

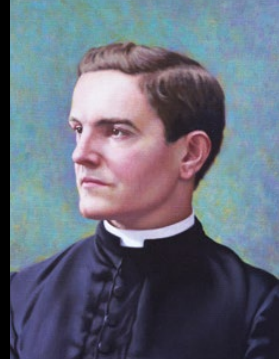


November 2020

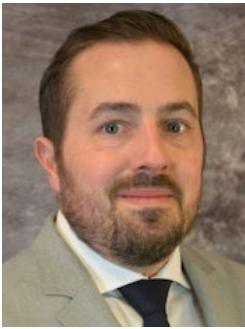
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Patuxent Ripple

Patuxent Council 2203 Knights of Columbus • Laurel, MD



Grand Knight's Report by Kyle Hubbard



Greetings, Worthy Brothers!

I hope this message finds all Brother Knights and their families safe and happy during these trying times. With all the uncertainty and changing messaging regarding the pandemic, please refer to my weekly email reminder, the bulletin, Flocknote, and the Council Facebook page for the most up-to-date information about parish and Council events.

The Mass of Beatification of Venerable Michael McGivney was held Saturday, 31 October at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford, CT. Cardinal Joseph Tobin (Newark, NJ) presided over the Mass, which included the reading of an apostolic letter from Pope Francis that gave the reasons why the church now considers Fr. McGivney "blessed." The letter written by Pope Francis expressed his belief that Blessed Michael J. McGivney was "an outstanding witness of Christian solidarity and fraternal assistance" because of his "zeal" for proclaiming the Gospel and his "generous concern for his brothers and sisters." The beatification of our founder is a remarkable feat, and is an acknowledgment from the Pope and the Catholic Church that Fr. McGivney lived a life of heroic virtue. The principle of living a life of heroic virtue, as well as those espoused by Pope Francis in his apostolic letter, are the foundation on which the Knights of Columbus is built, and are principles we should all strive to heed in our daily lives. Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney is now at the step just prior to sainthood. I ask everyone to pray that another miracle can be attributed to Fr. McGivney's intercession so he can be canonized a saint.

November is a time of reflection for our order. Each year, Councils across the world hold Memorial Masses to honor Brother Knights and Ladies that have gone before us. Our Memorial Mass was held Tuesday, 17 November at St. Mary's Church, and was celebrated by Fr. Christian. We pray that the souls of

our faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

As a Council, we continue to roll up our sleeves and put faith into action. We actively support our local community through the Leave No Neighbor Behind program by participating in the SHARE program, and by serving as a drop-off location for Little Sisters of the Poor donations. In conjunction with St. Mary's School, we initiated our Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest, aimed at encouraging our parish community to shift from a preoccupation with materialism, to the light of Christ and the spirit of giving. On a more global scale, this month, we also launched our annual Box of Joy campaign, a Christmas gift ministry dedicated to sending toys and other gifts to children suffering from extreme poverty around the world.

Our Drive-Thru Dinner fundraiser, spearheaded by Stan Potter, generated profit in excess of \$1500 during October. This money will be used to support the parish as well as our own charitable efforts. The final Drive-Thru Dinner fundraiser of the calendar year will take place Saturday, 21 November from 11am – 2pm and will be Italian-inspired. Please come out and support the Council by eating delicious food! The Drive-Thru fundraiser will restart in January.

A Mass acknowledging Patuxent Council's 100th Anniversary will be held Saturday, 28 November at 5:00pm (Saturday after Thanksgiving), live and in person at St. Mary's Church. This is the first scheduled event celebrating our first 100 years as a Council. Sign-up if you wish to attend!

As always, recruit, recruit, recruit! Online registration is quick and easy. Simply direct potential members to kofc.org/joinus to sign-up. Anyone who registers between now and 31 December, and uses the promo code MCGIVNEY2020, will receive their first-year membership for free! Of course, in-person recruiting also works. Please contact our Membership Chair PGK Steve Hubbard with any questions you may have, but especially with the names and contact info for any recruits you are pursuing.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

Serving Others is Faith in Action

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Council Meets: 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Kutzera Room of the Keesler Parish Center, 800 Main Street, Laurel, MD 20707

Mailing Address: K of C Patuxent Council 2203, P.O. Box 95, Laurel, MD 20725

Membership Director's Report

by Steve Hubbard, PGK, Membership Chair

At our council Memorial Mass on 17 November, I received the Columbian & Founders Award for my GK year (2019-2020) on behalf of the council. The only piece missing from our ability to earn the STAR Council award was the McGivney Award for recruiting. Patuxent hasn't earned STAR Council for over ten years. It's all up to us! We do such great work in all aspects of serving the parish & our community—how wonderful it would be to earn the STAR Council award that would showcase our success across the board. The key? Recruit, recruit, recruit! Becoming a new Knight could not possibly be easier than it is now with degree exemptions totally online. Bring the guys in and we'll do the rest!

