



ST-MARK'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

THE COMPASS



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GK Column

October

Feel free to grab a few for your friends, and give them one of the contact cards in case they want to request more information later.

Brother Knights,

I mentioned last month that one of our goals for the year would be to recruit enough members to help us earn the Star Council award, so I'll start this month's letter by asking – have you invited any Catholic men to join our council recently? Many men are interested, but they're just waiting for someone to ask. Please, ASK! In case you need a little incentive, the KofC has a program called the VIP (Very Important Proposers) club - this is a program which rewards Knights who bring in new members. I'll be telling you more about this program in an upcoming letter, but don't wait - please help us to recruit new members now.

In support of our recruiting efforts, we've started displaying KofC brochures and information cards during the weekends that our council staffs Coffee and Donuts. Perhaps we can attract a few new men who just needed a little information (and maybe a little prodding). There are also brochures displayed at the entrance to the church and downstairs on our display cabinet.

I also proposed last month that our council should create a 1st degree team in Londonderry, perhaps in partnership with St. Jude's Council. We're still looking for members to help out, so please contact me if you're interested. It can be a very rewarding experience. Speaking of degrees, please congratulate Connor O'Brien who advanced to the 2nd degree this past weekend!

Now, let's move on to some of our recent council activities. First, check out our Charity column to see some of our most recent donations to worthy causes such as the Sonshine Soup Kitchen and EWTN. We've been catching up on requests from the summer, but there are always more groups in need. Come to our next meeting and help us decide which other causes we should support.

Next, as some of you may know, Ken Rahilly has been interested in engaging the Knights (and others) in helping out with community projects for those in need of an extra hand.

In his first effort this past weekend, he gathered a few men to help Melinda Huber (one of our parishioners) move to a new home. We joined with a couple of Melinda's friends to pitch in, and she really appreciated the help. We look forward to more of these opportunities in the future.

On the fundraising front, John Kelly and Mike Dromgoole have been busy planning for our upcoming Christmas Tree sales. Believe it or not, we start selling next month! Trees have been ordered, the booth will be setup on Saturday November 18th, and trees will be delivered on Saturday November 25th. Given that this is our biggest fundraiser for the year, please respond generously when John and Mike begin recruiting for help to setup the booth, unload the truck, sell the trees, and break down the booth when we're finished.

On a final note, I encourage you to check out the column in this newsletter about the upcoming State Retreat. This is a terrific opportunity for prayer and reflection with your fellow knights, so please take advantage of the program if you're interested.

In the meantime, I look forward to seeing many of you at the October business meeting on Thursday October 26th at 7:30.

Yours in Christ,

Ron Turcotte, GK

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The following brothers are celebrating their birthday:



| | |
|------------------|------|
| Joe Curran | 1st |
| Wayne Kamieneski | 4th |
| Jeff Avitable | 9th |
| Dan McCarthy | 12th |
| Henk Oolders | 13th |
| Brendan Turcotte | 19th |
| Andy Greco | 22nd |
| Ken Rahilly | 25th |
| Ed Combes | 28th |



| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Paul Bartlett, FS | 11th |
| John McLaughlin, Treas. | 13th |
| John McLean | 14th |
| Mike Garrity | 28th |
| Robert Fawcett | 29th |



The first annual Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge, which

Council 10488 co-sponsored along with our brother Knights from St. Jude's, was a success. Held on Sunday, October 8 (following a rainout on October 1), local winners were crowned in a number of age categories, and they will move on to compete at the District and State levels later this fall.

The vocalist was practicing in the church with all the windows open. As she stepped outside for a whiff of fresh air, she noticed the gardener trimming the shrubs. "How did you like my execution?" she asked.

The gardener without turning to look at her said, "I'm in favor of it

Membership Corner

1st Degree: Fri, Nov 10 7:30pm in Hudson, NH

2nd Degree: Sun, Oct 29 2:30pm in Franklin, NH

3rd Degree: Nov 12, 11am, Claremont, NH

See details on our website at:

http://kc10488.com/html/current_events.html

State Retreat

Once again we will meet at the Franciscan Center in Andover, MA for this special weekend of prayer and reflection. Jesus often took His disciples off by themselves for rest and prayer. We deserve no less. That is just what these retreat days are meant to accomplish. Why not join your Brothers at the retreat center? Your cost is \$150 and it is probably the best \$150 you could possible spend at this time in your life. Contact the retreat chairman for more information and driving directions. You can reach Gene at: EUGENE GAUDREAU 298 Main St., Plaistow, NH 03865 (603) 382-2116 ELGWUSU@hotmail.com



Congratulations to Connor O'Brien, the newest 2nd degree member in our council. On Sunday, October 15 Connor and five other individuals participated in the 2nd degree ceremony sponsored by Father McDonald's Council (2048) in Rochester, NH. This was a true family affair with his father, Pat present to observe his son's advancement. It was only last month that Pat became a 3rd degree Knight and Connor, a Freshman at St. Anselm's, is now eagerly awaiting the opportunity to make his 3rd degree. Connor, who joined our council this past July has designs on and is well on his way to becoming our council's first Knight in Shining Armor. Please congratulate Connor on his advancement the next time you see him serving as a greeter at mass.

An Illinois man left the snow-filled streets of Chicago for a vacation in Florida. His wife was on a business trip and was planning to meet him there the next day.

