

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3956

Newsletter

St. Pius X, Southgate, Michigan Issue #47

MARCH, 2023



On Sunday afternoon, February 19, 2023 our Knights of Columbus hosted once again a Desert Meal for our Seminarians to help fund a trip to the Holy Land to walk as Christ did over 2000 years ago. Thank you to Brain Batko and his team for putting in the hard work and to Crystal Gardens for providing a great meal as we celebrated these fine men of God.



## COMMENTS FROM GRAND KNIGHT MARK GARCELLANO

### FOUR PRINCIPLES

My Fellow Brother Knights! In this month's critique I would like to share with you the benefits of being a Knight of Columbus. I believe these benefits help to set it apart from other fraternities as well as set the bar high when comparing to other clubs. As you may know the Knights of Columbus has 4 principal degrees:

Charity  
Unity  
Fraternity  
Patriotism

1. The first principle is charity. The Knights actively donate time (volunteer hours) and money to charitable organizations that help those in need. In fact, our local council has and will donate over 1,500 man-hours and \$20,000 dollars to seminarians, mentally impaired, the Crisis Pregnancy Center, Special Olympics, coats for needy kids, St. Pius X Church and St. Pius X School this fraternal year (June 2022 - July 2023). Therefore, the benefit that the Knights offer is the opportunity for its members to give back (or charity) to help others in need.
2. The second principle is unity. Unity among the Knights is vitally important to accomplish our goals of charity. In other words, it is known that we all need to row a boat together to get to our destination efficiently and faster. The same goes for our family, we as Knights are the leaders of our family. As leaders, we as Knights know our family must be united in order to achieve our common goal of being productive and content. Therefore, the benefit that the Knights offer is the opportunity to become a better leader, a better husband, a better father and finally a better man.
3. The third principle is fraternity. The definition of fraternity is: "of or relating to brothers." The Knights of Columbus Fraternity mission was established to "empower Catholic men to live their faith at home, in their parish, at work and in their community." Furthermore, the goal is: "to help men, their families and their parishes grow closer to Christ. Through our programs and resources, we provide opportunities to live and spread the Catholic faith." Therefore, the benefit that the Knights offer is a membership to a brotherhood, a group of Catholic men teaching each other, together, as well as helping one another.
4. The fourth principle is patriotism. "The primary purpose of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus is to inculcate a love of country and impress the duties of citizenship." Therefore, the Knights offer the opportunity to become the visible arm of the fraternity by giving the opportunity for the members to be in the uniformed color corps honoring Knights of have passed away as honor guards in funerals, march in parades as color guards for the flag of their country and the Papal flag and march in church to honor Christ.

The benefits of being a Knight do not end there. Aside from numerous personal rewards that come from being a Knight, here is a list of the many substantial rewards for you and your family.

- \* Insurance- access to top quality life insurance, long-term care insurance, disability income insurance and annuity products exclusive for members, spouses and dependent children
- \* Family Fraternal Benefit A) \$1,500 for a child dies before 61 days B) \$1,500 still for child who is stillborn at least 20 weeks after conception
- \* Orphan Benefit- \$80 monthly allotment for orphans, \$7,000 in college scholarships available
- \* Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit- Accidental death coverage for member and spouse

In conclusion, I would like to state the personally, this organization has been a benefit to me and my family. It has brought us closer together, allowed us to volunteer more (even as a family) and give back. Being a Knight has brought myself and my family closer to the God and the Church. So, I encourage anyone to interested to check out our events, volunteer (women and men) at our events and finally for the Catholic Men, I invite you to join our council meeting (as a guest) to see what we are planning. It may spark a passion in you that has been dormant.

Vivat Jesus!

Mark Garcellano, GK

734-968-6900 ([markgarcellano@yahoo.com](mailto:markgarcellano@yahoo.com))



### **MARCH 1, 2023 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP**

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

#### **On the Agenda:**

Reports on Seminararians Desert Meal, Memorial Mass with Fourth Degree, Spirit Wear Program  
Updates From Grand Knight, District Deputy, Membership, Program and PR Directors  
Fourth Degree Report Shroud of Turin Lecture Palm Sunday - April 2m 2023 at 3pm  
Fish Fry Participation Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner  
John Tibbs Concert Michigan K of C Fraternal Night at LCA (Red Wings Game)  
Easter Egg Hunt Knight of the Month Family of the Month

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."



COME JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE LIVES OF OUR PASSED BROTHER KNIGHTS

A Memorial mass will be celebrated at St. Pius X church on February 28, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. with a dinner afterward. The Fourth Degree Council will join with our St. Pius K of C Council in a memorial mass. We will recall our brother knights who have passed away in the last two years. Some family members of these men will be there as we read their names and pray for them.

