

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3956

Newsletter

St. Pius X, Southgate, Michigan Issue #23

MARCH, 2021



AND SO IT BEGINS AGAIN!



DINE IN DOUGHNUT SUNDAY

Our Doughnut Sunday on March 14, 2021 was the first since earlier last year to allow parishioners to sit down and get reacquainted with each other. The carry out bags were still the preferred option, but people are getting more anxious to get back together. We appreciate everyone who took the time to participate and those who made donations.

THE TIME IS UPON US

CHARITY FAMILY BREAKFAST RETURNS

After careful debate and prayer, our O'Brien council of the Knights of Columbus has decided to offer a return to Charity Family Breakfast on Sunday, March 21, 2021 after both the 9:00 am and 11:00 am masses. Two options, to go box or have breakfast together.

We look forward to a time soon when we can fill the place, but for now we will continue to practice social distancing.



We will need plenty of help. Grand Knight Bill Robert asks that members please make the time to help, beginning at 8:00 am in the Social Hall.



HOW SWEET IT IS!

Our Tootsie Roll Drive will be Saturday, March 27, 2021 and Sunday, March 28, 2021 after each of the masses. Due to the pandemic, we once again will be limiting the location to donate to the church grounds.

The Knights of Columbus not only conducts the “Tootsie Roll Drives” in their efforts to help people with intellectual and physical disabilities; We have also partnered with the Special Olympics since its founding as well as other worthy programs.



WELCOME SEMINARIAN LIZANDRO BARBA

We are pleased to introduce **Lizandro Barba**, our sponsored Seminarian through the RSVP program. Lizandro is currently assigned to St. Alfred Parish in Taylor, Michigan.

Lizandro was born in Los Angeles, California

He is attending Sacred Heart Major Seminary Philosophy I

FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE? *Psalm 23:1: “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.”*

FAVORITE QUOTE FROM JESUS? *If anyone wishes to follow Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me.*

Lizandro is a second year Seminarian. He will receive 500.00 from our Knights of Columbus to assist with his expenses. Lizandro will also be a great recruit opportunity. We will organize a time to meet him and get to know more about this inspiring young man.

USHERS NEEDED - LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN

Now that Spring has Sprung, we expect the number of people returning to mass to increase in the weeks and months ahead. We would like to have at least four ushers per mass. That is not always possible. We see many of you at church and ask that you consider becoming an usher. We will be happy to teach you the ropes. It’s actually very easy and rewarding. It is also a great way to get better acquainted with your brother knights, our parish families, and our pastoral team. Please see us before mass to learn more. It is a great way to serve your parish.

GRAND KNIGHT REPORT

Dear Knights, This coming Sunday March 21st we will be sponsoring a Family Breakfast in the Social hall. Please.....Please if you can help consider showing up at 8:00 am to set up and help cook Breakfast. All help anytime that morning is welcomed! Please use the The signup sheet at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084baaae29abff2-kofc5>

I was pleased that our brother knights attended the Fifth Sunday Rosaries at all masses, including Saturday on the weekend of January 31st. Our High School students volunteered. We passed out several Rosaries. I would like to recommend having another one possibly of the weekend of Sunday, May 30th or in the Fall. We can engage the kids here at our St. Pius school. Special thanks to Brother Mark Garcellano for his leadership in putting this together.

We are still collecting cans and bottles for Seminarians. We can either cash them ourselves, or contact Ray Bilyk at raybilyk@kofc3956.org who volunteered to deliver them to Jones Council.

OFFICERS REPORT

Hi my name is Robert Park. I am the Recording Secretary for our Bernard O'Brien Council 3956 of the Knights of Columbus here at St. Pius. I joined shortly after my four year Bible Study ended with the Catholic Biblical School of Michigan. The teachers in the Bible study challenged us to do more with the knowledge we gained from that program.

