



# Knight Worthy News

St. Joseph Council 10627, High Bridge, New Jersey

October  
2023

## *Pride in Our Priests Dinner*



L-r: Financial Secretary Andy Rispoli, Deacon Tom McGovern, Deacon Steve Fortier, Treasurer Rich Mirocco, Rev. Kris Kaczynski, Pastor for St. Joseph and St. John Neumann Churches, Deacon Mike Wojcik, Past Grand Knight Klawunn and Grand Knight Chris Dietrich.

St. Joseph Council had the timely opportunity to welcome and host “Fr. Kris,” the new pastor for St. Joseph Church and St. John Neumann Church at the “Pride in Our Priests” dinner at The Imperia in Somerset. The 2023 annual dinner was attended by more than 300 Knights and clergy and hosted by the Knights of Columbus Metuchen Diocese Chapter.

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**Fr. Kris will be installed as Pastor on Saturday, October 28 at the 4pm Vigil Mass at St. Joseph Church and at the 5:30 pm Vigil Mass at St. John Neumann Church.**



# Grand Knight's Message

Worthy Brothers,

***It*** seems like September went by in the blink of an eye. We are already into October and the days are getting shorter, and the temperatures are getting cooler. Fall is here and brings with it many family activities to do. Whether you are planning to go apple picking, pumpkin picking, or all the above there is plenty to do on the weekends to keep everyone busy. As everyone is busy, I would like to say thank you to all the brothers who continue to give their time for the various programs and activities that we have done since the start of this Columbian Year. We cannot continue to do the great work we do without your help.

We had a very busy month in September with several events that took place. On September 7<sup>th</sup>, the Pride In our Priests Dinner took place at the Imperia in Somerset. Brothers and guests in attendance included Fr. Kris Kaczynski, Deacon Tom McGovern, Deacon Steve Fortier, Rich Mirocco, Tom Klawunn, Andrew Rispoli, SJN Deacon Mike Wojcik, and myself attended. It was a great event to show our support for our priests and deacons within our parishes and throughout the diocese. We all had a great dinner and conversation. I am looking forward to attending again next year.

On September 14<sup>th</sup>, we had our Installation of Officers in place of our first monthly meeting at St. Joseph Church. The installation was led by our District Deputy, Mike Iannozzi from St. Catherine's Council in Pittstown. I would like to thank our District Deputy, our Council Officers, the family members, and guests who attended along with brother Deacon Steve Fortier for stepping in as the Chaplain for the Installation. We had a great meal afterwards put together by our Warden Jim Codd. Thank you, Jim. We were also able to get a second vote on our annual budget which passed so we can continue to support our brothers and sisters in need in our community.

On September 16<sup>th</sup>, we held our annual Soccer Challenge at the Union Forge Soccer Fields in High Bridge. We had over 20 kids that participated. This event could not happen without the leadership of brother Sean Rogan who stepped in to take the lead on this event as Activity Leader Kevin Speckin was unable to attend. However, Kevin was instrumental in making sure Sean had everything he needed to make sure the event ran smoothly. .

Thank you, Sean, and Kevin, for helping to make this event a great time for everyone, especially the kids. We also had great help and support from brothers PGK Tom Klawunn, DGK Mark Kucharski, Treasurer Rich Mirocco, Dave Kinsky, and Robert Wise. Thank you, brothers. Next up for the winners will be the Metuchen Regional Soccer Challenge on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and Immaculate Conception School Soccer Field. Good luck to the winners of High Bridge.

**October is Respect Life Month.** Our Treasurer and Life Director, Rich Mirocco, has many things planned for this month. On October 1<sup>st</sup>, the Life Chain will take place at the Flemington Circle from 3-4pm. Tickets will once again be sold for the NJ Right to Life Car Raffle after several Masses this month at St. Joseph Church. We need brothers to help sell tickets after Masses. Please contact Rich directly if you can help sell tickets after any of the Masses on October 7/8, 14/15, and 21/22. Please also keep in mind that the Life Choices Virtual Auction will take place on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. More information will be available soon about this event.

On October 9<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate Columbus Day, the namesake of our order. There is a brief article on the KofC website that explains why our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney chose Christopher Columbus as our namesake. <https://www.kofc.org/en/news-room/articles/honoring-columbus-and-his-legacy.html>. I encourage everyone to read it.

