



Knight Worthy News

St. Joseph Council 10627, High Bridge, New Jersey

November
SPECIAL EDITION
2023



Supplement to the November
Knight Worthy News

REMEMBERING BROTHER JOE

Somehow, in the November 2023 *Knight Worthy News*, I failed to include brother Joseph Labuta among council members who have “passed.” Joe was a colleague and personal friend for many years. Joe was also responsible for my transfer into St. Joseph Council.

**I sorely regret having omitted asking
readers to remember brother Joe.**

Joe was a founder and Charter Member of the council and for more than one-quarter of a century, brother Joe performed unstinting and continued service to our council and to St. Joseph Parish.

In addition to initiating, organizing and supporting charitable and fraternal activities, Joe served in a number of Officer and Director positions. Brother Joe, on his own and without being asked, without experience or training, developed the very first website for the St. Joseph Council. His unique and devoted contribution to the principles of the Order and to the work of St. Joseph Council cannot be overstated.

“Mea Culpa”



**SIR KNIGHT
JOSEPH LABUTA
1934 TO 2017**

My sincere thanks go to Linda and Wayne McKay who alerted me about the omission. *Greg Boyle*

(November 2023 Newsletter Follows)



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NOVEMBER—A MONTH FOR REMEMBRANCES

The Church reminds us to pray for those who have gone into eternity and dedicates the month of November to the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Since our council's beginnings in 1991, thirty good men (*listed below*) have passed away while members of St. Joseph Council. We pray for them (and their families) and remember their contributions to our Faith and to our council.

Harry Snyder (1927-1997)	Chris Schwaiger (1944-1999)	Herman Zubrycki (1918-2000)	Richard Wilson (1932-2002)	Fred Levasseur (1924-2003)
Raphael Mannino (1911-2003)	Patrick Collins (1935-2003)	James Cleary (1926-2008)	Theodore Wierzbicki (1926-2010)	Terry Macko (1947-2011)
Vincent Tomminelli (1942-2011)	William Donohue (1932-2012)	Dominic Giordano (1952-2012)	Charles Drake (1960-2014)	John Brown (1932-2014)
John Thomas (1922-2015)	Gerard Duffy (1931-2015)	John Straley, Jr. (1967-2015)	Robert Calvosa (1929-2015)	Joseph Cerrato (1934-2017)
Charles Bruton (1947-2017)	Dr. John Titus (1936-2019)	Joseph Padula (1929-2019)	Henry Hagen (1927-2020)	Clyde Mowrey (1957-2020)
Edward Santillo (1959-2020)	Henry Steward (1930-2021)	Wayne Lloyd (1941-2022)	Jonathan Richardson	Robert Sepe (1945-2022)

Grand Knight's Message

Worthy Brothers,

Fall is in full swing, and outside of the recent warm weather, things seem to be settling down with appropriate fall weather on the horizon. With shorter days ahead and activities moving inside there is still plenty to do as Knights of Columbus.

October was a busy month for our Council. Roses for Life red rose stickers were available after all Masses during the month. NJ Right to Life raffle tickets were sold after several Masses.

On October 14th, after the 4pm Mass, the 3rd annual St. Joseph Parish Chili Cookoff was held by the parish's Social Ministry. The ministry, led by Brother Deacon Tom McGovern, his wife Ann, and many other people from the parish helped to put on this great event. On October 15th, several Knights helped PGK, FDD, FFN, Wayne McKay, with food distribution at the Cruisin' Bob's Classic Car Show at the Unity Bank in Clinton. Also, on the 15th the Metuchen Regional Soccer Challenge was held at Immaculate Conception in Annandale. Congratulations to Adrian Friedman, Liam Rogan (brother Sean Rogan's son and former International Champion), and Mason Meijer from High Bridge who will advance in their age categories to the State Soccer Challenge on November 4th in Ewing, New Jersey. Good luck to the three of them.

