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Barry M. Borsenik
State Deputy



My Brother Knights and Ladies,

It is with great honor that I begin my term as State Deputy of our great jurisdiction of Michigan. Thank you to all who attended the state convention in May. Congratulations to all our state officers elected, especially State Warden Joel Kendzorski and his wife JanMarie. Back in June when we visited New Haven Connecticut, Mandy and I went to the installation Mass at St. Mary Church and sat in the “Michigan” pew that has a brass plaque on the isle indicating the name and date our state jurisdiction was

established. It was humbling to think of the many state deputies before me that sat in that very spot, taking on the same obligation to lead Michigan, and help build the order in our state to the powerhouse influence for good that it is today. I do not take lightly the responsibility to uphold the great traditions and reputation we have established.

The slogan for my campaign and now this administration is “SOAR with us!” The acronym SOAR stands for Service, Optimism, Aspire and Responsibility. We will focus on each of these key words in half-year increments. I spoke at the Summer Leadership Conference and the diocesan meetings about service, and servant leadership. In this volunteer organization we must have an attitude of *helping* those that are under our care. As leaders, how can we train others and assist others to do better, to be more successful, to try new things? How can we lead by example to build up our Church, continue our formation, evangelize and grow our membership? Many of our council leaders are what I call reluctant leaders. They were willing to say yes and fill the role even if they weren’t really sure what it meant or didn’t really want the job. We need to help them grow into confident and competent leaders to help with the health of our councils. I have asked my District Deputies and the dozens of state, regional and diocesan directors to approach their role with the heart of a servant leader. The real work of the order, the accomplishments of Michigan, happens at the council level. We need to do our best to offer the support and help they need to succeed.

I am extremely grateful for the help of every person who agreed to take a leadership role in this administration. I’m also lucky to have in my wife, Mandy, a great supporter and someone who works very hard on event planning, travel arrangements, keeping me on schedule, and puts up with the time away from home and the limitations our role puts on family time. Thank you to Immediate

Past State Deputy Christopher A. Kolomjec and his wife Julie for their leadership and ongoing support and mentorship. Congratulations also to Chris on his election as a Supreme Director! It is an elite distinction for Michigan to have a Past State Deputy on the Board of Directors at Supreme. Finally, thank you to Father Andrew LaFramboise who has accepted the appointment as State Chaplain. His influence will be helpful as we continue to embrace the call to expand the Cor Initiative and help councils and membership at large to strengthen our faith formation, leading us to more holy lives.

The Marian image I have selected for my term is a beautiful painting by Peter Paul Rubens titled Assumption of the Virgin, painted in 1626. It will travel with us to various events around the state. It struck me as particularly appropriate as the scene depicts the apostles and others around the empty tomb of Mary, in chaos. Each has a different expression from bewilderment and confusion to amazement and happiness. Some are looking down while others are looking up or at each other. This reminds me of the chaotic differences that exist in our councils. Some are struggling, some are getting along just ok, others are very successful and vibrant with lots of programs and membership growth. Above it all, in the image is the beautiful Mother ascending to heaven accompanied by angels and cherubs. It reminds me that out of all the chaos, arises something wonderful, and works that we do as knights leads to great things. The thousand of lives we touch, the people and organizations we serve, the support we give to our clergy and the Church is truly amazing. Ultimately, we all have the great hope that if we do these things, if we lead lives of service to others and have faith in Jesus, we too can join Mary in the great gift of Heaven.

I will share more in my next article about the second word in SOAR which is Optimism. Suffice it now to say that I have great expectations for the Knights of Columbus in Michigan to continue to thrive, to grow in number and to continue being recognized leaders in the Order for our successes.

With the holidays quickly approaching, I wish you and your family a season of Joy. I look forward to meeting many more of you as I continue to travel the state and attend council, diocesan and statewide events. Peace be with you.

Fraternally,
Barry Borsenik
Your State Deputy



Daylight Saving Time Ends

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 3, 2024, at 2:00 A.M. On Saturday night, clocks *are set back 1 hour* (i.e., gaining one hour) to “fall back.”

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



Walking with One

The Lord is blessing the Church. During the summer we were privileged to hear from John 6 and Jesus' Bread of Life discourse during several Sunday Masses. There Jesus says, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst" (John 6:35). Jesus in the Eucharist is always there to heal us, nourish us, love us, and fill us with renewed hope and strength for our mission as disciples of Jesus.

We just experienced the Eucharistic Congress in July in Indianapolis. I was not able to attend, though I followed much of the coverage of the event. Many who traveled there have seen it as a "watershed" moment in the life of the Church in the United States. There were dynamic talks and beautiful music, but many have shared with me that some of the most profound moments were the moments of silence. Fifty thousand people praying in silence before the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance. The Church continues to celebrate the Eucharistic revival, preparing to enter into the year of mission.

As part of the year of mission, there is a call to "walk with one." Each of us knows someone who is in need of an invitation to return to the sacraments. The Lord wants us to be his hands and feet. Imagine if every knight decided to "walk with one" this year. To foster a friendship with another man and lead him to a deeper friendship with Christ. Perhaps this is an invitation to attend a Cor meeting. Perhaps it is an invitation to come to adoration with you. Maybe it is taking time over a coffee or beer and listening to someone's experience of faith and the Church, hearing them out, offering encouragement, and helping them find answers to questions they are asking. There is a brother knight who is not actively practicing his faith waiting for you to invite him to return to the sacraments. We are so blessed in the Church. The Lord is there to wipe away our sins in the sacrament of Penance, embracing us and restoring us like the prodigal son. The Lord is ready to give us himself truly present in the Eucharist, the closest we can get to Jesus this side of heaven.

I was given a picture of St. John Paul II by the knights at an exemplification. On it were these words of the saintly pope, "The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning to all my activities of service to the Church and to the whole world." John Paul II followed these words by saying, "Let Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your hearts. It is he who is the true answer of life that you seek. He stays here with us: He is God with us. Seek him *without tiring*, welcome him *without reserve*, love him *without interruption*: today, tomorrow, forever!" (Address to young people of Bologna, Sept. 27, 1997).

"The secret of my day." Beautiful words. He knew Jesus. He knew the love of the Lord offered to him in the Eucharist. That love gave him strength. When we are loved and are in love, we are able to do things we never thought possible. I am grateful for the Eucharist in my life. Many a burden and care has been lifted by being truly present to the one who is truly present to me in the Eucharist. Daily Mass and a daily holy hour are great gifts in my priestly life for which I am very grateful.

As we "walk with one" this year, let's also remember to walk with "The One." Spend some time praying with these words from John Paul. Is the Eucharist the secret of your day? It can be. Seek the Lord in the Eucharist without tiring. Attend Sunday Mass, and even more often if possible. Make acts of spiritual communion on days you are not able to receive the Eucharist. Commit to spending some time in adoration, interceding for church, council, and country. Perhaps your council could do an annual holy hour together at your parish. It could be a great way to be "men of the Eucharist" as Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly has called the knights to be.

Thank you for your dedication to Our Lord! Every coat given to a kid, every dollar collected for Special Olympics, every ultrasound machine donated, every seminarian supported in his vocation, is an act of love for the Lord who said, "whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). May Blessed Michael McGivney intercede for us. May Jesus keep us close to his Sacred Heart!

In Christ,
Father Andy

St. Helen Council 8390



St. Helen Council 8390 held their appreciation/awards banquet on May 22nd. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to their Chaplain, Fr. Jerry Hunko, thanking him for all his help and support. The Knight of the Year award was presented to Don Rybski. The family of the Year award was presented to Bob and Diane Schneider. Years of service pins were also given out: Steve Burke 5yrs., Don

Dimmer 20yrs, Harry Kolberg 35yrs., Joe Izvorski 50yrs. and Robert Devine 50yrs.

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Programs = New Members

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

We are now three months into our fraternal year, and this is my first opportunity to thank you all for supporting me as your State Advocate. It is a blessing to serve on the State Board and to work with all the dioceses, districts, and councils throughout Michigan.

As Knights we are busier than most Catholic men, because we are called to implement the vision of Blessed Fr. McGivney by protecting widows and orphans and practicing charity, unity and fraternity in our parishes, families, and communities. If you have not visited the kojc.org website, you may not know the mission statement of the Knights of Columbus.

Our Mission is "Together, we're empowering Catholic men to live their faith at home, in their parish, at work and in their community." Are we all living this mission statement in our families, churches, councils, and communities?

As citizens of this great country and as members of the Knights of Columbus, we are united but different. Our differences are often at odds during elections in our country. That is why as Knights we have guidelines and by-laws that limit partisan politics and prohibit the use of our Order as a political entity. Focusing on living our faith and empowering Catholic men and their families helps to create a unifying effect that will guide us and our councils through any challenge.

It is our by-laws, guidelines and educational materials that inform Brother Knights how to navigate through a political season. Our political engagements should be tempered by love for our Brothers and informed by faith. Please review the fraternal guides posted at KofC.org; please register to vote and exercise your right as a citizen; please be guided by charity, unity, and fraternity as you engage in the activities your councils are called to do for your parishes and communities.

Our mission is that of evangelization and sharing our faith is *COR* to our Order. We must gather together to deepen our faith and invite men and their families to live out their faith as Knights. Our mission does not have a season like politics but is *COR* to our lives as Catholic men. So let us be focused on faith, love, and hope for eternity by empowering others to join us and live their faith more fully.

