



St. Luke the Evangelist Council #12455 Raleigh

Marches for Life: Raleigh and DC

On Saturday, January 13, 2018, more than 1,500 Catholic youth and family members from across the Diocese attended the 6th annual “Love My Life” rally (LML) on the grounds of the Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral. After the Bishop celebrated mass at the cathedral, the teens were transported to the NC Right to Life Rally and March in Downtown Raleigh.

Accompanying Fr. Rob at the rally, were Council Brothers and family members: including Conzolas, Haags, Hetzels, Judas, Masinicks, Nichols and Savage.

Brothers Nichols and Savage also helped run the LML event, attended by about 15 of our St. Luke’s youth. In the picture to the right — Jerome models the official LML T-shirt. Also attending LML were Stephanie Jones, Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry, Ruth Harris and Betty DiMasimo (Steve’s Mom).

Mary Beth Phillips, event organizer, wished to thank all of you for the work you did to help, whether it was arriving early to help unload furniture, helping with parking, greeting the youth and passing out tickets and labels, helping with ushering, selling T-shirts, serving food, chaperoning the site or cleaning up --- or doing almost all of the above, as many of you amazingly did --- your hard work and dedication were very much noted and appreciated.

Brothers attending the Washington DC January 19 March for Life included: Abell, Haag, Koster, Nichols and Tom, Debbie and Josh Lindsey — all travelling there on the bus from St. Raphael’s with marchers from nearby parishes.

Summing up the experience — The weather was beautiful. The NC Mass for Life was inspiring and packed with Catholics from all over the state. Our 3 seminar-

ians were there in procession and to assist the celebrations (See Pictures p. 6). The President, the first ever to speak directly to the marchers, unequivocally endorsed the pro Life cause. The march was the best attended and witnessing the overwhelming number of youth marching was exhilarating and encouraging to us.



Mark the Dates

Council Meeting, Wednesday, 7:30 PM, March 7. There will be a pre meeting reception at 6:45 PM.

Highway Cleanup, Saturday, March 10, 8:30 AM church parking lot.

Sell State Raffle Tickets. Half the proceeds are returned to the Council. Sales after Masses, Weekends of March 17-18 and April 7- 8. See article on p.6.

Council Lenten Soup Supper, Friday, March 23. See p.7 for note on sign up.

Council Meeting, Wednesday, 7:30 PM, April 4. There will be a pre meeting reception at 6:45 PM.

Council Pancake Breakfast. Sunday, April 15, serving starts at 9:30 AM.

Council Sponsored Men’s Ignatian Retreat, Avila Retreat Center, ” Friday– Sunday, May 18-20. See pages 2 and 9.

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Links

- State Supreme Raleigh Diocese** www.kofcnc.org
www.kofc.org
- CVNC** www.dioceseofraleigh.org/
www.catholicvoicenc.org
- Bishops Vatican** www.usccb.org
www.vatcan.va

Brother Dan Tomczak Enters Eternal Life

With sadness we mourn the passing of Dan Tomczak who died Sunday January 14. At the same time we know that he now has peace and that his suffering is over.

Our prayerful condolences to Denise, his wife of 45 years, and sons Timothy (Mary), Kevin (Kim) and Benjamin (Emily); his grandchildren Kimmie, Michael, Natali, Niko, Cecilia, Justin and Brian; and his siblings Judy Davis, Darrell, Richard and Jim.

Dan, a native of Michigan was a Sergeant in the US Army, 4th Battalion 173rd Airborne Brigade (“Sky Soldiers”) 503d Infantry Regiment and received the Purple Heart after suffering wounds in the Vietnam War. He was also awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in a combat zone. Dan later shared his experiences in a book he wrote and published, **Damn It, I’m Hit!**

The near-fatal injuries suffered by Dan, including the loss of his right leg, required lengthy physical therapy at Valley Forge General Hospital in Pennsylvania. Shortly after returning to Michigan, Dan married the girl next door, Denise. He worked for FDS in 1976 before being transferred to Raleigh in 1984. Dan joined CP&L’s Information Technology team in 1990, and retired from the company in 2013.

Dan’s passions included his family and family history, remembering and honoring fellow veterans every November, tennis, sailing, the Carolina Hurricanes, playing the accordion, bluegrass music, his Catholic Faith, his Polish heritage, and Pro-

ject Healing Waters Fly Fishing Program.

