



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

March

- 1st Assembly Officers Meeting @ 7 p.m.
- 6th Bingo
- 7th Council Business Meeting. @ 7 p.m.
- 8th Assembly Business Meeting @ 7 pm
- 10th Fish Fry #2
- 13th Bingo
- 20th Bingo
- 24th Fish Fry #3
- 27th Bingo
- 28th Council Officers Meeting @ 7pm

Volume: 2023 – 03
Editor: Edward Martinez
mdej99@comcast.net

Grand Knight's Comments



Brother Knights,
Welcome to our new Council Knight – Jeffrey Schmidt.

Congratulations to the Council Knight of the Month – Brian Tolbert and Family of the Month – Tom and Paula Hartman.

As we move into the Lenten season, our Council will once again be hosting three Fish Fry's at St. Paul – Family Life Center. The dates are February 24th, March 10th, and March 24th. Tickets can be purchased from Ralph Aviles,

Danny Gennantonio, Terry Anderson, and Carlos Espinoza and available after the masses on the following dates:

- February 11/12 and February 18/19 for the 1st Fish Fry
- February 25/26 and March 4/5 for the 2nd Fish Fry
- March 11/12 and March 18/19 for the 3rd Fish Fry

Thank you to Ralph Aviles and his team for once again cooking and providing these dinners to the St. Paul and Knights of Columbus community.

The Catholic Daughters will be hosting a St. Patrick's Day Dinner on March 12th from 4.30 – 6.00 PM (Takeouts available from 4.45 – 5.30 PM) at the Columbus Club Hall. The Price is \$17 per dinner and the Catholic Daughters will be selling tickets on February 25/26 and March 4/5 after the masses at St. Paul's. The Council and Assembly Knights will again assist the Catholic Daughters with this dinner.

Reminder – Please remit your payment to me by March 17th if interested in participating in the North Carolina State Raffle.

Thank you to George and Louise Halyak for their efforts once again in organizing the Wives' Appreciation Dinner at the New Bern Country Club on Friday, February 10th. The dinner was very well attended. Father Lesak provided the opening prayer and Deacon Jim Hackett the closing prayer.

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

Randall Ramian
Grand Knight



300 Club Results for the Month of February

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

Reverse Drawing Winners February 19, 2023

\$1000.00 Kathy Nelson

\$100.00 Margaret Bagg

February Winners

	<u>\$50</u>	<u>\$25</u>	<u>\$15</u>	<u>\$10</u>
February 7 th	Javier Cruz	Pat Dooley	Chris Blust	Fred Amend
February 14 th	Scott Dunham	Martin Pagnozzi	Rose Whetzel	Larry Winsor
February 21 th	Paul Masotta	John Murphy	Ed Gillespie	Mary Fleming
February 28 th	Thresa Stuppiello	Emi Uhland	Johanna Davis	John McQuade M.D

Gerald Brenc
Co-Director

Winter Yard Sale Successful Despite the Obstacles Faced!!



To say that we had a few bumps along the way to this yard sale would be a significant understatement. Just three weeks before the event, we were discussing a noticeable shortage of high value furniture for the sale. Added to this was a shortage of appliances to be sold at the event.

Fortunately, we had some significant donations in January which even included the furniture contents of entire houses of a past Knight. The last minute donations made us feel a lot more confident heading into the event. One other positive development which helped us along was our reestablishment of a connection with the Sun Journal and its publishing of an article during the week of the sale. Glad to see that the

new editor of our local paper is interested in publicizing local event!! Look forward to working with them in the future.

Despite attempts to reach out to every source of volunteers at Cherry Point and New River, we were heading into the week of the sale with only 1 volunteer. Fortunately, we kept working at it and were able to obtain 5 Marine volunteers on Tuesday and 7 on Saturday. These young men were a tremendous help emptying the storage areas on Tuesday and breaking down the event (tents and residual inventory included) on Saturday.

