

Empire State Bulletin



From the State Deputy Edward Castellazzi



My Brother Knights,

The final half of the 2007-2008 fraternal is here. I join our Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, in asking your council to show qualified prospects the extraordinary experience in becoming a Knight of Columbus.

The great strength of our order, in part, is due to our ability to recruit new members. Coupled with you, your council and great programs we have thrived internationally. However in New York we face a special challenge. And that challenge is to turn the corner in membership growth and head in a positive direction.

I know we have the ability, I know we have the tools. But we must also have the resolve. The resolve of each member, each Grand Knight, each District Deputy, each of us in leadership positions to recruit and retain members.

Under the direction of our Membership Director, Ray Pfeifer, we have put together a membership plan that hopefully will continue through future administrations. A tool for success is the Circle of Honor program. Additional tools can be found at the Supreme website and the literature provided. Many items can be downloaded and printed immediately.

Visit the site often as it is updated regularly (www.kofc.org).

Take advantage of the many incentives offered for recruiting new members. Recruit one on one, at parish drives, open houses. Enlist the aid of your Insurance agent, your pastor, and your own members. Membership is every knights business. Make it yours.

Additionally there are a number of special considerations being given for new members and recruiters honoring the upcoming visit of our Holy Father. This may be a once in a lifetime opportunity. Don't miss out.

Finally I wish to thank all of you for continuing the great work of the Knights of Columbus. As I travel to each area of the state I am more and more impressed, though not surprised, at the many fine programs reflecting the principles of our order.

In June my hope is that together we can make say, "We did it;" we turned the corner. And from now on we can point to our state motto 'excelsior' and take it as our own, for the New York State Knights of Columbus; 'higher.'

Vivat Jesus,
Ed Castellazzi



Knights of Columbus



Charity

Unity

Fraternity

Patriotism

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State Program Director

Thomas W. Tompkins

The following letter was sent to all of us on the occasion the Annual Pro Life mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral on January 20. It was received to late for inclusion in our printed program.

Archdiocese of New York
New York City

January, 2008

Dear Friends:

We welcome the New York State Council Knights of Columbus to the Cathedral of Saint Patrick for the annual Respect Life Mass. In this celebration we give thanks for the gift of life and offer our prayers to Almighty God for a renewal of reverence for all human life. Particularly, we acknowledge and thank the Knights of Columbus and their families for arranging this special Mass once again.

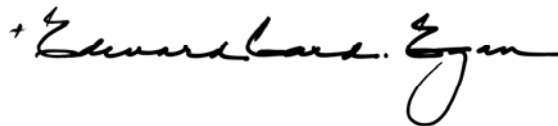
In his latest encyclical, *Spe Salvi, Saved by Hope*. Pope Benedict reflects upon these words from Romans 8:24, "in hope we were saved". He writes that "*Redemption is offered to us in the sense that we have been given hope, trustworthy hope, by virtue of which we can face our present: the present, even if it is arduous, can be lived and accepted if it leads towards a goal, if we can be sure of this goal, and if this goal is great enough to justify the effort of the journey.*"

This is particularly exemplified in our present calling to defend human life. Protecting the unborn and the vulnerable of our society is an arduous mission of our time. Reversing the tide of abortion, euthanasia and eugenics is a most-worthy goal that is certainly *great enough to justify the effort of the journey*. Thus, we can rest assured that Christ, the Source of all Life in whom we hope, is with us. Trusting in Him, we have the grace and the sure hope that He will sustain us in our endeavor and help us attain that goal.

It is with this hope that the Knights of Columbus strive toward their holy objective, to protect and promote the sanctity of all human life. May this year be a witness to the abundant power of *hope in Christ* not only for us and for our families, but also for our nation.

With prayerful best wishes, may I remain,

Very truly yours in Christ,



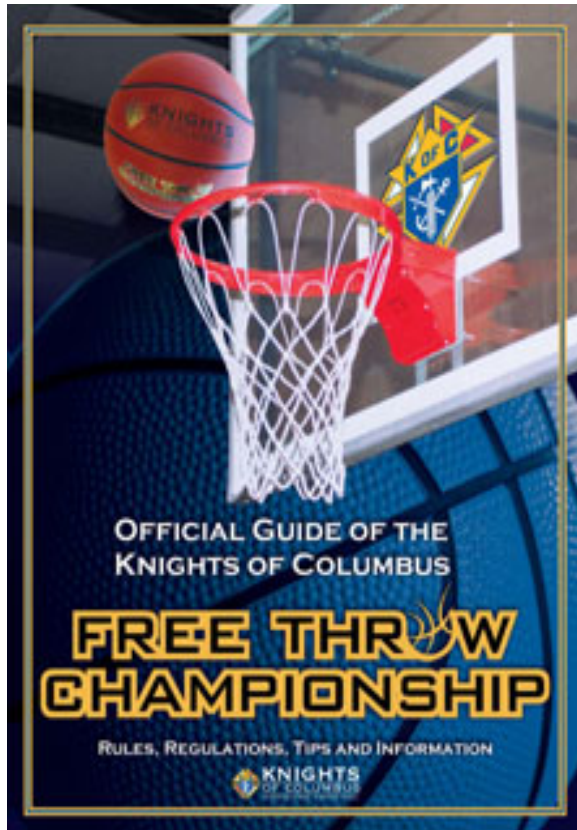
Edward Cardinal Egan
Archbishop of New York

