Seton noteS

Official Publication of Mother Seton Council #5381, Knights of Columbus
November/December/January 2025
Volume 63, Number 2

We are Thankful

And we Remember

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Grand Knight Report

SK Cosmas U. Nwokeafor
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cnwokeafor@bowiestate.edu

Greetings Brother Knights and Friends.
We are almost half way through the fraternal year. Our programs are in full flight as we participate in the core activities of Faith, Family, Community and Life.
Our main community effort at Northwest Stadium is ongoing; we are almost to the end of the season. Thank you to those who have participated and we look forward to an increasing pool of volunteers. Please reach out to the program directors and get involved in some activity. We continue to challenge members to recruit at least one new member for the fraternal year.

We pause to give thanks for the blessings we have received in this month of November. We also take time to remember our deceased member. There will be an Annual Council Memorial Mass held on Saturday, November 8th at 8:30am with a necrology reading beginning at 8:05am.

Finally the season is changing, so we know that Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas and New Year are around the corner.
May the Blessings of the Season be with you and your loved ones now and always.

Vita Jesus
Cosmas Nwokeafor

Chaplain's Corner

Rev. Mr. Alton Davis, Jr
Assistant to the Chaplain

Reflection the Deacon's Homily for the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in O. T. (Cycle C)
"Celebrating Mercy and Forgiveness"

Readings: Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14; Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19 (Luke 15:18); 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15: 1-32

In the first reading from the book of Exodus we are told Israel fashions a golden calf to replace the leadership of Moses and his God. The psalmist tells us in Psalm 51 that the repentant heart will reap God's mercy. In the second reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Timothy, Paul tells us that his arrogance once blinded him to the truth about Christ Jesus. In the gospel of Saint Luke, the evangelist tells us that lost sheep, lost coins, and lost children will all be recovered through God's mercy.
The story of the Prodigal Son contains many lessons, one of which is that we all lose our way sometimes. Recall a time in our lives when we were lost—or perhaps that time is now.

 Have we ever experienced the kind of forgiveness that the son experienced in the gospel?

 Does the gospel offer us any insights as to how we might find our way home again when feeling lost?

Mercy is the stuff you give to people that do not deserve it.
—Joyce Meyer

District Deputy Report

Charles I. Briscoe DD, PFN, PGK
charlesbriscoe4@gmail.com
240-701-8093

Dear Brother Knights of District 2,

I hope this message finds you well and that you enjoyed a wonderful summer season. As we move into fall, I want to take a moment to recognize and congratulate our councils for their outstanding achievements during the first four months of this fraternal year. The events and activities you have organized and implemented have made a significant and positive impact on our parishes and the surrounding communities.

Membership and Involvement

Looking ahead, I encourage all brother Knights to reach out to Catholic gentlemen or any individuals interested in learning more about the catholic faith and invite them to join the Knights of Columbus. Additionally, please support and motivate new council members to take an active role in the programs that benefit your parish, local communities, and those who are in need.

Upcoming Events

The Maryland State Council has planned several activities and events for the upcoming four months of the fraternal year:

· November 9 – Statewide Memorial Mass at the Shrine of St. Anthony, 12290 Folly Quarter Rd, Ellicott City, MD

· November 15 – Navy Football Game vs. South Florida at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium,

· December 13 – State Christmas Party at Cardinal Gibbons Council #2521, 4301 Klosterman Ave, Nottingham, MD

Closing Reflections

In closing, I ask that we, as brother Knights, pray for God's divine intervention and guidance as we face the challenges and difficulties currently being experienced in our nation. Let us continue, each in our own way, to "Make a Difference in Someone's Life

Vivat Jesus

LET US PRAY

Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney Founder of the Knights of Columbus

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church.
Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast.
We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will.
Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present *(here make your request).*
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Queen of The Knights

Our Lady, *Queen of the Knights, *bless all the activities of our Order. *Keep us true to the pledge * to extend the kingship of thy Divine Son on Earth, * Through Thine intercession, * win for us the grace* ever to exemplify in our public and private lives, * the virtues which should characterize* those specially dedicated* to the service of the heavenly court. *Make us always aware *that as your Knights* we are constantly observed, *our faith judged* and our Order appreciated. *Accept, O Mary, *this renewed pledge of fealty and devotion* of thy servants, *the Knights of Columbus.

