



MICHIGAN COLUMBIAN



“Rise Up and Answer the Call”

July 2020 VOLUME 70 NO. 3

From The State Deputy
Walter K. Winkle, Jr.



Brother Knights and Families, July 1, 2020 is the beginning of a new fraternal year for the Knights of Columbus in our Order and most importantly for us in this Great State of Michigan. I would like to begin by expressing great appreciation for our Immediate Past State Deputy, William Chassé, and his leadership team for such a smooth transition from his administration to mine. I pray that all the transitions of leadership in each council across the state go as well! This shows a good quality of leadership within your councils and our state. This Unity is the glue that keeps the works of Charity, Fraternity and Patriotism together. It gives me great confidence as the next State Deputy, that we are going to continue the success that we share now as we close the books on this last year. Supreme has several changes that I know you will like in this coming year.

I am excited to be working with our new State Chaplain, Fr. Paul Ballien. We welcome our new Chaplain in Detroit, Fr. Charles White from New Baltimore Council. Fr. Ballien and I have talked extensively about utilizing the talents of our Diocesan Chaplains this coming year. I have asked them to become more involved and we will be putting some programs together across the state soon. I would greatly encourage you to participate in these programs.

I would like to thank all the District Deputies, State and Diocesan Directors who have helped through the years with their dedication to the success of our state who may not be involved on the state level this year. There is a lot of work that goes on all year. It takes many hours to make this state work as well as it does. I would like to especially thank PSD, William J. Walsh for his dedication and devotion and what he did for the Take 5 and 10 for Charity program for many years. PSD, FSD, Thomas M. Wegener has graciously accepted to fill this position. I have created a new position in the state to help me and the District Deputies. I believe this state is too large for one person to do an efficient job in actually helping the DD's with their councils. There will be 5 State Deputy Regional Representatives (SDRR). Three of them will work with two dioceses each and the other two will split Detroit in half along I-75. I ask that you give them your support and confidence as much as I have. Along with our District Deputies, Faith in Action Directors, State and Diocesan Directors and most importantly, every Grand Knight across the State in every council, I believe this will prove to be one of the greatest teams ever put together! Have no doubt about it, we have all been called to be in this position at this time. Each one of you, including each member of every council are here for a reason. With what is going on in this state and country, we must do our best to make this world a better place to live for our families, children, and grandchildren. It is our moral obligation to society to serve each other in this righteous cause as Knights of Columbus.

Wow, what an ending! It has been several years since we have made Circle of Honor in this state. We have had an outstanding year with all the Councils who made Star Council, as well as the District Deputies who made Star District. This does not happen without much hard work and perseverance. This is no slight to the councils that did their best to increase the participation in their council meetings and programs all year and yet did not manage to achieve Star Council status. This undeniably proves the dedication to serving our Bishops and Priests and living out the

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From The State Chaplain
Rev. Paul Ballien



As your new State Chaplain, I thought this would be a good time to discuss a very important topic in our country today; and that would be “Freedom.” Every July of course we celebrate Independence Day. On this day we celebrate the birth of our country and the principles of freedom and liberty that it was founded on. But what exactly is this thing that we call freedom anyway? Many think that the answer to such a question is obvious, and perhaps it should be. But in the present day western world, I think that what was once obvious has slowly become a bit more murky.

As a case in point, a famous passage from a Supreme Court pro-abortion decision had this to say in regards to their decision: “At the heart of liberty is the right to define one’s own concept of existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of the mystery of human life.” Now I know that sounds really profound, but it’s wrong. We don’t define these things, God our creator has already defined them. Human beings, Thomas Jefferson once wrote, are “inherently independent of all but the moral law.” If men defy that law, they are not free. They are slaves, at first to their own desires, and then eventually they will become slaves to political tyranny, because men who cannot govern their own desires, who lack self-control, cannot sustain a democratic government.

In short, true freedom consists in the liberation of the human person from the shackles of ignorance, oppression and vice. In an article called ‘Freedom and its Counterfeit’ by Robert George, Professor of Jurisprudence at Princeton University, he writes: “True freedom, the freedom that liberates, is grounded in truth and ordered to truth and, therefore to virtue. A free person is enslaved neither to the sheer will of another nor to his own appetites and passions. A free person lives uprightly, fulfilling his obligations to family, community, nation and God. By contrast, a person given over to his appetites and passions, a person who scoffs at truth and chooses to live, whether openly or secretly, in defiance of the moral law is not free. He is simply a different kind of slave.”

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Knights of Columbus Founder Father Michael McGivney Moves Closer to Sainthood
Priest launched international lay movement, died in 19th century pandemic

ROME – The Vatican today (May 27) [announced](#) that Pope Francis approved the promulgation of a decree recognizing a miracle attributed to the intercession of the founder of the Knights of Columbus, Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, a Connecticut priest who served his flock during the pandemic of 1890, before himself becoming ill and dying of pneumonia.

The pope's action means that Father McGivney can be declared "Blessed," the step just prior to sainthood. An additional miracle attributed to Father McGivney's intercession will be required for his canonization as a saint.

McGivney is best known for founding the Knights of Columbus in 1882. Nearly a century before the Second Vatican Council, his prescient vision empowered the laity to serve Church and neighbor in a new way. Today, the Knights of Columbus is one of the largest Catholic organizations in the world with 2 million members in North and Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia, and Europe.

The miracle recognized as coming through Father McGivney's intercession involved an unborn child in the United States who in 2015 was healed in utero of a life-threatening condition after prayers by his family to Father McGivney.

A date will soon be set for the beatification Mass, which will take place in Connecticut. It will include the reading of an apostolic letter from the Holy Father and the bestowing of the title "Blessed" on Father McGivney.

Earlier this year, in an address to the Knights of Columbus Board of Directors, Pope Francis said the organization has been faithful "to the vision of your founder, Venerable Michael McGivney, who was inspired by the principles of Christian charity and fraternity to assist those most in need."

"Father McGivney has inspired generations of Catholic men to roll up their sleeves and put their faith into action," Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson said. "He was decades ahead of his time in giving the laity an important role within the Church. Today, his spirit continues to shape the extraordinary charitable work of Knights as they continue to serve those on the margins of society as he served widows and orphans in the 1880s. Father McGivney also remains an important role model for parish priests around the world and left us a transformative legacy of effective cooperation between the laity and clergy."

Born of Irish immigrant parents in 1852 in Waterbury, Connecticut, Father McGivney was a central figure in the dramatic growth of the Church in the United States in the late 19th century. Ordained in Baltimore in 1877, he ministered to a heavily Irish-American and immigrant community in the then-Diocese of Hartford. At a time of anti-Catholic sentiment, he worked tirelessly to keep his flock close to the faith in part by finding practical solutions to their many problems – spiritual and temporal alike. With a group of the leading Catholic men of New Haven, he founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882 at St. Mary's Church to provide spiritual support for Catholic men and financial resources for families that had suffered the loss of their breadwinner.

The fledgling group soon became a major force in the areas of evangelization, charity, racial integration, and the defense of religious freedom.

Father McGivney spent his entire priesthood in parish ministry and died of pneumonia on August 14, 1890—two days after his 38th birthday – after falling ill amid a pandemic. Recent scientific evidence indicates that that pandemic – like the current one – may have been [caused by a coronavirus](#).

Known by his contemporaries for his devotion to the faith and his embodiment of the characteristics of the "Good Samaritan," his cause for sainthood was opened in the Archdiocese of Hartford in 1997. St. John Paul II – who was pope at that time – lauded Father McGivney's principles, stating in 2003, "In fidelity to the vision of Father McGivney, may you continue to seek new ways of being a leaven of the Gospel in the world and a spiritual force for the renewal of the Church in holiness, unity and truth."

In March 2008, he was declared a Venerable Servant of God by Pope Benedict XVI, who

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**From The State Warden
James Kraus**



My Brother Knights and Ladies,

After handing off the reins of the State's membership to Dan Fuller on July 1st, I am honored to start my new role as your State Warden for this fraternal year. I want to first thank my Unity committee, my wife Amy, and you, my brothers for your support during my campaign.

As a member of the State Council's Board of Directors, the State Warden has oversight of the protocol for our meetings, events and official functions. As you know the use of proper protocol is important to our Order as this provides the structure for our meetings and events. This structure allows for proper

decorum and productive meetings to happen. The following of protocol really makes us function as an Order rather than a club.

During the course of the year, your councils host many events and you may wish to have a member of the State Board attend your function. It is vital in your planning for these events to contact the State Deputy in writing no less than six weeks in advance of your event. The State Deputy works hard to fill as many of these requests as possible during the year, so please send the invitation as early as possible.

When you write to the State Deputy, please make sure to include as much information as possible about your event. Items such as type of event, date, time, location, if there is a Mass as part of the event, a contact phone number for the key contact person, etc., so we can plan accordingly. Prior to your event, you will receive a phone call from me to review the details should a State Officer be assigned to attend.

Many of the questions about meeting and event protocol can be answered by reviewing the Supreme Protocol Handbook (item #1622) is available from the Market Bench supply site within Officer's Online at the Supreme website. A copy of this handbook is also available to download from the Michigan KofC website. Any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at: j.kraus@mikofc.org

I look forward to serving with my brother Knights and your families around this Great State this year.

God Bless you and God Bless the Knights of Columbus.

Jim Kraus
State Warden

Installation of Officers 2020

Because 2020 has certainly been a year of change. Our Installation of Officers will not be our traditional installation. We will observe the installation of our new State Deputy, Walter K. Winkle, Jr., the other State Officers, State Chaplain and District Deputies on Saturday, August 29, 2020 with a limited invitation list. We plan on streaming the ceremony for others. Look for a letter in the mail. Any questions, please call Paul Thorn 248-709-9761 or paul.thorn1947@gmail.com.

**When the members of the
Knights of Columbus unite,
they help change the world.**

**State Membership Director
Daniel Fuller**

Hey Michigan, Let's Continue the Success and Growth

Congratulations to our Immediate Past State Deputy Bill Chasse and Former State Membership Director Jim Kraus in creating a positive culture around membership growth and council membership sustainability. Through their leadership and the efforts of their team, Michigan achieved "Circle of Honor" status for 2020. Through many changes and challenges, their positive message never wavered, and our Brother Knights gladly responded with increased recruiting efforts. Circle of Honor is well-deserved, gentlemen!

