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Christopher A Kolomjec
State Deputy



My Brother Knights, Ladies, Friends,

Vivat Jesus! This is my last installment of spiritual talks as State Deputy. It has been a wonderful two years serving each of you as your State Deputy. Julie and I both have learned a great deal and have grown spiritually from the experience. It has always been my primary goal to help form the Michigan Knights of Columbus into an entity better prepared and suited for serving the Catholic Church. Much of the focus from Supreme these past years has been to help the individual knight become a better Catholic by providing a framework for better understanding the basic tenants of our faith and most importantly providing the vehicle for which a strong faith can be put into action. The Cor Program has been a beautiful means for which like-minded Catholic men can come together and pray and to also deepen their understanding of their faith. It is in this spirit I wish to address this final subject on our faith-the sacrament of reconciliation, or as we like to say “confession.”

The Church gives us MANDATORY minimum requirements, that we, as faithful Catholics, MUST obey. These are called the Precepts of the Church. Section 2041 Describes the Precepts as follows:

“The precepts of the Church are set in the context of a moral life bound to and nourished by liturgical life. The OBLIGATORY character of these positive laws decreed by the pastoral authorities are meant to guarantee to the faithful the very necessary minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth in love of God and Neighbor. “

The Precepts of the Church are:

1. We MUST attend mass EVERY Sunday AND Holy Days of Obligation
2. We MUST go to confession at least once a year.
3. We MUST receive Holy Communion, at least once during the Easter Season.
4. We MUST observe days of fast and abstinence (there is no age exception for senior citizens for no meat on Fridays in Lent or Ash Wednesday, contrary to popular misbelief) established by the Church.
5. We MUST contribute to the financial needs of the Church according to ability.

So, it is with the second precept that I wish to focus. Confession. The more I traveled the state, the more and more misconceptions I encountered with brother knights about this sacrament. For example, some still felt it was “ok” to just go to God directly and ask forgiveness without going to a priest for sacramental confession. This could not be more wrong. We, as Catholics, are bound to go to sacramental confession at least once a year. How many of us are risking the pain of mortal sin by ignoring this precept of the Church? I venture to say that most Catholics have not gone to sacramental confession within the last year. Ask yourself, when was your last confession to a priest?

I have also heard that some of us Catholics believe simply attending a “penance service,” at the parish WITHOUT going to individual confession with the priest is sufficient. It is not! These penance services sometimes give the wrong message that our sins are forgiven simply by attending. No, we must take the extra step and go to individual confession to a priest.

I have also heard that some Catholics simply choose to ignore this precept of the Church requiring individual confession once a year. They believe “they are good people,” and don’t need formal forgiveness. But this is a very dangerous line of thinking rooted in the deadly sin of Pride. Many popes in history have been known to go to confession to a priest every day! And St. Mother Teresa was once asked by a journalist “Do you have to go to confession.?” She responded: Yes, I go to Confession every week.” The shocked man said “Your God must be very demanding.” She responded “no he loves us so much that he wraps his arms around us and forgives us each time we go to the sacrament.” So I ask you all, are you more holy than Mother Teresa or the pope? Then get to confession! I promise you that once you get into the habit, you will want to go more frequently and enjoy all the peace and blessings that flow from the sacrament. It is a very important part of my spiritual life. And don’t worry if you find yourself confessing the same sins over and over again as many of the saints have remarked as having the same experience. Remember, the grace from the sacrament is something God does to us, it is not that we are worthy or in any way deserving of such forgiveness or grace. As our state chaplain loves to remark, “if our forgiveness was ever a question of fairness or of us deserving it, we would all be damned.” God gives us the grace from a good confession because of his unbounding mercy.

Finally, a bit of apologetics for any protestant challenges to the sacrament of confession (and any stubborn Catholics). Christ clearly establishes the sacrament in sacred scripture. It is found in Matthew 18: verses 18-20. When talking to his apostles, Jesus charges them with the following: “truly I tell you, whatever sins you bind on earth

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In Memory

Thomas R. Clark, PSD, FVSM
October 9, 1928 ~ February 10, 2024

State Deputy July 1, 1982 ~ June 30, 1984

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

From The State Chaplain Fr. Aidan Logan



Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. 2 So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." John 20:1-2

This Gospel narrative of St. John, taken together with those of the other Gospels, makes it hard to reconstruct exactly what happened that first Easter morning. Like any momentous event each witness has a slightly different version. Where were the guards? Who rolled back the stone? Who saw Jesus first? What did he look like? What did he say? And during the next forty days where were the Apostles and disciples? In Jerusalem or Galilee?

Two of his disciples, one of them a member of Our Lord's extended family meet a charming stranger on the road who explains all that has really happened during the past three days. When he sits down to eat with them they recognize Him in the breaking of the bread. The Lord appears in the Upper Room and shows them the wounds in his hands and feet and side. But it

clear that the first to see him is Mary Magdalene. Some say that she was once a prostitute. The scriptures say that she was a notorious sinner and that our Lord had cast out seven devils from her. She famously washed the feet of Jesus with her tears, dried them with hair and anointed them with costly perfume. With our Lady and the other women she stood by the cross of Jesus and assisted in his burial.

When she saw that the tomb was empty she ran to Peter and John and together they came back to the empty tomb where they saw his shroud still there but collapsed and empty. The two Apostles went back to tell the others.

St. John tells us:

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). John 20: 11-16

Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb where no one had ever been laid. John 19:41 The tomb was not in a cemetery but in a garden. After all those centuries of waiting for a savior we are back where it all started, in a garden. In the garden God had planted for Adam and Eve sin entered the world. Adam, the original gardener, and Eve his wife, were willingly deceived by the Evil One. The earthly garden of paradise was lost. Early one spring morning into this new garden near the cross of Jesus comes the New Adam. He is met by a woman with a past and she takes him for the gardener. This Gardener has conquered the Evil One by his death on the cross and planted a new and eternal garden of paradise. The gibbet of the cross, the tree of death, has become the new Tree of Life. And just as Adam gave a name to his wife Eve, so this gardener names the repentant and sorrowful woman, Mary. In that moment, at the sound of his voice she recognizes him.

This Eastertide finds us in a garden weeping at the tomb of Jesus. How can we think upon the cross and not weep? But the Gardener speaks our name. He speaks to each of us if only we would listen. We were all lost in sin like Mary Magdalene. But he saved us through the waters of Baptism and the anointing of the Holy Spirit. At the altar he feeds us with the fruit of the Tree of Eternal Life planted in the midst of this new garden of paradise, the Church. That tree is the cross and the fruit is his very own Body and Blood.

So, the story ends where it began, in a garden. Christ is risen, Alleluia.

The Rev. Aidan (Arthur H.) Logan

CDR CHC USN Ret

State Chaplain Michigan Knights of Columbus

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**From The State Secretary
Barry M. Borsenik**

My brother knights, ladies and friends of the Knights of Columbus,

Two of my most regular activities as State Secretary are processing checks received, and issuing checks on behalf of Michigan Knights of Columbus. Each has provided me with a great appreciation for what we have in this great jurisdiction of Michigan. When opening the mail I see the dedication of hundreds of councils contributing to the routine per capita which provides for our basic operations, and the special assessments or voluntary contributions that allow us to support many charitable efforts on your behalf. The combined contributions allow us to make lasting differences that no single council could do on their own. Special projects and statewide events result in an influx of checks from councils, assemblies, sponsoring businesses, charitable trusts and individuals. It is very heartening to see you respond when the call goes out. Every council check is like a glimpse into the council. The name, the location, the amount, the handwriting, even the check number – are all clues to the character of a council. Two requests; separate checks for each purpose, noted in the memo line, and make sure your council number is on the check. All of our bookkeeping is done by council number.

When issuing checks I feel very humbled and honored. Expense reports reflect the time and miles that our District Deputies and State, Regional and Diocesan Directors contribute to the work of the order. It is amazing how much effort is volunteered by these leaders to help accomplish the many good works we do as knights. We may cover mileage but the hours contributed are priceless. I am honored to mail checks on your behalf to provide aid and assistance, sponsor special events in our dioceses, help with the costs of special projects, missions, seminarian education, evangelization, protection of life and many other things. There is a limit to what we can do. The budget only goes so far but your generosity allows us to do some amazing things together. Thank you. The State Convention is just around the corner and I have only a couple more months as your State Secretary. The lessons I have learned over the last six years as a state officer will surely help me. I look forward to continuing great traditions, answering the call where knights are needed, and bringing new ideas, energy and inspiration that can come with leadership change.

May God bless you all and may He continue to bless our endeavors as Michigan Knights of Columbus.

State Secretary,
Barry Borsenik

**From The State Membership Director
Richard Shelt**

Dear Brothers in the Faith,

Greetings to all the valiant Knights of Columbus across Michigan! As we gather our swords and shields, it's time to reflect on the fantastic journey we've embarked upon during this fraternal year. Your dedication and efforts in increasing our membership have not gone unnoticed. It's like you've all been channeling your inner medieval recruitment strategies, and the results are shining brighter than Excalibur in the hands of King Arthur!

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to each council for their unwavering commitment to the ideals of the order; Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. Your passion for the cause has been nothing short of legendary, making waves that even the Loch Ness monster would envy.

