



January 2016

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Official Publication of the NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Cavalcade

Honoring A Past Grand Knight

It was a gala evening at La Neve's Restaurant in Haledon Saturday as over 100 brother Knights, family members and guests arrived to honor St. Philip the Apostle, Clifton Knights of Columbus Council **11671** Past Grand Knight, David Cordero.

St. Philip's Council **11671** has long been one of the most active in the Paterson Federation and has sponsored several major events, most notably the Annual Clifton Tank Pull which over a five consecutive year period has given over \$750,000 to the wounded Warrior Project and other Veteran's charities. They also ran Baby Colin Jones Sports Fundraiser; a benefit for a young baby challenged with physical and developmental disabilities due to some complications at birth, which also generated tens of thousands of desperately needed dollars each year to his family. Another charity supported both financially, spiritually and physically is Several Sources Shelters which supplies shelter, education, support and training to mothers in need and their babies, sonograms and assistance to homeless women and other needy families. Kathy DiFiore Founder and President of Several Sources spoke of the many things David has done for her organization. David, during his three years, was the driving force behind the continuation and expansion of these programs.

These festivities be held at La Neve's Banquets as owner Sir Knight Sal LaRosa has for many years made sandwiches every Saturday morning for distribution to the needy in Paterson. Since retiring as Grand Knight, David has, during the last six months, joined Sal in preparing and distributing these sandwiches in Paterson.

It is important to note that while many speakers noted David's dedication and accomplishments, citing specifically the often received emails sent by him at 2am and 3am on Knight business, when it came to David's opportunity to address the audience, this humble gentleman took no credit for himself but lauded the support of his family and all the brothers in the council, Federation and especially the Columbiettes, the ladies counterpart to the Knights with whom David has had a special affiliation.



L-R: Deputy Grand Knight Sir Knight Dennis Fitzpatrick, Honoree PGK Sir Knight David Cordero, Grand Knight Sir Knight Richard Donkersloot.

State Deputy's Message

Happy New Year to all. It's hard to believe that here we are in 2016. Where has the time gone? You blink and the year is over. In 2015 the Knights of Columbus hit another milestone. 1.9 million members, 100 billion dollars in insurance in force and over 16,000 councils. In New Jersey as of January 4, we recorded 1015 new members including 327 new insurance members. This will help us reach our goal of 2400 new members. Our incentive programs for 2015-2016 for DD's and Councils were developed to enhance our membership and programs. January is time to review and to plan for the remainder of the year. There are many programs and incentives you can achieve. Please use your planner that you received at the June GK meeting to help you reach your goals. All Council audits are due January 31 to Supreme. The state per capita is also due and will be mailed to all councils shortly. Don't forget to update your SP7 form for Star Council.

The Knights of Columbus continues to provide much needed assistance to our schools, our communities, our parishes, priests and bishops. Our organization is strong and continues to grow. We have the finest insurance company to protect us and our Catholic teaching unites us in a common bond. Therefore it is our duty to recruit every practical Catholic to join us. Only 62,000 men are

members in New Jersey out of a Catholic population of over 1 million. Since Pope Francis' visit to the United States in September, a new awakening has begun in the Catholic Church. His simple message for love, peace and mercy has inspired many to return to their faith. What better organization than in the Knights of Columbus can one evangelize and promote our Catholic faith? On behalf of the State Council we wish you success in 2016. God bless you all for what you do for our order.



Bruce De Molli
NJ State Deputy



General Program Director's Message

I would like to wish you and all your families a Happy New Year! It is really hard to believe that the Holidays and 2015 are behind us and we are now in 2016. Half of the Columbian year has passed and we should be reviewing the programs we have executed and planning the programs we have scheduled in the next 6 months. By tracking inventory we can then formulate our plan that fulfills the requirements to achieve "Star Council".

Thank you to all Grand Knights and District Deputies that made the Grand Knights Midterm Meeting on January 9, 2016. It was the NJ State Program team's pleasure to provide you with guidance in understanding how your programs are doing and where you are going in the next 6 months. For those of you who missed the meeting, the program team's slides will be available on the NJ State K of C website.

As we review our accomplishments for the past 6 months, we should also consider that we did not succeed on our own. We must recognize those who have helped us along the way with their sacrifices, dedication, and hard work. Take some time to recognize those members and families that have done so much for your Council in the last 6 months by acknowledging them with a Knight

of the Month or Family of the Month Award at your next Council meeting. In addition, you should send your winners in as candidates for consideration in the NJ State Family and Knight of the Month awards. Your teams have worked hard and deserve this recognition.



