



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 Veterans Charities
Collection 5:00 pm
Mass
- 2nd Veterans Charities
Collection All Masses
- 3rd Bingo
- 4th Council Business
Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- 4th Yard Sale Breakout
Inventory & Setup
- 5th Yard Sale Pricing &
Final Setup
- 6th – 8th Winter Yard Sale
- 10th Bingo
- 12th Assembly Officers
Meeting @ 5:00 pm
- 12th Assembly Business
Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- 17th Bingo
- 23rd Knights of Columbus
Mass @ 11:00 am
- 24th Bingo
- 25th Council Officers
Meeting @ 7:00 pm

Volume: 2025 – 02
Editor: Edward Martinez
mdei99@comcast.net

Grand Knight's Comments



Good Day, Brother Knights

As we step into this brand new year, it's time to refocus and get back to business. I hope everyone has already secured their spot for the highly anticipated Wives Appreciation Dinner chaired by the esteemed John Morgan. This special event will take place at the Flame restaurant, renowned for its exceptional cuisine and welcoming atmosphere. It promises to be an evening

filled with delightful conversations and camaraderie, so make sure to confirm your reservation if you haven't done so yet!

In addition, I want to remind everyone that our annual yard sale is just around the corner. This event is a fantastic opportunity to declutter your home while supporting our community. We are always in need of enthusiastic volunteers to help with setup, sales, and cleanup, so please don't hesitate to lend a hand!

Also, be sure to mark your calendars for our upcoming fish fry events on March 14th, March 28th, and April 11th. These gatherings are not to be missed, as they feature mouthwatering dishes prepared by Ralph and his dedicated crew, who consistently deliver fantastic meals that everyone raves about.

As always, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all our members for their continued efforts and contributions, which keep our council thriving. Your involvement and support make our community so special!

**Fraternaly yours,
Paul Masotta Grand Knight**





300 Club Results for the Month of January

We just completed the mid-year drawings for the 300 Club this month; winners are listed below! We are selling half-year memberships for \$25.00. If you are interested, get your payments in ASAP, as there are not any numbers remaining. Our next 300 Club Dinner and BIG MONEY drawing is scheduled for March 2, 2025!

Make your checks payable to the 300 Club, and send your payments (\$25 per number) to:

MSGR James R. Jones Council, No. 3303	Or	Brian Tolbert
PO Box 13903		3003 Peppercorn Road
New Bern, NC 28561		New Bern, NC 28562

As a reminder, all are welcome to join; you DO NOT need to be a Knight.

Below are the winners of the January 2024 drawings. Your membership is vital to us because it allows Monsignor Jones Council 3303 to contribute to about 28 charitable organizations in our area.

	<u>\$50.00</u>	<u>\$25.00</u>	<u>\$15.00</u>	<u>\$10.00</u>
Week 1	Diana Tripp	Paul Masotta	Theresa Stupiello	Al Casciello
Week 2	Eva Hernandez	Diana Tripp	Paul Masotta	Hannah French
Week 3	Scott Dunham	John Pace	David Finn	John Durham
Week 4	Nancy Uhland	P.A. Miller	Guy Norton	Nancy Tolbert

Knights of Columbus 300 Club Potluck Dinner

300 Club Members and Knights,

Our semi-annual \$1000.00 drawing will be at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Sunday, March 2, 2025. It will be a potluck dinner with meat as the main dish and iced tea provided by the K of C. There will be a cash bar for beer and wine. All 300 Club members, Knights, and their spouses or guests can attend. Please RSVP to my email address below.

Social will be from 2:00 to 2:30, and dinner will be served at about 2:30. The drawing will follow. Please bring a dish of your choice from your category based on your last name:

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

2025, 300 Club dues (April 2025 - March 2026) can be paid for at the dinner. The price is \$50/number. Alternatively, you can mail your payment to:

Brian Tolbert
3003 Peppercorn Road
New Bern, NC 28562

Please make checks payable to "Knights of Columbus 300 Club"

Brian Tolbert
Chair



Our Winter Yard Sale is Just about Here!



We are just over two weeks away from our winter yard sale, scheduled for Feb 6th thru 8th. Most people in the New Bern area are well aware of the event and are hopefully ready to shop!!

Our Fall Sale was very successful, once again generating over \$41,000 in revenue for the Assembly.

Everyone in the building and our Truck Monkeys have been working tirelessly since our last sale in early October. Our inventory has been growing by the day. We are now storing materials in our chambers and scheduling our last pickups.

