



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

Charity Unity Fraternity

August 2025 Issue 71



K of C Council 3956 Business Meeting
Wednesday September 3rd, (St Pius
Social Hall) Meeting begins at 6:00
p.m.

Refreshments and snacks served
afterwards at 7.

August 2025

Tuesday, August 26

- 6:30–7:00 PM: 4th Degree Rosary at the

Knights of Columbus Wyandotte Council

3530 Biddle Ave, Wyandotte.

- 7:00–8:30 PM: Msgr. Van Antwerp Assembly 475
4th Degree Business Meeting, also at
the Wyandotte K of C

Wednesday, August 27

- 6:00–8:30 PM: Council 3956 Officers Planning
Meeting at 14101 Superior St, Southgate.

Thursday, August 28

- 7:30–9:30 PM: Detroit Archdiocesan Vocations
League (DAVL) Meeting at the John F. Kennedy
Knights of Columbus, 33320 Kelly Rd, Clinton Twp.

Friday, August 29

- **All day: St. Pius X Festival begins.**

Saturday, August 30

- **All day: St. Pius X Festival continues.**
- **11:00 AM–3:30 PM: Downriver Knights Family**
Picnic at Centennial Park in Grosse Ile.

Sunday, August 31

- **All day: St. Pius X Festival concludes.**

September 2025

Monday, September 1

- All day: Labor Day.

Wednesday, September 3

- **6:00–9:00 PM: K of C Council 3956 Regular**
Business Meeting at the St. Pius Social Hall, with
socializing and food following the meeting.

Tuesday, September 9

- **6:00–7:00 PM: Council 3956 Group Photo for the**
St. Pius X Parish 75th Anniversary at 14101
Superior St, Southgate.

Saturday, September 13

- 2:00–4:00 PM: Living Rosary at the Michigan State
Capitol in Lansing.

Monday, September 15

- 7:00–8:00 PM:

District 105 Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and
Fraternity at St. Pius X Catholic Church- 14101 Superior St,
Southgate.

Thursday, September 18

- **5:30–9:00 PM: Focus on Life Dinner at The Grecian Center, 16300 Dix Toledo Rd, Southgate. This event is sponsored by Downriver Right to Life.**

Saturday, September 20

- **7:00 AM–2:50 PM: 5th Annual Memorial Golf Tournament (benefiting St. Pius X Catholic School).**
- **7:30–9:00 AM: Men’s Scripture Club (Cor Event) at the St. Pius X Catholic Church Social Hall.**

Sunday, September 21

- **9:00 AM–12:30 PM: Donut Sunday after the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM Masses at St. Pius X Parish.**

Tuesday, September 23

- **6:00–6:30 PM: 4th Degree Officers Meeting at the Knights of Columbus Wyandotte Council.**
- **6:30–7:00 PM: 4th Degree Rosary, also at the Wyandotte K of C.**
- **7:00–8:30 PM: Msgr. Van Antwerp Assembly 475 4th Degree Business Meeting, also at the Wyandotte K of C.**

Wednesday, September 24

- **6:00–8:30 PM: Council 3956 Officers Planning Meeting (following COR) at 14101 Superior St, Southgate.**

Thursday, September 25

- **7:30–9:30 PM: Detroit Archdiocesan Vocations League (DAVL) Meeting at the John F. Kennedy Knights of Columbus in Clinton Twp.**

Saturday, September 27

- **8:00 AM–4:00 PM: Mandy Borsenik Golf Outing at Green Acres Golf Course in Bridgeport.**

October 2025

Wednesday, October 1

- **6:00–9:00 PM: K of C Council 3956 Regular Business Meeting at the St. Pius Social Hall**



SAVE THE DATE:

**Knights of Columbus O'Brien Council Group Photo
Tuesday, September 9th at 6:00 p.m. in St. Pius X Church.**

All Council members are asked to attend to represent your council. Wear your Knights Council Shirt.

If your Knight's shirt is missing, a dark shirt is acceptable. Please wear dress slacks.

We would like all brother knights to attend this brief photo session. Please mark your calendars and arrive at 5:45pm to be ready. We want to be well represented as we celebrate St. Pius Parish's 75th Anniversary!

Grand Knight Message to Council August 2025

Our first Ladies Night on August 6th was outstanding. It was great to be together and get better acquainted with the wives and lady friends of the council. After a brief business meeting, we enjoyed a spectacular indoor picnic prepared by our own resident chefs. The evening went so well that we plan to have another Ladies Night early in 2026.