It is also time to nominate your Chaplain, a policeman or fireman, a faith teacher and a Senior —take the time to honor everyone for who and what they are in your council, parish and community through the awards offered by State Council. While you are considering these people, make a list of all their names. Let's be honest, you cannot tell me that no one qualifies to be on your list. Take the time to fill out and file the form(s) – you will be glad that you did!

In addition, to be sure your council gets the credit for the work they have done, you need to submit your reports into Supreme.

(continued on page 5)

State Membership Chairman's Message

It seems like only yesterday we started on the new fraternal year, but 6 months have already passed. We're half way through. How are we doing on our goals this year? The membership team is definitely working overtime to assist everyone to make **STAR COUNCIL**. Statewide we brought in almost 1,000 new members. Through our Retention Program we are retaining members and welcoming our brothers back to the organization. The incentive programs, whether it be the Pope Francis Recruiters Award, the State Incentive helping us with per capita and the Star Council Special Incentives (receiving a credit of \$4.50 per billable member if you reach star council) have definitely helped us in retaining and bringing in new members.

The District Deputy meeting in December was full of enthusiasm and well attended. This year we are looking to start more **ETHNIC COUNCILS** whether they be Spanish, Polish, Phillipino, Vietnamese or whatever nationality is interested. As always we are working on College Councils and Parish Councils.

We really could use more degrees run throughout the state, whether it be first, second or third. We all know the longer the candidate waits for a degree the more chance we have of losing him as a member. Remember to get your upcoming degrees on the state website. I've been attending quite a few degrees and it seems that by advertising on the website members are

coming from many areas. Our degree teams do an unbelievable job. As we get older or get transferred from the area we need to fill the voids on our degree teams. If you're interested in doing degree work contact your Councils Degree Team Captain, Diocesan Degree Team Captain or myself and get involved.



Our Insurance Agents are working hard to protect our families. As we all know this was Father McGivney's dream, that the widows and children of our members would be taken care of. Please support our brothers in the insurance field.

Pat and I hope you had a Happy and Holy Christmas and that you are looking forward to a great New Year.

Your friend in Christ,
Mike Vaclavicek, FDD
Membership Director

Passing of a Sword

The Bishop Charles P. Greco fourth degree Assembly held a very special ceremony at there hall on Tuesday, December 8.

Knights of Columbus fourth Degree member Jack Haley passed away a few months ago and his wife Anne did not know what to do with Jack's chapeau, cape and sword that he had used for over 50 years in the fourth Color Corps. Anne reached out to Past Grand Knight Brian Cargill who passed Anne's name to current fourth Degree Faithful Navigation Joe Scrudato.

When a fourth degree Knight passes away there chapeau, cape and sword is sometimes put in there casket, but Joe Scrudato and Anne worked out a plan that Jack's sword would be donated to current fourth degree member Alex Velazquez who did not have a sword but who wanted to be part of the Bishop Charles P. Greco fourth degree Color Corps very much.

Anne and her son, Joe came to the Fourth Degree meeting and in a very moving ceremony presented Jack's sword to Alex.

The Fourth Degree is to foster the spirit of patriotism by promoting responsible citizenship and a love of loyalty to the Knights' respective countries.

In the picture from left to right are Faithful Navigator Joe Scrudato, Anne Haley, Alex Velazquez and Joe Haley



Thank you,
Joe Scrudato, Faithful Navigator
Bishop Charles P. Greco Assembly

Culture of Life Program Director's Message

The month of January gives us a great opportunity to exercise our Catholic Voice in the defense of the unborn. They cannot speak for themselves, so we must do it for them! You should therefore take the opportunity to participate in the 2016 March on Washington on January 22. Details are on page 10-31 of the Grand Knight's Manual. This March can be a powerful statement in the media, especially as a lot of young people (and young women) have been photographed in the past couple of years marching with us. We need to show that our youth supports life, so if you are going, be sure to bring your family! If your council or parish is not sponsoring a bus, contact your District Deputy or the State Chairman John Hencinsky to find out if one is leaving from your area.

We must also continue to protect the unborn by educating the public on what abortion really is. This can be done through our Ultrasound Initiative and our Truth Booth Card programs. Both do an excellent job of showing a new mother the child she is carrying, and not a "lump of tissue" that needs to be removed. Remember also our Save a Life program goes hand in hand with this by supporting the pregnancy care centers where we have placed these ultrasound machines. But we must bear in mind that this program is not just about purchasing and placing ultrasound machines in pregnancy care centers that support life; it is also about helping those centers with the costs of maintaining them. Free ultrasounds for women aren't free. So ask your local pregnancy care center what their cost per ultrasound is and then raise some money to help them save some lives!

