

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3956

Newsletter

St. Pius X, Southgate, Michigan Issue #31

NOVEMBER, 2021



**TWO YEARS IN THE MAKING.  
OUR CHRISTMAS DINNER RETURNS FOR KNIGHTS USHERS AND THEIR GUEST!  
PLEASE COME AND CELEBRATE**



## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021** beginning at 5:30. We will be together for an evening of food and fellowship with our wives and friends.

Dinner will be provided by Irene's Catering of Wyandotte. Menu will include kielbasa, meat balls, chicken, green beans, potatoes, gravy and salad. Bring a desert to pass if you wish. We will only charge \$5.00 per person. Most of the cost will be covered with our general fund. Online signup can be found here:

<https://www.kofc3956.org/christmasparty/>

It will be in the Ushers Room as well.



### JAZZ NIGHT III

Come and join us for some live jazz on Friday, November 19, 2021 in the Social Hall. Doors will open at 6:30 pm. Music will be played from 7:00-9:00 pm

This isn't a concert, but a place to relax after a long week and listen to some music and hang out. Just like going to a Jazz club. Bring some friends, enjoy a beverage and socialize. This is a free event but a free will offering is encouraged. Thank you to Brain Batko for again chairing this event. Hope to see you there!

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR GRAND KNIGHT BILL ROBERT

I am looking forward to seeing all my brother Knights and their wives when we get together in lieu of our general meeting, but even better, a dinner social! This event will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 4, 2021 rather than our typical first Wednesday. This will be our first social celebration among friends in nearly two years. I am inviting every member of our council and their significant partner to join us. Most of the cost for the dinner will be covered by our council, all we ask is a contribution of \$5.00 per person. A bargain for sure.

We have been on a roll in the past months with successful Charity Family Breakfast, Doughnut Sundays, Tootsie Role Drive, Trunk or Treat at Saint Pius School and most particularly the remarkable success of our Coats for Kids campaign which raised over \$5,000, much of that with the help of our Saint Pius students and our generous parishioners. Thank you to our brother knights who got involved, especially to our Worthy Deputy Grand Knight Mark Garcellano who once again took charge of this event.

I would like to welcome our newest recruit Deacon Chuck and his son Anthony who are transferring from New Boston. We are pleased and confident that you will bring your God given talents to grow this council and parish in ways we could not achieve without you.

We have agreed to extend our lease with Dave Bogedin, Lessee and President of Jim's Tuxedo through 2026. Thank you to our Building Committee chaired by our Worthy Treasurer Walt Kabalka.

Please continue to donate your recyclable bottles and cans for our Seminarians that are being collected together with other local councils. Please contact Worthy District Deputy Ray Bilyk at [DD105@mikofc.org](mailto:DD105@mikofc.org)

### MESSAGE FROM DGK MARK GARCELLANO

Results of the 2021 Bernard P. O'brien  
Council Coats for Kids Program.

It is my pleasure to announce the results of the Coats for Kids fundraising drive. Similar to last year, the congregation of St. Pius has been very generous to this particular fundraiser. Last year, the Congregation donated \$3000. This year, the good news is that the fundraising drive was again a resounding success! This year, the congregation increased their donations to \$3,572! Furthermore, St. Pius School, on their own accord decided to join the fundraising and raised an additional \$1437.15! Therefore, the grand total for this year's Coats for Kids fundraiser is \$5029.15!



I am truly stunned at the generosity of the staff and students of St. Pius School as well as the congregation of St. Pius for their generous support of this program. Moreover, I would like to thank all the Knights who supported the program with their time and/or financial support.

Regards,  
Mark Garcellano, DGK







### WELCOME DEACON CHUCK!

### THE NEW EVANGELIZATION AND THE KNIGHTS

Over the course of the last few years I've had people ask me how they should view the "new evangelization" effort and Pope Francis' call to become missionary disciples. Some believe it's a call to go door-to-door or stand on the street corner and preach. For those who possess that charism I would say, go for it, God's speed, and many blessings to you.

But for the average person this is not reality; for some anxiety, others downright fear. It's true that one of the tenants of our baptism is to be a prophet, but prophet can mean many things and not always does it necessarily mean speaking. The actions of many prophets, like Elijah for example, spoke volumes. His actions were far more profound than his words. As Knights we are men of charity. We carry out the work started so long ago by Fr. McGivney.

