



# THE Heartbeat



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CHAPTER 4, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 1, FIRST QUARTER 2021

## CHAPTER EVENTS

DATE	DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
<b>Sept.-Oct. 2021</b>				
May 14-15	Fri-Sat	All Day	New Jersey State Convention	Wildwood, NJ (Tentative)
Sept. 9, 2021	Thursday	6:00 PM	Pride in our Priests Dinner	<i>The Imperia</i> 124 Easton Ave. Somerset

## In Memoriam



**State Deputy Vinnie Tavormina**

Vinnie was called home by our Lord just before midnight on January 26, 2021. His battle with COVID-19 was fought valiantly and bravely over his last weeks. Please keep Vinnie, Tamara, and his family in your prayers as they work through this difficult time of loss.

Vinnie was a true patriot of America having served in the Pershing Rifles and United States Army Reserves. He was unashamedly a pro-life Catholic whose faith was very important to him. His dedication to the Knights of Columbus was very evident in his words and actions from the time he joined our Order in 1996. Although his time as our State Deputy was tragically cut short, his impact and leadership will be felt for some time to come. His death has left a void that we will be hard-pressed to fill. We pray that he is now in Paradise with his Lord and Savior.

Chapter Officers			
Position	Member	Phone	E-mail
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Chaplain	Fr. William Smith	732-634-1403	frsmith_kofc_tettes@yahoo.com
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Ronald McDonald House	Dave Pinto John Bauer Stan Hubbard	732-672-3811 732-236-4149 908-420-2124	pintodaj@optonline.net jabauer@optonline.net stanahu@aol.com
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Ultrasound initiative	Stan Hubbard	908-420-2124	stanahu@aol.com
Pride in Priests Dinner	Frank Rees	732-828-2942	frees814@gmail.com
Convention Party	Bill Herring/Bill Hoffman	732-512-8825	debil99@verizon.net
Right to Life	Bob Keeling	908-812-1071	rkeeling@embarqmail.com
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Veteran's Affairs	Bill Hoffman	908-500-2535	dollarbill31@comcast.net
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### PRIDE IN OUR PRIESTS DINNER

Each year the Councils in New Jersey host dinners to honor our men of the cloth. These dinners are con-

ducted in each Diocese, with all Priests of the Diocese invited as guests of the Knights of Columbus. The evening is open to all Knights and their wives, and is a great way for the Knights to show our Priests

how proud we are of them. At each dinner, the Bishop of the Diocese is presented with a check from the State Council to assist the Bishop with his personal Charities

The 2021 Annual Pride in our Priests Dinner has been re-scheduled for Thursday, September 9, 2021 at *The Imperia* on Easton Avenue in Somerset.

This annual event brings together **His Excellency Bishop James F. Checchio** and hundreds of clergy and religious from the Metuchen Diocese with brother Knights from all 62 councils in the diocese.

### BROTHERS HELPING BROTHERS

The following story is representative of the Knights of Columbus programs **Leave No Neighbor Behind** and **Helping Hands**.

**GK Gary Lattanzi** and **DGK Jan Williams** of South Amboy Council #426 went to visit brother **Michael Roemer**. They were shocked and appalled to learn that Michael has no heat nor does he even have hot water. His hot water heater sprung a leak and was shut off in March, and his furnace has not worked all winter.

They remarked that "If prisoners had to live like this, somebody would lose their head." They arranged for the hot water heater to be replaced and **GK Mike Donahue** from St. Bernadette Council #8478 is arranging for an A/C specialist to look at the boiler to see if it can to operate again.

They remarked that "If prisoners had to live like this, somebody would lose their head." They arranged for the hot water heater to be replaced and **GK Mike Donahue** from St. Bernadette Council #8478 is arranging for an A/C specialist to look at the boiler to see if it can to operate again.

