

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3956

Newsletter

St. Pius X, Southgate, Michigan Issue #55

NOVEMBER, 2023



WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2023, MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING



K of C Council 3956 Business Meeting (St Pius Social Hall) Social Hour begins at 6:00 p.m. followed by meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. First meeting under the new board!



SOCIAL HOURS: FOOD AND BEVERAGES BEGINNING AT 6:00 PM
MEETING TO FOLLOW AT 7:00 PM

AGENDA AND REPORTS

GK's Report (includes old business):

1. Coats for Kids- First Distribution 10/08/23
 - Second Distribution date 11/11/23 @ St. Andre Bisette
2. MI Drive, New dates 10/14/23-10/15/23
 - Funds Raised
3. Family Breakfast 10/22/23
 - Strong volunteer presence
 - Funds Raised
4. Trunk or Treat 10/28/23 SPX Parking Lot
 - Sponsoring Cider and Donuts
 - Serving food/Grilling Hotdogs
 - Passing out Tootsie Rolls
5. Jubilarium Mass
 - Assist in serving/cleaning up.
6. Building (Jim's Tuxedo)
 - Investigating establishment of legal building owner entity
 - Repair 2 lights
 - Repair leaking gutter
 - Replace plastic gutter downspout extensions (3 commercial, 2 residential)
 - Clean gutters

Financial Report:

Membership Report:

Worthy Director Reports:

1. Donuts and Coffee Chair Ray Bilyk
2. Family Breakfast Chair Chuck DeGroat
3. Program Director- Ryan Daw
 - Faith- Brian Batko
 - Life- Bob Bailey
 - Community- Dr. Stephen Gall
 - Family- Robert Park
4. Newsletter Chair- Robert Park and Tony Chirco
5. 4th Degree Representative

Unfinished Business:

A KNIGHT OUT WITH FRIENDS

Dave Sadjak (Fourth back from left) who relocated to Florida returned to visit with his friends from O'Brien Council where he served as Membership Chairman and PDGK. He chaired our Doughnut Sundays and Captain of the Ushers for years at 11:30 Sunday Mass.

Dave recruited our two most recent Grand Knights and our previous two Deputy Grand Knights. He set the bar high as he exemplified what an effective, resourceful and enthusiastic brother of the Knight of Columbus is today. Dave remains with the K of C at his St. Anthony Council in Florida where he is editor of their newsletter.



ADDRESS FROM GRAND KNIGHT MARK GARCELLANO



My Fellow Brother Knights! As I reflect on the beginning of the holiday season (Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas) and the council events that we conduct to support those holidays, I'm amazed and very thankful for all the support we receive as well as can give.

For Halloween, the council volunteered to grill hotdogs and serve food and beverages during the PTO Trunk or Treat event for the St. Pius School children. We are attempting to relieve the parents from having to volunteer to serve the food and beverages so that they can be with their children trunk or treating or passing out candy.

We also are supporting our local kids in need with the Coats for Kids program that was kicked off in the beginning of October. We've raised more than \$3,500 so far and have distributed more than 160 coats to needs kids during our first distribution at St. Andre Bessette in Ecorse on October 8, 2023. In addition to 12 knights from our council volunteered as well as 8 SPX Eighth Graders who also volunteered. We have another distribution scheduled November 11, 2023, at St. Andre Bessette. All are welcome to volunteer. It is difficult for me to describe the good feeling you get when putting a new coat on a needy child.

One story that is unique that I experienced during this year's CFK campaign was that I received a note from a grandmother. She had called Lou, the parish secretary stating that her grandson desperately needed a winter coat this year and some shoes but did not have any transportation to St. Andre Bessette. Coincidentally, I had just finished cleaning out my basement and I was about to donate my son's shoes and boots he no longer wore (as he outgrew them) to the Salvation Army. So, I took it upon myself to get a new coat from the CFK program as well as a new hat and gloves and my son's sneakers and winter boots and delivered it to her. Upon receiving those items, the grandmother was so truly thankful that she was crying. Her grandson was so happy to receive the new coat, gloves, hat, boots and shoes. Especially shoes. He showed me his only pair of old shoes that were on canvas and had holes in them. He was literally running around jumping for joy.

