



Knights Digest



Vol. 59 No. 03

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November 2017

Calendar of Events

November 4th Past Grand Knight's Dinner
 November 8th 2nd Degree
 November 10th 3rd Degree
 November 12th Memorial Mass
 November 16th Knights Family Dinner
 November 25th Nativity Setup

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.

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.

4th Degree Exemplification

The 4th degree exemplification is to occur on November 19th. Anyone interested in receiving the Patriot Degree should contact Len Komar.

Vote for Donation to Take Place at Next Meeting

A motion was put on the floor to donate \$1500 to the Dominica Relief Program. Motion was accepted to go forward with the next step. As per our bylaws, any donation over \$500 must be published and voted on at the next business meeting. This vote will occur at our regular business meeting on November 13th 2017, starting at 8:15pm.

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



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.

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 month of November is considered a month of remembrance and giving thanks. November starts with All Saints Day and All Soul Days; two days of remembrance of our saints and all our beloved family and friends that have passed away. To honor and celebrate our fallen Brother Knights, we will holding our Annual Memorial Mass on November 12th. Immediately following the Mass, we will be having our breakfast/brunch at the Council Hall. The day before our Memorial Mass is Veterans Day. As the name indicates, this day is to celebrate and honor all the veterans who have fought and served in every branch of the United States military. I, personally, would like to take this opportunity to thank every veteran that has risked their lives for the service of our country.

We have a few important dates for this month to consider. November 4th is our PGK dinner to honor our most recent Past Grand Knight, Giftus John. It promises to be a great event, and I hope everyone will come out for it. We will be hosting a Formation Degree (2nd degree) on Wednesday, November 8th as well as a Knighthood Degree (3rd degree) on Friday, November 10th. I highly encourage all whom have not received the honor of full Knighthood to attend these ceremonies. It truly is an awarding experience. As I mentioned previously, our Memorial Mass will occur on Sunday, November 12th. Also, our monthly Knights Family Dinner is set for November 16th, starting at 6:30pm.

At the end of this month, we celebrate Thanksgiving. This is wonderful holiday where we take the time to be with our families and friends, and reconnect with them. The year keeps us all extremely busy, and sometimes it is difficult to get together with the people who love and care for you the most. Take this holiday and give thanks to all the things you have. This life is a gift, and we should be thankful that we were given such a wonderful gift.

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone.

Michael P. Willemse
Grand Knight 2017-2018



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!!!



I would like to extend my sincerest thanks and gratitude to all brothers, friends and families who responded to my plea for assistance for my fellow Dominicans following the passage of Hurricane Maria and its devastating effects on our island home. To all who contributed in one way or the other-money, foodstuff, clothes and other necessities and to brother Mike Eger and the officers and general membership of Council 4504, Thank You for the monetary contribution and support.

On behalf of all my fellow Dominicans, I say Thank You once again and God's richest blessings and guidance. I am indeed humbled to be able to represent my country and assist in its recovery and development as a brother knight.

Giftus John- PGK

Knight of the Month

November 2017

Mike Peter



The Knight of the month doesn't need any introduction. Mike Peter has been a Knight for the past 36 years. He started out at the South Orange council and has served for the past 18 years at our Union council. Mike has

been an officer of the council for the past 13 years, as well as serving as Program Director for the past six years and chairman of the Citizens with Intellectual Disabilities Drive. Mike's father, Bill, a member of our council, is also a PGK of the South Orange council. Mike and his wife Joyce reside in Union, and recently became first time homeowners. He works for the Township of Union's Department of Public Works.

Mike is incredibly active in every meeting he is involved in, so much so that we may even need to consider changing the structure of the meeting to include "Old Business, New Business and Mike Peter business." Though we all love to joke about Mike, he has a heart of gold and always one of the first to step up when help is needed, a chair needs to be filled, a phone call needs to be made or a 50/50 needs to be run.

Mike is the ideal man of what a Knight should be and is our Knight of the Month for November. Congratulations Mike.

Congratulations

The Times are Urgent and We Must Heed the Warnings of Our Lady

Submitted by Ray Gora

Pray the Rosary daily for the conversion of sinners. Beg the Lord for poor sinners to repent. I would argue that we must urgently pray for both mercy and repentance. The warnings and prophecies of Our Lady in the past one hundred years have become more urgent.

We all know what the Virgin Mary said at Fatima in 1917 and that she was very serious. Although one terrible war (World War I) was ending, she said that another more terrible war would come if men did not pray and repent. Further, in the aftermath of the coming war, Russia would spread her errors (atheistic Communism) and both the Church and the world would have much to suffer. Our Lady said that only prayer specifically, the Rosary and obedience to her Son could stave off the impending doom. She even promised that there would be a final warning of great lights in the sky before the war's outbreak.

On Jan. 25, 1938, a remarkable solar storm and subsequent display of the aurora borealis fulfilled that warning. The northern lights were seen as far south as Northern Africa. Two months later, Hitler annexed Austria and in the following year invaded Poland. The Second World War was underway. While the death toll of World War I was approximately 18 million, estimates for World War II range from 50 to 80 million. Following the war, Russia did spread atheistic Communism. The horrific death toll as a result of the subsequent "Cold War" of the regimes of Stalin, Mao and Pol Pot was arguably even higher.

This is what happens when we do not repent. In spite of this history, we have collectively refused to repent. Despite the sea of blood due to our sin and our refusal to pray, not only have we failed to repent, but we seem to have gotten worse. Today we have we have abortion on demand, no-fault divorce, fornication, pornography, human trafficking, single motherhood, the celebration and outright "pride" in homosexual acts, transgenderism, unbridled greed, euthanasia, and much more.