When he reached his hotel, he decided to send his wife a quick email. Unable to find the scrap of paper on which he had written her email address, he did his best to type it in from memory. Unfortunately, he missed one letter and his note was directed instead to an elderly preacher's wife, whose husband had passed away only the day before. When the grieving widow checked her email, she took one look at the monitor, let out a piercing scream and fell to the floor in a dead faint. At the sound, her family rushed into the room and saw this note on the screen :DEAREST WIFE: JUST GOT CHECKED IN. EVERYTHING PREPARED FOR YOUR ARRIVAL TOMORROW. P.S. SURE IS HOT DOWN HERE.

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The Seal of the Knights of Columbus



The emblem of the Order dates from the second Supreme Council meeting May 12, 1883, when it was designed by James T. Mullen, who was then Supreme Knight.

A quick glance at the emblem indicates a shield mounted upon the Formee Cross. The shield is that associated with a medieval Knight. The Formee Cross is the representation of a traditionally artistic design of the Cross of Christ through which all graces of redemption were procured for mankind. This then represents the Catholic spirit of the Order.

Mounted on the shield are three objects: a fasces standing vertically, and, crossed behind it, an anchor and a dagger or short sword. The fasces from Roman days is symbolic of authority which must exist in any tightly-bonded and efficiently operating organization. The anchor is the mariner's symbol for Columbus, patron of the Order, while the short sword or dagger was the weapon of the Knight when engaged upon an errand of mercy. Thus, the shield expresses Catholic Knighthood in organized merciful action, and with the letters, K of C, it proclaims this specific form of activity.

Red, White and Blue

Red is then the symbol of Faith, of belief in Christ, in the Redemption and in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. White is the color of the Eucharistic Host, pledge of God's Eucharistic presence among men, of the infinite love God has for man and the overwhelming affection which the God-man has for each individual. White is then the symbol of Christ-like Charity. Blue is the color of Our Lady's mantle, in which she wrapped her beloved Son, through Whom came salvation to a sinful world. Blue is then the symbol of Hope.

Chaplain's Letter

I was reading recently a small book about St. Francis. In one section it mentioned the Secular Franciscans, also called Third Order. One of the Third Order Franciscans mentioned was Christopher Columbus. I will admit I know little about Christopher, but somehow it surprised me that he would be a Third Order Franciscan. Part of the reason is the requirements of being one. I wonder how Columbus could have made his difficult journeys while fasting each Friday? How did he find time to pray the Divine Office, or the 50 or so Our Fathers he was required to pray each day? I also began to wonder how this affected the men that he lead.

Perhaps it was this required prayer, an obligation he freely took upon himself, that helped him to continue on in his journeys. Hopefully it was an inspiration to his crew.

I mention this because as Knights of Columbus we have our meetings, we do many wonderful things, many of you are very active here in our parish. It is important to remember where all the impetus for these activities must come from, our lives of prayer. We each have certain ways of praying that appeal to us. Some are drawn to the rigors of Ignatian prayer, some to the recitation of the Church's Divine Office, others to various devotional prayers. Which style is less important than the fact of having a prayer life. When we devote time to prayer we allow God to give us direction, we receive strength for our travels through life, and we become better Knights of Columbus. God Bless.....Fr. Thom

Three engineers and three accountants were traveling by train to a conference. At the station, the three accountants each bought tickets and watched as the three engineers bought only one ticket. "How are three people going to travel on only one ticket?" asked an accountant. "Watch and you'll see", answered an engineer. They all boarded the train. The accountants took their respective seats, but the three engineers all crammed into a rest room and closed the door behind them. Shortly after the train departed, the conductor came around collecting tickets. He knocked on the restroom door and said, "Ticket, please". The door opened just a crack and a single arm emerged with a ticket in hand. The conductor took it and moved on. The accountants saw this and agreed it was a quite clever idea. So, after the conference, the accountants decide to copy the engineers on the return trip and save some money (being clever with money, and all that). When they got to the station, they bought a single ticket for the return trip. To their astonishment, the engineers didn't buy a ticket at all. "How are you going to ride without a ticket"? said one perplexed accountant. "Watch and you'll see", answered an engineer. When they boarded the train, the three accountants crammed into a restroom and the three engineers crammed into another one nearby. The train departed. Shortly afterward, one of the engineers left his restroom and walked over to the restroom where the accountants were hiding. He knocked on the door and said, "Ticket, please."

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Charity, the first principle of our order!

Here is a list of our recent recent Donations:

\$250.00 Sonshine Soup Kitchen

\$250.00 NH State Kidney Fund

\$200.00 Build a Church (State program to build a church in Ghana

\$100.00 EWTN

\$ 50.00 Granite State Awards Program Booklet – in support of state scholarship

Click arrow to view different month!

◀▶ **NOVEMBER 2006**

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|---|-----------|--|--|---|---|--------------------------|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | |
| 29 <input type="checkbox"/> 4:30p NHRTL Banquet | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 <input type="checkbox"/> 12p Election Day | 8 | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 7:30p KC Officer Meeting | 10 <input type="checkbox"/> State Retreat | 11 | |
| 12 <input type="checkbox"/> State Retreat <input type="checkbox"/> 12p 3rd Degree | 13 | 14 | 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 1p KC Newsletter Deadline | 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 7:30p Council Business Meeting | 17 | 18 | |
| 19 <input type="checkbox"/> 9a Coffee & Donuts Hosting | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 <input type="checkbox"/> 12p THANKSGIVING | 24 | 25 | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | |

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