Deceased Members of Bernard P. O'Brien Council 3956 from 2019-07-01 to 2022-12-31

First Name	MI	Last Name	Birth Date	Date of Death
Brian	A	Wolff	8/20/1939	12/15/2019
Anthony	F	Cerezo	3/31/1945	3/13/2020
Benedict		Vizachero	8/26/1935	4/10/2020
James	B	Duke	12/26/1931	10/27/2020
Kenneth	J	Wagner	4/9/1942	12/27/2020
Joseph	F	Stenger	4/4/1937	2/4/2021
Frank	A	Racano	12/12/1961	6/24/2021
Robert	A	Dorosz	7/13/1942	7/23/2021
Victor	J	Gagne	10/1/1920	2/13/2022
Alfred	A	Kovacik	10/10/1929	4/3/2022
Frank	W	Kootsillas	5/3/1939	10/20/2022
Patrick	J	Phillips	5/23/1932	11/4/2022

#### SAINT PIUS FISH FRY IS BACK

The St. Pius Fish Fry is back again this year with more delicious fried fish, shrimp and other specials. The first Fish Fry kicks off on February 24<sup>th</sup> and will run each Friday through March 31<sup>st</sup>. Carry-out and in-person dining will be available in the St. Pius School Activity Center from 4:00-7:00pm.

**CASH ONLY**





## MESSAGE BOARD

- 1 St. Pius Fish Fry
  - a. Started this past Friday and will go through all Fridays up to March 31
  - b. Anyone who volunteers gets a fish dinner for free.
2. Membership Tribute Banquet
  - a. Happened last night, and our council was represented there.
  - b. There were awards as well. District deputy earned an early membership goal award. We contributed to that by getting to our early membership goal.
3. New mixer/microphones for St. Pius
  - a. A check was issued for \$1,800. The council voted on it at the last meeting.
  - b. The sound is a lot better in the church now.
  - c. We have made a difference in the church. It helps the choir, the church, and the congregation. We are doing what Fr. McGivney would have done.
4. Super Bowl Squares Winners
  - a. First quarter - Walt Kabalka
  - b. Second quarter - Laura Howard
  - c. Third quarter - Bill Robert
  - d. Fourth quarter - J. Hawky
  - e. \$200 will go to St. Frances Cabrini in Parrish, FL

### Unfinished Business:

1. Council Rosary Team
  - a. We had nine knights sign up to help lead rosary when brother knights pass away.
  - b. Deacon Chuck signed up, Mark will ask him to chair and Dick Gregoire co-chair
  - c. We will have a phone chain to ensure we have enough people to volunteer time
  - d. We are also going to start having a Resolution of Condolence, which is a form to send condolences to the family and is signed by the Grand Knight
  - e. Uniform would be a suit or KofC shirt.
2. Changing of church lights
  - a. Joe Wienclaw spoke to pastor at Good Shepherd to borrow their lift.
3. State Convention Delegates Election
  - a. We will hold the election at our next General Membership meeting.
  - b. Usually, GK and a past GK. we need another delegate and two alternates
  - c. Convention is May 24-26
4. Council Officer's Election
  - a. Election will be held at the business meeting in May.
  - b. Start thinking about if you want to run for office or retain your current position.
  - c. Councils usually have a nominating committee to collect names, then can also open the floor for any other nominations.
  - d. Joe and Larry will head the nominating committee.

## **New Business**

1. Live Exemplification at St. Pius 2/27 at 7pm, registration at 6:15pm
  - a. It would be great for the officers to show up.
  - b. We have a lot of candidates. We are going to do more live exemplifications to get good people into the order and use the online ones only when necessary.
  - c. The State exemplification team will do our live exemplification in June
2. Memorial Mass 2/28 at 7pm
  - a. It is a memorial mass for our council and for the Fourth Degree
  - b. We have 12 members who have passed away that we are going to honor.
  - c. Ray and Mark will be part of the Color Corp
  - d. Larry volunteered to light candles. Dave volunteered to read names.
  - e. There will be dinner after the Mass in the social hall. It will be \$15 per person.
3. Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner 3/11 after 4pm Mass
  - a. Bill Robert's neighbor's company is donating the corned beef.
  - b. We'll meet in the kitchen to cook on Friday night at 7pm
4. Brunch with Easter Bunny
  - a. Sunday 3/26 after 11am Mass in the Activity Center
  - b. Meeting with the AD team on 3/15 to plan for the event.
  - c. We need to get an easter bunny costume.
5. Shroud of Turin Lecture
  - a. Palm Sunday 3pm. We will take free will donations.
  - b. We'll provide refreshments. Joe volunteered to coordinate.
6. Spring MI Drive
  - a. Palm Sunday weekend
  - b. We can try to do both on the street corners and at the big box stores
7. Next family breakfast is in May.

