



Knight Digest



Vol. 61 No. 4

www.kofc4504.org

December 2019

Calendar of Events



December 7th....Locate/Mark Veteran's Graves
 December 9th.....Council Mtg. 8:15 PM
 December 9th..... Charitable Raffle
 December 14th.....Wreath Ceremony 12 Noon
 December 14th..... Bus Trip to NYC
 December 15th.....Breakfast with Santa
 December 23rdCouncil Mtg. 8:15 PM
 December 31st Bring-A-Dish 8 PM



Charitable Raffle



The next charitable raffle drawing will take place at the Council Christmas Dinner on the second Monday of December. That raffle will be pulled at the conclusion of the dinner.

If you are interested in receiving tickets through the mail, please send me an email (Aschopfer@verizon.net) or call me at (908) 265-7895. Tickets are also available approximately one month prior to each drawing.

Wreaths Across America 2019

Remember the Fallen, Honor those who Serve, Teach our children the value of Freedom.

The JFK Assembly welcomes all to participate in this year's activities. **Saturday December 7th** at 8:30 AM , we will be meeting at 42 Broad Street in Elizabeth to locate and place Flags at our veterans' graves. **Saturday December 14th** at 12 Noon the Wreath Across America Ceremony will begin. For donations to our location, please use this link. <https://www.wreathsassamerica.org/pages/16612/Overview>.

"Looking across this field, we see the scale of heroism and sacrifice. All who are buried here understood their duty. All stood to protect America. And all carried with them memories of a family that they hoped to keep safe by their sacrifice."

Pres. George Bush



Knights Digest

This bulletin is published monthly, by and in the interest of the Knights of Columbus Union Council 4504 and registered as third class matter April 23, 1958, at the Union Post Office, Union, NJ.

RULES FOR SUBMISSION: Submissions for consideration are due in writing by the 15th of the month for the following month. Please mail or drop off submission, with contact information to:

Tom Dudek
Knight Digest Editor
549 Robinson Ter.
Union, NJ 07083

or preferably via email to: tomdudek@outlook.com.

You must clearly identify all people in photos submitted and at what council event the photo was taken. Photos with alcoholic beverages will not be considered. Photos may also be submitted via email as hi-resolution image files. Hard copy photos will only be returned when accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Council Officers

Chaplain..... Rev. Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu
District Deputy..... Andy Schopfer PGK
Grand KnightDavid Wozniak
Deputy Grand Knight Len Komar, PFN
Chancellor..... Philip Cababe
Warden.....Robert Pynckels
Recorder.....Dan Walsh
Treasurer Chuck Cababe
Fin. Secretary.....Luke Sangiamo
Inside GuardAnthony Ibida
Outside Guard.....Gregory Aponte
Membership Director Vacant
Program Director.....Michael Willemse, PGK
Advocate.....Stephen F. Hehl
3rd. Yr. TrusteeMichael P. Willemse, PGK
2nd Yr. Trustee Robert Wozniak, PGK
1st Yr. Trustee Giftus John, PGK
4th Degree Faithful
NavigatorSteve Nagy III, PGK
Columbian Club
President Alex Rivera
Swim Club President Andy Schopfer, PGK
Columbiette President Fran Corcione

Monthly Meetings

1st. Mon. ----- Council Officers
2nd & 4th Mon. ----- Council Mtgs.
2nd Thu. ----- Columbiettes
~~3rd Mon. ----- Swim Club~~
4th Wed. ----- 4th Degree Assembly
4rd Thur. ----- Columbian Club

MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT

Brothers all,

Imagine having all your leisure time to yourself, no meetings to attend, no more wake prayer services on Sunday nights, no visits to the hospital to see the pain and suffering of others, no sore feet from standing on street corners, nor stiff arms from holding plastic containers filled with change, no aching backs from stacking cans of food, no headaches from listening to all those whining children and no one to bother you about why you're not contributing your time or your money. Wouldn't that be great! We might even rationalize as we sit back and relax that the rest of humanity will survive if we leave our cans at home.

Yet, how do you rationalize away millions of hours of volunteer-time given by the Knights of Columbus, to their church, community, youth and various other charitable activities. Nor can you explain away the \$185 million dollars, or 11 million pounds of food that was contributed by the Knights last year in the support of the same activities. Is it possible that almost 2 million Knights (including 390 college based councils) have nothing better to do with their time so they all conveniently hung around other Knights to collect food for the hungry, money for the disabled or terminally ill, support their churches and priests because it was fashionable and popular?