As Pope Francis keenly pointed out during Fr. McGivney's Mass for Beatification, he possessed a "zeal for the proclamation of the Gospel and generous concern for the needs of his brothers and sisters." It is this statement that we find our answer.

We live the Gospel by word when we speak with integrity and truth. We live the Gospel in deed through our charitable works. When we actively engage in our councils and assemblies, we are doing as our Lord and Holy Father have asked. Jesus told his disciples "As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35) It is by being engaged, Catholic, men of charity that we fulfill our baptismal promise and call of a missionary Church. Hopefully I'll run across many of you at the numerous events planned.

Vivat Jesus,  
Deacon Chuck



### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATE AND AGENDA CHANGED

Our regularly scheduled General Membership Meeting will be changed to a dinner social as discussed earlier in this newsletter. Please confirm your attendance for the dinner social by contacting Grand Knight Bill Robert by email at [billrobert218@gmail.com](mailto:billrobert218@gmail.com) or by phone/text at 734-258-6369. We look forward to everyone that has been a part of what we have accomplished this year and plan ahead for next year! Our next regular business meeting of the New Year will be Wednesday, January 5, 2022 in the Social Hall, 6:00 pm social hour followed by meeting at 7:00 pm.



### SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL, STUDENTS AND STAFF

We are so pleased to have become more involved in our Saint Pius School. The administration, teachers and students have reminded us how blessed we are to have such a gem in our midst. They first took the initiative, on their own to raise money to help those children less fortunate than themselves. We then saw how organized they are with an elaborate Trick or Treat event. Now after a week recess due to Covid, they returned to school on Monday, November 15, 2021: Just in time for our Knights of Columbus sponsored Ice Cream Social for the Children complete with an Ice Cream Truck in the school parking lot after each lunch period and Jimmy Johns sandwiches for the staff.

Thank you to DGK Mark Garcellano and Brian Batko who organized the event together with yours truly. We are grateful to our volunteers, Bill, Dave K., Larry and Glenda who withstood the frigid temperature to cheer on the kids and their teachers.





### WORTHY DISTRICT DEPUTY RAY BILYK REPORT

Welcome Deacon Chuck Dault to St. Pius and their chapter of the Knights of Columbus. We look forward to working with you for many years to come. Chuck hit the ground running as he and his son Anthony came to the November general membership meeting. He has already shown his leadership by encouraging that the council to purchase stuffed bears or blankets with the K of C logo as a gift to our newly baptized. An idea near and dear to my heart.

Installation of Officers at O'Brein Council took place at the beginning of the General Membership Meeting on November 3, 2021. I congratulate all officers that have worked hard since taking office to build your council to among the best I have ever worked with.

The Chili Cook Off has been postponed due to a lack of entry. I encourage members to promote and participate when Robert Jones council host their event on January 29, 2022.

Congratulations on a job well done to DGK Mark Garcellano, his family, and all that helped raise money for Coats for Kids campaign at St. Pius. Special thanks to the special students and staff at St. Pius School for all your help. For fun I figured out that with the \$5,029.15 raised, we helped purchase 21 CASES of Coats. In other words, we raised enough money to buy **252 coats**. My friend Dave Sajdak believes that has to be a record for downriver councils.

Cheers to Bill, Mark, Brian, Dave K, Brian, Larry and Tony for an AWESOME job attending the Ice Cream Social for the fine students of St. Pius on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you also to Mike and Sue Berardi of Ol Tyme Good Humor Ice Cream.

Thank you to the men who have and will step forward to form the Membership Committee. This council needs three more members to join before the end of the year and more in 2022.

Vivat Jesus!

### THANK YOU TO THE SIR KNIGHTS OF THE HONOR GUARD

It is always a special event when the members of our Honor Guard grace us with their presence. Special thanks to Joselyn Garcellano who took great photos at the recent CHSL and CYO Prep Bowl XLIX at Ford Field and Memorial Mass at St. Pius on November 7, 2021.





