



# Needham Knights News

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



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

Dear Brother Knights:

Vivat Jesus!

November is the month we honor our loved ones who have passed, our veterans, but even more importantly, celebrate Thanksgiving, a moment for all of us to pause and give thanks for the many blessings we have received. A very happy thanksgiving to all of my brother knights and their families. It is an honor to be able to send a greeting through this newsletter. Coming from a busy weekend at the grocery stores for the tootsie roll drive, I can confirm that many of our friends and neighbors are grateful for their blessings and willing to share with the less fortunate. We are graced in this community of Needham, also in our council, for the enthusiasm of our membership in charity, unity, and fraternity. I just received my November issue of Columbia Magazine and note that Council 1611 has been honored by being named Star Council, one of eight Councils in the State. Congratulations to all and a good reason to give thanks for our very active and enthusiastic membership.

## November

The month began with a great fundraising party, our first Wine and Cheese tasting. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the presentations and tastings and we raised funds for the Scholarship Program. A more complete report on the event follows, but I wanted to mention the great fun event that started our K of C month of November.

Our November meeting was a celebration of our Needham Knights of Columbus heritage. We named the evening Russ Rose night in honor of Russ who was celebrating his 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday. Russ was unable to join us, but Brian Rose, son and caretaker of his father, was kind enough to prepare an interesting summary of Russ's life and fidelity to his family, faith and the Knight of Columbus. Brian demonstrated Russ's fidelity to Charity Unity and Fraternity intermixed with Russ's take on many contemporary issues. We all learned some great lessons from the talk. I found myself talking to my grandchildren about "romancing" your clients, if you run a business, a concept I learned from Brian's talk on Russ. Many thanks Brian and thanks to all the Roses that graced our hall for the November meeting.

Also continuing on the theme, Angelo Sciarratta shared some memories from his 61 years as a member of Council 1611. Angelo's company was the only advertiser that was in both the 50<sup>th</sup> and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary program booklet. Angelo recounted some of the challenges and successes the council enjoyed over his tenure. Some of the themes mentioned, we continue to work on to this day. Also Angelo served on the building committee for many years and filled in some of the memories of how the building became the beautiful structure it is to this day. Many thanks Angelo, the members enjoyed your talk and we had many positive comments.

The tootsie roll drive is winding down and we appreciate everyone who participated. The drive is a great way to help deserving families with special needs members and increase our local visibility as Knights of Columbus. We had busy weekends of collections at local retailers. Thanks to all who turned out. Tom Fern and Ken Gustin have done great work and we need to give them our full backing as members of the council and brother knights. Soon, Tom will be reporting on our results. Also the report from brother Ken Gustin on last weekend's efforts is worthy of communicating in full.

Worthy Grand Knight,

Our council did an outstanding job this weekend finishing the annual Tootsie Roll Drive. We ended with an extraordinary effort, collecting a total of \$3,945 over 2 days at Roche Brothers and Sudbury Farms! We had a valiant effort by many brothers including:

Ted Harrigan  
Tom Fern  
Joe Mecagnie  
Peter Dorsey  
Ron Hadley  
Frank Kortenkaemper  
Paul Deeley,  
Bob Timmerman  
Robbie Timmerman  
Chris Kent  
Ken Gustin  
Ryan Sullivan  
Brian Rose - with great help from a small bouquet of Rose's including:  
Michaela Marie Rose  
John Russell Rose  
(both children of Brother Tim Rose)

All are to be congratulated for an outstanding effort and for acting as ambassadors for the Knights to our neighbors here in Needham. I had many people thank us for doing this work and tell me how grateful they were for our efforts, with some expressing they had special needs children in their families, and many having their small children put the money in the yellow can. Additionally, many asked about the organization and seemed pleased to learn about us and that this was an annual campaign in addition to the other things we do. One very sweet woman choked back tears saying how grateful she is for her own health (I'm assuming she has a disabled family member), before grabbing my hand and squeezing it as a gesture of thanks.

Finally, the event created a very nice opportunity to reach out to several men I've seen at church for years and plant a seed about joining our ranks ("Hey! Why aren't you a Knight? I've seen you in church every Sunday for years?!"). Often, all that is needed is a simple invitation. I'm hoping at December's council

meeting we can hear from some of our collectors about any discussions or exchanges that were had on the sidewalk or pavement while collecting. These little exchanges mean a great deal many times.

All in all, it was a wonderful and very fruitful weekend! I'd like to offer my personal thanks to all who donated their time, bundled up, and stood their post for such a wonderful cause. It makes me proud and grateful to be a member of this council!

Tom Fern is working on final calculations for the entire Tootsie campaign, and we will announce those at December's council meeting but it seems clear this was an outstanding year thanks to those who were able to rise to the occasion!!!!

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

Vivat Jesus!