Vivat Jesus,
Dan

"Prayer Gestures"

My Brothers and Sisters:

As part of being the Faith Director thought it would be a good idea to educate on differing topics through the year. 1st up is the Orans Posture. This topic was discussed at our Summer Meeting.

Do "Prayer Gestures" During Mass Really Matter to Catholics? Does the Catholic Church have a teaching on how we are to hold ourselves during Mass? Are you rejecting someone special, at Mass, without even realizing it?

We can find these answers and many others in the G.I.R.M., General Instruction of the Roman Missal. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (G.I.R.M.) stated 28 times that the "Orans Posture" is to be done by the Priest.

The G.I.R.M. references the Orans Posture with the phrase "with hands extended." It is instructed to be done 28 times and is used as a direction only for the Priest(s)--the laity are NEVER directed to pray "with hands extended." Given that it is clearly a directive in the G.I.R.M., to add it to any other part of the Liturgy would be a violation of the above stated Liturgical rule.

Catholic teaching is clear on our gestures during Mass; In the Vatican Document "on Certain Questions Regarding the Collaboration of the Non-Ordained Faithful in the Sacred Ministry of Priest" Article 6, subsection 2: Liturgical Celebrations... "To promote the proper identity (of various roles) in the Mass, those abuses which are contrary to the provisions of canon 907 are to be eradicated. In Eucharistic Celebrations Deacons and non-ordained members of the faithful may not pronounce prayers or any other parts of the liturgy reserved to the celebrant Priest. Neither my Deacons or non-ordained members of

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**From The State Membership Director
Douglas Kokot**

Greetings Brothers and Ladies:

It is hard to believe that our first quarter is already behind us. Good news, our Order is Growing!!!

This is due to all of your efforts to invite men of faith to join with us and **SOAR** in the graces of God our Father. The **COR** initiative has had a very positive impact on how the Knight of Columbus is perceived outside the order. We are truly a faith-based organization. Many men are finding this very appealing. The Knights of Columbus is not just another men's organization but a Catholic men's organization that is based in faith and putting that faith into action.

Reflecting on some of the most recent recognitions our state has received from Supreme, it is no wonder why men are accepting the invitation to join our order. This past year alone, men in our jurisdiction have been recognized for outstanding acts of charity. Supreme has selected the Family of the Year, Family Program of the Year and the 4th Degree received the Patriot Award all from the Michigan Knights of Columbus. Great things are happening in Michigan!!!

Knight of Columbus Annual Facts - Did you Know?

- 2 million members
 - 16,672 Councils Around the world
 - 49 million service hours
 - \$185 million in charitable donations
 - \$1.1 million in scholarships
 - \$3.7 million to seminarians and postulants
 - \$21 million to Special Olympics
 - \$1.3 million Heroes Fund
-
- 1,745 donated Ultrasound Machines
 - \$121 billion life insurance in force
 - Since 1982, \$67 million has been given to the Holy Father for his personal charities

As this is the last issue of the Colombian for this calendar year, I wish you and your family a very blessed Christmas season. Keep in mind, Christmas is an excellent time to give the gift of membership in the Knights of Columbus to your friends and families.

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

Douglas D. Kokot

Douglas Kokot
State Membership Director
Michigan Knights of Columbus



**From The State Program Director
Matt Wierzgac**

My Brother Knights and Ladies,

Vivat Jesus! I hope all is well and you had a great summer! Fall is officially here, and for some may mean getting out to enjoy spending time doing some hiking, picking apples, sipping cider, visiting a winery, watching sporting event, or just in general enjoying the cooler weather.

The first quarter is officially behind us now already, and boy time sure did fly. In these first three months, our councils have been busy with parish picnics, council soccer challenges, attending diocesan and district meetings, etc. Our state has also been busy with charitable golf outings, Lansing Lugnuts and Detroit Tigers game, and our camporee in Houghton Lake. Additionally, we were blessed to have 4 ultrasound dedications in Michigan – Grand Rapids, Detroit, Alpena, and Midland. Let's keep that energy and motivation going!

Our State Soccer Challenge is on October 5th in Wyoming, MI. Registration is at 12pm and the competition will begin at 1pm sharp. We are looking forward to seeing those winning participants from each diocese attend and compete.

Our State Community Director Larry Herman has been working hard with our State Deputy Regional Representatives (SDRR) and Diocesan Program Directors to help make our Coats for Kids fall distribution program a great success! Below is a breakdown of how we did as a state as of September 1st:

Our Coats for Kids Update in Michigan:

- Over 65 councils participating
- 263+ cases ordered
- 3150+ coats to be handed out!

The Supreme Knights of Columbus has issued a very attractive incentive for this program, and that is the Buy One Get One Free (BOGO). We are hoping that even more councils will decide to participate in this great program that helps our communities. We need to sell about 200 more cases. But with this BOGO offer from Supreme, hopefully this will motivate additional councils to participate. If your council hasn't bought any yet, please have your council Program Director or Grand Knight get ahold of your Diocesan Program Director, SDRR, or our Community Director directly. If you participated this year, we greatly appreciate and THANK YOU for being a beacon of light to the community! If you can't participate this year, please consider doing so next year. Like every year, we invite everyone to assist with the distribution of the coats once they arrive in your diocese. Please pay attention to our weekly Constant Contact email communication for more information.

Like I mentioned earlier, our GREAT state of Michigan was blessed to have had 4 ultrasound dedications. Our State Life Director Ed Strach has been really busy traveling to these locations for the Dedication Ceremonies. The four locations were

- 94th Dedication was at HELP Pregnancy Aid in Grand Rapids
- 95th Dedication was at Planned Choices" in Allen Park, Detroit.
- 96th Dedication was at Options Pregnancy Center in Alpena
- 97th Dedication was at Life Clinic Community Resource Center in Midland

I was able to attend the dedication ceremony at Planned Choices, and what a blessing it was to be there. It was amazing to meet the staff and listen to their story and mission to saving lives and supporting women in need and support. The same mission with all these pregnancy helps centers is to help educate women, who are scared and think abortion is the answer, to really think and consider doing the right thing and not go through the abortion. These ultrasounds which councils help raise funds for, and with support from other organizations such as the Livingston County Ultrasound Initiative, make it even more possible to save lives. We need to continue supporting this pregnancy help clinics and all their efforts. If your council wants to know more about how to participate in an ultrasound initiative, please contact our Worthy Life Director, Ed Strach. Remember, supreme also assists with this, by providing the last 50% of the funds needed to purchase a new ultrasound. But your council needs to raise the first 50%.

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Ladies Corner

Dear Ladies,

What a remarkable first two months Barry and I have experienced. In June Barry and I traveled to New Haven, CT to the Supreme Offices where he was "officially" installed as the new State Deputy for the State of Michigan.

Then came the Summer Leadership meeting which was held July 4-7. It was my first Ladies Program as the wife of the State Deputy. We played 80's bingo, sang and really bothered the sir knights in the next room. It was a lot of fun.

At the ladies' program, I introduced a new initiative for the next two years. It is called "Be The Change." This means to go a step above and do something extra. Pay it forward. Can you pay for someone's coffee in the fast-food line behind you? Can you pay for that McMuffin for someone else. Gardens are producing. Can you share your bounty with a neighbor? I have already heard of great examples from other ladies. I have lapel pins made if you want any. It is two hands that come together as a heart. I have many if you would like. Just reach out to me.

The State Board and delegates attended the Supreme Convention in Quebec City from 8/6-8/8. What a beautiful city to experience. Michigan was honored to have two international award recipients. One was the Ampe family from our great Upper Peninsula. What an amazing story they shared at both the State Convention and in Quebec. The other international winner from Michigan was from Mason, Michigan where a brother knight perished in a farming incident. Our brother Knights rallied and hosted fundraisers to help his family.

Ladies, the Winter Leadership Meeting is scheduled for December 6-7 at the Crown Plaza in Lansing. I cannot wait to hear your "Be The Change stories! Mark it on your calendars now and remind your husbands. We look forward to seeing you there.

God Bless,

Mandy, Pam, Christy, Kara, JanMarie and Julie

Au Lac Council Removes Church Boiler & Radiators



The brother Knights of Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township worked several hours on June 5 to remove all of the old heating radiators in the church and the boiler in the church basement. A total of 16 radiators had to have the piping disconnected by cutting before removal. One radiator was located in the choir loft and had to be transported down a narrow stairway. There were also three radiators in the sacristy that were removed. Each radiator was very heavy and it took 4-6 men to move it to the scrap trailer. The work was done to prepare the church for a new heating system to be installed this summer. More photos are available for viewing on the Au Lac 10724 facebook page.

Programs = New Members

Knights of Columbus International Family of the Year 2023-2024



The Ampe Family Msgr. Nolan B. McKeivitt Council 689 Marquette, Michigan The Ampe family – Joseph, his wife Tiffany, and their 13 children, Kelsey (24), Evan (22), Lucille (19), Abigail (17), Sean (15), Ryan (13), Blaise (9), Mella Margaret (8), Zygmunt (8), Cazimir (7), Henrik (6), Isadora (5) and Quintus (7 months) – serve as a tremendous model of a faithful Catholic family.

Joseph is a member of Council 689 in Marquette, MI, and he has been a Knight for 6 years. He and his family are very active in their parish and community. Tiffany aids in faith formation, prayer groups, and ministries to the sick and needy, and the children are also involved in many of these functions.

The Ampe children are homeschooled, and their family lives a homestead lifestyle where they grow their own produce and raise their own farm animals. They also have a consistent family prayer life, praying the rosary together every evening.