Thank you to our brother knights who encouraged their ladies to come. Each said they were so glad they came. The ladies were given premium chocolates and an opportunity to purchase Polo shirts with our Councils Logo. This event starts the council year which will add several new programs to help support our school, parish and community.

Our newest brother knights have added great energy to a council that has been among the most active councils in the district and perhaps the state. We exceeded many initiatives we set from last year's planning session. In large part, we have overachieved because of these new brother knights. Most of them have children at St. Pius School.

OFFICER AND DIRECTORS PLANNING SESSION FOR 2025-2026 COUNCIL YEAR.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2025 IN SOCIAL HALL BEGINNING AT 6:00. FOOD IS PLANNED.

An agenda for that meeting is being formulated which will include ideas of my own to share and welcome more. I asked each of our officers and directors to email in advance at least one new event or suggest how to enhance an existing program to add this coming year. By having these thoughts prepared in advance, we can have a more productive and quicker session.

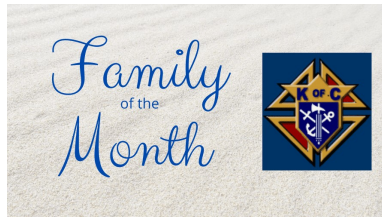
**OUR NEXT GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2025 IN THE SOCIAL HALL BEGINNING
AT 6:00 P.M. SOCIAL HOUR AT 7:00 P.M. FOLLOWING MEETING**

We are gearing up for an exciting year as we prepare for several of our Fall projects including:

- The Downriver Knights Family Picnic
 - Saturday, August 30th 11 :00am - 4:00pm at Centennial Park, Grosse Ile, MI
- Coin Toss and Cheap Eats at the St. Pius X Festival. Starts on Thursday, August 29th and continues through Sunday, August 31st on the St. Pius X grounds. See flyer for hours.
- 5th Annual Memorial Golf Tournament (Benefitting St. Pius X Catholic School)
Saturday, September 20th, 7:00am -- 2:50pm
 - Woodside Meadows, 20820 Inkster Rd, Romulus, MI. INCLUDES A GREAT LUNCH!
 - To register or sponsor this event: <https://www.kofc3956.org/golfouting2025/>
 - The Committee needs help raising awareness of the event. Volunteers are needed. Please get a foursome together and talk to friends, family and acquaintances to do the same. We are seeking sponsors for each hole, activities, prizes and lunch. See flyer for more details.
- MI Drive weekend before Columbus Day (Benefitting the Intellectually Handicapped), Starting Friday, October 1 0th through Sunday, October 12th at Intersection of Eureka and Dix-Toledo, and at Lowes (Trenton and Pennsylvania Roads)
- ST. PIUS X 75th ANNIVERSARY! OCTOBER 12, 2025.
 - ARCHBISHOP EDWARD WE-ISENBURGER TO VISIT. CELEBRATORY DINNER PLANNED.
More information to follow.
- Coats for Kids. Starting dates and Distribution are planned. More information to follow.
- September Monthly Meeting Dates:
- District 105 Exemplification, Tentatively, Monday, September 1 5th, 2025.
- 7:00 p.m. at St. Pius X Church WDD Mark Garcelano to confirm time and location.
- Donut Sunday is planned for Sunday, September 21st, 2025 after 9:00 and 1 1. •00 masses.
- Proposed Immunization may be this Sunday. Discussion at Business Meeting
- Officers and Directors Meeting, Wednesday, September 24th, 2025 6:00 p.m. in Social Hall COR
Scripture Club is planned for Saturday, September 20St in the Social Hall at 7:30 a.m.
- Date subject to change (Same Day as our 5th Annual Golf Memorial)



Congratulations to the Knight of the Month Walter Bies



Congratulations to the Berrocal Family for Family of the Month

Prayer

I remember early in diaconal formation, My spiritual advisor asked, “How’s your prayer life.” When I told him about my daily prayer regiment, he seemed concerned whether it was really helping me become holier. I thought it was, but over the years I’ve found perhaps not. At least not as well as I perceived. Here’s what I mean.

In *How to Pray* by Fr. Joseph Nassal, and Nancy Burke, Fr. Joe writes,

Prayer is neither a spiritual exercise nor a human convenience...is not an obstacle to overcome, a competition to be won, an object to be manipulated or an intellectual concept to be analyzed. It is a human necessity and Divine commandment. We hunger and thirst for a connection with something infinitely greater and more encompassing than ourselves and our human relationships.

