

REV. THOMAS F. CANTY COUNCIL  
NO. 3197, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
P.O. BOX 207  
HILLSIDE, NJ 07205



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## *The KnightLetter*

November/December 2025

GRAND KNIGHT - Patrick Mahon 908-884-3480

Council Phone (908) 688-3197  
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### Grand Knights Message

Greetings Brother Knights and members of your families,

Mea Culpa, Mea Culpa, Mea Maxima Culpa (for those who did not have the pleasure of taking Latin – my fault, my fault, my most grievous fault). In the last Knight Letter, where I commended several Brother Knights for assisting a Brother who needed help moving, I inadvertently left out Brother J.P. Varady, who bore the brunt of much of the heavy lifting and broke a heavy sweat on an incredibly hot and humid day. Thank you, J.P., for the help you provided and my apologies again for the omittance of your name in our last Knight Letter.

Our Fall season got off to a successful start thanks to those Brother Knights, who helped stage our annual Family Picnic. It was a great afternoon, and once again our Chef, PGK Bob Kaelblein, despite the stifling heat and humidity, manned the grill all day. The selection, quality and the quantity of the food was outstanding.

Due to the recent Nor'easter and other logistical concerns, we had to delay our annual Christopher Columbus Wreath laying till Wednesday October 15<sup>th</sup>. We celebrated the namesake of our Order by placing a wreath at the Columbus Memorial in Conant Park in Hillside. Several Council officers and Brother Knights, (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Degree), along with Union County Sheriff, our Brother Knight Peter Corvelli, were present as the wreath was laid. In this age, where Christopher Columbus is often disparaged, it was great to see that our community and Father Canty Council still honor the goodness in his legacy.

OOOOOOOOOOO What a successful and fun filled Bingo Night we had on October 24<sup>th</sup>, as Master of Ceremonies PGK Kevin McClave orchestrated an amazing event. His Number calls are now legend and Bingo Police Checker extraordinaire PGK Steve Q. Whoeler kept the night moving. Thank you to DGK Chris Lanzafama and Rich Whiting for manning the kitchen and kept the hot dogs rolling. John Devito and Tina McClave “handled the front door” collecting admissions, distributing Bingo cards selling 50/50's, and raffle tickets. In addition, a shout out to our K of C Insurance Agent, Mike Garafalo, for the donation of an iPad, that we raffled off, which added to the profitability of the evening.

As we move into the months of November and December, our Council will be active and alive with several events, that I hope you can join us for and/or volunteer to help. As you will see from the schedule below, we will be holding our Deceased Members Mass on Monday November 10<sup>th</sup>. We will honor the memory of all of our Brothers, who have gone onto their Eternal Reward, most especially those who passed on in the past year. If you know the family of a deceased Knight, please invite them to this Mass.

The Council in conjunction with the Columbian Club will be hosting a Walk In Charity Dinner on Sunday November 16<sup>th</sup>. Further Details can also be found in this Knight Letter.

During December we will be holding a Texas Holdem Tournament on Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup> – details can be found later in this Knight Letter. We will also be paying tribute to our Past Grand Knights and our Knight and Columbian of the Year on Saturday evening December 20<sup>th</sup>. The following day, Sunday December 21<sup>st</sup>, the Council will host our Annual Kids Christmas Party. A sign-up sheet can be found within this Knight Letter – it's important you register your child, grandchild etc., so Santa can do timely and appropriate shopping.

I want to wish all of you, a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving along with a Holy, Wonderful, Blessed and Magical Christmas. Always remember to Keep Christ in Christmas. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Fraternally Yours  
Pat Mahon, Grand Knight

### **COLUMBIAN CLUB**

We are pleased to see the great response to our reopening of the bar. The improvements have paid off. Stop in if you are in the neighborhood. I recommend you take some time to enjoy a little refreshment and some time with your brother Knights.

### **HALL RENTAL**

Please know that our hall is again available for rental within the parameters of the State and CDC guidelines and is ready for any member wishing to rent the hall for everything from Christenings, First Communions, Graduations or any family function. Concerning the hall it is important to state **“Please do not walk through the hall when parties are going on”** it is disruptive and inconsiderate to our guests. Contact the Club at 908-688-3197. Pictures are available on our web site at [www.hillsidekofc.org](http://www.hillsidekofc.org)

### **MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE September & October 2025**

November 10<sup>th</sup> -Deceased Members Mass 7:00 p.m.  
November 13<sup>th</sup> Columbian Club and Council meetings 6:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
November 16<sup>th</sup> Walk In Charity Dinner 1:00- 5:00 p.m.  
December 11<sup>th</sup> Columbian Club and Council meetings 6:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
December 14<sup>th</sup> Texas Holdem Poker Tournament Doors open @ 11:00 a.m.  
December 20<sup>th</sup> Adult Christmas Party/ Knight & Columbian of the Year Recognition 6:00 p.m.  
December 21<sup>st</sup> Children's Christmas Party 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### **DUES**

2026 Dues will be mailed the week of December 14. It is extremely important to the health of our Council to pay your dues promptly. If there are any questions concerning the status of your membership please contact our Financial Secretary, Robert Kaelblein at 973-663-2870 and leave a message. He will contact you to discuss and/or make corrections.