As I reflect on why I joined the council and volunteered to lead the council, it is unique events like the one I just shared that gives reason to the purpose. Which is to help, to give back, to teach, to set the example and to be a force for good. This is essence of being a Catholic and a Knight. Come join us!

Vivat Jesus!

Mark Garcellano, GK
734-968-6900
markgarcellano@yahoo.com

THE MONTH IN PICTURES



The first of two distributions of the 2023 Coats for Kids Campaign was well attended by our O'Brien Council on October 8th at St. Anne Bissette. We encourage each brother knight to consider attending the upcoming second distribution on November 11th. The distribution of coats and backpacks is very heart warming as for some of the children, these may be the only outerwear they will have for the cold winter ahead. Please consider attending the next distribution.



Fr. Suresh at Trunk or Treat on October 28th with Deacon Chuck and the Misses. St. Pius school administration and staff once again organized a well attended spooky affair on Saturday, October 28th. Our O'Brien Council sponsored Cider and Donuts, grilled Hotdogs and passed out Tootsie Rolls. Thank you to each of our brother knights who bundled up to volunteer.



The return of Charity Family Breakfast on Sunday, October 22nd was well attended at St. Pius Social Hall. Chairman Chuck DeGroat welcomed all the help he received beginning at 8:00 am that morning through early afternoon. It was an illustration of “many hands make light work”. For those of us that volunteered it was great to see so many “hands” on deck.



Soccer Challenge Tournament Winners were recognized last month.

Our council works closely with the St. Pius Athletic Department personnel throughout the school year in many of the tournaments and challenges.

We invite all our brother knights to volunteer to many of the upcoming events.



Fr. Suresh looks on as head of the Palentine Priests from Rome joins in the celebration of mass. Many of our brother knights accepted Fr. Suresh's invitation to attend

WELCOME NEW BROTHERS TO OUR O'BRIEN COUNCIL

MR. JOSEF CHLEBEK of Flat Rock, Michigan.
MR MIKE CAMILLERI of Howell, Michigan
MR FRED GERRING of Southgate, Michigan
MR. JACOB HARPENAU of Southgate, Michigan
MR JOE SCHWARTZ of Flat Rock, Michigan
MR. ADAM WALENTOWICZ of Brownstown, Michigan

We are pleased to have you men among us watch you as share your talents with us.



Editor's note: At a recent mass homily, Fr. Suresh provided a message that I found fascinating and asked that he share it. Father asked that only an excerpt be written. Honestly, it was so good, I found it hard to cut down. Reflect on this message and as it did for me, I hope it gives you hope and peace. Thank you, Father Suresh.

RECENT REFLECTION OF GOSPEL MESSAGE FROM FR. SURESH

Twenty fifth Sunday of the Year : Is 55: 6-9; Phil 1: 20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a.

Anecdotes

1: "That's not fair!" How many times, in the course of a given day, have you heard someone protest, "That's not fair!" Children on a playground shout when they detect a foul play: "That's not fair!" Siblings doing household chores may complain, "I'm doing more work!" or "My chores are more difficult; that's not fair!" Students at school may resent the extra attention given to a classmate... "She's the teacher's favorite; that's not fair!" A brother thinks his piece of pie appears to be smaller than his sister's -- "That's not fair!" Someone at work receives a raise in salary when another person thinks he/she is more deserving: "I have seniority. I've been here longer; that's not fair!" The coach of the Little League baseball team always puts her child in as starting pitcher; other players are annoyed... "That's not fair!" Most of us think that good work, seniority and experience should be rewarded, that all should be subject to the same rules, like "First come, first served," that everyone should be treated impartially and that there should be no exceptions and no favorites! Therefore, when confronted with a situation such as that put before us in today's Gospel parable of identical wages for different numbers of hours of work, our sense of fairness is provoked. (Patricia Datchuck Sánchez)

The prophet Isaiah reminds the exiles in Babylon that their God is more merciful than they are, and more forgiving. He is ready to pardon their infidelity which has resulted in their exile. Their merciful God will bless them with material and spiritual blessings.