I think not.

Being a Knight is hard work and it takes a great amount of our time away from our families, friends and leisure. We do it to help one another. It is our gift to God and humanity.

Thank-you for your Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. To all our Brother Knights, their families and friends, I wish you the Happiest, Healthiest and Merriest Christmas along with a safe and blessed New Year.

Vivat Jesus!
David Wozniak
Grand Knight; Union 4504



Knights Family Dinners

The next Family Dinner is scheduled for
January 16, 2019, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM.

The cost is \$9.00 for seniors and \$11.00 for others. Reservations are required by calling Pat Wittek at 908-964-3989 by Monday before the third Thursday of month.

2020 Schedule



February 20, 2020
March 19, 2020
April 16, 2020
May 21, 2020
June 18, 2020



Dates are subject to change!
No December 2019 Dinner

25/30 Year Wedding Anniversary Celebrations

Council 4504 will recognize brothers and their wives who have celebrated, or will be celebrating, their 25th and 50th Wedding Anniversary this year. We will also make special presentations to the brothers and their wives who celebrate incremental five-year anniversaries after 25 years.

Any brother who would like to be recognized should contact Giftus John, PGK, or Grand Knight Dave Wozniak as soon as is possible so that we may order the correct number of certificates.

Brothers in Business

Are you a brother who has his own business?

If so, please submit your name, business name and services offered to GK Dave Wozniak or PGK Michael Willemse. All entries will be listed on our website and randomly picked to highlight in our Knight Digest.

We are hoping that this initiative will work at building stronger ties between our business brothers and our general membership who have need for their services, hopefully at a special rate.

Knight of the Month



December 2019

Eugenio "Gino" Gonzalez Jr.



This month we are honoring Brother Eugenio "Gino" Gonzalez Jr. as December's Knight of the Month. Gino was born in Newark at St. James Hospital. He is the youngest of three boys and the first in his family to be born on American soil. Gino has two brothers, one of which is our Brother Knight, Ricardo

Gonzalez Esq. His parents, Eugenio Sr. & Berta are gone but not forgotten, especially with the characters they instilled in the men they called "son". Gino is a graduate of Rutgers University, class of 1995.

He is retired 22 year veteran of the Newark Police Department (Thank you for your service). 2001 was a busy year for Gino, not only did he move to and buy a home in Union but that is the same year he married his beautiful wife Janet. They have three handsome sons together, Nicholas "Nic" (14), Brain (9) and Dylan (3). You will often see the Gonzalez family at the pool during the summers enjoying all the amenities and helping whenever asked.

Gino rose to the office of Deputy Grand Knight but had to step down from council duties due to work obligations at that time. Gino has been a behind the scenes kind of guy ever since. You can find Gino helping with the Coat & Clothing Drives, Bartending at "The Club", attending work parties but to his credit, Gino was the founder and motivating force behind what is arguably one of our most successful events, Cigar Knight (2017) & Cigar Knight 2.

These events embody all we strive for as Knights putting Charity, Unity and Fraternity first and foremost. These two events have raised close to \$10,000 in total and have helped The NJ Special Olympics, Camp Nejeda (juvenile diabetes), The Columbian Club of Union, Union Council # 4504 and the Children's Playground at 1034 Jeanette Ave.

Congratulations Gino, December's Knight of the Month.

Congratulations!



BREAKFAST with SANTA!
Buffet Breakfast, Omelet
Station, Hot Chocolate,
and much more!

Marshmallow Roasting &
S'mores making for an
additional \$2 per Child.

\$25 per Family of 4
\$30 at the Door
(2 adults & 2 kids -12)
\$10 per Adult
\$5 per kid under 12

*Kids, Don't forget to
get a pic with Santa*

Columbian Club
10AM - 12PM SUN, DEC 15 2019
1034 JEANETTE AVE., UNION NJ

908-688-4504



On November 8th, the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Assembly held its annual Past Faithful Navigators Dinner to congratulate the newest Past Faithful Navigator, Leonard J. Komar Jr. Current Officers and Past Faithful Navigator had dinner at Choffi's Restaurant.

It was a great evening sharing memories and enjoying a good meal. God Bless you Sir Knights and continued blessings.

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Left to right SK Leonard J Komar Jr PFN, SK Andrew Schopfer PFN, SK John J. McEvoy PFN, SK Stephen A.

