

SPIRIT OF 85

JOHN BOYLE O'REILLY COUNCIL #85

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

March, 2003

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE



Brother Knights,

Our Council and Our Order experienced sadness during February and March due to the death of four of our brothers. On February 15th Past Grand Knight Thomas Doherty, Sr. departed from us after a long illness. Mark Connors, who was a member of the last active Columbian Squires of Our Council passed away on February 18th. Also on Tuesday February 18th Past Grand Knight George "Pete" Mara succumbed to his long illness. Walter O'Neil died suddenly on March 10th. Upon learning of the loss of our brothers we responded to the request for our prayer service at their Wake. The call for assembly of members was sent on our Email list and was always explained in the obituary in the newspaper. I want to express my thanks to all of the members who have attended these services. I believe very deeply in the importance of these services as they are traditionally based upon the founding principles of the Knights of Columbus. Masses at St. Luke's have been arranged for each of these brothers and all members are encouraged to attend. Each of the Masses is during the regular 8 AM Saturday Mass. I have learned that the Mass for Mark is within 2 days of what would have been his 45th birthday on May 15th. The dates are as follows;

Tom Doherty	May 3 rd
Pete Mara	May 10 th
Mark Connors	May 17 th
Walter O'Neil	May 31 st

Please read this newsletter carefully and save it to remind you of important dates ahead. Among all of the topics I wish to cover, the welcoming of members is always very pleasant. I welcome William "Bill" Beck. Bill took his 1st Degree in Medway on Sunday February 23rd and took his 2nd Degree in Northborough on Monday February 24th. Michael Donovan and Rich Reilly took their 2nd Degree on January 30th in Milford and Dennis Twomey took his 2nd in Southbridge on Monday March 24th. Congratulations to all on their advancement to Knighthood. Due to the large number of members of our council who are candidates for their 3rd Degree, Council 85 will host a **3rd Degree on Sunday April 6th** at 2:00 PM. Candidates are requested to arrive by 1:30. All members please consider attending this degree ceremony and support our members with your presence at this exemplification.

The weekend of April 5th will be very busy. It is rare that we would ask you to give up so much of your time on a single weekend so I suppose we can just attribute this weekend to the Holy Spirit. The Worcester Diocese Men's Conference will be on Saturday April 5th. This event has received considerable promotion and the response from the men of St. Luke's has been quite good. We will meet at the back parking lot of the church at 7:30 AM on Saturday and car pool to Worcester for this event. Tickets are still available.

Our Financial Secretary has suggested to me that you check your Travel Card. If you do not have a current 2003 Membership Card, chances are that your dues have not yet been paid. Dave Sullivan is waiting to hear from you. Contact Dave at 508 366 4664 and he will be able to quickly get you your new Travel Card.

If you have any State Raffle Tickets that you wish to purchase or if you do not want to purchase the tickets please let us know soon so that we can turn these tickets in to the State before the State Convention.

Brothers, Saturday **March 29th is FOUNDERS DAY!** This will mark the 120th Anniversary of the Knights of Columbus. I am also reminded that last year on March 25th we held our first Rosary for the unborn. Since that Monday night Knights have gathered with the Marian Cenacle on the 4th Monday to pray the Rosary to end abortion. A special thank you to Rich and Susan Bailey for leading this activity. In April we will once again host the ICON of Our Lady of the Rosary on the last week of April. This is good news but due to the Celebration of Confirmation at St. Luke's on Monday April 28th we will need to plan an alternative day and time to pray the Rosary. Watch the St. Luke's bulletin for the date.

The planning for the contribution from the Bingo Committee for this spring has begun. Bingo players have been down but the need to help the team that makes this most important activity happen every week remains. Although we will definitely have to cut back some of the donations compared to last year, we continue to be able to support our community and especially the youth. This year we will again present Bibles to the young people who will make their Confirmation on Monday April 28th. A note of thanks to Peter Gardner of Curry Printing for donating the bookmarks for the Confirmands. Here's where you get my broken record because this really is important to our council. I cannot overstate the importance to the viability of our organization and the charitable work that we are able to do of Bingo. I call upon you to join us on **any Wednesday night** to see for yourself how you might be able to lend a hand. Many of the helpers who make up the volunteer workforce every week, come for the time that they can. As an example, some are better able to spend a few hours from 5 – 7. Others are better able to help from 7 – close. Any time that you could contribute would be helpful. **Give it a try! We need your help!**

Just a brief reminder that if any member needs transportation to a meeting or any activity we ask that you please call either Herman Millet at 508 366 6944 or Dave Sullivan at 508 366 4664.