In the words of Brother Knight Joe Huray:

I met Dan early on when I began attending St Luke's, and his love for our Church shown through his many efforts to serve, as he did when he enlisted for military service. As a Viet Nam veteran, I always appreciated the Veterans Day gifts he spent many hours making for the rest of us veterans. He would shake your hand, smile, and thank you for your service. That was how I first got to know him. I read his book. He would dress in a suit, dress shirt, and tie on Sundays when he was serving as a Eucharistic Minister. Again, always proud to serve. I never heard him complain about his tribulations. He bore them like a true Catholic soldier. So, he showed all of us how to let our faith in Christ be our light and source of courage. I will miss Dan.

Godspeed buddy, and, Welcome Home,

Joe Huray

See <http://www.rfhr.com/obituaries/Daniel-Tomczak> for obituary and condolence messages.

Men’s Ignatian Retreat, May 18-20, 2018

For the last ten years, Council 12455 has sponsored this annual retreat at Avila in Durham. Over 40 St. Luke’s men have participated over the years.

Our 11th Ignatian Retreat for Men is scheduled for the weekend of May 18-20, the weekend after Mothers’ Day

As Brothers of this Council you have an early opportunity to register for one of the 32 slots for this spiritual growth experience. Soon we will advertise in parishes around the Raleigh area and then diocesan-wide. The retreat will be directed by Fr. Peter F. Ryan, S.J., who will come here from the Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. The theme

of the weekend is “Discernment of God’s Will.”

Father Peter is a teacher, lecturer and spiritual director and is eagerly looking forward to leading us in this spiritual growth weekend. His conferences will emphasize the St. Ignatius’ spiritual exercises and focus on strategies to discern the elements of each of our personal vocations. See page 6 of this Newsletter for detail and registration information.

This silent retreat weekend is jointly sponsored by the St. Luke's and St. Raphael's K of C Councils in cooperation with St. Raphael's Office of Life

Long Faith Formation.

To reserve a private room at the Avila Center for the retreat, return the registration form (Newsletter, page 6) and the \$95 deposit. Note that the deposit is refundable up to two weeks prior to the retreat.

Vivat Jesus, Jim Haag
jjmthaag@bellsouth.net

[919-841-5817](tel:919-841-5817) (H), [919-995-1057](tel:919-995-1057) ©

Download registration form on page 9.

Pancake Breakfast Well Attended — GK John Stanson

I just want to thank everyone for making this past weekend's pancake breakfast a great success. This was the best-attended breakfast that I can remember. The food was excellent, including the gluten-free pancakes. You set up, cooked, served, cleaned up very efficiently and professionally. I think we're back in the groove! I heard many kind words of apprecia-

tion from the parishioners. We treated 3 new families to a free breakfast (10 individuals). I think it's fair to say we made a good impression on them.

We grossed \$643. The expenses were about \$330, so we netted over \$300 for our council ministries. That's fantastic! THANK YOU!!!

Our next (quarterly) pancake breakfast is scheduled for April 15.

Because we do not want to ignore the Saturday evening crowd, we are planning a spaghetti dinner on May 5. Stay tuned.

Indeed, You are My Valentine! — John Stanson GK

Here's an update on the fantastic **Valentine's Day Dance**. Tickets sold —106. For those of you who helped sell tickets at Masses, created posters/flyers, promoted among your friends and community, setup hall, bought/served drinks, cleaned up, brought desserts, or simply came and made the evening enjoyable for all - THANK YOU!!

Here's the dance by the numbers:

\$ 1382.00 - Gross ticket proceeds
\$ 100.80 - Drink sales
\$ 69.00 - Donations
\$ 70.76 - Decorations
\$ 691.00 - Rollin's take

\$750.04 - For Council 12455 charities

In particular, I would like to mention the Brothers and spouses who helped so much to make this project a great success for our Council.

Promotion: Brothers Benigno, Bihlmeyer, Savage and Pamila Stanson;

Poster/Flier: Brother Phan;

Sell Tickets : Brothers: Stanson, Bihlmeyer, Petrovick, Benigno, Kosinski;

Set up: Brothers: Kleitsch, Abell, Stanson, Craig & Laura O'Brian, Rombout, Koster, Przytulski;

Decoration: Pamela Stanson;

Food Service/Ticket Table: Brothers: Stanson, Rombout, Conzola, Nichols and kids, Savage and kids.

Cleanup: Brothers Benigno, Beasley, Koster & kids, Nichols & kids, Savage & kids, John and Pamela Stanson.

Of course, thanks to so many parishioners and members who contributed delicious desserts and eats.

