

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3956

Newsletter

St. Pius X, Southgate, Michigan Issue #37

MAY, 2022



THIRD ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

COUNCIL 3956 ELECTS ITS FIRST NEW GRAND KNIGHT IN THREE YEARS



CONGRATULATIONS TO GRAND KNIGHT ELECT MARK GARCELLANO

At the May General Business Meeting our O'Brien Council enthusiastically elected Mark Garcellano as our Grand Knight beginning July 1, 2022. Over the past several years, Mark has been among our most active and resourceful brother knights. Mark has served as our Deputy Grand Knight since last year. He has chaired several highly successful projects including Coats for Kids, The Tony Cerezo Memorial Golf Outing and Luncheon, St. Pius Soccer Challenge, Spelling Bee, Free Throw Competition, Trunk or Treat, Tuition Scholarship fundraiser and the upcoming Field Day event.



JOB WELL DONE GRAND KNIGHT BILL ROBERT

It is no coincidence that despite challenges of the Covid 19 pandemic, suspension and resumption of masses, and the loss of some of our most beloved brother knights, Grand Knight Bill Robert has performed tremendously. He does not go quietly. He has accepted the office of Advocate in the upcoming administration.

JUNE 1, 2022 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP



Grand Knight Bill Robert officiates his last meeting as Grand Knight and deserves a full house as he continues his work with our council of the Knights of Columbus. An ambitious schedule is projected for the year ahead. Please join in a social hour beginning at 6:00 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7:00 p.m. To learn how to "Zoom" in, contact Brother Ray Bilyk at raybilyk@kofc3956.org

Let's come together as a fraternity of brother knights, blessed with talents from God to do good works. Each of us has these gifts not so much for ourselves, but for those within our community in need our help.



HERE ARE YOUR K OF C COUNCIL 3956 2022-2023 OFFICERS	
Grand Knight-	Mark Garcellano
Deputy Grand Knight-	Dave Kudla
Chancellor-	Dick Gregoire
Recorder-	Steve Poccini
Treasurer-	Walt Kabalka
Advocate-	Bill Robert
Warden-	Larry Rossi
Inside Guard-	Stephan Gall
Outside Guard-	Nic Vignola
1st Year Trustee-	Tony Chirco
2nd Year Trustee-	Brian Batko
3 Year Trustee-	Franz Albrecht
Financial Secretary	Ray Bilyk
Chaplain-	Fr. Suresh Rajaian

MOTORCYCLE BLESSING KEEPS ON ROLLING



The 2022 St. Pius Knights of Columbus Motorcycle Blessing took place on Saturday morning, May 14, 2022. Our popular Breakfast Burritos were served. The motor cyclist look forward each May to receiving a blessing and spend time among fellow riders and our Knights of Columbus brothers. Again, some 30 riders participated, including members from the American Legion plus our local chapter of Knights on Bikes came to have their bikes blessed.

Thank you to Fr. Suresh for offering prayers and blessings to the bikers. Thanks to our brother knights who prepared the meals and assisted with the event. Special shout out to Trustee Brain Batko who planned the event, and all who participated in the planning, preparation, and assistance including among others, Dick Gregoire, DD Ray Bilyk, GK Bill Robert, DGK Mark Garcellano, incoming DGK Dave Kudla and outgoing Recorder Robert Park.



INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT DEPUTY/FINANCIAL SECRETARY RAY BILYK

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Ray delivered a message for the ages to our council. It's inspired by a need for recruitment, but dives deep into our purpose as men of the church. Enjoy!

The vision of getting Knights is not that we're getting Knights to sign up for each individual council. It's getting members for the Church. The pandemic has been so destructive to mass attendance. People aren't coming back as things begin to normalize. We are seeing some new faces, we need men, women, and families of action working for the good of the Church.