#### Upcoming Events:

General Assembly Meetings- 4th Tuesday of the month, 7:00 PM - 8:00PM @ Wyandotte K of C. The Fourth Degree encourages all brother Knights to join them with a “Living Rosary” at the Wyandotte Christmas Parade, Saturday, November 20, 2021 beginning at 10:00 am on Biddle between Cedar and Spruce at 9:30. Call Chancellor Gerald Ottenbreit at 313-593-5181 or [gottenbr@umich.edu](mailto:gottenbr@umich.edu) in you are interested in marching.

#### DONUT SUNDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2021



Last Call this year for Coffee and Donuts is Sunday, November 21, 2021 after each Sunday Mass.

Our October 17<sup>th</sup> Donut Sunday raised \$625.00 for the Downriver Pregnancy Center. This was to be our last coffee and Donuts event of the season; It is so wonderful to see our friends come join us for a great cause.

#### SPELLING BEE UPDATE!

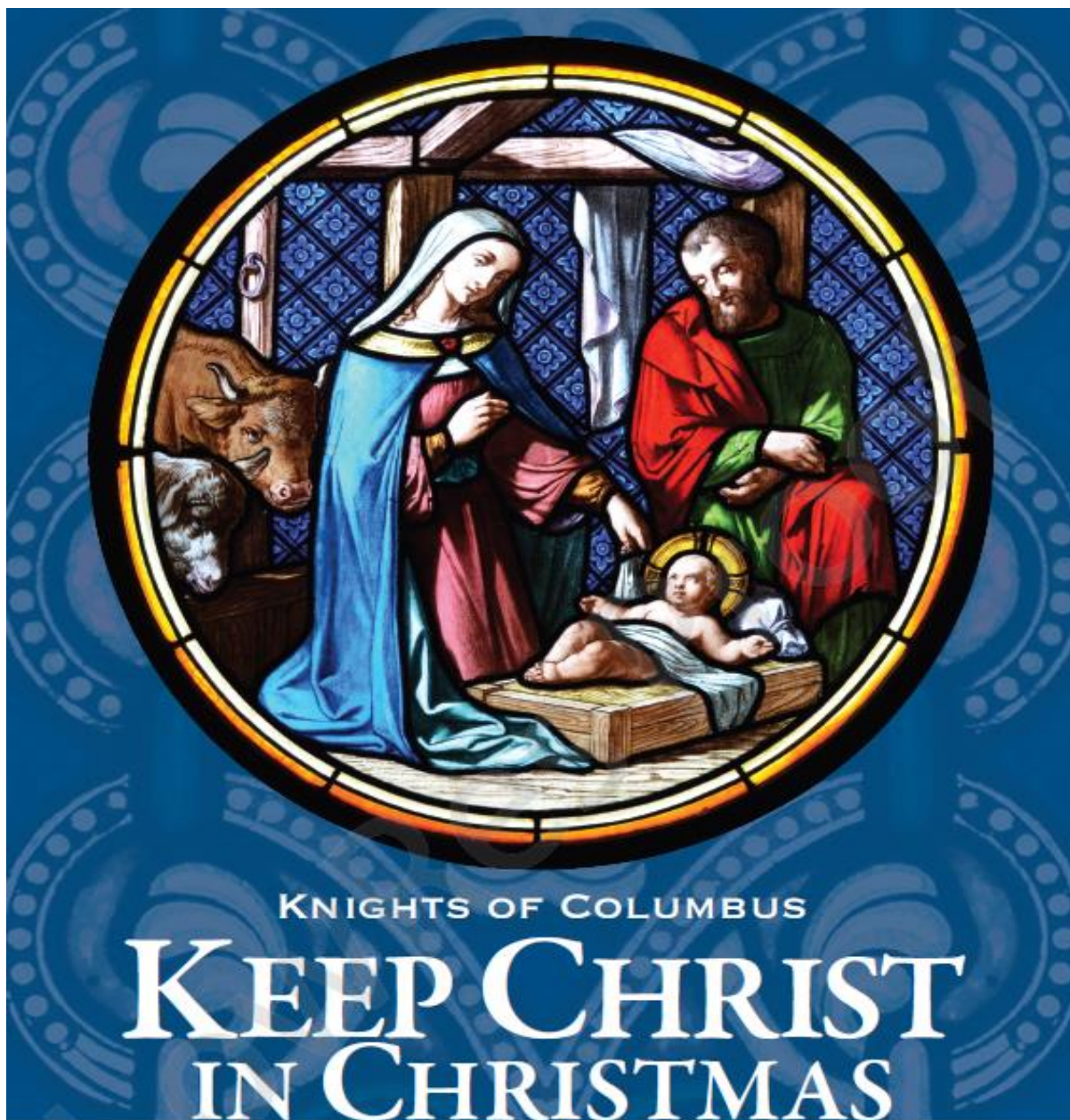
Plans for our Knights of Columbus council to host a Spelling Bee competition at St. Pius School. Principal Kathleen England wants to proceed with students exclusive to St. Pius with our Knights to pick words. Information relating to the Spelling Bee word lists and other forms are available at <https://www.kofc3956.org/spellingbee>.



#### KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST

“By engaging creativity and imaginations of our youth, we hope they will come to a deeper understanding of the true, spiritual meaning of Christmas,” The winning entries may serve as the basis for a series of new Christmas posters that encourage a deeper understanding of the holiday. More information to follow. Please see the flyer below for more details.





KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

# KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

## POSTER CONTEST

Due: January 3, 2022 - [kofc3956.org/postercontest](http://kofc3956.org/postercontest)

Sponsor: Bernard P. O'Brien (St. Pius X) Council 3956

Contact: Robert Park - (248) 980-4434



Author: S.

5026 4/20



FAITH IN ACTION

FAMILY





## MICHIGAN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COLLECTION FOR



When planning your Black Friday Shopping, please remember that we are again collecting for Holy Cross Services across the Great State of Michigan.

### Items Needed include:

- Team Sweatshirts (Sizes Med-3XL). Please make sure these are put in a Christmas box which can be purchased at the Dollar Store. Please clearly mark the size on the outside of the box. Pick your favorite team and share with a Child. Remember this may be the only Christmas gift they will receive.
- Hats, Gloves, Scarves, and Mittens. Winter is on its way and this is a great way to warm their hearts!
- Miscellaneous toiletries such as shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, combs, brushes, deodorant and other hygiene products for men, women and children. Please shop at the Dollar Store; they have the bath baskets and make sure each basket has 10 items in it. Please make sure there are no sharp objects or alcohol-based products.
- Gift Cards from local retailers like Target, Walmart, or MC/Visa/Amex. Please make sure that they are in small denominations like \$5, \$10, \$15 and \$20 and that is clearly marked on the card.
- Gym Socks (mid-calf or ankle)
- Twin size sheet sets

### Sweatshirt - Gift Card Programs

Sweatshirts that we are asking for  
Any College Logoed or Professional Sport Teams  
Adult Sizes needed L, XL, XXL, XXXL



PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THIS MAY BE THE  
ONLY GIFT THEY RECEIVE!

Acceptable Boxes For Sweatshirts  
(Robe Boxes from a Dollar Store work great)



Please Mark Size on the  
Back of the box

Please No  
Plain Sweatshirts!



Acceptable Gift Cards  
\$5.00, \$10.00, \$15.00, \$20.00, \$25.00



or



or



(PLEASE MARK ON THE GIFT CARD HOW MUCH IT IS WORTH)

**Please get this to GK Bill Robert or DD/FS Ray Bilyk by November 30<sup>th</sup>!**  
**DELIVERY SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> at SAMARITAN CENTER in Detroit 10a-3p**

### **PROGRAM DIRECTOR AND TRUSTEE BRIAN BATKO REPORT**

Jazz Night will feature the same musicians that entertained us for the first two events. Those that attended were impressed. Donations will be appreciated. We should plan on hosting similar event each quarter of the year. The Seminarian Desert Meal is at this time tentative. We are considering a Christmas or Winter Concert by notable Christian musicians such as Jonathon Lawry from Unspoken or John Tibbs. John entertained us in the school parking lot earlier in the year.

### **USHERS REPORT FROM DENNIS HAMILTON**

Regarding our Food Pantry: A recent delivery to the Downriver Food Panty determined there is an acute shortage of the following items: Hamburger Helper (Lasagna and Cheeseburger), and Rice-A-Roni (Beef and Chicken). Additional shortages include Stuffing Mix, Scalloped/Au Gratin Potatoes, Grape Jelly and Instant Oatmeal. Please consider providing these items. Your help is deeply appreciated. Despite the Pandemic, we were able to deliver 8,869 pounds of food to the Pantry in the past fiscal year.

