KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREEHOLD COUNCIL 1672



CMPASS

### JULY - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER, 2020

## **GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE** Brian Barrett GK

Dear Brothers, Despite the fact that there were several issues with signing in to (what is hopefully) our last ZOOM meeting, Tuesday, June 9th, we held our Election of Officers for the 2020 - 2021 Columbian Year. Drum roll please.....and the results are:

Freehold Council #1672 Grand Knight - Brian Barrett Deputy Grand Knight - Ed Hudak Chancellor - Chris Barnett Warden - Bill Butch Treasurer – John Belbol Advocate – Gus Vang Recorder – Pat Facchini Inside Guards – Dan Dawidowicz and Irving Cruz Outside Guard – Frank Musto Financial Secretary – George Ferriso (third year of 3 year term) 3 Year Trustee – Tom Nevenglowsky 2 Year Trustee – Gino Iacovella I Year Trustee – Steve Kedulich

Please support our Officers and remember our Council meets the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. They are important for you to attend. I look forward to greeting all of you as we slowly return to the reopening of our Council Hall. There are many new members that I am anxious to meet.

### AWARDS GALORE

Receiving **SPECIAL RECOGNITION CERTIFICATES** were: **Fred Trotter** and **Bill Harms** for the care, effort and concern they put forth to maintaining the Council Hall.

**Emil Stefanacci** for all the work and organization with the SRL Carnival. It's great exposure for the Knights.

Larry Slawson for years of service to "Keep Christ in Christmas." Mike Tubridy for the Blood Drive.

**Jeff Yoder** for an outstanding job at Chancellor/Membership Director. Then...

**Donna Chong** for her incredible patience and assistance in helping the Grand Knight.

**Christie lacovella** for developing a modern, up to date Facebook/Social Media page. Please LIKE, and Follow the page at"Knights of Columbus - Freehold 1672 Council."

Congratulations to Brother **Mike LaRosa**, Compass editor. The COMPASS was selected as the BEST COUNCIL NEWSLETTER in the Diocese of Trenton.

#### And Congratulations goes to Brother Dan Dawidowicz COUNCIL #1672 KNIGHT OF THE YEAR

Dan says "What did I do?" Let me tell you. He is part of the Monday morning council cleaning crew, takes the initiative to fix dripping sinks, crawls between walls separated by 15" to fix ice machine pipes, grabs a broom and garbage bag and cleans the parking lot. He bartends, works parties. He's an Usher at SRL. The list just goes on and on and on.

Finally, Our District Deputy, Colin Casey was awarded CATHOLIC CITIZEN OF THE YEAR for <u>New Jersey</u>. Congratulations to all !!! Vivat Jesus!

### **COUNCIL OFFICERS**

Chaplain	Monsignor Sam A. Sirianni
Grand Knight	Brian Barrett
Deputy Grand Knight	Edward Hudak
Chancellor	Jefferson Yoder
Recorder	Chistopher Barnett
Financial Secretary	George Ferriso
Treasurer	John Belbol
Advocate	Gus Vang
Warden	William Butch
Inside Guard	Irving Cruz
	Daniel Dawidowicz
Outside Guard	Fred Trotter
	Frank Musto
Trustees	Gino Iacovella
	Steve Kedulich
	Tom Nevenglosky, PGK

#### **COLUMBIAN CLUB OFFICERS**

President	John Favorito
Vice President	Daniel Dawidowicz
Treasurer	Gus Vang
Secretary	Gino lacovella

#### Trustees

ohn Belbol	Brian Barrett
ohn Favorito	George Ferriso
Gino Iacovella	Steve Kedulich
Fred Trotter	Gus Vang
Peter Weber	Jefferson Yode

#### FIELD AGENT

Ken Downey (732) 284-6414 Ken.Downey@kofc.org II Harding Road Freehold, New Jersey 07728

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### **CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE** - Msgr. Sam Sirianni

### IN THE MORNING I CRY

In the morning I cry, O Lord, Tears fill my eyes And so genteelly slide Down my cheeks. Why do I shed tears at the break of day? Maybe it is the time I stop and remember the pain and grief that surrounds me. Another request for prayer, another admitted to Critical Care A call to move a name from one petition to the next; Or wait to pray a pardon over the phone. May their souls rest in peace.

