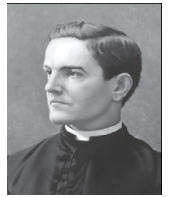




# The Notre Dame Grotto



Home of the Traveling Rosary  
Mar April 2024 Vol. 69 No. 5

The Newsletter of Knights of Columbus Council 2901

[www.KofC2901.com](http://www.KofC2901.com)

## Chaplain's Corner

Fr. Joseph Simmons 443-987-4149

I hope you can do your best during Lent to improve your spiritual life and draw closer to God. Be generous to the poor who have many needs. Try to attend as many services during Holy week as possible and encourage others to join you. The celebrations after Easter lasts fifty days until Pentecost, so get a good head start in Lent that will carry you through to that distance. The fact of the matter is that we should be doing these things all year long. Happy Easter to all, and a Blessed Easter season in general for as long as it will last. Stations of the Cross are being held every Friday during Lent at St. Pius X on Friday nights starting at 6PM with soup and bread at 5PM for all interested. Try to attend if you are able.

Jesus Lives !

## Grand Knight's Report

Tom Welzant 410-776-4698 [tomwelzant@gmail.com](mailto:tomwelzant@gmail.com)

Hello Brother Knights and families!

I hope you are doing well and looking forward to Easter and a great spring beyond. The miracle of the resurrection is one of Gods most amazing and mysterious gifts. It's always neat to see it symbolically represented by the rebirth of spring. Among other things we are doing this springtime, we look forward to helping St. Pius with the Carnival this April 19-21. Hopefully the weather will be good for it. Stop by and say "Hi!" It's a good time for all and it really helps St. Pius out.

Thank you to everybody and I wish you all well.

Vivat Jesus

## Important information about this newsletter.

This and the May/June issue of the Grotto most probably will be the last editions of our Grotto newsletter. According to my information, we have been circulating a newsletter for 69 years! After 16 years our current editor has decided that we need a fresh body to take over, and as of January 2024, no one has come forward. This and additionally, all of the information in the Grotto can also be found on our web site located at [www.kofc2901.com](http://www.kofc2901.com). We and many other K of C councils are totally electronic these days so it may be time we joined the crowd. Unfortunately, we know that many of our older readers may not be fluent with a web site or social media in general, and it is our hope that we don't lose anyone because of this. Money is not what is driving this decision, but it is manpower allocation. Also, we are spending money publishing a paper copy and paying for a web site that has the same data, so we are wasting money.

Our web site is very intuitive. Once you open a web browser such as Firefox, Edge or Safari (on iPhones), you simply type in the URL listed above ([www.kofc2901.com](http://www.kofc2901.com)). URL stands for Uniform Resource Locator (Geek talk!!) Once you successfully go to our web site, you are on what is known as the "Home" page. Just below the name of our council, you will find sub-menus across the top. These are listed as "home", "Officers and Chairmen", "Grotto Newsletter", "Family to Family basket request form", "Links", "Contact Us", and "Pictures". On a PC, if you hover over some of these menu items, you will find sub-menus under them. For example, under the "Officers and Chairmen" heading you will also find listings for Past Grand Knights, PGK Pictures and Deceased Council Members. Clicking any of these 4 items will take you to a new page with information suggested by the title of the menu item. You should know that the top headings do not change when you go from page to page so you can easily go back to the home page or any other page by clicking again at the top.

The top menus are not the only thing that you can click on to go to more info. For example, at the home page, an item is listed in red that says "Click here for more details". Clicking here takes you to a non-menu listed page, but again the top menu items are still available to go back or to another page. One way to determine if a word or phrase will take you to a new location of file, is that when you move you mouse cursor over the word or phrase, the cursor turns from an arrow to a hand.

Our "Links" page is almost entirely made up of clickable files or new web sites, which by the way, exit you from our web site and place you in another web site. Some items on the "Links" page are password protected files, available only by contacting the Financial Secretary for the password. This is because these are sensitive financial or member contact files, not for everyone who is not a Notre Dame member. Our web site otherwise, is open to anyone on the web. And we maintain a menu item listed as "Contact Us", which takes you to a form to fill out for possibly joining the council, so we want outsiders (non Knights), to be able to send us their contact information, which would not be available if our entire site was password protected.

One additional item is that the majority of our downloadable files are in Adobe Acrobat reader format, which is free on the internet for almost every known type of computer or phone. And iPhones automatically open Acrobat files without downloading an app. For the free PC Adobe Acrobat reader, go to <https://get.adobe.com/reader/> and follow the instructions.

Occasionally, an item may take you to an obsolete item, such as when a web site outside ours, changes their URL. If this happens, go to the contact page and let us know so we can fix it. Also, our Family to Family page may not be available until November since this is an event that is only held at Christmas time and not appropriate the rest of the year, so don't be alarmed if it disappears from the menu system or you are locked out.