But hold on to your helmets, dear knights, because our quest is not over yet! We've set our eyes on a lofty goal - we need 670 new members before June 30th to catapult Michigan back into the illustrious Circle of Honor. Picture this: our state Deputy Christopher A. Kolomjec riding triumphantly into his next chapter, leaving the Michigan Knights of Columbus completely fulfilled and ready for the next grand adventure!

Now, I know what you're thinking. 670 new members? That's a dragon-sized challenge! But fear not, for we are Knights, and we've faced tougher adversaries than this. So, sharpen your wit and your swords, and let's charge headfirst into the battle of recruitment. We'll make Michigan the shining beacon of the Knights of Columbus once more!

And speaking of shining beacons, let's not forget the incredible works we do to help those in most need. It's like we have a secret weapon of compassion and charity. Whether it's rescuing damsels in distress or aiding those in dire circumstances, we are the modern-day knights, making the world a better place one good deed at a time.

Yet, noble knights, a shadow looms over our grand assembly. In the corners of our kingdom, there are councils that, alas, find themselves in the grip of stagnation, with zero growth in their ranks. Oh, how the minstrels would sing tales of a missed opportunity, and the jesters would lament the silence in their halls!

As we celebrate the grand feats of our thriving brethren, let us not forget those councils where the winds of growth have yet to blow. A gentle nudge, if I may, to those councils currently dwelling in the abyss of zero growth – awaken the sleeping dragon within! The time to rise is now, for the quest is not complete until every council has tasted the sweet fruits of expansion.

Fear not the shame, for it is but a call to action! Let this proclamation be a rallying cry, echoing through the halls of those councils where the flame of growth flickers but faintly. May this be the wake-up call that inspires you to charge into the fray, rekindling the spirit of brotherhood and camaraderie.

In the spirit of camaraderie, let's inject a bit of humor into our noble mission. After all, even Sir Lancelot cracked a joke or two between slaying dragons. So, spread laughter like wildfire, my fellow Knights, and let it be the spark that ignites our recruitment efforts!

As we march forward, let the camaraderie and laughter echo through our councils, creating a fellowship stronger than chainmail. Together, we shall achieve the seemingly impossible and ensure that our noble order continues to thrive.

Thank you, brave Knights, for your tireless efforts. May your swords stay sharp, and your hearts remain steadfast on this grand adventure.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Richard Shelt
State Membership Director
734-812-0645
r.shelt@mikofc.org

FAITH AND FAMILY FIRST

Created in the Image of God Baby Blanket Order Form

Council No. _____ Council Name: _____

Order Qty: _____ Total Order (Qty * \$10) \$ _____

Orders of Five or Less Blankets add \$8.00 for Shipping \$ _____

Check one: English _____ Spanish _____ Total \$ _____

Ship to: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ eMail: _____

Checks Payable to: **Michigan State Council Knights of Columbus**

Memo: **Baby Blanket** Send to: Ed & Lynn Strach
Pro-Life Chair Couple
522 Berkshire Dr. Saline, MI 48176



**From The State Program Director
Paul Palka**

I pray that everyone had an enlightening Lenten season, and a blessed Easter!

As we enter the final quarter of the fraternal year our work is far from over. We need to complete the official forms that are due in June. We need to continue to document our council activities using the 10784 form which will ensure we continue to be the Best Jurisdiction in Programs. Plus, this is an ideal time to reflect on where we have been and prepare for where we are going.

Official forms due by the end of June

- SP-7:
 - Due June 1st (last day to submit June 30th)
 - Use your 10784 submitted throughout the year to complete the SP-7.
 - Remember 4 different programs performed for each category is the minimum.
- Youth Protection Compliance:
 - Due June 1st
 - Use your most recent Star Tracker Report to see your Councils compliance.
 - All directors in your council must be compliant.
 - Continue to check your email for reminder of renewal notifications.
- 11077:
 - Due prior to June 30th
 - Submit on the Supreme Website
 - Remember you must have 2 Fraternal Benefit Nights Completed
 - By properly completing the form your Council will qualify for the Founders Award

**In addition to your Membership Goals
ALL the above Forms must be completed.
CORRECTLY AND ON TIME
to be eligible for Star Council Award**

Michigan Jurisdiction Accomplishments so far in 2023/2024

- Lead the Order in ASAP Donations
 - Complete your Councils Grant Application for every \$500 donated to a pregnancy resource center or maternity home.
- Lead the Order in Special Olympics Donations and Volunteer Hours
 - Complete 10784 Form for all Donations and Volunteer Hours to Special Olympics
 - Make every \$ and hour count!
- Lead the Order in Cross Catholic Outreach Program
 - Complete 10784 form if your council has monetarily or physically helped in the Packing parties already completed in Detroit West and the Lansing Diocese.
 - Plan to contribute monetarily or physically in Grand Rapids on April 25th, 2024.
 - Watch the weekly Constant Contact for an additional Packing Party to be held in Detroit East in May
 - This is a great family event and there is a job for all ages. Fantastic opportunity to bring a potential candidate who might be on the fence about joining to see just one thing that we do to help our community and the world one meal at a time.

The 10784 Form is necessary for Supreme to recognize the Great Accomplishments your council has completed during the Fraternal Year. Please make sure that you are filling it out on a consistent basis for all programs your council participates in

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Ladies Corner

Dear Ladies,

Thank you to everyone who attended the annual Tribute Dinner, this year honoring our State Deputy, and my husband, Christopher Kolomjec. Over 500 attended the dinner to celebrate Chris and to present Quick Start and State Deputy Awards to deserving councils. It was a very memorable evening that Chris and I will remember forever.

It is hard to believe that our current State Board only has three more months in office and in less than two months we will be back on the beautiful Mackinac Island for the 124th Annual State Convention.

In the meantime, it is never too early to remind everyone of our annual charity raffle at the State Convention, with proceeds going to various charities supported by our Michigan Knights of Columbus. The raffle would not be a success if it wasn't for donations from our councils, assemblies and individuals throughout the State of Michigan. Please ask your councils and assemblies to consider donating a basket, gift cards, etc. to the raffle. Donated items should be brought directly to the Art Gallery in the Grand Hotel on the first day of the convention along with a registration form.

Ladies – we need your help! Please consider donating an hour or two of your time and help sell tickets for the raffle. As they say – “many hands make light work”. By donating an hour of your time to help sell tickets, you are donating to the success of the raffle! And, it is a great way to meet other ladies. They will be your friends forever! If you are able to help or want to donate, please contact our State Advocate's wife, Christy Miron, who is responsible for the raffle this year. She can be reached at (906) 201-0673 or at c.miron@mikofc.org.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the 124th State Convention on the beautiful Mackinac Island.

God Bless,

Julie, Mandy, Pam, Christy, Kara and Karen

Annual Charity Raffle at the State Convention



QR Code for raffle donations

The URL, code <https://forms.gle/7gLR6g96y7PFiozV9>.



QR code for raffle volunteers.

The URL for volunteer sign-ups is <https://forms.gle/fbrfSYRAcmhmyUPR9>.

Programs = New Members

THE HEART OF THE CITY

It all began one Sunday two years ago with a challenge.

“Sadly, Michigan has become a very pro-abortion state,” Msgr. Charles Kosanke said during a homily at the Basilica of St. Anne in Detroit, where he serves as rector. “It’s important for the Catholic Church to teach and preach on pro-life issues, and it’s equally important to put that teaching into practice.”

After Mass, he was approached separately by two parishioners who wanted to start a pro-life clinic. At the time, Msgr. Kosanke, a member of the Knights for more than 40 years, was looking for a way to make use of a former convent on the basilica’s campus. Thus the idea of establishing a medical center took root and grew. Soon enough, Michigan Knights jumped at the chance to help transform the convent building into the Heart of Christ Clinic.

“The whole state — the 70,000 Knights and their families — just got behind this clinic,” said Michigan State Deputy Chris Kolomjec. “We raised \$126,000 in one pass-the-hat effort at our state convention,” he said, noting that the Supreme Council later donated funds as well.

The state council also asked local Knights to raise money for the clinic’s state-of-the-art ultrasound machine, which Kolomjec described as “the best ultrasound in the state of Michigan.”

Dr. Thomas Meyer, an obstetrician-gynecologist, serves as the clinic’s medical director. A member of Father Daniel A. Lord Council 3959 in Livonia, Meyer was one of the parishioners who first approached Msgr. Kosanke. The clinic is owned by Christ Medicus, a Catholic health care policy organization founded by that second parishioner, Mike O’Dea.

In addition to excellent medical care, Heart of Christ staffers plan to assist patients in a variety of other ways.

“If you need a lawyer or a really good dentist who accepts Medicaid, well, we can help you with that,” explained Dr. Lisa Knysz, the clinic director.

There are also plans to hire a behavioral health counselor, perform abortion pill reversals and offer adoption counseling through Catholic Charities.

The Knights in Michigan plan to continue serving the clinic, whether it’s by making needed repairs or praying in its chapel. There is even talk of helping to establish Heart of Christ Clinics in each of the state’s other six dioceses.

“We could not ask for a better partner than the Knights — their dedication and their passion and their belief in this clinic,” said Knysz. “Having a pro-life Catholic clinic in the heart of an urban city where the providers not only value life but also support the family and are willing to openly pray with individuals who come in through the door — I think it’s going to be a beacon of light.”