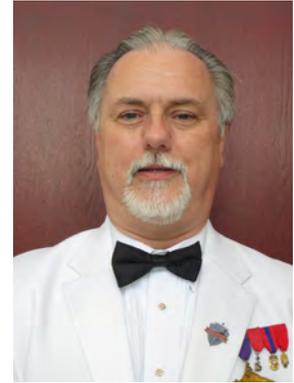
Abortion is but one way in which our society is not changing for the better. Our media shows every day in its programming that profanity, sex (both hetero- and

homosexual), and graphic violence is now acceptable as entertainment. Immoral behavior is condoned (and in sitcoms laughed at). Many of the characters on these shows are becoming negative role models for our children, while positive ones like Tim Tebow are laughed at or ridiculed. We need to act, and participating in our Morality in the Media program is the way to do it. Pledge to turn off your TV on Ash Wednesday, February 10, and ask members of your council and parish community to do it with you. Write letters to the networks telling them that you are doing it. Send a donation to OneMillionMoms.com to support their efforts to have businesses remove their advertising aired during these shows.

The battle to restore a Culture of Life is a multifront war, so in addition to exercising our Catholic Voice and educating the public, we must continue to work to remove the barriers to the choice for life. Please continue with your diaper drives, which should include wipes, formula, baby clothing, whatever your local pregnancy care center needs. While you're at it, be sure to ask them for their specific needs, such as the size of the diapers or clothing. Through Unity we can become a force to be reckoned with, and we can make a difference!

Vivat Jesus!

Steven J. Richardson, FM
Culture of Life Programs Director



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Program Director *(continued from page 2)*

You and your team should be submitting your...
 Form 2630 (K of C Round Table) due at Supreme – January 15th
 Form FT-1 (Free Throw Participation) due at Supreme – January 31st
 Form 4584 (Special Olympics Partnership) due at Supreme – January 31st
 Form 1728 (Fraternal Activity Report) due at Supreme – January 31st. It is a "Star Council" award requirement!

Let us, together, do our best to develop a calendar of programs with the tools supplied by our State Council and Supreme. Remember, have fun and work together to Protect God's Kingdom. Again, have a Happy New Year!

Keep the Faith,

Jim Sweeney, FDD
 NJ State Program Director



10419 Celebrates 25 Years

The occasion was the 25th anniversary of our Long Valley Council No. **10419**. Our actual anniversary was June 27, 2015. The celebration started with Mass at 5:00 PM at St. Mark's Church in Long Valley. Dinner followed in the Paris Center at 6:00 PM. Wives and significant others were invited as were the Long Valley Columbiettes Council No. **10419**. The Augustus Rampone Assembly Color Corps participated in the Mass.



From left: John Creamer, Paul Greszczak, Mike Leyden, Grover Cribb, Remo Canova, Tom Smith, Eric Woelfel, Fr. Dan Chajkowski, Bob Farrington, Deacon Jim Jones, Pat Gibbons, Msgr. Joe Goode, Charlie Van Stone, Patrick Conboy, John Larkin, Tom Sanders, John Clary, Alan McGrath, Steve Polakowski, and Walt Lublanecki

John H. Clary, PGK



Christmas for the 42nd

On December 6, 2015, members for the Knights of Columbus Councils **3042**, St. Joseph's and **6552**, Vincent Lombardi joined forces on a joint effort coordinated by John Brandon to have a Christmas Dinner for the Officers, Soldiers and their families. Seventeen (17) members from St. Joseph and eleven (11) members prepared and served over 100 Officers, Soldiers and their families a complete Christmas Dinner.

Also, Santa Claus (John Condo from Vincent Lombardi Council) played with gifts provided from the councils to the children that were present. What a great way to honor our service personnel!!!



Members from both council with the commander of the division and one of the soldiers. Photograph taken by Wi

Vivat Jesus!
 William Horton, Jr. DDSK # 22



Installation of 12649 Officers

On Oct. 7th the Knights of Columbus Saint John Vianney Council **12649** installed there New Officers for the new fraternal year 2015/2016! Congratulations Brothers!



Sacred Heart's 50th Year

The Bishop Charles P. Greco 4th Degree Color Corps Assembly #2149 from the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Sacred Heart Church in Grand Style on November 21. The 4th Degree Color Corps were there to support Sacred Heart Church, Father John Alvarado and its special guest Bishop Paul Gregory Bootkoski of the Metuchen Diocese.

