



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Michigan Columbian

VOLUME 75

ISSUE NO. 1

July 2023

Christopher A Kolomjec
State Deputy

State of the State

Your Excellency's: Most Reverend Allen Vigneron, Archbishop of Detroit, Most Reverend David Walkowiak, Bishop of Grand Rapids, Most Reverend Paul Bradley, Bishop of Kalamazoo, Most Reverend Earl Boyea, Bishop of Lansing, Most Reverend John Doefler, Bishop of Marquette, Most Reverend Robert Gruss, Bishop of Saginaw, Most Reverend Jeffery J. Walsh, Bishop of Gaylord, Most Reverend Donald Hanchon, Aux. Bishop of Detroit, Most Reverend Gerard W. Battersby, Aux. Bishop of Detroit, Most Reverend Arturo Cepeda, Aux. Bishop of Detroit, Most Reverend Robert J. Fisher, Aux. Bishop of Detroit, Most Reverend Frank Kalabat, Apostolic Exarchate for the Chaldeans in U.S.A., Most Reverend Bishop Richard Seminack, Ukrainian Bishop of Chicago.

Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy Diocesan Chaplains, Worthy Council Chaplains, Reverend Monsignors, Reverend Fathers, Deacons and Religious, Worthy Supreme Senior Vice President, Worthy Former Supreme Directors, Worthy Vice Supreme Master, Worthy State Officers, Worthy Immediate Past State Deputy and Past State Deputies, Worthy Former Vice Supreme Masters, Worthy District Deputies, Worthy State Deputy Regional Representatives, Worthy State and Diocesan Directors, Worthy District Masters of the Patriotic Degree, Worthy Supreme Council General Agents and Field Agents, Worthy Supreme Regional Membership Growth Director, Worthy Delegates and Guests, Vivat Jesus!

Faith and Family, was the moto for my term as the 51st State Deputy to represent the over 63,000 members and 440 Councils across the Great State of Michigan, I would like to thank you for your support over this last year. This Fraternal year has been exceedingly successful! Our State has made an exceedingly monumental comeback in the wake of Covid-19. Since the beginning of our fraternal year, we have met or exceeded our membership goals each and every month. So much so that for the first time in almost 50 years, we have reached our

Membership Quota in April, a full 2 months early! But it is not just our membership numbers that are amazing, our programs have been extremely successful raising eyebrows at Supreme and throughout the order. I'm proud to say your hard work and efforts have paid off helping Michigan rank #1 and lead the order in multiple programs such as ASAP, Special Olympics, and Coats for Kids, just to name a few.

This past June, your First Lady Julie and I, attended the State Deputies Meeting in New Haven CT. This was very helpful in learning about the new programs that were being introduced this year along with meeting the other State Deputies in my class, so that we would have a very productive year in membership and programs centered around reinforcing Catechesis and reinforcing the fundamental beliefs essential to our faith as Roman Catholics. What struck me the most about this meeting is the wide variety of approaches to running State Councils there are. Michigan is a very special place and we have always taken our order and fraternalism very seriously. But I certainly came away with a new appreciation for the "Michigan way," and was proud of how often I was asked about how "we did things in Michigan."

During the month of July, we were finally able to return to "God's country" up North to host a Summer Leadership Meeting at Treetops Resort. It was the first time I was able to push my emphasis on fraternalism and having fun again. I instituted the first Chief of Fraternal Activities and appointed Michael Kozakiewicz to that position. Mike's sole charge was to put fun back into the fraternalism of Michigan. He has done a great job with this starting the first ever K of C Hockey night with the Detroit Red Wings, setting up activities for the Summer and Winter Leadership meetings, and bringing fun and hospitality to every event. I would suggest each and every council make a similar commitment to bringing fun and fraternity to their events. We all often get caught up in the administrative and financial aspects of being leaders but our brothers also need fraternity to be truly successful. Later in July the State Board was able to once again visit all 7 Diocese in the state. It was great to be able to attend the meeting and once again talk with all the membership across the state. These meetings were well attended and the food was great too!

In August, the State Board and its delegation attended the Supreme Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. We were all proud to recognize our current Immediate State Deputy and his wife Karen for all their hard work and service to the Order by hosting a "Taste of Michigan," during hospitality. It was especially fitting to do so in celebration of Walter reaching the Circle of Honor, in spite of all the Covid restrictions.

In early September the entire state leadership was installed in their respective offices at Assumption Grotto Church in Detroit. I want to especially thank Bishops Hanchon and Battersby for attending and installing our State Officers and all our great leaders. Father Perrone conducted the orchestra and choir for the event that included the performance of Wolfgang Mozart's Coronation Mass. The Banquet after was hosted at the Detroit Yacht Club and included a live band, phenomenal food and drinks, and even ended with a "coney island buffet." Thank you to all my Committee Members that made the Installation such a success. It was a day and night to remember!

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From The State Chaplain Fr. Aidan Logan



Reflection for the Fourth of July 2023

The yearly return of the Fourth of July invites us as Knights to reflect on our American experience and the reason Patriotism is an integral part of our identity. There is something in the traditional American view of life that is both profoundly congenial to both liberty and religious faith. This is especially true of Catholics who have grown from a tiny and despised minority to a prominent and vital force in our nation. Despite the evident secularism among elites we remain a profoundly religious people among the nations of the West.

The last two hundred years have seen many revolutions in the name of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. And while most of them came about because of just grievances, almost all of them have ended in a tyranny worse than the one they replaced: mass poverty, famine, genocide and horrors too awful to speak of. The very word revolution has become so debased, so cheap, that it

conveys nothing of what it meant to our founding fathers. Revolutionary guards, revolutionary fronts, and revolutionary courts -- what have these come to mean but terrorism, tyranny and intolerance?

Why was our revolution, the original revolution invoked by all that would follow, so different? Why did it work? Why has the constitution that came out of it survived to be the oldest written constitution still in effect? Why did our nation born of the revolution experience undreamt prosperity, a progressive expansion of liberty, the resilience to survive a fratricidal civil war and go on to not only to be a world power, but wake up one day to be the unrivaled world power.

It was not an accident. There was something different about our revolution and this holds a real lesson for us today, a lesson that applies not only to us as a nation but to each of us as Knights. Our revolution was not perfect. We have only to mention slavery and the fate of many Native Americans to realize that. Our founding fathers were not mythical heroes but real men of flesh and blood. And like all real men, like us, they had both strengths and weaknesses. What were their strengths?

First of all they had a realistic view of human nature. They had no illusions about how men behave. This informed everything about the constitution they eventually produced. There was nothing romantic about their view of the world. On the one hand they had a high and noble view of the human person. On the other hand they saw all too clearly that man's capacity for good was more than equaled by his capacity for evil. This is what we Catholics call an awareness of Original Sin.

This brings us to their second great strength: a firm and unshakable belief in the rule of law, the Law of God and the Natural Law. For them, the absence of law was not freedom but tyranny: the tyranny of the crowd, the tyranny of the loudest mouth, the slickest operator, the strongest general, the most skilled politician. Unlike other revolutions there is no hint of rejecting the laws of God and nature. They saw the religious nature of the American people as one of our greatest strengths. Even those among them who were agnostics insisted that freedom and democracy could only work if the citizens of the republic were men and women of virtue who obeyed the laws of God and nature.

Finally, they were humble in their expectations. They had no vision of a perfect society here on earth, no grand theories about the distribution of wealth or of remaking men and women according to a revolutionary model. They had high ideals. They were fair-minded, honorable and loyal. But they knew their limits and were content to see as much liberty as possible without sacrificing the common good. They knew that no man, no one party of faction could ever have all the answers. What a different world it would be had other revolutions followed their example!

A realistic view of human nature, the rule of law and humble expectations: What nations could not learn from them? Who among us would not be a better person, a better American, a better Knight, a better husband or wife a better son or daughter, indeed a better Catholic Christian on a foundation like that? What marriage would not be stronger? What family would not be happier? What children would not feel more secure and loved?

As another Fourth of July approaches we commend our nation to the love and mercy of Almighty God and ask that He re-awaken in us the vision of our founders and recall each of us to their noble and realistic vision.

God bless America!

St Paul Council 2632



Pictured left to right
Hans Hansen DPD, Richard Shelt
SDRR Det West, GK Michael
Klein and DD126 Jeff Burden



Twenty-five of St. Paul members celebrating a
surprise presentation.

CONGRATULATIONS ST. PAUL 2632

Council of the month for May 2023. St Paul council 2632. Six years in a row Star Council, first year double Star.

Michigan State Council Knights of Columbus

6025 Wall Street
Sterling Heights, MI 48312
Phone: 586.883.9456
Fax: 586.883.9473

State Deputy
Christopher A. Kolomjec
Cell: 313.570.3823
Fax: 248.344.1130

State Secretary
Barry M. Borsenik
Cell: 989.295.1266

State Treasurer
Charles E. McCuen, III
Cell: 313.641.1091
Bus: 586.294.9300

State Advocate
Vern Miron
Cell: 906.353.6021

State Warden
Daniel C. Fuller, Jr.
Cell: 248.761.2244

State Chaplain
Rev. Aidan Logan
Bus:
Cell:

State Membership Director
James Escott
Cell: 248.761.2244

State Program Director
Paul Palka
Cell: 586.980.7910

State Faith Director
Greg Brunson
Cell: 810.824.9533

State Community Director
John Hundiak, FDM
Cell: 248.420.0135

State Life Director
Ed Strach
Cell: 734.476.6296

State Family Director
William Corey
Cell: 313.618.7645

Michigan Charities
Thomas M. Wegener, PSD,FSD
Res: 517.886.0006
Cell: 517.373.5375

St. Francis Camp Liaison
Russ Smith
Res: 248.399.9698
Cell: 248.217.1740

SHM Seminary
Kenneth Unterbrink, PSD
Cell: 734.649.4653

Executive Secretary
Lawrence T. Grabowski
Office: 586.883.9456
Fax: 586.883.9473

**From The State Warden
Daniel C. Fuller, Jr.**

My Brother Knights and Ladies, I would like congratulate our State Deputy and the leadership team of Michigan for a great fraternal year. The Michigan State Council earned the Supreme Circle of Honor Award and possibly a Supreme Pinnacle Award for membership growth and great results in our Faith in Action programs. Thank you again for all your efforts and congratulations on the excellent results.

