

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3956

Newsletter

St. Pius X, Southgate, Michigan Issue #59

MARCH, 2024



ANOTHER WELL ATTENDED DESERT MEAL FOR SEMINARIANS AS OVER 300 TICKETS WERE SOLD AND GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS RAISED FOR THE RELIGIOUS UPCOMING RETREAT

The local councils of the Knights of Columbus joined with parishioners throughout the communities to participate in the Annual Desert Meal at Chrystal Gardens in Southgate.

Special thanks to Brian Batko, who year after year puts in his time and energy to promote this popular event. Our Lady of Hope Cemetery was among the many contributors to this very popular fundraiser. Thank you to Crystal Gardens and their staff for once again providing a delicious full meal and topping it off with a tasty dessert. More thanks go out to the Seminarians who spoke to the crowd and those that joined us at our individual tables.

**WEDNESDAY March 6, 2024, 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.



AGENDA ITEMS:

Grand Knight Report

Officers and Chairmen reports

Results of Seminarians Meal and Shrines and Steins Day Trip.

Lenten Fish Fry every Friday through the beginning of Holy Week.

K of C Promotional Table at SPX Sporting Events and Fish Fry

Prep for Breakfast with the Easter Bunny after Fish Fry, March 8th until 9:00 p.m. We ask each brother knight to give one hour of your time this day.

Corned Beef and Cabbage/Rueben Dinner. After Saturday mass, beginning at 5:00 PM. March 9th.

Brunch with the Easter Bunny and Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 10th in the St. Pius X Activity Center and Fr. Bob McCabe Athletic Field. Much help will be needed.

Men's Scripture Club (Cor Event). Selected Saturday mornings in the St. Pius X Social Hall beginning at 7:30am - 9:00am.

District 105 Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity at St. Pius X Church on Monday, March 18th from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Sponsored by your Bernard P. O'Brien Council 3956.

Donuts Sunday and Charity Family Breakfast plans

Upcoming nomination of Officers beginning in April and May

Proposed Fifth Sunday Rosary before mass, Easter Sunday, March 31st.



ADDRESS FROM GRAND KNIGHT MARK GARCELLANO

My Fellow Brother Knights! In this month's article I would like to share with you the results of the 2024 Bernard P. O'Brien Spelling Bee conducted at St. Pius X School in the Activity Center on January 30, 2024.

Congratulations to this year's winners! Overall, this year's spelling bee was very competitive since the spelling bee words were tougher when compared to last year. Special thanks to Mrs. Piechocki for conducting the spelling bee!

Group 1 (Grades 4-6) Results:

Champion- Cecelia Wesley

First Runner Up- Raphael Natividad

Second Runner Up- Uzo Edwin-Ukegbu

Third Runner Up- Isabella Fust

Group 2 (Grades 7-8) Results:

Champion- Jeremy Garcia

First Runner Up- Josie Wesley

Second Runner Up- Nico Hagood

Third Runner Up- James Pigott'



One noteworthy event: After the spelling bee, one of the St. Pius parents came up to me to thank our council for conducting this event. He has noticed how the Knights strongly support the school and the students with the different competitions we conduct as well as our breakfasts with Santa and the Easter Bunny. This interaction is further evidence that what we are doing as a council is working. Which is, to support our Parish, our school and to build our faith. Vivat Jesus!

Regards,

Mark Garcellano, GK

Knights of Columbus

Bernard P. O'Brien Council #3956

734-968-6900

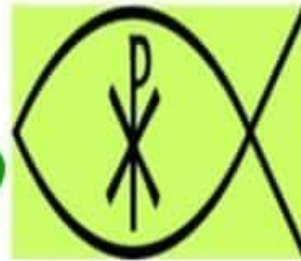
Southgate, MI -

<https://www.kofc3956.org>

gk3956@mikofc.org

GrandKnight@kofc3956.org

St. Pius X Fish Fry



The St. Pius X Fish Fry is back! It may look a little different but, all of your favorite food items are still here! We will be offering Fish Dinners, Shrimp Dinners, Combination Dinners and Cheese Pizza. Each dinner will come with the following sides, fries or macaroni and cheese, coleslaw, dinner roll and dessert!