Michigan State Deputy Chris Kolomjec (center) cuts the ribbon at a ceremony celebrating the opening of the Heart of Christ Clinic in Detroit on Dec. 1. Also pictured, left to right, are Dr. Thomas Meyer, an OB-GYN and the center’s medical director; Julie Kolomjec, wife of the state deputy; Michigan State Chaplain Father Aidan Logan; and Dr. Lisa Knysz, the clinic director. (Photo by Jim West)

From The State Program Director Paul Palka

How to Prepare for a Successful 2024/2025 Fraternal Year

- Plan to Attend Officer Training
 - Each Diocese will offer training for Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Membership & Program Director in May, or June. Please see the weekly Constant Contact for dates.
 - Training is open to both Current, New and Future Council Officers
 - These will be live training sessions.
- Submit the 185 and 365 for Your Council
 - These forms are due 6/30/24.
 - If you submit them prior to 7/1, they are dated for the 2024-2025 Fraternal Year
- Update the CAT System
 - Plan your 2024/2025 Programs and Membership Drives with your Parish Pastor.
 - Log this information into the CAT System

We have accomplished many things this Fraternal Year. However, the year is far from over. Let us finish strong in Membership and Programs!

Thank You for your support and prayers as I had the immense pleasure of serving as your State Program Director under our State Deputy Christopher Kolomjec. I also want to thank all the State and Diocesan Directors that helped our Jurisdiction to be a leader in the Order!

Paul Palka

State Program Director

Programs = New Members

Faith In Action

Brothers and Sisters,

Did you know there are 2 million Catholics in the State of Michigan?

There are so many things going wrong in the world today. There are multiple wars, countless diseases, attacks on our church, what God calls a sin is now accepted, euthanasia, attack on family, a new invasion of Palestine threatens to unsettle the Middle East, and this is only a partial list! This all falls under Spiritual Warfare and we need everyone that is Catholic to fight in the battle. A Bishop wrote: unless the hand of God intervenes directly, all will be lost

In the months of April and May, the Silver Rose will be making its way through the state of Michigan. The Rose not only represents life, but also our Lady which appeared on the outskirts of Mexico City to a simple indigenous man and she made a humble request. In the fulfillment of that request, a continent was converted and the course of history changed forever. This was in the year 1531 when much of the same was going on that is now again happening 500 years later.

How can we change our world? What can we do to make a difference? This can all be accomplished through the Power of Prayer. His Eminence, Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke will assist us in this battle by praying a 9 month Novena to our Lady of Guadalupe. The Novena starts on March 12th and ends on December 12th, her Feast Day. Can you imagine 2 million Catholics all praying this Novena to Our Lady for Her to intercede on our behalf to bring peace to our world and end the diseases. Our Holy Mother loves each and everyone of us and is waiting for us to

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Evangelization and Faith Formation

Brothers,

After almost two years I am continually surprised, amazed, and often stupefied that when asked, many of my Knights of Columbus Brothers have no idea that the Jurisdiction of Michigan launched a supreme pilot initiative entitled "**Cor**" and that as Catholic men, it may be exactly what they have been searching for in their faith life journey. "**Cor**" quite simply is short, for the longer Latin phrase "**Cor ad Cor Loquitur**" which translates to "Heart speaks to Heart". This initiative is designed for Catholic men to focus on Jesus Christ and to form and strengthen them in faith and virtue through a brotherhood committed to **prayer, formation, and fraternity**. The goal of each **Cor** gathering is to provide the opportunity for men to encounter Christ, to pray together, to be formed in their faith, and to strengthen their bonds of brotherhood, preparing them for courageous leadership and the mission of evangelization for their families and communities. But why do we need the "**Cor** initiative"? We need "**Cor**" because families need strong husbands and fathers, and the world needs courageous witnesses to Jesus Christ. At all times, and especially during this Lenten Season, "**Cor**" provides Catholic men the opportunity to encounter Christ, in a focused way.

"**Cor**" to be truly effective needs its own dedicated space and time. "**Cor**" is not intended to replace the Council meeting, but will exist in addition to it. "**Cor**" is also not a Faith in Action Program, but many Faith in Action programs can be inserted into it and count towards programmatic requirements. "**Cor**" should be held at least monthly. It is up to the men of the parish and or council if they would like to meet more frequently. Each "**Cor**" meeting should last ideally 60-90 minutes. I would venture to say that adding 60-90 minutes to your prayer life on your Journey to Christ seems to not be asking too much.

The Grand Knight is encouraged, after gaining Pastor approval, to appoint a Council Evangelization and Faith Formation Director. The Council Director can build a team of council members (2-3 men) who will plan, coordinate, and execute "**Cor**".

All men of the parish are encouraged to attend. "**cor**" should never pose a point of conflict with any existing men's ministries or groups. Instead, this should be an opportunity for intentional collaboration and enhancement to serve the men of the whole parish better.

I like to believe that many times "**Cor**" makes me a better Catholic, a better husband, a better father, and overall a better person and Knight. My wish for you is to discern whether "**cor**" is calling you on your personal journey to Christ. Bring men together, encourage continued invitation, and let the Holy Spirit do the rest.

For further information about "**Cor**" please go to the Supreme Website at KofC.org/Cor

Blessings to you and your families,

Paul Kelsey

State Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation

Pkelsey@mikofc.org

GIDDY UP!

Grand Knight Earl Burhans (right) and Deputy Grand Knight Kingman Davis of St. Stephen Council 15691 in Grand Rapids, Mich., present a donation of more than \$750 to Kathy Ryan, executive director of the Equest Center for Therapeutic Riding. The council raised the funds during its annual fund



drive for people with disabilities.

Programs = New Members

Pro Life



What is ASAP? Aid and Support After Pregnancy is a featured program to support pregnant women and their children, both born and unborn, by serving pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes. Through ASAP, for every \$500 a council or assembly donates to a qualifying non-profit pregnancy resource center or maternity home (up to \$2,000), the Supreme Council will issue a \$100 grant to the same qualifying organization.

Michigan continues as a leader in the Order with the highest donations and applications. Each council is asked to donate to a local pregnancy center and/or maternity home to further our commitment to families after pregnancy. For those council's looking to donate, Pass the Hat provides the perfect opportunity to donate to a worthy cause.

Pass the Hat Incentive is back! Yes, Pass the Hat (PtH) Incentive, sponsored by the Supreme Council for the ASAP program, is back again. The leading jurisdiction for donations at their state convention will receive additional funding from Supreme for this important purpose. At last year's convention the State Council, Councils, and Assemblies donated a total of \$121,509 toward the PtH incentive. Can we match or beat this? This is up to all of us.

Keep an Eye on your Legislature. Keep an eye on legislative actions taking place at our State Capitol. Recent actions that go against our positions that defend Life include:

- The Reproductive Health Act, the law went into effect on February 13, 2024 and repealed several prolife laws including clinic licensing, abortion reporting, abortion complication reporting, humane disposal of fetal remains, the ban on partial birth abortions, and the abortion insurance opt-out law.
- House Bills 5207-5215, although no date has been set for a hearing, these bills will allow commercial surrogacy and will upend all the parentage laws in the state. This will lead to the exploitation of vulnerable women who serve as egg donors and surrogates, will commodify children as products, and will eliminate "mothers" and "fathers" on all birth certificates.
- Senate Bills 678-681 would legalize physician assisted suicide in the state, repeal Michigan's longstanding ban on the practice, and allow patients to request, and physicians to provide, lethal doses of drugs for the purposes of suicide. These bills have not yet had a hearing and are currently in the Senate Health Policy Committee.

These actions in our State Capitol are reasons to continue our support of our partners including Right to Life Michigan, Protect Life MI, 40 Days for Life, Sidewalk Advocates for Life and Michigan Catholic Conference.

New Inscription for "Created in the Image of God" baby blankets. Over 2,000 blankets have been distributed by councils and assemblies throughout the state since the beginning of this program! It is a reminder of how a newborn can be swaddled with the love of a mother and the knowledge that he or she is a gift from God.

We are now offering the baby blankets with the inscription in Spanish:

continued on page 9

Fr. Robert W. Davey Council 8808



In a dense wooded area on the grounds of Holy Spirit Catholic Church; a grotto was constructed most likely over 100 years ago. The Grotto located in the woods had long been forgotten. Mother Nature had consumed her. Over fifteen years ago; our council members brought the Grotto back to life removing trees and brush along with constructing stations of the cross, placement of a cross and construction of a pathway to the Grotto. Two summers ago, the grotto was vandalized. The statue of Mary was destroyed along with several of the Stations of the Cross.



Council 8808 went to work. We procured a discarded statue from the Saginaw Diocese which was refurbished by Knights of Columbus members. New Stations of the Cross were constructed and we organized a paver fundraiser project as we planned on repairs to the grotto; installing signs and benches in the future.

A memorial service was held that fall with an installation ceremony held this past autumn. We are ahead of schedule as the benches have been installed and landscaping by a local Nursery was donated. The project is ongoing.

Au Lac Council Breakfast For Babies



The Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township held a Breakfast For Babies fundraiser on February 3rd and 4th. Although the final numbers aren't in yet, the event raised hundreds of dollars in cash and merchandise for moms and babies in need. Breakfast was served after the Saturday evening Mass and all three Masses on Sunday. Everyone enjoyed a delicious breakfast along with several raffle prizes and lots of baked goods. The Knights thank everyone who attended for their generosity to moms and babies!

