



Rev. John J. Murray

American Martyrs KNIGHT LIGHT

Fr. John J. Murray Council #14666



Issue 8. November 2013

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GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

By: Joe Timpa

I was blessed in 1990 (I do not use the word 'blessed' lightly) with the birth of my first child. She was healthy and beautiful, and, I started a new job with the South Farmingdale Water District. I had never even heard of a 'water district' before exploring the opportunity. We are a governmental utility that services Farmingdale and neighboring communities.

Gainful employment is such an important part of our existence. The ability to provide for oneself and loved ones is a foundational requisite. This job has been unbelievable for my family and I - "knock on wood."

On Monday September 9, I was driving eastbound on Hempstead Turnpike, headed for work. I caught a quick glimpse of a man, a woman, and a child on the eastbound sidewalk, pushing grocery store shopping carts, piled high with what looked to be their possessions. I have to assume they were homeless. My head has never been in the sand when it comes to noticing the suffering of too many of our brothers and sisters.

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Corporal Works of Mercy

To feed the hungry
To give drink to the thirsty
To clothe the naked
To visit and ransom the captives
To shelter the homeless
To visit the sick
To bury the dead

Help Wanted: LECTURER

By: Mike Shoule



The Grand Knight's handbook describes the role of the lecturer as the person "responsible to provide suitable educational and entertaining programs under the "Good of the Order" section of the Council meeting." It is without doubt that the success of our Council is attributable to men like charter member and lecturer Don Hamilton who fulfilled all of those duties and then some.

A mainstay at 8:30 mass for years, Don anchors the usher responsibilities along with

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I went to school and worked in Manhattan, and took the subways long enough to see enough. Homelessness, hunger, and poverty are not invisible, unless you *don't care*. Over all of these years however, I do not ever recall seeing with my own eyes, right before me, a little one, walking the streets like that. The little guy should have been on his way to his first day of school. I don't think he was headed to school.

Please pray for that family and all of the jobless, the homeless, the hungry, those ill, those suffering in any manner. Please let's continue to do our best to help as many people as we can, in as many ways as we can. I know that all of us in our council *do care*.

Sincerely,
Joe T. GK

Installation of Council Officers

On October 24, the officers of our council were installed by District Deputies Michael Hilley and Bob Graziano, Chairman of the Board of District Deputies. Also present was the Chairman of the Queens County Conference, Rocco D'Erasmus.



Not pictured are FS Matt Byrne and Trustees Deacon Stan Galazin and Fr. Bill Sweeney



Hardworking volunteers from the Samuel Field Y Youth Group



Thank you to all those who helped with the Knights of Columbus Greenway Clean-Way event.

See Page 9 for more details!

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brother Knight John Galanaugh. I can personally attest to that fact as regardless of which door I used to enter the church, there was no escaping "Detective Don" if he needed an extra usher. In his defense though, he knew he was competing with his wonderful wife Betty who was on the lookout for Eucharistic ministers so he had to act quick.

Ultimately his real rise to fame came as Don "Basket of Cheer" Hamilton which was less an indication of his positive demeanor than it was him being the unwilling volunteer to prepare the coveted wine basket for our event raffles. While he took a lot of ribbing that it was Betty who did all the work, we all know the truth (don't we?)

I consider it a privilege to have known Don and I know that many of us feel the same way. We will miss having him and Betty in our parish. In my eyes, Don's life is a great example of what it means to be a Catholic man and a Knight of Columbus. He lives the four core principles of the Knights daily - namely charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism.

Possibly the greatest example of this is how Don and Betty have gone out of their way to assist the widow of our dear friend Lou Foresta. Whether it is driving Ellie to mass and other church functions or aiding her with everyday tasks, Don and Betty have really stepped up to the plate. As they prepare for their move to Arizona, this role is clearly the more important one to fill as compared to the lecturer responsibilities.

After enduring snowstorms and hurricanes for two consecutive Octobers, it is understandable why Don is looking forward to the "dry heat" of Arizona. There is a parish and a Knights of Columbus Council out that way somewhere that doesn't know how lucky they are about to be. In the meantime we will continue to appreciate having Don here knowing how much both he and Betty will be missed.

