

December 25, 2011

My Brother Knights,

Happy New Year!

The next second and third degree is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, January 15, 2012 at St. Pius X in Portland at 492 Ocean Avenue. Candidates should register at 10AM for the degree to start at 11AM. FMI contact Vince Marcisso at 774-5070.

The Fourth Degree Exemplification will be held in Kennebunk on May 19th. Applications are being accepted by Executive Secretary Ron Sabourin.

Contact Matt Pettine if you have an event you would like to add to the calendar.

I AM MY BROTHER'S KEEPER 365 DAYS A YEAR,

Raymond A. Sargent

Maine State Deputy

Upcoming Events

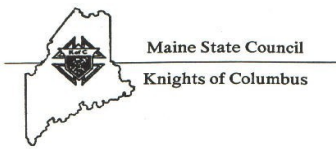
- A complete list can be found on the website www.maineKnights.org :

6-8 January	State's Winter Meeting. the Black Bear Inn & Conference Center, 4 Godfrey Drive, Orono, Maine, 04473. FMI: Gary Smith at 363-8184 or Gary@Smithbrosmaintenance.com
7 January	Holy Cross, Lewiston #12652 Bean Supper on Saturday from 4 – 6pm in the Holy Cross Church Hall located at 1080 Lisbon St. Lewiston, ME. FMI Dan Leclair at 754-2841 or knightsOfColumbus@roadrunner.com .
15 January	Portland #101 2nd/3rd degree. FMI Vince Marcisso, 774-5070
14 January	Gardiner #1288 Canabas Council Chicken Pie Supper. 4PM to 6PM at 109 Spring Street Gardiner FMI: Jim Hebert jrhebert@blckdiamond.net
27-29 January	Frenchville Northern Maine Men's Retreat at the Christian Life Center in Frenchville ME. FMI Paul Ouellette .
4 February	Holy Cross, Lewiston #12652 Bean Supper on Saturday from 4 – 6pm in the Holy Cross Church Hall located at 1080 Lisbon St. Lewiston FMI Dan Leclair at 754-2841.
11 February	Gardiner #1288 Canabas Council Chicken Pie Supper. 4 to 6PM at 109 Spring Street in Gardiner FMI: Jim Hebert jrhebert@blckdiamond.net
24-26 February	Topsham Southern Maine Men's Retreat will take place at the Sky Hy Conference Center in Topsham ME. Applications available on 'maineknights.org' web site. FMI Paul Ouellette at 782-5914 or 402-0033, oulltt@roadrunner.com



Maine State Council
Knights of Columbus

December 25, 2011



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CHARITY FUND GUIDELINES

Councils must submit reports to District Deputy by January 15.

Grand Knights of the District will serve as judges for their respective Districts, picking one (1) winner to be submitted to the State Deputy.

District Deputies must submit directly to the State Deputy by Feb. 1, or as directed by the State Deputy.

The Executive Committee, which consists of the State Officers (including the Immediate Past State Deputy) and the most recent Past State Deputy, will vote for five (5) of the submitted requests for presentation to the delegates of the State Convention. All other Past State Deputies will collectively have one (1) vote at the Executive Committee level.

Of the five (5) requests read at the convention, three (3) winners will be picked to receive an equal share of four (4) monetary awards. The fourth recipient will always be the Roman Catholic Bishop of Portland.

The monetary awards will be different every year due to varying interest rates. Ninety (90) percent of the available money will be given away with the remaining ten (10) percent being placed into the fund to help it grow.



December 25, 2011

MEMBERSHIP MANAGEMENT AND RETENTION DAN ROONEY AND RON SABOURIN

By the time you read this we will be at the halfway point of our fraternal year. What have we accomplished? We have:

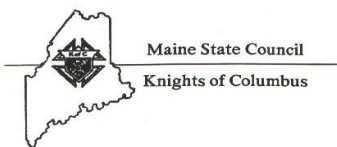
- Successfully completed our state SOFA fundraising effort and presented funds for a new ultrasound machine to ABBA Pregnancy Resource Center.
- Led Christmas Fairs for our parishes and parties for disadvantaged children.
- Conducted food drives and supported soup kitchens
- Put on benefit breakfasts and dinners.
- Demonstrated our Ministry as lectors, servers, ushers, Ministers of the Eucharist in our Churches, nursing homes and to the homebound.
- Brought increased spirituality to our councils by faith discussions, reviewing the background details of the new Roman Missal, participating in bible study and faith sharing groups. Modeling Our Faith, and our principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity, which is so important in our communities today.

