



# The Knightlighter



The Official Publication of the Knights of Columbus, Msgr. James R. Jones Council 3303  
and Kenneth I. Parker Assembly 1820, New Bern, NC

## August

August 3 Bingo

August 4 Virtual Council  
Business Meeting @ 7 pm

August 5 Assembly Officers  
Meeting @ 7 pm

August 10 Bingo

August 12 Virtual Assembly  
Meeting @ 7 pm

August 17 Bingo

August 24 Bingo

August 25 Council Officers  
Meeting @ 7 pm

August 31 Bingo

Volume: 2020 – 08

Editor: Guy Ferrante

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## Grand Knight's Comments



### Brother Knights,

Our new Fraternal Year is off to a rapid start. We are all learning to accomplish our mission within the constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic. On Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> our Council and Assembly Officers were installed in a modified ceremony conducted in the Columbus Club Hall. District Deputy, Joseph Banks installed our MSGR James R. Jones Council 3303 Officers

and the Havelock based Frank J. Howard Council 6648 Officers. Past Faithful Navigator, Clark French installed the officers from Father Kenneth I. Parker Assembly 1820 and Angelo Batista Assembly 2894. Father Tom Tully graciously officiated as the Chaplain for both ceremonies. In his remarks he asked all of us to focus on praying for our fellow parishioners as they cope with the impact of the pandemic while at the same time finding the determination to return to attendance at Mass and other parish activities that are so important to our spiritual growth.

**Two Brother Knights Have Passed:** Sir Knight William (Sonny) Dove passed on Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup>. He was a graduate of St. Joseph Catholic School in New Bern and he progressed in his career to become a recognized leader in the funeral service profession. Sir Knight Leo Minervini, Jr passed on July 8<sup>th</sup>. Leo was a Past Grand Knight of our council and remained very active in many council activities until recently. Both of these gentlemen will be missed. May they rest in peace.

**Membership:** Brother Dan Macsay, our Membership Director, has assisted Brother Scott Farrar in completing the Online Exemplification to attain Full Knighthood. Sir Knight Angel Santos has recently transferred into our council and assembly. Congratulations to both of you. For those Brothers who hold either the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>d</sup> Degree and desire to attain the 3<sup>d</sup> Degree and Full Knighthood using the Online Exemplification can contact Dan at [d.macsay@gmail.com](mailto:d.macsay@gmail.com).

**LAMB:** Brother Tom Henry, our LAMB Director, asks that you mark your calendar for the next LAMB collection at Wal-Mart. The dates are October 9 and 10, 2020.

**Bingo is Back.** Our weekly Monday evening Bingo events have resumed. Many thanks to our Bingo Team for putting everything in place to conduct a safe and enjoyable night of bingo.

**Looking Ahead:** We have selected the dates for several of our fall activities. The Jim Whetzel Memorial Shrimp Boil will be held on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at the Columbus Club Hall. The Widows Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at the Hall. The Knights Family Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at the Hall. All these events will comply with COVID-19 rules in effect at the time.

Vivat Jesus

**Steve Harman, Grand Knight**

## **The Feast of the Assumption**



On Saturday, August 15, Catholics around the world mark the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, commemorating the end of her earthly life and assumption into Heaven. But while the feast day is a relatively new one, the history of the holiday – and the mystery behind it – has its roots in the earliest centuries of Christian belief.

The Catholic Church teaches that when Mary ended her earthly life, God assumed her body and soul into heaven. The dogma of the Assumption of Mary – also called the “Dormition of Mary” in the Eastern Churches – has its roots in the early centuries of the Church. While a site outside of Jerusalem was recognized as the tomb of Mary, the earliest Christians maintained that “no one was there,” theologian and EWTN senior contributor Matthew Bunson told CNA. According to St. John of Damascus, the Roman emperor Marcian requested the body of Mary, Mother of God at the Council of Chalcedon, in 451. St. Juvenal, who was Bishop of Jerusalem, told the emperor “that Mary died in the presence of all the Apostles, but that her tomb, when opened upon the request of St. Thomas, was found empty; wherefrom the Apostles concluded that the body was taken up to heaven,” the saint recorded. By the 8th century, around the time of Pope Adrian, the Church began to change its terminology, renaming the feast day of the Memorial of Mary to the Assumption of Mary. Bunson noted.

