



*Building His Dream
So That the World
May Know New Hope*

*Empire State Bulletin
Official Publication of the
New York State Council
Knights of Columbus
Organized February 3, 1896*

Vol. 50 Issue 8 February/March 2012

A Message From Your State Deputy, Salvatore A. Restivo

This hat is for you! On Saturday February 25, 2012, Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan celebrated his elevation to Cardinal at a Prayer service and again at a mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral. Representatives of the New York State council of the Knights of Columbus were invited to attend the 10:30 AM prayer service and reception afterwards. Cardinal Dolan spoke to us on several occasions and reminded us that his elevation was for the Faithful of New York as well as all New Yorkers. Holding up his red hat he said, "this is not so much for me but for you...so this hat is for you". Watching the consistory last week, I commented that Cardinal Dolan may have grown up in Saint Louis but he walked up to the Holy Father with all the confidence of a kid from New York City. Congratulations and God's Blessings to our new Cardinal.

The prayer service was wonderful. It had all the trappings of a Roman Catholic ceremony. It also had leaders of other faiths in New York City including Muslims, Protestants, Orthodox Christians and Orthodox Catholics. The leaders of NYC and NY State were also present including: Governor Cuomo, Senator Schumer, and Mayors Bloomberg, Dinkins and Koch. Talk about diversity. Only in America could political leaders along with Religious leaders come to gather to

celebrate the elevation of a Catholic Cardinal. I think it is important to understand that we all live in a country that values religious freedom and we have a constitutional right to the free expression of political thought and Religion. It is good to see that people who have different views set aside their differences and come together for a celebration of this kind in the greatest city in the world.

I was happy to be with my brothers of the Westchester Putnam Conference on Sunday morning, February 26 to honor Gary Leonardo as the recipient of their Brendan Toohey Award. This award is presented to Knights who exemplify the Knighthood in our Order. Congratulations Gary! This is well deserved.

The key note speaker at the breakfast was Rita O'Brien, Director of the Carmel Birthright chapter. The proceeds for this event were donated to that worthy cause. We in New York State support Birthright and their parent organization the Maternity and Early Childhood Foundation.

Connecting the two events from this weekend is most appropriate as we all need to do our best to do the work of the Order in New York. And, at the same time we must remember that we share this state



with people who may not believe as we do or understand why we stand for which we believe.

With that said: it is time to teach, it is time to show example, and it is time to stand up and exercise our constitutional rights. As I reminded my sisters and brothers in Carmel, rights are like muscles; we must exercise them to keep them strong. This is why we need to build Catholic community and join with our Bishops and the New York Catholic Conference on Tuesday, March 13, in Albany. As Catholic Americans we respect the rights of others to express their opinions and to practice their Faith. However we must also be resolved to present our views and to openly practice what we preach.

Continued on page 2



If members of your council are not receiving the Empire State Bulletin, please send their e-mail address to esb.staff1@gmail.com with a subject of ESB - add me to your list. Help us share our news with all of New York State.



Find us on facebook.
Knights of Columbus New York



Jesus
came
not just
to forgive
our sins;
He
came to
give us
new life.

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Happy Easter

A Lenten Prayer

God of all compassion, Father of all goodness, to heal the wounds our sins and selfishness bring upon us you bid us turn to fasting, prayer, and sharing with our brothers. We acknowledge our sinfulness, our guilt is ever before us: when our weakness causes discouragement, let your compassion fill us with hope and lead us through a Lent of repentance to the beauty of Easter joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Monthly Webinar

Pictured is the behind the scenes action from the March 2, 2012 Webinar. Our Worthy State Deputy Sal Restivo, along with C&B Director Jack Ferrarotti, Program Director Jim Thompson, Major Conference Membership Director, Gary Leonardo, and Secretary to the State Deputy John Joseph were all available for this webinar. We thank Steve Driscoll for providing the technological support needed to make these webinars happen.

Each participant gave an updated report as to what is happening in New York. Sal commented on each update, and John was available to field any incoming questions. The highlight of this month's webinar was the Prayer Rally which will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2012. (see below article)

We look forward to your participation next month when the webinar will be held on Friday, April 13, 2012. We encourage all invited to participate and have your questions ready so we can respond to your needs.

Thank you Jack and Sandy Ferrarotti for graciously hosting our monthly webinars.



PRAYER RALLY

Dear Brothers,

I would like to take this time to share information regarding an important event with you. For more information please contact me via email at pgkfdd@optonline.net.

