Dear Brother Knights,

Happy New Year! Throughout the Christmas season, there were a number of readings that recounted various events in Mary’s life that continue to inspire believers. She is the first disciple to follow Jesus and she remains a model of discipleship for all who seek her son. The Church dedicates the first day of the New Year to Mary, recognizing her most important role in salvation history – the Mother of Jesus – thus, the Mother of God. Of the many titles and depictions of Mary, the highest honor is identifying her as the mother of the Savior.

One of those Gospel readings was the description of her visit to Elizabeth her kinswoman who also was expecting her first was born. This event is referred to as “the Visitation”. When recently reading from Luke 1:39-45, what struck me was the very human side of Mary. There was Mary, pregnant, and she leaves the comforts of being in her home to visit Elizabeth. It must have been a challenging journey, for we are told that Elizabeth and her husband Zachariah lived in the “hill country”, and yet Mary didn’t hesitate; she went “in haste”. When Mary learned that her older cousin was pregnant, she felt the need to help her. The Gospel continues by telling us that she remained with her cousin for three months. Wow!

There are relatively few stories of Mary recorded in the Gospels. This should not surprise us since the Good News is primarily about Jesus. Yet, we know Mary to be “full of grace”. This example of Mary’s loving charity speaks volumes! Pregnant herself, she acts “in haste” to go to her older, pregnant cousin; another example of her loving heart.

As we begin this New Year, perhaps we can, like Mary, recognize and embrace the many opportunities we have to act charitable toward others; and I bet you don’t have to travel very far. There are people who need help within your family, your neighborhood, our parishes, the places where we work, the schools we attend, amongst members of our Council, maybe a friend. Let us go to them “in haste”, like Mary.

Once again, I want to wish you and yours God’s choicest blessings as we enter the New Year, a year with great opportunity for all of us. May we together experience the joy of walking with the One who first chose to journey with us, and that is Jesus! I hope that the celebration of the Christmas season has been truly amazing for you. With Jesus, it certainly can be. Again, God’s blessings to you and yours! My prayer is that you will make it a Happy New Year – with Jesus!

In Jesus’ Love!

Father Paul Zywan
Chaplain, Council #3907
### Christmas Seals

In the past several weeks you should have received a packet of Christmas Seals either in the mail or in your parish bulletin. It is not too late to make a contribution to the Bishop’s Project. Simply use the envelope supplied with the seals and enclose your check made out to K of C Bishop’s Project with Member #3907 on the memo line and envelope. If you misplaced your envelope, please contact any of the Council Officers for a new one. Or, donate online at right (with C3907 & your Parish)…. →

**Steve Seaman**
724-935-2576 – <sgseaman@zoominternet.net>

### Degree Candidates

Next 1st & 2nd Degrees are being planned for Saint Ferdinand 9AM Saturday morning January 21st, and a 3rd Degree is being planned for Saint Ferdinand Saturday morning February 18th. The next 4th Degree is being planned for Sunday afternoon June 4th 2017.…..

FYI: Degrees are being Renamed: 1st == Admission (Rosary); 2nd == Formation (Cross); 3rd == Knighthood (Medallion); and 4th == Patriotic

For further information on upcoming Degrees: Please contact: SK Larry Emark at <emarklw@verizon.net> or 412-367-0525; or visit: PA State Website at <www.pakofc.us>/ Membership/ West Degrees.

### Fifth Sunday Rosary

Our next “5th Sunday Rosary” will be held January 29th at St. Alexis after the 11:00AM Mass.

**Vivat Jesus!**

**Chris Kelley**

Phone: 724-799-0249 – Email: <chris081476@gmail.com>

### March for Life

The 44th Annual March for Life Pilgrimage will occur on Friday, January 27th. One of the local churches sponsoring a Bus to Washington DC is Saints John & Paul. The cost for the Pilgrimage is $35.00 for Adults and $15.00 for Youth/teens, and includes the bus ride, water, donuts, and a sandwich & drink for dinner. Children of any age are welcome to attend if accompanied by a parent. High School students may attend without a Parent (a signed permission slip and medical forms are required). Financial aid is available. The buses will depart on Friday, January 27th at 6:00am and will load in front of the Cardinal DiNardo Center. Online Registration and Pilgrimage details can be found on the Sts. John & Paul homepage at <www.stsjoohnandpaul.org>. Just click on “March for Life 2017” in the lower-left corner of the page. If you have any trip and logistics questions, please call Donna Lopus at 412-389-6738. For registration questions, please contact: Kirstin at <kcenk@stsjohnandpaul.org> or 724-935-2104 x289

**Saint Alexis** and **Saint Alphonsus** will also be hosting Buses. Check your Parish Bulletin for details….. **SJN** will be joining SSJP on their Bus….