## **Worthy Director Reports**

1. Program Chair Brian Batko
  - a. Desert meal was a fabulous success. There were 300 people there. Preliminary results are \$9,225 in revenue. About \$4,200 to seminarians after expenses.
  - b. John Tibbs concert is March 5 at 3pm. \$5 at the door or bring your ticket. Show up at 2:30 to help out. We need \$700 check for John Tibbs.
2. Membership Chair Robert Park
  - a. Ethan was our newest online sign up, sponsored by Deacon Chuck. He is recently out of college; Robert has talked to him about our upcoming events
3. Fourth Degree Representative
  - a. There will be a parade for St. Patrick's Day in Downtown Detroit
  - b. Memorial mass this Tuesday
  - c. March 25 - exemplification at St. John Neumann in Canton if anyone is interested in becoming a member. Fourth degree is the patriotic degree. You would become a Sir Knight. Our council is one of the biggest supporters of the Van Antwerp assembly.

## MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT DEPUTY RAY BILYK



As we approach the month of March there is First-Third Degree Live Exemplification at our St. Pius X parish on Monday, February 27, 2023. We have recruited several gentlemen that are at taking the steps to become a member of the Knights of Columbus.

On Tuesday, there is a Memorial Mass that we encourage all members of our council to attend. As explained in more detail in this newsletter, there is memorial mass at St. Pius X Church beginning at 7:00 The Fourth Degree Color Corp will be participating. After mass there will be a dinner for all who chose to attend. Cost is \$15.00.

We begin March with our membership meeting on Wednesday, March 1. Please come at 6:00 p.m. to enjoy sharing food and conversation, then stay for a short hour +/- meeting as we prepare ourselves for a busy and productive month for our community.

As you will read throughout this newsletter, we need only a little of your time to help in an assortment of programs that will benefit everyone from the students of St. Pius X school to the seasoned members of our community:

1. Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, Saturday, March 11 after 5PM Mass
2. Brunch with the Easter Bunny, Sunday March 26, 2023 after 11AM Mass
  - Planning meeting with AD Team, Wednesday March 15, 2023
3. Shroud of Turin Lecture at SPX, Sunday April 2, 2023, 3PM
  - Free will donation.
4. Membership Tribute Banquet
  - The District #105 earned an early membership goal award (50%-99%)  
2<sup>nd</sup> highest percentage at 94%!
  - Our Council #3956 earned an early membership goal award (50%-90%)
5. Elections.
  - Selection of State Delegates and election of our local council board of directors are approaching.
  - Take the time to discern how best you can help your council.

**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.

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

## A FEW MESSAGES FROM DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT DAVE KUDLA

### WHAT A COINCIDENCE



Last June, 2022, I attended St. Mary Orchard Lake Founder's Day. It is a daylong celebration of the beginning of the school, which began in 1885. As a part of the Founders Day festivities, the graduating class of 1972 were celebrating their 50 year reunion. I went there for a year and a half and had I graduated there, 1972 would have been my year to join the graduating class. I met a few people from the class of '72 and it was a thrill for me to see them after so many years. I wore my green St. Pius X cap that day.

I remember on class member telling me years ago about Southgate, Michigan and Downriver. At that time, I had no idea where these places were. When he saw my cap he said "I went to St. Pius school", we rode the same school bus every day. This person now lives in California and mentioned he gets the Knights of Columbus newsletter by e-mail. He also mentioned he is the Grand Knight of his council. Well, Greg Czopek, if you read this month's publication, I just wanted to say "HI!". Greg's father and uncle were previous owners of the Czopek Funeral Home. For an undertaker's son, he was pretty cool.

For those of you who were possibly contemplating joining the Knights of Columbus, don't be hesitant or afraid to do so. Let us get together and build our own coincidence.

### DESERT MEAL

On Sunday afternoon, February 19, 2023 our Downriver Desert Meal took place. Crystal Gardens was the place to be. Three of the many seminarians that partook in the festivities spoke of their religious journey to a packed house. Each presented an inspiring message from different walks of life. It was pure joy to hear their stories.

Tremendous thanks to Brain Batko and his fine team for putting on this flawless event to help fund many of these seminarians planned pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The food and company were outstanding. Crystal Gardens outdid themselves by including a surprise Cannoli treat after a fantastic meal. We can look forward to next years as preparations are already underway for Desert Meal 2024, planned for the Sunday after Super Bowl. Tickets will be available in advance. All are welcomed, Brian says, family and friends are encouraged to come.

The need for more priest and religious vocations is urgent. We were told that last year for the first time in memory, no new priests were ordained. This year there will be five. To see and hear these young men was inspiring. In the year ahead, please come and pray for vocations.

Respectfully,

Deputy Grand Knight, Dave Kudla



## **SPELLING BEE**

On Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at St. Pius X School, the annual spelling competition hosted by our Knights of Columbus council. The St. Pius staff selected a few top spellers. The entire student body watched as the youngsters spelled their way to become school champions. The winners received a certificate and gift card courtesy of our K of C. No one seemed to be impressed by my spelling of RED, or TWO, or THREE. We all new how to spell ICE CREAM, which leads us to the next event...

