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Barry M. Borsenik
State Deputy



My Brother Knights and Ladies,

July is the middle of the year for most, but it is the *beginning* of the fraternal year for Knights of Columbus. Our orderly progression of leadership change has placed me at the helm of this great jurisdiction of Michigan as your State Deputy. At our recent visit to Supreme for the formal installation of State Deputies, the reputation of Michigan was confirmed. Many Supreme officers, directors and other State Deputies would greet Mandy and I with respectful regard and an acknowledgement of Michigan's leadership in the order in many categories. The phrase, "big shoes to fill" kept coming to mind as others complimented our success. The real compliment goes to you; the membership, the local leaders, the regional, diocesan, and state directors. The real work gets done locally, by the participation of many.

Thank you for giving me the honor and privilege to represent this great state of Michigan.

Thanks to our new Immediate Past State Deputy, Christopher Kolomjec and his administration for a very successful two years. If we can only continue the good things we have going, we will be in good shape. As with any leadership change, there will be some new names and new initiatives. The team I have assembled will do our best to support our membership and councils that are doing well, and encourage and coach where improvement is needed.

The slogan of my committee (The Eagle Committee) has been SOAR with us! SOAR stands for Service, Optimism, Aspire and Responsibility. These are themes you will hear more about in the months ahead and will be incorporated into our leadership training twice a year. Regarding Service – all the leadership in Michigan are volunteers. We *choose* to serve. Many of us have significant other responsibilities like full-time jobs, raising families, roles in our parish or

community. Thank you to all who choose to include Knights of Columbus as one of the ways you serve God and each other. I will strive to be a "servant leader" and do my best to provide direction, support, and encouragement for the success of our councils and a positive experience for our members and their families.

I appreciate the dedication of hundreds of councils contributing to per capita which provides for our basic operations, and the special assessments or voluntary contributions that allow us to support many charitable efforts on your behalf. The combined contributions allow us to make lasting differences that no single council could do on their own. Special projects and statewide events result in an influx of checks from councils, assemblies, sponsoring businesses, charitable trusts and individuals. It is very heartening to see you respond when the call goes out.

Just as important, I am very grateful for the time and miles that our District Deputies and State, Regional and Diocesan Directors contribute to the work of the order. It is amazing how much effort is volunteered by these leaders to help accomplish the many good works we do throughout Michigan. Your generosity allows us to do some amazing things together. Thank you.

I am so grateful for the sacrifice and support of my family, especially my wife Mandy, daughter Olivia, mother Sally and brother Mark. They don't always get the attention they deserve. The volunteers on the Eagle Committee are loyal friends who have been there to support us in many ways. The fraternity we share in our order is something to be desired! Let us extend the invitation and welcome other catholic men and their families to join us. There are many good things to come.

The lessons I have learned over the last six years as a State Officer will surely help me. The individual talents of my fellow State Officers will be invaluable. The spiritual guidance and direction provided by our new State Chaplain Rev. Andrew LaFromboise will keep us grounded in our faith and help with our continual formation. I look forward to continuing great traditions, answering the call where knights are needed, and bringing new ideas, energy and inspiration that can come with leadership change. May God bless you all and may He continue to bless our endeavors as Michigan Knights of Columbus.

Fraternally yours,
Barry Borsenik
Your State Deputy

Save the Date
Michigan State Council Knights of Columbus
Installation of State Leadership
Saturday September 7, 2024
"Soar with us!"

**From The State Chaplain
Fr. Andrew S. LaFramboise**

Confidence in God!



Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take courage; get up, he is calling you." He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus. Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way (Mark 10:49-52).

"What do you want me to do for you?" This question Jesus asks Bartimaeus may have seemed obvious. The man was blind after all. But the Lord asks these questions to take us deeper, to get us in touch with the profound aspirations of the spirit. How would you answer this question posed to you by Jesus? What do you want the Lord to do for you? Spend fifteen minutes in prayer with this passage and allow Jesus to ask this question.

We are knights. Knights can serve well when they have confidence in their leader. When they know who they are and what they are about. Imagine a group of knights going out without this confidence. Things would not go well.

As I think about this question posed by Jesus, I am moved to ask for confidence in him. Not confidence in myself but confidence in God. Sometimes we place too much confidence in ourselves. We succumb to self-reliance and then get disappointed when

we do not measure up to the expectations we place on ourselves or others place upon us. At other times, we are confident when things are going well, but when challenges come then our confidence wanes. Or perhaps we are confident when we see fruit but not so when the toil seems to be in vain.

A great book to read to increase your confidence in God is *I Believe in Love*, by Fr. Jean D'Elbee. It is a retreat based on the spirituality of St. Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower. In the book, Fr. D'Elbee says, "Confidence, confidence without limits, full, filial, total, all-inclusive: that is what I want you to take away from this retreat. It is this confidence which works all miracles. Souls are brought back to life by receiving this secret from heaven. When they have understood, they take wing, they soar, generosity becomes a need for them, and this happens in a spirit of simplicity which removes all danger of presumption and pride."

Confidence in God brings us back to life. Perhaps you struggle with sin. Have confidence in God. Maybe you struggle with the events your council runs and become disappointed at turnout. Have confidence in God. Perhaps your family life is not going as smoothly as you wish. Have confidence in God. Pray for the Spirit to renew you with this secret from heaven so that you can soar. Let us be humble, confident knights. Confident knights are victorious knights. Confident knights are ready to go back out on the field. Let us be unshakably convinced in Jesus' desire to bless us.

Confidence also makes us generous. Fr. D'Elbee says, "When they have understood, they take wing, they soar, generosity becomes a need for them." Confidence makes us generous with our time, our encouragement, our service, our patience. When we are confident in Christ, we become less concerned about our failures or about how others view us. We become less concerned about what we are getting out of life and more focused on what we are giving in life. Confidence in God purifies our intentions and keeps us focused on the goal.

As I begin this time as State Chaplain, I want to thank Fr. Aidan Logan for his encouragement and mentorship. We were blessed to have him serve as chaplain. I congratulate Barry Borsenik, our State Deputy, and the entire State Board. Let's give them our prayers, support, and encouragement as they dedicate themselves to serving the Church.

Know of my prayers for all of you. I am dedicating a rosary every week to pray for the Knights of Columbus and their families throughout Michigan. Your generous service does not go unnoticed. The world sees. The Church sees. Heaven sees. The Lord looks down and smiles. Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us!

In Christ,
Father Andy LaFramboise

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 – Exemplification



On Saturday, June 1st, St Patrick's White Lake Council 13319 hosted an Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity and welcomed three new members to the Third Degree. The new members are (L-R): Joe Kutil and Randy Fifield. Not pictured: Brett Huffmaster

**Michigan State Council
Knights of Columbus**

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

State Deputy
Barry M. Borsenik
Cell: 989.295.1266

State Secretary
Charles E. McCuen, III
Cell: 313.641.1091

State Treasurer
Vern Miron
Cell: 906.353.6021

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

State Warden
Joel J. Kendzorski
Cell: 575.520.2184

State Chaplain
Rev. Andrew S. LaFramboise
Bus:
Cell:

State Membership Director
Douglas Kokot
Cell: 616.634.2400

State Program Director
Matthew J. Wierzgac
Cell: 248.504.8096

State Faith Director/Silver Rose
Robert Bagley
Cell: 269.806.3883

State Community Director
Larry Herman, FDM
Cell: 231.357.5621

State Life Director
Ed Strach
Cell: 734.476.6296

State Family Director
James J. Kelley
Cell: 586.909.8359

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
Joel J. Kendzorski**



As we get ready and prepare for the next fraternal year, I want to sincerely thank my family and the “Faith Is a Mountain” committee for helping me campaign for state office. Without the tireless efforts of the team my wife and I could not have achieved this. A special thank you to those who did my nomination and seconding speeches. Those incredible speeches were so heartfelt that I was almost brought to tears.

My wife and I were blessed with 4 children along with 13 grandchildren. I originally was from Warren Michigan but my parents moved my brothers and I to the Posen area where we all graduated high school. After moving out of the community for work, college and creating a family we decided about 12 years ago to

choose to move closer to our children while also looking to serve our community and retire.

We have been married for 35 years. My wife is from Alpena originally. She was employed in the medical field for over 40 years. We have always enjoyed the simple, humble life, living out in the countryside wherever we moved.