The exquisite union of the human and Divine in a relationship of prayer is an unmerited gift from God, not a thing we acquire under our own power. We are invited into the Divine relationship...whether our hearts are open to it or not.

God does the initiating because God is there before us, waiting, even before the idea of prayer is part of our consciousness. God speaks to us from within...always anticipating us—our needs, our actions, our petitions—always waiting for us to answer the invitation.

So, it goes without saying, as with all good relationships, sometimes we have to be quiet and let the other person do the talking. Spend some quiet time with the Lord.

Vivat Jesus,

Deacon Chuck



Letters to the editor

Dear worthy editor

I have been meaning to write for a while, but I am slow as I am technologically deficient per the tools I have been given!!!? A couple of weeks ago, my youngest granddaughter was being inquisitive about the writings on the front of an envelope from the mail. Things like, what was that street address, the return address, names, etc.

I am old. I am privy to an older way to communicate. My thoughts to her were not about bills or the many marketing solicitations we receive in our mail. My thoughts were about letters. So nonetheless, I explained the locations needed for the receiver and the sender “return address” on the envelope.

I don’t know how many have experienced being away from home and getting letters from family and/or friends. **I really can’t tell you how great a feeling it is!** I went to a boarding school, “minor seminary” for my formidable High School years. Everyone was always anxiously awaiting news from home. We did not communicate with phones or cell phone texts or any social media that is available today. Getting a letter was an ineffable joy! It was also a two-way street as family and friends wanted to know how we were doing and how we felt about things. These things brought to mind the letters written by Saint. Paul to his new and converted Christian friends. Now with their new home and the “way” to get back home I wonder if they anxiously awaited the letters from Saint Paul. Letters of encouragement and guidance and hope on their “Way”!

We all long to be home, wherever that may be, with family and friends. Why, because home is where the heart is.

I remember my Mom’s last days when she was in Hospice. She was very attached to the house where she raised her ten children. Her house was her home and “our” home. She was very concerned saying she really wanted to die at home. Well it looked as if she was not going to get her wish, as she ended up in the hospital. I don’t remember how many days she was there before she passed, but we were given the grace to share the many stories we all had with each other, with Mom, talking about home. She let us know it was OK that she wasn’t going back to the house.

It was OK because she said she was going HOME!

I think that maybe that was something that Saint. Paul shared in his letters. Ahhh, HOME with the heavenly Father, we all long for it. May we all find it!

God Bless us All and this is the end of this letter

Dick Gregoire

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

- Henry A. Ibarra (August 4)
- John F. McFadden Jr. (August 5)
- Frank A. Allevato (August 10)
- Dennis J. Levko (August 11)
- Steven R. Crandall (August 13)
- Jeseff Chlebek (August 14)
- Dr. Brandon Brock (August 23)
- William P. Robert (PGK) (August 25)
- Mr. Jacob Harpenau (August 26)
- Craig McKinney (August 26)
- John M. Lazere Jr. (August 27)
- Dr. Stephen A. Gall (August 28)



BLESSINGS TO OUR WIVES CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY IN AUGUST

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



- Francess Unogu (August 7) Wife of Dr. Okechukwu Unogu
- Barb DeGroat (August 21) Wife of Chuck DeGroat
- Debra Hamilton (August 23) Wife of Dennis J. Hamilton
-



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

YEARS OF SERVICE

The following Brother Knights celebrate their anniversary of their membership in August

- George E. Kotronis (August 8) 30 Years of Service
- Gerald L Gonyea (August 3) 12 Years of Service
- Robert C. Munroe (August 12) 10 Years of Service
- Alexander W. Brown (August 26) 6 Years of Service
- Fred Gerring (August 27) 2 Years of Service
- Brandon Malinowski (August 31) 1 Year of Service
-



WELCOME OUR NEWEST BROTHER KNIGHT, MR. JOSH BAKER.

Josh's exemplification was August 18th into our O'Brien council as a Third Degree Knight



James and Betty Guyette are celebrating their 52nd Wedding Anniversary on August 11th.

Joey and Catie Chirco are celebrating their 5th Wedding Anniversary on August 15th.

Harold and JoAnn Paddock are celebrating their 63rd^t Wedding Anniversary on August 25th.

