



# The Knight Watch

Our Lady of Fatima Council 9597 - Chartered June 24, 1987

Newsletter Edition: **December 2017**

Regular meetings, 7-8:30pm: Business - 2nd Tuesday

Social meetings -4th Tuesday

1985 Miller Street, Lakewood, CO 80215 - Parish Hall, Knights Room



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Grand Knight Ken Klispie 720.341.2543

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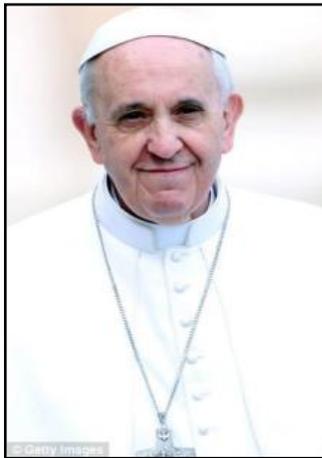
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## Holy Father's Intention For December:

### **Evangelization: In the Service of the Transmission of Faith**

That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

## Knights of Columbus Council 9597 Member's Birthdays

Michael Whitefield 12/5

Lew Berger 12/9

John O'Grady 12/10

Gerard McClory 12/10

Anthony Traverson 12/15

Brian Flees 12/16  
Steven Whitney 12/18  
Dale Culuris 12/19  
Chris Mancinelli 12/25  
Karl Thomas 12/26

### **Knights of Columbus Council 9597 Member's Years of Service**

Gerard McClory - 20  
John Browne - 15  
Stan Collins - 15  
Keith Mobley - 13  
Marcus Ritosa - 8  
Steven Whitney - 6  
Robert Burns - 6  
Michael Majeres - 6  
Paul Narey - 6

### **Knights of Columbus Council 9597 Member's Wedding Anniversaries**

Dave and Helen Swavely 12/18/94  
Richard and Jean Marie Hart 12/26/59  
Chris and Jill Gerow 12/29/02

### **Inside Look From the FS**

by Marcus Ritosa, Financial Secretary

This month's installment of "Inside Look" concerns the Semi-Annual Council Audit. This is just one part of a recurring article series that seeks to expose everyone in the council to the work of a Financial Secretary.

At the end of each half-year (Jan-Jun, Jul-Dec), the Financial Secretary compiles council financial data from the last six months into a standard audit report. This report is then to be audited by the three council Trustees and the Grand Knight. If all transactions have been diligently recorded and coded throughout the year, this audit takes no more than an hour to compile and share.

The audit report is Form 1285, and it shows how everything adds up: What we started the term with, how much we received and disbursed, and how much we have now in our accounts. Accompanying this report are the scanned copies of all receipts and records as backup documentation. In theory, an auditor could ask how any number on the page was arrived at, and the FS could easily show the calculations and backup behind them.

The next semi-annual audit will take place in early January, though it is due to Supreme in mid-February. If you are interested in being part of this review, or if you'd like to see documents from prior audits, feel free to reach out to me at [marcus.ritosa@gmail.com](mailto:marcus.ritosa@gmail.com).

### **Fourth Degree Knots**

by Sir John Collier

Your 4th Degree Sir Knights continue to be busy with a variety of events. The OLF Parish Cub Scouts were assisted by the Knights in the annual Flag retirement ceremony. We were invited to and supported the Pastor of the Immaculate Conception, Rev. Fr. Ronald Cattany for the St. Cecilia Mass at the Nativity of the Lord in Northglenn. We participated in the very moving mass at St. Rafka Maronite Catholic Church. We continue to be available to any Council or Assembly that calls on us to help. Also, any Pastor may call on Sir Knights; we exist to support Catholic causes.

### **Council 9597 Items for Sale**

by Marcus Ritosa, Financial Secretary

The following items are available for purchase from your Financial Secretary. They can be picked up at any Council meeting.

