



The Counselor

Knights of Columbus • Monthly Newsletter

St. Francis Council #4401 • www.mikofc4401.org

FEBRUARY 2021



**Charity, Unity
Fraternity,
Patriotism**

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish

23815 Power Rd • Farmington • Michigan • 48336

BROTHER KNIGHTS ! Business Meeting March 3

Tentative Live Location

To Be Announced-Stay Connected

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Anand Thakur, Chancellor & Family Director

George Curran III, Membership Director

WWW.KNIGHTS4401.ORG

⇒ **ADD YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO THE BROADCAST LIST OF BROTHERS AND
RECEIVE COUNCIL NEWS AS IT RECEIVED, SEND REQUESTS TO:**

gk4401@mikofc.org

DATES TO REMEMBER

FEB 13 **FOURTH DEGREE MEETING**
FEB 17 **ASH WEDNESDAY OFFICERS**
 MEETING
MAR 03 **BUSINESS MEETING-OLS**
APR 23 **RETREAT WEEKEND ST PAUL**
 OF THE CROSS

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Brother Knights - Vivat Jesus!



Grand & Sir Knight Jim Filbert

As we are approaching the one year mark since the Covid-19 virus became a national pandemic, I know many of you, like myself, are eager to begin seeing a return to normalcy now that a vaccine is being released to the public. Many of us, especially those working, have had enough Zoom calls in the past year to fill a lifetime under normal circumstances. And I know some of us have been blessed with the creatively termed "Covid-15"... a play on the Freshman-15 when one gains a few extra pounds....this time from being a little less active due to the lockdowns. The good news, however, is that as of right now it appears that we will be able to meet again in person beginning in March. More details on that to follow but I appreciate everyone being patient as we wait out the lockdown restrictions. Please continue your prayers for an end to the pandemic and all of those affected by it.

Now for a reluctantly unfortunate but required shift from optimism to pessimism. Brothers Knights one and all we are being called to act. As foreseen by many of our church's leaders and even those among us, we are entering a new era of our mission to defend Life.

Several things have happened in the past month that should raise a cause for concern. Last week a federal executive order was signed which rescinds the Mexico City Policy -- a rule that barred U.S. foreign aid from going to any organization that provides abortions or abortion counseling. The U.S. has also recently been withdrawn from the "Geneva Consensus Declaration" an agreement previously signed with dozens of other countries which asserted that "there is no international right to abortion, nor any international obligation on the part of States to finance or facilitate abortion." In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services has been ordered to review and consider scrapping a previous rule that overhauled the Title X federal family planning program, which stripped tens of millions of dollars in grants from Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers.

Make no mistake about it my Brother Knights, our call to defend Life and protect the unborn will be met with increased resistance and new obstacles.

On January 29th, our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson was recognized by the National March For Life Organization and awarded with the 2021 Pro-Life Legacy Award presented by March For Life President Jeanne Mancini. She was quoted as saying, *"No one has done more to advance the pro-life cause than Carl Anderson. He is a true pro-life warrior, and his work and tireless dedication to the cause is an example to us all."*

In accepting the award, Supreme Knight Anderson made the following statement, *"All of us have our own reason why we are part of this great pro-life cause. For me, it's best summed up by the saying, 'Whoever saves one life, saves the world.'"* (continued page 6)



4th DEGREE NEWS

St. Francis of Assisi Assembly #2136

www.mikofc2136.org

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish

Faithful Navigator: William McKeever, PGK

KNIGHTS IN ACTION

Pictured below, masked from left to right and distributing lunch, are Brother Sir Knights Gary Mallia & Henry Testa.

Recipients of the pizza salad, wings and cannoli are four current seminarians.

THANK YOU ALL

February 2021



Calendar of Events

St. Francis Council #4401

February 2021

- 3 KofC Degree Assembly Business meeting location TBD
- 6 STIR Ministry –Family Ctr 6 am
- 10 KofC Business Meeting Fourth Degree 7:00 p.m. American Legion
- 13 STIR Ministry –Family Ctr 6 am
- 17 **ASH WEDNESDAY business meeting date to be determined**
- 20 STIR Ministry –Family Ctr 6 am
- 27 STIR Ministry –Family Ctr 6 am

