



# Knights of Columbus



**HOLY CRUSADERS COUNCIL # 9193  
P.O. BOX 1536 BLACKWOOD, NJ 08012**

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## **NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2009**

### **GRAND KNIGHT'S LETTER**

February 25, 2009, is Ash Wednesday and marks the beginning of the Lenten season. This would be a great time for all of us to make a concerted effort to bring ourselves closer to our Lord. Consider attending daily Mass, or making the Stations of the Cross, or any other devotion offered to us. As we start the new year, we hosted the Foul Shooting Contest. I want to thank all who helped out to make this event a big success. I want to thank Brother, Dan Riiff, for the work he does setting up our successful blood drive and to all the people who donated blood. Our Forty Hour Devotion was a huge success due to all of our brother knights who gave of their time to spend time with the Lord. Again, I appeal to all of you to come join us at our meetings. It would be great to see you.

Fraternally,

Robert A. Stefano  
Grand Knight

### **BLOOD DONOR DRIVE**

Our Council sponsored a Red Cross blood donor drive on January 29<sup>th</sup>, from 2 to 8 PM in the Parish Center. Blood supplies are always in short supply and your help was appreciated. We would like to thank Dan Riiff for promoting and directing the drive and for providing dinner for the donors. We would also like to thank Bob Stefano, Bob Calabro and Allison Lusardi for their assistance. Finally, we thank all the donors that rolled up their sleeves and donated 96 pints to this worthy cause.

### **FREE THROW CONTEST**

On Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, our Council sponsored our annual Knights of Columbus free throw contest, in the St. Agnes Parish Center. We would like to thank Bob Stefano for directing the program and the following members who helped: Barry Start, Steve Thomas, Paul Chatburn, Romeo Gianetti, Joe Gallagher, Bob Calabro, Dave Lusardi, Jim McGovern, Dan Worstall, DD John Carlucci, Ken Pfafman, and Andy DiJoseph. 37 foul shooters participated and here are the winners by age, Boys 10 Brandon Tural, 11 Adam Hatch, 12 Kevin Breeze, 13 Eddie Olmo 3rd, 14 Matt Mulford. Girls: 11 Natalie Gemerek, 12 Sydney Lawson, 13 Monica McGarvey. The winners will advance to the District Competition on Saturday, Feb. 14, in the St. Agnes Parish Center. Once again, we will need your help to register the competitors and control the competition.

### **KNIGHT/FAMILY OF THE MONTH**

Our knight of the month for February was Romeo Gianetti (service to the Council). Our family of the month for February was Dan Riiff and family (Blood Drive) Congratulations and thank you.

### ANNUAL FRATERNAL ACTIVITY SURVEY

In accordance with the requirements of the Supreme Council, our annual Survey of Fraternal Activity was filed. This report is an estimate of the many hours our Council dedicates to our many programs. It is a number in which we can all take pride.

### OUR PROUD RECORD

Cumulative figures show that during the past decade, the Knights of Columbus has donated nearly \$1.28 billion to charity, and provided in excess of 612 million hours of volunteer service in support of charitable causes.

### 40 HOURS DEVOTION

We are grateful and thankful to all of you that took advantage of the opportunity to worship and spend some time with the Lord during this wonderful, spiritual tradition. Attendance was good and the results successful.

### CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

We have this God-given gift-our faith. We must now decide to live according to what we have received. We must live according to the teachings and maxims of our Lord Jesus Christ. We must practice good works. St. James reminds us that "faith without works is as dead as a body without breath." And again, "faith that does nothing in practice is thoroughly lifeless." Faith, let us not forget, is a great privilege that carries with it infinite value. Let it not be our condemnation by neglecting to nourish it by means of good works. We should always thank God for His great goodness towards us. We should thank Him for the gift of faith-and show our gratitude by living a good Christian life in accordance with our calling.

### MALVERN RETREAT

The annual Malvern retreat was another huge success. There were 300 retreatants making the retreat and we are proud to say that 28 were from our group. This number was composed of members, family members and friends. This is a wonderful experience and we encourage you to try and make it. Keep it in mind for next year.

