



The Blue Mantle



Knights Of Columbus
Mater Dei Council #9774
www.geocities.com/materdei9774

August 2008
Assumption of Mary

Knights of Columbus
Mater Dei Council
#9774

Inside this issue:

GK's Message	1
DD's Report	2
Blood, Bridge, Insur.	3
Installation, Picnic	4

Pope on Assumption

"The feast of the Assumption is a day of joy. God has won. Love has won. It has won life. Love has shown that it is stronger than death, that God possesses the true strength and that his strength is goodness and love.

Mary was taken up body and soul into heaven: There is even room in God for the body. Heaven is no longer a very remote sphere unknown to us.

We have a Mother in heaven. And the Mother of God, the Mother of the Son of God, is our Mother. He himself has said so. He made her our Mother when he said to the disciple and to all of us: "*Behold, your Mother!*" We have a Mother in heaven. Heaven is open, heaven has a heart." (Aug 16, 2005)

GK's Message

My brothers all,
As you all know, July was a quieter month than usual. We had the first Executive Meeting and Business Meeting of the Fraternal Year. I attended my first District 18 meeting and Bishop McNamara Chapter Meeting as Grand Knight. I met many of the highest ranking Knights in the State of Maryland, and I learned a lot at those meetings. We finished off July playing cards during our Social Meeting. Once again, that was a good time had by all.

August promises to heat up in term of Knights of Columbus events. We start off on July 30th, with the annual Maryland State Council Membership and Programs Seminar at the new Good Counsel HS in Olney. This is when all the State Officers come down to brief all the councils on how to improve membership and what programs/events

each council can sponsor during the fraternal year.

At the August 5th Executive Meeting, we will conduct our Semiannual Audit to help all the council officers and members understand the state of Mater Dei Council as it relates to finances and membership.

On August 6th, we will have our first Blood Drive of the fraternal year. This will be our first Blood Drive conducted by Inova Health Center, and it will be the first Blood Drive led by our new Blood Drive Coordinator, Mike Donahue. The Blood Drive will take place in the Trumpet Room, and we will need as many Knights as possible to give blood this time.

On August 16th we will finally have our Installation Ceremony, Mass, and Dinner at St. Raphael's Church and Trumpet Room. This may be the latest date of the Installation that Mater Dei Council has had.

During the month of August, we will have a Manna Food Drive for the first time in years. Several years ago, Mater Dei

Council used to conduct a food drive for the benefit of Manna Foods. Manna Foods provides for the poor and hungry people in Montgomery County. Bill Wilkinson and Tom Schneider will chair the Manna Food Drive this year. See the Manna Food Drive article in the issue for more details.

The Tootsie Roll Campaign takes place in October, but the planning begins now. Don Novotny has agreed to run the Tootsie Roll Campaign again, but he will need lots of help getting started. Sign up early with Don, help him out, and you might get to work at your favorite store during the Tootsie Roll Campaign.

This month, you will see an envelope inside the Blue Mantle. This is an opportunity for you to receive a tax deduction by making a donation to the Maryland State Council Charity Fund. Just write a check for any amount you wish, write
(Continued on page 2)

Council No. 9774 on the front of the envelope, and mail it in to the address shown. (Please do not use this envelope for your membership renewal or raffle tickets. Those will just get lost.) Please see the related article inside for more details.

We finish off this month with our 3rd annual Mater Dei Council End-of-Summer picnic at the

Duffy Community Center. The last two years, we had 40-50 Knights and their families attend, and the weather has been perfect. Let's pray that we get good weather again.

I finish off this report by thanking Dick Eckenrode for all the work he has done on the Blood Drives the past few years. Dick has happily moved on to Colorado

Springs. As a token of our appreciation, we nominated Dick and his wife, Catherine as our Family of the Month.

Fraternally,
Bob McCaffrey
Grand Knight

DD's Report



In the words of some famous philosopher: "And they are off... like a herd of turtles!"

But seriously, we are off, and not necessarily that slowly either. We managed a respectable DDs and GK's Seminar at Mount St. Mary's College in late June. I hope the attending Grand Knights got a good introduction to what is expected from them. I know I did.

In July my wife and I had the pleasure of meeting many of you at the Installation of Officers for St. Elizabeth and Rock Creek Councils. This month we will have those for St. Joseph Manyanet and Mater Dei Councils. We look forward to visiting them and meeting many more good Knights and their Ladies at such wonderful occasions.

