



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREEHOLD COUNCIL 1672

# COMPASS

JANUARY - FEBRUARY - MARCH, 2024

## COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain	Monsignor Sam A. Sirianni
Grand Knight	Edward Hudak
Deputy Grand Knight	William (Chris) Barnett
Chancellor	Paschal (Pat) Facchini
Recorder	Tom LoBochiarro
Financial Secretary	George Ferriso
Treasurer	John Belbol
Advocate	Spencer Purdum
Warden	Frank Musto
Lecturer	Anthony Graci
Inside Guard	Rich Pepe
	Tom Fulciniti
Outside Guard	Lou Tinto
	Nebil Toutounchi
Trustees	Brian Barrett, PGK
	Gino Iacovella, PGK
	Tom Nevenglosky, PGK

## COLUMBIAN CLUB OFFICERS

President	Daniel Dawidowicz
Vice President	Steven Kedulich
Treasurer	Nebil Toutounchi
Secretary	Paschal (Pat) Facchini
Financial Secretary	James Gallagher

### Trustees

E Hudak, GK	William (Chris) Barnett
John Belbol	Brian Barrett
	Dennis Annarumma



## CONTENTS

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE	1
GOD IS WITH US	2
DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S VIEWS	2
CULTURE OF LIFE	3
FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT	4
MEMORABLE MEMBERS	4
COLUMBIAN CLUB NEWS	5
CHANCELLOR'S COMMENTS	5
PHOTO PORTFOLIO	6
2024 WINTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS	7
AFTER THOUGHTS	8

## GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

### Edward Hudak GK



The last week of November and the first two weeks in December are, without a doubt, the busiest time of the year for our Council. Along with back to back weekends of selling, "Keep Christ in Christmas" items and then trees, wreaths and grave covers, and then decorating our building for Christmas, and then we erected and decorated close to 50 memorial trees at SRL and SRB. I'm not finished, then we had our annual Christmas tree lighting and singing of carols coupled with attending the Catholic Daughters Christmas celebration. The delivery of the trees for our Christmas tree, wreath, and grave cover sales took several evenings of coordinating and meeting up with Brother John Favorito to unload trees and supplies. The "Kids Party with Santa" (thank you so much Brother Al Sobacinski and his wife Kathy) was once again a big hit and it coincided with our Annual Blood Drive (thank you to our Coordinator, Brother John Annetta). Then on Sunday the next day, we held our Breakfast with Santa that saw a great turnout and a full parking lot! As if that wasn't enough, the following week we held two prayer services at our two parishes as we lit our Memorial Trees.

Without the help of Brothers, their wives and last minute volunteers who stepped forward to assist, there is absolutely NO WAY we could have been able to accomplish all that we set out to do last month. I never cease to be amazed at the help that becomes available by simply asking. It's always nice to see the same familiar faces helping out at our events and maybe even nicer to see a few "newer" faces mixed in. This Council can continue to be vibrant and successful only if we get the assistance from everyone. In this New Year, I would like to challenge our more recent Brothers to sign up and participate in at least one of our upcoming events. I am hopeful that those who accept this challenge will consider assisting in yet another event and then maybe even attend a meeting! Imagine that! Maybe that's what I should have asked Santa for last year...

**My best wishes go out to all of you and your families  
for a very Happy and Healthy New Year Brothers!!**

**Vivat Jesus!**

## **GOD IS WITH US - Deacon Rolf Friedman**

We just enjoyed the Yuletide season - when we celebrated with our family and friends the arrival of Jesus into our lives. And as we go forward with the new year we are once again challenged to bring Christ in all that we do.

Yes, the Christmas season is behind us and we are in the middle of the winter season where its cold and the daylight hours are getting longer and we hopefully are getting warmer! And with this, our anticipation and optimism about life grows.

We are constantly imagining ourselves in a warmer condition. Some of us are even able to take off from our busy lives and escape to a sunnier climate. But for most of us.....its just day after day of waiting... for warmer temperatures.

In the meantime, we daydream and wait.

But we as Knights can't just sit around and wait. We've got things to do. Doing those things that bring joy and warmth to our hearts by helping others - even in the dead of winter. It's here that we live out Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.

It's a new year!!! with plenty of opportunities for us to be more than a bystander in our Council's numerous activities.