Isaiah reminds us that the God of Moses and the prophets doesn't think in the same way that we do. God is more merciful than we are, and more forgiving. As Isaiah reports, "My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord." Perhaps we would have a better world if we were to adopt some of God's ways instead of asking questions? Our faith teaches us that, as a loving Father, God acts only for our good. God is always near to us in this life, and if we remain near to Him on this earth, we can trust in His love and goodness to keep us near Him forever in Heaven.

We do not always understand God's ways, and that is why it is dangerous to complain. Complaining takes place in today's Gospel. Those who were hired first complain because those who worked only one hour received the same wage as they did. We certainly understand their feelings. We probably would have the same reaction, if we were in their shoes. This parable is one of the most difficult parables for us to understand. But, before we become too critical, we must realize that all the parable is doing is reflecting life as it is.

The truth is that life is unfair. We would like to think that those who work the hardest would be the most successful. But we all know people who are working two, maybe three, jobs and are still unable to support their families. We would like to think that the people who have the most talent are those would be the most respected and compensated.

But we all know of football players who cannot even remember to keep their helmets on their heads (sorry about this) who are making millions of dollars more than teachers who give their life instructing our young. We would like to think that people who are good and who live honestly are going to have easier lives. But we all know people who are the "salt of the earth" who have terrible crosses to bear. And each time we see any of these inequalities, we are tempted to complain.

Life does not always fall into categories that we think are just. In an unfair world, jealousy can consume us. If we compare ourselves to others, that comparison can make us blind to the blessings that we have received. The gospel reminds us that our blessings are real, and it is only by embracing them that we will be able to find happiness regardless of how much more others seem to be given.

"Take what belongs to you and go." Live the life you have been given, not the life that you wish you had been given, not the life that other people have been given. Live your life fully because complaining will only diminish you, only lessen you.

So, what is it you complain about? Your spouse? Your children? Your parents? Your job? Your retirement? Your church? Your government? Your health? Be careful about complaining because it can rob you of life. Instead, take what belongs to you and go. If you don't like something change it. If you can't change it then change the way you think about it. But don't waste your time complaining. Life is simply too short for that.

The good news is this: life may be unfair, but God is in charge. And God will not forget any of us.

MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT DEPUTY RAY BILYK



HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE LATELY?

As District Director, I visit many councils and I agree that this O'Brien Council is among the most active not just in our local district but statewide.

We are hosting many exemplifications as we bring in more brother knights serve the needs of our community. I am excited to see many of these new members to our council volunteering to many of our events. With God's blessing; the future is indeed bright.



PRAYERFUL CONTEMPLATION FROM DEACON CHUCK

November is near the end of autumn and holds many events that afford time for meditation. The falling leaves, crisp air, and often overcast skies are stark reminders the year is coming to a close. Celebrations imbedded into the month give cause to contemplate where we were, where we are, and where we are going.

On November 1st we celebrate All Saints Day. A holy day where we remember and honor all the saints. Those who not only played a significant part in Christianity, but who we believe are also in heaven. It makes one wonder, am I living a saintly life? Are my eyes fixed on heaven?

All Souls Day follows on November 2. It gives us a chance to reflect on the souls in Purgatory. We pray, attain indulgences, and offer Masses for our dearly departed. Again, we wonder, am I living a holy life worthy of fond remembrance? Will others pray for me when I'm gone?

On November 11th we remember and honor all those who have served or serve in the Armed Forces. Those who have given of themselves to ensure the freedoms and safety of others and this great nation. This gives us cause to consider, as a Knight, have I given of myself? Is the sacrificial love of neighbor part of my life?

