

Knights of Columbus

Portland Council 101 –December 2020 – Volume II Issue 6

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..... James Willey
Lecturer..... Andre Tranchemontagne
Inside Guard..... Kevin Keniston
Trustee 2nd Year..... Paul Leblond

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

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From the Grand Knights Desk...

Our insurance field agent position will be vacated by Bill Weiss on January 1st. Greg White hopes to fill it by February 1st. If you have any insurance needs during this break please contact Greg at **Gregory.White@kofc.org** or at 207-322-6514

Remember to fill out Surge Reports for any and all activities that members of our council have been involved in, both within and beyond our parish. The form can be found at **<https://maineknights.net/surge-form/>**. Contact Steve Capriola if you need help filling out the form or would like us to fill it out for you. We are beginning to enter surge reports this month...the first entries since April!

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 Steve Capriola at 207-233-3565 or via e-mail at **sjcapri@maine.rr.com**

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

Steve Capriola – Grand Knight Council 101

Zoom participation continues for our in-person meetings:

We will continue to use Zoom for online participation during our officer and council meetings while still meeting in person at the St. Pius church hall. This alternate, safe way to be at our meetings has been working out quite well. At our December 2nd officers meeting we had one officer join online then three council members joined us online for the full council meeting.

Upcoming Events:

Our next **officers meeting** is on Wednesday, January 6th at 6 PM at the St. Pius church hall. **Everyone must wear a mask and practice social distancing!** The meeting will also be available on-line via Zoom.

Our next **council meeting** is Wednesday, January 6th, starting at 7 PM. We will have this meeting at the St. Pius church hall. We will meet upstairs in the main hall. **Everyone must wear a mask and practice social distancing!** The meeting will be available for on-line participation via Zoom.

ABBA Baby Bottle Drive:

The annual Baby Bottle Drive to raise money for ABBA will occur in January 2021. We will have baby bottles available at St. Pius X and St. Joe's churches for parishioners to pick up. They are asked to return them to the church by the end of January with whatever donations they have been able to save in the bottle. ABBA is a medical certified women's pregnancy resource center in the state of Maine offering pregnancy testing, limited

obstetrical ultrasounds, STD testing and treatment, consultations, and women's health education completely free and confidential. For more information check out their website at: <https://abbapregnancychoice.org/>

At this time, we do not have a liaison to ABBA (or to Maine Right to Life) as Bob Laliberte has stepped down from both of these. Unfortunately, no one has stepped up to replace him so the Grand Knight is taking on the ABBA Baby Bottle drive at OLH parish. Is there anyone in the council who can help with this?

Tootsie Roll Drive:

Due to the pandemic the local Shaw's stores did not allow us to collect donations outside their store entrances for the Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities (The "Tootsie Roll" fund raiser). We sent a letter to the regional Shaw's office requesting a donation but did not receive a response. Unfortunately, we are closing out the Tootsie Roll drive for 2020 without having been able to raise any money. We are hoping for a better and more profitable campaign in 2021.

Maine State Council Knights of Columbus Cash Calendars:

We are still selling **Cash Calendar** tickets for \$10 each. This is an important fund raiser for the Maine State Council Knights of Columbus. You have 91 chances of winning cash prizes from January 1st through April 1st of 2021. Tickets will continue to be sold even past January 1st since there will still be many opportunities to win. Prizes range from \$50 to the grand prize drawing on April 1st for \$2,000! For tickets or more information contact Steve Capriola at 233-3565.

Fundraising at OLH Parish:

Our Lady of Hope Parish and the Knights of Columbus (councils 11257 and 101) had our fourth drive-thru pick up only (Pork Pie) Dinner on Saturday, December 5th. We sold 85 dinners. The four take out dinners have netted the parish over \$5,000! Many thanks to all those who helped out and those who purchased dinners.

The parish will have an events committee meeting in January to determine what other fundraising activities we can participate in to raise funds for the parish. Weekly donations are down and most normal fundraising activities have been cancelled due to the pandemic.