2024 Camporee

The 2024 Camporee has been set up. It is on a new weekend and at a new location. August 22nd to August 25th 2024, Wooded Acres Family Campgrounds in Houghton Lake MI. If you plan on attending, please contact them directly to make your reservations by **February 29, 2024**. Below is a link to the website and phone number and attached is a flyer. Please email me after you make your reservations. Any questions please contact me.

<https://woodedacrescampground.net/> 989-422-3413

Michael Kozakiewicz

Chief of Fraternal Activities

"You can get business done while still having fun"

313-779-1348

Au Lac Council Youth of the Month

Congratulations to David Kunkel on being named as our Au Lac Council 10724 K of C Youth of the Month for January 2024! David is the son of David and Andrea Kunkel and a 7th grade student at Immaculate Conception School. He is a frequent altar server at the Saturday 4:30 PM Mass. He is a member of the National Junior Honor Society and the choir at school. We thank David for demonstrating his faith by service to our parish!



Photo (L-R): SK Cliff Becker; David Kunkel; Fr. Joseph Esper (Pastor)

Christopher A Kolomjec State Deputy

will be bound in heaven, and whatever you make loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." This establishes the Church's authority through her priests and the sacrament of confession to forgive sins. We can't argue with that. Get to confession!

It has truly been an honor and privilege for Julie and me serve as your State Deputy and First Lady. We greatly appreciate all the support and affection we have been given traveling all over our great state. I pray that these two years helped you to grow into a better Catholic and that the Order continues to serve you and your journey to get to heaven. Thank you all and Vivat Jesus!



St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 – Meet the Seminarians



On January 13, 2024, St Patrick White Lake Council 13319 hosted a Meet the Seminarians Dinner. Approximately one hundred people, including adults and kids, attended this wonderful event to share a meal and hear from four seminarians who shared their stories on how they answered the call to pursue a vocation as a priest. Guest speaker Deacon John Wright also shared his experiences as a deacon. The event raised \$5,800 for the seminarians to help offset the cost of their education.

Houghton Lake Council 6548

In the last week of September the Houghton Lake council of the Knights of Columbus had the annual Tootsie Roll fundraiser in the Houghton Lake community. With the fantastic support of contributors a record breaking amount of over \$3,000 was raised in this drive. As always, this benefits the Coor Education Center and Area 4 Special Olympics by each receiving \$1,572. COOR and Special Olympics serve the needs of mentally challenged people in Crawford, Ogema, Oscoda and Roscommon Counties, hence the acronym COOR. Joe Moore of COOR stated that the monies would be distributed in the seven classrooms in their system for various materials. Mike Eva Area 4 SO, said that these monies would be beneficial for those who participate in the Special Olympics Summer Games to provide uniforms, entry fees, transportation and other expenses for these athletes. Some of these activities include, bowling, basketball, track and other related sport competitions that make a better life for these individuals.



Photo L. TO R. Joe Moore, Clyde Straub, Grand Knight, Mike Eva

LASAGNA SENDS VETS TO D.C.

A lasagna dinner fundraiser by **Father Owen Council 11114 in Battle Creek, Mich.**, raised \$250 to support the Talons Out Honor Flight, part of a nationwide network that brings veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit the memorials dedicated to their service.

Programs = New Members

Irish Hills Council #6223



Council #6223 of the Irish Hills had their annual Christmas party. All of the members, their children and grandchildren were invited. They also invited the families of the parish who had Children. It was an evening of dinner and fellowship that brought over 50 children to see Santa and receive a gift with their name on it. The look in the little ones eyes as they got to sit on Santa's lap and receive their gift was rewarding for the Knights. The dinner was good with a few Christmas Carols sung before Santa arrived. Everyone had a great time as we shared the spirit of Christmas with so many. Even the teenagers were excited to receive their gift. The shoppers did an excellent job picking out the appropriate gift for everyone.

Once again the Irish Hills Council showed their generosity to the community that is practiced throughout the year. They are so giving in so many ways to the parish, community and other charities that they support every year. If they hear of a need they are ready and willing to help whether it be building ramps for the disabled, fixing a roof, supporting the local meals for the homeless, donating funds to many organizations or just supporting families with individual needs.

Escanaba Assembly 507



Sir Knights from Escanaba Assembly 507 pictured with Marquette Bishop John Doerfler attending the mass to consecrate the new altar in All Saint Parish in Gladstone.

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 – Free Throw Challenge



In order to support its local youth, on February 2nd, St Patrick White Lake Council 13319 hosted its annual free throw challenge. The event started with a blessing of the contestants. Pizza and drinks were also served. It was a great night and all that attended had fun. Congratulations to the winners of the event!

Au Lac Council 10724



Congratulations to the winners in our Au Lac Council Free Throw Championship held at I.C. School on January 11! Thank you to all 28 participants and their parents for attending. A special thank you to Brother Knights Patrick A. Bohr (WGK); Jeff Wooten (PGK); James Homiak (HBD); and Matthew Pelyak (VBB Coach) for helping with the event. The 1st place winners will advance to the District Championship to be held at I.C. in February.

9 Boys: Russell Peterson (1st); Jacob Young (2nd)

10 Boys: Lucas Durrenberg (1st); Declan VanTiem (2nd)

10 Girls: Mary Katherine Bagan (1st); Erin Felczak (2nd)

11 Boys: Garret Whitenight (1st); Danny Horford (2nd)

11 Girls: Claire Rom (1st); Adelyn Hagood (2nd)

12 Boys: Gavin Swanson (1st) Justin Williamson (2nd)

12 Girls: Lily Cowper (1st); Josie Peterson (2nd)

13 Boys: Jalloul Montacer (1st)

13 Girls: Melanie Bilicki (1st); Avery Whitenight (2nd)

Congratulations again and good luck at the District Contest!

Houghton Lake, Council 6548



Photo L - R: K OF C Grand Knight Clyde Straub, Wally Woniak Co-Chair, Chris Ketrow President and Sue Shoemaker Treasurer

The Knights of Columbus of Houghton Lake, Council 6548 has awarded the Roscommon Food Distribution Partners a check for \$500 to help with the food distribution program. This food bank distributes to the community once a month at the Roscommon school bus garage facility, thousands of pounds of food products monthly since founded in 2017. The program is on the 4th Saturday of the month and is serviced by many volunteers including several Roscommon School students. If you have the time to volunteer you may call Sue Ketrow for more information at 810-955-2366. There were 275 families and 660 recipients.

IRON HORSES FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

Iron River (Mich.) Council 2300 conducted its 48th annual fund drive for people with disabilities, collecting more than \$4,000 for the special education program at West Iron Public Schools.

Programs = New Members

Breakfast With Santa 2023



Brother Knights of Council 8669 of Good Shepherd Parish Montrose and their wives provided a pancake breakfast, art projects, face painting and time with Santa, Saturday morning December 9, 2023. The Knights worked with the Parish Youth Group serving 160 children in the community and also generated \$700 for the Youth Group of the parish. This activity has done for many years bringing families into the church.

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Luminary Lighting



On January 20th, St Patrick White Lake Council 13319 sponsored the annual Sanctity of Human Life Luminary Lighting event. 150 luminaries were placed along the cemetery fence in memoriam of all the babies aborted since the Roe vs Wade decision in January 1973. We are thankful to all who participated in this event.

Pro Life

“Credo a Imagen de Dios”. The order form is available on the state website with the option of either in English or Spanish. The cost remains at only \$10 each with orders of five or more.

Final thought. The logo of the Order is a powerful reminder to us and others that as Knights of Columbus we will not waiver from our position to Defend Life from conception to natural death. Keep this in mind as you go out into the world; whether you go to Ultrasound dedications, pro-life events, church events, or are just running errands. When the opportunity presents itself, wear the logo. Remind yourself and the rest of the world that it's time to step up.

Ed & Lynn Strach,
Pro Life Chair Couple

10 April 2024

MICHIGAN COLUMBIAN

AROUND THE STATE

Prince of Peace Council #6593



Picture: Grand Knight Keith Kleinert with the contest winners.

The Prince of Peace Council #6593 is proud to recognize the winners of the annual council level Catholic Citizenship Essay contest from Our Lady of the Lake Regional Catholic School in Prudenville. This year's theme asked students how they would evangelize the teaching of the church in the digital age. All of the entries contained many wonderful ideas on how to use technology and social media to spread the word of God. All entrants were given a certificate along with a Rosary and a guide on how to pray the Rosary. The winning students were also awarded a McDonald's gift card. We would like to thank the wonderful staff at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Catholic School and all of the students that entered! To the winners, we wish you the best of luck in the next round of the contest!

Bishop Untener Assembly 3136



Pictured in photo are Kay Gross and Mary Rombach. The picture above shows the ladies of Bishop Untener Assembly 3136 in Chesaning getting the Ladies Event of the Year Award that was presented by Dale Korson, Master of District 4, and his wife Lady Dee. The ladies of the Assembly run 3 bake sales every year and the proceeds go to coat for kids, the Chesaning Emergency Care Center, and the "I support the 1% veterans Food Bank". These events started in 2011 and so far have raised over 20,000 dollars.