I look forward to working with the new board along with all my brother knights and their families across our great state. We will continue to offer our help to Michigan councils to make sure they are all successful. If there is anything we can do to help your council please contact me. May God bless each one of you as we begin this new fraternal year.

Au Lac Council 10724 Youth of the Month May



Pictured L-R: Grand Knight Patrick A. Bohr; Rocco Smith; Fr. Joseph Esper (Pastor)

Congratulations to Rocco Smith who is our Au Lac Council 10724 Youth of the Month for May 2024! Rocco is the son of Steve and Lisa Smith and a freshman at Anchor Bay High School. This was his second year playing Jesus in the Shadow Stations of the Cross at Immaculate Conception Parish. He helped by bringing baked goods to the Bake Sale for Babies that supported moms and babies in need. He helped the Evangelization Group with hosting a table at the School Open House in late February. He has helped at Mercy in Action Days, parish fish fries and parish festival. His future plans include going to college for Chiropractic and continuing in community theater. We thank Rocco for demonstrating his faith through service to our parish!

HIGHLAND HELPERS

Several members from **Father John W. Howard Council 8500 in Highland, Mich.**, held a “Christmas in May” service day at the home of a council member and his wife. The Knights helped trim trees and landscape the couple’s property.

**From The State Membership Director
Douglas Kokot**

Greetings Brothers and Ladies:

Let me start by saying I am honored to serve as your State Membership Director. I am here to serve you. My goal is to help make you, your council and your diocese as successful as possible.

Many of you may know me through some of my previous roles. I have been supporting our jurisdiction as State Email Director, State Audio Visual Director, State Retention Director and State E-Membership Director for many years. In the past, I have also served the State as a District Deputy, Diocesan Membership Director, Regional & State New Council Development Director and State Membership Director. It has been very rewarding serving you and our Order in these roles. As you can see, service is a role that I embrace.

That is why the tagline **SOAR**, for the next two years, fits so well with our team’s goals, Service being the first principle which our team is committed to providing. As we move forward, challenge yourself, commit to being of service to your brothers, your community and our Order.

SOAR

Service – What Life is About

Optimism – The Faith that Leads to Achievement

Aspire – to Accomplish Great Deeds

Responsibility – to do Your Duty

Our organization is based on and committed to serving our church, our families and our community. We do this through our programs which reach out and touch so many lives. When you consider all of the programs that our Councils, State and Order do annually, it is totally mind boggling and inspiring. When we evangelize our faith through action, that is why Catholic men want to be part of what we do.

The importance of growing our membership should not be viewed as numbers, goals and quotas. Rather, it gives every Catholic man the opportunity to grow in their faith, serve their parish, help those in need and have exclusive access to our excellent fraternal benefits.

An organization’s “voice” is often equated to the number of members that belong to it. Men that decided to add their voices to ours can take pride in all that our Order accomplishes in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

I encourage you to add many “voices” to our great Order so that our mission is heard loud and clear. “We are defenders of the poor, widows, orphans, elderly, unborn, family values and religious freedoms.”

Let’s take flight and SOAR together looking for God Grace and love as we spread our wings and invite other Catholic men to come SOAR with us.

Fraternally,

Douglas Kokot

State Membership Director

ROADWAY CLEANUP

Since 1995, **Au-Lac Council 10724 in Anchorville, Mich.**, has conducted three cleanups a year along a stretch of road near Ira Township through the Adopt-A-Highway program. At this year’s spring cleanup, Knights and other volunteers collected and disposed of 19 large garbage bags of debris and several larger items. The council estimates it has removed more than 1,000 bags of trash from the road since the program began.

Programs = New Members

**From The State Program Director
Matt Wierzgac**

My Brothers and Sisters,

I hope all is well and your summer is off to a great start. A new fraternal year is here, and that means a fresh start for everyone. This can also mean fresh faces in leadership, both in your council, district, and state.

For those who do not know me, my name is Matt Wierzgac, and I am your new State Program Director. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank my predecessor, Paul Palka, for his service over the last 4 years as the State Program Director. He did a fantastic job and am thankful to him for all his hard work and service!

I have served in many different roles within the Michigan Knights of Columbus, at council, assembly, diocesan, and state levels. In 2001, at the age of 18, I became a Knight at Council # 8989 St. Francis of Assisi in Ann Arbor. From 2012-2016 I served as Grand Knight at Council #10963 Old St. Patrick in Ann Arbor. I was called and served as District Deputy from 2016-2020, where my District earned Star District multiple times. From there I served as Lansing Diocesan Program Director from 2020-2022. During the pandemic, I supported our jurisdiction with its efforts to record and stream the State Convention for delegates and others to view since we were not able to gather in person on Mackinac Island. That is where my nickname "3...2...1" originated, for those who did not understand why people called me by that name. During the fraternal years of 2022-2024 I served as State Regional Training Director and had the privilege of meeting many of you as you trained for key roles in your councils.

In addition to all these roles, I remained active in the 4th Degree, and love the Patriotic values which it represents. In 2019 until 2021, I served as Faithful Navigator for my local Assembly. In 2019, I was asked to serve as an Exemplification Marshal for MI District 2. In addition to serving as an Exemplification Marshal I became the traveling Marshal for the Master. I have enjoyed serving at different Honor Guard callouts as Marshal over the last few years.

Ok, enough about me and what I have served in the past. I am honored to serve as your new State Program Director for the next couple of years!

Our new State Deputy has set the tagline for his term, and that is to **SOAR**, which stands for **S**ervice, **O**ptimism, **A**spire, **R**esponsibility. Service is the first principal which we are going to focus on. The core motto of the Knights of Columbus is "In Service to One, in Service to All! Let go out there are serve your parish, your fellow brothers and sisters, the community, as well as our order. That is what it means to be a knight!

Our State Faith in Action Directors and team, which I would like to introduce, are as follows:

State Faith Director – Robert Bagley

State Family Director – James Kelley

State Community Director – Larry Herman

State Life Director – Ed Strach

This "A" team will be your go to for guidance for the Faith in Action programs and state program events for the year.

The Faith in Action Programs call us to serve. As our Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly says, "We must all find ways to put others before ourselves in everyday situation. Let us, therefore, put down our phones, pause to listen, and strive to put the needs of others ahead of our own."

We finished the last fraternal year strong in Programs and in Membership, with Membership achieving Circle of Honor. Great work! Let us continue this momentum this year and SOAR!

Vivat Jesus!

Matt Wierzgac

State Program Director

m.wierzgac@mikofc.org

Ladies Corner

Dear Ladies,

Please keep Barry and your entire Knights of Columbus leadership in your prayers as we embark on this new journey together. We have a great team and we look forward to celebrating together with our Brother Knights and your families. While there is a lot of work to be done in this wonderful state of Michigan, we look forward to continuing the fun and camaraderie these next two years. We appreciate all the hard work the Knights do around the state of Michigan and are blessed to be part of this organization.

I would like to congratulate our new State Warden Joel Kendzorski and Lady Jan Marie. Welcome to the State Family!

Thank you to all who made the Ladies Charity Raffle at the State Convention successful again this year. With matching funds, the Knights were able to donate \$29,520 to be split between Holy Cross Services and Michigan Right to Life.

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, September 7th and plan on attending the State Leadership Installation in Saginaw with Saginaw Diocese Bishop Gruss as the celebrant. The day's event will start with Mass at 4:00 p.m. at Cathedral of Mary of the Assumption in Saginaw, Michigan located at 615 Hoyt Ave., Saginaw Michigan. The reception, dinner, and entertainment will follow at Horizon's Conference Center located at 6200 State Street, Saginaw, Michigan.

Join us for this memorable night. There is a block of rooms reserved at Four Points by Sheraton (989) 790-5050 so call and mention the Michigan Knights of Columbus rate to book your room.

Thank you for all you do to support your husbands and the Michigan Knights of Columbus. I look forward to these next two years as the State Deputy's wife. Never hesitate to reach out to me at m.borsenik@mikofc.org or 989-295-8814.

God Bless,

Mandy Borsenik, State Deputy's wife

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 – Spring Concert



On May 11th, St Patrick White Lake Council 13319 sponsored a Spring Concert as a fundraising event for the many charities the Council supports. There was a great turnout and all who attended had a great time listening to some great Woodstock era music and dancing. We are very thankful for all who helped put on and support this event.