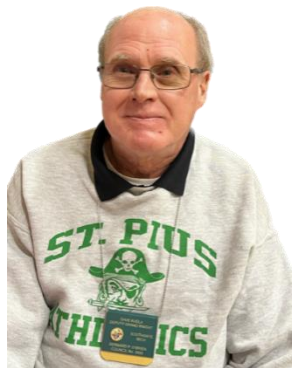
Thanksgiving is on November 23rd, when we ruminate the many blessings, we've received and enjoyed from God's creation. A time for family, friends, and feasts that celebrate love, companionship, and abundance. God blessed us with so much, do we likewise share with those less fortunate? Ask yourself, have I fed, clothed, visited, or welcomed someone out of my circle?

As we prepare for the new liturgical year, it's an opportunity to spend quality time with the Lord and reflect on the past year and how we will hopefully live better in the coming year.

Advent, the season of preparation for the coming of Christ's birth is closer than we realize. Let us prepare for the future by contemplating the past during this present time and adjust where necessary. Let us strive for holiness one step at a time.

Vivat Jesus,
Deacon Chuck, Council Lecturer

SHARING THOUGHTS FROM DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT DAVID KUDLA



INTERESTING POPE OF ST. PIUS CHURCH

During the course of the past year and a half, I ventured out and interviewed a number of St. Pius parishioners. Some were K of C members for our 'Knight of the Month', others were randomly chosen for our 'Family of the Month'. I never thought I would run into such a diverse and interesting group of people.

Each one of them has their own unique story to tell. When I first started to do this, I did not think too much of this. When a name or a family was picked by myself or other K of C officers, I imagined listing names was good enough. I decided to call or sit down with these people so I could hear and write about their story.

At times the information had to be pulled out of these people. Some gave me an abundance of details. I had to tell them there is only one page maximum on their stories. If I wrote more, Tony (our editor) would ask me (What are you doing). I too must realize that I only submitted a couple of articles. He has the whole newsletter to assemble together.

The stories people told me were fascinating. I really enjoyed doing this. These people were all different and came from all walks of life. Their devotion to their families and St. Pius Parish were just wonderful. So, if I ever ask to speak to you, don't try to hide or run away. After our little interview, I usually tell everyone: "See it was painless talking to me". Thank you everyone.

ANOTHER THOUGHT: "Shot glasses at the Dime Toss"

In conversation with our District Deputy, Ray Bylik, our dime toss at the Parish Festival was a big success. The most popular aspect of the dime toss was placing the shot glasses on the top shelf. While on a mini vacation last week, Valerie and I stopped at a museum gift shop. Of course, many items of merchandise were at the store. One thing that caught my eye were shot glasses. A brainstorm followed telling me to buy two shot glasses and give them to Ray. He in turn could use them at next year's festival. He could display a variety of shot glasses from around the world.

So here is my suggestion. If you have a few shot glasses lying around the house and would like to dispose of them, or if you go somewhere and care to purchase a couple of them, here is what you can do. Bring these glasses to the Parish office marked "FESTIVAL DIME Toss" or bring them to our K of C meetings. Our meetings are the first Wednesday of each month at the Social Hall at 6:00 pm. Just come in and say, "I have shot glasses (or any other glasses) for Ray". I hope to get something started here where each month Ray could leave the meeting with a few glasses.

I, Ray and the Festival committee thank you ahead of time. I really would like to see this idea take off. Also, to all of you who donated to "coats for Kids". Thank you so much for your generous support. Our O'Brien Council #3956 is so grateful.

Respectfully,
Dave Kudla, DGK
Deputy Grand Knight



MESSAGE FROM PAST GRAND KNIGHT AND ADVOCATE BILL ROBERT:

REFLECTING ON GARDENING

Every year I look forward to growing vegetable in my garden. I plant in early May and watch God's wonder of the plants growing in my garden. I have even purchased a mini greenhouse for my deck to extend the season.

