



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

February

- 1st Assembly Officers Meeting @ 7 p.m.
- 2nd Winter Yard Sale
- 3rd Winter Yard Sale
- 4th Winter Yard Sale.
- 6th Bingo
- 7th Council Business Meeting. @ 7 p.m.
- 8th Assembly Business Meeting @ 7 pm
- 10th Wives Appreciation Dinner @ New Bern CC @ 5 pm
- 13th Bingo
- 16th Special Olympics Spaghetti Dinner @ 5 – 7 pm
- 19th 300 Club Pot Luck Dinner & Drawing @ 6pm
- 20th Bingo
- 24th Fish Fry #1
- 27th Bingo
- 28th Council Officers Meeting @ 7pm

Volume: 2023 – 02
Editor: Edward Martinez
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Grand Knight's Comments



Brother Knights,

Wishing you and your families a very Happy New Year!

Welcome to our new Council Knight – James Walley, Timothy Drake (transfer) and Charles Schmidt (transfer).

Congratulations to the Council Knight of the Month – Ed Martinez and Family of the Month – Rick and Doris Dean.

The Assembly Yard Sale is February 2, 3, 4. Tent Setup is January 27th – 9 AM. Any assistance is appreciated.

The Knights of Columbus North Carolina State Raffle tickets (2) will be mailed out to you once again. As in the past, the Raffle ticket price is \$5 each, and proceeds are split between our Council and the State. The Raffle drawing this year will be on April 29th at the State Convention. Please remit your payment to me by March 17th if interested in participating.

Looking forward to your attendance at the Wives Appreciation Dinner on Friday, February 10th. Please RSVP to George Halyak (252) 637-9225 with your dinner selections by February 7th.

Of note –the 300 Club Reverse drawing and Potluck Dinner has been re-scheduled to Sunday February 19, 2023, 5-6 PM Social and 6 PM Dinner at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

Our next Business Meeting is scheduled for February 7th – 7 PM - Columbus Club Hall, Council Chamber.

Randall Ramian
Grand Knight



300 Club Results for the Month of January

Below are the winners of the January drawing. Your membership is especially important to us because it allows our Council to contribute to about 28 charities in the area.

	<u>\$50</u>	<u>\$25</u>	<u>\$15</u>	<u>\$10</u>
January 4 th	Fred Ammirata	John Sauerwald	Chris Blust	Margaret Bagg
January 11 th	P J Tess	Donna Purk	Roert Bell	Peggy Brooker
January 18 th	Beverly Hartung	Yvonne Apostoli	Eva Hernandez	Judy Kelly
January 25 th	David Finn	Judy McGrady	Sandra Mattingly	Nancy Tomasik

All 300 Club Members and their guest, are invited to our semi-annual \$1000.00 Reverse drawing and Potluck Dinner on Sunday February 19, 2023, at the K of C Hall. The Knights will provide the meat, ice cream and iced tea. There will be a cash bar For beer and wine. Social hour is 5PM to 6PM. Dinner is at 6PM, with drawing to follow.

Please bring a dish of your choice. If your last name begins with:

- A thru J: Vegetable
- K thru R: Dessert
- S thru Z: Salad

Gerald Brenc
Co-Director

St. Paul's Annual Donation to the Clergy

On December 19th, Grand Knight Randall Ramian and Faith Program Director Rick Dean presented Father Thomas Tully with several Knights of Columbus donation checks. Included were Christmas stipend gifts for Fr. Tully and the St. Paul deacons: Deacon Rick Fisher, Deacon Dan Doban, Deacon Jim Hackett, and Deacon David Kierski. Fr. Tully was also presented with the annual budgeted donation to St. Paul's Church and the Old St. Paul's Church Fund. Pictured are Fr. Tully, GK Ramian and Rick Dean.



