



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Michigan Columbian

VOLUME 78

ISSUE 2

October 2026

From the desk of the State Deputy Charles E. McCuen, III



Welcome, my Brother Knights and Ladies, to our first fully digital edition of the *Michigan Columbian Magazine*. We have mentioned that big changes were coming this year, and this new format is one of them. Our State leadership is excited about this new chapter because it gives us more space, more flexibility, and the opportunity to share color photos and stories from across Michigan. To make this edition successful, we need councils to send us photos and stories from their events so we can share the great work being done throughout the jurisdiction. Please do not hesitate

to send them in—our Columbian Editor is eagerly awaiting your submissions.

Over the past three months, First Lady Pam and I traveled to New Haven for my installation as your State Deputy, where we had an outstanding time meeting the 2026 class of incoming State Deputies. We also had the opportunity to spend time with the Supreme Knight and the Board of Directors. As always, Michigan was a major topic of conversation, and several members of our class asked for advice on programs they could bring back to their own jurisdictions.

Our State Officers also held their new board weekend, which included a meet-and-greet with our new State Warden, followed by board turnover. During this process, reports, inventory, and equipment are passed down to the next officer assuming each role. While it may not sound exciting, seeing the amount of material involved always makes an impression.

Several years ago, we made the decision to combine the Summer Meeting with the Installation of State Leadership. It sounded like a great idea at the time—and I still believe it was—but it required our committee to manage many moving parts to make the event successful. Based on the comments from those who attended, they did exactly that. Thank you to the “We Are One” committee and the planning team for dedicating so much time and so many weekends to making Michigan leadership shine.

We also attended the Supreme Convention in Aurora, Colorado, during the first week of August. Our delegates enjoyed the opening ceremonies, where they watched our international winner and IPSD cross the stage and be congratulated by the Supreme Knight. We also completed important work for the Order, including elections and resolutions, much like our State Convention—with the added note that Michigan still has the best food and hospitality.

Now, let’s turn to how Michigan is doing as a jurisdiction. We continue to lead the D-1 jurisdictions in membership, ahead of California and Texas, our largest, friendly competitors. While our Territorial Growth Director has reminded us that we recruit for the good of the Order and our individual jurisdictions, a little healthy competition can help keep everyone focused and motivated.

We have been traveling across the state and connecting with as many members and leaders as possible. Recently, we completed a major training effort throughout the Marquette and western Gaylord dioceses. State Membership Director Marty Brown, SDDR Pat Fry, their teams, Territorial Growth Director Alain Cayer, and I toured the Upper Peninsula for seven days, training more than 70 Brother Knights on using the open house method to invite men to join. That effort resulted in 21 prospects, several e-members from two recruiting events, and the start of a brand-new council in St. Ignace. Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen.

Our Hispanic membership team, led by SHGD Armando Figueroa, has also made a strong impact across the state by inviting and mentoring our Hispanic Brothers into the Order. I am grateful that he accepted this important leadership role. Michigan has taken control of its own future and refuses to look back, and that progress is possible because of your hard work. Let’s not give up any ground.

The Program team is also working hard to help District Deputies and councils navigate the new form changes and promote both Supreme and Michigan-designed programs that create more opportunities for families to participate. Cor is gaining momentum across the state and appears to be an important part of our future. If your council has not yet added Cor to its schedule, I strongly encourage you to consider it, as young men and their families are returning to the Church and looking for opportunities that provide direction and connection.

As you can see, there is a great deal happening in Michigan, and we are just getting started. Our goal is to stay focused on the path we have set for the future. Thank you to everyone who is working hard for your councils, our jurisdiction, and the Order as we continue striving to return Michigan to the number one spot.

Till we meet again,
Charlie
State Deputy

Programs = New Members

From The State Chaplain Fr. Paul Ballien



When we first joined the Knights of Columbus, one of the things we were given was a rosary and we were told to carry it with us and to pray it often. So why do we do this? What is the value in praying a rosary?

Well, like it or not, we are in a spiritual battle in this world. As baptized Catholics and as Knights, we have enlisted ourselves on the side of Jesus Christ and His Church, in direct opposition to Satan who detests what a good Catholic man stands for, and he will do everything he can to get us to fall away from the Church because he wants us to lose our eternal salvation. In effect, he has declared war on us. So in order to fight a war, we need armor and we need weapons. Things like receiving the sacraments or reading the Bible are huge helps to us in this battle. But besides doing these things, we also need prayer, and one of the "bread and butter" prayer weapons that we use in our Church for this battle is the rosary. And here is why the rosary is such an effective tool: For one, it seeks Mary's intercession. Mary is a powerful intercessor because she is Jesus' mother, and so as

a result Jesus never refuses her anything since he is perfectly obedient to his mother. Secondly, God has given Mary a unique role in the fight against Satan, and it is her humility and obedience that offers the biggest blow towards the pride and arrogance of Satan. Therefore, whenever we pray the Rosary, we enlist ourselves on the side of Mary, and in some way, take on the humble obedient characteristics of Mary herself, which weakens the power of Satan in our lives. The Rosary is also beneficial because it helps us to meditate on the life of Jesus and the story of our salvation. That kind of prayer is a very effective means of communication with Jesus as well as Mary, and will only help to unite us with God's will.

Another thing to keep in mind, this rosary that was given to you when you joined the Knights of Columbus, it was not meant only for individual prayer. The hope is that you will take it into your homes and prayer it together as a family. As I am sure you all realize, the family in many ways is under attack within our secularized culture. Whether you want to blame it on technology or decaying morals, the fact of the matter is still the same: It is increasingly harder and harder to keep families strong and intact these days. Many parents face concerns about how many negative things their children are so easily exposed to these days, and they wonder, "How can I instill values in my children and impress upon them a desire to follow the faith as they grow older?"

This is where the rosary comes in. Pope St. John Paul II once said that "We need to return to the practice of family prayer and prayer for families, continuing to use the rosary." Why? Because family prayer is an indispensable form of communion within a family, and the rosary in particular is a powerful form of prayer that invites the Holy Family into the life of the family. Pope St. John Paul II also stated in Familiaris Consortio, "Only by praying together with their children can a father and mother – exercising their royal priesthood – penetrate the innermost depths of their children's hearts and leave an impression that future events in their lives will not be able to efface." Without a doubt, the rosary reinforces the spiritual soundness and solidity of the family because it causes us to reflect on the Gospels, it causes us to reflect on Jesus' life, his family, his sacrifice, and our salvation. That is why I would again encourage you to take up the rosary as a family to help you foster love and unity and devotion to God.

God Bless,
Fr. Paul Ballien

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Corpus Christi Procession



On June 7, the feast of Corpus Christi, the St. Patrick Knights of Columbus Council #13319 took an active role in the procession of the Eucharist from the church to the Meditation Gardens. This procession gives public witness to our faith that the Eucharist is the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Our Brother Knights, including the Fourth Degree, helped lead the procession and many others also took part in this event. This is a great example that Council #13319 demonstrates Faith in Action.

Programs = New Members

Michigan State Council



50561 Chesterfield Road
Chesterfield, MI 48051
Office: 586.883.9456

State Deputy

Charles E. Mc Cuen, III
Cell: 313.641.1091

State Secretary

Vern Miron
Cell: 906.353.6021

State Treasurer

Daniel C. Fuller, Jr.
Cell: 248.761.2244

State Advocate

Joel J. Kendzorski
Cell: 575.520.2184

State Warden

Dean Hayward
Cell: 810.845.4933

State Chaplain

Rev. Paul Ballien
Bus: 734.455.5910

State Membership Director

Martin Brown
Cell: 616.560.0479

State Program Director

Ronald R. DePestel
Cell: 586.556.6117

State Faith Director

Kevin Duffy
Cell 517.974.0829

State Community Director

Larry Herman, FDM
Cell: 231.357.5621

State Life Director

Ed Strach
Cell: 734.476.6296

State Family Director

Bill Corey

Michigan Charities

Thomas Wegener, FSD, PSD
Res: 517.886.0006

SHM Seminary

Kenneth Unterbrink, PSD
Cell: 734.649.4653

St. Francis Camp Liaison

Ben Dandrow
Res: 517.522.6375
Cell: 517.812.2620

Executive Secretary

Lawrence T. Grabowski
Office: 586.9456

From The State Advocate Joel Kendzorski



First, I want to say congratulations to our State Deputy Charles McCuen III and first lady Pamela.

It is September, three months into our next fraternal year. I want to thank all of you for your support and prayers as I continue to serve as your state officer. My wife JanMarie and I genuinely appreciate all the opportunities to interface with you and your families.

Hello brothers, after completing my term as your State Warden I am hitting the ground running as your

State Advocate. As we did the road trip doing the diocesan meetings around the state, I was able to meet many of you, understanding the issues you are facing in your councils. As you run into problems, please use the chain of command and talk to your District Deputy and your SDDR before bringing it to me. This just allows the process we have in place to work. If the problem or issue remains after that please contact me to address your needs.

We just concluded the 2026 camporee at Houghton Lake. It was filled with opportunities to reflect upon our faith with the masses and evening rosaries. There was also a lot of time for fraternalism, something that we all need and desire. It gives us the chance to “fill our tanks” as we continue to do the work of the order and supporting our faith. Whenever you have the chance for fraternal activities in your council or church please participate in it. We all need that to help us bond and socialize beyond our normal core groups.

Its that time again where were bombarded with television ads, mailings from many candidates for office and yard signs of every shape and color. We are citizens of this great country and one of our most important duties as a citizen is to get out to vote. So please navigate through all the mess and try to follow your faith as you do your patriotic duty as a citizen, it is the most important right you have.

As we go forward try to remember that our faith requires us to evangelize our faith. This means trying to get our families, friends, and neighbors to come to church. It is our mission to assist our clergy, support our churches and help spread our faith to others. Discuss Cor in your parishes, pray for the unborn who cannot fight for themselves and support programs that help us spread the word of Jesus Christ and Father Michael MvGivney.

To conclude I want to thank you for all the work you and your families do. Let us keep living within our faith and focus on loving our fellow man. Faith is a mountain, let's climb it together.

