

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3956

Newsletter

St. Pius X, Southgate, Michigan Issue #18

OCTOBER, 2020



O'BRIEN K OF C RECOGNIZED AS A STAR COUNCIL!!

We have been awarded the KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS STAR AWARD! This is a huge achievement for our council and kudos to Grand Knight Bill Robert and all who have supported this chapter so much to have earned this truly prestigious recognition. Star Awards recognize outstanding achievement in membership, insurance, programming, and overall operations. Earning a Star Award is the marker of a high performing Knights of Columbus council.



In receiving this award, our council has actually received three awards for 100% of our Goal:

Father McGivney Award: This award recognizes excellence in your council's membership growth. To win this award your council must meet or exceed its yearly membership quota.

Columbian Award: This award recognizes excellence in our council's programming and charitable outreach.

Founder's Award: This award recognizes excellence in our council's promotion of our top-rated insurance products

DOUGHNUT SUNDAYS ARE A HIT!

Our first Doughnut Sunday of the season was held outside the church after Sunday masses on September 28th. God blessed us with a beautiful day. We were pleased to see how much people enjoyed it. Ray's secret coffee recipe went well with the freshly baked doughnuts.

Since our Family Breakfasts are restricted at this time, we scheduled a second Doughnut Sunday October 11th after the 9:00 am and 11:00 am masses. A total \$424.00 was donated. After expenses we raised \$322.00. We are seeking brother knights to offer other ideas; such as Apple Cider and Bagels, Fruit Juices and Pastries, Cookies and Milk, Spinach and Prune Juice... Okay, maybe not that last one. Please come forward to help and share your thoughts



WELCOME CHUCK DEGROAT AND STEVEN POCHINI

Congratulations to our two newest council members Chuck DeGroat and Steven Pochini. Both men are active supporters of our St. Pius X parish community. Steven is a Lector and alumni of St. Pius School. Chuck is long time St. Pius X parishioner. We welcome these brother knights and encourage you gentlemen to help us help you. As we work and grow together, we can achieve so much by offering God given skills and talents to enrich our community.

IT'S SO HARD TO CHOOSE.

Deputy Grand Knight Robert Schooner announced that our council is recognizing the contributions of our brother knights who are stepping up to help our community. There are always those who carry the load more than others and we encourage all members to help these brothers out.

The Knight of the Month for August, 2020 is Ray Bylik.

We also recognize his family who have helped so much for our council. Ray is a past Grand Knight, our current financial secretary, an usher and is active in the broader Knights of Columbus. His wife Jennifer and children are always around to help out with so many of our projects.

The Knight of the Month for September, 2020 is Mark Garcellano who is currently spear heading a great project of the Coats for Kids program which as chairman is doing extremely well as many of our parishioners have donated to this very important cause. Mark is assisting Frank Racano with the planning of our first annual golf outing planned for the spring or summer in 2021. Like Ray, Mark is active in the leadership of our O'Brien council and an usher.

The Knight of the month for October, 2020 is Bob Bailey.

Bob is a long time member of our council and represents us so very well with our Charity Family Breakfasts in the past and his leadership through his very active participation in Right to Life. Bob, Mark and Ray are exemplary models of what a member of the Knights of Columbus is meant to be. Congratulations gentlemen!



CIGAR KNIGHT

It may not be too late. Saturday, October 17th from 7- 10 pm, Foley Council is hosting their second annual "Cigar Knight" at 22192 Park Street in Dearborn, MI 48124. \$25.00 per ticket and you choose either a Cohiba Pura Corona or an Aging Room Quattro Nicaragua Vibrato. Plus one "gone fishing" cigar. Enjoy a cigar with some great company and help support the Foley Council! Our Ray Bylik plans to attend and asked that you contact him at raybilyk@kofc3956.org or Foley's Mike Collins at 313-690-4142 for tickets.

IT'S A GIRL!!!

Congratulations to Brother Robert Park and his wife Pauline on the birth of their daughter Aveline Seong-Ahn Park who was born on September 21, 2020. She was born a healthy and beautiful five pounds 13 ounces. Pauline and baby are healthy and doing great. Papa couldn't be happier.

Quoting Robert who is also our council recorder "Getting used to the sleep schedule, but I wouldn't trade it for anything" Aveline Seong-Ahn will be baptized into our Catholic community on October 18th after 11:00 am mass. May God Bless her with a rich and wonderful life!



FAITH IN ACTION - COATS FOR KIDS

On October 3rd and 4th, the Faith in Action - Coats for Kids program was introduced to parishioners at each of the masses. A coat rack with hanging envelopes was placed in the front entrance of the church. Marc Garcellano with the help of our ushers explained the program and offered envelopes to the community. So many members took envelopes and placed them in the offertory basket that we had to re-stock the coat rack. To restate: Our Bernard P. O'Brien (St. Pius X) Council 3956 through the leadership of Mark Garcellano is asking on behalf of our Knights of Columbus council for donations for the Coats for Kids Program. With your donation, new coats will be purchased for needy children to ensure no child goes without a coat this winter season. A new coat costs \$20. Any donation amount is accepted. Checks can be made out to Knights of Columbus 3956. Please encourage friends and family to take an envelope off the coat rack for your donation and place in the Mass collection basket.

