

The Compass

Oh Come Let Us Adore Him!



Advent: The Season of Hope!

There are a lot of things we hope for: never to get a bad doctor's report, never to get stuck in traffic, never to lose a loved one before their time. But bad things happen to good people. So what can we realistically hope for? Advent is that spiritual season of preparation before Christmas. It is a four week period that invites us to ponder the mystery of the greatest gift to the world, namely the incarnation of God. God so loved the world He sent us a Savior Christ the Lord. This gift of Jesus changes us for the good. But we need to seek the gift like the wise men. This means we need to make the seeking a priority. Actually standing before God and saying I need you in my life please make your ways known to me. To have this conversation with God something else must occur. We need to release our hold on sin. So the more we want Christ the more we need to let go of our sins. You know those things that temporarily give us pleasure but are on God's list of broken promises, namely when I fail to respect God, neighbor and self. Every moment I let go of a sin and let Jesus enter my heart IS a life changing moment! Here is where hope is born! The transformation of sinner to saint. The awakening of a new day with new possibilities to love and serve God. Yes even when bad things happen. Scripture tells us "God is love and he who abides in love abides in God and God in him", 1 JN 4:16. Real hope that makes a difference is hoping I learn to love God and hoping I learn before I die to truly love my fellow man. Merry Advent.

Father Rodgers

Greetings Brothers,

First let me thank those of you who helped with our inaugural Bell Tower fundraiser, the AppleFest held after the 5 PM Mass on November 6th. We had a very successful event. Special thanks go out to Brother Tom Connelly who, along with his wife Rosemary, spent the entire day preparing two dinners for our guests. I do not have a final number on the amount of money we raised but we did manage to make a little over \$500 on just the dinner. Well done to all those who helped pull off this event. Of course, we could always use more help on the Bell Tower committee. If you are interested in joining this group please contact our Brother John Cocco who chairs the committee.

As we enter this most holy season we also have many events and activities planned. First and foremost will be the Annual Light Up for Christ Ceremony on December 4th after the 5 PM Mass in front of the Church Hall. We will be collecting phone cards for the troops again this Christmas. This is a cause near and dear to my heart and your participation in years past has made me proud. I am sure you will rise to the occasion once again. There are preliminary plans for a Christmas Party to be held for us and our families. Stay tuned for more information on the Party. In the new Calendar year we will be mailing out a survey for you to fill out. We are inviting your input in this survey we want to know what you think about your Council. What are we doing well? What can be improved? This is your Council and your opinion is very important. Please take the time to fill out the survey and return it to us at the next meeting you attend, mail it to the Church addressed to the Knights of Columbus, or simply give it to an officer.

Lastly, I don't believe that I need to remind you of the significance of the Christmas Season. We all are aware that without Christ, there is no Christmas. I ask you to take time to pray or read a passage from the Bible and not allow the hustle and bustle of the commercialized season overwhelm you and distract from the real reason we celebrate Christmas. Merry Christmas to you and your family, may you all enjoy the blessing of it.

Vivat Jesus,

S.K. Dave Jones, Grand Knight

District Deputy

My Brothers All,

First, it's with pride and humility that I serve you as your District Deputy. I want to thank all of you for your support during my term as Grand Knight, and I know I have your support in my new role. Our Council has much to be proud of since it's inception. I have moved up to the position of District Deputy and Father Phillip Rodgers, our Council Chaplain, was chosen to be the State Council Chaplain. This is an honor to not only Father Phil but to our Council and Parish for the quality leadership and guidance he has provided. On top of all that, your Council has earned the prestigious Double Star Council Award for its Programs and Membership growth. Congratulations gentlemen on another job well done. Please continue to support and help the programs continue to grow.

The theme of the 128th Supreme Convention is, "I am my brother's keeper". I am going to borrow some words from our State Deputy George Koch in regards to this theme and the principals of our order.

- Patriotism – When our Fourth Degree Sir Knights and our councils work with and visit our veterans that are confined to a military hospital or home and run programs to support them, we are in essence being our Brother's keeper.
- Fraternity – When we conduct our affairs and take care of one another by supporting the widows and children of our fellow brother Knights. We are in essence being our Brother's keeper.
- Unity – When we work with unity of purpose and direction in all we do to protect the unborn, the culture of life and to defend our Church, we are in essence being our Brother's keeper.
- Charity – is the first and most likely the most important and gratifying principal of our great Order. When we reach out and help those that are less fortunate than ourselves we are truly being our brother's keeper as we live out the dream and purpose of Fr. McGivney's founding father of the Knights of Columbus.



Congratulations to Our Newest 4th Degree, Sir Knights!



