



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

Charity Unity Fraternity

July 2024 Issue 63



Wednesday July 3, 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.

July and August Events Overview

Monday, July 1

6:00pm
Pack up remaining SPX Rummage Sale items into Truck

Tuesday, July 2

5:00pm
Downriver K of C Boat Trip and Family Picnic Meeting

Wednesday, July 3

6:00pm
K of C Council 3956 Regular Business Meeting (St Pius Social Hall)

Thursday, July 4

Independence Day

Tuesday, July 9

5:00pm
Downriver K of C Boat Trip and Family Picnic Meeting-Sold Out

5:30pm
Archdiocesan Meeting

Sunday, July 14

11:00am
Installation of Council 3956 Officers (following 11:30AM Mass)

Wednesday, July 17

National Eucharistic Congress
7:00pm
Knights on The River Boat Trip

Thursday, July 18

National Eucharistic Congress

Friday, July 19

National Eucharistic Congress

Saturday, July 20

National Eucharistic Congress

Sunday, July 21

National Eucharistic Congress

Tuesday, July 23

7:00pm
Msgr Van Antwerp Assembly 475 General Membership Meeting (In person and virtual)

Thursday, July 25

7:30pm
Detroit Archdiocesan Vocations League (DAVL) Meeting

Saturday, July 27

2:00pm
Leadership Installation 2026 3rd Annual Golf Outing

Monday, July 29

6:00pm
District Meeting (DD105)

Monday, August 5

142nd Annual Supreme Convention held in Quebec, Canada

Tuesday, August 6

142nd Annual Supreme Convention held in Quebec, Canada

Wednesday, August 7

142nd Annual Supreme Convention held in Quebec, Canada

6:00pm

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

Thursday, August 8

142nd Annual Supreme Convention held in Quebec, Canada

Monday, August 12

Blessed Michael McGivney's Birthday (1852)

Tuesday, August 13

Blessed Michael McGivney Feast Day

Wednesday, August 14

Blessed Michael McGivney's Anniversary of Death (1890)

Thursday, August 15

Assumption of Mary

Saturday, August 17

1:10pm

Michigan State Council Fraternal & Family K of C Tiger Day 2024 (Detroit Tigers vs NY Yankees)

Sunday, August 18

12:00pm

District 105 - Installation of Eppenbrock Council (after 11am Mass)

Wednesday, August 21

Saint Pius X Feast Day

Thursday, August 22

7:30pm

Detroit Archdiocesan Vocations League (DAVL) Meeting

Saturday, August 24

11:00am

18th Annual Downriver Knights of Columbus Family Picnic

Tuesday, August 27

7:00pm

Msgr Van Antwerp Assembly 475 General Membership Meeting (In person and virtual)

Friday, August 30

St Pius Festival 2024

Saturday, August 31

St Pius Festival 2024

Sunday, September 1

St Pius Festival 2024

Monday, September 2

Labor Day

Wednesday, September 4

6:00pm

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

Friday, September 6

5:00pm

River Rouge Days

Saturday, September 7

12:00pm

River Rouge Days

Sunday, September 8

1:00pm

River Rouge Days

Ongoing: Recruitment Drive

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



4th ANNUAL TONY CERREZO GOLF TOURNAMENT

August 3, 2024

4 Man Scramble

Enter as a team, partial team or individual. Reserve your spot today

Price: \$100 Per Person

Admission Includes:



Tournament



Lunch



Fun & Prizes!

Where?

WILLOW METROPARK GOLF COURSE

New Boston, Michigan

Times

7 AM - Registration

8 AM - Shotgun start

1 PM – Lunch @ St. Pius X
Social Hall

Message About the Event:

Join us for a fun event that supports local KofC Charities. This event is rain or shine.

