



March, 2008 Newsletter

Knights of Columbus
John Paul the Great Council #486
Middletown, New York
New York District #50

The Shipwright

Visit us on the internet at www.kofc486.catholicweb.com!



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343-6013

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956-6383

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343-7343

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343-1285

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344-5922

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360-2454

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343-0180

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342-8740

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Deacon Richard Trapani, Sr.
344-1087

Insurance Agent

William Schimpf FIC
427-2957

District Deputy #50

Burton Struble, PGK
342-0190

Shipwright Editor

Richard Trapani, Jr.
956-6383

Grand Knight's Message

Brothers,

Lent is a time for reflection. We should all look at ourselves and examine how and what we are doing to make this a rewarding time in our spiritual lives. We are called upon to exemplify the principles of the Order. By participating in the projects of the council we are assisting others in many ways. When we look at what we have accomplished, we must ask myself how we actually interacted with those who really in need. By exploring the various areas of service, I see many opportunities.

Church - Take part in perpetual Eucharistic Adoration at the Chapel.

Community - Participate or promote an adopt-a-highway program.

Council – Help plan an event that promotes the unity of our Council.

Family – A family that prays together stays together. Start a family Rosary.

Youth – Support our youth and participate in our Columbian Squires circle.

Membership – Ask a practicing Catholic gentleman to join our Order, and get him involved.

If we took these examples and implemented them, we would be even more active within the parish and community. We are mid-way through the season of Lent. Let us look forward to the Easter season with a renewed spirit of commitment.

God Bless, Rich Trapani

Calendar of Events

March

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| Thursday, March 6 | Council Officers' Meeting | 7:30PM |
| Sunday, March 9 | Squires Meeting (old parish center) | 5:00PM |
| Thursday, March 13 | Council Business Meeting | 8:00PM |
| Thursday, March 20 | 4 th Degree Assembly Meeting Cancelled | |
| Thursday, March 27 | Potluck Dinner and Family Social | 6:00PM |
| Friday, March 28 | Chapter Meeting (Marlboro) | 8:00PM |
| Sunday, March 30 | Squires Meeting | 5:00PM |

April

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|--------------------|---|--------|
| Thursday, April 3 | Council Officers' Meeting | 7:30PM |
| Thursday, April 10 | Council Business Meeting | 8:00PM |
| Saturday, April 12 | Annual 4 th Degree Exemplification | TBA |
| Sunday, April 13 | Squires Meeting | 5:00PM |
| Thursday, April 17 | 4 th Degree Assembly Meeting | 8:00PM |
| Thursday, April 24 | Potluck Dinner and Family Social | 6:00PM |
| Friday, April 25 | Chapter Meeting (Hyde Park) | 8:00PM |
| Sunday, April 27 | Squires Meeting | 5:00PM |

Our Meeting Schedule

Our Council Officers' meeting is held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30PM. Our Business meeting is held on the 2nd Thursday at 8:00PM. Our pot-luck dinner and family social get together is held on the 4th Thursday at 6:00PM. All of these meetings and events are held at the Saint Joseph's Parish Center located at 113 Cottage Street in Middletown.

The meeting of our Middletown 4th Degree Assembly #762 is held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center, 100 Euclid Avenue in Middletown at 8:00PM.

Please Pray for our Sick

Msgr. George Valastro
Joseph Szela
Elfio Politi
Joseph Hartmann PGK

Henry Seiffert
Thomas Colligan
Thomas Shormis PGK
Daniel Bellotto

As a Council, we are making a concerted effort to reach out to all of our ill or confined Brother Knights and their families. If you, or somebody you know is in need of our assistance, such as the Sacraments, or a visit from a Brother Knight, please feel free to contact our sick committee chairman Deacon Richard Trapani at 344-1087, or any other Brother Knight.

In Memoriam

Please, pray for the soul of **Anthony Leo**, a 50-year member of our Council, who passed away on January 25th. We also remember our Brother Knight **Anthony Parenti**, a 45 year member who entered into eternal life on February 2nd.

Second Degree Knights

Congratulations to three of our members who were inducted into the second degree of our Order on Thursday, January 31:

Wayne Bricker
Albert Prado
Dr. Victor Villagonzalo

New Book from Supreme Knight

On March 25, a new book from Supreme Knight Carl Anderson will be published. *A Civilization of Love: What Every Catholic Can Do to Transform the World* (Harper One) will offer a bold blueprint for the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Church in the 21st century. In *A Civilization of Love* Anderson uses his experiences as a former White House official, attorney, educator and leader of the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization to show how Church teaching can inform and influence all society for the better. All author proceeds from the sale of this book will go to Knights of Columbus Charities.

New York State Prayer Rally

Once again, the New York State Council of the Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a prayer rally, to be held on May 13, 2008 in Albany. We will stage a prayer rally in front of the New York State Capital Building from 11:30AM to 2:30PM. Join our State officials, clergy, Brother Knights, and their families from all over New York State as they stand up for their Catholic Faith. More details will be added as they become available.

Weather-related closings

Although most of the winter weather is behind us, we may still experience a closing or cancellation due to a storm. In case of bad weather, tune in to WHUD radio at 100.7FM, or log onto their web site at www.whud.com.