**If anyone no longer wishes to be a member, please state that in writing on your invoice or a signed note (a signature is required) and mail to Knights of Columbus 3197, PO Box 207, Hillside NJ 07205**

### **BAPTISMAL ROSE PROGRAM**

The Council presents congratulatory roses to mothers of children baptized at St. Catherine's and Christ the King churches. If you can help with the presentation program let Angelo Bonanno, program coordinator at St Catherine's, or Andy Wnukowski, program coordinator at Christ the King, know of your interest. This is a well received program and a beautiful way to let parents-parishioners know about our Council. We need additional help at St. Catherine's.

### **SOX & UNDERWEAR DRIVE**

This year we will be doing a New Sox and Underwear drive to support the missions at Newark Abbey, (St Benedict's Prep), and St. Joseph's Social Service Center in Elizabeth. You can drop any donations off at the club during Bar Hours and/or at any event. Sox and underwear are the most needed items by our homeless population in our area.

### **WALK IN CHARITY DINNER**

Come enjoy a great meal and support our many Charities. This years menu will include your choice of either Chicken Francese with pasta, Roast Beef with Vegetables and potatoes, or Stuffed Shells with sausage or meatballs. Despite inflation we will keep our cost at \$15 for Seniors and \$18 for Adults.

## **TEXAS HOLDEM FUNDRAISING TOURNAMENT**

On Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup>, we will be holding a Texas Holdem Tournament to benefit our Charity fund. There will be a \$50.00 buy in and payouts will be based on the number of paying participants. We will have hot dogs on the grill and the NY Giants vs the Washington Redskins will be on our TV's. Doors open at 11:00 a.m. and "cards will fly" at 12:00 noon.

## **IN MEMORIAM**

Since our last Knight Letter, we mourn the loss of our Brother, the Honorable Judge John F. Malone. May his soul and all the souls of the faithfully departed, Rest in Peace Amen

## **COUNCIL WEBSITE**

Please check out our website at <http://www.hillsidekofc.org> . NOTE: this is a great way to be informed and updated on all Council activities. If you wish to access the Knight letters click on tab for "newsletters".

## **A WORD ABOUT CHARITABLE SOLICITATIONS:**

From time to time, many of you receive solicitations from the NJ State Knights of Columbus Council asking for donations to support their Charitable Projects. Please know that any money donated to the State Council is not shared with individual Councils. We are solely dependent on what we raise on our own to make our local donations.

## **KofC INSURANCE**

The Knights of Columbus offers a portfolio of products to help protect catholic families. The Rev. Thomas F. Canty Council #3197 is serviced by the Robert J. McGeehan Agency. Our assigned representative is Michael D. Garofalo, Assistant General Agent. He can be reached by phone at (732) 397-4365 or by email at [michael.garofalo@kofc.org](mailto:michael.garofalo@kofc.org).

Brothers,

This time of year, we give thanks for the many blessings in our lives. Like many of you, I became a Knight out of love for my family. I wanted to join other Catholic men in becoming a better man, husband and father. I wanted to be a better protector of my family.

One way to protect your family is to start thinking about your family's future and how an extended care event could have a large impact. Do you know somebody that has experienced an extended care event – if so, how did that impact their family's situation? I want to take this opportunity to help you prepare for the possibility that you or your spouse may one day need extended care.

November is Long-Term Care Awareness Month. With that in mind, I would like to share a valuable resource available to you and your family and would encourage you to check this out. "What Care Costs" gives you access to view the costs of Skilled Nursing Homes, Home Health Aides and Assisted Living Facilities in your area and across the country. This service is available free of charge to all our members regardless of whether you hold an insurance policy with Knights of Columbus.

Visit [www.whatcarecosts.com/KnightsofColumbus](http://www.whatcarecosts.com/KnightsofColumbus) and enter sponsor code "KofC" to get started. We want to help families focus on their time with their loved ones – not the financial cost of caring for them.

Lastly, I'd like to remind you of your 2025 Annual Survey and the opportunity to update the Knights of Columbus on your personal financial goals and share any updates you have had over the last year. If you haven't already filled it out, I strongly encourage you to do so.

This year, all survey respondents will be entered into a drawing for a Knights of Columbus RTIC® cooler, with several chances to win! \* Please fill out the survey as soon as you can, either through the survey you received in the mail or online at <https://survey.kofc.org>. Whether you have questions about the survey or want to talk about setting up an extended care plan, I'm here to help you. Thank you!

## **KNIGHTLETTER PROGRAM**

Material to be submitted in the January/February issue of the KL must be received NO Later than December 10th. Contact GK Patrick Mahon, 908-884-3480. To place an ad, please call the Columbian Club at 908 688 3197.

**(908) 353-2936**

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