In the morning I cry Because I can be weak before you. My heart breaks with the Uncertainty of what the day will bring. The cry of those who mourn, The tentative hope; of those who seem to recover. All tears shed, all emotions raw; to the bone.

In the morning I cry, As I pray, "Am I doing enough?" Am I caring for the people placed in my care? Am I showing forth your face of compassion and strength So they will find hope. Am I affirming those who spend their days fighting this virus, Do I comfort the weak and Witness to all where our true strength comes from? Am I enough?

In the morning I cry As I hear your Word in the pages of my prayer book, And know you are with all of us, the Living and the Dead How my prayer time gives me confidence

to face each day with Hope, and not be afraid to laugh and to cry with those I encounter.

In the Morning I cry As I am reminded that I am to be Christ to All, And I am to see Christ, in all.

In the morning I cry, Because your Divine hands cup my face And remind me You are with me. You are with us all....

SAS, 2020

# **DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S VIEWS** - Edward Hudak

I hope that this finds you and your families in good health. We have certainly been through a trying time together. I am sure that we are all looking forward to this Summer.

Our upcoming Council Business Meetings are as follows: July 28<sup>th</sup>, August 11<sup>th</sup>, and Sept 8<sup>th</sup>. All meetings are scheduled to be at the Council Hall at 8pm and 1 encourage everyone to attend. It will be great to see all of your faces in person again! To those brothers who recently joined our Council, I strongly urge you to attend a meeting to officially meet your brother members who are all waiting to welcome you into our ranks.

This time of year is usually the time that we take a breath and relax from all of our work over the last 6 months or so. This year, we'll take a breath and thank God that we made it through this Covid19 pandemic!

We actually have a Soccer Penalty Kick Competition tentatively scheduled to be held on Sunday, August

30<sup>th</sup>. We'll have a better grasp by next month as to whether this event will take place and what we will need as far as volunteers for it to be successful. Stay tuned!

On Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, we will be holding our K of C Charities Canning Drive from 9am-1pm. We will meet at the Council Hall at 8:30am. All brothers are asked to make every effort to make the full four hours of this drive or at least an hour or two. In order to provide our usual amounts of charitable donations to local organizations, we need "all hands on deck" to make this Drive a smashing success. I hope to see many of you out there!

Lastly, on Tuesday evening September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8pm, we have the Installation of Officers Ceremony scheduled. Please try to be there to show your support for the newly elected slate of officers for 2020-2021. Enjoy your Summer!

Vivat Jesus,

### **CULTURE OF LIFE** - Roger Zurro, Director

#### Priests sue NY governor, NYC mayor

SYRACUSE, New York, June 12, 2020 (Thomas More Society) - New York's Gov. Andrew Cuomo, his Attorney General Letitia James, and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio are being sued by two Catholic priests from upstate New York and a trio of Orthodox Jewish congregants from Brooklyn for violation of civil rights by prejudicial orders and selective enforcement. The federal lawsuit, filed June 10, 2020, in U. S. District Court for the Northern District of New York, charges the governor, attorney general, and mayor with violating the plaintiffs' rights to free exercise of religion, freedom of speech, assembly and expressive association, and due process, under the 1st and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Gov. Cuomo is also accused of acting against N.Y. state law and the N.Y. State Constitution. Senior Judge Gary L. Sharpe has ordered the defendants to file a response by noon (Eastern) on June 15, 2020.

