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Barry M. Borsenik
State Deputy



My Brother Knights and Ladies,

The speed of progress. This was a theme in my last round of diocesan meetings that hits me with multiple meanings today. When I see how fast, big things can be accomplished, I am inspired. We see ideas and concepts turn into real products and systems with lightning speed. Major organizational changes are implemented in a few short months. Geopolitical changes occur in days. Longstanding routines are displaced overnight with new technology. All this stands in contrast to the difficulty and slow pace of change we sometimes experience in our councils. Fear often keeps us from getting started on a project or taking on a new role. The best entrepreneurs don't wait for conditions to be perfect. They just get started! It's amazing how movement forward creates clarity. Adjustments are easier to make while in-motion. People will fall in behind you to help when you previously didn't think anyone wanted to participate. Others will support you if you have the courage to lead. My second perspective on speed, is how fast the last eight years has gone! In a few short months I will conclude my term as State Deputy and it seems like Mandy and I were just discussing the decision to run for state office! God only gives us so much time. If you have been hesitating but have talent and desire to contribute, don't wait. Get involved now. Start something. Lead the way.

State Deputy is only a borrowed title and I've been blessed to be its custodian for a short while. After elections at the upcoming convention we will facilitate an orderly transition to continue the great work of the Order in Michigan. Thanks to all who attended the State Deputy's Membership Tribute Dinner in February. I was flattered by the accolades but know the accomplishments of our state are a result of the many individuals who agreed to take on a leadership role and the councils and general membership that gets the work done where it matters, at a local level. I am so grateful to all of you who agreed to be part of my administration and believed in the principles of S.O.A.R. as we tried to provide inspiration, guidance and support. Our work is not yet finished! There is still much to do before the end of the fraternal year.

Among many other things, there are two major priorities I still want to address: this Michigan Columbian quarterly newsletter, and state per capita dues. First, the costs of printing and postage has made distributing a printed copy of this newsletter extremely expensive. While we have, for years, invited members to opt into receiving the newsletter electronically, the time has come to make the transition to a new standard. A mailed paper copy of the newsletter will become the exception. A printed copy may still be available to those who are not equipped, nor comfortable with an online version. We will work to create a process for converting your mailing address to an email or text notification when the new issue is available. Look for further details in this, and future issues. An online format that is readable on different screens such as a laptop, tablet, or cell phone will improve readership, allow for more dynamic content including links to other sources and more detail, and feedback for readers to contribute responses or content. If you are interested in helping with this endeavor, please contact me.

Secondly, the cumulative inflation for the last four years is over 11%. This affects the cost of everything from office supplies to travel expenses. Michigan generously provides reimbursement including mileage for all State, Regional and Diocesan Directors on approved or official travel. District Deputies are also reimbursed for travel expenses not covered by Supreme. While we have become much better at using tools like online meetings, and we are cautious to avoid unnecessary expenses, in-person participation often provides the best support for mentoring, training and leadership participation. The affiliate membership program and E-membership along with an increasing average age has significantly cut into the number of dues-paying members. A thorough study of state expenses in comparison to income from dues is underway and a recommendation will probably be made at the state convention for a reasonable increase. Your own councils may be drawing the same conclusion. More on this will be communicated prior to the convention.

Finally, Mandy and I are humbled by your generosity and the Love expressed in Charity toward us and to others. We know how many of you are working hard toward the success of the Michigan jurisdiction and the growth of our Order. Thank you to our faithful Eagle Committee and many others who have traveled with us on this journey. May you all be blessed these coming months with an appreciation of this fraternity, a determination to speed up the pace of progress and a pledge to SOAR with us as we continue our commitment to the work of fulfilling the vision of Blessed Father Michael McGivney.

Fraternally and gratefully,
Barry Borsenik
Your State Deputy

Fr. Patrick O'Kelley #3860 Mass and Memorial Service



The November 2025 Fr. Patrick O'Kelley #3860 Mass and Memorial Service at Dearborn Sacred Heart Church was special in that one of the 28 Brothers engraved on the Chalice was Dn Pat Bruen. His son, newly ordained Fr Pat Bruen, was gifted the Chalice during the Offertory. Families whose loved ones names are engraved on the Chalice were deeply moved to participate in the Chalice's inaugural

use. Sir Knights of Msgr Schulte 0492 Color Corps ensured the Mass and Memorial Service was extra special. The event concluded with a coffee and donut reception. (Fr Bruen graduated from Sacred Heart High School in 1975, and he recognized many of the names on the Chalice.

Programs = New Members



The “Knight” Light

One of the most memorable moments of the liturgical year is the procession of the easter candle during the Easter vigil. The Church begins in darkness. The Easter candle, representing Jesus himself, is lit, showing us that he is the one light capable of bringing radiance to the gloomy world of sin and death. That one light begins to spread throughout the Church as the candles of those in attendance are lit. This is the power of Jesus’ death and resurrection. Only he is capable of bringing a conquering light to the world.

In the *Exultet* the light is extolled, “But now we know the praises of this pillar, which glowing fire ignites for God’s honor, a fire into many flames divided, yet never dimmed by sharing of its light.”

By virtue of our baptism, we are given a share in this light of Christ. We only stay lit by remaining rooted in the source of the light, Jesus himself. When we do, we can begin with our own small candle to bring the light of Christ to a world blinded by indifference, despair, and unbelief.

In the encyclical, *The Light of Faith*, (Begun by Pope Benedict XVI and finished by Pope Francis), we hear, “There is an urgent need, then, to see once again that faith is a light, for once the flame of faith dies out, all other lights begin to dim. The light of faith is unique, since it is capable of illuminating *every aspect* of human existence. A light this powerful cannot come from ourselves but from a more primordial source: in a word, it must come from God. Faith is born of an encounter with the living God who calls us and reveals his love” (*Lumen Fidei* 1).

God can do so much when we come to him with a humble, confident, and sincere faith. When a light is turned on it helps us make sense of our surroundings. The light of faith is not a private light in which some things are illuminated and others not. Faith illumines every aspect of our life. Our work, our family, our joys, our sorrows, our thoughts, our actions, our hopes and dreams, are all illumined by this light.

The encyclical reminds us that our faith is about an encounter with the living God. God is real. He is here with me at my side. Faith does not only illumine what I am to think or how I am to live. Faith is a light enabling me to see the face of Jesus gazing upon my face. To know his deep love for me and to surrender myself to him. If you have never done so, I encourage you to pray for an experience of the Lord’s love for you. We must never tire of resting in his love. If we want to witness to Christ like Peter or Paul, then we must pray to let ourselves be loved by Christ like Peter and Paul.

As my time of service as State Chaplain draws to a close this June, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to State Deputy Barry Borsenik and the entire state board. Their dedication to serving our Lord and serving all of you is very edifying to me. I thank you for your dedication to the Church. Thank you for being lights in the world. Keep it up! I thank you for upholding the sanctity of life from womb to tomb, for defending marriage and family, for assisting vocations, for caring for the poor, and for all the many ways in which you bring the light of Christ to the world.

I especially wish to thank you for being a light for your priests. I wrote before about the knights holding up the arms of the priest like Aaron and Hur holding up the arms of Moses (Exodus 17). When his arms are up the battle goes well. When they are down it does not. Moses needed those arms to be held up so that he could be the intercessor on behalf of the people. When we support our priests through our prayer, encouragement, cooperation, and initiative, we are helping not only them but the whole Church whom they are called to shepherd and love.

My call to you all is to keep the “Knight” light on. To persevere in fidelity to Jesus through your words and actions. Be faithful to your baptismal call to holiness and mission. Always be ready to respond to Jesus’ call, “Repent and believe in the Gospel.” The light of Christ beckons to your soul and asks, “Will you let me light your heart with the fire of my love?” When we let him do that, then we, like Blessed Michael McGivney our beloved founder, will bring that light we have received to the world loved and redeemed by Jesus Christ.

Vivat Jesus!

Father Andrew LaFramboise

Michigan State Council Knights of Columbus

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RESPECT LIFE
48th Annual Benefit Dinner

right to life Knights of Columbus

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Social Hour at 6:00 p.m. | Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

San Marino Club
1685 E. Big Beaver, Troy, Michigan

Reservations
\$65 Per Person | \$595 Per Table of 10
Sponsorships available

Special Guest Speaker
Margo Damoase, Pro-Life Advocate

More Information
Please contact Brad Smith
respectlife@nrl.org | (248) 765-8717



Scan the QR code
to register.

Thank you to all councils that took the opportunity to participate in the Join ASAP Supreme Council Incentive program. Through your efforts you provided an additional gift to your selected pregnancy resource center and bringing men into our Order.

Knights of Columbus Join ASAP - Council Incentive

Provide life saving support to women and children in your community - join ASAP!

From The State Secretary
Charles E. Mc Cuen, III



My Brother Knights and Ladies,

Two of my most regular activities as State Secretary are processing checks I receive 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 make 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 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.

Expense reports we receive 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 amazed at how many checks I mail 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 we value as Catholics 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 in the name of charity.