Think of how good (and warm) we feel when we look upon this New Year as our opportunity to give of ourselves in helping others in need. As Knights we have a long history of doing just that...and we continue this tradition. It's up to us to look at this New Year and answer the question that has been before us all along.

How will I be more Christ like to others?

## **DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S VIEWS - Chris Barnett**

Fellow Knights, the end of Autumn has come and gone. For the first time, there are no more leaves on the trees in my yard and the neighborhood lawnmowers have gone silent. Winter is here and the Solstice is over. Going outside today for a quick break in my workday was refreshing with the temperature almost perfect for a light jacket. Tonight, however, is another story and a Winter coat is yet again becoming a staple of the wardrobe.

For those of you who will soon be leaving us for the sunshine and warmth of the South, I wish you all safe travels and suggest that you first get familiar with Zoom so you too can join your fellow Brothers who log in remotely and participate in our business meetings. Prior to beginning of each of our monthly council meetings, I notice how hard our PGK Brian works to set up the Zoom so for those of you unable to attend in person, please join via Zoom.

Our Council has been very busy with a lengthy list of recent activities and more to follow. These recent activities have included our Send a Hero Home Bracelet Sales, Our Mass for Departed Brothers (*very well attended and a thank you to all of you who prioritized your being there*), a fun yet exhausting day of Council grounds cleanup, Keep Christ in Christmas magnet (*and more*) sales, Council Hall Christmas decorating, our outdoor sing-a-long with Brother

Mike, our Christmas Party with the Catholic Daughters and our Tree / Wreath / Grave Pillow and Blanket sales. There are other activities too but this list gives you an idea of our recent activities and I encourage all of you to become even more active in your Council. You who are not active, come join us and make new friends, trade stories, and help staff our charity efforts. In doing so, you will also experience the brotherhood for those who are involved, experience every week. I want to also mention our last two CUF Degree Ceremonies where we and other Councils welcomed new Brothers to our ranks, and I'd like to thank all those in attendance who supported the Degree Teams and these new Brothers. The second of these CUF Degrees was on a Monday evening at the SRB Chapel and enjoyed by all. PLEASE, PLEASE mark your calendars for January 19<sup>th</sup> which will be the MAGIC Show sponsored by our Freehold Columbian Club. The Council is our home so please plan to support. Also, stay tuned for our January Council events.

In closing, Happy 2024 New Year to all of you and your families but also take a moment to remember our brothers who have recently passed and let's all say some Prayers for their Souls and their loved ones still with us.

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



### **Republican Lawmakers Blast Administration Proposal Aimed at Defunding Pro-life Pregnancy Centers.**

Republican lawmakers in Washington, D.C., have expressed “deep concern” over a proposal from the current administration that would increase scrutiny of pro-life pregnancy centers and their qualifications for federal welfare funds.

On December 1, a letter signed by 29 Republican lawmakers was submitted to HHS (Housing and Human Services) Secretary Xavier Becerra, expressing “deep concern” over the proposal’s language, which they accused of “targeting pro-life pregnancy centers” by disqualifying them from receiving funds from the TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy families).

A NPRM (Notice of Proposed Rule Making) published on October 2 seeks to amend the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) federal welfare program and specifically takes aims at pro-life centers. The proposal is sponsored by the Office of Family Assistance (OFA), the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

As detailed in the administration’s proposal, one of the purposes of the federal welfare program is to “prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and establish annual numerical goals for preventing and reducing the incidence of these pregnancies.” Other purposes include to provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives” and “encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.”

As part of its suggested amendment to the program’s language, the federal government agencies are homing in on pro-life pregnancy centers as organizations that would need to especially prove that their service “actually accomplishes the TANF purpose.”

It specifies that “states that provide funding for these types of programs, including through entities sometimes known as crisis pregnancy centers or pregnancy resource centers, must be able to show that the expenditure actually accomplishes the TANF purpose, or that there is academic or other research indicating that the expenditure could reasonably be expected to accomplish the TANF purpose.”

In response to the proposed language change, Republican lawmakers sent a letter to the HHS “to express our deep concern” and “urge you to withdraw the proposal immediately.” The letter defends the right of pro-life centers to have funding instead of the government “depriving pregnant women in need of compassionate assistance for themselves and their unborn babies.”

