

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3956

Newsletter

St. Pius X, Southgate, Michigan Issue #56

DECEMBER, 2023



MERRY CHRISTMAS



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

That's the message to supporters from St. Pius school staff and students who were able to donate a check for \$900.00 and several boxes of new coats to our Bernard P. O'Brien Council #3956 of the Knights of Columbus for Coats for Kids.

The students were rewarded with a casual day. Pirates! You earned it!

This is the third year the students at St. Pius have impressed us with their support. Recall that to our great surprise, these students took it upon themselves to help support Coats for Kids. Thank you to all our St. Pius parishioners to provided their financial support and our own brother knights who donated their time and resources. We participated in two distributions at St. Andre Bessette Parish in Ecorse.

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6, 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.



GK's AGENDA:

1. Coats for Kids- Second Distribution 10/08/23
 - Third Distribution date 12/03/23 @ St. Anne
2. Christmas Concert with John Tibbs 12/2/23, 6PM
 - Signup Genius setup
 - Fund Raising
3. Christmas Party @ Hungarian Rhapsody 12/10/23, 5PM
 - Costs (\$25 couple last year)
4. Brunch with Santa @ SPX Activity Center 12/17/23, Noon
 - Signup Genius setup
 - Wristbands required. Cap at 250
5. Exemplification @ SPX 12/18/23, 7PM
6. Building (Jim's Tuxedo)
 - Investigating establishment of legal building owner entity
 - Repair 2 lights
 - Repair leaking gutter
 - Replace plastic gutter downspout extensions and clean gutters (Completed)
7. WDD David Hayward needs the following by 12/8/23:
 - Jan, Feb, Mar 2024 Exemplification Schedule
 - Jan, Feb, Mar 2024 Membership Drive Schedule
 - Family of the Year
 - Service Project



ADDRESS FROM GRAND KNIGHT MARK GARCELLANO

My Fellow Brother Knights! As we are now in full holiday swing, I would like to share with you the events our small but mighty council has accomplished and some upcoming events.

For the month of November, we had 2 big events. On November 11, the council conducted the Second distribution of Coats for Kids at St. Andre Bessette. We also had new socks, gloves and hats available to give to the kids as well.

Special thanks to Glenda Rossi for taking time to knit 2 full grocery bags of new hats for the kids! Speaking of thanks, we were able to receive an additional check in the amount of \$914.17 from the students at St. Pius X school for their continued support of the Coats for Kids Program. Again, special thanks to the staff and students of St. Pius X school for their support. In total, the Knights were able to raise more than \$5000 for the Coats for Kids this year! Lastly, a third coat distribution is being planned for December at St. Annes. More information to come.

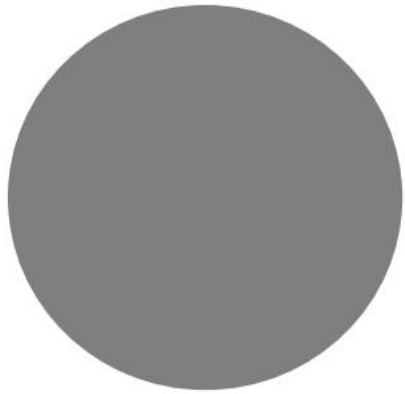
The second big event we had in November was the Donut Sunday on November 19 after Masses. The event is always well received the children of St. Pius X church. I really appreciate all the volunteers who supported the event.

For December, the council will be busy with four events.

- The first one is the Christmas Concert with John Tibbs on Saturday, December 2 at St. Pius X. All are welcomed! Free to attend but we are accepting free will donations.
- The second event is the K of C Christmas Party at Hungarian Rhapsody on December 10. I plan to give a brief State of the Order Address. See Steven Pochini to sign up.
- The third event is the Third Coats for Kids distribution. More information to come.
- The fourth event is the Brunch with Santa in the St. Pius Activity Center for the children of St. Pius X school on December 17 after the 11AM Mass. See Victoria Dudek, Athletic Director to sign up.

As I reflect on the holiday season, I am astounded and grateful of the generosity of the students, staff, congregation and knights and their families for their support with the donations of time (volunteering) or money for our programs. I firmly believe we are a force for good that will continue to support our church, school and community.