The State Convention is just around the corner, and I have only a couple more months as your State Secretary. I know the lessons I have learned over the last eight years as a state officer will allow me to continue my quest to make the Michigan Jurisdiction a driving force in the Order. I look forward to continuing our great traditions, answering the call where knights are needed, and bringing new ideas, energy and inspiration that can come with leadership change.

Vivat Jesus

State Secretary,
Charlie McCuen

From The State Membership Director
Douglas Kokot

Greetings Brothers and Ladies:

As we start the fourth quarter of the fraternal year, I want to thank all of you for your efforts on membership growth in the jurisdiction of Michigan.

Spring brings new life and growth—an invitation for us, as Knights of Columbus, to renew our commitment to faith, fraternity, and service. Let us embrace this season as a time to grow our Order, strengthen our councils, and invite more Catholic men to share in the mission. Together, with God's grace, we will continue to build a heritage of charity and brotherhood, helping us to SOAR to new heights.

Taking the time to extend the gift of Knighthood to another Catholic man is an invitation that reaches beyond him to bless his entire family. Through meaningful fellowship, shared faith, and opportunities for spiritual growth, you help strengthen not only him but the Church and community as a whole. In doing so, you play a vital role in preserving and advancing the proud legacy of the Knights of Columbus for generations to come.

Pope Leo XIV Quote: Video Message given at the 143rd Supreme Convention "This year's Convention has the timely theme of "Heralds of Hope," reminding all Knights of Columbus of the invitation to be signs of hope in your local communities, parishes, and families. In this regard, I commend your efforts to bring together men in your communities for prayer, formation, and fraternity, as well as the many charitable efforts of your local Councils throughout the world. In particular, your generous service to vulnerable populations, including the unborn, pregnant mothers, children, those who are less fortunate, and those affected by the scourge of war, brings hope and healing to many and continues the noble legacy of your founder."

The Knights of Columbus is a tangible way that a man can put his faith into action, by serving our parishes and our community and living up to Pope Leo XIV's challenge "to be a sign of hope". We need to give every Catholic man the same opportunity to put his faith into action. Inviting a man to join our Order not only strengthens us, it also strengthens him.

Becoming a Knight of Columbus gives a man the opportunity to:

- Strengthen prayer life through fellowship rooted in the Catholic faith
- Reinforce the family by bringing families together in faith and action
- Serve others in concrete, impactful ways that reflect Christ's call
- Support the parish community when it needs it most
- Grow in brotherhood with men committed to living out charity, unity, and fraternity
- Put faith into action by turning belief into service

The Knights of Columbus does more than serve through charity. Through Cor and other faith-filled opportunities, we strengthen our relationship with Christ. That spiritual growth shapes us into better men—more faithful husbands, devoted fathers, loving sons, and supportive uncles.

Remember, we don't grow membership because of quotas or awards... We grow our membership because we want to give other Catholic men the same opportunity for faith growth and fraternal friendships that we all enjoy. The more Knights that join our ranks, increases the overall impact that we can have on our Church, community, and the world.

Let me close with another quote from Pope Leo XIV:

"The gift of friendship brings us back to Jesus himself. To have the ability to develop authentic friendships in life is beautiful. Without a doubt, friendship is one of the most wonderful gifts that God has given us."

I am truly thankful for all the wonderful friends I have made through the Knights of Columbus!

As always, thank you for all you do to grow our Order!

Fraternally

Douglas D. Kokot
Douglas Kokot

State Membership Director , Michigan Knights of Columbus

Keep Christ in Christmas

As Knights We can Share this Message with our Parish and our Community.

For More Information and a Complete Product Listing Visit our Website at
<https://www.kciemichigan.org>

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <p>Christmas Cards</p> | <p>Yard Signs</p> | <p>Banners</p> | <p>Car Magnets</p> |
| <p>Billboards</p> | | <p>And More</p> | |

Raise Funds for Charitable Needs
College and Religious Vocations Scholarships
Right To Life – Tomb of The Unborn
Catholic Schools – Parish Religious Education
Habitat For Humanity – Prison Ministry
And many more...

Raise funds for your community while also becoming a part of the evangelization effort of spreading the true meaning of Christmas – the birth of Jesus Christ. Give your parishioners the opportunity to participate by sending a personal spiritual Christmas greeting and displaying messages of *Keep Christ in Christmas* with Christmas Cards, Magnets, Bumper Stickers, Seals, Yard Signs and more.

Keep Christ in Christmas / Michigan
a Family Friendly Fundraising Idea.

316 Woodhaven Dr. Lansing, MI 48917
— 517.321.2422 —

From The State Program Director
Matt Wierzgac

My Brother Knights and Ladies,

Vivat Jesus and Greetings! I hope all is well and you are staying warm! Spring is here, and hopefully that means warmer weather!

During this Holy Week, please remember the purpose of Lent and that is to renew and strengthen our faith with prayer, fasting, almsgiving, self-denial, and repentance. It is to prepare our hearts for the miracle of Easter!

I want to thank all the councils who submitted an entry for the State Program Award, Family of the Year, and State Blessed Michael McGivney Awards! Our State Directors and I will be reviewing each of them in the coming week.

Winners will be recognized at the State Convention in Mackinac Island in May during the Awards Ceremony. Winners of the State Programs Award and Family of the Year will also get submitted to Supreme for a chance to win at the Supreme level. Remember the last couple years, Michigan had a program win a Supreme Award and had a Family of the Year chosen as the Supreme Family of the Year a couple years ago. I look forward to announcing all the winners soon.

Great work everyone and thank you for participating. It isn't too early to start thinking about programs to submit for next year. If your council is doing a notable program or multiple programs between April of this year on to next fraternal year, consider submitting it next year.

Thank you to all the councils who took advantage of Supreme's recent incentive with Membership growth & the ASAP Program! That extra \$250 for each council who successfully satisfied the incentive will go a long way with the pregnancy clinic, and I am sure they will be very grateful for the extra amount. **For those councils who still haven't participated in the ASAP program, we want to continue to encourage you to participate.** Our State Life Director is asking that **all active councils participate and has labeled the efforts as "ASAP100"**. Although the minimum council donation is still \$500 to get an additional \$100 from Supreme, any donation will be accepted. And any donation amount will get your council 1 credit towards the Life category for the Columbian Award. Even if its only \$25 or \$50. If you have any questions, please reach out to our State Life Director or me.

Our Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest was a great success! Our Worthy State Family Director was flooded with entries for all qualifying ages! Winners will be announced on a Constant Contact and email! Thank you to all who participated!

We had our State Spelling Bee and Free Throw Contest in March! We had a great turnout with participants flooding from all areas of our great state!

Our State Hockey challenge will be on Saturday, May 30th, and it will be held at Holy Redeemer Parish in Jenison. I strongly recommend and encourage that councils hold a competition. If District Deputies want to hold a district level competition, they are welcome and encouraged to do so as well. If participation levels are good, we will likely have a diocesan level challenge as well. If not, council/district winners will be permitted to participate in the state level. If you have any questions on how to run a hockey challenge, you can contact me or our State Community Director.

It isn't too early to start thinking about programs for next year. Programs such as the soccer challenge. Typically, this event is held in the July/August timeframe with councils. You can get materials and information from the kofc.org website. Consider promoting these kinds of programs that our youth can participate in.

Just a friendly reminder to submit those 10784's as soon as possible after the event has been completed. I know it's very easy to forget a lot of the finer details as time goes on, so considering making it easier, please spend 15-20 minutes and get it done.

Thank you to my State Faith in Action Team for all the hard work you do daily! You help drive this great state by leading this great organization by doing great things! Keep up the hard work!

Continued on page

Ladies Corner

Dear Ladies,

We have so much to be thankful for. First of all, thank you to everyone who attended the annual Tribute Dinner in Saginaw, to honor State Deputy, and my husband, Barry Borsenik. It was also a night to celebrate the councils who were presented deserving awards for their hard work and dedication.

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 126th Annual State Convention.

Almost two years ago, I shared an initiative called "Be The Change" at the Ladies Program at the Summer Leadership meeting and I hoped that our ladies would embrace it. I asked ladies to do something good that would make a difference in the world. It could be something as simple as shopping for the elderly, making a casserole for a meal for someone, help stock parish food pantries, etc. I just wanted to emphasize the power of individual actions and the responsibility of bringing about desired changes in the world. During my two years as First Lady of Michigan, I have enjoyed receiving updates and stories of how you have helped "be the change". I hope this initiative will continue on.

It is never too early to remind everyone of our annual charity raffle at the State Convention, with proceeds going once again to Holy Cross Services. **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, Kara Fuller, who is responsible for the raffle this year. She can be reached at (248) 894-7082 or at k.fuller@mikofc.org**

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers these last two years and supporting us.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the 126th State Convention on the beautiful Mackinac Island

God Bless,

Mandy, Pam, Christy, Kara, JanMarie and Julie

Outdoor Knights



Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township held their 4th annual Outdoor Knights event at Zuccaro's in Chesterfield on March 7th. It was a great success as



all 650 tickets were sold. Everyone enjoyed a delicious dinner and there were numerous prizes for bidding along with multiple 50/50 drawings throughout the evening with each one paying out \$1000 to the winner. This is the council's biggest fundraiser by far each year and makes their many programs and charitable donations possible.