The new focus is getting people into activities that benefit the Church. To be active Catholics. The call is to be the strong right arm of the Church. We are going to have Brother Knights at each entrance with the answers to any question a potential Brother Knight may have. How much is membership? It is free. How often do you meet? Once a month first Wednesday of the month. 6pm we start to eat, 7 pm the meeting starts. We'll have laptops ready to sign them up as e-members. We will invite them to come to our activities to join us, whether they are Knights are not.

We have many activities that men and women will enjoy and find rewarding. We will need all of your help -The Knights in attendance and who are reading this message. We do a lot of activities, we do a lot of work. We need more help to do that work because there's always work to be done. The work of the Catholic church is never done....because NOT EVERYONE IS A CATHOLIC YET! Our Job is to be the tribe and group of Gleeful Missionary Disciples! What better way to be gleeful missionary disciples is to be around the Brother Knights in attendance.

The district deputy is energized and filled with love every time he is around his fellow Knights. He has been a Knights of Columbus member since he was 18 years old. He has been around the Knights since he was 13 years old as a squire. The organization saved his life. He believes in the organization so much that he has the seal tattooed on his arm. He knows he'll never leave it, and believes this is the best time to become a Knight of Columbus as we start to go and get our marching orders to go out and bring our fallen and fellow Catholics back to mass.

It's more than the hour or two of physically being in the church that makes you a Catholic, it's the work that you do that makes you a Catholic. It's your praise of our Lord that makes you a Catholic, it's talking about how great God is to others that makes you a Catholic. It's believing that the body and blood of Christ is there for us every Sunday for us and that we are fortunate to have Jesus with us that makes us a Catholic. We are so unique and he wants to share that with everyone.

GRAND KNIGHT REPORT

We do so much that I felt compelled to prepare a list of all that we accomplished over the past year. These are most, but not all the projects we participated in for the betterment of our community and ourselves. Thank you to all my brother knights who made these possible. You know who you are. These are also events and others like them that will be coming up in the year ahead. These are challenging, rewarding and sometime life changing events. Not just for those who receive our help, but for ourselves as well. Please don't leave these same men to go it without your help. Isn't it time to leave the sidelines and get in the game?

LOOK WHAT WE DID!!!! (JULY THRU DECEMBER 2021)

July 4th Marched in Wyandotte Parade

July 23 John Tibbs Concert and BBQ

July 31 Hosted Breakfast at Robert Jones Council for their Volunteers

August 7 First Annual Tony Cerezo Golf Outing to support Upper Downriver Right to Life

August 28 - Co-hosted Downriver Family Picnic in Grosse Ile

September 12 - Sponsored Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge Competition - 2 participants from St. Pius School made it to the State Championship

September 19th - Donut Sunday with proceeds going toward updated kneelers in Church

October 3- 4 Coats for Kids Drive (\$5,029.15 raised and check set to MI K of C) 21 cases of Coats passed out to needy kids in Southwest Detroit and Downriver

October 9 - 10 Tootsie Roll MI Drive (\$1601.00 Profit) with donations to Michigan Special

Olympics, Special Olympics (Area 23), St. Louis Center, ARC Downriver, Angel's Place, and St. Francis Camp on The Lake

October 17 Donut Sunday \$625

November 15 - Ice Cream social for St. Pius School

November 19 Jazz Night

November 20 - Marched in Wyandotte Winter Parade

November 21 - Donut Sunday (\$625 dollars raised for the Pregnancy Crisis Center in Lincoln Park)

December 4 Christmas Dinner

LOOK WHAT ELSE WE DID!!!! (This Year so far!!)

January 14 - Sponsored Knights of Columbus State Spelling Bee - 10 participants from St. Pius School made it to the Regional Competition

January 16 Donut Sunday charitable donation

January 19 - Sponsored Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition - 3 participants from St. Pius School made it past Diocesan Championship

February 13 Charity Family Breakfast charitable donation

March 12 Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

March 20 St. Pius X Parish Fellowship Night at Wyandotte Beer Co.

