



The Shipwright

Grand Knight's Report

Gregory Sillen



Brothers,

While February is a relatively quiet month for the Council we need to remember that it is also a membership month for the Knights of Columbus. If we all take this chance to bring a new member into our Council we will be able to accomplish more. We sometimes get so involved with our own lives that we forget that our first charge as Knights is CHARITY. Let us remember that charity comes in many ways not just in financial aid but in helping those who are in need due to illness or other events that may have left them in need. Sometimes just a visit from someone to just listen to them or just sharing some time with them can make a big difference in the way they feel. Let us remember that the winter months keep many of our older members from getting around as much as they might like to due to the weather. We may be able to help them just by giving them a ride or running an errand for them.

Let us also take this less active month to reflect and prepare for the balance of our Columbian Year and prepare for what we would like to do in the next fraternal year. Remember that this is your Council and your officers are here to serve you but you also have to do your part by coming to meetings and letting them know what projects or events you like or would like to start. As always I pray that Our Lord gives us the guidance so that we may best serve Him.

Vivat Jesus,
Greg

Visit us on the web

www.kofc486.catholicweb.com

In Memoriam

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Past Grand Knight Frank Vignola on December 11, 2008 at the age of 84. He lived his later years in the state of Florida, where he had been ill for quite some time. He was a member of our Order for 48 years, having taken his First Degree in April of 1960. Our prayers are with him and his loved ones.



New Form 100

A new membership document has been approved for the recruitment of new members. Easier to use, they have replaced the old ones, which are no longer accepted and should be discarded. Please contact Grand Knight **Gregory Sillen** at 343-7343 for a new form.

Ask a Catholic gentleman to join the Knights today!

Calendar

Upcoming Events

February

Thursday, February 5	Council Officers Meeting	7:30PM
Thursday, February 12	Council Business Meeting	8:00PM
Thursday, February 19	4 th Degree Assembly Meeting	8:00PM
Friday, February 20	Chapter Meeting / Poughkeepsie	8:00 PM
Saturday, February 21	C&B Final Drawing / Latham	
Thursday, February 26	Family Pot Luck Dinner	6:30PM

March

Thursday, March 5	Council Officers Meeting	7:30PM
Thursday, March 12	Council Business Meeting	8:00PM
Thursday, March 19	4 th Degree Assembly Meeting	8:00PM
Thursday, March 26	Family Pot Luck Dinner	6:30PM
Friday, March 27	Chapter Meeting / Marlboro	8:00PM
Sunday, March 29	Council Dinner Dance	TBA

February Birthdays

Wayne Bricker	February 3
Frank Catania	February 3
Henry Pagan	February 5
Charles Paduch	February 13
Charles Van Gelder	February 17
Roland Rossi	February 18
George Ellis PGK	February 19
Carl Williams	February 22
Deacon John Frohbose	February 23
James Alu	February 24
Louis Destefano	February 24
George Sears	February 24

The Shipwright Newsletter

Published monthly for the members of John Paul the Great Council #486 and Middletown 4th Degree Assembly #762
P.O. Box 323 Middletown, New York 10940
Editor: **Richard Trapani, PGK** 956-6383

New York District #50

District Deputy: Larry Deignan 651-3630

Council Meetings held at Saint Joseph's Parish Center Conference Room

Officers' Meeting - 1st Thursday 7:30PM
Business Meeting - 2nd Thursday 8:00PM
Family Pot Luck - 4th Thursday 6:30PM

4th Degree Assembly Meetings held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center
Assembly Meeting - 3rd Thursday 8:00PM



2008-09 Council Officers

Chaplain	
Rev. Dennis Nikolic	343-6013
Grand Knight	
Gregory Sillen	343-7343
Deputy Grand Knight	
Michael Biondi	343-1285
Chancellor	
Douglas Linguanti	344-5922
Warden	
Christopher Pratti	342-5188
Recorder	
Paul Dickinson	692-0938
Financial Secretary	
Jim Higgins	360-2454
Treasurer	
Larry Bedosky	343-0180
Advocate	
John O'Connor, PGK	343-7164
Inside Guard	
Edwin Diaz	313-5297
Outside Guard	
Carl Williams, Jr.	342-8740
Trustee 3 Years	
Richard Trapani, PGK	956-6383
Trustee 2 Years	
Carl Williams, PGK	342-8740
Trustee 1 Year	
Matthew Ening, PGK	692-2720
Lecturer	
Deacon Richard Trapani, Sr.	344-1087
K of C Insurance	
William Schimpf FIC	427-2957

