

THE COMPASS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POPE PIUS XII COUNCIL 4765

Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish

August 2009

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

The installation of the newly elected officers will be August 11. Mass will be at 7:00 in the Chapel with light refreshments afterward. The Ladies of the Knights have re-scheduled their picnic for August 15 at noon. Set up will begin at 10:00. Monte Carlo night again is chaired by Russ. The date is November 14. Thanks Russ for your efforts. Remember that the Knights night at the Trenton Thunder is August 22, Jerry has tickets available. I want to especially all those that attended Mike Walker's services and those that were able to stand Honor Guard. We need to overhaul our Memorial Cross. John Ottinger has offered to make a new cross like the one he made for Second Degree Exemplifications. We will need to get new name plates made. (Motion was made and approved). Mike Fitzpatrick will speak at the September General Meeting. This will be a formal meeting, (officers in jacket and tie). There is a new K of C license plate available in PA. We are on the list for getting the relics of St. John Vienni at the Parish. He is the Patron Saint of Priests. Bob Kringle is looking for someone to either take over the COAL tickets, or to at least co-chair this fundraiser.

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

Rick was not present as he and Marie were out of town on a much needed vacation.

CHAPLIN'S REPORT

Thank you, especially for the presentations that you do at Baptisms. In keeping with the Knights' support for pro-life, we are looking at a Life Chain. The Life Chain is people standing side by side, in silence, on a public area on Respect Life Sunday. The event will be followed up with a prayer service and Eucharistic adoration.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August Business Meeting	Aug 4
Officer's Installation Mass	Aug 11
Trenton Thunder	Aug 22
August Officer's Meeting	Aug 27
Father Mike's Installation	Aug 29
(The 5: 00 Mass)	
September Business Meeting	Sept 1
Fourth Degree	Oct 11?
Monte Carlo Night	Nov 14

REPORTS

Financial Secretary Report: Anyone interested in K of C license plates must be a member in good standing. The paperwork must be signed and sealed by the Financial Secretary. Our membership goal for next year is 7% net increase. Form 100 for Father Mike will be mailed to Supreme.

Treasurer's Report: Account balances were read. Report was approved by all in attendance. We are again working on a phone tree. Please indicate how you would prefer to be contacted; phone or e-mail and also verify that the information that we have is correct.

Membership: We now have 95 members, 80 of which are associate members. Currently there are no degrees scheduled. There is a remote possibility that there will be another Fourth Degree held this fall, stay tuned.

Degree Team: We are still looking for anyone interested in being on the Council's First Degree Team. Anyone interested in being on a degree team should contact Al Scheck.

Color Corps: Any Fourth Degree members interested in joining the Color Corps should contact Al Scheck, he has applications available.

Trenton Thunder: Gerry has the tickets now, game date is August 22. Price is \$11.00 each, remember, children under 12 get to eat free. As always, this game includes fireworks immediately after the game. The Trenton Thunder will be playing the New Hampshire Fisher Cats.

Football Sweeps: Brothers, it is that time again. Rich is very involved with a personal project and has asked that someone take this over for this year. Jason Blade has stepped up and I know that he will get from Rich much guidance and from us all of the support that we would normally give Rich. (Good luck with your project Rich)

PRAYERS LIST

Please keep the following brothers and / or their family members in your prayers:

- Mike & Joe Powell
- Maureen Cochran
- Bill's wife
- Mike F.'s sister
- Fr. Larry's sister
- Baby Chastity
- Harry Haegele's Brother in law
- And to all in need of our prayers

Charity, Unity, Fraternity, Patriotism

BAPTISM SCHEDULE

(Missed this one in my note taking – sorry)

DID YOU KNOW?

'See the beauty of the daughter of Jerusalem, who ascended to heaven like the rising sun at dawn.'