We have an extraordinary group of men at St. Pius. A lot of the friendly faces you see greeting you as ushers every Sunday may also be handing you donuts or serving you breakfast after Mass. They offer their time and talents to the Church with a cheerful heart. It has been a privilege to get to know them. Many have become good friends that I admire deeply. I admire them because I see the little things they do to help the parish. These are things that I never appreciated until I got to know the people who do them. They are often joined by their wives and families. You will recognize some of their faces; you may get to know some people in the Church that you never realized were doing so much!

Covid has taken a lot from us this past year. Perhaps you have come to realize how important it is to gather together to worship. Hopefully we will no longer take for granted the sacrament of Communion we had been able to freely receive all of our lives. If you are feeling anxious and renewed with the possibility of returning to the Church please prayerfully consider joining the Knights of Columbus. Stop someone wearing a K of C shirt and ask them about their experiences. We will find an outlet for you to contribute at the pace and intensity you are comfortable with.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

My fellow Council Officers and Directors,
I just attended a K of C Webinar on the Revised Criteria for Council Awards. It was recorded so you can watch it at any time. Please do yourself a favor and do so. It ended up being less than an hour, but had GREAT INFORMATION and some NICE SUGGESTIONS for programs, activities and membership. Help our Council BE BETTER in this difficult time...
<https://kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/webinars/031821.html>



NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WEDNESDAY APRIL 7, 2021 at 7:00 PM

We expect this to be a hybrid meeting by inviting members to join us either at the social hall, or participating via ZOOM. We cannot stress enough how critical it is that we get more assistance. We are trying to meet the needs of our parish, but...

WE NEED YOUR HELP.

We can't expect the same people to do it all. We don't want to turn away anyone in need, **DO YOU?** We look forward to seeing and/or hearing from you on April 7, 2021. Thank you to PGK and current Financial Secretary Ray Bilyk for the hard work preparing for our meetings.

Our next membership meeting will be on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 7:00. Plans are to return to the social hall. We invite members to come early and spend time getting back together. Social distancing practices will be followed. Please set this time aside to join in.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Our O'Brien Council here at St. Pius will be hosting a district exemplification on Sunday, June 27, 2021. Families are encouraged to observe the exemplification. The Knighting Ceremony was added back. District has already done one Exemplification that went well. Special thank you to membership Chairman Dave Sadjak for all of his time and energy devoted to inviting more men to join our wonderful fraternity of Catholic Men.

Knights of Columbus

Visit kofc.org/joinus
use Promo Code **MCGIVNEY2020**

Now through June 30, 2021
enter code **MCGIVNEY2020**
for **FREE** first year membership.

Fr. McGivney
Beatification Celebration!

Become an Online Member for FREE.*

Preferred Council # 3956

FREE online membership promotion has been EXTENDED UNTIL June 30, 2021!!

BECOME AN ONLINE MEMBER FOR FREE!*

Now through June 30th, enter Promo Code **MCGIVNEY2020** for 12 months of free online membership



Michigan Knights of Columbus Region 5 Free Throw Championship

Date: Saturday, April 10, 2021

Time: Sign-in starts at 2 pm; Event starts at 3 pm

Location: St John Neumann Church

44800 Warren Rd

Canton, MI 48187

Winners in each category advance to the state finals in May!

District Deputies must get their district winners entry form/score sheet to DPD Lou Brochner by Tuesday, April 6, 2021

✉

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH:

Congratulations our Knight of the Month for March, 2021, Membership Chairman and all around great guy David Sadjak for his tireless recruiting efforts. Dave has been a long time captain of the Ushers for the Sunday 11:00/11:30 am masses. He is also a primary organizer of the Doughnut Sunday voluntary fund raisers. Thank you Dave for being a great example of what a brother knight can be.

FAMILY OF THE MONTH:

Congratulations to the Larry Rossi Family. It is so nice to see Larry returning back to our K of C fraternity after a challenging illness. Special thanks to Larry's wife Glenda who kept in touch with the Knights as she nursed him back to health. Like Dave, Larry has been involved with the ushers club. Larry and Glenda have been great role models for so many brother knights. It is so great to have you back.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT

Brian is working with Dave Haywood. We are considering Breakfast burrito's to go for the Motorcycle blessing. The Knight's on Bikes are going to Louisiana the following week.

