Grand Knight’s Report

My Brother Knights,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas! In December the Knights along with our parish moved our spiritual as well as physical preparations for Christmas into high gear. Each Sunday as we lit each subsequent candles on the Advent Wreath, we were reminded of the approaching birth of Christ.

At the end of November, we assisted in moving chairs, tables, and adding the final touches to get the hall finished and set up for the Parish Bazaar. On the Bazaar Saturday we participated in executing a very successful Parish Bazaar by maintaining the grounds, parking cars, and helping with the breakdown as well as clean up.

On December 3rd we joined the Celebration of the Mass on the Feast of St Francis Xavier. The Council assisted in a wine and cheese social after Mass in the Church Hall to applaud the finishing of the Church Hall, phase 1 and honoring our patron Saint.

We also held the annual Council Christmas Party on December 10th in beautiful downtown Compton on the water. We gathered at Fitzie’s Marina and Pub for a fine St Mary’s dinner and a night of friendship and cheer as we celebrated our successes in 2019.

Again, this year we are staffing 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 includes meeting the WARM coordinators at Camp Maria at 5:30pm and helping to set up cots in the Spiritual Center if needed, help with check-in of participants, bringing
in and serving dinner. After dinner, we will offer social activities that range from arts and crafts projects, singing, movies and games. Later we will conduct overnight monitoring, bringing in breakfast and back to the Spiritual Center to catch the van by 6:45 am. Mike Holton is organizing our team of couples and defining the “watch bill”.

Several of our brothers, led 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. On December 21th, the program’s first semester ended and we will break over the Holidays. Semester 2 begins on January 18th. We invite you to join us.

On the 22nd we set up the Nativity Scene outside church where it will be lit at night and throughout the Christmas season. We also hosted and displayed the Holy Family Icon at St Francis Xavier Church Hall beginning December 22 thru Noon Sunday, December 28th.

We are also following up on our membership drive held on November 2nd and 3rd. We encouraged all members to engage Catholic men and discuss why each of us joined and explore how they can help. The Knights selected Ed and KC Schnitker as our Family of the Month for November. The Schnitker family recently joined our parish and have already made a positive impact. KC was active on the parish committee for the very successful Outdoor Mass and Parish picnic. Additionally, KC home schools her children and they start their school day by attending daily Mass. Her two sons are the standard altar servers for St Francis Xavier daily Masses. Ed has transferred to our council, and is an active participant in the “This Man Is You”, and a contributing member of our council. Please congratulate them when you see them.

During this Advent Season, I especially give thanks to each of you, your spouses and families for your contributions and commitment to our council. We had great fun this year at our Council’s Christmas Party. Both Leslie and I wish each of you and your families a Blessed and Joyous Christmas. Together, we will continue to lead with faith, serve others, and be solid defenders of our faith as we make a difference in the New Year.

Mike DeManss, Grand Knight
Council #10957
Chaplain’s Report

Dear Brother Knights,

I came across this beautiful reflection to inspire us in this new year and new decade and wanted to share it with you. May the year 2020 bring you and your families much peace, joy, and hope in Christ!

I Am the New Year

Bible Illustrator

I am the new year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time. I am your next chance at the art of living. I am your opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last twelve months.

All that you sought and didn’t find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it but with more determination.

All the good that you tried for and didn’t achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All that you dreamed but didn’t dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the faith that you claimed but did not have—these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose.

I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to Him who said, "Behold, I make all things new."

Faithfully in Christ,
Fr. Rob

Happy Birthday!!

We would like to extend our Best Wishes to the following people who are celebrating their birthday this Month.

George Morgan         Jan 4
Robert (Bob) Schaller  Jan 6
Stephen J. Damon      Jan 9
Rigoberto Saez         Jan 15
Larry Trader, Jr.      Jan 17
Donovan L. Harrell     Jan 21
Father Andrew White Assembly
#377 Message
(In Service to our Clergy and Veterans)

My Brother Knights,

Happy New Year! As we enter into 2020 lets us look back and remember all our Brother Knight's, Sir Knight's and Ladies that have gone to their final rest in the arms of Our Lord. Please pray for them and their families.

Please mark your calendar, Friday, January 24th, for the National March for Life on the National Mall. Check with your parishes to see about transportation on that day. If you can’t attend, say a prayer for those who are.

The January 2020 meeting is at 7:30 PM on Thursday the 16th at Immaculate Conception Council 8159, Mechanicsville. Remember that the 20th of February meeting will be at St. Michael's Council 2065 in Ridge. It will be our assembly renewal of Obligations. Dress for all officers is New Uniform. Preferred dress for all others attending is dark suit or coat and tie.

God Bless America,

Father Andrew White Assembly 377
My Brothers All: I want to wish you all a Happy New Year! I hope the recent Christmas season offered opportunities for quality time with family, good food, and friendship.

As we enter the New Year, we as Knights have plenty to look forward to. I pray you by-passed the usual new year resolutions for something different, consider these: Recruit one new member for your council, take all the degrees, meet with your Knight of Columbus Field Agent, Gavin Arviz, to review your family’s insurance needs, regularly attend your council meetings, participate in some of your council’s activities and resolve to touch base with those members you haven’t seen or spoken to in a while. Whatever it is, make this year’s resolution last!