Sir Knight Bill Brann
Sir Knight Frank Burns
Sir Knight Rich Conte
Sir Knight Anthony Chrsi
Sir Knight Matt Martini
Sir Knight Matt Reagan
Sir Knight Andy Terifay

128th SUPREME CONVENTION

I had the great privilege of attending the Supreme convention in Washington DC on August 2,3,4,5. As State Chaplain my first duty was to attend the State Chaplains meeting with our Supreme Chaplain Archbishop Lori.

The focus of this 4 hour meeting was assist state chaplains in their role as chaplains. At this meeting Supreme Knight Carl Anderson encouraged us to look for ways to enhance youth programs, to put a greater focus on the Eucharist whenever we can, to promote works of charity among all knights, and to encourage councils everywhere to support the church and the clergy. In these ways Anderson told us we put on the true face of the Knights of Columbus. Archbishop Lori gave very encouraging words to continue the great work that we are about. He spoke about the important relationship that exist between Council Chaplains and Grand Knights. Fr. John Grace then spoke to us about a new meeting for State Chaplains this coming year March 1, 2, 3 in New Haven Con. At this meeting we will work out a new format to assist all council chaplains in their duties and responsibilities. I must say the highlight of the Convention was the beautiful mass celebrated at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Over 3000 attended the convention representing all the places around the world where Knights of Columbus are active. I certainly walked away from this convention with a whole new vision of what the Knights of Columbus achieves in its support of the mission of the Catholic Church.

Father Philip Rodgers
State Chaplain
Pastor St. Benedicts, Mohnton

District Deputy

My Brothers All,

On behalf of our State Officers and their families, Diana, Madalyn and myself, we wish you and your family a Merry CHRISTmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Although it is after Thanksgiving, I wanted to share something short about our Council that I am thankful for. Okay well if you know me.... It might not be that short, but I will do my best.

Two years ago we came together as a Council. Our Council has grown to include many more men. I am thankful for everyone who has joined our Council and for their families. I am thankful for the Brotherhood we have become, the bonds and friendships, the work we have done, and overall the excitement that still exists today in our Parish around the Council we have built. I am thankful for Father Phil, Father Bob, and Father Jim for their support and spiritual guidance in the work we do.

In this busy time of year don't forget to take time to be ever thankful for those in your life and for those who are special to you. If your Catholic friends are not knights, ask them to join our council.

Are you a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Degree member? Would you like to take your journey to the next level? Please let one of our officers know, or speak with me, and we will make arrangements to get you to that next level. The 4th Degree for our area is always in May on the Memorial Day weekend. If you cannot make it Memorial Day, we have other opportunities for you. Please let me know and I will get you the information.

Vivat Jesus

John Cocco, PGK
District Deputy#29



Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year from the Officers of Council 14654.

Chaplain	Fr. Phil Rodgers
Grand Knight	Dave Jones
Deputy Grand Knight	Nick Gatto
Chancellor	Chris Keenan
Recorder	Tom Dobson
Financial Secretary	Len Karver
Treasurer	Bill Brann
Lecturer	Mike Donlan
Advocate	Matt Martini
Warden	Jim Gregor
Inside Guard	Tim Lindley
Outside Guard	Mark McFadden
Trustee (3 rd year)	Gary Gibson
Trustee (2 nd year)	Matthew Reagan
Trustee (1 st year)	Steve Wagner

BIRTHDAY WISHES GO OUT TO THE FOLLOWING KNIGHTS



From Your Membership Director, Tim Lindley

ASK 1-2-B-1

Merry Christmas to all of you and your families! I truly hope you all have a Blessed, Joyous, Merry Christmas and a great 2011 as we enter the New Year.

Membership Growth-recruiting new members is essential to the continued growth and well being of our council and our Order. Offering a man membership in the Knights of Columbus gives him the opportunity to improve his own life and his community. Membership allows him to experience the fraternal bond that Knights share while growing closer to his family and faith.

You have all received two Form 100's and a Knights of Columbus pocket flip chart from me. I have also provided you with information to share with prospects as you speak with them about joining our council. Recruitment is a team effort and I need your help. It is the responsibility of each and every one of us to grow our council. ASK 1-2-B-1.



A circular illustration of a nativity scene. Mary is on the left in a pink robe, Joseph is on the right in a blue robe, and the infant Jesus is in a manger in the center, wrapped in a yellow cloth. A large white star is in the sky above the manger. The background is a dark blue circle with small white stars.

*Merry Christmas to All,
and to All a Good Knight!*

Church of Saint Benedict
Knights of Columbus
2020 Chestnut Hill Road
Mohnton, PA 19540