



WHISPERS OF FAITH



Don Bosco #7784

Grand Knight's Message

Richard Matrisciano

Dear Brother Knights,

Sadly, March saw the passing of our brother Geoff Crann. A Past Grand Knight and member of the Dominic Calabrese Assembly Color Guard, Geoff had been in a nursing home battling Alzheimer's. Along with members of Don Bosco, the Color Guard he was so proud to be a member of served as an Honor Guard at his funeral.

We continued to hold our prayer vigils across from Planned Parenthood every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday throughout the Lenten season. We may never know if our efforts saved any babies, but God knows and He is the one who can change hearts.

The trials and tribulations Don Bosco has gone through for years may (thankfully!) be finally coming to an end. Our council has been supporting Today's Choice Pregnancy Center in Newton financially and through our annual diaper drive. Last year our Director of Life, Jerry Woodring developed a plan to fund a project that would save lives, most specifically children's lives.

We are now in the process of officially submitting an application to both the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council and our Paterson Diocese for an ultrasound for Today's Choice. If approved, our council would put up 25% of the unit's cost, the NJ State Council would match our 25% and Supreme would match our combined 50%. We are praying for a swift approval that would get the funds to Today's Choice ASAP. Please pray for our success!

President's Message

Mary Ann Stanek

Dear Columbiette Sisters,

In the brilliant light of this upcoming Easter, we celebrate the Resurrection of our dear Lord, Jesus Christ who died for our sins. May your hearts encompass the significance of this miracle and give praise to God.

Good Friday, April 9th, is when the Novena of Divine Mercy begins. This gift from Jesus is intended as a last resort to save souls. A link on our website will give you more information on the Divine Mercy Novena which culminates on Divine Mercy Sunday which is the first Sunday after Easter. If you are not familiar with this devotion, please read the information provided. It is a treasure of salvation. Our world is in desperate need of God and His mercy!

Friday, March 31st is our Villa Capri pizza fundraiser. We will earn \$1.00 for every pie sold on that day whether eat-in, take-out or delivery. Enjoy a yummy pizza while supporting the Columbiettes. Flyers are available to download from our website.

Also, upcoming is the Applebee's Flapjack Breakfast Fundraiser on Saturday, April 22nd from 8:00-10:00 a.m. There will be a volunteer sign-up sheet at our next meeting and volunteers should arrive by 7:30 a.m. We truly need your help in promoting this event since we are being charged for 100 tickets—sold or not! We do not start making money until we sell 50 tickets. So, please, please, please ask everyone you know (relatives, neighbors, co-workers, Knights, groups you belong to, etc., etc., etc.) to come out for this fundraiser. Tickets cost \$12.00 each and will be available at our April meeting or you can email (columbiettes.mstanek@gmail.com) or call me (973-943-7930) to hold tickets for you. Walk-ins are also welcome. Checks should be made payable to "Don Bosco Columbiettes."

Our council participated in the Newton St. Patrick Day parade on March 18th. The parade was a big success. More spectators than I've seen in past years. An added plus to the parade route, it passed the Planned Parenthood building which made it difficult for anyone to get in!

Don Bosco has three brothers who are moving up to the Knight's 4th degree. They will be joining other candidates from around northern NJ at the ceremony April 23rd. Please join us in congratulation Dennis Melillo, John Lynch and Jim Drylie on their step to the Knight's Patriotic Degree.

We held a recruitment drive at Good Shepherd the weekend of March 25th and 26th. Since this article was written before the event I'll report on our success in next month's Whispers.

By the time you read this we should be enjoying Spring weather. How nice to have a bright sunny Easter Sunday with warm temperatures. Enjoy the upcoming warm weather.

Peace

Rich Matrisciano

Grand Knight



I'm praying for a massive amount of participants to help raise money for scholarships. By the way, Applebee's breakfast tickets would make outstanding Easter basket gifts—just a thought! Surprise the ones you love with a delicious breakfast date. Flyers can be downloaded from the website. Please consider downloading one and posting it throughout the community. Thank you so much!

My prayers are with you for a wonderful Easter season and many blessings for the selfless dedication you constantly offer on behalf of the Columbiettes and those in need. Prayers are especially given for our sister Columbiette Louise Crann on the passing of her husband Geoffrey. Eternal rest grant him, O Lord, and may Your perpetual light shine upon him.

Yours in the love and peace of Christ,
Mary Ann

APRIL DONATION

Our voluntary donation request for April is non-perishable items for Queen of Peace Food Pantry. So far, our Feed the Hungry Program tally is \$3,378.93. God bless you amazing ladies for your generosity.

NEW MEMBER



Congratulations to our newest member, MaryAnn Barry who was initiated at our March meeting. We wish her a happy and fruitful membership as she becomes involved and makes new friendships.

STATE CONVENTION

The State Convention is scheduled for June 23-25, 2023, at the Embassy Suites (Piscataway/Somerset). Hoping to see many of you there on Saturday when our award recipients Derya Demirtas (Baldini) and novice Sister Jazmin Rangel will receive monetary gifts from the State Council Columbiettes. Information and reservation forms can be downloaded from our website. Perhaps you could get a group together to carpool for the day. Don't forget that there will be a tricky tray on Saturday at the end of the business sessions. Mass will be offered at 5:00 p.m.