Dates - February 19th and 26th
March 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th

Time -
4:00pm to 7:00pm

Please call 734-486-7048 to place your order. You will be provided an order number. Please drive to the activity center and we will meet you and deliver your food right to your car! We also accept walk in carry out orders! Cash Only!

Menu

Fish Dinner (3 pieces), fries or mac, slaw, roll & dessert- \$9.00
Shrimp Dinner (6 pieces), fries or mac, slaw, roll & dessert - \$10.00
Combo Dinner (2 fish & 3 shrimp), fries or mac, slaw roll & dessert - \$11.00
Pierogi Dinner- 3 Pierogi Coleslaw & Roll - \$7.00
Sampler Platter (1 Fish, 3 Shrimp, 2 Pierogi, Fries, Coleslaw and Roll - \$12.00
Children's Fish Dinner (1 piece fish, Mac or Fries and Roll) - \$5.00
Mac n' Cheese and Fries - \$4.00
Children's Shrimp and Chips - \$6.00
Ala Carte Fish - \$2.00 per piece (Please ask more Ala Carte Items)
Cheese Pizza - \$1.00 per slice
Fries - \$2.00
Mac and Cheese - \$2.00
Pierogi (3) - \$4.00
Snacker (1 fish, 1 pierogi, 2 Shrimp - \$4.00
Senior Discount (55 and over) \$1.00 off any dinner only



SHRINES AND STIENS ONE DAY PIGRIMAGE

Our Long-Awaited Shrines and Stiens One Day Pilgrimage beginning at Our Lady of Consolation was a wonderful experience for all who attended. Thirty-Five friends and guests signed up for the day trip. Plans for another trip next year are already being considered. This was an idea first brought up by Cor Chairman and Trustee Brian Batko. Well Done!

MESSAGE FROM SDRR and FN0475 RAY BILYK



Congratulation to Tony Dault for bringing in our Seventh Knight this year. The O'Brien council has already achieved Star Council and is well underway to achieve two-star awards.

Remember that next year's membership dues are credited to each member who brings in a new brother Knight.

On March 16th, The Diocese of Lansing Men's Conference extends a challenge to "be the man you are called to be". See flyer below.

In April nominations will begin for the new board. We encourage each brother Knight to begin consideration for running for a council officer position.

Please take the time to go to our website to "Sign up" genius for our upcoming Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on March 9th in the Social Hall and the , 3/9/2024, 5PM @ SPX Social Hall, and the Breakfast with Easter Bunny prep work on March 8th and the Bunny Breakfast in the Activity Center on March 10th. Here is a short cut: [Signups - Bernard P. O'Brien Council 3956 \(kofc3956.org\)](https://kofc3956.org)

Below is our Exemplification Schedule for March

March 13, 2024, 6:00 PM Registration, 6:30 PM Exemplification. Council 3078 Lincoln Park

March 18, 2024, 6:30 PM Registration, 7:00 PM Exemplification. Council 3956 Southgate

DIOCESE OF LANSING'S CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE 2024



03

MARCH

16

SIXTEENTH

24

TWENTY-FOUR

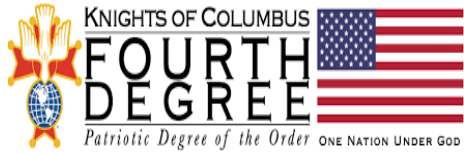
9:00AM - 5:00 PM

Scan the QR Code to purchase your ticket



**GERVIN GAMEABOVE CENTER
LOCATED AT
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**

ACCEPTTHECHALLENGE.ORG



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.
- All third-Degree Knights are encouraged to join the Fourth Degree. Many of your fellow brother knights have joined.

STAYING THE COURSE



By the time this article is published we will be about halfway through our Lenten journey. For many, when we first made resolutions for change, our commitment was much like the first disciples, enthusiastic, dedicated, and hopeful. After all, who wouldn't want to follow the Lord, especially after such a joyous Christmas season followed by miracle after miracle.

But now that the sacrificial realism of Lent has tempered our honest initiatives, our demeanor may be one that's more apathetic, inconstant, and pessimistic.

Like Peter, we might be apt to say, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing should ever happen to you" (Mt 6:22), rather than face our own suffering. In other words, Lord, if you don't have to suffer, neither will I.

Being a Christian is easy when things go well and there is much joy and happiness. It's easy to be on board when there isn't a cross. It's why many of our separated brethren preach only the resurrected Christ. Who doesn't enjoy the redemption of Easter morning?