Swartz Creek (Mich.) Council 6694 held a benefit dinner at St. Mary, Queen of Angels Parish that raised more than \$7,000 for the Diocese of Gumla, India — the home of Father Louis Ekka, pastor and council **chaplain**. The funds will support projects and initiatives of the diocese's nearly 80 parishes and schools.

Au Lac Council 10724 Youth of the Month Recognition Dinner



Photo (L-R): Fr. Joseph Esper; Alex McCarthy; Garret Whitenight; Lauren Demick; Jonathon Ricard; JD VanTiem, Jr.; WGK Patrick A. Bohr. (Not pictured: Eddie Foster)

On January 18th Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township honored their Youth of the Month winners for July through December 2023. The winners and their families were treated to a pizza dinner in our parish hall. We thank them for demonstrating their faith through service to our parish!

Prince of Peace Council #6593



Picture 1: Grand Knight Keith Kleinert, left, presents Tootsie Roll Drive check for \$950.00 to COOR Educational Center Principal Joe Moore. The money will be split amongst the classrooms to help the teachers buy supplies and materials for their students.



Picture 2: Grand Knight Keith Kleinert presents a check for \$950 to Area 4 Special Olympics Assistant Director Barb Eva. Area 4 Special Olympics will be able to use the money to help

support their athletes in their upcoming competitions.

The council would like to thank all Brother Knights that took the time to make this year's Tootsie Roll Drive a big success!!

Respect Life ESSAY Contest Winners Announced

Lake Orion Knights of Columbus Council 4764 announced the following winners for the 2023 Respect Life essay contest. Recipients of cash awards and certificates were:

- o First place, **Zoey Davis**, St. Joseph RE, 8th Grade, \$250
- o Second place, **Ike Mumaw**, St. Joseph RE, 7th Grade, \$150
- o Third place, **Michael Groff**, St. Joseph School, 7th Grade, \$100
- o Honorable mention, **Mia Cashatt**, St. Joseph RE, 8th Grade
- o Honorable mention, **Giana Burke**, St. John Fisher RE, 7th Grade
- o Honorable mention, **Robert Schramek**, Christ the Redeemer RE, 8th Grade

In February, DGK Al Hassinger presented the awards to the students at their respective parishes. Seventh through ninth grade students submitted 400-600 word essays on the topic "Mom, thanks for having me: Appreciation for the Value of an Unborn Life."



First Place Award presented by DGK Al Hassinger and Father Steve Mateja to Zoey Davis following St. Joseph's noon Mass on Feb 25, 2024

MOVE OVER, PANCAKES



Matthew Hunt, a member of **St. Thecla Council 12403** in **Clinton Township, Mich.**, flips French toast during a breakfast at St. Thecla Catholic Church that Council 12403 sponsored with the parish's Christian Service Commission. The breakfast raised more than \$500 to support the Good Shepherd Coalition in Fraser, which provides food and financial assistance to people in need throughout Macomb County.



St. Louis Center

Tootsie Rolls and Golf Tees

Greetings Brother Knights. May the peace and love of God our Father be with all of you.

As I reflect back on the Lenten season, I find it appropriate to recognize the many sacrifices and measures of support that many Knights of Columbus councils and their members have given to St. Louis Center. I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation for all that you do for our residents, especially through the annual MI Drive. I am aware of the measure of sacrifice that each one of you experiences standing for hours, sometimes in inclement weather and cold temperatures, to raise funds in support of our residents. Your time spent in serving the least and the lost is an act of benevolence that demonstrates your love for Jesus in your service to others.



Your efforts are recognized by everyone at St. Louis Center where we strive to make a difference in their lives. Your support for our residents with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities has a direct impact on their lives by allowing us to enhance the quality of our services. It enables us to maintain many of our programs and strive to keep facilities in line with new challenges in a safe and loving environment. An example is the effort to remodel our 60-year-old kitchen to provide better service for those we serve.

As you know, St. Louis Center must raise a great deal of money from donors to run the houses here effectively and efficiently. Your generous support has made it possible for us to continue to make meaningful efforts to provide our residents with another successful year in a supportive environment. We are aware that there are many other organizations for your consideration and we are thankful that you continue to choose St. Louis Center as one of them.

On behalf of all the residents and their families, I thank you for your benevolent generosity in your efforts to support those individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Keep the fire and spirit of perfect Charity at the center of your work.

May God bless each of you and your families,

Fr. Satheesh Alphonse, SdC

Fr. Satheesh Alphonse

Fr. Satheesh Alphonse, SdC

Read more about the history of the Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive and St. Louis Center here:
bit.ly/SLC-tootsie



OPPORTUNITIES AND EVENTS

Fr. Enzo's Retirement

The Retirement of Fr. Enzo Addari will be held at Andiamo's in Warren, MI Thursday, April 18th. Please join us as we celebrate all Fr. Enzo has done for our community. Use the code to purchase your seats. See the next page for more details.



Knights on Campus

All members of the Knights of Columbus are invited to St. Louis Center for a Cinco de Mayo celebration in your honor. Please come with your families and see first hand how your support helps better the lives of St. Louis Center residents! More details are on the next page.



Alaskan Cruise Raffle

Support operations of the Center by purchasing raffle tickets to win a trip for two to Alaska for an amazing 7-day cruise, along with a 3-day land tour in Denali National Park. This trip is valued at \$7,500, and the winner may take the cash option instead. Tickets sell for \$25 each or 5 for \$100. The drawing will take place during the Golf and Glory Outing at University of Michigan Golf Course on **Monday, June 24, 2024**. More information can be found on our website by scanning the code.



2024 GOLF OUTINGS BEGIN

Golf and Glory Outing

Join the St. Louis Center for a day of golf, fellowship, and fun.

Date: Monday, June 24, 2024

Place: University of Michigan Golf Course

You will enjoy continental breakfast, 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch at the turn and dinner to book end the day.



To register or learn about sponsorship opportunities for these or any of our events, visit our website at

stlouiscenter.org/have-fun-here/events/



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*cky - council knight of year , send a copy of the names to the Michigan Columbian.

Knight of the Month**Lansing Council 788**

Tom Warning, John Suckow
Richard McCloy, PSD

Algonac Council 856

Scott Brickner, Dan LaVere
Judson Gilbert, II

Owosso Council 1139

David Kenney, Douglas Edwards
John Smith, Patrick Marrah
Jeff Dunn

Monroe Council 1266

Dennis Miller, Joseph Boggs
John Patrick

Ludington Council 1492

Christopher Jeruzial, Steve Urka
Ronnie Bennet, Bill Smith

Leo Martinez, George Wagner, III

Ishpeming Council, 1541

Kevin Parker, James Butorac
Kevin Flohe, John Wirtanen, II
Peter Longtime

Portland Council 2168

Patrick Lay, John Hengesbach
David Simon

Carson City Council 2198

Daniel Lawless

Howell Council 2659

Matthew Skoink, Kevin Bonkowski

Livonia Council 2690

Robert Shifman, Cliff Liptak, Jr.,
Brent Pohl

Standish Council 2724

Ken Adrian, Jr.

Ste. Clair Shores Council 2733

John Barlin

Westphalia Council 2890

Brent Pohl, Paul Fink

Jordan Wirth, Matt Lehman

Chesaning Council 2943

David knitter, Thomas Gross
Edward Wright, Donald Cooper

Utica Council 2950

Jim Duda, Jason Meyers
Ryan Gargano, Jerry Mulka

Lincoln Park Council 3078

Nicholas Korzeniewski
Allen Shriver

Caro Council 3224

Joe Zieger

St. Johns Council 3281

Todd Shellberg, Neal Spitzley
Lee Van Camp

Mt. Pleasant Council 3651

Jim Kremsreiter

Berkley Council 3830

Pete Schneider, James Nitkiewicz
Paul randy wells

Southgate Council 3956

Fred Gerring

Davison Council 4090

David Verellen, Dave Lane
Marc Corcoran, Bill Conroy

Manchester Council 4354

Deacon Dennie Walters
Greg Sanders

Wyoming Council 4362

Daniel Bury, Patrick Franzol
Tony Arbanos, John Veneklas

Gladwin Council 5280

William Bauman

New Baltimore Council 5981

Wayne Miller, Joseph Krause
Timothy Gutenschwager

Brooklyn Council 6223

Kirk Falk, Karl Knotyko
Donald Denewith, Robert Macero

Roscommon Council 6593

Thomas Slykeman, Michael Lehman

Posen Council 6657

Dennis Purgiel, Tom Lietzel
Bob Idalski, Dale Lewandowski

Michigan Center Council 6687

James Daley

Swartz Creek Council 6694

Robert Weld, David Drury
Michael Kopo

Grand Blanc Council 6742

Jim Otis, Paul Throesch
Phil Stadler, Tom Everett

Michael Paying

Portage Council 6980

Anthony Calderaro, Joseph Magalski

Sterling Heights Council 7011

John Brady, Jon Shnellbacker
Joseph Honce, III,
Gerald O'Neil, Jr.