At the State, Council and Brother levels - We Do Good Things! But if we know we are good, we know we can be better. We can get better if we involve more of our members in our charitable and social and spiritual activities. We can also do that if we grow our councils.

And we can improve at both involvement and in recruiting. As of December 12, our membership is 8630, an overall decrease of 53 from July 1. In the first 3 months of the fraternal year we recruited 8 new members, despite incentives provided by our State Deputy and by Supreme. However, in the last 2½ months we have gained 60 new members, a significant improvement, well-supported by several recruiting events. We need to continue to support and increase this kind of effort. How do we do that? Here are some areas we can focus on:

- Sixty-one of our Councils have yet to recruit one new member this year. Recall that if each council ends the year with a net increase of just one member, we achieve the goals set for Maine by Supreme.
- Only 22 Councils have reported to Supreme the assignment of a Membership Director. A leading pro-active committed Membership Director is a great asset to Council growth.
- Only 16 Councils have reported assignment of a Retention Chairman. Councils have suspended over 30 members so far this year. How many could have been saved if Retention efforts were better? Last year one Council was able to save over half of 13 members, which were headed toward suspension. It can be done.
- Only 17 Councils reported they have a Recruiting & Retention Committee. Membership and retention is not one-man job. Your brother Knights can help. Use them.

Finally, call on your State Officers & Staff. They are ready to help! God Bless and let's make the next six months the best ever for our Councils, our Churches and our Communities!



December 25, 2011



**Knights of Columbus
Southern Maine
K of C Men's Retreat
February 24, 25 and 26, 2012
Sky-Hi Retreat Center in Topsham, ME**



As Catholics, the Mass is at the heart and center of our Faith. We celebrate every time we come to Church. We know all the responses. We know all the gestures. But do we know what it all means?

Explore... the Mysteries

Discover... the Meaning

Experience... the Riches

During the Southern Maine K of C Men's Retreat, we will explore together *A*

Biblical Walk Through the Mass, based on the book by Dr. Edward Sri.

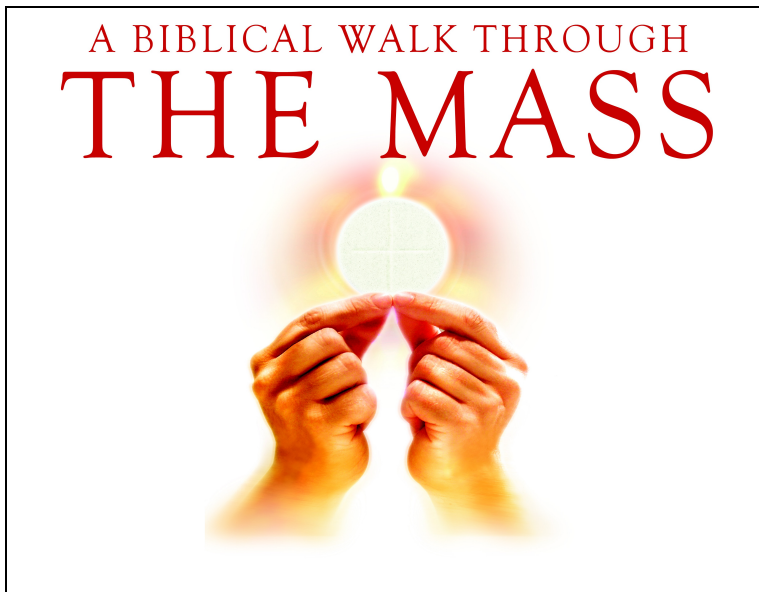
As we have recently implemented the new Roman Missal, and have been experiencing the revised translation of the Mass, we will reflect upon the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience in the liturgy and reflect on their profound significance.

