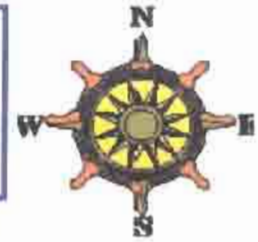




ST-MARK'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
**THE COMPASS**



**Next council meeting is Thursday March 17**



**A Word  
From The  
GK:**



We had Tom Ingham, State Secretary of the New Hampshire Knights of Columbus, speak to us at the January meeting concerning the Kidney Fund. This is a very worthwhile cause and I was proud that we are donating \$250 a quarter to support at least one person requiring dialysis. Our Council received honorable mention by Secretary Ingham at the State quarterly meeting.

**Lenten Dinners**

Our first Chowder dinner was a success. Over 30 diners enjoyed chowder or soup, a grilled cheese sandwich and a salad, all done under the supervision of Chefs John Kelly and Bill Hamilton. Thanks to Bob Leonard and Wally Markham for their help as well. We can use help in future weeks – please contact John Kelly or me, Dennis Pedley.

**Family of the Month**

Congratulations to Bill and Chris Hamilton as Family of the Month recipients for January.

**Request for Assistance**

The membership approved this years RSVP donation to Seminarian Bill Venture. We also wrote a check for the second installment to the Sunday School that had previously been approved.

**Free Throw Contest**



We had a successful District Free Throw contest on February 12 with our 4 winners from the council competition all winning District as well. Congratulations to Kimberly Morris, Christina Pescia, Katie Schwarz and Kelly Schwarz. The State contest will be held on March 13 in Littleton.

**Rosemary R. Cox Scholarship Spaghetti Dinner.**

The second annual spaghetti supper to benefit the Rosemarie R Cox Scholarship was a success. Congratulations to Don Sommese and his Scholarship committee and dinner crew for hosting a great event.

**Roe v. Wade**

Thanks to Ron Turcotte and all that supported our annual 24-hour vigil. We even had the closing ceremony and snacks while a blizzard raged outside.

**Activities coming in March**

- Lenten Dinners to continue through Friday, March 18
- Coffee & Donuts – March 20
- General Membership Meeting – March 17 (a week early due to Easter)

Make an effort to come to our Council meeting on February 24. There will be candidate's names to read, plans for the Tootsie Roll Drive and our annual Baseball outing – Nashua Pride or Manchester Fisher Cats?

Vivat Jesus,

Dennis Pedley, Grand Knight

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Scholarship



Saint Patrick is believed to have been born in the late fourth century, and is often confused with Palladius, a bishop who was sent by Pope Celestine in 431 to be the first bishop to the Irish believers in Christ.

Saint Patrick was the patron saint and national apostle of Ireland who is credited with bringing christianity to Ireland. Most of what is known about him comes from his two works, the *Confessio*, a spiritual autobiography, and his *Epistola*, a denunciation of British mistreatment of Irish christians. Saint Patrick described himself as a "most humble-minded man, pouring forth a continuous paean of thanks to his Maker for having chosen him as the instrument whereby multitudes who had worshipped idols and unclean things had become the people of God."

Saint Patrick is most known for driving the snakes from Ireland. It is true there are no snakes in Ireland, but there probably never have been - the island was separated from the rest of the continent at the end of the Ice Age. As in many old pagan religions, serpent symbols were common and often worshipped. Driving the snakes from Ireland was probably symbolic of putting an end to that pagan practice. While not the first to bring christianity to Ireland, it is Patrick who is said to have encountered the Druids at Tara and abolished their pagan rites. The story holds that he converted the warrior chiefs and princes, baptizing them and thousands of their subjects in the "Holy Wells" that still bear this name.



There are several accounts of Saint Patrick's death. One says that Patrick died at Saul, Downpatrick, Ireland, on March 17, 460 A.D. His jawbone was preserved in a silver shrine and was often requested in times of childbirth, epileptic fits, and as a preservative against the "evil eye." Another account says that St. Patrick ended his days at Glastonbury, England and was buried there. The Chapel of St. Patrick still exists as part of Glastonbury Abbey. Today, many Catholic places of worship all around the world are named after St. Patrick, including cathedrals in New York and Dublin city.

#### Why Saint Patrick's Day?

Saint Patrick's Day has come to be associated with everything Irish: anything green and gold, shamrocks and luck. Most importantly, to those who celebrate its intended meaning, St. Patrick's Day is a traditional day for spiritual renewal and offering prayers for missionaries worldwide.

So, why is it celebrated on March 17th? One theory is that that is the day that St. Patrick died. Since the holiday began in Ireland, it is believed that as the Irish spread out around the world, they took with them their history and celebrations. The biggest observance of all is, of course, in Ireland. With the exception of restaurants and pubs, almost all businesses close on March 17th. Being a religious holiday as well, many Irish attend mass, where March 17th is the traditional day for offering prayers for missionaries worldwide before the serious celebrating begins.

In American cities with a large Irish population, St. Patrick's Day is a very big deal. Big cities and small towns alike celebrate with parades, "wearing of the green," music and songs, Irish food and drink, and activities for kids such as crafts, coloring and games. Some communities even go so far as to dye rivers or streams green!

For more information about St. Patrick, go to: [http://www.st-patricks-day.com/about\\_saintpatrick.asp](http://www.st-patricks-day.com/about_saintpatrick.asp)



Free Throw District Champs!



Tom Knower	13th
Steve Curtin	14th
Bob Valway	14th
Walter Markham	16th
Roger Marchand	21st
Rich Engler	26th



Kevin LaCerde	1st
George Combes	2nd
Dennis Pedley, GK	2nd
Walter Lewis	6th
Dick Fisher	17th
Steve Barry	19th
Mike Dromgoole, PGK	20th
Fr. Thom, Chaplain	25th
Stan Swiderek	27th
Matt Sochalski	28th
John Connor	30th

The K of C Insurance Agent serving our council is **Bob Lafond**. He can be reached at **432-9366** or **548-0720**



[Welcome]