## **ICE CREAM SOCIAL 2023 AT ST. PIUS X SCHOOL**

One Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, our entire school, from pre-school to Eighth grade gathered in the activity center hallway. Class by class were given a selection of ice cream bars, again sponsored by our Knights of Columbus council to show our appreciation the students support of the "Coats for Kids" Drive. The students raised over \$500,00 and donated many coats for less advantaged children to keep them warm this winter season.

When a fathers see their children come home from school, it usually brings a smile to their faces. Imagine smiling over 300 times. That is what happened, as these received their ice cream. They we all very happy and thankful. This is a part of what your Knights of Columbus are about. Come and join us, you will be glad you did - Guaranteed.

When our Grand Knight Mark Garcellano announced the ice cream social, he said he felt like a "Rock Star". This brough about a loud burst of cheers from the students. The only downside to the day was the Good Humor people did not bring by favorite ice cream sandwich. They promised to bring them next year. I could have two I was told. I will be waiting all year with anticipation and a smile on my face.

## **DO YOU LIKE DOUGHNUTS?**

Some people like doughnuts, some love them! And then there are those that don't care for them at all! How can this be? Regardless, we would like to invite our friends and families in the parish to our Knights of Columbus sponsored "Donut Sundays". We serve coffee, hot tea, fruit punch, orange juice and of course doughnuts. A lot of people come just to sit with their friends from church after mass. Others come to meet new friends.

As you walk by and into our Social Hall on these "Donut Sundays" you will most likely hear talking and laughing. This is a fund raiser for special needs in our community and selected charities. It can be a big shot in the arm for any of the organizations selected. We strongly encourage free will donations. It makes a difference of helping a little ort helping a lot.

Please come help us help others and have a good time doing so. Our Charity Family Breakfasts have been known to serve up quite the feast. Each of the fund raiser also give discerning men an opportunity to join us as a member of the Knights of Columbus. Come talk with us and find out for yourself how a little od your time can make a big difference.

Respectfully,

Deputy Grand Knight, Dave Kudla



DEACON CHUCK

### HOLDING THE LINE

We have entered the fray donned with Ashes on our foreheads. A desert of howling wasteland where we know our adversary lurks; waiting. Brother Knights, make no mistake about it. This season of Lent is a raging battleground. A combat that brings Satan dread and at the same time pleasure. The battle that will culminate on Calvary and the foot of the Cross.

Our foe dreads the fight because, we the faithful, liken these 40 days to the time Jesus spent in the desert preparing for journey to Jerusalem to embrace the Cross. The Devil is dismayed so many of us are willing to face similar abstinence, prayer, and penance as a means of becoming holier. We who are willing to march with our Blessed Lord.

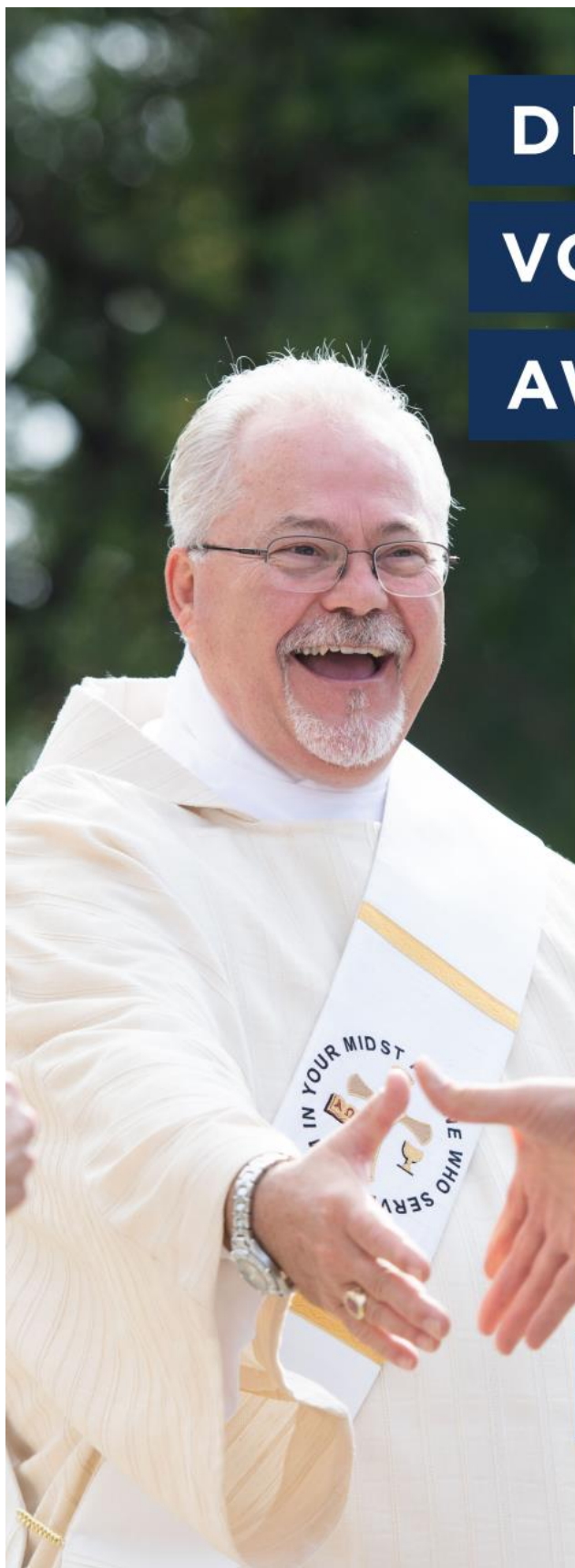
At the same time, what delights the Evil One is the fact that in our self-induced denial, people are often put in a state of weakness where they become susceptible to temptation. The Tempter operates with ease as many find themselves falling when the sacrifice or penance they've chose becomes uncomfortable or unpleasant. You can bet that's the time the Serpent will approach us.

