



# KNIGHTS LETTER MARCH 2014

Fr. Stanley S. Kromer, O. Carm.  
Council 11553 \* St. Raphael Parish \* Englewood, FL



## GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

**Greetings to all Our Volunteering Ladies,  
Parishioners and Brother Knights:**



Let us give thanks to Fr Mark Schaffner for his guidance and help working with our Council. We were fortunate to have Bishop Frank in attendance at our Clergy Dinner, with other priests and dignitaries. Fr Mark made sure that everyone was taken care of. The dinner and entertainment were enjoyed by all.

We had another great Pancake Breakfast, chaired by Steve West with help from Jack Seiler, Mike Obendorfer, John Trush and Jerry Godfrey. Also, our Ladies Aux provided the extra nice service to our patrons.

The Ladies Aux put on their annual Musical Show starring Patsy Cline impersonator, Barbara Van Eyken. Bill and Kay O'Connell chaired and organized the show.

Our Pasta Dinner was enjoyed by many with over 500 dinners being served. It was chaired by yours truly with help from Harold Barette, Mike Obendorfer, Steve West, John Trush Irving Medina, Al Deshaies and many other Knights.

A special thanks to the Ladies Aux for all the serving of meals. Without them we couldn't have such a great turnout.

We had our annual Tootsie Roll Drive chaired by John Knapke with volunteers provided by many of our Brother Knights covering many store fronts. All donations go to disabled children and other charitable organizations.

We have Brother Joe Gerovac as our new Treasurer. Thank you Joe and welcome aboard!

We will have our St Patrick's Day Dinner on March 13 from 5 till 9 p.m. There will be music by the Jimmy McCarthy Band and the Irish Dancers.

We will have our Council Road Cleanup on the Roads around the church on Mar 15 at 8:00 a.m. sharp. Meet at the church parking lot.

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## CHAPLAIN'S THOUGHTS

Dear Fellow Knights,



The season of Lent will occupy most of this month (and also a good part of April). I sometimes Look upon Lent as a Christian's "Spring Training" period—a period where we are encouraged to "get in shape" for the (EASTER) season ahead! This, not by calisthenics, but by acts of fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

Athletes, of course, tend to wince at the thought of all that is required to prepare their bodies during spring practice so they will perform well when the official season commences. But they know that such preparation is important. So too with us in our spiritual lives: the thought of fasting, for example, doesn't exactly make us ecstatic.....

The above being the case, I would like to suggest that we look on fasting in an entirely different light and apply it to our conduct during this Lenten Season. The author of this little work is William Arthur Ward and is entitled "Fast and Feast"

- \*Fast from judging others; feast on the Christ abiding within them.
- \*Fast from emphasis on differences; feast on the Unity of all life.
- \*Fast from thoughts of illness; feast on the healing Power of God.
- \*Fast from words that pollute; feast on phrases that Purify.
- \*Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.
- \*Fast from anger; feast on patience.
- \*Fast from pessimism; feast on optimism.
- \*Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.
- \*Fast from negatives; feast on affirmatives.
- \*Fast from unrelenting pressures; feast on unceasing prayer.
- \*Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness.
- \*Fast from hostility; feast on nonresistance.
- \*Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion for others.
- \*Fast from discouragement; feast on hope.
- \*Fast from laziness; feast on enthusiasm.

(Cont. on Page 2)

(Cont. Chaplain's Message)

- \*Fast from suspicion; feast on truth and honesty.
- \*Fast from shadows of sorrow; feast on the sunlight of serenity.
- \*Fast from idle gossip; feast on purposeful silence
- \*Fast from problems that overwhelm; feast on prayer that supports.

*Father Niles*  
 Chaplain  
 Council 11553

**LADIES' AUXILIARY OFFICERS**

	<b>Chaplain</b>	
<b>Suzanne Walsh</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>941-697-9686</b>
<b>Vacant</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	
<b>Cathy Sants</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>941-475-6956</b>
<b>Alyce Brunner (Otto)</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>941-475-8379</b>
<b>Dr. Diane Vitalis (Robert)</b>	<b>Trustee 1yr.</b>	<b>941-475-2771</b>
<b>Faye LeClaire (Jim)</b>	<b>Trustee 2yr.</b>	<b>941-475-2155</b>
<b>Kay O'Connell (Bill)</b>	<b>Trustee 3yr.</b>	<b>941-475-7653</b>

Hi Everyone,



Here we are in March already on our way to another spectacular Fashion Show. This year's event is Entitled "Sea, Sand and Shells" and will be held in the Parish Center on March 20th beginning at 11:30 a.m. Phyllis Trush is the Chairperson. She can use all the help she can get.