On, Tuesday, March 13, 2012 we will be joining our Bishops and the New York State Catholic Conference for our Prayer Rally. We will assemble at the Convention Hall in Albany at 11:00 a.m. to pray the Rosary for the success of those meeting with the state lawmakers. We will then proceed from the Convention Hall at 1:00 p.m. hosting a Rosary Procession allowing prayer along the way to Mass which will be held at The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

The time is now to show our support for our Bishops and Priests. The time is now to show all that we are united. We ask that all Catholics across New York attend this very important day. We all know how to talk the talk, now let's walk the walk for our rights as Catholics.

We look forward to seeing many of you on this most important day.

Martin Ryan
Pro-Life, Prayer Rally Chairman

*Ladies Luncheon at the
New York State Council
Knights of Columbus Convention*



As the month of March approaches we are making our plans for the Ladies Luncheon which will be held during the NY State Council's convention in May. The luncheon will be held on May 4rd, at the Westchester Marriot Hotel.

Each year the ladies choose a charity to support. This year the Knights will join with us. The charity we have chosen to support is Saint Mary's Hospital in Bayside, Queens. Saint Mary's provides specialized medical services for children and also provides a school on the grounds to meet their educational needs.

As in years past, we will raffle baskets donated by the Ladies of the New York State Family. We will also accept donations. If you wish to make a donation to this worthy charity, please make checks payable to NY Knights of Columbus Charity Inc. and write St. Mary's in the memo. All the proceeds from the basket raffle and other fundraising at the State convention will be given to St. Mary's hospital.

If you are attending the convention and would like to join us at the luncheon you can e-mail me at margierme@aol.com or phone me at 516-731-0873. You can also register for the luncheon when you arrive at the Marriott Hotel on Thursday, May3, 2012.

Thanking you in advance for your support! We are looking forward to beautiful day shared with wonderful people.

~ Margie Restivo

Faith. Academics. Service.

Catholic Schools

Prayer for the Canonization of Father Michael J. McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (**make your request here**). Through Christ our Lord. Amen. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father.



Columbia magazine has been selected as a finalist in the 2012 About.com Readers' Choice Awards. At the start of the year, the readers of the About.com GuideSite to Catholicism nominated Columbia as one of the top Catholic magazines of the year. Now readers have the opportunity to vote for their favorite.

Copy this link into your browser (<http://catholicism.about.com/library/bl-readers-choice-awards-best-catholic-magazine.htm>) if you'd like to vote for Columbia as the best Catholic magazine of 2012. In order to vote, you must have a free account with either About.com or Facebook, or an active email address. Users can cast one vote per day until voting ends on March 21.

As of the time this article is being written, Columbia magazine is in the lead with 36%!

Visit the About.com Catholic Magazine Finalists Page (http://catholicism.about.com/od/Readers-Choice-Awards-2012/ss/2012-About-Catholicism-Readers-Choice-Awards-Finalists_6.htm) to read about all five nominees. You can also view other contests and vote for your favorite Catholic books, blogs, websites and more.

Good luck to all the nominees!

The Knights of Columbus is not affiliated with the About.com GuideSite to Catholicism.

Michael T. Hearney, District Deputy of the NY 8th District is proud to announce that **Our Lady of the Rosary Council #4428, Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Council # 6556, Arch Bishop Fulton J. Sheen Council #7479, and Our Lady of Grace Council #11968** have recently donated \$5,261.00 to “A Mother’s Kiss” which is an organization dedicated to families with childhood cancer.



A Night at the Races was held on January 15, 2012 at Ss. Cyril and Methodius Church in Deer Park to raise money for this charity. The check was presented to Director Eileen Brett on February 16th at Our Lady of the Rosary Council, #4428, Deer Park, NY.

*Photos and article submitted by
Deputy Grand Knight
Carmine Saldano,
Our Lady of the Rosary, #4428,
Deer Park, Suffolk County*





St. Sylvester's Council, #6844, Medford, NY supports the Catholic School Support Program with a donation to Holy Angels Regional School in Patchogue, NY.

New York State

Knights of Columbus

Become a Knight

before Easter

JoinKofC@gmail.com



The New York State Council would like to congratulate the family of Peter & Rosemary Browning from Council #4937, Sidney N.Y. as a winner of KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS "FAMILY OF THE MONTH" for January 2012. Congratulations!

Visit the New York State Council Website for up to the minute information! Let us know how you like it!