Vivat Jesus
Joel Kendzorski
State Advocate

From The State Membership Director Martin R. Brown

Brother Knights and Ladies,

As we move into the second quarter of the fraternal year, I want to thank everyone for the strong start we had in July and August. We recruited a good number of men, and that momentum gives us a great foundation to build on in the months ahead. One important area of focus is our outreach to the OCIA classes. We should be looking for opportunities to help with the classes, serve as mentors, and be involved wherever we can. By walking with these men as they prepare to enter the Catholic Church, we put ourselves in a strong position to invite them, when the time is right, to become part of our councils.

We also need to keep November in mind. Deer camp can be a great recruiting opportunity, and I hope we do not fall into the habit of slowing down like we sometimes have in past years. Let's stay intentional, keep inviting, and continue the good work we began this summer.

We also need to take a fresh look at the prospects we already have for your council. If they have not yet been able or interested in joining, now may be the right time to invite them to help with a program. When a prospect gets involved and sees firsthand what your council is doing, they may better understand the value of our work and want to be a part of it.

Supreme Council Incentive, Go for Two! Invite and get two men with their families to join between September 1st and December 31st, 2026 and you will be entered into a drawing to receive a cash prize of \$1,500! Invite four men who join in that time frame to be entered into the drawing twice! Ten second place winners will receive a customized Kof C branded item.

Fraternally yours,
Marty Brown
State Membership Director

State Charity Raffle

In a very short time State Charity Raffle Tickets, offering the opportunity to win exciting and valuable prizes, will start arriving in the mailboxes of Brother Knights statewide. While requests for financial assistance and our obligations to Michigan Charities is ever increasing, our State Chairty Raffle “net revenue” is not keeping pace. Due to rising costs of everything associated with our annual raffle, from paper, to ink, to postage, you will see some changes this year. Postage alone has risen so high it now costs \$0.82 cents to mail a First-Class letter.

While costs continue to rise, participation in the State Charity Raffle remains flat.

Every year we encourage all Michigan Knights of Columbus members to exemplify the First Principal of the order, Charity, and participate in our annual State Chairty Raffle. Although financial incentives are offered for those members and councils who actively sell their raffle tickets, we know you do it out of the kindness of your heart, in support of our Michigan Charities. We remain thankful and truly appreciate the loyal, consistent and strong support of the many Brother Knights who purchase and/or sell their raffle tickets.

This year when you receive your State Chairty Envelope,
continued on page 9



Join
The Guild
Now!



From The State Program Director Ron DePestel

My Brother Knights and Ladies,

Summer is quickly coming to an end. Fall will bring shorter days and cooler nights. Our programs will be switching from picnics, golf outings, and festivals to bonfires and indoor events. Our Faith in Action programs provide different opportunities for different seasons. Each program empowers Catholic men to live our faith and serve our families, parishes, and communities.

Fall can bring opportunities for many different and exciting programs. This year, our State Deputy has asked us to introduce three new programs at the State level that we would like to see everyone participate in.

State Cornhole Tournament

We have introduced a State Cornhole Tournament. This family-friendly event provides an opportunity to build fraternity, bring families together, and engage the parish and community.

The tournament should be played at the council level and include Brother Knights, family members, members of the parish, and members of the community. Winners at the council level will advance to the district level, then to the diocesan level, and finally to the State level.

We ask that at least one member of each team be a Knight, and we hope that by the end of the tournament, both team members will be Knights.

You can find information on the State website at Mikofc.org or check with your Diocesan Program Directors for further information.

Build a Bed Program

The Build a Bed Program is designed to partner with the Sleep in Heavenly Peace organization. This program provides beds so that no child sleeps on the floor.

There are 17 chapters in Michigan, and they are looking to add more. Thousands of beds have already been provided, and in some areas of Michigan, there are waiting lists with requests for hundreds more.

All we need to do is provide a minimum donation of \$5,000, a location, and volunteers to build the beds. Sleep in Heavenly Peace will bring the tools, lumber, and all the supplies needed for the build.

Each bed comes with a mattress and the bedding needed so that a child will have a bed they can call their own.

This is a great program that builds beds while also building fraternity and involving the council, parish, and community. Consider this program as a council, district, or multiple-district event. Supreme has also adopted this program this year as a family program.

You can find information on the State website at Mikofc.org or contact Special Charities Director Garrett Kelinski, Family Director Bill Corey, your Diocesan Program Director, or Ron DePestel for assistance in conducting this program.

Onion Bag Food Drive

The final program that we are introducing this year is the Onion Bag Food Drive.

There are families in our communities struggling to put food on the table every day. This program can be conducted throughout the year to provide food for pantries in your local community so that no one goes hungry.

This program is simple. With your pastor's approval and coordination with the local food pantry, we hand out the red onion

continued on page 8

Ladies Corner

Hello all,

Wow it has been a crazy busy summer. Installation in Connecticut in June. We made so many new friends my heart was full. Summer Meeting was wonderful. We toured St. Aloysius with Fr Sal Palazzolo as our guide. He is the New Diocesan Chaplain for Detroit and it was a pleasure having him show us the beauty of this historical Church. We donated the sales from the Summer Raffle to the Church. We also collected items for their Campus Mission Project (travel size shampoo, soap, hand sanitizer, tooth paste and tooth brushes, etc). The return of the Kids Corner was a hit and kept the kids engaged and happy. We were honored to have State Chaplain Fr. Paul Ballien bring a 1st class relic of Fr. Michael McGivney. All were welcomed to touch personal items to the relic for blessings. Sally McCuen my sister in law gave a beautiful presentation on the Solanas Casey Center and took our prayer intentions to the Tomb of Fr Solana Casey. The Installation was Beautiful! I proudly stood by my husband's side as he was Installed by our dear friend Bishop Hanchon. We can't thank everyone enough for all the hard work that went into the Summer Meeting and Installation. It really does take a Village and we have an abundance of friends and family in ours.

The Supreme Convention was in Aurora Colorado this year August 3-6 and we had a great time with friends old and new.

This years Camporee at Wooded Acres in Houghton Lake was wonderful. We almost had a sell out for the campground. Mass on Friday had over 70 people. The turnout for the Rosary at 9pm was impressive. Mass on Saturday had brother Knights and families Glamping or just coming in for Mass, pot luck dinner, or just fellowship coming from all over the state. We had over 100 people at Mass with Fr Paul Ballein. A thank you to Ralph and Donna for the amazing breakfast for the whole campground. We can't wait till next year to sell out the campground. I can't wait to see what the future holds!!!

God Bless,

Pam McCuen

First Lady

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Yard Cleanup



Before



After

On June 20th, a crew of Bother Knights from St. Patrick Knights of Columbus Council #13319 spent time cleaning up the front and back yards for a St. Patrick parish member that was unable to do the work on her own. Among other things, the Knights also cut out a tree that was growing in the chimney, cleaned the siding and sanded down the railings of the front porch. In addition, a Blessed Mother statue was taken to be repaired/repainted and returned.

The homeowner was extremely grateful, and we would like to thank all the Knights that participated in this effort.

George A. Dann, FVSM, PSD

George A. Dann Former Vice Supreme Master and Past State Deputy passed away on Monday, June 29, 2026.

A Funeral Liturgy was held on Monday, July 6, 2026, at Allen Funeral Home, 9136 Davison Road, Davison, Michigan 48423; Father James Bessert officiated.

**Kenneth C. Krause
Former State Program Director**

Kenneth C. Krause former State program Director passed away on Saturday June 27, 2026. A Funeral Mass was held on Friday July 3, 2026 at St. Francis - St. Maximilian Catholic Church.

Districts 607-608

Above is a picture of Districts 607-608 presenting a check to Area 36 Special Olympics for their winter games. Pictured are from left to right: Dave Guenther Diocesan Membership Director, M Patric Frye Diocesan SDDR, Mario Scibelli DD 607, Jim Butorac Diocesan Program Director, Pam Barnam Area 36 Director and Mike Prokopowicz Former Diocesan SDDR.

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 – Baseball Game

On Friday, August 14th, St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Knights of Columbus sponsored a baseball game outing for our St. Patrick Council and Parish at UWM Field in Utica. This is an event that helps develop relationships within our Council and parish. Our Council was recognized by getting our name on the scoreboard and one of our Brother Knights threw out the first pitch. We started the night with a delicious meal and at the end enjoyed a spectacular fireworks display. It was a great event for all that attended.

**Knights of Columbus team with St. Vincent de Paul for Food Give-away**

On June 15, 2026, the Knights of Columbus generously sponsored and volunteered at the St. Vincent de Paul, Our Lady of the Lake conference mobile food pantry.

Over 100 households, totaling over 350 people, received food. Thank you, Knights and all volunteers that made this possible! You are a true blessing to our community!

Au Lac Council Youth of the Month for August 2026

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

Congratulations to Tyler Haslem for being named the Au Lac Council Youth of the Month for August 2026! Tyler is the son of John and Beth Ann Haslem and is an 8th grade student at Marine City Middle School where he was named Mariner of the Month in 2025. He participates in theater, plays trombone in the school band, sings in the school choir and has been on the Honor Roll throughout his years in middle school.

Tyler attends Mass each week with his family and is a frequent altar server. You can find him volunteering at the Immaculate Conception Summer Festival, Coffee and Donuts, and past Vacation Bible School programs at IC. We thank Tyler for sharing his faith through service to his parish, school and community!

17th Annual Golf Outing

St Catherine of Siena Council 6980 in Portage, MI held its 17th annual Golf Outing fundraiser on August 22 at Pine View Golf Course in Three Rivers, MI. It was our most successful golf outing with a net profit of over \$7,100. 116 golfers enjoyed a beautiful day of golf, dinner, and prizes. Over the 17 years, the total profit is over \$62,000. This fundraiser has allowed Council 6980 to make many donations for St Catherine of Siena parish projects and also to local organizations that benefit many people in need.

Programs = New Members

Daylight saving time is scheduled to end Sunday, Nov. 1, 2026, when clocks will move back one hour. At 2 a.m.

