

REV. THOMAS F. CANTY COUNCIL
NO. 3197, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
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The KnightLetter

March/April 2026

GRAND KNIGHT - Patrick Mahon 908-884-3480

Council Phone (908) 688-3197
Hall Rental (908) 688-3197

Grand Knights Message

Greetings Brother Knights and members of your families,

As we come through one of the worst winters in recent memory I look forward to Spring with milder weather and longer sunny days. The weather did interfere with some of our activities, but my Brother Knights rose to the occasion and made the best of difficult situations.

With Lent upon us, we enter a period of Fast and Abstinence as well as personal sacrifice, but we will subsequently be celebrating the joys and miracles of Easter. It is a time for reflection, repentance and a reaffirmation of our Faith and Values.

As we emerge from this harsh winter, the Council and Columbian Club will be busy with activities as we will be offering for sale Corned Beef Sandwiches at the bar Sunday March 15th, and our Lenten Meatless Dinner (which features Fried Fish and Italian Specialties) on Friday March 27th. In addition, we will be holding a BINGO Night at the Knights on Friday April 17th to help support our charity funds. Moreover, on behalf of P.G.K. Dan Varady, we invite you to support and/or join TEAM DAN on Saturday April 18th at 10:00 a.m. at WALK MS at Oak Ridge Park in Clark. Also, our Council has been invited to march along with other Brother Knights from across the area in the Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade in Union on Saturday, March 14th.

Included in this Knight Letter is an application for our A.J. Devito Memorial Scholarship(s). There will be at least two scholarships awarded: one to a college student and one for a Catholic High School pupil. These scholarships are a tribute to the late A. J. Devito who personified the values of charity, kindness and service to all who were blessed to have known him. They will be awarded on Thursday May 21st @7:00 p.m. as part of our Awards Night.

As mentioned above we will be having an Awards night on Thursday May 21st. In addition to the scholarship awards we will be honoring a member of the Hillside Fire Dept., the Hillside Police Department and the Hillside DPW for their contributions to the health, safety and spirit of our community. This is a great night to join us to say thank you to those who watch over our town.

In business matters, Dues notices have again been sent out. We ask that you pay your dues in a timely manner and help prevent the mailings of additional dues notices. The cost of postage has risen considerably and on a tight budget, each dollar saved is a small blessing.

As members have aged and have moved on to other locales as well as a significant change in the demographics of the area, our membership numbers have dwindled, which we need to reverse this trend to maintain the Knights of Columbus presence in Hillside. If you know of a man who you feel would be a good candidate for our order, please put them in contact with me or any officer.

On a personal note, I want to thank my Brother Knights who have carried on the business and activities of the Council in my absence as I recover from a totally unexpected Open Heart Quadruple Bypass Surgery. I hope to return to all my duties by mid-April.

I wish everyone a prayerful Lent and a magnificent Easter season.

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

MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2026

Thursday March 12th – Columbian Club Meeting at 6:00p.m. and Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday March 14th – Union County St. Patrick’s Day Parade – Join Brother Knights from across the County in this celebration of St. Patrick and Catholicism.

Sunday March 15th -Corned Beef Sandwiches available at the Bar

Friday March 27th – Lenten Meatless Dinner 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (details below).

Saturday/Monday April 4th and 6th NCAA Final Four – join us at the Club to watch these exciting games!

Sunday April 5th – Easter Sunday

Thursday April 9th - Columbian Club Meeting at 6:00p.m. and Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Friday April 17th – BINGO NIGHT @ the Knights.

Saturday April 18th – Walk MS 10:00 a.m. Oak Ridge Park Clark – Join us and be part of TEAM DAN

DUES

Suspensions and the Affiliate Membership process have begun for members who are three-or more-years delinquent.

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. **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**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Corned Beef Sandwiches. – On Sunday March 15^a we are offering corned beef sandwiches at the bar for \$5. Have a cold one and spread some cheer to celebrate St. Patricks day.

Lenten Meatless Dinner - Join us on Friday March 27^a for a Lenten Meatless Dinner featuring Fish Fried **with** Coleslaw and Mac & Cheese/ Linguini with (Red or White Sauce) Clam Sauce/Stuffed Shells/ Shrimp Parmigiana with Linguini plus dessert, coffee and tea. \$18.00per person - \$15 for seniors - \$10.00 for Children \$12 and under.