I hope I haven't forgotten anyone on this long listing. Last, but certainly not least, thanks to all of you and your friends who attended this parish community event. Be assured that the net proceeds will be put to use supporting our Council charities.

Electing Council Officers, Council Program Opportunities

We elect Council officers in May yearly. Our Nominating Committee is seeking Brothers who may like to be considered for election to an officer position. To be an officer you must be a 3rd degree Knight. Make your suggestions known to Frank Sancineto, Jr.

We also want to identify Brothers who wish to shape our Council's program initiatives: Respect Life, youth, community, family, church or council.

Many of our 135 Knights are available, interested, willing and/or ready to engage. Can you lead or help out in a worthy cause? Are you at a point in your life when you observe need for or even aspire to lead a good work (s)? Step up and guide our Council in 2018 and beyond.

On the other hand, existing Church and Council programs can use your help. Some examples : youth ministry, Journeymen, Operation Lamb, Peter Visitation, Knight Riders, CPO, Pro Life, Council recruitment

and retention, music ministry, Perpetual Adoration in evenings and early mornings, and many more. . . .

Where is the Lord telling you to step out and serve Him?

Finally, consider calling a Brother that you have not seen in a while and invite him to come with you to our next meeting? He will appreciate your outreach and may be open to get re-involved in our Council activities.

Chrism Mass during Holy Week—Need Brother to Lead

For the last few years, our Council has led the effort to support the annual Diocesan Chrism Mass. Last year we received a state award for this worthy effort.

The Chrism Mass is celebrated annually in every diocese and is one of the most solemn and important liturgies of the liturgical year. During the Mass, the Bishop blesses the Oil of the Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick and consecrates the Sacred Chrism.

The Chrism Mass also celebrates the ministry of the priests. They are invited to renew

their commitment of service and are given the prayers and support of the people of the Diocese, represented in the faithful who have gathered for the Mass.

After the Rite of the Blessing of the Oils and Consecration of the Chrism the Holy Oils are taken to a room where volunteers prepare smaller bottles packaged into individual boxes. The box of Holy Oils containing one of each is then returned for the Distribution of the Holy Oils and the Sacred Chrism. It is during this time that the Vicar General calls forth the parishes, campus

ministries, missions, stations and military bases located in the Dioceses.

The St. Luke's Council has had a key role in this challenging and sometimes hectic effort. We have at least ten Knights who are ready, willing and able to do this. Since Brother Jon Cochran, our former Charism Mass coordinator, has moved to Connecticut, we do need a Brother to step up to coordinate this worthy and sacred effort.

How about you? Just let GK John know!

Council Programs and Program Leaders (March 2018)

Program Director – Jim Haag

Newsletter

Council Activities – John Bihlmeyer

Advertising

Communications

Raffle & Fund Raising

Church Activities – Jeff Spears

Keep Christ in Christmas - Keith Kosinski

RCIA – Jeff Spears

Vocations/Seminarians -

Council/Corporate Masses –

Men’s Ignatian Retreat – Jim Haag

Membership Activities – Jeff Spears

Membership Drives

First Degree Team -- Jim Haag

Form 100 council review

Mentors

Community Activities - Bob Beasley

Adopt-a-Highway – Dave Abell

Operation Lamb – Jim Hill

Veterans –

Catholic Parish Outreach – Joe Jacobs/Joe Huray

Journeyman –

Youth Activities – Filipe Mendez

Vita Nova—Felipe Mendez

Altar Servers - Dave Sofra

Pro-Life Activities – Bill Schulz

Outreach For Truth

40 Days For Life

Family Activities – Frank Sancineto, Jr.

Church Picnic

Dances & Parties

Social Gatherings



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

**SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST
COUNCIL #12455**

% Saint Luke the Evangelist RC Church
12333
Bayleaf CH Road
Raleigh, NC 27614

Phone: 919-848-1533
Fax: 919-848-0662
E-mail: jjrgk@mjja.com

VIVAT JESU

From the Grand Knight

First: Congratulations to Brother Reed Murphy who received the honor of Second Degree in our Order.

Second: See the back page of the February issue of Columbia. It features our own seminarian Steve DiMassimo (with picture) discussing his call to the priesthood.

Finally: Let me share our Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity for 2017 numbers with you.

Last year our Council's charitable disbursements were: \$5,810, including: Church —\$4,360, Culture of Life — \$700, Community — \$650, Youth — \$100. About 60% of our annual budget is spent on charitable projects. Additionally, we raised \$4,943 for Operation Lamb through two weekend collections at Wal-Mart.

