



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PIEDMONT COUNCIL 939

MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER

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

GRAND KNIGHT’S MESSAGE

Good day brother Knights!

I want to thank all of you for helping make the Fish Fry a success. We had 15 volunteers and served about 200 guests. We brought the parish and community together for an evening of communion and nourishment. I am strongly considering adding a similar event in the fall, so if anybody has any suggestions on that, please let me know.

May God bless each of you.

Grand Knight Evan Smith

DEVOTIONAL: LIAR, LUNATIC, OR LORD?

You may have heard a non-religious acquaintance say, “I see Jesus as a good moral teacher, but I don’t believe He was divine.” But is that a valid belief? C.S Lewis argued persuasively in *Mere Christianity* that it is not. He says, “You must make your choice: either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon; or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.”

Jesus claimed that he was the Son of God, so logically there are three options: either he knew he was a mere mortal and lied, he was mentally ill, or he was who he said he was. We know that he held to the truth of his divinity even unto death, so that makes the liar hypothesis unlikely. He wisely gave counsel and cast out demons, so we can safely rule out mental illness and demonic possession. What do we have left but to worship and glorify His name? Let us rejoice that God loved us so much that He sent His only son to die for each and every one of us.

OUR COUNCIL IN THE SPOTLIGHT

On February 23rd, Piedmont Council 939 held its Annual Lenten Fish Fry, and it was a clear success! We served about 200 trays to our hungry customers. Our 15 volunteers helped prepare fish, hushpuppies, baked potatoes, green beans, and various other food and drink to our guests. Proceeds will go to seminarians.



FEBRUARY IN REVIEW

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)

MARCH ACTIVITIES

March 4th – Officers and Directors Meeting, 7:00pm, Our Lady of Grace Parish Life Center, 2nd Floor

March 8th–9th – Marriage Retreat, Friday 5:30-9:00pm, Saturday 8:00am-1:00pm, Our Lady of Grace Church

March 18th – Council Business Meeting, 7:30pm, Our Lady of Grace Parish Life Center, Banquet Hall

March 31st – Easter

DISTRICT DEPUTY INPUT

1941-1950 WAR & PEACE

By the time of the Pearl Harbor attack and the United States entry into World War II in 1941, a KofC welfare program for servicemen had been well established by Canadian Knights, built and modeled on the Knights 'World War I work at the Supreme Convention in 1944. The Order established a \$1million trust fund for the children of members who died or became disabled in World War II. Following the end of the war in 1945, the Order turned its attention to the growing threats of communism and fascism. To combat these dangers, the Knights launched in 1946 the Crusade for the Preservation and Promotion of American Ideals, which published books and pamphlets to educate the public on "the perils of communism".

Meanwhile, the postwar years saw a membership boom for the Order in the Philippines. Jesuit Father George J. Willmann envisioned the Knights as the premiere lay society in the Philippines and set about establishing councils and recruiting members. He appealed to the Supreme Council in 1947 for permission to establish three new councils in the Philippines and served as the country's first District Deputy. By the time Supreme Knight Luke E. Hart visited Manila in 1955, the Order had expanded to include 50 Filipino councils.

1941: When the U.S. enters World War II, the Order's outreach to soldiers is conducted via the National Catholic Community Service organization. The NCCS models many of its programs on the Order's successful WWI efforts.

1944: The Order creates a \$1million trust fund for the education of children of members who lost their lives in or as a result of World War II. This evolves into the current scholarship fund for use at Catholic colleges and universities in the US & Canada.

1945: John E. Swift is elected Supreme Knight. Among his first initiatives is to authorize funding for full-page advertisements in 12 major U.S. newspapers and five Canadian papers highlighting the dangers of communism. The ad offers a free copy of Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen's pamphlet, "Communism, the Opium of the People."

1946: The Order launches its Crusade for the Preservation and Promotion of American Ideals. Educational pamphlets on communism and the dangers of secularism are published and distributed. By August 1948, there are more than 1,300 KofC discussion groups.

1947: Several hundred radio stations broadcast KofC - sponsored programs with the titles "Safeguards of America" and "Foundations of Our American Ideals."

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.

- 1. 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.
- 2. 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.
- 3. 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.

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

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

Names in red mean a new entry from the past month

MARCH IS DEVOTED TO THE ST. JOSEPH

