



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREEHOLD COUNCIL 1672

# COMPASS

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 2024

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## GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

### William "Chris" Barnett

Fall is upon us and Summer has departed! I hope you all enjoyed a healthy and happy season. With the cooler weather coming in, it really feels like the year is speeding up. By the time you read this, I'll have been your Grand Knight for three months. I'm grateful for the trust you've placed in me as I transition from Deputy Grand Knight to this new role. A special thanks to our most recent PGK's Ed Hudak, Brian Barrett, and Gino Iacovella for their invaluable support since my election. It's a real honor to lead the Freehold Council, and I hope my time as Grand Knight will continue to bring success. But the success of our Council depends on more than just the wisdom of our recent Past Grand Knights - it relies on all of us. I encourage each of you to get involved, participate, or even take on a leadership role in our activities. A big thank you to the 30+ members who do so much already, and to the other 300+ who haven't been to a recent meeting or event, we'd love to see you there. You'll make new friends, find a renewed sense of purpose, and take pride in being a part of Council 1672.

As I shared at the June Council meeting when Ed Hudak passed the Grand Knight gavel to me, I was incredibly fortunate to attend the National Eucharistic Revival in July. Being part of a crowd of over 50,000 Catholics, both laypeople and religious, celebrating our Lord's presence in the Holy Eucharist was truly a life-changing experience for me and my family. The event wrapped up with a commitment to hold another one in 2033, and even though that's nine years away, I'm already looking forward to it! If you're interested, you can find a lot of great content on YouTube from the event, including talks, educational sessions, Holy Adoration, and the final Mass celebrated by Cardinal Luis Tagle. It's worth watching - you won't be disappointed!

A few of you have asked me what a Grand Knight does. Let me assure you, the list of responsibilities is extensive and goes far beyond just sending out Council emails. I try to keep these emails balanced in terms of content, length, and timeliness. Occasionally, I get questions from members about things that were already covered in the emails. So, please make sure to check your inbox regularly. If you need to update your email address or have any other concerns, just let me know. And if you ever want to discuss anything or have any questions, feel free to call or text me at 732-915-0506 (my private mobile) or email me at: [chris\\_public@me.com](mailto:chris_public@me.com). I'm here to help!

As I step into the role of your Grand Knight, I'm also officially retiring from my career in Engineering Management with a U.S. company that specializes in undersea telecommunications cables. So, yes, this year brings some big changes for me, and I'll be counting on your support at the Council!

*(Continued on page 5)*

## YOU ARE THAT LIGHT - Deacon Rolf Friedman

As the days are getting shorter and the nights longer, we are reminded that as disciples of Christ as well as Knights, we can be that light within our community that leads others to follow our footsteps through volunteerism and charity to others. We respond to this call to discipleship by our example of charity where we become that ray of light that gives hope to those in need.

As the Fall season is upon us, and we are preparing ourselves for the Big Holiday season starting with Thanksgiving and working our way to Christmas, we realize that for others this may not necessarily be a joyous season. This may be for varied and numerous reasons. However, this is where we can step forward and be that light to brighten someone's day. How?

By taking some time during this season to reflect on how we are doing as Knights and, even more so, as disciples of Christ. Did we forget that others are in need (*because we may be only thinking of ourselves*)? How have we responded? Did we bring a ray of hope to

someone by our generosity or kindness?

God sent his only Son so that all would be saved. We are not expected to literally replicate what Jesus did for us. But we are asked to follow his lead and by our own actions lead others to the same truth: that Jesus Christ came to us as the Light to follow so that one day we will be with Him for eternity.

Life isn't easy and throws us many curves. But we shouldn't be discouraged. But be grateful for what we have and, if possible, share what we have with others. Be it our time, talent, or treasure.

This may be a tall order especially if we ourselves are in need.... However, let us be that light of hope to others as we continue to fulfill our roles as Knights and Disciples of Jesus. Let's all be that "Light" that we are called to be.

**Vivat Jesus!**

## DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S VIEWS - Pat Facchini

Brothers, Summer has come to an end, and I hope you all had a safe and wonderful time enjoying the warm weather, vacations, families and friends.

As you read this, our council has already kicked off one of the busiest times of the fraternal year. In addition to returning to our twice a month council meeting, the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, we held our canning drive for "Coats for Kids" on September 14<sup>th</sup> and the St. Robert Parish picnic on the 15<sup>th</sup>. We closed out September on the 28<sup>th</sup> with our car show, "Blessing of the Cars" at St. Robert Bellarmine. This is now one of our biggest and most successful events thanks to the efforts of several of our brothers dedicating so much time to planning it.