Don Hamilton – you truly exemplify the "Good of the Order".

We wish you both, the best of everything as you embark upon this change of scenery.

You are in our hearts and our prayers.



DON'T BECOME A CRIME STATISTIC

By: Carl Reyes

On September 26th our council hosted a security presentation by Police Officer Luigi Galano of the 111th Precinct's Crime Prevention Unit. The presentation was very informative and well received by all in attendance. Officer Galano advised us of several reported incidents affecting our immediate area and suggested ways to minimize our exposure. Following are some highlights of his presentation for those of you who couldn't attend:

Identity Theft: It's the fastest growing crime and can create financial hardships for those affected. Minimize your exposure by not carrying documents with your social security number on it, i.e. Social Security card, Medicare card (carry only when you have a scheduled doctor's appointment), etc.

Health Club Thefts: The second fastest growing crime in our community. For all our jocks, don't leave valuables in the clothing lockers. Use security lockers that are monitored by staff.

Auto Larcenies: Don't leave valuables in plain sight. Not only won't they be there upon your return, you'll probably have to pay to have your broken window repaired. During this upcoming holiday shopping season, park in well lit areas and don't store purchased gifts in your car while you continue shopping. Someone may be watching.

Burglaries: Some good news, they're on the decline in our area. The best deterrent is a functioning security camera followed closely by a barking dog. Keep in mind dogs need to be walked on cold winter nights.

Pick Pocketing: Reports have risen in high density shopping areas. Be aware of your surroundings and safeguard your valuables.

One of the recurring themes throughout the presentation was the need to report any suspicious activities through the 911 system. Your suspicions may prove to be unfounded, but let the responding officers make that decision.



The meeting ended with a discussion on how to deal with disruptions at large gatherings. This was very topical with the recent events in Kenya and Roosevelt Field. Closer to home, our large gatherings include Bingo on Tuesday evenings, all our Masses and various other Church sponsored events.

There isn't a single right, or wrong, response to emergency situations. People react differently when confronted with such incidents. Opportunities arise, and vanish, as an incident evolves. Responses can range from doing nothing to defending yourself or others. Once again, it helps to be aware of your surroundings. Assess the situation and develop an exit strategy. Keep in mind that the way you came in may not be the best way out. If safely evacuating an area is not an immediate option, concealment may be appropriate. Call for emergency assistance (911) as soon as an opportunity arises. Don't depend on someone else making the call for you.

Thanks to the efforts of the New York City Police Department, we live in one of the safest communities, in one of the safest large cities, in this country. Let's help them help us by heeding some of their advice, and taking reasonable precautions while going about our daily routines. Hopefully our biggest problem will be calming an excited bingo player.



The Knight Light Is On... Tony Z



By: Mike Tramonte

He has been described as intense, complex, opinionated and loving. By now, you must have guessed that I am talking about our special brother and knight, Anthony Zafferese. Tony and his wife Johanna have been members of our parish for fifteen years and he is a charter member of the Father John J. Murray Knights of Columbus Council and the Catholic War Veterans. He is also Captain of the Ushers and a Eucharistic minister.

Besides all this, Tony heads up weekly Bingo at American Martyrs and with the help of Matt Byrne and Dave Russell, manages to keep the Knights involved and participating. We all know that if we miss our Tuesday assignment we will definitely hear from Tony!

I had a chance to sit down with Tony recently to pose a few questions and get to know this special guy a little better. Here are a few responses from his interview:

What role do you see the Knights playing on our parish?

I think we should donate our time and efforts to support all the parish activities and the other organizations in our parish, such as the sports program, St. Vincent DePaul and the Catholic War

Veterans. We can help other parishes too, but our parish should come first. We have many Knights and in numbers there is strength.

You seem to be the engine that makes Bingo run. How did you get so involved?

I enjoyed the game and always played. Our previous pastor, Monsignor Keppler, asked me if I would help run the operation. I have been doing it since then.