CHILI COOK OFF IS ON!

Our Local chapter will be hosting a Chili Cook Off on November 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. following the 4:00 p.m. Mass. For those of us who think their secret recipe is the best ever, (I suspect there are many), bring it on! A nominal fee of \$20.00 puts you in the competition for the grand prize and bragging rights. Contact Event Coordinator Brian Batko at bbatko@gmail.com or Financial Secretary Ray Bilyk at raybilyk@kofc3956.org to learn more about how to participate.

For \$5.00, come enjoy the chili and participate in the judging. Family and friends are all welcome. More details will follow before the event. Reach out to brothers Brian and Ray to let them know your plans to participate and tell them what a great idea this is and thank them for once again stepping up for the benefit of our faith community.



NOVEMBER 4th GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

Our next membership meeting will be on November 4, 2020 in the Social Hall at 7:00 pm. We were pleased to see so many members attend our October meeting. As we get closer to normal again, there is quite a bit to share with our members. For those of you that have been away a while, we look forward to seeing you there. There is so much good we can do with your help. Our meetings are conducted in a safe environment and we are enthusiastic about what God has in store for us. Our meeting will be preceded at 6:00 pm with an hour of fellowship. An atmosphere of fellowship is exactly what we need right now. Deputy Grand Knight Bob Schooner (rds11553@yahoo.com) will email reminders. Please join us.

GOLF OUTING UPDATE.

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. Initial discussions have been to name this first annual outing to honor and remember our great friend and brother knight Tony Cereso who we lost earlier this year. Details of the date and time for the event are being arranged. Plans include 18 holes of golf at a popular golf course. Plans are to award prizes for the lowest score, longest drive, closest to the pin, longest putt and more. Grab bags will be handed out to each golfer. Non golfers are welcome to participate as volunteers.

Other side events, such as a putting challenge are planned. A full course meal for golfers, their family and friends will follow the fun filled event. We encourage business owners to become active benefactors by sponsoring each hole (or holes), items for the grab bags, prizes, advertising and marketing assistance. Cash donations are welcome. We would like to have a list to share for all who participate of who contributed their time and financial resources to this exciting event. We encourage each brother knight to bring their family and friends.

OFF THE WEB

We regularly receive emails from National and Michigan chapters of the Knights of Columbus websites on a variety of topics. We will at times share emails that we consider worthy of our brother knights attention. With the general election fast approaching, we thought it timely to begin with a K of C perspective via a new website to get non-partisan information.

Take the Pledge to Vote this Election Day. We are pleased to announce the launch of a [new website](#) for the Knights of Columbus non-partisan Get Out The Vote (GOTV) program. As Knights, we are committed to the principle of patriotism and are encouraging our members, families, and friends to participate in the electoral process. We are excited to launch the K of C Votes [website](#). Through the K of C Votes website, you have access to state by state voting information including how to register to vote, registration deadlines, and absentee ballots

*Members are not permitted to engage in partisan political activity in the name of the Knights of Columbus. Partisan political activity is defined as action directed toward success or failure of a political party, candidate for political office, or political group. kofcvotes.org contains links to nonpartisan websites maintained by the National Association of Secretaries of State

MESSAGE BOARD

Notes from Board Officers and our Membership Meeting

- K of C Masks are for sale for \$10.00. These face masks are made a high quality washable cloth displaying the K of C logo and "Leave No Neighbor Behind". Three filters are included.
- An Insurance presentation is planned for October 19, 2020 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. For information please contact Ray Bilyk at raybilyk@kofc3956.org
- Despite bad weather, the October 4, 2020 Life Chain in Wyandotte proceeded as planned. Bob Bailey and others proudly represented the Knights of Columbus.
- Pancake Breakfasts are deferred until further notice by order of the Diocese. Our Doughnut Sundays may be hosted more regularly to offer an opportunity for parishioners to share time together.
- Desert Meal is still scheduled for February 21st Sunday.
- Lenten Concert proposed. Brian Batko has suggested Unspoken or JJ Weeks as possible performers. Lenten season is more beneficial. Daylight later in the day.
- Fr. Michael McGivney, the founder of the Knights of Columbus, will be beatified during a special Mass Oct. 31 at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford. Pope Francis, who met with the board of directors of the Knights of Columbus in February, had signed the decree recognizing a miracle through the intercession of McGivney, clearing the way for his beatification. Once he is beatified, he will be given the title "Blessed."
- Archbishop Adam Vigneron has designated Riverview chapel honoring Our Lady of Fatima as a shrine under the care of the World Apostolate of Fatima, the chapel has helped people learn, live and spread the messages of Our Lady of Fatima since 2006.
- A Fall Fraternal Benefits Night on Monday, October 19th from 7PM to 8PM via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82482754787?pwd=YkE3UUZQRlRYRjUwWjUzUGRZcGcwZz09>. This event is open to anyone! Please invite your family and friends! Please ask them to identify themselves as attendees invited by Council 3956. We need 10 members to attend this event, so it's important that you join us! If you have questions, or cannot attend online but would like to, we can arrange for a location to attend where we can watch together (with social distancing of course). If you have any questions or concerns, contact Financial Secretary Ray Bilyk at raybilyk@kofc3956.org
- Food Pantry remains limited. Best to contact the parish Office for information.
- We highly recommend all members keep informed by visiting our council's website at <https://www.kofc3956.org/>.