Keep up the good work and bring in those new members!

And finally, enjoy being a Knight! We are volunteers, and for all of the wonderful things our councils accomplish, we should always remember to have a little fun while reaching our goals.

As we enter January, St. Mary’s County, will again host its 3rd degree ceremony on January 17, 2020 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Hall. We look forward for a great turnout of candidates and sponsor members.

Also try to take the time to participate in the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 24, work with your councils and parishes to get a strong turnout.

I want to thank all of the Knights in our District for the great things they accomplished in 2019! Please help your Grand Knight identify the things you did for the council and in your community so that he can complete the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity. This is a critical survey required by all councils to help the order build their case for continuing to keep their favorable IRS standing as a volunteer organization. This report is due by January 31st, and any help you can provide is greatly appreciated.

I look forward to a prosperous New Year and working with you all in 2020. Again, my thanks for a great 2019 and My best wishes forward to a wonderful 2020!

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

Vivat Jesus,

SK Bob Bowles, PGK
Knights of Columbus, Maryland District Deputy, #3
A very special thank you to Jim Berned and his wife Debi, who went out, picked up the food and made up the Christmas Baskets then delivered to the needy family’s…. THANK YOU... THANK YOU

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You
Thanks to all who came out for the Christmas Dinner, a good time was had by all. To everyone who helped with the Keep Christ in Christmas Contest, Christmas Cards, Christmas Ornaments, Food Baskets, Decorating the Church, Project WARM and through-out the year...Thanks to each and every one of you...... All our events turned out to be great...

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.

MEMBERSHIP DUES
You should be receiving or have received your Membership Dues Notice, please read and pay your dues as soon as
possible. Fill out the New Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity Form and return it back to Jim Howe as soon as possible, it must be in before January 31, 2020. If you have questions please contact Jim Howe or Mike DeManss.

Ask a Catholic gentleman to become a member!

Gavin Arvizo
Fraternal Benefits Advisor
Knights of Columbus Insurance
Bus: 240-298-3873

Father McGivney

PRO-LIFE NEWS

Reflections
And throughout the New Year

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest
Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest Winners were:

**Category One:**
First Place to: **Julie Weller, top left**
Second Place to: **Anna Weller, middle right**

**Category Two:**
First Place to: **Audrey Weller, top second left**
Second Place to: **Helen Geary, top right**

**Category Three:**
First Place to: **Becket Geary, bottom left**
Second Place to: **Raegan Gantt, bottom right**

Thank you to all the Children who participated!

This year our Council won: “The Columbian Award”
Presented to PGK Mike Holton from Current GK Mike DeManss

Feast of St. Francis Xavier Celebration Mass and Hall Renovation Dedication, December 3, 2019
Wine, Cheese and Fellowship, Hall looks great!

K of C Council Family Christmas Dinner
December 10, 2019
Food for Families

Food Baskets were Delivered. 6 of them for Thanksgiving and 6 For Christmas, all the baskets went to needy families in our Community. All baskets were filled with all the same items shown with the Christmas Baskets, over 200lbs of food. Thank you, Jim & Debi Berned, for your time, picking up the items from the store, assembling all the baskets and distributing them to the needy families.

Collected over 200lbs of Food for both Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets

Six baskets were prepared for Thanksgiving and Six for Christmas
Thank you, Jim and Debi Berned

On December 22, The Knights assembled together to set up the Christmas Decorations for the Church yard, Inside the Ladies decorated the inside of the Church

Thanks to all who came out to help

Persecuted Christians ICON

Had Persecuted Christians ICON at SFX from December 22 through December 29
**Project WARM:**

*St. Francis Xavier* had their turn at Camp Maria Starting on the evening of December 26 and ending with Breakfast on the Morning of December 27.

Dinner on the 26th: Matt, Audrey, and Children, Abby, Matthew, and Grace Cosgrove; Todd, Heather, and Children, Liam, Noah, and Talley Campbell; Zach, Christine, and Children, Cole and Paige Merchant. The Merchants are friends of the Cosgroves and not parishioners.

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, James, John and Jonathan Lowe, **Thanks to all of them**
Coming Events

January 2020

1/01 - New Year’s Day “Mary Holy Mother of God”
1/04 & 05 - First Sunday Rosary’s
1/06 - Feast of the Epiphany
1/11 - Mid Term Meeting/ Cardinal Gibbons Council
1/14 - K of C Meeting 7:00 p.m.
1/15 - Family of the Month (December) Due
1/15 - GK Chapter Meeting, Silver Spring
1/16 - Assembly Meeting at Immaculate Conception,
1/17 - Third Degree at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Hall, Lexington Park, at 7:00 p.m.
1/20 - MLK Holiday
1/22 - First and Second Degree at St. Johns, 7914
1/24 - March for Life, Washington DC
1/26 - District 3 meeting SFX 2 P.M.
1/28 - K of C Meeting 7:00 p.m. (Planning Meeting)
1/31 - Annual Survey of Fraternal Activities Due
1/31 - Family, Firefighter/ EMT, Teacher of the Year due