

*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 January 2012

A Message From Your State Deputy, Salvatore A. Restivo

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the New York State Council:

I hope you enjoyed the Christmas Season. As we begin 2012 we look to continue to build the dream of Father McGivney. Sunday, the New York State Council celebrated the Pro Life Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. The Cathedral was completely full for this great event. Archbishop Dolan, Cardinal Designate, was the Principal celebrant of the Mass and our own Father McWeeney concelebrated.

This year we were privileged to have our own Knight of Columbus procession just prior to the Mass led by our color corps and District Deputies. Joining us were the Knights and Dames of Malta. With adding something new there is always concern, however this new addition to the program went beautifully thanks to State Pro Life Chairman Marty Ryan. Also much thanks to John and Amelia Joseph, Ed Ciulla, Rich Elias, Carmine and Claudia Musumeci of the State Deputy's staff for making the weekend events go smoothly.

Prior to the Mass a small delegation met with Cardinal Designate, Archbishop Dolan. We had a great conversation about the Knights contribution to the cause of

life as well as the support of the church.

At one point I asked the Archbishop about his phone conversation with President Obama regarding the Department of Health policy. This policy will force the Catholic Church to provide health coverage for contraception, sterilization and abortion services. While the Archbishop spoke pleasantly about this it became obvious to me we are at a point where as Catholic Americans we must stand firmly together. It also illustrates to me that the decision to join forces with the Bishops of New York and New York Catholic Conference for a rally in Albany was correct. We need to be seen as one undivided force and we need to show our politicians that we are people of faith and determination in defense of our first amendment rights.

Speaking of our Rally in Albany please make plans to come. March 13th may seem far away now, but it will come soon enough. Marty Ryan and I surveyed the convention center and the Cathedral. We will begin registration at 11:00 AM and our prayer service at 11:30 AM. We will break for lunch at 12:30 PM and begin a prayer walk to the Cathedral at about 1:00 PM. **Individuals** are permitted to



to bring lunch, so please bring a bagged lunch with a soft drink. The walk from the convention center to the Cathedral is only a ½ block. Make no mistake we will be praying the rosary from the convention center to the Cathedral. Building his dream also means building Catholic community. Other Lay Catholic orders and organizations have been invited to pray with us in Albany. If you are interested in lobbying, you must register with your diocese and receive training from the NY Catholic Conference. If you have any questions feel free to contact Marty Ryan, Pro Life Chairman.

Speaking of Building His Dream, our program on Telecare is getting some good reviews and not just from my mother. I am proud to announce that the Knights of

State Deputy Message continued from page 1

Columbus will be the sole sponsor of Telecare's coverage of the Consistory. The Consistory is the meeting in Rome when Archbishop Dolan will be elevated to Cardinal. We wish Archbishop Dolan, Cardinal Designate, well and God's Blessings. Telecare will also cover the Mass of Thanksgiving on February 25th at St. Patrick's Cathedral. The television coverage will also be sponsored by the Supreme Council.

We still have much work to do. We are asking that all Councils sponsor a first degree on Founder's Day, which is March 29, 2012. All Councils, at this time, should have a first degree team. With the memorization restriction gone, Council Officers should read their respective parts. If your Council has not done this yet, make March 29th your target date! If you need a podium copy of the degree, please have your FS contact the Fraternal Supplies Department at Supreme. Remember we are all in this together. Each Council must do its share to build the order in New York. Recruitment and retention through viable Council activities is the best way to keep your Council strong and active.

"Building His Dream: ..." So that the world may know new hope", I remain,

Fraternally Yours,



A message from our Associate State Chaplain, Fr. Brian McWeeney...

Many have asked me what difference does it make that the Archbishop of New York has been called to the College of Cardinals. As the great man said himself it has little effect on his main task as Archbishop. His day job is to continue to minister to all with the faithful joy and enthusiasm he has shown since his assuming the position as our teacher and shepherd. As a Cardinal though he has the responsibility to be a close advisor to the Holy Father on diverse matters in addition to of course, entering a conclave to elect a successor to Peter as Vicar of Christ. It is important for all of us to support him with our prayers but also to take seriously his priorities concerning the evangelizing our culture. As President of the USCCB he has issued a challenge to all Catholic Americans to demonstrate our faith and moral positions when challenged by the secularism of the age. I rejoice that I have been able to see this priest of God courageously addressing the issues of the day. Pray for him and those of us who have the honor of being his collaborators.