Come join us! Vivat Jesus!
Mark Garcellano, GK
734-968-6900
markgarcellano@yahoo.com



St Pius Christmas Concert

Saturday Night
December 2nd
7:00pm

Featuring John Tibbs!

wsg: Christ the King 8th Grade Bell Ringers

- This is a FREE CONCERT –
Donations accepted

Call 734-285-1100 for more info
14101 Superior Street Southgate, MI



Christmas Party

OUR ANNUAL BERNARD O'BRIEN COUNCIL CHRISTMAS PARTY
IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10th.

5:00 PM TO 8:00 PM

AT

RHAPSODY RESTAURANT

14315 NORTHLINE ROAD

SOUTHGATE, MICHIGAN

\$12.50 PER PERSON (\$25.00 PER COUPLE)

TO PURCHASE TICKETS IN ADVANCE, SEE USHERS AT MASS OR
CONTACT GK MARK GARCELLANO AT

734-968-6900

markgarcellano@yahoo.com

COME AND ENJOY THE COMPANY OF YOUR FELLOW BROTHER
KNIGHTS AND USHERS AS WE CELEBRATE WITH OUR WIVES
AND GUEST SHARE A CHRISTMAS MEAL TOGETHER.

Invitation

Brunch with Santa!

**St Pius Athletic Department and
the Knights of Columbus invite
you to join us for brunch after
11:00am Mass.**

This event is Free for families. The Knights will
accept free will donations.

Sunday
DEC 17



Registration is required. Families will
receive wristbands as admission tickets.
Registration will close once full, don't wait!
<https://forms.gle/zRbuBTeyPMS9YxDi9>

**Remember to bring your letter to Santa
for the Mailbox! Please include mailing
address.**

Please send inquiries to athleticdirector@saintpius-x.org

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 now at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084BAAAE29ABFF2-46350898-brunch>

2024 Edition of the Vivat Jesus Spiritual Planner is available for only \$6.00

The Vivat Jesus Spiritual Planner is a pocket-sized prayer book and calendar for the year 2024. This book is designed to help men develop and maintain a daily prayer routine while also incorporating traditional Catholic prayers and devotions throughout the year for themselves and their families.

The Vivat Jesus Spiritual Planner for 2024 includes:

- Suggested daily prayer plans and practices
- Space to build your personalized daily prayer routine
- Weekly review of prayer life
- Monthly calendars with liturgical feasts indicated
- Suggested devotions and prayers for each month including the Supreme Chaplain's Monthly Challenge
- Collection of Prayers
- Guides for devotions and spiritual practices such as the Daily Examen and Lectio Divina
- Information about Blessed Michael McGivney and what it means to be a Knight

On the Knights Gear website, they are selling for \$15.99 including shipping:

<https://knightsgear.com/products/copy-of-vivat-jesus-spiritual-planner-2024>

SDRR, FN and FS Ray Bilyk (raybilyk@kofc3956.org) is selling them for the LOW PRICE of only \$6.00!!! Please email, call/text (313-247-2110) or see Brother Ray to purchase one or more of these very helpful and divine books while supplies last!





MESSAGE FROM SDRR and FN0475 RAY BILYK

A Msgr. Van Antwerp 4th Degree Assembly Poker Tournament is planned for Friday, December 15th from 11:00 - 6:00 pm at DiCicco's Lounge and Poker Room at 52963 Van Dyke Ave in Shelby Township. The tournament will continue through Monday, December 18th. If you would like to volunteer to help, please go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C49A4A623A3F85-44452637-millionaire> - ALL HELP IS APPRECIATED and every volunteer will earn a \$25 stipend per shift!

Our District 105 Exemplification returns to St. Pius Church on Monday, December 18th. Please consider attending. Contact me for more information at raybilyk@kofc3956.org

My most heartfelt wishes to all my brother Knights for a safe Christmas Season



TIS THE SEASON

For some, Christmas is a joyous time of year; for others, not so much. Commercialism and consumerism have placed heavy burdens on people that the season is more daunting than celebratory.