It is this culture and positive outlook on membership growth and sustainability that State Deputy Walter Winkle and his Membership Growth Team will build upon for the coming fraternal year. Membership Growth & Sustainability will be supported by State Membership Director Dan Fuller, State Training & New Council Development Director Jim Escott, E-membership & Retention Director Doug Kokot, Hispanic Growth Director Luis Rebolledo, Eastern Rite Growth Director George Roumaya, College Growth Director David Schuster, and Round-Table & Talking Points Director Daniel Remeika. These Brother Knights along with your Diocesan Membership Directors, District Deputies and State Deputy Regional Representatives will be building local and focused Ambassador Teams to engage our Catholic communities to grow our Order across the State of Michigan.

Given the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" orders, membership growth activities had to transform. Our Supreme Council has helped us focus on what local councils can do through the "Leave No Neighbor Behind" program. Supreme has also scheduled many virtual Exemplifications of Charity, Unity and Fraternity so our Order can grow without large "in-person" gatherings. Our council meetings and rosary prayers are available through the virtual world of Zoom meetings, which directly benefit those who must remain at home. It is through these tools we can communicate the benefits of the Knights of Columbus and invite friends and family to join our Order.

Through this COVID-19 pandemic, Supreme has communicated that e-membership dues will be given to COVID-19 Pandemic relief. I am proud of our Order and how it responds to emergency situations. Our Michigan Knights of Columbus councils also need to be flexible and adapt to our changing world. Let's continue to grow our Order and use all the great programs and "Good of the Order" methods to keep our membership engaged. As Fr. Paul Erickson said to us at our virtual State convention, "Rise up and be men of courage". These inspiring words need to be put into action!

Let us use our time well in July to plan our membership growth events. Not every parish will be ready in July/August for large scale events and Delta/Church Drives, but don't delay in your event planning! Schedule your Benefits Nights with your Field Agents. Reach out to your Pastor and his staff to schedule your Church Drives, Corporate Communion, and Exemplifications. Build your membership Ambassador Teams and your Exemplification Teams. I believe that membership growth and sustainability is the most important program for your council. Planning and teamwork are key actions to successful membership growth. Together we can all make it happen.

Vivat Jesus,
Dan Fuller, SMD
"Rise Up and Answer the Call"
Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney, pray for us...

From The State Program Director Paul Palka

My Brother Knight's as we start a new fraternal year with our new State Deputy, Walter Winkle Jr. we have changes to our team of State Directors to support our Councils. Your new directors are; Faith Director Greg Brunson, Family Director Garret Kelenske, Life Director Ed Strach and Community Director Michael Haughey. You will be hearing from each of them on a monthly basis either from direct emails to All on the State Email System or postings on the State Web Site.

Our Faith Director Greg Brunson would like you to concentrate on the Featured Program in the Faith Category of Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP). In 2019 Michigan only had 158 councils & assemblies that participated in the RSVP program. We were second in the entire Order to the State of Texas, imagine what we could do with more participation.

Our Family Director Garrett Kelenske would like us to get a head start on The Consecration to the Holy Family program by conducting it in conjunction with Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15th. Please remember to consider the Youth Sportsman Program during the summer fishing season. The Family of the Month program is a great program to recognize our parish and our Knights of Columbus families. Please take the time to do this worthwhile and easy program.

Our Life Director Ed Strach would like all of us to plan on attending the Right to Life Dinner which is planned for Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at the San Marino Club, 1685 E. Big Beaver, Troy, MI 48083. Other programs we encourage councils to participate in for the first quarter of the fraternal year is continuing Ultra Sound Machine funding, initiating Novena for Life and assist our county RTL organizations and local pregnancy centers.

Our Community Director Michael Haughey asks that your councils should conduct soccer shootouts in August or earlier September. The kits can be ordered through Supremes' supplies online. Diocesan level events should be conducted in September. On October 3rd, 2020 the State Soccer Challenge will be held at St. John Vianney church at 4101 Clyde Park SW in Wyoming, MI 49509. Knight of the month winners should be selected every month using the MI-02 form from the state website. It's a great way to recognize contributions of brother knights, and don't forget to recognize them at meetings, council newsletters, parish bulletins, and council websites. The Coats for Kids distribution occurs in October and November, councils should begin preparing and perhaps fundraising starting this summer. There are two ways that councils can participate either by purchasing & distributing coats on their own. Or they can contribute to the statewide effort by sending a check to the State Office made out to Michigan State Council memo line: Coats for Kids. Councils participating in Coats for Kids that qualify will earn two credits towards the Columbian Award.

Our councils have wonderful programs independent from the state and supreme programs. We are here to work together to strengthen our council, our parish and our community. We in the great jurisdiction of Michigan are never at a loss for things to do!

All we need to do is... Rise Up and Answer the Call!

Paul Palka

State Program

Director

Father John M. Lynch Council 4188 in Clawson sponsored a free screening of the film *Unplanned*, the story of Abby Johnson, an abortion facility worker who became a pro-life advocate. Before and after the film, the council circulated a petition to ban dismemberment abortion and collected approximately \$200 for Mother and Unborn Baby Care, a pregnancy resource center in Southfield.

Ladies Corner

Warm wishes and greetings from the State Deputy's wife. My name is Karen and I have been married to Walter for 35 years, this year. We have three children, daughter Chelsey, twin sons, Walter III and Willy.

Walter is very excited to begin his journey as State Deputy for the Great State of Michigan. I thank you for all the support and commitment that all the 64,000 Knights and their families of Michigan have given and will continue to give these next two years. We have faith in our Knights of Columbus family and know that with everyone's support we can continue to grow the order and keep Michigan at the top of the order.

Covid 19 will surely be a year to remember. Social distancing, stay at home orders, riots and looting, face masks, teleconferencing, working from home, unemployment, the list is extensive. But we, as Christians, need to be faithful and fearless. We walk by faith, not by sight. It is with this hope that we can continue to reach out to others that are less fortunate by extending our prayers and financial support as we normally have in the past years. We will face challenges, but Knights always persevere, I have witnessed this miracle for years.

I am proud to be married to a Knight of Columbus and will help make these next two years as successful as possible. I look forward to seeing friends and meeting new friends. God blessings to all. Stay healthy.

Karen Winkle

Cans for Seminarians



Just a quick reminder of our upcoming Challenge

There are three {3} Divisions.

**Small Councils, Medium Councils and Large Councils
Any Council in their division to win!!**

Objective: To motivate your Council members to gather up all those cans, turn them in and donate the funds to the Sacred Heart Major Seminary Endowment Fund! So, everyone wins! The Prize for round one? The State Deputy has offered up the Grand Hotel to the First and Second Delegates from the winning Council in each Division! Not a bad deal. There is 65 million dollars in unreturned cans out there so let us see what we as Knights can do!! For more information contact State Advocate Charlie McCuen III.

**From The State Deputy
Walter K. Winkle, Jr.**

out the vision of a soon to be Beatified Father Michael J. McGivney!

I ask you to contact your priest. Pray for him every day, ask him how the Council can help him during these stressful times. Be the leaders in the parish, do what he asks and not only the things you want to do. Ask parishioners who are not yet members to help. Once they get to know us, they may want to join. E-Membership is the best way to introduce him and his family to the knights.

If you did not know, Fr. McGivney died in 1890 at the age of 38, as he was administering to the sick, during an epidemic that researchers now believe may have been caused by a coronavirus. A level of dedication unsurpassed by many. Yet he founded our order to help the widows and orphans after their husbands and fathers died due to sickness and poor working conditions. He fought the constant bigotry against all Catholics and specifically the Irish, who were treated as people of no worth or value. Turning back the pages of time and seeing how these people have been treated and how they lived, it is hard to believe that some of these sentiments still exist today. We are and have been dealing with our own pandemic and the discord of society. Many families are out of work and do not know when or if they will be going back. Businesses have been forced to close due to the lack of funds to pay their rent and operating costs. You could say that we are experiencing the same type of situation as in the past. Who would have ever believed it could get so bad that we are told to stay home and not leave for months on end?

Although this may sound bleak, may I remind you, that we are Knights of Columbus and we have been living Fr. McGivney's dream for so long that here we are with a chance to live it in many ways the same as he did. Whether you know it or not, people are counting on us and our leadership skills. This is not a time to sit back and say, "I can't do anything" or "there is nothing I can do". I am not advocating that we do not follow the imposed rules of social distancing by any means. The health and safety of us and our families must come first! I am saying that there are many things we can do from our home to make the lives of others better. Let us start with Prayer. Do we pray as a family? With the advancement and ease of telecommunication, we can now have group prayer with not only our families but our K of C family also. You know, those guys you haven't seen for a few months. It is imperative that we keep up communication with all our membership and provide for the wellbeing of their families. If you have not sent out a newsletter recently or your council has not sent one in quite some time, I implore you to start now. Communication is a necessity to keep us strong through these times of pandemic. If you can help your Grand Knight put a newsletter together, please contact him and volunteer.

Since Supreme is not sending a per capita invoice for the 2020-2021 fraternal year, you can't use the excuse that your council does not have the money to produce a newsletter. I ask that you please send a copy to me, our State Membership Director, Dan Fuller, State Program Director, Paul Palka and State Public Relations Director, Gary Merritt. We would like to try and end the notion that we are our best kept secret and share many of the great things you do in your councils with others around the state. Don't forget to contact your local news and radio stations and share your great works. Remember that we are asking for you to keep good records of these events so that you can submit them for recognition of your hard work during our State Convention!

The last I will touch on is the Leave no Neighbor Behind (LNNB) Program. This is something you can do, and do not even need to leave the safety of your home and family! Simply put, call, not email, every Brother Knight in your council and ask, "how are you doing, do you need any help?" Work with your Financial Secretary to get phone numbers for these brothers and if the numbers no longer work, the investigation begins to find out how to get in touch with them. Break up into groups or call chains so that one person is not doing everything. Your FS would be grateful when contact is made, to update their information. Re-connect while staying at home. Inform him of the virtual meeting your council will be holding, and that if he does not have a computer or Smart Phone, he can still call in from the comfort of his home and be part of the meeting. For those who are well enough and are comfortable leaving your home environment, there are several other programs you can incorporate along with your parish to deliver items such as food and medicine or maybe do simple repairs that need to be done around a house. This will be a growing program with many exciting possibilities only left to your imagination. Supreme is asking that you contact them, as well as our State Program Director, if you have any big plans with LNNB because they would like to attend to take pictures and report your success and progress in this program.