The letter further states that “Alternatives to abortion programs, and the pregnancy centers they support, provide services that fulfill all four purposes of TANF, but the proposed rule inaccurately describes these programs as limited to ‘only or primarily providing pregnancy counseling to women only after they become pregnant’ and only relevant for preventing and reducing out of wedlock pregnancy.

The GOP lawmakers pointed out that pregnancy resource centers provide a wide range of services related to pregnancy, parenting, sexual risk avoidance, and employment and housing assistance. The letter described the proposal’s depiction of pro-life centers as “unfair,” “targeting,” and a “glaring hypocrisy,” saying that the “HHS does not cite any evidence” that these centers “are unlawfully using federal funds for non -TANF purposes.”

“Women deserve better than abortion and should receive support when they choose life for their babies,” the letter concludes.

(LifeSite news, 2023)

## **FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT - George Ferriso**

Since I am writing this in 2023, I want to wish all my brothers a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year 2024 and I wish you and your families a belated Merry Christmas.

**It is DUES time again!** The dues cover all council expenses which, like everything else have gone up. If you are having any financial or health issues, please contact me.

**PLEASE TRY using VENMO!** Just put KOFC1672FS@gmail.com (*Case does not matter*). For the 2023 Dues collection, we had 83 Brothers that used Venmo or 27.5% of the members. This is a 5% increase over 2022. This year so far I have had 20 dues payment - all Venmo! For you OLD Timers VENMO is safe and easy. Please contact me if you are having issues 732 780-4815. POSTAGE is up to \$0.66 for First class postage and Venmo is FREE.

**Please Note:**

For some reason which Venmo has no answer for, when you start to type this email, a message will pop up saying they "couldn't find any matches" continue to type the entire address. Once the entire address is typed, on the top, you will see Pay or Request "kofc1672FS@gmail.com". Tap this message, put the \$60.00 amount in and tap Pay. It will come to me.

You should have received your electronic invoice if we have an email on file for you and a paper invoice if we do not. The hard copy invoices were mailed out in December 4. Just as a reminder the email Subject line reads: "Dues Notice for Council 1672". Please DO NOT DELETE this email and please check your

email junk folder for the invoice. I received numerous notes from Brothers last year that they never received any electronic invoice.

Please pay your dues **ASAP**. **NOTE: At the council meeting of November 8, 2016 a motion was passed to charge an administration fee to cover additional expenses incurred for late dues. Any dues paid after 1/27/2024, the dues will be \$65.00.** Should you receive a second invoice, you will see the administration fee added to the invoice. If paying late and the \$5.00 is not added to your payment, it will remain on your ledger as an accounts receivable. **If you see the \$5.00 charge on the first invoice this year it means that you were late last year or in prior years and did not pay the \$5.00 fee!**

**Please do not send me your dues check in the middle of February with a check dated before 1/27/2024 without the \$5.00 Fee!**

As always we are STILL missing or have incorrect phone numbers from a lot of members. Please notify me of a change of address, email or phone number. I can be 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 and put "George F" on it. I will get the information! Please get me your changes!

## **MEMORABLE MEMBER**

I regret to inform you that we lost two devout and worthy Brother since the last Compass Edition.

**G. Edmund Yurowski**, Age 92, Served 43 years,  
Honorary Life Member,  
**Died 10/10/23**

**Raymond Malasapina**, Age 91, Served 66 years  
Honorary Life Member, **Died 12/2/23**

**Please remember them  
and their families  
in your prayers.**

## **COLUMBIAN CLUB NEWS - Dan Dawidowicz, Pres.**

---

The last three months have gone by in a flash. The Knights got together again to help with clean-up of the Council property, trimming bushes and hedges, pulling weeds. We also had three very successful Columbian Club fundraisers: the Game Show Night, the Christmas Memorial Trees at St. Rose of Lima and St. Robert's and the Breakfast with Santa. If you have not seen the Memorial Trees, please take a drive by the churches any evening and see them all lit up and decorated. The trees will stay lit until February 2, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas).

In addition, we had two Friday nights at the Pub that had an excellent turnout, acoustic guitar player, Alex Chernik, and the Christmas Craft Show. Both nights the bar was jumping and people had a really great time. The Pub is always open Wednesday and Friday nights. Thank you to all who helped and supported these fundraisers.