### Wreaths Across America

Thanks to your support we continued the tradition of supporting the Wreaths Across America project to honor our deceased veteran during this past holiday season.

### Priest Luncheon

On December 1st ten Knights served lunch to 21 male residents at Vincentian Nursing Home. Pizza and “liquid” refreshments were served by the Knights. A good time was had by all.

The next luncheon will be on Thursday, March 2nd at 11:30AM. Look to see you there

**Morrie Stack**
412-366-2475

### Happy New Year & Thank You!

As we make the transition into the New Year of 2017, I would like to wish my brother Knights and their families the very best and I look forward to continuing to serve as your Deputy Grand Knight.

In our Council, the position of DGK also carries with it, the added responsibilities of General Program Director and President of the Columbian Knights. I would like to say “THANK YOU” to all of our members that have supported me in these positions since last July and, in particular, to ALL of the various “committee” members and chairman that have agreed to remain in those positions, to assist both myself and our Grand Knight with their valuable experience.

**Vivat Jesus!**

**Bill Romig**

Deputy Grand Knight

### Pass the Gavel Dinner

(Coming Up Quickly)

This year’s Pass the Gavel Dinner will be held ‘February 10th. See the handout in this month’s Olive Branch. **Please get back to Bill Eaton ASAP**, <willroe@consolidated.net> (724-933-0284).

### St. Patrick’s Day Party

Mark Your Calendar for March 11th. Our next St. Patrick’s Day Party is coming. See the insert in this month’s Olive Branch for more details.

### 3907 WINS Columbian Award

Thanks for all your support during 2016. With your help, both hours, and financial, our Council won the Columbian Award.

### Football Sweeps Information

If you are interested to know who has won in the football sweeps so far this season, visit the K of C State web site and look under “Programs” or enter the following link in your web browser: <http://www.pakofc.us/programs/council/football/index.html>

### Children’s Basketball Free Throw Contest

St. Kilian Council #14807 has offered the use of their Gymnasium for the free throw competition On January 28th from 1:00-4:00pm. This is the same as last year we will do Councils and District again at the same time. For C3907/D100 Signup Contact: **David Barton** at <dbarton46@yahoo.com> or (724-935-5262)

**Vivat Jesus!**

Rich Seman, DD100
Remember in your Prayers
The following individuals were included in our prayers at the two December meetings, plus call-ins; please add them to your prayer list...

**Deceased:** Fr. John M. O’Toole PSC; Dolores Connelly; Sally Abels; Chuck Gernen; Ray Perotte; Edward Dye; Janet Fowler; and Larissa Osby.

**Members:** SK Robert Zoeller; SK Terry Conroy; SK George Ley; Larry Sampietro; Jeff Full; Morrie Stack; and Andy Maul.

**Family & Friends:** Virgil C. Dechant, PSK; John E. Nickolas PSD FSD; Aaron F. “Ron” Cubbage PSD; Russ Reigel, FM FSW; Bill Kelly; Henry Caruso; Bill Kelley; Joan Daquelente; Marian Stack; Chuck Hosick; Mike Lorinc; Gloria Ley; Denise Malchano; Mary Jo LeDonne; Jessica Glancy; Nancy Cummings; Bob Cummings; Terry Cummings; Betty Kolakowski; Catherine Wapenski; David Eisenbraun; Jan Franz; Bob Powers; Ruth Craig; and Jim Bischoff.

To add or delete any names to/from this list, please contact Grand Knight Bill McKim or Financial Secretary Bill Eaton.

First Friday Overnight Adoration
Several members of #3907, many along with their wives, continue to spend “An Evening with Our Lord” in the Grotto Chapel of Sts John & Paul Parish. Most are in one-hour shifts from 8:00pm Mass on the 1st Friday of the Month through the night until 8:45am Benediction on Saturday morning. Our next scheduled Adoration is on Friday January 6th into Saturday January 7th then next month February 3rd and 4th.

Please contact SK Larry Emark at <emarklw@verizon.net> or 412-367-0525 to get your name on the Adoration List. SJ&P also offers Tuesday All-Day Eucharistic Adoration (all year long) following the 7:00am Mass until 7:00pm Benediction.

Brothers we need YOUR HELP
To reach out to our members who haven’t as yet become involved with the activities of our Council, we are seeking your input on what ideas or activities could improve your social participation. In THIS JANUARY’s newsletter you will find a brief survey that we would appreciate that you review, mark-up and return to us via email or USPS. We have developed a few ideas that could be activities we can add throughout the year if the interest is there, but we are also looking for your thoughts on those other things that might get you out to join in. Please send completed surveys to our Council Mail Box or email to George Franz: <George.franzjr@gmail.com> or photo/text to 724-772-0494. 

