



# Knights Digest



Vol. 59 No. 05

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

January 2018

## Calendar of Events

January 9th..... Last Day for Coat Drive  
 January 9th..... Final day to order Merchandise  
 January 18th..... Knights Family Dinner  
 January 27th .....Murder Mystery Dinner  
 January 28th..... Chili Contest  
 February 23rd.....Lenten Fish Fry  
 March 24th.....Casino Knight

## 60th Anniversary Merchandise

We are doing a second run for 60th Anniversary Merchandise. George Gaydos and I will take orders at most meetings or you can call George at (973) 570-6323 or Alex Costa PGK at 305-898-1570. The final order date will be Friday **January 9, 2018**.



Get those recipes ready. The most-ly annual Chili Contest will be on Sunday **January 28, 2018**. If you're interested in entering or being a judge contact Rob Pynckles at (908) 578-1206 or Alex Costa PGK at 305-898-1570.

## Knights of Columbus Annual Coat & Clothing Drive



Please find it in your heart to donate any used coats, clothing or apparel.

All donated items will go to the St. Joseph Social Service Center, Elizabeth, NJ.

And benefit not only those served by the Elizabeth Coalition Homeless, but those in the surrounding areas as well.

The last day for donations will be **Friday January 9, 2018**. If you have donations please bring to the collection box at the council or call Alex Costa PGK at 305-898-1570.

## Nominating Committee

Ask not what your council can do for you but what you can do for your council. And what better way to support your council and get the most out of being a Knight then being an officer. Please, contact Alex Costa PGK (nominating committee chairman) if you are interested in stepping up to the challenge.

Regards, Alex C  
305-898-1570



We are planning our annual Lenten Fish Fry. The date is Friday **February 23, 2018** at 6pm-8pm.

The menu will be broiled or fried fish, macaroni and cheese, french fries, cole slaw, desert and coffee. Soda will be provided as well. There will be a cash bar. Proceeds will be going to Charity. The price will be \$12.00 Per person.

Tickets will be available by contacting Michael Peter by phone 908-759-3588 or email [mikepeter4275@gmail.com](mailto:mikepeter4275@gmail.com)



## Less More

- |                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Talking           | Listening              |
| Television        | Reading                |
| Planning          | Doing                  |
| Soda              | Water                  |
| "Being Connected" | Putting the Phone Down |
| Junk Food         | Fruits and Vegetables  |
| Complaining       | Encouraging            |
| Excuses           | Responsibility         |
| Worrying          | Hoping                 |
| Doubting          | Believing              |
| Procrastinating   | Achieving              |
| Frowning          | Smiling                |
| Selfishness       | Giving                 |
| Weakness          | Confidence             |
| Ignorance         | Understanding          |
| Ungratefulness    | Thankfulness           |
| Of the World      | of God                 |

## 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

Brothers All,

It's hard to believe that half of this Columbian year is over, and we start a new calendar year. December is usually a quiet month, but we had great involvement.

Our Council, alongside Union Elks, continued to sponsor the annual Christmas party for Burnett school's students with intellectual disabilities. We have been ongoing supporters of this event for our 30 years. The council has donated money for the food, and the Union Elks donate the use of their hall. We had a very strong showing this year of Council Officers at this event, and our very own Mike Peter led the party with a prayer of grace before starting our meal and festivities. It was this year that we heard the chairman for this event will be stepping down this upcoming year, and it will be the last Christmas party. I am honored to have been in attendance for this event. The joy in the children's eyes was wonderful to see.

The Columbian Club ran another successful Breakfast with Santa this year. There were around 140 guests in attendance this year. I would like to thank everyone in the kitchen who helped to make such excellent dishes. One of the greatest parts of this event is seeing the kids with Santa, but also seeing our Brother Knights working together for such a great cause.

With the beginning of the New Year comes New Year's Resolutions. This is the time of the year when people make promises of dedication to better themselves and/or others. Some use this time to make an exercise routine, quit smoking or to give up a bad habit. One resolution I would like you all to consider is to help your council. If you haven't been to a meeting, helped at a work party, or just simply stopped by, I encourage you to do so. The members of Council 4504 are blessed to have had past members create such a beautiful facility, which allows us to use and enjoy. We are incredibly blessed to have the largest Council in the state of New Jersey, and a huge property. However, it takes a lot to maintain such a building and grounds. Please continue to support our Council and Columbian Club.