- Council 9597 Blue Vest - \$60
- 3rd Degree patch - \$3
- "Pray the Rosary" patch - \$3
- Keep Christ In Christmas magnet - \$5
- Formation (2nd) Degree Crucifix - \$3

## **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

by Dave Schneider, Program Director

On Sunday, November 26th, we put on another successful pancake breakfast serving three of the Sunday Masses at 7:00, 8:30 and 10:00am. In addition to our regular pancakes, we also served apple-cinnamon pancakes which went over really well with all in attendance. The proceeds from our council's efforts (\$438) will be given to the State Council for purchasing coats for needy children under the Knight's "Coats For Kids" program. If you helped out in any way with the breakfast, thanks for stepping up to the plate and contributing to the success of this important activity. We were light on workers but we found a way to get everything done. We will be putting on our next breakfast on Sunday, December 17 in the OLF parish hall. So please mark your calendar for the 17th and plan to come help us out. The early crew gets started around 6:30am setting everything up and cooking for the 7:00am mass participants. We normally are finished and out of the hall by 12:30pm. Some of the guys work the entire breakfast and some work the fewer hours that their schedules permit. The amount of time you work will be up to you. We can use your help and this will be last breakfast we will service in 2017!

## **Flag Retirement Ceremony By Scouts of Troop 166**

by Norbert Boeckman, Youth Director

We had 2 big events in our youth program this last month. The first was Thursday, November 16 as we Knights were honored to participate in a Flag Retirement Ceremony put-on by OLF Cub Scouts troop 166. The Knights were well represented with Brothers Sir Mike Majeres and Sir George Johnson in full 4th Degree regalia. Brother Vince Cremona while playing a snare drum, lead a precession of color guard, Knights, scouts and parents from the school cafeteria to OLF parking lot where a fire was burning, and where the ceremony took place. With the help of some of OLF Boy Scouts, flags to be retired were folded on a long medal rod. That rod was then carried over to the fire by two Cub Scouts and lowered into the flames. Other scouts were reciting a poem dedicated to the ceremony, "I Am Your Flag" (see below). We burnt, or retired, several flags as all scouts took turns either lowering the flag into the fire or reciting parts of the poem. The Knights then lead the scouts in precession back to the cafeteria. Brother Mike spoke to the scouts about patriotism and how important it is to

us Knights, being one of our four main principals. After that refreshments were served and the scouts were dismissed. This being my first time participating in this ceremony, I thought it was a very powerful event that can serve as a reminder of our National Pride and help instill the values brought forth in developing good citizenship and patriotism in our youth.



## **I AM YOUR FLAG"**

By Bob Nelson of KYW Newsradio 1060

Traditionalists say I was born of a woman's hand -- fashioned from bits of colored cloth by a seamstress in a small house in Philadelphia, a year after the new country was born. Historians are less certain of my origin. Yet, no one doubts my existence. I was created out of necessity to serve as the emblem of a people whose experiment in nationhood was as unique as the arrangement of my stars and stripes.

I have proved my adaptability to change. I've accommodated growth. I've stood up to time and troubles. I fluttered in the Fall air with General Washington and his loyal French allies at Yorktown. My fabric was shredded by cannonballs from British frigates in the War of 1812 and I was carried in triumph by Andy Jackson at New Orleans. The British could see me clearly in the mists of "dawn's early light," waving from the standards at Fort McHenry.

I've witnessed turmoil and bitterness, even lost some of my glory in mid-century in a war between brothers, but I was restored as a nation's emblem at Appomattox.

I traveled West with the new frontier. I flew from the headlamps of the Iron Horse in Utah. I was with the prospectors at Sutter's Mill, with the cavalry against cattle rustlers, with the Rough Riders at San Juan Hill.

I crossed the Marne with the doughboys anxious to make the world safe for democracy. I was with brave GIs storming the beaches at Normandy. I was raised over a shell-pocked hilltop at Iwo Jima and I stood by the grim-faced negotiators at Panmunjom. I was on that last helicopter from Saigon and with the men and women of Operation Desert Storm.

I have been around in victory and defeat. I've seen pleasure and pain. I was raised over the rubble of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. I've been folded smartly by soldiers and handed to weeping widows. I've covered the coffins of those who've served country and community.

I also decorate bandstands and concert halls. I am saluted in parades, in schools and at ball parks.

I am part of political campaigns, high holidays and ice cream socials. I fly from skyscrapers and bungalows. I've been to the moon and the ocean floor.