When we get to this time of the year, I turn over my garden in the backyard and pull flower bulbs to prepare for the next year.

It's somewhat depressing to watch the plants die and reminds me that I also will be going the same way. But death is just a phase into new life as Jesus Christ taught us. I am human so this fact sometimes bothers me. I need reassurance. It is found in the Gospels and the Mass! We just have to be open and listen to His word.



MESSAGE FROM TRUSTEE AND COR DIRECTOR BRIAN BATKO

The recently postpone Shrines and Steins may be scheduled as early as this Spring, 2024. Information will become available as we make arrangements.

We encourage all brother knights to come early to our meetings to get better acquainted with each other. We are also looking into social events with family members. Popular events like Jazz Night, Christian Concerts and Football Squares are being considered. Please come to our meetings and share your thoughts.



MESSAGE FROM FINANCIAL SECRETARY RAY BILYK

Discussion has once again come up for our building on Dix-Toledo Leased out to Jim's Tuxedo to investigating the establishment of legal building owner entity. We will be seeking legal council should we proceed with this action.

There are also repairs necessary at Jim's Tuxedo which include repair or replacement of outside light, Cleaning and inspecting gutters and downspouts, and protecting the recently rebuilt cinder block wall from snow plowing and other vehicles.

For those that may of assistance, please contact GK Mark Garcellano at markgarcellano@yahoo.com or Tony Chirco at ajc@tm.net.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

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)
734-934-2599



NOVEMBER KNIGHT OF THE MONTH: STEPHEN GALL

Our Knight of the month for November is Stephen Gall, also known as doctor or Dr. Gall. He has a PhD in mathematics. I bet you never thought we had a K of C member who was so smart. Stephen is married to Jennifer, and they have one son Stephen Jr. who started school earlier in the year here at St. Pius. Stephen Jr. is Dad's pride and joy and is loved to pieces. The Gall's have been married for 12 years, have been parishioners of St. Pius for 8 years. Dr. Gall has been a K of C member for 4 years.

The young Stephen Jr. is off to a great start. I was told he loves school and loves St. Pius X School. I told Dad Gall what a blessing it is to have a school here and that St. Pius is a great place to build a foundation.

Dr Stephen finds our community a very close-knit society. Everyone is willing to help each other out. Stephen senior loves the intimacy of being a father of a St. Pius student. Recently, Stephen or Steph as many of know him has become a regular usher at the 11:00 a.m. Sunday mass. He is among the many volunteers at our community events including Sunday. He really likes helping out our Knights and the school.

Dr. Stephen's favorite aspect of our K of C is that we are a camaraderie of Catholic Men. We are a fraternity. So many aspects of what makes up a good man can be found in this brotherhood of ours.

I remember working with Dr. Gall on the soccer challenge. We enjoyed ourselves interacting with all the kids, and like them had a good time. While getting donations for our tootsie rolls, he almost got run over on Eureka.

Stephen Gall, it is a pleasure to have you in our mist. As a wise man told me once, "Relax and be yourself". Congrat's to you for being our choice for Knight of the Month.



FAMILY OF THE MONTH

OCTOBER FAMILY OF THE MONTH: THE CEREZO FAMILY

Anthony (Tony) and Phyllis Cerezo were married for 51 years. They have 3 grown children and 6 grandchildren. They were St. Pius parishioners since 1975.

Tony and Phyllis met in Ft. Myers, Virginia. Tony was in the Army and Phyllis was an Army WAC. Tony always was a Catholic, Phyllis converted to Catholicism in 1989. Tony graduated from Chadsey High school. Phyllis was born in Baltimore and raised in North Dakota.

Tony passed away in 2020, 3 days after his and Phyllis' 51st wedding anniversary. Tony belonged to St. Anne's and St. Boniface before he and Phyllis came to St. Pius.

Our Knights of Columbus annual golf outing is named after Tony. This event has been going on for 3 years and we hope it will go on for many more years to follow. Phyllis thought it was funny that we named a golf outing after Tony. She said Tony never really golfed as an adult. Tony would have also enjoyed this also—Phyllis stated.