Vivat Jesus,
Father Brian





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

Another fresh new year is here . . .
Another year to live!
To banish worry, doubt, and fear,
To love and laugh and give!

This bright new year is given me
To live each day with zest . . .
To daily grow and try to be
My highest and my best!

I have the opportunity
Once more to right some wrongs,
To pray for peace, to plant a tree,
And sing more joyful songs!"

William Arthur Ward

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Visit the New York State Council Website for up to the minute information! Let us know how you like it!
<http://www.newyorkknights.com/>

Five Finger Prayer

1. **Your thumb** is nearest you. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C. S. Lewis once said, a 'sweet duty.'
2. The **next finger** is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.
3. The **next finger** is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.
4. The **fourth finger** is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.
5. And lastly comes our **little finger** - the smallest finger of all which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, 'The least shall be the greatest among you.' Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

Monthly Webinar

Pictured is the behind the scenes action during a webinar. We thank Jack and Sandy Ferraroti for graciously hosting our monthly webinars.

Our Worthy State Deputy Sal Restivo, along with C&B Director Jack Ferrarotti, Youth Director Michal Galgano, Program Director Jim Thompson, Membership Director Rick Ditrio, and Secretary to the State Deputy John Joseph hold the monthly webinar.



Each Director gives an updated report as to what is happening in New York. Sal comments on each update, and John is available to field questions. We look forward to your participation next month, Friday, February 3, 2012.

We encourage all invited to participate and have your questions ready so we can respond to your needs. We look forward to your participation.

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 the New York State Catholic Conference for our Prayer Rally. We will assemble at the Hart Theatre, The Egg in Albany at 11:00 a.m. to pray the Rosary for the success of those meeting with the state lawmakers. We will proceed from the Egg 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. 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.



Martin Ryan
Pro-Life, Prayer Rally Chairman

Coats for Kids

On November 27, 2011 James Cullen, Westchester / Putnam Conference Secretary, Bob Cuthbert, Faithful Navigator and I headed to East Durham, Our Lady of Knock Council #6439 to present coats to the six families who lost their houses and all their possessions in this year's storms.

Our Lady of Knock Council #6439 presented a donation to each of the families to help them with their bills and the Christmas holidays. At that time we were introduced and explained that we were there to help our brother knights make the best of a bad situation. There was a total of about 15 children present and we let them know that they each would be receiving a brand new coat. It was a joy to watch the children look for that special jacket.

At the end of the day, one of the mothers went to Bob Cuthbert with tears in her eyes and didn't know how to thank us for what we had done.

A special thanks to James Goode, Financial Secretary, the members of Our Lady of Knock Council #6439, and John Moreton, Chairman of the Board or their support.

Jim Thompson, Program Director





Catholic Schools

Catholic Schools Week - January 29, 2012 - February 5, 2012

The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2012 is “Catholic Schools: Faith. Academic Service.” Schools celebrate Catholic Schools Week with masses, open houses, and activities for students, families, parishioners and members of their community.

This year’s theme focuses on three priorities that Catholic schools establish that make them stand out from other educational institutions. Children are taught *faith* - not just the basics of Christianity, but how to build a relationship with God. *Academics* which are held to very high standards in Catholic schools, help each child reach his or her potential. *Service*, the giving of one’s time and effort to help others, is taught both as an expression of faith and good citizenship.

Catholic Schools Week is a joint project of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the U.S. Conference of Catholic bishops. To learn more about Catholic Schools Week, visit the NCEA Web site at: www.ncea.org/news/CatholicSchoolsWeek.asp.



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.