Third Degree in Monroe

It's still not too late to sign up for the Third Degree at Sacred Heart Parish in Monroe, scheduled for Sunday, March 30th. Please contact Chancellor Michael Biondi at 343-1285 as soon as possible to sign up. This is the last Third Degree scheduled before the annual Fourth Degree Exemplification on April 12th. Sponsors of our candidates are also encouraged to attend.

Fight the RHAPP!

Eliot Spitzer, governor of New York, has introduced a bill designed to ensure that abortion will remain legal in New York State should Roe-v-Wade be overturned by the U S. Supreme Court. Named the **Reproductive Health and Privacy Protection Act**, this bill, if it should become law, would once again enforce a climate of murder of the unborn with few restrictions or repercussions. This bill would:

- Shield abortion providers from prosecution in cases of malpractice.
- Modify the NYS Penal Code so that situations of coerced abortion, abortions performed by unauthorized clinics, or other back alley scenarios cannot be prosecuted.
- Remove the requirement that abortions be provided by duly licensed professionals, so that unlicensed practice is not a criminal offense.
- Prevent medical examiners from investigating deaths caused by criminal abortion.
- Prevent abortion providers from being tried for manslaughter, for abortions which lead to a woman's death.

Please pray for the defeat of this measure. If you would like to contact Governor Spitzer and voice your disapproval, use the address and phone number below.

Eliot Spitzer
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224
518-474-8390

Pot-Luck Dinner and Family Night

Our monthly pot-luck dinners have been gaining in popularity, and have given our families and friends the opportunity to share and celebrate. Over the past few months, we have had several very interesting and informative speakers who have enlightened us with subjects ranging from fire safety in the home to the ethics of stem-cell research. Please join us on the fourth Thursday of each month to see what we mean. Our pot-luck dinner starts at 6:00PM, followed by a guest speaker at 7:00PM. Bring your family and friends, and prepare a food dish to share with us. For more information, contact our Lecturer, Deacon Richard Trapani Sr., at 344-1087 or 342-7188.



Fourth Degree Exemplification

Spring is nearly upon us, and so is the annual Fourth Degree exemplification, scheduled for Saturday, April 12th. It will be held at the Holiday Inn in Fishkill, New York. If you are interested in making the Fourth Degree, you must apply as soon as possible. There is a financial cost involved for this degree. In order to be eligible, you must be a Third Degree Knight in good standing with at least one year of service in the Knights of Columbus. For more information, please contact Faithful Navigator Michael Cummings at 733-5345 or visit their web site at www.assembly762kofc.catholicweb.com.

2008 Council Dues

So far, we have had a positive response with many of our members returning their 2008 dues payments promptly. If you have not yet done so, please mail your dues as soon as possible. If you are experiencing a financial or a medical hardship and cannot, please inform Grand Knight Rich Trapani at 956-6383 or Financial Secretary Jim Higgins at 360-2454. Arrangements will be made for special circumstances. Be assured that all contacts will be kept strictly confidential.

Membership in our Order

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to any practicing Catholic gentleman, 18 or over. As Brother Knights, we have an obligation to invite others to join. If you know of someone, ask him. Always keep a membership form handy. Please contact Chancellor Michael Biondi at 343-1285 for more information.

Field Agent's Corner

Insurance for long term care is increasingly beneficial as people live longer and require either limited assistance or nursing home care in greater numbers. Custodial services such as bathing, eating and dressing are not generally covered by Medicare, and nursing home care can cost upwards of \$45,000 per year. These financial realities may force you to deplete assets or to rely on your family for help. If you require nursing care, you might have to ask your children for help just when they're ready to send their own sons or daughters off to college -- a common dilemma among middle-aged people today which causes experts to refer to them as "the sandwich generation".

Knights of Columbus Care can give you peace of mind. This is a tax-qualified plan available to members and their spouses, ages 40 through 85 (subject to underwriting requirements). Coverage can be tailored to your needs, giving you control over the type of coverage; the daily benefit amount, benefit duration, and elimination period; and the premium you must pay. The policy is guaranteed to be renewable, and a guaranteed purchase option assures you of obtaining added coverage as needed.

I can help you with your Knights of Columbus Insurance needs. Please give me a call today.

Sincerely and fraternally,

William J. "Bill" Schimpf
FIC Field Agent
427-2957

Eucharistic Adoration

Many benefits are gained through the devotion of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is truly present for us in the Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist. Fortunately, perpetual adoration is available at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel behind Saint Joseph's Church in Middletown. Our Council participates in an hour of Eucharistic Adoration every Wednesday evening from 8:00-9:00 PM. In addition, many of our members and their families partake in an additional hour of their own. Are you interested? All it takes from you is a small commitment to establish a personal relationship with the Lord. If you would like more information, or would like to sign up, please contact Jim Higgins at 360-2454.

Thank you for Advertising with Us!

We wish to thank all those who have advertised in the Shipwright. Local businesses and other community organizations are invited to advertise in our monthly newsletter at very reasonable rates. While helping our Council financially, it will help you reach a whole new customer base. Please help our Council as we strive to reach out further into the community. Please contact Grand Knight Rich Trapani at 956-6383 or Deputy Grand Knight Greg Sillen at 343-7343 for an application.

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Knights of Columbus
John Paul the Great Council #486
Past Grand Knights Association

“Radical changes in world politics leave America with a heightened responsibility to be, for the world, an example of a genuinely free, democratic, just and humane society.”

- Pope John Paul the Great -