The belief in the Assumption of Mary was a widely-held tradition, and a frequent meditation in the writings of saints throughout the centuries. However, it was not defined officially until the past century. In 1950, Pope Pius XII made an infallible, ex-cathedra statement in the Apostolic Constitution *Munificentissimus deus* officially defining the dogma of the Assumption. "By the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, and by our own authority, we pronounce, declare, and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory," the pope wrote.

The decree was seen as the formalizing of long-held Christian teaching. "We have through-out the history of the Church an almost universal attestation of this," Bunson said of the Assumption. Today, the Feast of the Assumption is marked as a major feast day and a public holiday in many countries. In most countries, including the United States, it is a Holy Day of Obligation, and Catholics are required to attend Mass. Bunson explained that on major feast days, it's important to mark the significance of the feast as especially vital by emphasizing the necessity of celebrating the Eucharist that day. "What is more fitting than on the Assumption of the Blessed Mother to, once again, focus on her Son, on the Eucharist?" he asked.

*Written by Kathleen Adealaide, CAN (Catholic News Agency) A version of this article was originally published on CNA Aug. 15, 2017.*

Brought to us today by our own **Deacon Jim**.

## **Knight of The Year for FY 2019-20**

Philip P. Nassef Jr is the Council 3303 Knight of the Year for FY 2019-20. Phil has been an active member of our parish and council for over 30 years and an usher for several years. In the recent past he has served as the Deputy Grand Knight and Grand Knight of the Council and is currently a Trustee. For the past two years Phil has been the leader of the Yard Sale Team, where he has cheerfully orchestrated several successful yard sales that have generated funds, which our Assembly gives back to the community. These yard sales afford hundreds of people an opportunity to find just the bargain they are looking for, whether it be a television, refrigerator, tools, clothing, dishes, or any number of different household items. Phil also leads the Bingo Kitchen Team, where they prepare food and drinks for the bingo players every Monday night of the year. Finally, Phil is currently planning the annual shrimp boil which will occur in the fall.

We are proud to honor our brother as the Knight of the Year.

**Steve Harman, Grand Knight**



## Family of The Year for FY 2019-20



We are proud to award Family of the Year honors to Craig and Pat Baader. For the past nine years both have been actively engaged in various activities in support of St Paul Catholic Parish, Council 3303, Assembly 1820, and the Columbus Club. Both are Eucharistic Ministers. Pat devotes a tremendous amount of time and talent to support the Assembly Yard Sales. She is one of those who we can always count on to help in the success of our many events. Craig spent several years as editor of the award-winning Knightlighter. He turned over those duties to a new editor but still maintains the distribution database to ensure the successful delivery of several hundred copies per month. He remains Faithful Comptroller of Assembly 1820. And he works in the Bingo Kitchen every Monday night. For the past two years Craig has been the Vice Chairman of the Yard Sale focused on picking up donations of large items of furniture. Craig just relinquished the duties of President of the Columbus Club. During his several year tenure he focused on a cost effective renovation of the Hall. It is in tip-top shape.

Thank you both for jobs well done.

**Steve Harman, Grand Knight**

## Family of the Month – July

The council selects Dan Doban and his wife Heather as Family of the Month for July. Our bishop ordained Dan a deacon on June 27th. That by itself deserves special recognition as he brings to our council a person of an elevated and dignified status.

Dan grew up near Pittsburg, and after completing high school, he joined the Army and served a tour of duty in Germany. After returning to the states, he graduated from the University of Pittsburg with a degree in pharmacy. Fourteen years ago, he and Heather moved to North Carolina where Dan works at the Naval hospital at Camp Lejeune.

This devoted couple has eight children. Even with the demands of family life, they find time to contribute to both the Knights and the parish. Dan is a Eucharistic minister, a Faith Formation teacher, assists in the Spiritual Day of Reflection, and with his wife, helps with the Special Olympics Spaghetti Dinner and our youth sporting events. Heather assists in the Life-teen Catholic summer camp. In addition to all of this, they both support the Saint Paul Catholic School. One of their sons, JP, is a Knight in our council.

It would be hard to find a better example of selflessness than that exemplified by this faithful couple. They honor not only our council, but the parish and the Catholic community as a whole.