But when reality doesn't match perception, when discipleship becomes lack-luster, when piety becomes drudgery, then staying the course becomes difficult. When we feel this way, we need to increase our prayer and fasting so we will receive the grace we need resist the Evil One as did Christ in the desert and in Gethsemane. As Jesus reminds us, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me" (Mt. 6:24).

During this time of Lent, we must not lose heart and fall back to where we came from. We must stay the course if we are to grow in holiness by rejecting things that separate us from God. Jesus tells us, "No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God" (Lk 9:62). Therefore, my brothers, keep your eyes fixed on the prize.

Vivat Jesus,
Deacon Chuck, Council Lecturer

Editor's note:

As Lecturer, Deacon Chuck again graces our newsletters with his reflections of God's message to us. This month, he challenges us to read scripture as part of our Lenten journey.

LECTURER'S REFLECTION

As we look across the American landscape, we see what's going on, we hear what's is being said, and our reason tell us that truth and reality is not always present. Many influencers, the new buzz word, depict and encourage words and actions that differ from what we've been taught.

Without a doubt, Christianity is being attacked not only as a direct onslaught, but subtlety from person's you'd least suspect. Those who mistakenly give into the tempter in order to be considered politically correct or progressive.

The question is, where are we progressing to? That, my brothers, is exactly why as we prepare for Easter, I encourage each of you to take up a commitment to reading Scripture daily as part of your Lenten observation and sacrifice. It doesn't have to be much, perhaps just a verse or two or short chapter.

The idea is to let God's word be in our minds regularly so that we are not caught unawares through ignorance. As Micah clearly states, "You have been told, O Man, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you; Only to do the right and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God." (Mic 6:8)

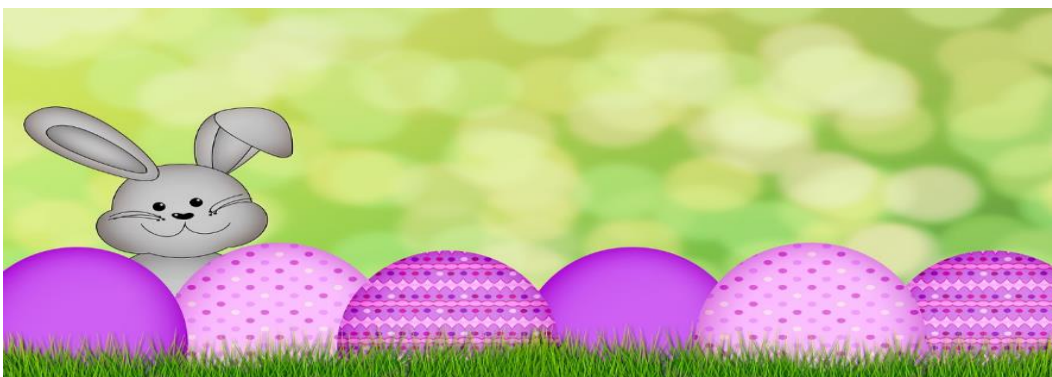
As Catholic Gentlemen, Knights, we are expected to be prepared so as to be able to combat the forces of darkness that seem to be pulling so many into the pit. Make no mistake about it; we are fighting spiritual warfare whether we want to or not.

We will prevail in the end if we but learn to see, hear, and speak correctly. That comes from knowing Scripture. As St. Jerome said, ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." Let us be in the know. Amen?

Vivat Jesus,

Deacon Chuck

**BRUNCH WITH THE EASTER BUNNY AND
EASTER EGG HUNT IS MARCH 10, 2024
AT THE ST. PIUS X ACTIVITY CENTER**



SHARING THOUGHTS FROM DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT DAVID KUDLA



On Monday February 19th, we had our Knights of Columbus Third Degree exemplification service. When a new K of C member enters our fold, he participates in this process. A member's entire family is welcome to attend. During this service we all hear three important lessons: unity, charity and fraternity. This inspires our cause and is instilled in all new members.

After this short service the fellow candidate now becomes a full-fledged 3rd degree Knight. This is a very beautiful service. It is conducted in church with a number of witnesses in attendance.