Ten for Charities

My Brother Knights and Ladies,

I am pleased to make this annual report of the "TEN FOR CHARITIES" program for the 2025-2026 fraternal year. This was a *most successful* year of Active Charity. Council contributions amounted to a grand total of \$142,032.15, approximately \$20K more than last year. This generous giving is due to members responding to the call to charity by the message on the Take 10 For Charity slips sent with their dues notices, then acting on that call by 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 participants in this program which allows our State Office to make contributions to worthwhile charities in your name as Knights of Columbus 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 - 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 donations from 196 councils. This is an increase of 4 additional councils participating this year. Again, thank you to the Members, the Financial Secretaries, and our Grand Knights for 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!

It is incumbent upon every Financial Secretary to include the donation information and the request (the Take 10 For Charity slip) with their annual billing notices, thus giving every member the privilege and opportunity to donate. I believe that if the opportunity to contribute to Take 10 is properly presented to all the membership in all the councils with the receipt of the donation slip, at least one member of each council would have donated.

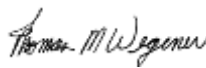
Below is a list of the councils that we received contributions from during the 2025-2026 fraternal year, which ended on 6/30/2026. Thank You!

My Brother Knights, if you contributed to your council through your annual 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 your council's donation is not reflected.

A note to the Financial Secretaries – Contributions from councils were received by the State Secretary AFTER 6/30/2026, which is the end of the fraternal year. It is my experience that these donations were collected from members and meant to be recorded for this 2025-2026 fraternal year. Unfortunately, they cannot be recorded and reflected here as they were received after the end of the year. Please consider sending in all your accumulated charity funds twice each year to the State Secretary. Suggested first submittal to be received by the State Secretary before 4/15 of each year to be included in any reporting for the State Convention, and the second submittal to be received by the State Secretary by 6/1 of each year to be processed and 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, so the Council Treasurer and Financial Secretary are not bound by any council meeting calendar issues.

A sincere thank you to all those members who made their contributions to their councils and to the council officers who made this past year 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 those in need 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
Former Supreme Director

2025 - 2026 Ten For Charities Annual Report

Archdiocese of Detroit - \$ 53,391.23

600 - 744 - 1266 - 1802 - 2569 - 2632 - 2660 - 2667 - 2690 - 2835 - 2950 - 3129 - 3292 - 3615 - 3725 - 3774 - 3797 - 3830 - 4064 - 4188 - 4401 - 4764 - 5436 - 5446 - 5452 - 5460 - 6824 - 6865 - 7200 - 7239 - 7413 - 7444 - 7586 - 8274 - 8659 - 8695 - 8710 - 8902 - 9568 - 10501 - 10724 - 11430 - 11658 - 11689 - 11756 - 11772 - 11811 - 11957 - 12121 - 12403 - 12408 - 13340 - 13362 - 13453 - 13600 - 13950 - 13980 - 14213 - 14427 - 14928 - 15352 - 15932 - 16169

Gaylord - \$ 7,218.50

853 - 923 - 1224 - 2709 - 2781 - 6593 - 6657 - 6851 - 7338 - 7365 - 7419 - 8041 - 8948 - 13432 - 13958 - 15021 - 16643

Grand Rapids - \$ 20,573.00

1300 - 2084 - 2168 - 2975 - 3111 - 4362 - 4404 - 7115 - 7341 - 7487 - 7719 - 7761 - 7869 - 8071 - 8117 - 8291 - 8564 - 10992 - 12258 - 12668 - 12985 - 13035 - 13499 - 13579 - 13641 - 13865 - 13939 - 14404 - 14598 - 14642 - 15213 - 15495

Kalamazoo - \$ 6,162.00

2113 - 2508 - 2515 - 2900 - 4036 - 4055 - 4141 - 6980 - 7796 - 11114 - 12998 - 13251 - 13305 - 13749 - 14366

Lansing - \$ 35,903.92

609 - 788 - 2659 - 2890 - 2959 - 3027 - 3092 - 3230 - 3281 - 4090 - 4285 - 4354 - 6223 - 6534 - 6694 - 6742 - 7237 - 7304 - 7311 - 7418 - 7816 - 7891 - 8169 - 8392 - 8489 - 8669 - 9182 - 10006 - 10170 - 10542 - 10963 - 11099 - 11532 - 11694 - 12295 - 13360

Marquette - \$ 3,598.00

649 - 1245 - 1396 - 1541 - 2929 - 2931 - 6447 - 13115 - 17772

Saginaw - \$ 15,185.50

414 - 1546 - 2141 - 2724 - 2740 - 2943 - 2986 - 3029 - 3224 - 3823 - 4102 - 4232 - 5280 - 7233 - 7571 - 7717 - 8043 - 8554 - 8785 - 11432 - 12850 - 13452 - 14056

Michigan - \$ 142,032.15

Join
The Guild
Now!



Keeping a Focus on Life

Ed & Lynn Strach
Pro-Life Couple

Pro-Life Initiatives: Sustaining Commitment and Impact



After coming off an extremely successful fraternal year in all pro-life initiatives, **it is essential for councils and their members to maintain a strong focus on supporting life and protecting the unborn.**



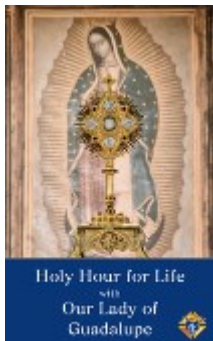
Our unwavering belief in defending life from conception through natural death guides our involvement across the many areas where we advocate for the sanctity of life.



Supporting Local Pregnancy Centers

Our dedication is evident in several ways, most notably through our ongoing support for local pregnancy centers. Planned Parenthood has recently announced the closure of three centers in Lansing, Livonia, and Warren. In the previous year, centers in Jackson, Petosky, and Marquette closed as well, and two centers in Ann Arbor were consolidated. Altogether, seven Planned Parenthood centers have ceased operations.

Recognizing this, we have emphasized the availability of authentic women's care at local pregnancy resource centers. The closures of Planned Parenthood centers are likely to increase the number of clients seeking help at these resource centers, **which underscores the need for renewed commitment and additional support from our councils.**



Aid & Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) and Ultrasound Programs

This moment offers an excellent opportunity to further our Aid & Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) and Ultrasound programs.

In the last fraternal year, councils provided an extraordinary level of support to 62 pregnancy resource centers statewide, with donations totaling \$380,451. The Supreme Council matched these efforts with an additional \$50,000, bringing the total support to \$430,451. These outstanding achievements are

a testament to the dedication of all involved.

Now is the time for councils to set goals to either match or exceed their previous year's donations. For councils not yet participating in the ASAP program, this is the perfect moment to get involved.

Ultrasound Units: Saving Lives

Additionally, last fraternal year saw the dedication of eight new Ultrasound units, bringing this lifesaving technology to more local pregnancy centers. Councils and assemblies raised significant funds, which, when matched 50% by the Supreme Council, greatly ex-

panded the impact of the program.

We are starting the current year on a strong note, with the 107th Ultrasound unit dedicated at the Thrive Medical Clinic in Traverse City, thanks to the leadership of St. Francis of Assisi Council and District Deputy Marty Lomasney.

At present, five additional Ultrasound units are in various stages of implementation. **Councils are encouraged to reach out to their local pregnancy centers to assess the need for either initial or replacement Ultrasound units.**

Prayer and Education: The Spiritual Foundation

A key element of our commitment to defending life is prayer.

The Supreme Council has introduced two new programs to help educate and pray for the pro-life cause. The Gospel of Life program encourages Knights to deepen their understanding and educate others about the sanctity of life. Additionally, the Holy Hour for Life with Our Lady of Guadalupe invites councils to organize Eucharistic Adoration and seek the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe for the pro-life movement.

Strengthening Partnerships for Life

The Knights of Columbus are recognized by pro-life partners as steadfast supporters in the effort to defend life. Our relationships with organizations such as Right to Life Michigan, Protect Life MI, 40 Days for Life, Walking with Mothers in Need, and Sidewalk Advocates for Life are central to our mission.



These partnerships are also vital in monitoring local developments, such as when county boards of commissioners consider allocating taxpayer funds to Planned Parenthood. **Getting involved with these pro-life groups not only strengthens our collective efforts but also helps keep the focus firmly on protecting life.**

As a reminder, to qualify for the Columbian Award a \$500 donation must be made to one of following Supreme Programs including Aid & Support After Pregnancy (ASAP), Coats for Kids, Food for Families or Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP).

Au Lac Council 10724 and Anchor Bay Council 5981



Brother Knights and their family members of Au Lac Council 10724 and Anchor Bay Council 5981 attended Corporate Communion on August 30 at Immaculate Conception Church in Ira Township. The Mass intention was for the deceased members of both coun-

cils. The Color Guard was present at the Mass and a social gathering was held afterwards in the parish hall.



From The State Program Director Ron DePestel

bags after weekend Masses. The bags have a letter attached asking parishioners to fill them with non-perishable foods, along with directions on when and where to return them.

Usually, after Mass a few weeks later, Brother Knights collect the full bags and deliver them to the food pantry.

This qualifies as the Supreme Food for Families program.

Sock Donation

The Michigan State Leadership is asking for donations of new, packaged athletic or warm socks in sizes ranging from newborn to adults.

The District Deputies will bring all donations to the Winter Leadership Meeting on December 4th and 5th. The donations will be distributed to local shelters and pregnancy centers in each Diocese in Michigan.

Please get all your sock donations to your District Deputies at your November meetings so that they can be brought to the Winter Leadership Meeting.

Youth Activities

Other programs and events we should be considering and supporting are our youth activities. These activities provide our councils with a great way to engage their communities through athletic events for our youth that encourage the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition.

State Soccer Challenge

The State Soccer Challenge allows children 9–14 years of age to demonstrate one of the most important skills in soccer—shooting accuracy on the penalty kick—and compete to reach the State level of competition.

The program is also a way to introduce the Order to your community and recruit faithful family men of service.