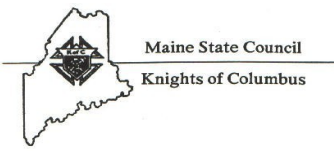
We look forward to this experience which will be facilitated by Fr. Kevin J. Martin, Parochial Vicar of St. Michael Parish in Augusta.

We hope that you take the opportunity to come and join us for prayer, fellowship, and fraternity as brother Knights!

Vivat Jesus!

~ Fr. Kevin





December 25, 2011

Maine State Council Knights of Columbus

Pro-Life Director

Frank Pease
98 School St.
Sanford, Maine 04073

Dear Brother Knights & Families

This year the Knights of Columbus has been vigorously working with ABBA-- *Women's Resource Center* located at 1250 Forrest Ave. in Portland toward inclusion into the Ultrasound program. Our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said "The sophistication of this medical technology provides a 'window on the womb.'" "Even from the early stages of pregnancy, a mother can see her developing child, hear the baby's heartbeat, and recognize the miracle of new life within her". Reports indicate that up to 90 percent of women considering an abortion choose to have their baby after seeing an ultrasound image. They hear their baby's heartbeat; they see their baby's head and fingers. They know it is a child, and not a "choice."

We are excited to report that as of November 15th. Our state campaign has raised one-half of the cost of purchasing an ultrasound machine and the K of C Supreme Council located in New Haven Conn. has matched the other half. On Thursday December 8th our State Deputy presented the ABBA center, on behalf of the Knights of Columbus with a check for \$17,400.00 for a new 3D Ultrasound Machine in hopes the new unit will be in service before the end of the year. Our thanks go out to everyone involved in raising the money for this extremely important project.

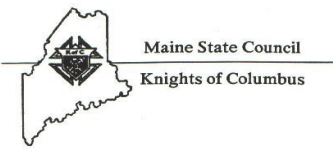
Pro-Life Alert!

Several weeks ago the US Dept of Health and Human Services headed by Kathleen Sebelius (a Catholic) issued a mandate that forces nearly all private health plans to include coverage for all FDA-approved prescription contraceptive drugs and devices, as well as surgical sterilization. These are listed among "preventive services for women" that all health plans will have to cover without co-pays or other cost-sharing -- regardless of whether the insurer, the employer or other plan sponsor, or even the woman herself objects to such coverage. The exemption provided for "religious employers" is so narrow that it fails to cover the vast majority of faith-based organizations, including Catholic hospitals, universities, and service organizations that help millions every year. If enacted, this rule imperils the future of many Catholic institutions.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has sponsored several full-page ads in key Capitol Hill publications. The ad is an open letter signed by Archbishop Dolan as president of the Conference along with 20+ national Catholic organizations and institutions including the Knights of Columbus who stand with the bishops in defending conscience rights and religious liberty. Similar ads have run in a number of diocesan papers as well. The most recent ad is available at <http://uscbb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/conscience-protection/upload/conscience-rights-openletter>.

For Life

Frank & Jean Pease
Pro-Life Chair Couple



*Michael Giroux
Maine State Council
Youth Director*

December 25, 2011

December 2011,
My Brother Knights

May the Peace of Christ bring you and your family health and joy as we enter this most holy season. As youth director I challenge you to put children first, ours and others, so that they may all enjoy this time of the year. Get involved in your local school's Christmas fairs and music programs; it's an exciting time to support our youth!

I have heard from some councils excited about the Squires...many more need to step up and start the process! It's an easier process than you might think; low to no cost and huge potential benefits for all of us!

I wish to thank all that helped make the sixth annual State Soccer Challenge successful. The hospitality of the Fields4Kids Complex and all those who assisted was greatly appreciated. A special thanks for the competitors favorite target, our State Deputy, Ray, who thought he was playing dodge ball, and our State Warden Mark and his wife. It's always important to see our leaders leading from the front. There were a great many members who travelled some distance, some with their wives, and I am forever reminded of how hard many of our great brothers work to benefit others. A great time was had by all who participated; start planning now for next year...it's never too early!