## Sick, Memorial & Congratulatory

**Sick-Treasurer** John Morrison is recovering from a car accident. Carol Miller, wife of Greg Miller is in GBMC hospital. Continue to pray for Regina Riely, who is suffering in a nursing home. Trustee Bert Peters has a brother-in-law recovering from an operation and could use your prayers as well.

### March

2 Rev William P Foley 77  
 4 Br. Frenz Belleza 32  
 4 Br. Bradley C Eastham 47  
 4 Br. Michael F Slawinski 59  
 8 Br. Charles L Hill 76  
 10 Br. Donald E Kyne Jr 64  
 11 Rev Michel Ngantchop 48  
 12 Br. Ricardo Gonzales 74  
 13 Br. Daniel T Mc Hugh 58  
 14 Br. John M Davis Jr 65  
 18 Br. Stephen E Cohill 70  
 19 Br. Raymond Infussi 58  
 19 Br. Mark B Mckenzie 50  
 22 Br. Pat Wiglesworth 81  
 23 PGK Joe Olszewski 74  
 24 Br. George J Mikulski 70  
 24 Br. Stephen A Morgan 37  
 31 Br. Carroll J Fitzgerald 89

### April

4 Br. Richard J Holzman 58  
 8 Br. Nicholas A Fuhr 55  
 8 Br. Timothy M Sibol 63  
 10 Br. Robert J Flores 72  
 12 PGK Joseph P Sirera 91  
 12 Br. Michael G Wise 69  
 12 Br. Donald F Yakel Jr 63  
 14 Dea Patrick Woods 50  
 16 Br. Henry J Jerscheid 65  
 18 Br. George Hollenack 90  
 19 PGK Nelson Arnold Jr 84  
 21 Br. Peter D Zirpolo 60  
 26 Stephen J Mc Hugh 62



### March

4 PGK James A Johnson 18  
 23 Br. Joseph F Schmitz 45  
 25 Br. Daniel T Mc Hugh 29  
 31 Br. Bill Macsherry 17

### April

4 Br. Stephen E Cohill 43  
 5 Br. John P Havrilak Jr 38  
 16 Dr Nicholas W Morog 30  
 22 Br. David J Haller 28  
 23 Br. J Patrick Frank 46  
 26 Br. Paul B Schmitz 49  
 30 Br. Thomas M Aberle 30

*Happy Anniversary!*

## Program Director

Jere Danaher PGK PFN FDD PCP  
 443-495-2146 jeredanaher@gmail.com

We have a few things coming up at this time of year. Many are going to be centered around the Easter which falls on March 31st this year. Normally we would have a 5th Sunday but Easter is a time for families to celebrate together, so we will forgo this until the next 5th Sunday which is in June.

February 23, March 1, 8, 15, 22 are Friday nights when there are Stations of the Cross at St. Pius X, and the Knights have been asked to provide soup and bread from 5-6PM, which is just before Stations start at 6PM. Call Barry Schech if you can make soup one Friday. The council will reimburse you for any expenditures.

March 27th is usually the Seder at St. Mary but it has been cancelled for lack of interest.

April 19th to 21st. St. Pius X will be hosting their carnival again this year and have asked the Knights to man the beer and wine stand again. Usually the schedule is Friday from 6-10PM, Saturday from Noon-10PM and Sunday from noon to 6 PM. We probably need 3 Knights both Friday and Sunday. On Saturday we need 3 Knights from noon to 5, then another 3 from 5-10PM. Call Barry Schech to volunteer for any of the times

## Financial Secretary Report

Barry Schech PGK FDD PFN 410-377-0390 bschech@yahoo.com

Easter is almost upon us. By this time (March), all dues should have been paid and it will be the decision of the membership and retention chairman about the status of any delinquent accounts. Lately, Supreme has come up with the "Affiliate" program, whereby a delinquent or non-responsive member is transferred out from the council's roster and placed on a MD State roster. This is in the hope that these members will once again become viable members and transfer back into a council, not necessarily the original council however. I have been told that someone from the MD State council calls these individuals frequently to try and cajole them back into the fold. I don't think that I would want any more robo-calls and I assume that you don't either! So the moral is, stay in touch and pay your dues!

We would never suspend anyone based on the inability to pay dues, assuming this is the only reason. But lately, we find a total lack of cooperation from a large portion of our members. It has been left to maybe a dozen members to carry out the programs our council is known for. We realize that age has a lot to do with this and never expect our older brothers to exert themselves. However, we have three trustees that are octogenarians! They seem to be able and find the time to serve the council, so why can't anyone who is younger? We face the dilemma that many of the things we do, may not be done in the future due to manpower issues. If you read the front page article, we are most probably losing our newsletter after this fraternal year (June 30th). We did not have the available manpower to have a seminarian appreciation dinner this fall and were hoping to have this in the spring. Will this go by the way side? A few years ago, we lost our tootsie roll chairman, due to age, and nobody stepped up. The money we collected went to special needs children. So we stopped helping children and seminarians. What's next? Do we stop feeding the hungry? Luckily, we still were able to provide coats for the little children for winter.