"Look Ahead"
Important dates in the near future mark your calendars now, more information to follow:

- **January 27th, 2017** SSJF/SJN, SAIX, SAIP – March for Life
- **January 29th, 2017** St Alexis – Fifth Sunday Rosary
- **February 10th, 2017** – Pass the Gavel Party
- **March 2nd, 2017** Priest Luncheon, Vincentian
- **March 11th, 2017** – St. Patrick’s Day Party

Web Site Links:

- Our Lady of Olives: <www.kofc3907.org>
- Pittsburgh Chapter: <www.pittsburghchapterkofc.org>
- PA State Council: <www.pakofc.us>
- Supreme Council: <www.kofc.org>
- Diocese of Pittsburgh: <www.diopitt.org>
- TRY (Special Needs): <www.tryspecialneeds.org>
- Bishop’s Project: <www.bishopsprojectkofc.org>
Council 3907 Bereavement Policy

For more than 50 years our council has followed a bereavement policy at the death of a member or a loved one. Occasionally we have to reprint the policy so that there are no misunderstandings.

Upon the passing of a loved one, someone should notify the Grand Knight, Financial Secretary or the Chancellor to advise of what the arrangements will be and if the family would want the bereavement service. The Council 3907 contact then contacts the funeral home to set up the time or other arrangements as desired by the family.

We normally recite the Rosary for the member, his spouse, his children or his parents. We also extend the courtesy to his siblings who are still single and living with the parents.

In the case of it being a member in good standing of #3907 we follow the Rosary with the "Member Wake Service" as prepared by Father Schroeder in 1977 - the light green, pamphlet.

If the deceased member is a 4th Degree knight, the Assembly is notified in the case that the family wants the services of the 4th Degree Color Corps.

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2016 C.O.A.L. Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Ticket #</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Prize</td>
<td>2017 Chevrolet Spark 4 Dr Sedan</td>
<td>1005968 Vince Paccino, Glenmore, PA</td>
<td>13141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Prize</td>
<td>Ireland Vacation 7 Days</td>
<td>0719040 Walter Hansen, Stroudsburg, PA</td>
<td>7141</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Prize</td>
<td>National Park Canyon Country</td>
<td>0188536 Andrew Hickman, Brick, NJ</td>
<td>4160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Prize</td>
<td>Costa Rica 9 days</td>
<td>0070041 Mary Beth Combola, Ardmore, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th Prize</td>
<td>California Coast &amp; Wine Country</td>
<td>0324797 Mindy Stepanik, Sunbury, PA</td>
<td>4281</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th Prize</td>
<td>4pc Kitchen Appliance Package</td>
<td>1019844 William Lang, Eighty Four, PA</td>
<td>13832</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th Prize</td>
<td>Disney World 2 adult/2 children</td>
<td>0643332 George Keenan, Bethlehem, PA</td>
<td>15188</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th Prize</td>
<td>Canyon Country 8 days</td>
<td>0583079 William McVicker, Davidsburg, PA</td>
<td>10409</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th Prize</td>
<td>$3,000.00 Cash prize</td>
<td>0970941 Francis Kennedy, Ashley, PA</td>
<td>12089</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th Prize</td>
<td>Punta Cana Vacation</td>
<td>0198154 Andrew Spacht, Erie, PA</td>
<td>4262</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th Prize</td>
<td>Rivera Maya Vacation</td>
<td>0389406 Ales Arthur Holt, Kingston, PA</td>
<td>3987</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th Prize</td>
<td>$2,000.00 Cash prize</td>
<td>0405344 Mr. Zulli, Springfield, PA</td>
<td>4500</td>
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<td>13th Prize</td>
<td>Las Vegas Trip 4 days with $300.00</td>
<td>0130166 Dan Dugan, Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>2555</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th Prize</td>
<td>$1,000.00 Cash prize</td>
<td>0965125 Frank Coughlin, Plymouth, PA</td>
<td>11901</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th Prize</td>
<td>60 inch HD Smart TV</td>
<td>0301431 Mount Pleasant Council #3334, Mount Pleasant, PA</td>
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<td>16th Prize</td>
<td>64GB Apple iPad Air 2 w/WiFi</td>
<td>1040027 Michell Romano, Verona, PA</td>
<td>4925</td>
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Parish Retreat Schedule

St. Paul's Passionist Retreat Center<br><a>www.stpaulofthecrossmonastery.com</a>  <br><a>stpaulsretreatcenter-pittsburgh.org</a>

Women's Retreats:
- Jan. 6-8 - St. Alexis: Mary Ann Sembrat 412-992-7290
- St. John Neumann <not listed> Retreat Center 412-381-7676
- SS John & Paul <not listed> Retreat Center 412-381-7676
- Others: See Fall Retreat Center Newsletter, else Signup above.

