



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREEHOLD COUNCIL 1672

COMPASS

JANUARY - FEBRUARY - MARCH, 2025

COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain	Monsignor Sam A. Sirianni
Grand Knight	William (Chris) Barnett
Deputy Grand Knight	Paschal (Pat) Facchini
Chancellor	Tom LoBochiarro
Recorder	Jeff Yoder
Financial Secretary	George Ferriso
Treasurer	John Belbol
Advocate	Spencer Purdum
Warden	Frank Musto
Lecturer	Tom Fulciniti
Inside Guard	Rich Pepe
	JJ Occhiusio
Outside Guard	Lou Tinto
	Nebil Toutouchi
Trustees	Brian Barrett, PGK
	Gino Iacovella, PGK
	Tom Nevenglosky, PGK

COLUMBIAN CLUB OFFICERS

President	Daniel Dawidowicz
Vice President	Steven Kedulich
Treasurer	Nebil Toutouchi
Secretary	Frank O'Shea
Financial Secretary	Lester Preston

Trustees

William (Chris) Barnett, GK	
Pat Facchini, DGK	John Belbol
Dennis Annarumma	Edward Hudak, PGK



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GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

William "Chris" Barnett



There is no doubt that the weeks leading into the Christmas season are very busy for the Council. The months of November and December see a flurry of activity not only at the Council but also at the Co-Cathedral of Saint Robert Bellarmine and the Parish of St. Rose of Lima. Starting in early November, we had our Council Mass for Departed Brothers presided over by Father John Campoli. Several of the families were in attendance and were extremely appreciative of our having the Mass for their loved ones. Then in mid-November, we had a successful Send a Soldier Home for the Holidays campaign at both Churches as well as several merchants in town. We also decorated our Council for Christmas, had a party with the Catholic Daughters and lit our Council Tree accompanied by a fun sing-along. As November rolled to a close, our Council supported the Keep Christ in Christmas Drive and as was the case with previous years, both Churches were extremely generous in their giving.

December started off with two full days of selling Trees, wreaths, pillows and grave blankets as well as installing, lighting and dedicating the Memorial Trees we set up at both Churches. We had a Kids Santa party that was a huge success with both a new Santa and 30 children in attendance each receiving a gift to open and enjoy. We also had a blood drive with 20 donors, supported the Christmas "Coffee and" and assisted the Diocese at the Sensory Mass for autistic individuals.

Now, as I write this article, Christmas is soon to arrive and I'd like to reflect on all the charities that depend on our Council and to thank our Council's many members who help make our assistance to those charities, a reality. In closing, I'd like to wish all our Knights and their families a blessed and healthy, productive New Year.

Vivat Jesus!

HE'S HERE AMONG US - Deacon Rolf Friedman

Just look around..... Once again, we have prepared for and have received the gift of Christ in our lives! We celebrated His arrival with family gatherings and exchanging of gifts. With this we as knights begin to celebrate the beginning and arrival of a New Year where we once again have the opportunity to bring Christ more actively into our lives as well as others.

Many of us start this time of the year by making a New Year's resolution(s). Here we look at our lives and make a conscious decision to make improvements -where needed..... Some of us are even able to make it past Valentine's Day before putting it aside..... while many just put the resolution aside (*temporarily*) and wait for a better time to start-again, we hope!

Now there is one resolution that we cannot afford to lay by the wayside. And that's our resolution as Christians and our commitment as Knights -to be a better Disciple of Christ. So, where do we begin:

First of all, we need to take stock of who we

are as Christians and Disciples of Christ. Have we done a good job so far or do we need to rethink how we are practicing our faith? Are we happy with it so far or do we need to re-tool? It's up to us and our relationship with God. Then.....

Then, as Knights- Ask ourselves why we are Knights and what is it that we are looking to accomplish as a Knight. If the only answer is that we are dues paying-that's good but not nearly good enough. Remember why you joined. Is it working out for you? If it isn't meeting your expectations, then this is a good time to do something about it.

There are plenty of opportunities where you can fulfill both your Christian role as a disciple as well as being an active Knight. Many times, it's accomplished with the same action. Just look around.

