

Knights of Columbus

Council, No. 1031

Reading, Massachusetts 01867

Visit Our WEB Site at www.readingkofc.org

THE SWORD AND ANCHOR APRIL 2020



Charity – Unity – Fraternity – Patriotism
Live your Faith!



Brother Knights:

For all but our oldest Knights, who may recall or even may have served in WWII, the Covid 19 pandemic presents an unparalleled challenge beyond anyone's experience. There is much uncertainty about how this will play out over the next weeks and months. There is fear and even despair about its potential impact on our loved ones and our jobs. Due to the social distancing necessary to fight this virus, our ability to join together at Mass in the real presence of our Savior and comfort one another has been temporarily suspended. These are difficult times, but there is hope. As Brother Knights, we are called to live up to our principles of unity, charity, fraternity and patriotism. Now is the time for us to band together and to step into the breach to aid our Brother Knights and our Reading Catholic community. Let us band together by reaching out to one another in support. As you will see in this newsletter, there are many opportunities to do so. If you are capable, you can contact the Red Cross to make an appointment to give blood. Join a call tree to check in with brother Knights or other Reading Catholic Community members. Please continue to pray the Prayer for Protection in the Time of Pandemic. We may feel alone, but together we can meet this challenge

Vivat Jesus

Bob Baynes, Grand Knight

K of C Charites

The Council recently approved the following donations:

- \$ 250 Lazarus House

April Birthdays

4/2 Bradley Agostinelli, 4/4 Frank J. Dunn,
4/6 Jason Deangelis, Reginald T.Peters,
4/7 Edward F. Sartell, 4/8 Richard P Halloran,
4/11 Patrick H Lantry, 4/13 John E.Cafazzo,
4/14 John Ferguson, 4/16 James L. O'Leary,
4/21 Robert G McInerney, 4/22 Roger J.
D'Entremont, 4/24 John P. Barrette, 4/25
Edward G. Dee, 4/26 Paul G. Lannon, 4/28
Robert J. Beckman, 4/29 Domenic Cacciapuoti
Jr.

A GOOD KNIGHT THOUGHT

WHAT CAN WE DO?

Schools, churches, restaurants, sports venues, social clubs, and some businesses are closed! We are “forced” to remain in, to remain home—away from other people...What do “they” really think—that we mere mortals can do something to stem the tide of this illness?

Well, one hot humid summer day, a filthy looking bag lady went down the street in her poor neighborhood repeatedly picking something up from the ground, and hiding it in her ragged coat pockets.

The local police officer, watching her closely, became more and more suspicious—wanting to know what on earth she was doing—but, when questioned, she refused to say. Only when he insisted, and finally threatened, did she show him what was in her pockets—it was just assorted pieces of broken glass! He just stared at her dumfounded! *Questioning what this was all about?*

“The kids play stickball around here all the time *barefoot* . . . and...and, ***I was just afraid!***—*I was afraid they would cut their feet!—O.K.?*”

That lady may never change the whole world. No committee will ever present her with a plaque, or throw a banquet in her honor; declaring her *“woman of the year.”* The children whom she was helping will probably never even know what she’s done for them; *much less have an opportunity to thank her.* Nevertheless, she will leave her world a better place than she found it—for, in her humility, and despite her limitations, she has learned **TO DO WHAT SHE CAN FOR OTHERS.**

To do what we can for everyone (*sometimes referred to as the common good*) is exactly the service for others that our Reading Catholic Community, our town of Reading and our Country is asking of us in this time of sickness and trials. We are asked to think of others—to *at least be alert to their needs and help*—while trying to care for our own needs.

We are **not** expected **TO DO IT ALL.** But we are expected to do our small part for the good of all. To cheerfully stay in, and stay away, while at the same time, at least by phone, checking on those of our neighbors who may need some assistance with buying food, etc., etc.

And kids, have a little consideration, do not think this is any easier for your parents and other adults—***it isn’t***—their usual concerns may be compounded by worry about your health, or that of older relatives, or their job or financial problems—therefore you have to do your little part too! Be patient, chip in and be helpful while remaining upbeat!

Sticking together with God’s help—as Families—as Brother Knights—as Citizens—as the Body of Christ—will get through this period of sickness and trial.

DEACON NEIL

Faith in Action

Faith - Community - Family - Life

A note from Program Director Ken Charest

Brothers while we have not been able to continue our *Faith in Action* service programs as a Council, many of you have been busy, some in novel ways, serving others. Encouraged by Grand Knight Bob Baynes and directed by Deacon Neil Sumner no doubt you will continue to build **His** kingdom on earth. Please consider keeping track of your efforts and reporting hours of individual service on a quarterly basis. Toward the back of this newsletter is a form we hope you will find useful. As time goes on, we will improve the reporting system. For now, thank you for your service.

Council, Family and Friends



No this is not a Mazda advertisement but a notice that we have been holding our regularly scheduled Council meeting via video conferencing. We are using the Zoom program. For those not familiar with video conferencing technology: Buck Rogers dreamt of it, Alan Shepard help develop it, the crew on the International Space Station perfected it and we get to use it to continue important Council meetings. For those of you who have a computer look for Grand Knights Bob Bayes email invitation. Others can simply call in (no rotary dial telephones) at 929-205-6099.

Check in with Your Brother Knights

During this challenging time, we are putting together a council Phone Tree so we can stay connected as a Council. The plan is for each volunteer to call five Knights every 2-3 weeks. The idea is check in and find out how things are going and to see if there is any material or spiritual need with which we might help. So far, calls have been gone out to around sixty Knights to ask about whether there is anything needed. At this point, we have 12 knights who have volunteered to participate. Thank you, men please continue to contact your assigned Knights every 2 weeks and please let me know if there are any needs. We could use another 20-25 so we will be able to contact every Knight in our council. Our initial focus has been on oldest members but it would be nice if each member of this council to received a check in call. Please contact Grand Knight Bob Baynes to volunteer.