Council Brothers put in an estimated 28,950 hours of volunteer service. Allocated by activity these are: Church - 16,500, Community - 7,100, Youth - 3,400, Culture of Life - 550, Food for Families - 1,400. Additionally Operation Lamb - 2 weekends, 32 slots filled over 4 days, about 100 hours.

As we start this new calendar year we urge that Brothers continue to participate in at least one or two Council activities helping the Church, Community, Youth, Habitat for Humanity, Culture for Life, Food for Families, Special Olympics, or one that you might want us to start up new. See preceding page 4 for a listing of our programs.

If there is a project or event that you know of, or that you suggest the Council can be involved with, please bring it up at a Council meeting. Your talents are needed!

Vivat Jesus, GK John

Knight of the Month - Chris Mitta

Chris is a 3rd degree Brother Knight, 18 years with the Order, and a charter member of the St Luke Council. He has been a member of St. Luke parish since 1991. This past Christmas season, Chris led the setup and take down the Nativity crèche at the diocesan office. He organized a group of brothers and coordinated with the diocese. Chris serves as hospitality minister and he and his son greet and usher at the 9 AM Sunday masses. Chris also is involved in youth activities as a coach and supporter of soccer and other sports. He is a member of the Peter visitation group .

Family of the Month - John and Carillon Bihlmeyer

John is a 4th degree Sir Knight, 10 years with the Order, Past Grand Knight, and current Trustee. John played a big role in the pancake breakfasts: prepping, cleaning, providing guidance. He comes early and stays late to make sure the job is done right. John is a former leader of Journeymen. He still attends, and even comes early to make coffee for the men. John is on the altar prep committee, and he regularly drives Brother, Matt Petrovick, to Mass.

Carillon is member of Legion of Mary. She is involved in social work for the community. She also ministers Eucharist to the ill.

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Pray for and Support Vocations

Promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life is a primary focus of the Knights. With the help of the Knights men and women will hear their calls as a result of our prayers and vocation materials. As Knights, we know the difference that one good priest can make. Raise awareness and get involved.

The World Day of Prayer for Vocations -- April 22 this year -- is the fourth Sunday of Easter. Councils urge members to pray for vocations personally and at Council meetings.

Supreme's Refund Support Vocations Program (R.S.V.P.) gives financial incentives to councils for financial aid to seminarians.

Council 12455 has continually participated in R.S.V.P., giving money to seminarians from the diocese and our parish. The goal is to provide both financial and/or moral support. This year we are helping Noe Ramirez de Paz and St. Luke's own parish-

ioners: Steven DiMassimo and Drew Nichols

We got to know and appreciate Noe as he assisted Father Rob in a variety of parish ministries during summer a couple of years ago. He comes back to see us when possible on breaks from the seminary.

Of course, Steve DiMassimo grew up in this parish and participated in our youth ministries in high school. Before seminary, Steve was a FOCUS minister at the University of Connecticut. To our delight, Drew Nichols started his study for the priesthood this last fall. Noe and Steve and Drew reside at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Winnewood PA.

See their pictures below at the NC Mass for Life at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in DC (January 19, 2018)

Our Council is privileged to support each of these seminarians at the \$50 per month level. For each \$500 we send to a seminarian, Supreme reimburses \$100 to Council for our charities.

This aid is welcome to the seminarians who live on a shoestring. The extra funds can be used at their discretion -- for studies or personal needs. They are so grateful and send thank you notes, often sharing their progress in study, interests, and challenges.

However, it's not just the dollars we send, we continue to support them through prayer and personal encouragement.

One way to do this is for Brothers to volunteer to send Council checks via a personal note and assurance of prayer support to our seminarians. It only takes a couple of minutes to jot down a quick note to convey prayerful intention with the monetary support. This is very encouraging to our seminarians.

See Jeff Spears or Keith Kosinski if you would like to do this work. You will gain more than you know from this combined corporal and spiritual work of mercy.



State Raffle: 50% Comes Back to Council -- Mike Benigno F.S.

Our 2018 State Raffle tickets are distributed to you for purchase/sale. You, your family, friends, co-workers, or neighbors could win a vacation in Alaska, Hawaii or one of several cash prizes. As in the past, 50% of all sales are earned for the Council for each \$5.00 ticket sold.

Needless to say, this is a much needed source of cash for our Council charitable efforts such as the R.S.V.P. program outlined above.

Charity does begin at home. We ask that you sell or buy at least five of the raffle tickets to support those worthy charities that the Council has elected to support.