The planning of effective meetings and events require following proper protocol. As your State Warden, my role includes the oversight of 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 fosters an environment for productive meetings. The following of proper protocol allows us to function as an Order rather than a men's club.

During the course of our fraternal year, many of our councils host events that they would like to invite a member of the State Board to attend. It is a vital part of your planning that you contact the State Deputy, in writing, **no less than six weeks in advance of your event**. You can also follow up the mailed invitation with an email to c.kolomjed@mikofc.org

The State Deputy works hard to fill as many of these requests as possible, so please send the invitation as early as possible. When you write the invitation 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, menu, 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 attending the event.

Many of the questions about meeting and event protocol can be answered by reviewing the Supreme Protocol Handbook (item #1622). This 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 K of C website mikofc.org Any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at: d.fuller@mikofc.org I look forward to serving all my brother Knights and your families around our great state this fraternal year.

May God Bless you all and May God Bless the Knights of Columbus,
Dan Fuller, State Warden

St. Pius X Council 3848

St. Pius X recognized Sophia Calhoun as 1st Place winner of Keeping Christ in Christmas State of Michigan Champion in 11-14 age group.



Pictured (l-r) are: Fr. Nick Zukowski (Chaplain), John Steinberger (Advocate), Kevin Labudde (Grand Knight), Mrs. Calhoun, Sophia, Mr. Calhoun, Richard Del Papa (Dep. Grand Knight), Mike Garcia, PGK (Recorder) and Sandy Accord (Faith Formation Director at St. Martin de Porres).

**From The State Membership Director
James Escott**

What a memorable year 2022-2023 was. So many membership records to be proud of. We've had more Star Councils and Star Districts than ever before. Michigan achieved our Circle of Honor goal 2 months early. We kept alternating with Texas for the #1 and #2 position for membership.

The State Deputy has approved 4 very exciting incentives for the 1st quarter for the new year.

1. Councils can earn cash (payable in October) for every e-member added to their prospect tab. \$20 in July, \$15 in August and \$10 in September.
2. Councils can also earn cash (payable in October) for every new member added to their council (which Supreme recognizes toward your quota). \$20 in July, \$15 in August and \$10 in September.
3. District Deputies will earn \$1 for every \$1 earned by their councils.
4. Field Agents (and General Agents) will earn \$50 for every new e-member added using the Field Agents code for July, August and September.

Let's have another incredible year this year. I'm honored and privileged to be your State Membership Director. Don't hesitate to call me if there is anything I can do to help you.

Let's grow your councils, get more men to attend your churches and live our lives as God wills.

COMMUNITY UPDATE

I hope that everyone enjoyed a wonderful time at the convention. The highlight was the Eucharist Procession from St. Anne's to the Grand Hotel. Words can hardly describe it. There are many pictures of the Procession and other Knights events throughout the State.

Congratulations goes out to the Au Lac Council 10724, GK Jeff Wooten, for submitting the winning award application for the State Community Program of the Year Award. Their accomplishments are truly deserving of the award. Thank you to all of the other councils who took the time to submit an entry. Please continue your great programs and submit an entry for 2024.

The State Free Throw Finals resulted in two International Free Throw Champions. Jackson Hill, age 10, representing council 1224 in Gaylord and Joshua Powers, age 13, representing Council 2950 in Detroit both had perfect scores of 25! Congratulations.

The Coats for Kids program is beginning to take shape. What I can tell you now is that the Supreme sponsored Buy One Get One free (BOGO) will happen again this year. Councils are encouraged to order their coats from Supreme through the Michigan State Council. This is how your council can take advantage of the BOGO program. Our goal is to have all coats ordered by the end of September 2023. Your DDs and Diocesan Program Directors will receive more information at the summer leadership meeting. Councils should start their fundraising efforts as soon as possible.

The Soccer Tournaments should be underway soon. Councils should be scheduling their competitions now. The State Soccer Finals will be in Grand Rapids in early October 2023.

There are many ways to remember and honor our Armed Forces and First Responders. These programs can be considered Community programs. This could also be an excellent opportunity for your local council to demonstrate your local community involvement.

On behalf of my wife, Elizabeth, and I we wish you safe and Blessed summer and remember that God does not take vacations. Weekend mass is just as important in the summer.

John Hundiak
State Community Director

"Success is not final; failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts."

**From The State Program Director
Paul Palka**

A quick look back at 2022-2023 Fraternal Year in Programs.....

WE ARE # 1

RSVP SUPPORT
(State Director George Stump)

SPECIAL OLYMPICS
(State Director Robbie Waclawski)

ASAP PARTICIPATION
(State Director Ed Strach)

WE ARE #2
COATS FOR KIDS
(State Director John Hundiak)

**WE AWARDED OUR FIRST CHAPLAIN OF THE YEAR AWARD
THE BLESSED MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY AWARD**

to
MOST REV. ROBERT CREAGAN
KALAMAZOO DIOCESAN CHAPLAIN

**WE HAD OVER 7,000
10784 FORMS SUBMITTED**

A quick look forward to the 2023-2024 Fraternal Year in Programs:

YOUR FAITH IN ACTION TEAM

FAITH: ROBERT BAGLEY

FAMILY: WILLIAM COREY

COMMUNITY: JOHN HUNDIAK

LIFE: ED STRACH

STATE EVANGELIZATION/COR MEETING PROGRAM DIRECTOR:
PAUL KELSEY

COR MEETING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: GREG BRUNSON

STATE TRAINING DIRECTOR: WILLIAM LEVEQUE

SPECIAL OLYMPICS DIRECTOR: ROBBIE WACLAWSKI

SILVER ROSE & KNIGHTS ON BIKES DIRECTOR: ROBERT BAGLEY

CHIEF OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES: MICHAEL KOZAKIEWCZ

PLUS, MANY OTHER DIRECTORS ON THE TEAM THAT MAKE THE
JURISDICTION STRONG!

All of us look forward to serving you, our Brother Knights, throughout this fraternal year.
You can count on us to be there for you!

Paul J Palka
State Program Director
586-980-7910
p.palka@mikofc.org

Ladies Corner

Dear Ladies,

The 2023 Michigan State Convention was a very memorable event. The convention is always jammed packed with activity and this year was no exception and somehow we managed to add more! Wonderful memories were made with lifelong friends and new ones were made. We started Wednesday with the Eucharistic Procession from St. Anne's Parish, through the streets of Mackinac Island and ending at the Grand Hotel, followed by Adoration. The Opening Mass was once again a highlight of the convention with the Archbishop of Detroit along with 10 bishops, Diocesan chaplains and 100+ priests in attendance as well as a seminarian from Sacred Heart Major Seminary. We are so fortunate to have the support of our bishops and all clergy. We were fortunate to have the Assumption Grotto choir perform, conducted by Fr. Perrone. Mark McMullen, Supreme Vice President of Marketing & Membership, and his wife, Jan, commented after the convention that it was the most memorable convention they had ever attended and how warm and welcoming the entire Michigan group made them feel.

Thank you to all who made the Ladies Charity Raffle at the State Convention successful again this year. With matching funds, the Knights are able to donate \$24,640 to Holy Cross Services and the Dominican Sisters of Mary Mother of the Eucharist this year.

The State Deputy and First Lady's logo is "Faith and Family" and they wear their faith on their sleeves as we all should as proud Catholics. We have concentrated on more activities for family involvement and hope to see increased involvement this next year of your families in both your local councils and at the state level. We look forward to seeing more families attend the leadership meetings as well as the annual State Convention.

God Bless,

Julie, Mandy, Pam, Christy, Kara and Karen

Programs = New Members

Call to Holiness

Saturday, October 28 • 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Conference with Lunch at Burton Manor • 27777 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia

Sunday, October 29 • 11:00 a.m. Mass Extraordinary Form Pontifical Mass - Feast of Christ the King Assumption Grotto Church • 13770 Gratiot Avenue, Detroit

www.calltoholiness.com 313-451-4659

Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke

Fr. Chad Ripperger



Christopher A Kolomjec
State Deputy

In September, we met privately with every Bishop of Michigan at their Michigan Conference of Bishops meeting in Lansing. It was at this meeting that I committed to the bishops that each of them would be invited to attend the upcoming Winter Meetings in January and I promised to schedule these meetings around each of their availabilities. Every one of them accepted this offer. Again, a great testament to Michigan as a jurisdiction and proof of the rare and overwhelming support that the Michigan Knights receives from their Bishops.

At the End of October, we started the Coats for Kids Program across the state in several cities that had a great need of warm coats. Some councils added gloves and hats to give out also. Once again, thank you to the Councils that did help with the monetary and distributions for this program. I encourage those who did not participate do so next year. You would be surprised how many families may be in need in your own back yard! Despite sharing the spotlight at times with Pennsylvania, this was yet another program that Michigan helped to lead the order in. Thank you to our State Community Director, John Hundiak for all his hard work.

The Board attended our annual Memorial Mass that was held at the Sacred Heart Seminary on the first Sunday in November. I thank the DAVL Team for their work not only supporting vocations throughout the year but also remembering our deceased members by providing the names to be entered on the plaques that hang on the wall at the entrance of the church and those deceased knights are remembered and prayed for routinely by the seminarians.

In late November, Julie and I attended the State Deputy leadership Training in Orlando, Florida. It was also an opportunity to plan for this year's Supreme Convention. Other than getting familiar with the Hotel and surroundings so that we would be ready for the next Supreme Convention to be held in the same location, there we discussed how we can better serve our Church and continue our focus on Catechesis. It was here that Supreme officially rolled out its new "Cor Meeting" program. Our State Director of Catechesis, Paul Kelsey, will be in charge of implementing this exciting development. Michigan was again chosen to lead the Order as one of the jurisdictions selected to be a pilot program state and help to develop the "Cor Meeting," parameters.