The pressure of finding and affording all the right gifts, scheduling all the festivities, and the aftermath of empty accounts and debt, tends to overshadow what is actually being commemorated; what it is we have been preparing for over the course of the first four weeks of the month.

For many, the "holiday" all seems too much and so hearts become like the weather, cold. But it doesn't have to be that way if we but let our hearts be warmed with anticipation for the coming of our Savior, just as a kid yearns for Christmas morning. Jesus is the reason for the season as Kirk Franklin first sung in 1995. God's unwarranted generosity in the gift of his Son can be our focus and the foundation from which we build our family traditions. Jesus can be the hearth we all gather around to soak up the fire from the Holy Spirit which melts the iciest of hearts.

If we but willingly put the Christ Child at the center of all we do, our generosity, our gratitude, and our good-will, then the anxieties that seem to be pressing in on us from all sides will melt away like the snow on a warm day. We will realize there is really only one gift we actually want and need. One gift that is above every gift we will ever receive. One gift that is eternal.

Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas from my family to yours.

Vivat Jesus,
Deacon Chuck, Council Lecturer

SHARING THOUGHTS FROM DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT DAVID KUDLA



COATS FOR KIDS

Another Coats for Kids drive comes to a very successful end. To all our Parishioners who contributed, a very warm thank you goes out to all of you. To all the Knights who came out to the two distributions St. Andre Bisset, along with a number of Mrs. Knights, thank you also. Another big help to this program was from our St. Pius School. Our children, school staff and parents who donated coats and money, thank you so much! Many people from a variety of places came together to make this possible.

I noticed at our two distributions that a number of parents who brought their children for coats were a little overwhelmed and teary eyed. One dad told us thank you for putting this program on. Many kids walked by with their new warm coats. This was a beautiful sight. School staff and student council along with a few Knights lined up for a photo op at the school. When you see these generous people coming together for a great cause, it is truly a moving experience.

So what happens now? Well the card coat racks along with the cards are stored in my basement for next year's drive. Everything will come back next October for another drive. To all the people involved who helped, gave, donated their time and money...thank you ever so much. Many children will be happy and warm in winter, because of you.

A SCARY NIGHT AT ST. PIUS

On Saturday October 28th our annual Trunk or Treat took place. About 250 plus kids from our school and their parents took part. The K of C part was grilling hot dogs, passing out pizza, water, juice boxes, chips and donuts. We had a very busy but wonderful time. We could have used more volunteers. Some wives stepped up to save the day. Our parking lot was pretty full.

I noticed a few Fathers out in the crowd who have been seen before at our events. I asked them if they were Knights yet? Not yet some said. So what will it take, I thought. ? It will not kill any Dad to step up and help us. They in turn will be helping their own children.

If any men wish to join us, just ask a member or come to the social hall the first Wednesday of the month. Be there at 6:00 pm. Our meetings start at 7:00 pm. You will not be sorry you did. Next year your kids will be seeing you in a costume. A "Knights of Columbus" costume. By doing this you will show your children that there is more to life than cell phone usage.

Franz and Mark grilled the hot dogs and they were really good. I ate three of them myself along with two donut and a bag of chips. Well someone had to make sure the food was good! We all had a good time and certainly did not go home hungry. See you at next year's Trunk or Treat. Hear that, Fathers. (Hint, Hint)

Respectfully,
Dave Kudla, DGK
Deputy Grand Knight



MESSAGE FROM PGK AND ADVOCATE BILL ROBERT

THANKSGIVING

While we were taught that the first Thanksgiving was in the 1600's between pilgrims and the American Indians of Massachusetts, it wasn't until President Lincoln, during the Civil War, declared that Thanksgiving would be a national holiday each year in November. Throughout my life it seems to take on changing significance. Early in my life it meant a couple of days off from school. I was able to see my grandparents, Aunts and Uncles and cousins

As I grew, it meant gathering with my brothers and sisters at my parents home for dinner. It was always a great meal but as each of us married and had children it became crowded and noisy, but my parents never complained. We had much to be thankful for. My fathers business was doing well. Each of my brothers and sisters were married and employed. Although life had it ups and downs, we were all happy.

