



The Olive Branch

Our 63rd Year

Chartered – November 14, 1954



February 2017

Shooting for a STAR!

Chaplain's Message.....

CHANGE THE FAMILY - CHANGE THE WORLD!

Dear Brother Knights,

On the second Sunday of February, the Church celebrates World Marriage Sunday. The idea of celebrating marriage on a large scale began in Baton Rouge, Louisiana in 1981, when couples encouraged the mayor, the governor and the bishop, to proclaim **Valentine's Day** as "**We Believe in Marriage Day**". The event was so successful, that the idea was presented to and adopted by Worldwide Marriage Encounter's national leadership. By 1982, 43 governors officially proclaimed the day and celebrations spread to U.S. military bases in several countries. In 1983, the name was changed to "**World Marriage Day**", and designated to be celebrated each year on the Second Sunday in February.

So why am I writing about **World Marriage Sunday**? Well, I presume that most Knights are married and certainly everyone is a member of a family. Families are the basic building block of society and certainly the first Church. It is here that we first learn about, who God is and the life of grace that we are called to. Over the past century, the Bishops of Rome have called us to reflect on the importance of family life and the social ills that weaken it. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis repeatedly echoes this same message, calling us to be holy and to strive to build holy families rooted in the love of God that we have come to know in Jesus.

My hope and prayer is that by writing about World Marriage Day, we will reflect on and appreciate more deeply the gift and sacred calling to holy Matrimony. It always takes three to get married, a groom, a bride, and God. Oddly enough, today we have to specifically define marriage as a relationship between a man and a woman. May we never take our vocations for granted but actively nurture them. With married life, this begins with thanking God for that gift of your vocation and continuing to grow in love with one's spouse. As with ordination, it's not that I was ordained, but that I am ordained. The same is true for marriage; it's not something historic or static, but a relationship very much alive and intended to be life giving. No matter who we are, all healthy relationships take work.

So my brothers, recognize and celebrate the gifts God has given you, beginning with your spouse. Remember, the greatest gift that a father can ever give his children is to love his wife. That's how you help to transform the next generation. Truly, if we change the family, reflecting more and more the love of Jesus, we can change the world

Fraternally in Christ!

Father Paul Zywan

Chaplain, Council #3907



Grand Knight's Message.....

Brothers,

The Christmas Holidays are over and we are now more than a month into the New Year. I hope each of you had a blessed and happy season. The break gave most of us the opportunity to visit our families and reflect on the past year. We now look ahead to planning 2017 events including our regular Council meetings which are scheduled on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. In light of the sale of the Columbian Hall we have been rotating the location for our meetings among our four parishes. I thank the pastors of each parish for accommodating our needs and so generously allowing us Knights to meet at their facilities. The dispute associated with the sale of the Hall has been resolved. The Hall is now owned by the caterer and owner of the Camelot. We are in the process of evaluating what arrangements we might make on a long-term basis. As with many other organizations, only a core of our membership regularly attends our meetings. I would hope we can increase attendance at our meetings and the number of our members who participate in the Council's activities. I encourage each of you to attend as many of our Council meetings as possible and become active in Council activities.

Degrees continue to be an important part of our work of encouraging and recruiting new members and getting them involved in our activities. We host Admission and Formation Degrees on a regular basis and a 3rd Knighthood Degree annually. We most recently hosted an Admission and Formation Degree on Saturday, January 21st and a 3rd Knighthood Degree is scheduled for February 18th (look for information below in this OB). The upcoming Degree schedule can be found on the State Website.

Our members, along with others, participated in Eucharistic Adoration on January 6th at the Grotto of Sts. John & Paul Church. The next Eucharistic Adoration will be held on February 3rd. On Sunday, January 29th, a 5th Sunday Rosary will be recited after the 11AM Mass at St. Alexis Church.

On Friday, January 27th some of our members and others left from St. John & Paul Church to travel by bus for the Walk for Life in Washington, DC.

Finally the traditional "Recognition Night and Pass the Gavel" celebration will take place at The Camelot in Warrendale February 10th, and the "10th Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner & Dance" will be held at The Camelot on March 11th.

Vivat Jesus!

William J. McKim

Grand Knight



March Olive Branch

Your input for our March edition of the Olive Branch is needed by February 16th. Please send to:

George Franz <george.franzjr@gmail.com>

February Meetings

Our Council 3907 February Meetings will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room of Sts. John and Paul, starting with rosary at 7PM February 1st and 15th. Please come if you can especially you are a SSJP Members. *Note: We are starting early, since we only have the Room from 6-9pm.*



Insurance Check-Up for 2017

Where did 2016 go? It seems like it was summer yesterday and Thanksgiving was last week. I hope you and your family had a great finish to 2016. Now, the first quarter of 2017 is starting to fly by.