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

The information here is based on the information we have been provided. If there are any corrections, please let us know.

If you have any updates to your address or phone number, please update it here: <https://www.kofc.org/en/contact/update-contact-information.html>

If you would like to pay your dues using a credit card, you can go here: <https://www.kofc3956.org/pay-dues/>

If you need assistance in paying your dues, please contact the Financial Secretary Ray Bilyk privately by email or text/phone at 313-247-2110 so that arrangements can be made. WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU AS A MEMBER OF OUR COUNCIL!

Ray Bilyk, SDRR, FDD, PGK, PFN

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

Southgate, MI - raybilyk@kofc3956.org

<https://www.kofc3956.org>

IN OUR PRAYERS:

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



- Larry Ridenour
- Manuel's Family
- Teri Ann Stewart
- Mike Genaw
- Dominic Attard
- Dick Gregoire's Family
- Victoria Turnick
- Michael Morrin
- Jack Garmo
- Andrea Ahan
- Mandy Borsenik
- Jennifer Bilyk
- Margaret LaForest
- Joe and Roger Hernandez
- Glenda Rossi
- Bob Schooner
- Alyssia Schooner and Daniel Schooner, Bob Schooner's Grandchildren
- Carol Kainz, Cousin to Angela Chirco, diagnosed with Stage 4 Cancer
- Brian Batko
- Valerie Husar
- John Husar Sr.
- Norman LeMay

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

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



Pictures from last meeting's Lady's Night where the brother Knights and their better halves celebrated together.

Click to sign up to our Council GroupMe text chat:

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

QR CODE:



Click to order attire from our Council 3956 online store:

<https://knights3956pius.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

QR CODE:



Sign up for the Knights of Columbus Golf outing with the QR code below





Knights of Columbus

*Bernard P. O'Brien
Council #3956*



5TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT Benefitting St. Pius X Catholic School

Woodside Meadows Golf Course

20820 Inkster Rd. Romulus, MI 48174

Saturday, September 20, 2025

Registration Opens: 7:00 AM

Shotgun Start: 8:30 AM

What's Included:

Bloody Mary and Donuts,
Hot Dog and Beer at the Turn,
Buffet Style Dinner (\$25 for non-
golfers),
Cash Bar, Prizes for 1st, 2nd, &
3rd and mystery prize for last place teams!

There will be fun games
throughout the course, basket
raffies, and 50/50!!

Cost Per Golfer: \$110

Sign-up & Payment

Deadline: September 13th

Register for Golf and Sponsorships
@ www.kofc3956.org/golfouting2025/

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Par Sponsorship - \$100

- Sign on the course
- Name and/or company name in the St. Pius school newsletter, on the KofC Facebook page, and on digital display at the clubhouse

Birdie Sponsorship - \$300

- All previous included opportunities and...
- Tee off from the REDS on Hole 18

Eagle Sponsorship - \$500

- Sign located at the practice putting green
- Name and/or company name in the St. Pius school newsletter, on KofC FB page, and on digital display.
- First in line at the buffet
- 4 custom embroidered golf towels

For questions, email us at: 2025golfouting@kofc3956.org

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

THURSDAY 7:00-10:00pm

NEW!!!!

FRIDAY 5:00-11:00pm

SATURDAY 11:00am-11:00pm

SUNDAY 12:00pm-11:00pm

ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

Music Bingo

7pm – 10pm

NEW!!!!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

50 AMP Fuse

7pm – 11pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

Sarah Sherrard & The Sugar Ham Band

1pm – 4pm

Atomic Radio

7-11pm

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

Frany & FrankieG

1 – 5pm

Phoenix Theory

7 - 11pm

FOOD TRUCKS

CELLY'S BAR AND GRILL

DETROIT SIBLING RIVALRY BBQ

FRESH BEAN COFFEE

GALINDO'S

KONA ICE

St. Pius FESTIVAL

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

FOOD TRUCKS • SNACK SHACK • SWEET TREATS • BEER TENT
GAME TENT • VEGAS • BINGO • VENDORS • SMALL RAFFLES
GRAND RAFFLE • LIVE MUSIC • CARNIVAL RIDES!



GAME TENT
SPONSORED BY:

Rev'd Up
FUN

Scan the QR Code to Follow us on Facebook
for all the latest Festival news!





19th Annual Downriver Knights Family Picnic!