Death has a way of changing one's perspective. The loss of grandparents was hard but, when if it is your parents and a sibling it really hurts. It makes you really understand how short our time is on earth. How we need to let our family and friends know how much we love them. How fortunate we are to be citizens of this country. To be able to practice our religion, express our beliefs politically, and live our faith. Around the world, you will notice this is not very common.

So as we close our Thanksgiving week there is indeed much to be thankful for. In closing, I am also thankful for my brother Knights. They have been a source to fellowship, giving of myself and great pride in my K of C brothers.



MESSAGE FROM TRUSTEE AND COR DIRECTOR BRIAN BATKO

We have been getting the word out of The John Tibbs Concert at our St. Pius Church on Saturday, December 2nd. Neighborhood visits have been made and signs within the community are promoting this event.

See the flyers on the following pages that invite people to find their place with us as a parish community. To return to their faith or learn more about Catholicism and how we can help them. We also extend an invitation to Catholic men to consider the Knights of Columbus to fill needs for themselves and others.



MESSAGE FROM FINANCIAL SECRETARY 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.

Members will be receiving Michigan K of C State Raffle Tickets by mail. Tickets are only \$5.00 each. Prizes include a Weekend for four at Stafford Perry Hotel in Petoskey and \$12,000 in Cash!!!

St Pius X

14101 Superior Street
Southgate, MI 48195
Ph 734-285-1100
saintpiusschool.org



Weekend Mass Times
Saturday 4pm
Sunday 9 and 11am
Confession 3pm Saturday

Hello Neighbor! We are your local Catholic Church located right around the corner from you. We wanted to reach out and say hello and ask how can we be of service to you?

- Are you in need of prayer for an illness, family situation or other issue that is weighing on your mind? We will pray for your intentions at our 4pm Mass.
- Have you fallen away from the Catholic faith and have questions on how to return? Was there an issue why you left?
- Are you interested in the Catholic faith or becoming Catholic and have questions about what we believe?
- Would you like a house blessing? We can schedule one!!
- Are you homebound and would like to have someone bring you the Eucharist on during week (Sunday or other day)?
- **Please reach out to us by phone 734-285-1100 or by email at outreach@saintpius-x.org**

You're Invited!

Free Christmas Concert
Saturday, Dec 2nd 7PM
Featuring John Tibbs

wsg/Christ the King 8th Grade Bell Ringers





“In Service to One, In Service to All.”

Our parish and our Knights of Columbus council host many activities/events in the parish and are open to anyone who wishes to participate. See the partial list below.

Upcoming Events

December 2, 2023 Free Christmas Concert Featuring John Tibbs - Church

December 17, 2023 Children's Breakfast with Santa - Activity Center

January 14, 2024 Donut Sunday - St. Pius X Social Hall

January 20, 2024 Men's Monthly Scripture Group – 7:30 to 9am Social Hall

February 11, 2024 Donut Sunday - St. Pius X Social Hall

February 16, 2024 - Lenten Fish Frys begin – 4 to 7pm Activity Center

February 16, 2024 - Stations of the Cross begin – 7pm Church

February 17, 2024 Men's Monthly Scripture Group – 7:30 to 9am Social Hall

March 9, 2024 Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner - St. Pius X Social Hall

**Are you a Catholic gentleman 18 years or older and
interested in joining the Knights?**

BECOME AN ONLINE MEMBER FOR FREE!

www.kofc.org/join

Enter the Agent Referral Code **TJACKSON**
for 12 months of free online membership.

*Make sure to mention interest in joining **Council 3956**.*

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. Founded 130 years ago by the Venerable Father Michael McGivney at St. Mary's parish in New Haven, CT, the Knights uphold four key principles as pillars of the order: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. “In Service to One, In Service to All.”

See our monthly newsletter and other information at www.kofc3956.org/



DECEMBER KNIGHT OF THE MONTH: SEAN ROLAND

We were informed by Sean at our last meeting that he is moving on to fill another K of C position within our district. We wish him well and thought to give Sean a sendoff by recognizing him as Knight of the Month. He grew up in southwest Detroit and joined the Columbian Squires at a young age. He rose to the office of State Chief Squire of the State of Michigan.

