

The Knights of Peter Claver, Inc.

Claverite

A Catholic fraternal magazine published by:
The National Council Knights of Peter Claver
and National Court Knights of Peter Claver,
Ladies Auxiliary

Approbation

The Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond Archbishop of New Orleans

F. DeKarlos Blackmon, Supreme Knight Geralyn C. Shelvin, Supreme Lady Michael J. Taylor, Executive Director Debra Frazier, Assistant Athanase Jones, Publisher Liaison Ann Jacob, Editor KPC Public Relations Group, contributing Walter Powers, Jr., cover photo

The Knights Of Peter Claver

Founded in Mobile, Alabama, in 1909 Headquarters in New Orleans, Louisiana

All items intended for publication in The Claverite must be submitted by: April 10 for summer issue and September 10 for winter issue.

Please send your news items to **claverite@kofpc.org**, and include a photo. When taking photographs for the magazine, please make sure your camera is set on the highest resolution setting possible. Photographs should be 300 dpi or higher at full size for them to print well. Please provide stories in a Word document and photos as jpg files. Please do not submit any handwritten material or PDF files.

"TRUST IN GOD" is our password "ONWARD" is our war cry



On the cover - Supreme Lady Geralyn Shelvin with Bishop Curtis Guillory, Bishop Terry Stieb, Bishop Victor Galeone, Bishop Martin Holley, and Abbot Cletus Meagher at the National Convention banquet.



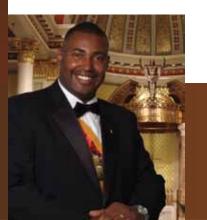
Message from the Supreme Knight

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Message from the Supreme Knight

>> F. DeKarlos Blackmon, Obl.S.B., Supreme Knight and Chief Executive Officer

y Dear Brothers and Sisters in Claverism:

What marvels were wrought in Los Angeles! It was a distinct blessing to

have been in the particular church of Los Angeles for the 96th annual Convention of the National Council of the Knights of Peter Claver and the 81st annual Convention of the National Court of the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary.

Deputies of the Western States Gregory Warner and Sharon Pitre-Williams, Immediate Past Deputies of the Western States Anderson F. Shaw and Micaela LeBlanc, Deputy of the Gulf Coast Grant Jones and Executive Director Michael Taylor, together with the whole 2011 National Convention Planning Committee, are to be commended for their tireless work in preparing for what is termed by some to be a remarkable convention due to the business effected.

To the membership, particularly the delegates and attendees of the National Convention, thank you for your commitment to arduously work "to capture an intentional design for the effective delivery of works and services for the membership and the wider community." As I conveyed during my annual report, while we move forward carrying out the work of the Order, we must continue to develop a thorough plan specifying how we intend to accomplish our objectives.

As you know, while the National Council Board of Directors is empowered to direct and guide the organization between conventions, the decisions of the National Council and National Court in Convention through the work of committees set the direction, define our mission and establish the priorities for the future, starting with the 2011–12 year. Some of the actions adopted by the Convention are listed below.

- The bylaws were amended with the following significant changes: (1) There will be an equitable election year rotation of National Convention; (2) There must be National Council Board of Directors approval of contracts with cumulative total of \$10,000 running for 60 days or longer; and (3) The Claverite/Charity dues contribution is increased to \$0.50 for all members.
- The Committee on the Junior Division recommended that the Order participate in the National Catholic Youth Con-

ference and the 2012 Annual March for Life in our nation's capital. These activities strengthen the resolve of our young as faithful Catholics, true to the authentic teachings of the Church. In addition, members asked that a Pro-Life workshop be held at the 2012 National Convention in Dallas.

- The Emerging Leaders insisted that they be known as a key committee for retention, recruitment and the education of Claverism to younger and newer members of the Order. Our Emerging Leaders have the potential to make the greatest impact as they are actively developing means to engage the next generation of Clavers.
- After having celebrated a century of service to the American Church, the Order finds itself in a situation where it needs to store and archive the very precious documents of its virtuous work. Recommended was the establishment of an arrangement for KPC Archives and Exhibit space, and that the appointive unpaid position of National Historian be reinstated. As a result, Brother Jari Honora was appointed by the Supreme Knight and confirmed by the National Council Board.
- The Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations asked that more attention be given to vocations. As a result, the Family of the Year Award has been modified to include a vocations program as one of its criteria.
- Almost \$50,000 was awarded in scholarships this year by the Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Program.
- The Committee on Sickle Cell advised that subordinate units appoint a committee to spearhead the National Campaign for Sickle Cell and that the individual donation in the Sickle Cell program increase from \$1 to \$1.50 per member.

There were indeed some financial challenges during the most recent convention, but moving forward we know that these challenges indubitably will be overcome through hard work, a keen and vigilant eye toward details and professional business acumen. All is not lost.

In addition to the 2011 Senior Convention, the National Junior Convention was held in New Orleans in July. More than 1,400 youth and chaperones gathered at the Hilton Riverside Hotel. These young people conducted themselves in an exemplary manner as they engaged in spiritual renewal, business sessions, competitions and social events. They elected new of-

ficers for 2011–2013, most conspicuously Junior Supreme Lady Kyleigh Chevis and Junior Supreme Knight Creighton Guillory. We congratulate them and all other officers on their election as leaders of our Junior Division.

On behalf of the Order, I express heartfelt gratitude to the Most Rev. Jose H. Gomez, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province and Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles; the Most Rev. Martin D. Holley, Auxiliary Bishop of Washington, Chairperson of the Subcommittee on African American Affairs of the Committee on Cultural Diversity in the Church in the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and our Chaplain; and all our bishops and abbots who joined us for our annual convention. In a special way, I thank all the many priests and deacons who provided sacramental ministry support – most notably, Father John Cisewski of New Orleans, who served as coordinator of liturgy.

We are eternally grateful for the prayerful support of Divine Word Bishop J. Terry Steib of Memphis and Divine Word Bishop Curtis J. Guillory of Beaumont, who together with Bishop Holley, presided over and preached spiritually enriching liturgies, designed to challenge us to re-propose the Gospel by the way we live our lives. As well, we express gratitude for Bishop Edward W. Clark and Bishop Oscar A. Solis of Los Angeles, Bishop Victor B. Galeone of Saint Augustine, the Bishop Jaime Soto of Sacramento, Benedictine Abbot Cletus D. Meagher of Saint Bernard Abbey, and Benedictine Abbot Charles Wright of Prince of Peace Abbey. Each of these prelates took the time to celebrate with us the mysteries of Christ, and provided spiritual insight to help us as we continue to press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling.

Numerous members, clergy and guests stated that our liturgies were especially meaningful. The spirit-filled concelebrated Mass with Archbishop Gomez at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels was expressive of the rich history not only of our Order, but also our Catholic faith. In his homily on Monday morning, Bishop Steib prepared us for the storms that may creep up on us in life and in Claverism. He reminded us that Christ is here beside us. Bishop Guillory presided over the Memorial Mass and preached a phenomenal homily encouraging us to live the Gospel values, as opposed to merely talking the talk. The Memorial Mass gave to many members closure on those Clavers who have gone on to be with the Lord. Lastly, Bishop Holley presided over and preached an evocative Mass of Healing. This Mass of Healing with sacramental anointing, which left Knights and Ladies in tears, seemed to lift the spirit of defeatism and renewed our hope in the future of the Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary.

Time and again we have stated, "The Knights of Peter Claver is a business, and we must continue to hold true to our responsibilities as such." So on behalf of Most Esteemed Supreme Lady Geralyn C. Shelvin and the National Court Board, the National Council Board of Directors and in my own name, let us continue to embark upon the tasks before us – setting clear goals and establishing plans to achieve them.

In Christ and Claverism,

F. DeKarlos Blackmon, Obl.S.B. Supreme Knight and Chief Executive Officer

ELECT

A Proven Leader for the Future

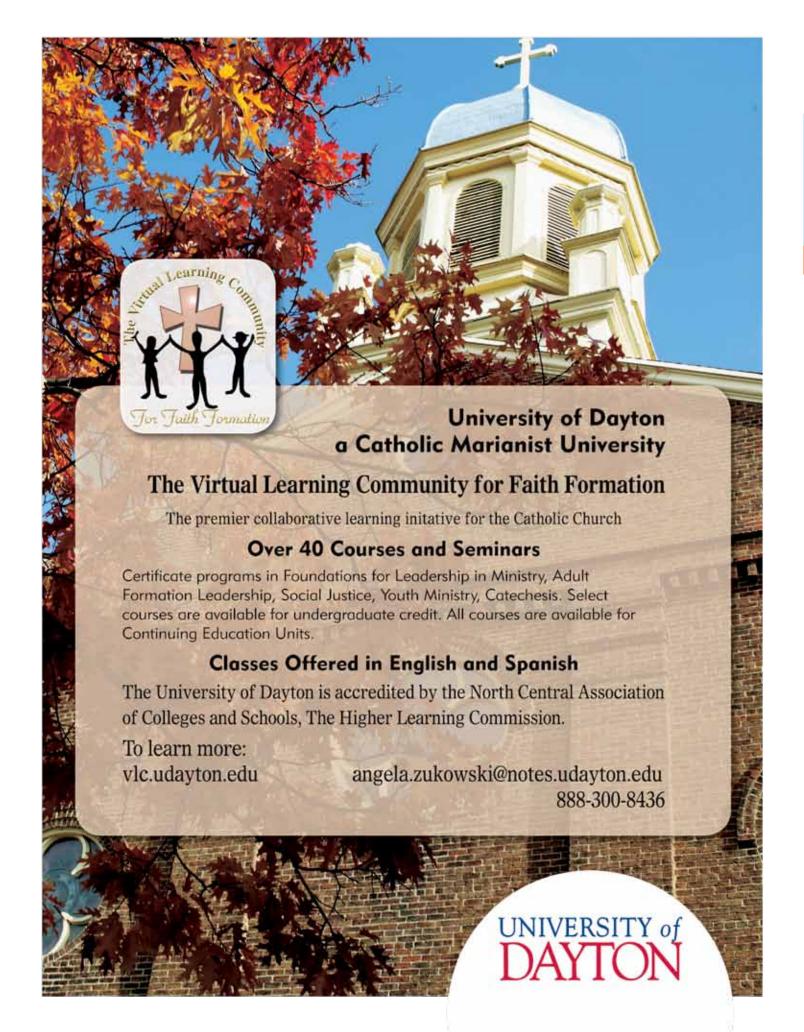


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for

Supreme Lady

Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary



SThank you

also for allowing

us to look at who

we are and what

giving the Ladies

Division freedom

we can be and

of expression.

Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary

Message from the Supreme Lady

>> Geralyn C. Shelvin, Supreme Lady



reetings Fellow Clavers:

I am honored and privileged to submit to you my final Winter Issue article for the Office of Supreme Lady.

I continue to reflect on the future of our Noble Order and where we have come and where we are going moving forward. There have been positive changes during the past year and my thoughts are filled with the strength of God's love for our organization and each of us individually.

This year, the Ladies Auxiliary celebrated 85 years as an established division of the Knights of Peter Claver, Inc. The Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary was authorized at Opelousas, La., in August 1922 and the establishment of the first local courts followed. These courts were then recognized as a division of the National Council and organized as a National Court at Galveston, Texas, in 1926.

The first National Meeting was presided over by Lady Hazel Clouser and charter members were the following Ladies: Hazel Clouser, M. L. Lunnon, Sedonia McCarthy, Louise Mc Carthy, Eva Rieras, and Clothilda Trenier Williams.

In our Ladies Auxiliary, there have been 12 Supreme Ladies to serve our Noble Order:

M. L. Lunnon	1926 – 1928	New Orleans, La
A. R. Aubry	1928 – 1952	New Orleans, La
E. B. Jones	1952 – 1958	Houston, Texas
Inez Y. Bowman	1958 – 1964	Houston, Texas
Thelma P. Lombard	1964 – 1970	New Orleans, La
Florence W. Lee	1970 – 1976	New Orleans, La
Elise LeNoir Morris	1976 – 1982	Houston, Texas
Consuella M. Broussard	1982 – 1988	Houston, Texas
Dorothy B. Henderson	1988 – 1994	Lafayette, La

Leodia Gooch	1994 – 2000	St. Louis, Mo.
Mary L. Briers	2000 – 2006	Montgomery, Ala.
Geralyn C. Shelvin	2006 – present	Lafayette, La.

We have done great amounts of service to our local churches, communities and Claver units, as is evidenced by the awards and recognitions received by the Knights of Peter Claver, Inc., which includes the Ladies Division.

The membership of the Ladies Division continues to be of service in the community and church parishes as Directors of Religious Education, Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Ministers of Music, Ministers of Welcome, Office Administrators and many other capacities.

Almost a year has passed and I now say what a difference a year has made. We thank our Most Worthy Supreme Knight F. DeKarlos Blackmon for reopening the lines of communication between the Office of Supreme Knight and Supreme Lady. Our daily phone calls, emails and text messaging have given the Ladies Division a breath of new life. By this example, members of

the National Council and National Court Board of Directors also have improved their lines of communication.

Our Most Worthy Supreme Knight and the National Council Board of Directors, particularly the Executive Committee, have been graciously receptive to the thoughts of the Ladies Division and have allowed us to voice our ideas and/or concerns. We thank the Supreme Knight and National Council Board of Directors for recognizing our talents and using said talents appropriately. Thank you also for allowing us to look at who we are and what we can be and giving the Ladies Division freedom of expression. The respect displayed to the Ladies Division is indicative of the Knights' Division commitment that the best is yet to come.

Geralyn C. Shehin

Geralyn C. Shelvin Supreme Lady



Message from the Supreme Lady and Deputy Supreme Knight

Our Noble
Order exists

to be of service

our communities.

and those most

in need.

to the Church,



>> Geralyn C. Shelvin, Supreme Lady and Paul Jones, Jr., Deputy Supreme Knight



reetings to the membership of the Knights of Peter Claver and the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary:

We, the undersigned, are writing this communication to you the membership regarding the status of Our Noble Order following the 2011 National Convention in Los Angeles, Calif.

Recently there has been communication sent out to

the Grand Knights and Grand Ladies and also to persons outside of the organization with misinformation regarding the finances of the Knights of Peter Claver, Inc. The communication, which was distributed had financial information that was in the "working phase" and was not the final accurate information. We are extremely disheartened that whoever communicated the information has brought disharmony and confusion,

and provided those seeking political gain to foster negativity, where instead we should be collectively working together for positive outcomes. No matter what our varying past and present Claver experiences have been, we should all be respectful to the membership and our leadership elected at the convention in St. Louis, Mo. All of us are to truly embrace all that is good for the betterment of our beloved organization.

In order to provide clarity to our membership, this is what occurred: There was a contract for the 2011 National Convention signed and executed in 2008; the attendance at the convention was not at the targeted projection indicated in the signed contract; and the hotel was unwilling to decrease our room obligation or void the contract. All expenses for the 2011 National Convention have been disbursed and our organization is financially sound.

The planning for each national convention is based upon historical trends and typical events such as attendance and election of officers. The current leadership curtailed expenses for the 2011 National Convention by not recording the Convention Mass and discontinuing the Supreme Knight and Supreme Lady Reception, to name a few.

We need to remember that we cannot continue to have the "five star" conventions we have grown accustomed to without the membership registering for

> the national convention, attending the national convention and reserving their lodging at the hotel property designated as the headquarters for the national convention.

> Discussion and circulation of misinformation to the membership and other entities does not assist our organization in recruiting, retaining and/or maintaining membership. It actually destroys our organization, not only in the eyes of the membership

but also in the public sector, where we are quite visible, especially when we are not a cohesive group. We encourage the membership to follow our established protocol and express questions or concerns to your respective District or State Deputies and the National Council or National Court Board of Directors.

Our Noble Order exists to be of service to the Church, our communities and those most in need. Let us all move forward to be His humble servant in faith and prayer in and for each other.

Respectfully, Paul Jones, Ir.

Paul Jones . J.

Deputy Supreme Knight

Geralyn C Shelvin

Geralyn C. Shelin

Supreme Lady

message from the junior supreme knight

G

reetings from the 19th Junior Supreme Knight Creighton 'CJAG' Guillory, Knights of St. Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary:

"God takes joy in giving us what we want and need," for "God is good all the time and all the time, God is good; and in this we do believe."

Greetings, I am grateful and thankful to all my Claver family and give thanks to our National Director, General Tilmon D. King; National Counselor of Jr. Daughters Diane T. Asberry; Most Worthy, F.D. Blackmon; Most Esteemed Dr. G. Shelvin; the National Headquarters office staff, with whom I had the direct pleasure to work; Senior members; and all involved with the success of our 19th Biennial Convention, held at the edge of Louisiana in the center of southern hospitality, New Orleans.

Thank you, especially, to Commanders, Counselors and Chaperones, true people of God for all the prayers, support and eagerness to encourage and take time with all Juniors. Thank you.

It is my privilege and special honor to have this opportunity to serve my lifelong organization, the Knights of St. Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary, as Supreme Officer of our Junior Division throughout these United States and abroad.

"Monitoring my GPS," my 'God's Power Source,' I am focused on moving us forward through the help of all States and Districts.

My challenge:
Reach to achieve
"Our Purpose,
On Purpose" in
Claverism. Commit
yourself on purpose
to my ACTION
PLAN, consisting
of Vocations,
Membership,
Transitioning and
our Constitution



and By-Laws through mini workshops in monthly meetings. To borrow the acronym of Team Pride Louisiana, it states: PRIDE-Personal Responsibilities in Individual Daily Events/ Environment.

"We serve the Lord in gladness and our blessings flow." We are youth in training to serve our church, "Get your GPS" and let's get going.

message from the junior supreme lady

reetings My Claver Sisters,

Once again I would like to thank you for your support at the 19th Biennial Jr. National Convention in New Orleans. I am excited about my new position and am honored by your confidence in electing me to be your team captain (Jr. Supreme Lady). As I said during my campaign I cannot succeed without each and every one of you. This was my first convention and I am so glad to be part of an organization that embraces you with friendship and love. I've met a lot of new people, made new friends and look forward to meeting more of you, as well as working with you and for you and our Noble Order.

I have already begun working with my board and Lady Asberry to start putting some of my goals discussed at convention in place. I welcome all suggestions on ways to continue growth in our Noble Order. I wish you all a successful remainder of the school year and a safe and joyous holiday season.

Yours in Claverism, Kyleigh Alanna Chevis Jr. Supreme Lady





Message from the Northern States District Deputy (Omitted from Summer 2011)

>> Annetta Wilson, Northern States District Deputy

o the Supreme Lady, National Officers of the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary, all Grand Ladies, Junior Daughter Counselors, Delegates, Members

Greetings,

With thanksgiving to Almighty God, the Area Deputies and those that help in anyway to assist the building of this noble organization, I submit this report that shows our commitment and willingness to serve this noble order, in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. Again, I applaud the membership for their role in expansion and retention, which not only keeps the organization moving forward, but also certainly hold the keys to our continued existence. This has been an exciting, rewarding and productive year for the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary in the Northern States District.

