

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Robert W. Powell Council!



THE POWELLITE

See us: www.koc3488.com. E-mail us! Powellcouncil@koc3488.com

December 2007

Grand Knight's Message

My Brothers,

Merry Christmas!!! can you believe it's December already? This year has gone by so fast that I need time to stop and reflect on what has happened. We lost many good members this year, and can only hope it ends here. What can I say, we can only pray for good things.

As we move into a new year, our Council still holds onto it's past and hopes to survive into the future. With your help it can happen. For now I want our members to sit back and enjoy their families. We have such a short time to spend with them, and this is the time of year to do that.

As many of you know, the Powell Council went to the Army/Navy game, and had a great time. You couldn't ask for nicer weather. PGK Capt. Jim Gardner put together a day that everyone should come and enjoy. There was plenty of food, drinks, and fun for all. By the way, not to rub salt in the wounds, but Navy won 28-3. They now hold a commanding lead in the series. Thanks to all of you for your support. I'm Jim will have more to say on the day.

Please watch your e-mail for coming events, and fund raisers that our Council will be running. Remember we may be small but we keep ourselves busy, and are always active. That's all for now my Brothers, have a Merry Christmas, and a healthy and Happy New Year. God Bless, and keep our sick Brothers in your prayers into the new year.

Keep the Faith,

Gerard J. Boettcher, GK

P.S.

We missed you at the game Father Callahan, but kept you in our hearts. The day was dedicated to you. Get well soon, we miss you.



Council Calendar

Wednesday, December 19th, Council social meeting, American Legion (council Christmas Party)

Friday, December 21st Nassau Chapter Meeting, St. Thomas the Apostle Council, West Hempstead (includes Sacred Heart Choir)

Wednesday, January 2nd Council meeting, American Legion

Friday, January 11th K of C Kafe, American Legion

Monday, January 14th Officers Meeting, St. Martha's Parish Outreach

Wednesday, January 16th Council social meeting, American Legion

Friday, January 18th Nassau Chapter Meeting, St. Anne's, Garden City (hosted by Msgr. Seidenschwang Council)

Sunday, January 20th New York State Council Pro-Life Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral

Tuesday, January 22nd Pro-Life March, Washington, DC

Wednesday, January 23 Pope John XXIII Assembly Meeting, Catholic War Veterans, Bethpage (hosted by Rev Hartigan Council)

Sunday, January 27 Uniondale: a true global village, Uniondale Public Library

And save the date: Sunday, March 9 Pope John XXIII Assembly Patriotic Ball, Catholic War Veterans Hall, Bethpage

See you at the council!

This past year, our former statue of the Blessed Mother was replaced at St. Martha's by the parish. The council would like to make a contribution to help defray the replacement cost. Checks can be made to Robert W. Powell Council, and sent to the council's mailing address on page two.

Keep in touch with Powell Council!

If you're online, you don't have to wait until the next Powellite to keep up with your favorite council. Log into www.koc3488.com

And if you're online you can get Powell Council news e-mailed to members, widows, and former Ladies Auxiliary.

Sign up at Powellcouncil@koc3488.com

You can also hear and leave messages on the CouncilPhone (516) 481-2578.

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Robert W. Powell Council #3488

Knights of Columbus
P.O. Box 290
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(516) 481-2578
www.koc3488.com

Council Officers 2007-2008

Rev. Zachary Callahan	Co-Chaplain
Msgr. Francis J, Caldwell	Co-Chaplain
Gerard J. Boettcher	Grand Knight
William G. Ludewig	Deputy Grand Knight
Anthony Purchase	Chancellor
Robert W. Powell, Jr.	Warden
Raymond B. Caluori PGK	Financial Secretary
Luis R. Nieves	Treasurer
Douglas Merhtens	Recorder
Thomas H. Maddox	Advocate
Salvatore J. Alaimo	Lecturer
John G. D'Atri	Co-Inside Guard
Justin M. Miller	Co-Inside Guard
Robert Houston	Outside Guard
Ronald E. Lopez PGK FDD	3-year Trustee
Frank C. Marando	2-year Trustee
Winston Delpesh, PGK DW	1-year Trustee