March 27 - Desert Meal @ Arnaldo's (\$3900 dollar check to Seminarians)

April 9-10 Tootsie Roll MI Drive (\$1587.29 Profit) with donations to Michigan Special Olympics, Special Olympics (Area 23), St. Louis Center, ARC Downriver, Angel's Place, St. Francis Camp on The Lake and Clinton Valley Little League Challenger Baseball

April 10 Donut Sunday Money collected added to MI Drive

April & May 2022 - Sold State Raffle Tickets with 20% proceeds going towards St. Pius School Scholarship

May 1 Family Breakfast (\$1000 dollars to St. Pius School for Scholarships and \$500 dollars to our Seminarian)

May 14 - hosted Annual Blessing of the Bikes (35 bikes and even more riders were blessed)

May 2022 - Sponsored Raffle Item for St. Pius School Online Auction (4 Tigers tickets with Parking, Food and Gift Card) - Retail Value \$170

May 2022 - Sponsored Raffle Item for Holy Cross Services/Boysville Silent Auction (4 Tigers tickets with Parking, Food and Gift Card) - Retail Value \$170

June 6 Activity day at St. Pius School Knights to sponsor and run event

Sincerely,

Bill Robert
GK 3956

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT MARK GARCELLANO REPORT

As you may know from my previous article in last month's newsletter, the Knights of Columbus ongoing commitment to our support St. Pius X School, the Knights of Columbus have been coordinating Faith in Action Programs with the school.

This past school year's events include:

1. K of C Soccer Challenge
2. K of C support of the Trunk or Treat Event
3. K of C Spelling Bee
4. K of C Free Throw Contest
5. St. Pius X support of the Coats for Kids program. The school children supported the Knight's Coats for Kids Program and donated new coats, backpacks and a check for \$1437. This support was on the school's own accord and own initiative.
6. The re-establishment of the Knights of Columbus scholarship for children enrolled at St. Pius X. The great news is through the efforts of the KofC State Raffle and the last Donut Sunday, the Knights **doubled** our goal of raising \$500 for the scholarship!
7. Our final event for this school year is to support the Field Day, the Knights are planning to help by running some of the field day games for the students.

If anyone is interested with helping out St. Pius X School Field Day, please contact Robert Park. Thank you in advance for your support.

Vivat Jesus! Mark Garcellano, DGK



Upcoming Events:

May 30th. July 4th Parade asked for our council's direct support. There will be the Living Rosary, We will take tootsie rolls to pass out to the children. Hot dogs and beverages
Next Event this fall -4th degree has asked to hold the Memorial mass along with the O'Brien council's 4th degree mass- normally happens September/October.
General Assembly Meetings- 4th Tuesday of the month, 7:00 PM - 8:00PM @ Wyandotte K of C.
4th Degree Exemplification scheduled throughout the year. For more information, please call Mark Garcellano at 734-968-6900 (markgarcellano@yahoo.com)

A KNIGHT



When I was a kid, like most kids my dad was my hero. He was a family man, always there for us, always supportive, faithful Catholic, and the father who helped formed me as a Catholic man. Was he perfect? By no means, but in my eyes he was as close as a person could get. He passed away in 2006 and I still think of him, praying for his guidance from time to time. You might wonder where this is going so I'll get to the point.

One of the things that made my dad a hero was I knew he was a Knight. Although he guarded the induction process a secret, which intrigued us even more, we all knew he was a Knight. Even though he told us, it really was how he carried himself and was active in the Church and community that really spoke volumes about being a Knight.

In my eyes he was like one of the Knights of the Round Table; serving the King, Jesus, and serving those in need right beside other Knights just like in the days of old. It might sound silly, but it wasn't to me, it made me proud. My dad was a Knight and not every kid on the block could say that. He carried respect both at Church and in the neighborhood.

I used to marvel when we saw the Knights at Church. It meant that something special at Mass was happening. The old regalia added to the prominence. Although my dad never dressed in it, I figured it was reserved for those knights with extra special duties because they had capes and swords. I didn't understand what it all meant but it had a lasting impression. My point is, for those who think this is just another men's club; it's not. It is the foundation of a way of life and service and a testament to Catholicity. The Knights are an integral part of the formation of our youth as Catholics; especially boys and young men who are more observant than we realize. There are men out there, young and old alike, who harbor those same sentiments I did as a kid; who are more apt to join if only asked.