SHARE Food Distribution Saturday, November 21st

by Jimmy Williams, PGK

A huge thank you to everyone who came out to assist with our Thanksgiving SHARE Food Distribution on Saturday, November 21st! We delivered an estimated 3,193 pounds of food to our individual clients, two convents, LARS, and Elizabeth House! This included 126 Value Packs, each weighing about 19 pounds, and 60 turkeys. Everything went incredibly smoothly, ensuring all our clients will have food on the table for Thanksgiving this year.

Our Christmas SHARE Food Distribution will take place Saturday, December 19th. Warehouse truckers will depart the Keesler Center at 7:30 a.m. and all other volunteers should arrive to the Keesler Center by 8:45 a.m. We again expect this to be a large distribution. Initial estimates are around 3,500 pounds.

The SHARE Team would also like to thank all those who have donated to SHARE Holiday Meals and all those Brother Knights and family members assisting with the collections before and after Mass. As of this writing, we have collected approximately \$7,000. The Christmas collections will be held the first two weekends of December. Look for the SignUp Genius links to be distributed via email from Grand Knight Kyle.

Presents and Gifts

by Gary Patishnock, PGK, PFM, Lecturer

My brothers all. "It's the holiday season", a time for giving and receiving.

As a noun, a **present** is something given to someone on a special occasion or at a special event. As an adjective, it means either the *here and now* (at the *present*) or at a *particular place* (all present and accounted for). With a different emphasis on the syllables, as a verb you "present" or give an object, an action, even a Lecturer talk to others.

When and why do we give and receive presents? Looking at the calendar, birthdays, Valentine's Day, anniversaries, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, weddings, retirements, baby showers, house warmings, promotions and of course Christmas. That's at least an average of once a month!

Presents become "routine" or "expected". Kids expect presents under the Christmas tree, a wedding invitation has the not so subtle message of "give us something" and heaven help the husband who forgets his wife's birthday or their anniversary! "*Get a present, at the present, and present it to me!*"

A **gift** on the other hand is something more general or special. Not just a physical item wrapped and presented at an occasion. Provide your friend a favor, treat the kids to ice cream, put ten dollars in the poor box, or spend time with your sick grandmother? Those are gifts of effort, food, money and time. They are unearned and unexpected. Some might call it **Charity**...

Many gifts we take for granted. Being an American citizen, our rights and privileges, surviving an accident, overcoming cancer. These were gifts as accidents of birth or naturalization, bravery and skills of others. These gifts were not earned by you, but earned for you by the efforts of others.

Everyone listening or reading this share three amazing gifts. The first is the **miracle of life itself, body and soul**, a *gift from our Creator*. The second is the **gift of everyday life**, being able to appreciate God's creation no matter what our situation is. Just getting up in the morning is a gift! Last, **the ultimate gift**: *Christ humbled Himself and became man, was crucified, died, buried and rose again to conquer death*: **His victory over sin**.

When you look at the presents under the **Christmas** tree, give thanks to the One whose "presence" and **gift** of humbling Himself, made it possible.

Family of the Month October 2020



Patuxent Council No. 2203 is pleased to recognize the **Onyekweli family – Patrick & Yetunde** – as its Family of the Month for October 2020. As our council's current Warden, Patrick is also the Community Activities Director. Additionally, he volunteers with our council's "drive-through dinners" fundraising effort. He serves St. Mary's parish as an usher for Sunday Masses. Yetunde volunteers with our council's drive-through dinners fundraisers as well. She serves the parish in a number of capacities as: usher; lector; Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion; Arimathean; religious education teacher for over 15 years; Ladies of Charity member; Sanctuary Society member; and has assisted with the adult education for English language learners. She also volunteers with the Gabriel Network. The Onyekwelis are active in the parish's African Community. They have three adult children who are pursuing various professional careers. Patuxent Council & St. Mary of the Mills Parish are grateful for the Onyekweli family's dedication & service to our parish & the greater Laurel community.