For their contribution to the Annual Pro-Life Mass I wish to express my thanks for the support of the Color Corps, under the direction of Master Martin Loughlin, our State Pro- Life Chairman Dr. Jack Dermigny, the District Deputies and especially our Associate State Chaplain, Father Brian McWeeney. For an electronic copy of the Pro-Life Mass program email me at thomastompkins@msn.com .

Tom Tompkins
State Program Director (845-462-1844)

State Free Throw Regionals and Finals

Rich Sheffer



Down State Regional

Time/Date: 1:00 PM, Saturday, March 29, 2008
Place: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, Scrub Oak
Chairman: Joseph N. Giordano 914-769-3636

Upstate Regional

Time/Date: 11:00 AM, Saturday, March 29, 2008
Place: Bishop Ludden High School, Syracuse
Chairman: George Davis 315-468-0194

Long Island Regional

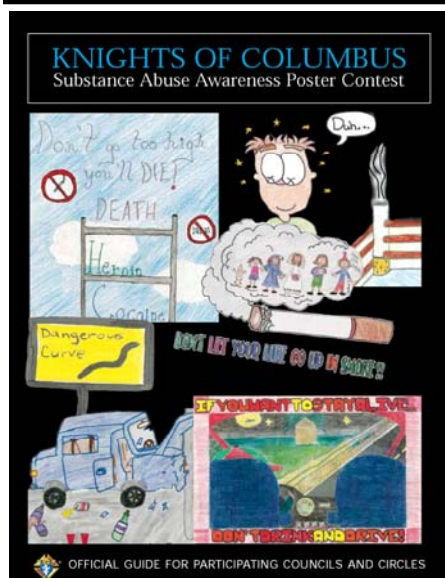
Time/Date: 10:00 AM Saturday, March 29, 2008
Place: Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point
Chairman: Mike Galgano 516-681-2994

State Finals

Time/Date: 12:00 Noon, Saturday, April 5, 2008
Place: West Pont Military Academy
Chairman: Richard L. Scheffer 518-235-9372
Cadet James Blackwell

K of C Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest

John Dengler



TIME EXTENSION

In the interest of greater participation
PLEASE NOTE that prize winning
entries must be in my possession by
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008.

John H. Dengler
State Council Coordinator
158 Roxborough Road
Rochester, NY 14619-1418
585-328-4307
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Abortion: New York State Has Gone Far Enough!



Governor Eliot Spitzer's Extreme Abortion Proposal, the so-called "Reproductive Health & Privacy Protection Act" or RHAPP, would:

- Promote late-term abortions of fully-formed infants
- Authorize non-physicians to perform abortions
- Lift the current age restriction on over-the-counter sales of the "morning-after pill"
- Thwart any efforts to involve parents in the abortion decisions of their children

In addition, it could:

- Compel all hospitals, including Catholic hospitals, to allow abortion

It could wipe out all the progress already made by pro-life advocates:

- The state's successful Prenatal Care Assistance Program for poor pregnant women could be forced to fund abortions, draining taxpayer dollars away from the care needed to produce healthy babies.
- The state's alternatives-to-abortion fund could be forced to cover abortions, decreasing the scarce dollars available to help mothers choose life for their infants.
- The state's civil rights laws protecting doctors and nurses who do not wish to be involved in abortion would be in serious jeopardy.



the Governor's Extreme Abortion Bill.