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

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

- Alfred A. Kovacik (October 10)
- Richard C. Myers (October 16)
- Brian T. Batko (October 22)
- Anthony J. Chirco (October 25)
- Paul J. Pauline (October 22)
- Thomas F. Phillips (October 29)



YEARS OF SERVICE

Cheers to the following Brother Knights celebrating the anniversary of their membership to the Knights of Columbus O'Brien Council #3956 in October:

- Dennis J. Hamilton (October 1) 47 Years of Service
- Brian J. Heasley (October 1) 47 Years of Service
- Dan A. Somenauer (October 1) 45 Years of Service
- Frank A. Allevato (October 6) 15 Years of Service
- Gary T. Mavael (October 19) 12 Years of Service
- Robert R. Park (October 16) 4 Years of Service

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to these men and their wives who celebrate their nuptials in October:

- Ray J. and Jennifer Bilyk (October 12) 24th Anniversary
- Brian T. and Debbie Cronan (October 17) 22nd Anniversary

If there are any missing wedding anniversaries, wife birthdays or ordination anniversaries you would like to share, please send them to Financial Secretary Ray Bilyk at raybilyk@kofc3956.org so they can be added to our list. We would love for this to be as accurate as possible. Thank you Ray!

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for our friend and longtime member of this council Sal DiPasquale who lost his wife Nancy on September 23, 2020; she was 79 years old. She had suffered with progressive Alzheimer's disease. Our Deepest Condolences to Sal DiPasquale and his family

Well wishes for Larry Rossi who had a Heart Attack on August 15th and is improving day by day. We are looking forward to his return soon.

Blessings to Past Grand Knight Bob LaForest who is fighting cancer. According to GK Bill Robert who saw him at mass recently, Bob is looking good and we wish him the very best.

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,

Monday, October 12, 2020
Columbus Day Celebrated

Monday, October 19, 2020
Fall Fraternal Benefit Night

Saturday, October 31, 2020
Halloween

Sunday, November 1, 2020
All Saints Day

Sunday, November 1, 2020
Daylight Savings Time ends

Monday, November 2, 2020
All Souls Day

Tuesday, November 3, 2020
Election Day

Wednesday, November 4, 2020
K of C O'Brien Council General Membership Meeting
6:00 pm. Fellowship Hour
7:00 pm. Meeting begins

REFLECTION

Have you ever opened an email or a text and had to read it over and over again, because it's just too overwhelming to comprehend? My cousin Alan Talluto celebrated his 62nd birthday on Sunday, October 4, 2020. On Tuesday on his way home from work, riding his motorcycle, Alan was hit by a distracted driver. His injuries were life threatening. He was literally broken from head to toe. Both ankles are broken, he had to have emergency surgery for his shattered hip and most devastating were three brain bleeds, which led to concerns of brain damage. We are a big, faith filled family with a huge network of friends. Quoting another cousin "There has been literally an army praying for him across the country".

Now, about that text too overwhelming to comprehend. As I am preparing this newsletter, I receive in our family group chat this unbelievable message from his brother Dennis. Alan's wife Lesa called him and after a very brief greeting handed the phone to Alan who SPOKE..."Hey Denny... The conversation he described as GREAT. "He was a little groggy and gravelly in the voice - but full on language and vocabulary" From concern about critical traumatic brain damage, he took a major turn for the better overnight. After the accident, he was on life support, could not breathe on his own, numerous broken bones, and a swelling head injury. Four days later, he is sitting up and having a conversation with his brother.

We saw how prayer is helping our brother and friend Larry Rossi return to health. Now, with Alan, this is nothing short of a miracle. I have said rosary after rosary these past few days. I wasn't alone. That Army of prayers was answered. A common response to the good news in our group chat has been "PRAISE GOD". We know Alan is in for a long road to recovery and his full health is not assured. We know that God is with him and Lesa. God is with us. Last month I described prayer as a gift from God. He planted a seed in my mind to prepare me for what was to come. God Bless us all and have a wonderful faith filled month.

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!' Matthew 7:7-11

Vivat Jesus

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

