

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3956

Newsletter

St. Pius X, Southgate, Michigan Issue #44

DECEMBER, 2022



THE HISTORY OF ADVENT

The name Advent (From the Latin word Adventus, which signifies a coming) is applied, in the Latin Church, to that period of the year, during which the Church requires the faithful to prepare for the celebration of the feast of Christmas, the anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ. The mystery of that great day had every right to the honor of being prepared for by prayer and works of penance; and, in fact, it is impossible to state, with any certainty, when this season of preparation (which had long been observed before receiving its present name of Advent) was first instituted. It would seem, however, that its observance first began in the west, since it is evident that Advent could not have been looked on as a preparation for the feast of Christmas, until that feast was definitively fixed to the twenty-fifth of December.

Read full article: www.catholicnewsagency.com/resource/55951/the-history-of-advent.



WE HOPE YOUR THANKSGIVING DAY WAS FILLED WITH FAMILY.
WE HAVE A LOT OF REASONS TO BE THANKFUL
WE ARE BLESSED WITH SO MANY GOD GIVEN PERSONAL GIFTS
WE CAN'T BE WE WITHOUT YOU!

AS WE PREPARE TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS, WE HAVE SO MANY PEOPLE THAT NEED OUR HELP. WE ARE ASKING YOU TO HELP US MEET THOSE NEEDS

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE NEW YEAR, IT IS A TIME OF RENEWAL AND RESOLUTION. OUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION SHOULD START WITH "DON'T MAKE EXCUSES". THAT IN ITSELF WILL GO A LONG WAY TO MAKING EACH OF US A BETTER PERSON.

"Once you stop giving excuses, you start giving results." — Hiral Nagda

FIRST EXCUSE TO DROP..."I DON'T HAVE TIME"

WE ALL HAVE 24 HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK: THE PEOPLE THAT ARE MOST ACTIVE IN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HAVE AS MANY RESPONSIBILITIES, IF NOT MORE THAN MOST PEOPLE;
IT'S A MATTER OF PRIORITIES, NOT TIME.

AS WE REACH OUT TO OUR BROTHER KNIGHTS FOR MEETINGS, EVENTS AND SOCIAL, ACCEPT OUR INVITATION TO COME AND ENJOY THE PRIDE OF BEING SOMETHING BIGGER THAN YOURSELF.



AJC NEXT LOOK ON OUR WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER. START AT www.kofc3956.org

HELP US SHARE OUR GOD GIVEN GIFTS, WHATEVER THEY MAY BE.
FOR ANY QUESTIONS: PLEASE CONTACT ME BY EMAIL AT @TM.NET

Respectfully submitted by Anthony Chirco, P.R. Director and Newsletter Editor



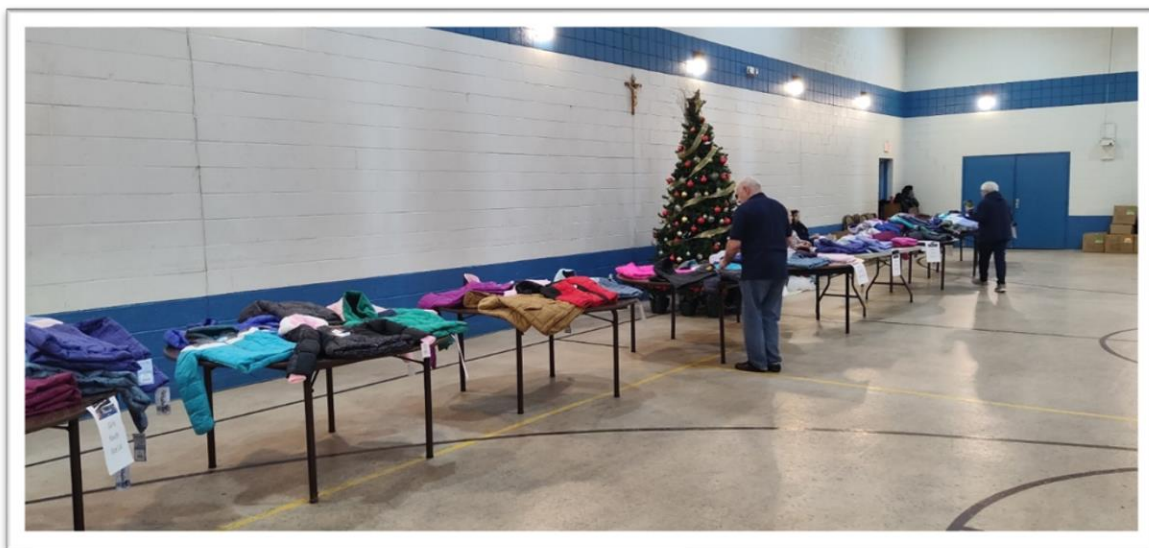
MESSAGE FROM GRAND KNIGHT MARK GARCELLANO