Phyllis has been very active here at St. Pius. Tony was an active member of the K of C as our Financial Secretary for many years. Phyllis belongs to our rosary altar confraternity, choir member, a past lunch mother, Cub Scout leader and now also a widow's club member.

Phyllis said that the thing she likes best about St. Pius is our "people". They are great.

Phyllis has seen many priests come and go and in her years at St. Pius. Every priest is different, you have to get to know them. It's the rhythm of the language, after a while you get to understand everybody. We all must have our work toward getting more patience. The most important thing about our community is not the priest but the parish itself.

Phyllis mentioned that we are fortunate to be strong enough to support our parish school. She stated we have a wonderful school staff, and we should be very proud of them.

Phyllis wishes to thank all the golfers who took part in our 3rd annual Tony Cerezo Outing. And she is also grateful for all the events the K of C sponsors. She also encourages all dad's and men of our parish to join the K of C.

Phyllis, thank you for letting me speak to you about your and Tony's lives. I hope I have done you justice. Congrat's on being picked our 'Family of the Month.'

Respectfully,
Dave Kudla, DGK

Editor's Note. At one of our recent officers and directors meetings, I encouraged our newsletter contributors to continue to focus on the four principles of the Knights of Columbus, Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. I am pleased with how well that message is brought across to our readers; None more so than that from Richard who never fails to impress. Enjoy!

MORE THOUGHTS FROM RICHARD GREGOIRE

About thirty years ago I lost a very dear friend, one of the guys that took me fishing, and His family bequeathed to me his study bible, he was a Deacon in his Baptist church, it was awkward for me because I wasn't family, but I was indeed honored. When I got home and opened it there was a single marker at Proverbs 3: 5,6 ! " Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight".

Is God good all the time or what!! Retract that question,-----God 'is" Good all the time!! So, my thoughts are; don't be afraid to ask questions when you are not sure you understand something and when you just can't understand, put your worries and cares in the Hands of God!! I in fact did have a duh moment as these thoughts were running through my head. Was I not aware enough, should have been! that much of Proverbs are attributed to Solomon. Wasn't there a reading just weeks ago about God asking Solomon to ask Him for anything and He would give it to him. Solomon asked for an understanding heart and so it was given.

So, I take all my questions and concerns to the altar, to church, and allow the word of God to give me answers. And allow Jesus to ask questions so as to look deeper into my heart and soul. So as long as I have questions and try to understand the answers, I know that I have not lost Hope and thrown in the towel! Let it be our prayer for those who have given up and have possibly thrown in the towel, for them to come back, to pray, to worship, to share, and not afraid to ask questions. Isn't that really a good way to learn?

Here I am, as I reflect again: There is just so much to think about and say about Our Jesus. I am going to close with this: Romans 11-33-36 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgements, and His ways past finding out! For who has known the mind of the Lord?

Or who has been His counselor? Or who has first given to Him, and it shall be recompensed unto Him again? FOR OF HIM, AND THROUGH HIM, AND TO HIM, ARE ALL THINGS: TO HIM BE GLORY FOREVER. AMEN.

God Bless you and your Family
Dick Gregoire,
Lecturer

ARE YOU BUILDING YOUR FAMILY ON SOLID GROUND?

It's a question every Catholic man needs to ask - and answer. God calls you to love your wife, raise your children and provide for your family in good and bad times.

BEGIN TODAY / BECOME AN ONLINE MEMBER

www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/lead-with-faith/index.html

The Knights of Columbus is here to help. We offer the Catholic faith formation, financial protection, and family resources that can help you grow as a father, husband, and leader. With the Knights, you can become the man you want to be - and your family needs.

Right now, we are offering a FREE download of our annual prayer planner "*Vivat Jesus*" to help you grow in your faith and prayer life as you lead your family.