What are the joys and challenges of the operation?

I enjoy the people and the game. Sometimes I'll be out with my wife and I'll say hello to one of our regular players at a store. That's nice, I meet them all over. The worst part is all the complaints: "It's too hot in here! It's too cold!"

What led you to select American Martyrs?

I knew Father Sullivan from St. Roberts. He married my wife and me forty seven years ago. When I started coming to American Martyrs, I met Father Murray and decided to change parishes. I really became involved in all the church activities because of him. At one point Deacon Stan asked me to become a Eucharistic Minister. When I was initiated at my first mass, it was one of the happiest days of my life and I invited my whole family to come that day.

You are very concerned about taking care of the widows of brothers we have lost, how did that come about?

It began when I lost my good friend Lou. Lou Foresta was probably the best friend I ever had. He always encouraged me to do more and come to all the meetings, even when I was feeling tired. He brought out the best in me and I will never forget the experience of delivering his eulogy, it was very difficult for me. I think we should look out for all the widows of the Knights we have lost.

I really enjoyed sitting with Tony and getting to know him a little better. He is a tireless worker who is totally dedicated to our Knights council and our parish. I think he truly is a special Knight or to quote Dave Russell, "He is one of a kind!"



The Men in Red... Do it Again!

Another fun filled "Welcome Back BBQ" was held on October 15th. Our Knights prepared a wonderful BBQ for our parish families and to welcome our CCD students back.



Barbeque

Rain or Shine - Food Collection Continues!

By: Jim Tavcar

Despite heavy rain which kept the shoppers away, we still managed to have a successful food collection event. We collected \$257.81 in cash, while collecting 13 bags for American Martyr's pantry and 45 bags for Our Lady of Lourdes Outreach. Special thanks to all who participated, especially Marie DeAngelis, who sorted the food between pantries. Thanks also to Emily Liatto whose presence inspired us all.

Thanks also to Charlie Guarneri and Mike Tramonte whose powers of persuasion led to them collecting about 80% of the cash! Special thanks to Stop & Shop, 653 Hillside Ave, New Hyde Park for allowing us to conduct this food collection there.



2013 AMAA Kickoff Celebration - A Huge Success!

By: Mike Cassano

On October 7th American Martyrs took over Bell Blvd's Bourbon Street with 150 supporters at the American Martyrs Athletic Association's Kickoff Celebration. The evening saw many introductions of AMAA families and their children to members of our K of C Council and their families. It really was great to see everyone smiling and celebrating the AMAA's successful resurrection and promising future.

We had special guest speakers such as our Councilman Mark Weprin, our Worthy Chaplain and Pastor, Father Frank Schwarz, Ed Malench from the Catholic War Veterans and Sue Templin from Religious Education.



The Knights were formally recognized for each and every event they helped with, whether it was volunteering time, providing equipment for our car wash or being there that night to share in the celebration. In one of the check presentations to the athletic association, GK Joe Timpa and DGK Michael Mitts presented a check from the Council for \$500!

The families and kids gave a huge round of applause for the wonderful support the Knights have given to the athletic association over the past few years since the resurrection of the program. Our GK did a great job representing our council while addressing the attending supporters with kind words of support and continued well wishes.

A special thank you goes out to Steven Caruso who came through with the top selling raffle. The brand new soccer, football and basketball prize went over huge with all the kids and their parents.

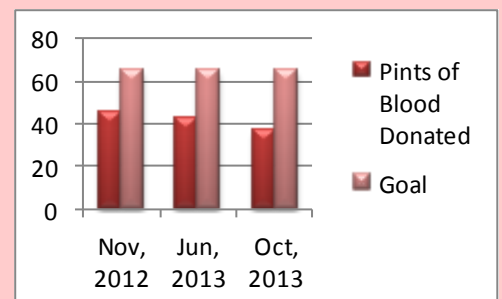
All in all it was a huge success and we are so excited for next year's Kickoff Celebration at Morton's in Great Neck. Just kidding fellas....

Thanks to all that supported the event and the children of the American Martyrs Athletic Association.

