

Knights of Columbus

Portland Council 101 – June 2020 – Volume I Issue 5

Our Lady of Hope Parish



Monthly Meetings

Council 101 meets the first Wednesday of every month from September through June at the St. Pius X church hall at 7 PM.



Grand Knight..... Steven Capriola
Financial Secretary.... Raymond DiDonato Sr
Recorder..... William McLaughlin
Advocate..... Eric Trombley
Lecturer..... Andre Tranchemontagne
Inside Guard..... Kevin Keniston
Trustee 2nd Year..... William Welch

Deputy Grand Knight... Jesse Senore
Chancellor..... Dr. John Griffin
Treasurer..... William Green
Warden..... Christopher Brown
Outside Guard..... John Garrity
Trustee 1st Year..... Paul Leblond
Trustee 3rd Year..... Charles Noyes

The Coronavirus Outbreak:

Despite the Coronavirus outbreak some council activities are slowly returning while many others are still on hold.

We had an officers meeting on line via Zoom on June 3rd and are looking at another meeting to include either all officers or the entire council in July. We went ahead with the installation of officers on June 11th. We are also looking to hold the annual People with Intellectual Disabilities Fund Raiser (Tootsie Roll Drive) sometime in September or possibly October. More details on these events will be discussed in this newsletter.

From the Grand Knights Desk...

If you or anyone you know is in need of help during the current healthcare crisis please don't hesitate to reach out to us!

You can contact me via e-mail at sjcapri@maine.rr.com or if you don't have e-mail you can send a note to me at 23 Saugus St., Portland, ME 04103 or call me at 207-233-3565.

Hoping you and your family stay safe and healthy during the current healthcare crisis!

Steve Capriola – Grand Knight Council 101

The Columbian and “Leave No Neighbor Behind” Awards:

We have been notified that our council has won the Columbian Award for the 2019-2020 fraternal year. To earn this award a council must conduct at least four major programs in each of the Faith in Action Categories which we accomplished. The four categories are Faith, Family, Community and Life.

Our council also submitted an application for the “Leave No Neighbor Behind” Award that is given by Supreme to one council in each state for assisting those in need during the current health crisis. Our council has been very involved with the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen. Not only did our council donate \$3,000 to the soup kitchen but four of our members are very active at the soup kitchen. Our deputy Grand Knight Jesse Senore is president of the soup kitchen and our Grand Knight Steve Capriola is on the board of directors.

These two gentlemen along with Dave Reese and Andy Chapman have spent hundreds of hours helping to run the soup kitchen by taking on a variety of tasks during the pandemic. They have overseen running the soup kitchen by picking up food supplies, purchasing food and other supplies, preparing bag lunches, setting up the food pantry, cleaning and sanitizing the facility, making repairs, and so on. Also, Jesse has been very active in obtaining donations from a variety of sources, both monetary and food, to keep the soup kitchen actively involved in feeding the most needy people in our community. We thank them for their hard work and dedication!

Fr Paul is asking for volunteers to help at masses:

The following was taken from the latest church bulletin:

Moving toward re-opening some Masses at OLH - update

Our Lady of Hope Parish will not start reopening Masses in early June.
Why?

*Safety concerns remain. The "elderly" (65+) and those with health conditions are urged not to attend gatherings

*We do not yet have the necessary supplies for required sanitation. These are all on backorder.

* We do not yet have a list of parish volunteers needed -- 2-3-4 people at each open Mass to check people in, monitor lines entering, the collection basket and to assist with sanitation.

If you are able/willing to volunteer to be one of the crew members at the open Masses, please contact the Parish Office. We will begin to put together a roster and a schedule, for this is going to continue for some time. Without a volunteer crew we cannot open a Mass. When we do start, we anticipate beginning with the 4:30 PM Saturday Mass at St. Pius X and the 10:00 AM Sunday Mass at St. Joseph.

There are practical difficulties in reopening:

*Each Mass will accommodate about 45 people

* We will put in place a call-in reservation system. You will need to call the Parish Office by Wednesday afternoon prior to the weekend to reserve your seat. At that time you will need to give you name, address and phone/email contact information. This is required so that we can contact you if we later find someone was infected at that Mass. Note: NO RESERVATIONS ARE BEING TAKEN AT THE PRESENT TIME

* When you arrive you will be checked in against the reservation list. You must wear a mask to enter.