Thomas More Society Special Counsel Christopher Ferrara explained the key points of the lawsuit: "These orders, both the emergency stay-home and reopening plan declarations, clearly discriminate against houses of worship. They are illegally content based, elaborate, arbitrary and pseudo-scientific. The governor and his agents, along with N. Y. C.'s mayor have employed favoritism and political platforms against people of faith." He noted that, in addition to the unconstitutional and discriminatory nature of Gov. Cuomo's orders, and Atny. Gen. James' and Mayor de Blasio's enforcement thereof, the "so-called science" is irrational. "Why is a large worship gathering deemed more dangerous than a mass protest, full of shouting, arm-waving people in close proximity to one another?"

The question points to what the plaintiffs view as particularly egregious - the blatant double standard that Cuomo and de Blasio have applied. During the time that religious worship services have been banned or restricted, mass protests have gone unchecked. On June 4, de Blasio, not wearing the face mask he requires of others, attended and addressed a mass political gathering at N. Y. C.'s Cadman Plaza. Neither the 10-person limit nor the social distancing he and Cuomo prescribe for "nonessential gatherings" were observed at the rally. Days later, in Williamsburg, N. Y., a small group of Hasidic lewish children were kicked out of a park by a police officer enforcing Cuomo's and de Blasio's ten-person limit on "non-essential gatherings." In late April, de Blasio had threatened the Jewish community with arrests and prosecutions for "illegal" mass religious gatherings and personally appeared on the scene to ensure the New York Police Department's dispersal of a Jewish funeral gathering.

N. Y. theaters that are supposed to be closed until

the yet to occur "Phase 4" of Cuomo's reopening plan, have opened their premises to protestors for rest, wi-fi use, bathroom visits, and provision of water and snacks with instructions to keep police out of the premises. There has been no objection or interference by de Blasio or Cuomo in these operations that conflict with the same executive orders used to disrupt and deny religious worship gatherings.

"It is time to end N. Y.'s experiment in absolute monarchy," said Ferrara. "We are asking the court to put an end to these unconstitutional executive orders and their prejudicial enforcement."

The complaint details many abuses, including:

• In an unprecedented abuse of power, defendants have exploited the COVID-19 pandemic to create, over the past 3 months, a veritable dictatorship by means of a complex web of defendant Cuomo's executive orders.

• By these executive orders, the defendants have imposed and selectively enforced "social distancing" under a "lockdown" of virtually every aspect of the social, political, religious and economic life of N. Y.'s 8.3 million residents on the pretext of "public health," but with numerous exceptions that these defendants have deemed permissible according to their value judgments, including mass demonstrations of thousands of people of which they approve.

• Defendants Cuomo, James, and de Blasio have enforced Cuomo's "lockdown" by threat of criminal prosecution and actual prosecution, including \$1000 fines for the newly created offense of violating Cuomo's "Social Distancing Protocol."

• Cuomo's constantly morphing official Guidance Document for the interpretation and application of his executive orders and the "Social Distancing Protocol" have specifically forbidden "congregate services within houses of worship" and "congregations of groups for religious service or ceremony," thus singling out the free exercise of religion for strict regulation under the "Social Distancing Protocol."

• This explicit ban on "congregate worship" was followed by a strict ban on "nonessential gatherings" of more than ten people that still applies in N. Y. C. and other regions not in "Phase 2" of defendant Cuomo's elaborate, arbitrary and pseudo-scientific "NY Forward" Plan "reopening N. Y. and building back better."

• The ten-person limit on "non-essential" gatherings has reduced the religious services that plaintiffs participate in or conduct to miniscule congregations.

On or about June 5, however, defendant Cuomo announced that he had "relaxed" his "Social Distancing Protocol" to "allow" religious gatherings at 25% of the capacity of houses of worship in some regions, thereby specifically regulating religion - and only religion - once again. *Published with permission from the <u>Thomas More Society</u>.* 

## FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT - George Ferriso

I hope all of you reading this are safe and healthy with no signs of the Corona Virus! The Columbian year 2019 - 2020 dues collection has finally come to an end. At the time of this writing, we still have 19 Brothers that have not paid their dues for the year. Because of Covid-19, Supreme has suspended the July Stipend and will not allow us to suspend these Brothers. I will deduct the amount for these men off the Stipend that comes in January, 2021 for both Supreme and State. In addition they will be taken out of the email system in July when the normal Suspensions would be processed. These men know who they are and can still pay their dues and be returned to a good standing.