Another program that we lead the order is in Special Olympics. We committed financial support in October. This was done during the annual Ties and Tennie's held at Ford Field in Detroit. We donated tens of thousands of dollars for their Future Games whether by individual councils or on your behalf by the State Board and even Supreme donates an additional \$15,000 to Michigan Special Olympics this year because of our jurisdiction's first place finish in the Order. The Knights on Bikes had their Christmas Party once again in Okemos. The State Board and our wives attend the celebration. On Saturday, December 18, I along with several Veterans, Sir Knights, Brother Knights and Families attended the Wreaths Across America. Your State Chaplain and I were guest speakers at the event located at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights. At this time, I would like to thank all the Veterans that have served and continue to do so. To those who gave the ultimate sacrifice and to their families that miss them and to the Forth Degree Assembly that support this outstanding program.

In December, the Winter leadership Meeting was held on the second weekend of December and was hosted at the Amway Grand in Grand Rapids. The meeting was well attended and used the concept of all the meetings being interactive. It was a great meeting but what really stood out was the extraordinary effort made by our State Chaplain, Fr. Logan to put on a truly beautiful and holy mass with adoration and benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. It was truly in keeping with the Supreme Knight's directives to give special emphasis on the true presence

in the Eucharist. It was also with his influence that the State Board and wives all voted unanimously to begin receiving communion on the tongue rather than in the hands as a subtle example of our belief that we are truly receiving the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament. It is a small gesture of faith but hopefully a powerful reminder of the sacredness of Holy Communion. This new reverence also comes from the influence of our State Chaplain who always emphasizes our need to protect the sacredness of our faith, especially during mass. Fr. Logan has gone above and beyond in ensuring the mass at K of C events in Michigan are beautiful and reverent. His additional "touches," like the beautiful tapestry of Jesus as Christ the King, the incense, vested altar servers, and renting a real church organ, to name just a few, have transformed the typical hotel meeting room into a truly holy and inspiring space most suited for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. I never received more compliments than I did after that mass in Grand Rapids. I would like to thank our State Chaplain, Fr. Logan for all his help and support. His energy and advice have been extremely helpful this year. We are all grateful that he has spent as much time as he has! It is his vision and effort that has brought new life and reverence for all spiritual events, especially the masses.

After the holidays, the State Board hit the road again touring every Diocese in the State for its famous "Road Show." But this year it was truly special. Each and every one of our 7 Bishops accepted our invitation to host their diocesan meetings. I likened the tour as a unique town hall-style meeting for each bishop to meet directly with "their" Knights. Attendance was record-breaking, especially at Detroit where the meeting was held at the Seminary and at Marquette where a four-hour drive was the norm. It was obvious to all that this type of meeting, where the men can really hear message directly from the bishop, and the men in turn can pledge their loyalty and support to their Ordinary, is a unique opportunity that we hope to make an annual event.

The RTL March in Washington D. C. was on January 25, 2023. This year we, along with many others, attended with great excitement and upon the direct appeal of our Supreme Knight. It was an amazing opportunity to march by the offices of congress instead of the Supreme Court. Now that Roe v. Wade has been overturned, our Supreme Knight wants our focus to be on the Legislature and the States for our Pro-Life activities. Michigan won't let him down! In February, the State Bowling tournament began with the Officers tournament and then lead into the regular competition. This year the tournament was hosted in Bay City by Council 414. We all had a great time at the Officer Tournament.

Please consider putting a team together and have an excellent time! On Saturday, February 25, we hosted the State Chaplain Tribute Dinner at Zacarro's in Chesterfield, MI. We passed out several awards and thanked the many councils that had a quick start in membership. We honored several Grand Knights and Field Agents for their dedication in growing the membership in their councils and showing men how to put their faith in action. Father was honored in many ways as well. He was made an honorary member of Knights on Bikes. He was presented a sword by the Fourth Degree Masters. He was presented with a DAVL jacket. He was presented with a portrait of Fr. McGivney by the General Agents. He was given a memorial brick by St. Francis Camp. Finally, he was given a new cope and carrying case by the State Board. It was a wonderful event honoring a very special State Chaplain.

We celebrated several events for St. Patrick's Day including marching in the Detroit Parade down Michigan Avenue, and our tradition visit at Holy Trinity Check in Detroit with MSGR. Kosanke. Additionally, the Board and wives got an opportunity to tour the new ASAP clinic next to St Anne's in southwest

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Christopher A Kolomjec
State Deputy

Detroit. It was there that we got to see our state-sponsored ASAP program coming to life. We committed funds for the ultrasound machine and sponsored the exam room where it will be placed and then we voted to name the room in honor of Archbishop Vigneron.

On April 12, the State Board hosted the 45th Annual Michigan Right to Life Banquet. Ed and Lynn Strach have done an amazing job bringing yet another program of Michigan to the top of the Order. At the Banquet, over 600 guests were in attendance, one of the best ever. At that time, the State Board donated \$20,000.00 on your behalf, for the Fraternal year to MRTL. These funds were to be used for the MRTL Education Fund. We should be very proud that Michigan leads the order is ASAP participation.

On Thursday, April 13, we hosted our State Raffle Drawing at our Archdiocesan Chaplain's Parish St John Neumann. The Grand Knight and members of his council put out a great meal for all the Knights and families in attendance. Kevin Rowley and Mike Haughey did a super job running the raffle this year. With approximately \$350,000 in sales, we smashed all the records for single-mailing state raffles. Thank you all that sold tickets helping us to raise fund to help those in need!

Our State Program Director, Paul Palka, has done an excellent job all year. His energy and enthusiasm have created several new ways of reaching our goals! He puts out the Sunday Constant Contact every week sharing the Membership and Program events coming up in our State. If you are not receiving these, please ask your DD and GK to share them with you. Paul continued to encourage councils to come up with creative ways to continue to promote programs in each council. Bob Bagley has done an exceptional job as our State Knights on Bike Director along with coordinating the Silver Rose that visited our State. PSD Ken Unterbrink has been working on the Sacred Heart Major Seminary Endowment Fund for this year. We have set a target of \$100,000.00 to be able to add to the 1 Million Dollar pledge that was started in 2018. Additionally, Ken has taken on the duties related to the new Seminarian Tuition Assistance Program here in Michigan. If you ever see Ken, run or he will shake you down for any extra dollar! At least its for the best of causes, Thank you Ken.

Not to be out done, Our Michigan Charities Director, Thomas Wegner, PSD, FSD has been working meticulously with the councils around the state on the 10-4 Charity Program. I would like to thank all the members that donated that extra \$10.00 with their dues to help us on the State Board to answer the several requests for charity that we receive. Many times, money needed for a crisis such as the tornados and various tragedies that occur throughout the year, we are able to help on your behalf.

Our M.I. drive that occurs twice a year has been increasing steadily over these many years. I want to recognize the hard work of George and Vickie Walrath in running our M.I. Program. George has done an outstanding job and I appreciate his loyalty to me and to the Order. I want to Thank all the councils that have participated in the M.I. Drive. We also are a leader in the order for the M.I. Program and as always, keep up the good work.

Gary Kolbiec has done a superb job with putting our ad books, State newsletter and helping our Executive Secretary, Larry Grabowski has always been a tremendous help, there are so many things he deals with at our state office day after day, He and Gary make sure every State Raffle Ticket is scanned so that each council received the proper refund, managing all the mailing and most of the emails. Helping the membership with all the calls he receives and sending them to the proper person to help them. But most of all, I want to thank Larry for all his advice and support, he is help to me beyond words. I thank both Larry and Gary for their dedication to making the state one of the premier jurisdictions in the Country!

Jac Armstrong has been working with the merchandising over the past year driving to several Diocesan Meetings and I want to thank his for his dedication in sending out the items on a timely basis and keeping the emblem of our order promote through our shirt and hat program.

I would like to thank the Patriotic Degree for all their help and support. Our Former Vise Supreme Master and his Wife Susan have been a tremendous source of support to me and Julie as my Chief of Staff.

I would also like to thank General Agents, Benji Borelli, Kenneth Huard and Timothy Nowak along with the many Field Agents that support our Councils Fraternal benefits needs. They make it their life's mission to promote our order and to help the 63,000 members and their families across Michigan. They also are continuously recruiting new men along with their families, into your councils helping create new bonds of brotherhood within your councils. I ask all of you to give them your respect and time at each meeting that they can attend.

I would like to thank my wife Julie, and my children, Christopher Jr, Jackie, and Madeline for supporting me during this year as State Deputy. I have had huge support from my extended family of State Officers and their wives. The Delegate's over the past several years have voted on and created a remarkably diverse group of leaders. I would like to that our State Secretary, Barry Borsenik and Mandy, Our State Treasurer, Charles McCuen and Pamala, our State Advocate, Vern and Christy Miron and Our State Warden, Dan and Kara Fuller. These four families have been extremely generous of their time and talents. Our SRGD, William Chasse' we thank him and Marybeth for all their help and counsel. I would like to thank all the Past State Deputies for their support and Counsel. I especially want to recognize Past State Deputy Mike Malinowski, my Chief of Accommodations. Mike and Maureen have gone above and beyond in their duties and made life for all of us full-time employed state officers much more bearable. I can't thank you enough Mike, you have always over delivered on your duties!

Our State Membership Director, Jim Escott had accepted the challenge this year to lead the state in membership recruiting and reach Circle of Honor. Many councils accepted this challenge as well and came up with creative ways to continue to recruit new members while conducting programs. We have competed for the number one slot for membership growth in Division 1 all year, mainly switching back and forth with the state of Texas. That's amazing considering all the people moving to Texas from California and their Hispanic migration. Doug Kokot has been keeping track of every online member and finding the new Councils that they would like to join. Beside keeping up with the retention in our councils when help is needed, he also is one of our senior tech advisers. Dan Remeika has been tracking the Round Table along with doing a great job putting together the Talking Points for our DD's, GK's, Membership and Program Directors and our Chaplains.