Centennial History: Developing Successful Fraternal Leaders by Jimmy Williams, PGK

Last month, I wrote about our Council's incredible support of St. Mary of the Mills over our 100 years. This month, we'll reflect on our Council's long history of developing leaders who have gone on to leadership roles at higher levels in the Knights of Columbus, such as the Patriotic (4th) Degree and the Maryland State Council. Thanks to Brother Bill McMahon for sharing his various records with me to assist with this article.

While Patuxent Council has yet to produce a State Deputy, Sir Knight Phillip L. Nelson served two terms as Master of the Archdiocese of Washington 4th Degree from 1992 to 1996. Curley Assembly 383, the 4th Degree Assembly to which our Council belongs, has been around for 60 years. While Patuxent is one of nine Councils comprising Curley Assembly, 15 of the 60 Faithful Navigators, 25%, have been from Patuxent.

Within the State Council, 10 of our members have been appointed to the post of District Deputy. The first was Brother Frank P. Casula, serving from 1955-1957. Eight of these 10 DDs have served since 1994, including current DD Mike Webster. Members of Patuxent Council have represented the Maryland State Council at the Supreme Convention at least six times, the

first in 1956 and most recently at the 132nd Supreme Convention in Orlando in 2014.

Several of our members have been active in the State Council for many years, supporting numerous State Deputies. The jobs have included State Membership Statistician, State Membership Director, State Photographer, Convention Committee, State Activity Director, Program Chairman, Knighthood Degree team member, and more. Honestly, the roles are too numerous to fully capture and we'd likely leave someone off if we tried to create an exhaustive list.

At our July 2019 Installation of Officers, then-State Advocate Tony Salvemini took note of our Council's substantial involvement in State Council Leadership and our strong track record of developing quality fraternal leaders. This is a credit to the men of our Council. We embrace new talent and new ideas, and nearly all our Past Grand Knights remain active with the Council in various roles, providing guidance and mentorship to the leaders of tomorrow. This has been especially important as we continue to navigate the challenges and changing needs of our community brought on by the pandemic. Where others may struggle, our Council continues to lead and succeed.

Memorial Mass Report by Bill McMahon, HLM, FDD, PGK, PFN

On November 17th our Associate Chaplain, Fr. Christian Huebner, celebrated our annual memorial Mass to remember all our deceased brothers and family members. It began at 7:30PM in the St. Mary of the Mills Church. We had planned for refreshments following but because of the COVID-19 situation it was cancelled. Our altar server was David Magno the son of brother Greg Magno.



For our sick

We pray for the healing, comfort and consolation of our sick, and their caretakers:

PGK Roger Lambert

PGK Steve Sawyer

Brother Ron Jacobs

Jane Turek, mother of Brother Ben Turek

Ray Turek, Jr., brother of Brother Mike Turek

Sophie Hoover, friend of PGK Steve Hubbard

Karen Giddings, friend of PGK Steve Hubbard

Jackie DiBella, friend of PGK Steve Hubbard

Laura Rohr, friend of PGK Steve Hubbard

For our deceased

*We offer prayers for the repose of their souls.
May they rest in peace:*

Lady Florence Jean Webster, mother of
DD Mike Webster, PGK

Lady Marge Showalter, widow of
PGK Jerry Showalter

Maj Scott Seney, USMCR (Ret.)

The Honorable Joseph R. ("Joe") Robison, former mayor of Laurel, lifelong St. Mary of the Mills parishioner (former pastor Joseph Myer - for whom Joe was named - baptized him and was his godfather), and friend of many brother Knights



Patuxent Council 2203 Calendar

(as of November 22, 2020)