Go Eagles!!!!

Blood Is Life! - We can do it!

There is a great need for blood donations. Our brother Knight Ed Pearce reminds us that the goal for each collection event is 65 pints. We have not made that goal, and according to the chart, donations have declined. Lets roll up our sleeves and get out there during the next collection event. Please get your friends and family involved.



Congratulations Catholic War Veterans

Congratulations to all the newly elected officers of the Catholic War Veterans Post 1772. The officers were installed September 29, in a ceremony after the 10:30 Mass.



Congratulations To All Our Knights!

For the second year in a row, our Council has been awarded **Double Star Council**. The award was presented to us on October 18, by NY State Deputy Carmine Musumeci. Our Council also received the **Circle of Honor Award** that night, as well. Keep up the great work.



Congratulations First and Second Degree

On September 25, Robert Mitts became the council's newest member receiving his First and Second Degrees at General Sherman - Father Shine Council in Flushing. Also that evening, Gabriel Moronta made his Second Degree. Congratulations to them both.



It should be noted that Robert Mitts is the father of Michael and they are the first father/son combination in the council.

However, we know there are more out there. **Please encourage your fathers and/or sons to join our order.**

Congratulations Newly Confirmed

St Robert Bellarmine and American Martyrs celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on October 19, 2013. The celebrant was Most Rev. Raymond F. Chappetto, D.D.



American Martyrs

April Cabral	Victoria Hand
Annie Cheng	Trinity Hernandez
Michael Chimenti *	Jonathan LeRoux
Marissa Cronin	Kristen Livingston
Priscilla Estevez	Christian Lyons *
Kevin Fourman	Emily Mitts *
Christian Garcia	Isabella Reilly *
Samantha Gong	Paul Russell *
Christian Guthenburg	John Sullivan

Congratulations

To all our students -
God Bless You.



Mr. Timpa

Mr. Mitts



*Of the 18 American Martyrs students, 5 are the children of Knights.

Feast of the North American Martyrs

Our native saint

Kateri Tekakwitha,
Lily of the Mohawks



Novena Prayer to Saint Kateri Tekakwitha

Kateri, favored child and Lily of the Mohawks, I come to seek your intercession in my present need. I admire the virtues which adorned your soul; love of God and neighbor, humility, obedience, patience, purity and the spirit of sacrifice. Help me to imitate your example in my state of life. Through the goodness and mercy of God. Who has blessed you with so many graces which led you to the true faith and to a high degree of holiness, pray to God for me and help me.

Obtain for me a very fervent devotion to the holy Eucharist so that I may love Holy Mass as you did and receive Holy Communion as often as I can. Teach me also to be devoted to my crucified savior as you were, that I may cheerfully bear my daily crosses for love of Him Who suffered so much for love of me. Most of all I beg you to pray for me that I may avoid sin, lead a holy life and save my soul.

This and That

By: Michael Mitts

On September 14th, I took a trip out with the family to Wading River, Long Island to pick apples and vegetables at Lewin's Farm. While there, I met Marty Keller, Bob Hagerty, and Freddy McGuinness of Fr. William J. Crowley Council #5817 selling C&B books. Keep up the great work brothers!



Have you ever wondered how to administer antibiotics to a 180 pound gorilla recovering from surgery? Well, the NY Times reports that Kathy D'Andrea, Wild Animal Keeper at the Bronx Zoo and sister to our own Worthy Outside Guard Dominick D'Andrea, came up with an idea to sandwich the medicine between peanut shells. This technique was necessary because the gorilla kept spitting out the pills. Who likes the taste of medicine anyway?

I heard that Macy's is opening on Thanksgiving Day. It reminds me of the scene in *Miracle on 34th Street* when Alfred (the janitor at Macy's) says "Yeah, there's a lot of bad 'isms' floatin' around this world, but one of the worst is commercialism. Make a buck, make a buck. Even in Brooklyn it's the same - don't care what Christmas stands for, just make a buck, make a buck."