<http://www.newyorkknights.com/>



Albany Council 173 Knights of Columbus
375 Ontario Street, Albany, New York 12208 (518) 489-2879

Press Release for Immediate Publication **February 2012**

Contact for Additional Information: Jim Byron, PGK, FDD (518) 438-3290

Knights of Columbus **Basketball Free Throw Contest**

Albany Council #173 Knights of Columbus recently announced the results of its annual free throw contest held on January 21st at Mater Christi School. Participants came from several schools and youth basketball programs. The winners are also District 64 finalists and will next compete at the Conference Free throw on March 3rd at Catholic Central High School. Winners at Catholic High will move on to the Regional and possibly State level. Co-Chairman Joe Toomey and Grand Knight Paul Vogt were assisted by members who registered, scored, rebounded, or assisted with logistics. These included Bill Toomey, Bill St. Dennis, Mark Kleege, PGK Jim Byron, Jim Foley, John Diggins, Paul Brodfuehrer, Tom McNaughton, and Don Leonard.

This year's winning participants include:

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>
10 year old	Colin Mance	Kelsey McGinn
11 year old	Dylan Bartlett	no entry
12 year old	Patrick Lacey	Claire Grande
13 year old	no entry	Gabriella Ferrera
14 year old	no entry	Sophie Bille

□

Pictured at the Council award presentation are: GK Paul Vogt and Joe Toomey (Back row) with the seven Council #173 winners and volunteers.



Albany Council 173 Knights of Columbus
375 Ontario Street Albany, New York 12208
Press Release for Immediate Publication
Contact for Additional Information: Jim Byron, PGK

(518) 489-2879
February 2012
(518) 438-3290

Catholic Elementary School Support
Preparing Our Youth for Their Future - \$6,000 Gift to Education

Albany Council 173 recently awarded gifts to the three Catholic Elementary Schools in the City of Albany as part of its continuing effort to support Catholic Education. This marks the thirteenth consecutive year awards were made and reflects an increase over the amount given to each school in prior years. These awards are intended to support or enhance programs not fully covered in the annual budget of these schools. Timed to occur close to Catholic Schools Week each school Principal received a check for \$2,000. Grand Knight Paul F. Vogt reports that Albany Council #173 stands ready to assist in other ways that aid the educational programs.



Pictured at the award presentation are GK Paul F. Vogt, Sister Patricia Mary Lynch, RSM of Blessed Sacrament School, Mrs. Theresa Ewell of Mater Christi School, Sister Mary Ellen Owens, RSM of All Saints Catholic Academy, and PGK Jim Byron.

Poster Contest: Drug and Alcohol Abuse Awareness

All three City of Albany Catholic Elementary Schools submitted a combined total of eighty seven entries in a poster contest sponsored by Albany Council #173 Knights of Columbus on the topics of Avoiding Drug or Alcohol Abuse. Each entrant was recognized with a certificate of participation. Judging was performed by a panel of three consisting of high school students; Thomas Jaquinto and Fiona Leary, with Columbiette President Elizabeth Jaquinto. Gift cards to a mall were awarded to each finalist. PGK Jim Byron served as contest coordinator.

Council, District, and Capital Conference Winners by Age Division and Theme are:

8 - 11 year old Division		
Drug Awareness	Maya J. Clarke	Blessed Sacrament School
Alcohol Awareness	Jack Berry	Mater Christi School
12-14 year old Division		
Drug Awareness	Hannah Merges	Mater Christi School
Alcohol Awareness	Ha-Ae (Ann) Lee	Blessed Sacrament School



The posters of the finalists were forwarded for judging at the State Level. Additionally each school had a school winner. School winners were: Rosemary Macri, All Saints Academy; Erica Leonard, Mater Christi; and Ha-Ae Lee, Blessed Sacrament.

Pictured at the Council award presentation are; GK Paul Vogt, Albany Council #173, Sister Patricia Mary Lynch of Blessed Sacrament School, Ha-Ae Lee, Maya J. Clark, Mrs. Theresa Ewell of Mater Christi School, and PGK Jim Byron Albany Council #173.

Special Olympics

The Finger Lakes Chapter recently donated over 500 volunteer hours preparing, coordinating, leading, and co-hosting the NYS Special Olympics – Winter Games, and assisted with a closing day total that resulted in over \$225K being raised for the NYS Special Olympics. The event and competition took place over 3 days (February 10th, 11th, and 12th) in Rochester, NY.