The Council is hosting its second annual Murder Mystery Dinner on Saturday, January 27th 2017. The "Murder at the Masquerade" themed dinner was an overwhelming success last year, and we hope to see everyone there from last year. This year's theme will be "1920s Crime & Punishment" themed, and we will have Mr. Aziz, the gourmet chef who cooked last year's murder mystery dinner as well as this year's steaks at the Columbian Club's Lobster Fest. I cannot oversell this guy's work, and his cooking is to die for.

To conclude, I want to say thank you to all the brothers who helped make the first half of this Columbian year a success. Please keep up the great work. Happy New Year to everyone!

Vivat Jesus!  
Michael P. Willemse  
Grand Knight 2017-2018



## Knights Family Dinners

This month's Knights Family dinner is scheduled for **January 18th**. 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!!!



## Knights of Columbus Term Life Insurance Rates

Initial Face Amount	Monthly Payment
\$ 100,000.00	\$ 22.50
\$ 250,000.00	\$ 27.00
\$ 300,000.00	\$ 31.50
\$ 350,000.00	\$ 36.00
\$ 400,000.00	\$ 40.50
\$ 450,000.00	\$ 45.00
\$ 500,000.00	\$ 49.50
\$ 550,000.00	\$ 54.00
\$ 600,000.00	\$ 58.50
\$ 650,000.00	\$ 63.00
\$ 700,000.00	\$ 67.50
\$ 750,000.00	\$ 72.00
\$ 800,000.00	\$ 76.50
\$ 850,000.00	\$ 81.00
\$ 900,000.00	\$ 85.50
\$ 950,000.00	\$ 90.00
\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 94.50

The chart on the left represents the Knights of Columbus Term Life Insurance Benefit Amounts and the corresponding Monthly payments associated with each benefit level.

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Knights of Columbus  
4th Degree Knight

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## Knights of the Month



January 2018

**Alex Costa**



The Knight of the Month for January 2018 is a man that everyone is familiar with, Mr. Alex Costa, PGK. This gentleman attended Northern Highlands Regional High, and then studied marketing at Lynchburg College. Alex is married to his wife, Sarah, and has two beautiful children. Alex was Grand Knight of our council for the 2012 – 2013 Columbian Year.

After serving as Grand Knight, Alex was promoted to District Deputy, and continues to serve in this role for our Council. On a local level, Alex has successfully run the newly made Cigar Knight for the NJ Motorcycle Ministry. Alex has continued to run the Council's Coat Drive for numerous years, and has now stepped up to run the Chili Contest and be the Nominating Chairman for the Council this year. He has also volunteered his time to assist in the creation of the newly created "Casino Knight," which is a three way effort by the Council, the Columbian Club and the Motorcycle Ministry to benefit the NJ Special Olympics.

Typically, you will see Alex around the council and bar taking part in the fraternal activities. Due to his continued efforts, please join me in congratulating Alex Costa as the Knight of the Month for January 2018. Congratulations, Alex.



## **#MeToo — Are Men Willing to Take Responsibility for How We Have Pained Women? - Christopher West**

If you've been living on a deserted island for the last few weeks, the Me Too movement (originally launched 10 years ago by Tarana Burke) launched into hyper-drive recently when, in response to the sexual assault charges against Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein, actress Alyssa Milano invited women who had been sexually assaulted or harassed to write "#MeToo" in response to her tweet. Millions have done just that.

I pray this becomes an opportunity for our entire culture to take an honest look at the roots of the crisis. Does anyone take us to these roots more directly than Christ in his teaching from the Sermon on the Mount? "You have heard the commandment not to commit adultery. But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart" (Mt 5:27-28).

Of course, it's a two-way street. History demonstrates that women know how to use and manipulate men just as much as men know how to use and manipulate women. That said, women have suffered in a particular way throughout history at the hands of male lust and domination. And it would seem that men have a special responsibility to restore the balance of love and respect between the sexes.