Even before my term officially started, the State Council

requested the dates our District's 1st and 2nd Degrees. We originally intended to have at least one 1st Degree every month, but with only three Degree Teams it wasn't possible. Still, I am happy to report that St. Elizabeth of Rockville Council intends to establish its own team. I have already offered my help and expect to have a few training sessions before they hold their own 1st First Degree. Congratulations, brothers!

As you see, no prospective member should have to wait more than two or three weeks before he is admitted into the Order. We all should take advantage of the exemplifications offered in neighboring councils. An Officer from the candidate's Council, and hopefully the proposer, should accompany each one. The sense that they BELONG to, and are part of, a FAMILY will greatly enhance the lessons learned at each Degree. And remember that other members of the Council may also attend and are encouraged to do so, in fact. This month, St. Joseph Manyanet Council will hold a 1st Degree on August 28.

The Membership and Pro-

grams Seminar at Good Counsel High School in Olney will have passed by the time you receive this. Such are the problems we have to deal with deadlines, printings schedules, and mailing of newsletters. I really hope many officers and chairmen from our councils did manage to attend and gather knowledge and tools to better run their programs.

The rest of you, brother knights, do plan to lend your hand, time and talents, as they are needed throughout this Columbian Year. Either our Worthy District Warden or I (sometimes both of us) will be at your Council meetings, and look forward not only to witnessing the work of each Council, giving our word of advice if needed, but especially to having the opportunity to meet and socialize with each of you.

Mary, Queen of the Knights, pray for us.

E. Roberto Ibáñez
District Deputy No. 18

Any Bridge Player?

For several years we have had three bridge groups playing on weekend nights at the home of the host Council member. All levels of play are welcome and affords a great opportunity to socialize with brothers and their spouses. We maintain a list of substitutes to fill in when the regulars cannot play. Are you interested in playing as a sub or starting another Council group? Good way for new members who have recently joined the Knights to get involved in Council activities. Please call Tony Cammarota at 301-424-6138 for more information.

Tony

MD Council Newsletter

Brothers please follow the attached link to gain access to the Maryland State council July newsletter. I encourage you to distribute this information to all of the members of your council. I would also ask you to distribute this via your own newsletter. It is the goal of the State Deputy to widen the use of the Maryland State Council Yahoo Group to as many brothers as possible.

Joining the group is easy, and is completely free. Furthermore it is the official mechanism for State communications. If you and your membership have any difficulties

joining the state Yahoo group please feel free to contact me for assistance

Click or Copy this following string to the address bar of you Internet browser

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MDstatecouncil/files/State-Bulletins-2008-2009/>

Thanks

John Winfrey (FDD, PGK, PFN, DM)

Maryland State Yahoo Group Administrator
(301) 345-3794

Blood Drive

The next Red Cross blood drive sponsored by the K of C will be held in the Trumpet Room Wednesday August 6, 2008 from 5 to 9 pm.

Donors are urgently needed and should make appointments by calling Michael Donahue at 202-821-3046 or emailing mpdonahue@comcast.net

Volunteers are also needed to staff the appointment table before and after masses August 3, to help out the evening of the drive and to make solicitation and reminder phone calls. Volunteers can sign up by calling or emailing the above number or address.

Fraternal Benefits

A WAY OF LIFE

When was the last time you wife went shopping for the day and left you to mind the children? How would you handle this responsibility day after day, plus having to work?

When I ask this question, I find that most of our members have closed their minds to this possibility. Unfortunately, it does happen, you know. No man likes to place a monetary value on his spouse. But money is the only thing that will give you a fighting chance to keep a semblance of

a home for your kids should anything happen to your wife.

Many insurance men call it "wife insurance". I like to call it "way of life" insurance. Call me today for an appointment.

Fraternally,

Rick Morin, FICF, CSA
301.384.7627

Installation of Officers

On Saturday, August 16, at 4:00PM, Mater Dei Council will conduct the Installation of Council Officers in St. Raphael's Church. The Installation will be followed by the regular 5:00PM mass. After mass, Mater Dei Council will celebrate with the Installation Dinner in the Trumpet Room.

Council officers will wear business suits to the Installation and Dinner. Ladies will wear summer dress. The cost for the Installation Dinner is \$20.00 per family. We hope that you will be able to join us on this special occasion and look forward to seeing you. Please RSVP to Bob McCaffrey at (301) 251-5225 or bmac38@yahoo.com.