I am everywhere my people are. I am saluted and, occasionally, scorned. I have been held with pride and I have been ridiculed, because I am everything my people are: proud, angry, happy, sad, vengeful, argumentative, ambitious, indifferent.

I was created to serve a people in struggle and a government in change. There are now more stars in my blue field than there were in the beginning and, if need be, there's room for more. But, those red and white stripes remain as they've always remained, clearly visible through the struggle -- the symbol of the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

**I am your past. I am your future. I am your flag.**

## Keep Christ in Christmas Event

by Norbert Boeckman, Youth Director

Our second program this last month was the conclusion of our Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest. We set November 30th as our deadline to get posters submitted. A big thank you to Brother Mike Sullivan and his daughter Megan for picking up 45 posters from the school office. Saturday, December 2nd, Brother Mike and I hung the posters in the parish hall, not only for decorations, but to display for our judging of the posters at our Keep Christ in Christmas party that night. We allowed all guests to judge our posters and it turned out that about 36 people participated. The judging was tough, but after tallying the votes we recognized the top 3 in each age group. In our 5-7 age group we had 6 posters entered and Nolan Martinez won 1st place, Abigail Bruggeman 2nd, and Liesl Bennett 3rd. All 6 of the posters were awesome. In the 8-10 age group we had just 2 posters entered so both will receive recognition. 1st place goes to Faith Sushinsky, and 2nd to Wyatt Rothgery. Now in our 11-14 age group, we had the largest amount of entries with 37 posters entered. This made the judging really tough. Our winners are Helena Campos Holguin 1st place, Marita Muller 2nd, and Margaret Martinez 3rd. The winning poster has already been scanned to be made into Christmas Prayer Cards for our Adoration Chapel next year. This program was started this year using the 2016 winning posters. What a beautiful idea from OLF Adoration team. We will also be sending the winning poster on to the District competition at the end of December. I want to give a special "thank you" to Brother Rudy Martinez and his wife Roxanne for helping me get the word out about the contest, Brother Mike Sullivan and his wife Karen for helping tallying up the judges' scores, and their daughters' Kathleen and Megan for their help taking down the posters at the end of the night. Brother Vince Cremona and his wife Kirsten and son Peter helped also.

We do have 1 other activity that is happening on Thursday night the 14th of December at 6:30 in the school cafeteria. OLF Cub Scout Pack will meet and there will be a special guest attending this event. St. Nicholas will be there to hand out the Pine Wood Derby car kits to the scouts. The scouts will have a little over a month to build their cars and we as Knights will participate in the race on Saturday the 20th of January at 9:00AM, again in the school cafeteria. We will need many Knights to help at this event.

That's all from your Youth Director for this month. I want to wish all my Brother Knights and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year. God Bless.

## **2017 Peaches for Seminarians – Semi Closure**

by Sir Dale Culuris

For those you wanting to know the names of the seminarians Council 9597 supported with the funds raised in this years “Peaches for Seminarians” – here is the list of names :

Tomislav Tomic, Josh Meier, Donald Rank, Justin Doerr, Cristian Rivera, John Croghan, Sean Conroy, Ryan Kent, Yunior Gonzalez, Wilfred Sile Kone, Carlos Mejia, Br. Thomas Gonzaga David, Hall Drew, Jones Owen, Limarta Trevor, Lontine Kyle, MacDonald Drazen Hosi.

Knowing their names is important and we think including them in our daily prayers is even more important! Remember that RSVP is MORE than just sending off money to a seminarian or novice. We need to let them know that they are in our thoughts and prayers. We need to send them cards, invite them to our social events and visit them when their schedule permits. That is the support we should focus on when not selling and disbursing peaches. Peaches are GOOD and so is a card for special occasions or just a “we are thinking about you and praying for your discernment”!

## **2017 ANNUAL SURVEY OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITY**

by Dave Schneider, Program Director

Each year the Supreme Council asks all Knights of Columbus councils to submit a survey that reflects the hours we spent during the year performing the different activities we undertake. Right now I am in the process of updating an Excel spreadsheet that will allow you to enter your hours for submission to me. As soon as I get the spreadsheet ready, I will shoot it out to everyone via email with instructions on how to complete and return the spreadsheet. I plan to send along with the spreadsheet an information sheet that reflects all the hours the members of our council submitted to me for 2016. A comparison of 2016 to 2017 should help you determine the hours you will send me. If you are not a computer person or you receive our council’s newsletter through the mail, please give me a call and I will take your hours over the phone and data load them for you. Our report to Supreme is due on January 31, 2018.