Sean has been a K of C member for 13 years, joining at age 18. (After the Squire program). In the Squires he was the District Warden of Council #105. He came to the O'Brien Council (3956) along with his friend of many years, Ray Bylik. His favorite aspect is helping people with the service we do. He has a long list of K of C accomplishments under his belt, eventually aspiring to be Grand Knight within the next 10 years. In the K of C future, he would like to see many younger members step up and join.



FAMILY OF THE MONTH

DECEMBER FAMILY OF THE MONTH: THE SOLIS FAMILY

The Solis family consists of Gilbert (Gil) and Debra (Debbie) Solis. They are on their 42nd year of marriage and have 3 grown children. One grandchild is in progress and will be born next February. Their children are graduates of St. Pius School.

Debbie and Gil have been parishioners at St. Pius for about 35 years. Gil coached basketball at St. Pius for 36 years. He brought the I-league team (instructional) to St. Pius. Gil was also the assistant athletic Director at Gabriel Richard High School. Gil retired from the Lincoln Park Fire Department in 2007 as Chief. Debbie is our Faith Formation secretary for the past 28 years and is now semi-retired. (Monday and Tuesday). She likes her job and feels she is handing down the faith to our school children.

Debbie mentions that our St. Pius parishioners are a group of "Good Hearted People". Working in the Faith Formation office has been like a family working together, Being with one another through good times and bad. Gil and Debbie thank you both for all that you do at St. Pius . Congratulations on being our choice as 'Family of the Month'

Respectfully,
Dave Kudla, DGK

Reprint from: Upper Downriver Right to Life

To Downriver Pro-Life Friends,

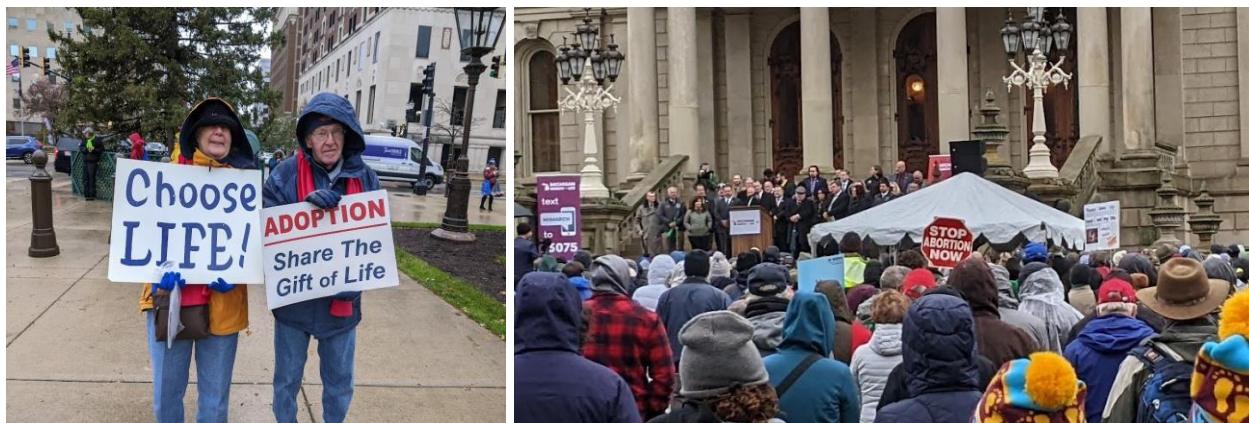
Thanks to the financial support of Upper Downriver and Southern Downriver Right to Life of Michigan affiliates, four charter buses of 134 people (and others who drove separately), went to the Michigan March for Life in Lansing on Wednesday, November 8. Participants included a 4.5 month old baby, a few others in their 80's and many in between.

There were students from Gabriel Richard High School, St. Frances Cabrini Academy and High School and students from southwest Detroit, Catholics and Evangelical Christians. We joined nearly 5000 others on the lawn in front of the Capitol, braving the cold, wind and rain. Everyone was happy to be among so many witnesses to the value of every human life from conception to natural death.

