



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

St. Francis of Assisi Council 10698

11 Jabish Street, P.O. Box 1343
Belchertown, MA 01007-1343

NOVEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER



Tempus Fugit, Memento Mori

~ What are the Knights of Columbus all about? ~

Here are a few things our council wants to brag about for what we do for our members, their families, the parish of St. Francis of Assisi and our community:

- ❖ Support our St. Francis of Assisi parish.
- ❖ Support our Catholic way of life through prayer and devotion.
- ❖ Assist members and their families in time of need.
- ❖ Support and participate in the 'Right to Life' Anti-Abortion programs and speak for the unborn.
- ❖ Sponsor seminarians through the KofC RSVP program.
- ❖ Donate funds to provide services and equipment to the physically challenged.
- ❖ Participate as a group in civic ceremonies and activities.
- ❖ Provide high school graduate scholarships.
- ❖ Donate funds in support of Belchertown Little League baseball and St. Francis Cub Scout Pack 507.
- ❖ Provide assistance and activities for the residents of the Soldiers Home in Holyoke, MA.
- ❖ Sponsor and support the annual K of C Youth Basketball Free-throw contest.
- ❖ Perform usher duties at St. Francis of Assisi Masses.
- ❖ We just have fun with our friends and families.

K of C COUNCIL 10698's **NOVEMBER 2015**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Daylight Savings Time Ends	2	3	4	5	6	7 K of C State Charity Ball ++++++ Christmas Fair
8	9	10 Thanksgiving Family Dinner 5:30p Meeting 7p	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 KofC Memorial Mass	23	24 Council 10698 Meeting 7p	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30	<p>"Freedom is never free." Thank you to every veteran of the U.S. military.</p>				

2015-2016 Officers of Knights of Columbus Council 10698

Office	Name	Phone #	Email address
Grand Knight	Bill Bowen	323-7080	btowncoordinator@charter.net
Chaplain	Fr. Vern Decoteau	323-6272	vernpaul@verizon.net
Dep. Grd Knight	Wil LeBrun	213-0088	wlebrun1@charter.net
Chancellor	Gil DaCosta	323-7896	Tiger66gd@verizon.net
Warden	Brian O'Leary	323-9111	shorttenor@gmail.com
Recorder	PGK Mike Griffin	323-8001	griffin1358@charter.net
Treasurer	Robert Christ	323-8892	rbtr_chrst@yahoo.com
Advocate	PGK Paul Vanasse	813-8442	pvanasse77@gmail.com
Inside Guard	Stanley Antonovich	323-7735	atrooper40@aol.com
Outside Guard	Stephen Wittbrodt	213-0720	stephen_wittbrodt@hotmail.com
Trustee 1 year	Ray Fontaine	537-4086	frumpier@charter.net
Trustee 2 years	PGK Everett Hume	323-8781	hume@charter.net
Trustee 3 years	Tom Curto	413-537-3031	T0623@AOL.COM
Financial Secretary	Norm Gousy	323-7959	ngousy@admin.umass.edu
Lecturer	PGK Terry Carney	323-5537	tmcinc@yahoo.com
Communications	<i>Open ~ volunteer needed</i>		
District III Deputy	PGK Rob Krafchuk	413-244-3682	rkrafchuk@aol.com
Insurance Agent	John Peters Jr.	413-824-1315	john.peters@kofc.org



St. Francis of Assisi Council 10698

NOVEMBER 2015

Newsletter

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace."

~ Chaplain's Message ~

Brother Knights,

How quickly these beautiful fall days are passing leading us into the bleakness of November and the dawn of winter. Our Church beautifully seizes upon this time to turn our attention to the "Last Things" – the reality that all is passing but filling us with the hope of Eternal Life. Hence we celebrate the Feast of All Saints, followed by that of All Souls. Since we belong to this great "Communion of Saints" we have the blessing of praying for each other as we make our journey through this life, knowing that those who have gone before us in faith are praying for us. On Sunday, November 22nd at the 10:30 Mass I invite you to join with me as we pray for all our brother Knights who have gone before us in Faith. It is a work of mercy to pray for the dead and there is a sense of comfort in knowing that one day there will be those who will pray for us. May the souls of all the Faithful Departed, rest in peace.

Fr. Vern

~ Grand Knight's Message ~

Dear brother Knights;

For many there is the fear the approaching winter weather, a time of cold winds, snow and higher costs to stay safe and warm. Shoveling and cautious driving will once again demand attention. Gone is the time of pleasant weather and it seems dread becomes a part of life. I must ask them, Why?

November is a special month for me. It isn't the end of the year. Instead it is a time of change. True, the trees have shed their leaves but the sky is a brilliant blue, the cool crisp air refreshes and especially we need not fear dreaded insects like the mosquito or ticks.

November means a special time to give thanks: to those that have served in our country's military at our Veterans Day ceremonies; to those Knights that have left this plane of existence into their eternal rest; to God for our bountiful lives as we celebrate Thanksgiving with our friends and families. What a great time of the year!

