

## PARTNERING FOR A HURRICANE RECOVERY PROJECT IN HAITI

by Tim Shea

Hurricane Sandy in late October 2012 dealt a devastating blow to Haiti just as it did to New Jersey. We soon learned of one parish that had an economic recovery plan at the ready, needing only a modest level of support, through Father Nicolas Jean Varies, our visiting priest. The parish is St. Thomas Aquinas, located at Les Cayes in the southwest about 50 miles from Port au Prince, and its pastor is Monsignor Gousse Oremil. With the support of his bishop, Monsignor Oremil developed the concept of subsidizing home-based poultry enterprises to reinvigorate the economy there by providing food security in the form of eggs and chickens for food and for sale. The original concept was to subsidize a total of 80 families in this enterprise; the initial phase, based on the funding developed, will support 25 family operations in a parish that sees an annual collection of \$200.

The Council under GK Fidel Rodriguez, supported an initial year grant of \$1,000, and Tim Shea with Tony De Cristofaro and Sam Dominick pursued additional funds from the Tithing Application Program of St. Mary of Sorrows Parish and the Loyola Foundation located in Fairfax, yielding a total of \$5,850 in first year support, enough for 25 families to get started. Thanks are due to Carol Mayfield and the Tithing application review team and the Greg McCarthy of the Loyola Foundation for their unwavering support.

The project is developing an income-generating sustainable micro-economic activity, namely home-based

poultry operations at the family level. The operation will be organized to ensure the development of food security for up to 25 families, promoting solidarity and mutual aid and increasing family income.

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### Grand Knight's Message



Fellow Knights,

I feel privileged and honored to be chosen to serve as your grand knight for Fraternal Year 2013-2014 and to help lead this wonderful council serve our pastor, our church, our families and our community. I am also privileged to serve with an outstanding team of officers, community directors and a number of volunteer subcommittee leads. This council of over 500 members, with our wealth of talent, creative thinking and our dedication, can make this coming year another successful one. I count on you to make this happen.

I want to thank PGK Dave Lopez for his leadership, enthusiasm and liturgical skills in executing an exciting and successful year. We were all proud to serve under his leadership.

The theme I will promote for this fraternal year is *Getting Involved*. We must get involved as much as we can to provide the much needed services to our church and our community. Don't forget that at our charity events you can also bring your family and siblings. It's all about taking time to help, having fun doing it and satisfaction for doing it to the best of our ability.

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# Grand Knight's Message

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To ensure growth in membership, insurance and youth/family involvement, I have selected four goals. First, I want to **increase recruitment and retention** of members in our council. We need more members to carry out the various charity activities; as knights it gives them and their families opportunities to serve and help those less fortunate. We want to retain membership by getting all members to the Fourth Degree status and mentoring them to stay involved. See our *Membership Flyer* (posted at our website and at our Church Bulletin Board) which provides incentives for recruiting a new member .

Second, I would like to **increase our insurance membership** to the established national goals. Our founder, Father Michael J. McGivney, gave us the opportunity to help ourselves and our families by having a permanent and term life insurance and long- term care and annuities. Let's not wait for tomorrow. Get involved now and become an insurance member today by contacting our field agent, Brother Wayne Winters, at [Wayne.winters@kofc.org](mailto:Wayne.winters@kofc.org).

My third goal is to **continue our support and funding to the charity programs** we currently sponsor. This year we will continue with PGK Lopez's newly established charity of "Remembering Christ is our King, 40 Rosaries/40 Knights/40 Cans" for Christ House Shelter. Charity is one of the fundamental principles of our order, and thus we must get involved.

The fourth goal is to **increase the youth/family participation** in our council. We are supporting youths by providing ten scholarships. We also sponsor the Squires and the Boys Scouts, who can become future leaders of America and future knights. Our wives and siblings occasionally participate with members for charity events. However, we need to do more to get youths and family members involved in our council activities. To do so, I recommend communicating with them on a quarterly basis and informing them of about upcoming events in which they may participate.

Let us not forget my theme for this fraternal year, **Getting Involved**. Take a moment of your time to glance over the listing of council committee directors and subcommittee leads/helpers and the various

events/activities they sponsor (to be posted on our website and in the *Mariner*). Choose those you can volunteer for and let the committee director know. Let's get involved, and together as a team we will succeed in the new fraternal year.

Fraternally,  
*Fidel J. Rodriguez*



## Form #100 Belongs in All of These Places

- Briefcase
- In Your Pocket
- Near Your Phone
- Glove Compartment
- Everywhere You Go!