Speakers at the Rally included Barbara Listing, President of Right to Life of Michigan. She announced a [legal challenge](#) to the constitutionality of Proposal 3 was filed that very morning. Michigan's Pro-Life legislators stood shoulder to shoulder on the steps of the Capitol. They included two Downriver Representatives: Jim DeSana (District 29 which includes most of Taylor) and Jamie Thompson (District 28 which includes Brownstown). Please read more about it here: <https://www.detroitcatholic.com/news/still-marching-thousands-from-across-state-rally-in-first-michigan-march-for-life>

Other speakers encouraged us to continue working to change the hearts and minds of voters and legislators through our educational outreach and personal conversations. Arm yourselves with the facts at www.rtl.org.

Upper Downriver meeting on Wednesday, November 15 at at the Right to Life office, 2010 Eureka, Discussion was planned for opportunities to expand our pro-life outreach. Donations for Thanksgiving Baskets for the Lincoln Park Crisis Pregnancy Center were solicited to distribute 25 Thanksgiving Dinner baskets to the families that they serve. The Wyandotte Christmas Parade was Saturday, November 18. Red scarves for everyone marching with signs saying "Happy Birthday Baby Jesus." We had a small float as well.





FROM DICK GREGOIRE

As usual I am at a loss for an article that I could write. But then with my mind going a hundred miles an hour as it usually does I assure myself of having what I call "my DUH moments! I decided that St Pius and countless other places of worship are "Lost and Found" places.

I have imagined myself engaging in a conversation with someone that wasn't sure of what that is and what it may mean in this place called St Pius and many others that appear like it. So the curious person asks, so this place is a "lost and found"? And I respond yes I believe it is! So what do most people lose and come here to find. I think it's all kinds of things. What do you mean. I tell him, well there is a basket sitting with all sorts of things like reading glasses, scarves, hats, gloves. but there are a lot of people who have lost things very precious and important to them. Such as? Many have lost their Faith from disappointments in the way their lives are going; friends' letting them down; and how they see; how they think the world is going.

They may have had a love that is long gone. Thought that they knew the Truth about most things but with so many things questionable with polarized differences of opinion because of social media they start to doubt everything they thought they knew. The truth is here. He is up there in the sanctuary in the tabernacle. We know He's there in the Eucharist, we leave a light on, see the candle, that's how we know Jesus is there. Jesus said He was the Way, the TRUTH and the Life! He continues now, intrigued by this place. What else could they possibly lose.

Many don't think they can be forgiven for some terrible things they have done. Some don't think they can forgive others for how they may have offended them! So we are all here to find the WAY! OH YEAH the Way is here He's up there where we keep the light on! I know people who think it is too late for them to return to things they once knew. It's NOT! The WAY and the TRUTH doesn't change, EVER! The guy asks me; Yeah, but how do I get time back, I wasted so much time chasing after things that I believed were important, things that made me happy.

Sometimes I think I may have wasted a lot of my life. Oh yeah, wait, the Life is up there with the Way and the Truth, It's Jesus!!! The only thing that maybe a little different than the more traditional Lost and Found is; is Jesus is looking for us, wanting our friendship, our hearts! He continues asking, that's a good thing!, asking is good! "I'm really not sure how this works, I'm feeling a little awkward. I really have never had any experience with this, it's definitely outside of my wheelhouse. Well, I tell him, yeah I think I get it but this place is more than a "Lost and Found" but you Are here looking around for something in this place. Not everyone who comes here is lost anymore they have found what they've been yearning for; and weren't even sure what that was. Still, how does that work? Well I say, this is also a place of learning, by reading and listening to sacred scripture. So do you have a lost and found? Do you know where it's at?

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas
Dick Gregoire, Chancellor

We all look forward to Dick's part two of his LETTER TO THE EDITOR in January

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

Saturday, December 2, 2023 - CHRISTMAS CONCERT FEATURING JOHN TIBBS

With Special Guest Christ the King 8th Grade Bell Ringers. **ALL ARE WELCOME**

Concert begins at 7:00 pm. Help will be needed beginning at 6:00 pm.

Free Concert. Donations will be accepted.

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.

YOUR ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR BRUNCH WITH SANTA ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH.

Sunday, December 10 - K of C Christmas Party

Kings of Columbus Council #3956 Christmas Social 5:00pm - 8:00 pm.