We have been very busy with the duties of expansion. We welcomed to the ranks ninety-one, since August 1, 2010- March 12, 2011; we have 82 Active Courts and 9 Inactive Courts with a membership of 1,935. As of this writing, the drop list has been decreased and those figures should now be in the plus column, which will put us over the 2000 mark where we have been for the past several years. We must not forget to give honor to our sisters who have gone on to be with the Almighty.

It is an honor to welcome our newest Court - St. Monica 395, St. Augustine and St. Monica Catholic Church of Detroit, Michigan where Rev. Daniel T. Trapp is the pastor. The chartered members are Grand Lady June F. Ross, Vice Grand Lady Maxine Braxton, Financial Secretary LaVerne Embry, Recording Secretary Cheryl R. Harris, Treasurer, Beverly Tubbs, Mistress-at-arms Darlene Rucker, Outer Guard Mary E. Roddie, Inner Guard Delton Treece, Chaplin Kathleen A Williams-Trice, Sick Committee Barbara Harris, Lecture Jacqueline Williams and Chair, Board of Trustees Dorothy B. Payne.

This event was attended by over 100 Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary members, from the greater Detroit, Michigan, Grand Rapids, MI, Pittsburgh, PA, Chicago, Illinois, Indianapolis, Indiana. The Supreme Lady also joined us along with members from various areas in Louisiana. A repast celebration for the new unit establishment was held jointly with the Knights and Ladies. Many thanks to the ladies who participated in making the initiation so spiritual. We initiated ladies from Courts 71, 167, 189, 196 and 247.

It is a privilege to report that we have held 14 seminars/education forums throughout the 14 states and held 17 initiations throughout the District with several rescheduled because of the weather. From August 2010 through March 2011, we have initiated Ninety -One new sisters and established (1) one new Court in Detroit, MI. Outreach efforts to recruit new establishments are under way in Aurora, Peoria, Rockford, VA, Rhode Island, New York and DC.

Expansion Awards: 1st Place-Louis Hertzog, Court 227, Cleveland, Ohio Grand Lady Doris St Clair, 2nd Place, St. Sabina Court 192, Chicago, Illinois and St Joseph of the West End, Cincinnati, Ohio 3rd Place, St Martin De Porres Court 176, Chicago, Illinois and Sister Thea Bowman Court, 364, Washington, DC.

November 10-13, 2010 attended the National Council of Catholic Women Annual Convention in Washington, DC. They celebrated 90 Years: Rejoice & Renew. There were many KPCLA attendees at the Convention. We had the opportunity to discuss community solutions to social change as well as gain empowerment through leader-

February 13-16, 2011 presentation from the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary attended and participated in the 2011 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering; Protecting Human Life and Dignity: Promoting a Just Economy, held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC. After the visit to the Congressional elected officials, in their offices, workshops where held to enlighten the attendees from global awareness, to CRS discussing humanitarian situations abroad and in the USA. Many workshops focused on poverty to highlight consequences of budget cuts on the poor and explored resources that were available to help Catholics to confront social issues through prayer, study, advocacy, and giving. It is so rewarding to know that Lady Cynthia Morris-Colbert assisted in making the conference happen.

Attended the trainings developed by The Children's Defense Fund for the purpose of KPCLA collaborating with the National Observance of Children's Sabbath weekend. The Children's Sabbath is a weekend that aims to unite religious congregations of all faiths across the nation in shared concern for children and common commitment to improving their lives and working for justice on their behalf.

National Health Awareness Project continues to be implemented in Philadelphia, PA and Chicago, Illinois where KPCLA along with 7 national organizations held a Resiliency of Women & Girls Conference in collaboration with Congressman Danny K. Davis, and the Congressional Black Caucus Braintrust.

Developed with the input from the National Secretary Delise Coleman and the National Counselor of Junior Daughters, Diane Asberry, Area Deputies and Area Counselors joint training for the Annual Northern States District Conference.

Love & Peace,

Submitted

Annetta Wilson, Northern States District Deputy

Message from the National Lay Board Member (Omitted from Summer 2011)



>>> George J. Williams, National Lay Board Member

reetings Knights and Ladies, In the sprit of our patron, St. Peter Claver, let us continue to be committed to providing stewardship in serving

our brothers and sisters throughout the United States and abroad. I ask for your recommitment of service to our Noble Order and continue the positive, professional and generous service.

2010

May 24 – Funeral Service: Sir Knight George Washington Woods, Sr.

July 10 - Reception for Ryland Papilion, Jr., La. State 1st President

July 24 – Funeral Service: Sir Knight Frederick Rideaux

July 29-Aug. 5 – KPC Senior National Convention, St. Louis, Missouri

August 28 – St. Peter Claver Fourth Degree Prosper A Bijou Assembly #16 Banquet

September 2 – Teleconference Call Meeting of the Board of Directors

September 11 - Our Lady Queen of Peace-Western Ball

September 12 – Council, Court, & Junior #116 St. Peter Day Mass & Reception, Baton Rouge, La.

September 23-26 - National Black Catholic Men's Conference

September 25 – St. Peter Claver Day Mass and Celebration, New Orleans. La.

October 13 - Funeral Service: Knight Leroy Joseph Davis Sr.

October 16 - KPC Council & Court #54 Annual Banquet

October 16 – 50th Years of Claverism Lady Della Mae James

October 24 - KPC Council #53 Senior Initiation, Parks, La.

October 30 - War on Poverty, Immaculate Center

November 6 - Funeral Service: Knight Lady Hazel Ann T. Barber

November 6 - Black Saints Celebration

November 6 - Day of Reconciliation, Immaculate Heart of Mary

November 7 - KPC Founders Day 101 Years

November 11 - Funeral Service: Herman "Melot" Calais

November 13 - Memorial Mass, Immaculate Heart of Mary

November 20 – Immaculate Heart of Mary Council and Court #76 Annual Ball

December 9-12 – The National Conf. of Catholic Youth Ministry, New Orleans

December 19 - St. Francis of Assisi Christmas Social

December 31 - St. Francis of Assisi New Years Eve Dance

2011

January 20 - Funeral Service: Lady Mary Ella Bernard McZeal

January 22 – KPC 4th Degree Assembly & Chapter #3 Awards Banquet & Installation of Officers

January 24 – Funeral Service: Sir Knight Joseph Wilson "Sonny" Thomas, Sr.

January 26 - Board of Directors Teleconference Call Meeting

January 29 - "The Subversive Power of Love"

February 13 – St. Francis of Assisi Council #49 Valentine Ball

February 26 – Funeral Service: Knight Henry Clay Gordon Sr.

March 19 - Funeral Service: Lady Mary Alice Babineaux

March 19 - Funeral Service: Lady Shirly Ledet Alexander

March 25-27 - KPC Louisiana State Jr. Conference

March 26 Funeral Service: Sir Knight Ophilas Pierre Minnard, Jr.

April 28 – May 1 Northern State District Conference Arlington, Va.

July 7 - 10 Jr. National Convention, New Orleans, La

July 29-Aug. 4 Sr. National Convention, Los Angeles, Ca.

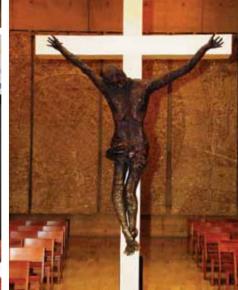
"There is no real religious experience that does not express itself in charity." - с. н. Dodd





























































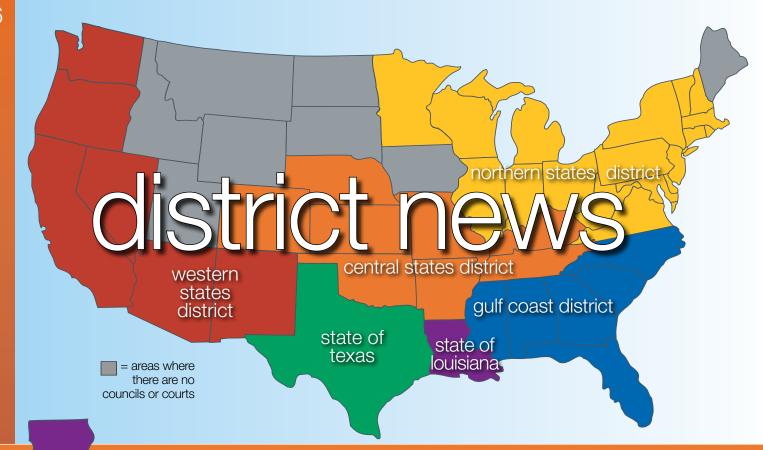












state of louisiana



Pictured (left to right) in the front row are: Grand Lady Sylvia Cotton, Kiara Balthazar, Raney Johnson, Father Andre McGrath and Grand Knight Tim Ford. In the second row are Willie Singleton, Jr. (left) and Elliot Jones.

Unit #144

Shreveport, Louisiana

>> The Knights and Ladies Auxiliary of Unit #144 honored graduating high school seniors at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Shreveport in May. Grand Lady Sylvia Cotton and Grand Knight Tim Ford presented scholarships to Kiara Balthazar, Elliot Jones, Raney Johnson and Willie Singleton, Jr.



Pictured (left to right) are: Ricky Melancon, Stanley Roque, Anthony Rachal, Most Rev. Michael Duca, Tim Ford, John Peter Metoyer and Martin Metoyer.

>> Council #144 took part in the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Diocese of Shreveport in June at the Shreveport Convention Center. Events for the day included music, booths, breakout sessions, Mass and a reception.

Council and Court #49 Breaux Bridge, Louisiana

>> For the past three years, Council and Court #49 have hosted a school supply drive and have adopted Breaux Bridge Elementary as their partner in education.



Pictured (left to right) are: Charles Williams, George Williams, (National Lay Board Member), Prenella Celestine, Sheryl Ozen, Eva Diggs, Grand Lady Rhona Wyche, Grand Knight Joe Robertson, Ms. Walters (Teacher), Aaron Noel, Ms. Williams (Principal), Fetchral Gabriel and Brittany and Brianna Anthony.