Charitable Contribution Deduction Change

In 2017 congress passed a bill that changed the tax code which discouraged charitable giving relative to prior tax law. This past year the Congress passed changes to the United States tax code that opens a new opportunity for charitable contributions. One of these changes creates a charitable contributions deduction for taxpayers who do not elect to itemize. This will now allow non-itemizers to claim a deduction of up to \$1,000 for single filers or \$2,000 for married taxpayers filing jointly for certain cash charitable contributions. This would most likely include 501(c)(3) U.S. nonprofit organizations recognized by the IRS as tax-exempt for charitable, educational, religious, scientific, or literary purposes.

It is suggested that members who make charitable cash contributions throughout the year begin to keep track of these donations, or ensure that the recipients of the donations send an annual report of your donations to you. Depending on your financial situation you may be able to take advantage of this new change in the law. As always it is best to contact your financial advisor or tax preparer for complete and up to date information.

Thomas M. Wegener, PSD, FSD

Bishop Joseph H Albers Council 4090



On February 24th Bishop Joseph H Albers Council 4090 in Davison held an Exemplification and welcomed 6 new members.

New members Left to Right:

Randy Leach, Justin Blaska, Tony Frias, Jacob Fain, Aaron Smith, John DiMambro.

Council officers in back left to right:

Mark Corcoran, membership chairman, Dan Johnson, Gary Lehr PGK, Ted Miles PGK, Dave Verellen, Tom St. Martin, Fr. Dieudonne Ntakarutimana Council Chaplain.

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Luminary Lighting



On January 22nd, St Patrick White Lake Council 13319 helped support St Patrick Parish's Day of Prayer for the Protection of Unborn Children on the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision. Luminaries were lit along the nearby cemetery by our Brother Knights and afterwards a special rosary for life published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops was said in the church. The rosary reflected on the Luminous Mysteries and was offered as a prayer for all life from conception to natural death.

Council 13319 has been involved in this event for over 25 years. We are thankful to all who participated in making this the important event that it is every year for our parish.



Community Update

In January, 30 essays were received from students from all over the state The theme this year was: out of the 267 popes that have led the Catholic Church, who are your three favorite popes and why? Essays were well written many contained some creative insight. The winners were Arianna Boukouris (Council 4401), Violet Osantowski (Council 13983), Michael Mondry (Council 13983), William Laprise (Council 13983), and Sienna Nguyen (Council 13983) 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 will be held in Essexville and the State Free Throw Finals will be held in Mt. Pleasant.

We will be holding the State Hockey Challenge on May 30 in Jenison MI. Councils and Districts are encouraged to hold their respective events by the end of April. There will be more information to come.

I have received 1 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 the great programs that you have been doing throughout the year.

Don't forget, every program that you do is a recruitment opportunity.

My wife, Jennifer, and I hope to see you all at the convention in May.

Larry J Herman

State Community Director

Calling All Councils for Aid & Support After Pregnancy (ASAP100)



What is ASAP 100?

ASAP100 represents *100% of active council's participation* in the Aid & Support After Pregnancy program during the 2025 – 2026 fraternal year. This is a commitment by all District Deputies on behalf of their respective councils.

Where Do We Stand?

Councils in the State are behind the 50% mark for ASAP participation. Remember, donations can be made for the \$500 level for Supreme Council grant donations.

Where do I find out more information about the ASAP program?

Additional information about the ASAP program can be found on the Supreme Council website at [11371 Aid and Support Guide Book](#) and the on-line form at [Aid and Support After Pregnancy \(ASAP\) Grant Request Application](#).

What if I have additional questions regarding ASAP100?

Contact Ed Strach, State Life Director at 734-476-6296 or e.strach@mikofc.org; your district deputy or diocesan program director.

Lake Orion K of C Brings Together Generations



The Lake Orion K of C Christmas party brought together many of our council's Knights including our oldest Knight Dr Williams (93 years young) and our youngest Knight William Ebbert (17 ½ years old). We shared a memorable evening with good food, good music, & a Secret Santa exchange.

Programs = New Members

**Knights of Columbus
Memorial Plaque Application 2026**

Memorial Plaque: A beautiful and lasting remembrance is to have your loved one enrolled in the Knights of Columbus Vocations Committee Memorial Society Plaque, which now hang in the chapel of Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. Memorial plaques can be obtained for a tax-deductible gift of \$25 a line – maximum of four lines per plaque (\$100).

APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OCTOBER 16, 2026



PLEASE ALLOW FOR US POST OFFICE TIME, MAIL EARLY

K of C Memorial Mass at Sacred Heart Major Seminary

Sunday November 8, 2026 @ 10:00 am

Families of these brother Knights and friends are invited to attend the Memorial Mass

Those enrolled will share in the daily Masses, prayers, and good works of the Priests and Seminarians of Sacred Heart.

Proceeds from this ongoing fundraiser go to aid students studying for religious vocations that are in need of help.

In Memory of _____ Date of death _____
 Gift of \$ _____ Requested By _____
 Street: _____ Telephone _____
 City: _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Email Address: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: DAVL

MAIL TO: Michael Cousins
 Davl Memorial Mass Chairman
 30001 Camden Circle
 Chesterfield, MI 48051

Applicants will be contacted for multiple line engraving information

Knights of Columbus use only: Rec'd \$ _____ Date _____
 Applications available at: MikofC.org/resources/manuals and documentation/Council Materials
 in the Michigan Columbian or
 Contact: Mike Cousins at m.cousins@mikofc.org 586-610-6497
 Sponsored by the Detroit Archdiocesan Vocations League.

DAVL Memorial Plaque Samples

Sample one line name: Just the name and date of death.

Vincent R. Beauvais 2-18-2024

Sample two line name: Name, date of death and any other expression.

Brother Joseph M Naujokas 5-23-2024
 St. Francis of Assisi Council 4401

Sample Four line names:

A:
 Rev. James L. Bjorum 10/30/1947 to 10/23/23
 Rest in Peace Fr. Jim
 Devoted to those he served, Chaplain K of C 3725
 Faithful Servant of God, Pastor Our Lady of Hope

B:
 Chuck Hoste 7-19-2024
 Loved by all
 Friend to many
 Loving Husband, Father Grandfather

C:
 In Loving Memory of
 Michael J. Mullan 5-7-2023
 Son of Jeremiah and Eileen Mullan
 Brother to John, Patricia, Dennis

John Cardinal Dearden Council 744



Brothers - attached is a picture from the regional spelling bee held at St. Peter's church by Council 744.

This was held on Saturday morning February 7th - the picture shows the winners of the different age groups and members of the knights of columbus team.

Au Lac Council 10724 - July-December 2025 Youth of the Month Award Winners Dinner



Pictured L-R: Grand Knight Mark Kehoe; Claire Rom; Andrew Doppke; Christopher Rom; Marie Arant; Landon Tokarski; DGK/PD Brian Webster. Not Available: Christian Davis; Austin Lada

Au Lac Council 10724 hosted a pizza dinner for the July-December 2025 Youth of the Month Award winners on January 30th. Fr. Joseph Esper gave a blessing to the winners and their families before dinner. DGK/PD Brian Webster shared the history of the program which started in January 2023. Since then the council has honored over 36 youths in grades 3-12 for demonstrating their Catholic faith through service to their school, church and communities.

St Catherine of Siena Council 6980 - Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser



Council 6980 in Portage MI, held our 4th annual fundraising event on January 24th. It was a fun and tasteful event attended by both parishioners and guests. We had 15 cooks providing a huge variety of flavors and recipes. With over 200 people in a attendance, \$2600 was raised providing funds which will be distributed to support a number of upcoming church and Catholic Charities projects. Also sampling the variety of chilis were special guests



Bishop Edward Lohse, Fr. Bob Creagan, Fr. Andrew Schmidt and our own Fr. Mark Vyverman who enjoyed the food, laughter and community with us all.

Msgr. Kromenaker Council 2251



Msgr. Kromenaker Council 2251 in St. Clair hosted a District 118 Exemplification on February 19 with two new members added to our Order. Congratulations to Dalton Smith, who joined Our Lady on the River Council 856, and Larry Rekowski who joined Au Lac Council 10724. Thank you to the Council 2251 Degree Team and District Deputy Matt Hoxsie for installing the new members.

The Chance for a First Chance

By: Ed Strach, Life Director

We've all heard of people being given a second chance in life. Maybe people have been given a third chance. These second and third chances in life may come from some wrong that's been done or mistake that's been made. Or maybe they have come from recovering from a serious illness like a heart attack or cancer. It doesn't matter why; people are given second and third chances often.

Can you imagine not given a first chance in life?

The unborn, who we often call the voiceless, are in the hands of their parents who will ultimately determine if they get a first chance in life. Unfortunately, millions of parents have decided their child will not get this first chance.

Through the actions of our councils, we have provided the unborn with their first chance in life through placements of Ultrasound units, volunteering at local pregnancy centers or maternity homes, participating in the Aid & Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) program, continued support of our pro-life partners, and prayer.