The opening ceremonies were headlined by NYS Deputy Salvatore Restivo and NYS Advocate Michael Stephany sitting center stage, while close to 3 dozen 4th Degree Knights (headed by District Deputy Kevin Fitzpatrick – District 92) escorted 850 athletes and coaches to the lighting of the Olympic Torch. They were joined by the Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks, Rochester Mayor Tom Richards, and NYS Senator Joe Robach (Council 2535).

Saturday was a full day of downhill skiing, speed skating, figure skating, snow shoeing, and floor hockey. The floor hockey event was Captained by Don Sharpstene (GK Council 15118) and his Council of Knights who assisted with everything from event coordination to event disassembly. The final day of the event took place on Sunday in the frozen waters of Lake Ontario. 28 degree water temperature, 26 degree air temperature, and a fresh coat of 15 inches of new snow. The Rochester Polar Plunge - 1700 participants, and several Knights, including District Deputy Robert Fessner (District 87) plunging for the 8th straight year.

The Finger Lakes Chapter continues to be a consistent and devoted partner to the NYS Special Olympics. Their volunteer support, event leadership, and financial support is what makes these events for these athletes – so **Special**.

Photos of the events of the day show what a success this was!

Sean E. Sammler

Vice Chairman - NYS Special Olympics Event Coordinator

Winter Games – Floor Hockey

Knights of Columbus – Bishops John E. McCafferty – Council 15118



Photos submitted by Sean E. Sammler
Vice Chairman - NYS Special Olympics Event Coordinator
Winter Games – Floor Hockey
Knights of Columbus – Bishop John E. McCafferty
Council 15118

Eight centuries ago in the Italian town of Assisi, as he knelt before the crucifix in the church of San Damiano, St. Francis heard Christ speak...

"Rebuild my church!"

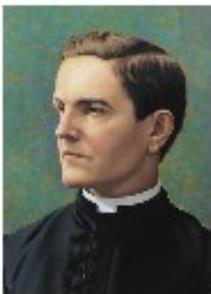


Today, in the councils of the Knights of Columbus around the world, Fr. McGivney is calling to us...

"Rebuild my dream!"

Please join us for our

1st FOUNDER'S DAY MASS



THURSDAY, MARCH 29 2012

7:30PM

Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen's Church
(Summit & Hicks Sts.)

Please invite your Chaplains and friends.
Light refreshments will be served after Mass.

Sponsored by the Kings County Conference





For Immediate Release
Contact: Yesenia Rivera
(718) 518-2289



NEW YORK CHAPTER KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MAKES GIFT TO CALVARY HOSPITAL

Latest Gift from Local Chapter Brings Cumulative Total to \$854,000

BRONX, NY – On Sunday, February 5, Calvary Hospital hosted more than 220 people at the 31st annual communion mass and breakfast sponsored by the New York Chapter Knights of Columbus. The Chapter presented a check for \$20,000 to Vincent J. Spinelli, Executive Vice President, Calvary Fund. For three decades, the local Knights of Columbus chapter has supported Calvary by making the hospital the principal beneficiary of their year-round fundraising efforts. To date, they have raised \$854,000 for the Hospital’s unparalleled palliative care services.

Founded in 1899, the same year that Calvary was founded, the New York Chapter Knights of Columbus consists of 26 neighborhood councils located throughout the Bronx and Manhattan. To make a donation or to support the chapter’s next annual charity dinner on Friday, May 25, 2012, contact Kevin Curran at the New York Chapter Knights of Columbus at (212) 421-7082.

2011-12 NEW YORK ISLANDERS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

FUNDRAISER NIGHT

The New York Islanders are teaming up with Queens County Knights of Columbus to offer a chance to experience an exciting game of hockey and raise money for the NYS Special Olympics. Tickets are going fast, so purchase yours today and support a great cause!

THU. MAR. 29 @ 7PM VS. PENGUINS

FACE VALUE:

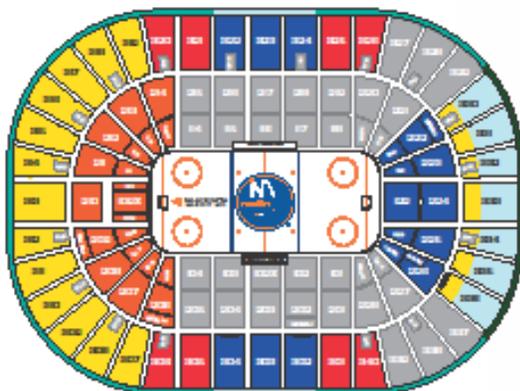
■ \$69

YOUR PRICE:

■ \$28

■ End Mazz Delfand (Rows E-I)

FOR EVERY TICKET SOLD THROUGH THIS OFFER, \$8.00 OF THE PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT NYS SPECIAL OLYMPICS.