Weather was a pretty significant obstacle during the week as it rained most of the day on Thursday (although this did not seem to deter the crowds). Thursday was overcast but dry and we had a decent crowd and sales. Winter conditions rolled in on Saturday, but that didn't stop the crowds from buying up most of our remaining inventory. A big thank you to the volunteers who had to brave the cold conditions working the tents and storage areas outside, especially Danny G and Sonja Macsay who cashiered all 3 days (with the help of two propane heaters on Saturday).



The food provided by our volunteers in the kitchen is always good and the volunteers were well fed once again. Thanks to the Knights from the Council and Assembly that showed up in response to the phone tree and emails sent out to set up tents on Friday, the 27th and break down the event on Saturday, the 4th. As noted in the, the regular Yard Sale workers are pretty tuckered out and the additional help setting up and breaking things down is really helpful.

Next sale will be June 1st – 3rd. Oh yeah, we beat our budgeted income for the event by \$6,800!!

Pat Rocco & Craig Baader

LAMB Report

We are coming into another year which I hope will get better. I'm waiting on the checks to be cut for the distribution of our collected funds for disbursement. This should happen towards the end of February with a possible distribution in early March, like last year. The yard sale of February 2-3-4 collection for LAMB was \$ 321.50. Thanks to all who participated, with the collections (troops of St George also) and the yard sale.

We're starting this year off with some scheduled collections. Saturday March 25 is confirmed for a collection at the Food Lion on MLK Blvd from 8 until 6. We are allowed to cover both doors so I will need 2 volunteers each for 2 hour collections starting at 8 am for a total of 10 for the whole day. I also sent a request to Harris Teeter for both Market Place on MLK Blvd and Carolina Colours for Saturday April 15 from 8 - 6. This is not been confirmed yet, only tentative. May 20 is scheduled and confirmed for Piggly Wiggly on Simmons St from 8 - 6. I will need 1 volunteer for each 2 hour collection for a total of 5 for the whole day. There are several agencies around looking for non-profits to donate to, so I am in the process of contacting them.

Mark your calendars. Just received info for Mumfest 2023 to be held on Saturday and Sunday October 14 - 15 2023. That will run from 10 am to about 5 pm both days. Will try to get the same spot as last year. We will need 2 volunteers each shift for a total of 8 each day.

We just received our new table covering with the K of C logo with Council 3303I and Assembly 1820, New Bern 28562 printed on it. It is for the use at any council/assembly function.

Tom Henry
LAMB Administrator

Knight of the Month - February

This month we honor Sir Knight Brian Tolbert as the Monsignor James R. Jones Council Knight of the Month for February 2023. Brian has served our Council as a member of the Yard Sale Truck Brigade, Yard Sale Tent Set Up team, Bingo Worker, and any odd job he is requested to support.

Brian is originally from Pinckneyville, Illinois where his mother still lives. Since that time, he has moved 17 times as a military member both overseas and across the United States. In his final move Brian and his wife Nancy moved to New Bern in 2019 where he held his last military position as the Commander of Field Medical Training Battalion at Camp Johnson, North Carolina finalizing his 35 year military career and retiring as a Captain, USN. He and Nancy are proud to now call New Bern their forever home.

Brian joined the Knights of Columbus in 2022 after some persuasive conversations with Dan Macsay and he is proud to be part of such a great group.

Brian has a B.S. and M.S. in Public Administration from Southern Illinois University, attended Air Command and Staff College, Naval Postgraduate School, and Harvard University focusing on business management and systems analysis.

Council 3303 is proud to honor Brother Brian 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 – February

February's Family of the Month is Paula and Tom Hartman. Paula grew up in Tarrytown, Westchester County, NY and Tom spent his childhood in Bayside, Queens County, NY. They've had four children between them. Sadly, they lost one of Tom's last year.

They met at a wedding in New Jersey while Paula was living in New Bern. Shortly after meeting, they married lived in Northport Village, Long Island, NY. They moved to New Bern together in 2000 and have since lived in Trent Woods.