I knew back when I was a kid I eventually would be a Knight and it could be speculated that my knighthood was part of my foundational formation for becoming a deacon. My being a Knight also is what made my son become a Knight. So there you have it. Three generations of Knights. All because the first one was truly a Knight.

Vivat Jesus,
Deacon Chuck



WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT DAVE SAJDAK...

YOU CAN'T LEAVE...ALL THE PLANTS ARE GOING TO DIE!

It's one of those movie lines you just can't get out of your head. Kind of like Dave. Who among us doesn't have a least a few stories about Dave they will never forget. Dave is retiring to Florida and he will be missed. As recruitment officer for so many years, he practically built this chapter. We wish you well Dave. Come visit us often.

DISTRICT DEPUTY RAY BILYK REPORT

The K of C State Convention is May 25 - May 27, 2022 at the Grand Hotel. DGK Mark Garcellano and PD/Trustee Brian Batko were elected to attend and represent our Council as Delegates. Expenses to attend were approved by council at our last meeting.

Asking all brother Knights to get involved June 19th Corpus Christi. This is an invitation to all new Knights to put faith into action.

As a council, we are hosting an exemplification June 26th. One of the last degrees in the state. June 26th in the Church. Free Online membership McGivney 2020. There will be live training this year.

Please support Right to Life in all matters. Please be careful what we are signing when it comes to petitions. Some petitions are not in support of the values of the Catholic Church

Diamond Jack River Tour is back Live and in person. Wednesday July 13th. These tickets go fast and it's truly a great time to be among friends with your spouse. Tickets are \$30 per person or \$50.00 for two.

Speaking of tickets. Tickets for Big money Raffle for the installation of state leadership. Only 600 tickets are to be sold.

Finally, Father's Day weekend is coming up. Deacon Chuck will be doing the Homily. He is asking for ideas to share to encourage and move men in the parish to join the Knights of Columbus. There is a planned Father's day breakfast to follow Sunday masses.

INCOMING DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT MESSAGE

A few of us from the Knights of Columbus were given an assignment to write about our journey to becoming a Knight. Here's mine:

About Three and a half years ago, my grandson came down with bacterial meningitis. This is usually fatal in an infant. He stayed at Children's Hospital for a month having his ups and downs. I asked God to take me in his place. My wife, myself and her whole family prayed to Fr. Solanus Casey for him to intercede and help our 6-month-old grandson. At the end of the month to the surprise of the doctors he mysteriously got better. They could not explain why. He is now a happy rambunctious 4-year-old boy, full of life and eager to prey on our nerves. So since God didn't want me I promised I do something to give back.

I joined the K of C and the Usher's Club. The K of C does a lot of work with our school children. We could use many men to help us in this service especially fathers of all ages. The usher's club also needs a few new faces (male and female). If you are sitting on your couch reading this, rise up put one foot in front of the other and say you too will come and join us. At the K of C meetings every first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall you could sit next to me and my buddy Niko. Thanks for reading---Dave Kudla



Please Follow Church Bulletin, School Website, Facebook, and newsletter for upcoming details.

Our K of C Council donated to the Online Auction Tiger Tickets which included:

Detroit Tigers vs. Minnesota Twins

Sunday, July 24th at 1:40PM

Game Highlight: Chevy Sunday Kids Day

4 Pavilion Tickets

4 Hot Dogs

4 Fountain Tickets

Parking in the Comerica Lot

\$25.00 Detroit Tigers Gift Card

Value = \$150.00



Congratulations to Nathan Conrad who was the highest bidder.

And THANK YOU for supporting St. Pius X Catholic School!

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH:

The May, 2022 Knight of the Month is awarded to **David Sajdak**.

David has been an active K of C Officer who regularly attends meetings, leads the Knights Donut Sunday and actively recruits new members. Thank you David, for your dependable support and leadership of KOC events! Congratulations on your retirement as well! You will be missed!