In the months to come we have other fundraisers planned, the Randy Butters Magic Show on Friday, January 19th and we are

going to try another Sunday Breakfast on February 11th for Valentine's Day. Our biggest fundraiser of the year is the St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner, March 17th and the 50/50 Raffle. You can help support these events by helping to set up/clean up, cook, but most importantly, by you attending and supporting these fundraisers.

The 50/50 raffle total is slowly growing. Please send in your raffle tickets if you have not already done so or pick up another book of tickets and to sell to your family and friends. The raffle books were mailed to all Knights with your Columbian Club member dues letter.

Also remember the Columbian Club Hall is available to rent at discount to all Knights in good standing. Think about it for your next event, birthday or anniversary party, etc., and call Lester (732) 462-7867 for details and bookings.

I wish you all a happy and healthy year, and may you be blessed in the Easter season.

## **CHANCELLOR'S COMMENTS - Pat Facchini**

---

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving, an enjoyable Fall and a Merry Christmas. But Winter is upon us as we look forward to the New Year of 2024.

There were many council activities that kept us all busy through the end of last year. The Fall membership drive was well supported with just a few of our brothers covering multiple masses. In total, we collected the names of twelve perspective candidates. On October 27<sup>th</sup> our Council hosted a CUF ceremony attended by five new brothers, Father Leo Bagenda, Richard Marino, Robert Trilby, Paul Tonacci and Gasper Giordano. Also in attendance was a new brother from Englishtown council and one from Fair Haven council.

On December 11<sup>th</sup> we hosted a second CUF ceremony that was held in the chapel at St Robert's Co-Cathedral. We had 4 new brothers attending; Joeseeph Fredericks, Richard Graziano, Walter Pehowich and Joe Spano. Also in attendance were three new brothers from Jackson, two from Old Bridge and one from Red Bank. I'm happy to report that for the first half of our fraternal year, we've had eleven new brothers join our ranks. I thank you all for your support in building our membership.

I wish you and your families a Blessed and Happy Easter.

## PHOTO PORTFOLIO



**SEPTEMBER PRIDE IN PRIEST DINNER**  
(L-R) - N. Toutounchi, B. Barrett, PGK, J. Meyers, A. Graci, E. Hudak, GK, Bishop David M. O'Connell, Monsignor Sam A. Sirianni, Chap., Father James Conover, F. Trotter, L. Tinto



**COIN CANNING DRIVE CREW**



**STAR COUNCIL PRESENTATION AWARD**  
(L-R) - Lou DiBELLO, DD, E. Hudak, GK, C. Barnett, DCK

**VETERANS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AWARD**  
(L-R) - Lou DiBELLO, DD, E. Hudak, GK,



### Funeral of Colin P. Casey - District Deputy



**St. Anthony Church Funeral  
Forth Degree Honor Guard**

I want to say something about the passing of a gentleman, Colin P. Casey. His life ended in early November causing sadness to many. He was our Council's District Deputy for many years, seldom missing one of our meetings. He contributed informative articles to the Compass occasionally, you may even remember reading them. He cared about us, encouraging and praising our accomplishments while making constructive suggestions to improve 1672's stature, all the while keeping us up to date of the happenings on the district and state levels. He will be missed for a long time. Editor Mike