METHOD OF PAYMENT

Make check or money order payable to: Knights of Columbus, QCC

Check Cash

CASH OR CHECKS ONLY

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Number of Tickets: _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____



MAIL THIS FORM AND PAYMENT TO:
NEW YORK DIGITAL PRINT CENTER
ATTN: ROCCO D'ERAMO
124-14 22ND STREET
COLLEGE POINT, NY 11356

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
ROCCO D'ERAMO
1.917.693.6840
OR FRANK BOCCABELLA
1.718.738.8653

NO PAYMENT AT DOOR Any orders received within 7 days of the game will be held at the Islanders will call window for pick-up 60 minutes prior to game until the end of the first period. Tickets are subject to availability.

'Be Not Afraid!' Membership Campaign



The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council is conducting the "Be Not Afraid!" Membership Campaign in honor of the Beatification of Blessed John Paul II. Participating in the campaign is easy! All a member has to do is recruit new members!



The membership campaign incentives are as follows:

- Recruit at least 1 new member per month and receive a Blessed John Paul II Medallion for that month.
- Recruit a minimum of 4 new members and receive a large specially struck Blessed John Paul II Medallion with a stand for display. Starting: 12/1/2011.
- When a council recruits a minimum of 6 new members during the "Be Not Afraid!" Membership Campaign their Council Chaplain will receive a specially struck Blessed John Paul II Medallion with display stand. Starting: 12/1/2011.
- A New Member Degree Certificate has been developed to present to new members that have taken their First Degree in honor of the Beatification of Blessed John Paul II. Please see [Support Materials](#) for a printable certificate and a template for printing on pre-printed certificates. Starting: 12/1/11.

Membership Campaign ends on June 29 at 12 Noon EDT.

The Knights of Columbus worked closely with Blessed John Paul II throughout his papacy, from cosponsoring his Mass at Aqueduct Racetrack in New York in 1995, to assisting with other papal trips, to providing support for restoration projects at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, and for papal communications initiatives. The Knights also supported the foundation of the U.S. session of the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family, now located at The Catholic University of America.

Thanks to Program Director Jim Thompson we have this message from the Sisters of Life.

Dear Coworkers of Life,

The Sisters of Life join with the Catholic Bishops of the United States, and leaders of many other religious communities, in strongly objecting to the Department of Health and Human Services rule for "preventative services," and the "compromise" announced by President Obama regarding religious liberty. We invite you to join us in prayer and fasting that our Nation may be protected from this great threat against liberty. Please find attached our full response. If you would like to learn how you can write to your congressmen, please visit the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website at: <http://www.usccb.org/>

In Christ, Our Life,
The Sisters of Life

**Please join us in a Novena prayer for our country from March 25 - April 2nd:
Act of Consecration of the United States to the Immaculate Heart of Mary**

Most Holy Trinity: Our Father in heaven, who chose Mary as the fairest of your daughters; Holy Spirit, who chose Mary as your spouse; God the Son, who chose Mary as your Mother; in union with Mary, we adore your majesty and acknowledge your supreme, eternal dominion and authority.

Most Holy Trinity, we put the United States of America into the hands of Mary Immaculate in order that she may present the country to you. Through her we wish to thank you for the great resources of this land and for the freedom, which has been its heritage. Through the intercession of Mary, have mercy on the Catholic Church in America. Grant us peace. Have mercy on our president and on all the officers of our government. Grant us a fruitful economy born of justice and charity. Have mercy on capital and industry and labor. Protect the family life of the nation. Guard the precious gift of many religious vocations. Through the intercession of our Mother, have mercy on the sick, the poor, the tempted, sinners - on all who are in need.

Mary, Immaculate Virgin, our Mother, Patroness of our land, we praise you and honor you and give our country and ourselves to your sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, pierced by the sword of sorrow prophesied by Simeon, save us from degeneration, disaster and war. Protect us from all harm. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, you who bore the sufferings of your Son in the depths of your heart, be our advocate. Pray for us, that acting always according to your will and the will of your divine Son, we may live and die pleasing to God. Amen.

Imprimatur, Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle, Archbishop of Washington, 1959, for public consecration of the United States to the Immaculate Heart of Mary; renewed by U.S. Bishops, November 11, 2006

**Celebrate the Order's birthday with new members
Founder's Day, March 29, 2012,
is the 130th anniversary of the
Order.**

On that date in 1882 the Knights of Columbus was chartered by the
State of Connecticut.
Councils should celebrate the Order's birthday by bringing in members in
March.

