



# Knight Digest



Vol. 59 No. 02

[www.kofc4504.org](http://www.kofc4504.org)

October 2017

## Calendar of Events

October 14th-15th..... IDD Drive Collection  
 October 15th .....Pancake Breakfast  
 October 19th .....Knights Family Dinner  
 October 21st .....Halloween Party  
 November 4th ..... Past Grand Knight's Dinner  
 November 8th ..... 2nd Degree  
 November 11th ..... 3rd Degree  
 November 12th .....Memorial Mass  
 November 16th .....Knights Family Dinner  
 November 19th ..... Oktoberfest



## Deceased Members Memorial Mass

The Annual Deceased Members Memorial Mass will be on November 12. This year the Mass will be at Holy Spirit Church at 9:00am. There will be a breakfast following at Union Knights of Columbus.

**Please save the date.**

It would be nice to have a good turnout to show our respect for those members that have left us way too soon. We also are looking for someone to Chair this event.

## Past Grand Knights Dinner scheduled Saturday November 4th

The Union Knights of Columbus Council # 4504 will be holding its annual Past Grand Knight's Dinner on **Saturday, November 4th, 2017** to Honor Giftus John, Grand Knight for 2016 – 2017. This dinner will be to recognize Giftus for all his hard work and dedication to our Council for the years leading up to and during his term as Grand Knight.

The evening will begin at 7 P.M. with a Cocktail Hour followed by presentations to our Past Grand Knight, dinner, dancing and an open bar. Tickets for the evening's festivities are only \$60.00 a couple (\$30.00 for a single). Reservations are requested by Wednesday, November 1st so that we can properly order food for the event.

Help us make this a memorable "K"night in Council History.

Please contact:

Buddy Cotter, PGK @973-722-5655  
 Or Mike Willemse, GK @908-447-7009  
 Please RSVP by Wednesday, November 1st.

Thank You

## KofC 4504 welcomes new Brothers

Union Council 4504 hosted an Admissions Degree on September 14th, 2017. We are honored to welcome our five (5) newest members to our Order.



## Knigh Digest

This bulletin is published monthly, by and in the interest of the Knights of Columbus Union Council 4504 and registered as third class matter April 23, 1958, at the Union Post Office, Union, NJ.

**RULES FOR SUBMISSION:** Submissions for consideration are due in writing by the 15th of the month for the following month. Please mail or drop off submission, with contact information to:

**Tom Dudek**  
**Knigh Digest Editor**  
**549 Robinson Ter.**  
**Union, NJ 07083**

or preferably via email to: [tomdudek@outlook.com](mailto:tomdudek@outlook.com).

You must clearly identify all people in photos submitted and at what council event the photo was taken. Photos with alcoholic beverages will not be considered. Photos may also be submitted via email as hi-resolution image files. Hard copy photos will only be returned when accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

## Council Officers

*Chaplain*.....  
*District Deputy*..... Alex Costa, PGK  
*Grand Knight* ..... Michael Willemse  
*Deputy Grand Knight*..... Vacant  
*Chancellor*..... David Wozniak  
*Warden* ..... Eric Hernandez  
*Recorder*..... Luke Sangiamo  
*Treasurer*..... Paul Willemse  
*Fin. Secretary*..... Ed McCormick, PGK  
*Inside Guard*..... Anthony Ibida  
*Outside Guard*..... Josh Merdia  
*Membership Director*..... Greg Chaves  
*Program Director*..... Mike Peter, PGK  
*Advocate*..... Stephen F. Hehl  
*3rd. Yr. Trustee* ..... Giftus John, PGK  
*2nd Yr. Trustee* ..... Greg Henn, PGK  
*1st Yr. Trustee* ..... Mike Peter, PGK  
*4th Degree Faithful*  
*Navigator*..... Len Komar  
*Columbian Club*  
*President* ..... John Bashaw  
*Swim Club President*..... Joe Marateo, PGK  
*Columbiette President*..... Fran Corcione

## Monthly Meetings

1st. Mon. ----- Council Officers  
2nd & 4th Mon. ----- Council Mtgs.  
3rd Mon. ----- Swim Club  
4th Wed.----- 4th Degree Assembly  
4th Thu. ----- Columbian Club

## MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT

Brother Knights of 4504,

The summer months of 2017 have ended. Though my Grand Knight's Toast was June 30, the summer moved so quickly that it seems as if it was just yesterday. As we enter the last quarter of our year, I want to thank all who have worked so hard for our council. Council 4504 hosted some amazing summer events this year: the Pig Roast, the Lobster Fest, Sangria Night and our annual Family Picnic. I would especially like to give special thank you to the picnic committee, our cooks, and everyone who helped to make the event a success.