Rick Dean
SPCS Board Chair

Council 3303 Awarded 2021/2022 Knights of Columbus Star Council Award



Pictured left to right: District Deputy Joe Banks presenting the award to DGK Paul Masotta, GK Randall Ramian, and Membership Director Dan Macsay

Congratulations to all brothers of Council 3303 for their great efforts over the last year which culminated in our council being awarded the very prestigious Knights of Columbus Star Council Award for Fraternal Year 2021-22. The Star Council award recognizes outstanding achievement in membership, insurance, programming, and overall operations. Earning a Star Award is the marker of a high performing Knights of Columbus council and the goal to which every council should strive. The Monsignor Jones Council 3303 earned this honor, which also includes the Columbian Award, by excelling in Fraternal Activities and Service Programs. Under the leadership of our Grand Knight, Randall Ramian and Membership Director, Dan Macsay, our council achieved 118% of our new membership goal which has been a hurdle in past years. But mostly, the Star Council Award was only possible because of the hard work and tireless efforts of so many Brother Knights, wives, and widows of Council 3303 that make our fundraising and charitable efforts possible.

Mike Lynch
Past Grand Knight

Knight of the Month - January

This month we honor Brother Ed Martinez as the Monsignor James R. Jones Council Knight of the Month for January 2023. Brother Ed has served our Council as a member of the Yard Sale Truck Brigade, Bingo Caller and most recently, the Editor of our monthly newsletter the Knightlighter. In addition to his involvement with our Council, he is an active participant in the St. Paul Bible Study group and is a Eucharistic Minister for the Sick and Homebound.

Ed joined the Knights of Columbus in 1993 after some persuasive conversations with Denny Gennantonio 😊. He moved on to Woodstock/Canton, Georgia where he served various leadership positions with Council 11768 at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church. Ed was born in the South Bronx, New York and received his BS from Southern Illinois University and an MS in Computer Information Systems from Boston University. Ed returned to New Bern in 2019 fulfilling a promise he made to his wife Mary and has been active in our parish. Ed retired in April 2022 after 15 years with HCL America where he worked as a Senior Management Consultant.

Council 3303 is proud to honor Brother Ed as the Knight of the Month and look forward to his many years of future service to our Council and community.

Randall Ramian
Grand Knight

Family of the Month – January

This month's family of the month is Brother Rick and Doris Dean. Rick is originally from Fairmont, WV and received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Fairmont State University. He moved to northern Virginia in 1983 to take a position with the US Postal Service. After 38 years of service, Rick retired from the Postal Service in January of 2021. He and Doris moved to New Bern in March 2021. At the time of his retirement, Rick was an executive manager in Labor Relations at Postal Service HQ in Washington DC. He was responsible for national level negotiations for the collective bargaining agreement between the Postal Service and the American Postal Workers Union. In this capacity, he served as Chief Spokesperson for the Postal Service.

Rick came into full communion with the Catholic Church on December 12, 1997, joined the Knights of Columbus in 2002, and became a 4th degree Sir Knight in November 2002.

Doris is originally from Baton Rouge, Louisiana and is the 6th of 10 children in the Joseph Boudreaux family. Doris moved to Virginia in 1988 and worked for Aetna Insurance until her retirement in 2002. She worked with the Literacy Council in Louisiana and with Special Olympics in both Louisiana and Virginia.

Rick and Doris were both very active in their former parish, St. Andrew the Apostle in Clifton, Virginia. They are both certified Master Catechists for the Diocese of Arlington. They co-chaired the Pro-Life Committee at St. Andrew's and Rick also served as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and as Lector. Doris taught second grade religious education for many years, and taught school at the Aquinas Learning Center, a private Catholic school in Manassas, Virginia.

In August of 2021, Rick was appointed Chair of the Saint Paul Catholic School Board by Father Thomas Tully. He transferred his Knights of Columbus membership to Council 3033 and became Director of the Council Faith Program. Rick also serves on the Pastoral Council of St. Paul's parish. Doris is currently volunteering at the Craven Literacy Council where she works as a tutor. She is also a member of the Catholic Daughters of America, at St. Paul's.

Rick and Doris have 4 children and 6 grandchildren. Their middle son, Mark, resides in Jacksonville, NC and works for the Postal Service there. Their youngest son, Andrew, is a senior engineering student at West Virginia University. Rick's older daughter, son and grandchildren reside in West Virginia. Rick and Doris moved into Fairfield Harbour upon retirement and are loving life here in New Bern. They have a pontoon fishing boat, several kayaks and love to hike and bike as well. They are happy to be part of Council 3303 and look forward to staying active in the church and community.