Pickups continue through the 21st, and the workers will be erecting the tents starting at 9 am on Friday, January 31st. The prep activities continue on a limited basis on the following Monday, but really ramp up on Tuesday, Feb 1st

when the Bingo tables are broken out and set up in the tents and our inventory is pulled from our storage areas and set up for the sale. Fortunately, our contacts at Cherry Point and New River believe that they will be able to provide the volunteers requested for the event, providing much of the muscle needed for the Tuesday effort. On Wednesday, our crew continues the preparation process and the pricing of the materials for sale. On Thursday morning (Feb 6th), the sale starts at 8 am and runs until noon each day through Saturday. Late on Saturday morning, the workers will start breaking down our tent city and return the components to storage. This process is completed in the afternoon along with the return of any residual inventory to storage.

Once again, the proceeds of the sale fund more than \$50,000 in donations that the Assembly makes each year to a group of local and national charities, which include St Paul's CC & School, RCS, Boys & Girls Clubs & Homes, Promise Place, FF Harbour Hospital Auxiliary, Craven County Partners in Education, Fund for Needy Children, New Bern Senior Center, MS, YMCA, Red Cross, St Jude's, and several veteran charities. It also provides the funding for the capital reserves retained to support the facilities operated by the Columbus Club.



Please consider volunteering to support this event, especially on Tuesday or Saturday afternoon. Our core group could really use the help.



February Mega Yard Sale

Knights of Columbus Hall
1125 Pine Tree Drive, New Bern
Thursday, Friday & Saturday - February 6th, 7th & 8th
8 am Until Noon Each Day!

Available inventory is stored in Warehouse, Tents, Additional Buildings & Main Hall
All proceeds fund charitable giving throughout the year!



Pat Rocco
Yard Sale Chairman

Knight of the Month – January

January 2025 Knight of the Month is Denny Colbert

Denny grew up about ten miles outside of Washington, DC. He attended Catholic schools in Washington, as there were none in his local area. After studying music for a year and a half at Catholic University, he joined the Marine Corps Reserves in May 1965, and later transferred to the Regular Marine Corps in March 1966. Denny served two tours in Chu Lai, Vietnam, where he received two Presidential Unit Citations and the Purple Heart for injuries sustained during the Tet Offensive in January 1968.

Over the course of his career, Denny spent two years with the Marine Aviation Repair and Technical Division (MARTD) at Andrews Air Force Base in Camp Springs, MD, one year at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Iwakuni in Japan, two years at Camp Pendleton in California, one year in Pohang, Korea, and the remainder of his service at MCAS Cherry Point in North Carolina. In 1970, while stationed at Andrews AFB, Denny met and married his first wife, Carolyn. They had four sons and were married for 28 years until Carolyn lost her battle with cancer in December 1998, while Denny was working at the Fleet Readiness Center (FRC) in Jacksonville, FL.

Denny transferred to **FRC** East at Cherry Point in November 1999, where he met his second wife, Margaret, at a Singles Club Halloween Dance at the Knights of Columbus in October 2000. They married in April 2002 and together have six children, eleven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, with another on the way.

Denny retired in December 2007 and has since been active with the Knights of Columbus Council as the Blood Drive Coordinator and with the Assembly as a Color Corps member and Commander. He also works as a Truck Monkey every Monday and Tuesday. Every Sunday throughout the year, he lectures at the 8 AM Mass and coordinates the Eucharistic Ministers to the sick and homebound. In his spare time, he enjoys attempting to play golf at various courses throughout Eastern North Carolina.

Ralph Aviles
Deputy Grand Knight

Family of the Month – January

January 2025 Family of the Month: Brother Knight Pete Miller and his wife Lori

Lori was born in Connecticut and has lived in various places in New England and Michigan. Pete was born in Morristown, NJ, and grew up in Long Valley, NJ, a small town without any traffic lights. Lori and Pete met while he was coaching her son in little league baseball. Lori was the Team Mom. Their relationship grew, and Lori's son became their son.

Pete worked at Shell Oil in East Hanover, NJ, in the Royal Lubricants division, while Lori worked at the VA hospital in Lyons, NJ. Eventually, they moved to Virginia, where Lori worked at the Hampton VA Hospital. Pete worked as a trucker for over 30 years. Lori retired in 2019 after 39 years of government service, and Pete retired in April 2023. Two days later, they bought a home in New Bern and moved there in June.

Their son and daughter-in-law still live in Virginia, while their other son lives in California. Pete and Lori volunteer with the Knights throughout the year, helping with yard sales and the Fish-Fry. They also delivered donations after hurricanes and helped place flags in the cemetery.

In retirement, Pete and Lori enjoy volunteering, spending time with their dogs, and reading. Pete is a humble man, and it is an honor to recognize Pete Miller and his wife Lori as the Council 3303 January Family of the Month.