*Our New York goal is 1000 new members in the month of March.
This can only be done with your help!*

*Help reach that goal by scheduling a First Degree on or before March 29
in honor of Father McGivney.*

Councils should seek permission from their pastor to
recruit at the parish on the weekends leading up to March 29

**We are looking for as many first degrees as possible to be held
in all areas of our great State. Please work with your
Membership Coordinators and your Major Conference
Membership Directors.**

**We would like to keep track of all first degrees done in
conjunction with this blitz.**

Councils should be aware of the Blessed John Paul II medallions the recruiters
may earn.

- For each month a Knight recruits a new member or members, he
receives a small medallion.
- He will earn a large medallion with a wooden display stand if he
recruits at least four new members during 2011-12 fraternal year.

Let's continue to make a difference together!

Vivat Jesus,
Richard J. Ditrio Jr.

Council Bulletin Contest Deadline is March 15th!

Remember.....In order for your council to qualify for the contest, four issues from Columbian year 2011 –2012 must be received by March 15, 2012.

Council Bulletin guidelines are posted at

<http://newyorkknights.com/files/2011CouncilBulletinContest.pdf>

Council Bulletin issues received for the New York State Council Bulletin Contest by major/minor conference as of 2/12/2012.

DOWNSTATE

CAPITOL	I	HV	I	WT/PUT	I	B/M/S	I
237	4	1646	7	462	7	1662	8
246	4	4065	4	1495	4	1694	7

UPSTATE

FL	I	WESTERN	I	NORTHERN	I	CENTRAL	I
178	3	247	4	1141	5	206	1
229	4	11168	6	7273	5	1839	1
3892	2	13661	7			2953	3
7085	5						

LONG ISLAND

SUFFOLK	I	NASSAU	I	QUEENS	I	KINGS	I
564	3	1206	3	309	2	126	2
794	8	1241	7	312	1	197	5
2458	7	2852	6	2429	7	1251	1
2489	8	3005	3				
2502	3	3476	1				
4651	8	3488	1				
6607	7	4422	8				
11968	7	5983	8				
13588	3	6911	7				
		10332	7				

Send issues to:

Thomas L. Freundsuh
 State Chairman
 215 Champion Avenue
 Webster, NY 14580

Updated Circle of Honor Requirements

The requirements for the NY State Council's Circle of Honor (CoH) recognition have recently been modified. While the requirements are still quite challenging, all the recent updates have made it a little easier to achieve this prestigious recognition. Among those updates, we effectively removed any limits on points earned for C&B sales and Membership growth. Bear in mind that this year's requirements have changed enough compared to last year that it is a good idea for us to review those changes.

For those councils whose Net Membership increase is less than the state's 10% growth goal, the state council has added a new award level called Super Star Council (SSC), which requires that Supreme's membership goal (usually about 7% growth) be met. As in the past, all of the State Council's membership recognitions require that the council has met or exceeded their C&B sales goal. 285 councils have met that requirement for the Circle of Honor.

Two New Requirements for 2011-12:

1st Degree Activity - Council 1st Degree team established, performs 1st degrees & reports on form 450C. One of these is required for Super Star Council and two for CoH Platinum. Following the recent update, this requirement for the Circle of Honor and CoH Gold, now has two options. Either perform and report two such 1st degrees with your council's own degree team or perform one such degree and also have the council participate (with candidates) in four or more 1st degrees, which by the way is a new requirement this year for Supreme's Star Council award.

For the recognitions of both the State and Supreme councils, the 1st degree activity needs to be documented by the council on form 450C or by the DD on form 450. These results are now tracked in the monthly Membership & Forms report. Since the degree may now be read (not memorized), every council should be able and is encouraged to exemplify their own 1st degrees. There are large print ceremonial books that were sent to each GK a year ago, along with a CD with the DGK and Chancellor's parts spoken. Supreme's ceremonial dept can help you get these items. Any questions on this can be directed to your District Deputy or any other member of the State Membership team.

New Forms required - In addition to the previously required forms (185, 365, 1295, 1728 and SP-7), councils are now required to submit:

* Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics form 4584 (was due 1/31) - Even if your council did not support the Special Olympics with service hours or a donation, every council is required to complete this form. There's a check box to indicate if "Council not involved in Special Olympics".

