February 2020
SFX Knights Newsletter
St. Francis Xavier the Missionary
Council # 10957
“In Service to One, In Service to All”

Council Meetings held at St. Francis Xavier Parish Hall
2nd and 4th Tuesday’s @ 7:00 P.M.
21370 Newtowne Neck Road, Compton, MD 20659

Grand Knight’s Report

BROTHERS, In January the Knights continued on our path to lead with faith, serving others, and defending our faith. Three of our brothers made the Knighthood degree this month. Please congratulate Mark Coontz, Todd Earhart and Jason Fletcher on their accomplishment. Well done!

Again, this year we staffed the WARM program immediately following Christmas on December 26th at 5:30 PM to 6:45 AM on the 27th. The WARM Program provides a place for the homeless to get a few nights of sleep in a structured and inviting setting. Coverage included meeting the WARM coordinators at Camp Maria at 5:30pm and helping to set up cots in the Spiritual Center, checking-in participants, bringing in and serving dinner. After dinner, we offered social activities that ranged from arts and crafts projects, singing, movies and games. Later we conducted overnight monitoring, bringing in breakfast and guiding the attendees back to the Spiritual Center to catch the van by 6:45am. Mike Holton organized our team of couples and defining the “watch bill”. The assignments included the following: Dinner on the 26th: Matt, Audrey, and kids Abby, Matthew, and Grace Cosgrove; Todd, Heather, and kids Earhart, Liam, Noah, and Talley Earhart; Zach, Christine, and kids Cole and Paige Merchant. 5:30 to 10pm (two shifts!!): Bob and Wendy Schaller, 10 to midnight: Jim and Pam Howe, 12 to 2am: Herb Male and Jenn Roman, 2 to 4: Mike and Margo Holton, 4 to 6:30+: John and Sue Breck.

Breakfast on the 27th: The Morgan’s (George, James, John and Jonathan). The attendees were very thankful for the program and enjoyed the time in a warm and peaceful area during the holidays.
The council also prepared food baskets for those in real need for Christmas. We worked with Father Rob to select 6 families in need. Jim Berned lead our efforts in purchasing food, preparing baskets, and delivering them.

During the Holidays, we also hosted the Holy Family Icon and prayer program. The Icon was on display for two weeks at St Francis Xavier Church from December 22 until January 4, 2020.

Herb Male and Mike DeMansss joined Bob Bowles and Jim Berned for Knights of Columbus Maryland State Mid Term discussions held at the Columbian Gardens on January 11th. At these meetings we learned of new changes from the State and Supreme. Supreme is planning a role out of these changes in March.

Several of our brothers, guided by Matt Cosgrove continue as the core group to carry out This Man Is You (TMIY) Program. This leadership program meets on Saturday mornings at 6:00 AM for breakfast and follows with a presentation and discussion while ending at 7:30 AM. Semester 2 began on January 18th with an inspiring presentation and agenda. Not only do members of our council participate but we are joined by men in our parish, other brothers, and men from other parishes. We invite you to join us. It will not disappoint you.

The Knights of Columbus sponsored a parish-wide Novena – 9 Days for Life for the protection of human life. Each day’s intention was accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Watching the news and reading the headlines, we may feel helpless seeing the heartbreaking lack of respect for human life. How do we respond when our efforts seem small in the face of the culture of death? We are aware that part of the answer to that question is with prayer. On Tuesday, January 21st, we began the Novena 9 Days for Life starting at 7:30 am at St Francis Xavier Church under the leadership of Peter LaPorte. Knights, their family’s members, and parishioners joined together as the St Francis Xavier Parish Community joined in praying the rosary and the Novena intentions, prayers, and reflection. On subsequent days we joined at 7:30am for the rosary, daily Mass, and the Novena prayers and reflections and then continued the Novena for the nine days during daily and Sunday Mass. Knowing many of us are working, we offered an opportunity participate in this novena on your own by following the daily guides and prayers as your schedule permits. The Knights then led the congregation in prayer. We all recited the rosary. It was quite touching with the entire group praying and reflecting on the messages together. On the subsequent days, we recited the rosary, attended daily Mass and added prayers and the daily Novena reflections. 16 adults and 3 children gathered together in church to participate in the Novena on the first day and we added 7 more adults as we proceeded through the Novena. Additionally, more than 7 Knights and family members performed the Novena at home each day. At Sunday masses father continued the Novena where all three Masses participated.