Court #60 New Orleans, Louisiana

>> Sacred Heart Court #60 has participated in several community service projects throughout the year. Thanksgiving baskets were distributed to 25 needy families, with the help of Council #60, the Corpus Christi-Epiphany Youth Ministry, the St. Vincent DePaul Society and generous donations from the parish. Court #60 also helped prepare and deliver Thanksgiving meals to 20 of our elderly parishioners. Another project involved the preparation of 100 gift bags for the homeless in New Orleans. They were distributed by a local group called Unity for Greater New Orleans.

A visit to St. Margaret Manor Senior Living Center was enjoyed by residents and members of the court. Each resident was presented with gift bags and the group shared conversation, Scripture readings and spirituals. The court also hosted an appreciation breakfast for the RCIA, CCD and Religious Education instructors as they closed out the school year. Thanks to the Corpus Christi-Epiphany Youth Ministry for their assistance.



Corpus Christi-Epiphany Youth Ministry and Court #60 prepare gift bags for the homeless.

Council #50 New Orleans, Louisiana

>> Brother Ernest Milton, Jr. received the Award of Merit (Silver Medal) during the St. Peter Claver Day Mass at St. Peter Claver Catholic Church in New Orleans in September. Pictured are Grand Knight Norman C. Gallo, Sr. (left) and Deputy Grand Knight Alvin Lee (right) of Fr. John H. Dorsey Council #50 after presenting the Medal of Merit to Brother Milton. Brother Milton also was awarded a Proclamation from the City of New Orleans, Civil Court Judge Representative.



Council #116 Baton Rouge, Louisiana

>> Council #116 of Immaculate Conception Church takes great pride in the achievements of Knight Ronald Q. Lewis, who is the 2011 Silver Medal of Merit Award recipient. Also, Knight Rogers Jackson and Knight Michael Jarrett received the 2010 Silver Medal of Merit Award. The rays of light that shine from the accomplishments of these men help others to see the good work done by Council #116.

Since November 2010, we have inducted 11 Knights and reclaimed another, and have had to move our meetings to a larger venue; the meetings are directed by fellow Knight Father Derrick Weingartner, SJ. The council sponsored a parish Youth Night for Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in April and a bowling night for the Junior Knights in July. This year, our annual donation to St. Francis Xavier Elementary School was directed to the Friends of St. Francis Xavier Elementary School Inc., whose goal is to keep the school open. The recipient of the 2011 College Scholarship Award of \$500 was Ms. Alondra Young.



Members of Council #116 had the distinct honor and privilege of singing for the 10:30 a.m. Mass each Sunday during August.

state of louisiana (cont.)







Grand Lady Francine Collins presented Lady Maggie Smith (left photo), Lady Mae Walker (middle photo) and Lady Ruth Fernandez (right) with flowers at the annual Prayer Breakfast.

Court #36

New Orleans, Louisiana

>> Last spring at its annual Prayer Breakfast, St. Rita Court #36 proudly honored three of its members who are now age 90 or older. Lady Mae Walker, Lady Maggie Smith and Lady Ruth Fernandez were presented with flowers and Grand Lady Francine Collins thanked them for their years of service and dedication to the Knights of Peter Claver, especially to Court #36. All three ladies remain active participating members.



Court #325 New Orleans, Louisiana

>> Court #325 is proud to announce that Lady Elaine Sims Julien (Past Junior Daughter Counselor) is the 2011 recipient of the Regina Matrum Award for the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The award honors an outstanding and representative Catholic mother. She was chosen by a committee of clergy, religious and lay judges from a number of nominations. She is the 65th honoree awarded a solid gold medal, which bears an embossed likeness of the statue of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, along with a certificate of honor, which exemplified her life as a mother, homemaker and caregiver, and her cumulative contributions to the spiritual life of her family, her parish and her community. A Mass of celebration was held in May with celebrant Most Rev. Shelton Fabre, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Past award honorees throughout the archdiocese processed in this celebration, which was followed by a reception in Lady Julien's honor.

central states district

Court #261 Denver, Colorado

>> Court #261 awarded academic scholarships to seven high school graduates at the annual Julia Greeley Scholarship Reception in July. The recipients, all of whom are attending four-year colleges, are: Chidiebre Kelechi Agwu, Troyvonn Barlow, Imani A. Celestin, Greg Fairweather II, Brenden Matthews, Khari Robinson and Rio-Ahjaney Vafeades.

The scholarship is named for an ex-slave who came to Colorado from Missouri and spent her life in Denver working tirelessly with the poor and dispirited of all races. This work and her deep devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus was renowned by the Church, and upon her death in 1918, her body lay in state in the Basilica, and her eulogy was reported in the Denver *Catholic Register*.

Since 1995, the Julia Greeley Scholarship Program of Court #261 has awarded more than \$50,000 to assist college students in furthering their education. With the generous assistance of the Bean Foundation and Donna Auguste and David Hayes, Court #261 honors the seven recipients for the year 2011.



Previous scholarship recipient and Morehouse graduate Ronnie Celestine, who attends Georgia Tech, provides study tips to 2011 recipients.

northern states district

Court #189 Detroit, Michigan

>> The Claver Service Award was won by Lady Shirley Slaughter, Financial Secretary of Court #189, on Claver Day 2011. Lady Slaughter was presented with a beautiful plaque after Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Detroit. A delicious lunch was served after the ceremony.

An exemplary member of Court #189 since 1998, Lady Slaughter also has served as Treasurer and Chairperson of the History and Membership Committees. She has been the court liaison to the Michigan Central Committee and is a longtime, loyal supporter of Junior Court activities. Lady Slaughter has been a stalwart member of Presentation Our Lady of Victory Parish for more than 50 years, and is well known throughout the Detroit faith

community. As part of her church ministry and evangelical outreach,

Lady Slaughter researched, wrote and published the critically acclaimed *Our Lady of Victory: The Saga of an African-American Catholic Community*, a narrative history chronicling the hopes, dreams and aspirations of this black Christian enclave

Lady Slaughter has been instrumental in raising funds for the Oblate Sisters of Providence and has consistently – and successfully – worked to reclaim original members of Our Lady of Victory and bring them back to the Church. As an active member of the community, she has served as a trustee for the Oak Park Board of Education, legislative representative for the Oak Park School District and liaison to the Oakland County Library Network. Members of Court #189 believe Shirley epitomizes the spirit of the Claver Service Award and is supremely deserving of this accolade.

Court #297 Newark, New Jersey

>> When you change the way you look at things; things you look at change! The Bishop Joseph Francis Court took this statement seriously and began focusing our giving on food pantries. The need for food and other staples has increased recently because of the floods and the

high unemployment rate in our area, and Grand Lady Shirley Rush was adamant that we must be major donors of food. The Ladies of #297 send special blessings to those who are using the food pantries to make them comfortable to receive these goods.

The Ladies continued the spirit of St. Peter Claver when they fed more than 500 spectators at the annual Monkfest, the celebration of St. Benedict's Feast.

Court #297 will once again sponsor the Go Red Heart Dinner Dance, which raises awareness of the devastation of heart disease, especially for those of color. Last year, we donated more than \$1,000 to the American Heart Association and it is our desire to increase the next donation. Court #297 continues to celebrate St. Peter Claver Mass at St. Peter Claver Parish in Montclair, N.J., with our Knights.

northern states district (cont.)



Unit #381 Chicago, Illinois

>> Council and Court #381 are members of Holy Family Church, the second-oldest Catholic church in Chicago. We are approaching our ninth year as members of KOPC, and are making great strides. Our recruitment efforts have brought in four new knights: Ron Miller, Paul Canino, Dexter Watson and Rudy Kotleba. We have been active in our community, hosting our second annual Health Fair, spearheading a sock and glove drive for the homeless and supporting our parish food pantry. And, most important, our membership works hard to support our parish by sponsoring spiritual retreats, training altar servers, fundraising, volunteering and donating time and effort to ensure that we continue to build a strong Christian community. All of these activities have helped our mission to serve humanity and spread the Faith.

Ladies of Court #362 Newport News, Virginia

Hunger Walk.

>> Lady Brenda Orie, the director of St. Vincent DePaul's Social Ministries Office in Newport News, will represent St. Vincent's in a local crime prevention project. Lady Orie is



a charter member of Court #362 and is the current Assistant Junior Daughter Counselor. A special section of the Newport News Police Department has petitioned the assistance of key citizens in the community on a project to address the needs of nonviolent offenders and entry-level substance abusers. The idea of the project is to provide necessities such as clothing, bus tickets, employment leads, etc., where possible/feasible, with the goal of preventing petty crimes. Lady Orie has a demonstrated a reputation for integrity and for being fair to the "guests" who daily seek assistance

from the Social Ministries Office. In the spirit of Claverism, she is the perfect representative to serve in this forum to help the less fortunate.

>> Lady Michelle Ferebee, Chaplain of Court #362, was honored in June in the area of Government/Politics at the 4th annu-



al YWCA Women of Distinction Awards. Lady Ferebee began her career at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Langley Research Center as a computer scientist in the Atmospheric Sciences Division. In 2011, she advanced to the position of NASA Deputy Director for Partnerships in the Strategic Relationships Office. She has mentored several students and other personnel in their pursuit of technical excellence. She is married to Knight Melvin Ferebee, Jr., and they have three children: Melvin III, Michael and Junior Daughter Taylor Ferebee.

Council and Court #346

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

>> St. Charles Borromeo Council #346 and Sister Thea Bowman Court #346 held a Morning of Prayer, Reflections and Spiritual Renewal in August. The theme for the morning ser-

vice was "Let's Help Each Other Bear Our Crosses with Prayer."