Council Programs

Program Director	
Michael Biondi	343-1285
Membership Director	
Douglas Linguanti	344-5922
Church Director	
Deacon Richard Trapani Sr.	344-1087
Community Director	
Richard Trapani, PGK	956-6383
Family Director	
John O'Connor, PGK	343-7164
Youth Director	
Sean Williams	342-8740
Council Director	
Gregory Sillen	343-7343
Pro-life Director	
Douglas McGlynn	344-3593



Remember in your prayers those who are ill

Msgr. George Valastro
Henry Seiffert
Tom Shormis, PGK
Elfo Politi
Joseph Szela
Thomas Colligan
Thomas DiDiego
Jim Higgins
George Ellis PGK
John O Connor PGK PFN



Contact Sick Committee Chairman

Deacon Richard Trapani, Sr.
344-1087

Would you like to receive your Shipwright each month via e-mail? Please send your name and e-mail address to rtrapani@warwick.net.

2009 Council Dues

The 2009 Council dues notices have been mailed to our membership. Please be sure to complete the included form and return it so that we can update your records with Supreme. Please contact Financial Secretary **Jim Higgins** at 360-2454 or Grand Knight **Gregory Sillen** at 343-7343 with any questions or financial concerns. Thank you for your attention.

Middletown Warming Station

In an effort to accommodate the increasing number of homeless people during the cold winter season, a warming station has been opened in the downtown area of Middletown. Open every night, the center is in need of volunteers, willing to sacrifice to help others who have so little. For more information, please contact Deacon Richard Trapani at 344-1087.

Supreme Knight Speaks at Meeting of Families in Mexico City

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson addressed the Sixth World Meeting of Families in Mexico City on January 16, offering an analysis of "Family and Solidarity," drawing upon the teachings of Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI.

Anderson pointed out that the notion of solidarity, which Pope Benedict noted was "developed initially among the early socialists," is actually "a Christian virtue," according to Pope John Paul.

Today, however, "solidarity and the unity of the human race are often divorced from God and the 'Christian idea of love,'" Anderson said. Christians recognize the family as the place where this idea is grounded, a place where "human love and interdependence" are "made apparent first in a relationship with those who gave us life."

Unfortunately, Anderson continued, "for many children today being from a parent no longer means being with a parent, and thus no longer means having a parent present being for that child. Likewise, parenthood is separated from marriage, when being with a spouse is separated from the openness of a child being from the couple."

"Without solidarity within the family, there can be no solidarity beyond the family. Without an understanding and protection of the family, there can be no easy understanding of the human family that is society, the Christian family that is the Church, or the family of families that is the parish," Anderson said.

World Meetings of Families were begun by Pope John Paul II in 1994, and the first one was held in Rome. Since then, they have been held every three years, the most recent having taken place in Spain in 2006. They are sponsored by the Vatican and conducted under the auspices of the Pontifical Council for the Family, of which the Supreme Knight is a member.



Middletown Assembly 762

www.assembly762kofc.catholicweb.com

Province of St. Isaac Jogues
New York District #2
District Master: Chester Smith

2008-09 Assembly Officers

Faithful Friar	
Rev. Dennis Nikolic	343-6013
Faithful Navigator	
Paul Silipino	343-3724
Faithful Admiral	
Michael Biondi, PFN	343-1285
Faithful Captain	
Richard Trapani	956-6383
Faithful Pilot	
Edwin Diaz	313-5297
Faithful Scribe	
Steven Maleike, PFN	733-5751
Faithful Comptroller	
Gregory Sillen	343-7343
Faithful Bursar	
Matthew Ening, PFN	692-2720
Faithful Inner Sentinel	
Nicholas Cortese PFN	343-5355
Faithful Outer Sentinel	
Joseph Hartmann PFN	744-3795
Faithful Trustee 3 Years	
Michael Cummings, PFN	733-5345
Faithful Trustee 2 Years	
Carl Williams, PFN	342-8740
Faithful Trustee 1 Year	
John O'Connor, PFN	343-7164
Color Corps Commander	
Joseph Hartmann, PFN	744-3795

Faithful Navigator's Report

Paul Silipino



Brother Sir Knights,

In a recent Columbia Magazine article, "The Reasonableness of Faith," noted author Dinesh D'Souza makes some very interesting and timely points concerning reason and faith. Over the Christmas season the beliefs of Christians of were assailed. More and more, any reference to God or values ascribed by belief in God is being driven from the public square. Bill Maher, a noted atheist and comedian, frequently jokes about how ridiculous it is to believe in something that you can't see. He admits that he doesn't know if God exists,

but feels that if he does he ought to show himself more. Blaise Pascal counters this by saying that those who have no desire to encounter God will probably never see his amazing works. Miles Law rules here: How you see it depends on where you sit. If you are looking for the wonders of God, they will be present in all things. If you are testing God, waiting for him to show his wonders, you might wait a long time. Jesus himself, told Saint Thomas: "Happy are those who have not seen but yet believe."