Participating councils will send the Diocesan winner to the State Soccer Challenge on Saturday, October 2, at St. John Vianney Church in Wyoming, MI.

Annual Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities MI Tootsie Roll Drive

The Annual Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities, also known as the MI Tootsie Roll Drive, is a great fraternal activity that provides councils and families with the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others.

By working together, councils can raise money that stays local to support people with intellectual disabilities in their communities. These funds can provide equipment to improve learning, provide money for field trips, or help send athletes to Special Olympics.

Every year through the Tootsie Roll Drive, Michigan Knights donate thousands of dollars to support people with intellectual

disabilities.

Please consider conducting a fall drive on Columbus Day weekend, October 9th, 10th, and 11th.

Prep Bowl

Who is ready for some football?

We have the unique opportunity to enjoy a day of youth football in the home of the Detroit Lions. Prep Bowl is an annual playoff event that showcases area Catholic youth football.

This is a fun, all-day event that provides an opportunity to support Catholic youth football while enjoying a day at the home of the Detroit Lions.

It will be held on October 24, 2026, at Ford Field, and tickets are only \$10.00.

If you cannot attend, consider purchasing tickets and donating them to your local Catholic school so that families can attend.

Contact Michael (Koz) Kozakiewicz for tickets at **313-779-1348**.

Supreme Essay Contest

Now is the time to start planning for the Supreme Essay Contest. This year, the youth need to explain the following quote from U.S. President John F. Kennedy:

“The rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but by the hands of God.”

The essay should be 500 to 750 words. Essays are due by January 8, 2027.

State Spelling Bee

The Spelling Bee word list for this year's contest can be found on the State website at **Mikofc.org** under **Programs / Community / State Spelling Bee**.

Strong Programs Equal Strong Councils

Programs are a part of who we are and what we do. **Strong programs equal strong councils.**

We need to be engaging our members on at least a monthly basis. This does not mean conducting a fundraiser every month. It means finding time each month for Brother Knights and their families to come together, get to know one another, pray together, and socialize.

That is what builds strong councils and keeps our communities healthy. When we have fun together, others see that and want to be a part of it.

I pray that your councils have a very successful and faithful second quarter. May God bless your families and councils.

Vivat Jesus!

Ron DePestel

State Program Director

Lake Orion K of C's Youngest Knight is Taking Flight



Last year, we welcomed 17 ½ year old William Ebbert into the Lake Orion Knights of Columbus council. Despite being a Knight for only a year now, Will has been heavily involved in many council programs & activities. Of course, this came as no surprise since Will was already an usher at St. Joseph parish, an 8th grade catechist, heavily involved in OCIA, etc. Fast forward to today, Will not only graduated from high school (wearing a K of C sash over his graduation gown!), but he is attending Franciscan University

in pursuit of a theology degree. Will then plans to enter the seminary to follow his dream of becoming a Roman Catholic priest. Congratulations & good luck to Will! The Lake Orion Knights are so proud!

Programs = New Members

Faith in Action

I want to start off by expressing my appreciation for you, the brother knight reading these words. I'm the new guy on the Faith in Action team and the things I've seen and been a part of over the last couple of months have been eye opening for me. Something crossed my mind recently during a meeting with program directors from across the state of Michigan and it made me appreciate you, your councils, your districts, your dioceses and our entire state community of brother knights.

I've seen the work of the Order being done at a variety of levels in my 11 years as a member of the Knights of Columbus. When I first joined, I remember being impressed by the group of men within my council who were working hard throughout the year to serve our parish and our local community. People in our small town knew that if they needed help, whether it was financial or through utilizing the skills and abilities of a group of Catholic men, they could count on the Knights.

When I was district deputy, the councils within our district came together to raise money for an ultrasound machine to be placed at a facility outside of our district. I was worried that this was an overly ambitious request, but I was blown away by their response. Not only did each council enthusiastically pursue our common goal, but each parish within the district also provided overwhelming financial support. A project that we thought would take many months to complete was fully funded within three weeks and when it was all said and done, we were able to donate an extra \$10,000 to the pregnancy center.

I spent last year as a diocesan membership director, where I was able to work alongside men across the diocese who were working hard to bring new members into their councils. Council membership directors are often unsung heroes who know new members are the lifeblood of their councils. I loved seeing men from every corner of the diocese working together as one toward common goals.

Finally, while I sat in that recent meeting of program directors from across the state, the vastness of the work we do as Knights on behalf of the Order here in Michigan really hit me. Knights from Sault Ste. Marie to Jackson, Traverse City to Port Huron and everywhere in between are working to bring Christ to their communities. They're getting ready for Coats for Kids and Soccer Challenges and Holy Hours and Marches for Life. In the One, we truly are one. Praise be to God for your willingness to serve Him and His people, brothers.

Mass is always special. Mass is miraculous. So I was hesitant to begin this next topic with the words "special Masses". But I want to talk about special Masses. There are a few great opportunities through which we can utilize Mass to recognize and appreciate the charisms of some of our brothers and sisters from various walks of life. The Mass for People with Special Needs, Blue Masses, and even White Masses, can be opportunities to serve or honor those in our community. For this article, I'm going to focus on the latter two.

Many of you have probably heard of or maybe even attended a Blue Mass. Hosting a Blue Mass is an opportunity to invite your local first responders to your parish for Mass. There are a number of ways to honor those who attend. During mass, perhaps your pastor could preach about the nobility of police, firefighters and EMTs in their willingness to make personal sacrifices for the greater good. I've seen council present first responders in attendance with a token of appreciation in the form of a St. Florian

continued on page 14

Family Matters

Since this is my first article for the Michigan Columbian, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Bill Corey. I am a P.G.K., P.F.N, F.D.D. I have served in various Diocesan, Regional, and State positions. My wife Yvette and I have been married for 42 years. We have one son (who is a knight), daughter-in-law and one grandson. I want to start out by saying **Thank You** to the councils that have been sending me their form #10784 with their Families of the Month selections. However, for the councils that do not copy me on the form when they submit the form to Supreme and to Gary Kolbicz at the state office, if you can please copy me on the forms, w.corey@mikofc.org I would greatly appreciate it. Please remember that the forms are due to Supreme by the 15th of the month. The earlier that you send them to me, if there are any errors, I can make sure that you can have them corrected in time to send them in.

Supreme has many Family Programs that are available. Now that the children are going to be starting back to school. One of the programs available is

Family Prayer Night

As children and families get ready for school, it is essential that kids are adequately prepared for the trials and tribulations they may experience throughout the year. We suggest hosting a family prayer night within your household or community to help strengthen the bond between families.

For other available Family Programs, please contact your Council Program Director, Diocesan Program Director, or contact me.

Now that we are in the month of September and Christmas in July is gone, it's time to start planning CHRISTmas and the **Keep Christ in Christmas Programs**, including the **Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest**. The age categories are:

Kindergarten
1st- 2nd grade.
3rd-4th grade.
5th-6th grade.
7th-8th grade.

Fraternally
Bill Corey,
State Family Director

State Charity Raffle

please do not set it aside, throw it away unopened or dismiss it. Remember it cost \$0.82 cents just for the postage to get that envelope to you. On behalf of all our Michigan Charities, we ask you to please open that envelope, review the contents and the opportunity in front of you. Inside, you will discover new ways to order raffle tickets, submit payments and the opportunity to win some great prizes. Don't delay, sell your tickets and remit them with payment as soon as possible.

Fraternally yours,
Kevin Rowley
Mike Haughey
State Charity Raffle Directors





Guest House and the Knights of Columbus: Supporting vocations through recovery, renewal, and a lifetime of service

The Knights of Columbus have long stood alongside the Catholic Church, supporting vocations and caring for those who dedicate their lives to serving others.

That commitment closely aligns with the mission of Guest House.

In a recent article, Dennis J. Gerber, Jr., President and CEO of the Knights of Columbus Charitable Fund, wrote:

“A vocation unfolds over a lifetime, and at every stage there are moments when our generosity can help a priest, sister or brother continue to say yes to the life God has called them to.”

Read Dennis Gerber’s full article

www.KnightsCharitable.org/resources/articles/2026/supporting-vocation-lifetime/



Guest House has witnessed the truth of those words for 70 years.

Since 1956, Guest House has provided specialized treatment and continuing care for thousands of Catholic priests, religious, and seminarians facing addiction and other behavioral health challenges.

But the impact doesn't end when treatment ends.

It lives on through our alumni.

Guest House alumni return to their parishes, dioceses, religious communities, and ministries—healthier, stronger, and equipped to continue their vocations. Their recovery touches families, parishioners, fellow clergy, and entire communities.

This is where the missions of the Knights of Columbus and Guest House come together: supporting those who have given their lives to the Church and helping them continue to say “yes” to their calling.

Guest House is grateful for the Knights' partnership and looks forward to expanding that shared mission in Michigan.

It strengthens the entire Church.



To learn more about Guest House or support our mission, visit GuestHouse.org or scan the QR code.

GuestHouse | **70 YEARS**
1956-2026
Care That Empowers Lasting Renewal

Guest House, Inc. | www.guesthouse.org | 1 (800) 626-6910
1601 Joslyn Road, Lake Orion, MI 48360



MICHIGAN COLUMBIAN AROUND THE STATE

St Catherine of Siena Council 6980



St Catherine of Siena Council 6980 in Portage held a Faith, Fellowship, and Fun event on June 23. 17 members and 4 possible new members enjoyed food, corn hole, watching the moon via a high powered telescope, and a couple of videos from "Into the Breach" series. It was our first time having this type of event but will not be the last.

Bishop Gallagher Council 2569



Bishop Gallagher Council 2569, Royal Oak, volunteered as bartenders at St Mary Royal Oak School Auction on Friday, May 1, at the Royal Oak Farmers Market. Last year the school raised more than \$100,000. This year they guess it could reach \$115,000. The council also helped by donating the \$532 that was received in tips at the bar.

Lake Orion Knights Celebrate Dads



The LO Knights held their annual Father's Day "Dads for Life" event this year by taking family photos of a number of parish families after masses at St Joseph Catholic Church in Lake Orion. The "Dads for Life" keepsake photos are intended to celebrate the importance of the father's role in the family, the church, & the community. The digital pictures are emailed to the families at no charge. As a side benefit, the Knights have also found this event to be a good recruiting opportunity for potential future Knights.