Randall Ramian
Grand Knight

LAMB 2022 Report

It has been an interesting year for the LAMB project with inflation impacting our collections. I wish to thank everyone who volunteered this year and contributed to our success despite the tough economic environment. From the Food Lion collection in May, through the yard sales where the Troops of St George also helped out, on to MUMFEST where we were blessed with 2 days of beautiful weather we were able to meet our goal. In addition to the aforementioned activities we sent out mail solicitations to area businesses in September and conducted after Mass collections in October. We concluded our activities with the shrimp boil where a \$100 Publix gift card donation was also raffled off and the LAMB breakfast in November.

With the \$1000.00 donations from the Council and Assembly we collected a total of about \$6900 for the year, almost as much as 2021. To all the volunteers involved in these collections activities I wish to express my heartfelt THANK YOU! Now we are starting to plan for 2023 and are always open to different ideas as we move forward. Again thank you and God Bless you all.

Tom Henry
LAMB Administrator

Faithful Navigators Report



I hope you and your family had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We are excited for the New Year and all of the possibilities God has given us.

Our next yard sale will be February 2-4 and we are still looking for help for this event. Starting on Friday, January 27th we will be setting up the tents so please, come out and help if you can. This is our signature fundraising event so we will need all hands-on deck to ensure that the yard sale goes off without a hitch.

This past month we donated \$5,000.00 to the St Paul's School Gala and gave \$2,500.00 to RCS. We did not stop there as The Special Olympics of Jones, Pamlico, and Craven also received \$500.00. Our ability to give back to our community depends on our performance during the yard sale. This is why your help is more that appreciated not just by us but by the wonderful organizations who depend on us to better serve our community.

Another notable collection campaign included the Knights collecting money during all Masses on January 14-15th in support of our veterans. It is important to continue to give back to the men and woman who sacrifice so much to secure our liberty. The money we collected will be used to help provide housing for veterans. We want to thank everyone who donated, your support is appreciated.

The Sir Knight of the Month is John Jajakolka. I want to take this time to thank John for all his hard work and dedication. Without people like John, it would be impossible for us to continue our support for the community.

I would like to take this time to wish a Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to everyone who had one in the month of January. Even yours truly had the privilege to celebrate a birthday. I thank God that I am able to celebrate my sixty first birthdate. May God Bless all of you for many more years to come.

Please do not forget that we still need your help to make the yard sale the best! Our community depends on it!! May God bless you and may he turn his face to you. Love makes the world go round. Tell someone you love them today!

Philip Nassef
Faithful Navigator



Winter Yard Sale Coming Up Quickly



You may have heard a scurrilous, calumnious rumor that the Assembly has a Yard Sale coming up.

Well, the rumor is true!!! The truck monkeys have filled our storage areas to the brim over the past month, the aisles in the Yard Sale Building are starting to store our excess materials, and in memory of our beloved Rosie Bottcher we ask the question “where did all this #&^%\$#@ come from?”

Just in case your were wondering, the dates for the upcoming sale are: Tent setup (with a beer and pizza buffet to follow) – Jan 27th, Inventory setup and pricing – Jan 31st & Feb 1st, and the actual sale, Thursday, February 2nd thru Saturday, February 4th.

We have already called in the Marines (and Navy) for assistance and anticipate another very successful sale. Please let us know if you are available to work the sale – thanks!

Pat Rocco & Craig Baader

Sir Knight of the Month – January

This month’s selection for Sir Knight of the Month is John Jajakolka. John is married with two children and 3 grand children John was born in Philadelphia and attended Catholic school until 3rd grade. He graduated high school, joined the Marines and served in Korea and Viet Nam where hee was awarded the Purple Heart. John served over 20 years in the Marines and retired from the Corps remaining in the New Bern area for a shgort time. He later moved to Pennsylvania and Florida before returning to the New Bern area. You can find hime on Mondays and Tuesdays in the computer section cleaning computers and updating the software preparing them for the Yard Sale.

John has earned this honor through his hard work and dedication over the past 15 plus years. Since joining the Knights of Columbus has been an active member in our council and assembly for over 18 years. John has been a mainstay day in and day out, for years in computer section.