The Color Corps is the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus and is a division of the Fourth Degree, whose distinctive presence in parades, wreath-laying ceremonies, confirmations and other Catholic functions is a visible reminder of our service to the community. The tuxedo, chapeau, cape and sword worn by the Color Corps were inspired by 19th century naval uniforms, with different cape colors representing nine different program ranks. The ceremonial sword symbolizes Christian Knighthood, and is carried to signify reverence to Church, Eucharist, country and freedom. Color Corps members wear the colors with pride, knowing they represent the very best of the Knights of Columbus.

The Bishop Charles P. Greco 4th Degree Color Corps is run by Jim Vokral.



The Color Corps members in the picture are from left to right: Rob Richkus, Roberto Morales, Dan Ratti, Bishop Paul Gregory Bootkoski, Father John Alvarado, Jim Vokral, Carl Adlassnig and Phil Thomas.

Thank you

Joe Scudato, Faithful Navigator

Bishop Charles P. Greco Assembly



3402 Council Installations

On September 23, 2015, St. Joseph Council # 3402, 54 State Highway #54 North, Keyport, New Jersey installed their officers for the Fraternal Year of 2015 -2016. The installation was held at Holy Family Church, State Highway #36, Union Beach, New Jersey. Following the installation, the officers and invited guests went to a local restaurant for dinner. The installing officer was William Horton, Jr., DDSK # 22 District, New Jersey.



The Creation of Council 3533

Two Brother Knights from Our Lady of the Mountains 3533 Livingston get to meet Supreme Knight Carl Anderson in Philadelphia.

While volunteering for the Holy Father's, visit to Philadelphia, the McIlvaine family was able to meet with our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson and his lovely wife.



Brother's James, Jr. and James Patrick far right were overjoyed when they had this chance to snap this photo with their family on that occasion.



Council 5410 Contributions

The Knights of Columbus recently donated over \$600 to the Department of Disabilities, Diocese of Paterson.



Presenting the check was Rob Holl (on right), Grand Knight of Council 5410, Knights of Columbus, Chester, NJ to Chris Brancato, representing the DPD.

Pete Grice



ARC of Flanders

Recently, the Knights of Columbus, Council 5410, contributed over \$600.00 to the ARC of Flanders, New Jersey.



Pictured from left tonight, Rob Holl, Grand Knight-Council 5410, Rhonda Maye, Director ARC and Frank Shuler, Council 5410 member.

Pete Grice, Cell (973) 610-1308



11671 Council Donations

St. Philip the Apostle Knights of Columbus Council 11671 presented checks to Mayor Jim Anzaldi in support of the annual Veteran's Day parade and to Liz Gagnon who helps supply needed items to our service personnel overseas. These funds are part of the revenue generated by the annual Tank Pull also run by Council 11671 in June each year. The City of Clifton supplies many critically important services in support of this annual event including, but not limited to, police staffing in support of the closure of Clifton Avenue. While the majority of the monies collected are donated to the Wounded Warrior Project, the Council also endeavors to contribute to local veteran's groups in our community. They also make an annual contribution to the Paramus Veteran's Home which graciously donates their display Army APC for the event. Over the past 5 years the Tank Pull has generated over \$750,000 in goods and services to benefit these causes. All of the monies collected go to support our Veterans; no money from this event is used for any non-veteran's related project.

The 2016 Tank Pull will be held on Sunday June 19th, on Clifton Avenue. For more information go to <http://www.kofc11671.org/kofcevent/>.



Legend: L-R Tank Pull co-chair SK Ray Lill, Mayor Jim Anzaldi, Clifton Cares chair Ms. Liz Gagnon, Tank Pull co-chair SK John Hughes.

Papal Mass

Volunteer ushers manned communion stations at the Papal Mass on September 27th, 2015. Bob Heehan, Bill Simonini, Joe Williams, Tony Pacesa, Jim McCue, Joe Polidoro, Rich Macdonald, Alex Figueras. Members of Archbishop Damiano 1626 and Msgr. Strenski 1849 Assemblies.



2015 New Jersey State Council Knights

Friday

Saturday Meeting

Ladies Fu

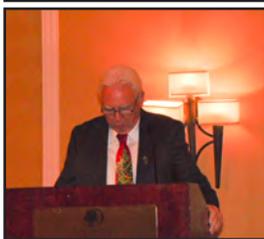


ights of Columbus Christmas Events

nction

Mass

Party



Breast Cancer Fundraiser

On October 4, 2015, St. Joseph Council # 3402 ran a Breast Cancer Awareness Fundraiser with the help of its Ladies Auxiliary. October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. The day started with a walk through Keyport and ended at the council building.