**John Murphy, Family Director**

## Faithful Navigator Report



First of all, let me say it's truly an honor to be elected to be your Faithful Navigator for the coming year and I thank you all very much. Many fine gentlemen have preceded me as Faithful Navigator of Assembly 1820 and I only hope that I can live up to their legacy. My thanks to our outgoing Faithful Navigator, Ralph Aviles whose leadership was instrumental in the success enjoyed by this Assembly during the past year. Also, congratulations go out to all our newly elected officers who were installed at our ceremony on July 12. I'll be looking forward to working with them in the future.

This Assembly is an energetic organization that has provided a tremendous amount of support for our local Parish and for many other charitable causes in Eastern North Carolina. Last year alone our Assembly donated over \$37,000 to local and national charities and over \$10,000 to support St. Paul Church and St. Paul School. Although this Covid19 crisis is going to present significant challenges to our normal operations, I am confident that our members will rise to the occasion and continue our good work during the coming year.

I would like to thank Pat Rocco for stepping up and taking over as yard sale chairman and to Craig Baader for volunteering as his vice-chairman. Our yard sale operation is slowly making a comeback.

By the time you read this, we will have conducted a limited sale to try to reduce our inventory of donated furniture and appliances. Our storage areas are bursting at the seams due to the overwhelming generosity of the local folks who donate to our cause. We had to limit this sale due to Covid19 restrictions, but plans are underway for a full-scale sale in the fall assuming the restrictions are eased. We are also planning another shrimp-boil or similar event this fall if constraints will allow.

Finally, there is nothing more important to me than the health, safety, and well-being of our members. To that end, let me implore you to take this Covid19 thing seriously. Although we don't have as big a problem in this area compared to other parts of the country, it's no time to let our guard down. It looks like an effective vaccine is a year or two away and we need to stay vigilant and follow the recommendations that have been widely publicized since this thing began. Wash your hands and face frequently, cough and sneeze into your elbow, practice social distancing as much as possible and wear a mask when you can't. Let's stay healthy until we can put this pandemic behind us.

Once again, thanks for this opportunity to lead the organization during this coming year. Stay safe.

Vivat Jesus

**Doug Uhland, Faithful Navigator**

## The Kooky Old Man On The Side Of The Road

He appeared one day standing on the curb of busy GA Avenue in Washington DC. It was the mid 1970's and the burgeoning Beltway was already spewing traffic at nearby exit 97. An early familiar scene of (road rage) impatient people doing what they do behind the wheel of a car, running late for work, or having forgotten about an urgent appointment. With teeth clenched off they go, back and forth between lanes, horns blaring in a sea of finger waves. Every weekday morning around 7 o'clock dressed in a floppy hat and miss matched shirt and pants the old man stood by the bus stop smiling and waving an American flag attached to a dowel. He exchanged greetings with the people waiting for the bus or sitting anxiously in their cars waiting for the light to change. The odd fellow soon became a familiar figure. Commuters began asking one another, have you noticed the kooky old man on the side of the road? Time went by. Drivers began to slow down and wave back to the old man's nutty greeting. When the nip of fall replaced summer's heat and humidity, the old man appeared slightly disheveled leaning on a cane with one hand and waving his flag with the other. When snowflakes began to fill the air the old man appeared with a walker. Passers-by began to experience a genuine sadness at their faithful sentinel's decline. As winter snow melted and dandelions were coaxed to life by spring's welcome warm breezes, the old man reported to his post with his head deeply bowed sitting in a wheelchair. A short while later an aura of wonder and grief blanketed the surrounding community. The old man was not at his post. But his American flag was firmly planted next to the bus stop. Next to it stood a white wooden cross and a vase of carnations.

A few weeks later the Washington Post ran a front-page column about a 'kooky old man' who had died. To many he as a stranger who made people smile, lightened their load and brightened their day. His name was Henry Blankenship who served his country in WWII, Korea and Viet Nam as a fighter pilot. After military service Henry found himself part of the driving mess on GA Ave. He promised himself that when he retired from his job as a mechanic at nearby Bethesda Naval Hospital he would do what he could to slow things down, turn a bad situation into a good situation, and maybe garner a smile or two along the way.

