



Knights of Columbus, St. Mark Council

St. Mark Council 12654

January 2012

Upcoming Events

Youth:

Free Throw Contest
Parish Hall
January 28th
Noon - 2pm

Family:

Valentine's Day Vow
Renewal and Dance
Parish Hall
February 18th, 7pm

Council:

Ladies Auxiliary
Interest Meeting
Parish Hall
January 29th, 4pm

Leadership Meeting
Room 204
February 6th, 7pm

Next Council Meeting
Room 200
February 6th, 7pm

Church:

Charlotte Catholic
Men's Conference
www.dtcmc.org

Membership:

Upcoming Degrees

First Degree
Next Meeting
Room 200
February 6th, 7pm

Second Degree
St. Therese
February 4th

Third Degree
Clemens, NC
March 10th

Grand Knight's Column



Alex Sabo,
Grand Knight

Dear Brothers
in Christ:

As we move
forward with-
in the new
liturgical cal-
endar and the
second half of
our fraternal

year let us be reminded again of
our existence as a fraternal organ-
ization. Our founder Father Mi-
chael J. McGivney established the
Knights of Columbus in 1882 as a
charitable organization to serve
the widows and children of the
church. We as a council at Saint
Mark have done an outstanding

service by providing for our youth,
families, and individuals that have
come to our council for spiritual
and monetary support.

As we move forward remember
the promise we made before our
fellow members during our First
Degree Ceremony. Each of us
pledged "Obedience to the Laws
and Rules of our Constitution".

During the Ceremony we all stat-
ed. "This promise I regard as
forever binding upon me on my
honor as a Catholic Gentleman."

It is important to remember we
are an organization of Charity.
Charity of time, Charity of talent,
Charity of understanding, Charity

of gifts, Charity of faith, and The
Charity of the Word of God. If
you are unable to attend a meet-
ing or service function we under-
stand. let your fellow brothers
know you are there in spirit sup-
porting them in every way you
can, even if it is only in prayer,
providing them strength and safety
to succeed in their goal for others.

May the Lord bless you, watch
over you and give you peace.

"Vivat Jesus"

Alex J. Sabo, Grand Knight

First Annual Christmas Tree Lighting at St. Mark

Submitted by Deputy Grand Knight Richard Clancey

One year ago, Deputy Grand
Knight Alex Sabo convinced the
council to spend a very small sum
on a tree. A tiny tree was planted
in 2010 with only enough time for
a quick dedication ceremony.

In 2011, the council formed a
Christmas Tree Lighting Commit-
tee with a limited budget for
lights. Committee Chair Mike
Frino and now Grand Knight Alex

got the tree lighting on the church
calendar as part of the Pageant
Night activities.

On the night of the event, Music
Ministry Director Laura Maclean
got the pageant crowd moving
toward the tree before getting
treats. Alex told the crowd of
several hundred the story of the
tree. Monsignor Bellow said a
blessing and lit the tree. The chil-

dren shrieked with glee, parents
oohed and aahed and the Adult
Choir sang out two carol favor-
ites.

So from very humble beginnings,
an annual family Christmas tradi-
tion has been successfully started.

Knights of Columbus, St. Mark Council

St. Mark Knights Move Priests to New Rectory

Submitted by Recorder Mike Scott

"I have a feeling that our Knights will be there in numbers, and as usual, will enjoy every minute of it."

St. Mark Knights once again came through with service to the parish by helping to move the priests to their new rectory. As a matter of fact, we are becoming so known for our generosity and well-coordinated service, that we were requested to help with the move, even though many others in the parish had expressed an interest. The Director of Operations for the parish, Vince Amico, felt that working with an enthusiastic group that is always dependable was preferable to trying to coordinate random individuals, as

talented as they might be.

Even though the move date was not firm until early December, we had several brothers volunteer to deliver boxes and by Friday the 10th the first of a group of volunteers were busy packing for the move. By Saturday morning, we had a line of trucks with and equipment backed up to the old rectory ready to go. As the move coordinator, I can honestly say that I have never had a group that was easier to direct. We barely got started, and before I

knew it the move was over (and with nothing lost or broken, so far as I know!)

My thanks to all involved, and we wish Monsignor Bellow and Father Miller the best in their new home. Now let's see what might be next ... lawn clean-up, painting, deck maintenance, or maybe creating a pathway with steps to the Church lot. Who knows, but I have a feeling that our Knights will be there in numbers, and as usual, will enjoy every minute of it.

State Soccer Challenge - 4 of 13 Awards Given to Children in our District

Submitted by Chancellor Tom Battle



Winner Sarah Battle accepts here trophy at the state championship.

Our council held its third annual Soccer Challenge in October. Three parish children won their gender and age groups at the event.

For the first time, a district Soccer Challenge was held, hosted by St. Mark's. Winners from St. Therese and Holy Spirit competed with the

St. Mark's winners. There were seven winners at the district level, all eligible to go the state championship in Gastonia on October 29th. This group included the three St. Mark's council winners, Caden Bonoffski (Boys 10), Christopher Chapman (Boys 11), and Sarah Battle (Girls 13).