## **Partnering With Angel House**

by Sir Michael Majeres

Once again this fall, our council has made available to parishioners, the beautiful advent signs produced by Angel House. These signs remind those who see them of the “reason for the season” and reinforce our message of “keep Christ in Christmas.” Last year this was a successful fundraiser for the council, and this year was no different. Special credit needs to go to our Grand Knight, Ken Klispie for his dedication in giving up big chunks of his Sundays to making sure our parishioners had an opportunity to own these great products.

## **LOSS OF A BROTHER KNIGHT**

by Dave Schneider, Program Director

On November 20th, Br. Jacques “Jack” Gaffigan passed away at the age of 90. He was the 6th oldest knight in our council at the time of his death. Jack joined the knights on August 1, 1948 and somewhere along the line dropped his membership. On March 1, 2000 he re-entered our order as a member of our council (17 years, 8 months).

Jack was born in Springfield, Illinois to Joseph and Agnes Cecelia (nee Gardiner) Gaffigan on November 3, 2027. He attended Springfield High School and graduated a half-year ahead of his class in December 1944. He studied engineering at Purdue University before joining the U.S. Army in 1948. Jack worked as an insurance claims executive for 50 years before retiring in 1997 and performing insurance consulting services well into his eighties. Though he spent decades in the insurance industry, he was most fond of his public service in the Army Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC). Jack married Mary Anne Hamilton on September 27, 1952, in Springfield, Illinois. They remained together for 49 years until Mary Anne’s death in 2001.

Jack is survived by six children: Elizabeth Gaffigan, Centennial, CO; Jacques “Jake” Gaffigan, Jr. (Lois), Denver, CO; Maura Anne Putnik (Dave), Golden, CO; Timothy Gaffigan (Susan), Elizabeth, CO; Thomas Gaffigan, Denver, CO; Jennifer Drake, Centennial, CO; Eight grandchildren and several nieces and nephews and several great nieces and nephews. In addition, he is survived by sisters-in-law Alice Ramshaw, Champaign, IL and Elenore Mack, Wisconsin.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Anne Gaffigan; father, Joseph Gaffigan; mother, Agnes Gaffigan; and brothers, Joseph Gaffigan, Jr.,

Michael Gaffigan and Terrance Gaffigan.

Visitation was held on November 27th at the Archdiocese of Denver Mortuary in Wheat Ridge. The Rosary was said on Tuesday morning, November 28th, preceding the funeral Mass at 10:00am at Our Lady of Fatima. Interment followed at Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Thank you Jack for your service to our Lord through your membership and active involvement in the Knights of Columbus!

## **Culture of Life Programs**

by Sir Michael Majeres

The Fall "40 Days for Life" campaign has ended. Lots of Knights and their families spent time praying and marching at the main PP facility near Stapleton. The Eucharistic event with Archbishop Aquila, while substantially smaller than last year's march, still drew almost 1000 people, and was led by a Knights of Columbus honor guard. The next big event for Archdiocesan pro-life efforts will be the "Celebrate Life" march on January 13th. We will have a rally on the west steps of the Capitol building at 1PM and the March around Civic Center park will begin at 2PM. Catholic Charities is sponsoring a contest with the parish Schools to see who can send the largest contingent. Let's make sure OLF and the Knights are a large and visible presence! More information can be found at [archden.org](http://archden.org).