In 2018, Joseph and Tiffany adopted two children with Down Syndrome from Ukraine while Tiffany was pregnant with Isadora. Initially, they had planned to only adopt one child from Ukraine, but after praying and discerning when they arrived in the country, they decided to adopt a second child. The Ampe family's decision to adopt Cazimir and Henrik is a testament to their incredible generosity and selflessness.

Since the war in Ukraine began in 2022, the Ampe family has taken several trips to Ukraine and Poland to deliver over \$200,000 worth of medical supplies, clothing, toys, religious items, and money to Ukrainian hospitals struggling to serve victims of war.

The Ampe family's actions demonstrate that everything they do is rooted in faith and charity. Their family life serves as inspiration for every Catholic family.

Immediate Past State Deputy Christopher Kolomjec receives Circle of Honor and Pinnacle Awards at Supreme Convention



The Knights of Columbus Supreme Convention is an annual gathering of over 2000 Knights and their families, along with distinguished members of the clergy, from various parts of the globe. This year, the convention is taking place in Quebec City from August 6-8.

As the festivities commence, accolades and acknowledgments for the exceptional efforts of jurisdictions worldwide are being presented. Pictured here are Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly and his wife, Vanessa, extending a warm welcome to Michigan's Immediate Past State Deputy Christopher Kolomjec and his wife, Julie, as they accept the Pinnacle and Circle of Honor awards on behalf of all Michigan Brother Knights.

International Program Award



Hundreds gather for the pig roast dinner organized by Mason (Mich.) Council 9182 to benefit the McMahon family after the sudden death of Jason McMahon, a member of the council.

When Jason McMahon of **Mason (Mich.) Council 9182** died suddenly in a tragic farm accident last fall, his brother Knights came to his family's aid, providing help on their farm and funds for immediate expenses. Desiring to do more, the council decided to raise money for the McMahon children's education fund, particularly because Jason had been deeply involved in homeschooling his two children.

"He was a devoted family man, and he raised his kids to be very involved in the parish and with the Knights of Columbus," said Grand Knight Charles March. "Every fish fry we did, he would be there with his kids to help put out the placemats and do what needed to be done. I guess you could say he was devoted not only to his family but to the family of the Church."

More than 500 people attended the council's pig roast fundraiser, which began with Mass, and included a band, games, rides, a raffle, a silent auction and more. As a result of their efforts, the Knights were able to present the family with a check for \$30,000. Their project brought together the entire community in a time of disaster and grief.

Receiving the International Program Award for their support of the McMahon family is bittersweet for Grand Knight March.

"We didn't want to get recognized this way," he said. "It would have been nice for a different project, but we would rather have Jason here."

Immediate Past State Deputy Elected Supreme Director at Supreme Convention



The 142nd Supreme Convention continues to be a successful event for Michigan!

Nominated by our Worthy State Deputy Barry Borsenik, Michigan's Immediate Past State Deputy Christopher Kolomjec has been elected Supreme Director!

Congratulations Worthy IPSD!

**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 DavL Memorial Mass Chairman 30001 Camden Circle Chesterfield, MI 48051

Applicants will be contacted for multiple line engraving information

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

“Prayer Gestures”

of the faithful use gestures or actions which are proper to the same priest celebrant. It is considered an abuse for any member of the non-ordained faithful to “quasi preside” at the Mass while leaving only that minimal participation to the priest which is necessary to secure validity.

In my opinion, If you are unsure what to do with your hands, you can look to the Deacon and follow what he is doing. During the Our Father, the Priest is standing in Persona Christi (in the person of Christ), in the Orans Posture, speaking to God on our behalf. During the Our Father, the Laity is to stand with hands in prayer position or down to their sides, we are not to hold hands. Again if you are not sure what you are supposed to do during the Our Father, follow what the Deacon does.

Catholic Charity requires us to be humble and grateful for the way God has set it up, when a priest is present. Praying this way at home is not an issue, just during Mass.

In conclusion, Priests and Bishops perform the Orans Posture during Mass.

The Orans Posture should not be used by the Laity at Mass to avoid interrupting the meaning and unity of the prescribed rites for the Liturgy.

PAX

Bob Bagley

State Faith Director

COMMUNITY NEWS UPDATE

Fall is here and it is time to make sure that children around the State of Michigan have warm coats. Yes, the Coats for Kids program is well underway and the response from councils statewide has been nothing short of phenomenal! Councils have risen to Fr. McGivney’s call to care for widows and orphans. As of this writing, councils have submitted checks totaling over \$69,000 for the program. Every diocese has contributed to this event. Distribution sites are being setup, and the goal is to get all of the coats on the backs of kids by the end of October. This is a marvelous example of Charity, the Order’s first and foremost principle. Congratulations to everyone who has participated in showing the world what the Knights are all about.

As of this writing the Casey Bears are on backorder. We will start processing the orders as soon as they become available.

Don’t forget these key dates for this Fraternal Year, everyone is invited:

- State Soccer Championship Finals
 - o Saturday, October 5, 2024
 - o Registration: 12pm, Competition: 1pm
 - o St John Vianney Church, 4101 Clyde Park Ave. SW, Wyoming, MI 49509
- State Essay Contest Forms Submission
 - o Saturday, January 4, 2025
 - o Email copy to Larry Herman at lherman@mikofc.org
- State Spelling Bee Championship Finals
 - o Saturday, March 1, 2025
 - o Registration: 12pm, Competition: 1pm
 - o Fr. Van Rooy Council 2470 1021 Woodside Ave., Essexville, MI 48732
- State Free Throw Championship Finals
 - o Sunday, March 16, 2025
 - o Registration: 12pm, Competition: 1pm
 - o Sacred Heart Parish Gym, 319 E. Illinois St., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Be Blessed and stay warm...

Larry J Herman

State Community Director

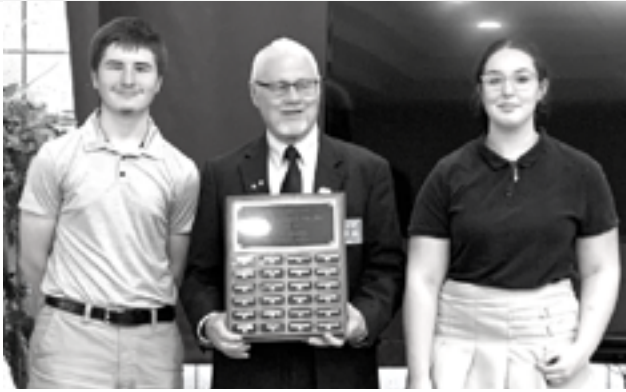
St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 – Parish Picnic



On Sunday, August 25th, St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes hosted a picnic for the parish. Food, drinks, and entertainment were provided. The picnic is one way that our Council supports our parish and its families and helps bring them together as a community. All that attended had a good time.

Programs = New Members

Au Lac Council 10724 Justin Mello Memorial Award



Pictured L-R: Matthew Koles; WGK Patrick A. Bohr; Eryka Newcomb

Congratulations to Matthew Koles and Eryka Newcomb for being selected to receive the Justin Mello Memorial Award during the I.C. School sports banquet on May 20. The award is presented each year to an 8th grade boy and girl for their achievements in sports, academics and citizenship.

Justin Mello was a graduate of Immaculate Conception School who tragically lost his life in October, 2000 at the age of 16. Every year our Au Lac Council presents the award in his memory. We hope that by honoring his memory we remind all parents about how precious each and every child is to them and to us.

Memorial Mass Detroit Archdiocesan Vocations League

Each year the Knights of Columbus with the Detroit Archdiocesan Vocations League sponsor a Memorial Mass held at Sacred Heart Major Seminary. It is a very moving event and the name of every Brother who is being memorialized on a plaque is read aloud and also printed in the program. The Mass is attended by the State Officers, Fourth Degree Color Corps and all brother Knights and their families who wish to attend. This is followed by a brunch where we get to meet some of the current seminarians and future priests.



This year's Mass is going to be held on Sunday November 3 2024

Time: 10 am, please be seated by 9:45

Location: Sacred Heart Seminary 2701 Chicago Blvd. Detroit, 48206

Enter on Linwood south of Chicago.

If you wish to memorialize a Knight from your family or Council fill out the plaque application that can be found on the State Website

<https://mikofc.org/resources/manualsanddocumentation/council-materials>

or contact Mike Cousins: m.cousins@mikofc.org 586-610-6497

The Knights of Columbus St. Nicholas Council Celebrates Seven Years of Giving Through its Baby Bottle Campaign

Sterling Heights, Michigan – For the past seven years the St. Nicholas Council #7011 has conducted their popular annual Baby Bottle Campaign in support of Knights of Columbus' national Right to Life initiatives, hosted by our supporting parish, Ss. Cyril & Methodius Slovak Catholic Church.

St. Nicholas Council has raised and donated a total of more than \$66,000 over these past seven years, matched by funding from the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus, to Mary's Mantle and several other recipient organizations across the Detroit Metropolitan area. These funds go toward facility improvements, operating costs, expansions, and new equipment.

From Mary's Mantle's mission statement: "Mary's Mantle is a Catholic residential program for homeless expectant women. We witness the love of Christ by promoting the dignity of life. We provide a safe, faith-based, and caring environment that supports the transition into motherhood, including

extended aftercare for continued personal growth and integration into the community. We focus on the spiritual, emotional, physical, educational, and vocational well-being of mother and child."