Men's Retreats:
- Jan. 20-22 - St. Alexis: Ed Thomas 724-625-1315
- Jan. 20-22 - St. Alphonsus: Eugene Lersch 412-366-1622
- Jan. 20-22 - St. Alphonsus: Mark Prybyl 724-776-0876
- St. John Neumann <not listed> Retreat Center 412-367-7481
- SS John & Paul <not listed> Retreat Center 412-367-7481

Others: See Fall Retreat Center Newsletter, else Signup above.
## Our Lady of Olives Council #3907

### January 2017

**Our 63rd Year of Columbianism!**

*Discover a World of Good Things in the Knights of Columbus*

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#### Return Service Requested

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### Our Lady of Olives Council #3907 <> Council Calendar <> January 1st 2017 – February 11th 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>January 1</strong></td>
<td>January 2</td>
<td>January 3</td>
<td>January 4</td>
<td>January 5</td>
<td>First Friday</td>
<td>First Saturday</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (HD)</strong></td>
<td><strong>New Year’s Day</strong></td>
<td>Pittsburgh Chapter</td>
<td>K of C 3907 Meeting</td>
<td>St. John Neumann</td>
<td>First Friday</td>
<td>Overnight (8pm–9am Adoration: SJ&amp;P)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penn Allegheny C4242</td>
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<td>Rosary 7:30pm</td>
<td>St. Alexis Cafeteria</td>
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<td>(Verona) 7:30pm</td>
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<td>Meeting 8:00pm</td>
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<td><strong>January 8</strong></td>
<td>January 9</td>
<td>January 10</td>
<td>January 11</td>
<td>January 12</td>
<td>January 13</td>
<td>January 14</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Epiphany Of the Lord</strong></td>
<td>The Baptism of the Lord</td>
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<td>K of C 3907 Meeting</td>
<td>SAlx Women Retreat†</td>
<td>SAlx Men’s Retreat†</td>
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<td><strong>January 15</strong></td>
<td>January 16</td>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>January 19</td>
<td>January 20</td>
<td>January 21</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time</strong></td>
<td>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</td>
<td>K of C 3907 Meeting</td>
<td>February Olive</td>
<td>Bishop Project meeting,</td>
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<td>1st Degree C11838</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Holiday)</td>
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<td>Rosary 7:30pm</td>
<td>Branch Input Due</td>
<td>St. Mary of Mt. C491</td>
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<td>2nd Degree C11838</td>
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<td>Meeting 8:00pm</td>
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<td>SAlx Men’s Retreat†</td>
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<td>St. Alexis Cafeteria</td>
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<td><strong>January 22</strong></td>
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<td>January 26</td>
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<td><strong>3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time</strong></td>
<td>The Conversion of</td>
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<td>K of C 3907 Meeting</td>
<td>March For Life &gt;6AM</td>
<td>Free Throw Contest</td>
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<td>St. Paul the Apostle</td>
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<td>Rosary 7:30pm</td>
<td>SSJP/SJN, SAlx, SAlp</td>
<td>St. Killian School 1–4pm</td>
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<td><strong>4th Sunday of Ordinary Time</strong></td>
<td>Catholic Schools Week</td>
<td><strong>Deadline for Recognition Night</strong></td>
<td>K of C 3907 Meeting</td>
<td>Presentation of the Lord</td>
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<td>First Friday</td>
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<td>Fifth Sunday Rosary</td>
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<td><strong>Reservations</strong></td>
<td>Rosary 7:30pm</td>
<td>Ground Hog Day</td>
<td>First Friday</td>
<td>Overnight (8pm–9am Adoration: SJ&amp;P)</td>
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<td>St. Alexís &gt;11am Mass</td>
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<td>Meeting 8:00pm</td>
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<td>Saints John &amp; Paul</td>
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<td><strong>February 5</strong></td>
<td>February 6</td>
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<td>February 9</td>
<td>February 10</td>
<td>February 11</td>
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<td><strong>5th Sunday of Ordinary Time</strong></td>
<td>Boy Scout Sunday</td>
<td>Pittsburgh Chapter</td>
<td>C3907 Pass the Gavel &amp; Recognitions Night</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>(Monroeville) 7:30pm</td>
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