My Fellow Brother Knights! In this month's article I would like to share with you the results of this year's Coats for Kid's fundraising results and distribution.

Similar to last year, the congregation of St. Pius has been very generous to this particular fundraiser. This year, the good news is that the fundraising drive was again a resounding success. This year the congregation donated \$2935! Furthermore, St. Pius School, again, on their own accord decided to join the fundraising and raised an additional \$516 plus an additional 36 brand new coats were donated! Therefore, the grand total for this year's Coats for Kids fundraiser is \$3,451!

The Knights give their sincere thanks to the staff and students of St. Pius School as well as the congregation of St. Pius for your generous support of this program.





In conclusion, I would like to thank all our brother Knights and their families who supported this event by volunteering. I would also like to thank all the parents and students from St. Pius who also volunteered as well. You are who make these events happen!

If you have a relative or friend that may be interested in joining us, please invite them to one of our events to check us out. We are always looking for more Catholic gentlemen to join us. And remember the first year's dues are free! Please see me or our Membership Director Robert Park to find out how.

Vivat Jesus!

Mark Garcellano, GK

734-968-6900

markgarcellano@yahoo.com



Pancake breakfast with Santa!
Hosted by the St. Pius Athletic
department and Knights of
Columbus

12/18/22 following shortly
after 11:00am mass
Gym doors open at 12pm



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO ST. PIUS!

Bring the kids to spend time with

Santa Claus!!!

**This event is free to St. Pius families.
Donations will be accepted and will go
toward the St. Pius Scholarship fund.**

**Please register in advance so that we can
plan ahead. The menu will include pancakes,
scrambled eggs, sausage, fruit, and juice. We
hope to see you there!**

Please sign up at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfL4wVVETSw4OkTY7Vj9yBDJ_vTMDsJGDso47bKromuKbrkAw/viewform?usp=sf_link



**Knights of
Columbus®**



It's Christmas Season! Let's celebrate!

Annual SPX Ushers and Bernard O'Brien Council
Christmas Dinner. Come enjoy great food and min-
gle with your fellow Brother Knight and Ushers!

Sunday, December 11, 2022 6 PM

Hungarian Rhapsody Restaurant

14315 Northline Road, Southgate

Cost \$25 per couple, \$12.50 single

Sign up with the Usher Captains at each Mass.

4PM– Dennis Hamilton

9AM– Brian Hughes

11AM– Larry Rossi

Make checks payable to

Knight's of Columbus #3956.



MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT DEPUTY RAY BILYK



Our Football Squares fundraiser for St. Francis Xavier Cabrini church in Parrish, Florida hurricane relief is ongoing through Superbowl Sunday. We still have 44 open squares to sell. The cost is only \$50.00 for Five Squares. Please contact me to be a part of the worthy fun at raybilyk@kofc3956.org

Our long awaited Christmas dinner party with ushers club is December 11, 2022 at Hungarian Rhapsody beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50 per person. Menu includes pork chops, chicken paprikash, mashed potatoes, dumplings, vegetables, salad, coffee, tea, and milk. See Flver for more details.