*You must sit in designated and marked pews with social distance between. People who share the same living space may sit together.

Mass under these conditions will not be Mass as we have celebrated it before all this started. We will all have to make adjustments. We will be maintaining all our livestream Masses and know that many of you have appreciated this way to attend. If you are aware of a friend or neighbor without internet and you can safely share the livestream Mass with them, that would be great.

We are also looking at other ways to reach out Parish -
<https://www.ladyofhopemaine.org/> - Website and Parish -

<https://www.facebook.com/ourladyofhopemaine/> - Facebook page. Watch your parish bulletin, our parish website and Parish Facebook page for ongoing updates and the dates when we can start open Masses. Let us continue to pray for one another and for a cure to this virus, the only sure way to go forward in safety.

*Editor's Comments: Since the bulletin was published we have had six members of our council offer to help out at masses. Can you help us out? We understand the elderly and those with underlying health issues will be uncomfortable helping out, or even attending masses once the church opens up. We put your health and safety above all else and do not expect anyone to risk their health in order to help out at masses. **Please let us know if you can help!***

News from Supreme:

Online Degrees: The Supreme Council will be hosting weekly Webinars for the Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity every week. This will give Catholic men the opportunity to take the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Degrees in the safety and comfort of their homes (with their families welcome to be in attendance) in conjunction with other Catholic men throughout the United States and Canada. If you are interested please let us know and we will give you further information.

Upcoming Events:

We are looking at having the officers meeting in early July...possibly Wednesday, July 1st at 6 PM followed by a full council meeting at 7 PM. These meetings may be held in the church hall but are more likely to be done online via Zoom. The meeting date, time and venue are subject to change as we get closer to the events.

Our annual barbeque at the last meeting of the fraternal year in June has been cancelled due to the virus as will the annual cookout in July.

We are looking into having the annual Tootsie Roll Drive over a weekend in September, or possibly October at the three Shaws locations that we have used in the past...Northgate and Westgate in Portland and the Westbrook store near exit 48 of the Maine Turnpike. We will be contacting the stores for permission. We will look at ways to make sure that we maintain social distancing to avoid the spread of the virus. This would include our collectors wearing masks as well as placing the collection bucket a few feet beyond the collector.

Please let us know if you can help out. We want to have an idea of the number of potential volunteers even if we haven't scheduled a weekend yet.

Sea Dogs Tickets Fundraiser:

Our council is no longer selling vouchers for Sea Dogs tickets this season due to the pandemic which may cause the entire season to be cancelled.

The following announcement will be placed in the church bulletin:

The Portland Sea Dogs will allow those who purchased vouchers for games this year to use them for games next year (2021). If you have a book of vouchers and don't want to use them next year (or this year if games are played) you can return them to us to get a full refund (\$20 per book). You must return the book(s) in order to get your money back. If you have any questions or want a refund please contact Steve Capriola at 233-3565.

We are asking any council members who have unsold books to please return them to Steve Capriola. Call him at 233-3565. If you sold books to

people you may want to let them know about the buy back program and the use of vouchers for next year.

Slate of New Officers:

The slate of officers for the upcoming council year, July 2020 through June 2021 has been approved with a unanimous vote in favor. We have added Andy Chapman as Outside Guard and thank him for coming forward. We need to rotate the trustees from 1st to 2nd, 2nd to 3rd and 3rd to 1st. Thank you to all the officers willing to help the council by filling these important positions and we thank those who took the time and effort to cast their vote.

The list of officers for the upcoming council year:

Grand Knight – Steven Capriola

Deputy Grand Knight – Jesse Senore

Financial Secretary – Raymond DiDonato, Sr.

