

# St. Lawrence Council 2950 Knight Life



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#### **Grand Knights Report**

Brother Knights, ladies and families – our winter season has fully arrived. I am writing this article and just noticed the outside temperature is 12°F. We are lucky to have our Council gearing up for a lot of activities, presenting a lot of opportunities for charity and fraternity. I hope you all will take advantage of these different activities.

Our Council is grateful for the Brother Knights that once again worked the Charity Poker nights. This is a significant fundraiser amid the general lack of our own internal fundraisers. Thanks to Don Heydens for coordinating these nights.

Thanks to PGK Jason Meyers for promoting this year's Novena for Life, helping to lead our community in the spiritual fight to establish a culture of life. With our families, we come together in both public and private acts of prayer to promote the protection of life.

School Open House Membership Drive and Catholic Tuition Scholarships – Thanks to Jim Adams for arranging the Council's presence at the St. Lawrence School open house. We're taking this opportunity to reach out to school fathers and families to get involved with our Council. Also, please see the article in this newsletter regarding tuition scholarship opportunities for our current Brothers whose children attend St. Lawrence School.

Knights Picnic Grounds Repair Projects – Brothers Dale and Scott have coordinated on several upcoming projects scheduled in March at the Picnic Grounds that need to be done before the new season opens. Please see the article in this newsletter to learn more about it and signup for helping.

Lent Reflection Morning – Our Council is sponsoring a parish reflection opportunity on March 19 at St. Lawrence Church. This Faith in Action inspired event is for our Council, families and the Parish. We are looking for a great turnout.

Please see the related article for more information and how to sign up.

St. Joseph Traveling Icon — Our chaplain Fr. Roman will lead a prayer service on Sunday March 20 at St. Lawrence Parish, recognizing St. Joseph. More details will be coming in the next few weeks.

Pheasant Hunt – the annual Pheasant Hunt is on Sunday March 20 in Ubly, MI at the Rooster Ranch. Brother Kim is again chairing this event. Please pass the word to your family and friends and help make this event another success!

Capuchin Soup Kitchen – Brother Jim Demaestri is organizing a charity date to help serve the poor on March 26. Please see the article in this Knight Life and call Jim to help out.

Another Faith in Action initiative is to promote attendance for Good Friday, this year on April 15. Please don't think it is too soon to start planning this but more importantly, remind others of the wonderful Good Friday service. We as Knights can bring families into a more robust practice and better understanding of our Catholic faith and the Triduum. By making small reminders, we help to increase parish attendance and involvement which in turn educates families on the vital importance of Good Friday.



Thanks,

Joe Lograsso, Grand Knight



#### **Youth Essay Contest Winner**

St. Lawrence parishioner Leah Raymond submitted and won the Council level essay contest. Her essay has been entered into the next level of competition. Leah is a senior at the International Academy and is a member of our Council's Youth Leadership Team.

In an essay of 500-750 words, describe everyday obstacles that you may have experienced or witnessed others experiencing while living a life of authentic faith. Explain how you have overcome these obstacles and how, by doing so, it has helped your faith to continue to grow.

"I hope you know what that school is like," they said. "Your faith will be tested," they said. My faith? Nonsense. I knew my faith well, knew in Whom I believed, and wasn't about to let a bunch of high schoolers change that. So, I walked in the doors that first day and was met with a lovely community: welcoming, kind, hardworking, eager to learn. But they weren't a God-worshipping community. Money came before faith, success came before family, oneself came before others. They worshipped, alright, but they worshipped possessions and grades. Admitting you listened to Hillsong was met with a smirk, and saying you attended Mass every Sunday elicited a very genuine "but why?" ... and I learned that the hard way. Your faith will be tested, they said. Yes, that apparently applied to my faith, too.

I didn't expect the first notable complication to be a teacher of mine. It was the world religions unit, and we were studying the Last Supper. "In some Christian denominations, they believe that the bread and wine are actually Jesus – that the priest can magically turn it into His body and blood." The class nodded numbly. *Magic? Did my teacher just call it magic??* I turned to another student at my table – I knew he was Catholic, he would understand – "did he just call it magic??" He shrugged... he didn't care. I wanted to raise my hand... but I was too scared. I left the class that day fuming, contemplating the "magic" that was the Eucharist. "Magic" indeed.