Live Exemplification: We can do one any time. We will schedule one in December for our new member Chris.

Bottle and Cans for Seminarians: We are still collecting Cans and bottles for seminarians. Can hold at Robert Jones, or hand to myself, District Dep Ray Bilyk.

FAITH AND FAMILY FIRST! Join the Knights of Columbus! FREE 1st y promo code TJACKSON<https://www.kofc.org/joinus>

Ray J. Bilyk - District Deputy 105, Archdiocese of Detroit - Michigan Region 5
Cell/Text: 313-247-2110 - DD105@mikofc.org

MESSAGE FROM PAST GRAND KNIGHT AND ADVOCATE BILL ROBERT



FROM FORMER GRAND KNIGHT AND ADVOCATE BILL ROBERT

MAKE THE MOST OF THE TIME WE HAVE

This seems so elusive to grasp but we all experience it! There are three types of time, we all know. Past time, which we can't do anything about, present time now and future time.

Past time we have all said at one time or another I wish I could change or relive again. It is time we will never get back.

Present time is our experiences now. We live better and happier now if we learn not to dwell on the past or worry about the future. We have to learn not to dwell on the past. Enjoy the time here and now!

Future time we can plan for, but don't forget to enjoy time we have now. Only One God knows the future. With his help and guidance, the present and future can be much more rewarding and fulfilling. Ask and you shall receive! As we look forward to Christmas, seek his help. The Future will be much more rewarding!



DEACON CHUCK

KEEPING CHRISTMAS

One would think that with the Christmas season upon us there would be plenty of “Peace on Earth” and “Good Will to Men.” Unfortunately for many it’s a time of stress, mayhem, and dismay. The true spirit of Christmas seems to have vanished in the consumer hustle and bustle we’ve created.

For many, when it’s all said and done what they find under the tree is fleeting happiness, becoming lack-luster as the days wear on. It’s not enough that the media has induced a sense of urgency, scarcity, and envy toward material goods that’s hard to resist and coupled that with the current economic climate of inflated prices, it’s no wonder many find themselves not merry but miserable.

Our pocketbook finds itself short in being able to provide all the wants and desires hoped for come the 25th of December. For many, Santa’s bag seems not to be as full as it should. After all, that’s what Christmas is all about, isn’t it?

It’s not to say that one shouldn’t have a giving heart, but we really must ask ourselves, to what are we giving our hearts to, and where do our devotions lie? To our Creator or to what’s created?

There is the old cliché, “Jesus is the reason for the season.” I truly believe that if that’s where we keep our family’s focus, it’s sure to be a merrier season. Stuff is one thing, gifts are another. The newest gadget comes and goes, but redemption and eternal life are the gifts that keep on giving; forever.

Hopefully they are at the top of our wish list. If they are, possibly the list of wants will shrink to only needs as we understand the true value of what is being celebrated. Maybe stress becomes surmountable. God willing, chaos and disappointment dwindle to be replaced with unity and gratitude. As the Grinch realized, “Perhaps Christmas doesn’t come from a store, perhaps Christmas means a little bit more.” To all my brothers in Christ have a Blessed Christmas. Joy to the World!

Vivat Jesus,
Deacon Chuck/Lecturer



Looking ahead to next year, a Memorial mass will be at St. Pius on February 28, 2023 with a dinner afterward. St. Pius Council could join them and do a memorial mass at the council level as well. We will collect the names of our brother knights who have passed away in the last two years to read at the Mass. If their families are not there, we can still at least read their names and remember and pray for them

THOUGHTS FROM CHANCELLOR RICHARD GREGOIRE

Note to the Editor: Thank you for the encouragement to write because when I get think about things and question certain things my mind goes speeding like a runaway train and this may give me a chance to slow down the train. I didn't know there was to be a second half of my first article but I tell you Jesus was this absolutely amazing guy. The Gospel stories about Him. WOW! His story-Our story. Yeah we're part of the story too!