### **RIGHT TO LIFE**

Downriver Right to Life is asking for diapers and Winter Baby Clothes. Please search out and read the lead article in the Right to Life of Michigan News. It addresses a “Showdown with Roe v. Wade at the Supreme Court on December 1.”

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE FORMED**

We are seeking additional members to join the newly formed Membership Committee. Dave Sajdak will be hard to replace. We are seeking an individual of faith and confidence that will work with other officers to bring more men into this council. Now that we have built a partnership with the St. Pius School, there are many opportunities to reach out and recruit fathers and friends of the school and parish. We encourage any that would like to learn more about this very rewarding opportunity to approach Grand Knight Bill Robert at [billrobert218@gmail.com](mailto:billrobert218@gmail.com) or District Deputy Ray Bilyk at [raybilyk@kofc3956.org](mailto:raybilyk@kofc3956.org).

### **KNIGHT OF THE MONTH**

#### **Grand Knight Bill Robert**

We can all thank our Worthy Grand Knight for the many rewarding events that were all successful because of his leadership. No doubt he had help, but through his positive encouragement and foresight, we have seen what effective guidance can accomplish.

### **FAMILY OF THE MONTH:**

#### **The Mark Garcellano Family**

DGK Mark Garcellano, his wife Joselyn and their children have been at practically every event we have sponsored in recent months. From the inaugural Golf outing, the Coats for Kids, Trunk or Treat, Ice Cream Social, Charity Family Breakfast, Doughnut Sundays and more, they have been there, working hard to make each of these events well received.

### **FIRST IN LINE AWARD**

Deacon Chuck Dault submitted his well-crafted article immediately following our last general membership meeting. Great Start! Thank you also to Mark Garcellano for continuing to submit his articles timely and with pictures!





## Sign up for important updates from K of C Council 3956.

Get information for **K of C Council 3956 - Southgate** right on your phone—not on handouts.

Pick a way to receive messages for **K of C Council 3956 - Southgate**:

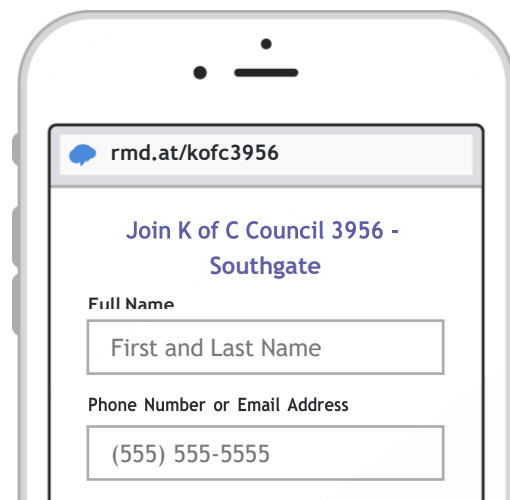
A

If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

[rmd.at/kofc3956](https://rmd.at/kofc3956)

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



B

If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message **@kofc3956** to the number **81010**.

If you're having trouble with **81010**, try

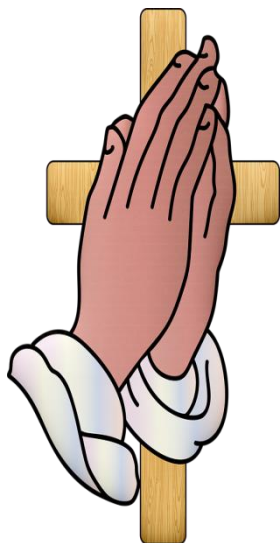


Don't have a mobile phone? Go to [rmd.at/kofc3956](https://rmd.at/kofc3956) on a desktop computer to sign up for email notification.

## PLANNING AHEAD

E-Membership are still Free through the end of the year. It is easy and convenient. Once joined online, these members can be recruited to our council.

Free Throw competition is scheduled for early next year between January and February. Plans are to host the event during school hours to encourage more students to participate. The family of children who took part in the last competition did very well for them selves. It's a fun event for the kids and their families.