And remember, We Are Not Alone In this adventure! Our Lord is right beside us-always!

Vivat Jesus!

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S VIEWS - Pat Facchini

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and an enjoyable Fall. But Winter brought us the merriest time of the year, Christmas and the close of 2024. So many council activities will have kept us all busy throughout this joyous Christmas season. It's wonderful to see the spirit of the season shared by our brothers as we take part in all our council activities. As the years go by, I reflect on the past and how families and neighbors shared the delight in this time of year. The activities, such as our Children's Christmas party, our tree and wreath sales, breakfast with Santa, help us to remember days of yore, and share the bliss of the season with our fellow brothers and families. We are all so caught up in our personal lives today, that sometimes we overlook the joy we can share with our friends and community. It takes only a moment in our personal lives to partake, but it is a rewarding moment.

The Supreme Chaplin's Challenge for this

month asks us to **"prayerfully examine your level of giving, both of your treasures and your time we give, and consider whether you are giving as much as Christ asks of you"**. We have all joined the Knights because of our belief and in giving and sharing with those most in need. Let us all look within ourselves to examine how we are all giving. If you have not been to a council meeting or one of our events, I invite you to join us. It is most rewarding to share these opportunities with your fellow Knights.

I want to wish you and your families a Blessed and the Happiest and Healthiest New Year ever!

Vivat Jesus.



CULTURE OF LIFE - Roger Zurro, Director

Pro-life leaders react to Trump victory as 'Clear rejection of extreme abortion agenda'

Leaders of pro-life advocacy groups are celebrating former President Donald Trump's victory in the 2024 presidential election, citing his win as evidence that the American people do not support the unfettered abortion access endorsed by the Democrats.

In a statement published Wednesday, *Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America* President Marjorie Dannenfelser reacted to the results of the election, which she noted was the first presidential contest to take place after the U.S. Supreme Court's *Dobbs v. Jackson* decision determined that the U.S. Constitution does not contain a right to abortion.

"In the first presidential election since *Dobbs*, Americans have rejected the Democrats' no-limits abortion agenda. Democrats led by Kamala Harris and Tim Walz went 'all in' on abortion as their number one issue. In the general election alone, they spent over half-a-billion dollars on ads attacking pro-life Republicans and claiming limits on abortion kill women. Their lies failed," she said.

Referring to Harris' remarks during an interview last month where she said that she doesn't support religious exceptions to a nationwide abortion mandate, Dannenfelser commented, "Millions learned the truth that the Democrats would force Americans to pay for and participate in abortions against their will, with no exceptions, and even leave babies who survive failed abortions to die."

Dannenfelser added: "*SBA Pro-Life America's* paramount goal for this cycle was to deny Democrats the chance to pass a national all-trimester abortion mandate and wipe out protections for babies and women in all 50 states. While the abortion lobby flooded airwaves with misinformation, our team hit the ground - making 4 million visits to persuadable and low-turnout voters in eight battleground States.

In subsequent comments posted to X, Dannenfelser maintained that "This election proves that abortion wasn't the Democrats' silver bullet," she continued, noting that despite

spending "half a billion dollars in abortion TV ads this election, they still lost the presidency, the Senate and ...the House." Describing "their extreme abortion agenda" as "out of step with Americans," Dannenfelser asserted that "most Americans do support early, reasonable limits on abortion."

National Right to Life President Carol Tobias offered a similar analysis in a statement reacting to Trump's victory. "Kamala Harris, Tim Walz, and the Democratic Party have taken the most extreme abortion position possible, including support for unlimited abortions throughout pregnancy. *(They)* support abortion anytime, anywhere, and under any circumstances," she asserted.

"Supported by the abortion industry and its allies, Harris and Walz campaigned with fanatical fervor on abortion - and the voters rejected them," Tobias explained. The 2024 election had major implications for abortion policy in the U.S.

Had Harris won the election and Democrats gained complete control of the federal government, legislation establishing a federal right to abortion nationwide likely would have become law. As the pro-life activists highlighted in their reactions to the election results, such a measure would have had the effect of nullifying pro-life protections implemented by States after the *Dobbs* decision.