If you are available to help or need tickets, please call her at 445-9125.

The Patsy Cline Show was held on Feb 16th. It was a great success with 247 tickets sold. I would like to thank Bill and Kay O'Connell for all the hard work in making this show so terrific. Thanks Bill and Kay!!

I would like to remind everyone to bring 2 scratch-off raffle tickets to our next meeting. These are going to be used as part of a basket for the raffle at the Fashion Show. Also, if you have any door prizes, please remember to bring those to the meeting

Remember, the Election of Officers is coming soon.

Once again, thanks to all for all the effort you give to the Knights and the Auxiliary. It's greatly appreciated.

*Suzanne Walsh*  
 President  
 Ladies Auxiliary

**District Deputy Message**

To My Brothers All:



Can you believe that we are over 6 months into the fraternal year. This is the time to start looking at everything we need to get done to be on track for star council. There are a lot of ways your council can get there. The best way is through our great programs. The state has given every council more than enough programs to take up and to set the council up in a no-fail position.

The state has asked for 1 new member per council per month. They have asked for every council to work on the form SP-7 now, even going as far as to allow you to put down things you will do in future months so it is giving you credit now for what you will do later. Also, the council has to take candidates entered into the degree to get credit. Many of these can be done by Council 11553. I have nothing but faith in you! Ask the Grand Knight and officers to consider your ideas. It cost nothing and the more you put down the more credit you get.

The R.S.V.P. is when you sponsor a seminarian. This gives you credit in many areas. Also, some of your events may qualify for the whole group in that category. Please let us all get busy. Call knights you have not seen in a while. Talk to them and get them involved. It is not all about numbers. It is about your getting the rewards you deserve for all the good you do.

Your Clergy Night was incredible. I was proud to have been asked to be there. I never missed one yet. The Bishop and Father Mark were very supportive.

I will be meeting with Bishop Dewane in the next few weeks to see how we can get even more support and to see how he would like District 51 to serve the diocese and local churches.

Until next time, may God bring peace to all of you. Again, may we all come together in unity for the good of the order and the vision of Father McGivney.

VIVAT JESUS

*Michael J. Costanza Sr*  
 District Deputy #51

## K of C Insurance

### Plan for this tax day and into the future

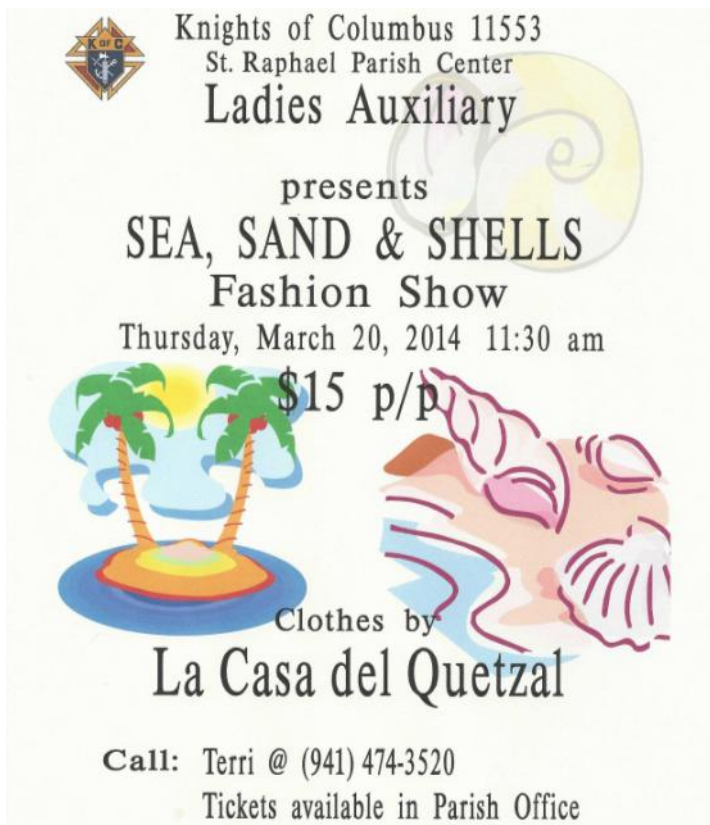
April 15 (tax day) is right around the corner. It's become popular this time of year to encourage the opening of an IRA or similar retirement annuity, or the depositing of additional funds into an existing account, as a tax-savings vehicle. Or perhaps someone has tried to convince you to open an account, touting the rate of interest that money in one of these accounts can earn. Let me join the chorus of folks for a different reason.