"These lifesaving donations could never have been achieved without the generous love and support of the parishioners of Ss. Cyril & Methodius parish. When the need is greatest, as it is now, we can always count on our neighbors and friends at St. Cyril's to open their hearts and wallets and help us help others," said Gino Vitale, St. Nicholas Council's Right to Life Chair.

The St. Nicholas Council, #7011, is a volunteer Catholic organization that works in conjunction with Family of the Good Shepherd parishes and concentrates its charitable efforts on supporting priests and seminarians, right to life organizations, the mentally impaired and physically disabled, and the faith community.

St. Perpetua Council 13600 Summer Road Cleanup



On July 20th, Knights Council 13600 conducted their mid-year road cleanup along Elizabeth Lake Road. This initiative, part of their thrice-yearly commitment, aims to keep the community neat and tidy. Twelve Knights participated in this cleanup, showcasing their dedication to maintaining a pristine environment for all.



From The State Program Director

Matt Wierzgac

We are getting very close to our 100th Dedication. Our Worthy State Life Director Ed Strach will provide more details as to our next ultrasound initiative projects currently going on.

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

At our Summer Diocesan meeting, I gave all those who attended instructions on how to complete a State Service Program. With all the programs that your council is doing to help the **community, faith, family, and life**, it's about time to start thinking about what program to submit for this State Program Award. Your District Deputy and Diocesan Program Directors will be following up every month with your council. If you need assistance with putting together a book or the criteria needed for submission, I encourage you to ask your District Deputy and/or Diocesan Program Director. If they are not able to assist, feel free to contact me with any questions. To maximize your chances of winning, we are encouraging councils to give your District Deputy a rough draft of your program books at your November council meeting. The submission can be digital (preferred) or physical printed copy. From there, they will give my Faith in Action team these submissions for us to review and critique. Then at our Winter Diocesan meetings, we will return these rough drafts back to the District Deputies to then be given back to you. From there, you can modify as needed or add any more details if needed. To help further boost and grow council participation in the State Program Award submissions, our State is offering the following incentive:

- Following the Winter Leadership Meeting, all councils who have submitted a rough draft for the State Program Award will be entered into a drawing for \$250 (Check to the council from the State)

Final submissions of the State Program Award will be March 31, 2025.

Remember you can submit an entry for each of the Faith in Action categories and are **NOT** limited to just one entry. Another incentive for those who submit a State Service Award this fraternal year, by March 31, 2025:

- Following the final submissions of the State Program Award on March 31st, 2025, councils will be entered into a drawing for \$500 (Check to the council from the State)

What a great opportunity to get recognition for all the great work your council does. Even if your council doesn't get selected as the final winner, you can use your booklet submission for local recognition and can be used to help draw in interest for new brothers to join your council and the Knights of Columbus.

One of our State Program Award winners from last fraternal year got selected by Supreme to be an International Program Award Winner for Family. The program was from council 9182 for assisting a brother knight's family after a tragic farm accident that unfortunately took the life of this brother knight.

This makes it two years in a row that Michigan has been selected for one of its International Program Award winners. This is all because of the good men and families we have in the Knights of Columbus putting their faith into action and doing the good works inspired by the Holy Spirit. Thank you for all that you do!

Also at the Summer Diocesan Meeting, I provided instructions on the State Family of the Year Award submission. Your District Deputy and Diocesan Program Directors will be following up every month with your council. If you need assistance with putting together a book or the criteria needed for submission, I encourage you to ask your District Deputy and/or Diocesan Program Director. If they are not able to assist, feel free to contact our State Family Director James Kelly, or me with any questions. To maximize your chances of winning, we are encouraging councils to give your District Deputy a rough draft of your program books at your November council meeting. The

submission can be digital (preferred) or physical printed copy. From there, they will give my State Family Director these submissions to review and critique. Then at our Winter Diocesan meetings, we will return these rough drafts back to the District Deputies to then be given back to you. From there, you can modify as needed or add any more details if needed. To help further boost and grow council participation in the Family of the Year Award submissions, our State is offering the following incentive:

- Following the Winter Leadership Meeting, all councils who have submitted a rough draft for the Family of the Year Award will be entered into a drawing for \$250 (Check to the council from the State)

Final submissions of the Family of the Year Award will be March 31, 2025.

Another incentive for those who submit a State Service Award this fraternal year, by March 31, 2025:

- Following the final submissions of the State Family of the Year Award on March 31st, 2025, councils will be entered into a drawing for \$500 (Check to the council from the State)

Our state family of the year, the Ampe family, was selected by Supreme to be its International Family of the Year, for their inspiring demonstration of their commitment to promoting the family and life, rooted in their Catholic faith. For some more information about the Family of the Year Award winner, please go to:

<https://mikofc.org/news/2024-state-family-of-the-year>

A new program we are going to do this year is the Hockey Challenge. This program is very similar to the Soccer Challenge. We will be putting together diocesan and state level competitions in the December timeframe, so stay tuned for more details. We would love to have your council start making plans for holding its own Hockey Challenge. It does not require to be done on an ice rink, it can be done in a gymnasium, park space using a rubber ball. Skates are not required either. Supplies, playbooks, brochures, certificates, posters are all available on the supreme website (kofc.org) through Supplies Online, and your Grand Knight or Financial Secretaries can order them. District Deputies can order medals through Supplies Online if they are going to hold a district level competition. I strongly recommend and encourage that both councils hold a competition, as well as District Deputies hold a district level competition. More information to come in our Constant Contact and through our MIKOFc email distribution. Stay tuned for more information. If you have any questions, you can contact me or our State Community Director.

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

I also want to continue encouraging everyone to keep up the good work, stay motivated, and promote the faith by putting our Catholic Faith into ACTION! By inviting men to join us, we can continue the legacy of Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney who was inspired by the Holy Spirit to not only support the widows in need, but to also be a holy man of God! I am looking forward to seeing all the great programs to come. If you ever need any guidance or have any questions, please feel free to contact me or my state faith in action team!

VIVAT JESUS!

Matthew J. Wierzgac
State Program Director

Programs = New Members

“TEN FOR CHARITIES”

My Brother Knights and Ladies,

I am pleased to make this annual report of the “TEN FOR CHARITIES” program for the 2023-2024 fraternal year. This was a *successful* year of Active Charity. Council contributions amounted to a grand total of **\$141,751.40**. This amount is one of the largest in the program’s history. This generous giving is due to members responding to the call of charity by the message on the yellow slips in their dues notices, then sending in their donations to their councils, and with your Financial Secretaries forwarding these donations to the State Secretary. Brother Knights and Ladies, working together you are participating in this program which allows our State Office to make contributions to worthwhile charities in amounts that are generally too large for our individual councils to make themselves. I and the State Officers thank you for exercising our Order’s First Principle of Charity.

While this is a sizable amount, the cold reality is that it is still much less than our maximum potential. We were able to reach this amount with zero dollars in donations from 154 councils. This is an increase of 55 more councils participating. Again, thank you to the Members, the Financial Secretaries, and our Grand Knights supporting this wonderful program. Both the number of councils and the percentage of councils that remitted funds were an **increase** from last year. **Thank You!** I believe that if the opportunity to contribute to Take 10 had been properly presented to all the membership in all the councils, at least one member in each council would have donated.

It is incumbent upon every Financial Secretary to include the donation information and the request (the yellow slip) with their annual billing notices, thus giving every member the privilege and opportunity to donate.

Below is a list of the councils that we received contributions during the 2023-2024 fraternal year, which ended on 6/30/2024. My Brother Knights, if you made a contribution to your council through your dues payment or as a standalone donation and you don’t find your council number listed below, please contact your council financial secretary immediately and find out why.

A note to the Financial Secretaries – Contributions were received by the State Secretary AFTER 6/30/2024, the end of the fraternal year. It is my experience that these donations were collected from members and meant to be recorded for the 2023-2024 fraternal year. Unfortunately, they cannot be. Please consider sending in all your accumulated charity funds twice each year to the State Secretary. First to be received by the State Secretary before 4/1 of each year to be included in any reporting for the State Convention, and secondly to be received by the State Secretary by 6/20 of each year to be included in any final annual reporting. These funds do not require council votes as they are pass-through monies from the councils to the State Secretary. A sincere **thank you** to all to those members who made their contributions to their councils and to the council officers who made this past year so

successful. A sincere **thank you** as well to those Financial Secretaries who promoted this state program by inserting the yellow slips in their council’s dues notices. By your acts of Charity, Michigan Knights can come to the aid of many more charities and continue our service to our neighbor. Thank you in advance for your continued contributions in this fraternal year.