## **15th Place Clean up**

by Norbert Boeckman, Youth Director

There was a slight chill in the air that Saturday morning, the 18th of November, to be expected for a mid to late November day. I met Brother Russ Williams at the corner of Miller Street and 15th Place a little after 8:00 to clean the ditches on both sides of the street that runs from Miller to Kipling Ave. As you all know our Knight of Columbus council adopted this stretch of street and maintain the cleanup. Brother Russ and I didn't see the need to wait around for others to arrive, so we decided to suit up for the task at hand. Brother Russ took the north side of the street while I took the south side. I believe Brother Russ got the blunt of the work, having to get down into the trench to pick up all the trash that accumulated at the bottom. I continued along the south side along the bank and then the dealership picking up trash, as I came up to the back gate of the dealership, I found several Colt 45 Malt Liquor cans and some whiskey shooters. My knowing a little bit about the workings of a dealership determined this was probably the remains of a bunch of technicians having a little party on their lunch break. **JUST KIDDING**, we would never do that! At one point I had to crawl under a thorny bush to

retrieve some trash because my trash picker-upper was too short. I end up with a few scratches but I'm afraid my orange vest got the worst of it. I ended up adding it to the trash bag when I was done. I got to Kipling first and crossed the street and started work back toward Miller. I soon caught Brother Russ who was on his second bag by that time. We walked back to our vehicles and exchanged pleasantries, wished each other a Happy Thanksgiving and when on about our day. I went back and picked up the trash bags and dumped them in the parish dumpster. I now have the number for our contact at the city so we will be able to leave the bags on the side of the street and Lakewood will come and pick them up for us. I will periodically be checking to see when we need to do another cleanup. Thank you Brother Russ for your help! All and all, it took us about 1 and a half hours to clean.

### **Keep Christ in Christmas Party**

by Sir Michael Majeres

As has happened for many years, all knights and their families were invited to the "Keep Christ in Christmas" dinner. There were 4 turkeys and lots of great sides you brought. Approximately 75 people (Knights and their families) were there. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food, and the great fellowship. As in years past, St. Nicholas, bishop of Myra, made an appearance and took lots of photos with both children and Knights. This is always a great opportunity for us and our families to come together to remember the ways the God has blessed us and our council over the past year. Attendance was down for reasons that aren't exactly clear. Members are encouraged to communicate with the Council and Family program chairs with ideas on improving the event for next year, and getting more knights to attend.

### **Grand Knight's Report December 2017**

by Ken Klispie, Grand Knight

#### Upcoming Events

Pancake Breakfast Sunday 12/17

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Cub Scouts – St. Nick, Thursday, 12/14 at 6PM (School Cafeteria)

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Social, Tuesday, 12/26 (Cancel?)

- Celebrate Life Rally – Saturday 1/13 State Capitol – 11:30AM
- Cub Scouts – Pinewood Derby, Saturday 1/20 at 12P (School Cafeteria)
- Pancake Breakfast Sunday 1/21
- Free Throw Contest, Sunday 1/28 at 2PM in School Gym
- Survey of Fraternal Activity, Due 1/31
- Lenten Soup Suppers Begin Friday 2/16

### **Communications**

- Thank You from Yunion Gonzalez (Seminararian)
- Thank You from Br. Thomas Gonzaga (Seminararian) & Fr. John Ignatius
- Thank You from Br. Donald Rank (Capuchin)
- Solicitation from Catholic Charities
- Solicitation from FOCUS
- Solicitation from Havern School
- Newsletter from Laboure' Society
- Invitation to the Beacon of Hope Catholic Charities Fund Raiser

### **Knight of the Month Proclamation**

by Ken Klispies, Grand Knight

I am pleased to name Sir Knight Keith Mobley the December Knight of the Month for a variety of efforts to move our council forward. Br. Mobley has played St. Nicholas for several years and now dons the costume for Breakfast with St. Nick, Cub Scouts, American Heritage Girls and Keep Christ in Christmas. Br. Keith also provided lots of food, setup and cleanup help for our Annual KCIC dinner. For these reasons, and the many ways he lives out our order's principles of Charity,

Unity, Fraternity, I am convinced that Sir Knight Mobley of Council 9597 is a worthy recipient of this honor.

**THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE PHOTOS OF THIS MONTHS EVENTS**  
provided by Norbert Boeckman, Youth Director



CONTESTANT'S POSTERS FROM THE "KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" CONTEST



ATTENDEES AT "KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" DINNER



KNIGHTS PREPARING THE FEAST!!!



MEMBERS OF THE FATIMA SCHOOL CHIOR SANG CHRISTMAS CAROLS FOR ATTENDEES



IN THE COMPANY OF ST. NICK!!!!



WINNING ENTRIES!!!!