(Excerpted from article by Ryan Foley, Christian Post, Friday, November 08, 2024)



FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT - George Ferriso

To All My Brothers, I wish you all a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year 2025! I also hope you and your families had a wonderful Christmas.

It's that time of year again - DUES time!

The dues cover all council expenses, which, like everything else, have increased. If you are experiencing any financial or health issues, please contact me. You should have received an invoice for your due's payment by now. If we have your email on file, you received it electronically (*check your Spam Folder*) with the subject line "Dues Notice For Council 1672." Please let me know if you did not receive it at gfgman@gmail.com or 732-780-4815.

This year, we have added Zelle to the payment options! Most major banks and many smaller ones offer Zelle. You can go to Zelle.com to find out if your bank offers Zelle. If your bank does, just go to the Zelle page in your bank app and add a recipient. For us, Knights of Columbus No. 1672 would be the recipient, and the email address is KOFC1672FS@GMAIL.COM. Zelle is free to use and is instantaneous. Please double-check the address to avoid mistakes with the council number and the FS at the end.

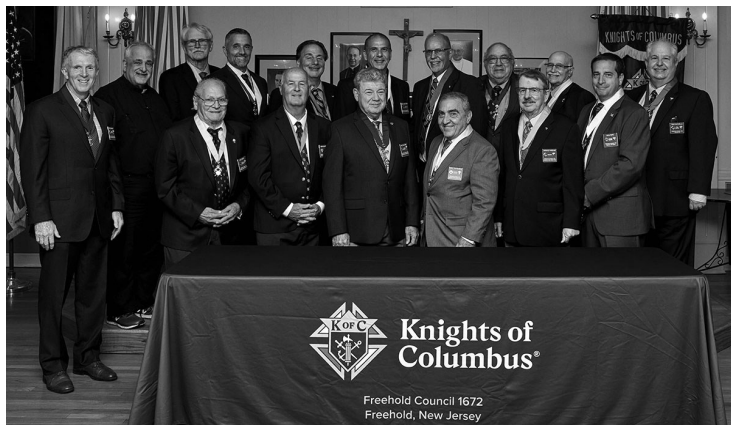
Using VENMO, just put KOFC1672FS@gmail.com (case does not matter). For the 2024 dues

collection, 91 brothers used Venmo, which is 31% of the members - a 9% increase over 2023. For you old-timers, VENMO is safe and easy. Please contact me if you are having issues at 732-780-4815. Postage is up to \$0.73 for first-class mail, and Venmo is free.

Please note: For some reason, which Venmo has no answer for, when you start to type this email, a message will pop up saying they "couldn't find any matches." Continue to type the entire address. Once the entire address is typed, you will see "Pay or Request 'kofc1672FS@gmail.com'" at the top. Tap this message, enter the \$60.00 amount, and tap Pay. It will come to me.

Please pay your dues ASAP. Note: At the council meeting on November 8, 2016, a motion was passed to charge an administration fee to cover additional expenses incurred for late dues. Any dues paid after 1/27/2025 will be \$65.00. Should you receive a second invoice, you will see the administration fee added to the invoice. If paying late and the \$5.00 is not added to your payment, it will remain on your ledger as an accounts receivable. If you see the \$5.00 charge on the first invoice this year, it means that you were late last year or in prior years and did not pay the \$5.00 fee!

PHOTO PORTFOLIO



2024 - 2025 COUNCIL OFFICERS



COLUMBUS DAY BABY ARRIVES
10/12/24 - Baby boy Mark born to parents Okasana and Yurii Fyk, receives \$100 ShopRite gift card and flowers from GK, Chris Barnett

PHOTO GALARY



FALL SOCCER CHALLENGE
 Left-PGK, Brian Barrett - Right-GK, Chris Barnett



MASS FOR DECEASED BROTHERS
 Fr. John Campoli - Presided,
 Mike Tubridy - Reader, Paul Fournier - Served