Saturday August 30, 2025

11am - 4pm

Centennial Farm Park

(On beautiful Grosse Ile)

25797 3rd St, Grosse Ile

**(1 block south of Grosse Ile Parkway,
1/4 mile west of East River Rd)**

\$5.00 feeds the
whole family...
such a deal!!

Same price
19 years
in a row!



Broasted Chicken Hamburgers Hotdogs Cole Slaw
Baked Beans Corn on the Cob Potato Salad Cookies
Fruit Pop Water Assorted Beer (\$5 Donation)

Games for all! Maybe you'll Win a
flat screen TV, Kuerig, or other raffle
prize! Or maybe not!

For More Info:

FA Tom Jackson at: thomas.F.Jackson@kofe.org

PGK/FDD Jeff Dombrowski at:

j.dombrowski@mikofe.org

Downriver Focus Life Dinner



**Thursday
September 18, 2025**

**Rebuilding a Culture of Life
within the Family**



**Earlybird Ticket Sales
until August 11**



Thursday, September 18, 2025

The Grecian Center | 16300 Dix Toledo Rd. | Southgate

Doors Open: 5:00 PM | Dinner: 6:15 PM | Program Begins After Dinner

You may come early and visit St. George Church or visit the Ultrasound Mobile Unit



**Steven W.
Mosher**

Keynote Speaker

Steven W. Mosher is the President of the Population Research Institute and an internationally recognized authority on China and population issues. PRI's core values hold that people are the world's greatest resource. Their goals are to educate on this premise, to expose the myth of overpopulation, and to expose human rights abuses committed in population control programs in over 80 countries. Steven has appeared numerous times before Congress about China, and human rights abuses. He has also made several TV appearances, as well as being a regular guest on talk radio shows and podcasts across the nation. He has authored numerous books in his field.



**Pastor Philip
Nissley**

*Master of
Ceremonies
New Hope
Assembly of God*



**Fr. John
Sakellariou**

*St. George Greek
Orthodox Church*



**Pastor Darin
Burns**

*Downriver
Christian Center
Church*

**Ethan Cunningham, Gabriel Richard High School Student:
Finalist of the Pro-Life Oratory Contest**

Reservations Earlybird Discounts

- ___ **Single(s): \$45 ea. (\$50 after Aug. 11th)**
- ___ **Table of 10: \$400 (\$450 after Aug. 11th)**
- Name of Table Captain** _____
- ___ **Unable to attend. Please accept my donation \$** _____

Your Information

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone _____

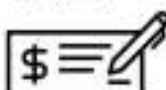
Email _____

Credit Card - Scan the QR Code



FOR MORE INFORMATION
(734) 282-6100
FocusOnLifeDownriver.com

Checks



Mail and Payable to:
Upper Downriver Right
to Life
2010 Eureka Rd.
Wyandotte, MI 48192





Detroit Archdiocesan Soccer Challenge

Will be held on SUNDAY, September 21st,
1PM Registration with a 2PM Kick-Off.

Location of this event is:

John F. Kennedy Council 5460 located at
33320 Kelly Rd. Clinton Twp., MI 48035



All winners from the Archdiocesan District
Competitions are invited. Please bring your Entry
Form and Score Sheet to the Event.

Please Contact Archdiocesan Program Director
Joseph Brenner at 773-631-8497 with any
questions.

MICHIGAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

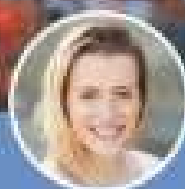
Living THE Promise

"TRUST IN THE LORD
WITH ALL YOUR HEART
AND LEAN NOT ON YOUR
OWN UNDERSTANDING.
IN ALL YOUR WAYS
ACKNOWLEDGE HIM AND
HE WILL MAKE YOUR
PATHS STRAIGHT."

PROVERBS 3:5-6

OCTOBER 11
9am-5pm

LANSING CENTER, LANSING, MI



Kelly Wilson
Moderator



Meg Hutchinson
Co-Moderator



Dr. Matthew Tiller
Keynote Speaker



Sheri Wilbert
Panelist



Beth Loucky Carlson
Panelist



Melissa Ross
Panelist

Register: WWW.MICHIGANCWC.ORG

ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT • DIOCESE OF ETOLENA • DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS • DIOCESE OF LANSING
DIOCESE OF SAGINAW • DIOCESE OF Kalamazoo • DIOCESE OF MARQUETTE