### IN OUR PRAYERS:

**Please pray for healing for our brother knights, their family and friends:**

- Linda Robert, who is recovering from knee surgery.
- Past Grand Knight Bob LaForest
- Daryl Zylka.
- Joe Hernandez
- David Hughes
- Victims of Covid


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.



KnightCast is a groundbreaking new video series from the Knights of Columbus with the aim of engaging today's Catholic men in a compelling conversation about the Catholic Faith and their own, personal growth as they lead their families in service to the Church. Featuring host Jonathan Reyes as well as guests and subject matter experts in each episode, KnightCast seeks to cover topics ranging from sports and marriage to evangelization and the Saints. New episodes premiere each month at [kofc.org/knightcast](http://kofc.org/knightcast).

### Tips on how to promote KnightCast:

- Learn more at [KofC.org/KnightCast](http://KofC.org/KnightCast)
- Keep an eye out on our Knights of Columbus YouTube channel for clips from current and past KnightCast Episodes.

Follow us on social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn) for updates, and feel free to like and share KnightCast with your council and parish. 



## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, November 19, 2021 (7:00 pm - 9:00 pm)

Jazz Night at St. Pius X Church Social Hall  
14101 Superior St., Southgate, MI 48195

Saturday, November 20, 2021 (10:00am - 12:30pm)

Wyandotte Parade, Living Rosary/Walking Rosary.  
Biddle Ave, Wyandotte, Michigan

Recommend if you can to come. At the end of this Parade will be the Tree Lighting.

Sunday, November 21, 2021 (10:00 am and 12:00 pm)

Donut Sunday (after both Sunday Masses)

Tuesday, November 23, 2021 (7:00 pm)

Msgr. Van Antwerp Assembly 475 General Membership Meeting (In person and virtual)

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving Day (Be Healthy and Safe!)

Sunday, November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 4, 2021 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Members and Wives Special Catered Dinner and CHRISTmas Party for K of C Council 3956  
Doors open in Social Hall after 4:00 mass for Council Member, Ushers and their guest.  
Tickets are \$5.00/person. Please bring a dessert to pass. Online signup can be found  
here: <https://www.kofc3956.org/christmasparty/> It will also be in the Ushers Room .

\*(Replaces first Wednesday General Meeting)

Sunday, December 5, 2021

Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021 12:00 - 3:00 pm.

Foley "Lunch with Santa" This year raffling off an autographed Detroit Tigers Christmas ornament signed by Tiger and DC alum Eric Haase!! Tickets will be \$1.00 each or 25 for \$20.00. Please bring a little cash to buy a few tickets to defray the cost of the party. Please go on the Sign Up Genius to let us know how many people will be attending the party. The link is attached. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044DACAFF23AAFF2-foley1>

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses at 8:30 am and 7:00 pm.

Sunday, December 12, 2021

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 19, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Advent

## 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

- |                       |               |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| • Cary J. Polaski     | (November 1)  | 44 Years of Service |
| • Harold G. Paddock   | (November 6)  | 44 Years of Service |
| • Kurt N. Enders      | (November 1)  | 22 Years of Service |
| • Sal D. DiPasquale   | (November 2)  | 12 Years of Service |
| • Scott A. Corso      | (November 5)  | 7 Years of Service  |
| • Burrell Hughes      | (November 5)  | 7 Years of Service  |
| • Dr. Okechukwu Unogu | (November 10) | 7 Years of Service  |
| • William R. McLaury  | (November 12) | 7 Years of Service  |
| • Ronald S. Wagner    | (November 25) | 7 Years of Service  |
| • Christian S. Abello | (November 8)  | 6 Years of Service  |





## REFLECTION

### *An Open Letter to the students and staff at St. Pius School*

Dear Students of Saint Pius,

Thank you for your donation to the Coats for Kids program. The money you raised will provide over two hundred-fifty coats this winter. The Knights of Columbus asked for help and you came through. Our church combined to raise over \$5,000 for those in need.

We are so proud of the students, parents, and faculty of St. Pius X. The Knights of Columbus have high expectations of you because we have firsthand knowledge of the great education you're receiving. Many of us were once students in the very same classrooms you sit in. Some of our sons and daughters ran along the same playgrounds you use. We shouldn't have been surprised when we received word that you raised \$1,472.15 all on your own!

