



Knights Works



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
FR. MAURICE J. WOLFE COUNCIL 11372
ABINGDON, MARYLAND

Volume 14 Issue 9		"IF NOT NOW, WHEN? IF NOT US, WHO?"		March 2012
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"Have You Picked Up The Phone Yet?"

Recently the Obama administration decided that they would force the Catholic Church to surrender their central beliefs and bend to the dictates of the government and pro choice crowd.

While much of the media claims this is about a matter of whether women should be allowed to use birth control, it actually has nothing to do with that. What is actually at stake is whether the federal government can dictate the actions of religious organizations.

In China, all churches and religious organizations must register with the government and are subject to government review and control. People who wish to worship free of government control gather in secret in what are called "house churches." They are called house churches because they are not permitted to own property and must gather in private homes to worship. In January of this year President Obama and Secretary Sibelius started us down the same path of government control.

What can we do? Cardinal Dolan, head of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has stated it clearly. *"We cannot—we will not—comply with this unjust law. People of faith cannot be made second class citizens."*

I urge you to reread the bishop's letter on page 2 of this newsletter and join me in writing or calling our Congressman and Senators.

Vivat Jesus

Dan Trout - Grand Knight

Membership

Bill Hengemihle 410-569-5252

Brothers,

With regret we announce the passing of Brother Tom Sweeney. May he ever rest in eternal peace. We welcome 2 new first degree members' brothers Jeff Perkins (Pat Perkins brother in law) and Cliff Wendel. Please make them feel welcome.

Now the rubber hits the road.....we need six more new members....
 WILL YOU HELP.....PLEASE....we need a bigger army.

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES PROMPTLY....AVOID SUSPENSION NOTICES

**THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE LETTER FROM THE US
CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS READ IN MOST PARISHES
IN THE COUNTRY ON JANUARY 28TH AND 29TH.**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I write to you concerning an alarming and serious matter that negatively impacts the Church in the United States directly, and that strikes at the fundamental right to religious liberty for all citizens of any faith. The federal government, which claims to be “of, by, and for the people,” has just been dealt a heavy blow to almost a quarter of those people — the Catholic population — and to the millions more who are served by the Catholic faithful.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced last week that almost all employers, including Catholic employers, will be forced to offer their employees’ health coverage that includes sterilization, abortion-inducing drugs, and contraception. Almost all health insurers will be forced to include those “services” in the health policies they write. And almost all individuals will be forced to buy that coverage as a part of their policies.

In so ruling, the Obama Administration has cast aside the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, denying to Catholics our Nation’s first and most fundamental freedom, that of religious liberty. And as a result, unless the rule is overturned, we Catholics will be compelled to either violate our consciences, or to drop health coverage for our employees (and suffer the penalties for doing so). The Obama Administration’s sole concession was to give our institutions one year to comply.

We cannot—we will not—comply with this unjust law. People of faith cannot be made second class citizens. We are already joined by our brothers and sisters of all faiths and many others of good will in this important effort to regain our religious freedom. Our parents and grandparents did not come to these shores to help build America’s cities and towns, its infrastructure and institutions, its enterprise and culture, only to have their posterity stripped of their God given rights. In generations past, the Church has always been able to count on the faithful to stand up and protect her sacred rights and duties. I hope and trust she can count on this generation of Catholics to do the same. Our children and grandchildren deserve nothing less.

And therefore, I would ask of you two things. First, as a community of faith we must commit ourselves to prayer and fasting that wisdom and justice may prevail, and religious liberty may be restored. Without God, we can do nothing; with God, nothing is impossible. Second, I would also recommend visiting www.usccb.org/conscience, to learn more about this severe assault on religious liberty, and how to contact Congress in support of legislation that would reverse the Obama Administration’s decision.



I urge you in the strongest possible terms to contact your Congressman and Senators to protest this incredible action on the part of this administration. Letters are best but please, if you can’t write, at least pick up the phone and call. -Dan Trout

Second District of Congress
Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger
2453 Rayburn House Office Bldg
Washington DC 20515
Phone 202-225-3061

Senator Barbara Mikulski
503 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington DC 20510
Phone 202-224-4654

Senator Ben Cardin
509 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington DC 20510
Phone 202-224-4524

**A Lent Well Spent
Part II**

Well, here we are, one and a half weeks into Lent! The question is—how are we doing? We need to assess if our Lent has been successful so far. Have we begun to accomplish what we set out to do on Ash Wednesday? Are we kinder and gentler people, or are we just hungry? Will the sacrifices we make change our lives? Will we change or go back to being the same old people we were 10 days ago?