Please join me in thanking them for being hardworking, humble, and faithful members of St. Paul and Council 3303.

Terry Anderson
Recorder

Faithful Navigator's Report



Greetings Brother Knights,

I would like to extend heartfelt condolences to Brother Sir Knight Tom Henry on the passing of his beloved wife, Marie. May her soul, along with all the faithfully departed, find eternal peace.

Despite the harsh weather, our dedicated volunteers have persevered, and we have received an influx of furniture for our upcoming sale. We will set up tents for the sale on January 31st at 9:00 AM and welcome all assistance; we'll provide sandwiches and drinks for everyone who helps.

The yard sale will run from February 6th to 8th, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, and we hope to gather young Marines and Sailors for help with heavy items. Please spread the word to friends and family; your support is vital.

This year's sale promises to be busy, helping us support 38 charities and our community. We encourage more gentlemen from our Catholic community to join us as Knights of Columbus. Together, we can continue to make a positive impact locally and globally.

Ron Biggs

Faithful Navigator

Sir Knight of the Month – January



For January, Assembly 1820 honors Sir Knight Deacon Jim Hackett as our Sir Knight of the Month. As we begin 2025, we would like to recognize our Faithful Spiritual Advisor, Deacon Jim Hackett, as the Sir Knight for January. Affectionately referred to as "Rabbi Ginsberg," Jim contributes immensely through his volunteer work, not only for St. Paul Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus but also for the New Bern community and the surrounding areas of Eastern North Carolina.

Since moving to New Bern from San Diego in 2017 with his wife, Lisa, Jim has been a prominent force in bringing our community closer together. His background has been well-documented in previous articles highlighting his selection as the Council's Knight of the Month and Family of the Month alongside Lisa. This recognition completes a trifecta!

Some of Jim's dedicated service activities include serving as the Prison Ministry Chair, participating in Adult Faith Formation (RCIA) and Liturgy committees, being on the Pastoral Council, and leading the Social Sundays Welcoming Committee and the Ushers/Ministry of Hospitality. Jim attends and participates in most Knights of Columbus events, including Lenten Fish Fries, Knights Masses, and events where a Spiritual Advisor is needed. He is particularly focused on serving marginalized groups, seniors, their caregivers, and the homeless.

Additionally, Deacon Jim serves as the Board Chair for Faith Connection in New Bern and is a Founding Member of the Coastal Carolina Disaster Resiliency Agency (CCDRA), where he heads the Case Management and Emotional and Spiritual Wellness Committees. He is also a member of the New Bern Chamber of Commerce Non-Profit Council and serves as the Committee Chair for the New Bern Peoples Assembly. Jim played a significant role in the recent Hunger Crop Walk, which several Brother Knights attended.

Despite his numerous commitments, Jim also enjoys leisure time. Anyone who follows him on social media knows he is a "foodie," often showcasing his discerning taste in local fine food and wine. Jim is undoubtedly one of our most involved Sir Knights, cherished by all who appreciate his company and blessings.

Mike Lynch

Faithful Captain

February Birthday Wishes



Name	Birth Date	Age
Bruce W Morris	2/5/1955	69
Timothy L Drake	2/7/1946	78
Eric L Litchfield	2/7/1967	57
John L Tessitore	2/10/1925	99
Jeffrey S Ross	2/11/1972	52
Edward C Trexler III	2/12/1957	67
Anthony W Fleming	2/13/1969	55
Edward R Skamarakas Jr	2/13/1970	54
James R Braddick	2/14/1929	95
John P De Guzman	2/14/1996	28
Eugene T Throwe Sr	2/15/1945	79
Ricardo O Mora	2/17/1963	61
Konrad K Kleczek	2/19/1979	45
Stan R Stevens	2/19/1967	57
Scott L Fritton	2/21/1997	27
Joe P Talarski	2/21/1945	79
Kevin M Twomey	2/21/1953	71
Paul E Sarsfield	2/25/1960	64
William A Elliott Jr	2/26/1941	83
Thomas J Hartman	2/26/1938	86
Philip J Tess	2/26/1950	74

Years of Service Anniversary



**Knights of
Columbus®**

Name	Anniversary Date	Years of Service
William F Madigan	2/1/1969	55
Francis S Montemerlo	2/1/1972	52
Robert E Bell	2/1/1988	36
Karl W Bissinger	2/8/1994	30
John A Jaskolka	2/18/1997	27
Paul T Laskovics	2/17/1998	26
Michael A Mahoney	2/18/2000	24
Gerald V Boyle	2/10/2007	17
Anthony R Storniolo	2/10/2009	15
Robert L Alexander	2/17/2014	10
Carlos Manuel Espinoza	2/13/2018	6
Gary G Timco	2/13/2018	6
Kevin M Twomey	2/19/2018	6
Walter P Zimmerman	2/11/2021	3
Charles R Schmidt III	2/7/2023	2
Stan R Stevens	2/25/2024	1