Didn't one of the Gospels say that as Christians, we should clothe the naked, feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, care for those less fortunate than us! It seems that we go to church on Sunday and then we forget about everything we learned until the next Sunday. And that assumes that all Catholics are attending church on Sunday! On top of this, as Knights, who have been called by the Pope to be His "Right Hand", we are supposed to be above this and be setting an example for all Catholics, by our good works and charity. I know, I have heard it all before: I work late, I have kids, I don't have time, etc. etc. etc. The council would be happy to see anyone in addition to the same old faces we see at every meeting, every event, every 5th Sunday and on an on. If we don't do something, the active members we have will age out, there will be nobody volunteering as officers and chairmen, much less attending or helping at charities. Our council will die a slow death and our 80 year legacy will stop. The only thing left will be 5 scholarships (maybe) in the name of Notre Dame council #2901, which will be a ghost council with no body and no soul left.

*"Volunteering is an act of heroism on a grand scale. And it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds; it changes the odds." -Bill Clinton*

## District Deputy

Gregory Lynch PGK PFN 410-596-5872 glynch7612@gmail.com

Brothers and Sisters of Notre Dame council as we journey through this Lenten season continue to Cry the Gospel with your lives. Don't forget to check on our friends that we have not seen in a while. Also prayerfully think about taking a position in the council to help lead it. I look forward to seeing you at your meetings and functions.

## What we have been doing since the last Grotto



Council Christmas Party-We had another great time in Genesis Hall. The food, drinks and games were outstanding again. Many thanks to those who helped provide them; Bert & Maureen, Jere & Chris, Greg Leftwich, Greg Lynch, Barry & Kathy. Unfortunately, we had so much fun that we forgot to take a lot of pictures. But the most important picture we took is our yearly gift to our Chaplain, Father Joseph Simmons. He has done so much for us and our Assembly for so long, that it is the least we can do.



Not many times do we get the opportunity to present an Honorary Life card to a member. Usually they are not a very active member due to age or even an infirmity. But our Grand Knight Tom Welzant was able to present a HL card to Dr. John Butt, who is not only active but he and his wife Linda are a mainstay of our Faith Chairmanship. We can always count on them to help us with this most important ministry. Congratulations John!



### Family to Family 2023

This is one of our most important charities that we do, and a most fulfilling one, especially since it happens at Christmastime. Once again, our Chairman Dan Mandeville put together another exceptional showing. Shown above, top left, is the Friday before distribution, when we receive our food and arrange it on table for Sunday. You can also see in that picture the big change we made, we went to grocery bags instead of boxes and it seemed to be an overwhelming success. Plus it takes less room in the cars on pickup. In the top right picture, you can spot our chairman. He is the one with the red cap! Bottom left, surprise! An old timer decided to show up! George Hollenack came back to help us out once again. George was the chairman of F to F for so many years before his Grand-Son Dan took it over under his fine tutelage. The lower right picture shows how many people just love this cause and come back every year to assist.

**Thanks to everyone~ on behalf of those hungry people we served! May God bless everyone.**

**Knights of Columbus**  
**Notre Dame Council #2901**  
**801 Regester Ave.**  
**Balto. MD 21239**

March Knight of the month– Bert Peters PGK  
 April Knight of the month– Joe Riely Jr.

March Family of the month– Morrison family  
 April Family of the month– Danaher family

**Calendar of Events Quick Look**

**March**

- 1. Adoration/Benediction 8-11AM St. Pius X
- 5. Council planning/business meeting 6:30/7:30PM Genesis Hall St. Pius X
- 27. Seder St. Mary—~~CANCELLED~~
- 31. Easter

**April**

- 2. Council planning/business meeting 6:30/7:30PM Genesis Hall St. Pius X Nominations/budget proposal
- 5. Adoration/Benediction 8-11AM St. Pius X
- 19-21. St. Pius X Carnival drink stand (various times)



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**Michael Duffy**

*Field Agent*

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michael.duffy@kofc.org



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**4th Degree Charles Carroll of Carrollton Assembly, No. 375**  
*FN : Peter Hammerer*

Schedule:

- Mar 25th 7:30 PM St. Pius X Church Genesis Hall ~ IN PERSON
- April 22nd 7:30 PM St. Pius X Church Genesis Hall ~ IN PERSON

Please visit <http://www.ccofc375.wixsite.com/my-site> for more information on the Assembly.