SK John Jajakolka typifies dedicated service with the Knights of Columbus and is deserving of recognition as Sir Knight of the month of January 2023.

Ron Biggs
Faithful Captain

Soldiers of Christ

'We are Soldiers, We are Knights', words delivered by Cardinal Timothy Dolan at the Knights of Columbus College Councils Conference this year. In his speech he proposed five lessons that can be learned from this military analogy. They are as follows: Together in Solidarity, Shared Convictions, The Power of Ritual, Allegiance to a Higher Cause and Readiness to Fight the Enemy. Jesus himself often used military imagery, and soldiers have always had a particular attraction to follow Jesus in the church. For those of us that have spent time in the military we were taught to never quit and never surrender.

As soldiers of Christ, we are crusaders on a mission to bring peace to this earth by helping our fellow man spiritually and by example of our good works. Knights have "charism", which defined, is an extraordinary power given a Christian by the holy spirit for the good of the church. Throughout the world Knights of Columbus are exalted for their beliefs and allegiance to their faith. As a Knight share with other Catholic men the joy and rewards of being a Knight and ask them to join our ranks as a "Soldier of Christ".

Dan Macsay
Membership Director

Our Catholic Faith: The Trinity

From their childhood, Catholics learn to pray the sign of the cross: "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

At Mass, the priest's prayers frequently mention the Father, the Son, and the Spirit as well. The reason for this is that Catholics believe that God is not merely Unity (as all monotheists believe), but also Trinity. But what does this mean?

What we mean when we say that God is a Trinity is that there is one divine nature, one divine substance. A "substance" or "nature" is what something is. God, as a Trinity, exists in three Persons. A person is "who" someone is. In our experience, one human person each possesses one human nature. A husband and wife, no matter how closely united, are still two separate beings. In God, however, three Persons possess the same divine nature. If you were to ask each Person in the Trinity, "Who are you?" each person would answer something differently: "I am the Father;" "I am the Son;" "I am the Holy Spirit." If you were to ask each Person, "Who are you?" you would get the same answer from each Person: "I am God." Not, "I am a God," as a human would say, "I am a human." Rather, each divine Person, while not identical to the other divine Persons, is one in being with the other two divine Persons and is fully God. The word we use to describe this in the Nicene Creed is consubstantial. While we say in the Nicene Creed that the Son is consubstantial with the Father, it is also true that the Spirit is consubstantial with the Father and the Son.

Jesus' life was the greatest revelation to us of God's inner life. He claimed for Himself things that belonged only to God, like the power to forgive sins. His words and actions led the religious leaders of the time to believe he was a blasphemer, someone who shows a lack of reverence for God or who claims the attributes of God for himself. Yet Jesus also prayed to the Father and spoke to and about the Father as a separate Person. Jesus also promised to send the Holy Spirit to be with his disciples after he was no longer with them in his physical body (John 14:26). After Jesus' death and resurrection and his ascension into heaven, early Christians understood that the Holy Spirit was also God. Yet Jesus was clear when he talked about the Holy Spirit that the Holy Spirit was someone other than himself or the Father.

Jesus was also clear that there is only one God, however. While he spoke to the Father as someone other than himself, he did also claim to be one with the Father. Jesus was the Messiah promised by the God of Israel, and that God was one

God. Israel knew that there was only one God. Early Christians realized through what God had said through the Jewish prophets and through what Jesus said and did that God is one, but that God exists in three Persons.

During the first several centuries of Christian history, the Church encountered many different ways of thinking about God and about who Jesus was in relationship to the Father. The result of this was that the Church developed a more sophisticated language to talk about God. That is where we developed the use of the terms person and nature to make distinctions about God. The Nicene Creed, written at the Council of Nicea in 325 and revised at the Council of Constantinople in 381, was the result of the Church's continued thinking about the Trinity. Catholics typically say the Nicene Creed at every Sunday Mass even over 1600 years later because the Trinity is so essential to the Christian faith.

