

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3956

Newsletter

St. Pius X, Southgate, Michigan Issue #19

NOVEMBER, 2020



THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS TO ALL!!

This time of year, as we approach the blessed holiday season, we traditionally begin with the Thanksgiving Feast with family and friends. This year, our gathering may be with smaller groups, but our thoughts and prayers should be bigger than ever. Let's celebrate all the more this year. There are so many reasons to be thankful. Please be safe and take care of yourselves and your loved ones.



The fundraising drive for COATS FOR KIDS was a success. We collected 108 envelopes over three weekends for a total of \$2976.50! I was stunned at the generosity of our St. Pius parish and my fellow knights including Ray Bilyk who for our council pledged an additional \$23.50 to make it an even \$3000! That makes it a final total of 150 brand new coats for needy kids from the Bernard P. O'Brien Council! My sincere thanks go to all who supported this fundraiser!

Regards,
Mark Garcellano

DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT: - District Deputy Dominic Raona

Please pray for the soul of Steve Perok who succumbed to Covid on Tuesday evening, November 17, 2020. Steve was the recording secretary for Jones Council. Please keep him, his family and the Jones Council in your prayers.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

- Jones Council will be holding an exemplification Feb 21, 2021 at Saylor Council
- The District Deputy is requesting participation in the RSVP fund for Seminarians to have \$500 in cash. \$100 of which is rebatable back from the state.
- District Deputy Raona also highlighted work that Holy Cross Services has done <https://holycrossservices.org/>. He said that he's heard of their work for years and the councils have donated to this cause, but seeing first hand the work they do brought special meaning to the support we have given them.

GRAND KNIGHTS COMMENTS:

The Wall behind our building which has been rented for a Tuxedo Shop is need of repairs. Recently the block wall behind the building has started to come apart. We welcome any brother knight who has the time, resources and expertise to assist with these types of repairs to contact the GK at billrobert218@gmail.com to offer their services which will be appreciated.

State Convention Date Change - instead of Thurs-Sat, May 27-29, it's now Wed-Fri, May 26-28.

Our next General Board Meeting on December 9 will likely be via zoom beginning at 7:00 pm. If we don't already have your email address, please reach out to either myself at billrobert218@gmail.com or Trustee and Newsletter Editor Tony Chirco at ajc@tm.net to include you in the discussion.

LEAVE NO NEIGHBOR BEHIND -PHONE TREE

Call all Knights - Grand Knight Bill Robert is asking Brother Knights to reach out to those who aren't aware that we are holding monthly meetings. This is a great opportunity to call our fellow Brothers and parishioners to see how they are doing. We can let them know about the option for meeting virtually and also tap into their expertise and institutional knowledge of St. Pius and the O'Brien council. Our Financial Secretary Ray Bilyk prepared a list including phone numbers and email addresses. For those who did not receive a copy, please contact Ray at raybilyk@kofc3956.org or yours truly, Tony Chirco at ajc@tm.net

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH FOR NOVEMBER

The Knight of the Month for November, 2020 is Marc Garcellano for his leadership in the "Coats for Kids" drive. Your fellow Knights appreciate your efforts and all who assisted in representing the core principles of our fraternity

DECEMBER 9th GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

Our next membership meeting will be on December 9, 2020 either via zoom or hopefully in the Social Hall at 7:00 pm. As you read this newsletter, you see that there is much we can do as a fraternity. We need each other and others need us. We joined to make a difference in our community. Let's together support each other, our council and our parish to fulfill the necessities of our community. "An atmosphere of fellowship is exactly what we need right now". Deputy Grand Knight Bob Schooner (rds11553@yahoo.com) will email reminders.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Congratulations to Past Grand Knight Bob LaForest who received a Lifetime Membership for his years of outstanding service to our O'Brien Council of the Knights of Columbus.

Membership Director Dave Sajdak and Recording Secretary Robert Park report that we have four new Knights and one new former member. We need at least one more brother knight recruited to achieve our goal for 2020. Please encourage practicing Catholic men you know to become a fellow knight.

Join online and get FREE E-MEMBERSHIP dues until December 31st enter code MCGIVNEY2020

Membership as of November, 2020: 117 Total (39 Insurance + 73 Associate + 5 Inactive)
9 Honorary / 26 Honorary Life

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

Financial Secretary Ray Bilyk reminds us that 2021 Dues Notices will go out by December 15th - Notices will be ready by December Meeting and will be in Ushers Room for pickup until December 13th



K of C Leave No Neighbor Behind Masks for sale \$10 each. These face masks are made a high quality washable cloth displaying the K of C logo and "Leave No Neighbor Behind". Includes three washable filters. To obtain a mask or masks. Please contact Ray Bilyk at raybilyk@kofc3956.org

There will be no Doughnut Sundays or Charity Family Breakfasts in December. We look forward to the return of these events in the New Year.