Tom is a past Grand Knight of Council 3303 and in the past has run the LAMB collection. He is currently active in several Council and Assembly efforts such as collecting for LAMB, working Bingo and helping with the yard sale in various capacities. In addition to his volunteer work for the Knights, Tom helps manage the Craven County Law Enforcement Officers Association.

Paula is the current Regent of the Catholic Daughters and led the St. Paul chapter of the Junior Catholic Daughters. They are both Eucharistic Ministers and Paula is a Lector. Together they led the Marriage Preparation Program for nearly 15 years leading up to 2018.

Professionally, Paula was a Spanish language teacher and Tom was a national account manager for a packaging company. Paula is a past president of the Trent Woods Garden Club and loves flowers. They enjoy boating and are members of the New Bern Yacht Club.

Terry Anderson
Grand Knight

Faithful Navigators Report



Wow, let me start off by saying holy cow we made it through another yard sale! We are really getting good at this. I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication in making this yard sale a success. Our total receipts for this yard sale was \$38,000. This event was not without its challenges as we managed to make it through a wind storm and some bitter cold. Hopefully our next winter yard sale will be sunny and 70. Thank you again for all of your hard work in making this yard sale another success.

This past month the fourth degree donated \$34,00.00 to RCS for the vets. The officers of Assembly 1820 would like to give a huge thank you to everyone who made it possible. The big news in New Bern this past month was the New Bern Bears football team capturing the state title. GO BEARS!! Unfortunately, the school could not afford to celebrate their accomplishment with championship rings. In stepped the Knights of Columbus with a donation of \$500.00 to help offset the cost. They deserve to enjoy this accomplishment.

To all the Sir Knights with birthdays and anniversaries for the month of February have a blessed one as this is the month of love.

On April 15th we will be having our fourth degree. If you would like to become a fourth degree please contact myself at 252-229-9799 or Craig Baader at 401-6273152. We would love to have you with us in the fourth degree.

May God bless you and may he turn his face to you. Tell someone that you love them today!

Philip Nassef
Faithful Navigator



Sir Knight of the Month – February

February's Sir Knight of the Month is Clark French. Clark is married to Hannah French and hails from Oklahoma. Clark served in the US Navy and after his naval service Clark started a successful appliance business. His background provides support to our Yard Sale endeavors by testing and fixing appliances. He can be found most Mondays and Tuesdays at the Yard Sale building working on donated items for sale. In between and during yard sales he keeps the refrigerator stocked with water and soda's. He also maintains the office supplies cabinet for items needed during the yard sale. During the Yard Sale Clark assists in the furniture section, selling appliances and help selling other furniture. Clark is a mainstay of the Assembly and has held various positions in both the Council and Assembly. He provides invaluable insight and knowledge for the smooth operation on a day to day basis.

Clark typifies the dedication and service to community and Knights of Columbus and is deserving of recognition as Sir Knight of the month for February 2023.

Ron Biggs
Faithful Captain

Veterans Donation Presented to RCS

Pictured below is Faithful Navigator - Philip Nassef presenting a donation check of \$3,400.67 to RCS Development Manager Jessica Cantu, designated to benefit their veteran support activities and living accommodations. This funding came from a combination of the Assemblies budgeted annual donation and the funds collected after masses on January 14th & 15th.



Philip Nassef
Faithful Navigator

Procrastinate? Not me!

'Have you ever been accused by someone of procrastinating? Have you accused yourself of the same. I am sure at some point in our lives we have all been accused of procrastinating on something. Human nature always comes into play no matter how hard we try not to let it. It is very easy to say I will do it later even though it could simplify our life or make things better for us. If I procrastinate long enough, maybe what I should be doing will simply go away. Why get involved or create more work for myself? Don't I have enough to do as it is? If we all thought that way, very little would ever be accomplished and our lives would have very little meaning. As Knights procrastination is a word that is not in our vocabulary. We are men of action and purpose. Men who are willing to go the extra mile for our fellow man and because of that we are highly respected in our community and parish. A great way to share that love and respect is to bring other men of faith into our fold as Knights of Columbus. Don't let procrastination overcome your natural tendency of "getting to it later". Ask that parishioner or friend that you have been meaning to talk to about joining an exclusive club that can transform their life and pay rewards beyond their wildest dreams.