HOW NOW, BLACK COW?

After a hiatus of a few years, **Iron River (Mich.) Council 2300** resumed its tradition of visiting Iron Mountain VA Medical Center every three or four months to serve ice cream treats to patients. During their most recent visit, the Knights prepared black cows (root beer floats) and sundaes for about 25 veterans and staff members.

Programs = New Members

Family of the Year Joe Ampe & Tiffany Ampe



Joe Ampe and his wife Tiffany were married at St. Peter's in Marquette. They have 11 children. Kelsey (22), Evan (20), Lucille (18), Abigail (10), Sean (13), Ryan (11), Blaise (8), Mella Margaret (7), Cazimir (6), Henrik (5) and Isadora (4).

Joe and Tiffany (and all their children) have been very active in their local church. They belong to St. Peter Cathedral Church in Gwinn Michigan (in the Diocese of Marquette). They have participated in March for Life trips, the Steubenville Youth Conference, Youth Encounters, "Ignite" evenings (a Parish program), and Totus Tuus mission trips. Joe is an usher, lector and Eucharistic minister. Tiffany assists with Faith Formation, several prayer groups and various ministries for the sick and needy. The older children are altar servers and all of the children work with their parents at various church functions including community meals, the annual Parish picnic and various diocesan functions.

Joe joined the Knights of Columbus in 2018. His council (689) is so closely tied to the parish, the Knights activities and the Church activities are often the same. He (and his family) actively participate in many programs that center around the Church and helping those in need. Joe has never held a council officer role but, as you will soon see, with 11 children and all the things they do, his time is better spent elsewhere.

As parents, Joe and Tiffany work very hard to provide a loving and faith-filled environment for their children. As I've already discussed, they are very active in their parish and do these things as a family. They say the rosary every evening. Tiffany home schools her children. They know their faith and live it every day. In 2018 (with 8 children and one on the way), they were made aware of special needs children in Ukraine that needed homes, lots of love and medical attention. They discussed the situation with their children who all agreed to adopt a Down's Syndrome child. They started the adoption process and flew to Ukraine to meet (and bring home) their 10th child (Cazimir). When they got there, they stumbled upon Henrik (another child with Down's Syndrome). They had a quick family

meeting (via face-time) and the children asked their parents to please "Don't leave Henrik behind. Bring him home." Joe and Tiffany have stayed in touch with the families of Casimir and Henrik so they remain connected to their children and, just as important, Casimir and Henrik stay connected with their birth parents.

In 2018 (with 8 children and one on the way), they were made aware of special needs children in Ukraine that needed homes, lots of love and medical attention. They discussed the situation with their children who all agreed to adopt a Down's Syndrome child. They started the adoption process and flew to Ukraine to meet (and bring home) their 10th child (Cazimir). When they got there, they stumbled upon Henrik (another child with Down's Syndrome). They had a quick family meeting (via face-time) and the children asked their parents to please "Don't leave Henrik behind. Bring him home." Joe and Tiffany have stayed in touch with the families of Casimir and Henrik so they remain connected to their children and, just as important, Casimir and Henrik stay connected with their birth parents.

Then, in 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine and the war began. Joe and Tiffany (with their connection to Ukraine) could not sit by and do nothing. They began raising money and collecting food and medical supplies to take to Ukraine. They worked with their parish and the Knights of Columbus. They reached out beyond Joe's local council (689) to the entire district and raised over \$200,000 for Ukraine. Joe made 2 additional trips to Ukraine to fly over all food and medical supplies raised. The people he met were so grateful and were overwhelmed by the generosity of the Marquette Diocese and the Knights of Columbus (led and inspired by Joe and Tiffany and the entire Ampe family).

Joe and Tiffany have built a wonderful family firmly rooted in their Catholic faith. The Knights of Columbus has been a strong advocate for Ukraine since the war began. The Ampe family (along with the Knights in Marquette) have demonstrated their commitment to provide Ukraine with the love, food, medical supplies and money they need to survive.



Father Edmund Battersby Council 7586 Exemplification May 2, 2024

R-L Ron Kampsen, Marc Daniels PGK, Jim Chuck Grand Knight, Ed Saina newest member, Bob Donehue, Mark Galecka

Programs = New Members

MICHIGAN'S STATE OF COLUMBIANISM
STATE DEPUTY'S REPORT
Christopher A. Kolomjec



Your Excellency's: Most Reverend Allen Vigneron, Archbishop of Detroit, Most Reverend David Walkowiak, Bishop of Grand Rapids, Most Reverend Edward M. Lohse, 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!

This has been a wonderful two years for Julie and me. We can't thank everyone enough for all their support and love. Faith and Family, was the moto for my term as the 51th State Deputy to represent the over 63,000 members and 440 Councils across the Great State of Michigan. Just like last year, this Fraternal year has been exceedingly successful! Our State has made an impression throughout the order in programs and in membership. Since the beginning of our fraternal year, we have met or exceeded our membership goals each month. So much so that for the first time in almost 50 years, we have reached our Membership Quota the last three years! But, as I said, 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, and Cor Meetings 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 second time I was able to push my emphasis on fraternalism and having fun again. Our Chief of Fraternal Activities, Michael Kozakiewicz did a great job of besting last years summer meeting Hawaiian theme with country rodeo. Mike's sole charge was to put fun back into the fraternalism of Michigan and

he certainly did that at the summer meeting with square dancing and even a mechanical bull! He has done a great job with this second 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 Orlando, Florida. We were all proud to recognize for the second year in a row 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. Everyone said it was the best hospitality of the convention and we sure did make Texas jealous!

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. I still say we were number one because we didn't include the match from Supreme in our counts! 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. I want to especially thank George Stump for all his efforts at the seminary.

In late November, Julie and I attended the State Deputy leadership Training in Denver, Colorado. We discussed how we can better serve our Church and continue our focus on Catechesis. It was here that Supreme officially recognized Michigan as THE leader in their new "Cor Meeting" program. Our State Director of Catechesis, Paul Kelsey, has been fantastic implementing this exciting development. Thank you, Paul!

Another program that we continue to lead the order is Special Olympics. We committed financial support in October. This was done during the annual Ties and Tinnie'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 attended the celebration.

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

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MICHIGAN'S STATE OF COLUMBIANISM

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. Special thanks for the past two years goes to Bob and Katie Dux who have done an extraordinary job as the State Sacristans.

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 in January. 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 Lansing by Council 788. We all had a great time at the Officer Tournament. Please consider putting a team together and have an excellent time! In February, we hosted the State Deputy 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. I was honored in many ways as well. I was presented a sword by the Fourth Degree Masters. I was also honored with gifts from the General Agents, the SDRRs, the Bowling Association, the State Board and many others! I was also given a memorial brick by St. Francis Camp. It was a wonderful event and I am very thankful to all.

We celebrated St. Patrick's Day with our traditional visit at Holy Trinity Church 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 Detroit. It was there that we got to see our state-sponsored ASAP program coming to life.

In April, the State Board hosted the 46th 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 \$10,000.00 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.

Also in April, 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 \$330,000 in sales, we continue to set records. 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 Faith Director and impressed many at many meetings with his touching personal testament to his faith. 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 it is 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.

This year we also set records feeding the needy with the implementation of a new program, Cross Catholic Outreach. I cannot thank Garret Kelenske enough for taking on this responsibility and doing wonders with it. Please consider hosting an event for this worthy cause.

Gary Kolbicz 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

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MICHIGAN COLUMBIAN
MICHIGAN'S STATE OF COLUMBIANISM

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 Degreee for all their help and support. Our Former Vice Supreme Master and his Wife Susan have been a tremendous source of support to me and Julie as my Chief of Staff. They also took on the responsibility of running the hotel rooms for this year's convention. I really couldn't ask for better support.

I would also like to thank General Agents, Benji Borelli and Kenneth Huard 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 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. I would like to thank all the Past State Deputies for their support and Counsel. I especially want to recognize Past State Deputy Walter Winkle who has gone above and beyond in his duties and made life for all of us full-time employed state officers much more bearable. You have done a great job finding support for the Cathedral statue project.