It's not too late! We still have a little over four weeks. If we don't think we can make our goals, then perhaps it is time to really get serious about our spiritual lives. We have many opportunities in our parish, in our community and in our families to change the way we live. It doesn't cost anything to be kind to someone who needs us or to give a little of ourselves when we're asked to help. It doesn't cost anything to say an extra prayer for someone who is in need or has hit the bottom rung. If everyone in our community said one prayer every day for one hurting person, can you imagine what we could accomplish? If everyone said a prayer for those who are hungry, thirsty or without a friend, imagine what a great place this world would be. The best thing about all this is that we benefit more than the people we pray for, give to or encourage.

This can still be "A Lent Well Spent." It won't be easy, and time is short! But it's not too short to make a difference in our lives and the lives of those who need us.

Deacon Jim

Mary Celeste Eder chaired a "Premier Jewelry" party after Masses from 9 AM to 1 PM on Sunday, February 26, 2012 in Kilduff Hall. The rest of your family was invited to fellowship with the Knights in Kilduff Hall and the Youth Group entertained the children in the Knight's Hall. Light refreshments were served.

The Best of Country Cookie books are still available at St. Francis de Sales Friday night bingos, and from Bernie Pavlitsa at (410) 676-6404 for just \$10 each or 3 for \$25. All proceeds go to SVDP.

The Ladies are planning a spring project at a nearby nursing home. We are considering sponsoring a tea and companionship for the nursing home residents as well as providing them quarters to use to play bingo and earn themselves a little spending money. If you would like to participate in this fellowship with the nursing home residents, please contact one of the Ladies.

The Ladies' next meeting is scheduled for 8:00 p.m., Monday, March 19th in the K of C Hall.

The Bathtub Test

During a visit to my doctor, I asked him, "How do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in an old age home?"

"Well," he said, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the person to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," I said. "A normal person would use the bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No" he said. "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?"

Activity Director's Report

Activity Director – Rob Hardy <robhardy@gmail.com> – 410-459-6132

We held the open house on February 26th after all the Sunday Masses. For a constantly up to date calendar, make sure to go to the website: <http://kofc11372.org> Thanks for all your hard work guys!

Council – Greg Ward <gjward63@comcast.net> – 443-243-1333

If you are interested in getting your name and picture or that of a now departed brother in the Knight To Remember book, contact brother Greg.

Youth - Dave Michalov <umes96pt@yahoo.com> and Jacob Burlin <jdburlin@gmail.com>

The Kid's Bingo was a smashing success which raised over \$1000 for juvenile diabetes. We had 125 kids playing and over 195 people in the hall.

Church – Mark Hopkins <markhopkins1@comcast.net> – 410-225-7248

The Traveling Crucifix is still making the rounds, contact Rob Hardy if interested in taking it home for a week.

Family – Marc Bolden <mbolden509@me.com> – 443-528-4964

The basketball shootout went well and we had twice the attendance as last year. We've learned some valuable advertising lessons that will help us in the coming years.

Community – Charles Duke <charldk@aol.com> – 410-879-4312

The 40 Boxes for Lent project has gone well so far and boxes will be distributed Sat. February 25th at noon.

Pro Life – Ed Petrovic <e.petrovic@verizon.net> – 410-679-4179

The pro-life vigil was a great success and we had more brothers than we had time slots. We hope to continue this event in future years and thanks to Ed for such a great spiritual activity!

Quote of the Month

The fate of good men who refuse to become involved in politics is to be ruled by evil men.

Edmund Burke

YOUR COUNCIL AT WORK AND PLAY

Your council sponsored a Kid's Bingo and it was a smashing success. In the midst of a miserable snowy evening we had a capacity crowd. We had 125 kids, 195 people in all, and we will donate close to \$1,000 to juvenile diabetes



And there were plenty of prizes to go around



Training a new generation of bingo players



Deputy Grand Knight Keith Marchiano awards the Grand Prize



And the Ladies had a Jewelry Show



A Knight's Open House

How could anyone resist this friendly bunch of past Grand Knights



Friendly smiles from everyone





BINGO NEEDS YOUR HELP!

SOME FACTS

IT'S A NUMBERS GAME
and
No. 1 fund raiser for our council
It takes
approximately
80 man-hours per bingo
34 volunteers per bingo
14 volunteers are Knights
20 others
23 volunteers are senior citizens
23 Bingos per year

Also, there are numbers on every Bingo card - guaranteed.

Bingo Ken

A Touching Story

Homeless Man's Funeral



As a bagpiper, I play many gigs. Recently, I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man. He had no family or friends so the service was to be at a pauper's cemetery in the Kentucky back country.

As I was not familiar with the backwoods, I got lost and, being a typical man, I didn't stop for directions.

I finally arrived an hour late and saw the funeral guy had evidently gone and the hearse was nowhere in sight. There were only the diggers and crew left and they were eating lunch.

I felt badly and apologized to the men for being late. I went to the side of the grave and looked down and the vault lid was already in place. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play.

The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. I played my heart and soul out for this man with no family and friends. I played like I've never played before for this homeless man. And as I played 'Amazing Grace,' the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, we all wept together. When I finished I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car. Though my head hung low, my heart was full. As I opened the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say, "I never seen nothin' like that before and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years."

Apparently, I was still lost.

District Deputy Message March 2012
Every Council a Star Council (numbers as of 1/17/2012)

Council #/Goals	New Members	Dropped Members	Net Membership Increase	Net Insurance Increase
8736 / 13-5	9	0	9	4
9815 / 8-3	4	0	4	2
10100 / 8-3	0	6	(6)	(1)
11372 / 17-6	11	0	11	1
District Total	24	6	18	6

Star District Goals 32 New Members; 12 Insurance Members

State Basketball Free Throw Contest at Archbishop Spalding High March 10, 2012. Send in Convention Credentials and Resolutions. Third Quarter Best Activity Reports are due by April 1st. Convention Registration is due also by April 1, 2012.

A few key dates to remember:

First Degree at Long Green Council on March 27, 2012.

Third Degree at Cardinal Gibbons Mar 16, 2012.

State Free Throw Contest on Saturday, March 10, 2012

State Convention May 4-6, 2012.

Vivat Jesus!

Jim Cross, District Deputy #4

Fraternal Benefits

Ed O'Keefe

Have you insured your most valuable asset?

Is your income protected if you become too sick or hurt to work? Your ability to work and earn an income is your most valuable asset. Yet a disability could prevent you from earning that income. Just one year of a disability could eliminate your savings.

I would like to show you that Income Armor, an individual disability income insurance product from the Knights of Columbus, should be a key part of your overall financial plan and family's protection.

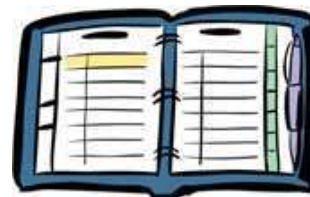
If you become too sick or hurt to work, Income Armor provides monthly benefits to help you meet living expenses and maintain your standard of living. Your monthly benefits help you pay your mortgage and other monthly bills, and help your savings and retirement assets remain intact.

In short, if you have a job and don't have a way to protect that paycheck, you should seriously consider Income Armor today. I look forward to meeting with you.

Edward A. O'Keefe, CLU, ChFC, CASL
410-569-6141 edward.okeefe@kofo.org

FATHER MAURICE J. WOLFE COUNCIL

THREE MONTH PLANNER



March			
Sat	3	4 th Degree Ceremony – Frederick, MD	10:00am
Mon	5	Council Meeting – Knights Hall	8:00pm
Fri	9	Bingo!	5:00pm
Mon	12	Officers' Meeting – Knights Hall	7:30pm
Mon	19	Council Meeting – Kilduff Hall	8:00pm
Fri	23	Bingo!	5:00pm
April			
Mon	2	Council Meeting – Knights Hall	8:00pm
Mon	9	Officers' Meeting – Knights Hall	7:30pm
Fri	13	Bingo!	5:00pm
Sat	14	SARC – Walk a Mile In Her Shoes	1:00pm
Mon	16	Council Meeting – Kilduff Hall	8:00pm
Sat	21	Rescheduled - St. Francis de Sales Volunteer Dinner	6:15pm
Fri	27	Bingo!	5:00pm
May			
Sat	5	May Day at John Archer	9:00am
Mon	7	Council Meeting – Knights Hall	8:00pm
Fri	11	Bingo!	5:00pm
Mon	14	Officers' Meeting – Knights Hall	7:30pm
Sat	19	Spaghetti Dinner – Kilduff Hall	4:00pm
Mon	21	Council Meeting – Kilduff Hall	8:00pm
Fri	25	Bingo!	5:00pm

SAY A PRAYER

Little Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his Grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served.

When Little Johnny received his plate, he started eating right away. "Johnny! Please wait until we say our prayer." said his mother.

"I don't need to," the boy replied. "Of course, you do" his mother insisted. "We always say a prayer before eating at our house." "That's at our house."

Johnny explained. "But this is Grandma's house and she knows how to cook."

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Lee Eder PGK



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Notary Public