Allegan Council 2515

Allegan Council 2515 hosted the Order's Pilgrim Icon of the Sacred Heart of Jesus At Blessed Sacrament Church. More Than 200 people prayed before the image during the week, including after Masses and during periods of Eucharistic Adoration

St Paul of Tarsus Council #11689

The Council recently established a Catholic Schools Student Scholarship Program which is being funded through the sales of the Rosary Bracelet program.

Participants must be enrolled as student in a local Catholic school and a parishioner of St Paul of Tarsus Church.

The Council is pleased to announce that three \$1000 scholarships have been awarded in the first year of this three year program. The three awardees are all enrolled in local Catholic grade schools.

Seminarian Desert Trip".

Thank you St. Kieran Parish members for attending our Annual Desert Meal for the Seminarians that will be visiting Europe this coming year. There were approximately 100 people that enjoyed a "Homemade" pasta dinner prepared by members of Council #13983 after 4:00 Mass on Saturday February 28th. Donations of more than \$3,000.00 were made and forwarded to Sacred Heart Seminary to support Brendan Tabone, Christian Pulido, Nick Judge and Andrew Fiestra who told us of what inspired each of them to study and become a Priest. If you feel moved to assist their continued support, please place an envelope in the Sunday collection basket with notation "Seminarian Desert Trip".

Council 14642 Exempt Queen of Apostles



Front row: Sam Bonilla, Rich Kuszma, and Mike Francois. Duane Hausch is from 16223 St. Mary Magdalen, Kentwood.

Degree Team Members are (L to R): Scott Lenhart, Dick Olszewski, David Diegel, Scott Zakrajsek, Josh Terry, Bob Grove PGK, and Mike McClain PGK

Queen of Apostles Council 6548 Assist With Our Lady of The Lake Corpus Christi March



St Maximilian Kolbe Council 6549



Grand Knight Paul Sujdak from Council 6549, St Maximilian Kolbe, awarded Membership Director Anthony Coak a Shining Armor Award at the June meeting.

Anthony recruited 6 new members from the OCIA group as they completed all their requirements. His efforts helped the Council achieve Star.

John Cardinal Dearden Council 744



Rick Roberts, recorder of John Cardinal Dearden Council 744 in Mount Clem-

ens, Mich., presents a water-accessible wheelchair to St. Francis Camp on the Lake, a summer camp for people with disabilities, during the organization's fundraising dinner. The council donated an additional \$2,165 — funds from several council fundraisers. The council has supported the organization since 2006, with donations totaling more than \$20,000.

Au Lac Council Knights Perform Cemetery Work



A big thank you to the 8 brother Knights and 4 young volunteers for the work they did in the Immaculate Conception Parish cemeteries on July 10th! Your generous service to our parish and deceased members is truly a blessing. Lots of the work photos can be viewed on the Au lac Council 10724 Facebook page.

Global Meal Mission

Father Louis P. Gauthier Council 10170 in Burton, Mich., organized a food-packing event with Cross Catholic Outreach at Powers Catholic High School. About 70 people, including Knights from several councils in the area, helped pack 54,000 meals that will be sent to Guatemala.



104th Ultrasound Dedication— Positive Options, Allegan



The 104th dedication of an Ultrasound unit took place at Positive Options in Allegan on Friday, January 9, 2026. This significant event marked another step in continuing to provide access to defend life within the Allegan community.

The Ultrasound placement initiative was led by St. Catherine of Siena Council #6980, Portage; Grand Knight Joe Magalski. Their leadership was instrumental in bringing this project to fruition. Funds raised by St. Catherine of Siena council and two supporting councils totaled \$20,889. This collaborative effort ensured the successful placement of the Ultrasound unit at Positive Options.

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



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

Congratulations to members of St. Catherine of Siena Council #6980:

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

Other Supporting Councils Include:

Allegan Council #2515, Allegan; Grand Knight David Farris

St. Ann Council # 13633, Augusta; Grand Knight Lewis Bartlett

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

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:

William Corey, State Council Family Director, 23906 Edward St., Dearborn, MI 48128, w.corey@mikofc.org

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

Families of the Month**Monroe Council 1266**

Gary & Patricia Carter

William & Susan Clark

Portland Council 2168

Mark & Amy Pung

Standish Council 2724

George & Marlene Guano

Dennis & Rose Stawowy

Jim & Aggie Somerfield

Westphalia Council 2890

Andy & Gina Thelen

Scott & Kristy Simon

Randy & Amber Cusack

Michael & Donna Wirth

Utica Council 2950

Dan & Kris Weingartz

Mark & Joanne Weaver

Fremont Council 3111

Matt & Amy McKeown

Richard & Joan Kokx

Riverview Council 3615

Ryan & Rebeca Pitts

Tom & Pan Jackson, PGK

Allen Park Council 3774

Ronald & Faith Pelley-Strickland

Tim & Vicki Tom

Todd & Carolyn Banach

The Garden Crew - Heather Lalli

Faith Strickland Perry, Jennifer Siegel

John Sr. & John Jr. Ksiazek

Southgate Council 3956

Chirco family

Robert Bailey family

Davison Council 4090

Ted & Laurie Miles

Matthew & Jessica Foutch

New Baltimore Council 5981

Michael & Sharon Elay

Ortonville Council 6824

Cathy Genovese family

Carl & Melissa Szasz

Portage Council 6980

John & Kathy Byrnes

Mathew & Katie Montgomery

Tom & Lori Collins

Birch Run Council 7233

Norm & Joyce Rushton

Caledonia Council 7341

Bill & Ruth Swartz

Jeff & Dianne Hernandez

Jenison Council 7487

Ryan & Liz Levandoski

Thomas Healy family

Freeland Council 7582

Dave & Jane Roth

Andrew & Janet Alexander

Milan Council 7587

Earl & Valerie Wilson

Durand Council 7955

Mark & Marie Dyer

Louis Male family

Don & Jeannie Mellott

Ben & Jennifer Strong

Sanford Council 8043

Robert & Michelle McManis

Howell Council 8169

Mark & Kathy Horning

Auburn Hills Council 8659

Deacon David & Kelly Fleming

Mike & Barbara Zelinski

Montrose Council 8669

Gerry & Ann Kaczmarczyk

Steve & Angelic Yalda

Cass City Council 8892

Food Pantry Workers -

Barb & Kevin Godlewski

Liz Fritz

Temperance Council 8902

Mark & Brenda Vandergrift

Mason Council 9182

Chris & Mary Knudstrup

Maryville Council 9526

Joseph & Rebecca Vargo

Ira Township Council 10724

Cliff & Kathy Becker *cfy

Charles & Patricia Freese

Scott Schneider family

Kenneth & Regina Arant

Lansing Council 11099

Brian & Angela O'Neal

Christopher & Madeleine Veneklas

Clinton Twp. Council 11689

Phyllis Bengry family

Port Huron Council 11756

Tony & Marcia Paladino

Gary & Pat Isaacson

David & Mary Kelley, Sr.

Novi Council 11811

Tom & Cathy Herc

Gary & Patti Rose

Chuck & Robby Heil

Victor & Andrea Centeno

Steve & Stephanie Ernster

White Cloud Council 13939

Rick & Kim Heuvelman

Josh Frantz & Annie Trapp

Lake Odessa 14404

Brian & Katie Rademacher

Comstock Park council 15548

Bill & Marti Stachowiak

Mike & Peggy Marshall

Canton Council 16169

Ron & Charlene Krupitzer

Steve & Pam Sarlito

Faith in Action

medal or a St. Michael the Archangel challenge coin. Invite them to a reception or coffee and donuts after mass (great opportunity to make a joke about cops and their love for donuts).

Another opportunity for a "special Mass" is to host a White Mass, which brings medical professionals to your parish to receive a special blessing from your pastor. Faithful Catholic medical professionals are under constant pressure to conform their practice to the ways of the modern world. They need our prayers. Consider hosting a White Mass and offering support and encouragement to doctors, nurses and other people who work in medical environments.

Keep up the good work brothers. The world needs your leadership. God bless you, and Vivat Jesus!

Kevin Duffy, State Faith Director

Father Vincent Capodanno Assembly 3392

Knights from Father Vincent Capodanno Assembly 3392 in Waterford, present a \$5,000 check to Deidre Roy, manager at Fisher House Michigan, a home for families of patients at military and VA medical centers. The assembly has donated \$20,000 to the home since 2019.

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, 501 Georgetown Drive Apt. 17, Traverse City, MI 49684 *
cky - council knight of year , send a copy of the names to the Michigan Columbian.