Here's a quick look at our efforts to provide the first chance in life:

Ultrasound Unit Placements: Presently, 105 Ultrasound units have been placed and dedicated throughout the State, with another five Ultrasound unit placements underway. These ultrasound units provide parents the opportunity to see their child in utero which increases the chance of more unborn being given a first chance in life.

Volunteering: Our members should not underestimate the importance of volunteering at local pregnancy centers or maternity homes. When visiting local pregnancy centers, I am always amazed at the number of volunteers needed to help sustain their daily operations. Being a volunteer at these centers can help provide the unborn that first chance in life.

ASAP: The Aid & Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) program now provides pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes with the resources to continue their operations as well as providing resources to parents that have given their child the first chance in life. You aide these newborns given their first chance in life when you donate monetarily or with daily donations like diapers, wipes, car seats, and cribs.



Remember, District Deputies unanimously committed to 100% active council participation in the ASAP program this fraternal year. If your council has yet to participate in the ASAP program this fraternal year, **NOW is the time to act and submit your council's donation through the ASAP Grant Application process.**

Pro-life Partnerships: Our partnerships with Right to Life MI, Protect Life MI, 40 Days for Life, Sidewalk Advocates for Life, and the Livingston County Ultrasound Initiative all provide opportunities to take a stand and lead with other pro-life organizations that in their own way help to provide the unborn their first chance in life.

Prayer: At the core of our efforts to give a child their first chance is prayer. Below are few ideas, including new Supreme Council programs, that councils can use to promote and share with fellow Knights and parishioners to keep the importance of life through prayer at the forefront.

The Holy Hour for Life with Our Lady of Guadalupe program calls upon councils to organize adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and ask for Our Lady of Guadalupe's intercession for the pro-life cause.



The Gospel of Life program encourages Knights to educate themselves and others on the sanctity of life from conception to natural death. The goal of the program is to equip Catholic men and their parish communities with the knowledge they need to defend human life.

Novena for Life: Lead your community in the spiritual fight to establish a culture of life.

continued on page 9

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Meet the Seminarians Dinner



On January 10, 2026, St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 hosted its annual Meet the Seminarians fundraising dinner. Approximately 100 parishioners attended this special evening to share a meal and show their support for vocations to the priesthood. This year, we were blessed to welcome six seminarians, who shared their personal journeys and how they answered God's call to pursue their vocations, followed by a Q&A session. Thanks to the generous support of those who attended the dinner as well as parishioners who contributed through donations, the event raised a record \$10,800, with all proceeds benefiting the seminarians to help offset the cost of their education.

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

Sterling Heights, MI – The Knights of Columbus Council 7011 recently completed its eighth annual 2025 Pro-Life Poster Contest, themed “Life is a Gift,” with an awards ceremony on February 1, 2026.

The Pro-Life Poster Contests have engaged and involved more than sixty young pro-lifers over the years, many of whom have become repeat participants. With over \$3,200 awarded to the winners since 2018, these contests are an important annual event for the middle and high school age young people at Ss. Cyril & Methodius, the Council's host parish. The St. Nicholas Council held an awards ceremony to honor the winners, with many students, family members, parishioners and Knights in attendance. As in the past, the Knights of the St. Nicholas Council are grateful to all the participants in the competition, especially the winners and their families, for their continued support of this important contest. The Knights look forward to the Ninth Annual Pro-Life Contest at the end of the year.

This Pro-life contest for the youth of the parish is a companion effort to the Council's annual Baby Bottle Campaign, which over the same period has provided approximately \$101,000 to various local Detroit area pro-life organizations, including approximately \$16,000 additionally from the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council.

Au Lac Council 10724 Youth of the Month - January 2026



Pictured L-R: Mark Kehoe (Grand Knight); Ian Szabelski; Fr. Joseph Esper (Pastor - Immaculate Conception Parish)

Congratulations to Ian Szabelski on being chosen as our Youth of the Month for January! Ian is the son of Tom and Nancy Szabelski and is a 6th grader at Immaculate Conception School where he is on the JV Basketball team, the Principal's List (Honor Roll), is a School Ambassador at Open House and is a frequent Altar Server for school and weekend Mass. Ian is often found volunteering at numerous events here at Immaculate Conception like the Lenten Fish Fry, IC Parish Festival and the Horn of Plenty. We thank Ian for sharing his faith through service to his parish, school and community!

From The State Program Director Matt Wierzgac

I also want to continue encouraging everyone to keep up the good work, stay motivated, and promote the faith by putting our Catholic Faith into ACTION! **Don't forget to invite those men who haven't been asked yet to join us.** By inviting men to join us, we can continue the legacy of Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney who was inspired by the Holy Spirit to not only support the widows in need, but to also be a holy man of God! I am looking forward to finishing the fraternal year on a very strong and positive note. If you ever need any guidance or have any questions, please feel free to contact me or my faith in action team!

I look forward to seeing you at our State Convention in May! Lastly, I want to thank our Worthy State Deputy for his leadership and dedication to this great order and to the Michigan Jurisdiction! Boy, these 2 years went by very quickly. I also want to thank our Worthy State Deputy for asking me to serve as his State Program Director these last 2 years! This position has been challenging at times but also has been a great teaching moment and experience of learning and growth as a leader, something I will always be grateful for! I hope to practice what I learned in the future for both my spiritual and personal life, but also my professional life as well. Thank you!

VIVAT JESUS!

Matthew J. Wierzgac
State Program Director

Baby Bottle Campaign



During the last week of October, 2025 through the second week of November 2025 A Baby Bottle Campaign was conducted at Holy Spirit Parish in Menominee, MI. The parishioners of Holy Spirit along with the Knights of Columbus Menominee Council #646 raised \$1,378.35 for the Bay Area Pregnancy Services located in Marinette, WI.

Bay Area pregnancy Services is a Community based not-for-profit organization that exemplifies a life – affirming culture that promotes and defends the God-given value of all human persons.

B.A.P.S. offers:

- One-on-one and Family Life-Affirming Mentoring
- Parenting Education, with 275 + Bright Course Class Options.
- Baby clothing and every necessary Baby Items.
- Pregnancy and Ultrasound referrals (no Cost)
- Additional community referrals (including adoption)

Msgr. Esper Council 3027

Msgr. Esper Council 3027 in Fowler, Mich., organized its 20th annual recycling drive for vocations, collecting more than 129,000 bottles and cans and cash donations worth a total of \$13,300. The council will use the funds to support seminarians and religious through the Order's Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP).

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Operation Good Cheer



This year St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 participated in Operation Good Cheer, which is a program that provides Christmas gifts to foster children in the state of Michigan. Over 6,000 foster children received gifts through this program in 2025. Council 13319 has participated in Operation Good Cheer for a number of years and this year our worthy Brother Knights sponsored and purchased Christmas gifts for 32 children, which is the most we have ever sponsored. Our Knights are happy to be able to help provide some joy to these kids during this Christmas season!

Lake Orion Knights RESPECT FOR LIFE Essay Contest



The Lake Orion Knights of Columbus just completed their annual essay contest with this year's theme, "Respect for Unborn Lives". Eighteen 7th-9th grade students from St Joseph & Christ the Redeemer parishes submitted entries. Knight Paul Daprai & his team found judging to be difficult with the caliber and passion of the many essays. Kyle Schmit (Knight), Al Hassinger (Grand Knight) & St Joseph parish's Fr Jim Kean were on hand to present certificates & awards to Gianna Wolschleger (1st place, \$500), David Raguse (2nd place, \$250), Nora MacNeill (3rd place, \$100) and 4 Honorable Mention participants.

St. Patrick Day Parade



Council's First Baby Bottle Drive Aids 3 Pregnancy Centers



The Dr. Thomas A. Dooley Council #5492 sponsored its first annual baby bottle drive last fall at St. Colette Parish in Livonia, and parishioners responded generously. Enough money was raised for the Council to present checks of \$4,000 each to three Detroit area pregnancy centers – Care Net, the Lennon Center and Wee Care. Presenting the checks were PGKs Tom Jackett and Lee Nuttall to Care Net; Brother Patrick Murphy to the Lennon Center; and Brother Mark Bower to Wee Care.

To thank parishioners for all their generosity to both the Council and parish, the Council invited parishioners to a free pancake breakfast prepared by the Council.

Early Bird Seller Incentive Drawing

On Friday December 26, 2025, Executive Secretary Larry Grabowski reached into the barrel and pulled the December winning ticket! The \$250.00 Winner – Daniel Hylen of Nuncia, Michigan. Congratulations and thank you for supporting our Michigan knights of Columbus State Raffle.

On January 26, 2026, State Secretary Charles McCuen, III reached into the barrel and pulled the January winning ticket! The 250.00 Winner – Becky Lynn Cook of Gaylord Michigan. Congratulations and thank you for supporting our Michigan knights of Columbus State Raffle.

Remember, \$1.00 of every ticket you sell goes directly to your Council. (One sold book equals a \$12.00 donation to your Council on your behalf)

On Thursday February 26, 2026, Executive Secretary Larry Grabowski reached into the barrel and pulled the February winning ticket! The \$250.00 Winner – Lance Vechinski of Shelby Twp., Michigan. Congratulations and thank you for supporting our Michigan knights of Columbus State Raffle.

