies make lunches for the St. Margaret Bag Lunch program every month and others deliver the Eucharistic to the sick. Others help in the area of fund raising, program planning and spreading the club news. Everyone utilizes their gifts.

It's not only all work and no play though – we held our Club Birthday party at Mammies Restaurant in July and had our first Luncheon meeting at Bop Evans in October and our Christmas Party at the Williamsburg Inn in December. We assisted at the F.I.E.L.D.S Christmas party and had as much fun as the guests.

The CLSO, Bel Air Knights and the Parishioners of St. Mark's are invited to the Knight's FREE Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper at St. Mark's parish center on March 4th. They will be serving from 6 PM -8 PM. Bob Evans has kindly subsidized part of the menu. Please go to St Mark's web site or call their office to make your reservation. Hope to see you there.

We will be donating handmade rosaries for the First Communicants at St. Mark's and we have contributed to the education of a seminarian. There is much more we will be accomplishing before this fraternal year is finished.

Our welcome mat is out to other ladies who would like to join the fun and share the feeling of accomplishment at doing good. Our membership is open to all practicing Catholic women, with solid knowledge of Church teaching, who can model gospel values. If you know anyone who is interested please have them call me.

Dee Kozlowski –President CLSO 410-676-2862

Reflections by Lawrence P. Grayson

The Emerging Pro-Life Challenge

There is a feeling of hope among pro-life advocates that after 41 years of battling legalized abortion their efforts are bearing results. The Guttmacher Institute recently reported that the number of abortions in the United States decreased from 1.21 million in 2008 to 1.06 million in 2011, a dramatic 13 percent decline, while the number of abortions per 1,000 women fell to 16.9, a historic low. In addition, 87 abortion clinics closed or stopped offering surgical abortions in 2013, reducing the total number of such facilities in the United States to 582, which is 73% below a high of 2,176 clinics in 1991. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention declared that “abortion is a failing business.”

While abortions are decreasing and children in the womb are being saved in significantly increasing numbers, there is a disturbing trend that may be the forerunner of increased abortions, but at earlier stages

of pregnancy. There is a shift from surgical abortions to medication abortions, that is, through the use of the pill. While the number of abortions continued to decline from 2001 to 2011, medication abortions increased from 6 percent to 23 percent of all abortions in that decade.

Contraceptive pills operate in one or more of three ways. First, they attempt to prevent ovulation. If ovulation does occur, they then try to block the sperm from joining the ovum or egg. When this fails, the drug acts to prevent the fertilized ovum from attaching to the uterus. The earliest birth control pills, approved for use in the United States in 1960, operated to prevent ovulation, and secondarily to inhibit fertilization. These two effects are truly contraceptive, for the ovum is never fertilized. Although the Catholic Church disapproves of all contraceptives because they thwart the generative aspect of the conjugal act, these first two actions do not involve the destruction of new life. The third effect – to impede the fertilized ovum from attaching or remaining attached to the mother's uterus -- terminates a life. That is abortion.

A fertilized ovum, called a zygote, is the first stage of human life. This simple cell has all of the genetic information and capabilities to continue developing through its embryonic and fetal stages into a newborn child, and then toward becoming an aged adult. This is a continuous progression, and the pre-born stages only require nourishment and protection gained through attachment to the mother's uterus. The process of life begins at fertilization; there is no scientific disagreement on this.

Organizations such as the Guttmacher Institute and Planned Parenthood, as well as some federal government policies, attempt to finesse the fact. They state that pregnancy starts not at fertilization, but when the fertilized ovum is implanted in the uterus. The distinction between the beginning of a child's life and the onset of a mother's pregnancy is critical. It allows drug companies to claim that a drug which prevents implantation is a contraceptive since it prevents pregnancy, rather than an abortifacient that terminates a life.

In September 2000, the Food and Drug Administration approved mifepristone (previously known as RU-486) for abortions. The drug, taken as a pill, blocks the

action of the hormone progesterone, which is necessary to sustain a pregnancy. The result is that the embryonic child is detached from its mother's uterine lining and expelled.

Ella, a relatively new drug, has been included among the contraceptives to be provided to women under Obamacare-mandated health insurance plans. It has been approved for use, according to its manufacturer, in case of "birth control failure." This "morning-after" pill acts to prevent the attachment of the fertilized ovum to the uterus and, thus, like mifepristone, is an abortifacient.

As medication abortions replace surgical ones and contraceptive drugs become more effective and even easier to obtain, more and more abortions will occur by simply "popping a pill." There will be no need to go to an abortion clinic, face pro-life prayer warriors and counselors, possibly see graphic images or view an ultrasound picture, and undergo a surgical procedure. The woman will have less anxiety or feelings of guilt, as her actions will seem akin to taking an aspirin or a vitamin.

An unaddressed challenge for the pro-life movement is that many who claim to be pro-life approve of contraception. At the 2014 March for Life, Michael Voris of Church Militant TV interviewed a large number of the young, pro-life marchers about whether they thought birth control was wrong. Although the poll was admittedly more representative than precise, nearly one-third of these young people, the majority of whom are likely Catholic and who by their presence showed themselves to be strongly pro-life, thought that birth control was acceptable in some circumstances.

There is a discontinuity in the beliefs of the marchers. They profess to be pro-life, yet, approve of contraceptives, many of which have abortifacient effects. Young people, particularly those who are Catholic, are not being taught the Church's position. But who will teach them? A recent global survey on social issues, commissioned by Univision, indicate that four out of five self-identified Catholics in the United States support the use of contraceptives, while three out of four say that abortion should be allowed at least in some cases.

Not too many decades ago, Church teachings were presented in Catholic elementary and high schools by nuns, priests and brothers. Today, that is not the case. Catholic schools and religious teachers do not exist in adequate numbers. Despite self-identified Catholics in America increasing from 49 million in 1965 to 78 million in 2013, the number of students in Catholic elementary and secondary schools plummeted from 5.2 million in nearly 13,000 schools to 2.0 million in 6,800 schools in that same period. As for religious teachers, they are almost non-existent. There were 180,000 nuns in 1965 and most of them taught; today, there are 51,000 and most of them do not.

The pro-life movement is faced with a growing, significant challenge. As increasing numbers of abortions are done at earlier stages with pills, not only the hearts and minds, but the consciences of people must be formed to recognize the existence and dignity of the human person at the earliest stages of development and the evils of contraception and abortion in all its forms. This will be counter-cultural and not easy, but must be done.

	MAR	Event
		Nominating Committee begins building next Officers Slate
Tue	4	Shrove Tuesday Dinner at St. Mark Church
Thurs	6	Business Meeting
Sun	9	Perry Point
Tue	11	Home Corps Meeting
Tue	18	Social Meeting -COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS DINNER
Tue	18	Family of the Month
Sat/Sun	22/23	Membership Blitz at St. Mark Church
Tue	25	Officer's Meeting
Tue	25	Day of the Unborn at The John Carroll School
Sat	29	Founder's Day (1882) – Activity still TBD

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Bel Air Council No. 4714

23 Newport Drive

Forest Hill, MD 21050

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Bel Air, MD

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