I ask you to work closely with your District Deputy in putting your meetings back together. Following the guidelines from the State of Michigan, Bishops, and priests, there are some places that are allowed to get together in larger groups and have meetings while maintaining appropriate social distancing. There are those that are uncomfortable in attending in person at this time. You cannot ignore their concerns and exclude them from your meetings. There are several ways to include them, along with others that cannot drive after dark, are on vacation, are out of town, or sick. If there is not anyone in the Council that can help set up a video or phone link for every meeting, whether there is quarantine or not, ask for help from your DD. Better yet, ask young parishioners if they would be willing to share their talents and knowledge by helping your council expand and implement the current technology. It really has been made so easy anyone can use current technology with a little guidance.

A Clarion Call from Into the Breach Video Series. "Men, do not hesitate to engage in the battle that is raging around you...." "Not only does God have a plan for your life, so does Satan" Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted. Please visit www.Kofc.org/intothebreach. I am now asking you to RISE UP and ANSWER the CALL!

If I could, I would shake your hand,

Vivat Jesus!

Walter K. Winkle, Jr.

State Deputy

"Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do.

Attitude determines how well you do it." — Lou Holtz

From The State Chaplain
Rev. Paul Ballien

He then continues on to say, “The counterfeit of freedom consists in the idea of personal and communal liberation from morality, responsibility and truth. It is what the founders expressly distinguished from liberty and condemned as “license.” The so-called freedom celebrated today by so many of our opinion-shaping elites in education, entertainment and the media is simply the license to do whatever one pleases. This false conception of freedom – false because disordered, disordered because detached from moral truth and civic responsibility – shackles those in its grip no less powerfully than did slavery of old. Enslavement to one’s own appetites and passions is no less brutal a form of bondage...It is no less tragic, indeed, it is in certain respects immeasurably more tragic, for being self-imposed. It is ironic, is it not, that people who celebrate slavery to appetite and passion call this bondage freedom?”

As Knights of Columbus, we are in a position to help further the cause for true freedom. We have the truth which comes from Jesus Christ, we have the moral law that comes from God and we have the Holy Spirit to help us live out with virtue God’s Commandments. When we live out the truth together, we will strengthen our families and the society that we live in, and thereby help our country to truly remain free.

Freedom never comes easy, and it will surely be lost at the price of ignorance and hostility to the Christian faith. The events of the last few months should serve as a reminder to us, that this can happen. This is why we must always be vigilant in order to preserve our freedom. So as we remember Independence Day, let us continue the work of advancing the cause of true freedom and liberty. After all, we are very lucky to have these things, as sadly, many in our world do not.

God Bless,

Fr. Paul Ballien

Knights of Columbus State Chaplain



during his visit to St. Patrick’s Cathedral cited the “remarkable accomplishment of that exemplary American priest, the Venerable Michael McGivney, whose vision and zeal led to the establishment of the Knights of Columbus.”

Two recent books also tell the story of Father McGivney and his legacy: *Parish Priest* (2006), his biography; and the *The Knights of Columbus: An Illustrated History* (2020).

More information is also available at www.FatherMcGivney.org

Kalamazoo Diocese Bishop Emeritus James A. Murray, an ‘exemplary priest and bishop,’ dies at 87



KALAMAZOO (CNS) — Bishop James A. Murray, the third bishop of the Diocese of Kalamazoo, died of natural causes Friday June 5. He was 87.

He served the diocese as bishop from 1998 until his retirement in 2009.

Bishop Paul J. Bradley of Kalamazoo announced his predecessor’s passing, saying he had visited Bishop Murray on June 4. “I was grateful to be able to visit him yesterday and relay how grateful we all are to him for his leadership as the third bishop of the Diocese of Kalamazoo, and

since his retirement, for his wonderful priestly example of providing pastoral assistance wherever and whenever he could and for being such an exemplary priest and bishop of Jesus Christ,” Bishop Bradley said in a statement.

A native of Jackson, Mich., Bishop Murray was born to James and Clare Murray on July 5, 1932. He received a bachelor of arts degree from Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. He held additional degrees in theology from St. John Seminary in Plymouth, and from The Catholic University of America and a licentiate in canon law from that university.

Bishop Murray was ordained a priest in 1958 for the Diocese of Lansing. He served in parishes and other ministries in the diocese until his appointment in 1998 as Kalamazoo’s bishop by St. John Paul II.

Detroit Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron said he was “saddened to learn” of Bishop Murray’s death.

“He was an exemplary priest and a good brother to me,” Archbishop Vigneron said. “Let us all join with the Church in Kalamazoo to ask the Lord Jesus, the great High Priest, to give the bishop the rewards of his labors as ‘a faithful and prudent servant.’”

Bishop Murray spent more than 50 years serving the state’s Catholics through the Michigan Catholic Conference, the statewide public policy arm of the Church, first as a liaison officer and priest representative, and later as vice chairman of the board of directors.

Paul A. Long, the conference’s president and CEO, said he personally felt Bishop Murray’s loss, as the late bishop was Long’s pastor before being ordained to the episcopate.

Long said Bishop Murray was “a brilliant homilist, a helpful spiritual advisor, and a good friend to myself and many others. He was small in stature but a giant in the Church and the broader community.”

The Kalamazoo diocese reported that Bishop Murray ordained 15 men as priests and 28 men as permanent deacons, confirmed more than 14,000 young Catholics, and welcomed more than 3,100 new Catholics into the church through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

A private funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Augustine Cathedral in Kalamazoo. A memorial Mass will be planned in the future after current stay-at-home restrictions because of the coronavirus pandemic are lifted.

MICHIGAN'S STATE OF COLUMBIANISM
STATE DEPUTY'S REPORT
 William H. Chassé



I would like to thank all Bishops for their support and guidance during my two years as State Deputy. At times you were very much needed during these very interesting and trying times. I will explain, I became State Deputy two years earlier than planned due to the tragic death of our good friend Antonio Vittorini. Tony was State Secretary when he passed away. I was elected State Deputy June of 2018. We as a team had four months to put our strategic plan together. Our first objective was to let it be known that communication is most important, especially when done with a positive attitude. We had a very successful first year with all programs. For the ninth year in a row we received a check from Supreme for \$10,000 for Special Olympics. We were number one in division one states for total participation. We missed COH by 100 members. We knew what we had to do to achieve that goal our second year. With four months left in my second year as State Deputy the Corona Virus landed in Michigan and the whole world. It made it tough for many councils to do much of anything. We as a State kept positive and reminded people this is not a time to quit, but a time to recruit because the Church and communities needed our help more than ever. We reminded our members that the more that join, the more we can accomplish.

We started our second year much more prepared.

We started the year with New District Deputy training to prepare them and give them all the tools they needed to be successful.

We attended the Grand Rapids Clergy Appreciation night.

We also attended the Arch Bishop's Gala. We were able to present a check for \$150,000 to Sacred Heart Major Seminary for the Seminarian Scholarship Endowment Fund. This was to ensure no seminarian will fall short of their formation due to financial reasons.

The State Board also visited Rising Star Academy.

A facility for students with intellectual disabilities. They help prepare students for the workforce by coaching them in different types of restaurant positions which will help them earn a living later on.

In July we held our Summer Organizational Meeting in Lansing, MI. I think most went away with some valuable information while having a little fun.

We went on our annual Diocesan road trip to visit all seven dioceses to give directions on what needed to be done to be successful.

On July 26, 2020, the State Board attended the Installation of Bishop Robert D. Gruss in Saginaw.

In August, the State Board attended the Supreme Convention in Minneapolis Minnesota. We walked away with some new changes to present to our state.

We attended many fundraisers including Lansing Lugnuts baseball game for Vocations. The ballpark was filled with over 5,000 members of the Knights of Columbus.

Other events we attended were Council 2022 100-year celebration, Knights on Bikes rally, and the State Camp Out.

The state board also attended Lansing's Bishop Charity golf outing on August 19 in the month of September, we attended Detroit Diocesan Chaplain Fr. Paul

Balliens 50th birthday celebration and fundraiser. On September 20th the State Board attended Special Olympics Fall Games Opening Ceremonies. Five different charity events were also attended. On the 21st The State Board attended Tiger night at Detroit Tiger stadium. On September 26 the Board attended the 46th annual Right to Life Convention where we received the highest award given by the Michigan RTL (The Lifetime Achievement Award)

On September 28 we attended Former Grand Rapids Diocesan Chaplain's Very Rev. Fr. Ron Hutchinson's 25th Anniversary of Ordination. We celebrated council 7200 40th year Anniversary. We also attended Kalamazoo Bishop's Clergy night and talked about how the Knights could support them.

We attended District #1 Exemplification along with attending Sacred Heart Major Seminarian's 100-year Anniversary giving all 120 Seminarians a gift of \$100.00 We thought 100 years deserves at least one hundred dollars.

The month of October was a very busy month.

We attended three different council anniversary celebrations.

We attended RTL dinner in Grand Rapids along with The Diocese of Saginaw RTL Fundraiser.

On the 9th we attended District #2 and District #4 Exemplifications. The State Board attended the annual Provincial Meeting.

The State Board attended the annual Prep Bowl sponsored by the Michigan Knights of Columbus. The Prep Bowl is when Catholic High School football teams play against each other at Ford field for the play-offs.

On October 26 The State Board met and had dinner with Cardinal Burke. We also attended his Pontifical Mass at Assumption Grotto in Detroit. Many other fundraiser events held throughout the state were attended by our State Officers.

In November, we attended the 75-year Anniversary of council 2894 in Negaunee Michigan. Other events we attended were the annual St. Louis Center Dinner Auction to support the center that houses many people with intellectual disabilities. Also, Detroit Athletic Vocation League Fundraiser. This also supports our Seminarians.

In the month of December, we held our Midyear Organization Meeting with 100 out of 102 District Deputies attending. We put together the new motto "Do You Believe". State leadership and Supreme representatives wore Shirts with this Motto.

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**MICHIGAN'S STATE OF COLUMBIANISM
STATE DEPUTY'S REPORT
William H. Chassé**

The State Board attended Knights on Bikes Christmas party and discussed what they can help with.

We brought in the New Year with a Diocesan Trip to Marquette to talk with District Deputies and to see how we can help and gave ideas on what could help make them successful. We then continued to all Dioceses in the State for informational guidance. We asked how we could help in any way. We had six council Anniversaries in January.

The State Board attended the RTL March in Washington DC.

In the month of February, the State Board attended the Special Olympics Opening Ceremonies and gave the \$10,000 check we received for being number one in Division one States.

We attended the State Bowling Tournament and attended the State Tribute Dinner to celebrate council Fast Start Achievements and outstanding awards for District Deputies.