Reading Catholic Community Call Lists

This is a great opportunity for our Council to help our parishes and the Reading Catholic Community. The Reading Catholic Community is looking for volunteers to participate in an effort to contact Parishioners during this time of uncertainty. Your outreach will be a reminder of the care we have for one another within the Reading Catholic Community.

The current plan is for each volunteer to contact 40 parishioners of the St. Agnes and St. Athanasius Parishes over the next two weeks. It would be wonderful if the Knights of Columbus could provide 40 volunteers for this important Reading Catholic Community service project. Please email rgbaynes82@gmail.com to volunteer

Monthly Newsletter Salesperson Wanted

We are seeking a volunteer to be in charge of Bulletin Advertisers. Ernie Arsenault has done this job for the past several years and has done an outstanding job bringing in over \$1,000 per year to our Council to help us fund Council programs and charities. The job duties include mailing current advertisers billing notices, collecting the bills, seeking new advertisers as necessary to fill ad space in the bulletin and working with Ernie to provide the advertiser content, typically a business card, to the printer who does the formatting for the bulletin publication.

Let us Help Tom

Our Financial Secretary, Tom Cappuccio has diligently been collecting the annual dues. Those Brother Knights who have yet to send in their check could be a great help to Tom if they sent their dues in ASAP. This would avoid the need for Tom to send a second mailing. Thank you.



The Knights of Columbus pioneered national blood drives in the 1930s, and giving blood remains an important element of charitable service for many Knights. During the current pandemic, blood donations are vitally needed, particularly from those with the O-negative blood type. Those considering making a blood donation should be in good health, under 60 years of age, and do not have underlying medical conditions. To reduce unnecessary physical contact with others, blood donations should only be made on an appointment basis. For the same reason, it is not recommended that you go out in public for any reason — including to give blood — if you are over 60 years of age, are feeling ill, or have an underlying medical condition. The same holds true if you live with an individual who is feeling ill, is over 60, or has an underlying condition. Blood donations can be scheduled at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>

A note from Field Agent Kevin McKenna

Dear Brothers:

First and foremost, I hope and pray that you and your family are safe and well!

As we face these unprecedented times, the Knights of Columbus is in the forefront making sure that our members and their families are cared for. I want to continue to provide you with the service and the products available to you and the challenge is to do that in a way mindful of our duty to preserve the health and well-being of our members and their families.

The Supreme Office has developed a way for us to meet virtually over the internet to be able to continue to take care of all your insurance needs. I am now able to meet with you virtually using the Skype meeting application. This platform is familiar to many consumers and it is easy to connect to, even for those who have not used it before. It can be used with a variety of devices. In addition to being able to see each other, Skype allows me to share my screen with you so you can see forms and other graphics as needed.

While this way for us to meet may be new, my commitment to you and your family remains the same. My goal is to see Fr. McGivney's vision of protecting all Catholic families become a reality.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. I stand ready to help.

Fraternally,

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Upcoming Events

Tentatively Planned Spring Events

Spring Charity Drive - May 29th-31st
Holy Hour – June 5th
Walk for Life – June 20th
Games Night/ Fundraiser - TBD
Mass/Communion Breakfast - TBD
Altar Server Party - TBD
My Brothers Table – TBD
Exemplification - TBD

Council Calendar

April 14	8:00 Council Planning VIDEO Meeting
April 28	8:00 Council Business VIDEO Meeting
<u>Support the Lounge _ Hours CLOSED _</u>	
Mon, Tues, Wed.	4:00 to 9:00
Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun.	4:00 to 11:00

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Council, No. 1031
Reading, Massachusetts 01867
Personal Service Hours

Name _____ to _____

Each year the Council is required to compile and report service hours of council members. For the formal **Faith in Actions** service programs this has proven to be a relatively simple task. What is not so simple is recording the many **services hours you expend as an individual**. Please think about all that you personally do to build **His** kingdom on earth. We ask that you record your hours below on a quarterly basis. This Council form is an edited version of the K of C form we submit.

FAITH ACTIVITIES	HOURS
b. Church Facilities - construction, repairs, remodeling, etc.	_____
d. Religious/Vocations Education - CCD, lay apostolate, programs, etc.	_____
e. Prayer & Study Programs – men’s/small groups, Cursillo, Dynamic Parish, etc.	_____
g. Miscellaneous Faith Activities – Eucharistic minister, lector, greeter, usher, etc.	_____
FAMILY ACTIVITIES	
f. Miscellaneous Family Programs - family mass, etc.	_____
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES	
f. Elderly/Widow(er) Care - retired/senior volunteer programs, etc.	_____
g. Hospitals/Health Organizations – hospital visits, walks, rides, etc.	_____
i. Scouting/Youth Groups - volunteer efforts, projects, Big Brothers, mentoring, etc.	_____
k. Youth Welfare/Service - foster parents, etc.	_____
l. Scholarships/Education - career nights, fund raising, etc.	_____
m. Veteran Military/VAVS - VA hospital support/visitation, memorials, parades, etc.	_____
n. Miscellaneous Community/Youth Activities – Lazarus House, etc.	_____
LIFE ACTIVITIES	
a. Special Olympics - volunteer local, state, and national events.	_____
d. Pregnancy Support – volunteer, diapers, supplies, baby showers, etc.	_____
g. Miscellaneous Life Activities - Palliative Care, Hospice, etc.	_____

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