

COUNCIL 4522

Monthly Newsletter

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December 2024

IMPORTANT DATES IN DECEMBER Wednesday, Dec 4th – Officer's Meeting, 7:30 PM ZOOM Sat/Sun, Dec 7th/8th – KCIC Card Sales and Coats for Kids Collection, Queen of Apostles ALL MASSES Sunday, Dec 8th – Breakfast with Santa!! Hannan Hall Wednesday, Dec 11th – General Business Meeting, 7:30 PM Hybrid Saturday, Dec 14th - Council Christmas Dinner/Party, 6:00 PM Potluck Dinner, Hannan Hall, QofA Saturday, Dec 21th - Coats for Kids and Christmas Basket Delivery to PSSJ Wednesday, December 25th – The Celebration of the Birth of our Lord! Tuesday, Dec 31st – New Year's Eve Wednesday, Jan 1st – HAPPY NEW YEAR!! THANK GOD!!

A Message from the Grand Knight

Brother Knights, we have three important activities scheduled for the weekend of December 7th and 8th. During this weekend, we will hold our fall membership drive. So far, this fraternal year, we have only recruited one new member to our council. This will also be the final opportunity for us to raise funds for Coats for Kids and sell Christmas cards. After this weekend, we will not be asking for donations or selling Christmas cards again this fraternal year. I kindly request your participation for just 10 minutes or less after each Mass to help solicit donations for Coats for Kids and encourage parishioners to purchase Christmas cards. Additionally. please invite the Catholic gentlemen attending Mass to consider joining the Knights. Share your experiences with the Knights and inform them about the programs and activities in which they can participate. Your presence is crucial for this last push for Coats for Kids and the Christmas cards.

Attention all members who will be present during the Nativity scene play in the vestibule: please remain vigilant and attentive to ensure that no one interferes with the structures. As guardians of the church and representatives of the priest's authority, it is our responsibility to protect the Nativity scene. Thank you for your cooperation.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Queen of Apostles Catholic Community for their support of the Coat for Kids fund drive and the Keep Christ in Christmas Cards sale. Thanks to your generous donations, the Knights of Columbus Council 4522 was able to purchase approximately 96 coats, which will be distributed to children through the Sisters of the Poor and other local programs. For many of these children, this coat will be their first new coat ever, and it is all thanks to the generosity of our parish community. Additionally, all the funds raised from the Christmas Card sale will be used to support four seminarians in the diocese. We are truly grateful to have such kind and generous parishioners who wholeheartedly support the Knights of Columbus and their activities. Thank you all for your contributions!

Brothers, please don't forget to join us for our annual potluck dinner on Saturday, December 14th, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM in Hannan Hall. We encourage you to bring your family—grandchildren and cousins are also welcome! Please sign up to bring either an appetizer, main course, or dessert. Let's use this opportunity to celebrate together. Don't forget to bring the kids as Santa Claus will be there to join in the festivities!

Knight(s) of the Month

The following Brother Knights cannot be differentiated from their recent (and continuing efforts) in reigniting the "fire" at Council 4522. Worthy Treasurer Tuan Nyugen, Worthy DGK Rick Sacra, Worthy Advocate Sonny Masso and Knight about town, Worthy Outside Guard Kevin Beck, have manned tables, worked on Council communications, provided the backbone of our Holy Hour of adoration and glorified the Lord by their actions. While their work doesn't go unnoticed, I'm sure they would love to share the load with many others!! Please thank them when you see them—and more importantly, join them and others in doing God's work. Thank you all and congratulations!

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REMINDERS from the DGK

Christmas Cards and Coats for Kids

Saturday and Sunday, December 7th and 8th after ALL Masses. We will be selling Christmas Cards and Collecting donations for Coats for Kids after all masses on Saturday 5:00 PM AND 7:00 PM and Sunday (8, 10, 12, 1:30). Please plan to stop after mass for just 15-30 minutes to help with this important fundraising event for our Council.

Parish Santa Breakfast

December 8th after the 8:00, 10:00 and 12:00 Noon masses. We need egg cookers, pancake makers, sausage warmers and helpers. Please plan to be at Hannan Hall between 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM to participate in this fun event serving our parish. Many hands make the work light and fun! Thanks to those who have already said they would help!

Please RSVP to Richard Sacra by December 2nd

Pope John Paul II Council Christmas Party

December 14th at 6:00 PM

Mark your calendars NOW for our annual Christmas Party to be held in Hannan Hall. Plan to bring your family to this annual festive event. Details will follow.