**NYS Council Membership and Forms Report
by Major Conference**

		Best	Good	--- % of Forms Sent in * ---					--- Membership ---														
		From Supreme delinquency report dated ->		1/25	1/20	1/18	1/25	Progress to Goal															
# Councils	D38, D63 & D93 **	Conference	# Active Members 7/1/2011	----- Supreme Forms -----					1st Degrees			--- Youth ---				Jan	YTD	% to	YTD	Star			
				185	365	1295	1728	SP-7	F 4 F	Average	# partic ipate d	# with own team	C S S	C 4 K	Essay	Poster	Free T	Soccer	MTD	Mem	GOAL	Susp'd	
52	1	Nassau	15,468	94%	90%	92%	16%	0%	1	92%	33	13	1	12	1	0	0	1	18	153	13.3%	87	2
53	3	Suffolk	10,408	100%	100%	98%	30%	0%	2	99%	53	12	4	8	0	1	1	5	4	117	12.1%	95	0
37	3	Queens	6,447	94%	88%	74%	12%	0%	0	85%	10	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	8	-110	-19.7%	208	0
46		Kings	8,017	76%	74%	61%	15%	0%	1	70%	12	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	-4	48	7.3%	120	1
188	7	Long Island	40,340	91%	88%	82%	19%	0%	4	87%	108	32	5	24	1	1	1	6	26	208	6.2%	510	3
40	7	B/M/S	5,179	58%	48%	39%	9%	0%	0	48%	8	3	0	1	0	0	1	2	-10	-110	-22.1%	168	3
28		West-Put	3,724	96%	86%	82%	18%	0%	2	88%	10	3	0	9	0	0	0	0	34	22	6.1%	63	1
53	1	Hudson Val	7,470	81%	71%	69%	6%	0%	1	74%	16	7	0	3	0	0	0	1	4	41	5.7%	87	2
69	10	Capital	6,011	81%	49%	44%	14%	0%	2	58%	26	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	64	11.0%	24	0
190	18	Downstate	22,384	79%	62%	57%	11%	0%	5	66%	60	17	0	17	0	0	1	3	32	17	0.8%	342	6
44	4	Western	8,479	85%	65%	63%	10%	0%	0	71%	5	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	4	48	6.6%	64	0
43	6	Central	5,132	89%	65%	76%	8%	0%	0	77%	12	10	0	5	0	0	0	1	7	33	7.0%	30	0
43	4	Finger Lks	4,690	82%	72%	64%	15%	0%	1	73%	4	4	0	2	0	0	0	1	-9	45	10.5%	30	0
56		Northern	5,112	73%	54%	46%	11%	0%	2	58%	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	-6	26	5.3%	23	0
186	14	Upstate	23,413	81%	63%	60%	11%	0%	3	68%	22	17	0	9	0	0	0	4	-4	152	7.2%	147	0
564	39	NYS	86,137	84%	71%	67%	14%	0%	12	74%	190	66	5	50	1	1	2	13	54	377	5.0%	999	9

** The inactive councils specifically assigned to Districts 38, 69 & 93 are NOT included in the Forms statistics, but, are included in their conference's membership totals.

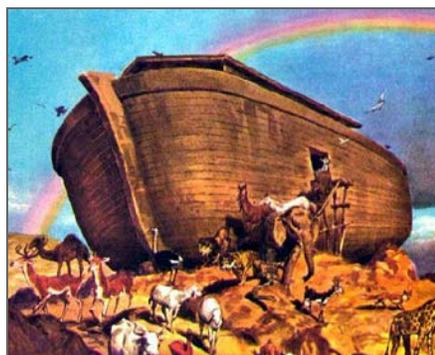
F4F = Food for Families C4K = Coats for Kids
CSS = Catholic School Support

<http://www.newyorkknights.com/membership-numbers.shtml>

as of 1/25/2012 prepared by Ed Willie
Assistant to the Membership Director

Everything I need to know about life, I learned from Noah's Ark

- One:** Don't miss the boat.
- Two:** Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- Three:** Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
- Four:** Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
- Five:** Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
- Six:** Build your future on high ground.
- Seven:** For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
- Eight:** Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- Nine:** When you're stressed, float a while.
- Ten:** Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
- Eleven:** No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.



