



# The Counselor

Knights of Columbus • Monthly Newsletter

St. Francis Council #4401 • [www.mikofc4401.org](http://www.mikofc4401.org)

JANUARY 2020



**Charity, Unity  
Fraternity,  
Patriotism**

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish

23815 Power Rd • Farmington • Michigan • 48336

## Grand Knight's Report

### Brother Knights – Vivat Jesus

We hope each of you have had a great Advent preparation and Christmas. 2020 is now here.

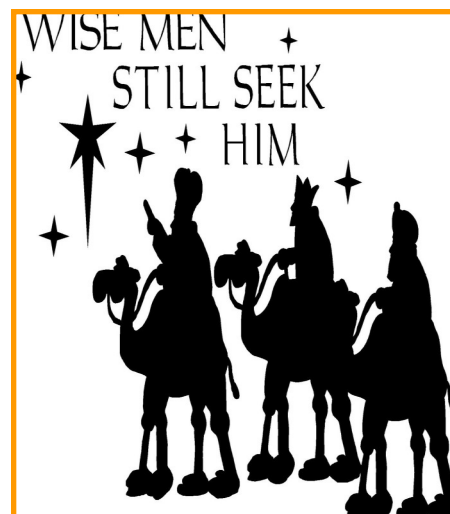
As Knights of our Lady, we have a vocation. Our commitment to the pillars of Knighthood helps us present not only our Catholic faith, but what the church is all about. The church is the people and you and I are a big part of it. It is how we accept the Truth of Jesus Christ and how we follow Christ every day, and we all know how challenging that can be. It is how we commit ourselves to charity and how as a united and fraternal brotherhood reach out and touch the needs of many who are struggling. Its also how we inspire men to commit to their faith and become the best version of themselves that we can be.

This year is a special year for St. Francis of Assisi 4401 as we follow the Dynamic Catholic mission of the year of prayer. Let us hold each other accountable to committing daily time to prayer. This is also an invitation for those interested to join the Saturday morning STIR ministry.

*Let us pray, Loving Father, I invite you into my life today and make myself available to you. Help me become the best version of myself, by seeking your will and by becoming a living example of your love in the world. (contd. on pg. 2)*

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### JAN 2020 MEETINGS/DATES REMINDER

**01-HAPPY NEW YEAR !!! NO MEETING**

**04-EPIPHANY PARTY—see page 10 for details—>>>**

**08-BUSINESS MEETING**

**22-OFFICER MEETING**

**31-ST FRANCIS ON THE LAKE BENEFIT—see page 8 for details—>>>**

## Grand Knight's Report (cont'd)

*Open my heart to the areas of my life that need change in order for me to carry out the mission and experience the joy you have imagined for my life. Inspire me to live the Catholic faith that are dynamic and engaging. Show me how to best get involved with the life of my parish. Make our community hungry for best practices and continuous learning. Give me the courage when I am afraid, hope when I am discouraged, and clarity in time of decision. Teach me to enjoy uncertainty and lead your church and to become all you imagined it would be for the people of our times. Amen (courtesy Dynamic Catholic)*

On to business.... We welcome our newest members of St. Francis 4401 – Bryan Altoun, Steve English, Adam Smith and seminarian Zachary Flint to our council. These brothers took their first degree as Knights before Christmas on December 18<sup>th</sup> by the best degree team in the world. Welcome Clyde Stoltz who transferred to our council from Texas. Clyde is now a member of both the council and assembly.