The weekend of October 21/22nd was Hospitality and Ministry weekend at St. Joseph Church. After all three Masses that weekend all ministries had an opportunity to have a table to display and discuss what they do. We took this opportunity and used it as a membership drive led by our Membership Director, Tom O'Farrell. Tom also made a new vertical banner briefly describing what we do as Knights and included a QR code for men who may want to join. The banner is on display in the St. Joseph Church Hall. Great work, Tom! We did not have any new members sign up during this weekend, but started some discussions with a couple of guys that will hopefully turn into membership down the road.

During the month of November, we will only have our regular business meeting on the 9th. There will not be a second meeting in November due to Thanksgiving.

November 7th is Election Day in New Jersey. I read part of our Life Director, Rich Mirocco's report at our October 26th meeting noting an important message from NJRTL Executive Director Marie Tasy on the Pro-Life argument for the November 7th legislative elections. I encourage everyone to read this important message sent by Rich via email on October 26th.

On October 23rd, I attended the first Pastoral Council Meeting at St. Joseph's where I was joined by brother Knights, Tom O'Farrell, and Andrew Rispoli. The goal of this meeting was so that all ministries could get together as a group to see how we can work together to grow all ministries at St. Joseph's. The meeting was very successful, and I am looking forward to working with other ministries to try to increase participation in parish ministries.

Fr. Kris was installed as Pastor of St. Joseph Church at the 4pm Mass on October 28th and then installed at St. John Neumann's at the 5:30pm Mass the same day. Bishop Checchio presided over the Masses and Installations. Congratulations to Fr. Kris. I am looking forward to working with Fr. Kris as he leads our parishes.

The weekend of November 11/12th will be the Thanksgiving for the Needy collection at all Masses at St. Joseph's. Please consider donating to help this critical program that supports The Open Cupboard Food Pantry in Clinton. Additionally, Food for Families Activity Leader, Don Branflick, can use some more help with the pickup of various items at ShopRite in Clinton on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. The volume of items to be transported from ShopRite to the Food Pantry in Clinton has been high so if any brother has a pickup truck, SUV, or van and can help Don, please let him know.

This month some of our brother Knights will be delivering coats to Life Choices in Phillipsburg. This donation of coats is made possible through The Coats for Kids program. This is another critical program that our Council participates in every year to provide much needed warm coats for the upcoming winter season for those children who are in need.

Veteran's Day is November 11th. I would like to thank all veterans for the sacrifices that they have made. Our country would not be as great as it is without their sacrifices and the sacrifices of their families. Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 making it an annual observance, and it became a national holiday in 1938. Sixteen years later, then-President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation changing the name to Veterans Day to honor all those who served their country during war or peacetime. I encourage everyone to take some time to thank a veteran on this day and everyday as many of our veterans need our support and prayers after coming home from service and foreign wars. We continue to pray for our veterans and current military personnel.

Lastly, on Thursday, November 23rd we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. As we sit down and share a meal with family and friends, let us take some time to thank God for his blessings that he has granted us. Happy Thanksgiving to all my brothers and their families.

Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us.
Vivat Jesus,
Christopher J. Dietrich,
Grand Knight



Above: PGK Tom Klawunn accepting a KofC wristwatch in recognition of his work from GK Chris Dietrich. (Andrew Rispoli photo)

NOVEMBER—A MONTH FOR REMEMBRANCES AND *GIVING THANKS*

(From *Knight Worthy News*, November 2011)

THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEPARTED

Dear Friends,

Many have already made (some are still making) plans for **Thanksgiving Day** – that quintessential American celebration of Family union and Family meal. The concept of thanksgiving undergirds another month-long celebration: Remembering the departed souls.

Is there life beyond death? Most religions and cultures around the world believe there is. Many festivals worldwide celebrate a time when the dead return to mingle with the living. The Hindus call it a night of Holi. The Iroquois Native Americans celebrate a feast of the dead every 12 years, when all those who have died during the preceding 12 years are honored with prayers. A national holiday in Mexico, the Day of the Dead, begins on November 2 and lasts several days. In this gruesome festival, death becomes a kind of neighborly figure, appearing on candy, jewelry, toys, bread, cakes, and so on. This is the time when the souls of the dead return and when the living are to honor them. For example, doors are decorated with flowers to welcome the *angelitos*, the souls of dead children.