Here are the "stats" for the council. We completed this year's billing cycle at 92% of membership paid. Current membership numbers stand at 410 + 37 Inactive members (members that have been suspended or removed from the council, but need to stay on the Roster due to them having KofC insurance) for a total of 447. Of these 447, 10 are Honorary members, (at least 65 years old & 25 <u>continuous years</u> of service) 91 are Honorary Life members, (at least 70 years old & 25 <u>continuous years</u> of service) and 77 are 4<sup>th</sup> degree members. Remember too, that if you are a 4<sup>th</sup> degree member and are suspended from the council you are also suspended from the 4<sup>th</sup> degree

regardless if your dues are paid in the 4<sup>th</sup> degree. In addition, and an interesting fact is we now have 10 Brothers that are nonagenarian's (*men that are 90 - 99 years of age.*) and one man is 100! May God bless them!!

I also will have additional information in the Fall Compass regarding dues payment for the year 2021. I am looking into two electronic payment options for those of you that have complained you do not use paper checks any longer. At this time, it will not cost the council any money to collect these dues with these electronic payment systems. If you do not have a "smart phone" or a computer you will still need to use a check, postal money order or cash.

We are STILL missing or have incorrect phone numbers from a lot of members. I still get "NO" replies from any request that I send out. Is it so hard to write a couple of phone numbers and an email address and shove it in the mailbox? I want to know what the problem is! THIS IS <u>NOT</u> A RHETORICAL STATEMENT! Reached at 732 780-4815, gfgman@gmail.com if you have a computer or 361 Colgate Way Freehold. In addition you could also drop a note in the mailbox in the front of the council (70 E. Main St. Freehold NJ 07728-2223) and put "George F" on it. I will get the information! Please get me your changes!

# **CHANCELLOR'S COMMENT** - Wm. Chris Barnett

Hi, my name is Chris and I'm very excited to be writing my first article as the new Chancellor for Knights of Columbus 1672. I am so humbled to have been voted in during the June 9 election, via the confidence of my fellow Brothers. Jeff Yoder has done a masterful job recruiting during his time spent as Chancellor, and I know that I have some very big shoes to fill. On behalf of the entire Council, we thank him for his dedication over the past three years, and we especially congratulate him on his "Chancellor and Membership Director of the Year" award. With your help my brothers, I look forward



to success in building our chapter.

I'd like to take a moment to welcome the incoming class of 2020 and our new brothers, to our Council: Edward Micciulli, Brendan Smisek, John Zalepka, Christopher Knoeller, Lawrence Diffley, John Mooney, Patrick Scalici, Corey Parker, Stephen J. Grady, Brendon Dettling and Anthony Cammallere.

We are ecstatic that you have taken the opportunity to join our Fraternal Organization and with you, we will only continue to grow, and expand our reach. Along with your participation also comes a valuable new bond, to both your fellow Brothers and the Community of which we serve.

To our existing members, I ask that you reach out to our Class of 2020, and mentor them. The more that we are able to teach about our fundraisers, charitable activities and the importance of our Columbian Club Sister Organization, the stronger we become.

### FATHER MCGIVNEY TO BE BEATIFIED

### Priest launched international lay movement

ROME - The Vatican today (May 27) announced that Pope Francis approved the promulgation of a decree recognizing a miracle attributed to the intercession of the founder of the Knights of Columbus,

Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, a Connecticut priest who served his flock during the pandemic of 1890, before himself becoming ill and dying of pneumonia. The pope's action means that Father McGivney can be declared "Blessed," the step just prior to sainthood. An additional miracle attributed to Father McGivney's intercession will be required for his canonization as a saint.