Fraternally Yours,

Thomas M. Wegener, PSD, FSD
State Director Ten for Charities

Archdiocese of Detroit - \$ 55,845.23

305 - 744 - 2251 - 2569 - 2660 - 2667 - 2835 - 2950 - 3078 - 3129 - 3160 - 3257 - 3292 - 3312 - 3577 - 3615 - 3725 - 3830 - 3848 - 3956 - 4064 - 4764 - 4872 - 5436 - 5452 - 5460 - 5492 - 5981 - 6549 - 6865 - 7011 - 7018 - 7200 - 7239 - 7340 - 7413 - 7561 - 7586 - 8118 - 8231 - 8500 - 8659 - 8710 - 8902 - 9526 - 9568 - 10343 - 10724 - 11430 - 11658 - 11689 - 11756 - 11772 - 11811 - 11957 - 12121 - 12403 - 12408 - 12808 - 13340 - 13362 - 13453 - 13600 - 13645 - 13793 - 13950 - 13980 - 14213 - 14427 - 14928 - 15352 - 15932 - 15967 - 16169 - 16630

Gaylord - \$ 4,319.50

853 - 923 - 5083 - 6593 - 6851 - 7338 - 7419 - 8556 - 8948 - 11664 - 13432 - 13958 - 15135 - 16643

Grand Rapids - \$ 13,296.00

2975 - 3104 - 4362 - 4404 - 7487 - 7719 - 7761 - 8071 - 8117 - 8291 - 9909 - 10992 - 11581 - 12668 - 12985 - 13035 - 13499 - 13641 - 13939 - 14206 - 14404 - 14598 - 15213 - 15495 - 15548 - 16223

Kalamazoo - \$ 6,040.00

575 - 708 - 2113 - 2508 - 2515 - 2900 - 3798 - 4036 - 4055 - 4141 - 6980 - 8687 - 13305 - 13749 - 14366 - 15439

Lansing - \$ 36,451.17

587 - 609 - 788 - 1139 - 1665 - 2890 - 2959 - 3027 - 3092 - 3230 - 3281 - 4090 - 4354 - 6223 - 6534 - 6687 - 6694 - 6742 - 7237 - 7304 - 7311 - 7418 - 7545 - 7816 - 7891 - 7955 - 8391 - 8392 - 8489 - 8669 - 8858 - 8989 - 9182 - 9301 - 9937 - 10170 - 10907 - 10963 - 11099 - 11532 - 11694 - 11761 - 11875 - 12044 - 12186 - 12295 - 13360

Marquette - \$ 6,208.50

640 - 649 - 689 - 1396 - 1541 - 2026 - 2929 - 2931 - 2934 - 6447 - 13115 - 17772

Saginaw - \$ 19,591.00

414 - 1297 - 2724 - 2943 - 2986 - 3029 - 3224 - 3651 - 3823 - 4232 - 5280 - 7233 - 7255 - 7571 - 7591 - 7717 - 8043 - 8554 - 8785 - 8808 - 8892 - 11432 - 12850 - 13449 - 13452 - 14056

Queen of Apostles Council 6548



l to r, Financial Secretary Henry Woida and council Grand Knight Clyde Straub receive recognition from the State of Michigan for the council’s 50 years of community service with various charities in the greater Roscommon County area.



**Veterans Day
Monday
November 11, 2024**

KING HOUSE GRAND RE-OPENING September 2024

holycrossservices.org

Holy Cross Services (HCS) has just opened an additional Independent Living Plus (ILP) home in the Northeast Detroit area. This new location is for males 16-19 from throughout the State of Michigan who are aging out of foster care. Our Independent Living Plus program provides older adolescents with the necessary support systems during their transitional phase from a youth in placement to an independent, productive member of society. Services provided include: education/vocational planning, job search assistance, securing medical and therapy appointments, life skills training, life coaching, financial planning as well as community resource development

The HCS staff started updating, remodeling and freshening up the facility with new paint, flooring and furnishings in late August 2024.



Originally built in 1930, King House served as a rectory for St Louis Catholic Church. Later, in 1966 renovations began, adding two more offices and a reception room to the first floor. Thus, increasing second floor accommodations.

For more information email aharding@hccsnet.org

The summer months have been jam packed with exciting changes at Holy Cross Services (HCS). With the opening of our Compass Center, re-opening of King House and the expansion of services at Corcoran House, there has been so much for me to learn and celebrate in my first three weeks with HCS.

While I pen this newsletter, I am on my 22nd day with HCS and my journey has only just begun. As the “new kid on the block”, you always want to be welcomed and well-received by your neighbors and peers, but fate always takes over in the end.

From the first day at New Hope Center in Lansing, I could sense the heartfelt passion that the staff possessed. As my first week progressed, I found myself in Saginaw and Muskegon. Each location is a different community with different services and different staff, but yet the same mission and dedication to providing the best resources, care and services to our communities.

I have found that there is one consistency among locations, is that the HCS staff is fully invested and serves the community with a glad heart and willingness to help all.

As with any nonprofit, there is always a deep longstanding history and culture that envelops the foundation that visionaries and our predecessors built. As we celebrate our 76th year of service, we have accomplished so much as an organization and surpassed many milestones.

As the newest communications, public relations and marketing director, I am excited to be a part of such a dynamic organization and serve such a heartfelt mission. It will be a pleasure to share our countless services through our new website, marketing materials, and personal connections. I look forward to serving our mission and opening new doors with our message and team.

Human nature tends to generate more negative and sad narratives, as opposed to the good works and the triumphs. As we move forward and continue to serve our mission and continue our good works it is my intention to share the goodness and celebrate the success stories with all that will listen. In Luke 6:45 Jesus says, “A good man, from the good storehouse of his heart, offers what is good. And an evil man, from the evil storehouse, offers what is evil. For out of abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks”.

Kimberly Lazar

Director of Communications, Public Relations, and Marketing

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

COMPASS CENTER GRAND OPENING APRIL 2024

The HCS team believes in providing a safe and comfortable space where individuals can have fun, relax, receive life coaching, positive skills development, employment, and housing support. At our new Compass Center in Saginaw, youth and young adults can find themselves in a place that empowers strengths, promotes independence, and promotes guidance through their ever-changing day-to-day lives. WHO WE SERVE Compass Center is a non-residential facility that provides day services to youth and young adults, ages 14-26.

Hours are Monday-Friday 11a-7p
Contact Us at 989-270-0252

"Guiding Youth & Young Adults to a Brighter Future"

Game Room



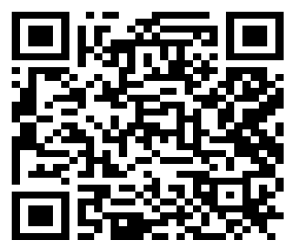
Living Room



The 2025 Holy Cross Giving Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!

Your calendar comes with a registration card attached for the drawing. Your raffle number is on the card and on the back of your calendar. Detach, fill out, and return the card to Holy Cross Services with payment. Once received, it will be placed in the raffle drawing. Drawings are held at HCS on the first working day of the month between 9a and 10a. Winners will be notified by mail and also listed on HCS social media platforms. Grand Prize Winner will be announced on December 1, 2025. All numbers are eligible for all prizes and are eligible to win more than once.

For more information call or write Holy Cross Services at the number and address below.



How can you
help create hope?
DONATE ONLINE



HolyCrossServices
where the heart is

1030 N. River Rd., Saginaw, MI 48609

1-855-38-HEART (43278)

www.holycrossservices.org

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF THIS YEAR'S SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FROM THE ST. HUBERT'S/ST. LOUIS ROUNDTABLE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, COUNCIL #11658

St. Hubert's Council #11658 & St. Louis Roundtable in Harrison Township had the honor of awarding Mr. Antonio Walters (St. Louis) and Mr. Joshua Dubach (St. Hubert) a College Scholarship grant for each of their submissions to the Annual Scholarship Program offered by the St. Hubert's Knights of Columbus/St. Louis Roundtable Council #11658.

This year's subject matter was either on a current event or social issue. Both submissions were well thought out and informative. Great job gentlemen.

Each student will receive a \$1000 grant to pursue their college goals. Congratulations to both students and good luck in your future endeavors



Antonio Walters & Mom



Joshua Dubach & Mom

RAISE THE COLORS



Knights from **Msgr. Thomas R. Horton Assembly 2049 in Saginaw, Mich.**, stand with students from Nouvel Catholic Central High School in front of the school's flagpole after raising a United States flag donated by the assembly. A Fourth Degree Knight saw the school needed a new flag and alerted the assembly, which allocated \$300 to purchase one.

Au Lac Council 10724 Youth of the Month - June 2024



Congratulations to Reese Warner for being selected as our Au Lac Council Youth of the Month for June 2024! Reese is the daughter of Jeff and Shalon Warner and a 9th grade student at Anchor Bay High School. She is an active member of the parish youth group and has helped with many activities such as Vacation Bible School, Mercy in Action

Day, Stations of the Cross and bake sales. She is in the honors program and a member of the marching band at high school and a dancer at the Anchor Bay Dance Center. We thank Reese for her service to our parish and being an inspiration to young and old alike!

Flag Retirement Ceremony



Assembly 507 held a flag retirement ceremony at their June monthly meeting.

Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township



Two master grillers - Kurt Goldenbogen and Brad Vargo.

Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township has sponsored teams in a local church softball league for many years. This summer they sponsored two teams which finished in 1st and 3rd place in the league. The season ended on July 19 with a cookout after the games. Brother Knights from the council grilled and served approximately 100 players and their family members. Not only are the games a great source of faith, fun and fellowship with members from other churches, but our council has added several new members as a result. It's proof that "Good Programs Make Good Recruiting".

Council Tops \$100,00 in Scholarship Awards



Pictured are (left to right in photo): Council member Tim Stanisz, son of the late Dick Stanisz, Bob Reineck, Chairman of the Council's Scholarship Committee; scholarship recipient Michael Nowell; scholarship recipient Graham Cesa; scholarship recipient Benjamin Kunka; and Grand Knight Tom Jackett

The Dr. Thomas A. Dooley Council #5492 of the Knights of Columbus awarded three \$2,000 college scholarships this year, making it \$102,500 in scholarships awarded since the program was established by the Council in 2009.

This year marked the 16th consecutive year that the Council has awarded scholarships to children of active or deceased Council members. During that time, the council has presented scholarships to 59 students.