Patricia Hefferan, John Holzli, Derya Demirtas, Susan Kadar, Amy Keegan, Michael Palumbo, Louise and repose of the soul of Geoffrey Crann, Patty Savacool, the unborn, all who need or have asked for our prayers and all the unspoken intentions.

Please submit all newsletter prayer requests to Patty Savacool.

SAVE THE DATE—30th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

Preparations are underway for our 30th Anniversary Celebration at the Farmstead Golf & Country Club on Sunday, June 11, 2023. The Anniversary Committee has been working hard to ensure an enjoyable afternoon. Formal invitations will be sent out at the beginning of May and will allow Columbiettes as well as families and friends to attend. More information will be shared at our April meeting.



IMAGE OF THE DIVINE MERCY

Jesus told Saint Sister Faustina: "I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over [its] enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself will defend it as My own glory." (*Diary 48*) Complimentary 8" x 10" color pictures of the Divine Mercy image will be available at our April meeting for those who wish to have one—supplies are limited. Jesus told St. Faustina that He wanted the Image of Divine Mercy in every home.

MANNA HOUSE DONATIONS



Once again, your generosity is amazing! A grand total of \$340.00 (gift cards & cash) was collected for Manna House at our March meeting. Vice President, Agnes Gerrety, is shown here with a representative from Manna House who was truly impressed with the amount received.

HAIL MARY CAMPAIGN

Our Hail Mary Campaign for the Peace of Christ will be ending on May 31, 2023 which is just a few months away. According to Sister Faustina, our Lord Jesus said, "Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy." Thank you to everyone who recited Hail Marys and sent in their tallies. It would be wonderful if we could reach the TWO MILLION mark so keep praying! The rosary is a powerful tool.

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we are seeking a new slogan for our 2023-2024 Hail Mary Campaign. If you have any suggestions please let an officer know. Ideas will be solicited at our upcoming meetings, or you can e-mail your thoughts to our dedicated e-mail-address at: hailmarysforthePOC@gmail.com. Thank you for your support. **OUR TOTAL SO FAR IS: 1,836,136 !**

Columbiettes Upcoming Events

- ❖ **Monday, April 3-Auxiliary Meeting (in person & via Zoom) Sacred Heart Retreat Center@6:30 p.m.**
- ❖ **Friday, April 7-Good Friday Start Divine Mercy Novena**
- ❖ **Sunday, April 9-Easter**
- ❖ **Sunday, April 16- Squirettes Community Center 3:00 p.m.**
- ❖ **Saturday, April 22 Applebee's Flapjack Breakfast Applebee's in Newton 8:00-10:00 a.m.**
- ❖ **Thursday, April 27 Executive Board Meeting/Zoom 7:00 p.m.**



2022-2023 Columbiette Officers



President, Mary Ann Stanek	973-943-7930
Past President, Pam Raynor	862-268-5210
Vice President, Agnes Gerrety	973-300-4952
Secretary, Connie Pyne	973-383-9456
Fin. Secretary, Colleen Testa	973-229-6180
Treasurer, Kathy Draghi	973-534-4455
Sentinel, Marybeth Flora	973-670-7407

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Check out our websites . . . .

- [www.kofc7784.org](http://www.kofc7784.org)
- [www.donboscocolumbiettes.weebly.com](http://www.donboscocolumbiettes.weebly.com)
- Facebook page at: Don Bosco Columbiettes for updated information on events.
- [www.squirettes-marysangels.weebly.com](http://www.squirettes-marysangels.weebly.com)

Prayer Chain Requests

Contact: Mary Ann Stanek

973-943-7930

[columbiettes.mstanek@gmail.com](mailto:columbiettes.mstanek@gmail.com)

**ATTENTION COLUMBIETTE SISTERS!**

**HOW TO REGISTER FOR ZOOM**

**Step 1: Go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) and click on the "SIGN UP, IT'S FREE" button that's at the top-right corner of the screen.**

**Step 2: Verify your birth date. This will not be saved.**

**Step 3: Enter your e-mail address.**

**Step 4: An e-mail will be sent to the address you registered. Click on the confirmation link in that e-mail to begin using Zoom.**



Officers for Columbian Year 2022-2023

Grand Knight - SK Rich Matrisciano  
(973)296-0411

Deputy Grand Knight - SK Anthony Caroleo

Spiritual Advisor - Deacon SK Thomas Sullivan

Chancellor - SK Jim McDonald

Recorder - SK Tom Hudak

Treasurer - Jim Kelly

Advocate - James Drylie

Warden - SK Joe Logarzo

Inside Guard - Tony Pagano

Outside Guard - SK Michael Holzli

Three Year Trustee - SK Mike Catalano

Two Year Trustee - Gerry Woodring

One Year Trustee - SK John Feret

Lecturer - SK Joe Logarzo