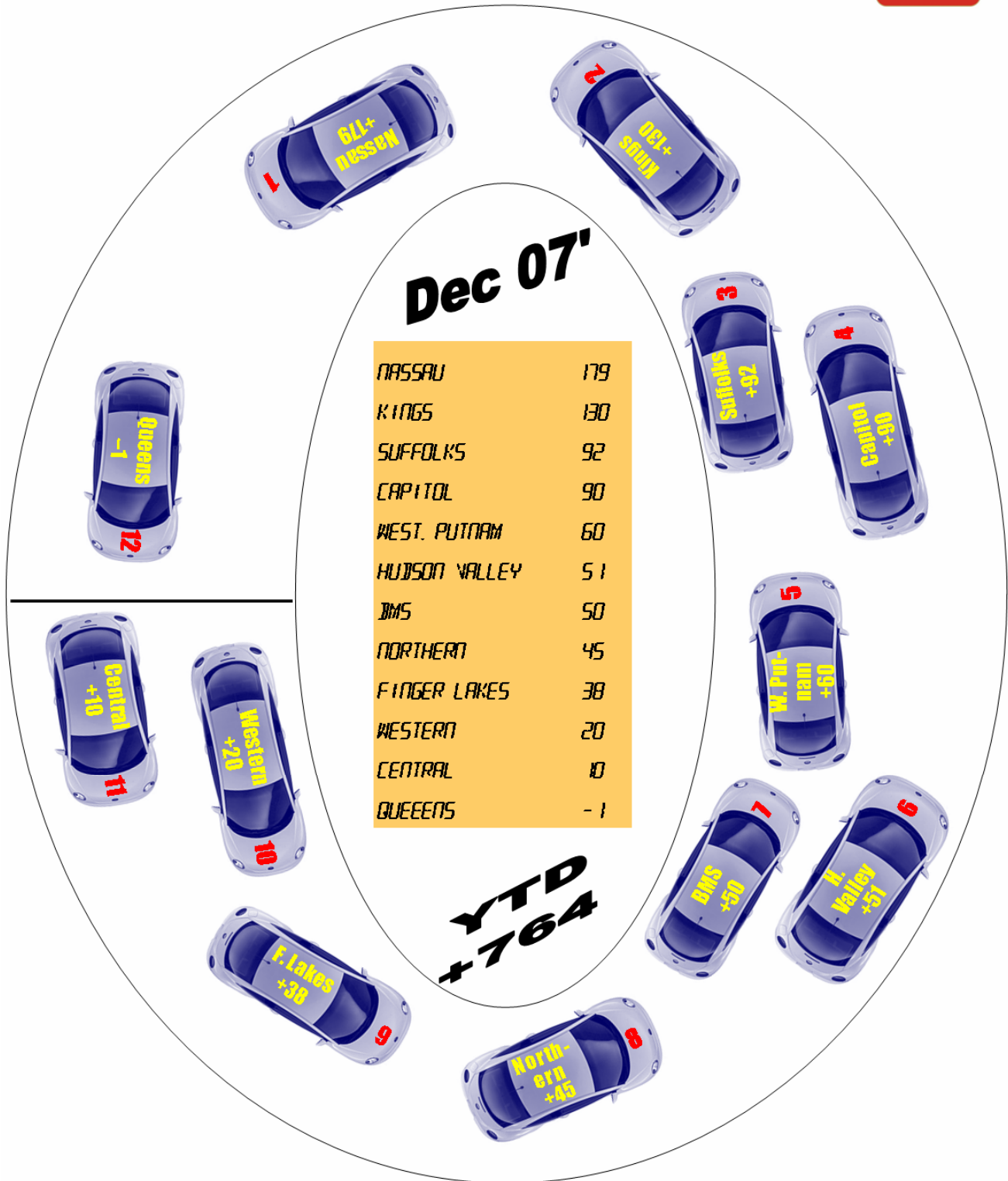


**New York State records more than 120,000 abortions every year!
Contact your State Senator and urge opposition to S.5829.
Go to www.nyscatholic.org and click Take Action!**

New York State Catholic Conference ■ 465 State Street, Albany, NY 12203 ■ 518.434.6195 ■ www.nyscatholic.org



New York State Council Speedway
The Membership 5000
July 1, 2007 — June 30, 2008



During the first week of December my wife and I were informed that her younger sister, Sally 58, had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Sally's three sisters and her 91-year-old mother took this very hard. Her husband and her daughter were by her side as she was told about the treatments and the prognosis. As you can expect the family continues to come through very stress full times relying on there believe in God to maintain their strength. Everyone in the family and friends pray daily for a positive outcome. She is undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatment on a daily basis and we are awaiting her next evaluation in 6 weeks. Sally is very positive and is coping with the nausea and fatigue. Everyone is doing their best to help her and her immediate family.

God plans things in very specific ways. In October and November Sally's husband, Doug, had a recurrent heart problem forcing him to stop working. He has recovered and stabilized his heart condition. He has now been classified as disabled and now devotes his time being Sally's caregiver. Doug was to take his first degree in November but he had to delay it until January. Doug is a very good practicing catholic gentleman and will be a great addition to his council.

My wife and I have made frequent trips to Long Island to assist both of them. Nothing prepares you for this stress. A family work-

ing together can provide the support and pray needed for success. We are optimistic since the cancer was diagnosed early and the treatment is very precise. Time will tell. Please pray for Sally and Doug.

Celebrate Family Life

Keep the Family spirit visible. Remember a family that can pray together will stay together. There are so many opportunities throughout the year to unite and honor families: that special family reunion at your house, a visit with the grandparents, a St. Valentine's Day show of love, or a special vacation to visit relatives.