Dan Macsay

Membership Director

A Lenten March



The entire month of March falls during the liturgical season of Lent which is represented by the liturgical color purple — a symbol of penance, mortification, and the sorrow of a contrite heart. Here and there in the stark March landscape, a few plants and trees are beginning to give evidence of the new life that winter's frost and chill had concealed from our eyes. The Church's vibrant new life has been obscured, too, by the austerity of the penitential season of Lent. But that life is indisputable, and it will burgeon forth on Easter as Christ coming forth from his tomb!

During this month we will continue our journey to the cross with our acts of penitence. We will reflect on our mortality ("Remember man thou art dust") and the shortness of life ("and to dust thou shall return"). We will heed the call, "Now is the acceptable time, now is "the day of salvation (2 Corinthians 6:2)." Just like Our Lord's earthly life every moment of our lives is leading up to the last moment—when for eternity we will either go to God or suffer the fires of hell. During this month we will go from the suffering of Good Friday to the joy of Easter Sunday. We will trade the purple of penance for the white of victory and resurrection. The feast of the Annunciation is celebrated on March 25.

Let us not tire of doing our good works and penance, but continue with the enthusiasm of the catechumens on their way to Easter and Baptism. May our Lenten observance be a joyful journey — and not a forced march.

As the weeks of Lent progress let us not tire of doing our good works and penance, but continue with the enthusiasm of the catechumens on their way to Easter and Baptism. May our Lenten observance be a joyful journey — and not a forced march.

Deacon Jim Hackett

March 19, St. Joseph, Spouse of Mary (Solemnity)



St. Joseph was an ordinary manual laborer although descended from the royal house of David. In the designs of Providence, he was destined to become the spouse of the Mother of God. His high privilege is expressed in a single phrase, "Foster-father of Jesus." About him Sacred Scripture has little more to say than that he was a just man—an expression which indicates how faithfully he fulfilled his high trust of protecting and guarding God's greatest treasures upon earth, Jesus and Mary.

The darkest hours of his life may well have been those when he first learned of Mary's pregnancy; but precisely in this time of trial Joseph showed himself great. His suffering, which likewise formed a part of the work of the redemption, was not without great providential import: Joseph was to be, for all times, the trustworthy witness of the Messiah's virgin birth. After this, he modestly retires into the background of holy Scripture.

Of St. Joseph's death the Bible tells us nothing. There are indications, however, that he died before the beginning of Christ's public life. His was the most beautiful death that one could have, in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Humbly and unknown, he passed his years at Nazareth, silent and almost forgotten he remained in the background through centuries of Church history. Only in more recent times has he been accorded greater honor. Liturgical veneration of St. Joseph began in the fifteenth century, fostered by Sts. Brigid of Sweden and Bernadine of Siena. St. Teresa, too, did much to further his cult.

At present there are two major feasts in his honor. On March 19 our veneration is directed to him personally and to his part in the work of redemption, while on May 1 we honor him as the patron of workmen throughout the world and as our guide in the difficult matter of establishing equitable norms regarding obligations and rights in the social order. — Excerpted from *The Church's Year of Grace*, Pius Parsch

St. Joseph is invoked as patron for many causes. He is the patron of the Universal Church. He is the patron of the dying because Jesus and Mary were at his death-bed. He is also the patron of fathers, of carpenters, and of social justice. Many religious orders and communities are placed under his patronage.

Deacon Jim Hackett

Saint Patrick – Fact and Fiction



Celebration of St. Patrick's Day in the United States may bring to mind images of parades, beer, and partygoers decked out in green. Bridget Haggerty, though, remembers marking St. Patrick's Day very differently. A 41-year U.S. resident who was born to Irish parents in England, Haggerty is the author of *The Traditional Irish Wedding* and the Web site *Irish Culture and Customs*.