You know how it is when talking yourself into or out of something. It usually starts with an affirming persuasion; just this once; no one is looking; what can it hurt; who'll know; it's just a small thing of no consequence. But whether mortal or venial, sin is still sin and a win for evil. Worse still are those who have fallen out of practice (deserters) or just don't believe (non-combatants) that amuse him the most. Turning your back on God is victory; even if we are willing to pick up their burden and move forward under the banner of Christ, there remains the fallen and lost.

Pope Benedict XVI put it rightly when he said, "(Lent) is a period of spiritual 'combat' which we must experience alongside Jesus, not with pride and presumption, but using the arms of faith: prayer, listening to the word of God and penance. In this way we will be able to celebrate Easter in truth, ready to renew the promises of our Baptism."

This Lenten season, let the Knights be those who hold the line refusing to retreat. Those who stay the course with integrity. Those who free the captives trapped in darkness, liberating them with the light of the Kingdom of our Heavenly Father and Our Lord's Church. In humility let us win for Christ.

Vivat Jesus,  
Deacon Chuck/Lecturer



# DIACONATE

# VOCATION

# AWARENESS

## INFORMATION NIGHT

The Permanent Diaconate Office of the Archdiocese of Detroit will be hosting an in-person Vocation Awareness Information Night at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish for all who are discerning a call to the Diaconate. Please pass along the following information if you know of any interested men or would like to encourage someone you know.

**Wednesday, March 1, 2023**

**7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

**St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception  
Parish in the Parish Life Center**

**127 N. Monroe St. Monroe, MI 48162**

**RSVP AT:**

**[aod.org/diaconate-vocation-information-night](http://aod.org/diaconate-vocation-information-night)**



## THOUGHTS FROM CHANCELLOR RICHARD GREGOIRE

### WHO ARE YOU?

What's in a Name? So many questions, so many wonderments, curiosities and of course meaning! It's interesting to look at History and Family and Friends and hear stories of what they may know about why and how and what influences were used to give us our monikers. It was more than likely our parents that bestowed them on us. Scripture has stories of God giving names, Such as John the Baptist, the angel said "Your wife Elizabeth will bear a son and you will name him John..." He must certainly have a purpose in mind.(hmm?) Changing names, Abram was changed to Abraham, Jacob changed to Israel, Simon to Peter and so many more! He even gave nicknames to the Apostles James and John as the "Sons of Thunder" And Calling us by name.

First names, given names, surnames all bestowed on us as Family, a purpose, a memorial to all those who went before us. From where they came from (Hmm?) where we came from, their culture, their Faith, their God. What about nicknames, Middle names, baptismal names, confirmation names. Do you have any of these? I do! I was encouraged to select a Christian or Saints name for a Confirmation name and I was probably too young to understand the significance of it as I was only ten?! I picked Joseph as many Catholics used the names of Mary and Joseph often. Thus, my full name is Richard Matthew Joseph Gregoire. All the girls in my Family have the name of Mary as one of their names. My Mother's First name is Mary as were her two sisters. My sisters have Marie for their middle names' but one is Mary for the first.

So I can see the Communion of Saints. It's interesting to note a specific Saint as I think it was probably French Catholic tradition, my maternal Grandfather's name was Jean Baptiste. OK You know I think about stuff. I thought it was cool that my Dad was known and addressed as Frank, Frankie, Uncle Frank, (his Baptismal name)! My sibs joke around as who was Mom's favorite and I could get picked often enough! So of course I thought I should claim it!

OK so here it goes. What's in a name Right?? My Mother talked occasionally about her families pet dogs growing up. I have to remind my sibs of this as ammo. Get this,--- two dogs,--- their names,--- get this-----OLD DICK and Richard----- everyone knows how beloved the pets were growing up. What's in a name? Anyway, it's obvious how important and cool names are. Who picks them, I know we looked at baby names books with their meanings etc. So Moms and Dads, sometimes us, sometimes we change them.