Council Bulletin issues received for the
New York State Council Bulletin Contest
 by major/minor conference as of 1/7/2012.



You
 have to
 be
 in it.....

to
 win it!

DOWNSTATE							
CAPITOL		HV		WT/PUT		B/M/S	
237	4	1646	7	462	6	1662	7
		4065	4	1495	3	1694	6
UPSTATE							
FL		WESTERN		NORTHERN		CENTRAL	
178	2	247	4	1141	4	206	1
229	4	11188	5	7273	5	1839	1
3892	2	13661	6			2953	3
7085	4						
LONG ISLAND							
SUFFOLK		NASSAU		QUEENS		KINGS	
584	3	1206	2	309	2	126	2
794	6	1241	7	312	1	197	3
2458	7	2852	5			1251	1
2489	7	3005	2				
2502	3	3476	1				
4651	6	3488	1				
6607	6	4422	6				
11968	7	5983	7				
13588	3	6911	6				
		10332	6				

Remember.....In order for your council to qualify for the contest,
four issues must be received by March 15, 2012. Send issues to:

Thomas L. Freundsuh
 215 Champion Avenue
 Webster, NY 14580

All information regarding the contest can be found at:
<http://newyorkknights.com/files/councilbulletincontest10.pdf>

Holy Family Council helps those in need!

Holy Family Council hosted a Night at the Races with a 50/50 raffle which had a net profit of \$144. The Council matched this amount making a total donation of \$300 to Sr. Carol Rodesti as follows: \$200 worth of cards were purchased and donated to Sr. Carol to distribute to those in need. The \$100 balance was used to buy supplies for the Thanksgiving baskets that were distributed. Tony Vota, PGK and John Klos, GK of the Holy Family Council, along with Sr. Carol are pictured below. Sr. Carol is the coordinator for Holy Family Parish Outreach.

In addition, the Knights of Holy Family Council also transported over 700 pounds of turkeys and hams that were collected to the Little Sisters of the Poor at Queen of Peace residence in Queens Village.

John Klos, GK, Holy Family Council, Hicksville



Our Youth at Adelphi Catholic Campus are Amazing

Tuesday, January 10th, 2012 Adelphi Catholic Campus Celebrated a Commissioning Mass at St. Rose of Lima Parish in Massapequa. The Celebrant was Father Lachlan Cameron. Attending were students from Adelphi who were commissioned to spread the Gospel in their new Ministries. Present at the Mass was Knights of Columbus State Deputy Salvatore Restivo, Edward Ciulla, Warden to the State Deputy, Richard P. Elias, Assistant to the State Deputy, and The 15th District Deputy Charles Rosaschi, PGK. The students were scheduled to go to the St. Lucia Mission Trip for seven days.





The Parishioners of St. Anthony of Padua participate in the 2012 March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Carmel Knights Deliver Coats Upstate.



Council #6318 Carmel, NY delivers an estimated 300 coats to Council #6439 East Durham, NY
Front, Brothers Donny Ricker SK, Daniel Baker SK, Anthony Vetrano GK, Ed Barry DGK,
Back, Don Schlag Warden., Tom Galton Chancellor, and Seamus Baker SK

The Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of the Lakes Council #6318 conducted their annual coat drive in the month of December. The Knights number one principle is Charity, helping those in need. When Council #6318 heard of the plight of the families who lost everything in upstate New York due to the flooding tropical storm Irene caused. We contacted our Brothers in East Durham, NY, Our Lady of Knock Council # 6439 and told them we would like to deliver the bounty of coats that were collected to their council to be distributed to those in need. The Grand Knight of Council #6439 was elated with our efforts to help those in their region. This is what the Knights of Columbus truly stands for, Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.

www.carmelknights.org



Sal Shares His Vision of the Future

Transforming the K of C in NY to the 21st Century

By J. Gregory Traves, Vice Chairman, Public Relations, Western Conference

BUFFALO-When the State Deputy, Salvatore Restivo, took office, he already knew of our declining membership and council closures, and that something needed to be done about it. He set a goal to create a viable, growing Knights of Columbus in New York that is relevant for today and the new century.

