



Needham Knights News

Newsletter of the Father Daniel J. Kennedy- Needham Council 1611 October, 2017



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

Dear Brother Knights:

Vivat Jesus!

October has been a very busy month for the council with several of our annual activities coming at the same time.

The tootsie roll drive kicked off at St. Joseph parish and will continue next weekend at St. Bartholmew. So far response has been great. We have also scheduled at Trader Joes and Roche Brothers later in the season. Details on the website at www.needhamkofc.org. Be sure to let Tom Fern or Ken Gustin (co-chairs) know of your availability during the collection at retail locations so we can share the burden of a full day of collecting. This is a great way to show our commitment to the disabled and a good chance to gain visibility for our council. Thanks to all who have participated.

Our October meeting was great. Many thanks to our speaker Brother Kevin McGuire, of Integrity Computer Consultants, who gave us much needed information on internet access and security. Also dinner was excellent, thanks to Phil Lavelle and his team. Phil has also signed up as chef for December. Thank you Phil.

We had excellent turnout for the Columbus Day dinner and installation. Thanks to Linda Riley for a great effort. I saw her later and she very much enjoyed the experience and is already talking about the menu for next year's event. Thanks to Mike Riley, Bob Timmerman and DGK Ted Harrigan for a meaningful celebration of our name day and new officers. Thanks to Brian Choate, our District Deputy who came to perform the installation and who gives us great support year round. Our dinner proceeds and meeting donations also benefited the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The treasurer sent a nice check to the organization. All affected by this disease remain in our prayers. Thanks to all who participated.

The fall membership campaign under the leadership of Ron Hadley was quite successful with several new member possibilities at various stages. Thanks to all who helped. If you meet new members at the hall, be sure to give them a nice welcome. Also, keep in mind that recruitment of new members is a year round task, so be sure to invite men that you think would make good members. New members will help realize the charge we received from District Deputy Brian Choate at the installation: to seek renewal of our council. We need new members each month to meet this challenge.

We have had two first degrees at the hall in the last two weeks. Welcome and congratulations to new members Chris Rose and Frank Kortenkemper. Thanks to Ron and his team for putting on the degree.

November

November's meeting will be November 1, also a Holy Day, All Saints Day. Father Dereck reminded me that it's a day we celebrate canonized saints, but also people not canonized who may be saints, possibly people we know and even some from our council. So be sure to attend Mass, and honor all saints. Mass schedules are on the website. Our speaker will be Brother and PGK Mike Riley, who will fill us in on all things sports and we will have many questions about the local teams. Great to have an expert. Also, someone may be able to find out for the meeting, who is the patron saint of professional athletes? I doubt that will be useful for Mike on BZ, but it would be good to know. Chris Kent will be chef for the evening, thanks Chris. Our charity of the month is Puerto Rico relief. The island has been severely damaged from the hurricane and has a long road to recovery. Let's step up to help our brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico. Some of the news has been heart breaking on conditions on the island.

We have been invited to speak to the Wings Group on November 9 at St. Joseph parish. If you have time, join us in the Linse Room at 7:30 PM. Men are invited, it was formerly a women's group, but it has been expanded. Their theme for this year is God's Peace in a chaotic world, with the sub theme trust and faith. They have also provided a scripture passage for guidance, as follows: "I have told you this so that you might have peace in me. In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world." so my title will be "Father McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, does his vision direct us toward peace in our community." I will be working on that and invite you all to join me at the gathering and let me know if you have some ideas of what I might say. It is a great opportunity to increase awareness of the Knights at St Joseph parish and so it is worthy of our time and effort.

It's time to convene the scholarship committee, now that we have budgeted funding for two scholarships. Bill Dermody has agreed to chair and Tom Harkins volunteered to serve. So if any others are interested, let me know and I will include you in the committee meeting invite.

We want to schedule a holy hour during Advent, so if you are interested in helping get this organized, let me know.

Also, I need help in approaching the parish schools about increasing our visibility to the parent populations. As you know for many years we have supported the schools financially. We get a report back on the expenditure, but does anyone in the school community even know that the Knights have provided significant support? Better visibility for our order may help recruit new members. If you would like to join me in further discussion and help on this subject, please let me know. Our vision would be to continue or even increase the financial support, but also have participation in its use, such that the Knights and the school communities interact for mutual benefit.

Also in the last few weeks, we have been in front of St. Joseph Church on K of C business. We noticed that the World War II memorial plaque in the front yard badly needs repainting of the white trim. It's not a big job, but if we could gather some volunteers, let's go over and paint it and make it look great before Veteran's Day. It will be a way to connect in the present and to honor the past.

Don't forget first Saturday at the Hall for the men's discussion group, led by our own DGK, Ted Harrigan. The gathering is an excellent chance to get together and discuss scripture as it applies to our own lives. Well worth the time. Thanks to Ted for his leadership.

Also Marty will be gathering the singers at Briarwood on Saturday October 21 at 2:00 PM for October birthdays of the residents. In November it will be Nov. 18. Always fun and a genuine contribution to our community. Thanks Marty for your service and thanks to our membership for faithful attendance on a monthly basis.

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.

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The theme of peace in our communities, families and within each of us is very worthy of our reflection. We can all benefit by examining how and why the Knight of Columbus values of charity, unity and fraternity leads us to that peace. And also how we individually respond to the opportunities our order provides to live our faith.

Fraternally,

Paul

Grand Knight