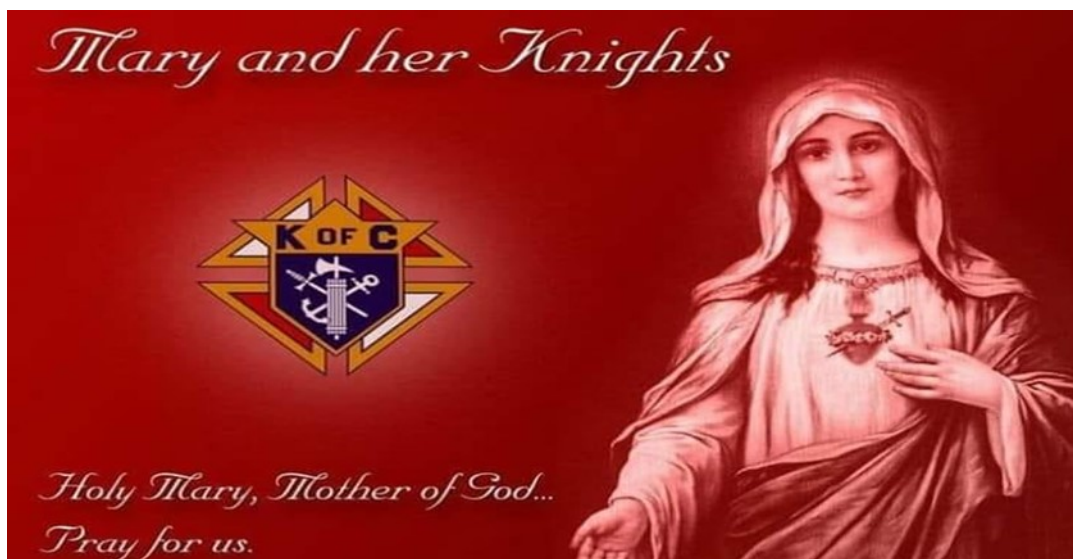
Our council is 80% complete on its faith and action goals. Thank you to all who have helped us thus far.

Please note our first business meeting of the year will be on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

Also – I want to congratulate our 4<sup>th</sup> degree Patriotic order who recently was awarded the Star Assembly. Congratulations to PGK and Faithful Navigator Gary Mallia and the officers of the assembly.

As we set our sights on 2020, let all of us in St. Francis Council 4401 – **Be Bold and Be Catholic!**

Yours truly,  
Henry T





## Father Loren O'Dea Memorial Scholarship 2020 Fall School Year

Dear Brother Knights,

Many of you remember, and more of you have heard about, the beloved and now deceased Chaplain of our council, Father Loren O'Dea. With a career as a social worker and then as a priest, Father O'Dea knew the importance of a college education. With that in mind and to honor Father O'Dea in a meaningful manner, St. Francis Council #4401 has initiated a scholarship program in his honor.

Here's a quick summary of this program:

A \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a highly qualified student for the 2020-2021 academic year.

The scholarship will be awarded to a child or grandchild, of a living or deceased member in good standing of St. Francis Knights of Columbus Council #4401.

In order for the applicant to be considered for the scholarship, the St. Francis Council Knight must have been a member in good standing for at least (1) one year.

Scholarship applications will be available after January 2, 2020.

Applicants for the scholarship must be a high school senior and have a minimum 2.5 GPA.

The scholarship application must be submitted and post marked no later than March 31, 2020.

Scholarships will be awarded not later than May 15th, 2020.

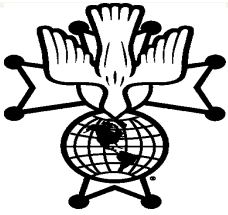
Applications and additional information can be downloaded from the council's website at <http://www.mikofc4401.org>

Please email [KOC4401Scholarship@gmail.com](mailto:KOC4401Scholarship@gmail.com) with any additional questions

Regards,

Henry Testa

GK4401



## 4th DEGREE NEWS

### St. Francis of Assisi Assembly #2136

[www.mikofc2136.org](http://www.mikofc2136.org)

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish

Faithful Navigator: Gary Mallia, PGK

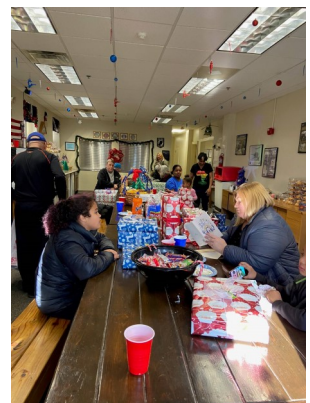
The month of December brought several activities to our 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly. We completed 2 of our largest programs this month and gave hope and honor to hundreds of veterans in the process.

On Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, members of our Assembly worked with the Boy Scouts from troop 110 to place 125 wreaths on the gravesites of veterans at Oakwood Cemetery in Farmington. This sacred act wasn't done to decorate a gravesite, but to honor and thank those who sacrificed in order that we might enjoy the freedoms we have. It was a great teaching moment for our members and the scouts to remind us all that freedom is not free, but rather comes at a great cost! I would like to thank SK Alex Franz for taking on this outstanding program, and for working with both the scouts and the Knights to ensure this event ran seamlessly. I would also like to thank Fr. Derik Peterman for joining us and leading us in prayer. Finally, I would like to thank our Honor Guard members SK Nino Abate, PFN, Commander, SK Dave Stulock, GK, SK Paul Toth, and SK Greg Martin for joining us on this day to lead each person to the gravesites and pay honor to our fallen heroes.

On Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, members of our Assembly, met at the Veteran's Returning Home center in Roseville to present Christmas gifts to 5 families this year. With the help of donations from some very generous people, St Francis Assembly was able to increase the number of families adopted, and also increase the donations made to them. In addition to gifts for each family member, families received gift cards to purchase food and other necessities in order to ensure that their holidays were happy. Special thanks to SK Tom Rancour and Lady Nancy for organizing the gift purchases between them, myself, SK Henry Testa, and SK Paul Toth.

St Francis Assembly is doing great things in our Community! I ask that you, my brother Knights join us in making an impact on a world in desperate need of men and woman to be Christ's hands and feet. I ask all my brother Knights to pray on this, and the take their Knighthood to it's fulfillment!

Our next 4<sup>th</sup> degree exemplification is on Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. All 3<sup>rd</sup> degree members in good standing with their council may join. For more information, please contact any 4<sup>th</sup> degree member, or contact me at [gmallia@yahoo.com](mailto:gmallia@yahoo.com)



## Knights of Columbus Spiritual Retreat

Friday, March 22nd – Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup>

St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center  
23333 Schoolcraft Road, Detroit, MI 48223

*Come and join with your brothers as we gather for a very special weekend of prayer, relaxation, fellowship and spiritual renewal! Enjoy a weekend away from the stresses of everyday life and allow yourself time to listen to God and to what His will is in your life. Each retreatant is given their own private room with private bath/shower facilities. There are quiet areas for reading and reflection, an extraordinary chapel for private prayer as well as where Mass, morning prayer, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation are celebrated. There are several acres of grounds for walking, and great meals provide nourishment for the body!*



### This Year's Retreat Theme **Rejoice in the Lord Always: Again, I Say Rejoice!**

*Our lives today are continually bombarded with challenges and temptations that can lead us away from living lives of joy. Our faith invites us to "open our hearts to be touched by Jesus" and to rejoice in the knowledge that we have been given an Advocate who will be with us always.*

*The prophet Zephaniah reminds us: "God...will rejoice over you with gladness...He will renew you in his love."*

*This retreat experience is designed to help us rediscover the intimate call of God to each one of us to grow in holiness and live in JOY!*

Suggested Donation: \$215 (a minimum **\$30 deposit** will be required to secure your reservation)

### Registration

Please provide the following information to  
Retreat Captain, Gary Mallia at [gmallia@yahoo.com](mailto:gmallia@yahoo.com) or 248-496-9838

### Name, Address, Phone, e-mail address

*This will allow Gary to follow up with Retreat Center to ensure they've received your deposit.*

**DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY TO GARY!**

**To secure your reservation, please send your payment **DIRECTLY** to the Retreat center.**

Provide them with the information above along with our

**Retreat Group Name: St. Francis K of C**

and

**Retreat date: March 22nd, 2019**

You can send your check to:  
by calling:

St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center  
23333 Schoolcraft Road  
Detroit, MI 48223

-OR-

You can pay by credit card

(313) 535-9563

You can also pay online by going to <https://www.stpaulretreat.org/event/mens-weekend-24-2/>

**Please confirm that the retreat weekend Men's Weekend # 24 Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 is selected**

## **Calendar of Events**

### **St. Francis Council #4401**

#### **January 2020**

- 4 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield  
EPIPHANY PARTY—American Legion Hall
- 8 KofC Assembly Business meeting in OLS Church Hall-North 7:30 p.m.
- 11 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield
- 15 KofC Business Meeting Fourth Degree 7:30 p.m. OLS Church Hall—North  
Novena for Life 15JAN-25JAN
- 18 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield
- 22 KofC Officers Meeting 7:30 p.m. OLS Church Hall—North
- 25 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield
- 31 St. Francis on the Lake Wild Game DeCarlo's, Warren

#### **February 2020**

- 1 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield
- 5 KofC Degree Assembly Business meeting in OLS Church Hall-North 7:30 p.m.
- 8 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield
- 12 KofC Business Meeting Fourth Degree 7:30 p.m. OLS Church Hall—North
- 15 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield
- 19 KofC Officers Meeting 7:30 p.m. OLS Church Hall—North
- 22 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield
- 29 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield

#### **March 2020**

- 4 KofC Degree Assembly Business meeting in OLS Church Hall-North 7:30 p.m.
- 7 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield
- 11 KofC Business Meeting Fourth Degree 7:30 p.m. OLS Church Hall—North
- 14 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield
- 18 KofC Officers Meeting 7:30 p.m. OLS Church Hall—North
- 21 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield
- 22 Retreat Weekend 22MAR-24MAR St. Paul of the Cross-Detroit
- 28 Rosary for Life—8:30 a.m. (Sat) at Northland FP Clinic, Southfield

The Sick:

Larry Blake Tranquilino Bonet Laura Boucher Jennifer Boyle Dolores Bozzi Fr. Frank Canfield Andy Caruso Amanda Cavanaugh Ken Chiara Jackie Clutter Martin Clutter Bill Conroy Robert Conroy Chuck Crimaldi George Curan Eva Demotto Juie Denenberg John Dewar Bill Dick	Wendy Disteleath Tony DiPonio Jackie Dix Bob Dolecki Rosemary Dwyer Teresa Dwyer Ed Dyman Josephine Evangelista Beverly Friel Susan Gilleran Ed & Justine Good Stanley Gromala Ian Hoag Suad Husaynu Jacki Hermstad Katie Johnson John Kaljian Kate Kelly Sharmella Kerbawy Larry & Sue Larabell	Joe Mallia Nina Mallia Dale Monette PGK Jose Martinez Ellen McCarthy Martha McDonald Ann McGowan Betty Micctic Ron & Lois Mcetic Lynette Mitani Joann Moranaini Frances Nablo Sally Nablo Mary Naylor Dominic Nieto Sr. Carolyn Oblender Mary Olowksi Genevieve Ostrowski Evia Pedidis	Melissa Peters Ron Piper Bill Power Mel Redmond Julia Riccobene Carl Rubo Joe Ricci Ed Skop Kate Stafford Lee Stewart Rosemary Szymkowski Elizabeth Testa Mike Torakis Terry Vasher Ed & Kay Waldecker James Walla Robin Walsh Johnna Weiss Tom Wilkins Raymond Wojtowicz Phil Yaeger
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The Departed:

SK Fred Arganoza PGK Eleanor Bernock Frank Bernock PGK Justin Beutal Dennis Blumke Charles Boigegrain Laura Boucher SK Don Paul Bridenstine Carola Caroselli Dick Chiara Walter Christainsen Genny Cleary Mary Collins Thomas Collins Rhea Crowley John Dana Lisa DeNardo Patricia Dick Robert Dolecki Sue Drouliard Christine Dwyer	Joseph Dwyer Alfie Evans Fr. Kent Hajdok Pat Hejka Ronald Hittinger Antoine Hubert Jim Jones Tom Kerbawy Martha Koenig Maureen LaFontaine Jimmy LaLome Julius Ligenza Bob Ludwig Rich Kaczmarek Dave Mallia Edward Mangold Marjorie Mangold Ken Marshall Jack McDonald Joanne McElmer Howard McKenna	Mary McKenna SK Don & Connie McKeever Frank Mellert Tim Milson Jim Morandini Edward Muczynski Arturo Nablo Sr Basam Nasr Fr. O' Dea Joe Phillips PGK Bob Pigula Charles Randau Priscilla Redmond Gare Reid SK John Ricco Edward Philip Rinckey  Ted Rodak  Theresa Stayer  Jerri Serdynski	Griffin Stein Chuck Taunt SK James Telinda PGK Dustin Testa Hans Thakur Margaret L. Thoma Margaret Tippet Charles Tuffley Bill Urban Barb Urbain Bryan Urben Arnold Weibel Pat Wilkins Kurt Wbyizrsberu All Departed Knights Victims of 911
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Special Intentions:

Parents of Alfie Evans Steve and Cindy Urban  The Cirdon Family  The Currans  Marleigh Smith	James Plocinik Susan Giller Adrienne Martz Margaret Thompson Richard Wroblewski The Nablo Family	Katie Smith Mireles Family Rebecca Padin Meghan Salter Ashley Martin
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*ST. FRANCIS CAMP ON THE LAKE  
WILD GAME DINNER  
GUN RAFFLE*