As we approach winter this month, we should not fear for it is a time of comfort and closeness with family and friends. Yes, we cannot go outside to picnic and swim but we may gather for board games, warm fireplaces and enjoying the closeness of our friends and loved ones. We can gaze at the beauty of a freshly fallen snow on a cool crisp morning as we look forward to the rebirth in spring.

November. What a great month! Let us be close-knit with our brothers and our families. Hope you and your family will join in our Thanksgiving feast on Tuesday, November 10 at 5:30pm.

May the Peace of Christ always be with you and your loved ones,

Happy Veterans Day and Thanksgiving,
Grand Knight Bill Bowen

Deputy Grand Knights Corner

"When Your Hut is On Fire"

The only survivor of a shipwreck was washed up on a small, uninhabited island. He prayed feverishly for God to rescue him. Every day he scanned the horizon for help, but none seemed forthcoming. Exhausted, he eventually managed to build a little hut out of driftwood to protect himself from the elements, and to store his few possessions.

One day, after scavenging for food, he arrived home to find his little hut in flames, with smoke rolling up to the sky. He felt the worst had happened, and everything was lost. He was stunned with disbelief, grief, and anger. He cried out, 'God! How could you do this to me?'

Early the next day, he was awakened by the sound of a ship approaching the island! It had come to rescue him! 'How did you know I was here?' asked the weary man of his rescuers. 'We saw your smoke signal,' they replied.

*The Moral of This Story: It's easy to get discouraged when things are going bad, but we shouldn't lose heart, because God is at work in our lives, even in the midst of our pain and suffering. Remember that the next time your little hut seems to be burning to the ground. It just may be **a smoke signal that summons the Grace of God***

Let Us Remember in our Prayers ~

- † For repose of the souls of Gale French, Charles Fusco, Thomas J. Heffernan Sr., and for the souls of all deceased brothers of the Knights of Columbus.
Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and may Your eternal light shine upon them. Amen
- † For improved health and comfort for; Terry Carney, Marcel and Jeanne Archambault, Tom Curto, Charles Lydon Sr., Elaine Lydon, Robert Hawley, Thomas Bowen, Ivan LeBrun, Chelsea Rose Phanuef, Al Roccanti, Michael DaCosta, Barbara Hume, Mary Rose Hurley, Noah Jubb, Robert Hayes.
- † For all those suffering in solitude in need of the healing power of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- † For all to learn and practice Christ's *Compassion, Understanding and Patience*.
- † For our government officials to maintain our rights, freedoms, safety and happiness.
- † For the safety and well-being of all serving in our military, police, fire fighters, and EMTs.

~ Special Thanks & 'Hats Off' ~

- To PGK Poissant for accepting the responsibilities as our council's Youth Director.
- To PGK Terry Carney, Billy Hurley and FS Norm Gousy for doing the Tootsie Roll drive at St. Francis on October 24/25 and raising \$194.
- To brother Kevin Bowen and his friend Steve Auclair for moving the new refrigerator into place and to all those that helped move the old one out.
- To DD/DGK Wil LeBrun for coordinating our Thanksgiving dinner on November 10.
- To all brother Knights that come to our meetings and help with our activities to make our council, church and community stronger.
- To everyone that served in the U.S. Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines.

~ A Call to Serve ~

- **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** to act as chef to provide the dinner for the first meeting of each month. Please see the Grand Knight to step up and impress your council.
- **HELPERS NEEDED** on Tuesday, November 10 at 4:30pm to help with our Thanksgiving dinner preparations.
- **HELPERS NEEDED** at Holyoke Soldiers Home *every* Sunday to assist residents in wheelchairs between the elevator and the chapel. Helpers are asked to check in with the receptionist at 9:15am.



PGK Charles Lydon accepts the STAR COUNCIL AWARD from our District Deputy Rob Krafchuk for a job well done for his term as our 2014-2015 Grand Knight.

Our efforts would not be as sweet without these lovely ladies. Special thanks for all you do to: Lynn Carney, Erin Szczepanek, Hanna Lydon, Debby Bowen, Louise Christ, Trish Krafchuk and Michelle Gousy.



This year's Belchertown Fair Coordinators District Deputies Wil LeBrun and Rob Krafchuk proudly recognize, Keagan and Connor Szczepanek, Fionne, Shea and Cuinn Lydon and Rory Nee for helping with this year's Belchertown Fair. To show our appreciation each received a certificate of appreciation and a gift card to the movies.



At our Fair Workers Appreciation party on Oct 10, Brother Bob Morin is presented the prize of a \$100 gift card to McCarthy's Pub of our Fair Workers drawing by Grand Knight Bill Bowen. Bob's name was drawn "from the hat" with every workers name of those that helped our efforts at this year's Belchertown Fair.