Friends and Family through the years will come up with very endearing nicknames. I've heard a lot of cool ones over the years and I think they are special. Some of my favorites! Why? It certainly, probably says something about who was giving the name and a fun twist possibly on the character or stature of the said friend. Names tell us where we came from, like Jesus of Nazareth, or what we did like Joseph the Carpenter or from whom we came like sons of Isaac, son of Jacob, son of David and many more examples in our names as well. As in last names (surnames)Davidson, Johnson, Richardson etc. And the list goes on.

Names tell me that we all belong somewhere, to someone, in the past, in the present, in the future and I believe it's "all together". There is a song that we sing in the Liturgy at Mass by David Haas called You are Mine taken from Isaiah 43:1-3, a favorite of mine, and part of it goes

like this “Do not be afraid I am with you I have called you each by NAME come and follow Me I will bring you home I love you and you are Mine!” If there is anyone else whose eyes may have fell on this article and has any NAME stories they would like to share with me I would love to hear them. I think you should be able to find me. Maybe at a charity breakfast or Fish Fry? Richard Gregoire ---AKA Dick, Dickie Bird P.S. I wonder what name Our Good Lord will use?

Editors Comment: If the Lord knows you as we do...My guess is he will call you Richard The Great!

### MESSAGE FROM PAST GRAND KNIGHT AND ADVOCATE BILL ROBERT



The essence of life is to love God, your wife and family while extending that love to your neighbors and your following the teachings of Jesus Christ.

It's the practice of being a Christian that is hard. Remember that is what our savior said in his teachings found in the Gospels.

“Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments” **(Matthew 22:37-40).**

### LENT HAS A FACINATING STORY IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The history of Lent can be traced back to the Council of Nicaea in **AD 325**. In addition, the Order of the Catechumenate and the Order of Penitents had a significant impact on the development of the season of Lent that was restored by Vatican II.

Lent is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by [giving alms](#); and we practice self-control through [fasting](#). We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully.

Many know of the tradition of abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent, but we are also called to practice self-discipline and fast in other ways throughout the season. Contemplate the meaning and origins of the Lenten fasting tradition. The giving of alms is one way to share God's gifts—not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents. As St. John Chrysostom reminds us: "Not to enable the poor to share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life. The goods we possess are not ours, but theirs." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2446).





**ST. PIUS X**

CATHOLIC PARISH & SCHOOL

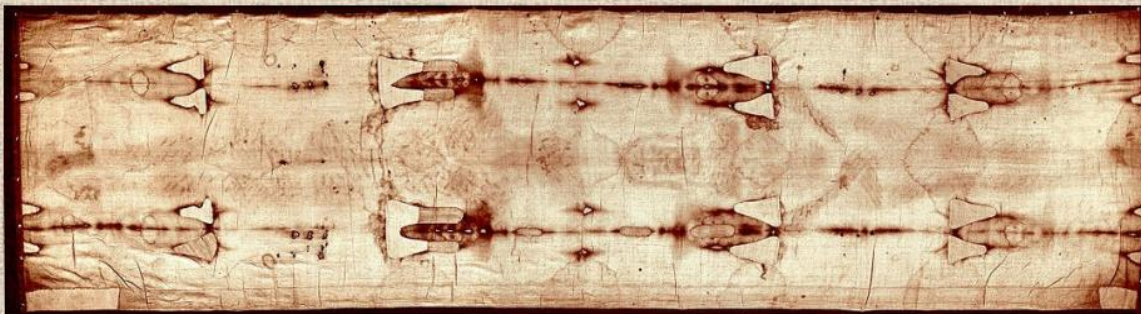
14101 Superior Southgate, MI 48195

Together  
with



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

*Present*



# *The Shroud of Turin*

## *Unraveling the Mystery*

**Palm Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 at 3:00 pm.**

The Shroud of Turin is purported to be the burial cloth of Jesus Christ. It bares the image of a crucified man and is the most scientifically studied artifact in history. Deacon Bob Tremmel has studied this relic for over 60 years and has presented his insights over 30. His background as a Permanent Deacon, Scripture Scholar and Research Chemist blend well together for a presentation that is truly informative. He has authored three books; *The Four Gospels*, *Words to Live By* and *Eleazar and the Messiah*. This presentation will unravel the mystery and reveal the Shroud for what it truly is. Don't miss this memorable event.



Deacon Bob Tremmel

*Free-will donations accepted*



#### **MESSAGE FROM FINANCIAL SECRETETARY RAY BILYK**

Our St. Pius Music Ministry Director has requested that we contribute funds to purchase a mixer/microphone to help improve the sound for our choir. Omar noted more costs will need to be addressed of which further help will be solicited from the other parish organizations.

At this time he requested and received our commitment to pay \$1800 for the mixer/microphone. More discussed could be addressed at our business meeting on March 1.



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

It was certainly a pleasure to once again chair the Desert Meal to raise funds so that many of our archdiocesan Seminarians can visit the Holy Land. Three of these seminarians shared inspiring experience they have had as they continue their journey towards a religious life. Each come from very different background. I was a joy to listen to what they had to say. Those that attended were given a treat that none will forget anytime soon.

