



Knight Digest



Union Council 4504

VOL. 18 NO. 5

UNION, N. J.

DECEMBER 1976

The Christmas Rose

Every year, on the birthday of our Savior, the Christmas rose blooms. Above the cold earth, it opens its loveliness so that we may remember a little girl's gift.

For when Jesus was born in the little town of Bethlehem, there came Wise Men from the East bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

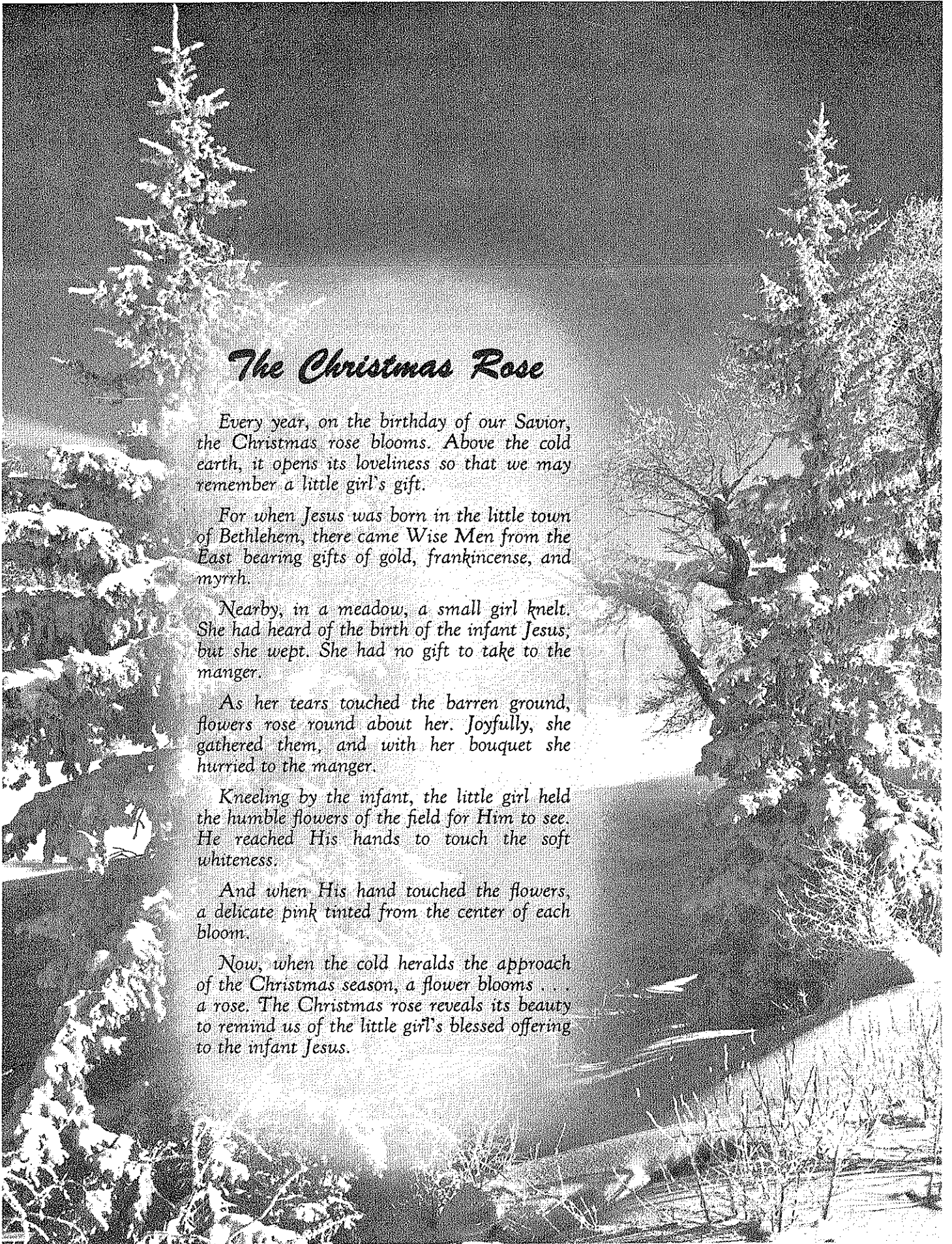
Nearby, in a meadow, a small girl knelt. She had heard of the birth of the infant Jesus, but she wept. She had no gift to take to the manger.

As her tears touched the barren ground, flowers rose round about her. Joyfully, she gathered them, and with her bouquet she hurried to the manger.