On October 5<sup>th</sup> is the "Ashley Lauren Touch-a-Truck" at the East Freehold Showgrounds. We will be supporting the event by brothers barbecuing and the sale of food. October 12<sup>th</sup> is our Soccer Challenge, and brothers are needed to assist with the children as they compete. Our membership drives are on October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at St Rose and St Robert at all masses.

Our Open House for new candidates is October 15<sup>th</sup>. The CUF Degree is on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

November and December are busy as well. Our Worthy Grand Knight Chris will be providing more details on these activities as they approach.

The success of these charitable and organizational events is dependent on all of us. An article on "What is Biblical Generosity..." in the June edition of the Columbia magazine states, "**how much of ourselves we give**". We all became Knights because of our faith and desire to help others. Coming out and giving whatever time you can in support of our events not only contributes to their success, and I believe we are personally rewarded for the good work we do.

I wish you a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year.

Vivat Jesus.



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

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### **Why hasn't the pro-life movement persuaded more voters?**

On the recent episode of *The Van Maren Show*, which aired on 9/11/24, Jonathon Van Maren discusses the challenges of reaching the average voter with a pro-life message ahead of the upcoming November elections. *The Van Maren Show* is hosted on numerous platforms, including [Spotify](#), [SoundCloud](#), [YouTube](#), [iTunes](#), and [Google Play](#).

Jonathon begins the episode by reminding listeners that voters in numerous States that have passed strict abortion laws will vote on referendums to enshrine women's abortion "rights" into these states' constitutions this November. Some of these referendums, like Florida's, would essentially allow abortion up until birth. He then takes a deep dive into why pro-lifers have been unsuccessful in getting the anti-abortion message out.

He first emphasized how the debate is always framed in terms of "reproductive healthcare" and maternal mortality, without reference to the reality of abortion. The press will "fact-check" true statements made by pro-life advocates, using Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry as their standard for "fact-checking."

Jonathon then noted that the current situation mirrors what happened in Ireland in 2018. "You have two interest groups that are fighting for the hearts and minds of the people. And one interest group is the abortion industry, which is attempting to dehumanize preborn children in the womb, is attempting to essentially deceive the public into forgetting everything they know about the baby in the womb and is attempting to assert a series of very pernicious lies - and they're doing so with the full backing of the Fifth Estate; they're doing so with the full backing of

the press."

Jonathon noted that when pro-lifers write columns explaining that none of the State's abortion restrictions do what the mainstream press says, like killing women or preventing them from getting care for miscarriages, these articles only appear outside of mainstream news sources. "Women like Savita Halappanavar, who was a dentist who died of pregnancy complications, and every autopsy, every single study done into this proved that abortion had nothing to do with her case, that an abortion would not have saved her life. And yet, that is not the fact that most people voted on", he said.

Another reason the Irish referendum passed was that after pro-lifers started gaining a lot of ground through Google ads and social media advertising, the abortion industry succeeded in getting all digital advertising banned just weeks before the vote. While the abortion lobby didn't need to rely on digital ads because they had the mainstream press in their pockets, the pro-life movement did rely on digital ads to reach voters. So without the media and the internet, pro-lifers could only go door-to-door to get the message out, and it ultimately wasn't enough to stop the amendment from passing, despite a valiant effort on the ground.

"We see the same thing happening right now, where pro-lifers are fielding teams, and organizations that are going door to door, seeking to reach the public, and seeking to expose the truth about abortion to as many people as they can reach. But they simply do not have the money that the abortion industry has. In Michigan, for example, one of the first States to hold a referendum, pro-lifers were outspent by a margin of **16 to 1**.

**(About the author: Jonathon Van Maren's writings have been translated into more than six languages and published in the *National Post*, *National Review*, *First Things*, *The Federalist*, *The American Conservative*, *The Stream*, *the Jewish Independent*, *the Hamilton Spectator*, *Reformed Perspective Magazine*, *the Catholic Herald*, *LifeSiteNews*, and *LifeNews*, among others. He is a contributing editor to *The European Conservative* and currently serves as the communications director for the Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform.)**

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

Autumn is here and the leaves are beginning to change color, and the days are becoming shorter and colder. What does this mean? It means this is the last issue of the Compass for the calendar year 2024, I wish you and your families a Merry, Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year. I hope you and your families are all in Good Health and enjoy the upcoming Holiday Season.