3rd Annual end-of-summer Family Cookout

The Knights of Columbus Mater Dei Council will host its 3rd Annual End-of-Summer Family Cookout on August 21st. All Knights, their families, and those who are interested in the Knights of Columbus are welcome to attend. The picnic will begin at 7:00pm behind St. Raphael's school. This year menu is Texas BBQ: Beef Brisket, Chicken and Ribs with all the trimmings.

If you and your family are interested and plan to attend, please RSVP to Don Titzman, 301-545-1910 or don.titzman@occ.treas.gov by August 15th.

Donations to cover the cost of food will gladly be accepted. We look forward to seeing you there!

Tax Deduction Opportunity

How would like to lower your taxes next year?

One of the ways you can do it is by making a donation to the Maryland State Council Charity Fund using the enclosed envelope found in the Blue Mantle. The purpose of the Charity Fund is "To provide financial assistance to individuals in temporary urgent need" in the name of the Knights of Columbus of Maryland. The Fund is intended to be a "bridge" to financial recovery and does not take on long-term cases. It is designed to supplement the Mater Dei Council charity fund.

The Maryland State Council Charity Fund operates using only the Tax Deductible donations from Knights, Councils, Districts, Memorial Funds, and special sponsored events. You may make a donation of any value by writing a check to the "Maryland State Council Charity Fund", and mailing it in the enclosed envelope. Please be sure to write Council No. 9774 in the space provided on the front of the envelope.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact:

Bob McCaffrey, 301-251-5225, bmac38@yahoo.com
Roberto Ibanez, DD, 301-445-3238,

eribanez@comcast.net

Johnny Norman, 301-645-3967, normpj@verizon.net

Pat Corcoran, 410-588-5880, pecorcoran@comcast.net

Don't forget Mary

"If the place occupied by Mary has been essential to the equilibrium of the Faith, today it is urgent, as in few other epochs of the Church, to rediscover that place."

"As a young theologian in the time before (and also during) the Council, I had, as many did then and still do today, some reservations in regard to certain ancient formulas, as, for example, that famous *De Maria nunquam satis*, 'concerning Mary one can never say enough.' It seemed exaggerated to me. So it was difficult for me later to understand the true meaning of another famous expression (current in the Church since the first centuries when—after a memorable dispute—the Council of Ephesus, in 431, had proclaimed Mary *Theotokos*, Mother of God). The declaration, namely, that designated the Virgin as 'the conqueror of all heresies.' Now—in this confused period where truly every type of heretical aberration seems to be pressing upon the doors of the authentic faith—now I understand that it was not a matter of pious exaggerations, but of truths that today are more valid than ever."

Pope Benedict XVI, "*The Ratzinger Report*", 1985

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Message Board

- Please note the date change for the Family Picnic from August 28 to 21st.
- Articles are due on the 25th by 5pm. Whenever possible, please submit early.
- "As the most glorious Mother of Christ, our Savior and God and the giver of life and immortality, has been endowed with life by him, she has received an eternal incorruptibility of the body together with him who has raised her up from the tomb and has taken her up to himself in a way known only to him." *Modestus of Jerusalem, Encomium in dormitionem Sanctissimae Dominae nostrae Deiparae semperque Virginis Mariae (PG 86-II,3306), (ante A.D. 634).*

Schedule of Events: August-September 2008

Tue Aug 5 Executive Meeting, 7:30pm-10pm, DCC

Wed Aug 6 Blood Drive, 4pm-10pm, DCC

Thu Aug 14, Business Meeting, 8pm-10pm, DCC

Date TBD, Manna Food Drive

Fri Aug 15 Assumption, Holy day of Obligation

Sat Aug 16 Installation Dinner, 6pm-10pm, Trumpet

Wed Aug 20 McNamara, Patuxent #2203, Laurel

Thu Aug 21, Family Picnic, 7pm-10pm, St Raphael

Tue Sep 2 Executive Meeting, 7:30pm-10pm, U Room

Thu Sep 11, Business Meeting, 8pm-10pm, Youth C.

Sat Sep 13 Installation Dinner, 6pm-10pm, Trumpet

Thu Sep 25 Social (Speaker), 6pm-10pm, DCC

Sun Sep 28 Parish Picnic



Assumption

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