Stephen Moening spoke about going to Rome and other cities in Italy last year, since due to COVID restriction a visit to the Holy Land was not an option. He recalled visiting a church outside of Rome where they had the exposed, blessed sacrament miracle that had a big impact on him. He had to opportunity to be in the midst of the holy host that had signs of blood on it. Steven said the experience brought him closer to God and thought that it is important for all seminarians to have experiences to bring them close to the Lord.

Yousif Habeeb, raised in the Chaldean Eparchy talked about his indecision in trying to be an archdiocesan priest or go to order in Iowa. As he was driving he was stuck behind a vehicle for several miles. He finally realized there was a bumper sticker on the car that read Sacred Hear Seminary. LOL

Lisandro Barba spoke who just happens to be our K of C Council 3956 sponsor. Lisandro talked about discernment weekend three times in a row to finally decide to pursue the priesthood. He then admitted that when it came time to make the decision he went to the bathroom. No matter where you are, God is there with you... no matter where!

You had to be there. There stories were so much better in person. Come next year and hear for yourselves.



### **KNIGHT OF THE MONTH - FRANK CUSCHIERI**

Our Knight of the month for March, 2023 is Frank Cuschieri. Frank has been married to Sharon for 52 years. He has been a member of St. Pius X parish for 44 years and has been a proud brother Knight for the past 14 years. Frank is also a Fourth Degree Sir Knight.

Frank and Sharon have five children, thirteen grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. A Eucharistic Minister, Frank sometimes carries the Cross when no altar servers are able to attend. As an usher for the 4:00 p.m. Saturday mass, a responsibility he really enjoys.

Woodworking is also a hobby of his which he has shown great skill for the people of St. Pius. Frank is very fond of the parish and being around this faith community. Fr. Suresh is a favorite of his. Frank like volunteering and helping others. He is also a member of the parish council.

When I first joined the Usher's Club, it was Frank who took me under his wing. At the Saturday masse, he showed me what to do and how to do it. I always refer to him as "my boss".

### **FAMILY OF THE MONTH - LIZ AND LARRY RIDENOUR**

Liz and Larry have been married 65 years. Yes, SIXTY-FIVE YEARS! Their anniversary last September is an incredible milestone. They have seven children, 16 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren! Karry is also a brother in our Knights of Columbus.

What they really like about our St. Pius X is that it is a family. Liz says "we are a bunch of friendly people willing to help each other". When Liz was in charge of a committee and word went out that she needed help, she promptly received it. "Our parishioners are always there to lend a donating hand".

For many years, Liz was in charge of the Southgate Planning Commission. She was also on the St. Pius X Worship Commission and Special Events committee before covid. She took charge of our parish festival, serving as our chairperson for 15 of those years. That's not all...Liz has been in charge of our ministers and lecturers keeping countless written schedules.

Liz and Larry are not in the best of health; however, Liz is very optimistic for a return to her many duties. As the President of the Rosary Altar Confraternity for the past 20 years, the members really want you back. Talk about being active!! Larry and Liz have done it all! Congratulations!

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

Deputy Grand Knight

The following was posted on Face Book after our K of C council treated the students of St. Pius School to an Ice Cream Social on February 2<sup>nd</sup> in appreciation for their help with Coats for Kids



ST. PIUS SCHOOL PRESENTS

## KENTUCKY DERBY AUCTION

SPONSORED BY CROWN ENTERPRISES LLC

Grecian Center  
Southgate

**FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH**  
**7:30 - 11:00 PM**

### TICKETS

\$100 PER COUPLE  
\$60 INDIVIDUAL

Ticket sales will close April 3rd  
No tickets will be sold at the door

### MENU

Premium open bar, cheese and cracker display, veggie display,  
warm hors d'oeuvres and dessert display



Our K of C Council encourage our brothers Knights to  
support St. Pius X school fund raisers whenever possible.





**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**  
**Bernard P. O'Brien Council 3956 Calendar**  
**March - April 2023**

February 28, 2023	Memorial Mass with 4 <sup>th</sup> Degree, St. Pius X Church
March 1, 2023	O'Brien Council Business Meeting, St. Pius X Social Hall
March 3, 2023	SPX Fish Fry (Dinner 4-7p) (Volunteer 3:45-7:45p)
March 5, 2023	Donut Sunday, St. Pius X Social Hall
March 5, 2023	John Tibbs Concert, St Pius X Church
March 10, 2023	SPX Fish Fry (Dinner 4-7p) (Volunteer 3:45-7:45p)
March 11, 2023	Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, St. Pius X Social Hall
March 17, 2023	SPX Fish Fry (Dinner 4-7p) (Volunteer 3:45-7:45p)
March 23, 2023	Michigan K of C Fraternal Night at LCA (Red Wings Game)
March 24, 2023	SPX Fish Fry (Dinner 4-7p) (Volunteer 3:45-7:45p)
March 26, 2023	Brunch with Easter Bunny Sunday 3/26 after 11am Mass in the Activity Center
March 26, 2023	Theology on Tap with Fr. Amore at Detroit Brewing Company 3:00 - 6:00
March 29, 2023	Officer's Meeting, Robert Jones Council
March 31, 2023	SPX Fish Fry (Dinner 4-7p) (Volunteer 3:45-7:45p)
April 1-2, 2023	Tootsie Roll Drive, Dix/Eureka and St. Pius X
April 2, 2023	Shroud of Turin Lecture, 3PM, St. Pius X
April 5, 2023	O'Brien Council Business Meeting, St. Pius X Social Hall
April 16, 2023	Donut Sunday, St. Pius X Social Hall
April 26, 2023	Officer's Meeting, Robert Jones Council
April 30, 2023	Fifth Sunday Rosary, St. Pius X