We are heading for another WONDERFUL year for Fund Raisers. This article is being written before our Car Show, which last year brought in almost \$12,000 Gross, so I am hoping for more. Our Canning drive took place on September 14<sup>th</sup> and the total was \$4,297. Our change machine broke and I am still holding what I think might be another \$30.00 - \$50.00! Great Day!!

Many other fundraisers for the holiday season will be taking place, that I am sure will be addressed in other areas of this Compass!

This is also the time of the year where I remind all of you that Dues Invoices will be sent out the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December. Dues remain the same this year, \$60.00 (or \$0.16.4 per day!) and must be received by **January 25, 2025. AFTER** January 25, Dues will be \$65.00 to defray the cost of the extra invoice, postage and paperwork involved in collecting the dues. You can also pay multiple years if you want! Prices are rising on everything so get the dues to me and avoid the \$5.00 Fee. **PLEASE** do not send dues after January 25, 2025 with a check dated prior to January 25 or the postmark after January 25.

The dues can be paid to me directly at a meeting, sent to my Home address at 361 Colgate Way, Freehold, NJ 07728 Or VENMO, by using the following email address: **KOFC1672FS@gmail.com**. For those of you that are skeptical about Venmo, for the 2024 dues collection period, 91 members used Venmo or about 30% of our membership. I received many donation payments for the Pride in Priest Dinner, and Christmas blankets/wreaths via the Venmo App. If you need directions on how to use Venmo, please contact me. **ALSO, Freehold Bank has been Sold/Merged with Columbia Bank. Columbia has Zelle, so this may also be an option. I will send out an Email to the Council with Instructions if this happens.**

For some reason which Venmo has no

answer, 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.

After 10 years of doing this, I STILL get notified by our membership that they did not receive any notification of dues. The procedure has NOT changed in 10 years! Your dues notice was sent out either electronically or via Snail Mail.

If you are having any kind of difficulties, money, health or whatever else please notify us, we can make arrangements. If we have an email address on file for you, please check your email the first or second week of December. (If you have changed your email since last year and have not notified me, please do so ASAP.) You will receive an Electronic Invoice with the Subject line "Dues Notice for Council 1672". **PLEASE CHECK YOUR SPAM FOLDER!** If we have no email address on file, please check your mailbox around the same time, you will receive a paper invoice via the Post Office.

As always, we are STILL missing or have incorrect phone numbers from a lot of members. I find out about changes of address by accident when the mail comes back. Please notify me of a change of address, email, or phone number. I can be reached at 732-780-4815, or 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 and let me hear from you.

God Bless and please be safe out there!



## COLUMBIAN CLUB NEWS - Dan Dawidowicz

Another Columbian year has come to an end. The holidays will be here before we know it. I want to wish all by fellow Brothers and their families a Happy Thanksgiving, a Blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

The ballroom floor was recently refinished bringing it back to a beautiful finish. The Club purchased a display refrigerator case for the upstairs bar to alleviate having to stock and unstock the bar area every time there is an event in the ballroom. The hedges around the property were trimmed, and in the back of the parking lot some of the hedges were removed. Those hedges were filled with poison ivy and trash. Watch for the dates of the Fall property clean up and painting of the Hall, and come out and lend a helping hand.

Part of the Columbian Club function is charity and helping the community. Some of the ways we do this is by giving use of the Hall every month to the American Red Cross for a blood drive. In the past year they have collected 442 units of blood. If you would like to donate to this needy cause, please call the American Red Cross to make an appointment (1-800-733-2767) or sign up online. Appointments are required. Also, every December we donate the building to Holiday Express for their Christmas fundraiser for Disadvantaged Adults in Freehold.

When you pay your annual dues to Council

1672, also consider paying your annual dues to the Colombian Club as we are a separate organization with the responsibility and the expenses of maintaining the building where the Knights hold their functions. The Colombian Club dues notice will be mailed to you in December.

We also welcome all donations for our building fund. We are currently getting several quotes for remodeling / replacing the upstairs bathrooms. The good news is that party rental bookings are up (*thanks to some advertising and the House Committee for their commitment*). We could use a few more bartenders and security men to sign up for the parties. (*Training is provided and these are paid positions*). The Club Bar is open every Wednesday and Friday night, 6 pm to 10 pm. Please come and join your fellow Knights for camaraderie. The bar proceeds go directly to support the building.