FAMILY OF THE MONTH:

The May, 2022 Family of the Month is awarded to the **Robert Park Family**.

Robert has been an active Kof C Officer who is leading the St. Pius Field Day Event. Also congratulations Robert and Pauline on your newest member of your family.

Thank you to the Park Family; Robert, Pauline, Aveline and Violet, for your dependable support of St. Pius X!

KNIGHTS ON THE RIVER



WHERE: BISHOP PARK DOCK IN WYANDOTTE TO BOBLO

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, JULY 13th

BOARDING AT 7PM, TOUR 7:15P to 9:15p

\$30 PER PERSON OR 2 TICKETS FOR ONLY \$50

PIZZA AND SNACKS PROVIDED, CASH BAR

OPEN TO ALL!! EVERYONE WELCOME!!

For tickets: Ray Bilyk - 313.247.2110

or RayBilyk@KofC3956.org



Knights of Columbus Bernard P. O'Brien Council #3956

2nd Annual Anthony "Tony" Cerezo Memorial Golf Outing

Location: Southwinds Executive Golf Course, 14600 Reaume Pkwy, Southgate, MI 48195

Lunch: St. Pius X Social Hall, 14101 Superior Southgate, MI 48195

When: Saturday, August 6, 2022 rain or shine

Registration: 7:00 AM

Shotgun Start: 8:00 AM

Lunch: Noon

Make Checks Payable to: Knights of Columbus 3956

Mail Checks to: K of C, 28266 Heather Way Romulus MI 48174

Contacts: Mark Garcellano 734-968-6900 or Robert Schooner 734-231-9940

Payment Deadline: July 25, 2022

Sign Up @: <https://www.kofc3956.org/golfouting/>



Golf and Lunch: \$70

Lunch only: \$20

Hole Sponsorship: \$100





2 May 2022

Dear Men,

We are very much in a time of testing. There is a certain “sifting” going on (Luke 22:31). Gone are the days when one could be carried along by the currents of a Christian culture. Yet, these are glorious days to be alive. Days when we are being called to make a conscious effort to follow the Lord. These are days in which we must, in essence, be *men*. St. Pope John Paul II tells us that one only finds himself by giving himself. It is a man’s calling to give himself, following the pattern of Jesus Christ, and by doing so to lead others to our Lord and Savior.

One group that I find particularly good for the life of Catholic men is The Knights of Columbus. Founded in 1882 by Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney, The Knights of Columbus provide Catholic men the opportunity to live their faith through charitable works, caring for their families and defending the Catholic faith.

My father, brothers, and I were part of the group that chartered the Knights of Columbus council at our home parish back in 1991. It has been my experience that the Knights contribute to the strength of families, and of parishes, among many other things. The Knights also play a crucial role in financial support for our seminarians, and often act as a stepping stone for those discerning the priesthood, as a great number of priests were knights *before* entering seminary.

I strongly encourage all men in our archdiocese, who are at least 18 years old, to prayerfully consider joining a Knights of Columbus council. As our young people feel more and more isolated, being involved in a council is a wonderful way to build authentic Catholic community among men. In The Knights of Columbus, I know you will find a warm welcome among the men who share your love for the Church.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

The Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron
Archbishop of Detroit

UNLEASH THE GOSPEL

12 State Street, Detroit, Michigan 48226-1823 | 313-237-5800 | aod.org

DECLINE SIGN!