John Cardinal Dearden Council 744



Above is a picture of KOC Council 744 hosting the Pilgrim Icon Holy Hour on Wednesday Feb the 4th - with the Heart of Christ Picture.

This event was hosted and run by Members of the Knights of Columbus at Saint Peter's Church Mt Clemens and attended by Parishioners after the six o'clock mass.

Lake Orion Knights of Columbus Adopt a Widow



When a local parishioner became a widow unexpectedly, the Lake Orion Knights jumped in to assist in a big way. While assessing the challenge on site, the Knights began by helping the widow prep her home for winter. A few weeks later, they brought in trucks to help move furniture from her current house to her new condo... on a Saturday morning when the temperature was a frigid -15 degrees! And when the realtor suggested the widow install new closet doors at the last minute before putting the house on the market, the Knights did that as well. The Knights remain "on call" to further assist when needed. "We were made for this!"

Father Vincent Capodanno Assembly 3392 Knights at Great Lakes National Cemetery.



Above, shown with another worker on the far left, from left to right, Assembly 3392 Sir Knights Rob Seeterlin, Denny Hogan, John Dotson, Mike McBride, Gino Simiele, John Scott and Paul Bezel)

On January 17, 2026, Sir Knights from our Assembly were at Great Lakes National Cemetery to help clean-up. Our Knights braved single digit temperatures and several inches of snow to help retire wreaths placed on headstones as part of Wreath Across America. Our Assembly also contributed \$170 to Wreath Across America for wreaths placed on headstones in honor, gratitude and remembrance of our veterans. Thanks to those Sir Knights who helped out.

The Chance for a First Chance

By: Ed Strach, Life Director

Knights and their families will come together in both public and private acts of prayer to promote the protection of life. As you finish reading this article, I ask and pray that you will take an active role in one or more of the above actions or activities that will give a child the first chance for life.



Happy Spring, everyone! With spring comes the State Convention, and with that, the annual Ladies Charity Raffle. It will be here before we know it, and we need your raffle basket donations and volunteers to help!

Some things to keep in mind for your raffle donation:

1. Keep the value between \$100 and \$500
2. Remember that you and whoever wins your basket will be carrying/transporting it to and from the Grand Hotel. Please be mindful of size and weight of basket and plan accordingly.
3. Do not include non-shelf-stable foods that may spoil.
4. Gift cards and lottery tickets are items that should be copied/printed for the basket itself, with the actual cards brought separately for safekeeping by the raffle staff.

Raffle Donation Form

<https://forms.gle/pcpkNag32Jtyp6Tm7>



LADIES! Please consider spending a couple of hours as a volunteer with the raffle! You can sell tickets, arrange raffle baskets, even help on the day of the drawing! Prior experience is not necessary and you will be shown what to do.

Raffle Volunteer Sign Up

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A44AFA72BA2F8CF8-62172588-2026>



IMPORTANT: When you sign up, make sure you get a confirmation email from Sign Up Genius. If you don't, go back to the sign up and check that your name is there. It may not have registered your sign up.

For questions or additional information, contact:

Kara Fuller, Raffle Chairperson
248-894-7082
k.fuller@mikofc.org

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Due to circumstances beyond our control the Holy Cross section of the Michigan Columbian will not be published in this edition of the Michigan Columbian

2026 State Deputies Tribute Banquet



AROUND THE STATE

Dearborn O'Kelley Council #3860



Dearborn O'Kelley Council #3860 recently (December 13) fed 12 retired Priest's at the Senior Clergy Center in Livonia. Entree' was turkey meatloaf. All the accouterments were included to make this another special meal for our worthy Priest's. O'Kelley feeds the Priest's every other month, with entree' selections chosen by the lead cook that turn.

Lake Orion Knights of Columbus support Coats For Kids



The Lake Orion Knights of Columbus donated 48 coats to the winter weather drive organized by Orion Township Trustee Matt Pfeiffer. Each year, Pfeiffer runs the drive out of the Northern Flooring showroom collecting coats, hats, gloves and scarves to distribute to community organizations and individuals in need of assistance.

John Cardinal Dearden Council 744



At the membership meeting of John Cardinal Dearden Council 744 , District Deputy Ed Perkins presented PGK Doug Petz, in the middle, and current GK Jim Nowc with their Star Council Award for the 2024-2025 Fraternal Year. Congratulations!

Programs = New Members

St Nicholas Breakfast



On December 6, 2025 St Maximilian Kolbe Council 6549 had their first "Breakfast with St. Nicholas. We designed it to be Christ Centered and called our Santa (a member) St. Nicholas. There was a fresh breakfast cooked by Brother Knights and arts and crafts for the children to do. All proceeds went to a local food bank. Despite competition we did have a good turnout and raised \$300 for the food bank. All comments were very positive and we plan on doing this annually.

Fr Shackett read the children a story about St Nicholas and there was signing of Christmas Carols

Manistique Council #2026



Manistique Council #2026 proudly recognizes Richard "Dick" Ketcik who celebrated his 70th anniversary as a member of the Knights of Columbus Council #2026, and the Donald E. Messier Assembly #502, of Manistique, MI. Dick celebrated his 93rd Birthday on January 15, 2026 and is the oldest living member of the Council and Assembly. Besides the K of C,

Dick is very active in the Schoolcraft County All Vets, Manistique Lions Club, serves on the Manistique Downtown Development Authority, and remains known throughout the Upper Peninsula as a beloved radio announcer for Manistique High School Sports. Dick is a member of St Francis de Sales Parish of Manistique.

Durand St. Mary's Council 7955



The Knights of Columbus Council 7955 in Durand did their first ever Pasty sale the weekend of Jan. 31/ Feb 1 with a sellout success. Picture shows the members putting together the filling, crust and wrapping. This was done to raise Council funds for various charities headed by Grand Knight Ed Folsom.

Father Mark Prill Super Bowl Party Co-hosted by Council 744



Above is a picture from the first annual Father Mark Prill Super Bowl Party Co-hosted by Council 744 at Saint Peter's Church, in the Father Welch Hall.

In the background you can see Father Mark Prill, our Council Chaplin, directing traffic.

As you can also see, a lot of food was consumed by the approximately 75 members of Saint Peter's Parish who attended this first time event.

A TV was raffled off, games were played and a great time was had, despite a slightly less than exciting game.

Bishop Joseph H Albers Council 4090



On Thursday February 12 Bishop Joseph H Albers Council 4090 held it's annual Seminarian Dinner in Davison. Nearly 400 people attended the 42nd annual event. Joining 13 Seminarians was Bishop Earl Boyea. Also in attendance was State Advocate Daniel Fuller. Since it began with the support of all our communities we have donated over \$500,000.00 for our Seminarians.



**Join
The Guild
Now!**



Phillip Zamlynski, Kalamazoo Diocese EFF Coordinator.

Here are a few words to expand on the recent article authored by our Worthy State Deputy, Barry M. Borsenik, on S.O.A.R. in Volume 77, Issue 3, January 2026. Barry points out that the next six months he will focus on the Responsibility, the R element. From the Evangelization and Faith Formation view, what is the Responsibility to form your Faith Foundation? Perhaps a definition of Catholic Faith Foundation is needed.

A Catholic Faith Foundation is the basis of a person's conscience, doing the right thing. For Catholics, creating and maintaining a "properly formed" conscience should be a no-brainer. The simplest and most direct answers are contained in the Encyclical Letter of Saint John Paul II, The Splendor of Truth: Section 64; "Forming our Conscience." How about a few reminders? Catholic Faith Formation Gospel Reminders:

- "Saint Paul exhorts us not to be conformed to the mentality of the world, but to be transformed by the renewal of our mind (cf. Rom 12:2)". So where should a Catholic look for guidance to form their conscience?
- "For the Catholic Church is by the will of Christ the teacher of Truth." Why then is there any need to look to the world for guidance to establish your conscience?
- The Catholic Church puts herself always and only at the service of conscience, helping it to avoid being tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine proposed by human deceit (cf. Eph 4:14) and helping it not to swerve from the Truth.

A question remains. When did the voice of your conscience get formed? For Catholics it started at Baptism, Communion, Confirmation, and sometimes when they were married. Most adults consider themselves done with conscience formation sometime after grade school or high school. However, that's a false assumption. As Catholics and especially Knights of Columbus, we have a Responsibility and obligation to work throughout our lives to continually build and form our conscience through study, learning, prayer and conversation of private and public behaviors and policies.

Dos and Don't Short list: There are many, many documents and opinions on how to form a conscience; for Catholics and Knights of Columbus, the source material is contained within the Catholic Bible and Papal Encyclicals. After reading and studying, below is a short list to consider for conscience updating, evaluating and maintenance action items:

1. Imitate Christ's examples.
2. Adopt the moral teachings of Christ.
3. Are public opinions or actions moral, legal?
4. Study the Law.

Caution list:

1. Reject the clatter expressed in culture and by politicians.
2. Recognize immoral opinions, actions and laws.
3. Push back publicly against immoral positions, behaviors, actions.