I was baptized as a baby in the church of St. Pius X at the request of my Mom and Dad. So I would know Jesus and then become part of the story. What a lucky man I am! Seems like a pretty good start Yes? Then as we grow ,I think we all struggle with the paths we take and probably make our share of mistakes by the so many distractions of the world that are presented to us and attack our naivety and maybe send us down - you know the other path—the wide one!

This brings me to what I want to talk about. MASS. Our primary way of worshipping our God our Savior Jesus Christ. Growing up in the church I found Mass to be boring as it was in Latin except for the homily thanks be to God. So understanding for a young kid? Well you get the picture and anyone that knows me knows me know I can have a problem in English!!! was an Altar Boy and had to learn the Latin responses to the Prayers

Father prayed. Didn't have a clue! But and I say but, it did lend a intriguing, mysterious sacredness to the celebration! Something very Special! Then----Vatican 2 Wow—English—a language I can understand a little bit better! So now I have come to understand what its all about and still learning how and why it is so special, so sacred, so holy, so close to Jesus! He's THERE! Thanks be to God! A Priest once told me we should offer up our Mass as a prayer for someone who needs or has requested prayer for themselves or a friend. Sounded good to me. Then I realized that's why we have Mass intentions Duh! I was taking them too lightly! Not anymore! Now I have lists of my own so as not to take this wonderful gathering of prayer warriors lightly!

In Music, "We gather together to sing the Lord's praises" and all the other elements of prayer we use when we gather at Mass. We forgive, we ask forgiveness, we praise God for all His good works, and we give thanks for everything. We remember, we celebrate we believe! We do and we sing it too! We celebrate the sacrament of the Eucharist at Mass - the Body and Blood of Christ—it's interesting to know that the meaning of Eucharist is Thanksgiving.

So the Mass includes two forms of prayer which we call Liturgy. Both are amazing! Mass begins with the Liturgy of the Word .We ask for forgiveness first as to try and get ourselves right then we get the word. Scripture, stories of God's past relationships with his people, then letters for teaching, then the Good News Yes, stories and lessons from Jesus. It always fascinated me that Jesus asked an awful lot of questions when teaching as if He knew that "we" "they" Already knew the answers interesting! Maybe that is for another time.

God Bless us all.

Richard Gregoire



December 7, 2022 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

**K of C Council 3956 Regular Business Meeting (St Pius Social Hall)
Social Hours begins at 6:00 p.m. followed by one hour meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m.
Please bring a friend!**

On the Agenda:

Coats for Kids wrap up
K of C/Knights Christmas Party
St. Pius Spirit Wear initiative
Breakfast with Santa after mass
Upcoming Family Breakfast/Doughnuts after masses
MI Drive/Tootsie Roll Drive
4th Degree Memorial Mass
New member exemplification
Program Director Update
Newsletter Update
Knight and Family of the Month to be announced.

Please come share your thoughts and energy. A busy year is ahead of us, and we know we have brother knights that can be there for us. Don't leave it for others to carry the load.
"Many hands make light work"



MESSAGE FROM FINANCIAL SECRETETARY RAY BILYK

It's that time of the year: Members are receiving their annual dues which include dues assessment of \$30.00, Sacred Heart Seminary Scholarship Fund of \$6.00 and Take 10 Charity Program of \$10.00. The total of \$46.00 is due by December 31, 2022. Bring your payment to the meeting and you will get a free meal. Can't beat that! Please complete the Member Survey.

Members are also receiving Michigan K of C State Raffle Tickets in the mail. Tickets are only \$5.00 each. Prizes include a Weekend for four at the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island please meals and \$12,000 in Cash!!!

MESSAGE FROM DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT DAVE KUDLA

“In this season of giving and sharing - Come join us”

As all of us know the Christmas season is all about giving and sharing with our fellow man. Our brotherhood of humanity needs us, and we need them. We of the Knights of Columbus sponsor and volunteer at a number of events at St. Pius. To name a few; Coats for Kids, Doughnut Sunday's, Charity Family Breakfasts. All proceeds to charities. We also are involved with the Soccer Challenge with the school, hosting social events including Men's night out, Christian bas music programs, just to name a few.