Salvatore recognized that if more parishes had councils, there would be a significant increase in young men recruited into the Knights. The State Membership Director has three new Directors to create new councils, revitalize existing councils, or reactivate old councils, and then to link them to parishes.

These new, young recruits are being trained, and current officers are learning leadership skills. The State Council training organization is changing to focus on, and educate, our leaders to prepare them for the future. Training is directed onto two major tracks. First, the Grand Knights are learning how to develop a vision and a goal for their council, and how to lead the members toward this goal through selling their vision, and leading by example. The second major track is developing existing councils by making an assessment of their strengths and weaknesses. These councils are making changes to assure they will have a future.



On Saturday, January 14th, the State Deputy conducted such a class for the WNY Chapter. Local K of C leaders were challenged to think about what was needed to transform their respective councils into the vibrant, forward-thinking and relevant organizations that will continue to attract young men, serve their parishes, and their communities in the 21st Century. *E: mail: gregorytraves@gmail.com*

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!"

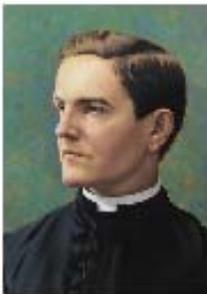


Today, in the councils of the Knights of Columbus around the world, Fr. McGivney is calling to us...

"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



PRESS RELEASE

ALBANY COUNCIL 173 GIVES \$500 FOR SEMINARIANS

January 2012

Seminarian Support

\$1000 presented to Seminarians

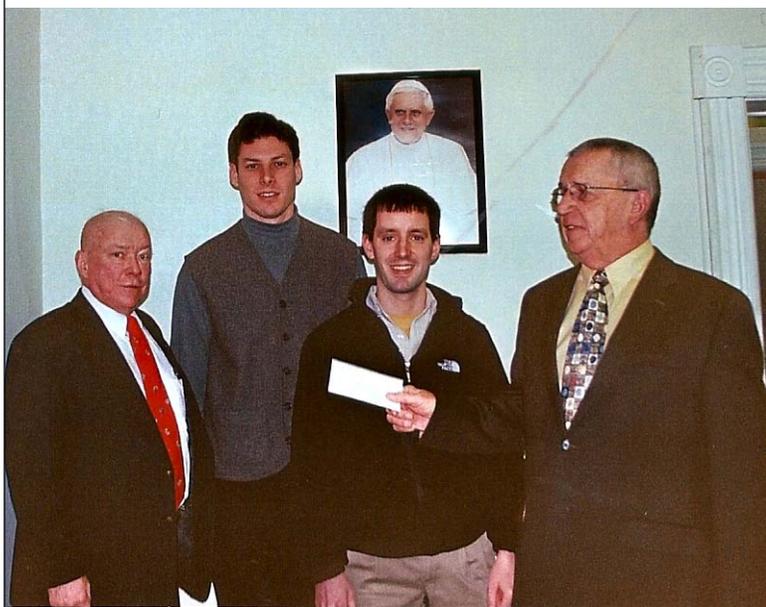
Albany Council 173 has established an endowment account with the Albany Roman Catholic Diocese Foundation to benefit Catholic Education and the Albany Diocese Seminarian Program. Recently we were privileged to make grants to two seminarians. Checks in the amount of \$500 were presented to Rev. Mr. Dan Quinn and Ryan Salisbury, both of Johnstown. Dan Quinn is a Transitional Deacon studying at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore and will be ordained this spring. Ryan Salisbury is studying at Siena College while residing at Saint Isaac Jogues House of Discernment, where the Albany Diocese pre-seminary program is located.

Shown in the photo below are:

Trustee Jim Byron, PGK; Rev. Mr. Dan Quinn; Ryan Salisbury; and Deputy Grand Knight George Davis.

The endowment fund can be used to contribute in memory of any Knight or family member who passes away or to remember a special intention in your estate.