March 2021

- 3 KofC Degree Assembly Business meeting location TBD
- 6 STIR Ministry –Family Ctr 6 am
- 10 KofC Business Meeting Fourth Degree 7:00 p.m. American Legion
- 13 STIR Ministry –Family Ctr 6 am
- 17 **KofC Officers Meeting 7:30 p.m. TBD St. Patrick's Day**
- 20 STIR Ministry –Family Ctr 6 am
- 27 STIR Ministry –Family Ctr 6 am

April 2021

- 4 **The Resurrection of the Lord**
- 7 KofC Degree Assembly Business meeting location TBD
- 14 KofC Business Meeting Fourth Degree 7:00 p.m. American Legion
- 21 KofC Officers Meeting 7:30 p.m. TBD
- 23 Retreat Weekend St Paul of the Cross , Detroit

BROTHERS ALL,
 AS AN ONGOING ISSUE OF CALENDAR EVENTS
 PLEASE NOTE CHANGES OCCURING DAILY
>>>>>>>CHECK OUT THE UPDATED WEBSITE!
knights4401.org
 DELETIONS, ADDITONS, LOCATIONS AND INVITATIONS TO OUR
 CALENDAR MAY CHANGE BETWEEN PUBLICATIONS
 THANK YOU FOR UNDERSTANDING
 PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO NOTICES VIA EMAIL FROM
gk4401@mikofc.org
—THANKS—

The Sick:

Clifford Cox Johnna Weiss Thomas Weiss Karen Jewell Al Dompierre Kelly Elliot Eva Lamonte Eric & Katie Hayden Carter & Ava Josef Katy Urbanski Josef & Kathy Dukaric Herman Wang	Mike Torakis Andy Caruso Lady Ophelia Arganoza Karen Khoury Donna Lance SK Joe Gromala	Joe Mallia Patricia Bailit John Carnaghi Kendra Smyth Chris Battersby Bill Dick	Theresa Nagy Mary Beth Wilkinson Donald Tyler L.J. Joe Bruce
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The Departed:

Amanda Cavanaugh Joseph Brauer Ken Chiara Jose Martinez Chelsea Ross Christopher Marchant Emiliano Arreola	Rex Miller Kay Waldecker Mrs. Delong George Hamson David, Michelle & Dawson Compo Rosalia Loomis	Charlie Haeger Patricia Dick Patrick Freely Mark Dudek SK George S. Jagitsch PGK
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Special Intentions:

For my daughter, Aurora All souls in purgatory The Dudek Family The Jagitsch Family Eva DeLotto	Wyatt & Logan Bransford Boys without fathers James Plocinik	President Trump End of COVID19 A vaccine cure RCIA candidates Thanksgiving for a loved one gaining employment	Caleb Rychlinski Worship & Truth Bob Collins 90 + years Our Country The United States of America Small Businesses in need
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Grand Knight Report continued from page 2

As some of you know, one of the most effective Pro-Life initiatives the Knights are involved in is our Ultrasound support program. The Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative was started on January 22, 2009 on the 36th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade. Since then, KOC has donated more than 1,300 ultrasound machines to pro-life pregnancy centers throughout the United States. Supreme Knight Anderson has called the initiative “the greatest humanitarian achievement in the history of the Knights of Columbus.”

Please take a moment to view this 2 minute promotional video from the Supreme Council:

<https://youtu.be/f53RXspHoJE>

Brother Knights, at the very heart of our cherished order is the call for us to defend life. Please continue to pray for the defense of the unborn and please also continue to be involved with pro-life activities in our council, our church, and throughout our country and beyond. And remember, whoever saves one life saves the world.

Now moving on to some council business.

As you heard me say at our last meeting, council growth will be an important priority for us over the next few months. I’ve asked our Membership Director, George Curran, to speak to us about membership and recruitment related activities. George has agreed to do a two-parter presentation at our February and March council meetings.

On February 2nd, I was thrilled to be able to attend a Mass held for the OLS students along with Tom Rancour where we were able to announce the winners of the Catholic Citizenship Essay contest in front of a full house filled with OLS students, the OLS school principal and staff, all 3 OLS priests, and many other students and parents watching from home on a live stream. Tom Rancour did an outstanding job explaining the Essay Contest and announcing our winners who were very grateful to accept their awards in front of their peers. This was a great effort by all of the Knights involved and I want to thank everyone once again for making this effort possible for the students at OLS.

This month we will be introducing a new council charity initiative that I’m thrilled to tell you about. At each of our in-person council meetings going forward we will be holding a collection drive to benefit a different charity each month. Our Community Director, Tom Rancour, has introduced our first charity that has been chosen to be collected at our March council meeting. I think this is a great idea and I’m looking forward to our Knights being able to make a difference in our community just walking through the door to our council meetings. To make it even more special, we’ll be giving away a small prize each month to whichever Brother Knight makes the largest contribution of the charity items in need.