When all was said and done, I approached a new member's wife, I told her she is now what I personally like to term a Mrs. Knight. In all our K of C events, the entire family is welcome and encouraged to attend. The Jones Council in Lincoln Park also has a women's "Auxiliary". It quite possibly may be as active, if not more so than the men's.

If you know of any person who you think would make a good Knight, please encourage them to seek us out. We don't bite and are very welcoming. Every first Wednesday of the month our St. Pius social hall is the place to be. Socialization starts at 6:00 p.m., and the meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Come check us out, you won't regret it.

A few months ago one man showed up at 6:00 p.m. and told us his neighbor suggested he stop by; he said, "Well here I am". Thank you, neighbor, and thank you fellow knight.

Respectfully,
Dave Kudla, DGK
Deputy Grand Knight

MESSAGE FROM PGK AND ADVOCATE BILL ROBERT



Bill and Linda will be returning from Florida in mid-March. We look forward to their return. We send our thoughts and prayers for their family.

We are sure Bill is anxious to get back to his beloved Knights of Columbus and their great work for the community. Please remember to attend our meeting on Wednesday, March 6th as we prepare for the month ahead!

MESSAGE FROM TRUSTEE AND COR DIRECTOR BRIAN BATKO



On Saturday, March 9, 2024, we will once again host Corned Beef and Cabbage Rubeen Dinner. Plans are to have meals served in the Social Hall beginning at 5:00 p.m. after the 4:00 p.m. Tickets will be \$15 per person. We will also need volunteers to prepare for the Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch with the Easter Bunny on Sunday, March 10th after mass. Remember after the Fish Fry on March 8th, we will be stuffing Eggs and other preparations for the Bruch.



MESSAGE FROM FINANCIAL SECRETARY RAY BILYK

There are still a few members that have yet to pay their dues. Dues as well as donations can be paid directly through our website:

[Pay Dues or Make a Donation - Bernard P. O'Brien Council 3956 \(kofc3956.org\)](http://kofc3956.org).

Editor's note:

We welcome to the newsletter Program Director Ryan Daw. Ryan has had a profound effect on our council since he joined. His enthusiasm and work ethic are infectious. In a chapter that is blessed with men of great faith and integrity, Ryan makes us even better!

INAUGURAL ARTICLE FROM PROGRAM DIRECTOR RYAN DAW



I was raised in the Methodist church from elementary school. I was baptized in the Methodist church when I was 12 years old. During my high school career, I learned that my adoptive dad was raised Catholic and was a Knight of Columbus. I met one of my best friends during my senior year of high school and he was a Catholic and Knight also. When I met my future wife and learned she was Catholic, I knew she deserved a Catholic wedding, so I joined the RCIA program to learn about the Catholic faith.

After my journey I received my right and became a member of the Catholic community. One day during a Family breakfast event, hosted by the Knights of Columbus, my wife, Julie, urged me to join, since I spoke of it before. Becoming a Knight was another step forward for me in my faith. This is a wonderful brotherhood that does so much for the community. Community support and faith building are two of my favorite activities I do as a Knight. I encourage anyone thinking of joining, to check us out! You will never regret becoming a Knight of Columbus.

Ryan Daw, Program Director





Knights of Columbus®

Bernard P. O'Brien Council #3956

**Come join us for a Corned Beef and
Cabbage or Rueben Sandwich Dinner!!!**

After the 4:00 PM Mass (5:00PM)

Saturday, March 9, 2023

Dinner/Beverage- \$15

Rueben Dinner/Beverage- \$10

Proceeds benefit KofC charities.





SPECIAL GUEST COLUMN RICHARD GREGOIRE

In years past, when I was able, I had wonderful opportunities to volunteer for the Christian Appalachian Project Work Fest program that was called an Alternative Spring break for college students to do something different than what was more traditional for young people to do for their break. All the students took turns presenting and sharing their prayers and devotions with the rest of us daily.

Sometimes the adult counsellors got in on some of that. I just felt weird writing that, As we are all adults there, only some more seasoned. I felt the students led the way in prayer and the counselors led the work; working on Families homes making them safe and dry, most of us, students and counsellors alike were a little out of our comfort zones doing the work that we were doing. I too was out of my comfort zone! A few times asking me to be a leader on some projects; talk about being out of a comfort zone!!!

With my anxiety worrying whether I could handle this or not and for the work to be done well I was always concerned although safety was always on the top of my list. Working with the kids' "adults" was a great experience! They were great! We always began with prayer and ended the day with prayers of Thanksgiving.