Outdoor Jazz night is a possibility.

We had our spelling bee in January; our next event is the Archdiocesan Spelling bee in Utica on Tuesday night April 20th.

Free throw contribution-Had a lot of volunteers. Fin Sec Ray Bilyk thanks those who volunteered their time.

Free Throw Championship is April 10 @ 2pm. St John Neumann

The Spelling Bee Competition is now scheduled for Saturday, April 24, 2021. More information will be shared as the event approaches.

DISTRCT DEPUTY DOMINIC RAONA REPORT

Michigan Tootsie Roll Drive is coming up Palm Sunday Weekend.

Good Friday Family Attend the Good Friday Mass at church. We can place an ad in the paper with a template online already.

Reminder to send in State Raffle Tickets.

District News-Robert Jones Council is looking for senior members for their golf league. Meets Friday mornings. See Flyer attached.

Clergy Appreciation dinner. Tickets are \$20.00. Monday April 19th 6pm at 23400 Park St Dearborn



Robert H Jones Senior Men's Golf League ***Golfers Needed***

Every Friday beginning May 7th thru September 17th

Riverview Highlands

League Fee \$35 + Golfing Fees \$260

1st Payment \$165 due before May 7th

Remainder of \$130 due on/or before July 16th

Annual Meeting to be held on April 16th at Noon

Robert H Jones Lounge

3528 Fort Street, Lincoln Park

Questions?

Contact Gene Gross (League Treasurer)

Phone: 313-605-4718

E-Mail: etgross1959@live.com

Knights of Columbus



Michigan State Council

2020-2021 Detroit Archdiocesan Spelling Bee

Date – Tuesday, April 20th, 2021

Location - St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus Council 2950
located at 44425 Utica Rd, Utica, MI 48317.
Age groups are grades 4-6 and 7-9.

Time - Registration at 5:30pm, event begins at 6:30pm.

For questions, please contact Joseph Brenner at 773-631-8497
j.brenner@mikofc.org

GOLF OUTING UPDATE

Our first annual Golf scramble is tentatively planned for this fall at the South Winds Golf Course and Grill on Dix-Toledo Road in Southgate. We are seeking sponsors and volunteers to make this event successful. Please help us with an early start. August 7th has been suggested. As we get closer to the date, more details will follow. We are in need of volunteers starting now to get the word out. We need sponsors and other contributors. We encourage all members to not only plan on participating and volunteering, but also reaching out to business and personal relationships to give of their time and resources.

MESSAGE BOARD



- We highly recommend all Brother Knights to stay informed with our council activities by attending our monthly meetings and visiting our council's website at www.kofc3956.org
- If no other district competitions are being held for the Free Throw contest, the winners at St. Pius will automatically advance to the St. John Neuman competition.
- For those who are making their contribution to the State K of C raffle, please put our council number 3956 on the memo line.
- Please ask professional and community people you associate with if they would welcome a copy of our newsletter via email to keep informed of our activities and events. These are people who can partner with us on fund raising for our upcoming golf outing and many other events to assist those in most need of our help.
- The K of C State Convention is May 22 - May 23, 2021 at the Grand Hotel. GK Bill Robert and FGK/FS Ray Bilyk were selected to attend. Brian Batko and Mark Garcellano are alternates. Expenses were approved by council at our last meeting.
- The K of C Leave No Neighbor Behind Masks are available for sale. The masks are \$10.00 each and include three washable filters. To obtain a mask or masks, contact Ray Bilyk at raybilyk@kofc3956.org.
- Please continue to support our Food Bank. Contact Lou Butka and the parish office or Chairman Dennis Hamilton if you need details on how and where to donate.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

