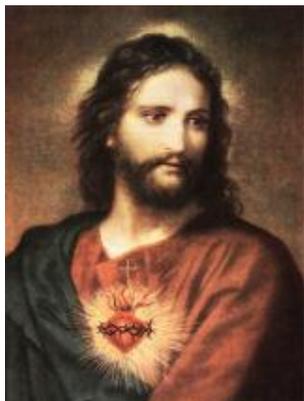




# Needham Knights News

Newsletter of the  
Father Daniel J. Kennedy- Needham Council 1611 December, 2018



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

Dear Brother Knights:

Vivat Jesus!

Merry Christmas to all. I'm hearing the word Christmas mentioned more and more in daily conversation. That is due to efforts of the Knights and others that we as a society are recognizing the true nature of Christmas and why it is important to Christians everywhere. And we are pleased to mention it.

## **December**

We had a great turnout for our December meeting. As I mentioned at our meeting, I hear that Capital Grille is worried about the competition from brothers Bob Timmerman and Chris Kent over their culinary skills. It was a fine dinner and great evening. Thanks to Bob and Chris and all who helped make the evening memorable.

Our speaker, Bishop Deeley, Bishop of Portland, was equally inspiring and gave us a great update on the goals of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops regarding the accountability for abuse due to leadership of Bishops and hierarchy.

Bishop Deeley indicated that back in the summer, the leadership committee chairs of the Bishops Conference began preparations for the meeting in November. Their objective was to develop a proposal that would meet three goals. 1) Establish a method of reporting that people could access to give information or lodge complaints 2) to establish a board of experts, including lay members to review complaints and evaluate reports of behavior of Bishops that require a response. and 3)

to thoroughly investigate the Cardinal McKarrick story that seems to indicate that unacceptable behavior was ignored by the hierarchy over a career.

The Vatican requested that no vote be taken pending a larger Church Meeting scheduled for February 2019. Nevertheless the proposal was debated and new ideas incorporated that make the proposal stronger in acceptance by the body. Bishop Deeley believes that the meeting was a success. He also answered a number of questions that the members raised and helped us understand.

Following the bishops presentation, we welcomed PDD Paul Sullivan to our meeting. Paul came for a very welcome reason, to honor Fr. Daniel Kennedy Council with the Star Council Award for 2017-2018. Congratulations to all on this recognition for our council.

Paul also updated us on a number of State and Supreme Council issues and gave us an update on the use of the Charity funds raised through the Tootsie Roll drive. In addition to local support for projects to support the intellectually challenged, the Knights also support a number of facilities around the State that have capital campaigns. Thank you Paul, we very appreciate your visit to our Hall.

Ron Hadley read two new member applications, Jim Sullivan and Jude Ogbebor. They were both approved for membership. Ron conducted a first degree for Jude last week at the Hall. Jim observed, because he had taken his degrees back in 1963 at the Pittsfield Council. Congratulations and welcome to both. Please make them feel welcome.

It is great for our council to receive two new members and a reminder to all of us that we need to continue to invite men to consider membership and join our council.

We received a very welcomed report on the tootsie roll drive from Tom Fern and Ken Gustin co chairs. Thanks to all who participated and helped so generously to aid the less fortunate. The Knights are to be congratulated for the commitment to families with special needs. We are all grateful for the turnout of volunteers and I believe the numbers showed our largest collection ever, \$6,700. Ken said that 28 of our number participated. That is teamwork. Great job all.

Speaking of great teamwork, we received the report of the Briarwood gathering for December from Marty. Nice turnout. Thanks to all.

Date: Sat, Dec 15, 2018 at 6:55 PM  
Subject: Briarwood report  
To: Grand Knight <[needhamkofc@gmail.com](mailto:needhamkofc@gmail.com)>

We had a very large turnout today for our Christmas at Briarwood presentation.  
Present were:

Margaret Pobywajlo (pianist).  
Tom Carey  
Santa Claus (Tom Harkins).