**Mikie Casem, Past Grand Knight**

## Knight of the Month – July

Current Past Grand Knight and Sir Knight Michael Lynch is the Knight of the Month for July 2020. Mike has been a Knight and member of Council 3303 since 2011. The oldest of seven children, Mike grew up in Springfield, Illinois where he attended Catholic Grade School and High School. He attended DePauw University in Indiana, where he received Bachelor of Arts Degree in Chemistry. After college Mike served as a Marine Corps Officer, CH-46 Helicopter pilot, retiring after 21 years of active service in 2009. Mike was stationed at MCAS Cherry Point for his last four years in the Marine Corps where he piloted the Search and Rescue Helicopter PEDRO, as well as flying the UC-35 twin engine transport jet. He has continued at MCAS Cherry Point working as a Civilian Aviation Safety Officer.

Mike has been married to Maria and will celebrate 25 years of marriage in October. He and Maria have three sons. Moving to New Bern in 2005 he affiliated with St. Paul Parish, where his sons completed Faith Formation and served as altar servants. Additionally, Mike has taught one year of Faith Formation and Maria has taught four years. He also has served for 10 years as an Usher for the 11AM Sunday Mass. He volunteers serving meals with his sons at the RCS Shelter and Kitchen.

As Grand Knight, Mike's most gratifying accomplishment was coordinating the relief effort with several New York Councils, which reached out to Craven County after Hurricane Florence. Council 3303 also receiving the Columbian award last year. He also coordinated and hosted a successful State Council 3rd Degree Exemplification in 2019. Mike is looking forward to continuing transporting Marines to assist with the Yard Sales and work in the kitchen during Bingo nights. He will continue to stay active with the Council, serving as a Trustee and Youth Programs Director.

Thank you, Mike, for your outstanding efforts as Grand Knight of Council 3303 the past two years. We are proud to honor you as our Knight of the Month.

**Randall Ramian, Deputy Grand Knight**

## **August Is National Eye Exam Month**

If you're one of those people who can hardly remember the last eye exam they had, then let this August be the month that you get back on track. After all, August is National Eye Exam Month.

There's a reason there is a whole month devoted to eye exams. Getting a regular eye exam is the best way to ensure that you'll catch problems early, use the right prescription lenses, and generally keep your eyes in great shape. Even if you think all is well, an eye exam is something you really shouldn't be putting off. Here's why: Early Detection. Many problems with your eyes can go undetected for a while. You may think that your vision is pretty good, so that means there isn't a problem. This isn't necessarily true, though. Many times, only a dilated eye exam by your eye doctor can uncover eye diseases in their earliest stages. And it's in those early stages when many diseases are at their most treatable. Waiting until there's a noticeable problem can potentially make it harder to treat other problems.

Here's another thing to remember—your eye doctor may be able to alert you to overall health problems, too. Many people think the eye doctor can only tell you if there's a problem with your eyes. But the truth is, a comprehensive eye exam can tell you about other problems, as well. Diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and other diseases can be spotted through an eye exam. The doctor will examine the blood vessels, retina, and other parts of the eye to determine if there's a problem that isn't directly about your vision prescriptions. If you already have glasses or contacts, you may be wondering why you need to have a regular eye exam.

They figured out the problem, and now you have glasses. That's the end of it, right? Not really. As people age, it's very common for their vision to continue to change. Which means you could be walking around with the wrong prescription, hurting your corrective lenses' ability to help you see clearly. This can happen slowly, so you may not notice it right away. A regular eye exam will ensure that you're using the right prescription lenses.

How Often should you get an eye exam? For adults 18-60, it's recommended that you get a comprehensive eye exam every two years. For adults over 60, the recommendation jumps to once a year. The reason for this is that the risk for conditions like glaucoma, cataracts, and macular degeneration increase with age. Getting an annual eye exam can catch these issues early on, and help to prevent vision loss. Based on those numbers, are you overdue for an eye exam? Maybe TODAY is the day to make that appointment!

Blessings,

**Deacon Jim**

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## **FY 2020-21 Installation Ceremony**

On Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> our Council and Assembly Officers were installed in a modified ceremony conducted in the Columbus Club Hall. District Deputy Joseph Banks installed our MSGR James R. Jones Council 3303 Officers and the Havelock based Frank J. Howard Council 6648 Officers. Past Faithful Navigator Clark French installed the officers from Father Kenneth I. Parker Assembly 1820 and Angelo Batista Assembly 2894.