Certainly, contributing money to a Knights of Columbus annuity will allow you to save some money on your income tax return. And our annuities do pay a very competitive interest rate, consistent with our primary goal of absolute safety of principal. Opening or adding to an annuity for these reasons, however, strikes me as taking a short-term view of a product that is designed to provide long-term security. How much security? How does retirement income that you cannot outlive—guaranteed—sound to you?

Here at the Knights of Columbus, you can open a retirement annuity for as little as \$300. Consistent and disciplined savings placed into that annuity over time can guarantee an income at retirement that you cannot outlive. That guarantee—along with the fact that no one has ever lost money left in a Knights of Columbus annuity (remember-absolute safety of principal) — really will provide you with peace of mind.

I am happy to meet with you — at your convenience and in your home—to explain in detail the benefits of opening a Knights of Columbus annuity, along with the benefits of our top-rated life insurance, disability income and long-term care insurance plans.

Brent J. Labreche, FICF  
General Agent SWFL  
20160 Estero Gardens Circle #105  
Estero, FL 33928  
239-947-3386



Knights of Columbus 11553  
St. Raphael Parish Center  
Ladies Auxiliary  
presents  
**SEA, SAND & SHELLS**  
Fashion Show  
Thursday, March 20, 2014 11:30 am  
\$15 p/p  
Clothes by  
**La Casa del Quetzal**  
Call: Terri @ (941) 474-3520  
Tickets available in Parish Office

### Ladies Auxiliary Fashion Show

The Ladies Auxiliary will have their annual Fashion Show on March 20, 2014. It will be held in the Parish Activity Center. The two hour show will start off with a luncheon catered by Meloni and will be chicken salad. The luncheon will be served by members of the Knights.

During the day there will be door prizes, a 50/50, a teacup auction and a basket of cheer.

The SEA, SAND & SHELLS SHOW will have models chosen from the Ladies Aux and others. The clothes will be styled by La Casa del Quetzal.

Tickets are \$15 per person. See Flyer above.



Ryan Schwaner models in last year's show.



## 2013 - 2014 COUNCIL OFFICERS

CHAPLAIN	Fr Niles Gillen	941-485-3673
GRAND KNIGHT	David Sants (Cathy)	941-475-6956
DEPUTY GK	Vacant	
CHANCELLOR	Steve West (Joan)	941-473-4987
FIN SECRETARY	John Trush (Phyllis)	941-445-9125
TREASURER	Joe Gerovac (Barbara)	231-499-1425 <sup>c</sup>
RECORDER	Jim LeClaire (Faye)	941-475-2155
WARDEN	Bob Foley (Mary)	941-474-5831
ADVOCATE	Jack Seiler (Sue)	941-493-2542
LECTURER	Jack Maddigan (Mary)	941-473-2038
INSIDE GUARD	Harold Barette (Rozetta)	231-238-8325 <sup>c</sup>
OUTSIDE GUARD	Bill Dundon	941-525-3116
TRUSTEE (3 YEAR)	Bill O'Connell (Kathleen)	941-475-7653
TRUSTEE (2 YEAR)	Vacant	
TRUSTEE (1 YEAR)	Irving Medina (Stella)	941-475-3242
District Deputy	Mike Costanza (Kelly)	941-400-7416
Faithful Navigator	Leo Szafranski	941-468-7945 <sup>c</sup>

### DIRECTORS

Church	St Raphael	941-474-9595
Community	Jim Powell (Terri)	941-474-3520
Respect Life	Jack Seiler (Sue)	941-493-2542
Council/Pasta Din	David Sants (Cathy)	941-475-6956
Historian	Tom Blanding (Kathy)	941-474-3083
Membership		
Newsletter	Jack Hardman (Jackie)	941-474-7828
Tootsie Roll Drive	John Knapke (Barbara)	941-474-8843

<sup>c</sup> = cell phone

## Blood Drive Schedule 2014

**Mar 16 St Raphael**  
**May 25 St Raphael**  
**July 20 St Raphael**

### Mass of the Roses

On March 9 we will celebrate the Mass of the Roses at the 11:00 Mass. The ceremony will take place at the end of Mass. Each deceased member of K of C 11553 will be remembered. Following this, there will be a luncheon in the Parish Center.

The Mass of the Roses was started because of St Therese (the Little Flower). At age 15 she entered The Carmelite Covent in Lisieux, France. In 1886 she became ill with tuberculosis and on Sept 30, 1897, at age of 24, she died. She was canonized by Pope Pius XI on May 17, 1925. Every year we celebrate her and our deceased Brother Knights.