The scholarships are in honor of the late Richard Stanisz, a Knight who played a leading role in relocating the Council in 2002 to its new home at St. Colette Church in Livonia, Michigan.

This year's scholarship recipients are Graham Cesa, grandson of the late Larry Dibasio; Benjamin Kunka, grandson of Don Kunka; and Michael Nowell, grandson of Greg Nowell.

Alpha/Omega Rehab House



Sir Knights of Assembly 507 collected paper products and tooth brushes and paste for men at the Alpha/Omega Rehab House.

AROUND THE STATE

Au Lac Council Catholic Scholarship Winners



Pictured L-R: Mr. Lawrence Ricard (Principal): Matthew Koles; Patrick Bohr (Grand Knight); Avery Whitenight; Fr. Joseph Esper (Pastor)

Congratulations to Matthew Koles and Avery Whitenight on winning the Au Lac Council 10724 Catholic Education Scholarship Essay Contest! Their essays were on the topic of "Why a Catholic High School Education is Important to Me". The essays were evaluated by a Knights of Columbus committee on form, content, grammar and clarity of thought.

Matthew and Avery are graduating from 8th grade at Immaculate Conception School and each will receive a \$1000 scholarship to be paid to their tuition account at the Catholic high school of their choice. Congratulations again and God bless you both during the next step of life's journey towards Heaven



Members of Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township have participated in the Adopt A Highway program since 2009. Each year the Council conducts a cleanup effort in the spring, summer and fall. On April 20th a total of 12 Knights and other volunteers collected 19 bags of trash and several larger items for disposal along Highway M-29 in Ira Township. Jim Zeck PGK has been the chairman since 2009 and submits a report to the MIDOT after each event. Here is a photo of some of the Knights who helped with the spring cleanup.

Teachers of the Year

Six special education teachers from Woodland Developmental Center and Community Enterprises of St. Clair County were honored by **Msgr. Edward J. McCormick Council 521 in Port Huron, Mich.**, during the council's S.E.E.D. (Special Education in Excellence and Dedication) Awards dinner.

Father Edmund Battersby Council 7586



Father Edmund Battersby Council 7586 Grand Knight Jim Chuck presents a \$500.00 scholarship check to Olivia Wilson. Olivia will be attending Alma College in the fall. Her father Will Wilson beams with pride.

St. Nicholas Council #7011



Knights of Columbus St. Nicholas Council #7011 Right to Life Chair Gino Vitale (far right), Brother Knight Matt Laporte (far left), present a \$11,000 check to Mary's Mantle Director of Client Services, Mary Jo Wisneski.

St. Perpetua Council 13600



Council 13600 sponsors one float each month down various rivers, inviting all members of the parish to join. The July float was down the Clinton River, starting from the Waterford public launch on Elizabeth Lake Road and ending at Case Lake. These activities are aimed at attracting younger members to the order. Each excursion lasts approximately 2 hours.

Prince of Peace Council #6593



The Annual Chicken Barbecue Potluck dinner held on July 21st was enjoyed by St. Michael Parishioners and Knights.

54 K of C members and parishioners gathered in the Parish Hall for the potluck, which has become an annual event.

Thank You to all the members who helped at the dinner, especially PGK Tom O'Brien, who organized and cooked the dinner.

"Pave the Way of the Lord"



Council 8669 of Montrose, Mi **"Pave the Way of the Lord"** funding campaign raised **\$30,000.00** toward the rebuilding of Good Shepherd Parish parking lot this spring. The Knights of Council 8669 gathered to present this check to Pastor Jonathan Perrotta after Sunday Mass. The check is presented by Grand Knight Warren Edwards.



Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township hosted a Charity/Unity/Fraternity exemplification on April 18 and welcomed 8 new members to their council. Congratulations to Skylar Brohl, Ken Satchfield, Roen McCarthy, Matthew Kekel, Matthew Gottler, Dennis Cyr and Brian Campbell for joining our Order!

Programs = New Members

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: Larry Herman, FDM, State Council Community Director, PO Box 474, Suttons Bay, MI 49682 *cky - council knight of year , send a copy of the names to the Michigan Columbian.

Knight of the Month

Lansing Council 788
 Thomas Wegener, FSD, PSD
 John Vatter, Andrew Wegener
 Dane Jurkovic,
 Lou Garbarino *cky
Owosso Council 1139
 Charles Hegg
Monroe Council 1266
 David Vanacker, Julian Rios
 Fr. David Burgard
Ishpeming Council 1541
 Kit Pillifant
Portland Council 2168
 Michael Coyne, Don Guderman
 Francis Vallier
Standish Council 2724
 James Somerfield, John Long
Westphalia Council 2890
 Tom Hattis, joeFedewa
Chesaning Council 2943
 Richard Beyrer
Utica Council 2950
 Mike Dixon, Mark Weaver
St. Johns Council 3281
 Michael Pline, Ken Kinsey
 Sean McCarty
Southgate Council 3956
 Brian Batko, Dennis Hamilton
 Ray Bilyk,SDRR
Manchester Council 4354
 Tyler Gouwens, Michael Rangel
Wyoming Council 4362
 Ron Tiler
Waterford Council 5436
 Thomas Binasio

New Baltimore Council 5981
 Glen Brisson, Steven Jewell
 Jared Proctor, Michael Cousins
Posen Council 6657
 Ron Orban, Jonathan Puro
 Mike Stempky
Michigan Center Council 6687
 Carl Perry
Swartz Creek Council 6694
 Jerry Klein
Grand Blanc Council 6742
 Peter Lindgren, Reginald Boerger
Sterling Heights Council 7011
 Gino Vitale, Ken Pullis
 Mike Liseicki, Roldan Wing-Nga
 Owen Dailey, Rob Houbeck
 Eric Suchland, Karl Zawalski
Macomb Council 7200
 Scott Payton, Ronaldo Freitas
 Michael Fontana
Birch Run Council 7233
 Luis Vagas, Norman VanPoppelen
 Chuck Tobias, Rob Doll
Brighton Council 7304
 George Maher
Caledonia Council 7341
 Dale Simmons
Freeland Council 7582
 Steve Harrand, Jim Oskvarek
 Jerry Keel
Hale Council 7623
 Bernard Lorenz
Howell Council 8169
 Kevin Bobin, Dave Costantini

Tony Petkus
Jackson Council 8392
 Mike Raczkowski
Flushing Council 8489
 Jonathan Smith
Auburn Hills Council 8659
 James Walle, Mike Zelinski, *cky
 Jayson Graves
Montrose Council 8669
 Adam Demate
Saginaw Council 8808
 Jason Rasmussen
Temperance Council 8902
 Dennis Schoenrad
Mason Council 9182
 Charles March, Michael Broughman
 Stephen Van Buren, *cky
 Paul Miller
Marysville Council 9526
 Scott Heim
Kalamazoo Council 9962
 Kolbe Herold, Michael Scriber
 Dale Boone
Ira Township Council 10724
 Anthony Jubinski, Mark Kehoe
 Jeffrey Wooten, Patrick Clancy
 Donald Plegue
Ann Arbor Council 10963
 Kevin Galbraith, Sr.,
 Greg Wesseling, Paul Malocha
 Paul Malocha
Lansing Council 11099
 Robert Murrell, Paul Levandowski
Temperance Council 11430
 Stephen Netter

Harrison Two. Council 11658
 Charles Korpall
 Douglas Kaczmariski
Port Huron Council 11756
 Ray Stone, John Derler
Shelby Twp. Council 11772
 Ed Lusky
Houghton Council 13115
 Josh Hayes
White Lake Council 13319
 Denny Long, Pat Cavanaugh
Belmont Council 13526
 Jason Schweitzers
Muskegon Hgts. Council 13579
 Michael Lewis, Sr.
Waterford Council 13600
 Phil Abbott
 Deacon Robert Gajda
Sterling Hgts. Council 13799
 Joe Bontomsia
White Cloud Council 13939
 Joshua Houle, Bart Ritter
 John Osterman, Lon Rauch,, cky
New Buffalo Council 14366
 Jeffery Roberts, Ian Fritz
 Dennis Shubert
Grand Rapids Council 15495
 Larry Clouse, John Kotwick
Comstock Park Council 15548
 Joey Breathing, *cky
Canton Council 16169
 Bob Rugenski, Mike Pilotto

ROSARY- FR. VICTOR J. RENAUD COUNCIL#3292

This past June Plymouth Fr. Victor J. Renaud Council #3292 held a Rosary Ceremony for the Knights and their families. The Rosary Ceremony was held outdoors by the newly installed statue of the Virgin Mary. The statue was blessed by the council 's chaplain Fr. Anthony Camilleri. Grand Knight Mike Driscoll and his team plan to host a Rosary Ceremony every Sunday of the months this coming fraternal year.

Programs = New Members

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:

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NOTE: FOR GRAND KNIGHTS AND COUNCIL PR CHAIRMAN

In each issue of the Michigan Columbian we print the Current Knights of the Month as designated by the local councils in the State. These men deserve State wide recognition. We appreciate your help in keeping this information current. A copy of the names of the Knight of the Month need to be sent direct to: James J. Kelley, State Council Family Director, 7263 Village Square Dr., West Bloomfield, MI 48322 *cfy - council knight of year , send a copy of the names to the Michigan Columbian.