In 1981, Our Lady of Fatima warned through Sr. Lucia that the final battle will be against marriage and the family and that anyone who tries to defend them will experience persecution and tribulation. And here we are. Even at the highest levels of the Church, certain priests and bishops mislead God's people. Meanwhile, clergy and faithful who seek to uphold marriage are dismissed as pharisaical, rigid and un-pastoral.

This was also confirmed by Our Lady of Akita in Japan:

The work of the devil will infiltrate even into the Church in such a way that one will see cardinals opposing cardinals, bishops against bishops. The priests who venerate me will be scorned and opposed by their confreres ... churches and altars sacked; the Church will be full of those who accept compromises and the demon will press many priests and consecrated souls to leave the service of the Lord (Message of Oct. 13, 1973).

Yet in our obstinately disobedient culture, no matter how high the body count, how virulent the diseases, how broken our families, how deep the sexual confusion and addiction, how onerous our debts due to greed and entitlement, we seem to have no intention of making any change. Like the tenants in the parable, many ridicule every prophet sent to us, calling them hateful, intolerant, bigoted, homophobic and misogynistic. They seek to marginalize them, to punish them legally, and to ruin them financially. Soon enough, many will be willing to jail and kill God's prophets, who are only saying what God and the Church have always said. What we have today is a collective, obstinate refusal to obey God and produce the fruits of righteousness.

The sins of our time are not merely ones of weakness. Those who fall through weakness admit that they have done wrong and seek mercy. The greatest sin today is the obdurate refusal to repent. With a figurative clenched fist, many today say, "I will not be told what to do. I will decide what *I* want to do and *I* will determine whether it is right or wrong." In this sort of climate, what is God to do? In many cases, it does not seem that reasoning with people can or will bear fruit. The only arms which will remain for you will be the Rosary and the Sign left by My Son. Each day recite the prayers of the Rosary. With the Rosary, pray for the Pope, the bishops and priests. The demon will be especially implacable against souls consecrated to God. The thought of the loss of so many souls is the cause of my sadness. If sins increase in number and gravity, there will be no longer pardon for them (Message of Oct. 13, 1973).

I would caution every single soul reading this column not to hope for this chastisement. It will be awful—so awful that we will be jealous of the dead. No, our stance should be to beg the Lord for mercy, for more time. *For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.* Our Lady would surely rather that we pray and repent in order to stave off the coming calamity. Pray the Rosary daily for the conversion of sin-

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ners. Beg the Lord for poor sinners to repent.

There comes a time when a good doctor must consider severe options such as amputation or high-risk surgery in order to save a patient. It's better to go through life maimed than to die. So also it is with God. There is nothing worse than going to Hell. No earthly destruction or loss could ever compare to horror of eternal damnation. But know this: God will not hesitate to do what is finally necessary to save as many souls as possible.

Listen to Our Lady's warnings. Heed her solution. Pray the Rosary daily for the conversion of souls. The times are urgent and suggest that time is short—very short. The year 2017, the 100th anniversary of Fatima, may be a year that brings blessings or curses. Through Mary, the Lord sets before us life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live! -Msgr. Charles Pope

Nativity Set Up

Gentlemen it is that time of the year. On November 25th Saturday morning we will be assembling our Nativity Set on Town hall lawn. The township tree lighting is on Sunday December 3rd. On Tuesday December 5th we will do our Christ in Christmas light up our Nativity Set at both Town Hall and the Council.

We will meet at the Council around 9am on November 25th.

We will meet at Town Hall on Tuesday December 5th at 7pm prior to the Township Committee Meeting.



Brian E. Reilly

Fraternal Benefits Counsellor



Upon completing his MBA from Loyola University of Maryland, Brian began his career in Institutional Finance in the Trading & Sales Division of Thomson McKinnon Securities.

Following a successful six year period, Brian was recruited by BNP Paribas, a major International Bank, to head up their

U.S. Interest Rate Trading & Sales Group in New York. In the following year, he was promoted to Managing Director and placed in charge of their European Interest Rate Trading & Sales Group, headquartered in London. In 1995, Brian and his family returned to the U.S. where he was responsible for expanding the Bank's U.S. Treasury Interest Rate Trading & Sales division, with the goal of securing Primary Dealer status with the Federal Reserve Bank. This was attained in 1997 and the business enjoyed sustained revenue growth for over 15 years.

In 2013, he commenced his second career in the Financial Services field with the goal of helping individuals and their families. In August of 2017, Brian joined the Knights of Columbus as a Field Agent. In this role, he has been given the opportunity to work for a company that is committed to Catholic values. He works closely with his councils to help grow their membership and increase their charitable impact. Most importantly, he works towards safeguarding the financial futures of Catholic families by providing a top-quality line of flexible and affordable insurance plans to members and their families.

Brian and his lovely wife Donna have been married for 32 years and have raised 3 children, Caitlin (29), Allison (26) and Matthew (20). They currently reside in Basking Ridge, NJ.

Knights of Columbus
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November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Past Grand Knight's Dinner
5	6 Council Officers	7	8 2nd Degree	9	10 3rd Degree	11
12 Memorial Mass for Deceased Members	13 Council Meeting 8:10 PM	14	15	16 Knights Family Dinner 6:30 - 8:30 PM	17	18
19	20 Swim Club Mtg.	21	22 4th Degree Assembly	23 Columbian Club	24	25
26	27 Council Meeting 8:10 PM	28	29	30		