Our earthly experience does not give us a lot of preparation for understanding the Trinity. When we meet other human beings, each human person possesses one human nature—there is only one nature per person and only one person per nature. Because the Trinity goes beyond our earthly experiences, analogies may be helpful in understanding it. On the other hand, any one analogy taken too far will not describe the Trinity accurately.

The Shamrock

The story goes that St. Patrick used the shamrock to teach the Irish about the Trinity. That story may not be true, but the analogy is that just as there are three leaves on the shamrock, so there are three persons in God. This can be helpful in seeing that three things can also be one united thing. However, the Father, Son, and Spirit are not three parts of God.

Water

Another analogy for the Trinity is that God is three in one, just as H₂O can exist as a solid, a liquid, and a gas. This, too, can be helpful in understanding that there is something about God that is one and something about God that is threefold. However, ice, water, and vapor are three modes of being of H₂O. To take this analogy too far would be to think that God exists in three modes and can express being God in three ways. However, the Father, Son, and Spirit are not just modes of being. We might say that this analogy emphasizes the oneness of God at the expense of God's three-ness.

The Family

The family is a great analogy for the Trinity. The family is united in love, and the three Persons of the Trinity live in a relationship of love with one another. A pregnant mother contains another person within her, which is similar to how the Divine Persons cannot be separated from each other. The Holy Spirit is sometimes defined as the love between the Father and the Son, and when a husband and wife express their marital love, sometimes a new human person results. We even use the familial terms Father and Son to describe two Persons of the Trinity. However, this analogy also has its limits.

Obviously, a human family of three persons contains three separate human natures, not one. Furthermore, the human child begins to exist after his or her parents exist, whereas the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are coeternal (meaning that each Person of the Trinity never began to exist and will never stop existing: God always exists, without beginning or end). We might say that this analogy emphasizes the three-ness of God at the expense of God's oneness.

Conclusion

The Bible tells us, "God is love" (1 John 4:8). As a Trinity, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit love one another completely and entirely. Love is truly the essence of God's inner life. At times the Trinity may seem like a dull doctrine, but Jesus showed us this truth about who God is to reveal God's inner life to us. God loves us and wants us to know him. God created us out of love, and we are created for love. We are created out of relationship for relationship. Faith in the Trinity, therefore, is not merely a doctrine but a dogma that shows us who God is and who we are as creatures made in his image.

Edward Martinez
Knightlighter Editor



Origins of Amazing Grace

John Neumann was born December 25, 1745 in what is now the Czech Republic. At the young age of 20 he went to sea and worked on slave ships until he became a prisoner himself as an inmate at the Donegal County prison in Ireland. When he was subsequently freed, he returned to sea and the slave trade once more, becoming the Captain of several slave ships. In 1748, Neumann was traveling from Africa to Liverpool when he got caught up in an awful storm off the west coast of Africa. It was December 1772, in Olney England, at the age of 47, John Neumann, began writing a hauntingly beautiful Christian hymn that that would grow increasingly more popular over the next 300 some years:

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see
Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed
Through many dangers toils and snares
I have already come
This grace that brought me safe this far
And grace will lead me home
When we've been here ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun
Amazing Grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
Was blind but now I see

At the age of 41 and Bishop of Philadelphia John Neumann studied the exiting parochial school layout; he re-organized it, and increased the number of students twenty fold in a short time.

John Neumann's complete re-molding by his Creator, just and merciful, sovereign and Divine God Almighty, truly is amazing: Atheist-to-Baptized Christian-to-Anglican priest-to-Catholic priest--to Catholic Bishop-to-the first American to be a canonized saint..

St. John Neumann took seriously our Lord's Words, 'Go and teach all nations.' He is patron of Educators/teachers, especially those of children. In the 1960's "Neumann Centers" began to appear around the neighborhoods of state-run/non-Catholic college campuses; they continue to serve as a convenient place for Catholic students to gather, pray, and attend Mass.

While doing errands on Thursday January 5, 1860 in Philadelphia Neumann collapsed and died. He was 48 years old; He is buried, per his request, at St. Peter's Church beneath the undercroft floor, directly below the High Altar.

Every year on January 5, all Roman Catholic Churches across America honor the death of St. John Neumann.

Mikie Casem
Past Grand Knight

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THE KNIGHTLIGHTER

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