* Food for Families (F4F) form (due 3/31) - Ask your members how they helped feed those in need through either the donation of food or their volunteer hours of service. Why not have a Council or Chapter food drive during lent? Even if just one of your council's members gave a few cans of food for his parish outreach or food pantry, we need your council to please complete this required form.

(Continued on the next page)

* Considering the focus on Youth of our Worthy State Deputy Sal's administration, your council is required to either sponsor an active Squires Circle or submit at least one of the following six forms to show your council's support for our programs that benefit our youth: Catholic School Support (CSS) program, Coats for Kids (C4K), Free Throw, Soccer Challenge, Poster or Essay Contests. Every council is asked to try and support a local Catholic school.

With the exception of the Catholic School Support (CSS) program, all these forms are available on Supreme's web page for council forms:

<https://www.kofc.org/un/en/officers/forms/council.html>

The Catholic School Support form is on the NYS Council's web site under the Youth menu. Complete the form and send to the NYS Council office & cc Chairman Walter Fogelman. For more info regarding any of these forms as well as where to send them and who to copy, please review the "Forms Info" page of the Membership and Forms report at: <http://www.newyorkknights.com/membership-numbers.shtml>

New Scoring - Scoring for the Circle of Honor is also new this year! There is no need to complete a score sheet, since most of the information is already tracked from Supreme on the Membership and Forms report. This information has been reformatted into the CoH Progress Report, which is available on the NYS Council web site under the Membership menu. To complete your council's score, a few items must be emailed to me at EJWillie@gmail.com by either the GK or FS & cc their DD before 7/1/12. The email needs to include the confirmation of any of the following items that were completed by the council:

- * Council conducted 2 Membership drives with follow-up Open Houses - This is Required
- * Council participated in the Albany Prayer Rally
- * Council actively supported (with volunteer hours or donations) in the Special Olympics (during the 7/1/11 to 6/30/12 Fraternal year). We need this statement, since form 4584 reports results for the last calendar year, not the Fraternal year.
- * Council hosted an Insurance Night

All other items are scored by what by the records available from Supreme Council. If you believe the forms data is inaccurate for your council and it has been at least a week since the form was submitted to Supreme, you are encouraged to please follow up with the appropriate personnel at Supreme Council, as listed on the "Forms Info" page of the Membership & Forms report, to reconcile Supreme Council's records.

If you have any questions regarding the Circle of Honor, please do not hesitate to contact me or contact your District Deputy or any other State Council Membership leader.

Vivat Jesus!

Ed Willie

Assistant to the Membership Director, EJWillie@gmail.com, 516-628-3215



Knights of Columbus
NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL
Salvatore A. Restivo
State Deputy

December 5, 2011

Dear Friend of the Knights of Columbus:

The New York State Council of the Knights of Columbus is a Catholic brotherhood representing 93,000 members and their families in the state of New York. The New York State council, local councils and Chapters are responsible for millions of dollars of charitable giving in New York State.

During the months of September and October of 2011, the state council has distributed over \$50,000 of aid to families around the state who were affected by Hurricane Irene and the subsequent flooding. We support our bishops and their charities with generous donations from our C&B program. We support Catholic education with scholarships and grants. We support pro life activities by supporting organizations around the state that support young mothers and their children. Our food for families program and Coats for kids program help families throughout New York State. Administer these programs requires a financial commitment from the New York State council.

To defray costs, this year the New York State council is publishing a convention journal that will be distributed to the delegates and attendees of our annual convention. In early May, delegates from around the state representing more than 500 councils will attend the New York State Knights of Columbus convention which will be held in Westchester, New York.

The journal will be read by our members throughout New York State from Niagara Falls to Plattsburg to Montauk Point and everywhere in between. What a great opportunity to advertise your business or to express your sentiments to our brothers and their families and friends. What a great opportunity to support a group of dedicated Catholics who are performing works of charity and mercy. What a great way to be involved.

We invite you to place your ad in our journal. Please see the attached contract. Mail your check, the completed contract and **camera ready** advertisement to our journal Chairman John Lazar. His address is listed on the contract. All checks are to be made payable to the New York State Council of the Knights of Columbus.

I thank you for your interest in the Knights of Columbus. Your support of our State council will assist us with our charitable endeavors which have become more urgent in today's economy.

"Building His Dream"... "So the World May Know New Hope", I remain,

Sincerely Yours,

Salvatore A. Restivo
New York State Deputy

ONE NATION, UNDER GOD

Contracts on following pages.