Following the walk a barbecue was held with over 2000 people present with the day ending with a 140 basket silent auction from area merchants in the Bayshore area donating the prizes.

On November 9, 2015, two checks were presented by the Ladies Auxiliary on behalf of the council members totaling \$12,500.00 from the money raised that day.



The check presentation of the council members who were able to attend the fundraiser with the ladies auxiliary.

Coats for Kids

Members of Mary Immaculate Council 12769 and a member of Our Lady of Fatima Council 15958 distributed forty-eight coats for children up at the Franciscan Community Development Center in Fairview, NJ.



Council 7046 Golf Donations

On Tuesday, October 6, 2015, the members of the Knights of Columbus St. Cecilia's Council #7046 presented a check to Sean Fleming and his family to help cover a portion of the costs in caring for their daughter. The funds were raised at the Council's Third Annual Charity Golf Outing in mid-September at the Peddie Golf Club in Hightstown.

The donation will aid the Fleming family to modify a van that will be used to transport their daughter Jasmine who has cerebral palsy.

Mr. Fleming and his wife, Linda, expressed their sincere thanks to the Council just after the presentation. I cannot tell you what this means to us. It's just great to know there are good people like you who want to help others. I just cannot say it enough: thank you!

With 1.6 million members, the Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organization. It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, the community, families and young people.



Photo Caption: L-R: The Fleming Family, Ray Wuertz, Grand Knight, Fr. Charlie O'Connor, Pastor, St. Cecilia's, Vincent Tavormina, State Treasurer for the Knights of Columbus, Brian Fisher, Golf Outing Coordinator.

Madonna Parish

On September 28th, Coronation Council #1863 Knights of Columbus, and the Church of the Madonna Monday Night Rosary Group, including members of the Madonna Parish Korean Community, hosted the Silver Rose Program in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Rose is part of a miraculous apparition which occurred in Mexico in 1531.

5410 Council Scholarships

The Knights of Columbus, Council **5410**, Chester, NJ recently presented scholarships to deserving high school seniors.



*Pictured along with Rob Holl, Grand Knight Council **5410**, are Deanna Lee, (daughter of council member Brian Lee), and graduated from West Morris High School, who will be attending George Mason University and Colin Manning, (Grandson of council member Dave Manning (deceased)) who graduated from Randolph High School, and will be attending Virginia Tech. Not pictured, also receiving a scholarship, was Thomas Schranghamer, grandson of council member, Frank Shuler, who will be attending Penn State University. We congratulate all recipients and wish them every success in their college careers.*

Pete Grice



Color Corp Man of the Year

At the September 8th South Plainfield Bishop Charles P. Greco Assembly **2147** Meeting Faithful Navigator Joe Scrudato handed out there 2014-2015 4th Degree Color Corps Man of the Year award to Phil Thomas.

Phil received this award for his outstanding support of the Bishop Charles P. Greco Assembly Color Corps. Phil attended many Color Corps events throughout the year as well. Phil supports Youth, Community, Family and Church activities.

Phil has been a Bishop Charles P. Greco Assembly Officer the last few years.

Phil also has helped the Knights council with attending many events such as Sacred Heart Lenten Fish Dinners and the Veterans Lunch as the world's best Bingo caller.

When you see Phil around South Plainfield, congratulate him on this very worthy honor.



First Baby

The Knights of Columbus Queen of Peace Council **#3428** held the Fourth Annual First Born on Christopher Columbus Day Program. It has been my privilege to be the Chairman for this program since it started. I want to first thank Tania Manago and Joseph Wojtecki of Patient Experience & Volunteer Services for making this possible. The baby was born at Clara Maass Medical Center. A huge thank you to all the nurses on the Maternity Floor. Let me introduce Baby Velez, he was 19 3/4 inches long, weighed in at 8 lbs. 1 oz. and he was born at 5:38 AM on Monday, October 12.