Hopefully, you have established a few goals for this year. I have learned a great tip regarding resolutions. First, write them down. It's not too late if you have not already done this. Commit your goals to paper and post it someplace you will see it often. Writing down a goal is the first step towards achieving it. It may not make sense at first, but I'm sure you have heard stories of the success this simple task can bring. Whether your goal is to exercise more, give more to charity, read more or watch less television, you're more likely to accomplish it if you write it down.

Second, resolve to have an expert look at your finances. I recommend that you have a team of experts help you, and I would love to be the first you sit with. Let's schedule some time to meet together, and I, your professional Knights of Columbus insurance agent, will provide an "insurance check-up" (at no cost!) that will evaluate any gaps in your family's life insurance protection. Now might be the perfect time to fill those gaps, not later. Keep in mind that unlike many other products, you don't just need money to obtain life insurance; you also need good health, and no one knows when your health could change.

Did I mention my check-up is free of charge? When was the last time you received something for free that could provide value to you and your family for generations? Call me today.

Contact me today.

Joe

Joe Latess

Field Agent and Brother Knight

Phone: 724-776-9263

Email: <Joseph.Latess@KofC.org>

Quarterly Retired Priests' Luncheon

On Thursday March 2nd at 11:30PM we will hold another luncheon for the men at Vincentian Nursing Home. Help is needed to get the men from their rooms and back. The men are always glad to see us and talk about various points of interest.

To participate or have any questions, contact:

Morrie Stack – 412-366-2475 – <mstack21@verizon.net>

Bob Shaffery – 724-443-2284 – <boxcar@consolidated.net>

C.O.A.L. Raffle

I want to thank all of you who bought or sold tickets in our annual C.O.A.L. Raffle..... Thank You!!! We had a successful drive – even better than last year.

Once Again we had no winners from our Council, but there were five from our neck of the woods, so "maybe next Year"

Once again Thanks & God Bless

Rich Karapandi

40 Cans for Lent

Supreme Council has suggested that councils help fight hunger by planning a "40 Cans for Lent" drive by asking members of the community to contribute one can of food for each day of Lent.

An excellent way to support this initiative would be to ask folks to bring their 40 Cans to the **St. Patrick's Dinner on March 11th**.

You could also bring cans to the meetings on March 1st & 15th.

As a reminder, our Council does support the North Hills Community Outreach Food Pantry as well as others, so please help with whatever you "Can". **Pun intended!**

Vivat Jesus!

Bill Romig – 412-364-3679 – <werer@verizon.net>

Fifth – Sunday Rosary

Our next **Fifth Sunday Rosary** will be held on **April 30th** after Mass at a church to be determined. The Mass time and location will be announced in the March issue of the *Olive Branch*. The "Fifth Sunday Rosary" is for all who wish to attend, so please invite your fellow parishioners to mark their calendars and join us in this wonderful tribute to Mary.

Vivat Jesus!

Chris Kelley

Phone: 724-799-0249 – Email: <chris081476@gmail.com>

Think Spring! Think Golf!

Golfers of all skill levels, join the St. Alphonsus men's Golf League for our 48th Season. Open to new and returning golfers, ages 18 and over, you are invited to join us for a summer of fun and fellowship.

The organizational meeting for the 2017 Season will be held on Thursday March 16th at 7:00PM in the St. Alphonsus School Cafeteria....

Practice sessions will begin on Monday, April 3rd. "Tee-Off" any time after 4:00PM through 5:30PM.

League play begins on April 24th and continues thru the end of August at Rittswood Golf Course in Valencia.

All interested golfers should Attend Meeting or contact...

Dru Rezzetano – 724-625-1803 or 724-321-7363

<drurezz@gmail.com>

Brothers we STILL need YOUR Help

Guys, we still need your Input for ideas of what activities we could organize that would increase the social participation of our brothers. Thanks to those who have forwarded your input via the survey included in the January OB Newsletter, but we still need to hear from more of you ASAP. As requested in January, PLEASE mark-up the surveys we sent out and return to us via email or USPS. We have developed a few ideas that could be activities we can add throughout the year if the interest is there, but we are also looking for your thoughts on those other things that might get you out to join in. Please send completed surveys to our **Council Mail Box or email to George Franz: <George.franzjr@gmail.com> or photo/text to 724-772-0494**

"Look Ahead"

Important dates in the near future mark your calendars now, more information to follow:

February 10th 2017 – Pass the Gavel Party

March 2nd 2017 Priest Luncheon, Vincentian

March 11th 2017 – St. Patrick's Day Party

Remember in your Prayers

The following individuals were included in our prayers at the two December meetings, plus call-ins; please add them to your prayer list...