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**](https://www.kofc.org/joinus) and become a Knight today. Online membership is **FREE** if you use the 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

DD Ray Bilyk (313) 247-2110

RayBilyk@kofc3956.org



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, November 1, 2023 - ALL SAINTS DAY

Wednesday, November 1, 2023 - K of C Council 3956 Regular Business Meeting (St Pius Social Hall). Social Hour begins at 6:00 pm, Meeting at 7:00 pm.
YOUR ATTENDANCE WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED

Thursday, November 2, 2023 - ALL SOULS DAY

Saturday, November 4, 2023 - 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Michigan District 1 4th Degree Fall Harvest Packing Party and District Meeting
At St Jane Frances De Chantal, 38750 Ryan Rd, Sterling Heights, MI 48310
The packing party, and the district meeting, are expected to start at 9:30am, and last about 2 hours. We will have lunch afterwards (I will work with the nice folks at assembly 1839 Blessed Virgin Mary on a cost for lunch as well as what we will have.)

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 - MICHIGAN MARCH FOR LIFE
11:00 am.

Saturday, November 11, 2023 - VETERANS DAY

Saturday, November 11, 2023 - COATS FOR KIDS SECOND DISTRIBUTION
St. Andre Bessette Parish, 4250 W Jefferson Ave, Ecorse, MI 48229,
Description 9-10AM - Setup 10AM-1PM - Distribution 1PM-2PM - Cleanup

Sunday, November 19, 2023 - COUNCIL 3956 COFFEE AND DOUGHNUT SUNDAY
Following 9:00 am and 11:00 am masses in Social Hall

Thursday, November 23, 2023 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY
On behalf of our council officers and directors, we wish you and your family an abundance of Joy, Health and Peace as we enter into the Holy Day Season!

Friday, December 1, 2023 - CHRITMAS CONCERT FEATURING JOHN TIBBS
6:00 pm at Pius X Catholic Church

Sunday, December 3 - First Sunday of Advent

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 - K of C Council 3956 Regular Business Meeting (St Pius Social Hall). Social Hour begins at 6:00 pm, Meeting at 7:00 pm.
We welcome all our newest brother knights to join us.



LOOKING AHEAD

Shrines and Steins scheduled for October 7, 2023 was postponed until this upcoming spring. More details will be provided as they become available. Thank you, Brian Batko, for your continued effort.

MI drive or Tootsie roll drive has been moved to October 13 through 15. Larry Rossi is working on getting approval from Sam's Club, Walmart and the City of Southgate

Family breakfast is scheduled for Oct 15. Chuck Degroat can't help as usual, and Ryan Daw has volunteered to help.

Trunk or Treat is scheduled for October 28th. More information to follow.

4th Degree packing party for soldiers on Nov 4 9:30 am. More info to follow.

Keep Christ in Christmas Contest scheduled for Nov 17.

Wreaths across America December 16th at St Hedwigs Cemetery.

Breakfast with Santa December 17th.

Interested in Joining Our Group Chat???



Our Council has started using **GroupMe** (<https://www.groupme.com>) to discuss and pass along timely information. It can be used only on your mobile device using text messaging, the GroupMe app or a web browser.

To join us, either go to the following URL:

https://groupme.com/join_group/89941588/PMiLZWii

or using your phone's camera with this QR code seen to the left...

You can also email your name, cell phone number and/or email address to raybilyk@kofc3956.org with the subject line: "Add to GroupMe"

District Deputy Ray Bilyk - DD105@mikofc.org



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 November:

- Cary J. Polaski (November 1) 46 Years of Service
- Harold G. Paddock (November 6) 46 Years of Service
- Deacon Charles Dault (November 6) 25 Years of Service
- Kurt N. Enders (November 1) 24 Years of Service
- Sal D. DiPasquale (November 2) 14 Years of Service
- Scott A. Corso (November 5) 9 Years of Service
- Burrell Hughes (November 5) 9 Years of Service
- Dr Okechukwa Unogu (November 10) 9 Years of Service
- William R. McLaury (November 12) 9 Years of Service
- Ronald J. Wagner (November 25) 9 Years of Service
- Christian S. Abello (November 8) 8 Years of Service
- Dr. Stephen A. Gall (November 1) 3 Years of Service

MEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.
Ephesians 5:25

Congratulations!