McGivney is best known for founding the Knights of Columbus in 1882. Nearly a century before the Second Vatican Council, his

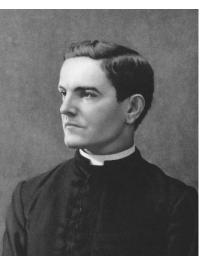
prescient vision empowered the laity to serve Church and neighbor in a new way. Today, the Knights of Columbus is one of the largest Catholic organizations in the world with 2 million members in North and Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia, and Europe.

The miracle recognized as coming through Father McGivney's intercession involved an unborn child in the United States who in 2015 was healed in utero of a life-threatening condition after prayers by his family to Father McGivney.

A date will soon be set for the beatification Mass, which will take place in Connecticut. It will include the reading of an apostolic letter from the Holy Father and the bestowing of the title "Blessed" on Father McGivney.

Earlier this year, in an address to the Knights of Columbus Board of Directors, Pope Francis said the organization has been faithful "to the vision of your founder, Venerable Michael McGivney, who was inspired by the principles of Christian charity and fraternity to assist those most in need."

"Father McGivney has inspired generations of Catholic men to roll up their sleeves and put their faith into action," Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson said. "He was decades ahead of his time in giving the laity an important role within the Church. Today, his spirit continues to shape the extraordinary charitable work of Knights as they continue to serve those on the margins of society as he served widows and orphans in the 1880s. Father McGivney also remains an important role model for parish priests around the world and left us a transformative legacy of



effective cooperation between the laity and clergy.

Born of Irish immigrant parents in 1852 in Waterbury, Connecticut, Father McGivney was a central figure in the dramatic growth of the Church in the United States in the late 19th century. Ordained in

> Baltimore in 1877, he ministered to a heavily Irish-American and immigrant community in the then-Diocese of Hartford. At a time of anti-Catholic sentiment, he worked tirelessly to keep his flock close to the faith in part by finding practical solutions to their many problems - spiritual and temporal alike. With a group of the leading Catholic men of New Haven, he founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882 at St. Mary's Church to provide spiritual support for Catholic men and financial resources for families that

had suffered the loss of their breadwinner.

The fledgling group soon became a major force in the areas of evangelization, charity, racial integration, and the defense of religious freedom.

Father McGivney spent his entire priesthood in parish ministry and died of pneumonia on August 14, 1890 two days after his 38th birthday - after falling ill amid a pandemic. Recent scientific evidence indicates that that pandemic - like the current one may have been caused by a coronavirus.

Known by his contemporaries for his devotion to the faith and his embodiment of the characteristics of the "Good Samaritan," his cause for sainthood was opened in the Archdiocese of Hartford in 1997. St. John Paul II - who was pope at that time - lauded Father McGivney's principles, stating in 2003, "In fidelity to the vision of Father McGivney, may you continue to seek new ways of being a leaven of the Gospel in the world and a spiritual force for the renewal of the Church in holiness, unity and truth."

In March 2008, he was declared a Venerable Servant of God by Pope Benedict XVI, who during his visit to St. Patrick's Cathedral cited the "remarkable accomplishment of that exemplary American priest, the Venerable Michael McGivney, whose vision and zeal led to the establishment of the Knights of Columbus."

Two recent books also tell the story of Father McGivney and his legacy: Parish Priest (2006), his biography; and the The Knights of Columbus: An Illustrated History (2020).

### <u>THE FOURTH DEGREE UPDATE</u> - Doug Walsh, FN

I think it's fair to say that if any of us had been asked to predict how our 2019-2020 Columbian year would go, none of us would have predicted the global pandemic or the civil unrest that has so profoundly impacted our lives. Yet, in spite of these events, our Brotherhood has adapted. Rather than allowing these events to stop us, our Brotherhood has persevered. For example, our Assembly has been honored to have 13 Brother Knights participate in the Virtual Fourth Degree Exemplification Ceremony in June.