How do we begin the long journey toward healing? Christ calls us first and foremost to repentance. In that light, I would like to ask all the women reading this to allow me, as a representative of the male side of the human race, to apologize humbly for the way male lust and domination have wounded you. The wounds go so very deep in a woman's soul, and I am very, very sorry.

For the ways we have treated you in thought or deed as an object for our own pleasure and enjoyment, please forgive us.  
For the ways we have ignored you or rejected you because you haven't met our impossible standards of "beauty" or haven't aroused our lusts, please forgive us.

For the ways we have seen your differences as a threat to our own fragile sense of security rather than a complement and a gift, please forgive us.

For the ways we have used our strength to manipulate and control you rather than honor and serve you, please forgive us.  
For the pride and sense of superiority that have led us to ignore your counsel and belittle your point of view, please forgive us.

In all the ways we have failed to love you as Christ loves the Church, please forgive us. We know not what we do. Jesus, please lead us to the fullness of healing.

## **Monsignor Anselm Appointed Chaplain**

Monsignor Anselm Nwaorgu has been appointed to serve as Chaplain of Council 4504. In a letter to Monsignor Anselm, and copied to Grand Knight Mike Willemse, Vicar General and Chancellor, Rev Monsignor Michael A. Andreano, confirmed the appointment by Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin of Monsignor Anselm filling in the position last held by Fr. Bob Wolfee who transferred to Sacred Heart Church in Haworth, NJ earlier this year.

Monsignor Anselm is a fourth degree Knight with Council 4504. We extend warm welcome to Brother Knight and Chaplain, Msgr. Anselm. We also thank Fr. Wolfee for his services during his tenure as Chaplain.

## **LATIN NIGHT 2018**

LAST YEAR IT WAS CARIBBEAN NIGHT

2018...it will be...LATIN NIGHT 2018!!

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS.

In the meantime we are seeking volunteers to organize this activity. If you are interested, please inform PGK Giftus John or GK Mike Willemse.



## **60th Anniversary Patch**

Happy Birthday Council 4504. Celebrated with a toast at the Christmas Dinner on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December.

**A CHRISTMAS REFLECTION  
CHRISTMAS: THE POWER OF A  
PROMISE-KEEPING GOD**

*By Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu, Ph.D.*

Our generation, with its high degree of commercialization, seems to be making every effort to push Christ out of Christmas; to change the reason for this season, and to turn this season into just a holiday of shopping spree. Let us not be deceived!

Christmas is not just a holiday and a time for gifts; it is a call to faith and hope in a promise-keeping God. The promise of the birth of the messiah came at a time when the people of God were under the threat of annihilation. The kings of Syria and Israel had conspired and joined forces to make the land of Judah desolate. In response to this threat, God declared that this aggression will not stand and promised the birth of Immanuel—God Himself pitching tent among us to take care of business ((Ref. Isaiah 7:1-17). It is the fulfillment of this promise that we celebrate at Christmas.

Christmas therefore is a time when we celebrate God's willingness and ability to fulfill His promises in our lives. God has made tremendous promises to us and, unlike human beings who, for various reasons, are not able to fulfill their promises, there are no circumstances beyond God's control. He never sleeps nor slumbers or does He get sick or get surprised by bad weather. Financial and transportation problems are no issues and He is never perplexed or overcome by some unexpected exigency. He doesn't forget nor does He have conflicts in His calendar. No wonder Scriptures says: "Cursed is the man who trusts in human beings, who seeks his strength in flesh... He is like a barren bush in the desert that enjoys no change of season, but stands in a lava waste" But "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose hope is the Lord. He is like a tree planted beside the water that stretches out its roots to the stream: It fears not the heat when it comes; its leaves stay green; in the year of drought it shows no distress, but still bears fruit" (Jer 17: 5-8). To have God as Immanuel, is to have unlimited possibilities.

The celebration of Christmas therefore calls us to invest every ounce of our faith and hope in a promise-keeping God. Hope is the key to life and promise is the engine that powers it. Christmas is the assurance of hope in God's promises. It is a time to search through Scriptures and find those promises God has made to us. The bible says that every promise of God is yes in God and Amen unto us through Christ Jesus". Christmas reminds us that no matter what we may be going through in life right now; no matter how bad things may look; no matter the amount of fear that may be ravaging our souls; no matter the intensity of anxiety that may be preoccupying our minds; no matter the height of prejudice or the dept of wickedness that we might be facing; no matter the level of pollution in our anointing, the stagnation in our growth, or the stultification in our ambitions; and no matter the level of disillusionment and disorganization that we might be experiencing; there is a promise keeping God that we can turn to for help. Remember His words: "God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your

strength; but with the trial he will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it" (1 Cor 10:13).