Our State Membership Director, Richard Shelt 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. Our prayers were with Jim Escott recovering from cancer and Richard had big shoes to fill. Richard has been inspiring in his efforts. 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 Bill Leveque enough for all his hard work, energy, and organization. I knew he would be a great support and I was not disappointed. Thank you, Bill for everything!

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.

Finally, a special thanks to Kenneth Warzybok for all his efforts with Facebook and Public Relations. He was at many events and put us always in a

good light. I have been very impressed with where you have taken us and hope we continue in the direction you set.

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 Michigan continues the 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, 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. 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!

Programs = New Members

Michigan State Council Knights of Columbus
124th Annual State Convention
May 24, 2024
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy Supreme Director, and brother Knights, Vivat Jesus.

“Faith and Family First” has been our rallying cry during the past two years. The first preachers of faith to our children are in the family. Both the State Deputy and State Chaplain have made clear that devotion to and knowledge of our faith are necessary to tackle the crisis of faith facing our Church and Catholic men.

Consequently, we have seen an effort to fight secularism and relativism in articles and speeches to promote, practice, and live our faith. For example, the State Deputy explained the use of Latin, Gregorian chant, and the pipe organ in the Mass. He placed the use of altar servers, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, and reverential reception of Holy Communion in the context of dignified respect to the True Presence. And the examples of many popes going to Confession to a priest every day and St. Mother Teresa going to Confession every week have encouraged the faithful reception of frequent Confession. Emphasizing this, the State Chaplain said, “The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the great gift of God’s boundless mercy in this fallen world. We are cheating ourselves if we fail to accept this gift.”

Because of the assault on the sacredness of human life, marriage, the family, and even the meaning of what is man or woman, we must equip ourselves with a solid knowledge of our Catholic faith and be able to explain it to others. In the words of the State Chaplain, this requires that we nurture it by a life of prayer. He said that Catholic tradition developed many beautiful and workable ways to make the whole day a prayer, even if we cannot recite prayers all the time. We know in listening to him that the most popular prayer, based on the Annunciation, is the Angelus. I suggest you look up his explanation in the October 2023 edition of the *Michigan Columbian*.

Locally, we look to our council chaplains for continued advice on these spiritual matters. Hopefully you are blessed by the presence of your chaplain at council meetings. But should he be unavailable, do not skip the chaplain’s message. Use that time to substitute any faith message, such as, the Supreme Chaplain’s Monthly Challenge. Or pick a saint of the month from the Talking Points and use the saint as a brief example in faith. Use *any* available resource to increase our knowledge of our faith.

Now let’s consider a few specific examples where Knights and families gather and enjoy each other and where we participate as part of a Catholic faith community – Holy Cross Services (HCS), Cor, Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP), and Cross Catholic Outreach.

Holy Cross Services (HCS) was founded 75 years ago to meet the needs of Michigan’s children. As the needs of children and families changed, HCS transformed into statewide support for trauma recovery for children and families in the child welfare system and help to the homeless. HCS provides family-based care, youth transition, residential care, family healing, and housing advocacy. And opportunities exist to provide foster care in addition to donations. Our State Deputy Christopher Kolomjec, our State Chaplain Fr. Aidan Logan, and our HCS Liaison Michael J. Fontana are on the board of directors. We have seen positive activities across the state and the resolution of past issues.

Cor has been a beautiful means for which like-minded Catholic men come together to pray and deepen their understanding of our faith, where men can encounter Christ, strengthen their bonds of brotherhood, and prepare for evangelization. Among the 21 jurisdictions piloting the program, the State Deputy appointed Paul Kelsey in December of 2022 as the Director of

Evangelization and Faith Formation in Michigan. Since then, with responsibility to work with Supreme’s Evangelization and Faith Formation team, he refined and grew it considerably in Michigan. Cor now has a rich library of resources to support the meetings.

Open to all the men of the parish, Cor is being adopted by councils in growing numbers, putting Michigan in the top five (5) in North America for councils running Cor, with testimonials of lives being changed with more focus on Evangelization and Faith Formation. As observed by Raul Chavez, the Manager of State Evangelization and Faith Formation for the Supreme Council, “Michigan has been a consistent promoter and is moving to become a pillar for Supreme when it comes to adopting the Cor values of Fraternity, Formation, and Prayer. Michigan is exemplary when it comes to Cor and Evangelization in general.” Brothers, this isn’t just a ‘Supreme’ initiative. Each of us, as Knights, needs to heed our call to holiness and mission and learn more about Cor.

Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) was launched in June 2022. Through the program, every \$500 a council donates to a pregnancy resource center or maternity home — up to \$2,000 — is matched by \$100 from the Supreme Council. Since ASAP began, members Order-wide donated more than \$10 million to help women choose life and care for their children. As of April 24, this fraternal year, Michigan led the Order with 115 applications and ran third in the Order with \$180,923 total donations.

Cross Catholic Outreach partners with bishops, priests, religious and lay workers to provide food, water, housing, education, orphan support, medical care, microenterprise and disaster relief — and the love of our Lord Jesus Christ — to the poorest of the poor in over 30 countries around the world. To address this global need, Cross Catholic Outreach distributes and funds thousands of meals. For example, Knights, families and friends packed 60,238 meals in the Archdiocese of Detroit West last October, 61,848 meals in the Diocese of Lansing in February, and 60,490 meals in the Dioceses of Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo last month. In the words of Cross Catholic Outreach Director Garret Kelenske, “(Each of these) was a remarkable day filled with compassion, teamwork, and the joy of making a difference ... on the lives of those less fortunate.” Brothers, more will be scheduled for you to join in the future.

In addition to Holy Cross Services (HCS), Cor, Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP), and Cross Catholic Outreach, many more local events occur statewide, like the Bishop Baraga Night held by District #208 in April with guest speakers and education on the life and teachings of Bishop Baraga. There are many more. Just look at the back pages of each edition of the *Michigan Columbian*. These are demonstrations of “Faith and Family First.” Be proud of what you and your brother Knights and families are doing in our great jurisdiction to put our faith into action.

Brothers, I will conclude with this. Our Church is about to experience a new Pentecost and you are invited to be in the largest gathering of Catholics in America in 83 years attended by bishops, priests, religious, and lay people from every corner of the United States. It’s called the National Eucharistic Congress in July and God will be among those who gather in His name. The Congress is part of the National Eucharistic Revival to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. The Holy Spirit will send us out on mission to share the gift of our Eucharistic Lord culminating in the universal Church’s jubilee year in 2025.

Worthy State Deputy, we request that the Good of the Order committee

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“He ain’t heavy, Father,
he’s my brother.”



The story of Holy Cross begins with the inspirational and saintly life of Father Edward J. Flanagan, the founder of Boystown.

75 years ago, the Knights of Columbus helped to establish Boysville of Michigan, based upon his life and vision. Last month, I embarked on a sacred pilgrimage to immerse myself in the history and legacy of Father Edward J. Flanagan, the founder of Boystown in Nebraska.

This journey was not merely a trip to learn about a historical

figure but a quest to understand the profound impact of a man who dedicated his life to the welfare of children.

Boystown was established in 1917. It was founded on the principle that “there are no bad boys. There is only bad environment, bad training, bad example, bad thinking.” This was Father Flanagan’s unwavering belief, and he dedicated his life to providing a nurturing environment for boys who had been neglected, abused, or abandoned. Under his guidance, Boystown became a sanctuary where children could find hope, stability, and a future.

As I walked through the hallowed grounds of Boystown, I was struck by the enduring legacy of Father Flanagan. I visited the iconic statue of a boy carrying another boy on his back, symbolizing the motto, “He ain’t heavy, Father, he’s my brother.” This powerful image encapsulated Father Flanagan’s mission of compassion and brotherhood. I also reflected on how this spirit of kindness and support was still very much alive in Boystown’s modern-day operations.

In conversations with Boystown staff and alumni, I heard countless stories of transformation and redemption, all stemming from the foundation laid by Father Flanagan. These personal accounts reinforced the belief that Father Flanagan’s life was marked by the heroic virtues of faith, hope, and charity – key qualities recognized in the process of

canonization. Father Flanagan is currently a “Servant of God,” and he is on the path to beatification. In a world filled with faithlessness, hopelessness, and hatred, Fr. Flanagan never let anyone quench the fire of faith, hope, and love within him and in what Boystown represented. To me, he is a saint. And a saint for our age.