The council Installation began with remarks from the retiring Grand Knight, Michael Lynch. Father Thomas Tully graciously officiated as the Chaplain for both ceremonies. He blessed the ceremonial jewels. While the ceremony was modified to conform with the dictates of social distancing and wearing masks, all the officers were afforded an opportunity to attest to various promises that will be binding as long as they remain in office. Newly installed Grand Knight Steve Harman made brief remarks with a focus on upcoming events. Each lady in the audience received a beautiful red rose to remember the day. Many thanks to PGK Dick Dodson for obtaining the roses. PGK Michael Lynch gave GK Steve Harman a GK Jewel which traditionally has been passed down over the years. Faithful Navigator, Doug Umland, presented retiring Faithful Navigator, Ralph Aviles a ceremonial sword. The ceremonies were concluded with Father Tully delivering thoughtful remarks and a blessing. In his remarks he asked all of us to focus on praying for our fellow parishioners as they cope with the impact of the pandemic while at the same time finding the determination to return to attendance at Mass and other parish activities that are so important to our spiritual growth.

### **Steve Harman, Grand Knight**





## **Sir Knight of the Month – July**

Sir Knight of the Month for July is Ron Biggs. Our brother knight has been a faithful knight since 2017. Ron has served our country in the United States Marine Corp for over twenty years. Ron, through his faith and dedication, serves in the Knights kitchen for our Monday night Bingo. Ron does a great job at bringing chicken wings and desserts for our meetings; any one of our brothers who knows me knows I love to eat. We are grateful to have such an amazing addition to our Knight family. Ron is always going above and beyond for people of the community. He is always there to lend a helping hand to anyone in need. When he is not helping with the Knights, Ron devotes his time to assisting the elderly with yard work or various other tasks. There has never been a task that Brother Ron has not taken on. Ron is also a helpful member of the Truck Monkeys. Ron will even pick up a sleeper sofa with no complaints. Ron has truly given the Truck Monkeys his blood sweat and tears. He has been an asset assisting me these past two years. I am truly fortunate to have his help on Monday and Tuesday without hesitation. Ron is always there with a smile and a sense of humor to lighten any mood especially in times like these. I want to thank him for giving me the opportunity to acknowledge his works for the Council and the Assembly.

Vivat Jesus,

**Philip Nassef Jr., Faithful Captain**

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## **Already Working for US!!**

Our new Faithful Navigator, Doug Uhland, donating \$2,000.00 to Mr. Zeb Hough, the new Director of RCS. The Assembly never stops helping those in need.



## Summer Yard Sale



With our storage areas full and 3 months until our fall sale, the Assembly elected to hold a Summer Yard Sale that was limited to furniture, appliances and tools. As demonstrated in the photo to the left, the main hall quickly filled with our inventory with a fair amount still waiting in storage and the beginning of the sale.

Our new chairman, Pat Rocco happily reported that we had over \$17,000 in gross sales at the two day event which puts us well on our way to our budgetary target for the year.

We were fortunate enough to have an average of 12 Marine volunteers on our each of the three days requested, who were joined for this event by Staff Sergeant Steve Harrison of CNATT/Cherry Point. SSgt Harrison has been the staff member at CNATT who has worked with Craig Baader for the past several years responding to our requests for assistance.

Pictured to the right are Vice Chairman – Craig Baader, Chairman – Pat Rocco, and the 13 Marines that assisted us on the first day of the event.

Sorry to say that we will be losing SSgt Harrison in the fall as he will be attending Officer Candidate School starting in September. Rest assured, his replacement has already been identified and was involved in the must of the volunteers for this event.

At the meal after we shut the operation down on Saturday, our beloved chairman thanked all of the K of C volunteers that worked the event.

After a several week break, the team will ramp things up in preparation for our next sale which runs from Oct 1<sup>st</sup> thru 3<sup>rd</sup>.



**Craig Baader**

**K of C Council 3303**

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***Help keep the Council informed so they may keep you informed***

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Post Office costs continue to rise and add considerable expense to the Council's budget.

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Thank you for helping us to keep accurate and up to date records.

All Information will be sent to the Financial Secretary for his attention.

The Tech Team

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**Officers and Program Chairmen of  
 Msgr. James R. Jones, Council 3303**

**THE KNIGHTLIGHTER**

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**Father Kenneth I. Parker  
 Assembly**

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