-- *Benedictus* antiphon from Daily Office

For hundreds of years, Catholics observed the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15 -- celebrating Mary's being taken bodily to Heaven after her death -- but it was not until 1950 that the Church proclaimed this teaching a *dogma of the Church* -- one of the essential beliefs of the Catholic faith.

This page includes **history and observance** of the Feast of the Assumption - special [Prayers and Devotions](#) including hymns and Scripture readings - [Suggested Activities for families](#)

Apostolic Constitution: [Munificentissimus Deus -- Defining the Dogma of the Assumption](#), Pope Pius XII, November 1, 1950

August 15 is the day that Catholics have long celebrated what is called the Dormition (falling asleep) or Assumption of the Virgin Mary. The Feast of the Assumption celebrates both the happy departure of Mary from this life by her natural death, and her assumption bodily into heaven.

Along with the [Feast of the Immaculate Conception](#) (December 8) the Assumption is a principal feast of the Blessed Virgin and a Holy Day of Obligation -- one of the most important feasts of the Church year. (In the United States, in 1991, the US bishops amended the Church calendar by removing the obligation to attend Mass whenever January 1, August 15, or November 1 fell on a Saturday or a Monday. Their action was approved by the Holy See in 1992.)

Now at the end of the summer season, the Church celebrates the most glorious "harvest festival" in the Communion of Saints -- Mary, the supremely blessed one among women, Mary, the most precious fruit which has ripened in the fields of God's kingdom, is today taken into heaven.

The idea of the assumption of Mary into heaven after her death is first expressed in narratives of the fifth and sixth centuries. Even though these were never official, they bear witness to the very early belief in a teaching of the Catholic Church which was not formally defined as a dogma (a teaching essential to the Catholic faith) until 50 years ago.

Though it was almost universally believed for more than a thousand years, the Bible contains no mention of the assumption of Mary into heaven. The first Church writer to speak of Mary's being taken up into heaven by God is Saint Gregory of Tours (594). Other early sermons on the Feast of Mary's entry into heaven are those of Ps.-Modestus of Jerusalem (ca. 700).

On May 1, 1946, Pope Pius XII, asked all bishops in the world whether they thought this belief in the assumption of Mary into heaven should be defined as a proposition of faith, and whether they with their clergy and people desired the definition. Almost all the bishops replied in the affirmative.

On November 1, 1950, the Feast of All Saints, Pope Pius XII declared as a dogma revealed by God that "Mary, the immaculate perpetually Virgin Mother of God, after the completion of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into the glory of Heaven".

We have no real knowledge of the day, year, and manner of Our Lady's death. The dates which have been assigned to her death vary between three and fifteen years after Christ's Ascension. Both Jerusalem and Ephesus claim to be the place where she died. (By tradition, Mary lived at Ephesus after the death of Jesus.) Mary's tomb was presumably found in Jerusalem. It is believed that Mary died in the presence of all the Apostles, but that after her burial, her tomb, when opened, was found empty. Therefore, they concluded that her body had been taken up (assumed) into heaven.

Saint Gregory of Tour provided a rationale for the tradition, which is related to her having been preserved from original sin. He said that it is inconceivable to think Mary's sinless body, likened to the Ark of the Covenant which was made of incorruptible wood, should decay in the grave. The text, 'Rise thou and the ark of thy strength' (Ps 132/1:8) was understood to mean that it was God's will that, as Christ had ascended, so too Mary would be received into heaven.

There is an important difference, of course, between the [ascension of Jesus](#) into Heaven after His Resurrection, and the assumption of Mary. To ascend is to rise up under one's own power; while to be assumed means something that is done to one. Jesus, being the Second Person of the Trinity, had no need of assistance; whereas Mary did not have this power. (A pastor once demonstrated this difference in an unusual way. He asked two children to come to the front of the church. He told one child to walk from one side of the sanctuary to the other; and the other child he carried across.)