The leaking water heater has caused mold to develop in two walls and the carpet. They will need some volunteers to help repair his home after the mechanical items are addressed. They will keep everyone posted. They are still trying to wrap their brain around why one of our brothers has to live like this.

**SK Byron Dyer**, Grand Knight of St. Augustine Council #6345 said "Michael, has been a faithful member of the exemplification degree for years."

The emails that **DGK Jan Williams** received have been gratifying. **District Deputy Ken Smetana** went with **Jan Williams** to Michael's home to see the progress. He said he never realized how bad it was. But thanks be to God, we are in the home stretch. Thanks to my neighbor **Sam Williams** and my council brother **Nick Capriglione**, we were able to muscle two old and very heavy couches out the door. Now we can paint and start on the floor. Below is a rough accounting of our expenses so far.

- New A. O. Smith water heater, repair of incorrect plumbing, replacement of main shutoff with brass ball valve and removal of old heater. \$1500
- Sheet rock, etc. \$100
- Control unit for furnace \$300
- New toilet, flex water line, and wax donut \$150
- 2 gallons paint \$85
- Flooring (cost is not known at this time; laminate is the cheapest and will be used rather than carpet). \$2135.

There is no cost in disposal of all trash and damaged furniture. Knights will take care of this. There has been

no cost for labor, it has been donated. More on this later.

My brother knights, Michael has cried tears of joy because of the love his brother knights have shown. If you are ready to help, please send what ever you wish to my council as we will need to buy the flooring soon and will have an accurate total cost afterwards.

Send your donation to:  
K of C Council #426  
308 Fourth Street  
South Amboy, NJ 08879

Make the check out to:  
**K of C Council #426**  
Write in the memo line, **MICHAEL**  
Deacon Rich O'Brien is collecting all funds and placing them in our Welfare Account. He will disperse the payments. May God continue to bless our Faithful Order.

### NOTES FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT



During this restricted social environment mandated by the COVID-19 pandemic, Chapter 4, like many of the Metuchen Diocese's Assemblies and Councils, have endured long periods of not being able to come together in a live meeting.

Non the less, the Chapter is continuing to financially support the many charities and Catholic movements that we have supported in the past.

On November 19, 2020, our chaplain, **Fr. Bill Smith** celebrated the Chapter's annual Memorial Mass commemorating 206 of our brothers who passed away last year. The Mass was broadcast virtually to all, however, the officers and trustees of the Chapter attended the service live.

**PCP Joseph Sabella** and his wife, **Marie**, have settled down in their new home in North Carolina.

**SK Francis Rees**, PFN  
**Chapter 4 President**

### VINCENT T. LOMBARDI COUNCIL ROSARY GROUP

*By John R. Gillis, GK*

The Middletown council's rosary group started way-back and is still going strong. Praise God! What a great blessing it has been to pray the rosary each week with our Brother Knights and their families. The Lombardi rosary started as a Novena for Life, and quickly expanded to include prayers for those affected by the pandemic and prayers for our country. We also spend a little time after each rosary discussing a variety of topics: currently we are watching the "Into the Breach" video series produced by the Knights of Columbus. Some evenings we discuss various bible passages and often on Monday's we watch **Bishop Barron's Sunday Sermon's** on YouTube, which leads to some lively discussion.

Below are the details of our council's Zoom Rosary calls on Monday's and Thursday's at 7:30 pm ET. We invite other council members to join us. It's a good way for Brother Knights to see how other councils have been conducting Zoom Rosaries. All are welcome to join us on a going forward basis, or they can just join once or twice to get a feel for how we've been conducting ours, and then they can start their own Zoom rosary program if they choose.

For those that have never joined our Zoom rosary call before, below is the login information. This login information is good for all Monday and Thursday calls. If you are logging in for the first time be sure to enter a **Capital D** when entering the password: **District23**

The Vincent T. Lombardi Council #6552 is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom rosary meeting. This rosary is open to all Knights, their family members, and friends.