Kneeling by the infant, the little girl held the humble flowers of the field for Him to see. He reached His hands to touch the soft whiteness.

And when His hand touched the flowers, a delicate pink tinted from the center of each bloom.

Now, when the cold heralds the approach of the Christmas season, a flower blooms . . . a rose. The Christmas rose reveals its beauty to remind us of the little girl's blessed offering to the infant Jesus.



Knight Digest

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STAFF — GARY GUTHREAU

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 Trustee John Winters, PGK
 Trustee Andy Popp, PGK

Calendar of Events

Dec. 3 Frist Friday
 (Chaplain's Night)
 Dec. 11 Knicks vs Phoenix
 Dec. 13 ... Christmas Dinner Meeting
 Dec. 19 .. Children's Christmas Party
 Dec. 25 Christ's Birthday
 Jan. 7 First Friday
 (Chaplain's Night)

MONTHLY MEETINGS

1st Mon. Council Officers
 2nd & 4th Mon. Regular Meetings
 3rd Mon. Swim Club
 1st Tues. FMBA
 2nd Tues. Color Guards
 3rd Tues. P.B.A.
 4th Tues. Girls Club
 1st Wed. 4th Degree Officers
 2nd Wed. 4th Degree Color Corps
 3rd Wed. 4th Degree Regular
 4th Wed. Council Committees
 1st Thurs. Expansion Committee
 3rd Thurs. Cub Scouts
 4th Thurs. Columbian Club
 1st Fri. Chaplain's Night

Bowling News

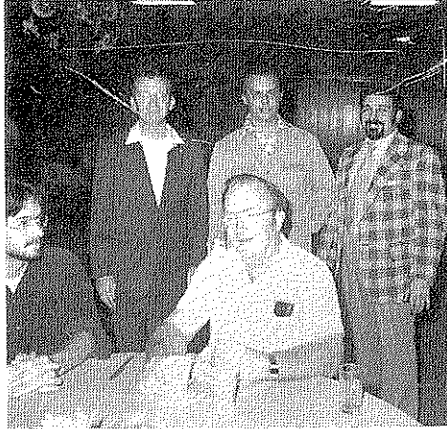
Tuesday night K of C Men's League
 Standing of Teams:

1st 76'ers
 2nd Mainliners
 3rd T.J's
 4th The Ohmen
 5th Demons
 6th Cousin Brucie
 7th Pin-ups
 8th Fighters
 9th Tom Cats
 10th Slicers
 11th Who Cares
 12th Rangers

Members interested in bowling as a sub this year, or as a regular next year, please contact one of the following officers.

Tony Crea (Pres.) 687-3183
 Hank Skarbek (V.P.) 761-5274
 Tony Shan (Sec.) 688-7982
 Joe McEnroe (Treas.) 464-0141

Blood Donors



Dear Brother Knights:

Our Blood Drive held on Sunday, October 31 was a resounding success. Thanks to each of the donors who so generously gave of themselves.

My thanks to the following who especially extended their time in helping us with this drive:

The Columbian Club for the use of their facilities and for providing the liquid refreshment.

To the Columbian Club President, Marty Farrell, and Vice-President, John Gill, who coordinated the varied operations that go along with such a drive.

To Sam Bruzzi for his posters.

To Andy Tobia for donating the bread and to Dom Quagliato, Dom Clementoni, Howard Rhodes, Bill Renner, Bob McGeorge, Jim Doody, Jim Gardner, Al Falcetano, Bill Taylor, a special thanks for their assistance and to the members of the telephone committee.

The winner of the ceramic pumpkin was Isazor Rosenbaum.

Again, thanks to each one of you who assisted and donated at this blood bank.

Mort Picone, Blood Chairman
 Joe Saenger, Fraternal Chairman

Ghost and Goblins Galore



Our children's Halloween Party was a successful hollering happy occasion enjoyed by all participants and their happy face parents. Prize for pre-school age boy and girl was won by Matthew Poppe and Karen Vener. School age prizes went to James Patania and Carol Ragazinski. Most original, Michael Naroda; funniest, Carolyn Kastner, scariest, Frank Santora.

My thanks to all you who helped make this Halloween Party the success it was.