Families of the Month

Lansing Council 788

Chris Wegener family
 Dave Luedtke family
 Brendon & Kendra Basiga
 Mikr & Pattie Schaefer *cfy

Monroe Council 1266

Edmund & Mary Bechard

Portland Council 2168

Thomas & Cathy Klein
 Wilmer & Ann Miller
 Ben & Trisha Cross

Richard & Annette Schneider

Standish Council 2724

Dennis & Rae Monsere

Joe & Kelly McCrady

Westphalia Council 2890

Mike & Debbie Prince

Kyle & Tricia Thelen

Utica Council 2950

Joe & Lynn Manuszak

Fremont Council 3111

L. Joseph & Sherry Nook

Bruse & Rosie Sherman

Valaria Poholai family

Carl & Julie Scharphorn

Robert & Kay Clouse

Southgate Council 3956

Mark & Joselyn Garcellano

Victoria Dudek family

Franz & Glenda Albright

Manchester Council 4354

Jim Warner family

Frank Cousino family

Rory McGoff family

New Baltimore Council 5981

David & Kim Number

Arvin & Pam Stephenson

David & Jessie Gallagher

Matthew Hoxsie family

Posen Council 6657

Edwin & Junta Olsen

Raymond & Laurie Wozniak

RJ & Paulette Bordeau

Michigan Center Council 6687

Gerald & Laurie Brown

Macomb Council 7200

Dennie & Nona Parak

Mark & Abbie Paoletti

Eric & Jenny Racette

Birch Run Council 7233

Terry & Sandy Jentzen

Bob & Kathy Trudell

Durand Council 7955

Timothy Trebtuske family

Bryce & Sue Merrow

Mark Peterson family

Deacon Gregory & Carol family

Howell Council 8169

Mark & Barbara Gkajek

Michael & Melinda Leffert

Edward & Jorene Nickel

Jackson Council 8392

Tom & Donna Graeser

Auburn Hills Council 8659

Dennis & Janice Hassen

Jim & Karen Leja

Herb & Sandy Stacer

Montrose Council 8669

Paul & Kris Stroup

Temperance Council 8902

Ken & Sandy Alt

John & Mickey Alexander

Jeff & Kay Bock

Mason Council 9182

Frank & Tammy March, II

Paul & Therese Miller

Duffy & Martha Williams

Kalamazoo Council 9962

Michael & Martha Wachowski

Richard & Kathy Shultz

Jeffry & Theresa Cypher

Ira Township Council 10724

David & Felicia Szczepanski

Peter & Janis Cornwell

Norman & JoAnn Augustine

Robert & Alice Tharrett

Ann Arbor Council 10963

Cindy Bruggner family

Jim & Jan Stephenson

Phillip & Stacy Campbell

Lansing Council 11099

Patrick & Vicki Malacina

Kenneth & Diane Corrigan

Port Huron Council 11756

Jim & Sue Doherty

Tony & Marcia Paladino

White Lake Council 13319

Mark & Mary Byl

White Cloud Council 13939

Thomas & Mary Carpenter

Tom & Shay Fisbie

Timothy & Susan Frisbee

Steve & Mary Bleiler

Comstock Park Council 15548

John & Nancy Dewilot

James & Karen Heidenga

Jim & Donna Mikula

St Paul of Tarsus Council #11689

The Council held its annual Potluck dinner meeting in June with with over 65 Knights and their families attending. This has been a tradition of of the Council for many years and is also used to announce major awards to deserving Knights.

The following are the awards:

Family of the Year awarded to Kurt and Jane Buhlinger
 Knight of the Year was awarded to James Hubbard. This was a posthumous award. Jim, who passed away in 2024 at the age of 93, was a very active Knight who was always there to do whatever was needed.

Special Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented to:

Bruce Arnold (PGK)

Ralph Pullis and

Ron Mareese.

These awards recognize the efforts and responsibilities that these Knights performed in support of the Council and the Knights of Columbus.

As usual, the Council looks forward to this event for the next Fraternal Year.

Online Membership



A Program for Recruiting and Engaging New Members



MICHIGAN STATE COUNCIL CONTACTS

Doug Kokot, State Membership

Director d.kokot@mikofc.org

616-891-6922.



**Father James, Swiat
 Former State Chaplain
 12/5/1941 - 7/21/2024**



Au Lac Council 10724 Youth of the Month - July 2024



Pictured L-R: Patrick A. Bohr (Grand Knight); Wyatt Pennell; Fr. Joseph Esper (Pastor - Immaculate Conception Parish)

Congratulations to Wyatt Pennell for receiving our Au Lac Council Youth of the Month award for July 2024! Wyatt is the son of Scott and Kelly Pennell and a recent graduate of Immaculate Conception School. He earned the following awards at his 8th grade graduation in June : Gold Award for GPA 3.5-4.0, Principal's Award for academic achievement (A's and B's in academics, effort, and conduct), Altar Server and Choir Awards, Student Council Award for President, and a Personal Success Award in 'quick wit and grit.' Wyatt will be attending Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School in the 2024-2025 school year where he received a generous scholarship for his high achievement on the academic placement test. We thank Wyatt for demonstrating his faith through service to his school and parish and wish him good luck in his high school years!

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 – Chaplain Farewell



On June 15th St Patrick White Lake Council 13319 celebrated a weekend mass with Fr. Susai Esack one last time before he was transferred back to his home country of India. Fr. Susai was a Knights of Columbus chaplain for our Council before he was assigned to St. Colette's in Livonia. After the mass, which was held at St. Colette's, a reception was held so that parishioners from St. Patrick's could thank Fr. Susai for all that he had done for us and to wish him well on his new mission. Fr. Susai will be missed here in the States, but India will be getting back one of its finest.

St. John Neumann Assembly 478 in Utica, Mich., organized a collection of used household items for the Vets Returning Home shelter, which provides transitional housing to veterans in need. The collected items were delivered to the shelter, to be given to residents when they establish a residence of their own. Assembly 478 donates \$2,000 worth of hygiene products to the shelter each year.

Michigan Traveling Team Exemplification

We have gone through stage one of the role of the Exemplification Traveling Teams established two years ago by our Immediate Past State Deputy Christopher Kolomjec. Now we work on stage two.

Our current State Deputy Barry Borsenik wants our staffs to help and train other Council Exemplification Staffs who need assistance so they can do their exempts in a more professional way. We all know that the first impressions of the Knights of Columbus are so very important. We know that we have many teams that will put on their our exempts rather than have the new member watch the video. This is all just great.

The Traveling Teams will still be doing Exemplifications for any Council or District upon request as before. In addition to that, the Traveling Teams will go to a District or multiple Districts to put on an Exemplification, with other council exempt team members present to observe how they may do their own exempt more professionally. An Exemplification should be done from the heart with expressions and enthusiasm and not just simply reading the part. Our goal is to hopefully have better exempt teams and retain more new Knights that will be excited about the Knights of Columbus. We want them to get involved and become a long-time member of our councils.

How this will work is I, as the State Ceremonial Director, will be working with the DD's to schedule these training exempts. When we schedule training exempts for one or more Districts, we want as many as possible council exempt team members present to observe how the traveling team puts on an exempt. There will also be some new candidates present to become new knights, as well as family and other knights. Team members can see how the Traveling Team prepares the chamber and how they work with the fibers, rosary and pins. When we get done, the staff will answer any questions that may be asked and try to help them become an even better exemplification staff.

Gene Murawski
State Ceremonial Director

Yes, Your Vote Counts



Talk about issues, not candidates. It is very important that your council's social media platforms never endorse one specific candidate or party. Instead, share information about the pro-life movement, religious freedom and other issues that Catholics care about when they go to the polls. Your council can also encourage your community to register to vote with the Knights of Columbus Get Out the Vote initiative.

If you are running for office, separate your candidacy from your being a Knight.

You cannot campaign as a member of the Knights of Columbus on social media, or

offline. The Officer's Desk Reference has a detailed guide on how to conduct yourself as a Knight when running for political office.

Be positive and polite online (and in person!). A gracious and charitable attitude when using social media goes a long way. Rather than attacking a candidate or political party, share resources to guide others in their faithful citizenship. Refrain from engaging with people who leave inflammatory or impolite comments on your council's social media platforms.

To read the full article "Guidelines for Political Activity" go to the Michigan State Council website Statewide News dated Friday, August 23, 2024.

Programs = New Members

Au Lac Council 10724 Youth of the Month -August 2024

Pictured L-R: Pat Bohr (K of C Grand Knight); Ginger Wuerz; Fr. Joseph Esper (Pastor - Immaculate Conception Parish)

Congratulations to Ginger Wuerz on being selected as our Au Lac Council Youth of the Month for August 2024! Ginger is the daughter of Dori and the late Eugene Wuerz. She is an honor student at Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School in Marine City and will be a junior in the upcoming school year. She is an active member of the parish Shine Youth Group and has volunteered at many events, such as the Parish festival, Mercy in Action Days, Lenten soup and Movie nights and the Graduate Mass receptions. Ginger was interviewed by the Detroit Catholic during one of the Mercy in Action Days and did a wonderful job explaining why it's important to serve others. Thank you Ginger for sharing your faith through service to our parish and communities!

QUEEN OF APOSTLES, COUNCIL 6548

On Sunday, June 2nd, Our Lady of the Lake, Saint James the Greater, and Saint Hubert celebrated the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. The Feast of Corpus Christi, also known as the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, celebrates the belief that Jesus Christ's body is present in the Eucharist.