You have the opportunity to honor a family in your council each month. Appoint a committee to select a deserving family. This is a good opportunity to involve both Knights and family members. They can help with others to select the family and prepare the paperwork. Allow spouses and others of your council to identify a family and prepare the summary form. You will still need to have the Grand Knight authorize the submission. Submit the family name to Supreme on the "Family of the Month" form that can be found on our Order's website www.KofC.org at web page <http://www.kofc.org/un/eb/en/officers/forms/council.html>. You can also call me and I will get you a copy of the form and help fill it out.

Last month we had four nominated families. This is low

compared to the number of councils in New York State. There are over 300 councils in the state, I don't expect everyone to submit an entry every month but I do feel that by year-end all councils should have submitted at least one. Please take the time to honor and respect your council's families, send the simple form to Supreme with a copy to me. I have not been routinely receiving my copy of the nominated family form that is used to select the New York State Family of the Year. Please forward them to the address below.

Each month 100 families are selected by Supreme at random to receive an acknowledgement certificate and a statuette of the Holy Family from all entries received that month. During our Annual Convention in May 2008, we will honor the New York State Family of the Year selected by committee based on merit from all entries received.

State Program Director
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State Chairman of Family Life
Leonard J Yanazzo
82 Esopus Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065
518-373-9221
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Congratulations to Daniel & Carolyn Freeman from St. John's Council No. 1106 in Goshen for being one of the recent Supreme Council 100 families selected at random to receive an acknowledgement certificate and a statuette of the Holy Family from all Family of the Month entries received.

K of C Holiday Happenings Around New York State



FESTIVAL OF TREES: Knights Knight of Columbus Msgr. Morris L. Dwyer, Council 255 of Plattsburgh NY participated in the 1st Annual Festival of Trees at the Champlain Mall from November 18th to the 24th. Businesses and civic organizations were asked to decorate lighted Christmas trees with a theme for their organization. The K of C theme was Charity-Unity-Fraternity- Patriotism. Keeping Christ in Christmas was empathized by a full manger inserted in the tree and a gold cross of ornaments on the tree. Trees were silent auctioned during the week with all proceeds going to the Advocacy & Resource Center of Clinton County. Participating members included Floyd Lavalley, Kevin Goddeau, Jim Leroux, Clifford Matott, Roy Garrant and Steve Patrick (not in picture) and their wives. *Submitted by Roy Garrant.*

A SINCERE THANK YOU TO ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (RIT Council No. 14336) It is hard for me to convey how appreciative and thankful the mother of our adopted Christmas Family was Sunday afternoon when we drove up to deliver all the food and gifts you all had so generously donated. She was overwhelmed at the sight of the Knights of Columbus Elves as they brought everything in for her. The children were all at church so we were able to deliver things and be out before they arrived home. She was brought to tears knowing her kids were going to have a great Christmas. She saw the big canister of hot chocolate and said "I'm going to make the kids hot chocolate when they get back from church." I truly hope that the Knights that went with us as well as all of you feel as good as we do in being part of bringing a Happy Christmas to this family. I leave you with the mother's words as we left - "Bless you all and thank you so much for everything - May you all have a Merry Christmas."

Brenda and I plan to make a final trip to take any items that arrived after the Christmas Party over to the family Wednesday afternoon.

Bob & Brenda Rutt

Submitted by Art Harris.



QUEENS BOARD OF DISTRICT DEPUTIES CHRISTMAS PARTY: It was the Queens Board of DDs Christmas party held on 1/12/08 at Immaculate Conception Council #11449 in Astoria. From left to right: Frank Boccabella, State Treasurer - Peter Varol DD - Luther McNeil DD - Frank Irace DD - Ed Castellazzi, State Deputy - Lawrence Kelly DD - Joseph Sofield DD - Andy Colon DD - Jerry Connolly, Warden to the State Deputy. *Submitted by Jerry Connolly.*



CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR SENIORS: Fr. John LaFarge Council 4012 hosted their 16th annual Christmas Party for the senior citizens of Yorktown. A chicken dinner, with all the trimmings, was served and finished off with ice cream sundaes. Knights and their wives served the meals to the seniors. The Knights also supplied a PHOTO disc jockey for dancing and singing. Shown in photo are FSW & PGK Robert Hecker, PGK Richard DeSilva, State Senator Vincent Leibell, Mgr. Of the Yorktown Nutrition Center Mary DeSilva, Ins. Agent Bill Schneider, GK Vincent Milano, Gerald Sammon and PGK Joseph Pikula. Columbiettes Joan Hecker, Alfreda Pikuia and Eileen Farrell assisted the Knights serving over 100 seniors. *Submitted by Bob Hecker.*

“Mom is not doing well, Doc. What should we do?”

This is not an uncommon question. As a family physician caring for an elderly population of patients in both a hospital and nursing home setting, one quickly comes to understand that dying and death are inexorably tied to life's experience.