Nagy III FN, SK Steven Q. Whoeler FC. SK Alex T. Costa PFN, SK Robert M. Wozniak FP, PFN, SK Michael W. Peter FP, SK Andrew L. Wnukowski FS, SK Allen M. Pascullo FC, PFN, SK Thomas A. Kramer PCC and SK Joseph A. Mahalik PFN.



SK Len Komar PFN

2019 NJ Color Corpsman of the Year

On Sunday November 17, 2019 the First New Jersey District Fourth Degree held their Exemplification of the Fourth Degree / Military Ball Banquet at LaNeve's Restaurant. Part of the Honors at the banquet is the selection of the Color Corpsman of the Year for the First New Jersey District. Each Assembly submits a Color Corpsman from their Assembly to be considered for this great honor.

This year Union Council's own Deputy Grand Knight Sir Knight Len Komar PFN was submitted for this based on his ongoing commitment to the Fourth Degree, our JFK Assembly, and our Union Council.

As each candidate from each Assembly was called forward they were recognized for their commitment to the Color Corps and were given certificates acknowledging their being selected as Color Corpsman for their respective Assemblies. After the last candidate was called up, First NJ District Master Paul Pinkman started reading the submission for the Color Corpsman of the Year, and it was not until the mention that he was a member of the Union Council did Len realize that he was the 2019 First NJ District Color Corpsman of the Year.

Please join the JFK Assembly # 0666 Fourth Degree and Union Council # 4504 in congratulating Len on this great Honor in recognition of his continual dedication to the Fourth Degree and the Knights of Columbus. Keep up the good work Len.

SK Len Komar PFN

The Columbian Club



"Bring - a - Dish"
DECEMBER 31ST
8:00 p.m.
 Bring your favorite food, so that we can
 create a grand buffet

1034 Jeanette Ave.
 Union, NJ 07083

The King of the Universe is My King

By Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu, Ph.D.

On the last Sunday of each liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Christ the King. This solemnity was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925, in response to the then growing nationalism and secularism that sought to thrust Jesus Christ and religious spirituality out of public life. The Pope was alarmed by this trend, and saw in it, a big threat to human civilization and religious freedom.

Today, that same threat is very much alive and comes in many colors. One of the more subtle ways of its present operation is in the idea that religious spirituality is a private thing; that you can believe whatever you want when it comes to religion; but when it comes to everyday life, you need to be politically and socially correct, by conforming to secularist orthodoxy. In other words, there is no conflict in serving both God and mammon—we can love Jesus in our private lives but we are not supposed to bring that witness

into the social arena. So your life in church on Sunday should not carry over into your life from Monday to Saturday. Simply put, we should not witness to the Kingship of Christ; the Kingship of Christ should not be transformative; and the Kingship of Christ should not speak to humanity as a whole. Oh Boy!

The truth is that we all should be alarmed today as the Holy Father was alarmed 94 years ago. Many a time, we are tempted to think that making Christ, the King of our lives, somehow takes joy and fun out of living. This is the furthest thing from the truth. Scripture says that when we confess with our lips and know in our hearts that Christ is Lord and King, we come to experience the “glorious freedom of the children of God” (Ref Rm 8). In John 10:10, Christ says, “I have come that they may have life and have it in its fullness”. As St. Irenaeus puts it, “The glory of God is man fully alive.” Yes, man fully alive is what God seeks for us, because God is not just interested in our spiritual activities and our spiritual self; He is interested in every aspect of our being—intellectual, physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual. That is to say, Christ wants to reign in our minds, in our wills, in our hearts, in our spirits, in our souls and in our bodies—so that every faculty in us can be transformed to function optimally as was purposed by the creator. The hard truth, we must face, is that living optimally is not just about seek out what I want for myself, but also what I ought to be and what I ought to be doing.

Socrates, one of the ancient Philosophers ones said, “An unreflected life is not worth living.” There are some basic questions we need to reflect upon as we celebrate this year’s Christ the King. Questions like: what is life all about and what happens when I die? Who is my creator, and how should I respond to Him? How would I make my time on this earth worth it? What law should guide my everyday activities; the Word of God, or the word of man?

It is my prayer that God will guide us in this reflection and bring us to answers that will lead us to eternal life.