Topic: Knights of Columbus Rosary Zoom Meeting

Time: Feb. 15, 2021 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3349960025?pwd=ZCtQTUhodVBJcmRkQThPNXNBc0dqQT09>

Meeting ID: 334 996 0025

Passcode: District23

### STATE SECRETARY AWARDED



**James E. Stoever** of Epiphany Parish, Brick, was named a medallion winner of the 2020 New Jersey State Governor's Jefferson Award in a virtual ceremony held Feb. 21.

Stoever, who is state secretary for the New Jersey Knights of Columbus (also current Acting State Deputy), was recognized for his creation of and work with the "Send a Hero Home" program, which raises funds for junior enlisted service men and women to travel home during the holidays.

The awards are the state's official recognition for community service and are in partnership with the Governor's Council on Volunteerism. Members of the community are encouraged to "nominate a volunteer who makes a difference in the community" with those selected recognized for achieving measurable community impact and representing outstanding acts of public service, without the expectation of recognition or compensation.

Said the awards emcee, "'Send a Hero Home for the Holidays' has raised over \$310,000 over the past seven years. This has enabled 585 [personnel] to travel home for the holidays at no cost to them or their families where they otherwise would not have been able to."

Stoever expressed hope that the Jefferson Award might prompt additional donors to help deserving military personnel unable to pay for their way home to their families.

"With the number of men and women needing the assistance ... increasing," he said, "it is vital that we receive donations all year long rather than in just the last quarter of the year when the holidays come to mind.

"I'm hoping that the attention this award has brought to [the program] will help donors see what it does, and spur them to contribute to its success."

The Jefferson Awards were created in 1972 by former **First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Ohio Sen. Robert Taft Jr.**, and entrepreneur **Samuel Beard** to recognize the efforts of volunteers on both the local and national level. Nicknamed the Nobel Prize of community service and public service, they commemorate those who promote their talents without expectation of award. The 2020 ceremony, originally slated for this past summer, was delayed due to the pandemic.

Winners were announced in over 20 categories spanning the focus of aiding the hungry and homeless, environmental stewardship, social justice, animal causes and emergency services. Each award winner, notified prior to the virtual ceremony, was presented with a certificate signed by **Gov. Phil Murphy**; one winner per category learned they had received a gold medallion for excel-

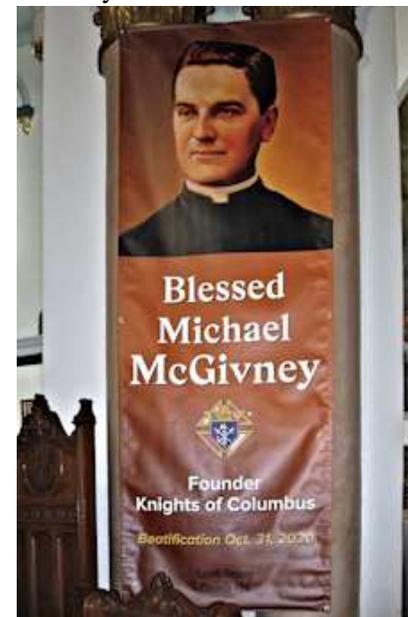
lence during the live virtual presentation.

Stoever won top honors in the "Service to Veterans / Military Service" category, underwritten by PSE&G, which recognizes extraordinary volunteer service by, or in support of, veterans and those in active military service.

The foundation noted, "Using the resources of the diocesan [Trenton Federation] of the Knights of Columbus, James initiated a program to pay transportation costs for active duty military personnel to return home for the holidays.

### SOUTH AMBOY COUNCIL PROVIDES MCGIVNEY BANNER

South Amboy Council #426 has provided and installed banners in commemoration of the beatification of our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney in both Sacred Heart and St. Mary's churches in South Amboy.



### In Memorium

**Vincent Tavormina, SD**  
**Joseph Orosz Sr., FDD**