Additional information can be obtained from James Byron, PGK, FDD, Trustee Council 173 at (518) 438-3290



Albany Council 173 Knights of Columbus 375 Ontario Street, Albany, New York 12208

Press Release for Immediate Publication January 2012

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

CLOTHE THE CHILDREN and FEED THE HUNGRY

Embracing a program sponsored by the Supreme Council Knights of Columbus, Albany Council 173 distributed seventy two winter coats in a variety of sizes and colors so that young children might have a warmer winter season. These coats were presented to outreach programs at Blessed Sacrament Church and the Saint Vincent DePaul Food Pantry where administrators will insure they are given to deserving families. The coats were most welcomed and admired at both venues.

Council 173 also prepared and distributed 72 food baskets with complete ingredients for a holiday turkey dinner and extras for later consumption. This program is one that the Council has conducted for over ten years. In consort with two Parish Food Pantries we can make an effective response to those in need.

Attached photos show Knights examining the winter coats destined for Blessed Sacrament Church and St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry as well as some of the volunteers who assembled the food baskets which were delivered to Mater Christi Food Pantry and Saint Vincent DePaul Food Pantry.



Knights with coats for kids



Food Bag Assembly Team

CLOTHE THE CHILDREN
FEED THE HUNGRY

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:

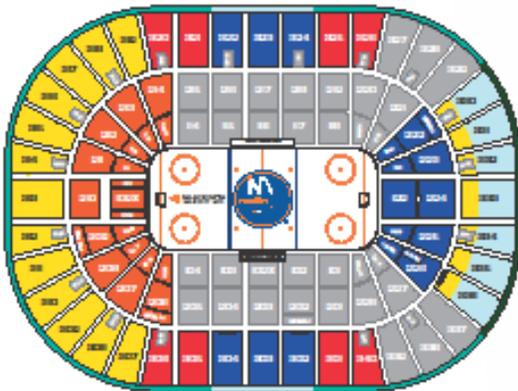
■ \$69

YOUR PRICE:

■ \$28

■ End Mezz 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:
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 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.

Holy Innocents Council #3581 Supports ACDS

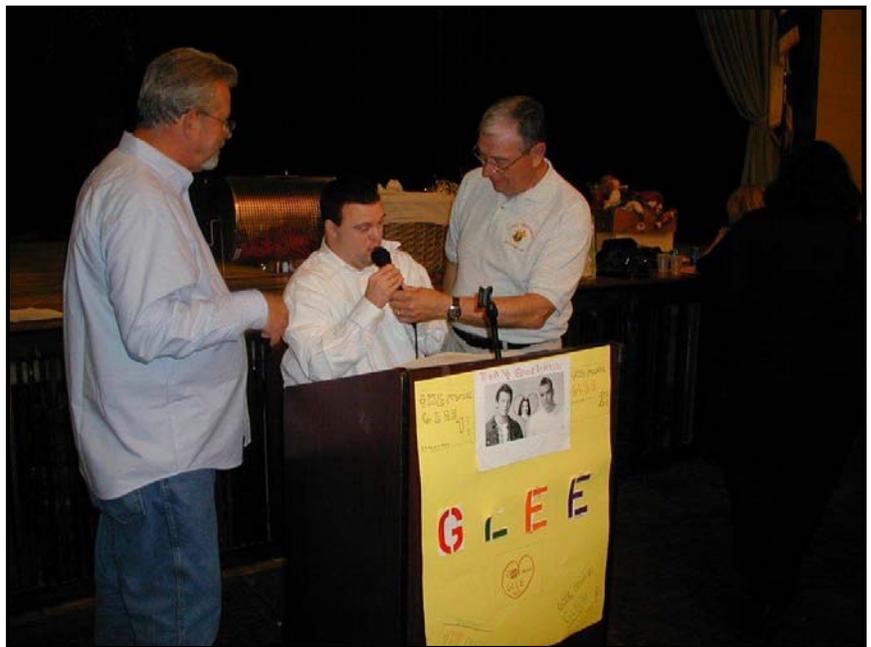
Under the guidance of chairman Wayne Murphy and Co-Chairman J J Brady of the Holy Innocents Council 3581 in Levittown NY , the Annual John Lane Memorial Fund Raiser for the benefit of the Association of Children with Down Syndrome was held.