All of these and many other events take manpower. This is why we need you. Please join us. We are looking men 18 years of age and older. Ask any K of C member, you will see them at mass as ushers and in the pews wearing K of C shirts. Stop by at our regular meetings on the first Wednesday of the month in the Social Hall. Food social starts at 6:00 p.m. and our meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. See you there!

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH - BILL ROBERT

Bill has been a K of C member for six years. He is married to Linda, has three grown children and six great grandchildren. Bill states that he loves being a Knight of Columbus member. It is an outlet for him to help others, especially those in need. Bill also mentioned that just being a member of St. Pius X holds a special place in his heart.

Bill and Linda both went to St. Pius School. They showed an interest in each other during the 8th Grade. The rest is history. Congratulations on being the Knight of the Month. May you and Linda have many more years with each other!

FAMILY OF THE MONTH - MARK GARCELLANO and FAMILY

The Garcellano family consists of Mark, wife Jocelyn and their two children, Mitchell and Lauren. I laugh at the word children because Mitchell and Lauren are certainly not children. Mark is Grand Knight of the K of C Council 3956. Jocelyn is our parish bookkeeper. Mitchell is also a K of C member. Lauren is a freshman in college. All of them help out at Knights of Columbus activities. A super active family dedicated to serve those around them.

Mark has been a Knight since 2017 and happy he became one. Mark thinks that being a knight is a moral compass for Catholic men and an avenue to help others. In a short period of time, he has accomplished a lot. I asked how he does it. He said he started speaking up at meetings and before he knew it he was volunteering for jobs. He recommends new members get involved. Our council consists of a great bunch of guys who share their God given talents with everyone. These men make our council stronger by coming to meetings and volunteering. Thank you and congratulations to the Garcellano family!

Special thanks to Deputy Grand Knight Dave Kudla for your endorsement of these fine people.

Deputy Grand Knight



Jim DeSana who was elected our new State Representative and fellow Brpther Knight is sharing with us an invitation to attend a Eucharistic Procession on the Capital Lawn in Lansing, Wednesday, December 7, 2022 from 10:45 a.m. to 11;45 a.m.

Thankk you to Brian Batko for sharing the invitation.



Catholic Citizens Essay Contest

The Knights of Columbus, Bernard P. O'Brien Council of St. Pius X is conducting a Catholic Citizen Essay Contest for 8th-12th Graders. This year's theme is: In an essay of 500- 750 words, to explain how young Catholics can evangelize our faith to families and friends who have turned away from religion and encourage them to return to the Church and embrace the sacraments. The due date for the essay is: January 7, 2023.

There are 2 possibly 3 levels of competition. The first level is the Council level. The possible second level is the district level. The third or last level is the International level. There will be certificates and prizes for the winners at each level.

Spirit Wear Coming Soon

A new idea has been conceived to partner with SPX Athletic Director to sell Spirit Wear at home games. Profits from the sales would be split evenly to support SPX and K of C Council charities. There are multiple benefits for this fundraising campaign such as Fundraising for SPX School needs.

- Fundraising for K of C programs for community needs and charities.
- Volunteer hours opportunities for SPX parents by selling the spirit wear.
- Opportunities for Knights to meet parents and recruit fathers for membership.
- Choose spirit wear products to market. Create Design
- Select Products to market.
- Seek bids from spirit wear suppliers for products, pricing and availability.
- Determine location of Spirit Wear Shop. (Inside the gym, in the hall, outside tent).
- Select a K of C Chairman/Committee to administrate program, establish ordering process, recruit and train volunteers. Establish pricing and profit margin.
- Provide for storage and stocking of supplies.
- Determine sales methods and purchase options. (Cash, Credit, Debit)

Calling all Dads

Become a Knight before Christmas FREE MEMBERSHIP Now through December 31st Calling all Catholic men 18 and older. Now is a great time to join the Knights of Columbus. Scan the QR code, enter your information and use the FREE code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY for a FREE membership as an online member. The Knights are a Catholic fraternal organization that actively supports the teachings and values of the Catholic Church. Whether you have 2 hours a year or 2 hours a month, show your support for our faith and sign up.

