



# Needham Knights News

Father Daniel J. Kennedy- Needham Council #1611  
May, 2019



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

Dear Brother Knights:

Vivat Jesus!

Welcome to the month of May, the month we dedicate to Our Blessed Mother in whom we place great trust. If you were with the Knights at St. Joseph's Church on Sunday at the 9:30 Mass, you would have experienced one of the more heartwarming celebrations of our faith, the crowning of the Blessed Virgin. Many thanks to Ted Harrigan and all who participated. Because of rain, we were indoors, but the poignancy of one of our finest young first communicants crowning the Blessed Virgin, with family and friends and co-communicant recipients sprinkled around was such a great faith experience. To all the young folks, best wishes for a faith-filled future, and to my fellow Knights and other parishioners that participated, it was a great, fun, experience.

Any many thanks to the fathers of the first communicants that carried the bier. Their participation made everything even more meaningful. Thank you Ted and all who have preserved this great tradition. We must work to use these events to educate ourselves in the deeper meaning of our faith and to pass on these traditions to another generation.

And with mention of another generation, the Knights enjoyed a great day at Regina Cleri, the retirement home of the priests of the Archdiocese, including our own Msgr. Frank McGann. The next morning Msgr. Frank was concelebrating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of priesthood with three of his classmates. Ad multos annos. The brothers had a great time talking to the priests, serving them delicious ice cream with various sauces, and just enjoying a special time together. Many thanks to Ted Harrigan and Bob van Sichel for their help in organizing and coordinating everyone's participation. Thanks to all who helped out. I know the priests enjoyed it and the Director asked if we could help them celebrate some new additions to their facilities later in the year. Hopefully we will be able to organize a nice barbecue for the priests later this year when they open their new outdoor patio and deck. It's now our ministry to offer our time and attention as these fine men live out their quiet years.

The same evening, we enjoyed a very nice K of C event, a Craft Beer Tasting at our Hall. The event was a huge success artistically, although the attendance was disappointing. Many thanks to Tom Harkins and his committee for making a great effort. The beer selections, the food pairings, and the commentary by Adam Centamore were unparalleled. Adam is a local food, wine and beer expert, presenter and author. Thanks to all who participated.

We had hoped to raise money for local Catholic School Scholarships and this is still a deserving cause that we will come back to in the future. We are pleased to be able to offer scholarships to rising college students in our community, but we recognize our obligation to our local schools as well, and we will deliver on that in the future. I don't want to imply that we ignore our local schools. I just sent two nice checks, proceeds of our St. Patrick's day party to our schools for any needs they may have.

A group of us met together with Fr. John McGlaughlin at the Korean War memorial for recitation of the rosary and prayer in honor of the Korean Martyrs, whose anniversary is May 6. Pope St. John Paul II canonized 103 Korean Martyrs for the Faith. Many thanks to all who were present. It was an opportunity to pray for the martyrs, remember them and their sacrifice and also reprise our rosaries last year for peace in Korea. I still think we have an opportunity for peace in that war torn country and we need to each dedicate ourselves and our regular prayer to that cause. The possibility for a breakthrough in this theater is high and we need to focus our prayers on this situation and ask god's help in solving this long standing issue. In Fr. McGlaughlin's words I ask for your support.

We are gathering here today to ask God and Mary with the help of the Saints to bring peace, unity and happiness to the whole Korean Peninsula. Lord, hear our prayer, Jesus have mercy on those who have died for peace in the Korean Peninsula. Give wisdom to world leaders.

Pope John Paul canonized 103 martyrs for the faith. Following are twelve names from the list: Fr. Andrew Kim, Paul Chong, Bishop Lawrence, Columba Kim, Agnes Kim, Peter Ryau, Peter Yu Tae (13 yrs of age), John Nam Chong, Damien Nam Myong, Mary Yi Hui, John Yi Kwong, Anna Park and 91 others. Don't challenge my spelling. It's Fr. John inspired. Keep the Korean cause in your prayers.

## **May**

Our May meeting was very meaningful and excellent. Thanks especially to Bob van Sickle for preparing a very fine dinner. This was Bob's first chef experience and I heard many complimentary comments on his fine dinner. Man thanks Bob and we look forward to future meals.