This fund raiser, with the support of the three other councils of the 14th District, the Levittown American Legion Post 1711 and the Fraternal Order of Police was a huge success. The fund raiser was attended by over 300 people. There were raffles and a 50/50 drawing to help support this great cause. Everyone at the fund raiser was treated to good food and desserts which were provided by local business establishments and members of various organizations. An open bar which was provided by the Columbus Club of Holy Innocents Council was enjoyed by all.

When all was done, and the expenses were taken care of, the profit that will go to the ACDS program came close to \$23,000. This is the major fund raiser for the program but during the year the K of C Councils, along with the American Legion and the FOP donate funds that enable us to hold a bowling party in May, a fishing trip in June, and a Christmas Party in December.

This program was started around 30 years ago by Brother Knight John Lane and PGK SK Jim McHale, who for many years was the spearhead for the success of these functions until last year when he passed the torch to Brother SK Wayne Murphy.

Fraternally,
SK Frank J Wicelinski JR.,
PGK, FS
Holy Innocents Council
#3581



A Christian

Several years ago, a preacher from out of state accepted a call to a church in Texas.

Some weeks after he arrived, he had an occasion to ride the bus from his home to the downtown area. When he sat down, he discovered that the driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much change.

As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, "You'd better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it."

But then he thought, "Oh, forget it, it's only a quarter. Who would worry about this little amount? Anyway, the bus company gets too much fare; they will never miss it. Accept it as a 'gift from God' and keep quiet."

When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, and then he handed the quarter to the driver and said, "Here, you gave me too much change."

The driver, with a smile, replied, "Aren't you the new preacher in town?"

"Yes," he replied.

"Well, I have been thinking a lot lately about going somewhere to worship. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. I'll see you at church on Sunday."

When the preacher stepped off the bus, he literally grabbed the nearest light pole, held on, and said, "Oh God, I almost sold your Son for a quarter."

Our lives are the only Bible some people will ever read. This is a really scary example of how much people watch us as Christians, and will put us to the test!

Always be on guard.

And remember: You carry the name of Christ on your shoulders when you call yourself "Christian."

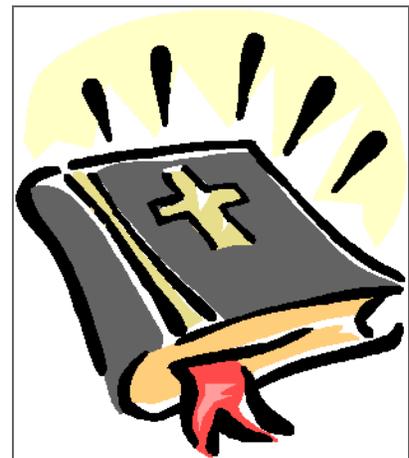
Watch your thoughts. They become words.

Watch your words. They become actions.

Watch your actions. They become habits.

Watch your habits. They become character.

Watch your character. It becomes your destiny.



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
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Albany, New York 12203



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The New York State Council supports the Telecare Annual Telethon on Sunday, January 15, 2012. Along with Msgr. Vlaun, our Worthy State Deputy Sal Restivo hosts a segment of the Telethon. John G. Joseph, Rich Elias, and Ed Ciulla take phone calls from generous donors.



TELECARE



**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.

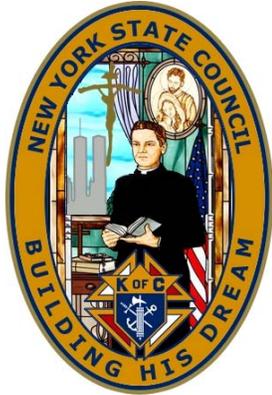
- ◆ December 19 "Light up for Christ"
- ◆ December 26 Adopt a School
- ◆ January 2 Columbian Squires
- ◆ January 9 Momma's House
- ◆ January 16 Columbiettes
- ◆ January 23 High School Squires
- ◆ January 30 Charity and Community
- ◆ February 6 St. Mary's Children's Hospital

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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**