Flanders Eagle Scouts

Timothy Stolarz, a member of Boy Scout Troop 156 in Flanders, NJ recently completed his Eagle Scout project by renovating and reconstructing the horseshoe pits and building new picnic tables at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Flanders. The horseshoe pits had overgrown weeds and deteriorating wood frames, all were replaced with pressure treated pine lumber. Two picnic tables were constructed, from the same material. Pressure treated lumber will endure the harsh winter weather, and provide the Knights with many years of enjoyment. A wrought iron bench was assembled and placed adjacent to the horseshoe pits. In addition, a new set of horseshoes were presented to the Knights of Columbus, Council **5410** to complete the project. Over 80 hours were needed to complete the project and all hardware used was galvanized steel. The following pictures show the picnic tables, horseshoe pits, wrought iron bench and horseshoe kits. We congratulate Timothy for his dedication and hard work in making his Eagle Scout project a reality. Timothy is a senior at Mt. Olive High School and will be pursuing his college career at CCM, County College of Morris in 2016. We wish him every success and good luck in all his future endeavors.



Diaper Drive

During the month of August St. Joseph Council # **3402** of the Knights of Columbus, Keyport, New Jersey conducted its Annual Peter Cassidy Diaper Drive for Birth Right.

The event is named after long time member Peter Cassidy who was a Past Grand Knight and Faithful Navigator for the council and assembly who was very active with Birth Right of Monmouth County New Jersey who passed away a couple of years ago.

Food Drive

The Knights of Columbus of the Parish of St. Brigid and St. Elizabeth in Far Hills and Peapack recorded a remarkable success in their recent food drive at the Bernardsville Shop Rite. Members of the Knights greeted patrons in front of the supermarket on Saturday and Sunday, October 24th and 25th, and solicited contributions of non-perishable food and supplies, as well as monetary donations, to support those in need in our community. The weekend shoppers proved to be very generous and encouraging as more than five thousand pounds of donations were received, filling dozens of shopping carts, as well as \$775.46 in cash contributions. All of these donations go directly to the Food Bank Network of Somerset County in support of the valuable work and service rendered to our community by their staff and volunteers.

The mission of The Food Bank Network is to distribute food and to provide other basic human needs to those less fortunate in our community in a manner recognizing and advancing self-worth and human dignity. Working through food pantries located in Somerville, Bound Brook and North Plainfield, and a warehouse in Bridgewater, their goal is to help create the opportunity for each person to become self-sufficient.



The event was Chaired by William Horton, Jr. who is a Past Grand Knight and Faithful Navigator of the council and assembly and currently a District Deputy for District # 22 in New Jersey.

The membership collected 2,989 diapers and 5,968 wipes. The diapers and wipes were delivered to Birth Right of Monmouth County in Freehold, New Jersey.

Vivat Jesus,
William Horton, Jr. DDSK # 22



High Bridge Soccer

St. Joseph Council Knights of Columbus in High Bridge conducted their 8th Annual Soccer Challenge competition for youths ages 9 – 14. The competition is co-sponsored by the High Bridge Youth Soccer organization and was held at the Union Forge Soccer Fields in High Bridge.

The Soccer Challenge is a competition designed for players to demonstrate the most basic of soccer skills — the penalty kick. Each player is allowed fifteen shots at the goal from the penalty line (12 yards from the goal). The goal is divided into a series of 5 scoring zones. The upper corners of the goal are designated as 20 point zones. The lower corners are designated as 10 point zones and the central region is a 5 point zone. Kicks are subject to the normal rules of soccer.

Knights of Columbus members David Kinsky and Kevin Loughney of High Bridge organized the event. Kinsky is also a coach and Board Secretary for the High Bridge Youth Soccer organization.

Winners can advance to Knights of Columbus district, regional, and state competitions later this fall.



(Photo by Greg Boyle) **2015 winners and runners-up** with Grand Knight Kevin Loughney and event coordinator Dave Kinsky: *l-r*: Daniel Kuffo, 1st place age 10 boys; Ben Smith, 2nd place age 13 boys; Skylar Swain, 2nd place age 10 girls; Manny Marquez, 2nd place age 12 boys; Miranda Corley, 1st place age 10 girls; Liam Boyle, 1st place age 12 boys*; Alex Kinsky, 2nd place age 9 boys; Kali Torkildsen, 1st place age 12 girls*; Carly Krushinski, 2nd place age 11 girls; Annika Oliver, 2nd place age 9 girls; Sofia Desire, 1st place age 11 girls; Josh Kinsky, 1st place age 13 boys*; Maya Wurst, 1st place age 9 girls. (Not in photo: Michael Bradow, 1st place age 9 boys; Ricky Strange, 1st place age 11 boys*; Bennet Garvey-Blackwell, 2nd place age 11 boys and Christian Lillo, 1st place age 14 boys.)

*Kali, Liam & Ricky each won their 2nd consecutive challenges, Josh won his 3rd consecutive challenge!