Deacon Bill Mayes gave opening remarks and started the prayer service. The attendees sang hymns, listened to Scripture and spent time in reflection. Members of Unit #346 included Brother Gene Brown, Deacon Bill Mayes, Grand Knight Ernest Tymes, Brother Gene Rogers, Rev. Ed P. Kuczynski (Knight, Pastor, Chaplain), Grand Lady Carolyn Wall, Lady Shirley Conner, Lady Patricia Cantry, Lady Madeline Tymes (Vice President of Northern District), Lady Edith Hall and Lady Joyce Adams.

Council and Court #386 Camden, New Jersey

>> Council and Court #386 named their unit after Bishop George Murry, and so it was appropriate that we brought this man of God back to his home parish. In June, St. Josephine Bakhita Parish at the St. Bartholomew worship site was honored to have Bishop George Murry as the homilist for the church's traditional Fathers' Day and Men's Day Celebration. He spoke in depth on how the role of "fatherhood" was bestowed upon us by God, and challenged the men to fulfill this "blessing from God." Bishop Murry thanked everyone in attendance for coming and for his tremendous



welcome home celebration.

He was very humbled that

our council and court were

Afterward, a reception

for Bishop Murry was held

in the church hall, which is

named after him.

named in honor of his father, George Murry. To close out this glorious day, the Knights and Ladies and Junior Knights and Junior Daughters turned out in their traditional uniforms and were

able to capture the moment with a group photo taken with the bishop. It was the first opportunity for many members, especially the Juniors, to meet the bishop who gave the unit its name.



western states district

Court #121 Los Angeles, California

>> Court #121 was well-represented at the National Convention held in our hometown of Los Angeles. More than 20 members of the court were actively involved in all facets of the planning and execution of the convention. Court #121, under the leadership of Grand Lady Franz Aubry, is the proud recipient of four awards from the convention: first place in the Western States District for Service Hours (82,475 hours); first place nationally for Court of the Year; the Area Counselor of the Year for the Western States District was awarded to our own Lady Sheila Thomas, along with Lady

Cheryl Pyles from Court #259: and Junior Daughter Dawna Thornhill was awarded a \$1,000 National Scholarship.



Pictured in the back row (left to right) are: Lady Dana Sims, Lady Nicole Gougis, Lady Lauren Gonzales, Lady Florita Avila, Lady Bridgett Vavasseur, WSD President Lady Renita Lloyd-Smith (past member of Court #121), Financial Secretary Lady Karen Pinson, Lady Lori McCoy-Shuler and Recording Secretary Lady Ganine Arnold. In the front row (left to right) are: Lecturer Lady Joan Allen, Lady Jeanne Wiltz, Junior Daughter Counselor Lady Sheila Thomas, Lady Florence DeJan, Grand Lady Franz Aubry, Vice Grand Lady Cheryl Blount, Lady Jennie Dudley, Lady Regina Wiltz and Lady Sylvia Wingate.

gulf coast district

Court and Council #4 Pascagoula, Mississippi

>> National Secretary Athanase Jones was the keynote speaker for the St. Peter Claver Day Banquet in September sponsored by Council and Court #4. Sir Knight Jones grew up in Pascagoula, attended St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School and Our Lady of Victories (now Resurrection) and began his association with the Knights in Branch #4. He quoted John 15:13, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends," as he spoke about St. Peter Claver's journey as a missionary - boarding the slave ships to provide food, water and medicine and baptizing more than 300,000 men and women.

Knight Alton Smith was recognized for 50 years of service and Knight Charles Barial was recognized for 25 years of service at the banquet.

Our Lady of Lourdes Court #4 recognized several members

who have served more than 50 vears: Ladv Victorine Bonam, Lady Earline Durden, Lady Dorothy Gates, Lady Melva Gaitwood, Lady Bernadetta Hasty and Lady Mary Alice Thomas-Young. Lady



Peter the Apostle Church, spoke at the St. Peter Claver Day Banquet in Pascagoula.

Bonam has been a member of the court for 73 years and is the granddaughter of Honorable Frank Collins, one of the original seven Founders of the Knights of Peter Claver.

Rev. Charles E. McMahon, SSJ, was presented with a \$2,000 donation on behalf of Council and Court #4. Members of Councils #25, 26 and 267 and Courts #6, 25 and 26 attended the banquet.

Court #110 Charleston, South Carolina



Some members of Court #110, along with Past Supreme Knight, Brother Arthur McFarland and Knight Jerald Joseph of St. Peter Council #110, after receiving the Court of the Year Award at the 2011 Gulf Coast District Conference held in Charleston. Grand Lady Francena Rogers holds the plaque.

>> At our 48th Founders Day Celebration and Reception, we recognized members of our court for extraordinary dedication and outstanding service in the name of Claverism. Lady Joan Mack was selected as our 2011 Claver Lady of the Year, and Lady Georgetta Brown received the Lillie Magwood Lifetime Achievement Award (named in honor of one of our founders).

In addition, the Ladies of Court #110 have been diligent in our efforts to serve the Church, community and the Noble Order, and we are grateful for all of the awards that we have received along the way. Lady Doris Hamilton was presented the Silver Medal Award for the Gulf Coast at the National Convention, and Lady Barbara Birds was named a Gulf Coast District Area Counselor of the Year, Junior Division (Zone V). At the 2011 Gulf Coast District Senior Conference hosted by Zone V, Court #110 was recognized as Court of the Year.

In June, we published the second issue of our quarterly newsletter, The Bulletin. Copies were mailed to our sick and shut-in Claver Sisters, and distributed to parishioners to promote the mission of our Noble Order.

Court #272 Birmingham, Alabama

>> Court #272 celebrated its 25th anniversary with a Tasting of Recipes from its "Seasoned to Please" cookbook. Under the leadership of Grand Lady Maxine Allen, Court #272 made several donations from the sale of the cookbook. Recipients included Holy Family Catholic Church, All Saints Catholic Church, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, St. Francis Xavier Church and Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School. Other recipients included four families who were victims of the April tornado.



than 15 years and purchased books and paper for Holy Family Elementary School. The Ladies also have joined more than 5,000 cancer walkers in the annual Susan B. Komen "Race for the Cure." And, as a means to recruit new members to our Noble Order, the Ladies of Court #272 has co-sponsored the Holy Family picnic for more Court #272 designed and donated hand fans to five parishes.

Court #199 Jackson, Mississippi



>> Court #199 welcomes Lady Elizabeth Bradley and Lady Marcella Brown, who were initiated in June. Ladies Bradley and Brown were previously members of the Junior Daughter Court.



Enjoying a game of dominoes are Sir Knight Frank DuCloux, Billy Lott and Knight Pavia Dewberry.

Council #210

Mobile, Alabama

>> Each summer, the Knights of Council #210 gather at the home of Knight Pavia and Lady Lisa Dewberry for a cook-out, card games, dominoes and a time to relax among friends. The Knights look forward to the gathering, which also includes many of their family members and friends.



Grand Knight Arthur Barnwell, III presented the 2011 Council #278 Scholarship to Ms. Amanda Grant, a junior and Dean's List student at Savannah State University.

Council #278 Savannah, Georgia

>> Council #278 continues to be of service to both the Church and the community. In May, members of the council participated in the Chatham County Relay for Life (American Cancer Society) by walking during the night and giving a donation. Members also have been active in Resurrection of Our Lord Parish, assisting with the Spring Festival, the 2011 Graduates and Honors Day and the 2011 Back to School Mass. At the Back to School Mass, Ms. Amanda Grant, a junior and Dean's List student at Savannah State University and former Grand Lady of the Junior Court, was awarded the 2011 Council Scholarship.

Also, the council has been successful in its recruitment efforts and received the 2011 Gulf Coast District Conference Expansion Award. Rickey Brady, Jesse E. Lee, Jr. and Ken B. Sanders, Jr. were welcomed as new members of our Noble Order in July.

Court #360 Greenville, South Carolina

>> Court #360 of St. Anthony of Padua Church prepared and served a hot meal to 200 homeless people at Project Host Soup Kitchen in downtown Greenville in late August, in honor of St. Peter Claver's feast day on Sept. 9.



Pictured (left to right) are: Grand Lady Anna Byrd, Lady Betty Houston, Lady Jessie Bowens and Lady Gwen Whitner.

gulf coast district (cont.)

Council #313

Decatur, Georgia

>> In the spirit of Claverism, Council # 313 continues to rise while providing support to our parish family and community. At the National Convention in Los Angeles, Unit #313 won the National Family of the Year Award and won first place for Service Hours in the Gulf Coast District. Sir Knight Walter Ray Leslie, Junior Knight Commander, received the Commander of the Year award and the Chris Pichon Award.

In September, the council Dressed Out at Sunday Mass for our St. Peter Claver Day celebration. Sir Knight Walter Ray Leslie presented a \$2,000 check to Knight Avery Daniel, winner of the Council #313 Annual Scholarship. Sir Knight Willie Gude, Grand Knight, also presented a check for the Capital Campaign Building Fund to Father Bryan Small of Ss. Peter & Paul Parish.



Pictured in the back row (left to right) are: Sir Knight Athanase Jones, National Secretary; Sir Knight Thomas Grant, #313 Area Deputy; Sir Knight Reginald Berry, #313 Past Grand Knight; Sir Knight Tommie Mason, Faithful Navigator, Assembly #43; Sir Knight Grant Jones, Gulf Coast District Deputy; Sir Knight Walter Ray Leslie, #313 Junior Knight Commander; Sir Knight Fred Maxwell, #313 Executive Secretary; and Sir Knight Willie Gude, #313 Grand Knight. Pictured in the front row are: Knight Avery Daniel (left) and Sir Knight Ervin Stoutamire, #313 Past Grand Knight.