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

### **BECOME A KNIGHT TODAY!**

Did you know that the international organization known as the Knights of Columbus is 139 years old? That we were founded by a parish priest, Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney? That Pope St. John Paul II called the Knights “the strong right arm of the Church”? Did you know that Knights change lives and save lives through our “Faith in Action Programs”?

You can be part of changing lives and saving lives by joining us. Go to <https://www.kofc.org/joinus> and become a Knight today. Online membership is **FREE** if you use promo code **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY**. After joining us Online, our Council, **Bernard P. O’Brien/St. Pius X Council 3956**, will contact you so you can transfer into our Council.

If you have any questions, please can contact us directly at:

GK Mark Garcellano (734) 968-6900

[GrandKnight@kofc3956.org](mailto:GrandKnight@kofc3956.org)

DD Ray Bilyk

(313) 247-2110

[RayBilyk@kofc3956.org](mailto:RayBilyk@kofc3956.org)



### **THEOLOGY ON TAP**

Join Fr. Mario Amore, an alumnus of St. Pius School as he hosts this popular series that will “tap” into current topics in religion and theology. This engaging lecture at the Detroit Brewing Company at 1529 Broadway Street in downtown Detroit is scheduled for Sunday, March 26 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This setting is perfect to enjoy the conversation at one of Michigan’s most popular venues.

Fr. Mario is a gifted speaker and one of our own having grown up on Woodhaven where his family still resides. He attended St. Pius X School, then Gabriel Richard Catholic High School. He has degrees from Sacred Heart Seminary, Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome (Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology) and Catholic University of America (Master of Science in Ecclesial Administration and Management).

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

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



## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

- Bruce and Caru Kresslein (March 21, 1992) 31 Years
- Dr. Okechukwu and Frances Unogu (March 22, 2000) 23 years

## YEARS OF SERVICE

- Michael J. Mitroka (March 1) 68 Years of Service
- John C. Byers (March 1) 56 Years of Service
- Bruce L. Presutti (March 1) 49 Years of Service
- Christopher G. Poitier (March 1) 45 Years of Service
- David C. Bergeron (March 1) 43 Years of Service
- Steven R. Crandall (March 1) 41 Years of Service
- Deacon Scott LaForest (March 1) 34 Years of Service
- Patrick A. Guentner (March 24) 27 Years of Service
- Steven M. Minella (March 25) 22 Years of Service
- Daniel B. McGuire (March 9) 7 Years of Service
- 

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](mailto:raybilyk@kofc3956.org). We would love for this to be as accurate as possible. Any inaccuracies are inadvertent. Thank you, Ray!

### IN OUR PRAYERS:

Please pray for healing for brother knights, family and friends



- Robert Laforest
- Joe Hernandez
- Larry and Liz Ridenour
- Deacon Bob

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

I hope to see you at a daily mass for Lent. I know a lot of you attend daily mass. Whenever I make the time to go, I seem to see a lot of the same friendly familiar faces. It's the best way to start and prioritize your day. Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and alms giving. It's meant to renew yourself for Easter give up some bad habits or start good new habits. I can't think of a better habit than to spend time in communion with Christ and your fellow parishioners.

Deacon Chuck suggested starting out the day with a Bible reading for his family. They keep theirs in common area and read it before the day gets ahead of them. What if your Bible reading is coming from a lecturer or Father Suresh?

I can't commit to making it every day of Lent. I can commit to a few extra days beside Sunday. Occasionally I'll see a large family with three or four kids at a daily mass. It energizes my spirit because I know that they made an extra effort to be there. A friend of mine told me heard from a priest that it gives the Priest the same boost.

I hope to see you on one of these extra daily masses during Lent. I know a lot of you are busier than I am, and that many of you are helping the Church in necessary and meaningful ways. I hope to see you because it will mean the I'm following through on a Lenten promise. It will also mean that we are also spending time in Jesus's presence before Easter.

Robert Park, Membership Director and Co-Editor, Knights of Columbus Council 3956

### PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

*We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love be with us, Lord, even as we put our hope in you.*

***Psalms 33:20-22***

Vivat Jesus

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

Robert Park, Membership Director and Co-Editor

Knights of Columbus Council 3956