

The Blue Mantle



Mater Dei Council 9774 - Knights of Columbus - Rockville, Maryland
Council Meetings - 2nd and 4th Thursday - 8:00 p.m. - St. Raphael's Duffy Community Center

www.geocities.com/materdei9774

**JANUARY
FEBRUARY
2005**

From the Grand Knight's Station

My Brothers All,

What a great start to the Christmas season and the New Year we had with the Christmas party! Mater Dei Council was able to raise approximately \$2000.00 for Seminarian support. What better way to support our priests than to facilitate their educational process! Special thanks to Will Adams and Tom Schneider for putting together a wonderful evening.

It seems that the end of one year and the beginning of another creep up so quickly that you no sooner turn around and it's done. The fall has been a busy time for our Council with many big projects to be done. My thanks to all of you who gave your time and effort so selflessly over these months. I especially appreciate the help of Worthy DGK Pat Degraba who stepped up to the plate to pinch hit for me so many times over the past few months. Many thanks, Brother.

January brings the Annual March for Life on January 22. This is another opportunity to show your faith and support repeal of the laws that permit the taking of the innocent lives of the unborn. Legalized abortion is a crime against humanity and whatever we can do to end it is important.

January is also the month to start planning for the Annual Garage to Attic Sale coming up in February. As those of you who have participated in it know, this is a huge endeavor that requires the efforts of many people. The work starts on the Friday before the event and culminates around three the following Saturday afternoon. While everyone works hard, there is a great deal of fun involved in participating with friends in a joint effort to benefit those less fortunate. Over the years, Mater Dei has raised well over \$100,000 for local charities.

Also coming up in February is the Annual Tootsie Roll Awards Banquet. Mater Dei will be hosting this event this year. Please read the details on this event and plan on helping our Council make this a success for the many deserving charities that help the mentally handicapped.

May God bless and keep you and yours in the New Year! Mary, Queen of the Knights, pray for us now and always.

John Cavallo
Grand Knight

PRO- LIFE MARCH PLANS:

St. Raphaels will again host out of area marchers for the March for Life in Washington, DC January 24. The Trumpet Room and Youth Center will be used. In the past, we have served breakfasts and provided bag lunches for the marchers. Arrangements are in charge of the St. Raphaels Pro Life Committee.

Mater Dei Council will again have the opportunity to join the Pro Life Group in this project. In previous years, brothers have welcomed the groups, transported and served food, and otherwise helped out.

The Archdiocese Pro Life Office was pleased to include St. Raphaels in the project, because there are many more requests than there is space, said Ellen Sarnecky, of the Pro Life office. Hotel space is scarce because of the march, and some of the visitors wouldn't be able to afford the trip, without help such as ours.

So far, groups from DeSales University in Pennsylvania; Quincy University, Illinois; and Cornell, New York, have called us to request housing. The total number from the groups is now about 40. We can accommodate about 75-80.

More details at the January 4 Exec. Board meeting.

Tom Buck Pro Life co-chairperson

District Deputy's Message

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The warm glow of Christmas continues to warm our hearts. What a special gift from God we continue to celebrate as a new year dawns... the necessary precedent to His Passion and our salvation! There is much to be thankful for, and much we each can do to help those who are needy, are suffering, or are lonely, as a way to show our Lord our true joy for His gift. Share a few moments with someone who is lonely, console someone who suffers, help those who are needy, and allow the unfathomable love that Jesus has for each one of us guide your footsteps. Vivat Jesus!

As we prepare for the State Mid-Term Meeting, each Grand Knight is assessing his Council's progress over the first half of the fraternal year and revisiting plans for the six months ahead. Together, you have done much. Over a dozen new men, including a priest, have joined the Order within our District. A successful soccer shootout program was conducted. Various memorial services to our fallen Brother Knights and Ladies were held. Several Councils exceeded past totals for "Tootsie Roll" collections to help the mentally handicapped. Significant funds were collected to support seminarians. The tradition continues. I convey to each of you my congratulations and appreciation.

Looking forward, our Councils have much planned. I encourage you and your families to participate in your Council's events, and volunteer to help where needed. Be a part of the great energy within our Councils. January brings basketball free-throw competitions for youth in area gyms, and numerous activities associated with the March for Life. We also will conduct a Second Degree Exemplification on January 6 and a Third Degree Exemplification on January 7, both at Rock Creek Council. This is the best opportunity for us to usher our First and Second Degree members into full Knighthood within our Order. On February 12, the annual Tootsie Roll Awards Dinner, at which the Councils of Montgomery County hand out the collected funds to various entities supporting the mentally handicapped, will be held at St. Raphael's Catholic Church. Be a part of this exceptional event that demonstrates the best of being a Knight! March 6th brings the annual Fourth Degree Exemplification for the Archdiocese of Washington District. Over a dozen men from our area have already indicated their intent to become "Sir Knights" that day. We can always use a few more good men in the Cardinal O'Boyle and Sullivan Brothers Assemblies, and their respective Color Corps. Consider joining us!