According to one tradition, Mary was warned of her approaching end by [Saint Michael the Archangel](#), who

conducts souls to Heaven, and was surrounded on her death-bed by the apostles, who were miraculously transported to her bedside from their various mission-fields. It was said that Jesus appeared, bore away her soul, and returned three days after her burial, when angels carried her body to Paradise where it was reunited with her soul under the Tree of Life.

Observance of the Assumption

In Catholic countries the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is one of the most popular festivals of the year.

The increased number and splendor of paintings of Mary's assumption into heaven from the late sixteenth century onwards, in which Mary appears as "a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with twelve stars on her head for a crown" (from the description in the Book of Revelation 12:1), attests the depth of popular devotion to this manifestation of divine grace bestowed on the Mother of God.

The theme of the heavenly coronation of the Blessed Virgin as Queen of Heaven, often represented paintings and sculpture, is related to her being assumed into Heaven where she reigns next to her Divine Son.

The title "Mother of God" (in Greek, *Theotokos*), was officially conferred upon Mary at the Council of Ephesus, in 431. (As an Anglican bishop once responded to Protestant objections to this title for Mary, "If she was not the mother of God, who *was* she the mother of?")

The Feast of the Assumption has always been loved dearly by the faithful who are children of Mary. It is a sign to us that someday, through God's grace and our efforts, we too may join the Blessed Mother in giving glory to God. The Assumption is a source of great hope for us, too, for it points the way for all followers of Christ who imitate her fidelity and obedience to God's will. Where she now is, we are meant eventually to be, and may hope to be through Divine grace. Mary's being taken to heaven after her life on earth was ended is the logical outcome of her immaculate nature, uniquely protected -- also by God's grace -- from personal sin. We seek to imitate her self-sacrificing love, her indestructible faith and her perfect obedience.

"Blessed is she who trusted that the Lord's words to her would be fulfilled."

For Christians, death is not extinction, though, unlike Mary, all ordinary mortals, even the most faithful Christians, the saints, must await the Second Coming of Christ and the general Resurrection to receive our "glorified bodies".

'May we see heaven as our goal and come to share her glory'.

Bibliography:

The Catholic Encyclopedia. New York: Robert Appleton Company, 1907.
 Metford, J.C.J. *The Christian Year*. New York: Crossroad Pub., 1991.
 Ott, Ludwig, Dr. *Fundamentals of Catholic Dogma*. trans. Patrick Lynch. Tan Books and Publishers Inc., 1960.
 Parsch, Pius, *The Church's Year of Grace*. Collegeville, MN.: The Liturgical Press, 1959.
 Vitz, Evelyn Birge. *A Continual Feast*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1991. (Copied from: <http://www.wf-f.org/Assumption.html>)

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

By the Ladies of the Knights

LOK / KOC picnic at STA (12 Noon)	Aug 15
Church Cleaning (10:00 AM)	Aug 22
Ladies Meeting at Cesare's (6:30 PM)	Aug 31
September Meeting with Guest Speaker	Sep 28

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Please wish the following brothers a Happy Birthday:

Rev. Francis Gallagher	Aug 1
Gabe Gallagher	Aug 2
Mike Donnelly	Aug 6
Dan Glitz	Aug 6
Jason Blade	Aug 13
Rich Powell	Aug 15
Anthony Zito	Aug 22
Sean Powell	Aug 23
Ted Hearn	Aug 24
Tony Cinkutis	Aug 26
Paul Kerins	Sep 03
Howard Griffiths	Sep 10
Bill Kane	Sep 11
Joe Cochran	Sep 18
Bill Gelinas	Sep 26

ANNIVERSARIES

The following brothers are celebrating important anniversaries in September:

Lou Balot	5 Years
Bob Kringe	5 Years
Scott Newmann	5 Years

Congratulations!

K of C APPAREL

You have undoubtedly seen brothers wearing; shirts, jackets and hats with the Knights of Columbus logo and Pope Pius XII Council. Ever wondered where

they got them? You can get them to, just talk to Rich Powell at a meeting to place an order.