Keeping Christ in Christmas

With the blessing of his Excellency Bishop Arthur Serratelli and ever mindful of our responsibility to defend our faith and to remind everyone during this holiday season of the true meaning of Christmas, St. Philip the Apostle Knights of Columbus Council **11671** in conjunction with the Paterson Federation has begun erecting signs around the area with the message "Keep Christ in Christmas". Picture here is the sign erected on the Chancery Office lawn which is illuminated this year so everyone can see it even at night. St. Philip's council has embarked on producing smaller versions for lawn displays, home and office windows and even cars. The Knights want everyone to remember that while we are hustling around buying gifts, and baking goodies and trimming trees and taking the kids and grand-kids to visit Santa that the true reason we have all this grand celebration is the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



L-r: Gary Dukich, Grand Knight SK Rich Donkersloot, SK Gary Klunder, former District Deputy, Past Grand Knight SK Ray Lill.

Hope House

Mary Immaculate Council **12769** annual drive to help Hope House- a Catholic Charity facility for homeless mothers and children in Jersey City- was another great success. The council and Catholic Daughter Court 1552 provided each child with two clothing outfits (there are 23 children at the facility) as well as a toy. They also gave two hundred and fifty dollar (\$250) in ShopRite cards with twenty dollars in cash. Finally they gave close to four hundred pounds of non perishable groceries.

In the picture is Knight Angelo with his wife Catholic Daughter Norma Andriani.



Ultra Sound

On September 18, 2015 a new Ultra Sound machine was presented and blessed by Fr. Larry Fama, the Newark Archdiocesan Respect Life Director, at the First Choice Pregnancy Resource Center in Montclair. This is the 4th machine placed in First Choice's centers by councils in the Archdiocese in the past year. In addition St. Rose Council #6386 in Short Hills has donated money for two additional machines placed in First Choice centers in the Archdiocese. Through generous donations of councils and individuals throughout the Archdiocese, the Knights have placed 8 Ultra Sounds to help save the lives of countless babies!



Pictured left to right are: Bob Hatler, State Secretary; Aimee Huber Executive Director of First Choice Woman's Resource Centers; Frank Alexander PGK of St. Rose Council 6386; Cheryl Reilly Newark Archdiocesan Associate Director of Respect Life and Rev. Fr. Larry Fama, Director of Respect Life for the Newark Archdiocese.

Planned Parenthood Protest

On August 22, 2015 the following councils marched/supported the National Planned Parenthood Protest at the Planned Parenthood Building at 69 East Newman Springs Road, Shrewsbury, NJ.

There were over 100 people present for the event. Members from St. Joseph Council #3402, Keyport, St. Benedict Council #11349, Holmdel and Freehold Council #1672, Freehold were present that day to give their support.



Mums Sale

For the last 3 weeks the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 have been hard at work with one of their biggest fundraisers of the year. On weekends, the Knights have been at the South Plainfield Rescue Squad selling mums. This fundraiser was started 12 years ago by Gerry Butrico and this year \$3,200 was collected from this year's mums sale which goes to the Knights Charity Fund. One of the Knights of Columbus' principles is Charity; this Charity fund is used to support local residents who have charitable needs. In just the 3 weeks the Knights sold 500 small mums and 117 large mums. That is an amazing 617 mums sold in just 5 days over 3 weekends.

The Knights really need to thank these businesses and individuals who have supported this Mums Sale for many years. Frank Licato, DDS, Pizza Stop, R&C AutoBody, Presto Printing, Bagel Pantry, Cornerstone Architecture, Mr. Subs, KC's Corner, Peter Pan Pharmacy, Witty's Liquors, Mike Buteas Construction, Lehigh Utility, Stillo Evacuating, Pinto Disposal, Ed Santora, Attorney at Law, The Observer, Lanza & Lanza, Attorneys at Law, Twin City Pharmacy, Sal's Liquors, Columbia Bank, Nischwitz, Jack Pederson Reality, Bosticks Auto Body, Ciccio's, Joey Lemmo (who donated his mums to Sacred Heart Church), Jim Vokral, Tom Cassio, Ed Kubala, Greg Gaydos, Scott Linick, Joe Scarpitto, Bill Ashnault, Tom Cassio, Rob Bengivenga, Ken Torchia and Phil Batista.

As well the Knights need to thank McCriskins/Gustafson Funeral Home and Butrico's Auto Body also bought many small mums that were put in front of their businesses.