(Continued on next page)

Grand Knight Report (continued from page 6)

At our May council meeting we will be electing our council officers for the next fraternal year. The nomination of all officers will begin at our April council meeting. As a reminder, this is our “midterm” elections where all current officer positions will be up for election but is customary for many current officers to retain their position for a 2nd year. However, this is a good time for all officers to take a moment to reflect if they would be happy serving another year or would rather see another Brother Knight elected to their position. If you are a Brother Knight interested becoming an officer, please let myself or another officer know as we may have a few spots opening up. Also, if you know of a Brother Knight that you think should be asked to serve as an officer please encourage them to consider this call to service and to step forward.

During February and March, our Supreme Training Director will be holding training sessions for all councils on a few different topics. Those topics include: Council Growth, Enhancing Member Experience, and You & Your Programs. I will be sending out these dates and links shortly so if you are interested in assisting the council in one or all of these areas please sign up.

I’m happy to report on two new technological improvements that have been made the council and recently rolled out. Our new online voucher submission process is now live. Going forward if you need to submit a voucher you can do so on our website at knights4401.org and click the link that says “For Members.” This online system seems like it will be a big improvement and if you have any of the paper voucher slips please go ahead and make sure they get recycled.

I’m also happy to report that we have turned the key on the new email blast system now powered by MailChimp. Hopefully you all received my email earlier this week with the invitation to our council meeting. If not, you can add yourself to the email list on our website knight4401.org and click on “For Members”.

Our Newsletter Editor Dean and I have decided to make a minor alteration to our newsletter schedule in an attempt for them to be a bit more beneficial to our members. We will begin releasing the monthly newsletter a few days following our monthly council meetings rather than a few days before. This will help ensure that our newsletters contain the most up-to-date information for our members based on what is shared during our council meetings. Dean is also always looking for additions to our newsletter so if you have a topic, article, or piece in mind you think worthy of sharing with the council please send it to Dean.

Brothers, I wish you and your families all the very best and I hope you are doing well. I look forward to seeing you again soon.

Vivat Jesus!

Jim Filbert, Grand Knight

Socks for the Homeless

Charity of the Month: Matchan Nutrition Center

Matchan is operated by St. Vincent de Paul Society and serves the homeless in the Pontiac area. This Center provides lunch to approximately 150 area homeless people twice a week. It operates out of the former cafeteria for St. Damien's Church.

What is Needed: Socks! The chronically homeless clients are in constant need of new, warm socks. Specifically, size large (6-12) men's, white athletic crew, or boot length socks (please avoid low cut socks).

Examples...

6 pack of Dickies Dri-tech moisture control socks for \$13 - available at Amazon.com

Dickies Men's Dri-tech Moisture Control Crew Socks Multipack at Amazon Men's Clothing store

12 pack of Hanes Men's Crew Socks for \$15 - available at Meijer

Hanes Men's Crew Socks White 12 Pack, 6-12 Men's Socks | Meijer Grocery, Pharmacy, Home & More!

Gildan Men's Half Cushion Terry Foot Bed Crew Socks, 12-Pack for \$15.47 – available at Walmart

Gildan - Gildan Men's Half Cushion Terry Foot Bed Crew Socks, 12-Pack - Walmart.com - Walmart.com

Collection Date:

We will collect all socks at the March 3rd Meeting. If you cannot make the meeting, please drop off your socks ahead of time with Tom Rancour (248) 346-4410 or Henry Testa (248) 770-7010. If you prefer to make a financial donation, you can send a check to Tony DiPonio (Calhoun & DiPonio PLC, 29828 Telegraph Rd, Southfield, MI, 48034-1338, please note "socks" on the memo line of your check).

The Council will award a prize to the Knight donating the highest number of socks!

Blue Moon with Bob Collins

By Alex Franz

“Good humored,” “very religious,” “led by example;” those are the characteristics Bob Collins remembers most in his father. To anyone who knows our brother Knight, they are also good ways to describe Bob. A few weeks after celebrating his 90th birthday, Mr. Collins sat down for an interview to share his story with our fellow Knights. He also taught me how to mix a new drink.

