

State Council Program Awards

Entry Form

THIS REPORTING FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY EACH COUNCIL AND FORWARDED TO THE STATE COUNCIL.
(A separate reporting form should be completed for each program category.)

CATEGORY (MARK ONE): Faith Family Community Life



COUNCIL INFORMATION:

1 Council Number: 12985 Total Council Members: 136
 Grand Knight: Gary Greiner E-Mail: grgreinerhome@gmail.com

PROGRAM INFORMATION (complete all sections):

2 Program Title: St. James Lenten Fish Fry Program Date: Feb 12 - Mar 26, 2021
 Participation: $\frac{29}{\text{Members}} + \frac{38}{\text{Non Members}} = \frac{67}{\text{Total Participants}}$ $\frac{67}{\text{Total Participants}} \times \frac{39}{\text{Hours}} = \frac{2646}{\text{Total Volunteer Hours}}$
 Program Planning: $\frac{400}{\text{Costs}}$ & $\frac{100}{\text{Time}}$ Members Recruited: 0 Donations: \$22,000
Local Currency

3 Describe program in detail. Use additional paper if necessary. Supplementary material may be submitted along with the nomination. Accompanying materials can include letters, testimonials, news clippings, photographs, pamphlets, etc. Do not submit tapes, videocassettes, DVD's, display materials, films, etc., as they will not be considered in judging the nomination.

3a) In the space provided below, briefly describe the purpose and goals of this program. This section must be completed.

First off: Our St. James Fish Fry won 1st Place in the WZZM TV 13 West Michigan Fish Fry Frenzy. It was led by a long time KC member Tom Bart and his wife Carol. The purpose of the annual Lenten Fish Fry is to generate council revenue to support our annual charitable donations. The goal of the Fish Fry is to serve a good fish dinner to our parish and community. To create a social setting where people can gather to enjoy a visit and good food.

DO NOT SUBMIT THIS REPORT FORM TO SUPREME COUNCIL

**ENTRY MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE STATE COUNCIL
 TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE COMPETITION**

MAIL ORIGINAL TO: State Deputy or State Program Director
COPY TO: Council File
 Available in electronic format at www.kofc.org



(continued on reverse)

3b) Whom does this program benefit?

Our KC council, our Knights auxiliary and our St. James Church in Montague, MI, are all beneficiaries of the net proceeds.

KC budget line beneficiaries: The John C. Loss Seminarian Foundation Fund (in memory of our charter GK who has passed. The Grand Rapid diocesan funds interest now supports seminarians, that we continue to add to.) Priest appreciation gifts, two food pantries, coats for kids, Boysville, Muskegon Pregnancy Services, Right to Life. The Samuel Omogo Foundation (In memory of Rev. Fr. Peter Omogo's brother passed away as a young man. It supplies water wells in Nigeria which we support). Ultrasound initiatives. The White Lake Giving Tree (food and presents at Christmas) and more.

3c) What problem or need did this program resolve?

Supporting our seminarians, and our priest. Feeding the hungry, clothing the children, supporting Right to Life, giving water wells to Nigerans and food and presents to those struggling at Christmas.

3d) Why did the council select this program?

We have had St. James Fish Fry's for more than 30 years.

3e) Describe the success of the program:

This year was especially challenging with the COVID pandemic. We were not able to serve our parishioners and community in our church hall, so we had to learn how to sell dinners via "Curbside Pickup". The success came from our Fish Fry leadership, Tom and Carol Bart and their team of 67 Fish Friars that rallied behind them every week for 7 Friday nights during Lent. (We started one week early.)

Attest:

Walter K. Wible Jr.
State Deputy

Signed:

Gary Greiner
Gary Greiner
Grand Knight

4/8/21

Date

“It takes a team work to make a dream work”.

- Rev. Fr. Peter Omogo

Tom Bart – Fish Fry Director, Rev. Fr. Peter Omogo and Treasure John Robillard accepting the trophy.



WZZM TV 13 in Grand Rapids, announced that St. James won 1st Place in the West Michigan Fish Fry Frenzy.



Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of White Lake Council 12985

Gary Greiner
Grand Knight
Knights of Columbus
Council 12985
Montague, Michigan
231-740-6248

April 10, 2021

On Friday, April 2, 2021, ABC's WZZM TV 13 in Grand Rapids, announced that St. James had won 1st Place in the West Michigan Fish Fry Frenzy.