I made a lot of wonderful friends and will always remember those days with great fondness. The homes always turned out very well and I thought they were very beautiful. I always give the credit to Jesus, "always"! He was always there with all of us together. Had to be because I wasn't the guy! The Holy Spirit was there to help and that's all there is to it!

The reason I'm carrying on about this is because I think it is OK to step out of our comfort zones sometimes. It could be a wonderful thing. God called a lot of people to do things they really didn't want to do. Anyways' my body cannot do what it used to do so I can no longer do that kind of stuff! So here I am writing, again, way out of my comfort zone not sure what I'm doing but I'm trying; and I am going to cheat just a bit on the conclusion of this article.

Doing things together with Jesus Our Lord is..... well....you know...the only way. Through Him with Him and in Him in the Unity of the Holy Spirit All Glory and Honor is Yours Almighty Father forever and ever!!! One devotion that was used by students more than once because of the different universities that volunteered is what I'm going to share here. I was always, and to this day, moved by this Prayer.

So, if anyone ever has any thoughts about, "don't think that's for me" who knows maybe it could be, "God Knows"! Like joining the Knights of Columbus, or volunteering at the many ministries here at Our Church here at St. Pius. Sometimes it can be a little scary! It is for me! But who knows? Right? Maybe it will make a difference?



Knight of the Month Brian Batko

We are recognizing Brian Batko as our Knight of the Month. Brian's work in spearheading the Desert Meal and the Shrine and Stein Day trip are among the many reasons we decided to recognize him. The purpose of the Desert Meal is to give more depth and context to our future Priests when they are speaking about the Gospel. The Desert Meal has become one of the O'Brien Council's premier events. It makes us proud to be associated with the council and with Brother Knights like Brian.

Brian has been a member of the Knights for eleven years. The thing he likes best about our council is serving God and the bond of brotherhood among the community. Brian told me that the reason he joined the Knights is because someone asked him. The person that asked him was Father Bob McCabe. Brian sets a great example of how a Catholic gentleman should serve the Church and community to his three sons Cameron, Clark, and Clayton. We're proud to call him a brother knight and we thank Brian for all that he does for St. Pius X. We're also proud to call him a friend.



Family of the Month The Daw Family

This month we recognize the Daw family for the work they have been doing for the St. Pius Fish Fry. Julie, Ryan and Kristen can be seen every Friday during Lent serving up meals and hospitality to the parishioners and students of St. Pius. Ryan was quick to deflect the praise and pointed out that he has a lot of volunteers eager to help out at the Fish Fry. It can be a burden to be in charge of such a large operation even when there are lots of helping hands.

Ryan and his lovely bride Julie have been married for fourteen years. Their daughter Kristen is a student and volunteer at St. Pius. When Kristen isn't busy helping out at the Church, she enjoys dance class. The Daw Family have been members of the parish since 2020. They have been doing the Fish Fry since then. Ryan told us he felt honored to be recognized by the council. Julie Daw is active within the parish serving on the Parent Teacher Organization, and the Advisory Board. If you see any of the Daw's this month, thank them for all that they do for our parish. Also, remember to ask if they have any Girl Scout Cookies for sale.

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!



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

SDRR Ray Bilyk (313) 247-2110

RayBilyk@kofc3956.org



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, February 6, 2024

K of C Council 3956 Regular Business Meeting (St Pius Social Hall) 6:00 - 8:00 pm.
Please come around 6:00 for some socializing and maybe some food. Meeting at 7:00.

Friday, March 8, 2024

St. Pius Lenten Fish Fry in the Activity Center 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Please join us as we dine with what has been called the best fish dinner downriver. A full assortment of treats, beverages, and soft serve ice cream will be available at a very reasonable cost.

Friday, March 8, 2024

K of C Promotional Table and Prep for Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. Begins at 3:00 p.m. and continuing after Fish Fry until 9:00 p.m. We ask each brother knight to give one hour of your time this day.

Saturday, March 9, 2024

Corned Beef and Cabbage/Rueben Dinner. After 4:00 p.m. Saturday mass. Beginning at 5:00 PM. Includes dinner and beverages. Tickets will be \$15 per person.

Sunday, March 10, 2024

Brunch with the Easter Bunny and Easter Egg Hunt in the St. Pius X Activity Center and Fr. Bob McCabe Athletic Field. Much help will be needed beginning at 9:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. Cost is \$3.00 per adult and \$1.00 for young children. Additional Free Will donations are encouraged. Proceeds going to the St. Pius X School fund.

Saturday, March 16, 2024

Men's Scripture Club (Cor Event). Please meet in the St. Pius X Social Hall beginning at 7:30am - 9:00am. We meet once a month. We will discuss that week's Sunday readings and reflect upon them. Arrive a little early for coffee/donuts. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS TO ATTEND! OPEN TO ALL MEN!!!**

Sunday, March 17, 2024 St. Patrick's Feast Day

Monday, March 18, 2024

District 105 Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity at St. Pius X Church from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. by Bernard P. O'Brien Council 3956. Remember to bring a Degree Kit for each candidate. Contact FS3956/SDRR Detroit-West Ray Bilyk by text/cell 313-247-2110 or by email raybilyk@kofc3956.org or r.bilyk@mikofc.org to indicate how many will be attending (Candidates, Sponsors, other Brother Knights, and family/guests).

Sunday, March 24, 2024 Palm Sunday. Holy Week begins.

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Msgr Van Antwerp Assembly 475 General Membership Meeting (In person and virtual) 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Knights of Columbus Wyandotte Council, 3530 Biddle Ave.

Sunday, March 31, 2024 EASTER SUNDAY: OUR LORD IS RISEN!
Fifth Sunday Rosary proposed before each mass.



GREAT NEWS FOR YOU AND A FRIEND!

Each member that brings in a new member will receive \$30 off next year's dues!

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"

LOOKING AHEAD

Upcoming Events

March 28, 2024: Holy Thursday
March 29, 2024: Good Friday
March 30, 2024: Holy Saturday
March 31, 2024: Easter Sunday

April 2, 2024

Webinar - Retirement Savings and Distribution Planning

Program runs from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1655586&tp_key=c20e62135b ([map](#))

Thank you for registering to attend the Web Broadcast. Login will be available 15 minutes prior to the event start time. We look forward to your participation in this broadcast.

6:00pm

K of C Council 3956 Regular Business Meeting (St Pius Social Hall)

Wednesday, April 3, 6pm - 8pm

View our newsletter and other information at www.kofc3956.org/

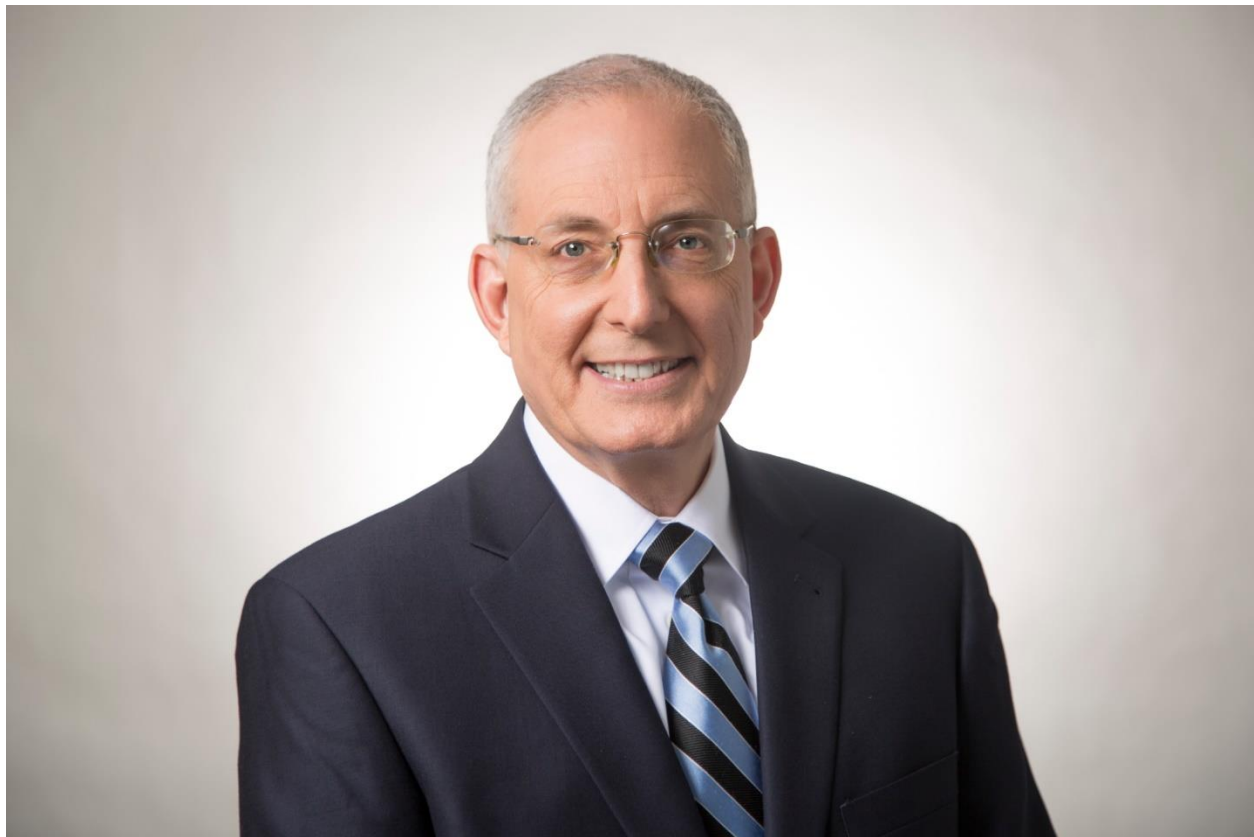
**Retirement Savings and Distribution Planning
with Ed Slott, America's IRA Expert, presents,**