On October 25<sup>th</sup> there will be an in person CUF (Charity, Unity, Fraternity) degree at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Whitehouse at 7pm. If there are any brothers who have any potential candidates in mind, please get them to sign up online and we can arrange to get them to the degree.

In closing, let us take some time this month to reflect on how we can continue to support life. In these challenging times we must continue to stand up and protect the most vulnerable in our society. Let us ask God to continue to give us the courage and strength to continue this mission of supporting life.

St. Joseph, defender of life, pray for us. Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us.

Vivat Jesus,  
Christopher J. Dietrich, Grand Knight



## “Welcome” Fr. Kris!

On Saturday, October 28, Fr. Kris Kaczynski will be installed as Pastor of St. Joseph Parish at the 4 pm Vigil Mass. Immediately after, he will travel to St. John Neumann Church to be installed as Pastor at the 5:30 pm Mass.



(From the St. Joseph Church website:)

*“Fr. Kris Kaczynski was born in 1964 in Poland. After grammar and high school, he attended the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Krakow and earned a Doctor of Theology.*

*In 1988, Fr. Kris became a Missionary in Africa and served in Zambia. He was ordained in 1993. Fr. Kris moved to Nairobi, Kenya\* and lectured Theology of the Church and Theology of Peace at Tangaza College, Catholic University of Eastern Africa and ministered at UN Refugee Camp.*

*After moving to United States in 2000 he ministered in New York. In 2002 he joined the Diocese of Metuchen and ministered at Immaculate Conception Church in Anandale. In 2009 he became pastor of St. Edward the Confessor Parish in Milford and in 2012 of Our Lady of Victories Parish in Baptistown.”*

### \* Fr. Kris becomes the second priest having ties to Africa to guide St. Joseph Council !

For several years, Father Frederick Otieno Nyanguf was our council Chaplain after joining the Knights of Columbus in St. Joseph Council. At the time, Fr. Fred was a priest in the Apostles of Jesus order, assigned to the Blue Army Shrine in Washington, NJ.



As our council Chaplain, Fr. Fred was active in council affairs and provided spiritual guidance to members. He later returned “home” to Nairobi, Kenya, where he then served at their major seminary in Nairobi. Fr. Fred has since been involved in the Tembea Youth Centre for Sustainable Development (TEMBEA) in Nairobi.



“Halloween” has ancient roots in a cave!

Nestled away in a field in Rath Croghan, County Roscommon, is **Oweyganat Cave**, Ireland's “*entrance to the Otherworld.*”

Many believe the cave is the birthplace of the pre-Christian festival **Samhain** (pr. ‘sah win’), that marks the end of the harvest season and beginning of winter.



Early Christians believed that a gate opened on that date every year, allowing the ghosts of the dead to return to earth. The pagan tradition was brought to America by the Irish in the 19th century as Halloween—October 31.

In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honor all saints and **All Saints Day** incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. Pope Gregory IV later extended this celebration of all saints to the universal church and the evening before became known as All Hallows Eve—later, “**Halloween**”.

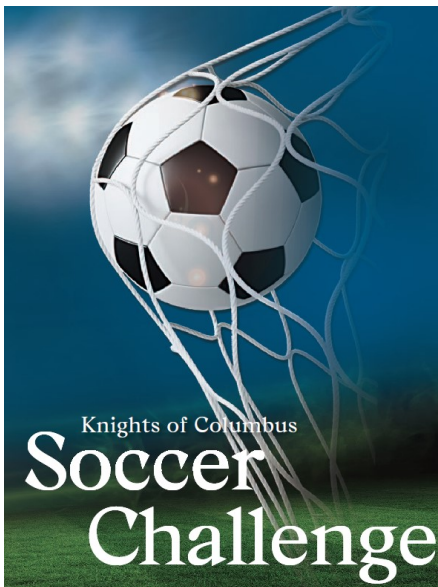
Over time, Halloween has evolved into a day of activities with trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, festive gatherings, donning costumes and eating treats .



Now, **YOU** know how it came to be!







32 youths participated (*including those in the top photo*). Group champions (*lower photo*) were:

- 13 year old boy - Adrian Friedman**
- 12 year old boy - Liam Rogan**
- 11 year old boy - Mason Meijer**
- 10 year old boy - Jack Guerrero**
- 10 year old girl - Mary Rogan**
- 9 year old boy - Henry Stowers**

The council's Activity Leader, Kevin Speckin, organized the event but was unable to attend. Brother Sean Rogan stepped in to lead it, assisted by brothers Dave Kinsky, GK Chris Dietrich, PGK Tom Klawunn, DGK Mark Kucharski, Bob Wise, and Rich Mirocco.