**SIGN UP A  
NEW MEMBER  
TODAY!**



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

# The Chaplain's Corner

TO SERVE AS JESUS SERVED



*But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave; even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:25-28)*

**D**o these words of Jesus challenge us? In this age, can Christians still choose to follow the humble example of Jesus? Have we tried to serve others and been rebuffed or met with failure? Do we think our work has little spiritual value? Do you think having others serve you is better than you serving them? When you are asked to do something, do you grumble and complain? Is it hard for you to do work the way someone else wants it done? Do you shy away from positions of responsibility? When in a leadership role, do others follow you lead, or do they lose heart and let you do all the work? We need to learn to serve as Jesus served so that we are better equipped to serve our family, our church, our friends and our employer with less frustration and a more positive attitude, to respond to Jesus's invitation to *Take my yoke upon your shoulders and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart.* (Matthew 11:29)

Jesus, who as the Son of God had all the power of heaven and earth, does not push people around or insist on his prerogatives. He identifies himself as a servant, not because He performs occasional acts of service, but because His whole ministry is identified with servanthood. His ultimate

act of service is dying on the cross for our sins and the gift He gives to us of Himself in the coming of the Holy Spirit. Furthermore, Jesus tells his disciples to imitate him by humble service to others. A humble man knows his strengths and weaknesses. He knows his place as one called to friendship with God and knows that Jesus is the master of his life. A humble man takes his cues from Jesus, his master, and makes his master's concerns his own. He freely chooses to be of service to others, respects everyone, and gives others welfare a higher priority than his own preference or comfort.

**A** humble servant is not only eager to serve, but also to obey, to carry out orders in detail and do the job another wants without grumbling. He does not complain against his leader, but is willing to be taught and directed by other people. He sets a goal of making obedience habitual, stifling and mastering impulses to rebellion.

Purity of heart is important in serving others. Imperfect motives for service such as fear, insecurity, ambition and competition for rewards do not measure up to Gospel standards. Love must be the fun-

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# Christmas Tree Sales

We have just completed a very successful tree sale. In spite of having snow, ice and rain storms, and changing customer preferences away from large trees, and Douglas firs, tree sales this year have been a great success. In fact we even managed to beat

our 10-year average, thanks to the spirited work of our brother knights who work the shifts and sell the trees.

Contrasted with our meetings attended by 30-40 knights, over 240 knights turned out to work the Christmas Tree Sales. Great work!

Our success is made possible by the effort and enthusiasm of all our brother knights who came out and sold trees.

Our 2013 sales were simply great. We ordered 775 trees. We kept our pricing the same as last year; going into the sale we were hoping to clear \$22,000 at the end of our sale.

We sold 758 trees, grossing over \$ 51,000 and netting over \$22,000, a truly impressive result.

A special thanks to all of our brother knights that worked so hard in selling all of our trees to make sure that our sale was a success.

I want to especially thank those knights who volunteered to take extra shifts, as well as those who manned their shifts on those slow frustrating nights; by manning these shifts we continue to build a lasting relationship with our loyal customers.

Among those who have made special contributions are:

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## The Chaplain's Corner

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damental motive for service. Servants of God do not seek to gain or avoid anything for themselves, but rather they give of themselves in the service of others. The Gospel standard of service is love of God and love of neighbor. God invites us into a love relationship with Him, and the servant brings to Him all his all his desires, affection, energies, thoughts, and decisions. A servant is also motivated by love of those he serves. His love of God is manifested in those he serves. He makes a decision to serve for the other's good.

Members of Council 8600 serving Saint Mary's have exemplified Christian service in the many activities undertaken by the council, such as the activities for the mentally challenged including the sponsorship of Marian Homes, the KOVAR fundraising drive, and raising money for the Virginia Special Olympics; prayer and support of parish activities, such as the Remembering Christ is our King prayer campaign, serving pancake breakfasts and spaghetti dinners, and hosting meals for ChristLife; cleanup of Route 123; the Improve a Home project; and many other service activities. Keep up the good work.



God bless you all,  
*Father James S. Barkett*

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## HURRICANE RECOVERY PROJECT

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The project is being managed by the Parish of St. Thomas Aquinas, with technical advice from FONHSUD, or the Fonds Haïtien d'Appui au Développement du Sud (the Haitian Funds for Support of Development of the South). FONHSUD was created in 1995 with the vision of integrating organizations and communities in the south of Haiti with the economic and social systems of the nation. The activities of this enterprise have focused in the creation and improvement of the financial resources of families, the conservation and protection of the environment, and the maintenance of sanitary conditions.