State, I look forward to again joining with our Fourth Degree Color Corps to honor our Holy Church, our deceased Brothers and the many events that honor our nation and its patriots. Preparations are already being made to ensure the safety of our members and the people we serve.

Although this past year has been challenging, I have enjoyed my term as Faithful Navigator immensely. I am grateful for the support of my fellow officers. I am grateful for the advice of past Faithful Navigators. But most of all, I am grateful for the many blessing that Our Lord has bestowed upon our country, our order and my family.

As my term as Faithful Navigator comes to its conclusion, I am comforted in the fact that our Assembly has elected a full slate of officers for the 2020-2021 Columbian year. I am pleased to report As the stay at home restrictions are lifted in our that Sir Knight Al Normandia will be our Faithful Navigator for the upcoming term. I wish Sir Knight Normandia and all of the newly elected officers my best wishes for a successful year.

> Finally, if you haven't considered becoming a Sir Knight of the Fourth Degree, I urge you to join with **Vivat** Jesus 211

# FIELD AGENT NEWS - Ken Downey

Over the course of the last 138 years, the products and protection offered by the Knights of Columbus to members and their families have grown to meet changing needs. We are proud to say that we offer a complete portfolio of protection to our members - a portfolio that we think is our best yet, with high quality, customizable products designed to fit your family's needs and budget.

### Permanent Life Insurance - Insure Your Life for Life

Permanent Life Insurance is our signature product. It provides guaranteed protection for your loved ones. And while you're still alive, it builds cash value.

#### Term Life Insurance - Protection for Temporary Needs

Sometimes, financial obligations are temporary, and that's where affordable term insurance brings the most value. Like permanent insurance, term insurance provides a death benefit to beneficiaries, but only within the specific term period.

### Retirement Annuities - Retirement income you can count on.

During our working lives, there are probably few financial matters you give more thought and attention to than your retirement. Retirement income can be a tricky thing to calculate. We want to make sure that once you finally stop working, you don't have to stop living the way we want to.

Long-Term Care Insurance - Protect your assets. Get

### guality care. Prepare for the future.

While life expectancies have been improving steadily, living longer may very well mean needing more care. Statistics show that nearly 70 percent of individuals over the age of 65 will require at least some type of long-term care services during their lifetime. Our policies are customizable to fit your needs.

#### Disability Income Insurance - Receive an income even when you can't work.

Many people receive disability coverage from their employer, yet they don't know too much about the particulars. Is it short-term disability? Is it long-term disability? Is it both? Does it cover your entire salary? Or only part? How much? Our disability income insurance provides critical protection to your family.

#### Insurance by Brother Knights for Brother Knights

Remember that you have a dedicated, professional agent whose job is to help you consider your current situation, evaluate the options, and put a plan in place to help protect you and your family according to your terms and budget. Whenever you do business with the Knights of Columbus, you get the added benefit of knowing that you're doing business with your insurance company - a Catholic insurance company that is one of the most highly-rated life insurers in North America.

Ken Downey, Field Agent : at Ken.Downey@kofc.org Phone: (732) 284-6414

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### **2020 SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Date	ltem	Location	Time
JULY			
I	4th Degree Meeting-Assembly 650	Lounge Side Room	8 pm
2	Freehold Fireworks	Freehold Raceway	4 pm - 10 pm
4	INDEPENDENCE DAY		
14	Council Business Meetin CANCELED	Council Main Hall	8 pm
15	Columbian Club Meeting	Lounge Side Room	8 pm
28	Council Business Meeting	Council Main Hall	8 pm
AUGUST			
5	4th Degree Meeting-Assembly 650	Lounge Side Room	8 pm
11	Council Business Meeting	Council Main Hall	8 pm
15	ASSUMPTION OF MARY		
19	Columbian Club Meeting	Lounge Side Room	8 pm
25	Council Business Meetir CANCELED	Council Main Hall	8 pm
30	Soccer Penalty Kick Competition If Co	nditions Allow	TBD
SEPTEMBER			
2	4th Degree Meeting-Assembly 650	Lounge Side Room	8 pm
7	LABOR DAY		
8	Council Business Meeting	Council Main Hall	8 pm
16	Columbian Club Meeting	Lounge Side Room	8 pm
19	K of C Charities Canning Drive	Streets Near Council Hall	9 am - 1 pm
22	Installation of Officers	Council Main Hall	8 pm
27	Community Breakfast	Council Main Hall	8 am - 11:30 am