and

**Live & Silent Auction**

**FRIDAY - JANUARY 31, 2020**

**DeCarlo's Banquet and Convention Center**

6015 E. 10 MILE RD WARREN 48091 586-759-6500

**DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM—DINNER @ 7:30**

**TICKETS:**

**\$50.00 IN ADVANCE (BEFORE JAN 24, 2020)**

**\$55.00 AT THE DOOR**

**TABLES OF TEN \$450.00**

**(BEFORE JAN 24, 2020 - \$500.00 AFTER)**

**INCLUDES:**

**DINNER**

**DRAFT BEER**

**CASH BAR**

**HONORARY CO-CHAIRMEN**

**William Chasse - State Deputy**

**Knights of Columbus**

**&**

**Pat Plotkowski- Supreme Director**

**Order of Alhambra**



DUCK SHOOT  
SILENT AUCTION  
50/50

**TICKET INFORMATION**

**LARRY GRABOWSKI - 313-268-5001**

**RUSS KREINBRING - 586-292-4589**

**GARY DECARLO - 586-436-0121**

**Make checks out to: ST. FRANCIS CAMP Memo: WILD GAME Mail to: DECARLO'S**



*Check out the camp on Facebook  
or at*

**[www.stfranciscamp.org](http://www.stfranciscamp.org)**



### **We Stand Strong on Ethical Ground**

Some people believe that ethics in business is a contradiction in terms. They think that in order to be profitable, a company and its leaders must abandon morality and embrace the dark, greedy side that they see so often in the news and in movies. At the Knights of Columbus, we know this isn't true. A business can be both ethical and successful. We are.

As a Catholic organization, we understand the value and importance of our core beliefs and the original mission of Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney. In fact, much of the strength and financial security we provide to members and their families can be attributed to our ethical, moral standards. More than 96 percent of Knights who buy our life insurance keep it, year in and year out.

The Order takes this commitment to our members very seriously. This means carefully planning when it comes time to invest. Our professional staff researches all transactions to insure that they fall in line with Catholic values. If a transaction makes them uncomfortable, they don't make it.

"We exclude any company engaged in activity that conflicts with Catholic moral teaching: companies directly involved in abortion, contraception, human cloning, embryonic stem cell research, for-profit health care that pays for any of these, or pornography," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. In the end, the Knights of Columbus investment strategy is motivated by morality, not money. Yet, each year we remain profitable, increase our assets and stay dedicated to this vision that will keep the Order financially sound for generations to come.

But don't just take our word for it. In 2018 the Knights of Columbus was named a "World's Most Ethical Company" by the Ethisphere Institute.

**Permanent life insurance** is our signature product. It provides money to your family when you die and builds cash value while you live. It's guaranteed. It's secure. It's dynamic. Issue ages 0-80.

**Term life insurance** provides affordable protection to your loved ones for temporary needs. It's simple, affordable and straightforward. Issue ages 18-70

**Long-term care insurance** helps you pay for your extended medical needs in a nursing home facility or in the comfort of your own home. Issue ages 18-75

**Annuity** is a retirement savings product, can be non-qualified, IRA, Roth, SEP, or more. Issue ages 0-85

**Disability income insurance** helps replace lost income when you are unable to work due to a disability resulting from an illness or accident. Issues ages 18-61



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## **St. Francis Epiphany Party**

**Mark your calendars for the St. Francis Council Epiphany Party**

**You and your spouse/guest are cordially invited to join us as we gather to celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord**

**When:**

**Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 5:30 pm - ??**

**Where:**

**American Legion Hall (lower level)**

**Cost:**

**Free event**

**What to bring:**

**A dish to pass (designate Appetizer, Side, or Dessert on e-vite coming out soon)**

**A gift to exchange (white elephant or keep to \$15 limit)**

**What's provided:**

**Main Course, Open bar, A fun filled evening for all!**

**For more information, please feel free to contact**

**Gary Mallia at [gmallia@yahoo.com](mailto:gmallia@yahoo.com)**

**Bill McKeever at [bill4401@att.net](mailto:bill4401@att.net)**

**Joe Hejka at [joehejka@msn.com](mailto:joehejka@msn.com)**

**BIRTHDAYS**

ANTHONY	BOLACH	01-02
ANDREW	CARUSO	01-02
JOSEPH	GROSSI	01-02
THOMAS	SZYMKOWSKI	01-02
PAUL	JOHNSON JR	01-04
ROBERT	COLLINS	01-08
SCOTT	TEFFT JR	01-08
JOHN	BESSEN	01-08
WILLIAM	MOYLAN	01-10
NATHAN	MC NULTY	01-14
UGO	ABATE	01-15
EDWARD	WALDECKER	01-18
SHABAN	RIZA	01-18
GARY	MALLIA	01-21
WILLIAM	HANNEY	01-23
GEORGE	KENDALL	01-24
JOSEPH	LA VERDI	01-25
MICHAEL	MC ILRATH	01-26
GEORGE	CURRAN III	01-27
NICK	MERUCCI	01-30