What should patients and families do when confronted with care and treatments that are considered by some to be excessive in the elderly or frail? How should physicians counsel families during this time? This is all the more difficult in a society which readily makes “quality of life” judgments on patients which thereby predetermines their care.

Where medicine in this country has previously supported a duty to preserve life, the medical community has seen an erosion of this principle over several decades. Unfortunately, due to a changing moral compass, treatments which use to be considered routine, such as

food and water, are now withheld as therapeutic consideration due to the patient's age and mental status. Sadly, we refer to those with chronically diminished mental capacity as “vegetative” so we can forego their dignity as human beings and withhold care. As a society many fancy “assisted suicide” as a way to avoid the process of dying – one of the many aspects of our humanity.

Though physicians, nurses and families are most often well intentioned, it is important to always consider and remember the inherent dignity of each individual. The patient, whether they are a stroke victim, an Alzheimer's patient or the mentally handicapped are all entitled to basic care which includes nutrition and hydration; these are not to be considered extraordinary.

So what then is an extraordinary measure?

When one is terminally ill or when death is imminent a patient or family should not feel compelled to initiate or continue treatments that

are medically futile. Take for example the case of the gravely ill cancer patient. Highly technical or invasive procedures might be considered extreme in this circumstance and deferred for palliative therapies such as pain relief.

In New York State patients can let their family and doctors know their wishes with a living will. Also, a health-care proxy allows one to designate a “decision maker” in the circumstance when a patient can not make their intentions known.

The National Right To Life Committee offers a “Will to Live” which helps formulate these end-of-life decisions in a manner consistent with the Church's pro-life teaching. It can be obtained on the internet at:

www.nrlc.org/euthanasia/willtolive/docs/new.york.rev0206.pdf

Dr. Jack Dermigny
jderm@frontiernet.net

Excerpt from Supreme Knight at 2008 March for Life

“We gather here today at the beginning of another election year, a year in which almost all of the candidates promise “change.” But we have been coming to Washington for 35 years asking for change – asking to change *Roe v. Wade*.

Thirty-five years ago, the Supreme Court imposed a change on our nation that is at odds with our history, our Constitution and our humanity. And it is time to change *Roe v. Wade*.

Abortion is wrong because abortion hurts everyone.

It takes the life of the innocent unborn child.

It victimizes the mother and the father.

It compromises doctors and nurses.

It undermines respect for judges.

It implicates the taxpayer who pays for it.

It coarsens the society that tolerates it.

No woman should feel that she must have an abortion. We can find a better way.

We can build a society in which every woman and child can find the support and care they deserve. We can build a culture of life. We can give hope to every woman and every child.

Today I see thousands of helping hands ready to make this hope a reality and I know there are millions more.

Together we can bring change. Together we can build a new culture of life in our hearts, in our homes, and in our laws.”

2008 Scholarships and Grants

Joseph P. Marchia

The New York State Council Scholarship Program

- *These awards of \$500 each, are offered to the children, grandchildren and legal wards of brother Knights in New York State entering a Catholic High School as a freshman in the Fall of 2008.*
- *2 Scholarships and 1 Grant are offered to each of the eight dioceses in New York State. (For application purposes your diocese is determined by the sponsoring Knight's council location.)*

- *Scholarships are awarded based on scholastic excellence; the Grant is awarded based on financial need. ALL STUDENTS SHOULD APPLY FOR BOTH.*

- *Scholarships and Grants are \$500 each, renewable every year for the four years the student attends a Catholic High School.*
- *Guidelines are printed on each application.*

There are many students fitting into the categories above whose families are not aware of the help we can offer them. Please contact me or the State Office for applications. **COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE POST-**

MARKED BY APRIL 15, 2008. ANY RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Robert W. Wissert
Executive Secretary
40-27 Douglaston Pkwy.
Douglaston, NY 11363
718-225-3787
nyskofc@aol.com

Joseph P. Marchia,
Chairman, Scholarship/Grants
12 Metropolitan Av.
Bellmore, NY 11710
516-785-6697
jolin72@optonline.net

A Card of Thanks

Are you a brother knight who is gone many nights of the week for K of C business?

Charlie and Patsy Esposito wish to convey their gratitude to all of the Knights and their families across the state who have expressed their sorrow in the wake of their tragedy.

residence on January 2nd. Smoke and water damage throughout the house has the family living elsewhere now, however all mail and calls should go to the current address and numbers.

A fire that started in the bathroom ceiling fan claimed the upstairs and the attic of the Esposito

They are grateful for your concern.

Remember your sweetheart on Valentines Day!