We Catholics certainly believe in the afterlife. The Catholic Church has designated the month of November to remember all our departed near and dear ones. This is the traditional time to visit the graves of loved ones, as is the anniversary of their deaths.

We really think about, cherish and remember our loved ones who are departed from earth. Offering prayers help us to thank God for the blessing of their lives in which we too shared. Autumn offers us a perfect metaphor of aging and dying. We see the trees shine like rainbows in September and October and then the leaves pass away and the tree trunks and branches are shellacked black by chilly rains. All these will remind us about the reality of our own death – a topic we rather not think about!

Bible often calls death with a very pleasant term ‘sleep’ and even Jesus used that term regarding his friend Lazarus who actually had died. See John 11:11-14. St. Paul spoke about those who are alive and those who are asleep (referring to the dead) in 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17. Yes we don’t need to be afraid of death because Jesus conquered death through his resurrection. It is a guarantee for us to think of death as a passage to the life of eternity, to join the “communion of saints” a doctrine that reminds us of rejoining with our dear departed ones who are with God.

So, as we celebrate Thanksgiving, may it not be a one day celebration for the living, but let us offer thanksgiving for the departed ones who were part and parcel of our lives, and we pray for their eternal rest and joy with God.

Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Orapankal



Fr. Abraham Orapankal

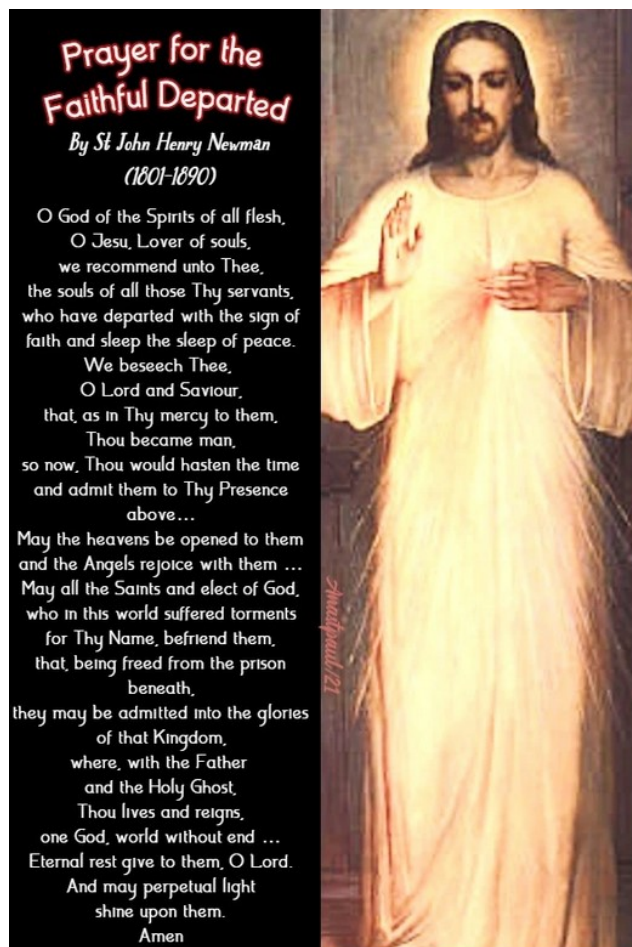
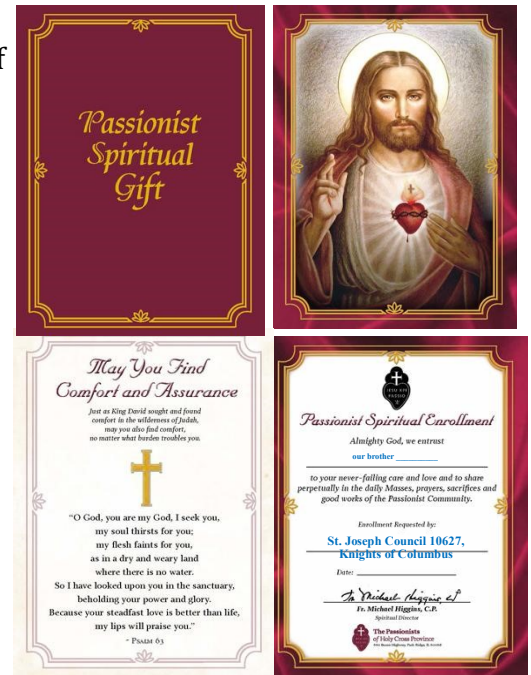
NOVEMBER—A MONTH FOR REMEMBRANCES