Our group of kids were also successful at the state level, with Christopher taking a second place, and both Caden and Sarah winning the state championship! We hope to be even more successful next year, with a larger group of participants and even more winners.

St. Mark Knight's Continue "Giving" Legacy with 2011 Christmas Tree Campaign

Submitted by Mike Ducey

For over 10 years, the St. Mark Knights of Columbus has held a Christmas Tree Campaign as one of its principle fund raising events. The 2011 campaign was a success in many ways, thanks to the efforts of some 25 K of C volunteers and 5 St. Mark parish youth volunteers.

Over 130 trees and 120 wreaths were sold to parishioners and friends of St. Mark. The quality of the product makes a big difference for our customers. Our supplier, Duckworth Tree Farms from Ban-

ner Elk, North Carolina, delivers high quality, fresh cut trees to the parish. Our customers can definitely tell the difference because we hear great feedback and have many repeat customers each year.

It is the "Giving" Legacy that attracts our K of C volunteers to this campaign year after year. The tree campaign represents our strongest fundraiser - in 2011 the campaign had a net profit of over \$3,900 according to campaign leader, Knight Ray

Marr. These funds are used to support all the important charity work and financial support the Knights provide to St. Mark. It is this legacy of giving that attracts so many Knights. As in past years, the Knights donated trees and wreaths to St. Mark School, St Mark Catholic Church, and a worthy family in need.

Thanks to all for making this another successful Christmas tree campaign, and for keeping the "Giving" Legacy alive!

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From our Field Agent - Different Life Stages, Changing Needs

Paying for college for your children may be one of your family's current needs. You may be concerned about a comfortable retirement. You may wonder if costly long-term care will deplete your assets. You want to have something to leave for your Family.

At some point you may have had all of these needs on your mind. Over time, these thoughts make way for others as your needs evolve, your finances change and you get older. What is important to you at age 20 may not be at 45, or 65.

One of the easiest ways to be financially ready for changes that come with different life stages is to meet annually with your professional Knights of Columbus agent, and address the needs that his analysis uncovers.

During that annual visit, I'll take the time to review your needs, goals and budget. I'll update all beneficiaries on your policies and be sure your coverage meets your needs. I'll make recommendations of life insurance, long-term care insurance and income annuities that will give you peace of mind.

Whatever your needs or concerns, whatever stage in life, I can help.

I'm at (336) 869-6832 or Thomas.Verdi@KofC.org – let's talk.

Encourage the Ladies in Your Life to Attend the Ladies Auxiliary Interest Meeting

Be an inaugural member of the St. Mark Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary, help your neighbor and find new life-long friends. You do not need to be a wife of a Knight to join, only a willingness to make a difference.

Like the Knights of Columbus council, the Ladies Auxiliary is formed to aid the Church, stand beside its brother council, and uphold the tenets of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism.

Interested? Join us on January 29th and please email Mary Jane Zimmerman at

mjgsimmerman@hotmail.com or call 704-966-6993



Join us for the St. Valentine's Vow Renewal and Dance

This February, renew your marriage commitment at the St. Mark Valentine's Vow Renewal! Afterwards, enjoy an exquisite spread of treats from the dessert bar, partake of your choice of wine or beer, and then swing dance the

night away! Dance instruction will be provided by Camille and Mike Harnett of Rhythm in Effect. This special evening will only be \$30 per couple! Join us on February 18, 7pm, in the Parish Hall.

Email Sergio Miranda at

smiranda@carolina.rr.com for your ticket.





Knights of Columbus, St. Mark Council

For the Good of the Order - Please keep the following knights and family members in you prayers:

Jackie Keller, Bernie Pugh & Bill's Uncle Joe, Ray Bunton's Mother in Law, the late Patrick Raferty

Council Officers:

Grand Knight: Alex Sabo
Deputy Grand Knight: Richard Clancey
Chancellor: Tom Battle
Advocate: Robert Newkirk III
Recorder: Michael Scott
Treasurer: Chip Marshall
Financial Secretary: Ron Haley
Warden: Mark Yelanich
Lecturer: Dan Cedrone
Inside Guard: Ray Smith
Outside Guard: Robert Tetrault
Trustee, 1st Year: Sergio Miranda
Trustee, 2nd Year: Bill Pugh
Trustee, 3rd Year: Ed Keller

Field Agent: Thomas Verdi

Council Directors:

Program Director: Joe Ernst
joseph_ernst@irco.com
Church Director: Dick Christian
Council Director: Joe Dougherty
Family Director: Mark Yelanich
Youth Director: Tom Battle
Community Director: Open
Membership Director: Ray FitzGerald

The council directors could use help in the following areas:

Church:

Need Eucharistic adorers!

Youth:

Help with Life-teen dinners!

Community:

Need a Community Director!

Please contact your directors to get involved today!!

Thank you all for your contributions

I'd like to thank everyone for their contributions to this first installment of our council newsletter.

I am very excited to publish a monthly newsletter and hope that it will serve as a vehicle to get more of our council involved

in council events and also as an easy mechanism to communicate to new members and prospective new members what St. Mark Council does for the St. Mark Parish and the community of Huntersville.

Please submit any ideas for the

newsletter to me at

joseph_ernst@irco.com.

Thanks again!