To register, visit

<https://www.kofc3956.org/golfouting/>

22900 Huron River Drive, New Boston MI 48164

Phone: 734-968-6900 | Email: GolfOuting@kofc3956.org

Grand Knight's Message

Grand Knight Message to Council and Friends,

Our Bernard P. O'Brien council 3956 is among the most active councils in the state of Michigan. As my tenure begins as Grand Knight, I am humbled to follow Past Grand Knights Ray Bilyk, Bob LaForest, Bill Robert and Mark Garcellano who each have led our council well since I made a life changing decision to become a Knight of Columbus. Congratulations to Mark Garcellano, who is our new District Deputy and Ray Bilyk will continue as SDRR.

We start our new administrative year with a very strong slate of officers. Thank you to all these faithful men who have accepted important positions as officers, directors and chairmen to lead this council during these next twelve months. July begins with an aggressive calendar including:

- **Wednesday, July 3rd, 2024: K of C Council 3956 Regular business meeting in Social Hall, 6:00 pm Social Hour and 7:00 pm meeting.**
- **Sunday, July 14, 2024: Installation of Officers after 11:00 am mass followed by reception in Social Hall.**
- **Wednesday, August 7, 2024: K of C Council 3956 Regular business meeting in Social Hall, 6:00 pm Social Hour and 7:00 pm meeting**
- **Saturday, August 17, 2024: Michigan K of C Fraternal and Family Tiger Game (vs. New York). Details to be discussed.**
- **Friday, Aug 30th - Sunday, Sept 1st: St Pius Festival. Volunteers needed. Sign up online or attend meetings for details.**
- **Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2024: K of C Council 3956 Regular business meeting in Social Hall, 6:00 pm Social Hour and 7:00 pm meeting.**
- **Friday, Sept 6 - Sept 8: River Rouge Beer Tent. Volunteers needed. Sign up online or attend meetings for details.**
- **Other important events to our calendar will include: Coats for Kids and Halloween Party will follow. Note that our October Business Meeting may be moved to Tuesday, October 1st, same time and place.**

I encourage every brother knight whether you have been a member for many years or are relatively new to the knights to give us some of your valuable time to give us a hand as we help meet the needs of our community. I understand as much as anybody the challenges of making these commitments. I run a family business and assist in the care of my mother; a recovering stroke victim. I am also blessed to have my wife Angela of 35 years and counting, two married children and welcoming our third grandchild in July.

We look forward to working with our new school principal. We will continue a strong relationship with St. Pius school. On behalf of our council, I welcome Fr. Don LaCuesta as our new spiritual leader and Pastor of St. Pius X church. He too is a brother knight. Please come meet him as he plans to attend our business meeting on Wednesday, July 3rd. and our Installation of Officers on Sunday, July 14th.

God Bless all my brother knights, friends and families. I look forward to working with each of you. Join us at our next meeting, July 3rd. Come at 6 pm for food, refreshments and fellowship. Our one-hour meeting begins at 7:00.

Peace,
Anthony (Tony) Chirco
Grand Knight, Council 3956

Editors Note



Goodbye Father Suresh. How often do we think about the journey of a life of a priest when they decide to embrace their vocation of religious life. Father Suresh shared his journey during his homily on his last Sunday Mass. He talked about being thrust into the role of leader of a school as a young priest in India. He embraced the role and leaned on the senior members of his staff to help the school thrive. He told us about his move to a small Michigan town for a short time and then back to a large school in the Cayman Islands. In his most recent assignment with us, Father Suresh shared the rewarding it was to look back on how much the Church and the school had achieved together.

Priests are servants for God. They don't often have a lot of choice in their assignments. They don't often get the comfort of staying in one place for a very long time. One of the benefits of this life is the ability to affect a lot of lives. Father Suresh helped to guide many people during his time here. We have faith that Father Don LaCuesta will do the same.