Wedding Anniversaries



**Knights of
Columbus®**

Name	Wife's Name	Wedding Date	Years Married
John L Tessitore	Marilyn	2/5/1949	75
Donato J Gennantonio	Cindy	2/11/1956	68

February 14 | Marriage Saint Valentine

A.D. 226–269

Love may be blind, but marriage is sure to restore your sight. It may look like a fairy tale at the beginning, but eventually you realize that marriage is hard work, however old you are and however long you've been married.

There is a moment in every marriage that makes or breaks the relationship. It might come early, or it might come late, and it might come multiple times—but it always comes. That moment is when you have to decide whether you're really "in it to win it."

That means that when you see your spouse as a real human being, with flaws and imperfections (even ones that get on your nerves), you commit to making the marriage work no matter what. When bad financial times hit, or one of you has a health crisis, or attraction in the relationship is fading—you're committed to making the marriage work, no matter what. Once you're in it to win it, there is no taking back that commitment.

Saint Valentine sacrificed his life for young people to be able to make the lifelong commitment of marriage. Valentine was a bishop in Rome when Emperor Claudius II made it illegal for young people to marry, believing it made the men worse soldiers. Valentine disobeyed the decree, and secretly performed marriage ceremonies for young couples. When he was discovered, Valentine was arrested and executed.

Saint Valentine gave his life for the sake of marriage, even though he himself could never marry. He understood the sacred bond of marriage as a sacrament that joins two persons into one flesh. How would society look if we returned to treating marriage that way?

So, whether you're married now, preparing to get married, or simply want to have marriage advice at the ready, remember this one question: Are you in it to win it?

Am I "in it to win it?" in my marriage or current relationship?
Am I in it to win it in my relationship with God?

St. Valentine, pray for us!

(Oh, and don't forget some chocolates for your honey...)

Deacon Jim

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord



When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord," and to offer the sacrifice of "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons," in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord. ~Luke 2:22-24

Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews who obeyed the Law of Moses. Jewish Law prescribed that two ritual acts needed to take place for a firstborn son. First, the mother of a newborn son was ritually unclean for seven days, and then she was to "spend thirty-three more days in a state of blood purity" (Leviticus 12:2-8). During these forty days she was not to "touch anything sacred nor enter the sanctuary till the days of her purification are fulfilled." For this reason, today's feast has at times been called the "Purification of Mary." Second, the father of the firstborn son was to "redeem" the child by making an offering to the priest of five shekels so that the priest would then present the child to the Lord (see Numbers 18:16). Recall that the firstborn male of all the Egyptians, animals and children, was killed during the tenth plague, but the firstborn males of the Israelites were spared. Thus, this offering made for the firstborn son in the Temple was a way of ritually redeeming him in commemoration of protection during that plague. Since Jesus was presented in the Temple for this redemption, today's feast is now referred to as the "Presentation in the Temple."

"Candlemass" is also a traditional name given to this feast because as early as the fifth century, the custom of celebrating this feast with lighted candles had developed. The lit candles symbolized Simeon's prophecy that Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles." Lastly, this Feast has been referred to as the "Feast of the Holy Encounter" because God, in the Person of Jesus, encountered Simeon and Anna in the Temple.

This feast is celebrated in our Church forty days after Christmas, marking the day that Mary and Joseph would have brought Jesus into the Temple. Though Mary was pure and free from sin from the moment of her conception, and though the Son of God did not need to be redeemed, Mary and Joseph fulfilled these ritual obligations.

Prayer: *My saving Lord, Your loving parents offered You to Your Father in the Temple in accordance with the Law You revealed to Moses. In that offering, our souls are purified and we are offered to Your Father with You. I thank You for the gift of salvation and pray that my soul will always radiate Your light as You dwell within me. Jesus, I trust in You.*

Assembly 1820 In Action



Christmas Midnight Mass_1



Christmas Midnight Mass_2



Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe_1



Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe_2

**K of C
Council 3303
Request for Personal Information Update
*Help keep the Council informed so they may keep you informed***

Member Name

Member #

Date of Request

Information to be changed

What do you wish to update?

Existing Information

Change to Information

Please return this form to:

A drop box will soon be available in the Chambers to return your request:

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

Do you have an email address or have access to an email address?

Email Address to use: _____

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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THE KNIGHTLIGHTER

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