Knights of Columbus Council 6548, Knights of Houghton Lake Michigan carried the canopy for the procession around the campus of Our Lady of the Lake in Prudenville at Houghton Lake. The 9 am mass included the schools' students that graduated from high school at Houghton Lake. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament started at the end of mass which led to



Grand Knight Chris Stein (left) and Past Grand Knight David Sliwinski from **Traverse City (Mich.) St. Francis Council 13958** present Avery McCutcheon, executive director of Thrive Medical Clinic, with a donation of more than \$1,600 for the center. Council 13958 raised the funds with a bake sale at St. Francis Parish.



**Father all-powerful, Your gifts of love are countless
and Your goodness infinite.**

**On Thanksgiving Day we come before You
with gratitude for Your kindness: Open our
hearts to
concern for our fellow men and women, so
that we may share Your gifts in loving service.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son,
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Barry & Mandy Borsenik
State Deputy**

**Fr. Aidan Logan
State Chaplain**

**Charles & Pamela McCuen, III
State Secretary**

**Vern & Christy Miron
State Treasurer**

**Daniel & Kara Fuller, Jr.
State Advocate**

**Joel & JanMarie Kendzorski
State Warden**

**Christopher & Julie Kolomjec
Immediate Past State Deputy**

Programs = New Members



St. Louis Center

Developing by Way of the Heart

Dear Brother Knights,

Wishes and seasonal greetings as we move towards the end of summer and our beautiful fall Season. Here at St. Louis Center, since 7 of our residents still go to school, everything is back into school mode; some other residents have regular jobs as well as going to a work program. The residents who are in the Skill Building Program have been doing their regular activities throughout summer and they pursue them more intensively during the school year.

One of the salient features of the Center is to implement the Montessori lifestyle. The Montessori method of education is a type of educational approach that focuses on the individual's natural interests and activities rather than formal teaching methods. A Montessori classroom places an emphasis on hands-on



learning and developing real-world skills. In order to better our residents learning skills, we have embraced the Montessori teaching and learning approach with our residents so that they might more readily excel in their learning skills.

The staff has also embraced the Montessori philosophy and they have used their training to facilitate its implementation. The end result is that the residents are more engaged in learning and enthusiastic about their activities.

This method is totally embraced in the basic Document for the Guanellian Mission (Servants of Charity Mission) no. 139 says,

“Education is, especially, a work of the heart. This institution of the Founder is confirmed by experience and by science, for we desire what we have learned to love. In the Guanellian system of life and education therefore, interpersonal relationship, especially educational ones, arise from the heart and develop by way of heart.”

I want to offer a sincere thanks to our supporters who have made this new program a reality at St. Louis Center.

Also, on the side of good news, we have completed the remodeling of our 60-year-old kitchen. By the time you read this, the formal inauguration will have taken place. However, my dear Brothers, you are welcome to visit any time to see how your support has made a huge difference in the lives of our residents.

Thank you again and may God bless you all!

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



Lee Booth

Lee moved to St. Louis Center in 1986 when he was eight years old. He was already a decorated Special Olympian when he arrived having competed in track, swimming, and softball throwing. As Lee grew up, he moved into snow-shoeing, hockey, basketball, and bowling. This year Lee

competed in bowling and bocce ball at the **Special Olympics**. “Bocce is a little harder than bowling, but I had fun,” Lee said. He has earned at least 50 medals throughout his Olympic career.

Back at the Center, Lee is VP of the Aktion Club and really likes to help other people. He enjoys dancing, going to camp, and taking walks. “I enjoy living at St. Louis Center. I have a lot of friends, and my house is really nice.”

Lee also enjoys spending time with his family. He is an MSU fan, like his mom; they often go to the games. To be fair, he is also a fan of Michigan and the Lions.

Lee is very proud of his Uncle Ricky who is a member of **St. Hubert Council #11658**, in Harrison Twp. Lee also enjoys going to help Councils near the Center. He said, “I am grateful for all the good things the Knights of Columbus do for St. Louis Center.”

Lee is looking forward to attending the Aktion Club Convention at the YMCA Storer Camp October 11th-12th.



Be My Voice, Until I Can

I've heard about the Knights of Columbus men and families that try so hard to help the unborn. I would like to just share with you in the short time I have some of my experiences as an unborn child.

In the time I've spent here in my momma's belly I can share with you it is a safe and warm environment which no one should disturb. As I grow, every now and then I like to roll around for fun and push my feet as hard as I can to stretch out a bit.

I do sort of remember going to a place that had this machine thing. And someone placed this other thing on my momma's belly to take my picture. How cool is that. I believe you all helped buy that thing that took my picture that brought a tear drop from my momma's eye when she saw it.

My momma took me to this place a few times for some reason, but the people that worked there were so loving and caring for me and my mom. I think I'll be in one of the nicest wardrobes for a newborn because of this place and oh my, so many diapers.

I also heard you give a whole bunch of money and stuff to this center. I've heard so many stories of all the time and stuff you give for this center. Boy, do they need your help.

You folks are something else, word has it you gather in large groups and walk around praying and speaking about things like defending life from conception to natural death. Sounds really deep to me, and I am not yet sure why this has to be done. So anyway, if you do this praying and speaking out for me, go for it.

Here's something really, really hard for me to say, so please hear me. For some reason, not all my friends are given the chance to see God's gift of life. I hear their moms go to this place that say they will help them with a choice, but, although two of them go into this place only one comes out. Not sure I fully understand this, but I do ask you do that praying thing for my friends and their dads and moms.

I can now hear a lot of noise going on right now and I am so big I can barely move it is so tight in here. I forgot to tell you, there is somebody else right next to me, maybe a brother or sister.

Sorry but I must go soon. It's time to experience the world God has given us. If you can remember to be my voice, continue to take as many pictures of my friends as you can, take care of those people that helped my mom at that center and pray for my friends, that I will meet and play with them some day. Don't be afraid when you are my voice; some won't like what you have to say, but say it anyway in a loving and caring way. And do that thing where you choose grownups who have a say in my future other than my mom and dad.

Gotta go now, I see my momma with a big smile on her face and yep my sister pushed me out of the way and she went first.

Thank you, Knights, and please remember to be my voice, until I can.
Your voice for the unborn,

Ed & Lynn Strach

State Pro-Life Couple

Being a voice as Knights of Columbus in Michigan has recently dedicated four Ultrasound units, bringing the total to 97 dedications throughout the state.

- HELP Pregnancy Aid, Grand Rapids; Bishop Haas Council #4362, Wyoming, Grand Knight Nickolas Anderson
- Planned Choices, Allen Park; *Robert Jones Council #3078, Grand Knight David Hayward*
- Options Pregnancy Center, Alpena; Thunder Bay Council #6851, Ossineke, *Grand Knight Gerald Boerner*
- Life Clinic Community Resource Center, Midland; Fr. Henry P. DeRussel Council #2141, Midland, *Grand Knight Max Scheinder (Past Grand Knight Matt Glaccum)*.

Other Ultrasound unit initiatives are underway in Ann Arbor, Sturgis, Niles, Oxford, Port Huron, and Alma.

Michigan Knights of Columbus are the best with ASAP!

Michigan ranked among the best with Aid & Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) for 2023 – 2024 fraternal year. Ranking 1st in the number of ASAP applications and 4th in the Order with donations totaling \$278,637 and including Supreme Council's "Pass the Hat" incentive donations of \$50,228 at the State Convention, a total of \$328,865 has gone to support numerous local pregnancy centers and maternity homes. In addition, Supreme Council matched our funds totaling \$47,600. **All in \$376,465 supporting pregnancy centers throughout the state!**



May They Rest In Peace

Standish Council 2724

Richard Watz, Thomas Hart
Joseph Shinevar

Essexville Council 2740

Dennis Poirer

Westphalia Council 2890

Allan Pohl, Frank Platte

Allen Park Council 3774

Charles Sammut, Brian Dunleavy
William Gamble

Wyoming Council 4362

Tim Pelletier, PGK, PFN

Lake Orion Council 4764

Robert Deachin

New Baltimore Council 5981

Frank Hubbard

Posen Council 6657

John Metyko

Grand Blanc Council 6742

Fr. James Świat

Macomb Council 7200

Gary DeCarlo

Freeland Council 7582

William Symbal

Sterling Heights Council 13340

Ronald Woywood

Detroit Council 13419

Kaveon Dux

Lake Odessa Council 14404

William Helsper

Michigan State Council
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OUR PRAYER FOR YOU THIS CHRISTMAS

As the Father gave His Son, born to Mary and to us in Bethlehem . . .
As the Son gave us Himself, the perfect gift of love . . .
May we give love to each other this Christmas—our gift of **CHARITY**.

As the Child in the manger drew all men to Himself—the shepherds from the fields, the
Magi from the East . . .
As He broke the bonds of time, joining all who came before to all who would come after . . .
May we gather in peace with our families & friends, our sign of **UNITY**.

As He came to save all men, common sons of a common Father . . .
As he gave us His Mother to be Mother to us all . . .
May we reach out this day to our fellow man, in true **FRATERNITY**.

And as we pause to count the blessings He has bestowed upon us
free men in the land of the living . . .
As we thank Him for home, hearth and hospitality in whatever
countries we may live . . .

Let us work together to make our hearts and homelands inns where
there is always room for Him—our dedication to **PATRIOTISM**.

Barry & Mandy Borsenik
State Deputy
Charles & Pamela McCuen, III
State Secretary
Daniel & Kara Fuller, Jr.
State Advocate



Rev. Andrew S. LaFramboise
State Chaplain
Vern & Christy Miron
State Treasurer
Joel & JanMarie Kendzorski
State Warden

Immediate Past State Deputy
Christopher & Julie Kolomjec