Bishop Plagens Council 13318



A few of our brothers assist with the making of pierogi for sale during the holidays and our annual Pierogi Festival. "Smaczne"

Fr. Francis L. Karl Council 13432



On sun-drenched and welcome break to winter, Council #13432 St. Patrick's, Traverse City & St. Mary's, Hannah, hosted its ever-so-popular, biennial, Wild Game Dinner & Sportsman Raffle at St. Patrick's social hall on February 1. The Council's in-house chefs prepared appetizers, entrees and desserts for nearly 150 guests and 24 volunteer Brother Knights. After offering ample portions of tasty appetizers of alligator cakes, elk brats, bacon-wrapped duck, cherry-smoked salmon, and salmon pate; our chefs presented every guest with venison chili, elk meatballs with noodles and corned bison wellington. Following an exciting 50/50 drawing, the highlight of the evening is the drawing for 10 sportsman-related items. A portion of our proceeds have been contributed to St. Patrick's 2026 Capital Campaign for church maintenance.

Father John Howard Council #8500 & Church of the Holy Spirit



When the pastor at Church of the Holy Spirit in

Highland came to the council for help to repair their damaged creche, brother knights (from L to R Member Ron Shankin, Treasurer Jim Provost, and DGK Mark Oleski) built a new creche out of pallets and lumber to give baby Jesus updated living quarters. Jim Provost designed the creche to be easily taken apart and stored during the year, and included LED lighting, making it a focal point at night for all to see.

NOTE: FOR GRAND KNIGHTS AND COUNCIL PR CHAIRMAN

In each issue of the Michigan Columbian we print the Current Knights of the Month as designated by the local councils in the State. These men deserve State wide recognition. We appreciate your help in keeping this information current. A copy of the names of the Knight of the Month need to be sent direct to:

James J. Kelley, State Council Family Director, 7263 Village Square Dr., West Bloomfield, MI 48322, j.kelley@mikofc.org

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

Families of the Month

Monroe Council 1266
Mark & Susan Carollo,cfy
Ralph & Susan Swiderski
Elliot & Amy Alfredson
Colin & Blenda Bondy
William & Marianne Brittain
Portland Council 2168
Kevin & Teresa Schneider
Fedrick & Anne Russman
Standish Council 2724
Roger & Mary Ann Hus
Dennis & Rose Stawowy
Westphalia Council 2890
Mike & Mallory Huhn
Bob & Shirley Smith
Nolan & Aubrey Feldpausch
Utica Council 2950
Scott & Laurie Morgan
Don & Barb Heydens
Warren & Paulette Sawdon
Pinconning Council 2986
Owen & Lori Bush
Rich & Patti Karbowski
Harold & Pat Schumann
Ray & Sharon Skrabut
Fremont Council 3111
Robert & Harriet Maycroft
Ron & Winnona Evanauski
Caro Council 3224
Gerard & Lily Kolonowski
Southgate Council 3956
Aaron & Becky Burnett
Gr Alumni & Staff

Davison Council 4090
Gregory & Joann McCarty
Carl & Mary Knieper
Joel & Julie Fournier
Richard & Sarah Molina
Robert & Tracy Myers
New Baltimore Council 5981
Jared & Juli Proctor
Lawrence & Michelle Ricard
Ken & Darlene Krause
Prudenville Council 65498
Wally Wozniak & Family
Portage Council 6980
Justin Stamm family
Benjamin & Jennifer Blomeke
Birch Run Council 7233
Jerome & Angela Waldron
Vana Haley & Family
Norm & Joyce Rushton
Fenton Council 7418
Larry & Barb Darmafall
Scott & Lien Borg
Milford Council 7444
Dinette & Drew Plant
Jim Kopyy Family
Paul & Janice Castiglione
Rick Poll Family
Jenison Council 7487
Ken & Shelly Maciejewski
David & Crystal Lang
South Lyon Council 7586
Andy & Lisa Kudwa
Mark & Kara Munzenberger
Dennis & Susan Patton

Durand Council 7955
Ben & Jennifer Strong
Ed & Julie Folsom
Brice & Susan Mellow
Sanford Council 8043
Phil & Judy Walker
Howell Council 8169
Mike & Lisa Rozewski
Roger & Janet Houthoofd
Terrance & Kimberely Armstrong
Auburn Hills Council 8659
Jim & Karen Leja
Mike & Barbara Zelinski
Patrick & Cindi Allett
Charles & Winifred Kemler
Montrose Council 8669
Chad & Gena Sharpe
Jim & Nancy Hall
Saginaw Council 8808
Michael & Vicki Metiva
Charles & Lynne Dimercurio
Mason Council 9182
James & Keri Rowley
Maryville Council 9526
Gerald & Jill Measgl
Kalamazoo Council 9962
Steve & Kelli Rider
Dale & Suzy Boone
Ira Township Council 10724
James & Kim Zeck
Cliff & Kathy Becker
Zack & AnnMarie Verbrugge
Ann Arbor Council 10963
Kevin & Analisa Galbraith, Jr.

Lansing Council 11099
Bernard & Delores Webb, II
Russell & Macia Pate, Jr.
John & Elizabeth Gordon
Joel & Mary Stanewich
Harrison Twp. Council 11658
St. Hubert Faith Family
Joseph & Janet Hoffer
Lansing Council 11694
Doug & Dani Laurion
Charles & Judy Filice
Richard & Tracy Hauser
Mike & Cathy Flaga
Port Huton Council 11756
Scott & Christina Schneider
Bill & Trish Spencer
White Cloud Council 13939
John & Susan Osterman
Virgil & Ines Houle
Nick & Arianne Hym
Lake Odessa Council 14404
Alan & Tara Brodbeck
Greg & Carrie Haskin
Comstock Park Council 15548
Don & Karen Baker
Alejandro & Elizabeth Perez
Jeffery & Michelle North
Donald Steffens family
Canton Council 16169
Chris & Mary Kay DeBrito
Dennis & Cecile Keshishian
Don & Kathy Pratt

District 118 Free Throw Championship



Au Lac Council 10724 hosted the K of C District 118 Free Throw Championship on January 31 at Immaculate Conception School in Ira Township. The winners will advance to the Archdiocesan East Championship on February 21 at St. Thecla in Clinton Township.

Wyatt Graebert (9-Boys); Nolan Yaros (10-Boys); Lilly Jensen (10-Girls); Nolan Holen (11-Boys); Joseph Sebastian (12-

Boys); Atticus Yaros (13-Boys); Adelyn Hagood (13-Girls); and Josie Peterson (14-Girls)
Thank you to District Deputy Matt Hoxsie who presented medals to the winners and the brother Knights who helped with the contest. Good luck to the winners at their next contest!

Programs = New Members

St. John Neumann Council 16169



Knights from St. John Neumann Council 16169 in Canton, Mich., gather at the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit during a council-led pilgrimage to the center, one of 12 official pilgrimage sites designated by the Archdiocese of Detroit for the Jubilee Year 2025. More than 100 people attended the event, which included Mass celebrated by Father Paul Ballien, pastor of St. John Neumann Parish and council chaplain, as well as an opportunity for confession.

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Larry Herman, FDM, State Council Community Director, 501 Georgetown Drive Apt. 17, Traverse City, MI 49684

