



Knight Digest



Union Council 4504

Vol. 30 No. 4

Union, New Jersey

December, 1988

A Christmas Prayer for You

*During this holy season
may your heart be warmed
with the golden memories of
all the happy days you
have ever known.*

*May every gift God has
given you fill with its
fragrance the hearts of
all who are dear to you.
And may the peace-giving
smile of the Infant Jesus
abide with you always,
keeping you lovingly near
to Himself and to Mary,
His Virgin Mother.*

Amen.



I BELIEVE IN THE CHURCH

I am grateful to the leadership of Union Council for giving me this chance to express my warmest wishes for a blessed Christmas to all!! The last year and a half have been very busy and exciting for me. Working with Archbishop McCarrick gives a priest an opportunity to meet some fascinating people. One of the great privileges of my priesthood was accompanying the Bishops of New Jersey and Pennsylvania on their official "ad limina" visit to Rome in October.

To visit and meet with several Cardinals, and to have the chance to be with the Holy Father himself makes one very proud of our Catholic, apostolic faith. I was with Pope John Paul four times in ten days, which is not a bad record. As you might expect, in his presence, one senses a man in union with God, a man of profound and genuine holiness. I, for one, believe he is a saint. God has called him to a most difficult life - to lead the Church in the modern world.

The enemies of the Church, and those who vent their anger against the Church, often accuse her of being out of touch with the times. They say the leadership is not aware of the needs and desires of the people. You have heard this before, so I need not go on. My experience, however, was that the Pope and the Cardinals and others in Rome are very well aware of what is going on in the world, politically,

religiously, socially. They also know the Gospel and they know the Lord Jesus. They are remarkably friendly and outgoing. An example of their awareness can be seen in their observations on the American presidential campaign, which was then in full swing. I think the Holy Father knew more of the issues and stands of the candidates than most Americans knew. In any case, I was honored to have been there.

The Church teaches the truth. Because Jesus was born in our world, the true faith will always be proclaimed by his Church. When it comes to doctrine and morals, God guarantees that every Pope and the Bishops in union with him will be light in a darkened world.

Catholic writer G. K. Chesterton said, "what the world needs most today is not a Church that is right when the world is right, but a Church that is right - and certain that it is right - when the world is wrong."

I thank God that Jesus came to save the world, and to establish his Church of which we are members. I thank God for Pope John Paul II, the Vicar of Christ. I thank God that the Church is right.

May you all be blessed with a merry Christmas, and may we be active and responsible Catholics all the days we live.

Father Robert J. Fuhrman

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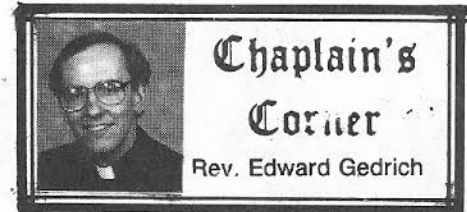
This past month Union Council conducted the three Degrees of Order. They were very successful with Union Council's Degree team the State's Third Degree team doing the usual fine job. Forty-five Brothers from Union were initiated into the Third Degree. I invite these new members to become a part of the life of the Council. One easy way to start is to come out and January 8 between 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. and donate a pint of blood at our blood bank. This is one of the important things that we do during the year. All Brother Knights and their immediate families are entitled to blood if needed. In the past few years we have only been collecting twenty to twenty-five pints a year. We have been using well over that each year. For a Council with a membership of over 1,600, I think we can and should do a lot better than twenty-five pints. I'll be donating again this year, even though I almost faint every year... that gets me some extra attention from the nurses which is nice. So everyone please support the blood drive.

Special thanks to Chancellor Bob Pfarr for handling our after meeting fund raiser. Through his efforts we were able to make a five-hundred dollar donation to the food kitchen in Elizabeth for the Christmas season.

To all my Brother Knights and their families may your Christmas be full of the spirit of giving and may your New Year be a happy one.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December	18 Children's Christmas Party (see article)
	19 Swim Club Meeting 8:00 P.M.
	22 Columbian Club Board Meeting 8:00 P.M.
	31 New Year's Eve Party
January	2 Officers Meeting 8:00 P.M.
	6 First Friday
	8 Blood Bank Drive (see Grand Knight's article)
	9 Council Meeting 8:15 P.M.
	16 Annual Swim Club Meeting
	22 Super Bowl Party (see article)



By now most of us are feeling the pressure - the cards that haven't been sent, the gifts that haven't been bought, the time we don't have enough of - and yet we sing that "Tis the season to be jolly..." Was Scrooge right after all? Should we say "Bah! Humbug!" to the demands of the season?

Though it's sometimes tempting to want to shut out all of the craziness of Christmas, I think that would be a mistake. For while the hectic busyness can take its toll, and while we fear that it can often blind us to "the true meaning" of Christmas, the ordeals we put ourselves through this time of the year remind me of the song from the musical "A Chorus Line": "What I Did For Love".

The traffic jams, the parking headaches, the long lines, other people's brats at Toys-R-Us, the baking, licking 125 stamps for Christmas cards (after licking 125 envelopes!), searching for "the perfect gift" - done for love!

All that wrapping, all those parties, the pine needles in the rug next summer, the unpaid bill next year - done for love! Done so that our kids can have a Christmas morning to remember. Done so that our friends might realize once again just how much we treasure their friendship. Done so that the parent or spouse we can so often take for granted might know just how much we really love them. Done for love!