Ken Gustin

Thanks Ken and Tom for your leadership. So everyone understands, the tootsie roll proceeds are disbursed through the Massachusetts K of C Charity fund, mainly from tootsie roll collections. Following is an explanation of the expenditure of funds from the charity funds provided by Paul Flanagan, State Deputy:

The Massachusetts State Council Knights of Columbus benefits those special persons with physical and intellectual disabilities supported by the Massachusetts State K of C Charity Fund. The proceeds from monies raised mainly during their Charity Fund Drive on Columbus Day Weekend will be used to assist needy local families in purchasing or building handicapped ramps, van lifts, wheelchairs and other equipment to make their life a little more enjoyable. Such major grants as renovations to the South Shore ARC facilities, construction at Sunshine Village in Chicopee and St. Colletta's Day School and Cardinal Cushing Training Centers in Braintree and Hanover, Friendship Home in Norwell, House of Possibilities in N. Easton, Major Renovations for the Massachusetts Special Olympics, major construction to Bay Cove facility in Dorchester are among the many works of charity in which the Massachusetts Knights of Columbus have been involved.

The Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, made the following comments on our charitable endeavors:

"We are answering Pope Francis' call to go to the peripheries," Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said. "We can reach half way around the globe to help those in need and we can reach to our neighbor next door. And we do that every day. That makes us witnesses to the faith."

Thank you all who have made these expenditures possible.

Marty sent in the following report for November at Briarwood. Thanks to Marty and all who participated.

Subject: Briarwood report

To: Grand Knight

We had a good turnout at Briarwood today.

Present were:

Dan Brennan  
Deborah Lovett  
Tom Carey  
Margaret Pobywajlo. (Pianist)  
Jim Healy  
Jack Gurkin  
Chris Kent  
Bill Meisner  
John Kostuk  
Myself

Next month we go on December 15 (Christmas Carols, of course).

God Bless  
Marty Cunniffe

Regarding the wine and cheese tasting scholarship fundraiser, I want to salute the Committee. They were able to, each using their talents and specialties, create a whole new category of fundraiser and enrich our lives and raise funds for community members facing exorbitant college costs. Committee members include Bob and Beth Timmerman, Lee and Chris Kent, Joe and Antonia Neddar, Ken Gustin, and Ted Harrigan. Thank you all.

The evening began with beautiful instrumental music from students at Rivers School, followed by an expert led tasting and description of the wine and cheeses offered.

The presenter, Adam Centamore, is an author and expert on wine and food, and he did a great job explaining each tasting and why it matched the cheese served at the same time. It was good fun and a real eye opener for many of us.

I appreciate the great work of all who participated, Many thanks

## **December**

December is such a great month. There are always a number of events and parties celebrating the season. Be sure not to miss our December meeting on Wednesday, December 5, 2018. Our special guest and speaker will be Bishop Robert Deeley, of Portland Maine. Bishop Deeley is a former member of our council and former chaplain. He served Needham in the seventies in his first priestly assignment at St. Bartholmew's Parish under the pastorate of Msgr. Kickham. Bishop will join us for dinner and be our speaker. His topic will be the inside story of the just completed Bishop's Conference in Baltimore. Bishop Deeley, in addition to being Bishop of Portland is also the Chair of the Canon Law committee of the Bishop's Conference and is accordingly very involved in the discussions of sexual abuse crisis currently facing the

conference. His insights may help guide us in our consideration of the topics under discussion. I am grateful for his willingness to speak to us on this subject which has been a point of discussion in previous meetings.

It should be a great informative evening. I need a volunteer or volunteers to chef for the evening. My brother likes a nice meal, so please guys, let's show him a nice Fr. Daniel Kennedy council welcome. Let me know if you can help.

More importantly, please come to the meeting, so we have a nice turnout.

### Advent

For Advent, our Chaplain, Father Stamm, has invited us for a Holy Hour on Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 7:00 PM at St. Joseph Church. It will be an opportunity for all to reflect on our lives and prepare for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Father has conducted holy hours for us in the past and has always done a fine job. We very much appreciate Father Stamm's invitation to this service on December 6, so please put it on your calendars now and let's try for a big turnout.

Don't forget first Saturday at the Hall for the men's discussion group, led by our 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. Next meeting will be Saturday, December 1, coffee at 6:30 AM, discussion starts at 7:00 and finishes at 8:00 AM

Also Marty will be gathering the singers at Briarwood for Christmas on Saturday December 16 at 2:00 PM for Christmas Carols and December birthdays of the residents. 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. All are welcome and you don't need perfect pitch.

### Membership.

We have a couple of new people lined up as transfers and reactivations, so please continue to speak to your friends, neighbors and fellow parishioners to increase our numbers. The December 5 meeting would be a great time to invite possible candidates. Many townsmen know Bishop Deeley and would be happy to see him and say hello. 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. 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](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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In the spirit of the season, I offer a prayer for all our members and their families at this time of year. Also short and sweet.

Lord, we thank you

For the goodness of our people

And for the spirit of justice

That fills this nation.

We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the land  
and the challenge of the cities.

We thank you for our work and our rest,

For one another, and for our homes.

We thank you Lord:

Accept our thanksgiving on this day.

We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

From "Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers"

Happy Thanksgiving to all

Fraternally,

Paul

Grand Knight