**YEARS OF SERVICE**

ANTHONY	BOLACH	56
JAMES	MC LAUGHLIN	44
MICHAEL	HUZIAK	43
CHARLES	KIN	43
FRANCIS	TEBBE	42
FRANCIS	KENNEDY	37
DAVID	PEGG	16
RANDY	MAGEE	13
TOMASZ	BOLEY	12
MICHAEL	KRAMP	12
KENT	MASON	12
THOMAS	RANCOUR	12
JOSEPH	HEJKA	12
ROBERT	DOBKOWSKI	11
DANIEL	HAGEMANN	11
KEVIN	HAMMER	11
GEOFF	DOWNER	6
THOMAS	KYLE	1
MICHAEL	PHENEY	1

**Chris & Cheryl Bush, Ethan,  
Declan, Serena, Remy (and  
soon to be named baby Bush)**  
*Family of the Month  
November 2019*

50/50 WINNER-November  
Gary Mallia

Knight of the Month  
December 2019  
**Tom Herrmann**



# The Counselor

[www.mikofc4401.org](http://www.mikofc4401.org)

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish  
Farmington , Michigan

The Knights  
of Columbus  
St. Francis  
Council  
#4401

## FY 2020 Council Officers & Directors & Building Corp.

Chaplain	SK Rev. Mark Brauer	248-474-5720
District Deputy	SK Don Garon, PGK	248-640-2902
Grand Knight	SK Henry Testa	248-770-7010
Deputy Grand Knight	Jim Filbert	248-877-4604
Faithful Navigator	SK Gary Mallia PGK	248-496-9838
Building Corp. President	Tom Pegler	248-207-1225
Chancellor/ Bld. Corp Recorder	SK Alex Franz	248 971-5893
Warden	Anand Thakur	248-943-2157
Recorder	Pat Dwyer	248-471-4088
Treasurer	SK Joe Gromala	248-474-9775
Vocations Director	Alan Redmond	616-970-8617
Advocate & Membership	SK George Curran	248-477-7940
Financial Secretary	SK Tony DiPonio	248-721-2564
Trustee 1 year	SK Joe Hejka PGK	248-789-2957
Trustee 2 year	Mike Evangelista	248-912-8113
Trustee 3 Year	Bob Plocinik	734-812-2738
Program Director	SK Marc Wilkins, PGK	248-798-6285
Guard/Building Corp Treasurer	SK David Trumpy	248-477-5680
Guard	Randy D'Amore	248-943-1848
Guard	SK Mike Mitchell	248-320-4530
Guard	Mark Rychlinski	248-302-8016
Building Corp VP/Pro-Life	SK Bill McKeever PGK	312-766-9110
Nursing Visitation	Bill Martz	248-442-9783
Lecturer	Tom Kyle	248-987-2223
Insurance Field Agent	SK Greg Bennett	248-884-4095
Editor –Newsletter	SK Dean Wojtowicz	248-794-3582

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**248-563-4923**  
[michael.mithen@carepatrol.com](mailto:michael.mithen@carepatrol.com)



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 8-2:00 Sat.  
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 Closed 12:00-1:00 MWF

31553 W. 10 Mile Rd.  
 (at Orchard Lake)  
 Farmington, MI 48336  
 Fax: 248 478 9825

***Advertise your business in the K of C newsletter***

## **Who are the knights?**

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organization with 1.9 million members. It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, their communities, families and young people.

## **Membership benefits**

As a member of the Knights of Columbus you and your family enjoy many benefits, including 12 free issues annually of the *Columbia* magazine, the world's largest Catholic family magazine, eligibility to join the Knights of Columbus top-ranked life insurance program, and many more family and personal benefits.

## **How to join**

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to practicing Catholic men who are at least 18 years old. A practicing Catholic is one who lives up to the Commandments of God and the precepts of the Church.

Application forms are available from any member of the Knights of Columbus. Our membership chairman is George Curran. George can be reached at (248) 477-7940.

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish

23815 Power Rd • Farmington • Michigan • 48336

# **The Counselor**