Football season has started and our Program Director, Mike Peter PGK, will be launching our annual collection for the Intellectual Disabilities Drive. This fundraiser is an active one in the sense that we need manpower in order for it to be successful. I am counting on every brother to help stand for this collection, even if it is just for two hours. As I have told the newest members of this council, I shall also tell every one of you. When it comes to the Knights of Columbus: job, health and your family come first. However, if you can give me three (3) hours a year, I will personally be very grateful.

Our next major event is our Past Grand Knight's Dinner. Due to some scheduling conflicts, we unfortunately must push back this dinner by a month. It is now scheduled for Saturday, November 4, 2017. Mark your calendars! This dinner is to honor our immediate Past Grand Knight, Giftus John. There will be food, entertainment and a good time to be had by all. Don't miss out on this fantastic event.

For the month of November, we will be scheduling our annual Memorial Mass. This Memorial Mass is an excellent opportunity to remember those brother knights who have passed away. Each one of these members contributed to our Council in one way or another and it is important that we recognize those who led the way for what we have today.

This Columbian Club has been doing extraordinarily well this fall, and the reason for its success is every one of you. You are all an integral part of this Council and I thank you for your continued service.

Vivat Jesus,

Michael P. Willemse  
Grand Knight 2017-2018



## Swim Club News

We've had a great response with additional families since we opened the membership to other councils and Catholic Church members. The number of daily guests increased which certainly helps us promote our pool and our wonderful facilities.

We are always looking for new members and members to renew their membership.

Thank you for supporting our membership.  
Jim Ford - Membership Director  
jford1488@comcast.net

## Knight's Family Dinners

This month's Knights Family dinner is scheduled for **October 19th**. The dinners will be held on the 3rd Thursday of every month except when noted otherwise.

Anyone planning on attending must call Pat Wittek in advance at 908-964-3989.

## Union Council 4504-Anniversary Circle... A celebration of 25 and 50 years married.

Are you celebrating or have you celebrated your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary this year? If you have, or will be, please send your names to the Grand Knight, Mike Willemse with the details. We will present Certificates of Commendation from Supreme to all our brothers and their wives who have reached one of these milestones.

Also, if you have celebrated anniversaries in increments of 5 years-30, 35, 40, 45 etc, please let us know. We will also present certificates to all brothers who have also reached one of those milestones.

Hoping to hear from you. Congratulations!!!

## Knight of the Month



October 2017

Gregory Jones



The Knight of the Month for October 2017 is a gentleman who is very involved in community activities here at Council 4504. Whenever the Council or Columbian Club need help with any activities, he is always seen putting in his best effort, and willing to help almost anyone.

His involvement with Council 4504, as well as our Columbian club, has allowed this organization to prosper, and we all cannot be more thankful. He has been able to provide multiple donated items for the Pig Roast, the Lobster Fest as well as the Family Picnic.

This brother graduated from Rutgers University and has been an accountant for more than 27 years. He is a parishioner of St. Theresa's in Kenilworth, and, not surprisingly, he is also actively involved in that parish. He has put together one of the most successful events of this year thus far: the lobster fest.

He has a wonderful wife named Luisa, and a beautiful daughter named Allison. He and his wife were very instrumental in power-washing the tiki-bar and helping to paint the snack-bar thus making the outside surroundings ready for the summer.

It is therefore, my honor and pleasure to recognize and reward Gregory Jones, as Knight of the Month of October, 2017. Congratulations, Greg.

## Council 4504 Contribute to Dominica Hurricane Relief Fund

A motion to donate to the Dominica Hurricane Relief Fund was adopted during the Council's last general meeting on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> following a motion brought to the floor by Br. Mike Eger. The brothers present decided to make a contribution of \$1500.00 towards the drive in conjunction with PGK Giftus John who is from the island of Dominica.

The island has been devastated by hurricane Maria and about 95% of houses destroyed in the storm; one of the worst to hit the island in recent memory. We hope that our contribution will help in easing the pain that the people of Dominica are presently experiencing.



# Knight Digest



Vol. 59 No. 01

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September 2017

The Knight Digest was established in 1958 to provide a means of communications among all council members.

The Digest is only as effective as the information it contains, so I would like to provide a few guidelines to help increase its effectiveness.