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

Knights of the Month

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| Monroe Council 1266 Fred Fedorowicz cky Gregory Knapp, Philip Roussey John Haynes, Kyle Langton Portland Council 2168 Larry Schneider, Ben Cross Royal Oak Council 2569 Michael Boyer Howell Council 2659 James Helbeck, Joseph Allison Livonia Council 2690 Brian Everidge, Thomas Keda Cliff Liptak, Jr. Standish Council 2724 Paul Golimbieski, Fr. Tom Held Ken Adrian, Jr. Westphalia Council 2890 Bob Thelen, Dave Nurenberg Terry Nurenberg, Charlie Hengesbach Jared Lewandowski Chesaning Council 2943 JR Birchmere, Carl Wending Randall Neitling, Don Rivette Lyle Mikolanz Utica Council 2950 Jim DeMaestri, Scott Morgan Paul Burmeister, Greg Padley Pinconning Council 2986 Rev. Matthew Federico Gary Kozlowski, Alan Guzdial Donald Galloner, Eastpointe Council 3042 David Szymanski, Richard Szymanski Fremont Council 3111 Jim Bartz, Dan Soules Ray Thielen Caro Council 3224 Patrick Decker St. Johns Council 3281 Mike Huhn, Dan Snyder Warren Council 3848 Fr. Nicholas Zukowski, *cky Dearborn Heights Council 3860 Robert Mincel, Giorgio Bertucci Robert Salter, Brian Wiggins Southgate Council 3956 Mark Bilski, Dr. Eric Manns | Davison Council 4090 Donald Simon, Richard DuCharme Gary Lehr, Frank Hazen Michael DelDuco Wyoming Council 4362 Dennis Shamblin, Jeff Parks Glenn Eckelkamp, Kevin Troost David Milanowski New Baltimore Council 5981 Jeffrey Kay, Lawrence Pellerito Wayne Miller Prudenville Council 6548 Henry Wolda Grand Blanc Council 6742 Joe Buffa, Dave Johnson Scott Ranville Portage Council 6980 Fr. Bill Jacobs, Maurice Rykert Shane McDonald Birch Run Council 7233 Pat Wedding, Bob Muehlifed Ray Reyes Brighton Council 7304 Jim Carolan, Jackson Gray Fr. Joshua Fons, Jay Welter*CKY Caledonia Council 7341 Dan Bochantin, Tim Tome Fenton Council 7418 Jeff Kline, Mark Swiastyn Randy Roat Milford Council 7444 Mike Wojnar, Kevin Ziegler Joel Snyder, Joe Arbour Jenison Council 7487 Steve Friedman, Rich Olszewski Don DeCorte, Tim Link Freeland Council 7582 Frank Spindler, Chris Yake South Lyon Council 7586 Karl Wagner, John Raney Ken Kowalczyk Milan Council 7587 Ryan Jasper Hale Council 7623 Gene Goodman | Durand Council 7955 Ben Strong, Ed Folsom Brice Merrow Sanford Council 8043 Aarron Skrok Howell Council 8169 John Gwizdala, Wayne Wescott Chris Serricco Auburn Hills Council 8659 Dan Heath, Mike Mueller Sam Crowl Montrose Council 8669 Curt Palinsky, Leo Fyock Yale Council 8710 Joe Vinkier, Mark Begerowski Mike Ball, Patrick Driscoll Cass City Council 8892 Tom Balzer, Ed LaBelle Adam Dorland Temperance Council 8902 Dr. Tyler O'Brien, Mo Smith Klacking Creek Council 8948 George Kreft Mason Council 9182 Ian William, Eugene Ambler James Marshall Maryville Council 9526 Steven Ginther, John Goulet Kalamazoo Council 9962 Fr. Jose' Haro, Joseph Durecki Okemos Council 10006 Rich Ballor*CKY Memphis Council 10501 Dave Duran, John Maste Dcn. Arvin Stephenson Ira Township Council 10724 James Hicks, III, Jim Hasse, PGK John Vargo, Sr. Lansing Council 10907 Joe Scarane, Tom Kavanagh Michelangelo Mumby, Tom Lorenx Rembrandt Mumby, Darin Witkowski | Ann Arbor Council 10963 Gene Wierzgac Lansing Council 11099 Jacob Allstott, Mitchel Kogut Jason Mendola, Eric Cullimore Temperance Council 11430 Timothy Speer Harrison Twp. Council 11658 David Nellis, James Lepere Clinton Twp. Council 11689 Frank Lucido Lansing Council 11694 Patrick Garlitz, Mike Hauser John Claybaugh, Jr., Lonnie Muniz Port Huton Council 11756 Frank Stein, John Derler Joe Ready Laingsburg Council 12044 Jim Eiseler, Ron Mallory Brett Lundie White Lake Council 13319 Dennis Letang, Dave Weber Denny Long, Kevin Markham Kingsley Council 13432 Refugio Mareno, John Piombo Jake Bogart Farmington Council 13673 Jerome Williams, John McHoughlin David Levine Bark river Council 13863 John Moore White Cloud Council 13939 Matt Bleiler, Shawn Smith Tom Carpenter Shelby Twp. Council 13983 Wally Jakubowski, *cky Andy Peklo, Ken Kwasnik New Buffalo Council 14366 Kevin Murray, Ian Grzywacz, Sr. Matt Patruno Grand Rapids Council 15495 Daniel Patterson Comstock Park Council 15548 Jack Klein, Eric McClure Canton Council 16169 Paul Bak, Joe Smyth Marvin Lopez, Leo Petretta |
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Programs = New Members

Michigan State Council - 50561 Chesterfield Rd.
Chesterfield, MI 48051



St. Louis Center

Easter: A Season of Joy

Greetings in the Name of the Lord, Brother Knights!

With your ongoing and incredibly generous support, St. Louis Center has continued to thrive during a time of significant funding uncertainty. Because of your 2025 Tootsie Roll Drive donations, we are able to provide the highest level of care to our residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).

2025 was an extraordinary year for St. Louis Center and for those we serve. Through your Tootsie Roll Drives alone, more than 60 individual councils supported our mission, raising over \$100,000. Not only is this more than 30% above the previous year's total, but it is also the largest amount the Center has ever received in a single year from this fundraiser. From the bottom of my heart, thank you. I am deeply grateful and truly honored to be entrusted with such faithful and generous support.



Thanks to support from Michigan Knights of Columbus, Lee Chambers, center, enjoyed the Winter Games in Traverse City with volunteers from Special Olympics Area 20 of Washtenaw County.

I feel blessed each day to answer this calling. Every morning, I have the privilege of serving our kind and joyful residents. I watch them participate in fitness programs, head off to school and work, and grow in confidence and independence. Each Friday, our residents gather to pray the Rosary, and during

every Mass, we lift up you and your councils along with everyone in your families in prayer, asking God to guide and strengthen you in your important work. It is a beautiful reminder that we are united in faith and mission.

During this joyful Easter season, I invite you to continue partnering with St. Louis Center in supporting individuals with I/DD. As we reflect on Christ's redemptive sacrifice and the hope of the empty tomb, may we also recommit ourselves to uplifting our brothers and sisters in need. Your continued support through the Tootsie Roll Drive makes this life-changing work possible.

We would also love to welcome you to visit the Center and meet our residents firsthand. We simply could not do this work without your extraordinary generosity. May you and your families have a blessed Easter season as we celebrate the restorative resurrection of Christ our Savior.

God Bless you,

Fr. Satheesh

Fr. Satheesh Alphonse, SdC

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16195 W. Old US Hwy. 12 • Chelsea, MI 48118 • 734-475-8430 • stlouiscenter.org

MEET THE RESIDENTS

Lori Accardi



Sipping a cup of coffee while looking at a good book is the way to Lori's heart, as these are her favorite things to do.

Her room at Fr. Guanella Hall is beautifully decorated with pictures of her loved ones, medals and awards, and pretty things that were curated with the help of her mother.

She said, "Lori is more social

and truly enjoys being with and doing things with her housemates and peers. Here, she has friends!"

Lori moved to St. Louis Center in 2005, reuniting with some of her friends from Our Lady of Providence Center.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fr. Joseph Rinaldo Memorial Mass

Fr. Joe had a long history with the Michigan Knights. You are invited for Mass and a luncheon. To RSVP, visit: stlouiscenter.org/event/fr-joe-memorial/

Call: 734-475-8430 or scan the QR code.

Date: Friday, April 17, 2026 at 11:00am

Place: St. Louis Center, Chelsea



2026 Golf Season Tees off

Golf and Glory Outing

Join us for a day of golf, fellowship, and fun.

Date: Monday, June 22, 2026

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 learn about any of our events, visit our website at: stlouiscenter.org/have-fun-here/events/



104th Ultrasound Dedication— Positive Options, Allegan



The 104th dedication of an Ultrasound unit took place at Positive Options in Allegan on Friday, January 9, 2026. This significant event marked another step in continuing to provide access to defend life within the Allegan community. The Ultrasound placement initiative was led by St. Catherine of Siena Council #6980, Portage; Grand Knight Joe Magalski. Their leadership was instrumental in bringing this project to fruition. Funds raised by St. Catherine of Siena council and two supporting councils totaled \$20,889. This collaborative effort ensured the successful placement of the Ultrasound unit at Positive Options.

Top Row (l-r): Bishop of Kalamazoo, Rev. Edward Lohse providing prayers and blessings; ribbon cutting by Christina Madison, Allegan Center Director and Grand Knight, Joe Magalski Ctr Row (l-r): Rachel Bell, Director of Operations providing her comments; group picture including five deacons and Colleen Smith, Sonographer demonstrates Ultrasound videos



Above (l-r): Deputy Grand Knight, Joe Comiskey, Joe Magalski, Christina Madison and State Deputy Regional Representative, Nick Zafer enjoy a pre cutting cake picture; State Secretary, Charlie McCuen providing his complementary words of thanks and encouragement; and check presentation by Joe Magalski.

Congratulations to members of St. Catherine of Siena Council #6980: It is with the greatest appreciation for the support of funding for this Ultrasound and all other pro life efforts undertaken by Grand Knight Joe Magalski and St. Catherine Council #6980. Special thanks to State Deputy Regional Representative Nick Zafer, District Deputy John Byrnes and State Faith Director Bob Bagley for their support of this Ultrasound unit dedication.

Other Supporting Councils Include: Allegan Council #2515, Allegan; Grand Knight David Farris St. Ann Council # 13633, Augusta; Grand Knight Lewis Bartlett

With our greatest admiration to the directors, staff and volunteers at Positive Options giving of your time and talents to saves the lives of the unborn and support to the families after birth.

Fr. Owens Council 11114



Fr. Owens Council 11114 of St. Philip collected personal items for veterans of the Battle Creek Veterans Medical Center during the Christmas season. Items included items for women veterans and babies. Total donations were \$2500.