If we sell all 600 tickets we'll have \$1,500.00 to consider for charitable use.

Help the cause, buy your allotment of State Raffle Tickets. You may be the lucky person to win a great vacation for you and your family!

Pray for our Brothers, their Families and Spouses

Brother Knights we know and pray for/about sufferings of those before us experiencing loss of spouse or loved one, rejection, health issues, job frustration, or loss, marriage problems, homelessness, etc. One way or another our prayers and discernments are answered. Pray this month particularly for Denise & family and for the soul of our Brother Dan Tomczak, who died January 21. Knights are called to pray for the healing of our Brothers and their families.

Remember in particular: Carren, Orfeo & Dorothy Cicchetti, JoAnn & Tom Colopy, Jo & Nick Del Donno, Ann & Bill Donnelly, Charlotte & Mike Fober, Peter Kraehenbuehl, Sibyl & John Kupec, Julie & Larry Meese, Matt Petrovick, Gerri and Jack Sobczak, Kelly & Tom Sullivan, and Michelle & Bill Wolf. If other Brothers and families want to be put on this prayer list, please tell GK John Stanson.

May the Archangel Raphael, physician in care of our health, come down from heaven to cure all who are sick and to solve the difficult problems of life Be with us, O Archangel, called the Medicine of God, drive away diseases of the body and bring good health to our minds.

St. Gregory calls Raphael “the Medicine of God.” . . . Heavenly Physician, Angelic Healer, God’s Remedy. “I am the Angel Raphael, one of the seven who stand before the throne of God.” (From Book of Tobias). Holy Scripture gives the names of only three of the seven archangels: Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael (God has Healed). God gave Raphael a mandate to cure the body, mental and spiritual afflictions of men.

*From the proper hymns in the Divine Office.
Feast of St. Raphael*

Lenten Soup Supper - Felipe Mendez

Brothers: We are hosting the Lenten Soup Supper after the Stations of the Cross on March 23. Attached is the sign-up sheet and will greatly appreciate your participation. Please forward your info to Felipe at mendezman68@gmail.com. Thank you

Meeting Snacks Needed

We still have some openings for snacks in the new year. Please take a look and pick a month to support this enjoyable tradition. Thank you so much!

Sign-Up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090e45aac23a57-snacks>

Knights & Families and Friends & Parishioners in Action



Discerning God's Plan for Me

Ignatian Retreat for Men

May 18-20, 2018

Avila Retreat Center, Durham, NC

This, our eleventh silent men's retreat is jointly sponsored by St. Luke's and St. Raphael's Knights of Columbus Councils and St. Raphael's Office of Life Long Faith Formation. Avila Retreat Center is located at 711 Mason Rd., Durham. The retreat starts Friday (5/18) at about 5 PM and closes Sunday (5/20) around noon. This experience in solitude and prayer opens us to His plan for us and for those entrusted to us.

Fr. Peter F. Ryan, S.J., faculty of Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit, will come here to direct the retreat. From the Maryland Province, he previously was Executive Director, Secretariat of Doctrine and Canonical Affairs at the U.S. Catholic Bishops Conference. Father Peter also was Professor of Moral Theology at Kendrick-Glennon Seminary (St. Louis) and at Mount St. Mary's Seminary (Emmitsburg, Maryland). As retreat director, Father Peter will focus on prayerful discernment in our lives and decision making, drawing on the *Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola*. Mass is scheduled on Sunday. Familiar devotions, brief talks, personal prayer – and general retreat silence -- will augment the prayerful solitude of the weekend. There will be ample time for prayer, reflection, meditation, and an optional personal conference or confession with Fr. Peter. Past retreatants attest to the value of this Ignatian spiritual experience – as their relationship with the Lord was strengthened and deepened.

Avila Center is unique as a retreat environment -- a peaceful and reflective setting for meditation and prayerful walks around the wooded landscape. The \$205 cost for the three-day retreat includes a private overnight room for two nights, two dinners, two breakfasts and two lunches as well as honoraria/travel expense.

For information contact Jim Haag at 919-841-5817 (H) or 919-995-1057 (C) or e-mail: JIMTHAAG@Bellsouth.net. Make your reservation by sending the form below with a \$95 deposit to K of C Council #12455 – note Men's Retreat to: Ignatian Men's Retreat, C/O Jim Haag, 500 Emerywood Dr., Raleigh, NC 27615.

Ignatian Retreat for Men, May 18-20, 2018

Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Parish: _____

E-mail: _____

*The deposit is refundable up to two weeks prior to the retreat.