Council #379 Tampa, Florida

>> Council #379 awarded the \$2,500 Herbert Carrington, Sr. Scholarships to Chadwick Hannah II and Alexis Chavers in June. Pictured (left to right) are: Knight Victor Cupid, Knight Conrad Johnson, Mrs. Collette Hannah, awardee Chadwick Hannah II, Knight William B. Robinson, Chairperson of the Herbert Carrington, Sr. Scholarship Committee, awardee Alexis Chavers and Marinette Chavers.

4th Degree Ladies of Grace, Chapter #48 Tampa, Florida

>> Chapter #48 was established in Tampa, Florida, on November 20, 2010. Pictured in the front row (left to right) are: Gracious Ladies Theresa Davis, Gail Barnes-Johnson (Supreme Comptroller), Audrey Woods (Supreme Navigator), Most Esteemed Supreme Lady Geralyn Shelvin, Elvina Beavers (Supreme Captain), Rebecca James (Supreme Purser) and Sylvia Fontenette. In the second row (left to right) are: Gracious Ladies Suzanna Johnson, Yvonne Braham, Harriette Harris, Giselle Johnson, Loette Cupid, Jeanette Tullis and Yvonne Nellum.



state of texas



Unit #20 Galveston, Texas

>> Members of Court and Council #20, including Juniors, gathered in front of Holy Rosary Church after Low Sunday Mass.

Court #138 Houston, Texas

>> Lady Enola Rabotte of Court #138 was given the 2011 Lady of the Year Award for her Court at the Texas State Scholarship Banquet Lady Rabotte was



recognized for her dedication and commitment to her Church, community and court.



Court #64 Beaumont, Texas

>> Court #64 launched a "Lipstick Drive" for the Women's Shelter and H.O.P.E. Center in August in Beaumont. The event was chaired by Lady Georgine Guillory, Lady Bonita Chavis and Lady Morline Guillory. Dozens of tubes of lipstick were donated by the community. Court #64 is dedicated and committed to inspire, motivate and activate women in the community.



Court #151 Houston, Texas

>> Court #151 held its Debutante Ball in July at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Houston. The event is held every other year and is the court's major fundraiser for scholarships for graduating seniors. This year's event was chaired by Lady Gwendolyn Berry and co-chaired by Lady Sharon Slyde. The guest speaker was Dr. Jonita Reynolds, wife of State Rep. Ron Reynolds. The theme for this year was "Unforgettable Stars." Nine young ladies were presented to society in this year's Debutante Ball: Taylar Adams, Taylor Batiste, Britney Bias, Brittany Bouttee, Sydney Coleman, Tenesha Gilbert, Alexandria Hall, Aisha Ogbevoen and Jalisa Rosemond, along with their escorts. The four pre-debs were Bria Adams, Zarissa LeBlanc, Asha Richards and Dasha Taylor.

state of texas (cont.)

Council #89 Fort Worth, Texas

>> The 6th annual Our Mother of Mercy Catholic School Golf Outing, sponsored by Council #89, was held in April at Glen Garden Golf and Country Club in Fort Worth. The proceeds from the event are earmarked for tuition assistance for students attending Our Mother of Mercy School. The school is famous for providing an excellent, Christ-centered educa-

tion to some of Texas' best leadership since 1929.

Honored at this year's event were Emma Bonner Platte, noted artist and wife of Tuskegee Airman Claude Platte, post-humously to Mr. Norman Bonner, Jr., Fort Worth lawyer, and Hazel Harvey Peace, well-known community icon and supporter of Our Mother of Mercy School. Most Rev. Kevin Vann, bishop of the Diocese of Fort Worth, kicked off the tournament with the opening prayer, sending more than 60 golfers on to the course.



Pictured (left to right) are: Mike Barks, Bishop Kevin Vann, Emma Platte and Tournament Chairman Howard Rattliff, Jr.

Council and Court #72 Houston, Texas

>> Council and Court #72 celebrated their 19th annual Scholarship Luncheon and Fashion Extravaganza in April. The theme was "Steppin' into Spring with a Burst of Color." The purpose of this event is to provide educational opportunities in the form of scholarships to deserving high school seniors. Since 1991, more than \$50,000 has been awarded in scholarships to graduating high school seniors.

This year, a total of seven \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to the following high school seniors: Courtney Pichon, Shelton

Shelby, Britanny Ann Angelle, Brian Charles Angelle, Linda Okoli, Alexandra Broussard and Yvonne Barrientos.



The seven recipients of the educational scholarships given by Unit #72.

the 2011 Men's Weekend on the grounds of Our Mother of Mercy. The theme for the three-day weekend was "A Few Good Men." Our spiritual leader for the weekend was our own Brother Knight Rev. Chester P. Smith, SVD, from Indianapolis.

The weekend began on Friday with a "Rap Session" with the Junior Knights, adult servers and boys' Rites of Passage Program. On Saturday, 70 men of all ages attended the Annual Prayer Breakfast in the Fr. Chester Ball Social Center. For Sunday Mass, we were honored to welcome Gerald W. Joseph, Grand Knight of #139, as lector and Paul H. Ledet, Jr., #72 Supreme Comptroller, Meritorious 4th Degree Division, as commentator and Eucharistic Minister.

We thank God for strong African-American males and extend a special thank you to Rev. Brian Fox, SSJ, area pastor; Rev. Kenneth Uwgu, SSJ and Rev. Francis Amosake, SSJ, area parochial vicars; and Deacon Charles Allen, Sr., Deacon Irvin Johnson, Deacon Rick Simon and Deacon Samuel Hull.



4th Degree Cartagena Award

>> Executive Director Sir Knight Michael J. Taylor was the recipient of the Meritorious 4th Degree 2011 Cartagena Award. The award was presented at the Supreme Navigators Banquet in July. This award is given for services and achievements, which were given or realized, for any given year or years. The Cartagena Award is presented to a Sir Knight of the Knights of Peter Claver who exemplifies the true spirit of the humility and sacrifice without thought of reward. Pictured (left to right) are: Supreme Navigator James Neal, Sir Knight Michael J. Taylor and Sir Knight Johnnie D. Dorsey, Cartagena Award Committee Chairman.

4th Degree Good Neighbor Award

>> E.O. Moss Assembly #4, New Orleans, received the 2011 Good Neighbor Award, which is presented annually to the top three Grand Assemblies that have performed outstanding deeds for others, for Claverism and for the community. This award was presented at the Supreme Navigators Banquet in July. Pictured (front row, left to right) are: Sir Knight Calvin Keller, Sir Knight Michael J. Taylor, Sir Knight Tilmon King, Sir Knight Anthony Collins, Faithful Captain Myron Creecy, Father John Cisewski, Supreme Navigator James Neal and Sir Knight Edwin Octave; (back row, left to right) are:



Sir Knight Donald Roussell, Sir Knight Abra Harris, Sir Knight Errol Milanes, Sir Knight Samuel Aples, Sir Knight Sterling Simon, Supreme Captain Lawrence Sylvester, Supreme Purser Thomas Lombard and Sir Knight Paul Gabriel.

4th Degree Funeral Mass

>> In October, E.O. Moss Assembly #4, New Orleans, had the privilege of serving as lead honor guards for the funeral Mass of Archbishop Philip M. Hannan at St. Louis Cathedral. More than 1,000 attended the service, including local and national dignitaries. Retired for several years, Archbishop Emeritus Hannan died on the 46th anniversary of his appointment, at the age of 98. Eighteen Catholic bishops from across the country concelebrated the service with several hundred priests. Four Sir Knights



joined representatives from the Knights of Columbus and the Order of Malta in forming the honor guard that lined the aisles of the cathedral: Sir Knight Lawrence Sylvester, Supreme Captain; Sir Knight Sterling Simon, past Lay Board Member; Sir Knight Earl Henry, Faithful Navigator; and Sir Knight Myron Creecy, Faithful Captain. Among the dignitaries in the cathedral were Most Worthy DeKarlos Blackmon, Supreme Knight, and Most Esteemed Geralyn Shelvin,



Supreme Lady. Sir Knight Anthony Carter, President of the New Orleans Central Committee (NOCC), represented the NOCC in a four-mile procession from Notre Dame Seminary to St. Louis Cathedral on the day before. The archbishop was given a stately farewell as an antique funeral carriage pulled by four white horses wound its way through the streets of New Orleans as thousands of citizens and Catholic schoolchildren lined the route to the cathedral.

junior division news

Junior Daughter of Court #121 Los Angeles, California

>> Dawna Thornhill from Court #121 was recently honored as the Western States District Junior Daughter of the Year. An honor graduate of Susan M. Dorsey High School, Math and Science Magnet in Los Angeles, Dawna now attends the University of California at Riverside.



As a member of the Junior Daughters, she has held many offices in her court and is pres-

ently Junior Mistress at Arms. She has shown great Claver spirit by various outreach activities such as feeding the homeless, the Revlon Run/Walk, Los Angeles Marathon, Covenant House of California and our parish Mini-Kitchen.

Dawna also is very active within her church as a youth commentator, lector, usher and assisting with Sunday hospitality. She is a member of the parish youth group that honors our "Diamonds" – seniors (75 and older) – every fifth Sunday. Dawna's spirit of Claverism is evident through her dedication to her Church and community.

Branch #278 Savannah, Georgia

>> The members of Branch #278 continue their involvement in both the Church and the community. On Holy Thursday, they attended a Holy Hour during adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. In the spring, they participated in the Resurrection of Our Lord Parish Spring Festival and attended the 2011 Revival as a group on Youth Night.