Steve Patrykowski

Grand Knights Column

Jim Moran



Although we have good attendance at regular council meetings, there is room for a lot of improvement. Not enough members are taking advantage of the opportunities that being active will give them. Besides programs of a wide variety within the surge to service plan, we are open to new ideas and projects. The outline of activities issued by the Supreme Council just serve as a guideline. We do not have to continue with programs out of tradition. Doing something for no other reason than we always did it that way, is nothing short of ridiculous. Complete lack of interest and boredom will result if this criterion is used. All members should feel free to approach any of the directors or chairmen with any new or different proposals; along with this they should be ready to support and help get the elements together which will make it work. Only 10 or 12 percent of the membership are involved in most of our programs. This is caused by other brothers failing to volunteer to assist in activities. While on the subject of old and new ideas, it should be noted that age-wise, Union Council has a pretty good cross section of men. We have to beware of becoming an "old man's club" or just catering to a young influence. To maintain progress we need older men with their experienced mature judgment, and young men with the enthusiasm of youth and less set in their ways. Councils dominated by either groups go down hill in their development. In this administration, with a view to the future, we have both experienced and new men in the selection of officers and chairmen. Roy Trupiano, our Chancellor, is assisting Admission Chairman Jim McEnroe in attempting to get our newly admitted brother active. Senior members who have been inactive lately are encouraged to return. Contact either of these men if you are not involved and want to be.

This month of December brings with it the happiest and holiest time of the year. My officers join me in wishing our entire membership the blessed joys of Christmas. May the hope of the World that came to us over 2,000 years ago, enrich and renew your hearts. We pray that the new year of 1977 will bring good health, peace and happiness to you and your families.

"Baskets" For the Needy

Baskets filled with canned foods will be distributed to needy families in our Council area. These baskets will be delivered in time for the recipients to enjoy a Christmas holiday dinner.

We are requesting that brothers bring any canned food items to the December meeting, or to the council home at any time prior to Christmas. The more baskets we fill, the more happy faces will greet Christmas.

Fraternal Chairman,
 Joseph J. Saenger



Chaplain's Corner

Rev. Edward M. Swierzbinski

In the first Mass for Christmas we say — "Good news and great joy to all the World: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord!"

What a beautiful mystery — God's Son visible in human flesh!

But if you asked "good Catholics" **why** are we keeping Christmas? Most answers will touch upon the superficial and even quite spiritual in character, half truths will be offered.

The divinely revealed and correct answer as to **why** we are observing Christmas is contained in the very name of the Infant who is born to us: "And the Angel said: You shall call his name Jesus, **Because He shall save his people from their sins**". The word Jesus means **Saviour**. It is the key word the Liturgy uses to pinpoint the purpose of the Christmas Holy Day. **He shall save his people from their sins**.

Jesus was **not** born to talk sweetly on love and leave us in our sins.

Jesus was **not** born to proclaim freedom and leave us in our sins.

Jesus was **not** born to win friends by assurances that all a loving Father wants is that his children freely follow their consciences and leave us in our sins.

Jesus was **not** born to stop discrimination or eliminate poverty and leave us in our sins. **Jesus was born to enable us to eliminate sin from our hearts and thereby to stop discrimination and murder and social injustice and all other moral evils**. The good news, the great joy to all the World at Christmas is our deliverance from sin and guilt and punishment in the moral order.

On account of us, Jesus descended from heaven.

Jesus sacrificed himself for us to cleanse us from sin; to give us hope; to strengthen us; to be always near us; to give us Christian joy.

Proclaim to all — the **why** of Christmas. Recognize that **why** of **Christmas** makes us humble.

Come pray and share your joy of being a Catholic on the First Fridays of the month! God is calling you! — Will this be another lost opportunity?

First Friday Series

Our guest speakers for December will be Mr. and Mrs. McInerney from the Family Life Bureau, Archdiocese of Newark. SUBJECT: IS NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING VATICAN ROULETTE!

REMEMBER

Date: December 3, 1976

Time: 8-10 p.m.

Place: Council Home

Next month, Chaplain's Night will be January 7, 1977. Our speaker will be Union Council's own Chaplain, Father Ed Swierzbinski. Subject Title for that evening:

THE HELL THERE IS!

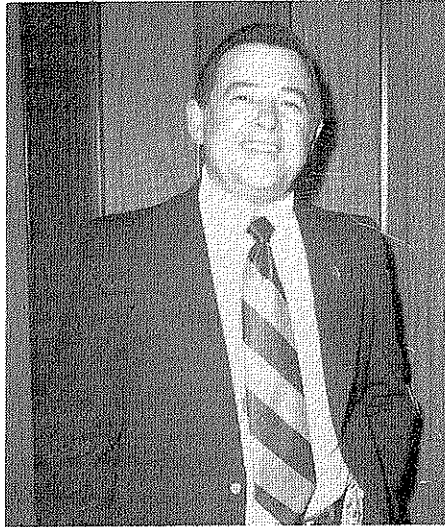
The date again: January 7, 1977

Time: 8-10 p.m.