- Victor J. Gagne (March 1)
- Michael J. Mitroka (March 1)
- Mark A. Farrah (March 8)
- Dan A. Somenauer (March 8)
- Francis X. Cuschieri (March 16)
- Larry C. Ridenour (March 21)
- Sal DiPasquale (March 24)
- Mark Garcellano (March 24)



YEARS OF SERVICE

Cheers to following Brother Knights celebrating the anniversary of their membership in March.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| • Victor J. Gagne | (March 1) | 66 Years of Service |
| • Michael J. Mitroka | (March 1) | 66 Years of Service |
| • John C. Byers | (March 1) | 54 Years of Service |
| • Bruce L. Presutti | (March 1) | 47 Years of Service |
| • Christopher G. Poirer | (March 1) | 43 Years of Service |
| • David C. Bergeron | (March 1) | 41 Years of Service |
| • Steven R. Crandall | (March 1) | 39 Years of Service |
| • Deacon Scott M. La Forest | (March 1) | 32 Years of Service |
| • Patrick A. Guentner | (March 24) | 25 Years of Service |
| • Steven M. Minella | (March 25) | 20 Years of Service |
| • Daniel B. Mc Guire | (March 9) | 5 Years of Service |
| • Randy S. Champagne | (March 4) | 3 Years of Service |



IN OUR PRAYERS

Condolences to Kevin Martin and his family for the loss of his sister Susan Pinkowski.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace

Pray for healing of Family Members:

Dan McGuire who recently had surgery

Past Grand Knight Bob LaForest

Past Grand Knight Frank Racano

Brother John Husar Sr., Father of John Husar Jr.

Trustee David Hughes

Kathyrne Robert, 26 Year old fighting cancer, Niece of Grand Knight Bill Robert

Emily Foster, Daughter of Chancellor Richard Gregoire

Mothers of Dan McGuire and Frank Racano

We continue to pray for 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

Sunday, March 21

Council 3956 Charity Family Breakfast after each mass

Friday, March 26 - Sunday, March 28

Tootsie Roll Drive to Assist Michigan Mentally Impaired Citizens

Donations will be solicited after each mass.

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 29

K of C Founder's Day

Thursday, April 1

Friday, April 2

Good Friday

Saturday, April 3

Holy Saturday

Sunday, April 4

Easter Sunday

Wednesday, April 7

K of C Council 3956 Regular Business Meeting

In Social Hall. Camaraderie begins at 6:00 pm. Meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

Saturday, April 10

Michigan K of C Region 5 Free Throw Championship. 2:00pm

REFLECTION

Thank you to Worthy Recording Secretary Robert Park for being the lone officer to submit a personal article to the newsletter.

At our last meeting, Worthy Lecturer Marc Garcellano's offered his reflection on Lent. I share it with you here:

We are in the final weeks of Lent, topic is Lent. Jesus went to the desert to have his will tested. We try to emulate Jesus in four ways. Increase the amount of prayers over and above the non-Lenten season. Increase alms; observe fasting, and not eating meat on Fridays and Ash Wednesday. Give up something that we like.

As men we are the leaders of the family and guardians of the parish. Leading by example, we should take on the challenge that Father Suresh has proposed. Attending the Stations of the Cross or going to mass early to pray the Rosary. Supporting the Fish Fry on St. Pius Fridays. Lastly giving up something that we like such as sweets, alcohol. Leading by example means that our families will notice these actions.

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Lord God Almighty, shaper and ruler of all creatures, we pray for your great mercy, that you guide us towards you, for we cannot find our way.

And guide us to your will, to the need of our soul, for we cannot do it ourselves. And make our mind steadfast in your will and aware of our soul's need.

Strengthen us against the temptations of the devil, and remove from us all lust and every unrighteousness, and shield us against our foes, seen and unseen.

Teach us to do your will, that we may inwardly love you before all things with a pure mind. For you are our maker and our redeemer, our help, our comfort, our trust, our hope; praise and glory be to you now and forever.

Source: Alfred the Great, 9th century

Vivat Jesus

Anthony J. (Tony) Chirco,
Brother Knight, Public Relations Director
Newsletter Editor