Congratulations to Robert and Mary Kate Reid our January Family of the Month and John and Judy Hegarty who are our February Family of the Month.

It is time to begin to think about how you might serve the council next year. We will open nominations for council office for next year. If you are interested in an office just let me know. A nominating committee will be announced.

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Due to the Lantern Awards on April 21st there will be no second meeting in April.

I ask you to keep in your prayers any member of our council who is sick or in distress.

Fraternally Yours, *Herman Millet*, GK

VALENTINES DINNER DANCE

Our joint Valentines Dinner and Dance with the Masonic Lodge was a big success. There were 130 people who attended. Only 20 members were from our council. Thank you to everyone who attended and a special thank you to Bob Sylvester served as our chairman and collaborated with the members of the lodge to plan and organize this event. Everyone I spoke to that night wanted to plan another event again next year. A reminder that Leonard Anderson and his fellow Masons will be conducting their second CHIPS program to help parents to safely capture information to identify their children. The next CHIPS event will be Saturday March 29 at the Mill Pond School. I intend to volunteer to help out. If you would like information about this event you can contact Leonard Anderson at 366 4693.

CORPORATION UPDATE

Joe Pucciarelli, President of the Charitable Corporation wishes to report to you that, in accordance with the by-laws the Annual Meeting of the Corporation will be held on Monday May 5th at 7:30 PM. At this meeting you will hear a report of the work that the board members have been engaged on your behalf. You will also be asked to elect new members to the board of the Charitable Corporation. Members whose terms expire are Joe Dury, past President and current Vice President and Bob Kristan, Treasurer for the last 6 years. Both of these members are completing 3-year terms. You will also be asked to vote on the election of a member to complete the final year of Jim Lowe's 3 year term on the board. John Hegarty has been temporarily serving, with council approval, until this election. Nominations for these positions are open to all members. Anyone interested in serving on the board should contact a nominating committee member (Bob Sylvester, Dave Sullivan or Ed Woldarczyk).

**LAS VEGAS NIGHT
CONGRATULATIONS!**

A very successful Las Vegas Night Fund Raiser occurred on Saturday February 22nd. The Chairmen, Larry Boyd and Bob Sylvester reported that we will realize about \$1,200 from this event. This could not have come at a better time to help to build up our diminishing council resources. A sincere thanks to Larry and Bobby and all of their team. (Bob Kristan, Dave Sullivan, Rich Bailey, Jim O'Connor, Joe Paul, Chris Palladini, Arnie Cantera, Charlie Naples, Carroll Westgate, Herman Millet and Fred Brown.)

FAMILY COMMUNION BREAKFAST

On Sunday April 6th Michael Pakaluk will be our guest speaker at our Family Communion Breakfast. Mike will speak on the importance of the Luminous Mysteries in Family Life. Mike is a professor at Clark University. He is currently a visiting professor at Harvard University. There are just a few tickets remaining. You can contact Bob Mazzalupo (366 8809) or Dave Sullivan, FS (366 4664) if you would like tickets. Breakfast will be at our Hall following the 9:00 AM Mass.

TAX-DEFERRED ANNUITIES

Highest ratings in the industry!! Standard & Poors: AAA. AM Best: A++ The Knights of Columbus offers a highly competitive tax-deferred annuity. You don't pay income tax on the earnings until you withdraw them - which most likely will occur after you retire. And these tax-deferred earnings compound at a faster rate than money saved in a taxable account.

You can make one payment and select the age at which you begin receiving benefits. Or, make periodic payments of as much as you want for as long as you want. Either way, an annuity with the Knights can provide you with a retirement income you can't outlive.

In a financial world characterized by uncertainty, a Knights of Columbus tax-deferred annuity gives you peace of mind. Your principal is guaranteed, and your interest rate will not fall below 3.5%. What other kinds of investment vehicles give you *those* guarantees? You can transfer existing IRA's, CD's, old 401K's, and other annuities into a Knights of Columbus annuity. We also have regular and Roth IRAs.

I can provide you with a customized illustration of how an annuity would work for you. Just give me a call.
Thomas J. Giblin, Field Agent
781-769-3277 Bus., **508-478-2786 Res.**

IN MEMORIAM

Tom Doherty, PGK Pete Mara, PGK
Mark Connors Walter O'Neil

**Our prayers and deepest sympathies are with the families of our departed brothers. Hear us O Lord, as we humbly pray Thee to show Thy mercy upon the souls of Thy servants, our Brothers Tom, Pete, Mark and Walter and place them in the region of Peace and Light so that they may partake with Thy Saints.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

NEXT MEETING!!!

**The next business meeting of the Council will be on Monday, April 7th, 2003 at 7:30 P.M.
See you there!!!**