Besides meetings, I spent most of my time in prayer and reflection at Dowd Chapel, the heart of Boystown, where you can’t help but feel close to Father Flanagan. This is the chapel where Father Flanagan himself worshipped and drew spiritual strength. A piece of his cassock is used as the relic for the main altar. Here, one feels a deep connection to Father’s faith and his tireless dedication to serving the most vulnerable. It was a beautiful reminder that Fr. Flanagan’s work was not just social but deeply spiritual. His Catholic faith drove him to have a profound sense of divine mission. “The work will continue,” he says, “not because it’s my work, but because it’s God’s work.”

For 75 years, Holy Cross Services has continued the dream of Father Flanagan, but in our own unique way. With the extreme generosity of the Knights of Columbus and the Brothers of the Holy Cross, our reach now extends to almost 80% of the counties in Michigan. While we are not affiliated formally with Boystown, we are part of a vast network of Boystowns, Boysvilles, and other Catholic institutions that continue his dream to this day. I am proud to work for such a wonderful institution like Boysville Holy Cross. I want to thank you for setting it up 75 years ago. I am inspired by your generosity and your unwavering commitment to taking care of the least, the lost, and the last.



Like all good pilgrims, I brought back relics, holy cards, and medals blessed by the Cardinal who opened his cause for sainthood. They have also been placed up against the tomb of Father Flanagan. I want to get you one. Next time you see me, ask me for one. Also, I would love to come to your councils for presentations on this saintly priest.

Fr. Jarrod Dillon
Executive Director of Spiritual Engagement.
Holy Cross Services
Jdillon@hccsnet.org



Holy Cross Services' Father Jarrod Dillon and Scott Hartman, Senior Director of National Community Services at Boystown.



Holy Cross Services' Father Jarrod Dillon and Boystown Director of Student Affairs, Troy Wharton.



Holy Cross Services' Father Jarrod Dillon and Boystown President and CEO, Rod Kempkes..

“There are no bad boys. There is only bad environment, bad training, bad example, bad thinking.”

**Holy Cross Services provides a wide range of services aimed at improving the lives of
Children – Families – and Adults**

Our mission is to bring hope, promote change, and help people live free, healthy, and productive lives.

Our vision is a future where home and family are certainties for everyone.

What motivates us to do the work is our **“Catholic Judeo-Christian values.”**

Michigan State Council Knights of Columbus
124th Annual State Convention
May 24, 2024

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

stand to be recognized and released and that this report be approved and incorporated into the proceedings of this meeting.

The Good of the Order Committee: Round Table Director and Chair Daniel Remeika, Archdiocesan Membership Director Hans Hansen, Gaylord Diocesan Membership Director

Joseph Zayaz, DD Bryan Galloway, DD Joseph Harnish, GK Christopher Wegener, GK Charles S. Monroe, GK Matthew Girdham, GK Chijoke Oparaji

MICHIGAN STATE CEREMONIAL REPORT

Eugene Murawski
State Ceremonial Director

Worthy State Chaplain, Reverend Fathers, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy Supreme Director, Worthy State Officers, Worthy Delegates, Vivat Jesus. Over 2 years ago I was asked by our State Deputy Christopher Kolomjec if I would put together Michigan Traveling Exemplification Teams. We decided that we had to do something more special for our new Knights than just simply watching the video. We were aware that we have some very good Exemplification Teams in the State, however our State Deputy wanted something special. Our State Deputy wanted teams that would have their parts memorized and conduct the exemplification in a very professional way. The State Deputy would then buy matching blazers and ties. The idea was to have the exemplification after mass, have the local pastor participate and have a lunch after the event.

I realized that Supreme would no longer provide crucifixes and medallions to remind the new Knights of the lessons they had been taught. With the State Deputy's approval, I designed a Memorable Coin to give the new Knights that go through the Traveling Exemplification Team, something to remind them of the lessons. One side has the State of Michigan, with Michigan across the state and in Lake Michigan is the K of C Emblem with our principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. The reverse side has the crucifix to remind us of Christ dying for us, the Chalice with the raised Host to remind us to receive the body and blood of Christ as often as possible and the words "In Solidarity with our Bishops and Priests". This coin is a very nice reminder to give to our new Knights. See the attached memorable coin,

The idea went very well for the first two years. Our state has 5 Traveling Teams and looking for more. We have done over 70 exemplifications in the past two years. That is great, but it should be more. Why not request a Traveling Team for your next exemplification or why not have a tri district or what about a diocesan wide exemplification. I am asking our delegates to go home and really consider a traveling team. My teams are just waiting for a call to do an exemplification.

It is really easy to schedule an exemplification with an Traveling Team. Once you get a date cleared on the parish calendar, you go to the Michigan K of C Website. On the home page you see on the right margin the word

"Exemplification". When you click on that, it will direct you to the "Request for a Traveling Team Exemplification". Fill out the form and e-mail it to e.murawski@mikofc.org and I will get a Traveling Team scheduled for you. Worthy State Deputy, this concludes my report and I hope everyone has a safe trip home.



Gaylord



Grand Rapids



Au Lac Council 10724

Members of the Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township and other volunteers gathered on April 20 to pray the St. Gertrude prayer for the release of souls from Purgatory. A total of 44 people took turns reciting the prayer for the souls of their departed family members and for those still here on Earth. We plan to do this again in November on or around All Souls Day.

Programs = New Members

AROUND THE STATE

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 – Fish Fry



During Lent, St Patrick White Lake Council 13319 hosts a series of Fish Frys, which the community of St Patrick Parish is always able to enjoy. These Fish Frys are the Council's largest fundraiser and require well over 100 volunteers each week during Lent, in order for them to be a success serving an average of over 925 dinners per week. Sincere thanks go out to all who were involved in the 2024 Lenten Fish Frys.

Council 6548 of Houghton Lake



The Knights of Columbus, Council 6548 of Houghton Lake, awards River House, Inc. of Grayling, MI, funds for serving victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse in Crawford, Ogemaw, Oscoda and Roscommon counties. To sustain these services, River House operates a resale store called Chasing Dreams. The store is located on the west side of Grayling at 6375 W. M-72 Hwy. The proceeds are used to support the mission of River House. If you are in need of shelter, call the 24-hour hotline at 989-348-3169. The Knights support this and fourteen other charities as they celebrate their 50th anniversary.

Fr. J. Leo Mc Cann Council 7304



18 members of Council 7304, Brighton, MI spent a day cleaning up St. Patrick Parish Calvary Cemetery. This event ties into the Corporal Work of Mercy of burying the dead as well as the Spiritual Work of Mercy of praying for the dead.

Au Lac Council Grand Knight Gets Head Shaved



Worthy Grand Knight Patrick A. Bohr of Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township is a man of his word. Several months ago he challenged the members to recruit enough members for the council to reach its quota for the Star Council Award. He said that if they did he would let them shave his head after the May meeting. Well, the council met and exceeded the quota which meant the Grand Knight had to fulfill his promise which he did. State Membership Director Richard Shelt and District 118 Deputy Ron DePestel were in attendance and had the honor of going first. Each member donated \$10 for a chance to shave the Grand Knight's head which resulted in \$170 being collected for charity. Here are some photos to enjoy and more are available on the Au Lac Council Facebook page.

Kentucky Derby Party



St Catherine of Siena Council 6980 in Portage, MI recently held a Kentucky Derby Party. The event included a Catered Dinner, DJ Music, Dancing, Silent Auction, and 50/50 raffle. The race was shown on the big screen in Marian Hall. The total money raised by the event was over \$3,600. This money will be used to support local charities such as the Kalamazoo Diocese Catholic Charities, Youth Group Mission Trips, and Food Banks.

Programs = New Members

Treasures in the Trunk Sale



On Saturday, May 18th, St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 assisted its sister Columbiette Auxiliary 13319 with its annual Treasures in the Trunk Sale. Treasures in the Trunk is a fundraising event which helps the Columbiettes raise money for the charities they support. A big THANK YOU goes out to all who helped out with this very worthwhile event and all in the community who helped support it.