Holland Council 7115

John Martin, Tom Weber
Lou Colon, Jim Hartman

Mark Gee, Richard Kassmeyer

Macomb Council 7200

Andi Vushaj, Fr. Ron Victor

Birch Run Council 7233

Kirk Dupuie Ray Reyes
Robert Frank

Brighton Council 7304

Paul Nicastrri, Dave Olenjnik
Larry Bacon, Kevin Mondlach
Dan Zimmerman, Jim Carolan

Caledonia Council 7341

John Finkbeiner, Mark Hardy
Steve Malenski, John Hayden

Freeland Council 7581

Steve Harrand, Jim Oskvarek
Frank Tomisch, George Corbat

Greg Becker, Mike Burrow

Hale Council 7623

Roger Houthoofd

Lowell Council 7719

Liam Doyle, Scott Slaght

Emmett Council 7918

Tom Burg, John Foley
Bill McClelland, Ron Horbes

Durand Council 7955

Edward Folsom, Brice Merrow
Tanner Shay, Mark Dyer

Hillman Council 8041

Bob Clark, Robert Hayka
Roger Marquardt,

Lawrence Rozanski

Sanford Council 8043

Jacob Fortin, Gerald Club
Robert McManus, Andrew Redae

Ada Council 8117

Ted Wright, Guillermo Arce

Howell Council 8169

Denis McCarthy, Burt Wakeman

Canton Council 8284

Tom McAdoo

St. Helen Council 8390

Robert Schneider, Ricky Maynard

Jackson Council 8392

Scott Crandal, Maynard Hartke

Gary Schweda, Greg Denton

Auburn Hills Council 8659

Joseph Cichon, Mike Kurkowski

Montrose Council 8669

Paul Sharpe, Patrick Bisson
Chester Plasnik

Saginaw Council 8808

Mike Marsden, Bryon Hora

Cass City Council 8892

Richard Żydowski, Ron Rutkowski
George Frank, David House

Stan Kloc

Temperance Council 8902

Tyler O'Brien, Jack Zeiler

Mason Council 9182

Jerry O'Shesky, David Kudzia
Eric Norris

Marysville Council 9526

Michael Howard, Robert Hunt
Roger McClland, Gale Messing
David Huxford

Kalamazoo Council 9962

Chase Pearce, Joseph Durecki

Okemos Council 10006

Don Klump, Dan Frank
Curt Flamini, Larry Leece

Lansing Council 10542

Paul Franco, Ryan O'Hara
Daniel Reinecke, Gayland Meeks

Ira Township Council 10724

Michael Mytinger, Jeffrey Shield
James Ruenenapp, Byrant Sebastian

Ann Arbor Council 10963

John Keenan, Michael Sayler
John LaRock Sr.

Lansing Council 11099

Jacob Allstott, Daniel Dowsett

Temperance Council 11430

George Neeb, Michael Scott
David & Josh Thoma

Clinton Twp. Council 11689

Jerry Hund, Vincent Ursini

Shelby Twp. Council 11772

Michael Scapini, Ron Wood
George Stump, Eric Crudo

Carl Grewe

Charlotte Council 11875

Michael Beyeriein

Laingsburg Council 12044

Rev. Anthony Brooks

Tom Mahoney

Houghton Council 13115

Dan Becia, Bryan Milde

White Lake Council 13319

Vince Mattina, Ron McAlpine
Jamie Linton, Dennis Letting

Mark Agius, Bob Schmitt

Kevin Markham

Bryan Lassen *cky

Detroit Council 3419

Dave Klemmer, Gene Bommarito
Maetin LeCroix, Gerry Rochon

Bruce Higgins

Troy Council 13453

Dan Tardiff, Joshua Ross

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Families of the Month**Lansing Council 788**

Mike & Pattie Schaefer
Dave Greeley, Sr., family
Dan & Chris Thomas
Jim & Jeanine Thomas

Jeane & Jackie Royale

Portland Council 2168

Kevin & Kris Schrauben

Standish Council 2724

Ron & Jackie Krzyaniak

Westphalia Council 2890

Phil & Jamie Smith

Gene & Brenda Feldpausch

Nolan & Aubrey Feldpausch

Chesaning Council 2943

Charles & Linda Welsenberger

Thomas & Mary Rombach

Utica Council 2950

Ed & Kim Braet

Lincoln Park Council 3078

John & Shawn McElmeel

Kevin & Deanna Nicholuson

Fremont Council 3111

Gary & Cindy Nestle

Jin & Sandy Merkel

Posen Council 6657

Angie March family

Stan Wozniak family

Wayne Roznowski family

Richard & Kay Zwolinski

Michigan Center Council 6687

Jeffery & Mary Ann Wilson

Stephen & Joanne Arnold

Swartz Creek Council 6694

Wayne & Mary Ann DeShano

Richard & Phyllis Campbell

Kenneth & Linda Klungie

Portage Council 6980

Randy & Michelle Hodge

Macomb Council 7200

Jeffrey & Constance Loeb

Birch Run Council 7233

John & Wendy Pullis

Ken & Jessica Bezemek

Jerome & Angela Waldron

Holland Council 7115

Joe & Elaine White

Emmett Council 7918

Jon & Christine Peters

Al & Stacy Schwehofer

Mike & Cristen Yaros

Mike & Nancy Scheible

Durand Council 7955

Edward & Julie Folsom

Brice & Susan Merrow

Tanner & Molli Shay

Mark & Marie Dyer

Hillman Council 8041

Jim & Pat Kennard

Tom & Rosemary Bouchey

Daniel & Nicole Orr

Chris & Kitsie Kennard

Sanford Council 8043

Tim & Sandy Angus

Howell Council 8169

Bill & Stashia Nicol

Glen & Paula Gray

Auburn Hills Council 8659

Frederick & Nancy Fisher

Dec. David & Kelly Fleming

Temperance Council 8902

Nancy Zylka family

Josh & Sarah Shinaver

Mason Council 9182

Eugene & Rita Murawski

Theodore & Allison Burch

James & Keri Rowley

Kalamazoo council 9962

Adam & Marina Knott

Jeffery T Theresa Cypher

Ira Township Council 10724

Paul & Ann Sattler

James & Janet Satchfield

Ann Arbor Council 10963

Michael & Darlene Laird

Kurt & Ruth Heister

Brian & Pamela Heldt

Lansing Council 11099

Donald & Gayle Gardner

Joseph & Rita Wihelm

White Lake Council 13319

David & Marilyn Weber

Paul & Dawn Shiner

Ryan & Sandra Ferris

White Cloud council 13939

Steve & Mary Bleiler

Leonard & Janet Wahr

Shawn & Kim Smith

Comstock Park Council 15548

Ron & Mary Antor

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Knight of the Month**Waterford Council 13485**

Jeffrey White, Steve Perry

David Hoffman, Anthony Roth

Waterford Council 13600

Edgar Tarchalski, Mike Darcy

Leonard Poplaski, John Scott

Victor Neely

Howard City Council 13653

Adam Thomas, Gerald Grundy

Rev James Vanderlaan

Farmington Hills Council 13673

Robert Kuhr, Michael O'Dea

Robert Koenig,

White Cloud Council 13939

Tom Carpenter, James Dood

Tim Frisbee, Virgil Houle

Max Willcut, Matt Bleller

New Buffalo Council 14366

Vincent Liskovec, Clifford Asch

Canton Council 16169

Marshall Graziola, Clint Randall

Jeff Battistella

Grand Rapids Council 16199

Lawrence O'Hara

Bishop Gallagher Council 2569

In December 2023, Bishop Gallagher Knights of Columbus Council 2569 donated 2 cases of coats for a total of 24 winter coats to St. Mary Catholic Parish in Royal Oak, Michigan. The coats were presented by Grand Knight Timothy Gignac and gratefully accepted by George Krinke, the Coordinator of Evangelical Charity at St. Mary.

Father Edmund Battersby Council 7586

Father Edmund Battersby Council Exemplification on February 18, 2024.

The "new" Knights seated in front are Kyle Shafer, Alec Smerage, and Derrick Lesecki

In the second row R-L are S.K, Marc Daniels, PGK; S.K. Frank Mardeusz; Joe Balog Jr; Chip Silwinski; Deacon Chris Booms; Craig Lukomski; Mike Orsini; Bob Donehue; Third Row L-R Fred Heiler PGK; Paul Heininger

Bishop Gallagher Council 2569



This past Christmas 2023, the Blessing Bags that **Bishop Gallagher Council 2569** put together for those less fortunate were given to the Royal Oak Police Department. Officers Carter on the left and Hertz on the right received the donations from Program Director Jeff Rollins, Gand Knight Tim Gignac, and Al Carter, Sr., in the center. These donations help many whom the police contact in their daily service to the community. This is a great outward expression of the first principle of the Knight of Columbus - CHARITY.

State Raffle Update



On Friday, December 29, 2023 Executive Secretary, Larry Grabowski, Michigan Columbian Editor, Gary Kolbicz, State Raffle Directors, Kevin Rowley and Mike Haughey gathered at the State Office to conduct the first of four \$250.00 "Early Bird", seller incentive drawings. Joining us was

Archdiocesan Membership Director John Reeser.

With the days mail picked up from the P. O. Box and all tickets processed, Kevin Rowley gave the barrel a final spin and reached into the barrel to pull the winning ticket!

The \$250.00 Winner - Brother Knight, Jerome Kunkel of Brighton, Michigan.

Congratulations Brother Knight, Jerome Kunkel and thank you for supporting our Michigan Knights of Columbus, State Charity Raffle !