In June, Branch #278 held initiation for the recent First Communicants: Quincy J. Brown, Larry M. Hunter and Corian A. Mincey. During the summer, the branch participated in a service project at America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia Food Bank. More than 300 brown bags of groceries were prepared for distribution to the elderly of the community. And at the parish Back to School Mass in August, members of Branch #278 were altar servers, lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.



Members of Branch #278 at America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia Food Bank.

Juniors of #151 Houston, Texas

>> St. Monica #151 Junior Division Quiz Bowl team competed at the Junior National Convention in New Orleans in July, and won first place for the second time in team history. Junior Supreme Lady Brianna Batiste, captain of the team, was the last of the original group that was formed nearly seven years ago. Brianna was 12 years old the first time the team won its first place state and national crowns in 2006. Branch and Court #151 also won awards in the Spelling, Singer, Poetry, Science and Dramatic Interpretation Dance Group categories and two members won National Leadership Awards.

The Junior National Officers for 2011 are Junior Vice Supreme Lady Meleeza Comeaux, Junior National Recording Secretary Zarissa Leblanc, Junior National Treasurer Bridgette Broussard and Junior National Sergeant at Arms Jamel Rosemond.



Most Worthy Supreme Knight F. DeKarlos Blackmon joined the winning Quiz Bowl team at the Junior National Convention. Members of the team are Junior Supreme Lady Brianna Batiste, Dallas Adams, Kelechi Anumudu, Zarissa Leblanc and Taylar Adams. The head coach is Past Texas State Deputy Nan Arceneaux, and the assistant coaches are Past Texas State Conference President Adrian S. Adams, Lady Athena Adams and Lady Donna Anumudu.



Members of the Dramatic Interpretation Dance Group are: Monet Serieux, Meleeza Comeaux, Leslie Delasbour, Shynese Gunter, Bridgette Broussard, Zarissa Leblanc, Asha Richards and Jalisa Rosemond. The team won first place at the Junior National Convention in July.

Juniors of #199 Jackson, Mississippi



Dancers of Court #199 representing the Gulf Coast District at the 2011 Junior National Convention. Pictured (left to right), are: Eva Williams, Tamela Tucker, Bria Lewis, Mykal Brown (choreographer) and Essence Cole. They are also liturgical dancers at Mass.



Junior Daughter Court #199 participated in the Gulf Coast District Raffle and the National Raffle. These Juniors are active in the Church and the community. Each year, they participate in the AT&T telephone book recycle program and Soles4Souls. The major fundraiser for the Juniors of #199 is a spaghetti dinner, which they prepare themselves. They use the money to finance their travel to Junior conferences and conventions, and they make an annual contribution to Christ the King Parish. The Juniors of #199 were Gulf Coast winners at the talent show in 2010 and represented the district at the 2011 Convention Talent Show.

Juniors of #313 Decatur, Georgia

>> Seventeen juniors from Unit #313 attended the Junior National Conference in New Orleans. Junior Knight Derrick Eason won third place in the Poem Competition; Junior Knight Jahir Wilkinson won third place in the Spelling Bee; and Junior Knight Payton Griffin, as a member of the first Gulf Coast District Debate Team, won third place with his team. Junior Knight Avery Daniel and Junior Daughter Shelby A. Ricks each received scholarships for \$1,000. In April, Junior Knight Avery Daniel was installed in the National Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

Service projects for the Juniors of #313 included their monthly fish and shrimp dinner sale, school supply drive and Macy's Shop for a Cause project. They also participated in the District Brown Bag project to feed the hungry, and in the junior District Picnic Recruitment drive. The Juniors also are in the process of making plans for the upcoming 2012 Gulf Coast District Conference.

Juniors of #342 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



>> St. Athanasius Parish sponsored a Youth Activity Day in October as a pilot to recruit Junior Knights and Daughters. The theme was "Feeding the Body and Soul." Twenty-seven Junior Knights and Junior Daughters packed lunches and donated them to St. Vincent's Soup Kitchen, attended Mass and religious workshops, and also exercised and socialized during

the course of the day. The Activity Day covered all of the goals set by our Noble Order that help to guide our young people and make them into future leaders. This prototype will be submitted as a proposal to engage other youth throughout the city in a Martin Luther King Day of Service.

Juniors of #342 and #368 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

>> Members of St. Benedict (#368) and St. Athanasius (#342) Court and Branch, both of Philadelphia, helped to make brown bag lunches that were donated to the St. Vincent's Soup Kitchen in May 2011. The Junior Knights also helped St. Athanasius-Immaculate Conception School to unload and store bags of soil needed for landscaping. The Juniors from these two councils and courts have been joining together in service projects for more than a year and they invite other Juniors to join them in their projects and fun activities. By joining forces, these Juniors have made a difference in their Church and their communities.

junior division news (cont.)

Juniors of Court #4 Pascagoula, Mississippi

>> Court #4 Junior Daughters sponsored an unused prescription eyeglasses drive to support the One Sight Charitable Vision Program. One hundred and forty-nine pairs of eyeglasses were donated for those less fortunate to the Sears (Lenscrafter) in Edgewater Mall. Eyeglasses collected by our members will be used for people worldwide who suffer from poor vision and do not have access to proper care. Also, the court donated 425 pairs of clogs through a monetary drive with Soles for Souls for Haiti. Thanks to the parishioners of St. Peter the Apostle for their generosity and support of the projects.

In July, Sister Alexis Fisher, Superior General, Oblate Sisters of Providence, shared with court members, Juniors and



Pictured (from left) are: Bianca Abney, Junior Grand Lady; Kayla Stennis, Vice Grand Lady; Jada Williams, Treasurer; Aubrei Whitney, Financial Secretary; and Dominque Joseph, Member Court #4.

guests the story of Mother Mary Lange and the Oblate Sisters of Providence, as well as the path she traveled to become a sister. Sister Alexis encouraged the young ladies to consider religious life if God is calling them to become a sister.

Junior Daughters of Court #32 Port Arthur, Texas

>> The Junior Daughters of Court #32 observed National Grandparents Day in September by mailing cards, making telephone calls and/or visiting a grandparent or their own grandparent. Grandparents Day is not a public holiday in the United States, but a day of observance. This activity gave the young ladies an opportunity to appreciate and express their love to their own grandparent, or to let another grandparent know that they are appreciated. The Junior Daughters were also encouraged to invite grandparents to visit their school.

Juniors of District #4 Louisiana



>> In September, the Junior Clavers of District #4 gathered at the Robicheaux Center in Lafayette, La., for the 2011 Knights of Peter Claver Brown Bag Project. The Brown Bag Project is an annual nationwide event in which Junior courts and councils come together and donate items on a local shel-

ter's wish list. Forty-nine Juniors from Courts #51, 76, 84, 206 and 242 and Branches #84 and 242 participated, for a total of 98 hours of community service.

This year's needs were toiletries and cleaning supplies, and the Juniors stepped up with pride. Toiletries, cleaning supplies, and monetary donations were given to the Faith House of Lafayette and the Assist Agency of Crowley. After Brinessa Montgomery from Court #51 gave the opening address, representatives from each shelter spoke briefly about their organization. The Juniors learned the true value of serving their very own community. Their service and commitment to the community mirrors the giving spirit of St. Peter Claver himself.

Juniors of #325 New Orleans, Louisiana

The Junior Daughters of #325 were recognized with a second place Expansion Award at the National Convention in Los Angeles. In addition, five Junior Daughters performed in the Uptown Music Theatre's musical production of "Broadway Babies" in Cook Auditorium on the campus of Dillard University. The participants were: Demi Bowen, Kiya Henderson, Jazmine Marsalis, Celeste Mercadel and Cydni Samuel, and the Theatre Director was Junior Daughter Counselor Trena Marsalis.

Juniors of Court and Council #28 Beaumont, Texas

>> It was with great honor and excitement that St. Martin de Porres Court #28 and Blessed Sacrament Council #28, along with our Junior Court and Junior Council, celebrated the election of the new Junior Supreme Lady, Kyleigh Alanna Chevis, in August. All Clavers in attendance turned out for a special Mass at Blessed Sacrament officiated by Father Robert Zawacki and co-celebrant Father Christopher Amadi of Reserve, La. There was a reception immediately following at Mother of Mercy Hall, where Kyleigh's pastor, the Very Rev. Father Henry Davis, gave her his support and blessings.

Prior to her election as Junior Supreme Lady, Kyleigh served as local Junior Grand Lady and Junior Texas State Reporter. Kyleigh comes from an active Claver family. She is the daughter of Grand Knight, Texas State Parliamentarian and Area Commander Gurvis J. Chevis III and Junior Daughter Counselor and Area Counselor Andrenette Murray-Chevis, and is the little sister to Emerging Leaders Lady Torey Chevis and Knight Gervais Chevis.

Junior members of Unit #28 attended their first Junior convention and brought home 10 trophies in various categories. Their motto is: "We are not a big court and council, but we do it big in 28."





Junior Daughters of Court #54 St. Martinville, Louisiana

>> The Junior Daughters of Court #54 placed first in the Quiz Bowl and Spelling Bee at the Junior State Convention held in Lafayette, Louisiana, in March. Members competing were: Raya Jacob, Janay Batiiste, Janae Lee, Emily Raymond, Alysia Lee, Devin Bernard, Christalyn George and Saralyn George. The members competed at the Junior National Convention in Los Angeles in July.



Juniors of #110 Charleston, South Carolina

>> In the spirit of Claverism, the Junior Daughters of Court #110 have worked hard to achieve all of the goals set in 2011. Their service projects included collecting canned goods for a local food pantry and hosting the annual Easter Egg Hunt for children in the parish community. The young ladies participated in the May Crowning of the Blessed Mother. In July, they traveled to New Orleans for the Junior National Convention where they received several awards. Successful fundraisers by the Juniors, and support from the senior division and their parents, allowed them to attend and participate in a great learning experience and wonderful opportunity to meet fellow Claver sisters and brothers.