Prayer Rally 2008

Sponsored by
New York State Knights of Columbus

May 13, 2008 (Note date change)

At the State Capitol in Albany

See Page 12 of this issue for details

Support for Our Seminarians

Cardinal Farley Assembly No. 692 from Mamaronek sponsor these two local and home grown seminarians. They are Steven Markantonis from Mamaroneck and Miguel Suarez (glasses) from beautiful downtown Port Chester. Faithful Navigator Joe Opava Jr. presents the two with their RSVP certificates at the Assembly's Christmas party. Submitted by Charles Sacco



\$2,000 check presented to Reverend James Walsh

Albany Council 173 recently 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 the first of many distributions to the Office of Vocational Services. A check in the amount of \$2,000 was presented to Father James Walsh, a Director of Vocation Services. These funds will be distributed directly to young men either in a



major seminary or in the process of discernment at Jogues House, where

the Albany Diocese pre-seminary program is located.

Shown in the photo are: Trustee George Nealon, PGK; Father James Walsh; Trustee Phil Gallagher, PGK; and Trustee Jim Byron, PGK.

The endowment fund can be used to contribute in memory of any Knight or family member who passes away or remember a special intention in your estate. We recently were the beneficiaries of a bequest from an estate and over twelve gifts in memory of a deceased Past Grand Knight. Submitted by PGK Jim

VOCATIONS IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Coming Due at Supreme Council

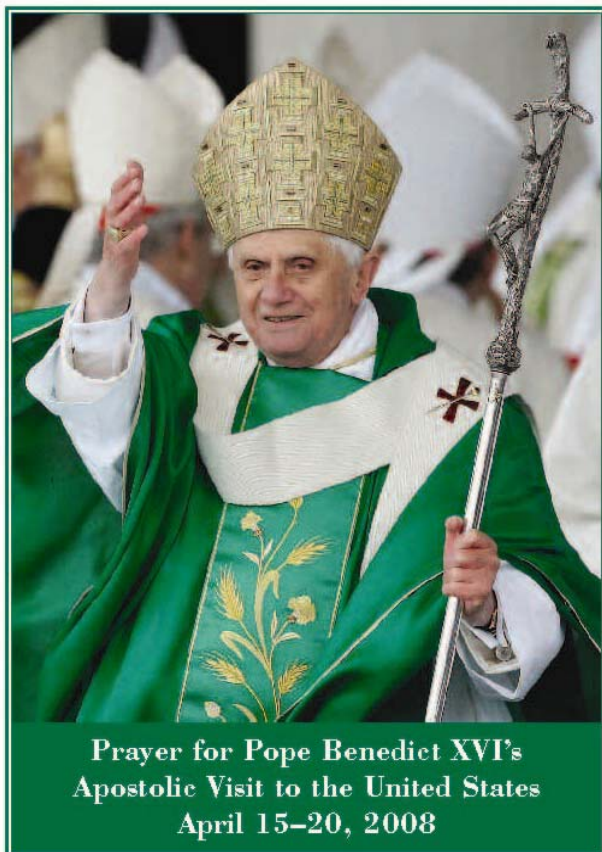
1728 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (January 31st)

4584 Partnership Profile Report With Special Olympics (January 31st)

FT-1 Free Throw Championship Participation (January 31st)

1295-2Semi Annual Council Audit (February 15th)

The report forms may be easily located by logging on to the Order's Web site at www.kofc.org. Once on the home page, click the "For Officers" tab; then click on "Forms" on the left hand side; then click on "Council Forms".



Almighty Father, who pours forth blessings in abundance upon us, we humbly pray that you will inspire, guide and protect Pope Benedict XVI on his pastoral visit to the United States.

Lord God, bless our Holy Father who comes as a messenger of peace and charity to all people of faith and good will. May his presence in the United States serve to build up the bonds that unite us who are each made in your image and likeness, and may his teaching and witness strengthen the faith of the People of God.

Father, we lovingly entrust Pope Benedict's visit to the care of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Queen of the Americas. Through her prayers may he be preserved from all harm, and may he shine forth with the truth of the Gospel that he proclaims, and may his presence among us foster a renewal of the Church in our country.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Knights of  Columbus

IN SOLIDARITY WITH POPE BENEDICT XVI



**JOIN US TO SUPPORT
OUR CHURCH
IN A RALLY FOR
GOD — COUNTRY — FAMILY**

DATE: Tuesday, May 13, 2008 NEW DATE!