With the first Early Bird Drawing Completed, you still have Three remaining chances to win \$250.00. Remaining drawings will be held on January 29, 2024, February 29, 2024 and March 29, 2024. So don't delay, sell your book of 12 tickets and mail them in with your check and your Early Bird Raffle Ticket today!

Our Councils Benefit \$\$\$

If asked, would you donate \$12.00 to your council, while putting in to practice the First Degree of our Order?

Remember, \$1.00 of every ticket you sell goes directly to your Local Knights of Columbus Council. (One sold book equals a \$12.00 donation to your Council on your behalf) To date, through your efforts, we have collectively raised over \$40,000.00 for local councils, through the sale of State Charity Raffle tickets. That's a great start, but with over 60,000 Knights of Columbus members in the state of Michigan, the potential share to councils is over \$720,000.00. To date approximately 3,350 members of the over 60,000 members, have bought or sold their 12 tickets.

Tracking Every Ticket

Each and every ticket bears a unique bar code on the bottom. The bar code contains your Council number and membership number. This allows us the ability to track ticket sales to each individual Council and individual member. This assures your Council gets credit and the revenue from each ticket you sell.

A sincere thank you to everyone for your participation and strong support of our Michigan Knights of Columbus Charity Raffle.

Happy New Year,
Mike Haughey
Kevin Rowley

St. Nicholas Council Celebrates Seven Years of Pro-Life Contest Winners

Sterling Heights, MI -- The Knights of Columbus Council 7011 recently announced the winners of its seventh annual Pro-Life Contest, with the theme CHOOSE LIFE THAT YOU AND YOUR DESCENDANTS MAY LIVE.

The Pro-Life contests have engaged and involved more than seventy young pro-lifers over the years, many of whom have gone on to become repeat participants. With over \$3,200 in prizes awarded to the winners, these contests are a favorite annual event for the young people at Ss. Cyril s & Methodius, the Council's host parish.

"Every year we have been impressed with the fervor and originality of the Pro-Life essay and poster entries. We firmly believe that our young people are the Pro-Life warriors of the future," said Gino Vitale, Pro-Life Chairman for the St. Nicholas Council.

Three groups of participants competed for the prizes:

Group 1 was drawn from grades seven and eight,

Group 2 came from grades nine and ten.

Group 3 consisted of grades eleven and twelve. The judges were drawn from among the Council's Knights. First place winners in each Group received \$100 cash.

Second place winners received \$50 cash.

Third place winners received a \$20 gift certificate from Faith@Work, a local Catholic bookstore.

Honorable Mentions in each group received a Participation Certificate and the thanks of the Knights.

On December 10, 2023, an awards ceremony was held to honor the recipient winners, with many students, family members and Knights in attendance. As always in the past, the Knights of the St. Nicholas Council are grateful to all the participants in the 2023 competition, especially the winners and their families for their continued support of this important contest. The Knights look forward to the Eighth Annual Pro-Life Contest in 2024.

Queen of Apostles 6548

The Knights of Columbus of Houghton Lake has awarded \$500 to the Council on Aging of Houghton Lake, St. Helen and Roscommon. Executive Director Deborah Looney said that these funds will be beneficial in administering the Meals-on- Wheels program for Seniors that has been going on for over thirty years. Amy Whittington, Houghton Lake Manager, said the funds will help out the Meals-on-Wheels program as well as the senior lunch program served Monday through Friday at the Houghton Lake Council on aging facility. The wheels program serves 120 in the Houghton Lake area, with St. Helen serving 60 senior homes and Roscommon providing meals to 65 homes. The Council on Aging offers the senior residents of Roscommon County with fantastic services, Meals on Wheels, daily lunches, the Serenity Day Lodge adult day services, weekly activities and many other services to make life easier for our senior population.



Programs = New Members

Community Update

All the Christmas and New Year's festivities are behind us and the College Football Championships, too. Councils have been working hard on both Programs and Membership this fraternal year.

In January, over 40 essays were received from students from all over the state. Over 16 councils were represented. The theme this year was very timely for the youth to write about: 'How can the Catholic Church evangelize in the digital age?'. Essays were written very well and many contained some creative ideas. The winners were Alexander Boukouris (Council 4401), Michela Crivela (Council 13983), Mia Shinaver (Council 8902), Mary Griffin (Council 13983) and Marley Weems (Council 2168). Their essays have been submitted to Supreme for consideration in the International Essay competition. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to all who participated.

During March the State Spelling Bee Finals is being held in Essexville and the State Free Throw Finals will be held in Mt. Pleasant.

I have received 14 State Program Award books for the Community category. Judging is currently underway and the winners will be notified as soon as possible.

Keep up with all of the great programs that you have been doing throughout the year. Don't forget, there are many ways to remember and honor our Armed Forces and First Responders. These programs can be considered Community programs. This could also be an excellent opportunity for your local council to demonstrate your local community involvement.

Don't forget, every program that you do is a recruitment opportunity. My wife, Elizabeth, and I hope to see you all at the convention in May.

John Hundiak

State Community Director



CELEBRATE
Please join us
AS WE CELEBRATE ALL
FR. ENZO HAS DONE FOR
OUR COMMUNITY!

Thursday, April 18 - Andiamo Banquet Center in Warren
Please **RSVP** at stlouiscenter.org/event/retirement-party-frenzo/

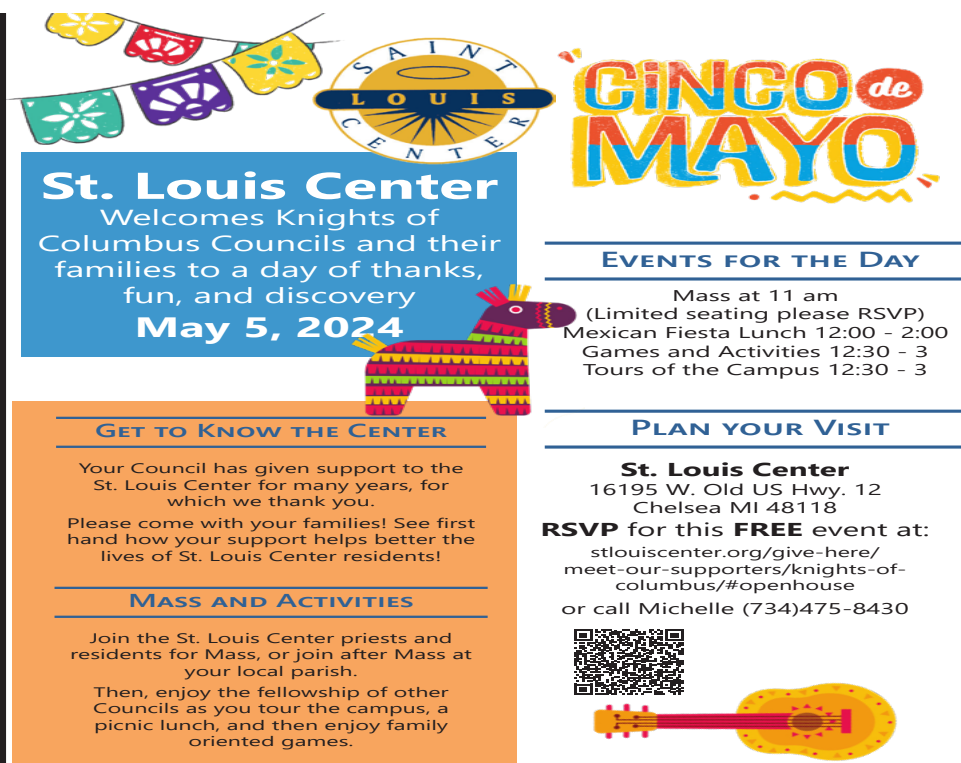


Go Fore it ...

...you'll be a winner to St. Louis Center residents like Antoine by supporting the Golf & Glory outing **June 24, 2024.**

Be a hero, reserve your foursome or sponsorship today!

Reserve your Foursome, and Select Sponsorships Today!!!
For details, scan the code or visit:
stlouiscenter.org/event/2024-golf-glory/



St. Louis Center
Welcomes Knights of Columbus Councils and their families to a day of thanks, fun, and discovery
May 5, 2024

EVENTS FOR THE DAY
Mass at 11 am
(Limited seating please RSVP)
Mexican Fiesta Lunch 12:00 - 2:00
Games and Activities 12:30 - 3
Tours of the Campus 12:30 - 3

PLAN YOUR VISIT
St. Louis Center
16195 W. Old US Hwy. 12
Chelsea MI 48118
RSVP for this FREE event at:
stlouiscenter.org/give-here/meet-our-supporters/knights-of-columbus/#openhouse
or call Michelle (734)475-8430

GET TO KNOW THE CENTER
Your Council has given support to the St. Louis Center for many years, for which we thank you.
Please come with your families! See first hand how your support helps better the lives of St. Louis Center residents!

MASS AND ACTIVITIES
Join the St. Louis Center priests and residents for Mass, or join after Mass at your local parish.
Then, enjoy the fellowship of other Councils as you tour the campus, a picnic lunch, and then enjoy family oriented games.



WIN AN ALASKAN CRUISE & LAND TOUR
7-Day Inside Passage Cruise Plus 3-Day Land Tour for 2 People*

TICKETS \$25 OR 5 FOR \$100

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

How to get your tickets:

- Stop by St. Louis Center
- Watch Parish bulletins for upcoming sale dates in May and June
- During St. Louis Center events

*Winner can take a cash option.