Robert Park, Recorder, Editor in Chief

July 2024 Article

Freedom

Living in America we all profess to be free but the reality is that unless you have been denied access to an event, unable to live where you want or told you don't belong because of your religion most people haven't experienced a loss of freedom. Father McGiveny knew first hand what this religious persecution was first hand. We are fortunate to live 100 years later where many of these barriers have been broken down. But look around the world and you still see examples of religious persecution, personal rights abused and lack of civil rights. Yes, we live in a great country that enshrined these values in our Constitution. But also, like Ben Franklin said to the lady that asked if we have a Monarchy or a republic: "Madam, a republic if you can keep it"! We must stay vigilant, to vote, and protect our Government so we continue to have a voice in our Government. This freedom has been paid with the blood of our forefathers. We must never forget this!



Past Grand Knight and Deputy Grand Knight Bill Robert

Knight of the Month

Dennis Hamilton

It's my pleasure to announce the Knight of the Month for July is Dennis Hamilton. Dennis has deep roots in the St. Pius X parish and the Obrien Council. Dennis has been a Knight for many years, he was also in the Squires program for ten years prior to his exemplification. Dennis is the president of the usher's club. He keeps on the family tradition of serving St. Pius X parish, like his father Thomas and his mom Josephine. Dennis's dad Thomas was formerly president of the Usher's club. One of Dennis's greatest honors was being asked to Usher at Father Swift's last mass at St. Pius X.

Dennis has been married to his lovely wife Deb for over 40 years. They have a daughter Shannon and a granddaughter Natalie.

We are recognizing Dennis as Knight of the Month for July because of the work he has done with the Food Pantry. He has been delivering food donated from St. Pius for over 15 years with the help of his family and others. Dennis was quick to point out that many have helped him along the way, Mike Kwiatkowski and Dick Gregoire. Dennis helps the parish because, "St. Pius will always be home. This is my home."

Family of the Month

The Victoria Dudek Family-Family of the Month!

This month St. Pius X's Athletic Director Victoria Dudek and her Family are being honored as Family of the Month. We appreciate all that she and her family have done for the parish. They are there at St. Pius Field Day and all the other athletic events throughout the school year, always lending a helping hand.

We asked Victoria about her history with the school. She was gracious enough to share her story in her own words:

I have been at St Pius for 11 years! I love our school and community. We have incredibly dedicated staff from our volunteers, teachers, parish, and office. We have the best students and it's a joy to be around them!

I'm incredibly lucky to work beside Ryan Daw and Joe Chlebek. They give so much to our school and athletic program and I couldn't, and wouldn't want to do any of this without them. The Knights are also a big source of support for myself and the school and we are all blessed to have their involvement and commitment. Being of service to others is one of the greatest things we can do and I try to honor that within our community.

Mike and I share four children. My oldest Kasia will be at Divine Child in the fall. Matthew is going into 8th grade, and Luke and Will are going into 7th grade. We have a wonderful family trip planned for next week to Traverse City!

It is not only me who is doing the work, my whole family is involved. The kids spend many hours in the gym helping me. They are often there on game days helping to set up or cleanup and assist in managing the day-to-day events. It's truly a group effort and my kids love to be a part of it. After graduating my daughter came back to help with the field day events and she is hopeful that she will get to continue to volunteer at St Pius going forward. She loves to give back and help our community in any way she can.

Congratulations to the Dudek Family for the many ways they give to our Church. Victoria and her family set a fine example of working together as a family to serve others.

Lecturer's Reflection 07/03/2024

As we look forward to celebrating Independence Day tomorrow, I'd like us to stop and really think about what our forefathers put in the Declaration of Independence and where we stand as Catholics on life. I'll quote the Declaration and then make three points concerning it.

Quote: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator, with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

First point. We would all agree the intent of "Creator" is a reference to God. But sadly, there are those who would argue they don't believe in a god. Fair enough. I'll give them the latitude and say, a life created scientifically, biologically, comes from the parents, so mom and dad are the "creator" for that child. But what's interesting is what follows.