Christmas Baskets (for families identified by PSSJ

Pope John Paul II will provide food donations to fill 15 baskets. The Poor Sisters of St. Joseph will distribute the baskets—along with Coats for Kids to 15 disadvantaged families. Knights AND their families are encouraged to share some Holiday Spirit by helping to fill the 15 baskets. Join in and help create festive gifts for these families in need of our work of mercy. Light refreshments and Christmas music will help you enjoy the morning.

• Pick up food basket donations – December 20th – donations for the baskets will be picked

up on Friday December 20th, details are still being sorted out. A few individuals are needed to help with local pickups (Giant, Harris Teeter, ACCA). Pickups will be during the day at a mutually agreed to time.

• Saturday, December 21st from 9:00 AM til Noon we'll fill the baskets and sort out the coats for kids! Please come join us in the Knights Hall in the Guadalupe Center, then deliver them to the PSSJ for distribution

Annual Council Assessment (Dues) Upcoming!!



Just a quick note to <u>remind you</u> <u>now</u>, that the 2025 Council Assessment (\$55 for full members) will be coming DUE in Mid-January 2025! If you have an email address on file, you will only get an email assessment notice—

you will not get a paper "bill." Emailing the assessments will continue to save the Council more money in postage and supplies. You are strongly encouraged to validate your current email OR send us a new/latest email to the Financial Secretary, Roger Williams at jpii4522@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Notices, by Order guidance, are not allowed to be sent to members before December 15th, so look for your notices sometime soon thereafter and be ready to remit your dues immediately. Each year, we spend an enormous amount of time and effort tracking down tardy payments. Time and resources would be much better spent on spreading the Lord's Word and performing acts of mercy. And remember, whether you pay or not—the Council still must pay your share to both the Virginia State Council, Supreme, and Right to Life activities. Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation!!

Knights of Columbus OVER One Million Coats Donated Through Its Coats for Kids Program



"The Coats for Kids program has become synonymous with the Knights of Columbus mission of charity, as first established by our Founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, and Supreme Knight Kol

more than 140 years ago," said Supreme Knight Kelly. "The generosity of our donors and the work of our local councils to distribute 1 million coats to underprivileged children is proof that where there's a need, there's a Knight."

Here in Pope John Paul II Council 4522, we have donated over 325 new coats in just the past five years—due to the generosity of the parishioners of Queen of Apostles. The majority of the coats have been given to children in need as determined by our local partners, the Poor Sisters of St. Joseph. We greatly appreciate the generosity of the parishioners and the assistance provided by the Sisters—and of course, the outstanding work of our selfless Knights!

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Remembrance Mass

On November 13th, Fr. Diaz, celebrated our annual Remembrance Mass with nearly 20 Council Knights and/or family members in attendance. The Mass was celebrated at Queen of Apostles Catholic Church in Alexandria. The Mass, using scripture from the recent All Souls Day's readings, recognized and remembered the following Brother Knights: Edward W. Imperati, Michael V. Burke, and Bernard P. Harvilla—all Honorary

Lifetime members—and all other Brother Knights inscribed in our Council's Book of the Dead.



May our Brother Knights rest in peace and may God have mercy on their families and friends.

Lecturer's Corner

How to be ready for the Master's Return

There is no better way to thank the Lord Jesus for the grace of Holy Communion than frequent reception of Communion—and repaying Jesus with Jesus. If you ask me what preparation you should do before receiving Holy Communion, I will answer: give your hearts to Jesus. If you ask me how to be grateful for the divine heart that Jesus gives you in Holy Communion, I will answer: give him yours. The Lord Jesus says: "whoever eats me, may they honor me, thank me, pray, and mortify themselves. Let them make a sacrifice, but first of all, let them live for me". As the Lord Jesus lives for us, we are to live for him.

Know that after receiving Holy Communion Christ is present in us, and that we have no better time to deal with the matter of our salvation. What would you do if someone, having invited you, neglected you without proper care? What are you hurrying after, what are you looking for outside of your Lord? He will teach you more than all books. If the Blessed Sacrament—that is, Jesus—is everything to us, is it not the most correct conclusion that we should be totally devoted to him? Each of us is to carry Jesus in Holy Communion, worship and honor him, become his own temple, and show him to the world through our works and zeal for the salvation of souls.

Ask for strength for one day. Live from one Holy Communion to another.

Blessed Honoratus Kozminski

Are you a federal retiree?



Did you know, that as a federal retiree, you can now contribute to your favorite charity through the Combined Federal Campaign—just as you did while

working? And how wonderful would it be if you selected, KOVAR, as one of those charities? KOVAR's CFC number is 42569. For more information, please visit: <u>https://cfcgiving.opm.gov/welcome</u> You can make your donations through January 15, 2025.