Place: Council Home

D. Clementoni PGK
Church Activities

Knight of the Month



STEPHEN PATRYKOWSKI

STEVE — A relatively new member of our Council became an instant active member by electing to serve on the Fraternal and Blood Bank Committee. Last year, Steve headed the Advertising Committee, a job he chose to maintain for this year, along with the chairmanship of Family Activities.

Steve can be found every Saturday morning at the Bowling Alleys, doing his job as our Youth Bowling Chairman.

Steve and his lovely wife, Ruth, are the proud parents of four children, Susan, Stephan, Michael and David. The family are communicants of St. Michael's Church.

Steve has been employed with the New Jersey Transportation Department for the past 26 years.

It is a pleasure indeed to add the name Stephan Patrykowski — Knight of the Month, December 1976, Council 4504.

Children's Christmas Party

The annual Children's Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 19th, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. All children and grandchildren, of Brother Knights, up to and including nine years of age are invited. The party will be held at the Council Hall.

You are asked to bring one gift for each child attending. Gifts will be distributed by Santa Claus. The cost of the gift should not exceed \$5.00 and should have the child's name clearly printed on the outside of the package. Refreshments will be served to the children.

If you are planning to have your children or grandchildren attend, please call on or before December 15.

Steve Patrykowski
687-8083

Christmas Dinner

The annual Christmas Dinner for Brother Knights will be held on Monday, December 13, 1976, at 7:00 p.m. The usual delicious Ham Dinner will be served.

Donation will be \$3.00 per ticket. Please purchase tickets as soon as possible, so we can be prepared. The regular business meeting will follow the dinner.

Fraternal Chairman,
Joseph J. Saenger

"Mission Possible"

Is a human life amendment really possible? Yes! Recently, David N. O'Steen, Ph.D, mathematician and Executive Director of M.C.C.L., gathered data related to this problem. Dr. O'Steen's study indicated that passage of a human life amendment is possible **if pro-lifers will work together** to overcome certain critical weaknesses in the movement.

Over a million human children are killed by abortion each year. Education alone has been unable to prevent this, and the Supreme Court decisions have left the state legislatures and congress powerless to legislate protection for the unborn. A U.S. Constitutional Amendment must be passed by 2/3 of both houses of congress and 3/4 (38) of the state legislatures. Only the organized grassroots pressure of strong statewide pro-life groups in at least 38 states will force politicians to pass an amendment. Nationally a DeVries poll, commissioned by the Committee for a Human Life Amendment, showed that 72% of the people felt that some type of amendment should be passed to overturn the court decision. (25% felt that the decision should stand and the rest were undecided). Thus, basic pro-life attitudes are present, but state groups are needed to educate and coordinate an effective drive. In response to this urgent need, several experienced state pro-life groups have joined forces in support of a plan they call Mission Possible — A Human Life Amendment.

Yes, a Human Life Amendment is a real possibility but only if **you** accept your share of the responsibility for making it a reality.

Basketball Fans Saturday, Dec. 11

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE FOR AN EXCITING NIGHT AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN.

THE EVENT IS THE KNICKS VS PHOENIX. TICKET COST OF \$11.00 INCLUDES ADMISSION AND ROUND TRIP BUS ACCOMMODATIONS. BUS WILL LEAVE COUNCIL PARKING LOT AT 6:00 P.M. PROMPTLY.

FOR TICKETS CONTACT ROGER SCHUR AT 245-6605 OR SEE ME AT THE REGULAR MEETINGS. ALL SALES ARE ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS, SO DON'T DELAY.

ROGER SCHUR
ATHLETIC CHAIRMAN

Friday Night Disco

On Friday, January 21, 1977, we will again activate the dance lessons. Lessons will be given every Friday hence (providing it does not interfere with Father Ed's Chaplain Night) which is usually held on the first Friday of the month.

Dance lessons will be given from 8:30 -9:30 p.m. thereafter dancing for your pleasure will continue until 11:00 p.m.

Cost for the evening — \$1.00 per person.

Further information — William Patania — 687-8744.

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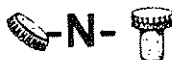
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