TIME: 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM

PLACE: Albany Capitol Steps

WHAT WE ARE DOING:

Praying for, and Petitioning Legislators by our Physical Presence

WHY WE ARE DOING IT:

**For the issues affecting all Catholic citizens, particularly:
Life, Parochial School Assistance & Catholic Health Care**

>>>>> ALL ARE ~~INVITED~~ ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND <<<<<

*This Rally is Sponsored and Organized by the
New York State Knights of Columbus*

Edward J. Castellazzi, State Deputy

Joseph F. Peluso, Administrative State Chairman for Prayer Rally

FOR INFO ON BUS TRANSPORTATION CONTACT:

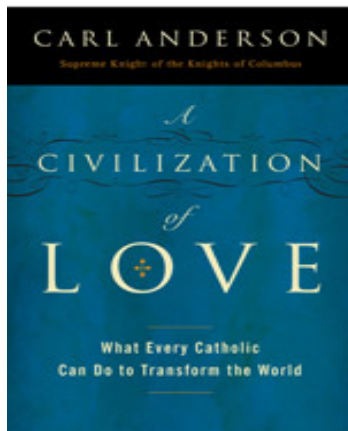
Your Area Auxiliary State Chairman

_____ at _____

or

go to our website: www.PrayerRally.org

New Book by Supreme Knight Due in March



On March 25, a new book by Supreme Knight Carl Anderson will be published. *A Civilization of Love: What Every Catholic Can Do to Transform the World* (HarperOne) offers a bold blueprint for the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Church in the 21st century. In *A Civilization of Love* Anderson uses his experiences as a former White House official, lawyer, educator and leader of the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization to show how Church teaching can inform and influence society for the better. All author royalties from the sale of this book will go to Knights of Columbus Charities.

District Deputy 125th Anniversary Year Third Incentive Drawing

For districts that conduct and report at least three (3) First Degrees between January 1 and March 31, 2008, the district deputy of record will be entered into a drawing for one of 10 "[K of C Apparel Sets](#)." First Degrees must be reported to the Supreme Council office by April 15, 2008, on the Degree Exemplification Report Form (#450) in order to qualify. If the district deputy qualifies in each of the quarterly contests during the 125th Anniversary Celebration he will be eligible for a grand prize drawing to be announced in April of 2008. Each quarterly contest will be announced in the last week of the current quarter.



Grand Knights 125th Anniversary Year Third Incentive Drawing

For councils that recruit five (5) new members gross between January 1 and March 31, 2008, the grand knight of record will be entered into a drawing for one of 10 "[K of C Apparel Sets](#)." If the grand knight qualifies in each of the quarterly contests during the 125th anniversary celebration he will be eligible for a grand prize drawing to be announced in April of 2008. Each quarterly contest will be announced in the last week of the current quarter.

Membership Blitz in March

Plan now for your council's March Blitz in your local parishes. Use the link above for more information on organizing your event. Focus on all Masses during the weekend of March 29-30. Schedule a First Degree in April to initiate your new members. Now is the time to order recruitment materials for your event. Your council can obtain a Blitz material order form from the link below. The link below will also provide additional information on running your membership Blitz. Remember, a well planned Blitz will be the secret to any council's recruitment success.



February's Membership Tip

Ask 1 2 B 1! During February every member in the entire Order is being asked a very important question — "Are you carrying a Form #100 right now?" New member recruitment is, without a doubt, the most important way of keeping your council vibrant and active within your community. The only way to recruit a new member is if you have a Form #100 ready and accessible to utilize at all times.

Where is your Form #100 right now?



Rules for 07' - 08 Public Relations Contest Michael H. Hilley

- Council bulletins are not part of this contest. See page 15 of this ESB.
- A minimum of three (3) submissions are required.
- There will be one winner from each conference: Upstate, Downstate and Long Island.
- Submissions must include: GK's name, council name and number, district number and PR chairman's name and contact information.

The timeframe for contest

entries is for events that happened or will happen between July 1, 2007 to March 1, 2008.

- Entries will be accepted up until March 15, 2008. Material may be sent to me in one of the following formats:

PUBLISHED ARTICLES *(Excluding Council Bulletins)*

By mail: Printed Hardcopy;
By e-mail: Portable Document Format (PDF);
Microsoft Word Document (doc)
Photos in jpeg or tiff;

TELEVISED STORIES (Video)

By mail: CD's or DVD's;
By e-mail: mpeg or QuickTime
You must provide details of showing: station, date, etc.

WEB SITES (Council-level)

Provide web site address and web master's address via e-mail.
Remember-- You're doing the works of mercy. It's okay to brag.

Mike Hilley
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mhhilley@gmail.com

Work With Your Agent to Grow Your Council

Your council's field agent is a professionally trained salesman who can help your council achieve your membership recruitment goals. If he was not involved in the process setting those goals — or in developing plans to achieve them — involve him now. Ask him to talk to your recruiters about sales techniques that they can use when approaching potential members. Also, ask him to attend recruiting drives and events to discuss the benefits of membership with potential Knights and spouses. Along with membership goals, your council has insurance promotion goals as well. The ability of your agent to help achieve these goals may be more obvious, but it is no less critical. Ideally, he has been appointed as your council's insurance promotion chairman. If that position is filled by another Knight, he should take advantage of the of your Knights of Columbus agent. They should work together to schedule fraternal benefit nights

throughout the year. These opportunities for members, prospects and families to learn about the Order's top-rated insurance products will benefit all involved — the member/prospect, his family, your council, your agent, and the Order as a whole. The Fraternal Benefits Night kit that the Supreme Council provides to each agent upon request has been updated and — at their annual meeting in January — our general agents were encouraged to make the conducting of Fraternal Benefits Nights a higher priority. So your agent will be anxious to conduct these programs for your council. In addition to conducting Fraternal Benefits Nights, use these steps to help promote the insurance program:

- Introduce your agent at all meetings he attends. Let him know your meeting schedule so that he can arrange to attend as many as possible.
- Whether or not he is in attendance,

speak highly of him. Don't underestimate the value of an endorsement from you, a valued fraternal leader.

