



## St. Francis of Assisi Council 10698

11 Jabish Street, P.O. Box 1343

Belchertown, MA 01007-1343

## DECEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER



*Please share this with friends & family*

### *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 **DECEMBER 2015**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
		St. Francis Crèche Lighting 7pm				Deck the KofC Hall party 12 noon
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
		Community Options Luncheon ++++++ 10698 dinner 6p meeting 7p				Poissant's Christmas Party
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
		10698 Meeting 7p	Newsletter submittal deadline		Christmas	
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		
				New Year's Eve		

## 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



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

**St. Francis of Assisi Council 10698**

**DECEMBER 2015**

## **Newsletter**

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

### ***~ Chaplain's Message ~***

Our annual tradition of "Keeping Christ in Christmas" by lighting our nativity scene by the parish office has grown over the years and I hope many will join us this Tuesday as we "turn the lights on." This Advent Season will pass quite quickly, be sure to take some time alone to think of the immensity of God's love expressed in the coming miracle of Christmas. Know how grateful I am to all our brother Knights for their loyal support, help and assistance in so many ways here at St. Francis. May the Christ Child bless you and your families this Christmas and all through the New Year.

God Bless, Fr. Vern

### ***~ Grand Knight's Message ~***

Dear brother Knights;

We have a wonderful holiday season in front of us to gather with our friends and family to prepare and celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. For many this means worshiping during Advent, listening to Christmas carols, decorating our homes, parties, trips to Santa, shopping for presents, searching through heirloom recipes to prepare for feasting and the gathering of loved ones.

I sincerely hope all will join the many events with our council to bring us into the Christmas spirit; our parish lighting of our beautiful nativity crèche, decking our K of C Hall, helping serve the challenged a wonderful Christmas feast at the Community Options luncheon, and let's not forget the annual Christmas party hosted by the Poissant family in their home. I look forward to joining together in the beautiful and meaningful Mass at St. Francis on Christmas Eve or Day in celebration of the birth of the Son of God, given to us so that we may live eternally in His light and peace.

We are so blessed to celebrate Christmas. May the joys of the season be with you and your loved ones now and forever. Let us offer prayer for those less fortunate and alone.

Merry Christmas and a safe New Year to all,  
Grand Knight Bill Bowen

### ***~ Let Us Offer Prayers ~***

- † For repose of the souls of all deceased brothers of the Knights of Columbus and of our family members.  
*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 and family, 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 Chef DD/DGK LeBrun and all that helped for our fantabulous Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 10.
- To our council youth director PGK Poissant for managing our annual soccer challenge.
- To all brother Knights that come to our meetings and help with our activities to make our council, church and community stronger.

### *~ A Call to Serve ~*

- **HELPERS NEEDED** on Tuesday, December 8 at 12 noon to help with the Community Options luncheon in the Pine Room to help with set-up, serving and clean-up.
- **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** 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.

### *~ 2016 Dues ~*

We are trying to save the Council over \$100 in postage/paper/ink cartridges by asking our members to submit their 2016 dues (\$28 regular members, \$12.25 for Honorary members) before December 15th. If we receive your payment prior to the 15th of December we only need to send you your 2016 card and raffle tickets in one envelope before the new year begins. Please consider helping us in this effort. I think you would agree that \$100 to a needy organization is better spent than giving it to the Postal Service.

For those of you who normally receive the monthly Newsletter via email you will be receiving your bill as an email in the first week of December. Whether you receive the bill by mail, email or if you use this announcement to mail your payment there is no need to enclose the stub from the invoice with your check. The check will be applied by the name on the check or by the memo field.

If you have any questions about your annual dues, please call me at (413) 323-7959 in the evening at 7PM.

Payments should be made payable to **Knights of Columbus Council 10698** and mailed to:

c/o Norm Gousy  
233 Bay Road  
Belchertown, MA 01007

Thanks in advance for your timely payment.

Norm  
Financial Secretary

### *~ Donations Needed ~*

The Secular Franciscans at St. Francis are looking for used sleeping bags to donate to the Amherst survival center. Bags must be clean, in good condition and have working zippers. They could be dropped off at the hall, left on the front porch or give me a call at 323-5537 and I will make other arrangements.

Thanks to all, P.G.K. Terry Carney



K of C Council 10698 was well represented at this year's Knights of Columbus State Youth Soccer Challenge by our DD/PGK Rob Krafchuk (R) and our Youth Director PGK Rich Poissant (L) with our State Deputy Russ Steinbach (3<sup>rd</sup> from L) and his staff of officers.  
Belchertown kids taking state championship honors were:  
1<sup>st</sup> Place 12-year-old Boys- Nathan Schiffer (center)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place 9-year-old Girls- Olivia Corbin (left)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place 10-year-old Boys- Kainoa David (right)



## Poissant's annual K of C Christmas Party

*When:* Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm

*Where:* 50 Oasis Drive, Belchertown.

**Directions:** 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 Poissant's 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.

Don't forget to RSVP ~ 323-8089 or email: [spoissant@yahoo.com](mailto:spoissant@yahoo.com)

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

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**COUNCIL MEETINGS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month; DINNER~ 6pm, MEETING~ 7pm  
4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month; MEETING~ 7pm.

DATE/TIME:	EVENT / ACTIVITY:
Tue. Dec 1 6:30p	St. Francis Crèche lighting
Sat. Dec 5 12 noon	DECK THE COUNCIL HALL FOR CHRISTMAS. All members and their families are invited to share in the festivities, games and refreshments.
Tue. Dec 8	COMMUNITY OPTIONS LUNCHEON in the Pine Room. 12noon
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](mailto: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](mailto:btowncoordinator@charter.net).

### FOR SALE:

- **Snow Skis:** Atomic AC3 System 70, 195cm, Tyrolia 'Carve' step-in bindings. Excellent condition, almost new. \$25. Call Bill Bowen, 323-7080.
- **Roller Blades.** Men's 9 ½. Black. Exc cond, \$20. 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](mailto: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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413.323.7096

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## McCARTHY'S PUB

5 E. Walnut St.

Belchertown, MA 01007

(413) 323-6420

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.

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

Email your contributions to: [btowncoordinator@charter.net](mailto:btowncoordinator@charter.net).

Deadline to submit is no later than 6pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.stfrancisbtown.org/KofC.html](http://www.stfrancisbtown.org/KofC.html)

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