All dates are tentative due to the COVID-19 crisis

November

28 Patuxent Council 100th Anniversary Mass
5:00pm, St. Mary of the Mills Church

December

1 Patuxent Council Business Meeting
7:30pm – 8:30pm, VIRTUAL

5-6 SHARE, Christmas Meal Collections
following all weekend Masses

**8 Patuxent Council Officers/
Planning Meeting**
7:30pm – 8:30pm, VIRTUAL

**10 Newsletter items Monthly
Submission Deadline**

12-13 SHARE, Christmas Meal Collections
following all weekend Masses

15 Patuxent Council Social Meeting
7:30pm – 8:30pm, VIRTUAL

16 Chapter Christmas Party
8:00pm – 9:00pm,
Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council, Bowie

19 SHARE Distribution
9:00am – 11:00am, Keesler Center

19 Little Sisters of the Poor
10:00am, Keesler Center

Submissions

This newsletter is published on or about the 15th of every month. If you have an article you would like to submit for publication, please submit to **GK Kyle Hubbard** at hubbard.kyle@gmail.com and **Brother Erik Washam** at ekwasham@gmail.com for review. Please limit submissions to 250-275 words.



Stephen M. Clites, FICF
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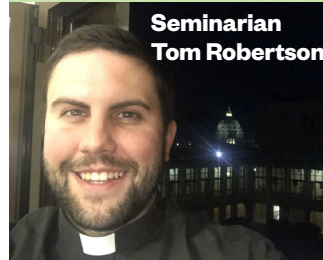
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"The finest compliment I can receive is a referral from one of my members."

Car Raffle - Drawing **March 21, 2021**

Dick Stevick, Car Raffle Chair

\$1 each or 6 for \$5

Remember 60% goes to State and 40% goes to our council. Suggested member sales is 18 tickets for \$15. Tickets can be picked up and/or dropped-off at the Drive-thru on Saturdays from 11-2. If you can't make it contact Dick Stevick, 410-982-7554 mobile to arrange ticket pick-up or drop-off.



Seminarian
Tom Robertson

RSVP - Continue to pray for all seminarians - especially Tom Robertson, Pontifical North American College in Rome and Braden Lynch, Mount Saint Mary's in Emmitsburg.

November Birthdays

Nakhoon Baek	Nov. 1	Faisal Van Nostrand	Nov. 16
Thomas E. Devine	Nov. 2	Tony S. Habada	Nov. 17
Paul R. Schneeman	Nov. 2	Carmyn J. Lombardo	Nov. 18
William R. Schnieders	Nov. 6	Terrence N. Buhnange	Nov. 19
Salvador C. Ochida	Nov. 8	Julian Ezirike	Nov. 23
Vincent W. Zagorski	Nov. 8	Christopher M. Pohl	Nov. 24
Rev. John F. Mckay	Nov. 11	Marcos I. Alvarez	Nov. 27
Charles A. Casazza	Nov. 12	Kevin P. Murphy	Nov. 27
Louis A. Rozzi Jr.	Nov. 13	Andrew G. Paez	Nov. 29
Guy G. Burgio	Nov. 14	Lt. Col. Ronald M. Jacobs	Nov. 30
Nicholas F. Fell Jr.	Nov. 16	Gerald J. Kremer	Nov. 30
Robert M. Henry	Nov. 16	John A. Mima	Nov. 30
Patrick N. Onyekweli	Nov. 16		

Patuxent Council 2203 Officers

Chaplain Fr. Larry Young	frlarry21@gmail.com
Assoc. Chaplain Fr. Christian Huebner	chuebner@stmaryofthemills.org
Asst. Chaplain Deacon Bob Gignilliat	ginlet@verizon.net
Asst. Chaplain Deacon Jim Munno	jim@munnofamily.com
GK Kyle S Hubbard	hubbard.kyle@gmail.com
DGK Augustine Nwabueze	austinnwabueze@yahoo.com
Chancellor Richard Stevick	dstevick@verizon.net
Recorder Frederick Krutz Jr	rkrutz@comcast.net
Treasurer Marc Alvarez	alvarez3m@aol.com
Advocate Ted Gambogi	tedgambogi@hotmail.com
Warden Patrick Onyekweli	pokweli@yahoo.com
Inside Guard Adam Novak	beastno@yahoo.com
Outside Guard Reinhard Borchardt	reinhard.borchardt@gmail.com
1-Year Trustee Arthur Blenkle	arthb@aol.com
2-Year Trustee Gerard Gager	ggager@verizon.net
3-Year Trustee Stephen Hubbard	hubbs99@verizon.net
FS Bob Tenney	roberttenney@msn.com
Lecturer Gary Patishnock	gary.patishnock@verizon.net
Field Agent Steve Clites	stephen.clites@kofc.org