Au Lac Council 10724

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St. Mary on the Lake Assembly 2804

K of C Au Lac Council 10724 and St. Mary on the Lake Assembly 2804 in Ira Township held a dedication ceremony on June 1, 2024 for a new memorial to honor the more than 200 veterans buried in the parish's two cemeteries. Over 100 people attended and Fr. Joseph Esper, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, blessed the memorial which is the culmination of two years work in researching the cemetery grave sites and records along with several fundraising activities. The Knights thank everyone who helped in any way through their donations of time and money so that we can honor the many men and women who gave their lives so that we can enjoy the freedoms we have today.



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**

Duane Holst
Algonac Council 856
Don Schwehofer
Tom Schwehofer
Fr. Louis Lapeyre
Owosso Council 1139
Eric Bannan, Thomas Kirkconnell
Ishpeming Council 1541
Eric Dompierre, Paul Joosten
Monroe Council 1266
David Heliman, Jeff Langton
Eugene Poupard, John Haynes
Portland Council 2168
Terry Austin, Bruce Bennett
Alex Schrauben
Royal Oak Council 2569
Fr. Gary Koenigs knecht
John Springer, Larry Grunn
Howell Council 2659
John Springer
Ste. Clair Shores Council 2733
Leonard Magri
Westphalia Council 2890
Timothy Lyons, Randy Cusak, DGK
Nick Martin, Paul Smith PGK
Chesaning Council 2943
Christopher Bishop, Scott Ruddy
Harold Andres, John Welding
Utica Council 2950
Al Mulka, Daniel Weingartz
Jim Ososkie, dave swartz
St. Johns Council 3281
Brian Kelley, Jim Lawless
Southgate Council 3956
Dave Kudla DGK, Steven Pochini
Manchester Council 4354
Edward Barnard, Greg Sanders
Jason Young
Wyoming Council 4362
Fred Young, Joe Arbanas
Ron Palka
New Baltimore Council 5981
Michael Elya, Ron Depestel
Brooklyn Council 6223
Mike Kimutis

Posen Council 6657

Ken Peters, Tim Darga
Lou Urban
Michigan Center Council 6687
Richard Grzeskiewicz, jr.
Stephen Arnold
Swartz Creek Council 6694
Joseph Niedzwiecki
Rev. Louis Ekka, Bill Kleinedler
Portage Council 6980
Michael Stempihar,
Joseph Comiskey,
Daniel Kloosterman
Joe Gregorchek
Holland Council 7115
Mark Rokos, Michael Nelis
Nathan Nguyễn, Lorenze Ravaglia
Gerry Kneeshaw, Mike DeKorte
Macomb Council 7200
Dion Martucci, Andrew Galambush
Birch Run Council 7233
Pete Kleinebreil, Rob Doll
Dan Walthers, Norm Rushton *cky
Fr. Norman VanPoppelen
Lexington Council 7255
Michael Hall, David Hess
Michael Hunsanger
Brighton Council 7304
Sam Raguso, John Purcell
Fr. miguel Colunga
Freeland Council 7582
Chris Take, Jack Ferchau
gerald Keel
South Lyon Council 7586
Bob Donehue, Terry O'Dea
Mark Thomas, Ed Miski
Mark Sliwinski, Dan Martin
Mark Blask, Mark Munzenberger
Ray Śliwiński
Hale Council 7623
Spencer Chinavare
Hillman Council 8041
Fr. Jim Siler, Dennis Pietrykowski

Sanford Council 8043

Frank AllBee, Frank Manley
Aaron Shrok
Howell Council 8169
Burt Wakeman, Michael Babiuk
Frank Remenar, Ted Ring
Dave Costantini
St. Helen Council 8390
Matt Miller, Robert Janssen
Jackson Council 8392
Michael Philpott, John Letter
Fowlerville Council 8605
Rick Collins
Auburn Hills Council 8659
Fred Fisher, Dominic Caradonna
Montrose Council 8669
Gary Carlin, David Ptasnik
Martin Stroup
Saginaw Council 8808
Richard Holmes
Cass City Council 8892
Kevin Kausch, Adam Dorland
Robert Mosack
Temperance Council 8902
Bob Bomyea, Patrick Lenhart
Scott Sauce
Mason Council 9182
David Kudzia, Christopher Lewis
Deacon Chuong Nguyen
Michael Broughman
Marysville Council 9182
Bruce Rinke, Mike King
Kalamazoo Council 9962
Chase Pearce, Rev. Jose` Haro
Okemos Council 10006
Rich Sabatowski, Tom Muncie
Deacon Carl Boehlert
Mike Horuath, AJ Moore
Lansing Council 10542
Dennis Jenkins, Joe Marrah
Gerald Ndayisenga
Ira Township Council 10724
Jeffrey Wooton, Cliff Becker
Steve Campbell
Ann Arbor 10963
Charles Moloney

Lansing Council 11099

Rev. Steven Marrson, Paul Stevens
Frank Levandowski
Michael Gillenkirk
Temperance Council 11430
Timothy Spencer, James Jemaa
Clinton Twp. Council 11689
Dennis Menard
Shelby Twp. Council 11772
Paul Kulik, Bob Valcke
Novi Council 11811
Joe O'Neil, Steve Emster
Charlotte Council 11875
Robert Pabst, Rick Johnson
Sterling Hgts. Council 12102
Richard Frey
White Lake Council 13319
Greg Campbell, Bob Sexton
Joe Gibson
Kingsley Council 13453
Ron Deguire, Joshua Ross
Waterford Council 13600
Mark Sroczymski
Farmington Hills Council 13673
Dan Fradette, Christopher Malecke
Frank Gaaripey
White Cloud Council 13939
William Koch, Lon Rauch
Bart Ritter
Shelby Twp. Council 13983
Al Jankowski, Chuck Fliar
Chris Corneau, Joe Vogel *cky
New Buffalo Council 14366
Mark Gabryszewski, Cliff Asch
Mel Richard Borglin
Daniel Basinger, Ed Heimbach
Vincent Liskovec
Comstock Park Council 15548
John De Wildt
Canton Council 16169
Tim wood, Roger Zahn
Ron Rathbun
Washington Council 16630
Louis Wardzinski

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Council 7444

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.

**Mothers Day**

On May 6th, St Patrick White Lake Council 13319 took the opportunity to celebrate an early Mother's Day. The Council provided a breakfast for the mothers of the parish and their families as a way of saying thank you to all of the mothers for all that they do and for the importance they have in our lives.

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.