Knights of the Month**Monroe Council 1266**

Rev. Michael Anagbogu
Todd Smith

Portland Council 2168

Peter Pline, Steve Goodman
Daniel Lawless

Royal Oak Council 2569

Daryl Wood

Howell Council 2659

Shaun Gibbons

Livonia Council 2690

Eric Mayernik, Ted Bilan

Standish Council 2724

Fr. Tom Held, Dennis Monsere

Westphalia Council 2890

Brent Pohl, Nick Martin
Jared Lewandowski, Scott Simon

Chesaning Council 2943

Maurice Wending, Joe Deitering

Utica Council 2950

John Gasowski, Don Heydens

Fremont Council 3111

Dave McCarty, Richard Smith

St. Johns Council 3281

Tom Wenzick, Mike Pline
Fr. Michael Williams

Riverview Council 3615

Doug Zakolski, Cass Gorkiewicz

Allen Park Council 3774

David Strzempka, John Dlugopolski
Dave Bosh, Nicholas Leja

Southgate Council 3956

Dave Kudla

Davison Council 4090

David Lane, Michael LaLonde

Wyoming Council 4362

Joe Arbanas

Gladwin Council 5280

Philip Baumann

Prudenville Council 6548

Phil Camilleri, Dino PePaolis
Tom Stefanek

Grand Blanc Council 6742

Phil Stadler

Ortonville Council 6824

Tony Banner, Jay Noonan

Portage Council 6980

Dominick DiCesare, Justin Stamm
Travis Bell

Sterling Heights Council 7011

Bob Pawlik, Eric Suchland

Birch Run Council 7233

Bob Trudell, John Pullis

Brighton Council 7304

Tom Vereecke, Mike Eldridge
Doug Hayes

Caledonia Council 7341

Tony Deller, Ray Alder

Fenton Council 7418

Tom Keskes

Jenison Council 7487

Steve Povenz

Freeland Council 7582

Steve Harrand, Frank Tomsich

Milan Council 7587

John Wayne

Hale Council 7623

Bernard Lorenz,

Durand Council 7955

Mark Dyer, Louis Male
Don Mellott, Ben Strong

Sanford Council 8043

Joe Lawson

Howell Council 8169

Roger Epp, Ron Hocking

Auburn Hills Council 8659

Dominic Caradonna, Karl Chase
Fr. Joseph Grimaldi

Montrose Council 8669

Paul Stroup, Ken Ellis

Cass City Council 8892

Jon Zdrojewski, Daryl Iwankovitsch
Kevin Kausch

Temperance Council 8902

Michael Precht

Mason Council 9182

Steve Green

Marysville Council 9526

Michael Howard

Ira Township Council 10724

Pat Bohr PGK, *cky
Matthew Kekel, John Los
David Szczepanski

Lansing Council 10907

Dan Jundt, Dan Kuch
Roger Hatfield, Joe Maurer
Tom Brandell

Lansing Council 11099

Jason Koenemann, Jonah Guetter

Temperance Council 11430

Kirk Shade

Harrison Twp. Council 11658

Christopher Chauvin, David Simcoke

Clinton Twp. Council 11689

George Delis, Rich Miller
Eugene Kapala, Mike Essad

Port Huron Council 11756

Frank Stein, Jeff Szostek
Shane Mars, Scott Schneider

Reed City Council 12668

Rev. Michael Anagbogu

West Bloomfield Council 12808

Steve Mattheny, Jim Cote
Jeffrey Johnson

White Lake Council 13319

Rob Pasquantonio, Dominic Federico
Charles Ciaramitaro

White Cloud Council 13939

Matt Bleiler, Man Dinh
Steve Bleiler

Traverse City Council 13958

Larry herman, David Jodway
Thomas Brown

New Buffalo Council 14366

Richard Wiet, Brian Allen
Ron Bradford,*cky

Lake Odessa 14404

Joe Coates

Comstock Park Council 15548

Jack Klein

Canton Council 16169

Jim Kullmann, Bruce Hyde

Seminarian Supper

Bishop Earl Boyea of Lansing (back left) and diocesan seminarians stand with Knights from **Bishop Joseph H. Albers Council 4090 in Davison, Mich.**, during the council's annual Seminarian Dinner at St. John the Evangelist Parish. The event raised \$72,500, enough for each of the diocese's 29 seminarians to receive a \$2,500 stipend. Since 1984, the event has raised more than \$578,000.

Au Lac Council 10724 Catholic Education Scholarship Essay Contest



Pictured L-R: Atticus Yaros; Grand Knight Mark Kehoe (holding the Justin Mello Memorial Award that Atticus and Elayna also won); and Elayna McDonald.

Congratulations to Atticus Yaros and Elayna McDonald, 8th grade graduates at Immaculate Conception School in Ira Township, for winning the Catholic Education Scholarship Essay Contest sponsored by Au Lac Council 10724! The essays were on the topic of "Why a Catholic High School Education is Important to Me." Atticus and Elayna will both receive a \$1000 scholarship towards their tuition at a Catholic high school this upcoming school year. Congratulations again to Atticus and Elayna!

St Catherine of Siena Council 6980

Over the last two years, St Catherine of Siena Council 6980 in Portage, MI has supported three people who have either gone on mission trips or will be going this summer. Our support includes both financial support and also spiritual support through prayers.



Lucy Backman went to Peru which was sponsored by Con-solatio



Erin Morgan will be going to Calcutta, India sponsored by Project Finding Calcutta



Bob Bundy (a council member) will be going to Guatemala in support of the Guatemala Relief and Compassion Effort (GRACE) Ministries

Father's Day Candy Sale

Au Lac Council 10724 held their annual Father's Day Candy Sale during the weekend of June 20 & 21. Members and other volunteers solicited donations after each Mass and handed out candy bars in appreciation. They collected over \$1000 which will be donated to Michigan RTL Lifespan to help them with their pro-life work.

Programs = New Members

St Paul of Tarsus Council #11689, Awards Ceremony

The St. Paul Of Tarsus Council recently held its Fraternal Year end meeting with a pot luck dinner and Awards Ceremony. Special Recognition Awards;

The Family of the Year was presented to Jeff and Christine Gapczynski.

The Knight of the Year was presented to Gino Gattari
Lifetime Achievement Awards:

These four Knights have a total of 149 years of service in the Knights of Columbus:

Dave Wisneski -50years PGK, DPJK, Advocate ,Trustee
Rob Tusset - 54 years Recorder, KC Teddy Bear Program Manager
Joe Phillips- 30 years Knights Wear manager, 4th Degree Knight
Mike Hartel- 15 years PGK, DPGK trustee, recorder, Program Director

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Scouting Award



In March, three Boy Scouts from Scout Troop 326 received the prestigious Ad Altare Dei award. The troop is supported by the St Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Knights of Columbus and three members of the council helped mentor the boys through the Ad Altare Dei program. The purpose of the Ad Altare Dei (to the altar of God) program is to help Catholic Scouts develop a fully Christian way of life in the faith community. The program is a study of the seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church. 2026 is the 100th anniversary of this award.

Congratulations to these fine young men!

Keep Christ in Christmas



A Family Friendly, Parish Centered
Fundraising idea for Knights of
Columbus Councils. Administered
by Bishop Albers Assembly 0496 of
Lansing Michigan.




Easy to Set Up - Affordable to Do
Go to: <https://kcicmichigan.org>

**Knights of Columbus
Memorial Plaque Application 2026**

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

APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OCTOBER 16, 2026



PLEASE ALLOW FOR US POST OFFICE TIME, MAIL EARLY

K of C Memorial Mass at Sacred Heart Major Seminary

Sunday November 8, 2026 @ 10:00 am

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

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

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

In Memory of _____	Date of death _____
Gift of \$ _____	Requested By _____
Street: _____	Telephone _____
City: _____	State _____ Zip Code _____
Email Address: _____	
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: DAVL	
MAIL TO: Michael Cousins DavL Memorial Mass Chairman 30001 Camden Circle Chesterfield, MI 48051	

Applicants will be contacted for multiple line engraving information

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

Applications available at: [MikofC.org/resources/manuals and documentation/Council Materials](http://MikofC.org/resources/manuals%20and%20documentation/Council%20Materials)

In the Michigan Columbian or

Contact: Mike Cousins at m.cousins@mikofc.org 586-610-6497

Sponsored by the Detroit Archdiocesan Vocations League.

DAVL Memorial Plaque Samples

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

Vincent R. Beauvais 2-18-2024

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

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

Sample Four line names:

A:

Rev. James L. Bjorum 10/30/1947 to 10/23/23

Rest in Peace Fr. Jim

Devoted to those he served, Chaplain K of C 3725

Faithful Servant of God, Pastor Our Lady of Hope

B:

Chuck Hoste 7-19-2024

Loved by all

Friend to many

Loving Husband, Father Grandfather

C:

In Loving Memory of

Michael J. Mullan 5-7-2023

Son of Jeremiah and Eileen Mullan

Brother to John, Patricia, Dennis



**Join
The Guild
Now!**



Are you ready for some Football?

The Michigan Knights of Columbus has a long history of supporting the youth in our state. Consider coming down to Ford field on

October 24, 2026

Lets fill the stadium for a day of football.

Order your tickets now:

Contact Mike Kozakiewicz

313.779.1348



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

100 YEARS
1926-2026

A CENTURY OF FAITH, EXCELLENCE & CHAMPIONS

PREP BOWL

LIV

— SATURDAY —

OCTOBER 24, 2026

— FORD FIELD —

2000 BRUSH STREET • DETROIT, MI 48226

★ ADMISSION ★

\$10.00



SPONSORED BY

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**FAITH+
IN ACTION**

Programs = New Members

Council #13432 St. Patrick's, Traverse City & St. Mary's,

Council #13432 St. Patrick's, Traverse City & St. Mary's, Hannah, stayed actively engaged throughout winter and in-to spring. In late January, our Council collected over 936 (St. Mary's) and 2,513 (St. Patrick's) pounds of food, respectively, for its

annual "Fill The Bags, So We Can Fill The Pantry" drive. 2026 marks the largest volume of items collected in 6-years at St. Patrick's!! Since 2010, our Council has collected nearly 22 tons of food and other necessities to be distributed as an outreach of our Catholic faith in the local community. As presented in the April Columbian, in February, we held our biennial, Wild Game Dinner & Sportsman Raffle. In March, we gathered for a week-end KofC Tootsie



Roll charity drive. We are indebted to Tom's, Interlochen, and Family Fare, Chum's Corners, for allowing us a table inside their stores and break from the weather. In mid-April, Council brothers supported 2 township locations near Kingsley for its semi-annual scrap metal cleanup collection. After separating copper and aluminum, we collected enough ferrous material to fill a 75-cubic yard roll-off and routed all material to a local recycling facility for charitable cash.

Irish Hills Council 6223

On Sunday, July 12th, approximately 50 Knights and a couple hundred parishioners gathered, at the St Joseph Shrine Parish Family Center, to wish Deacon Gene Hausmann well in his retirement. Deacon Gene is a past Grand Knight of Irish Hills Council 6223 in the beautiful Irish Hills near Brooklyn.

Corporate Communion - Councils 10724 & 5981

Members and their families from Au Lac Council 10724 and Anchor Bay Council 5981 attended the Corporate Communion Mass on May 31 at Immaculate Conception Church in Ira Township. Members of the K of C Color Guard members were also present at Mass. Approximately 80 people attended Mass to pray for the deceased members of both councils. Afterwards they enjoyed a social gathering in the parish hall. It was a beautiful celebration on a beautiful day!