The initial step in setting up the home operations is orientation and education of the selected families. The photo attached shows the classroom program now under way.

## Fraternal Year 2013-14 Officers

Grand Knight	Fidel J. Rodriguez
Deputy Grand Knight	Gerard S. Rutkowski
Chancellor	James P. McHugh
Recorder	William C. Baker
Treasurer	James J. Cella
Advocate	Thomas E. Silva
Warden	James J. Jackson
Insider Guard	Brian C. Prindle
Outside Guard	Michael V. Coughlin
Outside Guard	Richard R. Cardenas
3-Year Trustee	R. David Lopez
2-Year Trustee	David C. Sharp
1-Year Trustee	Daniel J. Turgeon
Grand Knight Delegate	Fidel J. Rodriguez
Grand Knight Delegate Alternate	Gerard S. Rutkowski
Past Grand Knight Delegate	R. David Lopez
Past Grand Knight Delegate Alternate	David C. Sharp
Appointed Positions*	
Chaplain	Father James S. Barkett
Lecturer	Thomas C. McFarlane
Financial Secretary	Donald M. Shaw
* Appointed by Supreme Council to a 3-year term on recommendation of the Grand Knight.	



## CHRISTMAS TREE SALES

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- The set up crew led by Mike Stephens;
- Our electrical and lighting man Mike Perri;
- Our offload crew of Boy Scouts & Squires and their parents and brother knights led by Dave Ramos and Steve Smith;
- Hank Chalkley, Jim Cella, Dave Lopez, Chris Brensy and Bill Baker for being Assistant Sales Coordinators;
- Hank Chalkley for all his work in the difficult job of scheduling, organizing and working as an Assistant Sales Coordinator;
- Financial Secretary Don Shaw who came out on all hours to collect and count money;
- Chairman Emeritus Brian Moynihan for getting permits, handling publicity, and who is always there to help when needed;
- Our 37 Shift Leaders and 240 workers; and
- All those who worked extra shifts.
- John Germain, for using his trailer to haul clippings

to the dump.

- Our takedown/ cleanup crew led by Eric Barone,
- The loyal and generous support of a great many of our parishioners and repeat customers.

Once again, I thank everyone that helped make our sales for 2013 an outstanding success.

*Geoff Smith*

Coordinator of Christmas Tree Sales



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## CULTURE OF LIFE COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**July:** No Events

**August:** No Events

### **September: Gabriel Project**

Council 8600 donated \$500 to the Gabriel Project; a parish-based diocesan ministry offering pastoral care to women in a crisis pregnancy or those simply needing support at a Baby Shower Brunch and Fundraiser. Many Knights attended the event bringing gifts and making individual donations to show their support for the Culture of Life and to congratulate six expectant mothers who have chosen life for their babies.

### **October: The Paul Stefan Foundation**

Several Council 8600 Knights attended the Paul Stefan Foundation's Sixth Annual Gala, highlighted by the Grand Knight Fidel Rodregues awarding a \$2,000 check in support of women dealing with unplanned pregnancies.



### **Usher Ministry**

Brother Gordon Goetz volunteered to become a St. Mary of Sorrows usher to support this vital ministry and further participate in the Mass.

Brother Gordon Goetz volunteered to support and attend the St. Mary of Sorrows Christ Life Program, *Discovering Christ*.

### ***Military Veterans***

You can replace your military records, medals and awards. For information go to the DoD Archives website at: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/>

# COUNCIL 8600 COMMITTEE DIRECTORS AND SUB-COMMITTEE LEADS/HELPERS

## **Youth Program, Committee Chair – Robert Magee**

Scholarships (Fred Walker)  
 Young Man / Young Woman of the Year Awards (Fred Walker)  
 High School Graduation Parties (VACANT)  
 Parish Children’s Christmas Party (VACANT)  
 Scouting (Cub, Boy and Venture) (Robert Magee/ Tony Ramos, Sam Sharp)  
 Free Throw Contest (VACANT)  
 Squires & Squire Roses (Craig Koszycki, Mike Lee)  
 Work Camp (Gerry Rutkowski)  
 Vacation Bible School (VACANT)

## **Community Program, Committee Chair – Dave Evans**

Marian Homes (Tom McFarlane)  
 Celebrate Fairfax (Mike Mannion)  
 April Improve-a-Home (VACANT)  
 Special Olympics (Roger Wesley)  
 Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets (Mark Haaland)  
 Route 123 Cleanup (Kevin O’Brien)  
 St. Mary’s Food Ministry (Pete Garry)  
 Northern VA Training Center (Gerard Durback)