We received a number of scholarship applications for the new college scholarships that will be awarded in June. It makes me wonder if help with college education is a critical need not being met by and for the Catholic community. If so, we may want to consider expanding our support for scholarships in the future. The committee, under Bill Dermody's leadership, is considering the applications and will be announcing the winners.

A slate of officers for the new fraternal year beginning in July was presented to the membership by Chair DGK Ted Harrigan. The slate will be voted on at our June meeting. Thank you men for stepping up and taking leadership roles. The new Officers names will appear in the next issue of the "Needham Knights News". There are still needs in the officer lineup and I know our Nominating Committee is hard at work coming up with a full slate for our consideration in June.

Memorial Day will soon be upon us and Bob Timmerman is leading the effort to place flags on the graves of our departed brothers on May 23. I encourage everyone to come to St. Mary Cemetery at 5:00 PM at the entrance to distribute the flags. Keep in mind that we stand on the shoulders of the Knights that came before us. A remembrance is our obligation. Thank you Bob for leading this effort.

## June

This month the meeting will be on Wednesday June 5. Dinner at 6:30, meeting at 8:00. Chris Kent will be barbecuing at 6:30, always a treat.

For Charity this month, I would request all to bring food to the meeting for the Needham Community Council Food Pantry. Recall the executive director telling us the most difficult time for the food pantry is in the summer when many organizations do not meet and collect food. Accordingly, let's help stock up for the summer and make sure our less fortunate neighbors are served. The Center needs all sorts of packaged foods and paper goods, etc. Look at your own grocery list and you will get many ideas. Also we will have a basket and cash will be gratefully received and we will see to it that food is procured.

The scholarship winners and their families will be our invitees, so that will add to the mix. Our guest speaker will be Vaughn Williams, Associate Athletic Director at Boston College and a Needham resident. This was a great experience last year and I am sure the current winners will be the equivalent.

This would be a great meeting to bring your friends and neighbors, fellow parishioners, coworkers, etc. that may have an interest in joining our order. PGK Ron Hadley has had a busy and successful year so far. Let's give him our support in one final push before the fraternal year closes. Thank you Ron for your leadership.

This month, the Men's discussion Group meets on June 1. As we have been discussing evangelization, it appears that the men's discussion group may be a good vehicle for outreach to the community at large. Invite any man that may have an interest, We don't limit attendance to our members only. Meetings are every first Saturday at the Hall starting at 7:00 AM. Thank you DGK Ted Harrigan for your faithfulness to this ministry.

We also provided a nice check to Deacon Paul Wargovich from our Super Bowl Party. We will be providing checks to a couple of other seminarians in the fall. Vocations are a top priority for the Knights. Saturday will be Ordination day for the Archdiocese. Our own Deacon Paul will be

among those ordained. The council voted to acknowledge his sacrifice and service. Priests are critical to the building of the Faith going forward. Our support is part of the picture and is our legacy for generations to come. Thank you brothers.

### **State Knights**

Your Grand Knight recently attended the State Convention. It was a very fine event and within our range, being in Burlington MA this year. It was my pleasure to distribute brochures for our own brother DD Brian Choate who has entered his name as state warden for next year's election. I'm sure my brothers in Fr. Daniel Kennedy Council will support his candidacy and agree that he makes a great dedicated Knight and will be a great addition to the leadership..

### **Membership.**

Consider inviting prospective members to our upcoming meetings. I'm sure there are many men in our circles that would enjoy the charity, unity and fraternity of our order

Note that all of our events, with times and other details, are on the council website, [www.needhamkofc.org](http://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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May is the month we honor the Blessed Virgin and I urge all to pray to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas. After all, Mary appeared in North America long before more recent European apparitions.

Mary's appearance to Juan Diego as one of his people is a powerful reminder that Mary—and the God who sent her—accept all peoples. In the context of the sometimes rude and cruel treatment of the Indians by the Spaniards, the apparition was a rebuke to the Spaniards and an event of vast significance for the indigenous population. While a number of them had converted before this incident, they now came in droves. According to a contemporary chronicler, nine million Indians became Catholic in a very short time. In these days when we hear so much about God's preferential option for the poor, Our Lady of Guadalupe cries out to us that God's love for and identification with the poor is an age-old truth that stems from the Gospel itself.

Fraternally,

Paul

Grand Knight