



# The Shepherd



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Fr. John C. Drumgoole Council 5917

Knights of Columbus

397 Clarke Avenue

Staten Island, New York 10306

Phone: (718) 667-9852

FATHERDRUMGOOLE.COM

E-mail: [frdrumgoole@aol.com](mailto:frdrumgoole@aol.com)

**Council Officers:**

**Msgr. Jeff Conway, Chaplain**

**James Veneziano, GK**

**(917) 861-7801**

**[Jamesveneziano1@gmail.com](mailto:Jamesveneziano1@gmail.com)**

**Mike Ricciardi, DGK**

**(718) 541-9616**

**[Ricci318@aol.com](mailto:Ricci318@aol.com)**

**Tom Salerno, Chancellor**

**Gary Accera, Warden**

**Anthony Liquori, Financial Sec**

**(917) 803-5704**

**[deanhis@aol.com](mailto:deanhis@aol.com)**

**Ernest Tranchina, Treasurer**

**(718) 356-2231**

**[etranchina@aol.com](mailto:etranchina@aol.com)**

**Edmund Hall-Clarke, Recorder**

**Lou Dalto, PGK, Advocate**

**Trustees:**

**Dan Clifford, PGK**

**John Cassano, PGK, FDD**

**Leo Priola, PGK**

**Guards:**

**Tony Grasso, Sonny Bonadies**

**John Corbo, Len Robusto, PGK**

**Columbiette President:**

**Dorothy Liquori,**

**(917)545-8271**

**[fifthd@aol.com](mailto:fifthd@aol.com)**

**House Chairman**

**George Orlando**

**(917) 356-8373**

**Columbian Club President:**

**Lou Dalto**

**Grand Knight's Message**

Brothers,

As we approach Thanksgiving, Christmas and a New Year I wanted to express my love, gratitude and hope for a wonderful Christmas season. This year has been a trying one for many people affected by the pandemic. It is so easy with the realities of life and the 24-hour news cycle to get upset and saddened by the current events of our time. I think it is important to take a step back, especially around this wonderful time of year, and analyze what we know to be true from the teachings of the Catholic Church and the Gospel. Life is sometimes very challenging, Jesus is always with us and we win in the end.

I am so proud to be part of an organization that puts Charity at the forefront of everything we do. We are fortunate to have a founder that was Beatified last month, Blessed Michael J McGivney. I am moved and humbled by the amount of work we do on a local level. Between our brothers right here at this council and our Columbiettes we have lived up to Supremes challenge during this pandemic to Leave no Neighbor Behind. Since March, due to the time, effort and donations by so many of us we have been able to help local food pantries, deliver meals directly to hungry families during Easter and are currently organizing meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas. A special thank you to our team of canners that went out for a shortened season of collecting. They gave up their Saturday mornings throughout the summer to ensure that we continue to support our local parishes, Crossroads foundation, and so many other local charities that we have continued to support.

If you would like to help us with our continued efforts please consider sending a donation to the council and mark it "food pantry". We will use those funds exclusively for our basket program as well as funding local food pantries. Our address is 397 Clarke Ave, 10306. All checks should be made payable to "Father Drumgoole council 5917."

Have a Happy Thanksgiving, A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I hope that we can all connect with our families in any way that you deem safe. If seeing them in person is not possible at this time then utilize the wonders of technology to see and hear from each other. I look forward to seeing all of you in 2021. Get active in the council. Together we can achieve so much and do great things in the very community that our children and grandchildren grow up in.

Fraternally,

James Veneziano

Grand Knight 5917



Dear Sister Columbiettes,

2020 – a year that we will never forget. It has been filled with much anxiety, fear and uncertainty. It has also been a time that we have had the opportunity to grow closer to our families and shower them with love and concern. Now we are all attempting to make the best of a very trying holiday season. I am confident that we will all be very happy to be done with this year.

The Columbiettes, together with our Brother Knights, have again realized that now more than ever, there are those who are in need. On Nov.5<sup>th</sup>, the ladies brought winter jackets, diapers and over 250 pounds of food to the needy parishioners of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel – St. Benedicta – St. Mary of the Assumption parish. This joint venture was greatly appreciated.

Thanks to a very successful Holiday Fair in October, we were able to purchase many toys for The Toys4Autism campaign, food for the Thanksgiving baskets that the Knights will distribute and contribute to the Essential Bags for Project Hospitality drive. We will be decorating the Council Hall with the hope that we will be able to hold the Knights Annual Christmas Party on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, the breakfast for the Special Adults had to be canceled.

It has been decided that all trips to any Casinos will be postponed until 2021. We have been holding our meetings virtually, but we miss being together. Therefore, we try to gather at Patrizio's for a Christmas Dinner on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will be collecting unwrapped toys for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign that evening.

As we gather together with our dear family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas, let us join hands and pray for peace. Our world is in such a state of turmoil, and we, as Catholics, must continue to pray the Rosary every day to beg Our Lady for peace and harmony.

Tony and I would like to wish you and your families good health. Stay safe.

Yours in Christ,

*Dorothy Liguori*

## Right to Life

There are several possible Right to Life events in the near future, all posing certain logistical challenges. The first is a National Night of Prayer for Life. I am trying to coordinate with the Staten Island Right to Life Vicariate for a local venue to hold a prayer vigil on December 8<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The second event is the annual Right to Life Mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral on January 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 which will be celebrated by Cardinal Dolan. But there are some logistical issues regarding bus transportation and rider limitations so if you are interested you may have to arrange for your own transportation. Then there will be a Prayer Vigil for Life on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision. Holy Hour at 6:30 pm followed by Mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral. The fourth event is the annual Right to Life march in Washington DC on January 29<sup>th</sup>. I doubt if there will be buses departing from Staten Island again due to bus rider limitations and pre-registration requirements. And so I am again working with the Staten Island Right to Life Vicariate for a local venue for our own "march", again most likely in the form of a prayer vigil with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament or possibly a Mass. I'll keep you posted but I exhort you be ever vigilant regarding Right to Life and religious freedom issues as we prepare for a new administration and pray to Our Blessed Mother and Blessed Father Michael J McGivney that the Knights of Columbus will be blessed with the grace to be effective and successful in our mission to be staunch defenders of The Culture of Life, Catholic Family Values and Religious freedom.

God bless!

Vivat Jesus!

Dan Clifford, PGK

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### **Notice of Columbian Club 5917 elections**

On Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 8PM. Columbian Club 5917 will hold an election for six directors for the Board of Directors. The election will take place at the Council hall. The term of office is two years. The nominating committee recommends the following candidates: George Orlando, Ernie Tranchina, Sal Cucco, Rich Morana, PGK; Brian Rielly, PGK; Leo Priola, PGK.

Nominations can also be made from the floor at the time of the election. To be eligible for office you must be a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree knight in good standing and a member of Father John C. Drumgoole Council for at least 2 years.

Lou Dalto, PGK

Columbian Club President

Columbian Club 5917  
397 Clarke Avenue  
Staten Island, NY 10306

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## The Birth of Jesus

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled.

This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered.

*And she gave birth to her first-born son  
and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a  
manger,  
because there was no place for them in the inn.*

**Luke 2, 1-7**