Vol. 28, No. 4.

Union, New Jersey

December, 1986



# Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

SPECIAL NOTICE: DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND OUR CONTROL, THE COMPANY WHICH HAS BEEN PRINTING OUR DIGEST IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE. ANOTHER PRINTER HAS BEEN SECURED DUE THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF OUTSIDE GUARD TONY SHANS. FINAL DETAILS BEING PRESENTLY WORKED OUT. PLEASE PARDON OUR PRESENT APPEARENCE, HOWEVER, THE DIGEST WILL BE BACK IN BETTER FORM SHORTLY WITH ALL OF OUR REGULAR FEATURES. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.

#### GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

The Christmas Season is at our doorstep and if we haven't already started, we're at least thinking about the gifts that we want to bestow on our loved ones. Christmas is indeed a time for giving but it is also a time to rejoice in our own Christianity.

As Catholics and as Brother Knights of Union Council we have a lot to be proud of as we reflect upon our accomplishments. Over the years the Knights of Columbus has supported the Holy Catholic Church in their teachings and we have given unselfishly many hours to many worthy causes. We cannot rest in our commitments, however, since today more than ever before our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, the bishops and the priests need our continued support.

As our Chaplain, Father Fuhrman, so aptly put it in his address at our recent Communion Breakfast, there is such a tremendous force for good in our own religious community that the Church will thrive if Catholics unify in prayer and follow the church's teachings.

To all my Brother Knights, families and friends, my family and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Holy and Happy New Year. God Bless You All.

Thomas J. Mc Garvey Grand Knight

#### **CONVENTION 1987**

Wildwood, N.J., May 15, 16, and 17. Make your reservations early. Contact D.G.K. Paul Sandy (688-2453). Deadline for reservations is January 15, 1987.

# CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

- 1 Officers' meeting
- 5 First Friday (7:30pm)
- 7 Swim Club Appreciation Night (5:00pm)
- 8 Council Christmas Dinner Meeting
- 14 Camp Fatima Christmas Party for the Handicapped (Volunteers Needed)
- 18 Columbian Club Bd. Of Directors
  Meeting (8:00pm)
- 21 Council Childrens' Christmas Party at 2:00pm at the Council Home
- New Years Eve Party at Council Hall (Sold Out)

# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

CHRISTMAS MEANS LIFE. Twenty centuries ago, God Almighty took on our human nature and was miraculously conceived in the womb of the young girl, Mary. Nine months later there echoed forth from a Bethlehem stable the cry of a newborn baby, a cry which proclaimed hope to a world immersed in sin and death.

Do you realize that about three out of ten babies conceived in the U.S. are not given the chance to cry? That many are aborted! It is an awful coincidence, but estimates are that sometime around Christmas the 20 millionth baby will be aborted in America since this crime was legalized by the Supreme Court in 1973. The Land of the Free...? All created equal...? Please reflect on that statistic. It staggers the immagination, especially when you consider how many people want to adopt.

Abortionists take advantage of women in trouble, deceiving them into a "quick solution" which makes victims of both mother and child. The anti-life forces of Planned Parenthood are funded with \$60 million of our tax money to destroy the unborn and warp the sexual mores of the young. If anything will destroy America, this will. We will literally self destruct. Can anyone believe it is God's will that 20 million lives end before birth at the hands of doctors who should be defending life? Is it God's will that 20 million mothers suffer the physical and emotional scars of this deed? Of course, it is not God's will.

I ask every Knight, including the inactive, to consider our trip to Washington, D.C. on January 22 (the anniversary of the Court's deadly decision). Finally, if any family is willing to offer a bedroom to an expected mother, please call Several Sources Foundation, 182 Prospect St., Ramsey, N.J. 07446 (825-7277). You just might be saving lives.

Christmas is the celebration of devine life and human life. Christmas must make us all permanently pro-life. Be assured of my prayers and blessings for you and your loved ones. I sincerely wish you a most joyful and holy Christmas.

Fr. Robert J. Fuhrman

# **KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS**

## COLUMBIAN CLUB NEWS

AN OPENING - There is an opening on the Columbian Club Board of Directors. If you are interested in filling this position, please contact Joe Tortora.

WE GOOFED - In the last Digest, we should have stated that it was the FMBA that donated money for the purchase of our new VCR.

WE MISS YOU - We are sorry that the Columbian Club has not been running more social. Due to a heavy booking of the Hall it has been difficult to schedule events. However, we are planning numerous social events for the winter. We thank you for your support.