- **Plan ahead:** if you are planning an event and would like the greatest attendance possible, give people enough advanced notice. We all live busy lives and our calendars fill up quickly. If you don't have all the details spelled out, simply submit a "Save the Date" article so that people are aware of your event and can plan accordingly.
- **When to Advertise:** Your article should appear in two digests prior to the event. If your event takes place in the first week of the month, don't count on that month's digest to get the word out.
- **Digest Schedule:** Articles are due to the Editor by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. If you submit articles beyond that date, there is no guarantee they will make it in the next month's edition. Some months are busier than others, so articles may be shortened or omitted. The Digest is sent to the printer on the first of each month. It takes about a week before the digest will show up in your mailbox including the time to print and label. The digital version of the Digest is available on the first of the month.
- **Follow Up:** Just as important as the event, is the follow up. It's important to let people know what took place. The Council does amazing work and should be shared with everyone.
- **Photos:** If you are attending one of the many events held at the Council, don't forget to snap a photo and send to the Knight Digest.
- **Website:** The website has no timeline or space restrictions and is an active version of the Knight Digest. All articles submitted for the Digest are also featured on the website. At any point in time, you can submit an article for the website just in case a last-minute event happens to arise.

Thanks,

Tom Dudek

Email: [tomdudek@outlook.com](mailto:tomdudek@outlook.com)

Website: [www.KofC4504.org](http://www.KofC4504.org)



## **It was a Catholic priest who saved Private Ryan**

Among those soldiers who landed behind German lines in Normandy on June 6, 1944 was the legendary chaplain of the unit, Fr. Francis L. Sampson (1912-1996). It was he (and not the character played by Tom Hanks in Saving Private Ryan), who days later was ordered by military authorities to find Fritz Niland, the real-life “Private Ryan,” who had lost his three brothers on D-Day.

Father Sampson – better known as “Father Sam” – arrived in Normandy by parachute. The first thing he did when he landed was desperately look for his Mass kit, which he had lost during his landing. It was hard for him to locate in the dark, under heavy enemy fire, among the explosions, but he did.

His troubles, of course, did not end there. That same day, while attending to several injured on a farm, he bumped into two German soldiers. They were about to shoot him, but then a third German soldier saved him, after showing his comrades the medal Father Sam wore on his neck, and convincing them not to kill a priest. “It was touching to witness the universality of the Church that day,” Father Sam wrote in his memoirs, about being saved by a Catholic brother who happened to be his “enemy.”

A few days later, Father Sam celebrated Mass before a group of nurses in a church that had been completely bombed. Only two walls remained standing, but the crucifix and the images of St. Peter and St. Paul were intact. Everyone considered it to be a miracle. Before these ruins, Father Sam gave this homily, brief as the dictates of war demanded:

The image of the naked Galilean hanging from the cross has always inspired great love and fierce hate. Nero sought to make the cross a hateful image by putting Christians to death upon it, pouring pitch upon them, and lighting Rome with these flaming human crosses. Julian the Apostate said that he would make the world forget the Man on the cross, but in

his final agony he had to acknowledge, “Thou has conquered, Galilean.” Communists forbid its presence because they fear its power against their evil designs. Hitler has tried to replace the image of our Blessed Lord on the cross with a stupid swastika. Invectives, false philosophies, violence, and every diabolical scheme have been used to tear the Christ from the cross and the crucifix from the church. Nevertheless, like the bombs that were dropped on this chapel, they have only succeeded in making the cross stand out more and more in bold relief. The image we love grows greater in our understanding because of the vehemence of the hate it occasions in wicked men.

Each of us has that sacred image stamped upon his soul. Like the chapel, we are Temples of God. And no matter how we are torn by the bombs of tragedy and trial and assault from without, the image of the crucified remains if we want it to. Now at the foot of this cross let us renew our baptismal vows. Let us promise to shield forever His image in our hearts.

Father Sampson was captured by the Germans and spent six months in a prison camp. Once released, he returned to the front with the legendary 101st Airborne. Cornelius Ryan’s celebrated 1959 book, *The Longest Day*, which chronicles the Normandy landing, speaks extensively of him. He also served in Korea and although he had already retired, he was appointed head of the military chaplains in 1967, as he did not want to stop attending his fellow parachutists in Vietnam.

Next year marks the centenary of his birth, and tributes are being prepared for a man who wrote some of the deepest passages of American military history. *Aleteia* Sep. 8, 2017



“Pray for me, as I will thee, that we may merrily meet in heaven” - Francis L. Sampson

**Knights of Columbus**  
**COUNCIL 4504**  
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# October 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Council Officers	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Council Mtg. 8:10 PM	10	11	12	13	14 IDD Drive
15 Pancake Breakfast IDD Drive	16 Swim Club	17	18	19 Knights Family Dinner	20	21 Halloween Party
22	23 Council Mtg. 8:10 PM	24	25 4th Degree Assembly	26 Columbian Club	27	28
29	30	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN				