



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

Charity Unity Fraternity

## June 2024 Issue 62



Wednesday June 4, 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.

## June Events Overview

### June 3rd - 4th: Corpus Christi Procession

Join the Knights in the Corpus Christi procession, a tradition celebrating the Body and Blood of Christ following the 10:00 AM Mass at St. Pius X Parish.

### June 5th: Membership Meeting

Our monthly meeting will be held at 7:30 PM in the St. Pius X Parish Hall. All members are encouraged to attend for fellowship and planning of upcoming activities.

### June 22nd: Life Walk and Pro-Life Picnic

Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup>, Bishop Park Wyandotte 10 am to 12:30 pm. Bring Family or Come Alone! Join the fundraiser to Protect LIFE from Conception to Natural Death. Upper Downriver Right to Life (734)288-8798

### June 23rd: Father's Day Breakfast

Celebrate Father's Day with a special breakfast hosted by the Knights at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall. Enjoy a morning of food and camaraderie.

### June 24th: Community Service Day

Participate in our community service project at the Southgate Food Pantry from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Volunteers are needed to help with sorting and distribution.

### June 28-29: St. Pius Rummage Sale

Come find a deal, or volunteer to help the school. Followed on July 1<sup>st</sup> Monday night truck load up of anything unsold.

### Ongoing: Recruitment Drive

Throughout June, we are focusing on growing our council. Encourage fellow parishioners to join the Knights of Columbus and become part of our mission.

## Grand Knight's Message

### Dear Brother Knights,

As we enter the month of June, we are reminded of the importance of family and community. Our events this month reflect our commitment to these values, from our Father's Day Breakfast to our community service project. I encourage all members to participate in our activities and bring in new members to strengthen our council.

May the Holy Spirit guide us in our endeavors.

Fraternally

Grand Knight Mark Garcellano



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## Passing the Torch

Our council's recent election of officers included an unexpected turn of events, which resulted in yours truly accepting the position of Grand Knight. For obvious reasons, I step aside as newsletter editor. Our Co-Editor, Robert Park, who has been a tremendous asset to this council, now is the Editor-in-chief.

Thank you to all my brother knights who have given their thoughtful perspective as contributors to the newsletter. I took great pride each month these past five years to deliver a summary of what we as a council are involved in, for our community.

My contribution to this newsletter going forward will be to proudly address the fine work all our brother knights do as a council. God's blessings to you and your loved ones.

Peace,  
**Anthony (Tony) Chirco, Past Editor**

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## June 2024 Article

### Address from Grand Knight Mark Garcellano



### My Fellow Brother Knights!

Thank you again for voting me to represent our council as one of the delegates at the 124th Michigan Knights of Columbus State Convention. In this month's article, I would like to share my observations of this year's convention.

As was in recent years, the convention was held at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. It is an excellent venue for a convention of this size. In Michigan, there are over 400 active councils. With councils sending two delegates, the convention approached 1000 knights attending. It is planned to hold the state convention at the Grand Hotel through 2030.



**This year's convention's agenda was the following:**

- On Wednesday morning, the convention started with a Mass at St. Anne's Church. After Mass, there was a procession with the Eucharist to the Grand Hotel where the Eucharist was set up for Adoration.
- In the afternoon, there was another Mass celebrated by Archbishop of Archdiocese of Detroit Most Reverend Allen Vigneron in the Grand's theatre.
- The convention's opening meeting was held later that night after dinner.



**Here are some quick Michigan State Council highlights:**

- Michigan Council is #1 in the order for monetary and volunteer hour donations for the ASAP program.
- Michigan Council is #1 in the order for monetary and volunteer hour donations for the Special Olympics program.
- Michigan Council is #1 in the order for COR meetings.
- Michigan Council is #1 in the order for monetary donations for Ultrasound Equipment.
- Supreme Director Arcie J. Lim was the special guest of the convention.

Thursday began with a convention Mass presided by Bishop John Doerfler from the Diocese of Marquette. Later in the morning, an awards presentation was held. After the special awards presentation, there was a living Rosary conducted on the front lawn of the Grand Hotel. It was inspiring and reverent! In the afternoon, we attended the diocese Caucus Meetings to discuss Michigan Council initiatives and goals. The takeaway that was impressed on me was the number of knights who volunteer their time and talents to fight for the unborn and donate their time and money to the knights' charities.

Friday began with a convention Memorial Mass presided by Bishop Edward Lohse from the Diocese of Kalamazoo. Later that morning, the closing meeting was held. This year was an election year. The state officers were elected to their positions and resolutions were voted on. The State Deputy Elect is Barry Borsenik elevated from State Secretary. The State Secretary Elect is Chales McCuen III elevated from State Treasurer. The State Treasurer Elect is Vern Miron elevated from State Advocate. The State Advocate Elect is Daniel Fuller Jr. elevated from State Warden. The State Warden Elect is Joel Kenzorski who was voted in.

In conclusion, the State Convention was an inspirational success! It is clearly evident to me that the Bishops, State Officers, presenters, and hotel employees worked hard to put on an exceptional convention. Even the Michigan weather cooperated. The theme that I took away from the convention was that we (our order) are one of the last great hopes of the Catholic Church. In addition, our order stands as a wall between the chaos of secular and corrupt society and our Holy Church.

Vivat Jesus!

**Mark Garcellano**

GK

734-968-6900

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## What is Your Gift to Share?

Each one of us has been given special gifts by our creator. Some people are extremely talented mechanically. My one brother can take apart an engine, repair it, and put it back into the car and it is like new! Unfortunately, I didn't

receive that gift. Then there are individuals that can sell or talk you into anything. (The gift of persuasion). I know I didn't get that gift either! A gift that I did receive was the ability to speak and teach. I taught school at Oakland University and in my position with my company, I taught workers about the health effects of our products. I found it very rewarding!

All of us have been given gifts and the K of C is an organization that allows us to share these gifts with our family, our parish, and fellow members of the K of C. Not only will it enrich you as a person but it allows us to fulfill Father McGivney's mission of caring for the needy and outcast. In fulfilling Jesus Christ's commandments of charity to our fellow man, we become enriched and are the gifts we have been given.

**Past Grand Knight and Deputy Grand Knight Elect  
Bill Robert**

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## Reflection

### Stepping up

A genuine thank you in this time of transition for our council and our parish. Thank you to the outgoing officers and directors. You have given of your time and talents in service of our parish, school, and our church. You have sacrificed time spent with loved ones and asked extra of your spouses.

Thank you to the incoming officers. You will do many of the same things. These two groups are similar in more ways than we know. Some of them are the same men but in different roles. We will ask more of these men. We'll ask them to take on a little more responsibility, a little extra effort, push a little more.

There are a few reasons why we're asking. The first most important reason is that the church deserves it. Next, we know they can handle it. Because we'll be shoulder to shoulder with them helping them along the way. Finally, we have great examples of stewardship and leadership in our own parish.

Father Suresh Rajaian will be leaving St. Pius a better place than he found it. The school is strong. The building is more efficient and safer. It wasn't a sweeping overnight change. When something needed repair, we made slight upgrades. Something I liked was when we added the Anima Christi after the Eucharist. Just one extra prayer a week, but over time how many times have we said it?

We wish Father Suresh many blessings in his new assignment. They'll get to know his joyous laugh, his steady leadership, and his reverence for the Holy Eucharist. He's meant a lot to my family. I know he's been a source of strength and guidance to many others. Best wishes Father Suresh, you will be in our prayers.

Vivat Jesus

**Robert Park, Recorder, Editor in Chief**

## **Knight of the Month**



### **Brian Batko**

We're proud to call him a friend. We are thankful for all he does for St. Pius X and the O'Brien Council. You've probably attended an event he either created, contributed to, or co-chaired if you've been to one of the concerts, jazz nights, motorcycle blessings, or the Desert Meal.

Brian's latest passion is COR, the once per month Saturday scripture study of the readings of the mass. To thank Brian for all he does for the faith, the parish, and the council, please consider attending COR to see how exposure to Holy Scripture will reveal itself to you in your daily life.

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## **Family of the Month**

### **The Garcellano Family**

During his term of service, the Grand Knight's family is asked to contribute in various ways. We are recognizing Jocelyn, Mitchell, and Lauren for the month of June. It's really a recognition of all they have done over the past two years.

We've seen Jocelyn filling gift bags at the golf outing. We've seen her before and after family breakfasts and donut Sundays. We've come to know Mitchell as a brother Knight who helps set up the video equipment and helping out at Saint Pius Field Day. The same goes for Lauren, who has helped out at numerous events such as the St. Pius Festival.

It's a testament to the strength and closeness of their family that we see them so often together at mass and pitching in during the council events. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank the Garcellano family for all they have done to serve the church.





## Welcome Brian and Matt



Welcome two of our newest Brother Knights Matt Wardell (middle right) and Brian Shafer (middle left) who went through their exemplification on Wednesday after the meeting. We look forward to working with you to serve the Church.

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## Master Builder

There once was a carpenter ready to retire. He told his employer of his plans to live a more leisurely life with his wife by spending more time with his family. His employer was sorry to see him go but asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favor. The carpenter said yes, but in time it became apparent his heart really wasn't into it. Instead of asking for help, he cut corners and his workmanship became careless and shoddy. When the carpenter finished, his employer stopped by to see the house. He handed the carpenter the keys and said, "This is your house, my gift to you." What a shock! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently.

So it is with us. Many times, we build our lives in a distracted way, reacting rather than acting. We don't always put forth our best effort and many times try to go it alone. Then with a shock, we look at the situation we have created and find that we're living in a house built on sand. If we had realized it at the time, we would have done it much differently.

My brothers, each day we hammer a nail, place a board, or erect a wall, we need to build wisely. When our present situation brings us down, we need to look to the master builder for guidance. We should not let ourselves feel forlorn but rather understand the house we build we don't build alone. Even if we live it for only one day more, that day deserves to be lived graciously and with dignity. Your life tomorrow will be the result of your attitude and the choices you make today. When in doubt, reach out.

Vivat Jesus  
**Deacon Chuck**



## **In Our Prayers**

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

- Jennifer Bilyk
- Lou Butka and family. Lou lost her husband Frank Sr. in February.
- James Garcellano, GK Mark Garcellano's brother
- Bill Robert's brother Rick, daughter Terianne, and son-in-law Michael
- Robert LaForest
- Joe and Roger Hernandez
- Deacon Bob
- Manuel's Family
- Mel Jacobs
- Barb DeGroat
- Larry Rossi
- Alyssia Schooner and Daniel Schooner, Bob Schooner's Grandchildren
- Carol Kainz, Cousin to Angela Chirco, diagnosed with Stage 4 Cancer
- Valeria Kudla, Wife of David, recovering from surgery
- Antonietta (Dolly) Chirco, who is recovering from a stroke, Mother of GK Tony Chirco
- Dick Gregoire as he recovers from neck surgery
- Daniel Batko
- Liz and Larry Ridenour

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.



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

### **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Anthony "Tony" Cerezo Memorial Golf Outing**

**Location:** Willow Metropark Golf Course, 22900 Huron River Drive, New Boston MI 48164

**Lunch:** St. Pius X Social Hall, 14101 Superior Southgate, MI 48195

**When:** Saturday, August 3, 2024 rain or shine

**Registration:** 7:00 AM

**Shotgun Start:** 8:00 AM

**Lunch:** 1PM

**Make Checks Payable to:** Knights of Columbus 3956

**Mail Checks to:** K of C, 28266 Heather Way Romulus MI 48174

**Contacts:** Mark Garcellano 734-968-6900 or Robert Schooner 734-231-9940

**Payment Deadline:** July 29, 2024

**Sign Up @:** <https://www.kofc3956.org/golfouting/>

Proceeds benefit Knights of Columbus Charities.



**Golf and Lunch:** \$100

**Lunch only:** \$20

**Hole Sponsorship:** \$100

