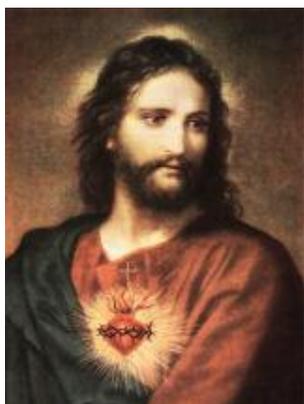




Needham Knights News

Newsletter of the
Father Daniel J. Kennedy- Needham Council 1611 January, 2019



*Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, truly present in the
Holy Eucharist,
I place my trust in you!*

Dear Brother Knights:

Vivat Jesus!

Happy New Year. Following is the first newsletter of 2019 and best wishes to all recipients. May your year be happy and prosperous and hopeful for the good news of our faith. Our message is both fraternal and hopeful as we size up the challenges and opportunities ahead. Our council is strong and 2019 is another opportunity to contribute to our works, increase our numbers and expand our influence as a force for good in our local community and the larger society. We are grateful for the past year and we are pleased to have qualified for Star Council, a recognition of the many brothers that have actively worked to improve our Council's influence in the community.

January

Our January meeting was generously hosted by deputy grand knight, Ted Harrigan, who substituted admirably for the traveling grand knight. The evening started with a nice crowd for the excellent dinner provided by co chefs Tom Harkins and Bob Payer, two regular chef volunteers. We have to recognize Tom Harkins as the initiator of meeting night dinners a number of years ago. It has been a great add to the K of C experience in Needham. We appreciate all of PGK Harkins efforts in support of the Council. Thanks to Tom and Bob, and thanks to all who assisted.

Thanks also to the good work by financial Secretary Bob Mullen for a major cleanup of the council's membership rolls. The process of removing people that should not have been on the rolls has taken a number of years. Thanks to Bob's work with Ron Hadley and others that have helped resolve the problem..

Many thanks to brother Ryan Sullivan for leading the free throw contest. This is a long standing event on the council's calendar and one we need to build upon.

This year's turnout of players was weak and we need to work together to see if we can increase youth participation, possibly by teaming up with the youth leagues.. Our outreach to the young people of the community is important and should occupy all of our attention.

Great report from Marty on the turnout for December at Briarwood. Thanks to all who participated. This is a unique opportunity for us to remember older citizens among us and kudos to Marty and all who accompany him monthly. Following is the January report.

We had a good turnout today especially for January. (And the hour was enjoyed greatly by the Briarwood residents.)

Present were:

Paul Bacigalupo
Margaret Pobywajlo
Bob Mullins
Mike Guarin and his saxophones and sons Ben and Tim
Jim Healy
Dan Brennan
Deborah Lovett
Dianne Blisatto
Marty Cunniffe

In February we go on the 16th.

God Bless,

Marty Cunniffe

On January 31 at our Hall we will be hosting the parish evangelical committees and parishioners at a book discussion of the book, "The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity" I urge every member to consider attending. Following is Ken Gustin's communication on this important Council event. Many thanks Ken.

Worthy Brothers,

Please be aware that we are hosting a book discussion in our hall on January 31st at 7:30 PM for the Matthew Kelly book, "The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity" by Matthew Kelly. This book was distributed during Advent by the evangelization committees of both St. Joseph's and St. Bart's after many of the Masses. If you did not receive one and would like to read it please let me know, there are extras available and I'm happy to get you a copy at no cost. Our last collaboration with the evangelization

committees was a huge success and drew equally from both parishes. There is no reason to believe this will be any different.

I expect this to be a lively discussion, so please join us if you can. We'll provide coffee and I may bring something sweet to snack on. This is another opportunity for us to be visible to our neighbors and let them get to know us a bit. The more of us who can participate the better!

Visibility -> Awareness -> Interest ->New Members!

Vivat Jesus!

Ken Gustin

Ken states it well. It's great that the Daniel Kennedy council is the host. It is even better if our members participate and demonstrate our values.

January also marked the death of our brother Frank McConnell. Frank was a long time member and his beautiful family reached out to us upon his passing. May he rest in peace and let's keep him and his family in our thoughts and prayers. Many thanks for DGK Ted Harrigan for representing us at Frank's wake.

Brothers, our most sacred duty is to our brother's families, at times of need. That is the founding principle of our order. In order to be able to be responsive to such events in the future, I propose that we initiate a permanent sick and vigil committee that will be responsible to respond to families in cases of illness, death or other extraordinary event. If a few among us would volunteer for such a committee, I would very much appreciate it. It would provide a team able to be responsive in times of need and summon Council resources to meet any need. Please let me know if you have interest. I know going to wakes is not great fun. It is a way, however for the community to be responsive to families and share in their grief of the moment. Please help with this true need in our council.

February

The February meeting will be on Feb 6. We look forward to a great turnout, as our speaker will be Fr. Dan Hennessey, Vocations Director of the Archdiocese. Fr. Hennessey has been a great friend of our council and is a very interesting speaker.

I wrote the above paragraph last year, and the planned 2018 February meeting was snowed out, and we were unable to reschedule. So this year Fr. Hennessey agreed to join us, as long as it does not snow. Keep your fingers crossed.