### Editor's Note

**I would like to give a nice thank you to Terri Powell for standing in for me and taking photos at the Patsy Cline show. Great job Terri!!**

*Jack Hardman*

## CURRENT SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Date      Time      Day**

### March 2014

02	5-8:00 P.M.	Sun	Volunteer Recognition Dinner Reception @ the PAC
05		Wed	Ash Wednesday-First Day of Lent
06	6-8:00 P.M.	Thu	K of C Bus/Social Meeting @ the PAC
09	11:00 A.M.	Sun	K of C Mass of The Roses Followed by Luncheon @ the PAC
09		Sun	Daylight Saving Time Begins @ 2:00 A.M.
13	5-9:00 P.M.	Thu	<b>Annual St Patrick's Gala @ the PAC</b>
15	8:00 A.M.	Sat	Road Cleanup Followed by Breakfast-Meet at Church Parking Lot
16	8-1:00 P.M.	Sun	Blood Drive-Church Parking Lot
20	11:30 A.M.	Thu	K of C Ladies Auxiliary Fashion Show @ the PAC
23	5-8:00 P.M.	Sun	Father Mark's 25th Anniversary as a Priest @ the PAC
27	7-8:00 P.M.	Thu	Officers/Directors Meeting @ the PAC
30	3:00 P.M.	Sun	Paul Todd Concert @ the PAC

## K of C Tootsie Roll Drive

Our Tootsie Roll Drive this year was a success. We could have used some more volunteers to fill all the slots at the different stores.. The drive was held on Feb 20-23. Also, during the same weekend there were volunteers at each Mass asking for donations.

Chairman of the event this year was John Knapke. He is a seasoned worker at this and always does a great job. John will have the results of the drive at the first K of C meeting in March.

Again, not enough thanks can be given to all the volunteers who signed up for two-hour stints at the different stores. Below are a couple photos of our volunteers this year. Other photos can be seen in the Photo Addendum which is on our church website.



Here we have volunteer Al Deshaies receiving a donation from a nice lady in front of Publix. We thank Publix for allowing us to be there.



Volunteer Jack Seiler receives a nice donation from this nice lady in front of Walgreens in Englewood. We appreciate Walgreens allowing us to be at their store.

## “Happy Birthday” to Our Brother Knights for the Month of March

<b>Michael Fry</b>	<b>Mar 04</b>
<b>Lionel Demers</b>	<b>Mar 05</b>
<b>James Hanyak</b>	<b>Mar 08</b>
<b>Robert Vitalis Sr</b>	<b>Mar 09</b>
<b>David Sants</b>	<b>Mar 11</b>
<b>Edward Weatherhead</b>	<b>Mar 13</b>
<b>Joseph Gerovac</b>	<b>Mar 18</b>
<b>John Vendetta</b>	<b>Mar 18</b>
<b>Robert McGrath</b>	<b>Mar 21</b>
<b>Albert Nemchek</b>	<b>Mar 26</b>
<b>Donald Thomas</b>	<b>Mar 26</b>

### K of C Road Cleanup

This year’s spring road cleanup will take place on Saturday, March 15 at 8:00 A.M. sharp. All volunteers will Meet in the church parking lot. All supplies will be provided. Wear appropriate clothing such as long pants and long sleeves to prevent scratches and bug bites. Wives are welcome.

After the cleanup, the group will meet at a local restaurant for breakfast.

*Jim Powell*  
Chairman

Reminder  
There will be no K of C  
Breakfast in March

Reminder  
There will be no K of C  
Pasta Dinner in March

# Annual St. Patrick's GALA

CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE  
DINNER/DANCE/ENTERTAINMENT

Music By Jim McCarthy & David Buescher

IRISH STEP DANCERS

Thursday March 13, 2014

St Raphael's Parish Activity Center

Doors open 5 PM

Dinner 6 PM

Dancing 7 /9 PM



B Y O B (Beer & Wine Only)

Ticket Sales

Steve West--- 473-4987

John Trush---445-9125

Parish Office **UNTIL 3/11**

**NO SALES AT THE DOOR**

**\$15** Per Person

Reserved Table of (8) \$120



Sponsored by

*Knights of Columbus*

## Speaker For March 6 Meeting

Speaker for our meeting on Thursday, March 6, will be Jim Laurent, a brother Knight from Council 7672 at St. Francis Parish. He is a volunteer Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast. Jim serves on the Englewood board of directors and chairs its Partnership Committee. He and a representative from the organization will tell us about the work of the BBBS in the Englewood area, with volunteer adult mentors providing strong and enduring 1-to-1 relationships to help children ages 6 through 18 change their lives for the better.

*Jack Maddigan*  
Chairman

## Daylight Saving Time

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 9, 2014.