Journey 2011 is now behind us and we should be so proud of our involvement with this wonderful event...it doesn't seem like we have been doing this project as long as we have! Once again, the Knights have outdone themselves and our young people know and recognize this fact. Thanks to all who have in some way helped with this project!

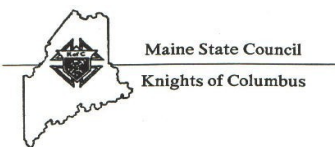
Don't forget the Free Throw competition is next...more information at the winter meeting!

Look for results of the Soccer Challenge winners on the state council web page in the near future. And

I look forward to seeing many of you at the winter Meeting.

Barbara and I extend a Merry Christmas wish to you all! (and to all a Good Knight!)

Michael Giroux
State Youth Director
(207) 621-0020
musicman0365@hotmail.com



December 25, 2011



MAINE STATE COUNCIL, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
JOHN DEETJEN, JR., FAMILY LIFE ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 22, NEWPORT, ME 04953-0022
PHONE: 368-2473 (home), 322-2147 (cell)
E-MAIL: jjdeetjen@gmail.com

December 10, 2011

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

I first want to express my sincere condolences to Past State Deputy Bill Carney and his family. Bill's father, Bill Sr., passed away a few weeks ago. Bill Carney Sr. was an active member of the 4th Degree, and very influential in his son's continued service to the Maine State Council.

Also, I send my sincere condolences to worthy District Deputy Francis Plourde. His wife Dianne passed away in November. Dianne was a fixture at summer and winter meetings for several years, and we will miss her greatly. Please pray for Francis and his family.

By the time this letter reaches you, many activities will have passed. The first Catholic Men's Conference was a wonderful experience. Two of the workshops had to do with family-oriented material. One was on fatherhood, which I trust was quite informative. The other gave some very simple tasks husbands could perform to maintain good Christian marriages. I did attend the second one, and it was simply amazing how some very simple tasks could have such an impact on the vocation of marriage.

Christmas will have passed us by. I hope that you all had a wonderful, and safe time well-spent with your families. The celebration of the Holy Family and their respective sacrifices for us is a time to reflect on how we can do more for our families to the greater honor and glory of God. We must make every effort to carry the good feelings of love for our families with us throughout the year.

I encourage all families to attend Hands Around the Capitol this year. The past 39 years have seen lives of millions of children ended before they had the chance to gaze upon the world, many of those aborted children are siblings - in some cases, of each other. Please support Frank and Jean in their efforts to defend life in all stages, especially at this time. I love seeing so many families at this event. It really warms my heart.

Please encourage your council to sponsor an activity for World Marriage Day. It's not too early to plan, and this month's council meetings are an ideal time to plan some activity supporting our marriages. Activities like a marriage vow renewal, an anniversary recognition (the 5-year milestones, of which my marriage will be one this year), or even a simple blessing from your parish priest will make a difference. The sacrament of marriage is under unprecedented attack. Commercials for same-sex marriage are hitting the airwaves - some with deceptive messages about our Church teaching. Make no mistake about it. Despite some of the lies same-sex marriage proponents are telling, the Catholic Church strictly teaches that marriage is between ONE MAN and ONE WOMAN, with God to guide them! There is no correct equation, other than that!

Joanna and I want to wish everyone a happy and blessed 2012. Vivat Jesus!

Fraternally,

John H. Deetjen, Jr.

Family Life Activities Director



Maine State Council
Knights of Columbus

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Brother Knights, This is just a small example of God's Grace. The Keep Christ in Christmas fund raiser was not successful this year, We could not afford to buy any air time to put our Keep Christ in Christmas television announcement on. With the bad economy, the tireless efforts of all the councils in the state are focused on feeding and clothing the needy.

With that being said, Pam Young at WGME is going to air the announcements anyway. I think this is truly an act of Christianity. Please read Pam's Email below. As soon as I get a time schedule I will forward it to all of you. Pam, this is also a response to you THANK YOU!!! This is being forwarded to all the state officers.

I pray you have a truly Blessed Christmas,

District Deputy Bob Chasse