Pictured are Mike Wemple of Council 11114 and Jennifer Picketts of the VA Volunteer Services Office.

Programs = New Members

Au Lac Council Youth of the Month for February



Pictured L-R: Grand Knight Mark Kehoe; Nicholas Savoie; Fr. Joseph Esper - Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish

Congratulations to Nicholas Savoie on being named as our Au Lac Council Youth of the Month for February! Nicholas is the son of Mark and Karen Savoie and is an 11th grade student at Richmond High School where he is a three-sport athlete (baseball, basketball, football), a member of the National Honors Society and has held a 4.0 GPA for the last three years. Through his affiliation with the NHS, he is active in community service projects helping the elderly, as a mentor to youth athletes and he is also active in our parish. Nicholas has been involved with numerous parish events such as the church floor replacement project, Breakfast with Santa and IC School locker installation. We thank Nicholas for sharing his faith through service to his parish and community!

Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township started the Youth of the Month Award in January 2023 to recognize students in grades 3-12 for demonstrating their faith through service to others. So far the council has honored 38 students with a certificate of appreciation following a weekend Mass. Every six months they host a pizza dinner for the winners and their families with Pastor Fr. Joseph Esper in attendance.

Polish Dinner Charity Fundraiser.



On February 1st John F Kennedy council 5460 held it's 23rd annual Polish Dinner Charity Fundraiser. We served over 420 din-



ners. Pictured is Grand Knight Steve Rakowski and chairman Wally Papciak along with Brother Gary of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and Kim from ALS Of Michigan. The Capuchins

received \$6325 and ALS received \$5000 proceeds from the dinner.



**Join
The Guild
Now!**



Au Lac Council 10724 Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest



Pictured with Atticus is our Deputy Grand Knight and Program Director Brian Webster.

Congratulations to Atticus Yaros for winning 1st Place in the K of C Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest! He was presented with an award during the Immaculate Conception School Christmas Concert on December 18th. The entire 8th grade class was treated to a pizza party for submitting essays in the contest



Father Vincent Capodanno Assembly 3392 Donates to Fisher House.



(From left to right, Assembly 3392 Sir Knights John Scott, Dave Brown, Rob Seeterlin and District 1 District Master Gene Suchyta present the donation to the Fisher House on January 28th).

The Fisher House Michigan is a not-for-profit organization formed to improve the quality of life of our military members, retirees, Veterans, and their families and caregivers. The Organization supports the construction and operations of comfort homes built near VA Medical Centers in Michigan, called “Zachary and Elizabeth M. Fisher Houses. Fisher Houses are comfort homes where military & Veterans’ families can stay free of charge, while a loved one is in the hospital. More than 100 of these homes are located at military and VA medical centers around the world. The Father Vincent Capodanno Assembly 3392 donated \$5,000 to Fisher House on January 28th, 2026, and has donated a total of \$20,000 since 2019.

Programs = New Members

MICHIGAN COLUMBIAN PUBLICATION SCHEDULE
COPY DEADLINE MONTH

MARCH 1st..... APRIL 2027
JUNE 1st..... JULY 2026
SEPTEMBER 1st.....OCTOBER 2026
DECEMBER 1st..... JANUARY 2026

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

E-MAIL – g.kolbicz@mikofc.org

Paving the Path Forward

Iron River (Mich.) Council 2300 donated \$4,500 to St. Agnes Church and \$3,000 to St. Cecilia Church to support parking lot renovations. The repairs — the first in about 10 years — will include filling in cracks, sealing and striping.

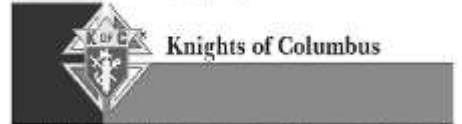
His Heart in our Midst

Allegan (Mich.) Council 2515 hosted the Order’s pilgrim icon of the Sacred Heart for one week at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. More than 200 people venerated the icon following Masses and during periods of Eucharistic adoration.

Online Membership



A Program for Recruiting and Engaging New Members



Lead with Faith Perfect Your Family Take Office Defend Your Values

MICHIGAN STATE COUNCIL CONTACTS



These directors can provide additional information about E-membership: Doug Kokot, State Membership Director d.kokot@mikofc.org 616.634.2400

James Escott, State “E” Membership Direc-

Join The Guild Now!

■ 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

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Donations



In late December, St. Patrick White Lake Knights of Columbus Council 13319 demonstrated their commitment to serving the community by donating a total of \$5,800 to Evangelical Charity (Christian Service), Open Door Outreach Center, and St. Vincent de Paul. These charitable gifts were made possible through the generous support of our parish members who faithfully support the Knights' fundraising activities throughout the year.

Euchre Party Fundraiser



Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township hosted a Euchre Party fundraiser on February 21st. Over 40 people enjoyed a fun evening of food and entertainment. Over \$1000 was collected and will help fund the council's many charitable donations throughout the year.

St. Maria Goretti, St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry



If you ever stop in to St. Maria Goretti, St. Vincent de Paul food pantry, you will almost surely run into one or more of these "dedicated for the good" K of C #3860 volunteers. They stock, organize, seek donations, distribute, and whatever else may be necessary. Hats off to you gentlemen (and to their wives who also volunteer their time).

Programs = New Members

Cheboygan Council 791
Chuck Atkins
West Branch Council 2022
David Neubecker, Alan Gildner
Roger Gildner
Dowagiac Council 2113
Richard Accoe, GK
Redford Council 2632
Greg Suski
Livonia Council 2690
David Dumont Former Supreme
Insurance Representative

Standish Council 2724
Gerald Brown, Joseph Burdak
Benjamin Brummer, D.D.S
Westphalia Council 2890
David Witgen, Jerry Bellant
Fremont Council 3111
Denis Janes
Warren Council 3848
Richard Del Papa
Fr. Nicholas Zukowski
Southgate Council 3956
William McLaury,

Taylor Council 4872
William Kessler, GK
Clinton Township Council 5460
Rev. William Siebert
Sterling Heights Council 7011
Gerald O'Nriill
Milford Council 7444
John Rogers, FDD
Durand Council 7955
Robert Hromek, Thomas Gomos
James Weir

Fowlerville Council 8605
Deacon Peter Gudaitis
Lansing Council 10542
Kenneth Kelly
Detroit Council 13318
Michael Kapusniak, FN
Sterling Heights Council 13340
Dennis Lichokcki
Bryon Center 14642
Gerald Diorio

Bishop Plagens Council 13318



The Bishop Plagens Council #13318 Detroit, had a good turnout of Brother Knights for its Winter Corporate Communion on December 12, 2025. The Mass was held at Sweetest Heart of Mary. Besides those members in attendance, its Council was also represented at Holy Mass by: the lector, ushers, the cantor, alter servers and District Deputy Andy Assenmacher.



Brother Knights spent a Saturday morning helping parish staff with a grounds clean up around the church. The property seems to trap a lot of leaves. We filled 2+ dumpsters!



Join
The Guild
Now!



May They Rest In Peace

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Remembering Vets at Christmas

December 13, 2025 was a Day of Remembrance and Service of our nation's veterans, both past and present, for St. John Neumann Assembly of Utica, Michigan. Remembering Veterans Past

The day's events became at 11:30 a.m. at the St. Lawrence Cemetery in Utica with our members shoveling a path in the snow, mostly by S.K. John Dzianowski (aka "Faithful Snow-man"), between the cemetery roadway and the Veterans Memorial. At 12:00 noon, the Assembly conducted a wreath laying ceremony at the memorial to coincide with all the Wreaths Across America events that were occurring at that time and day at over 5,200 sites in all 50 States, abroad, and at sea. The small, parish-owned and -operated cemetery is not one of those sites. Faithful Navigator Art Krygowski began the ceremony by reading a prayer for deceased veterans that was taken from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. He and Faithful Captain Rob Hanningan then placed at the memorial a 36" Military Appreciation Wreath purchased by the Assembly from Wreaths Across America. The event ended with a sword salute rendered by Color Corps Commander Ruben Calderero together with Corpsmen Dan Backus and Don Heydens while Anne Koscierzynski played Taps on her cellphone.

Also in attendance were S.K. Mike Skorupski and Faithful Comptroller S.K. Ron Koscierzynski.



Remembering Veterans Present

Members who attended the Assembly Christmas Party that evening brought with them pantry items for our Vittles for Vets Food Drive to benefit the residents of Vets Returning Home. Two tables were filled with donations. Also collected that evening were six large garbage bags full of clothing for donation to them. In addition, Faithful Pilot Jerry Hund prepared eighteen Christmas cards for the residents with a \$25 gift card to a local restaurant enclosed with each card. S.K. Hund delivered the cards, the groceries, and the clothing to Vets Returning Home the following Monday. They were extremely thankful for our efforts on their behalf!



S.K. John Dzianowski

(L-R) F.Capt. Rob Hanningan and FN Art Krygowski

L-R) Anne Koscierzynski, SK John Dzianowski, Cmdr. Ruben Calderero, S.K. Dan Backus, and S.K. Don Heydens



Vittles for Vets



Christmas Greetings for the Vets at VRH