CHILI COOK-OFF



Our 1st Annual Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, November 14th went very well for a first year event. A good crowd of 20 people had a great time. It was \$20 to enter your chili. Awards were given to well deserving entrants and participants. Thank you to our fellow knights including Community Director Brian Batko, Financial Director Ray Bilyk and District Deputy Dominic Raona who, among others provided much needed help and support.

COMMUNITY REPORT

Much was discussed at our Officers Meeting via Zoom on November 19, 2020

The following programs are in the planning stages for the months and new year to come. Please take a look at what may interest you and reach out to any of the officers at our next meeting to offer your support:

Free Throw Contest which is planned in the St. Pius Gym early on Super Bowl Sunday in 2021.

Spelling Bee for grades 4 through 8. Dates and grades to be confirmed.

Keep Christ in Christmas. As Poster Contest during Advent has been discussed.

We will be assisting as we have done in the past with an Essay Contest. Some details are under consideration. Please consider helping with one or more of these programs.

Events to create interest and recruitment were discussed as we get through this pandemic and beyond:

Quarterly Socials have been discussed to get acquainted with our current, newer and future brother knights. We all can enjoy a friendly game of cards, a challenge against the dart board, or an old-fashioned pursuit of trivia, just to name a few. It was discussed that these events would be open to family, friends and our fellow parishioners. We are all looking forward to a return to normalcy.

Church Crawl: Similar to a pub crawl, but different. We can get to know more about the other parishes in our surrounding communities. Not only could this support our faith, but we may gain some insight and learn new ideas.

Family of Parishes: St. Pius will be joining with Our Lady of the Scapular and Christ the Good Shepard in a new formation of faith among parishes.

Fourth Degree: The Fall Fourth Degree Exemplification took place on September 26, 2020. Congratulations to Mark Garcellano who became a Sir Knight along with five others. GK Robert encouraged members to attend these meetings, held monthly at the Wyandotte Council. The next exemplification is planned for November 24th, Tuesday 7pm.

The Wyandotte Parade is November 21st 9:00 am. Their council encourages us to join in a Walking Rosary. Contact Faithful Navigator Tom Pudelek at pudelektomee22@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS TO DEACON BOB BOVITZ ON HIS RETIREMENT



Excerpt from our parish bulletin: Deacon Bob was ordained in October, 2000. He is now retiring. For 18 years, Deacon Bob baptized, married, and presided at funerals here at St. Pius. He has helped Fr. Peter, Fr. Bob and Fr. Suresh at school and Faith Formation Masses along with Sunday and holy day Services. He visited the homebound, had Communion services at nursing homes and has been a part of the Downriver Community Prayer Breakfast for 30+ years. On behalf of our K of C Council, we wish you and family many more happy years to come.

MESSAGE BOARD

Notes from Board Officers and our Membership Meeting

- All Officers are encouraged to participate in a webinar “To lead in strengthening the Catholic Community called Cultivating Parish Success” on Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at 8:00 pm. In this webinar, you will learn how your council can lead in strengthening the Catholic community of your parish.
 - a. Discuss best practices of working with your pastor, especially as he balances existing and new challenges this Christmas season
 - b. Examine practical ways to run Faith in Action programs remotely.
 - c. Register at <https://mail.mercury.net/interface/root#/email>
 - d. Webinar: A Michigan Knights of Columbus Fraternal Benefits Seminar
- Webinar Featuring: Award-Winning Author and Speaker Tom Hegna, CLU, ChFC, CASL presents: Don't Worry, Retire Happy in cooperation within the Michigan K of C. This is a virtual program from 7:00 - 8:00 EST on December 2, 2020 Register at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LdTLJOZLQRWerLCJ72G1rA
- Coats for Kids Distribution begins on Saturday, December 12, 2020
When: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Where: Basilica of Sainte Anne de Detroit, 1000 St Anne St, Detroit, MI 48216.
Description: Council 3956 will have a delegation there to assist passing out the coats purchased from our Coats for Kids Drive at St. Pius X Catholic Church in October 2020.
- Food Pantry: At Thanksgiving Mass on November 26, 2020 at 9:00 am, a collection of nonperishable food will be taken for the Downriver Community Food Pantry. Monetary donations will also be accepted.
- Pancake Breakfasts are deferred until further notice by order of the Diocese. Our Doughnut Sundays may be carryout as weather and circumstances permit.
- Desert Meal is at this time still scheduled for Sunday, February 21, 2020.
- The first annual O'Brien Council 3956 of the Knights of Columbus is moving forward. Mark Garcellano has joined Frank to plan the event for Spring/Summer 2021.
- A parish concert event is in discussion. Details will follow.
- Right to Life. Between Columbus Day Weekend and Doughnut Sundays, over \$1000.00 was raised. Again an anonymous parishioner donated 3 \$100 bills for the Mentally Impaired Drive. This person or family is truly giving with a cheerful heart and demonstrating the virtues of the faith.
- We highly recommend all members keep informed by visiting our council's website at <https://www.kofc3956.org/>.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