Please support our parish by participating in our various activities whenever and wherever you can!

Keep Christ in Christmas card sales:

Jim Willey, with help from his wife, Barbara, conducted the “Keep Christ in Christmas” card sales this season. They sold out and raised \$412 in profit for the council! Many thanks to Jim and Barbara along with Andy Litcher and Ray DiDonato for all their work to make this such a success! Not only does this raise much needed funds for the council but increases awareness of why we celebrate Christmas in the first place.

Nun’s Night:

Due to the pandemic we had to cancel this annual sit-down dinner event. In its place we brought a bit of Christmas to the nun’s throughout southern Maine. We delivered gifts to 102 nuns. Each nun received a personalized card with \$5 cash and 2 gifts placed in a re-useable Christmas shopping

bag. We would like to thank members of our council and council 11257 who bought gifts or donated money toward gifts. Also, many thanks to those members and their spouses who addressed and signed over 100 cards, wrapped and sorted gifts and delivered them to several drop off points!



At left: 51 gift packages for nuns in southern Maine wait for deliver after being collected, wrapped and sorted at the St. Pius X church hall. In all, 102 gift packages were delivered to six drop off points for distribution.



At left: Council 101 Grand Knight Steve Capriola; Treasurer Bill Green and Trustee Bill Welch deliver 51 gift packages to Sr Mary Morey of the Sisters of Mercy for delivery to nuns throughout southern Maine.

Here are responses we have received from some of the nuns:

Greetings!

At Bethlehem we celebrate Love Incarnate...pure, undiluted, generous, gratuitous, expecting nothing in return. So, like your Christmas bag to us, religious, whom you do not know personally. The contents, the wrapping, all tell us so much about you, KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS.

Thank you, Sr. Lorraine Pomerleau, o.s.u.

Greetings, Barbara and Jim,

Thank you for the delightful visit on Thursday. You delivered The Knights of Columbus special Christmas totes in grand style! The Sisters were so surprised that you would find us out here in Lewiston! Each tote was filled with a lovely variety of treats the "holiday mask", homemade jam, a greeting card with "special" treat inside! The box of Christmas cards was perfect! A dear Angel on the cover:

playing a tune with the words,

"Sing God a Simple Song!" I don't sing but, I will pray for you and for the work of the Knights.

With gratitude, Angela Krippendorf, o.s.u.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. J. Willey,

Thank you for all the wonderful gifts you sent to me for Christmas, that was so kind of you. I can use them all. I am so grateful to all the Knights of Columbus, you have always been so good to us. In the past, I enjoyed your Christmas Parties in Portland. I hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year! I will keep you in my prayers.

Grateful to all,

Sr. Maria Goretti Bernier, o.s.u.

December Birthdays and Anniversaries:

We send our best wishes to the following brother Knights celebrating a birthday this month: Edward Anania, Jr., Brian Beattie, Ethan Blanchette, Theodore Borduas, Steven Capriola, Michael Legage, Thomas Luna, Joseph Mack, Raymond Pomerleau, Louis Savard, Andrew Smith, Rocco St. Clair and Adam Walker.

Those members celebrating the anniversary of becoming a Knight in the month of December include the following. Ryan Hutchins and Eric Trombley (6-year anniversary), Jason Jendrasko (7 years), Richard Corey (8 years), James Willey, Jr. (9 years), Benjamin Schulz (12 years), Lawrence Beattie (19 years) and Anthony Doman (23 years). Dr. Donald Verrier is celebrating his 61st year of being a member of the Knights of Columbus and Joseph Keely is celebrating his 62nd year of being a member of the Knights of Columbus! Congratulations gentlemen!

Merry Christmas:

We wish all our brother Knights and their families a very Merry Christmas!
We are also praying for all of us to have a happy and healthy New Year!
After such a dismal 2020 we look forward to a better and brighter 2021!