Our co chefs will be Chris Kent and Ken Gustin. Sounds like a great winter meal from these experienced and creative chefs. Also, since February is dedicated to vocations and seminarian support, I suggest we make seminarian support our charity of the month. We will have a basket out for your generosity. If you are unable to come to the Super Bowl party, but would like to donate to seminarian support, this will provide an opportunity. Thanks to all in advance for your generosity.

Even before the monthly meeting we will be hosting the big event for February, the annual Super Bowl Party. Our team is in process of presenting one of our more popular events of the year. With the Pats once again successful, seeking their 6th ring, it will be the game of the era. This is a great event and the proceeds are scholarships for seminarians, what could be better during this month in our council history. We are hoping to have some seminarians present.

Following from committee member Ken Gustin. Sorry I can't reproduce the dynamic Pats video here.

Brothers

Now, give yourself a minute to catch your breath! The day is fast approaching! The Patriots continue their quest for a sixth Superbowl title, as week to week they prove their grit and move ever closer to that prize! Come join us on February 3rd in the hall for what will certainly be a great game, and God smiled on us, and it will feature our Patriots once again!

Doors will open at 4:30 with kickoff at 6:00 PM. Admission is \$25 for adults and \$10 for kids 12 and under and includes a \$1 square, a great dinner, mouth watering appetizers, beer and wine at a cash bar, and this year's special surprise, a K of C Chili Championship, featuring up to 10 pots of chili made by various brothers and council friends! Guests will vote for their favorite and a Chili Champion will be crowned at the end of the night! There will be a TV raffle, raffle items, \$5 and \$10 squares, and above all, great company! Net proceeds for the evening will be donated to help our local seminarians as always.

In order to deliver on this great event we're looking for a little help from YOU! We all have different ways we can help. Here are some to consider:

- Help set up the Hall starting mid-day Saturday, Feb 2nd.
- Help Sunday early PM with cooking
- Make a delicious pot of chili and bring it to the hall in a crock pot
- Donate a raffle item (sports tickets, a bottle, gift certificates/cards, or maybe re-gift that thoughtful present you just can't use)
- Work at the event to ensure all goes well
- Bring a dessert to share at the event
- Help clean up at the end of the event
- Other.....

If everyone does just a little, it will once again be a fantastic event! Please contact Bob Timmerman to let him know how/if you can help in any way. timmerman1021@yahoo.com or 781-589-4227.

The event will be publicized in the newspapers, parish bulletins, Patch, Facebook, and our website. So tell your friends and bring them along! As always, details can be found on our website at <https://www.needhamkofc.org/super-bowl-party-2018> and on our Facebook page.

This event is always a great one, and we hope to have a big turnout, a fun time, and hopefully another Championship!

"LET'S GOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!"

Ken Gustin

Finally brothers, please note the following regarding the scholarship committee and planning for 2019.

Dear Brothers:

You are invited to a meeting of leadership and the scholarship committee and to all brothers who wish to attend on Feb 5 at 7:00 PM. The purpose is to launch this year's scholarship cycle with Chair Bill Dermody, and also discuss and plan upcoming council events. All are invited. Make your ideas and wishes part of our planning. If you have input, and are unable to attend, please send me an email with your thoughts.

Many thanks and stay safe this weekend.

Sincerely,

Paul

Grand Knight

Membership.

Last month we had a first degree in our hall for Jude Ogbebor and Jim Sullivan. Jude our newest member and the first of 2019. Jim is a long time member that decided to join Fr. Daniel Kennedy council. Welcome Jude and Jim. We are happy to have you in our ranks. Let's make these the first of many new members in the new year..

Many thanks to Ron Hadley for his leadership. Keep in mind that new members will help us invigorate and expand our work and continue the great efforts of our council over the years. Invite your family members, neighbors, fellow parishioners to consider membership. It's every member's responsibility to build up our council and thereby improve our parish life, our faith and our community.

Note that all of our events, with times and other details, are on the council website, www.needhamkofc.org. We also have a facebook page, please connect and like us. Thanks to Ken Gustin for these communication improvements. They will help us in many ways, especially increasing our visibility in the community and gaining new membership.

* * *

Our society has given us both blessings and reasons for concern. We can thank God for the former and we need to push back on those issues that are a threat to our way of life.

It's regrettable that in this day, a national political leader (s) can question whether a citizen can serve his country faithfully due to his membership in the Knights of Columbus.

The Knights have been a positive societal force for the USA since the beginning over 150 years ago. Either these politicians are ignorant of our history or deliberately deceiving the population.

I would remind them that the Knights of Columbus was the only national social organization that did not have rules specifically excluding black citizens from membership. And thus there are ample reasons to quibble with membership in other organizations, but don't expect anything soon. The elite only tolerate bigotry for Catholics.

I will neither be silent nor acquiescent in the face of attack.

On a more hopeful note, I have been sidetracked from my regular duties by the needs of my family in Maryland, patiently awaiting a new member of the family. Also causing a delay in this month's newsletter. But today, all is well, Eamon Deeley arrived about noon today weighing 6 lbs. 14 oz. Both mom and baby are doing well.

It's a sign of God's love for us.

Fraternally,

Paul

Grand Knight