We would like to congratulate all members who celebrate birthdays in November:

- Robert D. Schooner (November 5)
- Nicola Vignola (November 6)
- Richard M. Gregoire (November 7)
- James A. Kandrevas (November 9)
- Michael J. Levko (November 10)
- Sean A. Roland (November 16)
- Ronald J. Wagner (November 24)
- Mitchell E Garcellano (November 25)
- Linda Robert (Mrs. GK) (November 30)



YEARS OF SERVICE

Cheers to Brother Knights celebrating the anniversary of service to the Knights of Columbus

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|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| • Cary J. Polaski | (November 1) | 43 Years of Service |
| • Harold G. Paddock | (November 6) | 43 Years of Service |
| • Frank Racano | (November 1) | 32 Years of Service |
| • Kurt N. Enders | (November 1) | 21 Years of Service |
| • Sal D. DiPasquale | (November 2) | 11 Years of Service |
| • Scott A. Corso | (November 5) | 6 Years of Service |
| • Burrell Hughes | (November 5) | 6 Years of Service |
| • Dr. Okechukwu Unogu | (November 10) | 6 Years of Service |
| • William R. McLaury | (November 12) | 6 Years of Service |
| • Ronald S. Wagner | (November 25) | 6 Years of Service |
| • Christian S. Abello | (November 8) | 5 Years of Service |

IN OUR PRAYERS

Prayer for Former FS Jim Duke (Jim was Financial Secretary before Tony Cerezo). Jim passed away on October 27, 2020. Please prayer for his soul and for his family. Pray also for Steve Reno of the Trenton Council who recently lost his wife.

Please pray for the return of good health to our brother Knights:

Past Grand Knight Bob LaForest
Past Grand Knight Frank Racano,
Trustee Dave Hughes,
John Husar (might need rotator cuff surgery)

Pray for healing of Family Members:

Mother of Dan McGuire
Mother of Frank Racano
Jennifer Bilyk, wife of Ray (prayers for healing)
Deputy Grand Knight Robert Schooner
Emanuel "Boyette" de Pano
All those suffering from Covid

Please remember in prayer, all brother knights, parishioners, family and friends in need of God's mercy for whatever challenges they face, particularly those in poor health and in crisis.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, November 26, 2020

Happy Thanksgiving!

Sunday, November 29, 2020

First Sunday of Advent

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

What: Don't worry, retire happy A Knights of Columbus Fraternal Benefits Seminar
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm. See message board for more details

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

K of C O'Brien Council General Membership Meeting (*Meeting may changes to Zoom*)

6:00 pm. Fellowship Hour

7:00 pm. Meeting begins

Saturday, December 12, 2020

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

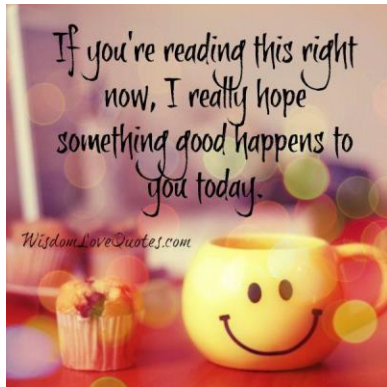
Saturday, December 12, 2020

Coats for Kids Distribution

11:00 am - 2:00 pm. See message board for more details

REFLECTION

I noticed a simple message on a decal while driving into work. “I hope something good happens to you today”. So simple, yet such an amazing message to share. Not very personal, yet still a very uplifting message. I went on line to find its origin. I first discovered it on a website “wisdomtoinspirethesouls.com”. I found many more inspiring quotes. I highly recommend starting at this website and others like it. Spend some time reading these short simple quotes that I guarantee will not only bring a smile to your face, but may just help you to have a good day.



PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Therefore as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3: 12-17

Vivat Jesus

Anthony J. (Tony) Chirco,
Brother Knight and Editor