CAR SHOW GIFT PRESENTATION at ST. ROBERT'S
 L-R Jeff Yoder, PGK, Gino Iacovella, Rich Pepe, Msgr. Sam Sirianni
 Bill Harms, Nebil Toutouchi, Anthony Graci, Lou Tinto,
 PGK, Brian Barrett, Dave Ritchie

COLUMBIAN CLUB NEWS - Dan Dawidowicz

Over the past three months the Council Hall has undergone many changes. The building has been completely painted outside and inside, the ballroom was also repainted. The downstairs bar area is being painted as I write this. We will soon be starting the renovation of the upstairs men's and women's bathrooms. All of this is possible because of all our fund raisers and ballroom rentals. The better the building looks, the more pride we take meeting there and it helps bring in more party rentals.

We also had three very successful Columbian Club fundraisers: the Game Show Night, the Christmas Memorial Trees at St. Rose of Lima and St. Robert's and the Breakfast with Santa. If you have not seen the Memorial Trees, please take a drive by the churches any evening and see them all lit up and decorated. The trees will stay lit at St. Rose of Lima Church until February 2, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (*Candlemas*) and until January 10 at St. Robert Bellarmine. Thank you to all who helped and supported these fundraisers.

Our biggest fundraisers of the year is the St. Patrick's Corned Beef Dinner, March 16 (*parade day*), March 17 (*St. Patrick's Day*) with

the 50/50 Raffle. You can help support these events by helping to set up/clean up, cook, serve, but most importantly, by you attending and supporting these events.

The 50/50 raffle total is slowly growing. Please send in your raffle tickets if you have not already done so or pick up another book of tickets and sell them to your family and friends. The raffle books were mailed to all Knights with your Columbian Club membership dues letter. Additional raffle books are available at the Pub bar.

The Pub is always open Wednesday and Friday nights. If you have time on your hands, we could use a few more bartenders and hosts for party rentals. These are paid positions and training is provided.

Also remember the Columbian Club Hall is available to rent at discount to all Knights in good standing. Think about it for your next event, birthday or anniversary party, etc., and call Lester (732) 462-7867 for details and bookings.

I wish you all a happy and healthy year, and may you be blessed in everything you do.

DISTRICT DEPUTY'S DESK - Louis Di Bello-DD27

Just a short note wishing all Council members and their families a very Happy and Holy New Year. We are now half way through this Columbian year and can look back and be proud of the many good works you have done.

Looking ahead, again I ask you to be mindful of our orders need to recruit new members.

We need the help.

Vivat Jesus !

MEMORABLE MEMBER

Irving Cruz, passed away on November 11, 2024 at the age of 68. Irving was a big part of the Knights of Columbus Freehold Council 1672 having been a 3rd Degree Knight who joined in 2018. He was also an inside and outside guard of the Council as well as a uniformed 4th degree with the Monsignor Kivelitz Assembly 650.

