

# THE SHIELD

Official Publication of Fr. James B. Heary, O.P. - Council 7239 Knights of Columbus  
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<http://www.kofc7239.org>



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## GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

*By Ron Thompson*

Brother Knights,

This Month of December will continue to be Virtual due to the pandemic. At the time of my monthly message to you, I'm expecting us to stay home and be safe. At virtual mass it was brought up by father that the AOD has decided to push out coming back to church until Ash Wednesday for obligations of coming to mass. If the church will be open this December, It may be back to virtual only. If you are going to Christmas Mass there will be tickets. This Christmas you will need to be safe with your gathering's. Follow the guideline that will be established. The cases of covid-19 have been rising. The availability of the vaccine is being discussed with no official start date of getting released to us.

Grand Knight  
Ronnie Thompson

Dial-in number (US): (978) 990-5340  
Access code: 6734875#  
International dial-in numbers: <https://fccdl.in/i/ronthompsonmh>

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For additional assistance connecting to the meeting text 'Call Me' to the Dial-In number above and you will be called into the conference. Message and data rates may apply.

## PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT

*By Ken Podgorski, PGK, DGK*

Due to the Coronavirus, any upcoming events scheduled will be cancelled. Stay tuned with the Shield for information.

Bless those who risk their lives to help their community. Police, fire, doctors, nurses, EMTs, store associates, Amazon workers, and anyone else still working to make our daily lives better during this worldwide crisis.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, December 7, 2020  
Membership Meeting - 8:00 p.m.  
**\*\* Meeting Online / Phone Call-In \*\***

Thursday, January 14, 2021  
Ladies Auxiliary Meeting -- 7:00 p.m.  
**\*\* Meeting Online \*\***

**Shield Deadline:**  
**Sunday, December 20, 2020**  
**[editor@kofc7239.org](mailto:editor@kofc7239.org)**  
**(Always 3rd Sunday of Month)**

**\*\* Planning Meeting \*\***  
(All are welcome)  
Monday, December 28, 2020 - 7:30 p.m.  
**\*\* Meeting Online \*\***

**\*\* Find us on Facebook \*\***

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**LADIES AUXILIARY**

We had a very charitable Ladies meeting. We decided to give \$100 to each organization (Holy Cross Children Services, Goodfellows, and the JDF). Yvette will get back with us about the uterine cancer donation. Thanks to the Ladies for running the Charity Committees. We need to pray for our prayer list.

Happy January Birthdays to: Earlene Carlisle (1), Yvette Ploskonka (9), Janice Polan (14), Marge McLaughlin (24), and Bernie Turchin (24)! Wow!

Our next meeting is January 14th at 7:00 P.M. On- line meeting hosted by Mary Thompson, probably zoom this time. Thanks Mary!! Anyone who wants to call Mary Thompson, Cindy Podgorski or any of the other Ladies that are on-line can put their phone on speaker and we should be able to hear you during our meeting. Even on a home phone if you put it on speaker. My internet quit on me during the November meeting, so I had to call Mary and I was able to finish the meeting cause I put my phone on speaker.

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

Cindy Podgorski  
President

**CHAIRMAN NEWS**

I don't have any activities planned for this month. I pray that everyone stays safe from the flu and the virus throughout the year.

Sincerely,  
Jim Morrison



## FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

*By Craig Massman*

None this month..

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### WHAT IF MARY WASN'T PRO-LIFE?

When the mighty angel Gabriel appeared to Mary with a prophetic announcement that she would give birth to a baby named Jesus, fearful thoughts surely flooded her young soul. Under Jewish law, single women who turned up pregnant were stoned to death in the public square. At best, she would be an outcast, divorced and unmarriageable before she ever even wedded Joseph.

If anyone can relate to the fears of women who face unexpected pregnancies, it's Mary. Every day, 3,322 women give in to that fear and choose to have an abortion, according to the Guttmacher Institute—and a disturbing 64 percent of them are Protestants and Catholics. Mary chose to obey the law of God—understanding all too well that abortion is a violation of the Sixth Commandment: "Thou shall not kill." She loved not her life even unto death and bore a Son who gave eternal life to dying souls.

But what if Mary wasn't pro-life? What if she chose, instead, to give in to the fear, the social stigma, the financial pressures or one of the many other reasons women choose to have abortions? What if she had decided not to respond to Gabriel's declaration with, "I am the servant of the Lord. May it be unto me according to your Word" (Luke 1:28)? Mary had a choice—and she chose life. She chose to give birth to the Son of God who would take away the sin of the world.

Fast-forward 2,000 years and many frightened, pregnant women are facing the same choice today. They can listen to the spirit of abortion whispering in their ear about the convenience of murder, the cost of raising a child, the struggles of being a single mother, the call to lay down their own dreams to nurture the dreams of another—or they can listen to that still, small voice urging them to choose life.

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### NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE UPDATES

*By Marianne Podgorski, Editor*

Just a reminder that any articles are due by the third Sunday of each month. I have an autoresponder set up to notify people via email when the Shield deadline is coming up. If you would like to be added to this notification, please drop me a line. Despite my best intentions, articles continue to be arriving in my inbox later than the deadline. Due to my increased hours working for Amazon, I have limited availability to work on the newsletter so I would appreciate everyone adhering to the deadline. Thanks to those that already do. If in doubt, send your article in early. It helps a great deal.