Families of the Month

Lansing Council 788

Bowling Tournament Volunteers

Portland Council 2168

Michael & Sue Fox

Gary & Janet Brown

Westphalia Council 2890

Tim & Amber Thelen

Rich & Alice Bengal

Ed & Pat Wieber

Chesaning Council 2943

Jason & Carrie Brown

Andrew & Lisa Wolford

Lavearn & Barbara Wenzlick

Fremont Council 3111

Cameron & Marissa Kempf

Randy & Vicky Kinsey

Roger & Amy Dore

Southgate Council 3956

Jake & Adrienne Burleson

Ray & Jennifer Bilyk

Manchester Council 4354

Martin Brogley family

Larry Benedict family

New Baltimore Council 5981

Chris & Jerry Zarazynski

Ken & Darlene Krause

Mark & Sheryl Stankus

Posen Council 6657

Angie Yarch family

Walter & Rene Roznowski

Kevin & Brandi Krajniak

Leo & Denyse Romel

Michigan Center Council 6687

David & Gretchen Walter

David & Francis Laughlin

Swartz Creek Council 6694

Robert & Julie Cookingham

Robert & Kathy Kranz

Holland Council 7115

Doug & Pam Flamboe

Wallace & Sandy Castle

Davis & Pat Trattles

Fred & Rosemary Sotok

Macomb Council 7200

Darwin & Jeelyn Garza

Steven & Laura Schmitt

Birch Run Council 7233

Kirk Angela & Flynn Dupuis

Dave & Sandy Mohn

Bob & Cathy Muehlfed

Robert & Mary Frank *cfy

South Lion Council 7586

Dave & Colleen Paul

Mark & Cheryl Daniels

Dave & Carol Ferrell

Phil & Pam Weipert

Bob & Michele Darket

Andy & Lisa Kudwa

Mark & Melissa Galecka

George & Debra Kowalski

Hillman Council 8041

Randy & Teresa Elowsky

Steve & Pam Achatz

Howell Council 8169

Glen & Paula Gray

Daniel & Wendi Burke

Russ & Jordan Long

Jackson Council 8392

James & Hanna Hohn

Auburn Hills Council 8659

Karl & Linda Chase

Michael & Molly Muller

Montrose Council 8669

Deacon Bryon & Becky Root

Chad & Regina Sharpe

Temperance Council 8902

Mark & Brenda Vandergrift

Jan Stark family

Mason Council 9182

Theodore & Allison Burch

Phillip & Ruth Weiferich

Ryan & Deanna Skaggs

Kalamazoo Council 9962

Michael & Ericka Onderlinde

Larry & Andrea Cooke

Gustavo & Jill Hennessey

Ira Township Council 10724

Robert & Tina Dubay

James & Sue Mattina

Ann Arbor 10963

Dan & Margaret Weinheimer

David & Mary Smith

Cindy Benggner family

Lansing Council 11099

John & Beth Gordon

Eric Cullimore family

Fred & Sharon Christopherson

William & Joyce Richardson

White Cloud Council 13939

Gary & Cynthia Wendlowsky

Josh & Annie Trapp Frantz

Shelby Twp. Council 13983

Ken & Jean Kwasnik *cfy

New Buffalo Council 14366

Fr. Ed Cronin

Comstock Park Council 15548

Bill & Marti Stachowiak

Bryan & Abbigale Alt

Daniel & Sara Farhart

St. Sebastian Council 14642



Our Brother Nicholas R. Baker was ordained as Father Nick Baker on June 1,2024 at the Cathedral of St. Andrews by the Most Rev. David J. Walkowiak, Bishop of Grand Rapids, MI. The Council presented Father Nick with his own Traveling Mass Kit. We are extremely proud of Father Nick's accomplishments since he joined St. Sebastian Council 14642 as a teen in 2017. Our Brothers have supported Father Nick through his College years both financially through the VIP program and with our prayers. Father Nick held his first Mass at St. Sebastians on Corpus Christi Sunday with standing room only, followed by a breakfast cooked by the Knights.



St. Louis Center

Fond Memories and New Endeavors

Dear Brother Knights,
Greetings in the name of the Lord!

I am writing this page with fresh memories of the Convention on Mackinac Island. What a joy to be with all of you; I really enjoyed the opportunity to get to know so many of you. God works in mysterious ways through those who believe in Him and seek to do His will. Our Founder, St. Louis Guanella, said, "It is God Who does." Everything that the Knights do is for the glory of God. I met so many good men and their families who really work hard to enhance the lives of people around them. Along with the residents and staff of St. Louis Center, I wish to thank God for such good-hearted people in the world.

One of the many things that the Knights do is to support the Special Olympics. This year it was from May 30th - June 1st. Nineteen of our residents participated. They have been sharing with us the wonderful experiences they had while taking part in such a grand event. Because they worked hard and were models of good behavior, they earned the right to participate in the Special Olympics. When Fr. David Stawasz and I visited them on Friday, May 31st, they were ecstatic to see us. Thank you, dear Brother Knights for supporting such a grand event.

Here at St. Louis Center, the residents are getting excited about the next important activity: a garden project. We are going to create raised



flower beds so that any one can plant and take care of vegetables and flowers; in addition, everyone will be invited to participate in painting the wooden walls of the flower beds. The residents continue to joyfully respond as we continue to work hard to enhance their lives.

My dear Brother Knights: thank you for your continued support. May God continue to bless you and your families. We at St. Louis Center continually support you with our prayers for you and your families, especially during our daily Mass.

With prayers,

Fr. Satheesh

Fr. Satheesh Alphonse, SdC



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

MEET THE RESIDENTS

Jerome Fontenot

Jerome was one of the first residents of St. Louis Center when it opened as St. Louis School for Exceptional Boys in 1960. After he completed his schooling, he returned to Romeo MI to live with his parents and help them on the family farm.

He describes those days with fondness, "We had a 75-acre farm with a flowing creek. I helped milk the goats, care for the chickens, collect eggs, and spread manure. My mom grew vegetables and my dad planted corn and soybeans. I even drove the tractor to New Haven Grain Elevator with loads of corn."

His family was active at **St. Clement of Rome Catholic Church**. He and his father were members of **Knights of Columbus Council #7018**, attending the meetings together. "I enjoyed serving coffee during the pancake breakfasts that we hosted. I also remember going to downtown Romeo to help with the Tootsie Roll drive." After his parents passed away, his legal guardian was able to help Jerome reunite with St. Louis Center. He has been living happily at Fr. Guanella Hall since 2016. Jerome plays the organ during Masses at the Center. He also enjoys one-on-one sessions with the music



therapist.

During Lent, Jerome is able to attend fish fries at local parishes as a sort of taste tester for the hard-working Knights.

Jerome enjoys word search puzzles and weekly clay workshops. He and several other residents were part of an art installation at the Chelsea District Library. They made story windchimes that include a podcast of their

biography.

To hear Jerome's story in his own words use the QR code or visit: <https://shorturl.at/zj3JA>.



2024 State Raffle Winners

Prize	First Name	Last Name	Ticket #	Seller	Council
1st	Michael	Kardasz	064935	M. Kardasz	4188
2nd	Paul	Sposite	693023	P. Sposite	3021
3rd	Tim	Stanisz	620061	T. Stanisz	5492
4th	Clarence	Bohn	444477	C. Bohn	522
5th	Brooke	Bacci	775867	E. Theut	7018
6th	Sue	Rauschert	262964	A. Rauschert	3830
7th	Robert	Sanders	771627	Andy A,	305
8th	Daniel	Emrick	740572	D. Emrick	3221
9th	Robert	Amore	687165	R. Amore	3615
10th	Chris	Sadlocha	132177	C. Sadlocha	
11th	Dick	Fox	165855	D. Fox	695
12th	James	Newnum	318052	J. Newnum	464
13th	Joe	Smyth	668316	J. Smyth	16169
14th	Marie	Riemer	530239	M. Riemer	5452
15th	Jonathon	Derhand	449473	D. Malburg	4055
16th	Merlin	Westrick	520911	M. Westrick	15548
17th	Roberta	Slominski	461007	S. Slominski	14206
18th	Nancy	Ahee	667180	D. Ahee	667180
19th	Steven	Skormicka	731343	S. Skormicka	9937
20th	Nancy	Wrobleski	659525	J. Wrobleski	2690
21st	Daniel	Kloosterma	440099	D. Kloosterman	6980
22nd	Chris	Barton	470235	L. Barton	7341
23rd	Ronald	George	422401	R. George	7311
24th	Tricia	Farris	765053	J. Burnett	5492
25th	Jeff	G.	764047	Jeff G.	5446
26th	Ronald	Chuhran	011081	R. Chuhran	744
27th	Bob	Hassler	76341	Rose	10501
28th	Harry	Linton	139852	H. Linton	139852
29th	Stacie	Paveglio	128771	T. Paveglio	4764
30th	Jack	Kernan	772361	J. Kernan	13475
31st	Karen	Taylor	579299	M. Taylor	10542
32nd	Michael	Kirkwood	477619	M. Kirkwood	477619
33rd	Larry	Rutkoski	214333	L. Rutkoski	2740
34th	David	Schneider	417936	D. Schneider	2890
35th	Jane	Mounl	0331146	J. Vernier	10724
36th	William	Lamere	211647	W. Lamere	414
37th	Mark	Lehman	199480	M. Lehman	2022
38th	Therese	Buday	507310		
39th	I.	Janes	281296	L. Janes	7337
40th	Wally	Dudun	276415	W. Dudun	4401

Knights of Columbus Council 8710 Celebrates their 40 Year Anniversary!

On Saturday, May 4th, the Yale Knights of Columbus Council, No. 8710, celebrated their 40 Year Anniversary as a Knights of Columbus Council. Along with their 40 Year celebration, the Council presented awards for their Knight of the Year and Family of the Year along with honoring Calvin Fladzinski on his **69 Years as a Knights of Columbus Member**. The council recognized the 9 Original Charter Members present along with the 33 Charter Members that started the Council 40 years ago. The Program also remembered the 71 Deceased Members of the Council, the Past and Current Grand Knights that served the Council over the 40 years and the Former District Deputies that served the Council. The Council recognized the 23 Star Council Awards, the 5 State Community Activity Awards, and 1 Knights of Columbus Supreme Council International Award the Council has received along with numerous Michigan Achievement Awards for State Activities over the last 40 Years.