- Refer all members' questions about insurance to your agent.
- Make sure your agent has a column in your council bulletin; include his name, address, telephone number and e-mail address.
- Forward copies of every Membership Document (#100) for new and reactivated members to the general agent immediately after each First Degree.
- Encourage a good working relationship between the financial secretary and the field agent.
- Include the field agent in all council mailings and e-mails.
- Include the field agent in program Planning so that the insurance program can be represented whenever appropriate.

From the January 2008 Membership Newsletter published by the Supreme Office of the Knights of Columbus

The Window is Closing

Thomas L. Freundschuh

It won't be long and the March 15th deadline to get four issues of your council newsletter to the State Chairman for entrance into the 2007—2008 Council Bulletin Contest will be here. To date, for this Columbian Year, forty- three councils have begun to send in their newsletter or bulletin. This is the largest number of councils that have participated in a long time. **However at this time, only nineteen of the forty-three councils qualify because the state chairman does not have the minimum required number of issues, which is four.** Included in this article is a breakdown by major and minor conference of which councils have sent in newsletters thus far and how many issues have been received.

The key thing to remember is “why” four issues are required. Not every issue may feature something about the 4th degree, your chapter, or KofC insurance. Having a minimum of four issues per council should ensure the variety of news that your council bulletin presents.

I share with you the guidelines that will be used in the judging of the Council Bulletin Contest. Winners will be announced at the convention in May.

- Publications must be the product of council members. Exceptions are photographs, cartoons or detailed artwork.
- **Councils must submit four (4) issues of their newsletter with publication dates between July 1st, 2007 and March 1st, 2008.**

- All entries must be in the hands of the State Chairman by March 15, 2008.
- The newsletter must list on each issue, the following:
 - a. Council Name and number.
 - b. Editor's name
 - c. District number
 Send entries in as printed.
- First, second and third place prizes will be awarded for each of the major conferences:
 - a. Upstate
 - b. Downstate
 - c. Long Island
- Judging—Empire State Bulletin Editor and committee of men in journalism, printing and publishing.
- Publications will be graded on a 100 point system as follows:
 - Editing.....20 points
 - Format.....10 points

- State Council News.....10 points
- Supreme Council News...10 points
- Insurance News.....5 points
- Membership (Drives, member profiles, members name in the news, etc.).....10 points
- Chapter/Conference News.....5 points
- Council Committee Reports.....10 points
- Council News.....10 points
- Fourth Degree10 points

DO NOT hold copies to the last minute. Send them in as published to the Editor of the Empire State Bulletin. The address is listed on the back cover of every issue of the Empire State Bulletin.. Good Luck!

Send issues to:
 Thomas L. Freundschuh
 Editor, Empire State Bulletin
 215 Champion Avenue
 Webster, NY 14580

| DOWNSTATE | | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|---------|---|----------|---|---------|---|
| CAPITOL | I | HV | I | WT/PUT | I | B/M/S | I |
| 237 | 4 | 1646 | 6 | 462 | 6 | 1662 | 3 |
| 246 | 3 | 2079 | 3 | 1495 | 7 | 1694 | 4 |
| | | 7266 | 1 | | | | |
| UPSTATE | | | | | | | |
| FL | I | WESTERN | I | NORTHERN | I | CENTRAL | I |
| 178 | 7 | 247 | 2 | 255 | 2 | 1839 | 3 |
| 207 | 7 | 11141 | 2 | 259 | 1 | 5082 | 2 |
| 7707 | 2 | 11168 | 3 | 1141 | 6 | | |
| 7980 | 1 | 13661 | 7 | | | | |
| 9461 | 6 | | | | | | |
| LONG ISLAND | | | | | | | |
| SUFFOLKS | I | NAUSSAU | I | QUEENS | I | KINGS | I |
| 794 | 5 | 1241 | 7 | 309 | 1 | 126 | 3 |
| 2204 | 6 | 2228 | 6 | 394 | 2 | 197 | 3 |
| 4651 | 7 | 2852 | 6 | 12675 | 3 | 481 | 2 |
| 5817 | 7 | 3488 | 2 | | | 1251 | 3 |
| 6893 | 3 | 3005 | 2 | | | | |
| 11163 | 3 | 5983 | 5 | | | | |
| | | 6911 | 6 | | | | |

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