### MEMORABLE MEMBERS

I regret to inform you that we lost  $\underline{6}$  long time Brothers recently and just learned of <u>I in 2017</u>.

Brother Thomas G. Manfre, Age 97, Served 34 yrs., Honorary Life Member, Died 10/24/17.

**Brother Michael E. Collins,** Age 93, Served 49 yrs., Honorary Life Member, Died 2/24/20.

**Brother LTC James P. Finegan**, Age 80, Served 31 yrs., Honorary Life Member, Died 3/9/20

**Brother Joseph M. Tremblay**, Age 98, Served 45 yrs., Honorary Life Member, Died 3/23/20.

**Brother Philip De Angelis**, Age 96, Served 9 yrs., His 1<sup>st</sup> degree was in 1953 (67 years ago), he rejoined in 2010, Died 3/24/20.

**Rev. J. Donald McGinnis**, (*Missionary*), Age 93, Served 31 yrs., Honorary Life Member, Died 4/15/20.

**Brother James A. Schmitt**, Age 91, Served 49 yrs., Honorary Life Member, Died 5/9/20.

Please remember them and their families in your prayers.

### Freehold Council 1672 Knights of Columbus

70 East Main Street Freehold, NJ 07728 (732) 431- 8706

Visit our Website: www.kofc1672.org

**Meetings** Second and Fourth Tuesdays 8:00 PM Sharp

> Brian Barrett Grand Knight

Mike La Rosa Editor

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#### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

### **AFTER THOUGHTS** - Mike La Rosa

Eureka!!! It looks like things, even though very slooowly, are starting to reopen, recover and renormalize from the Coronavirus, COVID-19 pandemic. It's going to take some time but at least the stores, businesses, employment and the economy seem to be heading in the right direction.

Living in isolation for such a long time has taken a toll on our family's life. Fear from contracting this serious virus has made us skeptical of being with relatives and friends, yet alone strangers. We must hope and pray for the best.

As Knights of Columbus we cannot ever stop "Hoping and Praying" for conditions to improve but we must also "**Do**". Hoping and praying are easy. They don't take much effort. They just need time. "**Doing**" on the other hand, needs us to actually perform some labor. We have to get out of our comfort zone and join together with our Brothers to "**Do**" some work. It may be helping to collect items or money for the Church or one of the charities that we support. It may be comforting a neighbor who has lost a loved one. Visiting a relative in a nursing facility. Many people have been shut in for months and are very lonely. They need you to "Do" a kindness. Lift their spirits.

Helping out with a monthly breakfast or another event are good ways to "**Do**". The Knights "**Do**" so much and they need Brothers to pitch in. You can accomplish much by "Hoping and Praying" but you can accomplish even more by "**Doing**".

There is no better time to "**Do**" anything then right after a disaster. The epidemic we are going through qualifies as such an incident. It looks like that it is coming to a close so right now is the best time to "**Do**".

You may have been watching Liturgies at home on your computer, phone or TV. Going to live Masses is the best thing you can "**Do**" to show that you are a **Knight of Columbus**.

I must say that it is a great honor for Freehold Council 1672, the COMPASS and for me to receive the BEST COUNCIL NEWSLETTER Award in the Diocese of Trenton. When I was first asked to take over as editor by GK Jim Brown and PGK Spence Purdum back in 2014, I had no idea of the effect it would make on my life. Yet alone the Council's. I'm thankful to all those who selected the Compass from all the other councils in the Diocese.