St. Joseph Council memorializes our departed brother members on our council website and, now, thanks to the efforts of brother Phil Titus, has established new traditions to extend additional remembrances. Phil obtained Perpetual Mass Cards for each deceased member and enrolled them. He then worked with the council's Faith Director, Andrew Rispoli, to mail or deliver the cards to the families of the deceased members. (*Finding relatives of some deceased members required a lot of effort!*)

Brother Phil (who has a strong devotion for the Souls in Purgatory) reminds us, ***"Those who are in Purgatory will not forget us they will intercede for us in our most trying times."***

Phil has also initiated monthly Masses to be said for the families of all living and deceased Knights. The first such Mass was at St. Joseph Church on September 17 and the first at St. John Neumann Church was October 22. Masses are also scheduled at St John Neumann Church on November 25th at 5:30 pm and December 24th at 10:30 pm. (Once the Mass books are open at St Joseph Church he'll schedule masses there.)

The Church dedicates the entire month of November to the Holy Souls in Purgatory and we are encouraged to pray for the souls of the faithful departed, especially those whom we have known and loved. (November 2nd is All Souls Day.) The Church teaches us, *"Prayers for the faithful departed pleases God, who makes use of our prayers to help purify these souls that He loves. It is an act of charity that we can give for those we have known and loved, for our ancestors who gave us life, for those who were our benefactors, for those whose memory is lost, and for those who have no one else to pray for them."* We do so whenever we recite the Apostles Creed when we pray, *"...I believe in the . . . the communion of saints..."*



*Food
for
Families*



For more than 20 years, St. Joseph Council members have supported the Open Cupboard Food Pantry in Clinton (formerly in High Bridge). We do so now under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus Food for Families program.

The council efforts, headed up by brother Don Branflick, includes volunteer work at the pantry helping clients. Don also manages the efforts of volunteers who, on Tuesday & Thursday mornings, pick scratch and dent, bakery items, and other food donations from ShopRite in Clinton and transport them to the food pantry. Over the years, we've transported move **MANY TONS** of food to be distributed to needy families.

The amount of the available food has increased lately and **more volunteers are needed.**

**Contact Don at
(908) 256-4560
to offer help!**

Right: Wayne McKay
and Bob Keeling with a
recent pickup.



PGK Wayne McKay thanks the folks who helped to organize, prepare and serve food for Unity Bank's annual ***Cruisin' Bob's Classic Car Show***. The proceeds from the event benefits Family Promise of Hunterdon and Family Promise of Warren.

Below: Don Branflick, PGK Bill Cerwinski, PGK Mario Bernardo, Rich McKay, Catherine Papagni, Tyler Adams, PGK Tom Corrado, Wayne McKay and Dylan Adams. (Tyler and Dylan are Wayne's grandsons.) Others who helped were PGK Tom Klawunn and Bob Keeling (current GK-St. Catherine's Council).





Annual Remembrance Service

The Metuchen Diocese Chapter will be holding the annual Remembrance Service to remember Brothers from the Metuchen Diocese who have passed away since November 2022.

It will be on November 16, 2023 at St. Cecelia Council #3639, 571 Lincoln Blvd., Edison, NJ. The names of this year's departed Brothers will be read by Chapter Chaplain **Rev. Bill Smith** during the Remembrance.

Brother Andy Kin (*photo bottom right*), Brian Lazarus, Wayne Myer & George Clark did another furniture pickup for the NJ Dept. of Military & Veterans facility in Lebanon Township. Andy advises, *"In June, the place was pretty full with furniture. But many veterans have gone out on their own, with furniture. They can use pretty much everything.....living room, kitchen/dining room and bedroom furniture."*

If you have any furniture to donate to the veterans, call Andy at (732) 735-9574.