The St. James Lenten Fish fry has been a part of the St. James parish for well over 35 years. Back when it started, it was led by parishioners and served maybe 100 – 200 people per night in the church basement. At that time the Fish Fry helped to financially support the St. James Catholic School and did so for many years. The Fish Fry has since moved out of the basement and into the new church hall.

For roughly the last decade, the Fish Fry has been led the Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of White Lake Council 12985. It retains the name of "St. James" Fish Fry because the volunteers are KC members, Knights Auxiliary, St. James's parishioners and members of the community. This is a dedicated group of people who come back every year, take up their positions, and deliver another year of good fish dinners.

In recent years, prior to the COVID pandemic, St. James has served as many as 1,003 dinners on a Friday night, which included take-out dinners.

The Fish Fry revenue supports many charities, including: LOVE Inc, No More Sidelines, White Lake Food Pantry, Helping Hands Food Pantry, Holy Cross Children's Services, White Lake Giving Tree, Right to Life, Muskegon Pregnancy Services, St. Mary's of the Woods Baby Pantry, Prison and Jail Ministry, John Loss Seminarian Fund, Catechism for High School Graduates, Parish Youth Programs and many more.

Tom Bart is our current Fish Fry Director. Tom and his wife Carol order all the supplies, coordinate all of the help and with the help of Knight John Horning, ensure the electronic payment system is working. Tom took over this responsibly about 4 years ago and is the right person for the task. He has a business sense of how to operate the Fish Fry, and he works well with his volunteer crew - which he fondly calls his "Fish Friers". His wife Carol is the computer, books, internet, and email manager. She and Tom have written a Fish Fry procedure, to ensure a good hand-off to the next Fish Fry director someday.

Last year's Fish Fry was cut short due to the COVID pandemic in March 2020. We served dinners at only three Lenten Fridays and the last 3 dinners were cancelled due to COVID. This really reduced our annual revenue stream. Therefore, it was especially important that we have a successful Fish Fry in 2021.

Tom formed a planning committee and quickly realized this Fish Fry was going to be an outdoor "Curb-side" pickup. To do this, communication was sent out to the community to place fish dinner orders online with a designated 'pick-up' time. Tom set up a team to monitor and control traffic in the parking lot. He had 'runners' who would bring the fish dinners out to the customers in their cars.

The first two weeks were a challenge because cars were backed up on the road, in a "waiting in line". Our Worthy Treasurer John Robillard suggested that we redirect customers down to the St. James

cemetery driveway and direct them up to the church from there. Brandon Parsons, who is a Knight, and a Whitehall Police Officer, was put in charge of setting up signs and cones and controlling traffic on the cemetery drive and church parking lot. This kept the cars from backing up on the road and eased the concerns of the local police department. Many other adjustments were made to keep up with customer demand and to deliver “Curb-side” meals efficiently. By the third week the “Curb-side” Fish Fry was running like a well-oiled machine.

Our PGK John Duff is our communications director. He published the Fish Fry on our church website and Facebook. The fish fry was also advertised in the church bulletin. PGK Steve Nagengast put Fish Fry advertising in the White Lake Beacon, our local newspaper.

Our priest, Rev. Fr. Peter Omogo, is one of our best supporters. He will often ask one of the KC members at Mass, each weekend, how many dinners we sold on Friday night. Fr. Peter will suggest to the that the congregation invite a friend or two to come to our next fish fry. Each weekend Fr. Peter can be heard setting a new goal of dinners to be sold for the upcoming Friday.

The number of dinners sold during Lent of 2021 started out low, but the numbers quickly increased.

Friday, Feb 12 = 360 dinners
Friday, Feb 19 = 575 dinners
Friday, Feb 26 = 636 dinners
Friday, Mar 05 = 596 dinners
Friday, Mar12 = 624 dinners
Friday, Mar19 = 649 dinners
Friday, Mar26 = 735 dinners
Total = 4,175

The rest is history. The proceeds of our fish fry greatly exceeded my expectations.

Our customers come back every year because they can see the dedication in our team of “Fish Friers”, to visit with friends and to enjoy a good meal. They come back because our fish dinners are the best.

Our Rev. Fr. Peter Omogo says that, “It takes a team work to make a dream work”.

That is what happened here. A team of loyal “Fish Friers” came together, with good leadership, to pull off another successful fish fry. The revenue generated helps us to do Gods work in supporting his priests, church, our community, and people near and far.

GK Gary Greiner

The following are articles and pictures that sum up our 2021 St. James Fish Fry.

An on-line Fish Fry order instruction and menu.

