



# THE PITTSBURGH KNIGHT

A PUBLICATION OF THE PITTSBURGH CHAPTER OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN...



Lent is upon us. During the great Season of Lent, we have the opportunity to renew our spiritual lives and therefore our entire lives which depend so deeply on it. The state of our interior life affects every aspect of our lives. If we leave it unattended to, life becomes overwhelming and begins to fall apart. The Season of Lent causes us to slow down our lives and take a deep examination of who we are and where we are, most especially in our relationships with God, ourselves, and others. These three relationships should be examined often in our lives through deliberate time of regular reflection and prayer. But we sometimes become forgetful to spend time in prayer and reflection, and Lent gives us a reminder to refocus our lives and become ever more attentive to our interior lives.

The **three ancient pillars of Lent: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving (acts of charity)** help us in these relationships. These are the pillars of the Christian life, but we intensify our focus on them during the Season of Lent. Each of these pillars corresponds with the three key relationships of our lives: God, self, and others. Prayer strengthens our relationship with God. Fasting helps us to grow in virtue and become aware of our interior lives, our habits, and reminds us to take special care of ourselves, for "you are the temple of God." (1 Cor 3:16a) Acts of charity are a proof that our relationship with God and ourselves are integrated and

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT...

Brother Knights of the Pittsburgh Chapter,



In the year of our Lord 2017, the ides of March bring the Liturgical season of Lent. This is a time to reflect on our spiritual life and how we commit to the call of our Savior Jesus Christ to love further and deeper.



Serving as a Brother Knight in the Pittsburgh Chapter of the

Knights of Columbus lends many options!

Let's use the Season of Lent to:

- Collect food for the hungry...support our local food banks and Supreme Food for Families program
- Jump start the 2017-2018 Bishops Project Campaign with Penny Collections and Tootsie Roll Drives
- Conduct Church Membership Drives in your Parishes to grow the Order and our Principle of Charity.

A number of us assembled in the Duquesne University Chapel on February 22, 2017 to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Duquesne University Holy Ghost Council. What a blessed Mass and celebration of Columbianism! Many thanks to the Color Corps that assembled for this beautiful Liturgical Celebration and special acknowledgement to **Grand Knight Tyler Costello** for arranging. **Fr. Naos McCool** is very proud I'm sure! And the Holy Ghost Council arranged to video tape the Mass for our Former Chaplain – what a great gesture!

Fraternally,

**Jim Maochi, President, Pittsburgh Chapter Knights of Columbus**

CHAPTER MEETING

MARCH 7, 2017 – 7:30 PM

John F. Kennedy Council #5501

Russellton PA

**DIRECTIONS TO J.F. Kennedy Council #5501, Russellton, PA:**

**From Pittsburgh:**

- ◆ Get on Route North  28
- ◆ Take exit **12** toward **Cheswick/Springdale**
- ◆ Keep **right** at the fork, follow signs for **Russellton** and merge onto **Hite Rd**
- ◆ Turn **right** at **Little Deer Creek Rd/Pearl Ave**
- ◆ Continue to follow Little Deer Creek Rd
- ◆ Arrive at **144 Little Deer Creek Road, Russellton, PA 15076**

**From the north:**

- ◆ Get on Route 28 South
- ◆ Take exit **12** toward **Cheswick/Springdale**
- ◆ Keep **right** at the fork, follow signs for **Russellton** and merge onto **Hite Rd**
- ◆ Turn **right** at **Little Deer Creek Rd/Pearl Ave**
- ◆ Continue to follow Little Deer Creek Rd
- ◆ Arrive at **144 Little Deer Creek Road, Russellton, PA 15076**



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**UPCOMING EVENTS:**



**ASH WEDNESDAY – FIRST DAY OF LENT – March 1, 2017.**

**MARCH CHAPTER MEETING – March 7th – Council #5501, John F. Kennedy, Russellton PA**

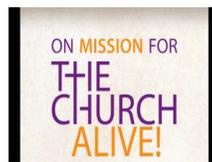
**APRIL CHAPTER MEETING – April 4th – site TBA.**

**PALM SUNDAY – April 9, 2017.**

**EASTER SUNDAY – April 16, 2017.**

**MAY CHAPTER MEETING – May 2nd – site TBA.**

**119th PENNSYLVANIA STATE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CONVENTION – Kalahari Resort, Mt. Pocono May 19-21, 2017 –**



As *OnMission For the Church Alive!* proceeds in 2017, reorganization of parishes will undoubtedly affect some of our individual councils. Be sure to read your parish bulletins and the Pittsburgh Catholic newspaper to be aware of the future changes to the present parishes in your area in 2018.

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whole. Acts of charity move us out of our own selfishness into a life of giving, which is the life of God. When we freely give to others for the sake of the other, freed from our own desires, then we act in charity. These three pillars are part of our continuous growth in the spiritual life, and come to the forefront of our minds during the Season of Lent.

I suggest that each of us takes some time in prayer during these next few days, as we prepare for Lent, asking God about these three pillars. In your prayer and reflection over the next week or so, think of one thing that you can do in each of these three pillars. What will you do to enhance your prayer life during Lent. Will it be ten minutes of silence each day? Or coming to the church and praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament or something else which God is placing on your heart this week?