## **Council Program, Committee Chair – Joe Scavetti**

Meetings & Officer Installation (Grand Knight)  
 Christmas Trees (Dave Lopez, Chris Brensly, Hank Chalkley, Geoff Smith)  
 Mariner (Frank Romano)  
 Membership (Dan Turgeon, Jerry Hovan, Ray Connolly)  
 OSMH Renovation and Maintenance (Bill Baker)  
 Website (Paul Armstrong)  
 Public Relations (Al Obuchowski)  
 Recycle Trailer (John Germain/Chris Brensly, Dave Lopez)  
 40 Knights/40 Rosaries/40 Cans (Chris Brensly)

**Family Program, Committee Chair – David Campo**  
 Parties/Reception/Outings (David Campo, et al.)  
 Spaghetti Suppers (Jim Cella, Johnny Restivo, David Sharp)  
 Pancake Breakfasts (Joe Marotta, Paul

Ciatti, Gerry Rutkowski)  
 Polish Night (Al Obuchowski)  
 Italian Night (Jim Cella)  
 Tex-Mex Dinner (Dave Sharp, Charlie Gulac, Art De Los Santos)  
 Annual Picnic (David Campo, Richard Cardenas)  
 Bingo Fun Day (Don Mailki/Richard Cardenas, Gerry Rutkowski)  
 Softball Team (Jerry Hovan)  
 Bowling Team (Steve Brown)

## **Church Program, Committee Chair – Don Mailki**

Christmas Cards (Tom Silva, David Burke)  
 Eucharistic Adoration (Don Mailki, Tom Silva, Fr. Barkett)  
 Car Raffle for St. Mary’s Capital Fund (Jim Cella)  
 K of C Memorial Masses (Kurt Meinsen)  
 Serra Club (Dave Maurer)  
 Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Program (Virgil Villapando)  
 Wedding Vows Renewal (VACANT)

## **Culture of Life Program, Committee Chair – Gordon Goetz**

Pro-Life March (VACANT)  
 KOVAR (Jim McHugh)  
 Project Manager (VACANT)  
 Paul Stefan Foundation (Dan Turgeon)  
 KAIRO Program (Dan Turgeon)  
 Archdiocese Youth Program (Art De Los Santos)



## ST. MARY OF SORROWS COUNCIL 8600 GRAND KNIGHTS

S. James Rannazzisi	1984 – 1985
Alphonse Obuchowski	1985 – 1986
Ercole Barone	1986 – 1987
Anthony DiGregorio	1987 – 1988
Paul Muldoon	1988 – 1989
Carl Kaczmarek	1989 – 1990
Michael Stephens	1990 – 1991
Paul Gauthier	1991 – 1992
Frederick Walker	1992 – 1993
James “Jake” Jacobson	1993 – 1994
Richard La France	1994 – 1995
Neil Buttimer	1995 – 1996
Curtis Winters	1996 – 1997
Peter Garry	1997 – 1998
William Crowder	1998 – 1999
Ercole Barone	1999 – 2000
James Cella	2000 – 2001
Timothy Donovan	2001 – 2002
Richard Lee	2002 – 2003
Michael Sakraida	2003 – 2004
Kurt Meinsen	2004 – 2005
Gerald Hovan	2005 – 2006
Walter A. (Tony) Vanderbeek	2006 – 2007
Johnny Restivo	2007 – 2008
Paul Maltagliati	2008 – 2009
Daniel Turgeon	2009 – 2010
Donald Wilkinson	2010 – 2011
David Sharp	2011 – 2012
R. David Lopez	2012 – 2013
Fidel J. Rodriguez	2013 – 2014

Grand Knight, Fidel J. Rodriguez, 703-424-4117; Chaplain, Fr. James S. Barkett, 703-978-4141; Financial Secretary, Donald M. Shaw, 703-455-1855; Insurance Agent, Wayne Winters 703-501-4648. The *Mariner* is published online bimonthly by St. Mary of Sorrows Council 8600 of the Knights of Columbus on our website: [www.kofc8600.org](http://www.kofc8600.org). Deadline for articles is the tenth day of the month preceding publication. Opinions expressed are those of the individual author and do not necessarily reflect those of Saint Mary of Sorrows Council, the grand knight, the officers, the editor or the Knights of Columbus. Editor: Frank Romano 703-250-8988; E-Mail: