



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PIEDMONT COUNCIL 939

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

“The Official Publication of Piedmont Council 939 Knights of Columbus”

GRAND KNIGHT’S MESSAGE

Good day brother Knights!

February brings us our biggest event of the year – the Annual Lenten Fish Fry! It will be on February 23rd from 4:30-7:00pm, but preparation starts at 1:30pm. Many hands make light work! Please strongly consider helping make this a success, through preparation, setup, serving, cleanup, or various other tasks which are needed. At the very least, please get the word out and get people to show up! It will be first come, first served – no tickets will be sold ahead of time. Adults are \$10 and children are \$5.

Another important event is the Annual Convention. It will be May 3rd – 5th in Raleigh, NC. Thank you to those who have volunteered to go with me.

Please prepare for a fruitful and holy Lent as well.

Grand Knight Evan Smith

JANUARY IN REVIEW

- January 1st: Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Not a Holy Day of Obligation)
- January 12th: Charlotte March for Life, 12:00pm, Charlotte, NC
- January 19th: National March for Life, 12:00pm, Washington, D.C.
- January 22nd: Council Business Meeting, 7:30pm, Our Lady of Grace Parish Life Center, Banquet Hall
- January 30th: Fraternal Benefits Night, 7:00pm, Virtual (Link Sent to Council Members)

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

February 5th – Officers and Directors Meeting, 7:00pm, Our Lady of Grace Parish Life Center, 2nd Floor

February 12th – Our Lady of Grace Ministry Fair Planning Meeting, 6:00pm (Only Grand Knight must attend)

February 14th – Ash Wednesday (First Day of Lent)

February 19th – Council Business Meeting, 7:30pm, St. Benedict’s Church

February 23rd – Annual Lenten Fish Fry, 4:30-7:00pm (Preparation Starts at 1:30pm)

DISTRICT DEPUTY INPUT

KNIGHTS 1919-1929 IN SEARCH OF LIBERTY

After the Great War, the Knights of Columbus continued its charitable work, offering education and employment services to returning servicemen. In less than two years, the Knights of Columbus Bureau of Employment placed some 100,000 people in jobs. The Order's presence in Europe continued in August 1920, when a delegation of 235 Knights made a pilgrimage to Rome, Pope Benedict XV invited them to build several recreation centers for Roman youth. The architect of these centers, Count Enrico Galeazzi, went on to serve as the Knights' representative in Rome for more than six decades.

Throughout the 1920s, the Order's anti-defamation work also continued. When the Ku Klux Klan and other "nativist" and anti-Catholic groups launched campaigns to make students attend public schools, Church leaders enlisted the Knights' support. The K of C Historical Commission, meanwhile, worked to overcome racial prejudice in American society, publishing books on the contributions of African-, Jewish-, and German-Americans.

The Great Depression initially had hurt the Order's membership and finances, but it also led to a renewed sense of volunteer service.

Two years after launching educational, vocational and employment programs for World War I veterans, more than 50,000 students are enrolled in K of C-sponsored evening school programs across the US and Canada. The Order also launched a correspondence school.

1920: 235 Knights sail from New York City to France. In Paris, they are greeted by Church and civic authorities, who thank the Knights for their WWI work. In Metz, a large equestrian statue of the French Revolutionary War hero Lafayette, funded by the Knights, is unveiled. The K of C delegation continues to Rome, where it is received in a private audience with Pope Benedict XV on Aug. 28, 1920.

1923: In response to the passage of laws in Oregon prohibiting children under 16 from attending private schools, the Knights work to overturn the law. In 1925, the Supreme Court declares the Oregon law unconstitutional.

1924: In response to a request from Pope Benedict XV, the Knights open St. Peter's Oratory, the first K of C recreation center for youth in Rome. Four more are established between 1924 and 1927.

1926: Supreme Knight Flaherty, Deputy Supreme Knight Martin H. Carmody and other K of C officers meet with President Calvin Coolidge about the persecution of the Catholic Church in Mexico. The Order launches a \$1 million educational campaign to influence American public opinion on the need for a strong stand against the Mexican government's attacks on the Church. It takes more than 10 years for the tensions to ease.

1930-1940 NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

In the early 1930s, the threat of atheistic communism was growing in Europe. In response, the Knights organized anti-communist rallies in early 1937. When Pope Pius XI's encyclical on the subject, *Divini Redemptoris*, was released in March of that year, the Order printed and distributed a million copies. The Knights also sponsored a new lecture tour and expanded its anti-communism program to include a Crusade for Social Justice.

1932: The 50th anniversary of the Knights is celebrated with Commemoration Week, June 24-30, 1932. Among the highlights is the unveiling in Washington, D.C. of a statue of Cardinal James Gibbons, an early supporter of the Knights who ordained Father McGivney.

1935: On July 8, 1935, Supreme Knight Martin Carmody and other K of C officials meet with President Franklin D. Roosevelt about the ongoing situation in Mexico.

1936: Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli, Vatican secretary of state, visits the Knights of Columbus headquarters in New Haven; in 1939, Cardinal Pacelli becomes Pope Pius XII.

1939: Less than two weeks after World War II begins, Canadian Knights establish a welfare program for soldiers comparable to the KC huts program that operated during World War I. Within a year, Canadian Knights raise nearly \$250,000 to support troops.

John Joyce (dd24@kofcnc.org).

RECRUITING OPPORTUNITIES:

Whenever and wherever a Knights of Columbus meets a practicing Catholic man, eighteen years of age or older, there is an opportunity for recruiting a new Knights of Columbus. Wear your K of C nametag proudly, never reluctantly, and advertise for the Council.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES:

Brother Knights: Our council has open positions that need to be filled. Please discern and ask the Lord if any of these opportunities would be right for you.

FAITH DIRECTOR: Coordinates the RSVP program (Seminarians), Holy Hours, Rosary Handouts, Communion Breakfasts, masses for our deceased brothers, and various other events related to our Catholic faith and parish.

LAMB DIRECTOR: Coordinates the LAMB (Least Among My Brethren) programs. LAMB is involved with helping those with intellectual disabilities. In years past, we have raised money for the special education programs at Our Lady of Grace Catholic School, but the director is free to choose any applicable cause. The director will facilitate fundraising, volunteering, and disbursement of funds for these activities.

COR DIRECTOR: COR (Latin for “heart”) is a new Knights of Columbus program which seeks to increase the faith life of participants through regular meetings containing prayer, Scripture reading, applicable video series, etc. It is not limited to Knights – anyone is welcome! The director will start, grow, and facilitate this fraternal gathering (preferably weekly or bi-weekly but at least monthly) so that more men grow in their spiritual lives.

Please contact the GK.

For further information or to volunteer please contact me:

Grand Knight Evan Smith SmithE7219@gmail.com 336-391-1114

WIDOWS PROGRAM:

We do not forget the widows of our fallen Brother Knights. Widows are invited to Council 939 social events as our guests.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

IF YOU HAVE SPECIFIC PRAYER REQUESTS, PLEASE PASS PRAYER REQUESTS TO THE GRAND KNIGHT AT HIS NUMBERS BELOW. APOLOGIES TO ANYONE OVERLOOKED IN THIS COUNCIL 939 NEWSLETTER.

THIS LIST HAS NOT BEEN REVIEWED IN A WHILE. IF ANY LISTED PEOPLE ARE NO LONGER NEEDING OUR PRAYERS, PLEASE CONTACT THE GK TO MAKE THE LIST MORE COMPACT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

Please keep the following in your prayers

Plocki Family – death of Olga (widow of Arthur)	Dcn. Larry Lisk	Edwards Family
Marzullo Family – death of Peter	Joyce Family	Fr. David Hyman
Wachter Family – death of Mike	Jim Keaney, Sr.	Sylvia Byrd
Dick Morrison – In Hospice	Lawrene Kirwan	Ben Malikowski
Eastwood Family – death of Mary (widow of Bill)	Roy Berninger	Eveland Family
Chris Frank – death of mother, father undergoing cancer treatment	Jack Kealey	Grabasky Family – death of Bob
Lyle Family – death of Lura (widow of John)	Brian Dubicki	Dcn. Rohan Family – death of Dcn. Tim
Flanagan Family – death of Bob	Gary Chapman	Fr. Coleman Family – death of father
Jerry Byrd – recovery from surgery	Kathy Chapman	Brian Garrett
Fr. Joseph Wasswa – death of father (Henry Wasswa)	Bob Englert	Parker Hahn
Schmidt Family – death of Alice	Antionette Cerrito	Barbara Ovittore
Bishop Jugis – poor health	Lysiak Family	D’Amelio Family

Names in red mean a new entry from the past month

FEBRUARY IS DEVOTED TO THE HOLY FAMILY