**St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319
Breakfast for Bishop and Deacons**

On April 19th, the St Patrick Knights of Columbus Council #13319 provided a breakfast after the 10:00 a.m. mass. At this mass, Bishop Monforton performed the Rite of Institution of Lector for six diaconate candidates, which included a blessing for the candidates. These six men are in formation to become permanent deacons in the Archdiocese of Detroit. The breakfast was well attended.



**Join
The Guild
Now!**

**May They Rest In Peace****Algonac Council 856**

Patrick Lomasney

Kalamazoo Council 1616

Robert Johnson

Greenville Council 2084

Bernie Korson

St. Clair Shores Council 2733

Kevin McKay, GK

Gaylord Council 2781

Joe Makarewicz

Westphalia Council 2890

Elvan Pohl

Harper Woods Council 3160

Joseph Preczewski

St. Johns Council 3281

Ed Chope

Allen Park Council 3774

Timothy Rozanski, Ron Knuth

Patrick Cassette

Leo Tamoshunas

Davison Council 4090

George Dann, FVSM, PSD

Anchor Bay Council 5981

Kenneth Krause FDD, PGK

Grand Blanc Council 6742

Peter Sardo

Harrison Council 7571

Fred Bruckner P.G.K.

Sanford Council 8043

Joe Garner

Shelby Twp. Council 11957

Fr. Thomas Sutherland

Clinton Twp. Council 11689

Michael O'Donnell

Sterling Hgts. Council 13340

Phillip Analil, Robert Brent

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Men's Retreat



In early May, the St. Patrick Knights of Columbus Council #13319 sponsored a retreat for the men of St. Patrick Parish at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center in Detroit. The theme of the retreat was "Navigating Turbulent Waters" (and how the Holy Spirit is always next to you in order to support you no matter what is going on). Men from five different parishes were in attendance. Pictured are the men from St Patrick in White Lake. This retreat is always beneficial to those that attend as evidenced by the number of people attending this year that have also attended in the past. It is great to be able to get away from all the noise of daily life and spend time on quiet prayer and reflection.

Council 6980 Kentucky Derby Dinner and Dance



St Catherine of Siena Council 6980 in Portage, MI held its fourth annual Kentucky Dinner and Dance on May 2. It was a very successful event and everyone had a great

time. It raised over \$7,200 which will be used to support local charities such as the Kalamazoo Diocese Catholic Charities Bread of Life, Caring Network, and Ark Shelter. The event included watching the race, a catered dinner, DJ Music, Silent Auction, 50/50 raffle, best hat contest, and pick-a-pony contest.

Au Lac Council 10724 Ramp Project



Members of Au Lac Council 10724 in Ira Township recently built a ramp to assist a person in need. Nine brother Knights worked a total of 54 hours on June 12 to complete the work. Thank you brothers for your

generous service! More photos are available for viewing on our Au Lac Council Facebook page.

Online Membership



A Program for Recruiting and Engaging New Members



Knights of Columbus

MICHIGAN STATE COUNCIL CONTACTS

These directors can provide additional information about E-membership:

Martin Brown, State Membership Director m.brown@mikofc.org 616.560.0479

Douglas Kokot, State "E" Membership Director d.kokot@mikofc.org 616.634.2400



State Deputy Joins the Lake Orion Knights' Summer Picnic



GK Al Hassinger (left) greets State Deputy Charlie McCuen

The Lake Orion K of C Council 4764 held their annual summer picnic at Camp Agawam. The beautiful August weather welcomed an impressive turnout including State Deputy Charlie McCuen as well as Fr Jim Kean of St Joseph Parish in Lake Orion. The afternoon was a great display of Knight "Fraternity" at its finest (with a heavy dose of grilled hamburgers, brats, & hot dogs).

LO Knights Support St Joseph Catholic School 75th Anniversary



The Lake Orion K of C Council 4764 made a \$5,000 donation to support year-long 75th anniversary festivities at St Joseph Parish Catholic School (Lake Orion). The Council's Diamond Sponsorship will help cover the cost of the many events

(Legacy Gala, Anniversary Celebration Weekend, monthly era reunions, etc) surrounding the school's milestone anniversary.

Au Lac Council 10724 Youth of the Month - July 2026

Pictured L-R: DGK/PD Brian Webster; Teddy Wade; Fr. Joseph Esper, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish

Congratulations to Teddy Wade on being named our Au Lac Council Youth of the Month for July! Teddy is the son of Brandon and Dani Wade and is a 5th grade student at Immaculate Conception School where he is on the Principal's List for academics, a member of the cross country and track teams and a participant in the new archery program at IC.

Teddy is a Cub Scout with the local Pack 211 and participated in the Scouting for Food program last fall. He attends Mass each week with his family, is a frequent altar server and he volunteers at the Lenten Fish Fry.

We thank Teddy for sharing his faith through service to his school, parish and community!

Pictured L-R: DGK/PD Brian Webster; Teddy Wade; Fr. Joseph Esper, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish

Christopher Marsh's Amazing Journey to Becoming a Knight

Christopher Marsh has had an amazing year so far. After completing the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults during Lent, he became a Catholic at the Easter Vigil Mass at St Catherine of Siena Church in Portage, MI. On May 29, after many years of heart issues, he successfully underwent heart transplant surgery at Corewell Health Hospital in Grand Rapids, MI. Just seven weeks later, on July 19, he went through the Knights of Columbus Exemplification Ceremony and is now a proud member of St Catherine of Siena Council 6980 in Portage, MI.

Church Repair Work - Au Lac Council 10724

Members of Au Lac Council 10724 made repairs to several windows at Immaculate Conception Church in Ira Township during April. In addition they repaired and painted the restroom and foyer at the church entrance. Approximately \$3200 was donated along with 180 volunteer

hours over a two week period. Photos of the work can be viewed on their Au Lac Council 10724 Facebook page.

Programs = New Members**St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Right to Life Fundraiser**

On April 18th, the St Patrick Knights of Columbus Council #13319, in conjunction with the St Patrick Columbiettes, supported the Lakes Area Right to Life at their 13th annual spaghetti dinner at St. Patrick Parish in White Lake. Over 300 people were in attendance. In addition to tickets for a great meal, there was a silent auction and raffles that raised \$13,000 for this worthy fundraiser. A good time was had by all. We would like to thank the many people that helped to make this event a success.

Saint Francis on the Lake Camp

On the left is a picture of the wheelchair in use by one of the campers at Saint Francis on the Lake Camp in Jackson MI. The chair was donated to the Camp by Council 744 at a Charity function for the Camp.

The wheelchair is high tech with plastic wheels that allow the chair to be

wheeled out on the sand and into the water, where the armrest act as inflatables to keep the camper above water.

Lake Orion Knights of Columbus Award \$6,000 in Scholarships

The Lake Orion Knights of Columbus Council 4764 recently awarded four \$1,500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors from the class of 2026. Two scholarship winners (Addison Rybak & Maddox LaMothe) are members of St Joseph Catholic Church (Lake Orion) while the other two (Luke Diliberti & Jack Leuchtmann) are members of Christ The Redeemer Catholic Church (Lake Orion). All 4 scholarship winners scored well in multiple areas including writing skill, community service, leadership, & academic performance. Congratulations to the scholarship recipients!



**Join
The Guild
Now!**



The Knights of St. Nicholas Council Host "The Drive to Save Lives" Raffle Event

Sterling Heights, MI -- Recently it became apparent to the Knights of the St. Nicholas Council, #7011 that, despite the long relationship between the Ss. Cyril & Methodius parish in Sterling Heights and the St. Nicholas Council, many parishioners knew very little about the Council's specific programs and charitable activities. After all, if you do not proclaim good deeds on occasion, people might forget what good deeds you do. And it occurred to the Knights that such a lapse could obstruct efforts for fundraising, member recruiting and developing goodwill and cooperative relationships within the parish and community.

To address this awareness gap, the St. Nicholas Council threw a party and invited everyone. To make the invitation more attractive, they created an incentive to attend -- a raffle to win a top of-the-line electric bike, complete with a package of customizing accessories. The theme of the raffle was "The Drive to Save Lives." On the day of the party, as part of the agenda, the Knights asked everyone two questions, and then answered them, along with examples.

Question #1: Has Anyone Ever Told You About the Benefits of Membership in the K of C? Question #2: Has Anyone Ever Told You About the Activities of the K of C? To answer the first question, the Knights briefly talked about K of C insurance, the brotherhood of Knights and the material and spiritual benefits only available to member Knights and their families.

To answer the second question the Knights gave a visual presentation for all to see the extensive charitable work of the Order, including a host of practical current examples. Checks were awarded, first to the parish in support of the facility and its programs, next to its Rosary Society (now over one hundred years old), which is tire-

less in providing much-needed vessels, vestments, and furnishings for the Church. Following that, the St. Nicholas Council gifted the youth groups of the parish, money for programs and trips. The boys (Trail Life) and girls (American Heritage) depend on annual donations to continue their programs of development for the youth of the parish. Then, the Council announced a donation to Sacred Heart Major Seminary in the Archdiocese of Detroit in support of the seminarians who are attached to the Council. Last, cash awards were given to representatives from five local Macomb County schools that serve mentally challenged children in the community; the result of the Council's MI efforts in conjunction with the Michigan State Knights of Columbus Council.

Finally, after serving food and refreshments to the attendees, the Grand Knight, Joseph White and Financial Secretary, Eric Suchland, called Fr. Juraj Nuota, the associate pastor of Ss. Cyril & Methodius, to the front of the hall to draw the winning ticket for the e-bike. One of the young people who is a member of the Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church community won the prize. At that time it was announced that all of the proceeds from the drawing were donated to a favorite charity of the Council, the Friends of the Congo, Inc.; (www.congowomensclinic.org), which assists a pair of priests of the Democratic Republic of Congo and their mission to build a maternity clinic in the back country of Congo, far from the major hospitals.