### ANNUAL DUES

Have you paid them? Wonderful. Have you not paid them? Please get on it and take care of this little matter. Thank you.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE

#### **First Aid for 401k's, IRAs**

It's no secret that many members, and the American public at large, have seen epic losses in their 401k and IRA accounts over the past year. I often speak with individuals who've lost tens of thousands of dollars, and more, in the current financial crisis. Another category of investors who have yet to experience the other shoe dropping are those who hold variable life insurance contracts, including Variable Universal Life. But for now, I'd like to suggest a scenario: You had \$150,000 in your 401k, at the end of 2007, and discover you've lost upwards of \$50,000 of your investment. You can replace the loss to your heirs by taking out a whole life insurance policy on yourself, which will have the immediate effect of restoring your lost wealth to your family in the event of your death at anytime in the future, and in addition will build impressive cash values available for your own use in future years. Should you become disabled; the Knights will pay the premiums. For \$2.24 per day, a forty year old male can repair his \$50,000 401k loss, which I suggest is a convenient, economical, permanent solution to a serious problem. Even better, the life insurance benefit is tax free, unlike the 401k proceeds, adding approximately 50% to the net benefit that would have been available in a 401k distribution. Certainly our wives and children deserve that we preserve their financial futures, so call me today to discuss your case, and let's restore financial health in 2009.

Tom Conway, FICF, Field Agent  
(856) 753-4458

### WHERE WILL THIS END?

MSNBC conducted a poll as to whether the words "In God We Trust" should remain on our currency. There were over 8.4 million respondents, the most ever for a MSNBC poll. 81% voted "YES" - that the motto should remain on our currency.

### REMEMBERING FATHER MCGIVNEY

Father McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus as a fraternal benefit society offering low-cost life insurance to immigrant families facing destitution if the breadwinner died. Today the Knights of Columbus has more than \$50 billion of life insurance in force. Its insurance program has received the highest possible ratings from both the A. M. Best Co. and Standard & Poor's.

### ULTRASOUND PROGRAM ASSISTS PREGNANT WOMEN

As the nation marked the 36th anniversary of the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion on demand the Knights of Columbus launched a new initiative aimed at providing women considering abortion a new way of viewing the life within them. So far our Council has donated \$2000 to this initiative through our Blessed John Paul II Chapter. The facility housing the Ultrasound equipment will be located in Woodbury.

### FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the St. Agnes Chapel on First Friday, February 6th, following the 9:00 AM Mass, continue until 7:00 PM, and close with Benediction. We are committed to "watch" in half-hour shifts throughout the day. There's a sign up sheet in the Chapel to schedule your time. Please try to stop in during the day to spend time with the Lord.

### FOURTH DEGREE NEWS

We are still collecting used clothing and personal items for Veterans Haven. Veterans Haven is a rehabilitation center for veterans. Contact Barry Start (384-5884) for a full list of needed items. The Bishop Schad Assembly meets on the third Wednesday 8:00 PM, Church Street.

### COMING ATTRACTIONS

Hoagie Sale – March 7<sup>th</sup> Parish Center

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

The following Brothers or members of their

families will celebrate their birthdays this month: Sal Aversa, Rev. Jeffrey Cesarone, John Colaianni, Edward D'Andrea, Caitlin Gallagher, Al Guarini, Paul Heim, Sr., Bill Higgins, Ron Kentrus, Ron Lawrence, Mike Malatesta, John Muldowney, Mike Poiez, John Rifici, Dan Riiff, Anthony Rutigliano, Gina Sirolli, John Venuti and Paul Woyciechowski. The following members will celebrate their anniversaries this month: Mr.&Mrs. Paul Chatburn, Mr.&Mrs. Michael Lisanti, Mr.&Mrs. John Gandolfo. CONGRATUALTIONS  
If we missed someone's birthday or anniversary, please contact John Gandolfo (227-0447).