The Knights could not have succeeded without the help of the following Knights and family members: Harold Bolton, Ted Rubino, Norm Chicarelli, Steve Belanger, Joe Wilkowski, Gerry Butrico, Bill Butrico, Joe Scudato, Kevin Keane, Fred Brisebois, Grand Knight Tom Pollack, Deacon Wayne, Steve Turrise, Glenn Bach, Tom Franz and the hardest Mums worker the Knights have, Joe Belinski.

The Knights would like to thank the South Plainfield Rescue Squad for use of their parking lot in selling the mums. Their partnership is greatly appreciated. The Knights donated back to the Rescue Squad \$300 for the use of their parking lot



High Bridge Soccer

On the weekend of October 17th and 18th the Knights of Council **9852** raised over \$2,500 to benefit the Christians at Risk Charity of the Knights of Columbus to support Persecuted Christians.

The Council created 600 "awareness packets" that included an orange "Pray for Persecuted Christians" wrist band, an orange ribbon, and an information card. These packets were given away to parishioners of the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church free of charge.

Thanks to the generosity of the parishioners over \$2,500 was collected by the Knights that will be given to the Christians at Risk Charity along with many people who said they were donating directly to the charity.



Sister Pia Jude

On July 29th Brother Richard Steffens-Council **12769**-loaded up the car of Sister Pia Jude, daughter of Knight Peter & Jude Furka, Council **12769**, with one hundred and sixty pounds of chicken, one hundred pounds of rice and over a hundred pounds of canned items.

Sister took her first vows for the Sisters of Life on August 6th and the food donated by Richie and the knights went towards the celebration after. Sister Pia Jude is a Sister of Life and her job was to go out and ask for donations for this dinner for the nuns taking first vows and those taking their final vows.



5th Sunday Rosary Program

To help bring parishioners together in a spiritual activity and promote devotion to Mary, the Knights of Columbus have inaugurated a "5th Sunday Rosary Program." Knights, their families and other parishioners are encouraged to pray the rosary as a corporate body every time a 5th Sunday occurs during a month.

The inaugural 5th Sunday Rosary services were conducted by local councils throughout the nation on August 30. Knights also supplied finger rosaries and Rosary prayer cards. Additional devotions will be conducted on November 29, 2015 and on the following Sundays in 2016: January 31, May 29, July 31 & October 30.



Photo shows members of St. Joseph Parish, High Bridge, praying the inaugural 5th Sunday Rosary on August 30, 2015. (Greg Boyle photo).

Several Sources Shelters

The Queen of Peace Council **3679** of the Knights of Columbus in Closter, New Jersey presented a check for \$1,800 to Ramsey-based *Several Sources Shelters* on October 22, 2015 at A Taste of Spain Restaurant in Northvale, New Jersey.

The funds were collected at St. Mary Parish in Closter and St. Joseph's Parish in Demarest during the Knights' Baby Bottle Campaign.

Several Sources Shelters is a non-profit organization funded through private donations that provides shelter for mothers and their babies.



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Operation Thank You To Veterans

Matawan, NJ – Area veterans were honored and homeless veterans fed on Sunday night, December 20 at the St. Clement Parish Center as part of “Operation Thank You, Merry Christmas” an event that was organized by the Knights of Columbus Council #5324 in Matawan with the assistance of the St. Clement Parish Community. Inspired by a talk given to the Council a month earlier by Andre Yates, founder, the event was designed to raise awareness for the veterans that are now homeless in New Jersey and the urgent need to provide transitional housing for them, while also offering an opportunity to pay tribute to all veterans that have served our country. “With all of the terrible things happening in the recent weeks from the Paris bombings to the attack in San Bernardino, we thought developing an event that would be all about giving and would allow us to pay tribute to our veterans,” said Carl Duque, Grand Knight of Council #5324. “Our veterans are something we cannot take for granted,” noted Rev. Thomas Vala, pastor of St. Clement Church. “We enjoy so many freedoms because of these vets. We have to be reminded each day to give thanks to them for all they have done for our country.” With the blessing of Pastor Vala, the Knights began working together with Pat Thein, Religious Education Coordinator at St. Clement to arrange for food donations from children in the CCD program. A number of the children were on hand Sunday night with signs thanking the veterans as they marched into the parish center.

About 15 veterans currently living in transient housing attended the event along with members of the local American Legion and St. Clement parish veterans. They enjoyed a dinner prepared by the St. Clement Altar Rosary Society and nurses from Centra State Hospital in Freehold. Afterwards each branch of the military marched into the parish hall and took their positions in front of the main dais so the assembled parishioners could salute them for their service.



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