BREAKFAST SUNDAY

The Parish Sunday Breakfasts resume on Sunday September 14. Come on out and not only show your support but get re-acquainted with those that you have not seen since May.

WEB SITES

Looking for information on the Knights of Columbus? Try these web sites for; information forms, etc.

Main Site www.kofc.org

State Site <http://www.pakofc.us/>

Council 4765 <http://kofc.buxcom.net/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KofC4765/>

To join the yahoo group for the Council, you can sign up through the web site. Those without a Yahoo account simply need to establish an e-mail account.

This is totally free.

IN MEMORIUM

Please pray for the following. They have ended their suffering and have returned to The Lord.

S. K. Mike Walker, (Charter Member) 07/30/09

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Recently we have come across several brothers that have changed their; e-mail, home address and / or phone number. Please keep your Financial Secretary informed of any and all changes in your contact information. Your help is greatly appreciated.

HELP WANTED

A summary of all the activities that are in need of volunteers:

- Football Sweeps Sellers
- COAL Tickets
- Monte Carlo Night

COLOR CORPS EVENTS

No events at this time

K OF C INSURANCE

Retirement income you can't outlive

People are living longer today than in any other time in history. While this is certainly a good problem to have, it creates a new worry for those facing retirement: what if I outlive my savings? How does a retirement income that you cannot outlive sound to you?

This sounds pretty good to most members and this can be true if you open a Knights of Columbus annuity, which is designed to provide guaranteed long-term security. As a knight, you can open a retirement annuity for as little as \$300. Consistent and disciplined savings placed into this annuity over time can guarantee you an income at retirement that you cannot outlive. Couple that guarantee with the fact that no one has ever lost money put in a Knights of Columbus annuity (remember, absolute safety of principal and a guaranteed lifetime interest rate of no less than 3%) and you will have peace of mind.

Don't forget contributing money an annuity will allow you to save some money on your income tax return. And our annuities offer a very competitive interest rate, consistent with our primary goal of absolute safety of principal. These benefits are similar to those of an IRA or similar product, but ours is backed by the strength and financial stability of the Knights of Columbus.

At your convenience, I will happily to meet with you to explain in detail the benefits of selecting our annuity, along with the benefits of our top-rated life insurance and long term care insurance plans.

As you consider options as you proceed toward retirement, think about one thing guaranteed to help you and open a Knights of Columbus annuity.

I'm at 215-499-1269 or Robert.Danhardt@kofc.org. Call me – let's talk.

THANK YOU

You may or may not know of the business that help; the Knights, the LOK and our parish. Here is an opportunity to let you know who they are in hopes that you might re-pay their kindness and generosity:

- Schmidt's Flowers in Bristol
- Old Croydon Café
- Cesare's Restaurant in Bristol
- Wal-Mart, Bristol Commerce
- ACME Woodhaven & Bensalem
- Shop-Rite Bensalem

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Any brothers that have something that they want listed in this newsletter should contact Jim Berna. I can be reached at 215-788-7004, or by e-mail at buoyz3@aol.com

AUGUST						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
	2	3	4	5	6	7
	General Mtg					8
	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Officer's Installation (7:00 – Chapel)				LOK Picnic
	16	17	18	19	20	21
						Trenton Thunder (7:05 Game time)
	23	24	25	26	27	28
				Officer Mtg (7:00 PM)		Fr. Mike's Installation (5:00 PM Mass)
	30	31	1	2	3	4
		General Mtg Formal Mtg (Patrick Murphy)				5

SEPTEMBER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
		General Meeting Formal Meeting (Patrick Murphy)				5
	6	7	8	9	10	11
11:00 Mass for "Mom" Crehan	Labor Day					12
	13	14	15	16	17	18
Breakfast Sunday						19
	20	21	22	23	24	25
						26
	27	28	29	30	1	2
				Officer Mtg (7:00 PM)		3

Charity, Unity, Fraternity, Patriotism