March started out normal, we attended the Men's conference and spoke to everyone in attendance about the importance of joining the Knights of Columbus.

Then Covid-19 Hit and the Governor shut down the state. That's when we got really creative.

In April we pushed the 50% off code neighbor 2020.

And an Exemplification Webinar was held on April 16, 2020. We brought in 144 new members and 293 advanced to the 3rd degree and 33 E-members converted to councils. 195 observers. For a total of 665 participating in the Webinar.

For the month of April, we continued in asking everyone to stay positive.

We gave reasons why recruiting was a must. With our Governors stay at home order, it made it hard for councils to continue with recruiting but with many emails, zoom meetings and letters sent by mail, we saved the month of April.

We continued to give tools and forwarded emails from Supreme with ideas on how to stay active during this pandemic.

May has brought us a great achievement with attaining Circle of Honor for the first time in 11 years. We moved up to the 6th position in the world and the number 2 position in the US. Numbers are important, without them we would not be able to carry out Michael J. McGivney's dream of taking care of those less fortunate than ourselves. There is no time like the present for Knights of Columbus members to be strengthening this fraternity of men for the betterment of our communities.

I want to thank all of you for your support and the working relationship with me these past two years.

Because of all of us working together we did something that hasn't happened in 11 years that is Making Circle of Honor.

Congratulations!!!!

We did it very impressively too, all year we were towards the top we were number 2 or 3 in the United states and 10 or 11th in the world.

I think that's something to be proud of. It couldn't happen if it weren't because of all of you.

To Jim Kraus and Bill Leveque Thank you for your dedication and all the hours you've given to make this year so special.

Jim Kraus as our State Membership Director because of your dedication we made COH, it couldn't happen without your dedication.

Bill Leveque because of your devotion and time given along with all the great programs you and your team put together you were a big part of us making COH Thank you for everything.

I know next year will be a great year also, soon to be State Deputy Elect Walter Winkle will lead with pride and honor.

I want to thank the State Board for their partnership in making Michigan great again and more importantly your friendship.

To the District Deputies thank you for all you do and for helping your councils be successful. Your positions are more important then maybe you know. It's because of you, we were so successful. Thank you for working so hard.

To all State, Regional, and Diocesan Directors thank you for working so hard with the District Deputies and councils. Without your help we wouldn't have been as successful as we were.

I would like to thank Larry Grabowski and Gary Kolbicz for all you support and help you give throughout the year. Things would not be the same if it weren't for your help. Thank you very much.

To the Past State Deputies thank you for your support and for everything you did as State Deputy. As you know the position is more than most know but it's very honoring to be known as a State Deputy.

You did it because you care and wanted to continue the pride we have here in Michigan. Thank you for all the years you served.

I want to thank our Bishop's and Diocesan Chaplains and all clergy; The Knights of Columbus will always Support you and look up to you. We couldn't do what we do without your support.

To all Wives of the Knights of Columbus thank you for your support and patience. you mean more to the Knights of Columbus then we let you know.

To the Liberty Committee all those that have been with us from day 1 or in between to today Thank you for all the years and time you have given Marybeth and I. You truly are part of our family. I hope we tell you enough how important you all are to us, thank you for everything you have done for us.

I want to thank my wife for all the years you supported me as I went through the chairs up to State Deputy. You mean more to me then I deserve. Thanks to my entire family for your support.

My kids mean a lot to me and I remember the day I was elected, I hoped you had the patience and wanted to share the ride with us. You did that with the most respect I could ask for thank you very much You make me proud.

Thanks to Our State Chaplain Fr Paul we were friends before I became State Deputy and were still good friends, I thank you for that and it means more to me then you'll ever know that you were our State Chaplain. Thank you, FR. Paul,

It was an interesting and trying ride at times but I'm glad we did it.

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**MICHIGAN'S STATE OF COLUMBIANISM
STATE DEPUTY'S REPORT
William H. Chassé**

Starting two years ahead of schedule because of the tragic death of our good friend Tony Vittorini Working through the uniform change then the Degree change and ending with What we find our selves in now with Covid—19 Virus one might say the good lord tested our spirits.

I will always be proud to have been your State Deputy and I will always be proud to be a Knight of Columbus

God bless all of you and God bless the Knights of Columbus.

The State of Michigan is growing and will continue to prosper under the State Leadership of dedicated Catholic men.

William H. Chasse

State Deputy

General Agents Remarks For Virtual State Convention

Worthy State Deputy, Brothers all, thank you for giving me the time to address you briefly during this historic virtual convention.

This is an unprecedented time for all of us. On behalf of all the General Agents in state of Michigan, Please be assured, first and foremost of our agency's thoughts and prayers for you and your families. An agent's primary role is to be there for his brothers, so please do not hesitate to reach out to us if there's ANY way we can help in this time.

I want to assure you that our agency, and all Knights of Columbus business and charitable functions are operational. Agents have transitioned to meeting and conducting business with members via Skype. This transition has been a great convenience for members. We are finding that both members and agents are really enjoying this new experience, and we're excited to incorporate that into our standard practices once we move past this pandemic.

The Supreme Council has shifted its business operations too, and has been working remotely since mid-March.

This is a time, I know, when many of you have more financial concerns than usual. Maybe you're concerned about volatility. Maybe you need to be able to access more of your cash that's tied up in other places. Maybe you're thinking about adding insurance. Maybe you're looking for a new career. As always, the Knights of Columbus stands ready - BY DESIGN, by Father McGivney *himself* - to help protect your financial future.

Just this past month, at the height of the economic uncertainty brought upon by the Coronavirus, S&P Global Ratings published a report showing the Knights of Columbus as being tied for the most financially strong life insurer in all of North America. That's a reality made possible only by our strong Catholic guiding principles, and by the tremendous support and trust that you show us each and every year.

If we didn't have those things, we'd never be able to weather storms like these – where trusted partners are needed more than ever.

So as we turn the page - God willing - from this moment and to the next, I want to personally invite you to have a conversation with us. And I want to personally thank you - and especially our state officers - for their support and their collaboration this past year.

You know we are all fraternalists. Just as the successes of our insurance business ought to be points of pride for all of us, we are so incredibly proud of the work that all of you do to help support our Church and our communities. You are a beacon of God's joy and God's charity to Michigan, and we are honored to work with you and for you. And we are excited to tackle this next fraternal year together.

I'll close with a few personal observation... I started my career with the Knights of Columbus in 2001, It has been one financial crisis after another. The terrorist attack on September 11th, 2001, the collapsing mortgage crisis in 2008-2009 and today's financial challenge is the Covid-19. Every event, We the owner's and insured members of the Knights of Columbus have never ever lost any money. In fact, every policy owner made money in those trying times. Rest assure the Knights of Columbus was there during the past crisis' and will be there for all future crisis's protecting and growing your family's finances along with sustaining our charitable giving. Today as mention, during this pandemic we are meeting our members through a secured virtual world, this new way present some changes yet we still realize how important it is to make ourselves available to protect our membership and their dreams, along with carrying out our promise to protect and serve. This reminds me of a story I was told many years ago, it is about 3 little pigs. One built their house out of straw, one built their house out of sticks and the third one built the house out of bricks. The Knights of Columbus owners have protected their families in their brick house.

Thank you for your time, I hope to see you all soon, and Vivat Jesus!

Daniel Thelen FICF, CSA

Knights of Columbus Insurance

General Agent - Western Michigan

TRADITIONAL COUNCILS

A Knights of Columbus council can work wonders; in fact, with its many programs, it can help change the community, town, city or neighborhood in which you live. However, a successful Knights of Columbus program depends on people taking the initial idea, modifying it to suit specific situations and local needs, then implementing the program in the way it works.

Each local council evaluates the needs of their community and implements those programs and activities that are most needed in their area. The Knights of Columbus Faith in Action Programs activities are designed to engage the council members in various activities across a host of categories.

Msgr. Clement H. Kern Council 8284 in Canton sponsored a coat drive in partnership with St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Parish. Over two weekends, members and parishioners collected more than \$3,000 in donations and approximately 1,500 coats for parishioners and neighbors in need, which they sorted and bagged for distribution.



Dear Brother Knights,

Now that summer has officially arrived and the weather is getting warmer, I hope you are enjoying time with family, friends, and outdoor activities.

Since Holy Cross Services is considered critical and an essential business, we have remained open, working every day to serve our clients across Michigan. Even during the pandemic, all of our services have continued.

In late May, four of our Saginaw facilities (Fayette, Orwig, Queen, and St. Vincent Home) were affected by the devastating and historic flooding that occurred in Mid-Michigan when two dams breached which forced the evacuation of all our children and adults that live in those facilities. All our clients and staff were safely moved to other facilities for the week. Fortunately, once we got the approval to return, the residential facilities were not damaged but our Orwig foster care and main office was flooded.

So often we hear stories from those we serve of how Holy Cross has changed their lives for the better and they say they just don't know where they would be without us. Thank you Knights for your continued support in helping us deliver the services we provide, and the hope and healing to those we serve, **THANK YOU!**

Our children at St. Vincent Home kept very busy during the last couple months doing various projects and creating window art for where they live with us. I have included some pictures so you can see their little masterpieces! They represent faith, inspiration, and love – which is one of the many things Holy Cross teaches our clients each, and every day!

Stay strong we will get through this uncertain time. We truly have much to be thankful for, always. Be well, safe, and enjoy your Michigan summer!

With Gratitude and humility,

Sharon Berkobien
CEO

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 12, 2020

The 2020 Izzo Legacy Run Walk & Roll will take place at MSU Football Game at 8:50 a.m. The events include a 5K Run/Walk, 5K Roll, 1 Mile Walk, Children's Races and a Virtual 5K; all events will focus on fitness, fun, family, Spartan spirit and charitable giving! Proceeds will create an endowment for the Izzo Legacy Family Fund that will ensure charitable giving for years to come. Grab your running shoes and come join the fun! Select HOLY CROSS SERVICES as your local charity through the registration process at:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/EastLansing/TheIzzo>

Thursday, September 17, 2020

The 30th Annual Corcoran 4-Person Golf Scramble will be at the Fortress Golf Course in Frankenmuth, MI

9:00 a.m. Registration/Refreshments

10:00 a.m. Shotgun start (lunch at the turn)

3:00 p.m. Dinner

**The
Fortress**
FRANKENMUTH, MI



For sponsorship, individual player and team pricing information, please call Karen Rupley at 517-423-7556 or email her at krupley@hccsnet.org

Visit our website to see the new things we are doing, and to learn more about HCS!
HolyCrossServices.org.