Committee Chairmen

Membership Chairman	Anthony Purchase
Church Activities	William G. Ludewig
Fourth Degree Co-Chairs	Winston Delpesh PGK
Benevolence	Thomas H. Maddox
Hospitality	Salvatore J. Alaimo
Community Affairs	Frank C. Marando
Family Activities	Mike Dragonetti
Chief Counsellor, Rev. John J. Byrne Circle #999	Robert W. Powell PGK
Publicity	William G. Ludewig
	Mike Dragonetti

Columbian Club Officers

President	Robert W. Powell PGK
Vice President	Douglas G. Griffin
Secretary	John H. Knichel PGK
Treasurer	Robert Brzozowski PGK

Robert W. Powell Council meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 8:00 pm at the Uniondale American Legion Hall. Council Officers, Trustees, and Committee chairmen meet the preceding Monday (in case of holiday, Tuesday) at 7:30 pm at St. Martha's Parish Outreach Center in Uniondale

Congratulations to St. Louis Jean-Baptiste's wife Marlene, who was honored in the December 12th edition of the Long Island Catholic for her tireless service to St. Martha's Parish!

Benevolence Committee

Condolences to Father Madigan on the passing of his sister.
Condolences to the family of George Rehberger on his passing
Condolences to Walter Hickey on the passing of his daughter Linda
Condolences to the family of John P. Sheehy on his passing

Get well soon, Bob Bruce
Get well soon, Father Callahan.
Get well soon, Frank Marando

As always, in case of sickness or death please notify GK Gerry Boettcher, DGK William Ludewig, Financial Secretary PGK Ray Caluori, or Benevolence Committee Chairman Tom H. Maddox

Greetings from PGK Roger Merhtens

"Please look on the back page cover of the December Issue of "Columbia". Rev. John S. was a member of my council, Immaculate Conception #1784, Hendersonville and was my Deputy Grand Knight in my first yr as G.K. in 2000. It was then he decided to enter the seminary...a true testimonial to the efficacy of prayer and an association with a serving organization. You never know what influence (a body of Catholic men) may have on the life of others...of course, God sets the path, but you have to be on the trail to either light the way or follow it."

Both Roger, a Past Grand Knight for two councils, and his son Doug are currently Recorders for their respective councils!

We always appreciate hearing from members near and far!

Sometime in the near future, we're going to be doing some long-overdue maintenance on our council's website, www.koc3488.com, so it may be inaccessible for 2-3 days. We'll confirm this through the council e-mail list.

If you know of any member, widow, or former Ladies Auxiliary who'd like to get their Powellite online, drop us an e-mail: Powellcouncil@koc3488.com

And if you're a Pope John XXIII Assembly member or widow of a deceased Sir Knight, you can also get your Encyclical through e-mail as well.

You'll get your publications the moment they're sent to the printer (and get them a couple of weeks sooner than snail-mail), plus pictures will come out in color!)

To reach the council through e-mail:

Powellcouncil@koc3488.com
GrandKnight@koc3488.com
FrByrneSquires@koc3488.com
ColumbianClub@koc3488.com
Treasurer@koc3488.com

Homily, December 9th 2007

Does anyone know – what time it is? Any idea? If you just looked at your watch, well that's one way of telling time. But, if you thought about where's you're at in life, that's another way of telling time. What time is it for us?

For many people, the most difficult time of day is the morning – when the alarm clock rings, indicating that it's time to wake up. The Ancient Greeks had two words for time: *chronos*, which is measured "clock time," and *kairos*, which is "body time."

When the alarm clock rings (or buzzes) in the morning, what happens is *chronos* time clashes with *kairos* time: (clock time clashes with body time) (dream time clashes with real time). When the alarm sounds it's the clock time saying: "wake up," but more often than not, the body is saying, "give me five more minutes of dream time."