You're Invited to the Poissant Family's Annual
Knights of Columbus Belchertown Council
Christmas Party 2015

When: ~ Saturday, December 12th, 6:30 PM

Where: ~ 50 Oasis Drive, Belchertown

From Intersection of Routes 9 and Route 202 (CVS Plaza) continue on 202 North for 3 miles, turn left onto Munsell St., continue 1 mile on Munsell St., turn left and we are the dark green house at end on right of the cul-de-sac.

What to bring: ~ The Poissants will provide drinks. If you can, please bring either an appetizer (the oven will be available as needed) or a dessert to share.

If it's not easy for you to bring something, please come anyway – the more the merrier!

Food drive: ~ Sophie and Henry Poissant will once again be happy to accept donations at the party for the St. Francis Food Pantry.

Please RSVP: ~ 323-8089 *or* email: spoissant@yahoo.com

~ K of C Council 10698's Extended Activity Agenda ~

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

COUNCIL MEETINGS: 2nd Tuesday each month; DINNER~ 6pm, MEETING~ 7pm
4th Tuesday each month; MEETING~ 7pm.

DATE/TIME:	EVENT / ACTIVITY:
Sat. Nov 7	K of C Charity Ball, Leominster, MA
Sat. Nov 7	Belchertown Christmas Fair
Tue. Nov 10 5:30pm	COUNCIL FAMILY THANKSGIVING FEAST. All knights and their families are invited to this feast of turkey, mashed potatoes and stuffing ala Chef LeBrun, in the council hall or possibly the Pine Room. Bring a side-dish or a dessert to share. Helpers needed at 4:30pm to help with preparations. <u>Please RSVP~ Contact DD/DGK Wil Lebrun at his home phone: 213-0088 or his email wlebrun1@charter.net</u>
Wed. Nov 11	VETERANS DAY. Belchertown ceremony on the common at 9:30am, ceremony at BHS Veterans Memorial Auditorium at 11am.
Sun. Nov 22	10:30am. Knights of Columbus Memorial Mass at St. Francis.
Wed, Nov 25 6p	Contribution <i>deadline</i> for Council 10698 December newsletter
Thu. Nov 26	THANKSGIVING
Sat. Dec 5	DECK THE COUNCIL HALL for Christmas. Refreshments will be served.
Tue. Dec 8	COMMUNITY OPTIONS LUNCHEON in the Pine Room.
Sat. Dec 12	Poissant's annual KofC Council Christmas party. Fa la la la la-la la la la
Wed. Dec 23	Contribution <i>deadline</i> for Council 10698 January '16 newsletter
Fri. Dec 25	CHRISTMAS. For us was born a Savior.

!! HELP US SAVE \$\$!!

Every printed copy of this newsletter sent out via the U.S. Postal Service costs the council for time, materials and postage to mail it to you. Help reduce these costs if you have an email address.

Contact btowncoordinator@charter.net to get your newsletter via email.

Your **information will not be shared** and will be used for KofC Council 10698 purposes only.

FREE advertising in our newsletter for Council 10698 members and businesses that support our council!

Do you have an invitation, something to sell or a business to advertise?

All you need to do is email your information to btowncoordinator@charter.net.

FOR SALE:

- Snow Skis: Atomic AC3 System 70, 195cm, Tyrolia 'Carve' step-in bindings. Excellent condition, almost new. Best offer. Call Bill Bowen, 323-7080.



John M. Peters, Jr.
Council 10698's insurance field agent.

John's contact information:

Phone #: 413-824-1315

Email addr: john.peters@kofc.org

Mailing address: 167 S. Shelburne Rd., Greenfield, MA 01301

Contact John about how you can take advantage of programs available **ONLY** to members of The Knights of Columbus.

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Open 11:00 AM - 11:30 PM

Look for them on Facebook.

Twitter: @McCarthysPubMA



Come to McCarthy's Pub and enjoy all the pleasures of delicious food, yummy libations, Western Massachusetts vibe and entertainment! This locally owned business is located adjacent to Belchertown Common within short miles of the idyllic Quabbin reservoir, the five college area and the MA turnpike. A stop at this shop is sure to please. Come on in for an excellent treat in a comfy and welcoming atmosphere.

The Belchertown Knights of Columbus St. Francis of Assisi Council 10698 expresses our sincere thanks to these local businesses for their support. We urge everyone to shop at these businesses in gratitude for their contributions:

Stop & Shop Supermarket, Belchertown, MA

Cluett's Appliances, Ware, MA

Arnold's Meats, Springfield, MA

Osterman Propane, Amherst, MA

K of C Council 10698 Newsletter Editor~ GK Bill Bowen, phone: 413.323.7080

Email your contributions to: btowncoordinator@charter.net.

Deadline to submit is no later than 6pm on the 4th Wednesday each month.

Every effort is made to ensure the content and information in this newsletter is accurate and informative.

Comments and corrections are welcome.

Our newsletter is also available ON-LINE at: www.stfrancistown.org/KofC.html

Be sure to Visit & "LIKE" us on Facebook: "Knights of Columbus Council 10698"

Buried somewhere within this newsletter is the key to understanding why the picture found on the front page under our return address is so important. Let it be a reminder every time you see one.