Chancellor – Dr. John Griffin

Recorder – William McLaughlin

Treasurer – William Green

Advocate – James Willey

Warden – Christopher Brown

Lecturer – Andre Tranchemontagne

Outside Guard – Andy Chapman

Inside Guard – Kevin Keniston

Trustee 1st Year – Charles Noyes

Trustee 2nd Year – Paul Leblond

Trustee 3rd Year – William Welch

Installation of Officers:

The installation of officers occurred on Thursday, June 11th at the St Pius Church Hall at 7 PM. The following officers were in attendance and installed: Chaplain Fr. Jack, Grand Knight Steve Capriola, Deputy Grand Knight Jesse Senore, Financial Secretary Raymond Didonato, Sr., Treasurer William Green, Chancellor Dr. John Griffin and Advocate Jim Willey. The following were not able to attend: Recorder, Warden, Lecturer, Inside Guard, Outside Guard and all three trustees. We will have to look at installing these officers at a later date...either on-line via Zoom or in person and a council meeting...or through some other means at the discretion of the incoming District Deputy if the installation is not completed before July 1st. We will keep you informed.

Finances:

Our Wells Fargo account had taken a big loss (on paper) due to the Stock Market downfall but has since recovered closer to pre-stock market downturn levels.

We are asking people to please pay their dues for this year if they are financially able to do so. We do understand the financial and other hardships that members and their families are experiencing at this time and that payment of dues may have to wait. Let us know if you are unable to pay your dues due to financial hardship. We thank all those members who have paid their dues for the current year!

Food for Families Reimbursement Program:

Our recent donation to the soup kitchen will net us \$500 from Supreme.

The council donated \$3,000 to the St. Vincent DePaul soup kitchen. Supreme has initiated a "Food for Families" reimbursement program that pays councils \$100 for every \$500 they donate to a soup kitchen or food pantry. There is a cap of \$500 for the fraternal year (July 1 – June 30). Therefore, we are eligible for the maximum amount of \$500. The proper documentation has been submitted and we are waiting to hear from Supreme.

Vote for Donation to OLH Parish:

A proposal was made to donate \$10,000 to Our Lady of Hope Parish to help make up the loss of revenue due to reduced donations during the pandemic. The vote was overwhelming in favor of the donation though several concerns were raised. The final vote was 18 for and 5 against, although as we had our officers meeting on Wednesday, June 3rd, many of us felt we may be rushing into this.

The parish, apparently is doing okay financially due to federal funds received through the Payment Protection Program which has offset the loss of weekly donation income. However, going forward, the financial situation at the parish remains in jeopardy, especially if we have to cancel the annual church bazaar in November. This could cost the parish more than \$10,000 that is typically made at this fund raiser.

Some of us felt it would be better to make the donation in increments spread out over a few months. Others were concerned that because we had no in person council meeting it was difficult to have an open discussion about this proposal, even though several people did raise their concerns via email and/or phone calls to the Grand Knight.

The bottom line is, the officers voted to table this for the time being to see how the financial situation evolves. Since this was approved by the voting members of our council, we feel obliged to still help out the parish. We

certainly will not let the parish suffer financially if we are able to help out and will likely make this donation at some time in the future.

June Birthdays and Anniversaries:

We send our best wishes to the following brother Knights celebrating a birthday this month: Bishop Robert Deeley, Ray Didonato, Sr., Mark LaPointe, Matthew Monaghan, John H. Moran, John F. Murphy, Fr Robert Regan, Clarence Rhodes, Charles Sudbay, Jr. and Michael Walp.

Those members celebrating the anniversary of becoming a Knight in the month of June include: Robert Finley, Sr., Tom Luna, Dave Reese, Stephen Tucker and Justin Vincent.

During the past Fraternal year several of our members have celebrated a significant anniversary of joining the Knights of Columbus.

Those who celebrated their 10th anniversary of being a Knight were Thomas Caron, James Foley, John Garrity, Richard McCarthy and Tucker Pope.

Celebrating his 15th anniversary was Jonathan Didonato.

Celebrating their 20th anniversary were Leo Hurtubise, Peter Kelly, Kevin Keniston, Bishop Robert Deeley and Michael Walp.

Those members celebrating their 25th anniversary of becoming a Knight included Brian Beattie, Kevin Didonato, David Paul, Jr., Ernesto Salamone and Louis Savard.

Celebrating his 30th anniversary of becoming a Knight on February 1st, 2020 was Pasquale Napolitano.

Finally, celebrating his remarkable 60th anniversary of becoming a member of the Knights of Columbus on December 1st, 2019 was Dr. Donald Verrier!

Congratulations to all those marking a significant anniversary of joining the Knights of Columbus!