ELECT LADY KATIE GUIDRY JOHNSON NATIONAL COUNSELOR – JR. DAUGHTERS



Motto:
"Faith in our Future"

Goals & Objectives:

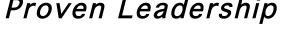
✓ Develop Programs that will sustain the interest of our Youth
✓ Build a Strong Networking System within our Counselors and Area Counselors
✓ Recognition Programs for Recruitment, Retention, Reclamation of membership
✓ Utilizing the Time and Talents of our membership in planning of Jr. National Convention
✓ Bridging the Gap between the Jr. & Sr. Division
✓ Utilizing Technology for Communication, Training, and Assistance with Jr. National Convention

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Elect Michelle C. Jackson Supreme Lady - 2012 Proven Leadership





- Served as Jr. Grand Lady of St. John Bosco Jr. Ct #147
- Member of St. John Bosco Ct #147-January 26, 1979
- Financial Secretary-1980-1981; Recording Secretary 1981-1982; Grand Lady 1982-1996
- ❖ Louisiana 2nd VP 1994-1998
- Louisiana State President 1998-2002
- Area Deputy District VI 2002-2008
- Louisiana State Deputy 2008 to present
- Member of St. Katherine Drexel Chapter #6 since 1995
- ❖ Faithful Scribe 1998-2002; Supreme Captain 2002-2006; and Supreme Navigator 2006-2008
- ❖ Served as Conference Chairperson for Jr./Sr. Conference; Advisor/Chairperson at Jr./Sr. State Conference; Quiz Bowl Moderator at Jr. State Conferences and National Conventions
- Currently serves on the KPCLA Court By-Laws Revision Committee, Co-Chair KPC/KPCLA Protocol/Handbook Committee; Personnel Committee; Served on the KPCLA Charter & Bylaws Revision Committee and the 4th Degree LOG Chapter Bylaw Committee
- Numerous workshops conducted on the Jr. and Sr. Level protocol, duties of officers, duties as a member, how to retain, recruit and reclaim members, and wake service ritual to name a few
- 2002 Silver Medalist Recipient; Cartagena Recipient; 1994 and 2005 Lady of the Year Award and numerous other awards and recognition over the years

A group powered by God and working together under His blessing will experience amazing productivity.



Thank you for your consideration as you cast your vote for Supreme Lady — 2012



Barbara M. Murray

Candidate for Supreme Lady 2012





Offering over 30 years of proven Claver experience and involvement

I pledge to:

- * Work for harmony in Our Noble Order
- Be an advocate for all members from 7-117
- † Administer policies objectively and consistently
- † Communicate regularly to promote Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity
- Use technologies available to best utilize time, talents, and treasures
- Be open and considerate to the needs of our Juniors and our Emerging Leaders







PROVEN LEADERSHIP

- **Immediate Past** State Deputy-**Texas**
- Past President **Texas State** Conference
- Past Grand Lady
- Initiated many new programs in these positions



ady Nan Arceneaux: Present Organized programs Work Tirelessly

GOALS

- Support venues to continue to move the organization forward
- Promote Friendship. Unity, & Christian Charity with ALL members
- Work to expand our Noble Order
- **Work Tirelessly**
- Serve the Organization well
- **Support Emerging** Leader's Projects

Vice Supreme Lady



"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, Here am I; send me!" ISAIAH 6:8



Knights of Peter Claver

Established November 7th, 1909 Incorporated July 12th, 1912, in Mobile, Alabama



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MR. ANDERSON F. SHAW Candidate Deputy Supreme Knight

Greetings in the name of our Patron, Saint Peter Claver:

I am asking for your support in 2012 as I seek to be elected to, what I believe, is one of the most important and underrated positions in our Noble Order, that of <u>Deputy Supreme Knight</u>.

We give the deepest honor and respect to our founders whose foresight and courage of conviction formed the foundation for the largest predominately African American lay Catholic organization in the United States and, indeed, the world. KPC has weathered storms and overcome barriers throughout its remarkable 100+ years. Today's increasingly complex social and business environment will require the best-of-the best skill sets to direct the course of Our Noble Order's future over the next 100 years.

A Deputy Supreme Knight needs highly developed leadership abilities and exceptionally strong business acumen, since he will have the awesome responsibility, when called upon, to perform the duties of the Supreme Knight. In considering candidates for Deputy Supreme Knight, it is my belief that we need to be keenly aware of the critical proficiencies in leadership and business acumen in the person we elect as Deputy Supreme Knight. A failure in leadership and marginal understanding of the business environment will seriously impact the resiliency of our Noble Order to thrive in the near/long-term future.

The Deputy Supreme Knight is also a member of the Executive Committee, the KPC oversight body, where key management decisions, impacting KPC business operations and KPC performance as an Order of Catholic Knights, are evaluated and where proposed actions are recommended. I believe membership on the Executive Committee is extremely important. The Deputy Supreme Knight, as a committee member, needs to have the proficiency in the skills required to be a fully engaged participant. As a former National Board member, I know from firsthand experience the importance and significance of having a well-informed, fair and independent voice on the Executive Committee - especially in light of the impact the Executive Committee has on the future operating performance of our Noble Order.

While I am asking you to consider me for the position of Deputy Supreme Knight, I am also encouraging you to look closely and thoughtfully at the requirements demanded of this position. I believe I meet all the requirements; however, my prayer is that we select our best to lead us to a better future. May God bless us and bless our Noble Order.

Peace and blessing,

Anderson F. Shaw

anderson J. Sum



Oscar J. Benoit

Candidate for Deputy Supreme Knight 2012 A proven and experienced leader



Knights of Peter Claver experience: 40 years of membership with over half in leadership positions.

Leadership positions held: Junior Knight Commander (6 years), Louisiana State conference 2nd Vice President (6 years), Louisiana State Conference Vice President (6 years), Louisiana State conference President (6 years) and Louisiana State Deputy (5 years). I also hold membership in the Meritorious 4th Degree Assembly #3.

Family: Married to Lady Ella Benoit. We have 2 sons and 3 grandchildren.

Professional experience: Chief of Lafayette Park Police Consolidated Government, Oscar Best Janitorial Service (owner) and security consultant.

Platform: Will keep an open line of communication with the membership, assist with membership growth, work with youth mentorship programs support Emerging Leaders efforts and work to enhance and encourage continuous Church and community programs.

The ability to motivate and encourage others to give and become a part of something is essential tools of a good leader. I ask that you examine my credentials and consider Oscar Benoit for Deputy Supreme Knight in 2012.



FATHER AUGUSTUS TOLTON Cause for Canonization

PRAYER FOR CANONIZATION OF FATHER AUGUSTUS TOLTON

O God,* we give you thanks for your servant and priest, Father Augustus Tolton,* who labored among us in times of contradiction,* times that were both beautiful and paradoxical.* His ministry helped lay the foundation for a truly Catholic gathering in faith in our time.* We stand in the shadow of his ministry.* May his life continue to inspire us* and imbue us with that confidence and hope* that will forge a new evangelization for the Church we love.

Father in Heaven,* Father Tolton's suffering service sheds light upon our sorrows;* we see them through the prism of your Son's passion and death.* If it be your Will, O God,* glorify your servant, Father Tolton, * by granting the favor I now request through his intercession* (mention your request)* so that all may know the goodness of this priest* whose memory looms large in the Church he loved.

Complete what you have begun in us* that we might work for the fulfillment of your kingdom.* Not to us the glory,* but glory to you O God, through Jesus Christ, your Son* and our Lord;* Father, Son and Holy Spirit,* you are our God, living and reigning forever and ever. Amen.

★ The Most Reverend Joseph N. Perry, D.D., J.C.L. Titular Bishop of Lead and Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago

Imprimatur **▼ Francis Cardinal George, OMI**Archdiocese of Chicago





"The Catholic Church deplores double slavery - that of the mind and that of the body. She endeavors to free us of both. I was a poor slave boy, but the priests of the Church did not disdain me. It was through the influence of one of them that I became what I am tonight."

Father Augustus Tolton From a speech given at the First Black Catholic Congress Washington, DC, 1889 Congratulations and Best Wishes for a Successful year In 2012 from



Our Mother of Perpetual Help and St. Benedict De Moor Council and Court No. 72 Houston, Texas



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* Members of the Mentorious Fourth Degree Division

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Paris Rescano, Jr.
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Inner Guard
Inner Guard
Lecturer
Board of Trustee, Chair
Member
Member
Member
Sick Relief
Ledy of Prayer

* Member of 4th Degree Ladies of Grace

Rev. Brian Fox. SSJ, Chaplain and The Entire Membership of Council and Court No. 72

ELECT

Marion Smith Reynoso Candidate with Experience for 2012 Northern District Deputy



Expansion Experience: Established Courts 375, 377,378, 381 and Re-Activated Court 294

Recruitment Experience: Initiated over 500 Ladies and transferred 17 Jr. Daughters to the Senior Division

Training Experience: Leadership Workshops conducted in 13 Northern District States and Joint Workshops at four Conferences

DON'T RE-INVENT THE WHEEL ELECT THE CANDIDATE WITH EXPERIENCE!

2010-2012 National Council

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The Claver Prayer

God, our Heavenly Father, You have given us life through the death and resurrection of your Beloved Son, Jesus Christ;

Jesus, our Saving Lord, You came into a world darkened by a man's sin and gave it light through your teachings;

Holy Spirit, the Breath of God within us, You guide and enlighten us and give us the strength of our convictions; Saint Peter Claver, who became an example for us, You showed us the love of God, the light of Christ, and the strength of the Holy Spirit;

We pray now that all we say and do, in your honor, be a continuation of your work here on earth.

St. Peter Claver, Pray For Us