- Guy and Maria Vitale (November 10, 2001)
- Robert C. and Angela Munroe (November 23, 2009)

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

- Robert D. Schooner (November 5)
- Nicola Vignola (November 6)
- Richard M. Gregoire (November 7)
- Franz Albright (November 9)
- James A. Kandreas (November 9)
- Michael J. Levko (November 10)
- Sean A. Roland (November 16)
- Ronald J. Wagner (November 24)
- Mitchell E Garcellano (November 25)



WIVES BIRTHDAYS

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



- JoAnn Paddock (November 4) Wife of Harold Paddock
- Linda Robert (November 30) Wife of Bill Robert

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
Loving
Memory

2023 MEMORIAL MASS
Thursday, November 2 – 7:00 p.m.
NAMES OF DECEASED

Frank Kootsillas
Joan Marzolino
Pasqualina Colapietro
Raffaella Merolla
Elvira Gayer
Eugene Glavin
John Nemish
Davonna Patch
Beverly Flanigan-Simko
Robert Rodriguez
Mary Ann Lazere
Ricardo Berrocal
Sharlene Tocco
Edward Kostecki
Alexander Alcantar
Shannan M. Gilsbach
La Verne Grahl
Carmen Ibarra
Joseph A. Terbrack
Alice Cummings
Eleanore Czopek
Ida Bernabei
Susan Poniatowski
Joseph A. Palazzolo
John Astorino
Kirt Coleman
Dale Zamecki
Iris Ryniak
Fred. C. Tortonesi
Michelle Hallmark
Dawn Gerring
Yvonne Park
Marvin P. Feldman
David Jolet
Thomas Ozeranic
Jerome Daley
Elly Irene Schwarcz
MaryJane Boles

IN OUR PRAYERS:

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



- Robert LaForest,
- Joe and Roger Hernandez
- Liz and Larry Ridenour
- Deacon Bob
- Manuel's Family
- Bill and Linda Robert family including their daughter Terianne Stewart and son in law Michael Parker
- Roger Hernandez
- Mel Jacobs
- Barb DeGroat
- Larry Rossi
- Nicholas Family
- Alyssia Schooner and Daniel Schooner, Bob Schooner's Grandchildren
- Michael Parker

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

"HELP MENTALLY IMPAIRED CITIZENS "

These words do a lot of the work for us. I know exactly how much because we forgot the "old" vests without these words in bright red letters. Instead, we had the new vests with reflective tape but no announcement about who we were helping. I was ready to call it quits after being out for about 20 minutes. Almost no one stopped for the annual Tootsie Roll drive where all of our proceeds are donated to causes that help our mentally impaired brothers and sisters.

We weren't sure if it was the weather at first. A couple people rolled down their windows to tell us they weren't sure what the cause was, but they felt sorry we were out in the rain. We decided to pack up and head back for our old vests. The difference was night and day. Instead of getting almost no donations, people could see who they were trying to help, and they were anxious to do so. We were able to thank a lot of people for their generosity that weekend.

This is the November newsletter. It comes in the season of Thanksgiving. In that spirit I would like to give special thanks to Larry and Glenda Rossi who took charge of the M.I. Tootsie Roll drive for the whole weekend. I'd like to give thanks for the chance to see old friends. Our brother knight Dave Sajdak was in town, and a lot of us were able to visit with him.

Please have a Happy Thanksgiving. I hope you're able to spend it with your family and friends and loved ones.

Vivat Jesus

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

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. So, you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD AND turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones. Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

Proverbs 3: 1-10

Special Thanks to Dick Gregoire for your inspiration

Vivat Jesus

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