If you have been to the website lately, you will notice we are using the Knights of Columbus template. I would like to update the officer's page. Everyone listed there should have a head shot photo as well as a brief bio, which may include how long you have been a knight or why you joined the knights or any other information you would like visitors to know about you. Please send your pictures and bio's directly to me and I will update the page. In its current state, the council site looks unfinished.

Thank you.

## PRAYER LIST

Clarence Bessler, Paula Bliss, Shirley Bliss, Callista Boleski, John Brehmer, Mary Brehmer, Holly Bush, Bob Carlisle, Paige Chamberlain, Dee Figg, Madeline Ford, Wallis Flynn, Jessie Giszczak, Paul Gray, Charlie Hamilton, Joanne Hamilton, Drew James, Mike Kapolka, Russel Kreinbring, Lori Leeman, Sharon McCoy, Maggie Meister, Dennis Menard, Rick Miller, Ed Novak, Yvette Ploskonka Ed Poplawski, Norman Podgorski, Patricia Podgorski, Callista Polasek (Meister granddaughter), Chris Peterson, Richard Salvatore, Ernie Scheid, Patricia M. Scheid (Ernie's daughter-in-law), Dennis Szlag, Mel Szlag, Christine Tallman, Brenda Thomas, Donovan S. Turchin, John Turchin, Debbie Vaughn, Matt Ventimiglia, Greg Vetten, Regis Welsh, Jean Witkowski, Richard Witkowski.

**And please pray for all of the men and women of our Armed Services. Also please pray for the recently deceased, Don Bessler, Cindy Bertolini, and Terese Lamerato.**

**NOTE: Just a reminder. Please make sure to write names clearly so that I can add them correctly to the sick and deceased list.**



## Knights of Columbus “BENEFITS NEWS”

### November is Long Term Care Awareness Month

There are many financial consultants and retirement authorities who emphasize the need for a long-term care (LTC) product for estate preservation and family protection. While many commercial life insurance companies have gotten out of the long-term care business, the Knights of Columbus considers LTC a very important piece of the family protection puzzle. The Order has been actively offering our members this product for nearly 15 years without a premium increase on current policyholders. Members who wisely purchased an LTC plan from the Knights in 2000 are still paying the same premiums today. Even better, our LTC coverage is backed by the full strength of the Order, which remains rooted in our strong Catholic values. Talk about stability when it counts.

If we have not spoken about your need for LTC coverage in your family portfolio, please take some time out of your schedule to meet with me.

Remember, long-term care policies are underwritten based on your health, and you most likely will never be any healthier than you are today.

*\*Receive a complete Family Needs Analysis at my expense.*

Ask about our GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE, ANNUITIES,  
LONG TERM CARE & DISABILITY INSURANCE

In Christ,

*Anthony Bliss, FICF FSCP MDRT SKC  
Supreme Council Field Agent  
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### THE MUSE

*An Editor's Exposé*

I want to take this time to personally thank the Knights of Columbus, Father Heary Council, for allowing me to put together this monthly newsletter. Who am I? Well, let me tell you a most wonderful story, friends.

I just recently turned the big Five-O. For the past thirty years, I have crafted well-written stories and published over a handful of books. One non-fiction under my own name, one fantasy novel (M.A. Donovan), two non-fiction and five fiction books (Shelby Patrick). Living the dream here.

When I'm not working my day job at Amazon, you can also find me with a camera around my neck doing photo shoots (events, portraits, pets, special occasions, products, you name it). And now I'm delving into the world of film. It's a whole new ballpark now. You need photos or videos? Let's talk.

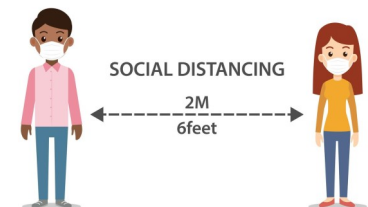
*Marianne Podgorski  
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www.desktopdilemmas.com*



### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/07 Frank Haranczak  
12/11 Edward Castillo  
12/16 John Marchesi  
12/17 Dennis Menard  
12/27 Ernest Scheid  
12/27 James Morrison, PGK

If we missed your birthday or the date is wrong, please email me at [editor@kofc7239.org](mailto:editor@kofc7239.org). Thanks.



# DECEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 8pm Member Mtg Happy Birthday Frank Haranczak	8	9	10	11 Happy Birthday Edward Castillo	12
13 Happy Birthday Paula Bliss	14	15	16 Happy Birthday John Marchesi	17 Happy Birthday Dennis Menard	18	19
20 SHIELD DEADLINE	21	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26
27 Happy Birthday Ernest Scheid Jim Morrison, PGK	28 7:30pm Planning Mtg	29 Happy Birthday Krys Higgins	30	31 NEW YEARS EVE		

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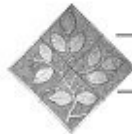
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