At Hungarian Rhapsody Restaurant, 14315 Northline Rd, Southgate, MI 48195

Description \$25/couple

Sunday, December 17 - Our K of C Host BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

St. Pius Activity Center from 8:00 am. - 1:00 pm. Brunch begins after 11:00 Mass. We expect this year's event will be bigger than last year's. Your help before, during and after will be needed.

Sunday, December 17 - K of C/St. Pius School Essay Contest

Sunday, December 17 - K of C/St. Pius School "Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

Monday, December 18, District 105 Exemplification of CUF at St. Pius Church. Time to be confirmed at Business Meeting.

Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Eve. Ushers, please make sure to sign up for Christmas Vigil Mass in advance. Thank you!

Monday, December 25 - Christmas Day. Wishing all a Blessed and Merry Christmas! Ushers, please make sure to sign up for Christmas Vigil Mass in advance. Thank You!

Wednesday, December 27 - Officers Planning Meeting. Time and location to be confirmed at Business Meeting.

Sunday, January 31, 2024 - HAPPY NEW YEAR! Please pray for our loved ones as we start a new year with our eyes on God!

Wednesday, January 3, 2023 - First regular business meeting of the New Year. (St Pius Social Hall). Social Hour begins at 6:00 pm, Meeting at 7:00 pm.

YOUR ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.



LOOKING AHEAD

Breakfast with Santa December 17th.

St. Pius School Essay Contest and "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest, December 17

District 105 Exemplification at St. Pius church, Monday December 18

Upcoming Event in the New Year

- Spirit Wear at St. Pius Home Games begins January 13th in Activity Center
- First Donut Sunday of 2024 on January 14

Interested in Joining Our Group Chat???



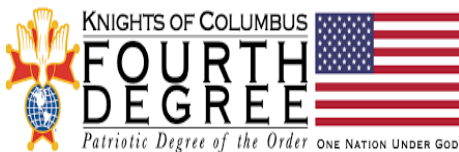
Our Council has started using **GroupMe** (<https://www.groupme.com>) to discuss and pass along timely information. It can be used only on your mobile device using text messaging, the GroupMe app or a web browser.

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"



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)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Establishing a uniform fund to support the Assembly
- Millionaire Poker Party @ DiCicco's 12/15/23 - 12/18/23
- Mini Exemplification @ St. Kateri 12/13/23 6PM



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, 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
- Mel Jacobs
- Barb DeGroat
- Larry Rossi
- Nicholas Family
- Alyssia Schooner and Daniel Schooner, Bob Schooner's Grandchildren
- Michael Parker
- Carol Kainz, Cousin to Angela and Anthony Chirco, diagnosed with Stage 4 Cancer

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

December's Knights Corner in the bulletin will have an invitation. If we haven't seen you in a while, if you've been busy with the holidays or family, or work. We still want to see you again. Welcome back! We delight in seeing new faces and feel the same way about seeing slightly familiar faces.

We are unashamed to say that we need to grow and we need new ideas on how to serve our Church. I fall into this category. I haven't been able to attend any general.



I know that my Brother Knights have heard the same parables that I have. As the Prodigal Son is a ways off in the distance, he sees his father running towards him with open arms to welcome him back. As it has been explained to me by much wiser men. That would mean that the Father was scanning the horizon for his lost son.

It would have also looked undignified for any leader of a household to run because you'd have to hike up your robes so you wouldn't trip over them. Of course this is in regards to the much bigger mission of returning people to their rightful place in God's embrace.

I know the men of our council well. I know that they take the lessons of Christ to heart and that they are looking out to the horizon for you and me.

Merry Christmas

Vivat Jesus

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

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

This month's prayer is offered to us from Chancellor Dick Gregoire

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil.

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

Brothers and sisters, pray for us. Greet all God's people with a holy kiss. I charge you before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers and sisters. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you

1Thessalonians:16-28

Vivat Jesus

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

To all my brother Knights of Columbus, I wish you and your family the most blessed Christmas season and as we look ahead to the New Year that God pours upon you and your family and abundance of good tidings; That health and peace surround you and those you love.