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

8:00 PM EDT

Ed Slott, television personality & best-selling author known for his unparalleled ability to turn advanced tax strategies into understandable, actionable and entertaining advice. Ed combines current research, in-depth expertise, and humor to teach viewer about the ins and outs of their retirement and distribution planning information.

You are invited to join a free virtual webinar featuring Ed Slott. Ed specializes in the latest retirement strategies and opportunities for 2024. Register today to reserve your spot.



To Register in advance, contact, **SDRR and FN0475 RAY Bilyk** at RayBilyk@kofc3956.org

https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1655586&tp_key=c20e62135b ([map](#))

No purchase is necessary to attend this event. This event is for informational purposes only and does not constitute financial, tax, or legal advice. A Knights of Columbus insurance agent may contact you following the event.

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

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

- Mark A. Farrah (March 8)
- Dan A. Somenauer (March 8)
- Ryan Wallace (March 8)
- Francis X. Cuschieri (March 16)
- Larry C. Ridenour (March 21)
- Sal D. DiPasquale (March 24)
- Mark Garcellano (March 24)
- Matthew M. Dziewit (March 29)



WIVES BIRTHDAYS

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



- We wish all wives born in March a very Happy Birthday!

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!



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 January:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| • John C. Byers | (March 1) | 57 Years of Service |
| • Bruce L. Presutti | (March 1) | 50 Years of Service |
| • Christopher G. Poirier | (March 1) | 46 Years of Service |
| • Steven R. Randall | (March 1) | 42 Years of Service |
| • Deacon Scott M. LaForest | (March 1) | 35 Years of Service |
| • Patrick A. Guentner | (March 24) | 28 Years of Service |
| • Steven M. Minella | (March 25) | 23 Years of Service |
| • Daniel B. McGuire | (March 9) | 8 Years of Service |
| • Mr. Jacob Harpenau | (March 6) | 1 Year of Service |
| • Mr. Fred J. Tortonesi | (March 16) | 1 Year of Service |

Happy Anniversary!

MEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| • Scott A. and Michele Corso | March 21, 1998 | 26 Years |
| • Bruce J. and Caru Kresslein | March 21, 1992 | 32 Years |
| • Dr. Okechukwu and Francess Unogu | March 22, 2000 | 24 Years |