We are witnesses for our faith. We do so through works of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. We are not a political organization but we have a responsibility to be present in the public square. It is our calling; so how will you respond?

Vivat Jesus,
Paul Silipino

The Year of the Volunteer

Over the past several months, we have read too often about lapses in character. We have seen the effect that greed can have on our country's economy and its people. If 2008 will be remembered for lapses in character, let us make the year 2009 remembered for the best of human character. It is time that we reclaim the best of American character, the generosity of neighbor helping neighbor.

Last year our council recorded more than 900 hours of volunteer service. This year, faced with an even greater need, we plan to do even more. Join us, and the organizations in our community, that are willing to make life better for others.

As we face difficult economic times, it is important to remember that though money might be tight right now, we can still contribute in other ways. We invite you to give of your time and your talent as a volunteer in our community.



If you're like me, you have probably wondered why we name our churches after saints. After all they had nothing to do with the planning or building of our parishes. Well, the practice of placing a building or institution under the protection of a saint is of ancient origin and continues in our day. For instance, when we say "St. Anthony of Padua Church," we acknowledge that this church and parish are under the special care and guidance of the Franciscan friar who was a great preacher and a lover of the poor. The possessive form, "St. Anthony's," suggests a certain ownership on the part of one's heavenly patron. We can pray and expect the heavenly friend to protect and guide us. Though not yet beatified or canonized, Father McGivney has already been assigned the task of being a spiritual patron. A center for cancer patients in New Haven, a school, a parish center, even streets bear his

name. Statues and other images of him have become more prominent in many local council meeting places. Certainly the prominence of the Knights of Columbus is one incentive for such honors, but it is his example as a holy priest and man of heroic virtue that qualifies him to be looked at as a patron and spiritual guide. Since being declared Venerable by Pope Benedict XVI last year, we can only assume that the veneration of Father McGivney will continue and only grow in intensity.

For more information on Venerable Father McGivney and how his influence grows today, or to join the McGivney Guild, visit www.fathermcgivney.org.

(Excerpts from August 2004 Columbia Magazine)

On The Lighter Side

There were two Catholic boys, Timothy Murphy and Antonio Secola, whose lives paralleled each other in amazing ways. In the same year Timothy was born in Ireland, Antonio was born in Italy. Faithfully, they attended parochial school from kindergarten through their senior year.

They took their vows to enter the priesthood early in college, and upon graduation, became priests.

Their careers had come to amaze the world, but it was generally acknowledged that Antonio Secola was just a cut above Timothy Murphy in all respects. Their rise through the ranks of Bishop, Archbishop and finally, Cardinal was swift to say the least, and the Catholic world knew that when the present Pope died, it would be one of the two who would become the next Pope.

In time the Pope did die, and the College of Cardinals went to work. In less time than anyone had expected, white smoke rose from the chimney and the world waited to see whom they had chosen.

The world, Catholic, Protestant, and secular alike were surprised to learn that Timothy Murphy had been elected Pope!

Antonio Secola was beyond surprise. He was devastated, because even with all of Timothy's gifts, Antonio knew he was the better qualified. With gall that shocked the Cardinals private session with them in which he candidly asked, "Why Timothy?"

After a long silence, an old Cardinal took pity on the bewildered man and rose to reply. "We knew you were the better of the two, but we just could not bear the thought of the leader of the Roman Catholic Church being called **Pope Secola.**"

Editor's Note

For March's issue, please submit any news items and articles no later than February 15th by e-mail at rtrapani@warwick.net or by phone at 956-6383.

Please use the above information to report errors or corrections.

Fourth Degree

Our area's annual exemplification will be held on Saturday, April 18. To be eligible, you must be a third degree member in good standing with one year of membership.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to join the patriotic arm of our fraternal Order. Contact any Assembly officer or Faithful Navigator **Paul Silipino** at 343-3724.

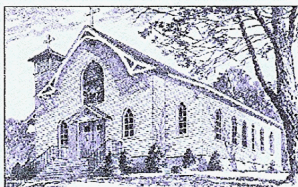
"Not all are called to be artists in the specific sense of the term. Yet, as Genesis has it, all men and women are entrusted with the task of crafting their own life: in a certain sense, they are to make of it a work of art, a masterpiece."

-- Pope John Paul the Great



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Carmelite Friars

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Daily Mass: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00AM

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