The thought didn't leave my head, so that evening I wrote an email to my teacher expressing, in summary, why he could not refer to the great mystery of the Eucharist as "magic." Pulling from the Bible, the Catechism, and the writings of St. John Chrysostom, I crafted a small essay detailing the mystery of transubstantiation and consecration, and why it is logically impossible for consecration to be "magic" as we know it. Looking back now, of course, I can grimace at the passionate writings of a freshman in high school, but there is an undoubtable certainty that it helped me grow my faith in a few ways, starting that night. I have been raised on 1 Timothy 4:12: "do not let anyone look down on you because you are young, but be an example for the believers," and as I did the necessary research that evening, learning even more about my own faith as I did, I kept that verse in mind as motivation to complete the task at hand.

Walking into school the next morning, I wasn't sure what was in store for me, but I learned two valuable things: first, writing to a teacher to correct a mistake that is important to you is worth it because they will reteach that aspect of the lesson with more clarity; and second, having the courage to respectfully challenge someone will lead to them holding greater respect for you – starting that morning and to this day, that teacher and I have fostered an amazing relationship. But while it was excellent that I learned a few things about advocacy, I also learned a few things about my personal relationship with religion. This entire series of events led me to a much deeper understanding of the merit of standing up for my faith – in a school that lacked a faith compass, clarifying the lesson for even 30 students was the least I could do. Additionally, it taught me a lot about having trust in the Holy Spirit to give me the fortitude I needed to stand up for my religion.

This trust in the Holy Spirit has subsequently followed me throughout the rest of my high school life, especially as my Catholic-rooted values regularly clash with those of my peers. The constant secular values that my peers throw at me have been a very valuable lesson in being Christ-like as I try to imitate the love and joy of Christ in my day-to-day life. I remember a particular moment with an acquaintance; "why are you always so... happy?" she asked. "Oh, why thank you," I responded, "but I couldn't really tell you – perhaps I just have a lot to be happy about?" "You know," she looked at me. "You go to church every Sunday – you have God. I haven't had God in years. You've shown me that I need God, too."

Jesus' love had shown through me – God is so good.

### ST. LAWRENCE COUNCIL 2950 Meetings – 2<sup>nd</sup> and last Thursday of each month

| COUNCIL OFFICERS                               |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| ChaplainFather Roman Pasieczny                 |                       |
| District Deputy                                | Michael Cousins       |
| Grand Knight                                   | Joseph Lograsso       |
| Deputy Grand Knight                            | Dale Niedzwiecki      |
| Warden   | John Gasowski         |
| Chancellor                                     | Harry Kuk             |
| TrusteeRick Similuk, Scott Morgan, Kim Wiegand |                       |
| RecorderAnthony Quagliato                      |                       |
| Treasurer                                      | Don Heydens           |
| Advocate                                       | Jim Bokshan           |
| Financial Secretary                            | Paul Burmeister       |
| Lecturer                                       | Bob Walz              |
| Inside Guard                                   | Carlos Pertusi        |
| Outside Guar                                   | ,                     |
| Round Table Coordinator                        | Ed Braet              |
| DIRECTORS                                      |                       |
| Program Director                               | •                     |
| Faith Director                                 |                       |
| Membership Director                            | ·                     |
| Church Activities Director                     |                       |
| Health Service Director                        | -                     |
| Public Relations Directorxxxxxxxxxxx           |                       |
| Youth Activities Director                      | •                     |
| Family Life Director                           |                       |
| Community Activities DirectorJim Demaestri     |                       |
| CHAIRMAN                                       |                       |
| Knight Life Editor                             |                       |
| Degree Master                                  | •                     |
| M/I DrivePaul Burmeister, Joe Lograsso,        |                       |
| Dan Weingartz, George Wiegand                  |                       |
| Vocations                                      |                       |
| Holy Cross Services                            |                       |
| Eyes for the NeedyFrank Singer                 |                       |
| Pro-Life                                       | Inris and Sharon Gill |