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

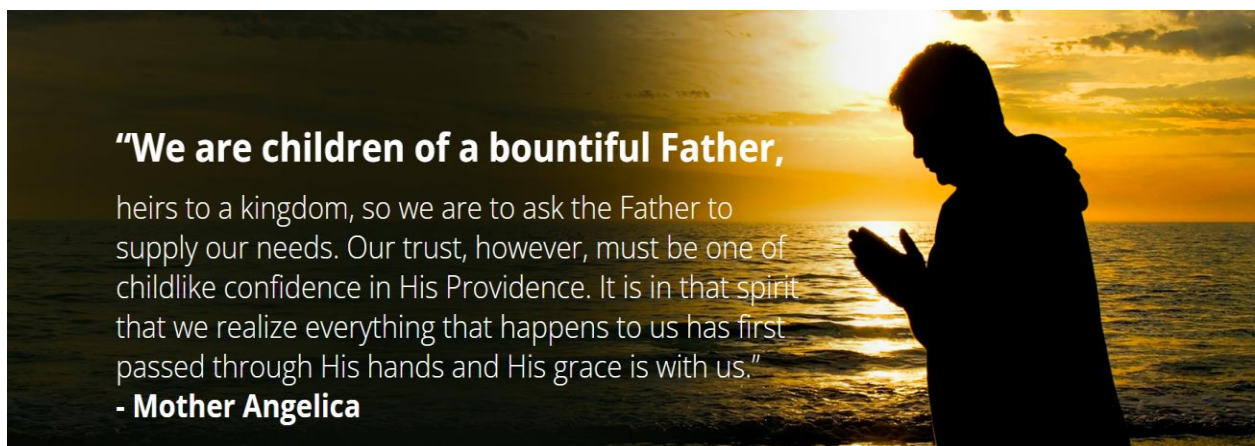


IN OUR PRAYERS:

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

- Jennifer Bilyk
- Lou Butka and family. Lou lost her husband Bud in February
- James Garcellano, GK Mark Garcellano's brother recovering from a staff infection.
- Bill Robert family members including brother Rick, daughter Terianne Stewart, and son in law Michael Parker
- Robert LaForest,
- Joe and Roger Hernandez
- Liz and Larry Ridenour
- Deacon Bob
- Manuel's Family
- Mel Jacobs
- Barb DeGroat
- Larry Rossi
- Nicholas Family
- Alyssia Schooner and Daniel Schooner, Bob Schooner's Grandchildren
- Carol Kainz, Cousin to Angela 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.



"We are children of a bountiful Father,

heirs to a kingdom, so we are to ask the Father to supply our needs. Our trust, however, must be one of childlike confidence in His Providence. It is in that spirit that we realize everything that happens to us has first passed through His hands and His grace is with us."

- Mother Angelica

REFLECTION

FELLOWSHIP


I read a lot of news articles and listen to podcasts about the decline of “Third Spaces” in America. If your home and work are First and Second spaces. Third spaces are other places to be with friends. Some of these articles are pretty gloomy. They point out the increased rates of depression and overall declines in happiness and satisfaction with life. It’s speculated that the Covid quarantine accelerated a downward trend in places Americans hang out with friends.

This past Wednesday after our monthly officer’s meeting, we stuck around the Robert Jones Council Lounge to have a beverage and enjoy the camaraderie of working together on a common goal. I saw a brotherhood of men who were gathered together to enjoy each other’s company. We hashed out minor differences, discussed our favorite sci-fi books, and talked about shared life experiences. Although we come from different backgrounds and ages, we share a bond of brotherhood and a common purpose. The men in that room are dedicated to serving the parish of St. Pius X. I think that it’s in our nature as men to work towards a shared goal. When we’re doing that, a natural by product is the fellowship we had in that room. The officer’s planning meeting is the week before the general meeting. The open secret is this. You don’t have to be an officer of the council to attend. We invite all who want to help.

In terms of importance the Church should be the “First Space.” The fortunate among us have a home and a place to work. If you’re looking for a “Third Space” consider joining the Knights of Columbus. Join with a friend and you’ll have a predetermined time to meet in person. You’ll also meet some of the finest men you’ll ever know.

Co-Editor Robert Park

St. Patrick's Day, March 17



St Patrick Prayer!
As I arise today, may the strength of God pilot me,
the power of God uphold me, the wisdom of God guide me.
May the eye of God look before me, the ear of God hear me,
the word of God speak for me.
May the hand of God protect me, the way of God lie before
me, the shield of God defend me, the host of God save me.
May Christ shield me today.
Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down,
Christ when I sit, Christ when I stand, Christ in the heart of
everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone
who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.
Amen

Saint Patrick pray for us!

Vivat Jesus
Anthony J. (Tony) Chirco,
Brother Knight and Newslette