**St James Catholic Church KofC
Lenten Fish Fry 2021**

**Orders can be placed starting noon on Thursdays.
Pick up time on Fridays between 4:30 and 7:00 PM
February 26 ~ March 26, 2021
Curb Side Pick Up Only**

Order Online by scrolling down


Fish Dinners - \$13.00

- **Choose Meal: Perch, Walleye, Shrimp or Perch ~ Shrimp Combo**
- **Choose type of potato: Baked Potato or French Fries**

All Meals Include Coleslaw, a Dinner Roll & Surprise Dessert

No extra pieces offered at this time.

**Orders may also be placed by telephoning
231 292 9005 after 3:30 p.m.**

 Pickup at St James Catholic Church KofC 12985 (5149 Dowling St, MONTAGUE, Michigan 49437)

Perch Dinner

Perch served with choice of baked potato or French fries. Coleslaw, roll, and surprise dessert.

\$13.00



Shrimp Dinner

Shrimp served with choice of baked potato or French fries. Coleslaw, roll and surprise dessert.

\$13.00



Walleye Dinner

Walleye served with choice of baked potato French fries. Coleslaw, roll and surprise dessert.

\$13.00



Perch/Shrimp COMBO

Perch and Shrimp served with choice of baked potato or French fries. Coleslaw, roll and surprise dessert.

\$13.00



Powered by **Square**

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An excerpt from a White Lake Beacon article.

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“We have [online ordering](#), and it’s all computerized,” Tom Bart, fish fry leader for the Knights of Columbus, said. “You just [go online](#) with your charge card and order. Then, when you come here, we park you at a designated post. Text us to tell us where you are, and we bring your food out to you. We have volunteer runners that are really running to get your food. That’s how it’s set up differently, and it’s a hard job. It’s really hard changing from what we’ve been doing for 28 years.”

A test run was done last week, and everything went fine, Bart said. He added that 100% of the proceeds get distributed to those in need. All told, more than a dozen local charities will benefit from the weekly event which runs from 4:30 to 7 p.m. every Friday through the end of March.

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An on-line White Lake Area Chamber of Commerce article supporting our Fish Fry.
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WHITE LAKE AREA
CHAMBER + VISITORS BUREAU
Montague • Whitehall, Michigan

DISCOVER WHITE LAKE

THINGS TO DO

PLACES TO STAY

PLACES TO EAT

All events for Fish Fry Friday – Knights of Columbus

FEBRUARY 2021

Fish Fry Friday – Knights of Columbus

February 12 @ 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm



The Knights of Columbus Lenten "Curb Side Pick Up" Dinners at St. James Catholic Church in Montague will be offered on Fridays from February 12 to March 26. Meal choices are Perch (wild caught freshwater), Walleye (wild caught freshwater), Shrimp (breaded and farm raised), and Perch and Shrimp Combo. Each meal includes Baked Potato or French Fries, Coleslaw, Dinner Roll and Dessert. All meals are \$13. Debit or credit card sales preferred, the service charge is waived. Cash accepted in...

[Find out more »](#)

A Fish Fry flyer giving customers all the details of our Fish Fry.

**4:30—7:00
p.m.**

St. James - Knights of Columbus
5149 Dowling Street, Montague
2021 Lenten Fish Fry
Fridays... February 12 ~ March 26



Perch -wild caught freshwater
Walleye -wild caught freshwater
Shrimp -breaded farm raised
Perch ~ Shrimp Combo
Walleye ~ Shrimp Combo

**All Meals
\$13.00**



SCAN ME

All Meals include:
Baked Potato or French Fries
Coleslaw or Applesauce
Dinner Roll Dessert

Extra Pieces:
Walleye ~ \$3 Perch ~ \$2 Shrimp ~two for \$3

~ Curb Side Pick Up Only ~
Order Phone Number — 231-292-9005
Debit or Credit Card sales are preferred. Card service fee is waived.
Cash is accepted. Only exact amount.
Please make checks payable to: K of C 12985
Prices subject to change without notice



Below is a page from our St. James Church Sunday bulletin with Fish Fry advertising.



**Knights of Columbus
Fish & Shrimp Fry**
FridaysFebruary 12th –March 26th

Adult Meals \$13.00

Menu Items:

Perch, Walleye, Shrimp Dinner
Perch ~ Shrimp Combo
All Meals include:
Baked Potato or French Fries
Coleslaw, Dinner Roll & a Surprise Dessert

Curbside Pick Up Order Phone Number
231-292-9005

You May Place Online Orders at
<https://kofc12985fishfry.square.site/> or scan the QR code



SCAN ME

Faith Formation & Youth News



Kindergarten through Fifth Grade Faith Formation Classes and Confirmation classes have returned to in person learning Sundays 9:45 am –10:45 am. Youth Ministry has resumed in person Mondays from 6pm-7pm.

Please contact Kristin Schaub at 231-893-3085 or faithformation@stjamescatholicparish.org with any questions.

First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Updates



Children who were preparing for their first reconciliation will have the opportunity to receive this very important sacrament on March 18th during the Light is On at St. James.


First Holy Communion Mass is scheduled for Sunday, May 2nd at 11:00 a.m. Please make sure your family is keeping up on the weekly lessons so your child will be able to receive the sacrament this year.

God's Mercy Awaits You

Are you wondering how to best prepare yourself for Easter? Why not set aside some time to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation? Join the Diocese of Grand Rapids for "The Light is ON for You: An Evening of Penance" Thursday, March 18 5 - 8 p.m.

Visit GRdiocese.org/penance for locations and details

St. James will have individual confessions from 5-8 pm on March 18th in the chapel



The Light is ON for You.
Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confirmation Mass is Scheduled


It is with great excitement that we inform you that Father Peter Omogo has been granted the faculty to Confirm here at St. James on Sunday, **April 25, 2021**. We have scheduled a special Mass for our candidates and their families at **4:00 p.m.** that day.



This is our Mass, so it is our responsibility to fill the liturgical ministry roles that will support the priest. If someone in your family is trained in the ministry of Mass coordinator, lector or altar server, please volunteer. We also need someone to take pictures and few people to help usher families to their seats.


Please contact Kristin Schaub at 231-893-3085 or faithformation@stjamescatholicparish.org to sign up.

Stations of the Cross During Lent



Wednesdays at St. James
February 24th –March 31st @ 6:30 p.m.
April 2nd, Good Friday @ 12:15 p.m.

Adoration update



There are many hours still available that need a second adorers. If you are able to give one hour per week to pray in the presence of our Lord, please contact Mitzi Luttrull at 557-8033.
Jesus is Waiting for You!

A picture of our St. James Church and street sign.



A White Lake Beacon newspaper article advertising our St. James Fish Fry.



Knights of Columbus at St. James Catholic Church in Montague to offer Lenten curbside pick-up fish fry dinners.

- Feb 2, 2021 Updated Feb 16, 2021

Every Friday through March 26, curbside pick-up fish fry dinners will be available at St. James Catholic Church, 5149 Dowling St. in Montague. The curbside pick-up hours will be from 4:30-7 p.m. and the cost is \$13 for adult meals. There are no kids meal this year. Fish choices include freshwater perch, freshwater walleye, breaded farm raised shrimp, combos perch/shrimp and walleye/shrimp. Each dinner also includes a baked potato or French fries, coleslaw or applesauce, dinner roll and dessert. Extra pieces: walleye \$3, perch \$2 and shrimp are two for \$3.

Place your orders by calling 231-292-9005. Visa, Mastercard and Discover credit cards are accepted. Please make checks payable to K of C 12895.

The fish fry dinners are hosted by the Knights of Columbus Council 12985 and their auxiliary organization. Charity is the foremost principle of the Knights and the auxiliary.

All of the profits raised from the fish fry dinners will be directed to charitable causes including Special Olympics, LOVE Inc, No More Sidelines, White Lake Food Pantry, Helping Hands Food Pantry, Holy Cross Children's Services, White Lake Giving Tree, Right To Life, Muskegon Pregnancy Services, St. Mary's of the Woods Baby Pantry, Prison and Jail Ministry, John Loss Seminarian Fund, Catechism for High School Graduates and Parish Youth Programs.

This was on the TV 13 internet site, recognizing St. James as the 1st Place winner.

St. James says all of the money raised during its fish fry goes to charity.

Thank you to everyone who voted and congratulations once again to St. James!



Credit: 13 On Your Side

St. James Catholic Church in Montague wins the 2021 13 OYS Fish Fry Frenzy Championship

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GK Gary Greiner presenting Tom and Carol Bart a Certificate of Appreciation for their leading our Fish Fry. (The certificate was signed by all their "Fish Friers").
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Tom and Carol Bart with their Certificate of Appreciation



The following pictures were taken at our Fish Fry by: Rosemary Greiner, Jennifer Beatty, and John Luttrull. Thank you.

















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*Grand Knight Gary Greiner directing traffic from the road up through the
St. James "Mount Calvary" cemetery and up to the Fish Fry at church.*
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