**Please remember him
and his family
in your prayers.**

CHRISTMAS ALBUM



SANTA at KIDS PARTY

COUNCIL HALL



PUB



KEEP CHRIST in CHRISTMAS ITEMS
Left-Sergio Peneiras Right-PGK, Gino Iacovella

OUTSIDE



2025 WINTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Item	Location	Time
JANUARY			
1	NEW YEARS DAY - SOLEMNITY OF MARY		All Day
2	4th Degree Meeting - Assembly 650	Council Main Hall	8 pm
4	Free Throw Contest	St. Rose Gymnasium	1pm - 3pm
6	Take Down Christmas Decorations	Council Main Hall	8 pm
10	Remove Memorial Trees	St. Robert Bellarmine	9 am
14	Council Business Meeting	Council Main Hall	8 pm
20	MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY		All Day
23	Columbian Club Meeting	Side Room - Lounge	8 pm
24	MARCH FOR LIFE	Washington D.C.	
28	Council Planning Meeting - Guest Speaker	Council Main Hall	8 pm
FEBRUARY			
1	Remove Memorial Trees	St. Rose of Lima	9am
6	4th Degree Meeting - Assembly 650	Council Main Hall	8 pm
8	Kids Day Program - Randy the Magician	Council Main Hall	11 am - 1:30 pm
9	Valentine's Breakfast	Council Main Hall	8 pm.- 11:30 am
11	Council Business Meeting	Council Main Hall	8 pm
14	Saint Valentine's Day		All Day
23	112th Anniversary of Council 1672		All Day
25	Council Planning Meeting - Guest Speaker	Council Main Hall	8 pm
27	Columbian Club Meeting	Side Room - Lounge	8 pm
MARCH			
1 & 2	Membership Drive	St. Rose / St. Roberts	All Masses
4	Open House	Council Main Hall	8 pm
5	ASH WEDNESDAY		All Day
6	4th Degree Meeting - Assembly 650	Council Main Hall	8 pm
7	40 Days for Life - Planned Parenthood	Shrewsbury, N.J.	10 am - 11 am
8	40 Cans for Lent Canned Food Drive	Council Parking Lot	9 am - 12 noon
11	Council Business Meeting	Council Main Hall	8 pm
14	40 Days for Life - Planned Parenthood	Shrewsbury, N.J.	10 am - 11 am
15	40 Cans for Lent Canned Food Drive	Council Parking Lot	9 am - 12 noon
16	St. Patrick's Parade Party After	Council Pub Area	TBD
17	St. Patrick's Day Party	Council Pub Area	TBD
21	40 Days for Life - Planned Parenthood	Shrewsbury, N.J.	10 am - 11 am
21	CUF Degree Ceremonmy	Council Main Hall	8 pm
22	40 Cans for Lent Canned Food Drive	Council Parking Lot	9 am - 12 noon
25	Council Planning Meeting - Guest Speaker	Council Main Hall	8 pm
27	Columbian Club Meeting	Side Room - Lounge	8 pm
28	Randy the Magician Show	Council Main Hall	8 pm - 10 pm
28	40 Days for Life - Planned Parenthood	Shrewsbury, N.J.	10 am - 11 am
29	40 Cans for Lent Canned Food Drive	Council Parking Lot	9 am - 12 noon
29 & 30	Palm Cross Sales	St. Rose / St. Roberts	All Masses

**Freehold Council 1672
Knights of Columbus**

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Visit our Website:
www.kofc1672.org
FaceBook @ Knights of Columbus -
Freehold 1672 Council

Meetings

Second and Fourth Tuesdays
8:00 PM Sharp

**William "Chris" Barnett
Grand Knight**

**Mike La Rosa
Editor**

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AFTER THOUGHTS - Mike La Rosa

What a way to start a new year! I must inform you that I am retiring as the Compass editor. The reason for my departure at this time is not as you might expect, because I have to constantly hound my writers to get their articles to me on time, but no. It partially has to do with my moving, right now my life is full and I want to slow it up a bit, plus it's the present times that we live in. I now reside in Jackson, along with my obligations and the travelling back and forth takes much more of my time. Plus the cost of mailing is now over **\$300** per year and it costs just **\$0** to send it by email or have it on our web site. It makes sense to have the switch now.

To be the editor of the Compass has been a great experience for me.

As my memory recalls I became a Council 1672 Knight back around 1973. I was very active for about 6 or 7 years, then I slowly became less active until I reached zero activity but still paid my dues. Then ten years ago the editor, Spencer Purdum wanted to lessen his tasks in the Council. The then Grand Knight, Jim Brown, a fellow Monmouth County Planning Board employee, asked me to come back and

take over the Compass. I felt sorry for my old pal Spence and so to help relieve his stress, I graciously took the editor's position. As they say, "the rest is history".

At first it was a great challenge but soon I discovered spell check on the computer and my job became much easier. Like everything else I've had good times and not so good times. The good times were when the Compass was recognized as the best Knight's newsletter in the diocese and the not so good times were never that bad.

Now I don't want you to get all depressed so here's some good news. PGK, Gino Iacovella is going to be your new editor. It will be in very good hands.

I must also thank Spence Purdum, PGK, FDD. He has assisted and instructed me all these years. He also has proofed every issue so if you found any mistakes.... They're his fault.

Thanks for all of your support these many years. I've always tried to make the Compass an asset for Knights of Columbus Council 1672.