How Does Holy Cross Change Lives? Client Testimonial

"My parents' rights were terminated from abuse I suffered. While I've been at Holy Cross, I was told a few times from other relatives that they wanted me and that they were going to bring me to their house to live. But each time something came up and it just never happened. Without Holy Cross I would have lost hope. Holy Cross has become my family and has helped me feel like I matter. Thank you, Holy Cross, for saving me."



Visit our website to see the new things we are doing, and to learn more about HCS!

HolyCrossServices.org



**HOLY CROSS SERVICES
APRIL CALENDAR WINNERS**

Carolyn Zanetti, Dale Wangler, Eric Strauss, John & Alice Thelen, Gerald Gialanella, Frank & Cynthia Thelen, Immaculata Council #8274, Kenneth Schwab, Robert Brickner, Charles & Joanne Miller, Joel Weiher, John Moskwa, Raymond Gengler, Paul Rose, William Jackson, Reverend Roy Horning, Bryan Root, Kenneth May, Alicia Thomas, Dennis Stanley, John Robillard, James Kumcz, Kathryn Backhuus, Kevin Sherman, Gerald Lesney, Philip Balmforth, Jerry's Barber Shop, Kurt & Renee Thelen, Laurie Heuer, Tommy Gray,
\$500 WINNER - Zach Wagner



**HOLY CROSS SERVICES
MAY CALENDAR WINNERS**

Thomas Scheller, Brent Moeggenborg, Lori Strauss, Robert Frasier, Janet Hendrie, Tyrone Medley, Bill Schoos, Yvette Ploskonka, Bob Hewitt, Robert LaValle, James & Lynn Thelen, Carl Carlton, Andrew & Shari Schlaud, Kellee Eyre, David Riley, Gerald Burke, Joseph & Dorothy Cross, Thomas Wysocki, Ronald Ostrowski, Bonnie Pepin, Joseph Petkus, Philip Ouillette, Michael Higgins, Mary Knudstrup, Charles Bolda, Robert Bielinski, Charles Lemont, Edward Smeader, Richard Tellner, Patrick Sinke, Robert Smith,
\$500 WINNER - Gerald Grobbel



**HOLY CROSS SERVICES
JUNE CALENDAR WINNERS**

Louis Schafer, Arthur Spencer, William Roller, Bill & Linda Hamrick, Joseph Dunn, Joseph Pokryfke, Daniel Shields, Glen & Frances King, Raymond Ross, Louis Bryan, Sr., Kurt Schafer, Mark Wilhelm, Susan Konkle, Michael Wolfston, Joseph Vitale, Yvonne DeLorge, Amelia Horst, Thomas Carey, Gregory McCarty, Joseph & Renee Reckelberg, David Sledge, Joel Witgen, Cardinal Mercier Council #2723, James & Joan Bezaire, Jeffrey Godfrey, Albert C. Doerr Council #7869, Frederick Kraemer, Dominic Rubino, Pamela Fraley, Tim Tobolic,
\$500 WINNER - Joseph & Marilyn Bourgojn

Please remember, calendars are available for \$25.00 each at your local Knights of Columbus or contact Karen Rupley at 517-423-7556 or email krupley@hccsnet.org. We have daily drawings of \$50, monthly \$500, and the December Grand Prize is \$5,000!

About Holy Cross Services

Holy Cross Services helps the traumatized across Michigan.... abused and neglected children, youth and adults who suffer from addiction and mental health issues, and homeless children, adults and veterans

Holy Cross Services (HCS) is a human service agency whose **mission is to bring hope, promote change, and help people live free, healthy, and productive lives.** Holy Cross has three main service areas: **Children's Services** (Residential and Community-based Foster Care, Independent Living Plus, Independent Living, Juvenile Justice Transition, Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care plus onsite Michael J. McGivney School Elementary to 12th grade), **Behavioral Health Services** (Residential and Outpatient Substance Use and Mental Health Disorders), plus **Homeless Services and Shelter.**

Founded in 1948, Holy Cross touches the lives of approximately 1,500 people every day who are abused, neglected, traumatized, and/or who suffer from addiction and mental health issues across Michigan, plus over 6,000 homeless veterans, children and adults in Lansing, Michigan. HCS is one of the largest private, 501c3 non-profit organizations in Michigan.

Visit our website to see the new things we are doing, and to learn more about HCS!
HolyCrossServices.org



**Michigan State Council Knights of Columbus
120th Annual State Convention, VIRTUAL**

May 23, 2020 REPORT ON THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

State Round Table Director Daniel P. Remeika: Worthy State Chaplin, Reverend Fathers, Religious, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy State Officers, Worthy Delegates, and brother Knights, Vivat Jesus.

The world has been enduring a time of severe trial, mitigated by social distancing and served heroically by essential workers and ordinary citizens alike. With deep gratitude, let us thank all of these servants in charity who did it for people in need, no matter how unimportant they seemed, and in so doing did it for God Himself.

Our Order was founded in similar circumstances. The 1889-1890 Flu Pandemic claimed the lives of over a million individuals, one of whom was Father Michael McGivney who died on August 14, 1890, two days after his 38th birthday, after complications from the flu. So, anxious to reestablish our spiritual and communal lives, let us look with joyful hope toward gradual returns to normalcy and let us be grateful to God for His protection now and for the signs of relief that appear in the distance.

Although we do not know exactly the distance, when it will be safe to fully resume all usual public gatherings, we can be grateful now for our leaders who have been monitoring the coronavirus, guiding and reassuring us. Last month, State Deputy William Chasse said:

“Please keep up your best spirits as we manage our way through this unusual situation. Be patient, hope for the best, this will pass. But always plan prudently and be smart by practicing good hygiene, washing your hands often. See where we can help; help the elderly with food delivery, help get formula and diapers to babies and their families. Ask your pastors who or how you can help. Many people can’t help themselves and this is where we come in. Please stay calm, don’t overreact and have faith with prayer.”

These words, “this is where we come in,” are worth reflection. The stronger and more numerous becomes the “we,” the more we can do. But let’s be honest. You can Google studies that reveal where men withdraw from the practice of their faith, the family follows. Although our first principle is charity, we are not a charity with meetings. In *Parish Priest*, a book on Father Michael McGivney, Douglas Brinkley and Julie Fenster wrote on page 111, “... a new organization composed of Catholic men: a group that was benevolent, fraternal, and soundly religious.” Yes, being a Knight is to be called fully into the spiritual life. What better reason is there to invite other men to join our Order?

So, how are Knights in Michigan giving witness to our confidence in the good news of the Lord’s victory over suffering and death? Some sponsor lunches for medical professionals at local hospitals. Some donate proceeds from previously held events to nearby parishes and pantries hurt by reduced support during the coronavirus. Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori challenged us to write down Psalm 27:1 — “The Lord is my light and my salvation” — put it up where we’ll see it daily and recite it regularly. Second, he challenged us to make a donation to a pregnancy center. The Supreme Council offers us a new 12-episode video that calls men to spiritual battle. There are many ways to give witness. Even when we feel overwhelmed by life, remember that God took upon Himself at the Cross all of our sins and all of our failures and all of our sufferings and overcame death in the person of Jesus Christ. In his letter to the faithful on May 4, The Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron, Archbishop of Detroit, wrote:

“As we move forward, we must remember God’s unending love for us and his ability to bring good from our trials. He created each of us to live in this moment, during this pandemic so that we might give witness to our confidence in the good news of the Lord’s victory over suffering and death. Please pray that I may rise to this challenge, as I will pray for you.”

In summary: Look with joyful hope toward returns to normalcy. Be grateful to God for His protection. Be grateful for our leaders who have been monitoring the coronavirus. Help others. Be a Knight called fully into the spiritual life and invite other men to join. Give witness to our confidence in the good news of our Lord, for Christ experienced suffering, as do his followers, so in health and success or trials and suffering, experience all things with Christ.

Worthy State Deputy, thank you for the honor to address the 120th State Convention of the Knights of Columbus and to present this report to these distinguished brother Knights. We request that this report be approved and incorporated into the proceedings of this meeting and that the Good of the Order committee be released.

May They Rest In Peace

Detroit Council 2739

Tom Suski

Westphalia Council 2890

Vernon Schneider

Chesaning Council 2943

Jerry Birchmeier

Utica Council 2950

Robert Wentz

Lincoln Park Council 3078

Martin Solis, Richard

Augustine

Edward Gubala, Daniel

O’Connell

Fred Rodriguez, Ernest Bondy

Robert Bjerk, John Ferguson

Pedro Gonzalez, Donald

Keezer

John Casagrande, Gerry

Clemens

John Clemente, William

Bradley

Lawrence Whybra, Mark Burris

Tony Longo PGK

Allen Park Council 3774

Mike Kammer, Charles Clarey

Swartz Creek Council 6694

Frank Person, William Dignan

Montrose Council 8669

Donald Ossenheimer

Jackson Council 8858

Richard Tyslenko

Clinton Twp. Council 11689

Charles Lomasney

Port Huron Council 11756

James Rumley

White Cloud Council 13939

William Lyon

Southfield Council 14928

Raymond Lim

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 Country _____
 Name _____
 Address City/State/ _____
 MONTHLY MASS FOR GUILD MEMBERS

Casey Teddy Bear Order Form

Council No. _____ Council Name _____

Order Qty. _____ Total Order (Number of Bears x \$10) _____

Ship To: Name _____

Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Code _____

Checks Payable to: Michigan State Council Knights of Columbus Memo: Casey Teddy Bears

Send to: Michael Haughey
State Community Director
15045 Veronica
Eastpointe, MI 48021

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ARE
MEN WHO LEAD
MEN WHO SERVE
MEN WHO PROTECT
MEN WHO DEFEND**

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Council 7444

“As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.” (Mt. 25:40)



Knights L-R: Doug & Anne Sordyl, Bill Beningo, Mike Opalko, Ken Hulewicz, John Rogers, Bob Sobczak, Paul & Janice Castiglione

Sisters L-R: Sr. MaryAugustine Goodwin, Sr. Paula Fuentes, Sr. Amata Christi Dugdale, Sr. Benedict Karol LeBlond, Sr. Mary Walter O'Brien, Sr. Marie Diana Hartman, Sr. Mary Ruth Lindsey, Sr. Francis Rose Muenks
Please pray for the canonization of Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, 1 our father, 1 hail Mary, 1 Glory Be.