CHRISTMAS BUS TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY DECEMBER 14, 2019



Bus will depart from the Union Council @ 12:00PM and travel to Rockefeller Center to see the Christmas Tree for approximately one hour. The bus will depart Rockefeller Center @ approximately 1:30PM and travel to Bryant Park for some shopping and holiday cheer. At 4:00PM the bus will head to Little Italy for some additional shopping and an early dinner.

The bus will depart NYC @ 6:00PM and return to the Council.

Cost is \$40.00 per person

Includes bus, refreshments, & finger sandwiches

For reservations or more information please contact:

Jamie Zappulla @ 908-380-9155




CLOTHING & COAT DRIVE

VISIT US TODAY AND JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 4504 &
THE COLUMBIAN CLUB OF UNION ARE
HOLDING THEIR YEARLY COAT & CLOTHING DRIVE

DROP OFF DAILY AFTER 4PM

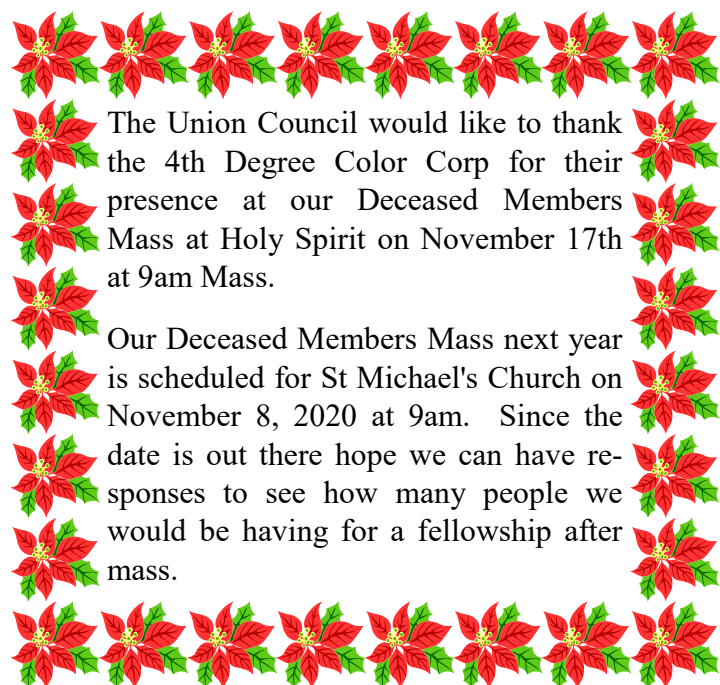
Help us help our community!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
1034 JEANETTE AVE., UNION NJ 07083
908-688-4504
ko4c4504.org
or contact Mike Harms at
908-370-4126

Please remember our Brothers we lost this year.

Robert Gloss	03/10/2019
Henry K. Bielawski	03/10/2019
Thomas J. Longo	03/17/2019
George W. Dearness	04/02/2019
Joseph Almeida	04/10/2019
William D. Vath	04/22/2019
John J. Gaeta	04/28/2019
John T. Boyd	05/22/2019
Robert Gaitens	06/11/2019
Alexander N. Ferroni	06/26/2019
Brian J. Shanahan	07/22/2019
Thomas P. Duhig	09/12/2019
William M. Spekhardt	09/20/2019
Stanley Osuzu	10/12/2019
J David Schardien	10/18/2019
James R. Lloyd	10/18/2019

Eternal rest grant upon them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.



The Union Council would like to thank the 4th Degree Color Corp for their presence at our Deceased Members Mass at Holy Spirit on November 17th at 9am Mass.

Our Deceased Members Mass next year is scheduled for St Michael's Church on November 8, 2020 at 9am. Since the date is out there hope we can have responses to see how many people we would be having for a fellowship after mass.

*Thank
you*

Knights of Columbus
COUNCIL 4504
 1034 Jeanette Avenue
 Union, NJ 07083



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December 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 Council Officers	3	4	5	6	7 
8	9 Council Mtg. 8:15 PM Charitable Raffle	10	11	12 Columbiettes	13	14 Wreath Ceremony Bus Trip to NYC
15	16	17	18 4th Degree Assembly 8 PM @ Union Council	19 Knight's Family Dinner 6:30p-8:30p	20	21
22	23 Council Mtg. 8:15 PM	24 Christmas Eve 	25 Christmas Day <i>Merry Christmas!</i> 	26	27	28
29 	30	31 New Year's Eve Bring-A-Dish 8 PM				