The winners will compete in the Metuchen Regional Soccer Challenge on Sunday, October 22 at Immaculate Conception School.





## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

*cruisin' bob's*

# Classic Car Show



Benefiting Family Promise of  
Hunterdon & Family Promise of Warren

Sun, October 15, 2023

10:00am - 2:00pm

Contact PGK Wayne McKay to offer  
your help at the food stand for this  
worthwhile community event.

## LIFE ACTIVITIES

**Life Chain** at Flemington Circle: **3-4PM**

**Life Choices Charity Auction** Friday,  
November 17 **Bidding begins at 7PM**

## FAITH ACTIVITIES

**Adoration of Blessed Sacrament** Sunday,  
October 8 (Monthly on the second Sunday.  
Follows 11am Mass at St. Joseph Church.)

**Bible Study** with Andrew Rispoli: Weekly  
on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM at St. Joseph  
Church

**Mass for Knights & Families:** 8am Sun-  
day, October 22 at St John Neumann Church

Knowledge is knowing a  
tomato is a fruit; wisdom is  
not putting it in a fruit salad.

Miles Kington

A former Sergeant in the Marine Corps took a new job as a high school teacher.

Just before the school year started, he injured his back. He was required to wear a plaster cast around the upper part of his body. Fortunately, the cast fit under his shirt and wasn't noticeable.

On the first day of class, he found himself assigned to the toughest students in the school. The smart punks, having already heard the new teacher was a former Marine, were leery of him and he knew they would be testing his discipline in the classroom.

Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom, the new teacher opened the window wide and sat down at his desk. When a strong breeze made his tie flap, he picked up a stapler and stapled the tie to his chest.

Dead silence...  
The rest of the year went very smoothly.





### Birthdays

Therese Maretta October 3  
 Matt Hall October 6  
 Rev. Abraham Orapankal October 11  
 Vince McGourty October 15  
 Charles Bruton, 3rd October 16  
 Dawn Simila October 17  
 Mario Bernardo October 18  
 Eric Blasic October 19  
 Janet Rigatti October 21  
 Ron Dietrich October 20  
 Tom McGovern October 23  
 Patricia Kallessen October 28

### Anniversaries

Greg & Pam Springstun  
 October 2  
 John & Deborah Gearity  
 October 9  
 Ken & Ann Whalen  
 October 10  
 Manuel & Mary Garcia  
 October 11  
 Hunt & Linda Patterson  
 October 16  
 Tom & Carol Creelman  
 October 16  
 Sean & Caryn McKay  
 October 20  
 Dave & Barbara Kinsky  
 October 21  
 Ron and Mary Ann Meola  
 October 23  
 Steve & Patricia Kallessen  
 October 28

(Area Code 908 unless otherwise noted)

### Officers:

Grand Knight	Chris Dietrich	797-0243
Chaplain	Fr. James Kyrpezak	303-6243
Deputy G. K.	Mark Kucharski	323-0479
Chancellor	Bill Honachefsky	328-9631
Recorder	Tom Waldron	391-0284
Fin. Sec.	Andrew Rispoli	(973) 417-3429
Treasurer	Rich Mirocco	892-8252
Advocate	Mike DiMeo	892-7572
Warden	Jim Codd	892-1089
Inside Guard	Tom O'Farrell	246-7507
Outside Guard	Mike Krochta	500-0478

### Trustees:

Tom Klawunn, PGK	246-3722
Mario Bernardo, PGK	797-6344
Tom Corrado, PGK	328-9440

### Faith In Action Program Directors:

Faith	Andrew Rispoli	(973) 417-3429
Family	Joe Gallico	507-6420
Community	Tom Corrado, PGK	328-9440
Life	Rich Mirocco	892-8252

### Fraternal Programs Directors:

Program	Mark Kucharski	323-0479
Membership	Tom O'Farrell	246-7507

**Dist. Deputy:** Michael Iannozzi 328-6605

**Ins. Agent:** Gerry Tatarka (973) 713-3394

## Council Calendar



- **Scan** the QR Code,
- **Council Calendar** drop down at [www.kofc10627.org](http://www.kofc10627.org)

***Knight Worthy News*** is published monthly and distributed via E-mail.  
[\*\*\*gaboyle1 @comcast.net\*\*\*](mailto:gaboyle1@comcast.net)