### EDITORIAL

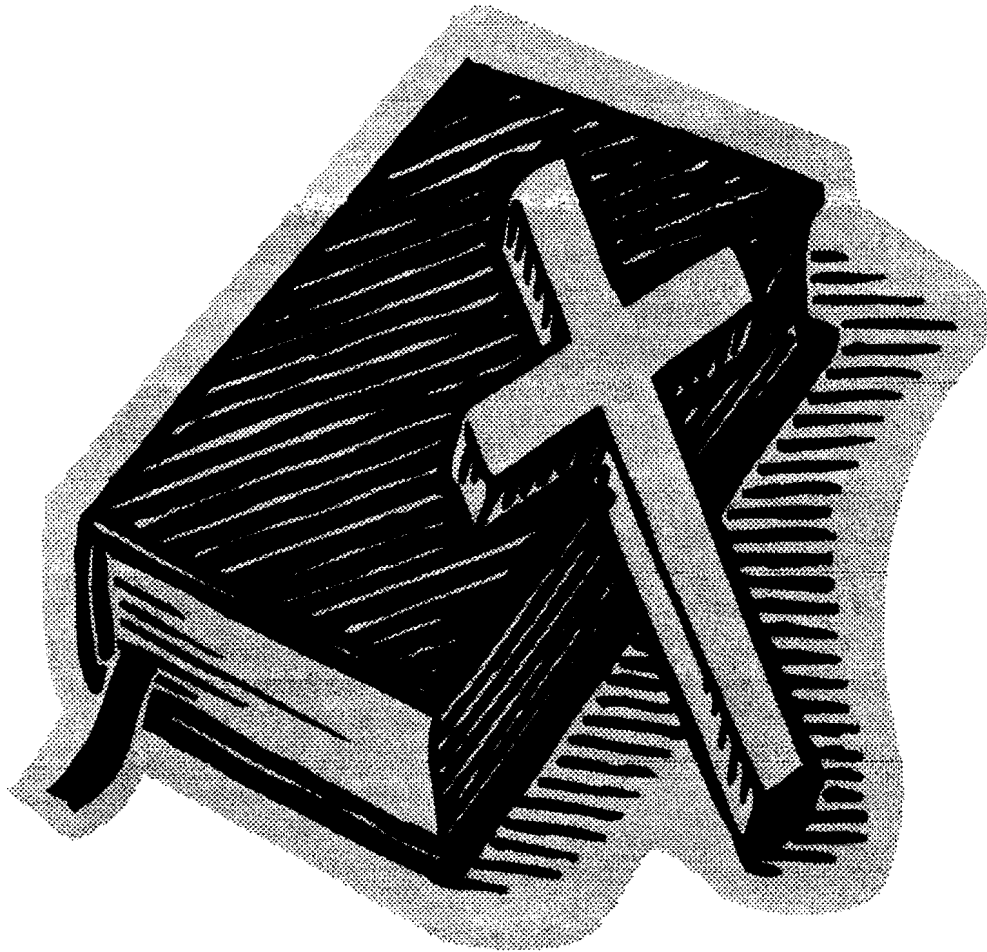
Earlier we mentioned an attempt to remove "In God We Trust" from our currency. We are already fighting the attempt to remove "under God" from our Pledge of Allegiance. We watched the ceremonies surrounding the recent Presidential Inauguration, that opened and closed with a prayer, had all the elected officials swear to God to perform their duties, and asked God's help on innumerable occasions. Isn't it incredible that there are still people out there that find the involvement of God in all our lives to be wrong?

It's hard to believe but Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> of this month is Ash Wednesday and the start of the Lenten season. Let us take this opportunity to spiritually prepare ourselves for the events of Holy Week and the Feast of the Resurrection. Our Churches will have many services for us to participate in. Vivat Jesus.

### IMPORTANT DATES

Feb. 5 Officers Meeting (8 PM Church St.)  
Feb. 6 First Friday (St. Agnes Chapel)  
Feb. 12 Council Meeting (8 PM Church St.)  
Feb. 14 District Free Throw (Parish Center)  
Feb. 25 Ash Wednesday  
Feb. 26 Council Meeting (8 PM Church St.)  
Mar. 5 Officers Meeting (8 PM Church St.)  
Mar. 6 First Friday (8 PM Church St.)  
Mar. 7 Hoagie Sale (Parish Center)  
Mar. 12 Council Meeting (8 PM Church St.)  
Mar. 26 Council Meeting (8 PM Church St.)  
Mar. 29 Founder's Day (1882)

# ASH WEDNESDAY



LENT BEGINS  
FEBRUARY 25TH