## Saint Patrick's Day Dinner Dance

March 13, 2014

St. Raphael's Parish Center—starts at 5 p.m.

Music will be provided by the Jim McCarthy band.

Also, there will be Irish step dancers for your entertainment. (see photos below).

Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner will be served.

This has been a sold out event in the past. If you want tickets they will be on sale at the church office or you can call Steve West at 941-473-4987. Tickets are \$15 per person.



These are the young step dancers who performed last year.



These people are being served their corned beef and cabbage last year.



## Newsletter Boosters-2013-14

<p>Aubuchon, James August, Richard Bandy Sr, Leon+ Barette, Harold Blanding, Thomas Boyle, Hugh Bozcar, Shirley Brodeur, Leonard Brower, John Brown, Thomas Bush, Gregory Caron, Paul Caulder, Bruce Charleson, James Coakly, John Conlon, James Connary, Larry (L) Coull, Ian Cousineau, Wilford (L) Crook, Richard (L) Deshaies, Albert Dundon, William Englehart, George Ewles, Howard</p>	<p>Faro, Thomas Farrell, Ed Fortunato, Stephen Fry, Michael Garlasco III, Christopher Gerovac, Joseph Giel, John Giroux Jr, Arthur (L) Godlewski, Robert (L) Gokey, John Gregory, John Hanson, Harrison Hanyak, James Hardman, John (L) Hefton, Jim Heissenbuttel, Eugene(L) Horgan, Timothy Houston, William Kelley, Robert Kelly, Thomas Keough, Thomas Kleinlein, Kenneth Knapke, John Krum, David</p>	<p>LeClaire, James (L) LeClerc, Leon (L) Lusk, Richard Maddigan Jr, John McDonald, Bruce McGinnis, Donald McWha, Bill Melideo, Thomas Mignemi, Albert Miller, Margaret O'Connell, C. William Mroczkowski, Gerald Neumann, Henry Newton, Earl Ouellette, Raymond Parker, Stanley Patterson, William Pesa Peter Planeta, Edward Powell, James Powell, Terri Reynolds, John Roanen, Leonard (L) Saje, Norbert</p>	<p>Sampson, Donald Sapiano, Charles Scott, Eileen Seiler, Jack (L) Sierocuk, Marion Simone, Martin Spagnolo, Joseph (L) Stroer, Dennis Toenjes, Karl Turnock, James Vendetta, John Vitalis Sr, Robert Wallace, Florence Walsh, Robert Weatherhead, Edward Webber, Stretch Wendlandt, Ronald Wenner, Emil Wilson, Leslie Zor, Frank (L) Zuk, Kenneth  L=Life Member</p>
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(Cont. Grand Knight from Page 1)

We will be hosting a Blood Drive on March 16th from 8:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. We will be providing coffee and donuts after all Sunday Masses that day.

The Ladies Aux will have their annual Fashion Show on March 20th starting at 11:30 a.m.

Fr Mark's 25th anniversary Dinner will be held on March 23rd with music from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The CCW is putting on a concert by Paul Todd on March 30th. Tickets are \$15. Contact Marge Welsh @ 460-0124 for info and tickets.

**David Sants**  
Grand Knight  
Council 11553

### FOUNDER'S DAY

On March 29, 2014 the Knights of Columbus will celebrate its 132nd anniversary of the Order. On that date in 1882 the Knights of Columbus was chartered by the State of Connecticut.

### Paul Todd Concert

Sponsored by: CCW



Where: St Raphael Parish Activity Center

When: Sunday, March 30, 2014

Time: 3:00 P.M.

Tickets: \$15

Tickets May Be Purchased:

Ricki: 473-9802

Marge: 460-0124

Parish Office

Outside All Masses on March 22 and 23



### 40 Cans for Lent

This year the Knights will be collecting cans of food for people who are less fortunate as we did last year at St Raphael Parish. It was very successful as we collected 3500 lbs. of food. We earned \$100 for each 500 lbs., thus winding up with the maximum award of \$500 from Supreme. Also, this was accompanied by the Plaque that you see at the left.

As an incentive the Supreme Council will count a qualifying Food for Families program as fulfilling all four of the Family Activities requirements (a minimum of 1000 lbs. of food collected and distributed and 100 man-hours of service in the preparation/distribution/service of meals to needy people). Containers will be placed in the vestibule of the church for deposits after each Mass during Lent.

Harold Barette  
Chairman

### Some February Activities K of C Council 11553



Breakfast crowd pours in after Mass on Feb 9.



Round subs for the monthly business meeting-Feb 13.



Patsy Cline pushes the men to dance on stage-Feb 16.



This is one of our happy pasta tables on Feb 21st.