Many have asked me the secret to Michigan's recent success and rebirth. I will always answer proudly that I have found the right people to do the job. And I cannot thank Jim Escott enough for all his hard work, energy, and organization. I knew he would be great, but I am astonished at how great he has been. Thank you, Jim, for everything! Now go Beat Texas!

Ben Jijika has been recruiting like crazy in our Eastern Rite parishes. He has exceeded his promises and continues to break records. He and his wife are dear friends and I appreciate all their support over the years.

But Thanks to all of you in this room who all continue to recruit new members and smash the record books.

In conclusion, I have always seen it as my role to be the chief cheerleader, to inspire, and encourage each and every one of you to recruit new members so

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Christopher A Kolomjec
State Deputy

Michigan continues to thrive. I believe the “union boss” days of do it because I said so, are over. Like all of you, I know leadership now requires a great deal of persuasion rather than direction. I have explained how we need to replace 6 Knights each day in Michigan due to deaths. I have maintained that if we are not growing, we are dying. But most importantly, I have insisted that our Order, the Knights of Columbus, is one of the last great hopes for the Catholic Church in America. It is our order that stands firmly for faith and family. It is our order that will stand between the chaos of secular and corrupt society and our Holy Church. Let us never forget that we are named Knights for a reason. That our time to defend life and religious freedom is just beginning. We must stand in the way of government agencies that attack our Order or our Catholic Church as intolerant or worse label us a Hate Group. My dear, dear brother knights, our purpose now in this world is much greater than in the recent past. It is no longer just the fraternity of beer tents and bowling tournaments. Our past burdens may have been limited to pancake breakfasts and fish fries. AHHHH those were the days. When popular culture and American Society all stood for family and Christian Values. But now, how times have changed. Or have they merely returned to the times of our nineteenth century roots where the Catholic man was ridiculed and distained? Have our times returned to the fears of our Founder, Father Michael J. McGivney that worried the Catholic man of today must downplay his beliefs and his religion in order to be employed, promoted, or even accepted. Our faith is now considered not just old and ancient but out of touch, irrelevant, even

ignorant. Men of Faith are rare now and often ridiculed, laughed at, even hated. Yes hated, even within our own families where our children, grandchildren, even our own brothers and sisters have left the faith. Now, more than ever, Fr. McGivney’s vision is needed more than ever for committed Catholic men to unite and support each other as brothers as way to offset the social forces working to destroy them. Yes, we are proud Catholics and Proud Americans bearing the name Columbus after the Catholic founder of this great land. Let us not despair or retreat! We are proud Catholic men willing to take a stand for our faith, for our families, for each other! God does work in mysterious ways. He lifts the lowly like Mother Theresa or Fr. Solanus Casey to challenge the mighty. And so here we are ready for this challenge. We are ready to stand up for our beliefs and not back down. And Like Churchill in the darkest days of the Nazi terror and world dominance, we shall never surrender! But we will only be successful in this great challenge of our time if the Order is promoted and protected. And here in Michigan we are proud to claim the title of number 1 in many programs. Here, in Michigan we are proud to claim the title of defenders of the faith. Here, in Michigan we are proud to claim the title of Circle of Honor 2 months early. Here, in Michigan we are proud to claim that the health of the Order is good. Here, in Michigan we are proud to claim that the state jurisdiction is healthy, growing, and strong! Here, in Michigan, we are all proud to claim the title Knight of Columbus! God Bless you all and Vivat Jesus!

MICHIGAN STATE CDEREMONIAL REPORT

Eugene Murawski
State Director



Worthy State Chaplain, Reverend Fathers and Religious, State Deputy, State Officers and Delegates.

Over a year ago our State Deputy Chris Kolomjec asked me if I would put together Michigan Traveling Exemplification Teams. Obviously, I said yes I would. Chris wanted teams that would have their parts memorized and would conduct an exemplification in a professional way. Chris would then buy blazers and ties for the staff to wear when conducting an exemplification. Chris also stated that he would cover all expenses for the teams, and to include a meal after the conclusion of the exemplification. The idea was to have the exemplification right after mass, have the local pastor participate, and have a meal at the conclusion.

Worthy Supreme Senior Vice President Mark McMullin, if you would please come to the podium, I would like to present you with the Michigan Memorable Coin that was Blessed by our State Chaplain.

How many of the delegates have seen the Memorable Coin? Let me describe the coin to you. On one side it has the State of Michigan with Michigan spelled out from Marquette to Detroit. In the Lake Michigan area is a triangle with the orders emblem inside of the triangle. Around the triangle are our first three principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity of our order. On the reverse side is the crucifix to remind you of Christ's sacrifice, "Upon the Cross for us". The Chalice with the Raised Host is to remind us to receive the body and blood of Christ as often as we can. Around the inside of the coin are the words "In Solidarity with our Bishops and Priests". I designed this coin to be given to all of the new members that go through the Traveling Team Exemplification to remind them of the principles that they were taught during the exemplification.

I now ask all of delegates to go back to your councils and consider having a Traveling Exemplification Team come to your council. You can go on the Michigan K of C Web-site to request an Traveling Team. When you get into the Web-site, on the right hand margin is the word "Exemplification". When you click on that, it will direct you to the Request for a Traveling Team Exemplification. Fill out the fill able form and e-mail it to e.murawski@mikofc.org and I will get a Travel Team to put on your Exemplification.

Worthy State Deputy, this concludes my report.

“Success is peace of mind, which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you made the effort to become the best of which you are capable.”

Michigan State Council Family of The Year The Schuster Family



Mike Schuster grew up in Lincoln Park, Michigan. Carol Schuster grew up in Fenton, Michigan. Mike attended General Motors Institute in Flint and Carl was a nurse at Hurley Hospital there. They were married December 16, 1977 in Lake Orion at St. Joseph, have been married 46 years, and it was at St. Joseph that Mike became a member of the Knights of Columbus. Mike worked for 30 years at GM as an engineer. Tom Schuster was Mike and Carol's first child. They became a family and joined St. Nicholas in Capac, and that's where the family met Fr. Perrone. Mike has been singing in Fr. Perrone's choir for 30 years. Carol and Mike taught Marriage Class for Fr. Perrone for 25 years.

They homeschooled all their children

Tom, their son went on to become an accomplished musician and eventually became the organist at Assumption Grotto. He even played the organ for his own Confirmation at the age of 13. He is currently the Music Director for the Church of the Epiphany Parish in Cutler Bay, near Miami, Florida. Tom met his wife, Erica, at Assumption Grotto. They were married in 2002 and they currently have 12 children.

Andrew was born in 1983 and served as an altar boy for Fr. Perrone until college. He is an accomplished musician and plays the cello. He went on to obtain a law degree from Madonna University. He worked for Bodman Law, one of the largest law firms in Detroit and became partner. During that time, he was also very involved in the Knights of Columbus, eventually becoming the Financial Secretary for Assumption Grotto Council. He has 4 children with his wife, Angele, whom he also met at Assumption Grotto. They have the distinction of having the only outdoor wedding at the Lourdes Grotto due to a construction project inside the Church.

Then came Matthew, born in 1987. He served as an altar boy at Assumption Grotto until he turned 18. He is also an accomplished musician, playing the violin. His pastor, Fr. Perrone, helped inspire Matthew to become a priest. He was ordained in 2019 and is a priest at St. John Cantius in Chicago, a religious order dedicated to the restoration of the sacred liturgy. He is currently head of the Formation of Novices of the Order.

Joseph was born in 1994. He was an altar boy at Assumption Grotto. He was involved in the Knights of Columbus even before he was old enough to join the Knights, working on our now State Deputy's campaign committee many of the years he ran for State Office. He was one of those teenagers who stood on the porch behind the head table during the banquet with a "Vote for Kolomjec" sign while the State Deputy was giving his address. He is currently engaged to Allison Robb and they are planning to get married at St. Joseph's Church in Lake Orion, the same church as his mother and father.

David was born in 1991 and served as an altar boy for Fr. Perrone for 22 years. He assisted in many Knights of Columbus functions before the age of 18, serving as a busser at the Council fish fries and providing security in the parking lot. He became a Knight soon after his 18th birthday, was elected Grand Knight of his council at the age of 20 and was the youngest Grand Knight in the State of Michigan. David achieved Star Council both years he was Grand Knight. Besides holding positions at the council level, David has held the positions of District Deputy and College Council State Director, starting a new council at Michigan State University. He has attended every State Convention since 2007 (15 consecutive years). David has been instrumental in recruiting over 50 parishioners to their parish council, including one of his four brothers and father. David ultimately established a tradition of transferring 18 year old altar boys to become Knights of Columbus on or near their 18th birthdays. David's recruiting efforts resulted in Council 13419 having the youngest average age council in the State of Michigan from 2010 to 2018, the year the college councils were re-established in Michigan. The average age of Council 13419 went from 52 to 37 during David's tenure as Grand Knight. David began the K of C Men's Spirituality Group at Assumption Grotto in 2017 with Mass on the first Saturday of each month at 6:30AM, followed by one hour of Holy Hour, confessions then breakout afterwards with spiritual reflections. He basically started Corps meetings five years before its official inception. David has personally met and had dinner with Carl Anderson during the College Conference in New Haven, CT. His dedication to each role he has exemplified his dedication to both the church and the Knights. As College Council State Membership Director, David drove over 1400 miles (3 round trips) during the fall in recruiting efforts at Michigan Technological University, resulting in Star Council recognition. David organized and ran Knights of Columbus Altar Boy Retreat during Holy Week for over 10 years (from 2010 until 2020). David has worked every major K of C event for the parish, including fish fries, pancake breakfasts, summer picnics, New Year's Eve party and various council fundraisers. He is in many ways the reason the family is recognized as Family of the Year.

They would all insist on including Fr. Perrone as a member of their family. He has been the most influential person in the life of their family. He has had a hand in the direction, especially spiritually, in all their lives. Mike and Carol would single him out as the reason that their family has remained so loyal to their faith.