#### **Knights of Columbus Insurance Field Agent**

Dale G. Jacks 586-419-0276 dale.jacks@kofc.org Knights of Columbus 46355 Rockford Drive

Shelby Township, MI 48315

Prayer List

### Our prayers are required for the Brother Knights And family members who are sick and recovering:

Rene Battani Della Mulka Linda Nardecchia Linda Braet Marie Brohl Carol Poma David Deradorian Jr. Levi Rencontre Judy Forgeta Paul Rybicki Mike Hoste Bill Schulte Darlene Judge Joan Shekoski Ray Keller Frank Singer Larry Kierzek Megan Singer Wenzel Koch Stan Singer Jim Langeveld **Ashley Steggall** Stephanie Langeveld Sue Stepniak Marion Lelito **Ron Ternes** Rick Lumetta Richard Wancour Rick Montone **David Wiegand** Lori Morgan

#### **February Council Meeting**

The February General Membership Meeting will be held on February 10th at the Parish social hall with the rosary starting at 6:30pm.

#### **Knights Corporation Meetings**

The Knights Corporation meetings are scheduled on the first Monday of each Month at 7:00 -9:30pm. The meetings will be held at St. Matthias Church. The church is located at 12311 19 Mile Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48313.

#### **March Knight Life**

- All articles that are requested to be in the March Knight Life need to be turned in to the editor no later than March 24, 2022.
- There is available space for any businesses that want to advertise in the Knight Life please contact the editor.

Editor: Paul Burmeister

Email: pburmeister16@gmail.com

#### **Knight of the Month**

The Knight of the Month for February is Gary Lusk. He and his wife Diane have been married for 31 years and reside in Sterling Heights.

Gary belongs to St. Lawrence Parish where he is an usher, works on the MCREST program and the Apple Festival.

Gary has been a Knight for thirteen years and is currently our Membership Director and works at our Texas Holdem events.

In his spare time, he likes to watch movies, eat out and play games.

Congratulations for being chosen Knight of the Month by your Brother Knights.

#### Thank You to The Texas Holdem Team

I would like to thank all the Brother Knights who came out the week of January 5-8, 2022. It was through your efforts and support the Council was able to realize a profit of over \$3,500. This money will be used to support various Council charities.

Our next event is scheduled for April 6-9, 2022 at 5 Star Bowling Lanes located at 2666 Metro Parkway in Sterling Heights. Please contact me if you are interested is working this event.

Don Heydens dheydens@gmail.com

#### **Council Activities Schedule**

**Feb 7** – Building Corp. Meeting 7:00pm at St. Matthias

Feb 10 - General Membership Meeting

Feb 24 - Council Officers Planning Meeting

Feb 13,14 – Annual Mid-Winter Getaway Bus Trip (Cancelled Due to Covid Precautions)

Mar 19 – Lenten Morning of Reflection (see KL article)

Mar 20 - St. Joseph Traveling Icon

Mar 20 – Annual Pheasant Hunt

Mar 26 – Capuchin Soup Kitchen (see KL article)

#### **Family of the Month**

The family of the month for February is Warren and Paulette Sawdon. Warren and Paulette have resided in Chesterfield for 32 years and belong to St. Mary's Queen of Creation Church in New Baltimore.

Warren and Paulette have been married 45 years and have three girls and 10 grandchildren.

Paulette is a former religious education teacher at their parish. Paulette retired in 2014. Warren has recently retired after forty-eight years as a toolmaker and EDM machinist.

Warren has been a Knight for forty years and is an Honorary Knight. He has held offices of Recorder, Grand Knight and is currently the Knights Corp. Treasurer. He is also a Fourth-Degree member where he held positions as Scribe, Captain and Faithful Navigator.

Chairmanships held include: Vegas Co-Chair, Bingo Chairman and is currently the Holy Cross Children Calendar Raffle Chairman, member of the Brisket Bunch and runs the children's Christmas party along with Paulette.

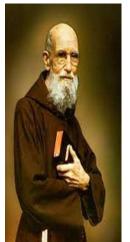
In their spare time Warren and Paulette enjoy camping, spending time with their kids, grandkids and playing with their three little dogs.

Congratulations for being chosen Family of the Month for the month of February by your Brother Knights.