We would like to invite you and your parents to see your good work in action. We will be handing out coats at St. Andre Bessette Parish in Ecorse on November 13<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 1pm. Thank you once again for the example you set in living God's word.

Vivat Jesus!

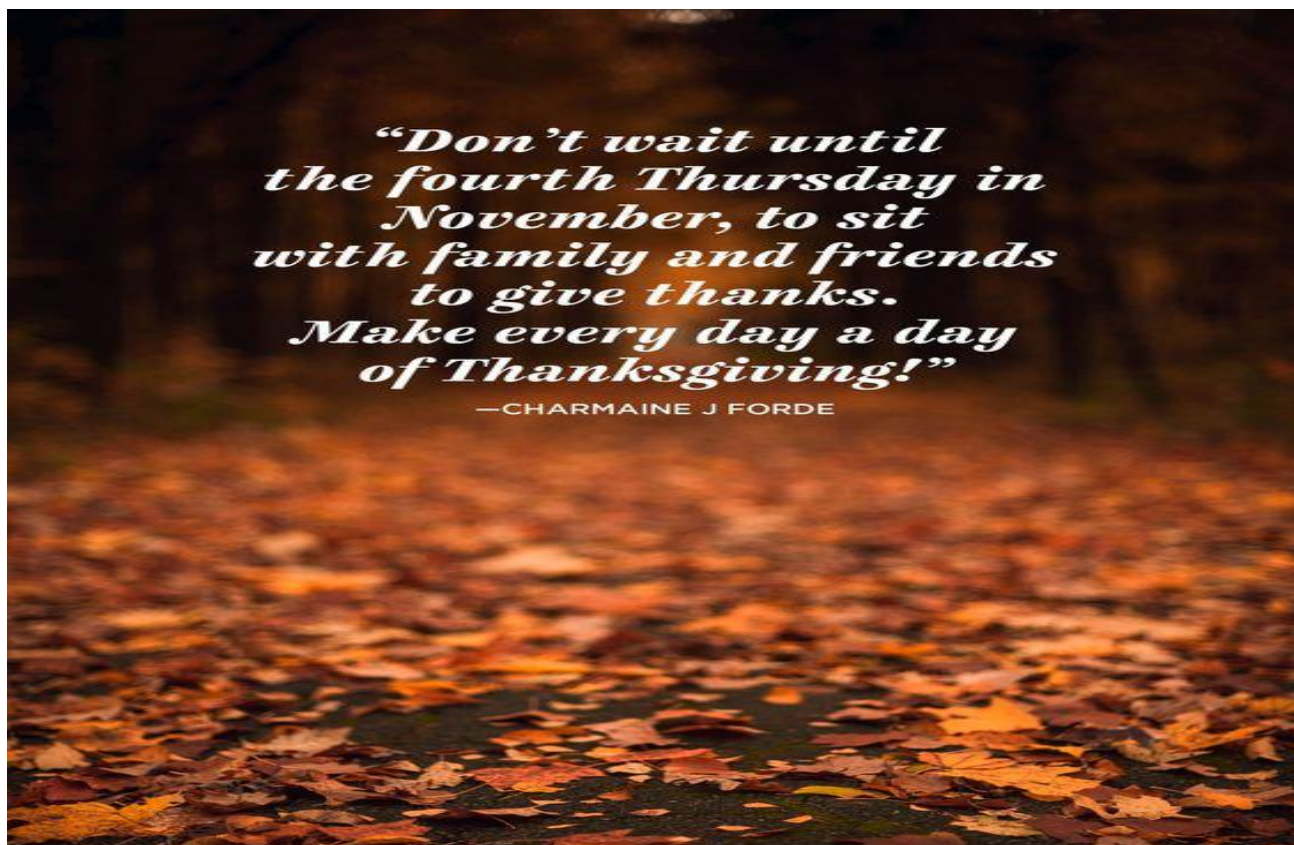
*(Robert Park, Assistant Editor)*

The Bernard P. Obrien Council of the Knights of Columbus

## PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:4-7



Vivat Jesus

Anthony J. (Tony) Chirco, Newsletter Editor, PR Director and Trustee

Robert Park, Assistant Newsletter Editor and Worthy Council Recorder

Ray Bilyk, Special Contributor, Worthy District Deputy and Financial Secretary