- ✓ They were all homeschooled
- ✓ All have college degrees
- ✓ All very involved with their faith

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Michigan State Council Family of The Year The Schuster Family

✓ All the men are Knights of Columbus

David, his father and two brothers are all active members of the Assumption Grotto parish. His brother, Matthew is a priest at St. John Cantius Parish in Chicago, IL and his oldest brother is the Music Director at St. John Cantius in Cutler Bay, near Miami, FL. David has served as an altar boy for 22 years and continues to serve as MC or acolyte at Assumption Grotto parish. David is a member of the parish choir and Men's schola. David is an accomplished musician and often fills in as organist at his parish church. David attends daily Mass whenever possible and recites the rosary every night with his wife and children. He currently serves on the Finance Committee of his parish. He is also the President of the non-profit Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, established 50 years ago as an endowment for the benefit of the Assumption Grotto Church and Shrine as a National historic site. David serves on the Board of Directors of Call to Holiness, an incorporated faith organization, established to defend the attack on the Catholic Church by other lay and religious organizations. The Michigan State Council Executive Board selected them to be the Knights of Columbus Family of the year – because in many ways, they represent and ARE the perfect Catholic Family.

- 1.) They are all local and married in the Catholic Church.
- 2.) They all plan on having large families and will accept as a gift from God all the children God will bless any of them with.
- 3.) They are currently live out the Catholic example.
- 4.) The Schuster family even produced a vocation to the priesthood, giving it credibility, everything a Catholic family should be.

The only thing missing is having a Saint in the family. But wait, believe it or not, they have that, too! The Saint of the Schuster family is Theresa. The only daughter born to Carol and Mike, Teresa was the second born on September 3, 1981. She died tragically in a car accident on November 28, 1999 at the age of 18 driving home from a Catholic teen dance at Assumption Grotto parish. Her mother recalls Teresa's early childhood and she is amazed at the many talents God bestowed upon her. Carol shared passages from Teresa's diary.

On April 8, 1992, at the age of 10, Teresa wrote: "I want to describe to you some of my happiest times. First, when I read any story of any female saint as I try to copy their lives. Second, when at the beginning of each day, I can, with glue, stick a little cross onto the Lenten calendar. The third, and last, is when I can joyfully write JMJA – Jesus, Mary, Joseph, and Angels at the top of each page of my schoolwork."

On April 25, 1992, age 10: "I am cleaning my room for about the millionth time in my life, but this time I want to do it. I am getting rid of many things so that I can devote my life to God. I have permission to get rid of my (doll) hutch and (toy) oven, but I haven't asked about my bed and dresser (I want to live like a nun). I may be getting rid of lots of things, but don't worry, I will keep you. "

May 6, 1992: "Last night, and all day today, I have prayed that Mary will make my life as painful as she sees fit so that I can sacrifice it. She seems to be answering that prayer, because I am feeling pain almost every moment. Of course, it is only small pains like bumping my arm or stubbing my toe. I have decided to get rid of my dollhouse. Mom won't let me get rid of my bed and dresser because they are an antique set. I am going to begin spring cleaning my room today, so I can get rid of more things."

Her mother went on to say that it was around this time Teresa started sleeping on her floor, without a pillow. She did it for penance and as a way of emulating some of the saints she had been reading about to make up for all the sins of the world against Jesus. After about a month, she had dark circles under her eyes and was getting rather crabby. Her mother told her she had to start sleeping in her bed again, as she obviously needed more sleep!

In conclusion, this family represents the best of everything that is Catholic and the Knights of Columbus. They all followed their parents' examples as truly holy members of the Church, always searching out God's will and their vocation. All loyal to the laws of the Church regarding marriage and children. This family not only generated a holy priest but no doubt a lovely saint as well. They are proud to call themselves a Catholic Family. They are proud to call themselves a Knights of Columbus Family. Vivat Jesus!

Michigan State Council Chaplain of The Year Very Reverend Robert F. Creagan Kalamazoo Diocesan Chaplain



Fr. Bob is all that a Council Chaplain should be (he himself a Knight since 1979). He is a teacher of the faith and devoted parish priest.

He demonstrates this through his commitment to attend Council meetings and events to bring his personal blessings and charity to the Knights and their families.

Fr Bob also shows his dedication to the Knights by participating beyond just Council events but in District and Fourth Degree meetings and exemplifications.

For instance, Father was recognized as class honoree at the April 2022 4th Degree exemplification for his service to the Knights. It is a blessing to us and our Brotherhood that Fr. bob takes his role as Diocesan Chaplain so seriously, attending and being an active participant in District, Diocesan and Statewide meetings.

As a bystander at the events, one can see the respect that state officers have for Fr. Bob, not because he demands it, but because he has earned it.

SPREADING THE LOVE



Staff members of the Pregnancy Help Clinic in Flint accept a donation of more than \$1,700 from Grand Knight Michael Trundle of **Swartz Creek (Mich.) Council 6694**. The Knights held a baby bottle drive at St. Mary, Queen of Angels Parish that allowed them to make matching donations to the Pregnancy Help Clinic and the Luke Project 52 Clinic of Flint. Since the council made the donations through ASAP, the Supreme Council will donate an additional \$300 to each organization

Programs = New Members



From our President and CEO

Summer is here! All is a-buzz at Holy Cross, where the children we serve across the state are bursting outside to enjoy the sunshine. Many of us have beautiful memories from the summer months of childhood. We think of ice cream, playing ball with the neighbor kids, running through the sprinkler, and the art of perfecting a toasted marshmallow on a campfire.

At any time, Holy Cross is serving more than 200 children who have been removed from their families. In our residential programs, many of the youth we serve have experienced more than 20 failed placements in the foster care system before they came to our door. This continuous disruption interferes with a child's sense of normalcy. Without family, without home, what does it mean to be a child in Michigan?

Here at Holy Cross, we prioritize providing that anchor for children, creating a safe space steady enough for fun to emerge. Summer days with us are full of laughs and packed with pool time, lots of outdoor play, camping, and plenty of ice cream. In foster care, we know we can never replace the joy of a forever family, but we absolutely can help children begin to believe that they are deserving of that joy. That they are worthy of love. That belief is what allows kids to let down their guard and let themselves just be...kids.

We are blessed to have been anchored by the Knights of Columbus for 75 summers. Through your support, Holy Cross continues to share God's love with children, and to help children feel God's love within themselves. Summertime truly is a time of beauty. **Thank you for helping build those beautiful summer memories for the children in our care.**

Susan Rosas

Susan Rosas, she/her
President/Chief Executive Officer
Holy Cross Services

SAFETY NURTURE SHARED POWER PURPOSE

Raffle Calendar WINNERS

Winners announced monthly on our Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/HolyCrossServices1/>

April Winners!

Week 1

Chuck McFadden

Week 2

Andy Schmitt

Week 3

Tim Baron

Week 4

Jerry Hannenberg

Month End

Joyce Goerge

May Winners!

Week 1

Robert Ragnone

Week 2

Scott Schafter

Week 3

Shane Brow

Week 4

Dave Ivan

Week 5

Randy Wirth

Month End

Ron Bates

June Winners!

Week 1

Nicholas Thelen

Week 2

Lavern Schneider

Week 3

Beth Hogan

Week 4

Anthony Carozza

Month End

Harry Goerge



Izzo Legacy Team



Spring to Wellness – Residential Youth

Contact Us

855-38-HEART ♥ info@hccsnet.org ♥ www.holycrossservices.org
HCS Knights' Liaison Mike Fontana: m.fontana@mikofc.org – 248-224-5583

Michigan State Council Knights of Columbus
123rd Annual State Convention
May 26, 2023
REPORT ON THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy Supreme Senior Vice President, Worthy Supreme Director, Worthy Delegates, and brother Knights, Vivat Jesus.

The Good of the Order Committee thanks the State Deputy for the confidence extended to us in preparing this report. He and every member are to be congratulated for reaching this jurisdiction's membership goal in the month of April for the first time in almost 50 years.

More members mean more exemplification ceremonies. When the Supreme Council adopted the new Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity, it opened the ceremony to guests. Public exemplifications in parishes increase the need for professional and impactful ceremonials. The committee acknowledges Ceremonials Director Eugene Murawski for satisfying this need with professional traveling teams. Councils have recruited new members from parishioners observing these exemplifications after Mass. They also set examples for districts and councils to follow and grow the Order with their own teams.

When we joined the Order, we affirmed that we accept the teaching authority of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals and aspire to live in accord with its precepts. As brothers, we are called to build up one another. We look to our chaplains to keep brother Knights accountable for transgressions with utmost charity and encouragement. *Into the Breach: An Apostolic Exhortation to Catholic Men* addresses the crisis of faith facing the Church and the role of Catholic men in combating it. Under Brotherhood it says, "fraternal correction is the act of one friend challenging another to amend his ways, urging him to give up or avoid a particular sin, habit or attitude." In 2011, Pope Benedict XVI said that correcting the behavior of those gone astray is an essential part of Christian life. He said, "This approach is called fraternal correction: it is not a reaction to injury suffered but is moved by love for one's brother." So, when we see a brother Knight seemingly not living as a practical Catholic, seek the help of the chaplain or pastor to keep brother Knights accountable for transgressions.

Fraternal correction can be self-correction if we avail ourselves of our many spiritual aids, resources, and programs. One way to learn about current offerings is to read the weekly Michigan K of C Sunday Email (Constant Contact). At the top of this email is written, "We are Catholic men striving to be the best husbands, fathers and leaders we can serving our community." We recommend members seek it out and read the notices from the Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation, the Holy Cross Services liaison, Guest House liaison, and other community reminders. All grand knights, financial secretaries, council membership directors, and council program directors are encouraged to forward it to all council members.

We know that the council chaplain is a priest chosen annually by the grand knight, deputy grand knight and trustees to serve as spiritual advisor to the council. What happens when the chaplain is unable to attend a council meeting? What happens when a council is not blessed with a chaplain? The committee recommends that the chaplain's message never be skipped. If a chaplain is not present, then consider using the [Supreme Chaplain's Monthly Challenge](#) or something like it at the meeting. Or consider picking a saint of the month to inform the council on how the lives of the saints can be an example for us. Both are referenced in the monthly Talking Points. Or consider reading the notices from the Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation in the Michigan K of C Sunday Email. The point is, always avail yourselves of available resources to make a spiritual statement.