## The Many Miracles of Solanus Casey

## Michigan COVID-19 survivor says vision of the Blessed Solanus Casey saved his life

Nolan Ostrowski felt as if death was close at hand.



"I felt a lot of despair and a lot of darkness over me," said Ostrowski, 52, who was hospitalized in late July with COVID-19 at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing. "When I closed my eyes, it was like death was coming."

He began to pray, thinking of his wife, Kathleen, and their three children. That's when he saw the legs of a man wearing a brown robe near his bed.

"I thought he was my guardian angel," said Ostrowski, a carpenter who lives in Eaton Rapids. "There was a certain comfort in that."

He couldn't make out the man's full figure, but seeing him there brought Ostrowski peace. Though he didn't know it at the time, Ostrowski's family was praying for his recovery and asking the Blessed Solanus Casey, a Capuchin priest who worked for two decades at St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit and who has been said to heal the sick, to intercede.

#### Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney



God, Our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called on your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their

neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church.

#### **Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel**



Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; may God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O

Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen."

#### **February 2022 Liturgical Calendar**

February 2 – The Presentation of the Lord February 6 –  $5^{th}$  Sunday in Ordinary Time February 13 –  $6^{th}$  Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 14 – Ss Cyril, Monk and Methodius, Bishop

February 20 - 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time February 22 – The Chair of St. Peter, Apostle February 27 – 8t<sup>h</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### **St. Lawrence Adoration Chapel**



The St. Lawrence
Adoration Chapel is now open Monday through
Friday 6am-7pm. Our
Brother Knights donated much of their time, talent, and treasure in

renovating this room as an adoration space to honor Christ's true presence in the Eucharist as the summit of our faith. Father Roman commissioned the beautiful sculpture and monstrance containing the Blessed Sacrament.



The St. Lawrence Council of the Knights of Columbus are excited to share news of two new initiatives for St. Lawrence School and school families.

- 1. St. Lawrence School Tuition Scholarship Raffle. Two \$500 scholarships will be raffled for 2022-2023 school year. To be in the raffle, you have to be a Catholic dad of any St. Lawrence School student(s) and is or becomes a member of the St. Lawrence Knight of Columbus between January 30, 2022 and March 31, 2022.
- 2. School Membership Donation. Our council will donate \$50 per new member of the St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus that is a father of students at St. Lawrence School. Very simply, our Council is here to serve our local community, especially the Parish and school.

We are working on finalizing plans for a Catholic high school scholarship and we will share that information next month.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.



Jim Adams



#### **Volunteers Needed!!**

Inspired by St. Francis of Assisi. In Detroit since 1883 we live and work with those who are in need of help...the poor, the disenfranchised and the needy. We serve God through the work we do...in the communities we serve. The next available Saturday lunch serving (10:30am to1:15am) is March 26, 2022. At least 10 volunteers are required.

Capuchin Soup Kitchen 4390 Conner Avenue Detroit, MI 48215

Contact:
Jim DeMaestri
586.817.4181
Jim.demaestri@fluke.com



Reflection Morning: Priest, Prophet and King Saturday March 19, 2022 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

St. Lawrence is excited to invite the Parish to a morning of reflection that is focused on understanding how we fit into the roles of priest, prophet and king through our Baptism to Christ, and with Him call God "our Father".

There will be Mass, planned talks and sharing, along with a short video presentation.

#### 8:30 a.m. - Mass

After Mass - Continental Breakfast
9:30 a.m. - Fr. Paul Graney: Priest Prophet and King
10:10 a.m. - Individual Stories
11:00 a.m. - God's Unconditional Love
11:30 a.m. - End

We are currently limiting the attendance to 80 people based on the current COVID caution. We will adjust as things changes.

Please contact Joe Lograsso (lograsso@comcast.net) if you have any questions.