Coats for Kids Appreciation Event

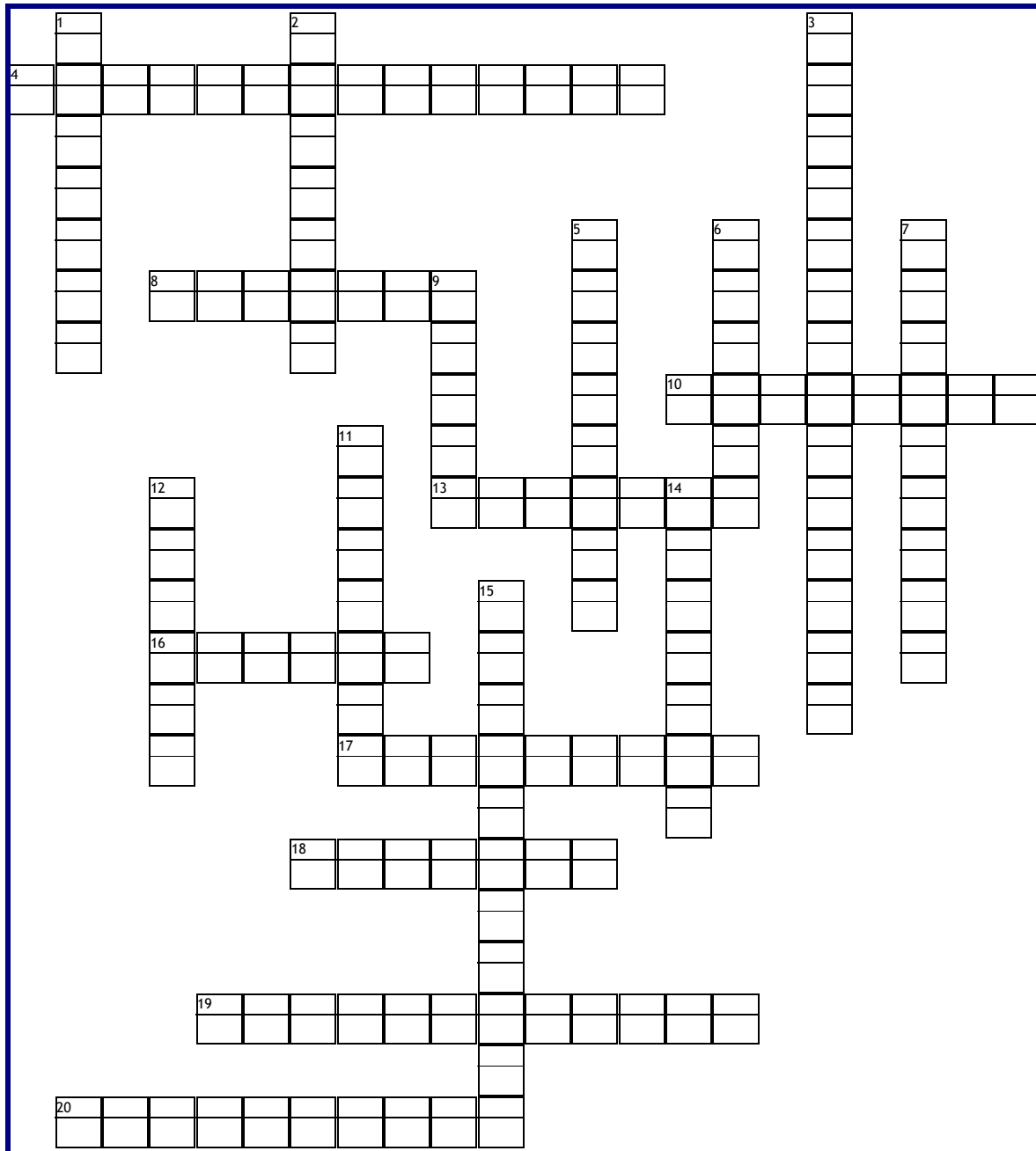
Our Knights of Columbus Council will again host an appreciation event for the students at St. Pius for their helping in raising money, back packs and more coats for Coats for Kids. The plan is to have an ice cream or pizza social soon. Last year's event was a hit for the students and the k of C members that volunteered had a great time with the students. Stay tuned for more news to follow.