Commercial / Business

New York State Council Knights of Columbus 2012 CONVENTION JOURNAL

JOURNAL AD CONTRACT/AGREEMENT

PLACE
YOUR
AD
HERE

JOURNAL AD PRICES

<input type="checkbox"/>	Front Inside Cover (FULL COLOR)	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Back Cover (FULL COLOR)	\$600.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inside Back Cover (FULL COLOR)	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gold Full Page	\$400.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	B & W Full Page	\$300.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	B & W Half Page	\$200.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	B & W Quarter Page	\$150.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	B & W Business Card	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	B & W Booster Ad, One Line Only	\$20.00

Ad solicited by: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

**Send Ad and Check made out to: New York State Council
John Lazar PGK, FDD
65 West 19th Street.
Deer Park, NY 11729**

New York State Council
Knights of Columbus
2012 CONVENTION JOURNAL
JOURNAL AD CONTRACT/AGREEMENT
FRATERNAL ADS
Chapters / Conference / Councils

**PLACE
YOUR
AD
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JOURNAL AD PRICES

<input type="checkbox"/>	Gold	Full Page	\$300.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	B & W	Full Page	\$200.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	B & W	Half Page	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	B & W	Quarter Page	\$75.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	B & W	Booster Ad, One Line Only	\$20.00

Ad solicited by: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Send Ad and Check made out to: New York State Council
John Lazar PGK, FDD
65 West 19th Street.
Deer Park, NY 11729

BEST POEM IN THE WORLD

I was shocked, confused, bewildered
As I entered Heaven's door,
Not by the beauty of it all,
Nor the lights or its decor.

But it was the folks in Heaven
Who made me sputter and gasp--
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,
The alcoholics and the trash.

There stood the kid from seventh grade
Who swiped my lunch money twice.
Next to him was my old neighbor
Who never said anything nice.

Bob, who I always thought
Was rotting away in hell,
Was sitting pretty on cloud nine,
Looking incredibly well.

I nudged Jesus, 'What's the deal?
I would love to hear Your take.
How'd all these sinners get up here?
God must've made a mistake.

'And why is everyone so quiet,
So somber - give me a clue.'
'Hush, child,' He said,
'they're all in shock.
No one thought they'd be seeing you.'
JUDGE NOT!!

Remember...Just going to church doesn't make you a
Christian any more than standing in your garage makes you a car.
Every saint has a PAST... Every sinner has a FUTURE!

Eternal Flame of Hope Ministries

Day Retreats

Father Richard Bretone will provide DAY retreats to re-educate Catholics on the Eucharist and more. The retreat house is located at 486 Route 55, Eldred NY, 12732.

For more information, contact Father Bretone at:

Eternal Flame of Hope Headquarters
74-18 Ditmars Blvd., NY 11370
718-636-3584 or 718-274-4919

Please support

The Maternity and Early Childhood Foundation

The M&ECF was founded by the State of New York in response to the Catholic Bishops concerns.

The M&ECF supports young women who want to keep their babies and provides education and health services for the young mother and child.

For more information go to: WWW.mecfny.org

The M&ECF needs our support! Councils, Chapters, Assemblies, and Columbiettes are asked to send their donations, large or small to:

M&ECF
40 North Main Avenue
Albany, New York 12203



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CHRISTOPHER**
THE CATHOLIC CREDIT UNION

A Banking Alternative
For Catholics



We often say there aren't any good movies for the family out there. A must see for all. Now available on DVD

Courageous - Honor Begins At Home

Four men, one calling: To serve and protect. When tragedy strikes home, these men are left wrestling with their hopes, their fears, their faith, and their fathering.



**Building His Dream on Telecare, Channel 296
Channel 29/137 on Cable or www.telecaretv.org**

- ◆ Monday 9:15 a.m. & 7:15 p.m.
- ◆ Tuesday 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Wednesday 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ Friday 9:15 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

The shows listed below will run for the week at the times listed above.

Watch for new episodes.

EMPIRE STATE BULLETIN

Knights of Columbus

New York State Council
359 Route 111, Bldg. 1, Suite 2
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NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL**

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State Executive Secretary.....Robert Wissert

***A message from
the Editor:***

**We want to share the good
work of our Order with
everyone! Kindly submit
your article to me by the
15th of each month
and it will be in the next
Empire State Bulletin.
Please send articles to
esb.staff1@gmail.com.**

**I look forward to
hearing from you.**

**Rich Elias, PGK, FDD
Assistant to the
State Deputy**