Drawing to be held on **JUNE 24, 2024** at the **GOLF & GLORY OUTING** (need not be present to win)

stlouiscenter.org *cruise over to the website for more details*

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Au Lac Council 10724 Youth of the Month - February 2024



Pictured (L-R): Grand Knight Patrick A. Bohr, Gordon Fields; Fr. Joseph Esper, Pastor

Congratulations to Gordon Fields on being selected as the Au Lac Council 10724 Youth of the Month for February 2024! Gordon is the son of Duane and Teresa Fields and a senior at Marine City High School. He is a lifelong member of Immaculate Conception Parish and the Faith Formation program. He was an altar server and has completed several hundred hours of service helping many people and organizations, including our parish. He is an Eagle Scout and a member of the National Honor Society. He plans to go to college to be a mechanical engineer.

Our parish facilities director said this about Gordon, "His work ethic clearly shows his Catholic morality and prayerful upbringing. Gordon is truly a one-of-a-kind young man who is not afraid to ask questions, learn from his mistakes, teach others what he already knows, always has a great attitude, and is absolutely great to work with." Thank you Gordon for your service to our parish and the example you set for others, both young and old!

Free Throw Challenge



Council 4764 recently held the Knights of Columbus's annual Free Throw Challenge at St. Joseph School Gym in Lake Orion. Fr. Jim Kean, Moderator at St. Joseph Church, demonstrated his skill along with all contestants. This year's winners were: Olive Groff, Gianna Groff, Danny Groff, and Michael Groff – from the same family, Caleb Laudan, and Gabriel Karaba. The winners will now compete at the district level to be held March 2 at Everest Academy, Clarkston.

Caleb Laudan is congratulated by his father Steve and Past Grand Knight Tim Yoder

MICHIGAN COLUMBIAN PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

COPY DEADLINE	MONTH
MARCH 1st..... APRIL 2024
JUNE 1st..... JULY 2024
SEPTEMBER 1st.....OCTOBER 2024
DECEMBER 1st..... JANUARY 2024

PLEASE SEND ALL COPY MATERIAL TO:
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 STERLING HEIGHTS, MI. 48310
 RES. 586-939-3886



Online Membership



A Program for Recruiting and Engaging New Members



Lead with Faith Protect Your Family Serve Others Defend Your Values

MICHIGAN STATE COUNCIL CONTACTS

These directors and coordinators can provide additional information about E-membership:

Doug Kokot, State E-Membership Director
d.kokot@mikofc.org 616-891-6922.

Richard Shelt State Membership Director
r.shelt@mikofc.org

YES I wish to enroll in the Guild and to receive the newsletter. Name
 Address
 City/State/Country
 Please list below the names and addresses of any family or friend who might be interested in the Guild's work.
 Name
 Address City/State/Country
 Name
 Address City/State/
 MONTHLY MASS FOR GUILD MEMBERS

**Michigan K of C "Endowed Scholarship Fund"
Sacred Heart Major Seminary**

**This Endowed Scholarship Fund Pledge for ten years at
Sacred Heart Major Seminary,
\$100,000.00 a year
For Knights of Columbus seminarians with financial need.**

**At \$6.00 a year per brother knight, we are in need this year.
Please donate by the attached QR code.**



Questions – Kenneth Unterbrink, PSD
k.unterbrink@mikofc.org
734-649-4653 cell

Disability Inclusion Workshop

Almost every council and assembly has at least one brother knight who has a disability.

Each brother knight knows the pull to grow in faith and the desire to feel a sense of belonging that is satisfied by our Order. The same is true for people in our home parishes. As a blind man who has served as Grand Knight and Faithful Navigator, I know the satisfaction that comes with fully participating in activities of the Order.

For decades we have raised and given money to many charities that support people with disabilities. And we have made improvements at our Churches to Allow the disabled to enter our buildings.

However, there is room for improvement. We can learn methods that allow our brother knights to more fully participate in our meetings and activities. Also, we can help our fellow parishioners be part of parish life.

On October 19th a day long conference will be by clergy, theologians, and academics who each have a disability. The event is being done in collaboration with the National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities (NCPD) an organization the Knights have funded for decades.

The speakers will be those with various disabilities from the deaf to wheelchair users. In this way knights can understand such things as a Mass that is celebrated by a priest with a disability. And provide a means to develop leadership skills by our fellow parishioners with a disability.

If you would be willing to help with the organization and facilitating this event I do need the help of you brother knights.

Please contact me at
bobthebrailleur@yahoo.com
or 810 334 0512

Faith In Action

humble ourselves and ask for Her sons help. The Power of Prayer is very real and has been proved time and time again through the centuries. Now my Brothers and Sisters it is our turn to step forward and change the world. Below is from Cardinal Burke, all you have to do is sign up and prayers will be delivered to you in your email. You will receive Spiritual Nourishment every month, emails from His Eminence with encouragement and spiritual direction along the journey of this Novena, leading up to the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Please my Brothers and Sisters, join Cardinal Burke and myself in praying this Novena. We can make a difference! Through the Power of Prayer.

novena@cardinalburke.com

Guadalupe on 12 Dec. 2024.

The cardinal is not the only one embracing social media platforms as a way to reach Catholics – it is also happening at the level of the diocese.

An online Lenten prayer campaign by the Archdiocese of Southwark has proved a significant success and was seen by over 1.5 million social media users in its first week.

Given the popularity and reach of Cardinal Burke, his novena initiative could inspire even more people online to join him in prayer.

In 1531, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Juan Diego, an Aztec who converted to Christianity, notes Vatican News. At that time Mexico was shaken by violence and continuous violations of human rights and dignity.

“When Juan Diego opened his tilma and roses poured out, a miracle was set into motion,” the cardinal’s website notes. “The miracle continues with our participation in this historic prayer event to Our Lady.”

(Photo: Screenshot of Cardinal Burke from www.novena.cardinalburke.com.)

Pax

Bob Bagley

State Faith Director

Pray for and Love each other

Au Lac Council 10724 Outdoor Knights Event



Au Lac Council 10724 held their third annual Outdoor Knights event on March 2nd at The Knight Club in Marysville. Over 500 people attended the event which included a catered dinner plus numerous silent auction prizes and 50/50 drawings. This is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the council which supports their many charitable programs and activities throughout the year. Additional photos of the event can be found on the Au Lac Council 10724 Facebook page.

May They Rest In Peace

Ann Arbor Council 587

Thomas Clark, PSD, FVSM

West Branch Council 2022

James Grover, Charles Rau

Warren Council 2835

Fr. Dennis Nowinski

Chesaning Council 2943

Robert Wright, U. Duane Wenzlick

Robert Giesken, Kenneth Henige

Lincoln Park Council 3078

Victor Campbell, Charles Steele

Joseph Massella, Lionel St. Onge

Rev. Gerald Cupple, Francis Smith

Alvin Grundy

Utica Council 2950

Robert Rogensues, II

Fremont Council 3111

Paul Burke

Allen Park Council 3774

Ron Fix, FDD, David Kozlowski

Donald Kerutis, Art Orlowski

Dennis Hayes

Concklin Council 4404

Carl Dunn

Grand Blanc Council 6742

Steve Sprett, FDD

Jension Council 7487

Douglas Leatherman

South Lyon Council 7586

Joseph Betz, David Klette

Temperance Council 8902

Ralph Wenski

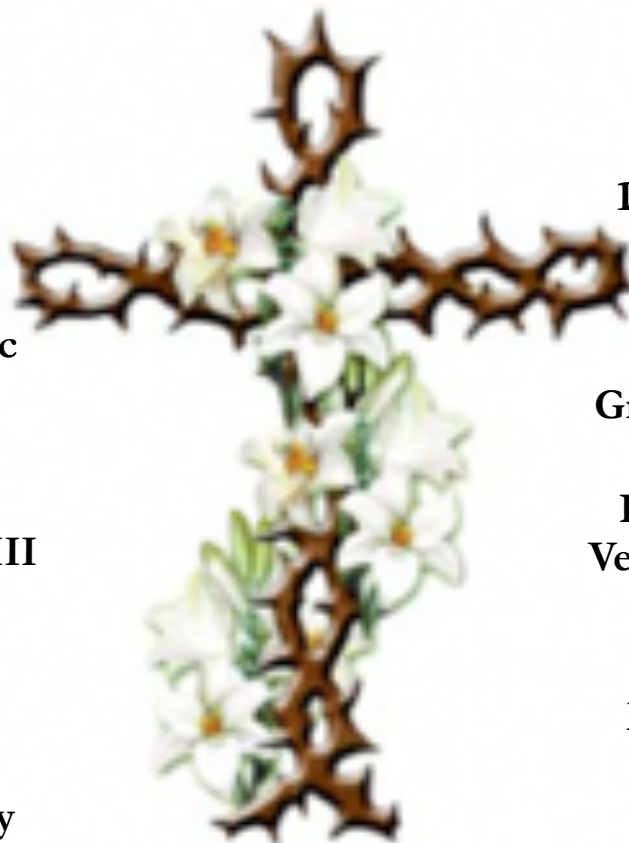
20 April 2024

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AND BLESS YOUR LIFE**



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