If you have any new ideas on how to raise funds, please reach out to me. Upcoming fund raisers include the monthly **Breakfast Buffets**, **Game Show Night** (Saturday, November 9), **Collectible Card Show**, the first Friday night of October, November and December, upstairs in the ballroom, **Bar Bingo** once a month in the Pub, the **Memorial Christmas Trees**, and the biggest fundraiser of the Columbian year, the **2025 Saint Patrick's Day Raffle**.

## Grand Knight's Message - (Continued from Page 1)

When it comes to supporting our Council, we've had a busy few months since July 1! We helped at Olde Freehold Day on August 3, supported the Father O'Conner Golf Tournament on August 22, and held three Council meetings (July 23, August 13, and September 10). We also celebrated Blessed Michael McGivney's Feast Day on August 13 and enjoyed a social outing at a Lakewood BlueClaws baseball game, held our Canning Drive, our Blessing of Cars Show, supported the SRB Parish Picnic, installation of new officers, and attended the Pride and Priest Dinner. I'm sure I've missed a couple of activities, but it's been a great run so far!

In the coming months, we've got some exciting events lined up! Starting with Ashley Lauren

Touch a Truck Festival on October 5<sup>th</sup> all the way through the many events during the holidays. Please check the Calendar on page 7.

I'd like to wrap up by emphasizing how important the work we do as a Council is, and how much the charities we support truly rely on us. We discuss all of this at our Council meetings, and for those of you who haven't attended a meeting or event in a while, you'll be pleasantly surprised by the warm welcome you'll receive when you do. As our Past Grand Knight Ed Hudak used to say, "Get to know your fellow brothers. The best way to do this is by spending some time with them at one of our events. Trust me on this!

**Vivat Jesus!**



## **DISTRICT DEPUTY'S DESK - Louis Di Bello-DD27**

Two things I want to briefly mention is Recruiting and the COR Program.

**Recruiting:** As mentioned at the last meeting our fraternity needs to continue recruiting new members. We are an aging fraternity and need to aggressively recruit. We need the extra help in this council with a full schedule of doing many good works.

**COR Program:** The world needs courageous

men to witness to Jesus Christ. COR exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity. As this program is implemented in this council we will continue to learn more about it.

**Vivat Jesus !**

**A blessed Christmas & New Years to all !**

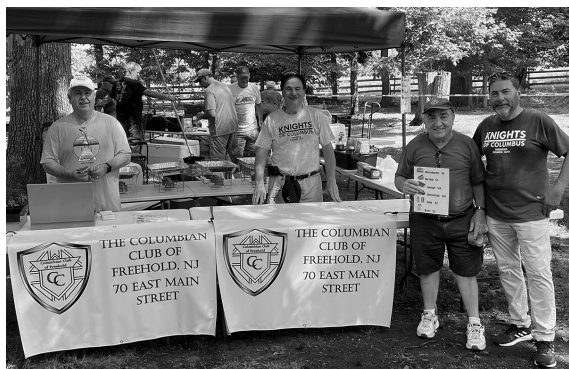
## **PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM**



**CHAPLAIN, Msgr. Sam Sirianni's  
40th Anniversary as a Priest Celebration**



**ROOKIE of the YEAR  
Frank O'Shea Receives Plaque From Ed Hudak, PGK**



**OLDE FREEHOLD DAY COOKERS**

**CHARITABLE CANNING DRIVE CREW**



My Dear Brothers and your families,  
from myself and all the Freehold Council 1672 Officers  
Thank You! For such an outstanding 2024  
Have A wonderful Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!