As a child in England during the 1950s, Haggerty remembers that her expatriate Irish family would receive a package from her mother's relatives back in Dublin before each St. Patrick's Day. The package contained live shamrock and small cardboard badges emblazoned with a golden harp, a symbol of Ireland. Family members would each pin a sprig of shamrock on their clothes, and Haggerty and her two brothers would wear the greenery along with their harp badges to school on St. Patrick's Day. "If the budget allowed it, I'd have a green ribbon in my hair. But that was the only green we wore," said Haggerty, who now lives in Cincinnati, Ohio.

This seems a stark contrast to the fields of green decorations, hats, and clothes found in the United States. While no one can confirm with certainty why wearing so much green became popular, there is a very good reason, according to the Irish, not to do so, Haggerty said. According to superstition, the color green was thought to bring bad luck because it was the favorite color of the fairy folk. "As a matter of fact," Haggerty said, "you should never say the fairies. They hate it! The Good People is the right term to use." The Good People were unpredictable, according to Irish folklore, and were known to steal people away—especially children—who enticed fairy folk by wearing too much of their favorite color.

Today Americans appear willing to take this risk. And it seems the Irish are beginning to follow suit. Dublin now holds a weeklong festival that culminates on St. Patrick's Day, said Haggerty. Christina Mahony, acting director of Catholic University's Center for Irish Studies in Washington, D.C., has noticed the changes as well. About 15 years ago, Mahony said, marching bands, big parades, and other trappings of "American glitz" were "unheard of" in the Irish capital, Mahony said. In Ireland, St. Patrick's Day was traditionally a Catholic feast day and a holy day of obligation. People had the day off from work, went to Mass, and had a family meal together. "There was a religiousness about it, a sanctity about it," Mahony said.

Times indeed have changed. According to Mahony, Irish pubs used to be closed on two days of the year: Good Friday and St. Patrick's Day. "So ironically enough, in Ireland until recently, on St. Patrick's Day you couldn't get a drink!"

Mahony recalls one notable exception from her student days at University College in Dublin. The annual Irish dog show was held on March 17 and was given a license to sell alcohol. "It was amazing the number of people who developed a fondness for dogs on that particular day," Mahony said.

Another misconception is the association of St. Patrick with the color green, Mahony said. The confusion perhaps arises from the phrase "the wearing of the green," which meant to wear a shamrock. St. Patrick used the three-leaved plant to explain the Trinity of the Christian religion. In contrast, the original color assigned to St. Patrick was blue, Mahony said. This color, St. Patrick's blue, can be seen on ancient Irish flags and on the uniforms the Irish special forces wear to this day.

As the patron saint of Ireland, St. Patrick is credited for bringing Christianity to the island. Yet St. Patrick himself remains in a mysterious fog of fact and legend. No one can pinpoint the exact dates of St. Patrick's birth or death or where he originally was born, Mahony said. It is generally agreed that he was captured in his youth and sold into slavery, probably in the fifth century, in Ireland. "There is a combination of history and myth that is very difficult to sort out," Mahony said.

From Haggerty's perspective, it is clear from the stories, whether true or not, how St. Patrick won over the hearts of the Irish. "One of the things that endears him to the Irish ... was the fact that, because he had been enslaved [in Ireland], he had learned the language and so he could preach to them in Irish."

The degree to which St. Patrick's Day is celebrated in the United States initially was a shock to Haggerty. Growing up an Irish Roman Catholic in the heart of Protestant England had been quite a challenge. "I didn't particularly care for being Irish when I was a kid," Haggerty said. "It took a long time to absorb the fact that [the U.S.] really, really loves its Irish heritage ... That's something to be really admired. – By Jennifer Vernon - National Geographic



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Editor: Edward Martinez
 Assistant Editor: Open
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