Bingo Night at the Knights – Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Friday night April 17th as we bring back our popular Bingo Night to our Council. Those of us who grew up in the 50’s 60’s and 70’s often heard Bingo being referred to as the 8th Sacrament of the Church as weekly Bingo games were part of Parish life and provided funds and helped supplement Catholic School education in our area. Admission is \$20.00 and the total prize money for the evening will be \$500.00. Proceeds will help our charitable endeavors.

Walk MS 2026 – Several of our Brother Knights and I along with their families will be participating in Walk MS 2026 which will be held on **Saturday, April 18th at 10:00 a.m. @ Oak Ridge Park in Clark.** We do this in support of PGK Dan Varady who continues his battle with this disease. Please google Walk MS 2026 Clark NJ to find out how to register and/or support TEAM DAN or an individual walker.

4th DEGREE FUNDRAISING DINNER

JFK Assembly will be hosting a Fundraiser Dinner March 20th 2026 in our Council Hall. A menu of Soup, Salad, Choice: of Baked Ziti, Eggplant Parm, or Penne Vodka as well as Dessert, Coffee or Tea. Cost is \$12 Kids (under 12), \$18 Adults, \$16 Seniors. All members and guests are welcome to attend.

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 do need additional help at St. Catherines, please contact GK Pat Mahon if you can help.

IN MEMORIAM

Since our last Knightletter, we have had three brothers go onto their well-deserved Heavenly Reward. Please pray for the souls of Daniel Farrell, "Big Ben" Niewinski and Francis (Frank) Lawlor.

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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

Brothers

Tax season is here! Whether you're ahead of the game and done filing, or you're putting it off for another couple weeks, this time of year is a good opportunity to consider whether your tax rate or bracket has changed. If so, do you know the implications for your long-term financial strategy?

People can end up in a higher tax bracket than they anticipate when their income fluctuates — for example, if your salary changed, or if you retired and are drawing on different income sources. Paying a higher tax rate may mean less disposable income or less money to leave to your family as you planned. You can protect yourself against these potential losses and build dependable cash value through permanent life insurance with the Knights of Columbus.

Permanent life insurance allows you to build cash value that you can access tax-free while you're alive. You can also create an income tax-free inheritance for your loved ones after you pass allowing permanent life insurance to be useful in a range of situations. Of course, we always recommend that you work with a qualified tax advisor or CPA in addition. This might also be a good time to review your investment portfolio with a financial advisor from Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors.

Investments have tax implications, especially with dividends, capital gains or losses, and required minimum distributions. By carefully understanding how your investments are taxed, you can work to reduce your overall tax burden while pursuing your long-term financial goals. By helping to secure your financial future and legacy with the Knights of Columbus, you're living out the vision of Blessed Michael McGivney, who founded our Order 144 years ago this month. His mission of protecting Catholic families is as important today as it was for the first members who gathered all those years ago.

I'd love to talk more if you have any questions. Please reach out to me and we can schedule a time to meet.

Vivat Jesus!

KNIGHTLETTER PROGRAM

Material to be submitted in the May/June issue of the KL must be received NO Later than June 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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Please Patronize Our Advertisers.
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AJ DeVito Memorial Scholarship Award

Awarded by:

Rev. Thomas F. Canty Council 3197, Knights of Columbus
1220 Liberty Ave., Hillside, NJ 07205

COMPLETED FORM MUST BE RECEIVED OR POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 2026

SECTION ONE:

Applicants Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Date of Birth: _____

SECTION TWO:

Planned High School or College: _____

Address: _____

Tuition: _____

Applicants Signature: _____ Date: _____

SECTION THREE:

GPA: _____ SAT Score: _____ or ACT Score: _____

SECTION FOUR:

List any Awards: _____

List any Activities: _____

List any Community or Church Service: _____

SECTION FIVE:

Sponsors Name: _____

Sponsors Signature: _____ Date: _____

Grand Knights Signature: _____ Date: _____

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