Ted Harrigan  
Paul Deeley  
Chris Kent  
Jim Healy  
Bill Whitney  
Brian Rose  
Dan Brennan  
Deborah Lovett  
Bill Dermody  
Bill Meisner

Jim Tierney  
Jude Ogbebor  
John Bronski  
And myself

Hope I didn't miss anyone in the crowd.

Next month we go on January 19th. (My wife's birthday. HmMMMM.)

Have a happy and Blessed Christmas.

Martin Cunniffe.

Treasurer Tom Fern reported that we have earned \$3,000 for scholarships from the Wine and Cheese fundraiser in November. That is great news and makes the offering of scholarships more meaningful for our community. Shortly the committee will start to promote applications.

Thank you to Fr. Stamm, Council Chaplain, for providing an Advent Holy Hour. Unfortunately, we did not have a good turnout for the event. Accordingly, in the future, we need to have a fuller discussion of the best way for the Council, as a body, to help our members prepare for the expression of the faith. I would appreciate more input on this subject. Following is DGK Ted Harrigan's letter to Fr. Stamm on the subject:

Dear Father Peter,

Paul Deeley and I want to thank you for giving of your time and heart in last Thursday's Holy Hour. Amid the bustle of the season, it was a wonderful focus on the quiet self-examination of Advent. Those who attended found it devout, calming and thought-provoking. I especially took to mind your guidance on emptying the mind of distraction while focusing on Jesus' presence in Exposition.

We feel very badly that the turnout of Knights was so low. As you know, Paul was traveling, and we know that a few others had conflicts. We'll have to see if there are ways to encourage more better attendance at any future such events – perhaps by seeking commitments in advance? We'd welcome any thoughts you might have.

Many thanks, Father. God bless.

Ted Harrigan, DGK

Congratulations to Brother Bob Timmerman who was awarded the Cheverus Medal by the Archdiocese of Boston. This award is made to those who provide exemplary service to the Church. Excellent choice and best wishes to Bob.

Please remember PGK Donnell O'Duggan in your prayers. He passed away last week. We met at Doherty's Funeral Home and conducted a brief prayer service. Thanks to those who participated. Donnell was Grand Knight in 1970/71. He was also a Navy Veteran, an early submariner. Also he has a beautiful family, to whom we conveyed the Council's thoughts and prayers. May he rest in peace.

### **January**

The January meeting will kick off the year on Jan 2. Dinner as usual at 6:30. Co chefs Tom Harkins and Bob Payer will provide a delicious dinner as always. It will be special meeting because DGK Ted Harrigan will be in charge, so get it on your calendar right away. The Grand Knight will be away.

Shortly thereafter on Saturday January 5, we will conduct the Annual Free Throw contest. It will be from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon at Msgr. Haddad Middle School. Thank you Ryan Sullivan for heading up this traditional K of C event. Please let Ryan know if you can help. We will need every adult to go through the CORI process in accordance with procedures at the Parish. Let Ryan know as soon as possible, so we will be certain to be ready to go on Jan 5. Thanks in advance.

### **February**

The February meeting will be on February 6, 2018, dinner at 6:30 as usual.

Even before the meeting, Sunday February 3, will be Super Bowl Sunday. This year's Super Bowl party promises to be the best yet. The committee is already up and running. Bob Timmerman, Ryan Sullivan, Chris Kent, Ken Gustin are signed up thus far. Don't hesitate to get involved. This is our opportunity to raise funds to support our seminarians. The committee has reported that in addition to the TV raffle and other fun events, there will also be a new feature, a chili bake off competition. If you have a great chili recipe, get in the contest. Competition will be fierce. The winner will be determined by the participants. Great fun and great eating. Don't miss it.

Like us on facebook and don't hesitate to access any needed information on our website,  
[www.needhamkofc.org](http://www.needhamkofc.org)

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While we are almost at Christmas 2018, its worth our time to reflect on its meaning and effect on our lives. Following is a thought provoking poem for the season.

**The Work of Christmas**

***By Howard Thurman***

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and the princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among brothers,  
To make music in the heart.

*(Howard Washington Thurman was an African-American author, philosopher, theologian, educator, and civil rights leader.)*

Merry Christmas All

Fraternally,

Paul

Grand Knight