In closing, let me encourage each of you to reach out to a Catholic man, in good standing with the Holy See, and ask him to join the Order. Share the experience of a lifetime! Nona and I wish you and your family a Happy, Prosperous, and Faith-Filled New Year.

Vivat Jesus!

District Deputy Mike Perez

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Brother Knights – As the New Year is beginning, I want to give you update on the progress we at Mater Dei Council has made on membership. During the first half of this council year we have had 14 men join our council through new membership or reactivation into the Knights of Columbus. This effort by our recruitment team at St Raphael's and Our Lady of Mercy has been outstanding, and I want to thank all those men involved in providing time and support during the October membership blitz, the open

houses, coffee and donuts, and the First Degree ceremonies. The guidance of brothers Bill Wilkinson and PGK Dick Jasinski has been very much appreciated during this time.

On February 6th the Knights will be hosting Coffee and Donuts at St. Raphael's. We will have an Open House on February 8th and a First Degree ceremony on February 10th. We will need a strong showing at these events to keep the membership momentum going in 2005. We look forward to your support at these events.

Volunteers Needed to Help with Blood Drive:

The Knights of Columbus will host the parish blood drive Thursday, January 27, 2005. We are seeking volunteers to help register donors after all Saturday and Sunday Masses on the weekend of January 15/16 and to help out on the day of the drive. Please contact Tom Sherman (301-340-2042 or MTPtnrs@aol.com) if you can lend a hand or if you wish to donate blood.

FRATERNAL BENEFITS

GET ALL THE FACTS

If any agent or representative of another company suggests that you cash in or discontinue paying premiums on your Knights of Columbus insurance policy, please call me immediately.

Why? Because the replacement of one policy with another can cost you substantial amounts of money! You may have accumulated cash values and dividends in your present policy that would take years to build up in a new one.

Losing money may not be the only problem. Your existing policy probably has guaranteed options which are more favorable to you and your beneficiaries than those in a new policy. And if your financial needs have changed, there's a good chance that the old policy can be adjusted to meet your current situation.

Should a replacement attempt be made, be sure that you have all the facts. Call me and give us the opportunity to review the replacement proposal with you so you will have both sides of the story.

Then you can make a financially sound decision.

Fraternally,

Rick Morin, FICF/LUTCF
Your K of C Agent
301.384.7627

Please take the time to introduce yourself to our new members at Mater Dei, and again thank you for all your support on recruitment and membership in the Knights.

Scott Graham
Chancellor – Membership Director

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2005 - MARCH 2005

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| <p>Jan. 4 Executive Board Meeting - DCC - 7:30 pm</p> <p>Jan. 8 State Mid-Term Meeting</p> <p>Jan. 13 Council Business Meeting - DCC - 8 p.m</p> <p>Jan. 21 March for Life</p> <p>Jan. 27 Council Social Meeting - DCC - 8 pm</p> <p>January events to be scheduled:
Basketball Free Throw
Winter Blood Drive</p> <p>Feb. 1 Executive Board Meeting - DCC - 7:30 pm</p> <p>Feb. 6 Council hosts Coffee and Doughnuts after Sunday Masses - St. Raphael's Trumpet Room</p> | <p>Feb. 8 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - St. Raphael Trumpet Room - 6 pm</p> <p>Feb. 8 Membership Recruitment Open House - 7:30 pm DCC Classroom 1</p> <p>Feb. 10 Council Business Meeting - DCC - 8 p.m
First Degree Exemplification</p> <p>Feb. 24 Council Social Meeting - DCC - 8 pm</p> <p>Feb. 25 Garage to Attic Sale Set-up - Trumpet Room & DCC
9 am to 8 pm - (or when the job's done).</p> <p>Feb. 26 GARAGE TO ATTIC SALE - 8 am to 7 pm</p> |
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March Highlights Council Hosts Second Degree Council Anniversary Dinner/Dance

THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE MARCH 2005.

All articles for the MARCH Issue
must be received by the Editor by
Sunday, February 27 , 6:00 P.M.
w-hunter01@comcast.net

E-MAIL ADDRESS ? ?

Does the Financial Secretary have your e-mail address?
Please advise Eric Gregich at eric.kofc@verizon.net
if you now have e-mail, or have a change of e-mail
address.

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Happy New Year

Plan Ahead !

Garage to Attic

Sale February 26

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FEBRUARY 2005**



The Blue Mantle
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