During the month the knights also assisted in removing the Church Christmas decorations, taking down the Nativity Scene, and storing everything away for next year.
Matthew and Audrey Cosgrove family were selected as our Family of the Month for December. The Cosgrove family continues to make significant contributions to St Francis Xavier parish. They support the parish and Knight of Columbus Council #10957 throughout the year. Matt has also taken a number of leadership roles including Treasurer of the council, lector at Sunday Mass, and the leader of the core team that is putting on “This Man Is You” (TMIY), Paradisus Dei Program. The program seeks to form men who will be capable of transforming homes and society by discovering the superabundance of God. The program for the year is divided into two 13-week semesters, Matt’s son has also planned, briefed, and started a recycling program at the church hall. Please congratulate them for the family support to our parish when you see them.

As we are deep in the Dark Ages (the time between New Year's Day and the first flower), I especially give thanks to each of you, your spouses, and families for your contributions and commitment to our council. Both Leslie and I wish each of you and your families a Blessed New Year. Together we do make a difference as we continue to lead with faith, serve others, and solid defenders of our faith.

Vivat Jesus!

Michael DeManss, Grand Knight Council #10957

Chaplain’s Report

Dear Brother Knights,

We will soon enter into the holy season of Lent on Ash Wednesday, February 26. This is a great time for us to take stock of our spiritual lives so as to set up good habits and eliminate the bad ones. A good game plan is to focus on four traditional spiritual practices of the Catholic Church: Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving and Study. Below are some suggestions.

Prayer. Spend more time in intimate conversation with God. Start your day together as a family with a brief morning prayer and end it with evening or night prayer. Or try to attend at least one daily Mass a week. Join fellow parishioners in praying the Stations of the Cross here at St. Francis Xavier
at 7 p.m. in the church every Friday during Lent, beginning on Friday, February 28.

**Fasting.** During Lent, we fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (for those under 60), and give up meat on all the Fridays in Lent. We’re also encouraged to “give up” something we enjoy but we can also give up things like complaining, gossip, grudges, and worrying.

**Almsgiving.** This means giving of your time, talent and treasure to those in need. Some ways we can help here at St. Francis Xavier are by donating to the local food pantry and Snack Pak for Kids. Another way to help the poor is by participating in the 2020 Annual Appeal.

**Study.** Spend a few minutes each day reading Holy Scripture or a good spiritual book. This year, we are hosting a new Bible Study series called, *No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ’s Passion.* It’s just 5 Wednesdays throughout Lent, from 7:00-8:30 pm in the rectory. Our study begins on Wednesday, March 4 and ends on April 1. The DVD portion of the study was filmed on location in the Holy Land and enables you to walk step-by-step with Jesus from the Garden of Gethsemane to the Mount of Calvary.

And if you haven’t already, please consider joining us for *That Man is You!* on Saturday mornings from 6:00-7:30 am in the Parish Hall. We have incredible Lenten journey portion of the program that is open to all men to jump in at any time. Please also encourage your wives and daughters to attend our Women’s Morning of Reflection, hosted by *Encounter Grace* on Saturday, February 29, from 9:00 – 12 noon in the Parish Hall.

Let’s make this our best Lent yet!

Faithfully, in Christ,
Fr. Rob

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**St. Francis Xavier Church News**

“That Man is You” Series, every Saturday in February, 6AM to 7:30AM
*We pray the Rosary at 7:30 AM before our weekday masses and 30 minutes before the First and Fifth Sundays of each month.

The Catholic Night in Annapolis or Lobby Night as it has been known will not happen this year. Instead Maryland Catholic Conference is promoting a February 2020 "Virtual Catholic Day of Action" on Feb.
The "Virtual Catholic Day of Action" will encourage Catholics across Maryland to join together to send messages, make phone calls and take other meaningful actions on state issues from wherever they are that day. You don't have to give up your evening and drive to Annapolis to be a voice for the work of the Church, you can join us from wherever you are by tweeting, calling, sending emails and engaging in conversations on social media that help us make a difference on many critical issues. Please go to this link for more information ...


Finally I encourage you to follow Maryland legislative news as well as other issues that affect us as Catholics in Maryland by linking Maryland Catholic Conference at https://www.mdcatholic.org

Happy Birthday!!

We would like to extend our Best Wishes to the following people who are celebrating their birthday this Month:
Ernest Guy  Feb 8
James Morgan  Feb 9
Paul Crain  Feb 12
Matthew Wilson  Feb 14
Shannon Thompson  Feb 18
Michael Holton  Feb 21
Fr. Brian Sanderfoot  Feb 21
February 14, 2020

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Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

Thanks to all the Knights who participated in the March for Life on January 24. Thanks for all the support received for Newest Members at the 3rd Degree held on Jan 17, and our 3 new Third-Degree Members. The Help and continued support we receive at all our events.