A Christmas *Gift*: Life Insurance and a **NEW AGENT**

A survey from LIMRA (Life Insurance Marketing Research Association) found that nearly 60% of Americans have some kind of life insurance, but on the other hand, over half of those were underinsured.

So what does that have to do with the Knights? The historian, Christopher Kauffman, spent several years at the Supreme Office and at the Museum, researching the book that he wrote on the 100th anniversary of our founding. That book, <u>Faith and Fraternalism</u>, notes on page 13, "...he [Fr. McGivney] was deeply interested in pursuing the topic of a Catholic fraternal insurance society among groups of Catholic laymen of New Haven." Then on page 35 Mr. Kauffman goes on, "...he [Fr. McGivney again] spent his energy in promoting the insurance feature...his emphasis on business was his pastoral concern for the social and financial security of the family."

Blessed Fr. McGivney lived both the social and the financial *insecurity* of a desperate family, with the breadwinner suddenly taken, that had to be supported. He left the seminary to work and support his mother and siblings. He didn't want other Catholic families to find themselves in such a predicament. That, and uniting men of faith, was the impetus for establishing our Order. Everyone who joined in those first years was insured; that was part and parcel of being in the organization. Now every member has a choice, and every member should know what we do, and how we do it.

Most don't want to think about life insurance, much less buy it, but you should <u>want to buy what life insurance</u> <u>provides</u>: no change in lifestyle for the survivors...in the house where they want to be. It'll pay for a daughter's wedding, a child's college education and much more. What does life insurance provide? Peace of mind, security, freedom from anxiety, a safeguard from the unknown!

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After many trying months, we finally have a new Field Agent, Robert Canter, Jr. His information follows below. Brother Canter is no stranger to Northern Virginia and is a long-time trusted, insurance professional.

Robert Canter, Jr.

Address: 10472 Armstrong St, Fairfax, VA 22030 Office: (571) 669-4170 Fax: (855) 729-1791 Email: Robert.Canter@kofc.org Agent Referral Code: RCANTER

Brother Robert is an Assistant General Agent for the newly established: THE VIRTUS AGENCY Knights of Columbus Insurance and Asset Advisors Arlington and Richmond Dioceses Derek E. Brown FIC MDRT SKC 11551 Nuckols Rd, Suite K, Glen Allen, VA, 23059 Office: (804) 547-2373 Fax: (855) 729-1791 Web: knightsinsurance.org Derek.Brown@kofc.org

So, if you can't reach Brother Robert for any reason, please reach out to The Virtus Agency. Staff there will get you what you need!

Happy December Birthdays!



Edward Masso	12-02
Wilber Gaitan	12-09
Gerard A Souser Jr	12-10
Mrv George E Dobes	12-11
Curtis Hubbard	12-13
Rev. Francisco J. O'Conner	12-14
Our Lord, Jesus Christ	12-25
Robert J Hlubocky	12-25
Joseph L Lipari	12-25



Casey Women's Club

Thanks to all for their See's Candy order. It will be distributed in the first week in December. Many thanks to Ethel Apostolico for organizing this fundraiser. We plan to give Giant gift cards to the Poor Sisters of St. Joseph to go along with the Knights' food "baskets". Our next meeting will be December 12th at a member's home. We will resume Bunco in the New Year.

Happy December Birthday to Ethel Apostolico and Dorothy Fanucci!

May everyone have a Happy and Blessed Christmas and New Year!

Geri Owen, VP CWC

Sunday Social December 8, 2024 featuring



WOMENS GROUP BAKED **GOODS & JEWELRY SALE**

proceeds support the charitable work of the women's group throughout the year

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Breakfasts served after 8am 10am & 12pm Masses Tickets \$10/adult; \$5/child; at door Photo opportunity with Santa!



Wishing you and your families a blessed Christmas Season! ^{AND} A joyous New Year!

Reminder

All editions of The Knightly News, past and current, are available on the Council website at www.kc4522.com

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THE KNIGHTLY NEWS IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY POPE JOHN PAUL II COUNCIL 4522 4329 SANO STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22312 TELEPHONE: 703-992-0129 WEBSITE: www.kc4522.com

The submission deadline for the January Newsletter is December 20^{th.}

May the holy names of jesus be praised and honored by all knights of columbus and their families, and may immaculate heart of mary rule in all of our hearts until we attain to everlasting life! amen: st. joseph and st. dominic, ora pro nobis! For questions or comments, please contact the Editor, Emily Amaya at <u>amayaemily237@gmail.com</u>. Additional information and points of contact are posted on our website at www.kc4522.com.

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