AMEN

2025- 2026 Officers

Chaplain
Rev. Fr Avelino Gonzalez-Ferrer
agonzalez7663@gmail.com
301-459-4815
Associate Chaplain
Rev. Fr Canice Enyiaka
chinyeakaenyiaka@gmail.com
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Assistant to the Chaplain
Deacon Alton Davis
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240-691-9462
Grand Knight
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Ephraim Eke
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301-256-5182
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Felipe Garcia
240-853-3298
Recorder
Patrick A Mansaray
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Sylvester Ikpi, PGK, PFN
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Financial Secretary
Donahue Aitcheson, PGK
donaitcheson@gmail.com

Family Activity
Family of the Month
Sylvester Ikpi, PGK, PFN
301-613-8762 or sylvester.ikpi@gmail.com

Our recent family of the month for awardees have been:
September 2025 – Emmanuel & Cynthia Amanyeiwe

Thank you all for your service to the Council, Parish and Community. We pray for God's continued blessings for you and your family.

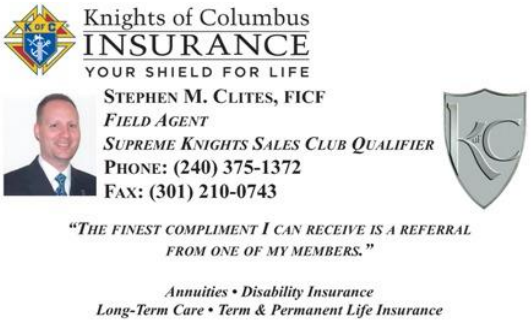
Faith Activity
Don Aitcheson, PGK

We commemorate the following feast days and saints:
November : All Saints (1), All Souls (2), Martin de Porres(3), Charles Borromeo(4), Lateran Basilica(9), Frances Cabrini(13), Albert(15), Margaret of Scotland(16), Elizabeth of Hungary(17), Presentation of Mary(21), Cecilia(22), Andrew Dung-Lac(24), Catherine of Alexandria(25), Andrew(30)

December: Francis Xavier(4), Nicholas(6), Ambrose(7), Immaculate Conception(8), Juan Diego(9), OLGuadalupe(12), Lucy(13), John of the Cross(14), Nativity of the Lord(25),Stephen(26),John(27), Holy Family (28),Thomas Becket(29),Sylvester(31)

January: Solemnity of Mary(1), Basil & Gregory(2), Epiphany(4), John Neumann(5), Baptism of the Lord(11), Anthony(17), Agnes(21), Day of Prayer for Unborn(22), Francis de Sales(24), Timothy & Titus(26), Thomas Aquinas(28), John Bosco(31

Fraternal Benefits Corner
Stephen Clites
stephen.clites@kofc.org
240-375-1372



Please contact the benefits agent to discuss your needs. Free Consultation.

Community Activity

The NFL season in now past the halfway mark. Thank you to our volunteers for their dedication to this worthy cause.
Scholarships will be disbursed at the end of the season in Jan/Feb 2026.
Contact Sony (202-413-1066) or Don (240-481-0622) for more info.
The Council is in the process of ordering and setting up a mechanism for members to purchase council logo polo shirts. Contact the chancellor Ephraim Eke for details.

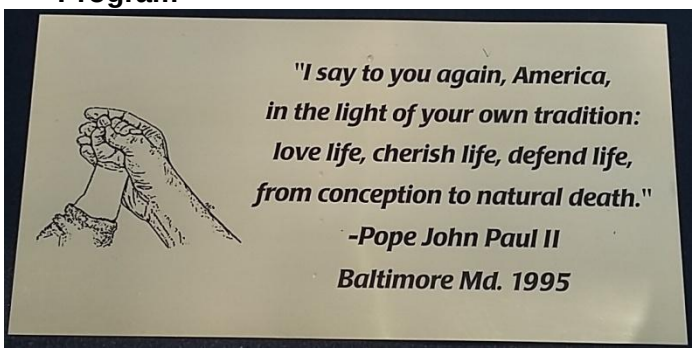
Prayer to Mother Seton

Lord God,
You blessed Elizabeth Seton with gifts of grace
As wife and mother, educator and foundress,
So that she might spend her life in service to your people.
Through her example and prayers
May we learn to express our love for you
In love for our fellow men and women.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

James Kalshoven, PGK
Pro - Life Activity

We continue to Defend Life from Conception to Natural Death.