**St. Anthony Church Funeral  
Forth Degree Honor Guard**

## **2024 WINTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

.	Item	Location	Time
<b>JANUARY</b>			
1	<b>New Years Day - Solemnity of Mary</b>		All Day
3	4th Degree Meeting - Assembly 650	Side Room - Pub	8 pm
6	Free Throw Contest	St. Rose Gymnasium	1 - 3pm
9	Council Business Meeting	Council Main Hall	8 pm
15	<b>Martin Luther King Day</b>		All Day
17	Take Down Decorations	Downstairs Pub	7 pm
17	Columbian Club Meeting	Side Room - Pub	8 pm
19	Randy Butter's Magic Show	Council Main Hall	8 pm
23	Officers Planning Meeting - Guest Speaker	Council Main Hall	8 pm
<b>FEBRUARY</b>			
1	4th Degree Meeting - Assembly 650	Side Room - Pub	8 pm
10	Kids Day Program - Randy the Magician	Council Main Hall	11am - 1:30pm
13	Council Business Meeting	Council Main Hall	8 pm
14	St. Valentines Day - Ash Wednesday		All Day
16	40 Days for Life at Planned Parenthood	Shrewsbury	10am - 11am
17	40 Days for Lent Canned Food Drive	Council Parking Lot	9am - 12pm
19	March for Life	Washington DC	
21	Columbian Club Meeting	Side Room - Pub	8 pm
23	111 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Council 1672		All Day
23	40 Days for Life at Planned Parenthood	Shrewsbury	10am - 11am
24	40 Days for Lent Canned Food Drive	Council Parking Lot	9am - 12pm
27	Officers Planning Meeting - Guest Speaker	Council Main Hall	8 pm
29	Sadie Hawkin's Day		All Day
<b>MARCH</b>			
1	40 Days for Life at Planned Parenthood	Shrewsbury	10am - 11am
2	40 Days for Lent Canned Food Drive	Council Parking Lot	9am - 12pm
2 - 3	Membership Drive	St Rose - St. Roberts	8 am - 12 noon
5	Open House	Council Main Hall	8pm
6	4th Degree Meeting - Assembly 650	Side Room - Pub	8 pm
8	40 Days for Life at Planned Parenthood	Shrewsbury	10am - 11am
9	40 Days for Lent Canned Food Drive	Council Parking Lot	9am - 12pm
12	Council Business Meeting	Council Main Hall	8 pm
15	40 Days for Life at Planned Parenthood	Shrewsbury	10am - 11am
16	40 Days for Lent Canned Food Drive	Council Parking Lot	9am - 12pm
16 - 17	Palm Cross Sale	St Rose - St. Roberts	All Masses
17	<b>St. Patrick's Day / Parade &amp; Party After</b>	Side Room - Pub	TBA
20	Columbian Club Meeting	Side Room - Pub	8 pm
22	40 Days for Life at Planned Parenthood	Shrewsbury	10am - 11am
22	CUF Degree Ceremony	Council Main Hall	8 pm
23	40 Days for Lent Canned Food Drive	Council Parking Lot	9am - 12pm
24	<b>Palm Sunday</b>		
26	Officers Planning Meeting - Guest Speaker	Council Main Hall	8 pm
28	<b>Holy Thursday</b>		
29	<b>Good Friday</b>		
31	<b>Easter Sunday</b>		

**Freehold Council 1672  
Knights of Columbus**

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

Visit our Website:  
**www.kofc1672.org**  
FaceBook @ Knights of Columbus -  
Freehold 1672 Council

**Meetings**

Second and Fourth Tuesdays  
8:00 PM Sharp

**Edward Hudak  
Grand Knight**

**Mike La Rosa  
Editor**

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
FREEHOLD, NJ  
PERMIT NO. 111

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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

There's a lot of news today about Artificial Intelligence, commonly called (AI). Most often we come in contact with AI when we make a phone call and we have to listen to a computer generated voice telling us to respond to several commands which we are probably not even calling about. It's very aggravating to me and then the voice puts me on hold for at least 15 minutes. I said 15 minutes but I have been on hold recently for 40 minutes. I was ready to throw my phone out the window.

Now AI is getting so "intelligent" that it is: deleting what it considers harmful and religious speech on websites, controlling driverless cars, performing robotic surgery in hospitals, assembling cars and trucks, interpreting security camera images, directing missiles to their targets, it is even predicting the weather. Good luck there. I'm sure that it is even doing other stuff but my research time is limited.

The word "artificial" according to my dictionary is:

1. not natural; man made.
2. made in imitation of something natural or real.

3. assumed; feigned.

4. not natural; affected.

**5. not based on reality; forced; contrived.**

It is definitely a correct description of the word in my book but it all sounds phony doesn't it?

My point is that scientists seem to be getting so lazy that they don't even want to use their brains to think very much, and to let a machine do it for them. I've been told all my life that, "if you don't use it, you'll lose it." In this hacking, woke and permissible world in which we live, I sometimes think that most people have already lost it.

Is it wise to depend on anything that is powered totally on electricity and batteries. Also I like to think that in the future AI will proclaim, "there is a God!" What will the scientists do then?

**May you have a thoughtful, Holy Lent  
and a  
Joyful Easter!**