Think of one thing to fast from and give your fasting a purpose. Say, “God; I am fasting from \_\_\_\_\_ for the conversion of a friend or family member, or to overcome a sin or struggle that I have been plagued with my whole life, or something else that you know God is asking of you.”

Finally, **think of one act of charity that you can undertake during this season.** Is it reach out to a long-lost friend, writing a letter to a family member you are estranged from, or maybe having a heartfelt difficult conversation with someone that hurt you or your need to say “I am sorry” to. Whatever it may be take time this week to write down one thing in each of these three pillars and review it each day of Lent. Then ask God to help you be transformed by the life of his Holy Spirit this Lent. So that we may all come to the joy of Easter, transformed and renewed by God’s grace.

Grace and peace to all of you,

**Reverend William D. Wuenschel  
 Chaplain, Pittsburgh Chapter**

***CATHOLIC SCHOOL TUITION ASSISTANCE  
IN LIEU OF PA BUSINESS TAXES?  
TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?***

Ask yourself, “How would I feel about being able to redirect some of my PA taxes directly to help families afford to keep or enroll children in Catholic schools?” Like most brother Knights, you probably think that’s too good to be true. But you CAN! And it’s not only legal, it’s encouraged by the legislature and the governor.

The Office for Stewardship of the Diocese of Pittsburgh is inviting Knights of Columbus Councils to assist Catholic elementary and high schools by identifying businesses that pay taxes to the Commonwealth to help them to see the exceptional benefits of tax credits through the state’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) Programs.

EITC and OSTC enable businesses to significantly reduce their state corporate net income tax obligation -- including capital stock franchise tax, bank and trust company shares tax, title insurance companies shares tax, insurance premiums tax, and/or mutual thrift institution tax -- by donating cash to a nonprofit scholarship organization.

The programs are administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) on a first-come-first-serve basis. Total tax credits approved do have limits, so it is imperative that interested businesses act as soon as possible. All Catholic schools in the Diocese are eligible to receive these funds, which are currently being used as scholarship dollars for families needing help paying tuition.

“The beauty of EITC and OSTC is that these programs allow businesses to direct their taxes where they know they’ll be put to the best use,” says **Dr. Michael Latusek, Superintendent of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.**

The reality is that every Catholic school needs extra tuition assistance, but it is especially important in economically struggling communities with under-performing schools, which is where OSTC is targeted.

For more information on the EITC or OSTC Programs and ways your business can redirect taxes as tax credits to support Catholic education, please contact **Deacon Jack Miller, Director of Development and Public Policy, Office for Stewardship, Diocese of Pittsburgh**, 111 Boulevard of the Allies, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, **412-456-3000, ext. 3262, or [jmiller@diopitt.org](mailto:jmiller@diopitt.org).**

## ***KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE***

### **RETIREMENT INCOME YOU CAN COUNT ON – GUARANTEED!**

#### **What is it?**

An annuity is a retirement savings product. You make contributions, and, after a specified amount of time, the annuity pays you a regular income stream.

#### **Who needs it?**

There are few financial matters we give more thought and attention to than our retirement. Everyone thinks about it. Everyone needs it.

Retirement annuities help you ensure that you have enough money to live on in retirement.

But retirement income can be a difficult thing to calculate, especially with a changing landscape of federal and employee-provided benefits. With a properly structured retirement annuity from the Knights of Columbus, you can have retirement income that you cannot outlive, guaranteed.

Retirement annuities provide security and peace of mind that people of all ages and financial circumstances can benefit from.

#### **How does it work?**

Knights of Columbus retirement annuities come with many different payment and plan types (see below) which determine the nature of the annuity.

Once established, the money within a Knights of Columbus annuity continues to earn value, before eventually disbursing according to the options that you elect.

Knights of Columbus annuities also come with two important guarantees.

First, with a Knights of Columbus annuity, your principal is guaranteed. Regardless of market condition or company results, your Knights of Columbus annuity will not lose value.

Second, each Knights of Columbus annuity comes with a guaranteed minimum interest rate. No matter the market fluctuations, your annuity is guaranteed to never earn less than the contractually stated amount on an annual basis.



*Questions ?– call me !*  
*Ken Scott / General Agent / (724) 719-2324*  
*kenneth.scott@kofc.org*



# MARCH 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	*** Family of the Month Report for February Due		 1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Pgh. Chapter Meeting 7:30 PM	8	9	10	11
 12 Daylights Savings Time begins	13	14	15 ***	16	 17	18
 19 Feast of St. Joseph	 20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

# APRIL 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*** Family of the Month Report for March Due						1 April Fool's Day
2	3	4 Pgh. Chapter Meeting 7:30 PM	5	6	7	8
9 Palm Sunday	10	11	12	13 Holy Thursday	14 Good Friday	15 *** Holy Saturday
 16 Easter	17	18 Income Tax Filing Deadline	19	20	21	 22
23 Divine Mercy Sunday	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						