Based on the universally positive feedback from the parishioners of Ss. Cyril & Methodius, the Knights of the St. Nicholas Council, #7011, have pledged to make the raffle and presentation an annual event, with a rotation of favored charities as recipients.

MICHIGAN COLUMBIAN PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

COPY DEADLINE	MONTH
MARCH 1st.....	APRIL 2027
JUNE 1st.....	JULY 2027
SEPTEMBER 1st.....	OCTOBER 2027
DECEMBER 1st.....	JANUARY 2027

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

Inclusive Education



Grand Knight Bruce Trudgeon (left) and George Eichorn of Warren (Mich.) Council 7340 present

staff members at Regina Catholic High School with a check for more than \$300 from the council's annual fund drive for people with disabilities. The council donated a matching amount to Kevin Bovenschen School to support students with intellectual disabilities.

St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 – Parish Picnic



On Sunday, August 23rd, St. Patrick White Lake Council 13319 Knights of Columbus assisted with the St. Patrick annual parish picnic. The St. Patrick Columbiettes Auxiliary 13319 was also significantly involved. This year's picnic was a celebration of the 60th anniversary of our house of worship. Archbishop Edward Weisenburger celebrated Mass in the church prior to the picnic.

A lot of effort went into putting on this event. In addition to distributing soft drinks, water and snacks, our Knights were the crew that set up and took down the tents as well as the tables and chairs, among other things. There was a great turnout, and everyone enjoyed some good food and a beautiful day celebrating our parish.

Legacy of Care

Queen of Apostle Council 6548 in Houghton Lake, Mich., raised more than \$3,600 during its annual fund drive for people with disabilities. The money was distributed evenly between Special Olympics Michigan and C.O.O.R. Intermediate School District.



St. Louis Center

A Season of Golf and Gratitude

Greetings in the Name of the Lord, Brother Knights!

This has been an exciting season of growth and opportunity at St. Louis Center, and I am especially grateful for the continued support of the Michigan Knights of Columbus.

This year, your generosity has touched our community in many ways. Thank you to everyone who supported our Golf and Glory Outing and Memorial Golf Outing. This year's Memorial Golf Outing was especially meaningful. We honored the memory of Lady Ellie Unterbrink, late wife of Past State Deputy Ken Unterbrink.



Ken Unterbrink and Paul Dobrowski of the Saline Council #6674.

Thank you also to the many Councils that have shared proceeds from their Tootsie Roll drives. These gifts do more than provide financial support—they help us create meaningful opportunities for the residents we serve.

We are especially excited to share that St. Louis Center has been awarded a \$2 million allocation from the State of Michigan to help renovate and expand space for our Nursing & Memory Care Center. We are deeply grateful to State Representative Kathy Schmaltz for her leadership in helping secure this important investment. This new space will allow us to expand opportunities for residents to develop skills, build confidence, and participate more fully in their community.

The Knights of Columbus have been faithful partners in our mission for many years. Thank you for standing with St. Louis Center and for believing in the dignity, abilities, and potential of every person we serve.

God Bless you,

Fr. Satheesh

Fr. Satheesh Alphonse, SdC

MEET THE RESIDENTS

Kevin M



When he was a boy, Kevin had a good friend with I/DD who lived in their neighborhood. The boy's mother told Kevin's mom, Linda, about the school he was attending and how happy they were with it. That school was St. Louis Center. Kevin became a student there, too, and enjoyed the Center all those years ago.

"St. Louis Center was there for me at the right time. Kevin was ready for it. He had been lonely since his siblings entered high school and were busy with their own lives," Linda said.

When he aged out of school, Linda placed Kevin in various homes that proved to be only semi-permanent solutions. After the group home where he had been living closed, it was necessary to find a permanent home for Kevin.

Since Linda knew the great care that St. Louis Center provided, she decided to look into the living options offered. St. Joseph Hall was a perfect fit for Kevin and he moved in on April 27, 2021. Kevin is very happy to be back at the Center and even more excited that the Center's Social Services Department helped him to find a job at a Marco's Pizza in nearby Grass Lake.

ST LOUIS CENTER
11TH ANNUAL

Trunk OR Treat

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 21

SPONSOR HERE

GAMES, HAUNTED HOUSE, COSTUME CONTEST, TRICK OR TREATING AND MORE!

He numbers the Stars

AND GIVES TO ALL OF THEM THEIR NAMES
PSALM 136

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
39TH ANNUAL FALL DINNER AUCTION

November 14, 2026



St. Louis Center

Upcoming Events

LAST CHANCE TO JOIN DREAM TOUR IV

Portugal - Spain - Morocco - France

Main Trip: April 7 - 18, 2027

Optional Post Trip: April 18-23, 2027

Cabins are filling fast for Dream Tour IV, and with only a few remaining, this is truly the last chance to reserve your spot alongside fellow friends and supporters of St. Louis Center.



The main trip runs April 7-18, 2027, opening with two nights in Portugal before you set sail for a seven-night voyage aboard the intimate, 690-guest Azamara Journey through Spain and Morocco,

with daily Mass and spiritual guidance from Fr. Satheesh, an optional Fatima pilgrimage, three nights in Seville with a private group full day tour, including the Royal Alcazar and Gothic cathedral, an evening of Flamenco, followed by a fascinating private group tour of Tangier's Kasbah and Medina in Morocco. For those who want to extend their pilgrimage, an optional post-trip from April 18-23 carries you to Paris for Mass at the Miraculous Medal Chapel, a visit to the newly restored Notre Dame, sightseeing at Montmartre, the Eiffel Tower, and the Arc de Triomphe, and an elegant dinner cruise on the Seine, before a high-speed train to Lourdes for Mass at the Sanctuary, the Grotto of Massabielle, the healing baths, and evening candlelight procession.

The land and sea Main Trip starts at just \$5,549 per person double occupancy. This is more than a vacation — it's a chance to deepen your faith, see the world, and support the mission of St. Louis Center alongside people who share your values.

For details or registration, visit: stlouiscenter.org/event/dream-tour-iv/

Contact Trish Eblin TODAY at teblin@cruiseplanners.com or 734-715-9615 before the remaining cabins are gone.



UPCOMING EVENTS



The Barn Run

Join us for The Barn Run debut benefiting St. Louis Center.

Date: Sunday, October 18, 2026 at 11:00am

Place: The Barn, Williamston MI

Details: stlouiscenter.org/event/the-barn-run/

Guanellian Mass

The Servants of Charity invite you to celebrate their Founder's feast day and the 50th Anniversary of Fr. Enzo Addari's ordination.

Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2026 - 11am

Place: St. Louis Center, Chelsea MI

Mass will begin at 11am. A luncheon will follow.

Trunk or Treat

Decorate your trunk, wear your scariest costume, collect candy, and enjoy a community dinner, and haunted house! The event is free and open to the public.

Date: Wednesday, October 21, 2026 - 5-7pm

Place: St. Louis Center, Chelsea MI

Details: stlouiscenter.org/event/trunk-or-treat/

Fall Dinner Auction

Don't miss the 39th Annual Fall Dinner Auction, the unofficial kick-off of the holiday season. Enjoy great food, friendship, and the opportunity to take home some exciting items. All proceeds benefit St. Louis Center residents.

Date: Saturday, November 14, 2026 - 6pm

Place: St. Mary Catholic Church, Chelsea MI

Details: stlouiscenter.org/event/fall-dinner-auction/

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



Connect With Us

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





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.

Charles & Pamela McCuen, III
State Deputy

Fr. Andrew LaFramboise
State Chaplain

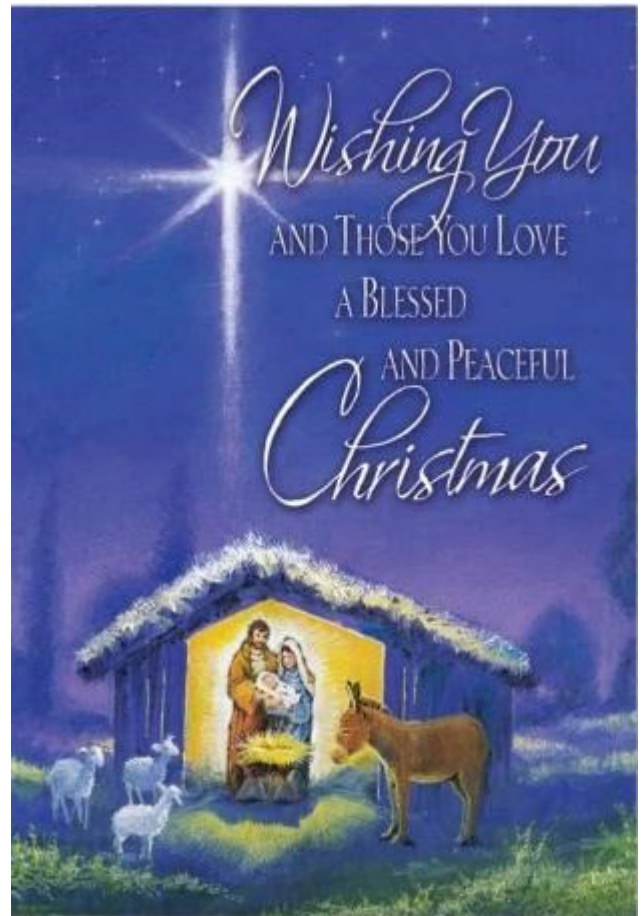
Vern & Christy Miron
State Secretary

Daniel & Kara Fuller, Jr.
State Treasurer

Joel & JanMarie Kendzorski
State Advocate

Dean & Jody Hayward
State Warden

Barry & Mandy Borsenik
Immediate Past State Deputy



Charles & Pamela McCuen, III
State Deputy

Fr. Andrew LaFramboise
State Chaplain

Vern & Christy Miron
State Secretary

Daniel & Kara Fuller, Jr.
State Treasurer

Joel & JanMarie Kendzorski
State Advocate

Dean & Jody Hayward
State Warden

Barry & Mandy Borsenik
Immediate Past State Deputy