It was announced at the Banquet, that over the 40 Years, our **Tootsie Roll Drives** have collected \$107,597 that goes to help people with Intellectual Disabilities in the Yale and Brown City School Districts, other Local Programs for those with Intellectual Disabilities and Special Olympics of Michigan. Also, over the 40 Years, \$153, 500 has been raised by the Council from “Benefit Dinners” for Local Individuals and Families in need. Not bad for a Small-Town Council. Announced at the Banquet was the Councils 2023 Knight of the Year, Michael Ostrowski, the 2023 Family of the Year, Jim and Mary Smith and Calvin Fladzinski was honored for his **69 Years of Service** to Council 8710 and the Knights of Columbus Organization.



Calvin Fladzinski receives a Certificate of Merit from District Deputy John Vermeesch Honoring his 69 Years as a Knights of Columbus Member



Council 8710 Grand Knight, Carl Vermeesch accepts a 40th Anniversary Certificate from District Deputy John Vermeesch on behalf of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council



KofC Council 8710 Grand Knight, Carl Vermeesch, presents the 2023 Knight of the Year to Award To Michael Ostrowski

“The world will change when we change. But we cannot change without prayer.”

Archbishop Fulton Sheen

**Knights of Columbus
Memorial Plaque Application 2024**

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

APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OCTOBER 14, 2024



K of C Memorial Mass at Sacred Heart Major Seminary –
Sunday November 3, 2024 @ 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 DavI 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 2024
SEPTEMBER 1st.....OCTOBER 2024
DECEMBER 1st..... JANUARY 2025

PLEASE SEND ALL COPY MATERIAL TO:
GARY M. KOLBICZ
39373 DURAND DRIVE
STERLING HEIGHTS, MI. 48310
RES. 586-939-3886



**Online
Membership**



A Program for Recruiting
and Engaging New Members



Knights of Columbus

**MICHIGAN STATE COUNCIL
CONTACTS**

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

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

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

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

Address _____

City/State/Country _____

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

Name _____

Address City/State/Country Country _____

Name _____

Address City/State/ _____

MONTHLY MASS FOR GUILD MEMBERS

St. Louis Center: Upcoming Events

CHARITY GOLF OUTINGS CONTINUE

Sean Brian Ashline Memorial Outing

SBAF supports St. Louis Center and students who need an alternative to traditional college, including scholarships for post-secondary education, trade and certificate programs.

Date: Monday, July 29, 2024

Place: Lakelands Golf & Country Club
8760 Chilson Rd., Brighton MI 48116

Dad and Lad Golf Outing

The Dad & Lad Golf Outing was created in 1997 to encourage father and son camaraderie.

Date: Wednesday, August 7, 2024

Place: Twin Lakes Golf & Swim Club
455 Twin Lakes Dr., Oakland MI 48363

Memorial Golf Outing

Since 1987, the Memorial Golf Outing has allowed us to remember our deceased friends and their generosity to the Center.

Date: Saturday, August 17, 2024

Place: Pierce Lake Golf Course
1175 S. Main St., Chelsea MI 48118

Kevin George Memorial Outing

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

Date: Monday, September 8, 2024

Place: Lakeland Hills Golf Course
5119 Page Ave, Jackson, MI 49201



To register or learn about sponsorship opportunities for these or any of our events, visit our website at stlouiscenter.org/have-fun-here/events/

Did you know?

There is always a need for volunteers at St. Louis Center. If you, your family, or Council need service hours, let us know.



The Randazzo Family presents the 9th annual event

MEN'S SOCIAL FUNDRAISER



Save the Date
Thursday, September 19th, 2024 at 5:30pm

\$200/Ticket
The best fundraiser you'll ever attend

Outdoor Kitchen • Gourmet Food
Craft Beer • Cigars • Wine
Valet • Liquor • Music • Bonfire
NFL Thursday Night Football Game

**Grilled Lamb Chops • Italian Sausage & Peppers • Antipasti
Fresh Octopus • Gourmet Salad
Fresh Catering • Wood Oven
Pizza • Steak with Arroggio**

Sponsors



Tickets may be purchased at the door the day of the event, or please call Alyssa at 586-566-8700 to purchase tickets ahead of time. Cash and Credit Cards accepted or make checks payable to St. Louis Center.

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



During the Cinco de Mayo Knights on Campus event May 5th, several Knights were able to tour the temporary kitchen.

28TH ANNUAL

Fall Harvest Fest

TO BENEFIT ST. LOUIS CENTER

Sunday, September 29, 2024



Tickets are \$80 per person
Includes: Gourmet Meal, Beer & Wine, Beverage Service

Please RSVP by September 19th at:
stlouiscenter.org/event/2024-guardian-angel-fall-harvest-festival/

JOIN US!
11:00am - Mass
12:00pm - Doors open

at the
Italian American Banquet and Conference Center
39200 Five Mile Rd.
Livonia MI 48154
(734) 953-9724

New this Year!



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

May They Rest In Peace

Ann Arbor Council 587

James Ponegan

Bad Axe Council 1546

Dale Gilbert, Jr.

West Branch Council 2022

Charles Rau

Merrill Council 2291

Thomas Turner

Westphalia Council 2890

Joey Bengal PGK

Utica Council 2950

Clement Kraemer

Fremont Council 3111

Ed Yob, Paul Burk

Posen Council 6657

Dave Greengtski, Bruno Zoltowski

Stanley Wozniak, Jr.

Grand Blanc Council 6742

Joe Dunn

Detroit Council 8118

Bishop Young PGK, FDD

Midland Council 13452

Frank Fitzgerald

New Buffalo Council 14366

Fr. Ed Cronin

Michigan State Council
Knights of Columbus
6025 Wall Street
Sterling Heights
MI 48312

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Thoughts from the 124th State Convention – Defending Life

Congratulations to all reelected officers and Joel Kendzorski, newly elected Warden. I believe this board will continue its strong support of all Faith In Action programs and, in particular, those that Defend Life.

The results of the **Aid & Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) “Pass the Hat”** Supreme Incentive are quite impressive. Councils, assemblies, and personal donations raised a total of \$50,050 during the convention. Thank you for all the support of this incentive which will provide Heart of Christ Clinic the funds to continue and expand their faith-based health care.

At the **Program Awards Ceremony** several of our pro-life partners made presentations. Each of these presenters expressed how extremely appreciative of the support received by our councils, assemblies, and individual members and each provided a quick look at either their present or upcoming plans. These plans were presented by *Brian Cusack, Director of Development, Right to Life MI; Christen Polo, Executive Director, Protect Life MI; and Dr. Lisa Knysz, Medical Director, Heart of Christ Clinic.* Again, all had high praise and thanks for the Knights for their support.

Congratulations to Fr. Thomas R. Carey Council #4764, Grand Knight Tom Tiffany, and Program Director Dennis Witmer for receiving the Life category award for their “Dads for Life” program. This program focused on the recognition of the importance of fathers with their families in our church and provided the perfect opportunity to provide a free will donation to Oxford Pregnancy Center. Thank you to all members of Fr. Thomas R. Carey council for continuing to reinforce the importance of fathers in each of our families.

Nothing needs to be said about the beauty of the Eucharistic Procession, daily Masses in a packed Grand Hotel theatre, and another memorable Living Rosary on the grounds of the Grand Hotel. If you attended them, you know their significance!



Bishops and our State and Diocesan Chaplains take minute for a Defend Life photo at the State Convention.

This upcoming year we will continue to provide prayers and support for those pregnancy centers or pro-life organizations we have built relationships with. This includes Ultrasound unit placements, Aid & Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) donations, distributing “Created in the Image of God” baby blankets, support for Special Olympics, encouragement of local businesses to participate in the “Round up for Life” program, encouraging Adoption Not Abortion efforts, and working with our parishes to include a Mass for those with Special Needs.

This work can only be accomplished through the hard work and leadership of our councils, through the graces of the Holy Spirit, and our personal relationship with our Lord, Jesus Christ. Let us all pray for a fruitful fraternal year that Defends Life from conception to natural death.

Ed & Lynn Strach, Pro-Life Couple