Manufacturers are well aware of this human tendency and they profit by it. They sell alarm clocks with a very important device, called the "snooze button." By pressing the "snooze button," body time "wins" a five minute reprieve from clock time. Lots of people make use of the "snooze button." on a daily basis.

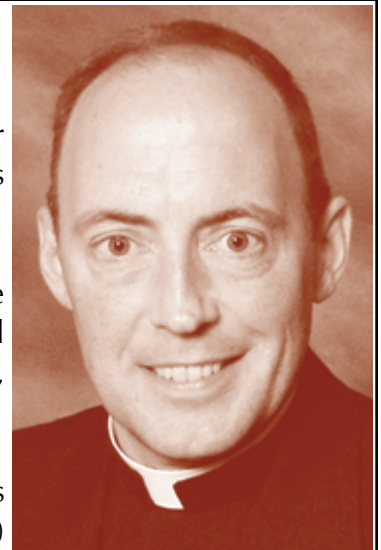
On a spiritual level, we tend to do something similar. "Sure, Christmas is coming." we say, and "Advent is a time of preparation, but there are four weeks of Advent. Lots of time! Besides, I'm just getting over Thanksgiving- so give me a break. I'll be ready for Christmas on time. I just need to hit the 'spiritual snooze button' for a while!"

All three Scripture readings for Mass today suggest that we take our preparation for Christmas a bit more seriously this year. The Readings encourage us to start moving NOW! The first reading says; "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord – it's an invitation to get moving. The second reading says; "you must wake up now, it's the hour of salvation." The Gospel says, "Stay awake." Jesus compares us to a householder who would certainly have stayed awake if he knew what time the burglar was coming.

Most of us can recall being told to: "wake up" as we were growing up. Maybe it was a rude awaking from a parent after we slipped back to sleep trying to catch an extra 40 winks on school day. Our parents were operating on clock time; we were operating on body time. Maybe it was in the classroom when we discovered that, not only did we not know the answer to the teacher's question, we didn't even hear the question (in the first place)!

The basic reason we need to "wake up," is that it helps us appreciate what's happening around us. It's impossible to appreciate a beautiful sunrise if we are asleep. It's impossible to appreciate a marriage partner (spouse) and a family if we give all our energy to our work and have nothing left when we return.

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Our meetings now start at 8:00 p.m.!!

Knights of Columbus

ROBERT W. POWELL COUNCIL NO. 3488



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On a snowy December morning like today, we need to wake up to the weather conditions and move more deliberately on the roads and as we walk over the ice. The good thing about the snow is that it slows us down and wakes us up to our surroundings and environment. Otherwise, we tend to be an automatic pilot.

We need to balance our sleep time and our wake time, our work time and our family time, our material time and our spiritual time. Today is a new day and an entirely new year for all Christians. ADVENT is the season that encourages us to know what time it is. "It is the hour to wake from sleep." St. Paul says, "to be ready for the Lord's coming, "like a thief in the night." Jesus calls us to a lifetime of learning how to tell time better.

The message today is relatively simple. We're embarking upon the fastest four weeks of the year. The Church, through the Season of Advent encourages us to go back to basics. We do that by learning how to tell time again, that is, how to DISCERN the really important things of life, and the real meaning of Christmas, from the run-of-the-mill "urgent things" of the "holiday season."

We're challenged to move to a new state – the new state of constant readiness. Jesus reminds us today in the Gospel that, in the time of Noah's Ark – before the Flood – people were urgently going about their daily business devoid of connecting with God. That period of time (before the Flood) was, I suspect, much like our modern Thanksgiving-Christmas Season. People were eating and drinking, totally unconcerned about life and death issues. They didn't know how to tell time – real time. It's not that they were necessarily doing anything wrong. They were just doing their daily "stuff." Since Jesus coming will catch people off guard there's an urgency required of us this Advent.

Will we wake up on December 26th and feel that way again this year? Jesus invites us today, DON'T press the "spiritual snooze button," again this year, but to wake up, finally. Let us, "wake up" not only to God's Coming to us, but also to Our coming closer, and drawing nearer, to Emmanuel, God-with-us!

Msgr. Frank Caldwell