There are many saints, and indeed many holy men and women who we can turn to, both in the past as well as in modern times who have exemplified and practiced responding to God's Will. Many of them have done so not only in heroic circumstances but also, and even more importantly, in their daily lives. And yet as important as it is to look to the past and be inspired by those great saints who have come before us, it is also important to look to the present and see those men and women who continually seek to fulfill this fundamental request of Our Lord, to care for "the least of these my brethren." It is in doing so that they care for Christ Himself.

Venerable Fulton J. Sheen once said that "Charity is a habit, not a gush, or sentiment; it is a virtue, not an ephemeral thing of moods and impulses; it is a quality of the soul, rather than an isolated good deed." It is this character of the soul that the Milford Council of the nights of Columbus has shown in their relationship with the Community. Every year for the past several years the Archbishop Fulton Sheen Council has supported young women in formation. Yet more the monetary gift, the Sisters are grateful for the time spent getting to know the Knights and their families and for having the opportunity to meet gentleman who truly embody the quality of soul that Our Blessed Lord speaks to when He says "as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." (Mt.25:40)

NOTE: FOR GRAND KNIGHTS AND COUNCIL PR CHAIRMAN

In each issue of the Michigan Columbian we print the Families of the month as designated by the local councils in the State. These families deserve State wide recognition. We appreciate your help in keeping this information current. The names of the Family of the Month and the Family of the Year need to be sent to: Garret A. Kelenske, State Council Family Life Director, 1439 Maple Ridge St., Muskegon, MI 49445. *cfy - council family of year . Send a copy of the Family of the Month and the Family of the Year to the Michigan Columbian.

Families of the Month

Bay City Council 414

Thomas DeLorge family

Orchard Lake Council 600

Thomas & Leslie Maier

Lansing Council 788

Keith & Kathy Warriner

Dearborn Council 2660

The Norwood Family*cfy
3 Generations of Active Knights
Dennis & Ella Norwood 1st Gen.
Dave & Sheila Norwood 2nd Gen.
Rich & Sue Norwood 2nd Gen.
Erik Norwood 3rd Gen.

Westphalia Council 2890

Scott & Vicki Noeker

Utica Council 2950

Scott & Lori Morgan
Robert & Michelle Murawski
Harry & Bernadette Kuk
Scott & Lori Morgan

Ken & Lynn Grunewald

Pinconning Council 2986

Larry & Rita Revord

Lincoln Park council 3078

Bill & Beverly Montie
Jim & Jan Russell
Bob & Jean Stordeur
Kyle & Colleen Gregory
Michael & Nicole Ehred
Noe & Diana Garza
Dave & Lynn Hayward

Al & Pauline Sanchez

Dave & Kim Oakley

Jim & Jan Bomia

Bill & Diane O'Donnell

Manchester Council 4354

Edward & Bonnie Barnard

Mark & Randy Iwanicki

Farmington Council 4401

Tom & Julia Szymkowski

Anand & Katie Thakur

Chris & Christine Parnin

Waterford Council 5436

Joseph & Deborah Brenner

Michael & Ann Maria Rich

Rochester Council 5452

Bob & Sandy Krueger

New Baltimore Council 581

Den. Larry & Cindy

Paczkowski

Mike & Kathleen Cousins

Duane & Sheryl Gaedcke

Dale & Donna Valliere

Saline Council 6674

Chris & Joanne Mistopoulos

Swartz Creek Council 6694

Richard & Phyllis Campbell

Elek & Marti Kovacs

Bob & Karen George

Bill & Marian Bacik

Ken & Molly Lixey

Jenison Council 7487

Bill & Candy Hook

Freeland Council 7582

Lynn & Carol LaBreque

Sanford Council 8043

William & Rhonda Bankstahl

Howell Council 8169

Den. Dave & Elaine Piggot

Canton Council 8284

Bill & Mary Des Ormean*cfy

Auburn Hills Council 8659

Barry & Cheryl Doherty

Montrose Council 8669

Linden & Eli Moore

Kimball Council 9526

David & Linda Tokarski

Lansing Council 9711

Dan & Laurie Fell

Ira Council 10724

First Responders

Health Care Workers

Kevin & Tara Hagood

Paul & Ann Sattler

Harbor Beach Council 11432

Bob & Regina Wruble

Marcelino & Columbina

Moreno

Leonard & Linda Emming

Gerald & Dinny Schroeder

Harrison Twp. Council 11658

James & Kim Brooks

Clinton Twp. Council 11689

Don & Marianne Szezyngier

Phil & Pat Bonnette

All Family's of St. Hubert

Parish

Reed City Council 12668

Bob & Dawn Shepler

Vicksburg Council 13305

Joseph & Stephanie Klein

Michael & Carol Coppens

Howell Council 13450

Kevin & Darlene Burke

Paul & Kelly Bokuniewicz

Jeff & Sandy Southerland

Muskegon Heights

Council 13579

Michael & Jhen Lewis, Jr.

David & Victoria May

Thomas & Susan Ketchum*cfy

Canton Council 16169

Walter & Shaunnah Stang



Jesus' Seven Last Words to Us
His final hours give us cause for reflecting on our own lives



On the hill at Calvary, from his crucifixion to the moment of his death, Jesus spoke seven different times. These "Seven Last Words," as they are called, are rich in meaning for us. Here are a few points for meditation on Jesus' suffering and death as we contemplate the various sufferings we experience in our own lives.

"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:24)

Jesus, as he is being crucified, forgives those who rejected him, sentenced him, tortured him and carried out his execution.

- Do I love even my enemies and bless my persecutors as Jesus instructed me?
- Do I pray that God will forgive those who reject me and hurt me?
- Am I able truly to forgive them within my heart?

"Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." (Luke 23:43)

Hanging on the cross, one of the thieves crucified with Jesus admits his guilt for his crime and recognizes Jesus' innocence. He asks Jesus to remember him when he enters his Kingdom. Jesus promises him Paradise.

- Do I understand eternal life as the ultimate goal of my earthly life?
- Do I know that Christ is the one who shows us the way to eternal life, and so follow him and strive to keep his commandments through the teachings of his Church
- Do I confess my sinfulness in the sacrament of penance, when it is available, so that he might absolve me of my sins? When penance is not available, do I regularly make an Act of Contrition?

"Woman, behold your son ... Behold, your mother." (John 19:26-27)

Seeing his mother and the apostle John at the foot of his cross, Jesus entrusts them to each other. Symbolically, he makes her our Blessed Mother, the mother of the Church.

- Do I turn to Mary, the mother of God, in prayer and see her as a

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 and the Knight of the Year need to be sent direct to:

Michael Haughey, State Council Community Director, 15045 Veronica., Eastpointe, MI 48021 *cky - Council Knight of the Year

Send a copy of the names to the Michigan Columbian.

Knights of the Month**Bay City Council 414**

Joe Beson, Richard Wasmer

Alpena Council 529

Donald Liptek, George Mackay

Orchard Lake Council 600

John May

Lansing Council 788

Dave Schulte

Cadillac Council 1224

James Hansen

Monroe Council 1266

Ronald Sims, Elliot Alfredson

Portland Council 2168

Paul Jandernoa, Glen Schafer

Standish Council 2724

Ronald Alley

Westphalia Council 2890

Larry Fedewa, Joe Bengal

Dan Witgen

Utica Council 2950

John Gasowski, Thomas

Dapoz

Bishop Robert Fisher

Fr. Roman Pasieczny

Fr. Tim Wezner, Mike Roth

Grand Haven Council 2975

Robert Green, William

Elingboe

Pinconning Council 2986

Owen Bush, Keith Konchel

Lincoln Park Council 3078

Dan DiPietro, Scott Schlaff

Jim Salliotte, Mark Knox

Randy Ferguson, Dennis Palm

Walt Hodnicki, Ed Gerak

Jom Schafran

Caro Council 3224

Donald Dugger, Sr.,

Ricky Terbush, Charles Frick

Livonia Council 3959

Glenn Rappel, Thomas Meyer

Manchester Council 4354

Bradley Messing,

Michael Coltre Jim Bokshan

Farmington Council 4401

Paul Ferrini, Tom Herrmnn

Robert Plocinik, Anand Thakur

Waterford Council 5436

Fr. Christopher Muer

Raymond Smiecinski

John Buchanan, James Bleau

Tom Kendziorski*cky

Rochester Council 5452

Mark Dabrowski, Stanley Bitel

William Moffitt, Bob Kuptz

Ron Stewart, Carl Gildner

New Baltimore Council 5481

Dale Valliere, Glen Brisson

Roscommon Council 6593

Don Croff, Michael Lehman

Michael Mezzano

New Baltimore Council 5981

Kenneth Morrow

Frank Hubbard

Roscommon Council 6593

Don Croff

Posen Council 6657

James Kendzorski, Tim Darga

Wally Roznowski

Swartz Creek Council 6694

Dave Drury, Michael Kopko

Al Martin, Bill Dignan

Mitch Carlson

Macomb Council 7200

David Combs, David Saad

Brighton Council 7304

Vince Stackpoole

Robert Romalia

Grand Lodge Council 7311

David Zerba

Wild Game Committee

Fenton Council 7418

Raymond Barth

Kenneth Gifford

Jenison Council 7487

Daniel Twardokus, Ken Karafa

Freeland Council 7582

Jack Ferchau

Sanford Council 8043

David Nizinski

Howell Council 8169

Frank Remenar, Mark Grajek

Rev. Francis George*cky

Canton Council 8284

Michael Goodhart*cky

Jackson Council 8392

Steve Bartels

Auburn Hills Council 8659

Jim Johnson, Charles Kemier

Montrose Council 8669

Michael Pyrc

Yale Council 8710

Carl Vermeesch

Cass City Council 8892

Marco Estrella, Kevin Kavsch

Richard Kloc

William Klinkman*cky

Kimball Council 9526

Matthew Koss

Theodore Hubbard

Lansing Council 9542

Laster Bidle

Lansing Council 9711

Dan Fell

Lansing Council 10542

Joseph Mcintosh, Lester Bidle

Ira Council 10724

Peter Cornwell

Tony Czerniawski

Pat Bohr

Harbor Beach Council 11432

Gerald Jewell, Ryan Ramsey

Pat Lapine, James Gougeon

Gary Polega, James Emming

Carl Taus, Dale Emming

Randy Emming, Danbischer

Harrison Twp. Council 11658

Ronald Lagoki, Shane Drury

Clinton Twp. Council 11689

Tom Murray, Sal Ales

Philip Mularski

Angelo Garavaglia

Novi Council 11811

Norm Chasse, Mike Buatti

Ron Kinn

Grosse Pte. Farms Council 12121

Richard Sandifer

Reed City Council 12668

Dick Hurst

Vicksburg Council 13305

Randall Hughey, James Burgess

Howell Council 13450

Randu Loiselle, John Varilek

Chris Anderson

Midland Council 13453

Randall Fournier

Traverse City Council 13958

Larry Herman

Muskegon Heights Council 13579

Jerry Harris, Michael Lewis, Sr.