Please be aware that there is a pro-abortion petition circulating in our state that would enshrine abortion as a constitutional right in our state. Obviously, I expect that none of our pro-life friends would intentionally sign such a petition. But please be aware that this is out there and help educate others so that they too will know to oppose this petition by *not signing*.



protect
the bond between
mothers & their children

For more information: www.supportmiwomenandchildren.org

Decline to sign petition circulated by **Reproductive Freedom for All.**

Among other dangerous consequences, this ballot initiative will result in:

- ✓ Forced tax-payer funding of abortion-on-demand
- ✓ Teen abortions without parental knowledge
- ✓ Schools to provide contraceptives without parental knowledge
- ✓ Unsanitary clinics with no regulations and licensing
- ✓ Unregulated abortions by non-doctors
- ✓ Elimination of 25 health and safety laws
- ✓ Viable unborn children aborted due to denial of medical care
- ✓ Increased late term and partial birth abortions

Decline to Sign

MESSAGE BOARD



Right to Life Report

Bob Bailey-Right to Life This Sunday, Right to life will be passing out Candy kisses. If any Knights would like to help, we can grab a basket help pass them out to Mothers for Mother's day
Right to life will also be marching at Heritage days.

Community Director-

Upcoming is Field Day June 6 from 8am to 3pm. May need more ribbons than the original 18 estimated.
5-6 Knights to man the stations would be appreciated.
Take a lot of pictures.

St. Pius X day is August 20th

Close to the feast day of St Pius the X. Promoting Food Trucks, Dime Toss,

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 24, 2022
HAPPY BIRTHDAY FATHER SURESH!

Wednesday May 25 - Friday, May 27, 2022
Michigan Knights of Columbus State Convention

Monday, May 30, 2022
Memorial Day

Wednesday, June 1, 2022
K of C Council 3956 Regular Business Meeting
In Social Hall. Camaraderie begins at 6:00 pm. Meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

Sunday, June 5, 2022
Pentecost Sunday

Monday, June 6, 2022
Council 3956 - Assisting in running St Pius School Field Day (Tentative)
St Pius Catholic School, 14141 Pearl St, Southgate, MI

Saturday, June 18, 2022
Southgate Heritage Days Parade 10am - 12pm

Sunday, June 19, 2022
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

- Christian Abello (May 3)
- Dennis Hamilton (May 3)
- Frank Kootsillas (May 3)
- Steven Minella (May 6)
- Bruce Presutti (May 6)
- Timothy Jones (May 10)
- Alexander Brown (May 16)
- Gilbert Ortiz (May 19)
- Guy Vitale (May 20)
- Harold Paddock (May 23)
- Patrick Phillips (May 23)
- **Father Suresh Rajaian (May 24)**
- Val St. German (May 26)



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. John and Valerie Husar who celebrated their 47th Wedding Anniversary on May 6th

If there are any 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 this to be as accurate as possible. Thank you!



IN OUR PRAYERS: Please pray for healing for our brother knights, their family and friends:

Darryl Zylka
Bob LaForest
Bob Schooner
Dave Dupperon
Passing of Mother in law of Mark Garcellano
Catherine Robert-only 27

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.



REFLECTION

On Mother's Day we honor the most important women in our lives. They are the women who gave birth to us, our wives who have born our children, or daughters and daughter's in law who have given us grandchildren. Without them life would not have been possible. The most important Mother in the history of the world is Our Lady, Mother Mary who gave birth to our Savior Jesus Christ. It's a loving relationship we recognize in our own lives. It demonstrates to us how Jesus related to his own mother in the Wedding at Cana when Our Lady asked Jesus to perform the miracle of changing water to wine.

Who could say no to their own mother if they recognized the long hours they dedicated to making our lives better? Think of how our mothers chopped vegetable until it made their hands hurt when preparing meals for family. How a mother would sacrifice their own meal to prepare a plate for their children. Our mothers do these things and countless other thankless tasks that we may never realize. They would do it all over again without hesitation.

I was taught that when we ask God for the answers to our prayers, we should ask as a child asking for something from a parent. We ask with the confidence that the Lord will provide IF it is best for us. We can see this in the bible in Jesus's interactions with Mary. We know it to be true because of the love our mothers have demonstrated to us. It's one more thing to thank the mothers in our lives for today, showing us in a human way how much God loves us.

Robert Park, Co-Editor
The Bernard P. O'Brien Council of the Knights of Columbus

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Remember, O Most Gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly onto you O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the word incarnate, despise not my petitions but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Memorare - St Bernard

Vivat Jesus

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