Point two: It states, "the individual is endowed by their creator (i.e. God or mom and dad) with certain unalienable rights." Let's look at these last two words: Unalienable – US legal says, Unalienable right refers to rights that cannot be surrendered, sold or transferred to someone else, especially a natural right. Webster defines it as, "Incapable of being alienated, surrendered or transferred." "Unable to be taken away." according to Cambridge. And from Google's Dictionary.com. "Something that can't be transferred to someone else, taken away or denied." So we see in both cases, God or parent, the creator, whoever that is, has given something, endowed if you will, to another person that cannot be denied, taken away or transferred. It becomes that person's right. In this case a Right to life. So what is a right.

Point three: The United Nations defines human rights as "Entitlements inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status." Point being a fetus falls into other status. We aren't talking about a family pet, we are talking about a human being, a person. Science indisputably proves humans beget humans. So any offspring from a human is human and that human has inherent entitlements, rights. So let's consider how a right is defined. Well, Webster defines it as "Something to which one has a just claim or something that one may properly claim as due." "Those things that one is morally or legally entitled to do or have," according to Collins. And again from Google's Dictionary.com – "Moral or legal entitlements to have or obtain." So the next time someone tells you abortion is a right. Or choosing to eliminate a life, under the guise of reproductive rights is a just act, point out that no matter how you slice it, by definition, those self-interests or compromises do not, nor do they ever override what is guaranteed by the creator of that life. Whether it's God or the parent. Once life has been created, the creator, however defined, has automatically guaranteed that person the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Those guarantees come with an unchangeable set of laws, both natural and legal. Happy 4th.

Vivat Jesus,
Deacon Chuck

Price of Freedom

This particular newsletter, so it happens, falls within the same week as our nation celebrates Independence Day. As Americans, we commemorate the break from tyranny and oppression to a life of sovereignty and freedom. We understand the cost for that liberty was high and blood was shed. So with grateful hearts, we gaze upon “Old Glory” and willingly pledge ourselves to protect and defend our country and way of life so undeservedly obtained for us through sacrifice.

This National Holiday is a good time for us as Catholics, to be cognizant that the cost of our liberty from sin was also high, and that blood was shed. So when we gaze upon the Cross, it too should be with a grateful heart and a willingness to commit ourselves to protect and defend the Church and our faith so undeservedly obtained for us through sacrifice.

My brothers, let us take the time to contemplate what Jesus told his disciples, “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” then ask ourselves what level of commitment we have for the things we hold dear. We know to what extent our Lord willingly carried out what he professed. We must ask ourselves, to what extent are we willingly prepared to act? As we’ve heard and read on bumper stickers so many times, “freedom is not free.” It’s true in both regards. Have happy and blessed 4th.



Vivat Jesus,
Deacon Chuck

In Our Prayers

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

- Jennifer Bilyk
- 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
- 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.



Member Birthdays

July

Name	Birthday	Age	
Steven E Pochini	07-01-1994	30	
Donald B Mullins	07-02-1969	55	
Mr Adam Walentowicz	07-05-1984	40	
James M Kuhlman	07-08-1968	56	
Richard J Kinzler	07-10-1941	83	
Gary T Maveal	07-14-1962	62	
Christopher G Poirier	07-18-1958	66	
Miguel Lugo	07-19-1942	82	
Burrell Hughes	07-21-1950	74	
Michael C Lewis	07-22-1977	47	
Patrick A Guentner	07-25-1972	52	
Kevin G. Pelkey	07-28-1964	60	
Thomas E Monteleon	07-29-1948	76	
Joseph C Cassette	07-30-1975	49	
Mr Joseph A Wienclaw	07-30-1985	39	
Dennis E Assenmacher	07-31-1998	26	

July

Name	Birthday	Age	
Bryan J Hughes	07-31-1958	66	



Member Wedding Anniversaries

July

Name	Date	Wife's Name	
Walter F Kabalka	07-09-1960	Myrna Kabalka	
Mr David M Kudla	07-19-1986	Valerie Kudla	
Robert D Schooner	07-30-1977	Dolores Schooner	