Paul Robaskiewicz

Sterling Heights Council 13799

Bob Congdon, Brad Nevedal

Paul Robaskiewicz

Willam Fend

Pontiac Council 13930

Hector Hernandez Verde

White Cloud Council 13939

Joshua Houle, Virgil Houle

Canton Council 16169

Dan Bihn, Chuck lang

Ken Svoboda

James Ostermeyer

Mike Cartier, Marshall Grazioli

**What does online membership to the Knights of Columbus mean?**

The Online Membership initiative was designed to allow eligible Catholic men to join the Knights of Columbus online, through a streamlined process. Online Membership offers a digital membership experience, which helps one to grow as a Catholic man and a Knight.

In addition, members who join online can choose the projects they want to be involved in within their own community. They will receive regular updates from their state council regarding news and events in their area and be presented with frequent opportunities to work alongside brother Knights in local councils. Online members may at any point transition to local council membership, allowing them to move through the degree system.

AROUND THE STATE

Rosary by Zoom

Members of St. Kieran K of C Council 13983, together with members of St. John Neumann K of C Assembly 478, meet each Sunday afternoon on Zoom to prayer the rosary together using video conferencing. The virtual weekly rosary gatherings began on March 29, 2020 and have continued ever since.

March 29 had previously been scheduled by the council for members and families to gather together in their parish chapel to participate in their 5th Sunday Rosary program. However, the churches in the Archdiocese of Detroit had been closed due to the pandemic, forcing the rosary gathering to be cancelled. Not to be

deterred, the decision was made by Grand Knight Ralph Engler to continue with the program using video conferencing. According to PGK Ron Kosciuszynski, "I was inspired by a webinar offered by the Supreme Council that I attended and suggested this as a means to conduct the 5th Sunday Rosary to the Grand Knight. He was immediately in favor of it."

The Rosary by Zoom has continued to be said each Sunday afternoon since that time. In the words of GK Engler, "We will continue to offer our members the opportunity to pray the rosary together each week in this manner as long as the need and the interest of our members continue to exist. "

Council #9711 Supports Front Line Healthcare Workers

On Sunday, April 5th our Council sponsored lunch for 15 ICU nurses at Sparrow. On Tuesday, April 7th our Council sponsored lunch from Corey's for a team of 20 nurses and medical professionals. All were very thankful and appreciated the prayers and encourage. Our friends at Corey's were also very appreciative for the business!

Programs = New Members

Public Relations

Due to an oversight the wrong article was printed in the convention bulletin, the article below is the correct article and we are sorry for the misprint.

Because of the restrictions in place concerning the COVID – 19 our convention has taken a new format. It proves our Order's flexibility and confirms the old adage; If there's a will there's a way.

Let me relate conversations I've had more times than I can count. Meeting a stranger in a public venue they notice my KC logo or insignia and will ask what it symbolizes. Or someone will ask what I do now that I am retired? I will respond, "I serve the Knights of Columbus." Most times they respond, "what's that?" I will then try to explain our Order during the short conversation we have.

These occurrences are not out of the ordinary and I am sure many of you have had similar experiences. How many of us have had that experience while speaking to a brother Catholic? If you are like me, more times than we would hope.

The point is this, our Order is not as well-known as we would like or it deserves. Why are we the best kept secret in town and even in our own Parishes? It is not because our councils are not active or our members are not doing good works. It stems from a non-gratifying attitude taken to the extreme.

Humility is a great personal trait and one we all admire and it's true we don't do good works for glory. But our Order cannot move forward without recognition. We cannot grow, encouraging others to join us if they don't know of us or our good works.

Our Lord tells, "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." *Matthew 5:16*. This is one way Jesus has called us to evangelize. We are not only called to spread the message of Jesus but also to be an example by our good works. We don't light a lamp and put it under a basket. Be proud of what you and your Order is doing.

Public Relations should be a priority in every council. Be active in promoting programs prior to their scheduled dates to attract attendees or supporters. Just as important is to let all know how successful your programs are to increase awareness of your council. Make sure your council has appointed PR Director and he understands his duties.

Supreme booklet 2235 Public Relations and Publicity Guide is a great tool to help you with PR. This and other tools from sample press releases, tri-fold templates, templates for newsletters and pulpit announcements are available on the State website, mikofc.org/resources/Manuals and Documentation/Public Relations.

The Supreme Council knowing its' importance has placed emphasis on PR by setting up conference calls with the Supreme Corporate Communications Manager and State Leadership. The purpose being to make available their resources to help with Public Relations at the local level. Supreme also strongly recommends a PR Director be appointed in each council.

As I write this we are under the "shelter in place" restrictions. We are at home and Masses are cancelled and many of our gathering places are closed, how do we promote ourselves? The media is still operating. Your council should be participating in the "No Neighbor Left Behind" program promoted by Supreme. Get the word out of what your council is doing to local media sources.

As we move forward don't let your council be the best kept secret in town. Work on publicity, you will see an increase in awareness which will be a benefit to recruitment.

I am always available to answer questions or help as needed, my phone numbers are listed in the State Directory or my email is;

Vivat Jesus!
State Public Relations Director
Gary L. Merritt

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure.

"The only person you should try to be better than is the person you were yesterday."

"There is no elevator to success — you have to take the stairs."

"Life is not measured by the amount of breaths you take, but by the moments that take your breath away."

LASTING REMEMBRANCE OF OUR DEPARTED

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 hangs in the chapel of Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. Memorial plaques can be obtained or a tax deductible gift of \$25 a line – maximum 4 lines per plaque (\$100).

APPLICATIONS FOR 2020 WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OCTOBER 17, 2020.

Also, those enrolled will share in the daily masses, prayers and good works of the Priests and Seminarians of the Seminary.

Proceeds from this ongoing fund-raiser go to aid students studying for religious vocations that are in need of financial help.

K of C Memorial Mass at Sacred Heart Major Seminary – Sunday, November 8, 2020@10:00AM.

Families of these Brother Knights & friends are invited to attend the Memorial Mass.

In Memory of _____ Date of Death _____
 Gift of \$ _____ Requested By _____
 Street _____ Telephone _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: DAVL

Mail to: **Robert J. Garstka**
DAVL Memorial Mass Chariman
47120 Savannah Dr.
Macomb, MI. 48044

Applicants will be contacted for multiple line engraving information.

Knights of Columbus Use Only Rec'd. \$ _____ Date: _____

Applications are available at:

1. Michigan Columbian
2. By contacting Bob Garstka at rjgars@comcast.net (586) 484-0781.

Sponsored by the K of C Detroit Archdiocese Vocations League

Coats for Kids this Fall!



The Michigan State Council is looking for help to distribute even more coats this fall. We distributed over 14,000 through the State of Michigan last year. The State Council representing all the councils donated over 2,600 of those coats.

This year we are asking that if you are not donating to an existing group or have not participated in the past you may want to donate to the fund, make the check payable to: Michigan State Council K of C, in the memo line write "Coats for Kids" This is a most worthy endeavor. If you donate to this fund it counts towards your participation in Coats for Kids. If you cannot afford to send funds, we also would welcome you to participate in the distribution of the coats.

Please give generously so no kid will be without a coat in Michigan!

**Programs =
New Members**

**Jesus' Seven Last Words to Us
His final hours give us cause for reflecting on our own lives**

a model of virtue and obedience to God's will?

- Do I understand that baptism, which makes me a child of God, unites me to all the faithful as one family of God?
- Do I strive to be a truly "faithful disciple" as modeled by the apostle John, "the one Jesus loved"?

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matt. 27:46, Mark 15:34)

Jesus, feeling every bit of human pain and suffering, cries out his sense of abandonment.

"I thirst." (John 19:28)

As his final moments approach, Jesus asks for something to drink.

- Jesus' thirst was another sign of his human need. Do I see Jesus in those around me who suffer hunger, thirst, homeless, sickness or other deprivations?
- Do I "hunger and thirst for righteousness," as Jesus described in the Beatitudes?
- Do I perform works of mercy for those who suffer physically or spiritually?

"It is finished." (John 19:30)

With his earthly mission accomplished, having sacrificed his very self for the sins of humanity, Jesus acknowledges the end is near.

Do I stay focused on my true vocation — as a child of God and in the state of life to which God called me?

continued on page 19

St. Louis Center Celebrates 60th Anniversary Year

May 28, 2020

On behalf of the residents, staff and religious at St. Louis Center, I would like to thank State Deputy Bill Chasse' and Lady Marybeth for their outstanding support during the past two years. I would also like to congratulate the State Board members for their new positions starting July 1st, especially State Deputy Elect Walter Winkle (Karen) and State Warden Elect James Kraus (Amy). We missed not seeing everyone on Mackinac Island this year for the State Convention, so as a result, we will be mailing a copy of our 2019 Annual Report to every council and assembly in the state.

What makes 2020 such a special year for St. Louis Center is that we are celebrating our 60th Anniversary this year, as we were founded on a 180 acre parcel of farmland five miles west of the City of Chelsea, MI in 1960. Using the old model from the WWII era, we were originally staffed by four Servants of Charity priests, four Holy Family sisters, one cook and five special education teachers who carried out an educational program for sixty boys from the Archdiocese of Detroit with special needs.

Now we are in the Diocese of Lansing and our children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities have been educated in the local public schools since 1975. The Servants of Charity still run the Center, but the residents have much more serious needs. We now care for 72 boys & girls – men & women of all races between the ages of 5 – 78 years with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and a lay staff of over 100 people. Their needs have changed too, as 50% of our residents are on special diets, and almost all require medication of some type.

We have accomplished much in our recent history here after starting a capital campaign in 2010, and the following facilities have been improved/added:

- 2011 – Family Welcome & Orientation Center
- 2013 – Special Needs Playground



- 2014 – Fr. Guanella Hall Expansion and Rehabilitation for Assisted Living
- 2016 – St. Louis Guanella Village (SLGV) Infrastructure Begins
- 2018 – Dedication of Four New Children's Homes, including K of C House, in SLGV
- 2019 – New Construction Begins on New SLGV Structures
- 2020 – Completion of Two Cottage Homes, One Family Home, One Duplex Two Family Home and Administration Building.