THANK YOU - A special 'thank you' goes out to Don Interdonato and Mike Malloy for spending a Sunday morning to wire our VCR and TV and new stereo speakers in the main har.

THE DIRTY DOZEN - Since September, the Columbian Club has sponsored work parties on Saturday mornings. A group of approximately 12 dedicated men get their hands dirty and acheive a great amount of progress both outside in the picnic and patio areas and, most recently, inside your Council home. During the winter we will continue to have work parties once a month. In December, it will be on Saturday, December 13 at 8:30 am. Breakfast and lunch are on us. If we can increase our helpers from one dozen to two dozen there is no limit to what can be accomplished to improve YOUR Council home.

HALL IMPROVEMENTS - At an upcoming meeting, the Columbian Club plans to propose an expenditure for capital improvements (Main Hall renovations).

NEW YEARS EVE - There are still a few tables left for the New Year's Eve Party. Plenty of food, open bar, pastry, champagne, noisemakers, hats, snacks, appetizers are included for the price of \$55 a couple (\$65 after Dec. 15). Act fast to prevent disappointment. Call Joe Tortora at 688-1422.



FIRST FRIDAY PROGRAM

- Dec. 5 Rev. George Sheraton, pastor of Union Baptist Church will speak on the Ecumenical Movement.
- Jan. 9 Mr. Peter Runfolo, "Make A Wish Foundation".
- Feb. 6 Fr. Liddy from the Seminary at Seton Hall University.

#### CHRISTMAS DINNER MEETING

This year's Dinner Meeting will be held on December 8, at 6:30pm at the Council Hall. Tickets will be moderately priced at \$5 and must be purchased in advance. Cutoff date for tickets is December 3, 1986. Call Jack Kelly (925-1539) for tickets and see council bulletin board for further details.



#### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Date: December 21,1986

Time: 2:00 P.M.

Christmas will soon be here and so will Santa Claus at our Annual "Children's Christmas Party". Bring the kids to the Council Hall for an afternoon of fun and refreshments. PARENTS! — don't forget to bring a wrapped present for Santa to give to your child with his or her name on it.

#### YOUTH CONTEST WINNERS

Union Council is pleased to announce the winners at the Council level for the following contests:

Essay\_Contest
7th Grade - Anthony Bianchi
8th Grade - Darlene Snell

Basketball Free Throw Contest Girls - 11 year old - Diane Collins 13 year old - Tina Tortora

Boys - 11 year old - Chris Couzen 12 year old - James Kielwasser 13 year old - Kevin McGovern

Congratulations to all who participated and good luck to our winners who now move to the District competition.

For further information on youth activities contact Dan Pfarr at 851-0018.



#### ANNUAL COMMUNION BREAKFAST HELD

One Hundred Forty people attended Union Council's Communion Breakfast held on November 9, 1986, following a Memorial Mass held at St. Michael's Church honoring our departed Brother Knights. Guest speaker, Chaplain Robert Fuhrman, gave an overview of the state of the Catholic Church.

Father Bob stressed how important it is for Catholics to unify and stay close to the Bible, the Sacraments and our own private prayer. On a positive note, faith along with prayer will help overcome the negative influences in the world today.

A special thanks to Jack Bruno and his kitchen crew who worked so hard in preparing an appetizing breakfast. Thanks also to the Fourth Degree Color Corp, the Brothers who set up and served the meal, and to chairmen PGK's Barney Capriglione and Mike Tomko.

#### SWIM CLUB NOTES

The Annual Columbian Swim Club appreciation night is scheduled for Sunday, December 7th at 5:00pm at the Council Home. We are expecting 180 people to be in attendance. Any Council Member who has attended eight or more work parties during the year is invited with his quest to the Dinner and Dancing celebration.

The Annual Swim Club meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 16th at 8:00pm. An election of two Directors will be conducted that evening. Please make a point to attend the meeting. We need your input and support.



# CHINESE AUCTION '86

I congratulate Chairman PGK Barney Capriglione on his successful running of Chinese Auction '86. Barney and his committee should be commended for their dedication and hard work which resulted in a net profit of \$4600 which will used to fund many charitable and community endeavors.

Three hundred people attended the affair and helped themselves to 450 cups of coffee, various cookies, cakes and other delights. Over 150 beautiful gifts went home with the winners.

A special thanks to the wives who set up the gifts and sold tickets, your personnal touch was very evident. To those contributors of gifts and especially Mike Hrifko for his many donations, thank you and God Bless You.

Thomas J. Mc Garvey GK



# Anight Digest

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Knight Digest