Deceased: Fr. John M. O'Toole PSC; Dolores Connelly; Sally Abels; Ms. Milbert; Dick Westrick; and Janet Fowler.

Members: SK Robert Zoeller; Bill McKim; Andrew Gunkle; Dave Kelsch; John Connolly; and Larry Sampietro.

Family & Friends: Virgil C. Dechant, PSK; John E. Nickolas PSD FSD; Aaron F. "Ron" Cabbage PSD; Russ Reigel; Joe and Mary Korkus; Trish Maizlano; Nel Susany; Amanda Gunkle; John Gorman; Bill Kelley; Marian Stack; Betty Kolakowski; Denise Malchano; Mary Jo LeDonne; Jessica Glancy; Nancy Cummings; Bob Cummings; Terry Cummings; David Eisenbraun; and Jan Franz.

To add or delete any names to/from this list, please contact Grand Knight Bill McKim or Financial Secretary Bill Eaton.

First Friday Overnight Adoration

Several members of #3907, many along with their wives, continue to spend "An Evening with Our Lord" in the Grotto Chapel of Sts John & Paul Parish. Most are in one-hour shifts from 8:00pm Mass on the 1st Friday of the Month through the night until 8:45am Benediction on Saturday morning. Our next scheduled Adoration is on Friday February 3rd into Saturday February 4th then next month March 3rd and 4th.

Please contact SK Larry Emark at <emarklw@verizon.net> or 412-367-0525 to get your name on the Adoration List.

SJ&P also offers Tuesday All-Day Eucharistic Adoration (all year long) following the 7:00am Mass until 7:00pm Benediction.

Fourth Degree (makeup) Memorial Mass
February 8th – St. Alexis – 7PM

Pass the Gavel & Recognition Night Dinner (Coming Up Quickly)

This year's **Pass the Gavel and Recognition Night Dinner** will be held **February 10th**. See the handout in last month's Olive Branch. This year we will be honoring our past Grand Knight, Ed Thomas. Things start with beverages at 6:00PM and dinner at 7:00PM. We will be at the Camelot Banquet Hall this year, 260 Northgate Drive, Warrendale, Pa 15086. RSVP's were due Feb 1st. so if you are interested, (and you get this OB before Feb. 10th). **Please ASAP get back to:**

Bill Eaton – 724-933-0284 – <willroe@consolidated.net>

Our Council Home is Sold

All the paperwork for the sale of our property has been completed. The new owner of the property is Big Thyme Events and Catering, LLC; they are also the owner of The Camelot, We have enjoyed a good relationship with them over the years and believe that will continue. If you have been past the property lately you have noticed the development of the property to the north, is proceeding. – Jim Fernald

Degree Candidates

We Congratulate and Welcome to **Dr. Bill Barker** on completing his Admission 1st and Formation 2nd Degrees January 21st at Father Newell (Saint Ferdinand) Council #11836, hosted by our Wexford Degree Team. **Knighthood 3rd Degree Candidates:** We have a Knighthood 3rd Degree scheduled for **Saturday morning February 18th** again at Saint Ferdinand Father Newell Council #11838. Please contact Membership Director Larry Emark (412-367-0525) or <emarklw@verizon.net> with your availability to attend. He will be making follow-up calls to eligible Candidates.

St. Patrick's Day Party



Saturday March 11th

Mark your calendars **NOW** for our **Tenth Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance** on Saturday, March 11th 2017 at the **Camelot, (around the corner from our old council home) at 260 Northgate Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086**

The evening will feature delicious Hors d'Oeuvres served at 6:00pm, followed by an Irish themed buffet dinner at 7:00pm. Included are wine, beer and soft drinks. A cash bar for other beverages will also be available. Also, Jack Armstrong, the same a great DJ as last year will be there for Irish music and dancing.

We will also have a visit from the popular Irish Folk Dancing Group that we have had the past few years, along with other surprises!

The price for all above is only \$25.00 per person.

Line up your family & friends to enjoy an outstanding evening.