If not for this year's pandemic, there would have been a 500 person celebration for our 60th Anniversary and Village dedication in June, however we were forced to cancel for now.

To protect the health of the residents and comply with state regulations, St. Louis Center is currently closed to all but essential employees through June 19, 2020. Staff is working diligently to care for the health, safety and emotional needs of the residents. At this time, the "stay in place" and sanitation measures that have been put in place have been successful in creating a healthy environment for our residents and staff, and no one at SLC has contracted the Corona19 virus.

If you would like to continue supporting our mission, please visit www.stlouiscenter.org and click on the "give now" tab, or place a check in the envelope you will find in the middle of the annual report you will be receiving for your Council. You are in our prayers daily, and we thank you for your love and support.

Since rely,

Fr. Enzo Addari

**Fr. Enzo Addari, SdC
CEO**



**Jesus' Seven Last Words to Us
His final hours give us cause for reflecting on our own lives**

- I practice careful and humble discernment throughout my life so that I stay true to the sacred purpose that God has for my life?
- What unfinished business do I have ahead of me that I must accomplish as a faithful disciple of Christ before my time on earth comes to an end?

"Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit!" (Luke 23:46)

With his last breath, Jesus places himself completely in the hands of his loving Father.

- Do I keep myself in a state of grace, so that I am always prepared for the possibility of death?
- Do I avail myself of the sacraments of the Church and maintain a committed life of daily prayer so that I am ready to meet God?
- If I were to die today, right now, am I ready to commend my spirit to the hands of our heavenly Father?

10 Things You Didn't Know about the Founder of the K of C

Father Michael J. McGivney is a timeless witness to the faith



Maybe you're an old pro and already knew that Father Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in New Haven, Conn. in 1882. Maybe you already knew that he envisioned a Catholic order that would help Catholic men to remain steadfast in faith while providing insurance for their families.

But you probably didn't know these facts:

1. Not only Catholics, but even Protestants were inspired by Father McGivney's witness of faith.

Alida Harwood, the daughter of a prominent Episcopal minister in

New Haven, frequented Mass at St. Mary's Church where Father McGivney served. When Alida contracted malaria at the age of 25 and lay on her death bed, it was Father McGivney that she asked to see.

2. He was a heck of a baseball player.

We know that in one game with his seminary team he scored three runs, contributing to a big victory with a score of 23-6. He paved the way for a long history of baseball players who would join the Knights.

3. More forward-thinking than Yale? Father McGivney pushed the boundaries as a theater director.

At a time when, according to Parish Priest, nearby Yale University was limiting theater to only male actors, Father McGivney welcomed women to perform when he directed his parish's St. Patrick's Day play in 1880.

4. He helped young people take charge of their lives and create a better future. Father McGivney saw that many young men were neglecting their religion and turning to alcohol abuse. In response, he founded St. Joseph's Total Abstinence and Literary Society, a group that helped young men stay strong in the faith and become active in their communities. They organized and participated in sports and theatrical productions. McGivney offered members a meeting space with books, magazines, newspapers and a piano. No doubt, Father McGivney's experience with this group prepared him when he later founded the Knights of Columbus.

5. His vision for the role of the laity was very unusual for the time. Seventy-seven years ahead of the Second Vatican Council, the idea that a

Catholic organization could be led by laymen was quite extraordinary. Yet that was Father McGivney's vision for the Knights of Columbus.

6. He ministered to inmates.

Father McGivney was responsible for ministering to inmates in the city jail. One inmate was 21-year-old Chip Smith, who — while drunk — shot and killed a police officer. Smith was convicted for first-degree murder and sentenced to be hanged.

Father McGivney visited him daily, and, on the day of Smith's execution, the priest was filled with sorrow. Just before he died, Smith comforted him: "Father, your saintly ministrations have enabled me to meet death without a tremor. Do not fear for me, I must not break down now."

7. He was only 38 years old when he died.

And that's actually not surprising — life expectancy was short for priests in Connecticut in the 19th century, when the Catholic population was growing, disease was common and the priests were overworked.

8. He's on the path to sainthood.

His cause for canonization is open, and he was given the title "Venerable Servant of God" by the Holy See in 2008. You can help promote devotion to this Servant of God —

9. His belongings were burned when he died.

When Father McGivney died of tuberculosis, his personal items were burned to prevent the spreading of the disease. Only a small number of his and belongings survived.

10. He is known to intercede especially in four areas (from _____):

- **Employment and finances.** Just as parishioners looked to Father McGivney for help when "No Irish need apply" was often included in job postings, so today many receive help when they are laid off or seeking a better job.

- **Substance abuse.** In Father McGivney's day, alcoholism afflicted the immigrant population, and many now find relief from drug or alcohol abuse after praying to him.

- **Family reconciliation.** Father McGivney helped immigrant families struggling to stay together and to make ends meet. Today, Father McGivney continues to respond to the prayers of families.

- **Return to the faith.** Father McGivney founded the Order to keep men from joining anti-Catholic societies. Today, many Catholics receive favors when calling upon him to help their fallen-away children return to Mass.

Our Emblem

The colors of our emblem also carry great significance: red for our faith in Christ, blue for hope, gold for the joy of service and white for charity. Together, the elements of our emblem convey our dedication to serve in Christ's name.

Ax — a symbol of strength, authority and preparedness for duty.

Anchor — the mariner's symbol for Columbus, patron of the Order, for hope and steadfastness.

Sword — the medieval knight's weapon on an errand of mercy and justice.

Program Categories:

Faith

Grow in faith and build a strong parish and Church. Aid priests and religious in formation, honor our Mary, mother of God, and engage in serious spiritual reflections and religious education activities.

Family

Strengthen families through faith and service. Socialize and pray with other faith-filled Catholic families through special events, religious services and volunteer opportunities.

Community

Make a powerful difference in your community. Help those less fortunate with the basic human needs of clothing, shelter, mobility and compassion.

BECOMING ONE BODY IN CHRIST



By Gerald Korson 6/12/2020

The Eucharist deepens our unity with the Church — here are five points for Knights to reflect on for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

When the Knights of Columbus held their 137th Supreme Convention in Minneapolis last August, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson called upon members to become “Knights of Unity,” forging bonds of solidarity with the oppressed and vulnerable among their neighbors as they continue their charitable mission.

At the same convention, Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori stressed that “our unity is realized most profoundly” when we share in the Mass and in the Eucharist.

“By sharing sacramentally in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ,” Archbishop Lori said in his homily at the memorial Mass, “you and I are united in a communion of life and love, first with the Triune God, and then with one another and with those who have preceded us in death.”

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ — also known as the feast of Corpus Christi — which we celebrate on June 14 this year, invites us to reflect on that a bit.

The Eucharist, the *Catechism* tells us, is both the “sign and source of our unity.” We are incorporated into the body of Christ, his Church, through baptism; by receiving the Eucharist, we are drawn into a closer, more intimate union with Christ and his Church.

Furthermore, the very act of receiving the Eucharist in holy Communion itself is a visible sign of the unity of faith we share: We affirm our belief that Christ is really and truly present — body, blood, soul and divinity — in the Eucharist. If we don’t believe that, then we ought not receive, which is why intercommunion with Christians who do not believe in the Real Presence is not permitted.

The Real Presence is a sacred mystery that our senses cannot perceive. Despite appearances, taste and even chemical composition, in the Eucharist we consume not bread and wine, but Christ’s true body and blood. *Corpus Christi*.

And in consuming Christ, he enters into us as well, he becomes part of us. It is a matter of “you are what you eat” — in a fuller way, we become Christ for others. We are united more closely to Christ, but also more closely to one another as members of his Body. We are empowered to carry out his mission in the world, including the service to the poor and vulnerable that is part of our identity as Knights of Columbus.

So as Catholics and as Knights, it is important to not receive Communion thoughtlessly. To truly be “Knights of Unity,” we must embrace the “Sacrament of Unity.”

Here are things you can do to more fully experience that unity with Christ and his Church through the Eucharist.

Prepare. Get yourself in the proper frame of spirit for celebrating Mass and receiving the Eucharist, preferably *before* Mass begins. Study the day’s reading at home in advance, and arrive 10-15 minutes early so you have time to ask God in prayer to help you be open to his Word and his sacred presence in the liturgy.

Profess. It is easy to become mentally lax about what it is we are doing at holy Communion and receive the host without much awareness of what an enormous and sacred gift it is. At the moment of consecration and again as you are about to receive, gaze upon the host and reaffirm your faith within: “Jesus, I truly believe you are truly present in the Eucharist, body, blood, soul and divinity.” Keep that focus throughout the rest of the Mass.

Process. The procession for Communion is more than a matter of getting in line to wait your turn. It’s another sign of our unity in faith. Try not to get distracted. You and your brothers and sisters in Christ are approaching the sacrament not solely as individuals, but also as fellow pilgrims journeying toward eternal life. The Eucharist unites us not just to our fellow parishioners, but to every participant in the holy Mass throughout the world, and to the “supper of the Lamb” that is the liturgy of heaven; not just to those living, but also to the faithful who have gone before us, the saints in heaven and the suffering souls in purgatory. We are members of the Communion of Saints.

Praise. You have returned to your pew, and the Communion hymn is still going strong. Don’t resent that it interrupts your private prayer: The norms for the Mass call for the hymn to continue as long as people are still receiving Communion. Don’t let it distract you from your private prayer. Ideally, you should join in singing the hymn. That’s another sign of the unity of the faithful, the shared song of praise for the gift of the Eucharist. If the hymn is unfamiliar, or you’ve got laryngitis, or you fear your voice compares unfavorably with that of a braying donkey, that’s okay too. Just sing with your heart.

Pray. The hymn and Communion rite are now complete, so here’s your chance for that private prayer of thanksgiving you wanted to offer. If there is not a lengthy period of sacred silence during Mass, remain afterward to continue your thanksgiving, either right there in the pew or, if your church has one, the Blessed Sacrament chapel.

And when you leave, remember the words of dismissal. Regardless of which form is used, we are sent to “go” forth into the world to love and serve the Lord. The Eucharist equips us for that purpose.

After all, you’ve just received the greatest gift — *Corpus Christi*, the Body of Christ — the sign of his continuing presence with us and of our unity in him and through him. It’s a gift that makes us better “Knights of Unity” as well.

Gerald Korson, a veteran Catholic journalist, is a Knights of Columbus member in Indiana.

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“Stay positive and happy. Work hard and don't give up hope. Be open to criticism and keep learning. Surround yourself with happy, warm and genuine people.”