Please register at Signup Genius by link or QR code: https://bit.ly/STLReflection



# Dr. Jim's 15th Annual Euchre Party Saturday - March 19, 2022





Dr. Jim Langevel 1972-2002



#### Location

American Legion Post 351 46846 Cass Ave. Utica, MI 48317 Btw. M 59- and 21-Mile Rd

#### Cost

\$25/Person
Includes Pizza, Refreshments and Pop Corn

#### Time

6:00 PM - Check-In 7:00 PM - Euchre Starts

#### Reservations/Questions

Jim Langeveld

e-mail: jimlang122@gmail.com

Home - 586-739-8119

Cell - 810-499-9055 & Text

Cash Prizes, Door Prizes, 50/50
Must be 18 Years Old
Bring Quarters for Euchres!

#### ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT

<u>Dr. James Langeveld BMT</u> Patient Support Fund at University of Michigan for adult cancer patients' expenses not covered by insurance.

# Super Bowl

## **Donations Wanted**

We will have the St. Vincent de Paul truck here for clothes donations before and after each mass.

Our donation box has been overflowing recently, I ask that you please gather your donations and wait until these dates.

Saturday February 12

3:00pm-5:30pm



Sunday February 13

7:30am-1:30pm

Volunteers can select a time frame using this link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f48aba72ea2fcc61-super

**Contact Jack Novak with Questions:** 

586-731-5072 ext 244 | jnovak@stlawrenceparish.com

**Volunteers Needed** 

## Closet Blitz!

\*\*Trucks will be located in the church parking lot



# Knights of Columbus "BENEFITS NEWS" Insurance check-up for 2022

I hope that 2021 was a healthy, prosperous year for you and your family. It's said that time flies, and the older we get, the more that statement seems true. As we review the past year and prepare to welcome a new one, we wonder where the time goes.

If you're like most people, you've made some resolutions for 2022. If I may, I'd like to make two suggestions regarding your resolutions. First, write them down. A resolution is really a goal for the year and, until you commit a goal to writing, it's nothing more than a wish. Writing a resolution down is the first step towards achieving it. Whether your goal is to lose weight, contribute more time and money to charity, read more or watch less television, you're more likely to accomplish it if you write it down.

Second, schedule some time to visit with me, your professional Knights of Columbus insurance agent. The "insurance check-up" that I'll provide (free of charge, by the way!) will quickly identify any gaps in your family's life insurance program. And you'll want to fill those gaps now, not later. Because unlike many other products, you need more than money to obtain life insurance. You also need good health, and no one will ring a bell warning you when your health is about to change.

Knights of Columbus life insurance offers something precious few other financial products can – **guarantee**. As long as you pay your premiums, the policy proceeds will be there for your beneficiaries should something happen to you. We call that peace of mind, and that's (as they say in the credit card commercials) priceless.

\*Receive a complete <u>Family Needs Analysis</u> at my expense.
Ask about our <u>GUARANTEED</u> LIFE INSURANCE, ANNUITIES,
LONG TERM CARE & DISABILITY INSURANCE
In Christ,

Don M. Wesley, FICF Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Insurance - General Agent

2 Crocker Blvd., Suite 301, Mount Clemens MI 48043 Office: 586-412-9223 or 888-DWesley (888-393-7539)

Fax: 586-591-6500 E-mail: Don.Wesley@KofC.org

(01/22NL) Website: <u>KofCWeslevAgency.org</u>



## Knights of Columbus INSURANCE YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

#### **Career Opportunities**

The Knights of Columbus is seeking a Field Agent for a career opportunity representing their insurance program. They offer a complete benefits package with this full-time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus.

For more information please contact, Don M. Wesley FICF, General Agent at (888) 393-7539 or don.wesley@kofc.org

Are you bilingual and looking for a new career opportunity during this difficult time? Become a Knights of Columbus Field Agent where you can help Catholic families while providing for your own. Learn more at

http://bit.ly/AgentCareers

Detroit Metropolitan Area & Greater Thumb Area, MI

Contact: Don M. Wesley FICF Knights of Columbus Insurance General Agent-Southeast Michigan

2 Crocker Blvd., Suite 301 Mount Clemens, MI 48043 Office: 888-393-7539

Fax: 586-591-6500

E-Mail: don.wesley@kofc.org Website: <u>KofCWesleyAgency.org</u>

FOR A CAREER OPPORTUNITY PLEASE VIEW; https://www.kofc.org/.../our.../insurance-agent-

careers.html



#### **FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

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David P. Utykanski | Principal and General Counsel

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