CHALLENGE OF THE MONTH

PROGRAM DIRECTOR AND TRUSTEE THOUGHT TO CHANGE IT UP THIS MONTH AND INSTEAD OF SUBMITTING AN ARTICLE, THOUGHT INSTEAD TO CHALLENGE US. TAKE A GO AT IT AND IF RAY LET'S US, ANSWERS WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.KOFC3956.ORG

CROSSWORD PUZZLE: ANGELS

Instructions: Print, then complete. Note: Omit spaces and punctuation.



Across

4. Watch over us
8. Angels help Lot in this book
10. Highest Choir
13. Angel appeared to Balaam and his animal in this book
16. Angels slew first-born in this book
17. Prayer by Pope Leo XIII
18. "Who is like God"
19. Cherubim: Stationed Here after the Fall
20. Why do you ask my name, which is...

Down

1. Fallen Angel
2. Annunciation Angel
3. Seventh Rank
5. Second Choir of Angels
6. Sixth Rank
7. Eighth Rank
9. Number of Archangels
11. Fifth Rank
12. Lowest Choir
14. Protected Tobias
15. Fourth Rank



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS
Bernard P. O'Brien Council 3956 Calendar
December 2022

- December 7, 2022 Eucharistic Procession at State Capital, Lansing from 10:45 - 11:45 AM
- December 7, 2022 General Membership Meeting, St. Pius X Social Hall, 6PM-8:30PM**
- December 10-11, 2022 St. Pius School PTO Cookie Walk, St. Pius X Social Hall, after all Masses
- December 11, 2022 Council 3956/St. Pius Ushers Club Joint Christmas Party**
- December 23, 2022 Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest Entry Deadline
- December 25, 2022 HAVE A JOYOUS AND MERRY CHRISTMAS!
- December 28, 2022 Officers Planning Meeting, Robert Jones K of C, Lincoln Park, MI, 7PM
- January 1, 2023 HAPPY NEW YEAR! MAY 2023 BE A HEALTHY AND BLESSED YEAR!

The latest Calendar of Events can be found at:
<https://www.kofc3956.org/calendar-of-events>

MESSAGE BOARD



Thank you to Larry and Glenda Rossi,

We now have a tabernacle that locks and unlocks. Larry was able to take it to get it fixed

Football squares

We still have 44 open squares to sell. We will keep selling until the Super Bowl in February
The proceeds from the squares will go to St. Cabrini church in Florida,

St. Pius Spirit wear Membership Initiative

GK Mark Garcellano is working with St. Pius AD to offer for sale and a fund raiser St. Pius pins, bumper stickers as we start small, Other ideas include seat cushions for the bleachers and get sponsors to put their logos on them. There may also be hoodies made to order that they can put their names and numbers on them

The parents will be doing the selling; we will need someone to be the liaison to the parents, build a relationship with them, invite them to our events, etc.

Breakfast with Santa

Sunday, December 18th about a half hour after 11:00 mass. We learned that Santa Claus is a brother Knight. Pancakes, Eggs, and beverages are being considered. St. Pius AD will have candy canes for Santa to give to the kids. will donate proceeds back to the school for our scholarship

Christmas dinner party with the usher club is Sunday, December 11, 2022

6:30pm at Hungarian Rhapsody, \$12.50 single, \$25 for couple

Menu: pork chops, chicken paprikash, potatoes, dumplings, vegetables, salad, coffee, tea, milk.