Every council that helps support a seminarian through RSVP, gives a coat to a child who needs one, donates a wheelchair to someone needing mobility, provides food to a hungry family, or saves a baby through the ultrasound program has

grown the Order. Every Brother Knight who helps with the Free Throw Contest or a Special Olympic event, hands out Tootsie Rolls for people with intellectual disabilities, or joins a March for Life is growing the Order. Individual Brother Knights are growing the Order simply by living out their faith as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, husbands, and fathers. The committee recommends that councils offer assistance to their pastors to increase participation in these pastoral roles.

We see a relationship between programs and membership, between active councils and successful councils, between the record numbers of programs reported on Fraternal Programs Report Form #10784 and councils achieving insurance and membership goals. Your programs have helped grow the Order. Two Life programs the committee wishes to highlight are Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) and the Ultrasound Initiative. The fraternal year is not over, but you and your councils continue to lead the Order in donation applications made with over 100 councils donating over \$205,000 to pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes. The Ultrasound Initiative also continues as a marquee program for Life by placing over 80 ultrasound units since the beginning of the program, thus saving the lives of unborn babies every day. With many other ultrasound initiatives underway, the placement of the 100th ultrasound unit is in sight. These efforts plus other council pro-life initiatives in Michigan are making a significant difference in defending life from conception to natural death.

Giving of ourselves through our programs also helps us to grow stronger in our faith. A new program that is designed specifically to strengthen faith and virtue as missionary disciples is the Cor or "heart" meeting. The committee encourages councils to appoint the best candidates for their Directors of Evangelization and Faith Formation to explore and lead this new program. Strengthening bonds of brotherhood and preparing men for evangelization may also attract the younger men in the parish to carry out our mission of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. The committee encourages councils to use their ability to adapt programs to local needs to achieve our goals. This ability to adapt can work well with the Hispanic members in our communities. Spanish speaking Knights are encouraged to improve their own communication skills to help migrating people settle in, join a parish, get their children enrolled in Catholic schools, and grow in our true faith. Work with and fill our parishes and schools and be the shining beacon for others seeking truth and pride in our devotion to God and country. Whether it's in public or private, the Knights remind the world that Catholics support their nations and are among the greatest citizens.

Brothers, we have many reasons to be proud of our membership. Be proud by leading by example. Be proud by wearing your council shirt to Mass or your council cap to the grocery store. Be proud by wearing your emblem of the Order. If someone else notices, be proud to talk about being part of our great Order. Worthy State Deputy, thank you for the honor to address the 123rd State Convention of the Knights of Columbus and to present this report to our 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 stand to be recognized and be released.

The Good of the Order Committee: Round Table Director and Chair Daniel Remeika; Hispanic New Council Director Eduardo Garcia; Gaylord Diocesan Program Director East Patrick Oliver; District Deputies Rick Fisher, Shaun Bartz, John Huyge; Grand Knights Daniel Koch, Chip Monroe, Donald Deneweth, Frank Oldani

Programs = New Members



St. Louis Center Thoughts and Activities



Dear Brother Knights,

We wish to express our gratitude for the hospitality and generosity you shared at the State Convention on Mackinac Island in May. It was a time of joy and celebration as well as a time to connect with old friends and meet new ones. Everyone was able to grow in holiness and commitment to the core values of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.

In April, St. Louis Center hosted an open house for the Knights. Many members made their first on-campus visit. So many told us how impressed they are with the quality of the homes we provide and the breadth of what we can accomplish. Brother Knights, your support helps us daily carry out the work that the Lord has set before us.



St. Knight Bob Trabel, center, visited with Stanley and Lee at the April 30th event on behalf of Council #7233 from Frankenmuth.

Summer is now underway, and many of you will attend summer meetings, host picnics, and attend other family-oriented events for your parishes and councils. I hope you will enjoy these celebrations to honor the freedom we enjoy as citizens of this great nation. May this also be a time of grace, when we share our gifts, talents, and treasure with others.

Thank you for supporting St. Louis Center through the work of your Tootsie Roll Drive endeavors. We see firsthand each day the fruits of your labor on the faces of the people who call St. Louis Center home.

St. Louis Center would also like to thank the State Council for continually being a source of love and support.

With gratitude,

Fr. Enzo Addari, SdC
Your Brother Knight

Scan the QR Code to read about all of our upcoming events.



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Traditional Family Entertainment Event

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Where
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Outdoor Kitchen • Gourmet Food • Craft Beer • Cigar • Wine • Meet • Liquor • Music • Bonfire • NFL Thursday Night Football Game

All proceeds benefit St. Louis Center

27TH ANNUAL

Fall Harvest Fest

TO BENEFIT ST. LOUIS CENTER

Sunday, September 24, 2023

Italian American Banquet and Conference Center
2001 W. W. Road • Chelsea, MI 48758 • 734-675-8430

Save the Date

SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER

ST. LOUIS CENTER WILL BE HOSTING THE

Fall Dinner Auction

7:00pm - 10:00pm

NOTE: FOR GRAND KNIGHTS AND COUNCIL PR CHAIRMAN

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

John Hundiak, FDM, State Council Community Director, 2439 Westwood Dr., Rochester Hills, MI 48306

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

Knight of the Month**Lansing Council 788**

Michael Wegener PGK

Mike Ellsworth

Montrose Council 1266

Ed Draber, Tim Bolger

Portland Council 2168

Bill Durnwald, Don Sobolewski

Tom Klein

Gaylord Council 2781

Ken Tomaski, Christopher Bur

Dan Zanger

Westphalia Council 2890

Mike Wirth, Dan Pung

Alvin Smith

Chesaning Council 2943

Bernard Coonrod

Pinconning Council 2986

Martin Schultz, Ray Skrabut

OWEN BUSH

Fremont Council 3111

Bob Voyt

Southgate Council 3956

Brian Batko, Joe Hernandez

Guy Vitale

Gladwin Council 5280

Mark Harris, Randy Lambert

New Baltimore Council 5981

Joseph Kozłowski, Glenn Brisson

Roscommon Council 6593

Fr. Jerry Hunko, Pat Mattingley, Jr.

Thomas Kozłowski

Posen Council 6657

Benny Strzelecki, Mike Stempky

Dave Johnson

Michigan Center Council 6687

George McCaslin

Rev. Satheesh C. Althouse *cky

Swartz Creek Council 6694

Richard Drummond, Wally Dupuis

Mike Kopko, PGK, Robert Kranz

Wayne Deshano, Ken Lixey

Sterling Heights Council 7011

Ken Pullis, Joe Honce, III

Mike Lisieki, Bill Siffin

Larry Suilkowski

Macomb Council 7200

Dennis Jarzombek, David Combs

Birch Run Council 7233

Rob Doll, Peter Kleinebreil

Todd Gillette Robert Frank *cky

South Lyon Council 7586

Dave Ferrell, Mark Zarem

John O'Dowd, Sr., Kurt Hauser

Frank Mardeusz

Ada Council 8117

Terry Sullivan, John Burke

Howell Council 8169

Doug Moran, Joseph Cook

Bob Lachajewski

Flushing Council 8489

Steve Baroski, Marty Sovis

Dale Jandernoa

Auburn Hills Council 8659

Tom Addison, Fred Fisher

Jim Johnson, Bill Doral *cky

Montrose Council 8669

Chad Sharpe

Deacon Bryan Root

Mason Council 9182

Fr. Kenneth McDonald

David Kudzia, Bruce Utter

Scott Eckhard

Ira Township Council 10724

Jim Mattina PGK

Ann Arbor Council 10963

Ron Fuller, Paul Malocha

Lansing Council 11099

Gary Earley, David Hall

Matt McKune

Clinton Twp. Council 11689

Fr. John Kiselica, William Hill

Robert Tusset, James Hubbard

Clinton Twp. Council 12403

Luciano Gatti, David Tworek

Jason McMullen

White Cloud Council 13939

Tom Eggleston, Joshua Houle

Shawn Smith

Shelby Twp. Council 13983

Maurice Cerra, Joe Vogel

Jim Souva, Joe Karpral

Lake Odessa Council 14404

George Heinze, Alan Brodbeck

Comstock Park Council 15548

Greg Grzegorski, CKY

**Family & Faith**

Vivat Jesus!

First, let me introduce myself. My name is Bill Corey and I am the State Family Director for this fraternal year. I am replacing Garret Kelenske and I would like to thank Garret for the job that he has done. I have been a Knight since 1983 and have had various positions in the Council, Assembly, Diocesan, Regional, and State level.

Statistics show that when families attend church together, our sons and daughters continue to keep active with their faith. Please continue to attend masses and church activities as a family. A lot of priests say that the sound of kids in church means that the Parish is alive.

I would like to talk about two items. The first being that since it is summertime, it is a great time to spend outside with our families. Maybe your parish has a family picnic with food, fun, and fellowship. If so, please take advantage of it. If not, maybe you can talk to your Pastor about planning some family activities. Picnics, ice cream socials, movie nights with family friendly movies, popcorn, and fun. Or other activities that you can think of.

The second is more important. Each of our councils have "that family" or maybe more than one. You know what I mean. The family that is always at your

council functions. Helping with set up, cooking, serving, cleaning up. The kids are bussing tables, helping serve. Not only that, but they are also the family where mom or dad are ushers, lectors, commentators, extraordinary ministers. Maybe they are the organist or sing with the choir. Their kids are maybe the altar servers or help with childcare during Mass. Maybe they are Catechist for Faith Formation or help with vacation bible school. These are families that should be nominated for family of the month.

Brother Knights, with the new fraternal year just beginning, please start looking at your families and what they do to help your councils and more importantly your parishes. A family doesn't mean that they must have children. If you have a couple that does a lot for your council and church, they should be also nominated for family of the month.