**Grand Knight, Chris Barnett Vivat Jesus !**

## **2024 AUTUMN CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Date	Item	Location	Time
<b>OCTOBER</b>			
3	4th Degree Meeting - Assembly 650	Council Main Hall	8 pm
5	Ashley Lauren Touch-A-Truck Festival	E. Freehold Showground	9 am - 5 pm
8	Council Business Meeting	Council Main Hall	8 pm
12	Columbus Day 1st Born Baby in Freehold	CentraState Hospital	Only God knows
12	Soccer Challenge	St. Rose Soccer Field	3 pm
12 and 13	Membership Drive	St. Rose / St. Robert	All Masses
<b>14</b>	<b>Columbus Day Observed</b>		
15	OPEN HOUSE—Social	Council Main Hall	8 pm
22	Council Planning Meeting - Guest Speaker	Council Main Hall	8 pm
24	Columbian Club Meeting	Side Room - Lounge	8 pm
25	C.U.F. Degree Ceremony	Council Main Hall	7:15 Sign-in/8pm
<b>NOVEMBER</b>			
<b>1</b>	<b>All Saints Day</b>	<b>Holy Day of Obligation</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>All Souls Day</b>		
<b>5</b>	<b>Election Day</b>	<b>Polling Location</b>	<b>6 am - 8pm</b>
7	4th Degree Meeting - Assembly 650	Council Main Hall	8 pm
8	Annual Council Mass for Departed Brothers	Council Main Hall	8 pm
9	Game Show Night	Council Main Hall	7 pm
9 & 10	Send a Hero Home - Holiday Bracelet Sale	St. Rose / St. Robert	All Masses
<b>11</b>	<b>Veterans Day</b>		
12	Council Business Meeting	Council Main Hall	8 pm
19	Council Hall Christmas Decorating	Council Main Hall	7 pm
23 & 24	Keep Christ in Christmas Magnet Sale	St. Rose / St. Robert	All Masses
23 & 24	Keep Christ in Christmas Magnet Sale	St. Rose / St. Robert	All Masses
26	Council Business Meeting <b>CANCELED</b>	Council Main Hall	
26	Tree Lighting, Carol Singing & CDA Party	Council Main Hall	7:30 pm
TBD	Columbian Club Meeting	Side Room - Lounge	8 pm
<b>28</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>		
<b>29</b>	<b>Black Friday</b>		
<b>DECEMBER</b>			
5	4th Degree Meeting - Assembly 650	Council Main Hall	8 pm
TBD	Memorial Christmas Tree Set - up	St. Rose / St. Robert	TBD
7	Blood Drive	Council Main Hall	9 am - 2 pm
7	Santa's Kids Party	Council Main Hall	2 pm-4 pm
7 & 8	Christmas Tree, Wreath & Grave Blanket Sale	Council Hall & St. Rob-	9 am - 3 pm
<b>8</b>	<b>Immaculate Conception</b>	<b>Holy Day of Obligation</b>	
8	Breakfast with Santa	Council Main Hall	8 am - 12 noon
10	Council Business Meeting	Council Main Hall	8 pm
15	Coffee And....	St. Robert Bellarmine	7:30 am - 12:30 pm
15	Sensory Mass	St. Robert Bellarmine	12 noon
24	Council Planning Meeting <b>CANCELED</b>	Council Main Hall	
<b>25</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>Holy Day of Obligation</b>	
26	Columbian Club Meeting <b>CANCELED</b>	Side Room - Lounge	

**SAVE-A-DATE, Friday January 24, 2025, Washington DC - MARCH FOR LIFE**

**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

**William "Chris" Barnett**  
**Grand Knight**

**Mike La Rosa**  
**Editor**

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

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This has really been a crazy, tragic, exciting and weird year when it comes to the Presidential Election so far.

President Joe Biden dropping out of the run for office because he is incompetent, then Vice President Kamala Harris takes his place at the convention after she had dropped out of the Presidential Debates earlier. Then to top it off, there has been two assassination attempts on President Donald Trump. It's only by the grace of God that he's still alive. Now the FBI and the Secret Service have additional pressure to deal with.

Who in the world could have ever anticipated or written a novel with all this phenomena happening in such a short time, and there is still over a month left until the election. The saying, *"Truth is stranger than fiction"* certainly applies to this past Summer.

Many people have told me that they are afraid for the future of this country, considering the poor economy, frequent abortions, the illegal

immigrant situation, wars and even the possibility of WW III is very troubling to them. **STOP IT!!! CALM DOWN.** Quit worrying. We've had plenty of hard times, floods, storms, hurricanes, diseases, that has made a lot of people afraid. We are still here. This is just another election. So say your prayers and keep your faith and everything will turn out fine. But whatever you do...

**Don't forget to vote !!!**

**You have my best wishes  
for a Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year**

**NOTE:** Starting in April of next year you'll be getting your Compass by email. Because of the rising postal rates, it is becoming very expensive to mail out these paper copies and at least for now the cost of email is zero. It will make it more convenient to read the Compass at your leisure.