

Knights of Columbus

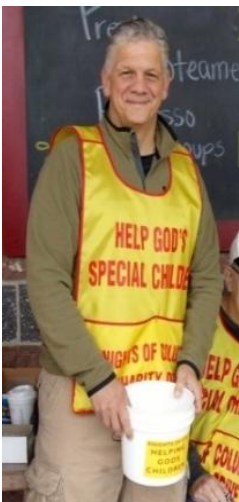
Council, No. 1031

Reading, Massachusetts 01867

Visit Our WEB Site at www.readingkofc.org

THE SWORD AND ANCHOR DECEMBER 2015

*Charity – Unity – Fraternity – Patriotism
Live your Faith!*



Brothers,

Incredibly December is already here. I hope you enjoyed time with your loved ones over Thanksgiving. We were fortunate that we got to spend time with both sides of our family (dinner at one dessert at the other) and my mom actually made the trip up from Rhode Island, truly a holiday miracle!

Thanks to all the Knights who assisted and supported our activities in November. The Mass for our Departed Brothers and Installation of Officers on November 10th was a very nice evening with well over 50 in attendance. Many thanks to Father Steve, Deacon Neil, Camille, Steve and all else involved in making the night a real pleasure.

Our Christmas Tree Lighting open House is on Sunday November 29th and we will be planning a lounge Christmas Party for early December.

As we anticipate the birth of Christ again, I hope you have a wonderful and blessed Christmas with your families.

In Christ,
Tom Cappuccio, Grand Knight

Sick and Vigil:

FS Charlie Fallon was recently found to have Pancreatic Cancer. He is at home and is receiving Chemo therapy. Our prayers are with you during this difficult time as we all look forward to your recovery.

Brother Dick Fotino passed away on Nov. 7 after a short illness.

We recently learned that Brother Walter Kulakowski died Sept. 5th. Walter was 98 years old.

A GOOD KNIGHT THOUGHT _____

HAPPY NEW (church) YEAR—WELCOME TO A YEAR OF GRACE

After all that I have been reading in the Catholic press about the upcoming Holy Year of Mercy, (set to begin on December 8th), I cannot but offer a short *GOOD KNIGHT THOUGHT* on Mercy.

But what does Pope Francis mean by "mercy" anyway? When announcing the Holy Year in the document *Misericordia Vultus* he reminded us that "Jesus Christ is the face of God's mercy" and that this "sums up the mystery of the Christian faith." Then Francis called on us to study Jesus' life and actions, that: "we may become more effective signs of the Father's action [mercy] in our lives."

So it seems in the Pope's mind, that we are not only to avail ourselves of Divine Mercy, **but to be more effective signs and agents of God's mercy to others as well**—becoming, as Jesus shows us: patient, kind, moved by compassion and goodness toward all those separated from us in any way. In our work this year we must find and employ only the language of charity, respect, love, and truth—to encourage **REMEDIES** rather than merely to proclaim **DISCOURAGING DIAGNOSIS** of the world's ills.

Pope Francis reminds us that, "The signs Jesus works, especially in favor of sinners, the poor, the marginalized, the sick, and the suffering, were all meant to teach mercy. Everything in him speaks of mercy. **Nothing in him is devoid of compassion.**" And this is the path we must choose to follow in our Holy Year of Grace.

Jesus' KNIGHTS spending the Year spreading his Kingdom by word and action.

DEACON NEIL

December Birthdays:

12/1 George O'Brien, 12/2 Charles Tidd, 12/3 Gary D'Entremont, Don Martinage, 12/5 Ralph Barile Jr., 12/9 John Flaherty, 12/11 David Ebert, 12/13 David Crowley, 12/15 John Silva, Mike Terry, 12/18 Dennis Ebert, 12/21 Mark Baltier, Francis Keane, 12/26 Steve Percy, 12/27 John Nawoichyk, John Parisi, 12/28 Paul Ripa, Richard Schneeberg, 12/30 George MacDougall, 12/31 Ernie Arsenault

Mass for our Departed Brothers:

Fifty knights and guests attended the Mass for Departed Brothers that was held in Enos Hall on November 5. The Mass was followed with Installation of Officers and dinner prepared by Camille, thank you Camille.



2015 Officers

Veterans Day:

A new council flag was dedicated on Nov. 11.



Lounge Christmas Party:

There will be a Christmas Party in the lounge for members and their guests on Saturday Dec. 19th from 4:00 to 11 PM. Join us for a good time and enjoy some of Camille's appetizers.

St. Pius X Assembly of 4th Degree Presents:

A Christmas Jingle Bell Celebration

Sunday December 6, 2015

Social Hour 2:00 – 3:00

Buffet Dinner 3:00

Music – Dancing – Raffles – Surprises

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Christmas Eve Mass:

Once again St. Agnes will hold their 4:00 mass in the High School Field House. The past two years have been a blessing as we joined our neighbors and embraced the love of Jesus Christ. If you have never been to Christmas Mass at RHMS come and witness what is indescribable. With almost 2500 in attendance you can imagine the love as we celebrate Jesus amongst us.

There will be parking attendants, greeters and many more to help make this a memorable family event.

Bulletin Advertisers:

We are looking for new advertisers.

The **annual** cost for advertising is \$40 for a single space (approximately 1 x 2 inches) and \$80 for a double space.

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We have a new sponsor for 2016:

ABC Home Healthcare has offices in Wakefield and Gloucester servicing Metro Boston, Northshore, and Cape Ann Communities. ABC is a full service, family owned, private home care agency managed by a nurse practitioner and certified case managers. ABC offers home health aides and home making services from 1 to 24 hours a day with nurse supervision. ABC can assist you with all your non-medical ABC can assist you with all your non-medical needs including: bathing, dressing, grooming, medication reminders, companion-ship, cooking and light housekeeping, and laundry. Live-in caregiving and skilled nursing services are also available. ABC Home Healthcare is owned by long-time St. Athanasius parishioners. For more information: www.abchhp.com or call [781-245-1880](tel:781-245-1880).

Town Tree Lighting:

On Sunday November 29 we hosted our annual "Children's Open House" at Enos Hall from 1:00 to 4:00. This is the day of town's Tree Lighting Ceremony. Chairman DGK Dick Coco thanks all who helped to make this event a success.

The Charities of the Reading Knights:

- Coats for Kids – The State Council contracts directly with a manufacturer to supply warm coats to needy children. Our Council donated \$250 toward this worthy cause.
- Wreaths Across America – The State Council places approx. 1000 wreaths each year on graves located at the Bourne National Cemetery. Our Council donated \$50 toward this worthy cause.
- Special Olympics – Our Council donated \$100 to the Special Olympics.

Callers:

Can you help!! Additional callers are needed to be sure this is not a burden carried by a few. You will receive a list of names, no more the 10 to call on occasion. These calls are needed to get the word out about special events, maybe 3 -4 times a year.

Birthday Reward:

Visit the lounge during the month of your birthday and Steve will be happy to present you with a free drink of your choice.

Bulletin Update:

We are looking for a new editor for the monthly bulletin. If you have interest in helping your council in this manner please contact Ernie Arsenault 781 944 9083 for details.

Council Calendar:

Dec. 8	8:00 PM Council Meeting
Dec. 19	4:00 Lounge Xmas Party
Dec. 22	8:00 PM Council Meeting
Dec. 25	Merry Christmas
Dec. 31	Happy New Year

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