We need to honor our families, brothers, and the family of the month, could be the family of the year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me: w.corey@mikofc.org or (313) 618-7645

Fraternally,
Bill Corey

Programs = New Members

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 to the Michigan Columbian.

Families of the Month**Lansing Council 788**

Eric Weber family
Duane fedora & Ann Clark

Algonac Council 856

James & Rose Santer
Mark & Jennifer Kornago

Montrose Council 1266

Doyle & Lillian Williamson
Mark & Sue Carollo

Portland Council 2168

Pat & Carolyn Heckman
Bob & Jessica White

Gaylord Council 2781

Mark & Dianne Simon
Robert & Nancy Olszewski
Rodney & Cathy Bragg
Joseph & Michele Hickerson

Westphalia Council 2890

Jack & Cheryl Smith
Russ & Julie Bengel
Rick & Cindy Fedewa

Chesaning Council 2943

Gregory & Janette Bishop
Dale & Lisa Rivette

Pinconning Council 2986

John & Maureen Duley
Jeff & Kim Hartley
Thomas & Mary Beth Idzior

Fremont Council 3111

Dale & Dee Korson

Southgate Council 3956

Victoria Dudek family

Ryan & Julie Daw

Dave & Valerie Kudla

Gladwin Council 5280

Dick & Karen Lauer

Jim & Therese Klipa

New Baltimore Council 5981

David & Kym Nummer

Matthew & Laurie Hoxsite

Roscommon Council 6593

Mark & Peggy Scott

Duane & Jane Pinkelman

Posen Council 6657

Chris & Tara Talaska

Bert & Laurie Wozniak

Andrew & Shelly Zwolinski

Michigan Center Council 6687

David & Francis Laughlin

James & Kathryn Miller

Swartz Creek Council 6694

Ken & Linda Klungle *cfy

Barry & Lynn Boyd

Bob & Kathy Kranz

Elek & Marti Kovacs

Lance & Jennifer Wildman

Holland Council 7115

Mark & Veota Goeddeke

Birch Run Council 7233

Joe & Vana Haley

Bob & Cathy Muehlfeld

Jerome & Angela Waldron

Ken & Jessica Bezemek *cfy

Ray Council 7561

John & Grace Van Hamme

South Lyon 7586

Greg & Lenore Ruczko

Jim & Cheryl Chuck

Roger & Margaret Ratkowski

Ed & Rose Wertz

Ron & Jan Kampsen

Ada Council 8117

John & Laura Ashmore

Jimmie Phan family

David & Rebecca Kevic

Howell Council 8169

Tom & Deb Petkus

Gil & Mary Bazil

Mike & Judy Moriarty

Jackson Council 8392

Jim & Kathy Desy

Todd & Lisa Desy

Flushing Council 8489

Doug & Rose Huber

Dr. Greg & Faith Yassick

Auburn Hills Council 8659

Karl & Linda Chase

Herb & Sandra Stacer

Joseph & Anne Cichon *cfy

Robert & Dorothy Weir

Montrose Council 8669

David Smith family

Donald & Verna Allett

George & Lisa Marzonic, Jr.

Ronald & Janet Martin

Saginaw Council 8808

Michael & Lisa Shabluk

Temperance Council 8902

Jeff & Kay Bock

Mason Council 9182

Jason & Jill McHahon

Phillip & Ruth Wiefierich

Ralph & Ann Devitto

Ann Arbor Council 10963

Thomas & Kathy Cook

Inshal & Monica Chenet

Michael & Stephanie Saylor

Lansing Council 11099

John & Beth Belfiglio

Daniel & Lou Ann Dowsett

William & Cynthia Currie

Clinton Twp. Council 12403

Mark Taylor family

White Cloud Council 13939

Rick & Kim Heuvelman

David & Cheryl Cable

Mary Frazier family

Lake Odessa Council 14404

Patrick & Rosann Sinke

Alan & Tara Brodbeck

Comstock Park Council 15548

Rick & Pamela Rozema

John & Nancy DeWildt

Cedar Springs Council 15889

Joshua & Rachel Harig

Queen of Apostles Council 6548

Four Knights from the Queen of Apostles Council 6548 of Houghton Lake Michigan hold up the canopy for the procession of the Eucharist on Corpus Christi Sunday, June 11th. Right after the 9 AM Mass, Pastor Father Peter Eke carried the Holy Eucharist in procession with the entire congregation around the campus of Our Lady of the Lake Church and school, finishing the ceremony back in the Church.

June 11th 2023 through July 17th 2024 has been designated by the United States Catholic Bishops as the Year of Parish Revival. Our Lady of the Lake will be starting five hours of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Wednesday following the 9 AM Mass starting June 14th to kick off the Year of Parish Eucharistic Revival. For more information call the church office at 989-366-5533.

AROUND THE STATE

St. Edith Council 13645



During the months of January and February 2023, Livonia council 13645 partnered with St. Edith parish and together raised over \$2,000.00 as part of the ASAP program. The monies were given to the AAA Pregnancy center in Livonia.

In accordance with the ASAP program, council 13645 received \$400.00 from Supreme. The attached photo shows the check presentation to the AAA Pregnancy center on April 4, 2023.

Catholic Community Response Team (CCRT) Support



Grand Knight Frank Kramarczyk presents \$500 check to Nancy Clancy, CCRT Project Co-Chair

Lake Orion Council 4764 recently donated \$500 to the Catholic Community Response Team (CCRT), started in 2004 by the Pontiac Area Vicariate as a response to crisis needs in Pontiac. The donation supported a Bundle of Love Baby Shower held May 10 for women from poverty homes who are expecting a child. Knight members are parishioners of Lake Orion's St. Joseph and Christ the Redeemer Catholic Churches.

Escanaba Assembly #507



First Holy Communion Mass held on April 30th, 2023 at All Saints Church in Gladstone, Michigan. Escanaba Assembly #507 provided an Honor Guard for the Mass.

Programs = New Members

Msgr. Jerome MacEachin Council 7816



Front row left to right: Fr. Gordon Riegler, Patrick Bertsch, Jacob Bertsch, Steven Bertsch, Tom Bertsch, DD517 Kevin Duffy.

2nd row: Peter Bertsch (dad) Brian Bertsch (uncle), Brad Bertsch (dad), Tom Bertsch (grandfather/charter member). At top left GK Paul Gadola.

On May 2, Council #7816 had a new member exemption that involved 3 generations. The 4 new members are cousins and brothers. Their fathers and uncle are long time active Knights as well as their grandfather who was a Charter member when the Council was formed 45 years ago.

Gladstone Knights of Columbus Support Special Olympics



Grand Knight Bob Stone of the Knights of Columbus Council 6667 presents a check to Special Olympics athlete, Sam Suchanek, for \$1098.55 for the local Special Olympics program - Area 1. The Knights of Columbus have supported the Special Olympics for many years and the program couldn't exist without wonderful donors like the Knights of Columbus. Current local sports include swimming and shortly track and field and bowling. Sam is an avid swimmer and basketball player. She will be competing in the UP Swim Meet in May.

Escanaba Assembly 507



Veterans Honor Flight Mission XXI Escanaba Assembly 507, Welcomes Veterans home from flight to Washington DC Memorials

Vismara Council 3725



Pictured left to right: Gary Henk, Robert Jacobson Fr. Bjorum, Rudy Perez, Tim Kruszyna, Chris Benvenuti.

Our council welcomed four new brothers and welcomed back another brother. All five men were raised to 3rd degree Knights at the Exemplification Ceremony held at Our Lady of Hope parish church on February sixth, after the 7pm Mass. led in prayer by Chaplain Fr. James Bjorum, five fellow Brothers assisted in the service.

Bishop Babcock Assembly 487



On March 18th 2023, the Bishop Babcock Assembly 0487 of Bad Axe MI presented to father Kevin Wojciechowski of holy Name of Mary parish, Our Lady of Lake Huron Catholic Church of Harbor Beach, MI a traveling mass kit. On the bottom of the chalice were the names of our deceased members of the 2022 memorial year. the presenters of the chalice were Dale R. Gilbert, Sr., F.S. Chalice Chairperson, Gary Krause F.C., Dr. Gene Dominick, Trustee.

Mother Theresa Council 13634

The officers and members of Mother Theresa Council 13634 congratulates Fr. Benny Mathew, MST, on the Silver Jubilee of his priestly journey with the lord and his sister Sr. Treesa Mathew, MSMI on her Silver Jubilee of religious profession.

“You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.”

Michigan State Bowling Association

The 81st Annual State Bowling Tournament was held earlier this year in Bay City, Michigan, and hosted by the Bay City Council #414. At the opening ceremony the Tournament was kicked off by State Deputy Christopher Kolomjec, Host Council #414 Grand Knight Brad Covaleski, and Bowling Association President Harry Deneweth. Congratulations to this year's 2023 Honoree Gregory Zawalski for his many years of dedication to the Knights of Columbus and Bowling Association.

Upcoming in 2024, the 82nd Annual State Bowling Tournament will be held in Lansing, Michigan, hosted by Richard Council #788 at Royal Scot Bowl and Golf. Officers Day will be February 17th and the open weekends February 24th through March 24th. Participation is open to all members in good standing who belong to a council in the Michigan Jurisdiction.

Additionally, there will be a fun mixed tournament in the Metro Detroit Area on October 14, 2023 at Westland Bowl.

For more information, visit: <https://www.michigankofcathletics.com> or contact,

Karl J. Zawalski
Bowling Association Secretary
kzawalski@wideopenwest.com
586-322-5275



(L-R) Bowling Association President Harry Deneweth, State Deputy Christopher Kolomjec, and Host Council #414 Grand Knight Brad Covaleski



State Deputy Christopher Kolomjec and 2023 Tournament Honoree Gregory Zawalski



2023 Tournament Honoree Gregory Zawalski and Family and State deputy Christopher Kolomjec

Miss Michigan



Your probably wondering how I sold so many raffle tickets. When you have a helper like Miss Michigan, Melissa Beyond helping you, tickets sell pretty fast. Thank You Miss Michigan and all the people who bought a ticket.