Maybe we don't have to work too hard at keeping Christ in Christmas. Maybe we just have to open our eyes to see Him where He is - in the traffic jams and the aggravations and the frustrations we bear with for the sake of those we love. For where love is borne, there is Jesus, once again born into our world.

May God bless us all with eyes that might see Him in all things - at Christmas and always!

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

January 22, 1989, Hot and Cold Buffet Snacks Half-time Refreshments Cake and Coffee Guest Speaker _____! Tickets \$10 per person All profits will be used to help defray our insurance premium. Contact: Bob Pfarr 964-1512 or Joe Tortora 688-1422.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

February 11, 1989, 8:00 P.M. until 12:00 Midnight Dinner, Beer & Soda 21-Piece Band. Make Your Reservations Early. Contact: Barney Capp, Tom Hornig or Andy Popp 964-3143.

MILITARY SERVICEMEN COMMITTEE

The Military Servicemen Committee sent Christmas packages to the following Brother Knights, or their sons or daughters, who are presently serving in the Armed Forces of the United States at various domestic and overseas locations:

Lt. Commander Thomas J. Arminio, USN
CTO 2 Christopher Carr
Major Daniel French
Captain Thomas Gwiazdowski
Sgt. John Hamilton, Jr.
M/Sgt. Juliana Hamilton
Commander William G. Kolster
Captain Kenneth Konicki
L/CPL Frank Santoro
Lt. Jan Whitman
Commander Walter M. Wasowski

Mike La Motta, Chariman



KNIGHT OF THE MONTH
December, 1988
Timothy Ghuzzi

We are happy to announce the selection of Timothy Ghuzzi as Knight of the Month for December, 1988. Tim has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for 10 years.

Tim is employed as an electrician by Lessner Electric Company in Elizabeth. He is a member of Local Union #675 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in Elizabeth.

Tim's hobbies are weightlifting, target shooting and hunting.

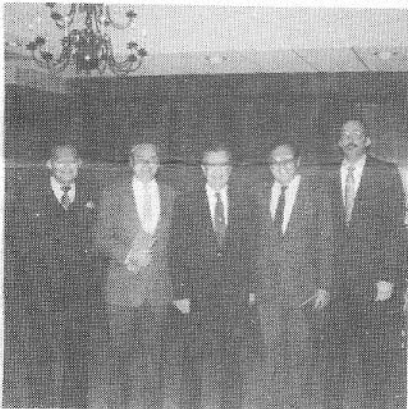
Tim lives in Union with his parents and sister. He is a member of St. Michael's Church in Union.

Union Council #4504 is proud to honor Timothy Ghuzzi as Knight of the Month for December, 1988.

CONVENTION '89

The State Convention will be held in Wildwood, May 18th to 21st. As of this writing all rooms in the Pan Am are spoken for. We are currently trying to obtain rooms in a second hotel. If you are interested in reservations or to put your name on a waiting list contact DGK Michael Gasser at 486-3141.

COLUMBIAN SWIM CLUB CONCLUDES 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



The Columbian Swim Club concluded its 25th Anniversary Celebration with a gala Dinner-Dance and Appreciation Night on Saturday evening, November 12, 1988.

In conjunction with the Appreciation Night, the Swim Club honored three of its members for their long and dedicated service to the Swim Club. Frank Cosenza, Chairman of the Pool and Grounds, and Past Presidents, Jules Pruszkowski and James Johnson were each presented with a Gift Certificate on behalf of the Swim Club by Work Party Chairman, Wesley Czap.

Show above left to right are Wesley Czap, James Johnson, Frank Cosenza, Jules Pruszkowski and Frank Fabiano, President of the Swim Club.

COLUMBIAN CLUB

The Columbian Club Board of Directors is requesting suggestions from the membership for improvements in the patio area and summer programs. Put your ideas in writing and submit them to Joe Tortora, Columbian Club President.

The Columbian Club is now accepting bids for a snack bar manager. Anyone interested please contact Joe Tortora or Ed Rocco both at 686-4504.

BARTENDERS WANTED

We still are looking for a few good men who are willing to tend bar one night (or day) once every two months. We will train. Please See Ray Menoni.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

CHRISTMAS PARTY: If you thought the Halloween party was a lot of fun, then don't miss our Children's Christmas Party. The party will be held on Sunday, December 18 at 2:00 P.M. in the Council Hall. Santa Claus will be there to bring presents to all the good little boys and girls. Refreshments and entertainment will be provided. (Parents, please bring wrapped, labeled gifts for Santa to give to your child(ren).

For further information about the upcoming events please consult the "Digest" or call me, Bill D'Alia, at 533-7939, or in the evening at 688-0391.

BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, January 8, 1989 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Council Hall
WE NEED YOUR BLOOD!!!

HELP!

Are you interested in helping with the Council computer? Please call Grand Knight Mike Carr.

WHEN YOU CARE TO SEND THE VERY BEST...

To commemorate any of life's events what is better than a gift of a Mass of Remembrance. Partake of the Airport Chapel Mass Card Program.

If you need more cards contact John Peters, Chapel Chairman at 964-6869.

Insure your family's future




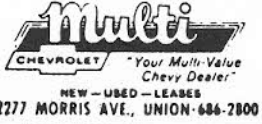
The future starts tomorrow. Contact
me today:

GEORGE F. GLYNN

PHONE: (201) 920-0320



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