Father Andrew White Assembly #377

Faithful Navigators Message
(In Service to our Clergy and Veterans)

My Brothers,
Our Meeting this Month is on February 20, 2020, at St. Michaels Council in Ridge. This is our Renewal of Obligations. Assembly members Please attend, Coat and Tie.

Father Andrew White Assembly #377
District Deputy’s Report

My Brothers – Hopefully everyone’s 1st month of the New Year has been a safe and prosperous one. In the District, January saw a flurry of degree activity. I want to congratulate all new members of the Knights of Columbus and all of those that made it to complete Knighthood by making their 3rd Degree in the order. Please keep up the momentum for recruiting going into and through February! This month is always the short one, but a great deal of planning is needed for an Order-wide recruitment church drive in March. If you had someone interested but could not make a previous degree, keep them up to date on our Degree schedule and let’s strive to get them into the order. The District will be having its Free Throw Contest finals on President’s Day at Father Andrew White School Gym starting with the Councils at 9:00 AM, and followed by the District finals around 10:30 a.m. If you have some time, think about coming out to cheer on the contestants. If you haven’t participated in a council activity lately, I invite you to do so. Service to Church and community is why we joined the Knights of Columbus, and your council brothers will appreciate the help. You’ll feel good about being a Knight. It’s a win-win, for everyone. As always, keep doing the fine work that the Knights have become associated with, in our parishes and communities. Please stay warm, and hope for a shorter Winter! May you and yours share a Happy Valentine’s Day. Thanks for all you do!

“Remember, we are men of Faith and Charitable Actions”.

Vivat Jesus,

SK Bob Bowles,
Knights of Columbus, District Deputy Maryland District #3
Congratulations to Mark Coontz, Tod Earhart and Jason Fletcher, who took their Knighthood (3rd) Degree, on January 17, 2020!

Joining them for their Knighthood were:
W, George Morgan, DGK, Herb Male, GK, Mike DeManss, FS, Jim Howe, DD, Bob Bowles and DW, Jim Berned, Jr.
THE MARYLAND STATE BULLETIN

The State Newsletter is available on line using this link:
http://www.kofc-md.org/docs1213/MD_Newsletter.pdf

Please read and enjoy and forward on to other family members

Gavin Arvizo
Fraternal Benefits Advisor
Knights of Columbus Insurance
Bus: 240-298-3873
Gavin.arvizo@kofc.org

E-Membership can be used, go to:

Remember

“Serving Christ by Serving Others”
CATHOLICS IN ANNAPOLIS

The Catholic Night in Annapolis or Lobby Night as it has been known will not happen this year. Instead Maryland Catholic Conference is promoting a February 2020 "Virtual Catholic Day of Action" on Feb. 19, 2020. The "Virtual Catholic Day of Action" will encourage Catholics across Maryland to join together to send messages, make phone calls and take other meaningful actions on state issues from wherever they are that day.


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FEBRUARY 2020

Feb 1 & 2 First Sunday Rosaries
Feb 11 General Meeting 7:00 PM
Feb 14 Valentine’s Day
Feb 15 Semi-Annual Audit Due
Feb 15 Family of the Month Due (January)
Feb 16 Semi-Annual Audit Due
Feb 16 Sunday Breakfast 8:30 - 12:30 at SFX
Feb 16 Hospitality Room Meeting for OC, 2PM at OLSOS
Feb 17 Presidents Day
Feb 17 Council Basketball Shoot-out 9 AM FAW School
Feb 17 District Basketball Shoot-out 11:30 AM following
Feb 19 Chapter GK Meeting, St. Joseph’s Way, Pomfret
Feb 20 Assembly Meeting, Renewal of Obligation, Ridge
Feb 26 Ash Wednesday Mass
Feb 27 Officer/Social Meeting
Feb 28 End of Third Quarter (Reports Due to DD 2-29)
Feb 29 Encounter Grace, For Lady’s, (AM Breakfast)
Join us for a

Sunday

Valentines Breakfast

Sunday, February 16, 2020
St. Francis Xavier Church Hall
8:30 to 12:30

Regular and Blue Berry Pancakes, Eggs, Bacon, Sausage,
or Biscuit with Sausage Gravy, Coffee, & Juice

Free Will Donation
Benefit of Local Charities
Knights of Columbus Council 10957
Will hold a Basketball free throw contest

Where? Father Andrew White Gymnasium
When? February 17th, 9am – 12Noon
Following the Councils contest will be
District #3 contest

Parents, if you are interested in your child participating please contact

Michael DeManss at 301-904-1338 or email-
 michael.demanss@gmail.com
or
Youth Activities Chairman:
Jim Berned, III at email- jberned@gmail.com
or
A Knight of Columbus member in Church