Miss Michigan also played in this past years golf outing For St. Jude Children's Hospital. She hopes to play intros years golf outing which will be played on August 20, 2023 at Mystic Creek in Camp Dearborn in Milford Michigan. We invite you to play or if you can't play can you pledge, if you can't pledge, please pray. for a golf form call John Rodgers at 248-714-5353. Address is 3101 Sands Ct., Milford MI 48380. All proceeds go to St. Jude Children's Hospital for some very sick children. Hope to hear from you Brother Knights.

Menominee Council 646 Aids Pantry



On February 7, 2023 the St. Vincent De Paul Pantry located at Resurrection Parish in Menominee, MI discovered that a freezer was unusable.

The Knights of Menominee Council 646 purchased a new Freezer for the pantry.

Pictured next to the new pantry freezer at Tom Hoyt, pantry manager and an active Knight in Council 646 and Ruth Weloloski, President of St. Vincent De Paul Menominee Chapter.

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Council 7444



A message from the Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Council 7444 is asking for prayers for the Canonization of Bishop Sheen, 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and 1 Glory Be. It cost you nothing but these prayers.

If you are ever in Peoria IL. stop in the museum and see our cross we donated to the museum.

Au Lac Council #10724



Our Knights of Columbus Au Lac Council #10724 does a lot of great programs and activities throughout the year, but the best ones are those that help make life better for people in need.

Several members worked for two days in May to rebuild a deck for a wheelchair bound person so he could enjoy being outdoors at his home. Thank you to those brother Knights for demonstrating what being a Knight is all about.

LASTING REMEMBRANCE OF OUR DEPARTED

**Knights of Columbus
Memorial Plaque Application 2023**

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 for a tax-deductible gift of \$25 a line – maximum of four lines per plaque (\$100).

APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OCTOBER 14, 2023



K of C Memorial Mass at Sacred Heart Major Seminary –
Sunday November 5, 2023 @ 10:00 am

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

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

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

In Memory of _____ Date of death _____

Gift of \$ _____ Requested By _____

Street: _____ Telephone _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: DAVL

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

Applicants will be contacted for multiple line engraving information

Knights of Columbus use only: Rec'd \$ _____ Date _____

Applications available at: MikofC.org/resources/manuals and documentation/Council Materials In the Michigan Columbian or
Contact: Mike Cousins at m.cousins@mikofc.org 586-610-6497
Sponsored by the Detroit Archdiocesan Vocations League.

**MICHIGAN COLUMBIAN PUBLICATION SCHEDULE
COPY DEADLINE MONTH**

MARCH 1st..... APRIL 2024
JUNE 1st..... JULY 2023
SEPTEMBER 1st.....OCTOBER 2023
DECEMBER 1st..... JANUARY 2024

PLEASE SEND ALL COPY MATERIAL TO:
GARY M. KOLBICZ
39373 DURAND DRIVE
STERLING HEIGHTS, MI. 48310
RES. 586-939-3886
Fax: 586-883-9473
E-MAIL – g.kolbicz@mikofc.org



YES I wish to enroll in the Guild and to receive the newsletter. Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Country _____

Please list below the names and addresses of any family or friend who might be interested in the Guild's work.

Name _____

Address City/State/Country Country _____

Name _____

Address City/State/ _____

MONTHLY MASS FOR GUILD MEMBERS

Online Membership



A Program for Recruiting and Engaging New Members



MICHIGAN STATE COUNCIL CONTACTS



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

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

James Escott State Membership Director,
j.escott@mikofc.org

Paul Palka, State Program Director, p.palka@mikofc.org

For further information about E-membership go to:
www.kofc.org/joinus

CLEAR THE (ROAD)WAY!



Knights and family members from **Newberry (Mich.) Council 2929** stand ready to clean a stretch of state Highway 123 north of Newberry. The council has been conducting the activity for 33 years.

A Knight's Mission



Sir Knight Larry Sulikowski (right) standing with William R. Browning, CAVS, Chief of Volunteer Services – Veterans Administration outside the main entrance of the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center in Detroit, Michigan.

The year was 1972. Missile Tech 2nd Class Petty Officer Larry Sulikowski had been honorably discharged from the United States Navy and was returning to civilian life in Michigan. He still required a medical procedure at the local Allen Park Veterans Administration Medical Center before he could turn the page completely on his time in the military. While he was recovering from his procedure, Larry suffered, not from any side effects of the operation, but from the boredom of long days spent at the hospital with little to do and few distractions.

Years passed but Larry never forgot those long hours in the hospital, or the other veterans who may have had to endure extended stays with nothing to occupy their time while undergoing treatment, therapy, or convalescing. Now a 4th

degree Knight of Columbus, Larry approached his brothers at Blessed Virgin Mary Assembly #1839 of Sterling Heights, MI and shared his concerns about those other veterans. He proposed that if the Knights would toss their spare change into a container during monthly business meetings, he could arrange for the veterans to receive Word Search books, to help them pass the time. Soon, this expanded to his local #7011 St. Nicholas Council as well.

Beginning in 2005, Larry diligently put out his empty container at every meeting, collecting loose change and occasionally a little folding money for the veterans. His efforts paid off. Since he first began setting out that empty container, Larry has delivered almost 5,000 books to the Veterans Administration, which had moved downtown, into the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center in Detroit.

Through the years the loose change Larry quietly collected grew to over \$3,200 for the activity materials, beginning with Word Search in small print in 2005, expanding into large print in 2017 for the visually impaired, and eventually extended into coloring books in 2022. His deliveries have taken him to Detroit many times, where he is a regular visitor. When the need has arisen, Larry's books have even gone as far as the Lieutenant Colonel Charles S. Kettles VA Medical Center in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Larry's experience demonstrates that one person on a mission can accomplish important things, especially when it comes to helping others in their times of need and loneliness.

St. Francis of Assisi – Our Lady of Sorrows Council 4401 Generous Donation to the Sanctum House



Deputy Grand Knight Dan Wolocko, along with his wife Lady Kristen, and his wonderful 7 children were awarded the family of the year, as a role model Catholic family that proclaim the Gospel by their faith and actions within their domestic church and community.

As winners of the award, the council provide a \$1000 gift that the family can donate to a charity of their choice. The Wolocko family selected the Sanctum House.

The Sanctum House provides a local safe house or sanctuary for women who are survivors of human trafficking. The Sanctum House needs continual support to raise awareness about how they can help women reclaim their lives, while raising awareness about the program. The Sanctum Hose provides support for trauma-informed care and a path to recovery for the victims of Human Trafficking.

Any council wishing to support this wonderful organization can go to www.sanctumhouse.org.

Please keep these women in your prayers as they heal under God's love and mercy.

May They Rest In Peace

Menominee Council 646

Gerald Blohm

Lansing Council 788

George Foz, Carl Price

Robert Whyte

West Branch Council 2022

Pat Suida

Standish Council 2724

Edward Dufort

Westphalia Council 2890

John Martin

Utica Council 2950

Gerald Duder, Ron Ciss

Ralph Diaz, Adam Schultz

Jack Peake

Warren Council 3257

Dale Grace

Allen Park Council 3774

Fr. Thomas Puzio, Michael Fenton

Ronald Caretti, Tom Strobl

Southgate Council 3956

John Astorino

Albion Council 5255

Tom Gaylord FS

Waterford Council 5436

Dan Leichtnam

Sterling Heights Council 7011

Robert Wojciechowski

Macomb Council 7200

Ralph Theisen, Jr., PGK

Grand Ledge Council 7311

Ronald Pioch, FN

South Lyon Council 7586

John Betley, PGK

Jackson Council 8392

Fr. James Shaver

Saginaw Council 8808

Ray Essenmacher PGK

Shelby Twp. Council 13983

Virgil Rodriguez

Allendale Council 14586

Cork Horvath PGK



In Remembrance of
Liz Hollo



To Benefit St. Louis Center in Chelsea, MI

Join us for Golf!

If you go to one golf outing this year, make it this one! The scramble format and inviting course layout at Pierce Lake Golf Course in Chelsea, MI make this an event to enjoy!

Your participation directly impacts the lives of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Funds raised by this outing provide daily care, housing, food, shelter and transportation for residents at SLC.

If you don't join us for golf, please consider one of our sponsorship opportunities.



Saturday
July 15, 2023
9am Shotgun Start

Pierce Lake Golf Course
1175 S. Main St.
Chelsea MI 48318
734-475-8430



Honoring Friends

St. Louis Center is blessed to have so many supporters. Since 1987, the Memorial Golf Outing has been held to honor special benefactors who have passed and recognize their generosity. This year we are honoring Elizabeth Hollo.

Liz was one of those individuals who always did for others. She was a nurse for Chelsea Community Hospital in the head pain unit for over 25 years. She was a faithful member of St. Mary Catholic Church where she sang in the choir and loved participating in the Lenten Fish Fry events. Liz and her husband Rich were also devoted supporters of St. Louis Center. They volunteered for and attended many of the Center's fundraising events throughout the years. They also traveled on the St. Louis Center Dream Tours.

Golfers take a break between holes and head to the course pavilion for lunch. After the scores are finalized, a buffet dinner is served, raffle takes place, and awards are presented.



Scan the code to

Sponsorships

Gold Sponsor \$1500

(Includes 2 foursomes, sponsor name on hole sign and in all promotions including on SLC website and social media posts)

Silver Sponsor \$800

(Includes foursome, sponsor name on hole sign and in all promotions including on SLC website and social media posts)

Bronze Sponsor \$300

(Includes sponsor name on hole sign and in all promotions including on SLC website and social media posts)

Hole Sponsor \$200

(Includes sponsor name on hole sign and in event program book)

Tee Sponsor \$100

(Includes sponsor name on hole sign and in event program book)

Golf Registration

Individual Golfers \$100 Team \$400

Visit the website to register and purchase sponsorships. Or scan code.

Contact Information

Michelle Mikolajczyk
SLC Development and Events Assistant
mmikolajczyk@stlouiscenter.org

St. Louis Center Phone:
734-475-8430

Visit us online at:
stlouiscenter.org