Defend Life - Support the Ultrasound Program



Membership Corner

Membership Director
E. Sony Ajayi, PGK
sonyajayi@yahoo.com
202-413-1066

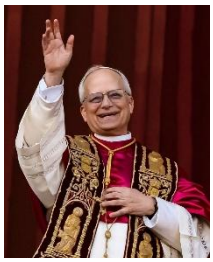
"Make It Personal and Ask"

Checker:
2025-26 : GOAL: 9
NET: 9
Every day is a new opportunity
www.kofc.org/join

We are nearly half way to the finish line. Keep your eyes on the prize!!

Catholic Corner

Pope Leo's Prayer Intentions for November/December 2025



The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network invites all to join in the Holy Father's Nov/Dec 2025 prayer intention:

November

For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

December

For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Daily Offering Prayer

God, our Father, I offer You my day. I offer You my prayers, thoughts, words, actions, joys, and sufferings in union with the Heart of Jesus, who continues to offer Himself in the Eucharist for the salvation of the world. May the Holy Spirit, Who guided Jesus, be my guide and my strength today so that I may witness to your love. With Mary, the mother of our Lord and the Church, I pray for all Apostles of Prayer and for the prayer intentions proposed by the Holy Father this month. Amen.

Church of the Nativity

Jerusalem, Palestine

Sick and Recovering

Brothers

Christopher Agboli, PGK
Kevin Butler, PGK
Deacon Alton Davis
Nicholas Kniska, HLM
Everett Lallis
Crépin M. Mahop
Joseph Ngu. PGK
Rodney Oak, PGK
Bob Worthington, FDD, PFN, PGK

Relatives/Friends

Helen Dziduch
Eugenia Ikpi
Gay Magruder
Margaret Mary Opalski

Lord, look upon me with eyes of mercy,
may your healing hand rest upon me,
may your life-giving powers flow into every cell of my body
and into the depths of my soul,
cleansing, purifying, restoring me to wholeness
and strength for service in your Kingdom. Amen

If you know a Brother Knight or a family member who is sick, recovering or recently deceased, please contact us so that we may pray for them. Your help is needed to manage this list (Editor: aitcheson@hotmail.com.)

Father of goodness and love; hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering, may they find consolation in your healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts. We ask this though the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.

Editor's Pen

If there is a special request for a copy of the Seton noteS by mail, let us know. Please send all newsletter related issues to Don Aitcheson at aitcheson@hotmail.com (240-481-0622). The deadline for article submission is the 20th of each month. The email edition will be sent on or about the 1st of each month. Please feel free to give us feedback. Copies are available in the pamphlet rack at St. Matthias. back of Saint Matthias Church and on the website at www.stmatthias.org

In Memoriam

Joseph R. Corson

July 25, 2025 – May 15, 2025
Honorary Lifetime Member (**HLM**), PGK, FDD

Francis B. Pinkston

April 17, 1930 – September 25, 2025
Mother Seton Council, PGK (1990-1991)

Ladies Auxiliary Members

Janice "Jan" Jarus

Died October 29, 2025

Hidegard Jorgensen

July 15, 1936 – September 16, 2025

The Annual Council Mass of Remembrance will be held at 8:30AM on Saturday, November 8.
The necrology will be read starting at 8:05AM.
May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen

Supreme Council News

Visible Signs of Devotion

Pope Leo XIV greets Knights of Columbus Board of Directors during Jubilee pilgrimage to Rome

Pope Leo XIV and the Knights of Columbus Board of Directors are pictured together following the Oct. 6 audience in the Sala del Concistoro of the Vatican Apostolic Palace. *(Photo by Vatican Media)*

Pope Leo XIV received in private audience the Knights of Columbus Board of Directors Oct. 6 and commended the Order's charitable work, including "efforts to uphold the sanctity of human life in all of its stages."

The audience took place in the Sala del Concistoro (Hall of the Consistory) of the Vatican Apostolic Palace during the board's pilgrimage to Rome for the Jubilee Year of Hope.

"Through a variety of initiatives undertaken by local councils," Pope Leo said, "you and your brother Knights also seek to bring the compassion and love of the Lord into your local communities, including through your efforts to uphold the sanctity of human life in all of its stages, to assist victims of war and natural disasters, and also to support priestly vocations."

The Holy Father expressed his gratitude to the Knights of Columbus for its role in restoring two 17th-century works by Baroque sculptor Gian Lorenzo Bernini in St. Peter's Basilica: the iconic baldacchino and the gilt bronze monument containing the Chair of St. Peter. The monthslong cleaning and preservation projects, underwritten by the Order, were undertaken by the Fabbrica di San Pietro in 2024 in anticipation of the Jubilee Year.

"These masterpieces help all who look upon them to contemplate two of the principal tenets of our faith: the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and the pope as successor of Peter, who unites and guides the Church," Pope Leo said. "I would like to express profound gratitude to the Knights of Columbus for your generosity in making these projects possible. They are a visible sign of your continued devotion to the Vicar of Christ," he added, noting the millions of pilgrims who would see the restored masterpieces over the course of the Jubilee Year.

Pope Leo further noted, "Throughout its history, the Order has supported the charitable work of the Roman pontiff in a variety of ways," enabling him "to express solidarity with the poor and most vulnerable throughout the world."

Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly and Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori met privately with the U.S.-born Pope Leo for the first time on July 4. During that meeting, they pledged the Order's loyalty to the new pontiff and provided an overview of the activities of the Knights of Columbus.

The supreme knight and supreme chaplain again met with Pope Leo shortly before the Oct. 6 audience with the board of directors. In addition to discussing K of C initiatives and sharing about their recent visit to the Holy Land, Supreme Knight Kelly presented the Holy Father with a bound copy of personal petitions submitted during the Order's novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The novena, which was prayed for the intentions of the newly elected pontiff, began June 19, the anniversary of Pope Leo's ordination as a priest. The supreme knight also presented a calligraphed copy of a resolution in honor of the Holy Father, adopted by the delegates to the 143rd Supreme Convention in August.

"It was a wonderful meeting where we were able to express our thanks to him and what he means to us," said Supreme Knight Kelly in an interview with Vatican News following the pope's Oct. 6 audience with the board. "We were honored that he expressed his gratitude to the Knights of Columbus and the works that we do to support the Church, to support the Vatican and to support human life."

Reprinted from www.kofc.org 10/8/2025

Maryland State Council News

State Deputy
Anthony Salvemini

Nov 15 - Navy Football Game vs South Florida Navy-Marine Corps at, Memorial Stadium 200-298 Farragut Rd, Annapolis, MD 21401, RSVP Thom Partenope, Chairman Thom.pfn379@gmail.com

The Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus sponsors several High School scholarships for its members and for Catholic Students in general. The application period is from October 1, 2025, to March 1, 2026. All applications must be received in their entirety by the Scholarship Committee no later than March 1, 2026. Scholarship information and application information is included below (preferred) or write to: Maryland State Council Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee P.O. Box 1468, Bowie, MD 20717.

The Frederick M. Gossman scholarship assists members of the Knights of Columbus in good standing within a council of the Maryland Jurisdiction. This scholarship provides tuition assistance for members' sons or daughters at an accredited Catholic high school. Three tuition assistance grants of $1,500.00 per year for up to 4 years will be awarded. Awards will be based on academic excellence, personal qualifications, and financial need. Continued support after the first year is contingent on continued academic success. The children of deceased members are also eligible, provided the member was in good standing at the time of death.

The William J. O'Brien, Jr. scholarship is open to any Catholic student who is a Maryland resident. Affiliation with the Knights of Columbus is not required, but children and grandchildren of Knights are welcome to apply. Three tuition assistance grants of $1,500.00 per year for up to 4 years will be awarded. Awards will be based on academic excellence, personal qualifications, and financial need. Continued support after the first year is contingent on continued academic success. **For more details, go to *www.kofc-md.org***

Sign up new members online

Log in to:
www. Kofc.org/Join
Remember to use Council # 5381

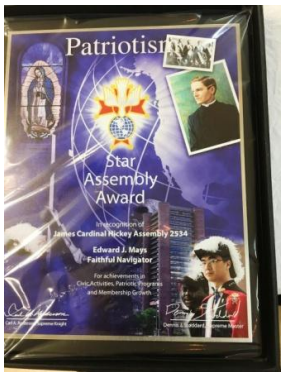
Fourth Degree Report

Bishop James E. Walsh Assembly No. 1548

Meets on the 2nd Monday, 7:00 pm at Father Michael Kidd Council, Holy Family Church, Mitchellville, MD

Next scheduled meeting is Nov10/Dec8/Jan12 @ 7PM

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF MEETING LOCATION



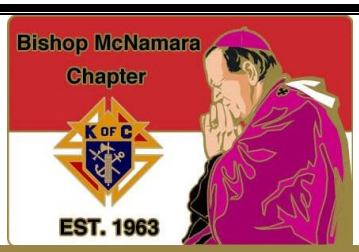
ADW Website (***www.awddistrict.org***)

Official Flag Days in the USA

Nov/Dec/Jan

Nov 10 – Marine Corp Birthday
Nov 11 - Veterans Day
Nov 27 - Thanksgiving Day
Dec 7 - Pearl Harbor Day
Dec 17 - Pan American Aviation Day (Latin Amer.)
Dec 25 - Christmas Day
Jan 1 - New Year's Day
Jan 19 - Martin Luther King Day

Bishop McNamara Chapter of Grand Knights
Maryland State Council



Upcoming Chapter Meetings

Nov 19, 2025	Monthly Meeting
Dec 17, 2025	Monthly Meeting
Jan 21, 2026	Monthly Meeting

Come hear about all the exciting events and activities that are planned for the year. The Chapter encourages not only Grand Knights to attend, but also Deputy Grand Knights and Council Program Directors. The Chapter meets the third Wednesday of each month except for December. The location varies.

BIRTHDAYS FOR NOV- JAN

Council

November

Robert R Grill 11-01-
Charles T Hankins Jr 11-09
Christopher N Emboli PGK 11-16
Obiesiemike Ijeabuonwu 11-16
Philip Anyacho 11-20
Xavier Cherisca 11-22
Dominic E Forka PGK 11-23
Sylvester E Ikpi PGK 11-26
James Asonglefac 11-27
Donald R Herring 11-30

December

Paul I Agboli 12-01
Romanus N Onye 12-03
Casmir Anyanwu 12-06
Albert R Barry 12-06
Nicholas E Kniska 12-06
Deacon Charles A Mallon 12-12
Emmanuel T Senessie 12-15
Peter C Nwaigwe 12-18
Samuel A Bangura 12-22
Emmanuel I Madagu PGK 12-25
Innocent U Francis 12-28
Villamor S Reyes 12-28
Crepin M Mahop 12-31

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

January

James E Kalshoven PGK 01-01
Oliver Ojiaku 01-01
Joseph N Ngu 01-05
George Thompson 01-05
Innocent O Nwadije 01-09
John S Urban 01-09
Clinton Eke 01-11
Augustine A Chijioke 01-13
John B Ojo 01-16
Rev. Blaise Bobi-Attachie 01-17
Francis Bup 01-25

Ladies Auxiliary

Knights of Columbus
Mother Seton Council #5381
9475 Annapolis Road
Lanham, MD 20706-3020

Upcoming Council Events Calendar

Nov 1	All Saints Day
Nov 2	All Souls Day
Nov 4	Council Meeting – 8PM
Nov 8	Annual Council Memorial Mass & Necrology Reading @ 8am
Nov 13	KoC Monthly Virtual Rosary by Zoom
Nov 18	Council Meeting – 8PM
Dec 2	Council Meeting – 8PM
Dec 16	Council Meeting – 8PM
Dec 25	Christmas Day
Jan 1	New Year's Day
Jan 4	Feast of Elizabeth Ann Seton (deferred this year-Epiphany Sun)
Jan 6	Council Meeting – 8PM
Jan 8	Mother Seton Council #5381 – 63rd Anniversary
Jan 20	Council Meeting – 8PM

Council meetings are held 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Hughes Center at Saint Matthias Parish, Lanham, MD unless otherwise posted.