



Sword and Baldrick



James Shields Assembly 1168
4th Degree Knights of Columbus
JANUARY 2016

James Shields Assembly Officers 2015 - 2016

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| Donald Luby PGK | Faithful Navigator | Deacon Roy Harrington | Faithful Friar |
| Paul Heneghan | Faithful Captain | Thomas Joyce PGK | Faithful Admiral |
| Winslow Hayes | Faithful Comptroller | Paul Pioli | Faithful Pilot |
| Phil Philbrick | Faithful Scribe | Steve Altman | Faithful Purser |
| R Michael Stocking | Inner Sentinel | John Heider | (1) Trustee |
| UNASSIGNED | Outer Sentinel | Daniel Donohue | (2) Trustee |
| John Heider | Color Corps Commander | Albert Freedman | (3) Trustee |

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| Officers' Meeting First Thursday 6 PM | Dinner Meeting | 125th Street Grill |
| Assembly Meeting Third Thursday 7 PM | Assembly Meeting | K of C Hall 722 E Union |

Dear Sir Knights:

Several of us are happy to have 2015 behind us. The holidays helped keep our minds off of the health issues that have consumed a lot of the last few months for several of our officers. Keep them in your prayers: Don Luby, Tom Joyce, Albert Freedman and Phil Philbrick. I expect there are other members in need of our prayers also: John and Leo Costello come to mind.

I have great expectations for 2016. I would love to see our officer's meeting and our business meeting attended with members and not just officers. I am looking for some ideas as to what we can do to further the mission of the 4th Degree. We have a sizable membership that should be engaged beyond paying dues. Please let me know if you have any ideas or just want to converse.

We have begun the year of Mercy. Personally, I'm staking most everything on the fact that there is a merciful God. I would like to initiate a simple recognition of this special time at our meetings. Again, I'm open to ideas.

Although I waited 50 years to join the 4th Degree, I don't think that's necessary for everyone. Support your brother Knights by asking them to join our assembly this coming year. Increasing our numbers does enhance the experience for everyone. And consider joining the Honor Guard. John Heider can fill you in on the requirements. We are desperately short of people who can serve in this capacity: one of the more visible aspects of the 4th Degree.

Looking forward to a bountiful 2016 – full of God's Mercy.

Donald W Luby
Faithful Navigator

From Washington State Knights of Columbus
"The Second Edition December 2015"

The Pope Kisses A Baby With A Brain Tumor. 2 Months Later, A Miracle Happens!

Earlier this year, Pope Francis toured the United States. It was a great opportunity to catch the Pope in person without making a trip to the Vatican in Italy.

While passing through Philadelphia, Kristen Masciantonio and her family attended the papal parade. By chance, Pope Francis saw Masciantonio's 1-year-old daughter Gianna and picked her up. Gianna had previously been diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor, and doctors only said it was a matter of time before she would pass.

But Pope Francis, not knowing this, picked up the little girl and gave her a kiss on the top of her head. No one expected what was to happen next.

A few months later, Gianna's brain tumor suddenly shrank. It was completely unexpected, and even doctors don't know how it was possible. Gianna's father Joey believes a miracle had happened. The whole family thought Gianna would be leaving them soon.

Joey states, "They said go home, enjoy the last weeks, maybe months, that you have with her."

In fact, Joey almost prevented Gianna from attending the papal parade because she was undergoing chemotherapy at the time. But after receiving a kiss from the Pope, things suddenly turned for the better.

"I think this is all from God," Joey said. "The Pope is a messenger from God."

Gianna's tumor is now 'basically gone,' as it has shrunk to the point where radiologists can no longer detect it.