Our Council is now on Twitter (**kofc14666**). Here you can get up to the minute updates on events and news from our Council. So far there are 3 subscribers: my wife, my brother, and me...so much for technology.

In the new movie "Captain Phillips," the film based on the 2009 hijacking of an American cargo ship by pirates off the coast of Somalia and the successful recovery effort by the U.S. Navy, the daring Easter Sunday rescue of Capt. Phillips was overseen by Capt. Francis X. Castellano, a member of the Knights of Columbus for 27 years. Check out: <http://www.kofc.org/un/en/news/releases/detail/capt-castellano.html> to learn more.

I am thankful for my life and health, my family and friends, our church, and our country.
Happy Thanksgiving!
Peace.

The Party that Almost Wasn't

By: Mike Shoule

It could have been worst. But thankfully in the end, the decision to un-cancel this year's Oktoberfest party was a good one as over 100 guests gathered in the Sullivan Center on Saturday, October 12th after the 5pm mass for a fun celebration. After last year's successful Oktoberfest we decided as a Council to go with the same theme again this year instead of the traditional Columbus Day weekend spaghetti supper.

Frank's Deli in Maspeth catered a delicious array of German sausages, meats, and other fare that was served by some of our youth group members and the wives and children of brother Knights. Thank you to everyone who assisted. The dinner of course was complemented by soft pretzels, soda and a keg of seasonal Oktoberfest beer followed by Italian (rather than German-haha) cookies and coffee.



The Sullivan Center was decorated to the hilt with a variety of vintage Oktoberfest signage and blue and white streamers draped across the ceiling. The tables were arranged in the same picnic table style set-up that lends itself to Oktoberfest camaraderie. One change from last year is that we were treated to live entertainment from accordion player Al Zimmermann that brother Knight Carl Reyes was able to secure. He kept the room lively throughout and added to the festivities by going table to table playing requests.

Thank you to everyone who made Oktoberfest a success and to those who stuck around to lighten the keg and assist with cleaning up the Sullivan Center.

Keeping the Greenway a Clean-way

By: Mike Shoule

Saturday morning, October 19th marked the fifth installment of the Greenway Clean-way event when about 75 children and adults showed up to beautify the old Vanderbilt Motor Parkway aka "the bicycle path" from Winchester Blvd. to Hollis Hills Terrace.

It was a reflection of the success of our continued efforts when one volunteer commented "There wasn't enough garbage". That thinking was reinforced when our NYC Parks contact person thanked us and stated that he hasn't sent his people to do a Greenway clean-up for a few years now.

For the second time in a row a team from the Samuel Field Y youth group joined us and as has been the case from the beginning, members of the Alley Pond Striders were out in full force to assist. Special thanks to those who volunteered to be point people-Carmine Vaccarino, Louis Diaz, Carl Reyes, Sal Tartaglione, and John Galanaugh.

Mark your calendars -the next Greenway Clean-way Day will Saturday, April 12th, 2014.



SECURITY WHEN YOU NEED IT MOST.

“My husband Kevin was so passionate about the importance of taking care of our family. He was the kind of guy people would look at and say, ‘That is the kind of father or husband I want to be.’

“I know too many people who don’t have life insurance and haven’t taken the steps to protect their family.

“Now, I am an advocate for life insurance. Without it, I would have ended up in bankruptcy, questioning how I would have raised the kids.” — *Dorothy, a K of C insured member’s widow*



For information about the insurance program, please contact me:

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Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

LIFE INSURANCE

LONG-TERM CARE

DISABILITY

ANNUITIES

ESTATE PLANNING

There is no more highly rated insurer in North America.

SAVE THE DATE!

- 11/14 Meeting
- 11/25 Interfaith Prayer Service
- 11/28 Happy Thanksgiving!
- 12/7-8 Christmas Fair
- 12/12 Meeting
- 12/14 CWV Breakfast with Santa
- 12/14 Lessons & Carols, Tree Lighting
- 12/25 Merry Christmas

VISIT US ON THE WEB!

<http://home.catholicweb.com/FatherJohnMurrayKofC>

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