Just as God fulfilled His promise of Immanuel so also will He fulfill His promises to us if only we can turn to Him in faith and hope. God never fails! "I am watching", says the Lord, "to see that my word is fulfilled" (Jer 1:12). We only need to do our part and that is to remind God of his promises. But how can we remind God of His promises if we do not know what promises God has made to us. The more familiar we are with God's promises, the more we internalize them in faith, and the more we internalize them, the more they become part of our daily invocations, and the more we invoke them, the more they take flesh and dwell among us.

Finally, it is also important to note that, while the joy of Christmas lies in the fact that my hope is perfected in a promise-keeping God, it is also a challenge to me to grow ever more deeply into a promise-keeping person. May this joy and challenge be our dearest gift to self and others during this Christmas Season! Amen

Merry Christmas!

**Casino Knight**

Break out your Tux  
Get your James Bond on  
And join us for...

**Casino Knight at the Knights!**

Craps, Poker, Black Jack, Texas Hold 'Em and more!

Open Play  
Tournament Play  
(Trophies to the Winners)

50/50s and Raffles

Vodka Martinis, Shaken, Not Stirred

When: Saturday March 24th 2018  
7pm until 11pm

Where: 1034 Jeanette Ave.,  
Union, NJ 07083

Cost: \$40 per person  
\$55 per couple

Includes: \$100 in play money (additional play money available for purchase)

\$125 in play money if you are in a Tux  
\$135 in play money if you are in a Tux & wearing  
your 4th Degree Social Baldrick

Hors D'oeuvres

One Drink Ticket (Cash Bar is available)

Contact Alex Costa PGK at 305-898-1570 for tickets Proceeds to benefit Union Council 4504 & the NJ Special Olympics via the NJ Knights of Columbus Motorcycle Ministry

Union Council # 4504 &  
The Columbian Club of Union

*apathetically present our mostly*

# ANNUAL CHILI CONTEST



You know you are tired of Turkey



You know the feast of the seven fishes stinks

(Get it? Fish, Stinks)

**YOU WANT GOOD, SPICY, TASTY, RIB STICKING CHILI!**



## Who shall take the crown this year?



Last year we had a dark horse,  
Luke Sangiamo, come out of nowhere & win it all.  
The year before Frank Verducci got lucky.  
We had several regulars chicken out  
(I guess they didn't have the right stuff)



**So are you man (or woman) enough this year?**

**Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place**

(something crappy that I am sure you don't want)

**50/50**

**Sunday January 28<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 2:22pm**  
**1034 Jeanette Ave., Union NJ 07083**

So come on down for some refreshing adult beverages, Sample chili from your family, friends and Brothers and enjoy an otherwise uneventful afternoon.

**WE ASK A \$5 DONATION AT THE DOOR**

All proceeds from the door and the 50/50 will be donated to our very own Columbian Swim Club.



# **Murder Mystery Dinner**

**January 27th, 2018**

Knights of Columbus  
1034 Jeanette Avenue  
Union, NJ 07083

\$30 per person  
\$55 per couple

**RSVP by January 15th to Luke  
Sangiomo at (908) 370 - 7525.**

**Knights of Columbus**  
**COUNCIL 4504**  
 1034 Jeanette Avenue  
 Union, NJ 07083



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# January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Council Meeting 8:10PM	9 Last day for: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coat Drive & <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ordering Merchandise	10	11	12	13
14	15 Swim Club Mtg.	16	17	18 Knights Family Dinner - 6:30PM	19	20
21	22 Council Meeting 8:10PM	23	24 4th Degree Assembly Meeting	25 Columbian Club Meeting	26	27 Murder Mystery Dinner - 7PM 
28 Chili Contest	29	30	31	Next Month... February 23rd - Lenten Fish Fry 		