Andy Kin Photos




Who's afraid of Alzheimer's?

"For some time now, I have been stuck and I do not know what we were talking about ... Before, I was afraid it was the beginning of Alzheimer's ... but today, after reading this article, I am reassured."

1. I forget the names of families ...

It often happens in people 60 years and older that they complain that they lack memory. ***The information is always in the brain, it is the 'processor' that is lacking.***

Half of people 60 and older have some symptoms that are due to age
Rather than disease. The most common cases are:

- 
- Has anyone suggested you may be suffering from Brain Compaction?

Many people are concerned about these oversights hence the importance of the following statements:

"Those who suffer from a memory illness or Alzheimer's, are not aware of what is happening."

“The more we complain about memory loss, the less likely we are to suffer from memory sickness.”

1- Find the C in the table below!

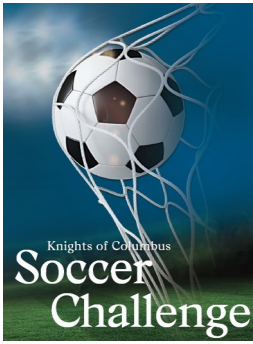
2- If you have already found the C, then find the 6 in the table below.

[illegible]

Attention, it's a little more difficult!

If you pass those three tests without problem:

-
- Brain Compaction due to Aging
- Memories In
- Young Brain
- Compacted Brain
- Memories Out



Three winners of our 2023 High Bridge Soccer Challenge event won their brackets at the Metuchen Regionals and will now advance to State Cup on November 4.

- 11 year old boy - **Mason Meijer**
- 12 year old boy - **Liam Rogan** (*Liam had won our council events in 2021 and 2022, winning the state championship both years, as well as winning the KofC International Championship in 2020!*)
- 13 year old Boy - **Adrian Friedman** (*Adrian also had won our council event in 2022.*)



FAMILY ACTIVITIES

The St. John Neuman Parish Picnic was held in October. Brother Jim Murray has organized the picnic for many years. PGK Tom Klawunn has coordinated the duck race for 25+ years assisted by brother knights who “collect” the ducks. *Lower left photo:* Brothers Walter Laskowski and Jim Codd grilling, with Jim Murray looking on. *Middle photo:* Jim Murray acting as MC, presenting the duck trophy to this year’s winner as Fr. Kris and brother Hunt Patterson look on.

(Tom Klawunn photos)



IF AT FIRST YOU
DON'T SUCCEED,
SKYDIVING IS
NOT FOR YOU.

I FOUND A BOOK CALLED
HOW TO SOLVE 50% OF
YOUR PROBLEMS. SO, I
BOUGHT TWO.



Birthdays

Mary Ann Meola November 4
 Jim Simila November 5
 Donna Schiller November 6
 Paul Connell November 8
 Robert Young November 10
 Jeanne Brown November 11
 Manuel Garcia November 11
 Dennis Baucom November 11
 Victoria Wise November 11
 John Furnari November 12
 Keith Conroy November 12
 Rich Mirocco November 15
 Schuyler Wade November 15
 Paul Lipani November 15
 Joe Savare November 17
 Mark Drabich November 21
 Kimberly Rogan November 20
 Barbara Gallagher November 20
 Walter Laskowsky November 21
 Jennifer Kucharski November 24
 Mary Branflick November 27
 Denise Drabich November 29
 Myles Murphy November 30
 Jim & Regina Rispoli November 28

Anniversaries

Deacon Tom & Anne McGovern
 November 1
 Robert & Casey Hugelmeyer
 November 4
 Keith & Coleen Conroy
 November 12
 Steve & Nancy Bauernfeind
 November 20
 Tony & Mary Sorgi
 November 23
 Phil & Cindy Titus
 November 25
 Mark & Jacquie Niederle
 November 27

(Area Code 908 unless otherwise noted)

Officers:

Grand Knight	Chris Dietrich	797-0243
Chaplain	Fr. Kirs Kaczynski	638-6211
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	Vacant	
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

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