Coats for Kids

Distribution was at St. Andre Bessette in Ecorse on December 3, 2022.

It was a beautiful event and means a lot when you put a coat on a kid

Ice Cream/Pizza Social for St. Pius students

Together with Principal Kathleen England, we are making plans to offer an ice cream truck or pizza party to say thank you for their donations.

Doughnuts and Coffee

The most recent Doughnut Sunday event after mass raised about \$250 for Crisis Pregnancy Center towards the cost of new carpet going in at the Pregnancy Center on Monday. The balance of our share of the cost has been approved.

John Tibbs concert postponed

Due to a family emergency, John Tibbs had to leave town quickly. Our apologies to everyone that planned to attend. Refunds will be available through Brian Batko. We are hopeful the a new concert date will be set during the Easter Season.

Tootsie Roll/MI Drive

In total, we collect well over a thousand dollars. Thanks to everyone who came out to the street corner to collect. Next year we will try to get into the big box stores where other councils have had a great response with significantly higher donations raised.

4th Degree

Memorial Mass at St. Pius with dinner to follow coming up in Tuesday, February 28, 2023. We could join them and do a memorial mass at the council level too. We will collect the names of our brother knights who have passed away in the last two years to read at the Mass. If their families are not there, we can still at least read their names and remember and pray for them.

Memorial Wall or Garden

Discussions are continuing with plans to get permission from Fr. Suresh to determine the most appropriate place and function. More information to share after we meet with Father.

Thank you to Jabros

Once again, Jabros Carpet One is lending a helping hand. They are providing assistance with labor and materials to replace some flooring at the Pregnancy Center in Lincoln Park.



YEARS OF SERVICE

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

- James L. Guyette (December 1) 39 Years of Service
- David L. Houston (December 1) 30 Years of Service
- Dennis Assenmacher (December 7) 6 Years of Service
- Guy A. Vitale (December 4) 3 Years of Service
- Kevin Martin (December 9) 3 Years of Service
- Joseph D. Chirco (December 27) 2 Years of Service
- Henry Pochini (December 21) 1 Years of Service

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

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

- John C. Byers (December 1)
- George W. Kelly (December 4)
- Wesley B. Barnard (December 11)
- David M. Kudla (December 11)
- James M. Higgins (December 17)
- Chris Strzalkowski (December 20)
- John S. Molnar (December 28)



WIVES BIRTHDAYS

Our Better. Behind every good man is a GREAT WOMAN indeed!



- Debbie Cronan (December 2) Wife of Brian Cronon
- Deborah A. Tidwell (December 23) Wife of Patrick Tidwell

MEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her
[Ephesians 5:25](#)

Congratulations!!

To all who celebrate their nuptials in December

If there are any missing birthdays, anniversaries, wife birthdays or ordination anniversaries please send them to District Deputy and 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 healing for our brother knights, their family and friends:



- The families of Justin and Amy Pudelek
- Robert Laforest
- Joe Hernandez
- Larry and Liz Ridenour
- Miguel and family
- Justin Pudelek
- Dave Kudla's granddaughter Lydia

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

This was a very eventful year. Robert and I both experienced family health issues that brought us to terms with how fragile life is. My wife is a Cancer survivor. I went through a serious case of Covid followed by a two-month struggle with kidney stones. For those of you who had that experience, I feel your pain...or I did.

Also in 2022, Robert and his wife welcomed the newest addition to their family, their daughter. My wife and I became grandparents as my son and his wife welcomed the first addition to their family, a baby boy. My daughter became engaged, and we look forward to next October when she marries a really great guy. We are lucky that both our children found awesome life mates.

As we look ahead to 2023, we don't know what God has instore for us. But we know that he will bring us challenges to strengthen our faith and blessings as well. Life is a journey with sometimes incredible highs and life changing lows. Rest assured our Lifeguard Jesus will be there with us every step of the way.

Tony Chirco and Robert Park, Newsletter Co-Editors

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day,

We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" Amen. - *Henri J.M. Nouwen*



Merry Christmas!

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