Please contact **Morrie Stack** for Reservations now at 412-366-2475. Or send your check to Morrie at: 161 Parkfel Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4849

2016 – 2017 Bishop's Project Report

Thanks to the generosity and hard work of our Brother Knights and the members of our four parishes, we will again exceed our Bishop's Project goal. Thank you to those Knights that sold Tootsie Rolls after Mass at our four Parish Churches and everyone that stuffed Christmas Seals into envelopes and Church Bulletins. We want to especially thank everyone that was so generous with their contributions to the Tootsie Roll and Christmas Seal....

Collections: In the 58-years of the Bishop's Project, Council 3907 have exceeded our goal almost every year. Our Council's 58-year total will be over \$248,000.00.

If you have not contributed so far this year, it is not too late to do so; deadline to be included in this year's campaign is **Monday, February 20th**. Send to: K of C, Bishop's Project, PO Box 9691, Pittsburgh PA 15226-9905; or Donate online (with C3907 & your Parish) at: <www.bishopsprojectkofc.org> Donate Now.

Steve Seaman

724-935-2576 – <sgseaman@zoominternet.net>

2016 "FB Sweeps" winners....

We had another successful year with our State Football Sweepstakes program. Council #3907 was credited with selling some 560 tickets. We had six winners, for a total of \$450.66 in prize money. The following are this year's winners:

<u>Wk#</u>	<u>Ticket#</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Prize\$</u>
3	17087	Chris Kelley	\$10.00
5	17438	Chris Schlieper	\$300.00
6	32079	Naomi Stein	\$20.00
7	17158	Jim Fernald	\$3.33
7	17551	Kevin Foody	\$3.33
8	17498	John Baranowski	\$114.00

Thanks to PGK Mike Conroy for Chairing this committee and thanks to all members who sold and/or purchased tickets. The profits from this program will go a long way in supporting our charitable programs....



Our Lady of Olives
 Council No 3907
 Knights of Columbus
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 Wexford, PA 15090-0131

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OUR 63RD YEAR OF COLUMBIANISM!
February 2017

The Natural Choice is Life

Return Service Requested



Our Lady of Olives Council #3907 <> Council Calendar <> January 26st 2017 – March 4th 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 29	January 30	January 31	February 1	February 2	February 3	February 4
4 th Sunday of Ordinary Time Fifth Sunday Rosary St. Alexis >11am Mass	←Catholic School Week→		C3907 Meeting at SSJP Rosary 7:00pm Meeting 7:30pm Col. Knights to follow	Presentation of the Lord Ground Hog Day	1 st Friday/St. Blaise Blessing of the Throats Overnight(8pm—9am) Adoration: SJ&P →	1 st Saturday
February 5	February 6	February 7	February 8	February 9	February 10	February 11
5 th Sunday of Ordinary Time Boy Scout Sunday		Pittsburgh Chapter Pius XII C4925 (Monroeville) 7:30pm	4 th Degree Memorial Mass St. Alexis 7:00PM	Get Surveys to George Franz ASAP <george.franzjr@gmail.com>	C3907 Pass the Gavel & Recognitions Night Doors 6pm Dinner 7pm	Our Lady of Lourdes
February 12	February 13	February 14	February 15	February 16	February 17	February 18
6 th Sunday of Ordinary Time Lincoln's Birthday		Valentine's Day Note Early Start →	C3907 Meeting at SSJP Rosary 7:00pm Meeting 7:30pm	Deadline March Olive Branch	Bishop Project meeting, St. Mary of Mont. C491	3 rd Degree C11838 Saint Ferdinand
February 19	February 20	February 21	February 22	February 23	February 24	February 25
7 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	President's Day Deadline to Contribute to Bishop Project Fund		4th Degree 7:30pm Assembly Meeting Wildwood C10411	← The Chair of St Peter the Apostle		
February 26	February 27	February 28	March 1	March 2	March 3	March 4
8 th Sunday of Ordinary Time			ASH Wednesday Fast & Abstinence Meeting Moved → Do to Ash Wed. Bring Can Goods to →	Retired Priests Luncheon 11:30am Vincentian Home C3907 Meeting (TBA) Rosary 7:30pm Meeting 8:00pm	1 st Friday Fish Fries / No Meat Overnight(8pm—9am) Adoration: SJ&P →	1 st Saturday
March 5	March 6	March 7	March 8	March 9	March 10	March 11
1 st Sunday of Lent		Pittsburgh Chapter (TBA) 7:30pm			Fish Fries / No Meat SJN Men's Retreat →	St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance Bring Can Goods