Bob was born on January 8th, 1931 in Buffalo, New York. His grandfather built a community outside the city on the shores of Lake Erie, and he was blessed with a happy childhood that was spared from much of the Great Depression. His father was an electrician, working for the signal service of the local police force. Bob’s father made Catholicism a cornerstone of his children’s upbringing and set Bob on a path for a lifetime of service to others.

In the 1950’s, Bob graduated from Canisius College in Buffalo with a degree in history, and then was drafted into the U.S. Army. He served for two years in Europe as a division map distributor, supporting maneuvers across the continent in the early days of the cold war. Bob remembers one intelligence report above all others: “They warned us about the strength of German beer, and they were right.”

In 1960, Bob and his wife Elizabeth moved to Detroit for a sales job with the National Gypsum Company. He would make West Bloomfield his home for 55 years, alongside a career that made him Vice President of Business Development and Marketing for Contract Interiors, an office furniture company. More than the competition, Bob really enjoyed the friendships he made throughout his career, and still gets together with his former coworkers (as quarantine allows).

The work that Bob is most proud of, aside from being a husband, father of six, grandfather of 22, and great-grandfather of 13, is his service to the pro-life movement. To Bob, they are in fact closely related: “Elizabeth was the real sparkplug on right to life,” becoming an early leader in Michigan and earning recognition from Phyllis Schlafly. Bob became the executive director of Mother and Unborn Baby Care (MAUBC), and cofounded Defenders of the Unborn, for which he raised \$20,000. “When you think of all the people in my family now, if I had never been born, none of them would have, either. That’s a huge difference, from just one life.”

It was through his fundraising work that Bob met Don McKeever of the St. Francis council, and Bob was soon initiated as a third degree Knight of Columbus. Bob has served our council as pro-life director, membership director, chancellor, and deputy grand knight. He loves volunteering for our council’s service projects, and believes that action keeps the council healthy: “It’s good to have men involved in the council to keep their interest.” Putting his faith into action, Bob has led weekly prayers outside of abortion clinics for 30 years. He proudly wears his crucifix necklace – a gift from a Chaldean subdeacon – over his shirt every day. “We need to show support for the Church and remind ourselves to be good Christians.”

As a young nonagenarian (someone between the ages of 90 and 99), Bob’s life has crossed paths with many moments and figures from history. He can recall the day in early December, 1941, watching his father listen to radio reports of the attack on Pearl Harbor, and remembers going with his grandfather to see FDR drive by in the presidential motorcade. During his time in Europe, Bob visited the Vatican and saw Pope Pius XII at St. Peter’s Basilica. Back home, he attended speeches by John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson, and through his pro-life work met Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and George W. Bush.

For the last five years, Bob has lived in Farmington Hills. His home is adorned with family photos (a lot of family photos), pictures from his trips to Ireland, and a bookcase filled with works on history, a passion he has kept since college. That love of history also informs his faith: “I’m fascinated by all of the foreshadowing of Jesus in the Old Testament. And when Jesus made Peter the rock, that carries forward to today.” Atop the bookcase is a Viking helmet, which he received from some friends after his 23 and Me results showed some surprising Scandinavian blood in his ancestry. Bob remains predominantly and proudly Irish.

After talking with Bob for a couple hours, and sharing a couple bottles of Blue Moon, it is easy to forget he’s 90. While the last year has made social connections harder for all of us to maintain, Bob stays in touch with his family and friends, and enjoys the service he can provide to Our Lady of Sorrows and the St. Francis Council. “An awful lot of life is attitude.” That’s when Bob taught me how to make his favorite cocktail, a SoCo Manhattan. The recipe is two parts Southern Comfort, one part vermouth, a couple maraschino cherries, and a splash of cherry juice. Mix one up, and make a toast to our brother Knight and friend, Bob Collins.

Happy Birthday, Bob!

FEBRUARY Birthdays

ARNEL	NABLO	02-02
STEVEN	MURPHY	02-03
BLAISE	RYAN	02-03
RINALDO	MAFFEZZOLI	02-04
GILBERT	ACOSTA	02-06
WALTER	LEONARD	02-08
ANTHONY	ANGELOSANTO	02-08
BENJAMIN	DI PONIO	02-08
WILLIAM	PAIR	02-09
THADDEUS	PODSIADLY	02-09
TIMOTHY	WAHMHOF	02-09
CHARLES	ARCHAMBEAU	02-12
MATT	SURELLA	02-12
RANDY	MAGEE	02-15
DANIEL	WOOD	02-17
DAVID	BRISH	02-17
ROMAN	BELOBRADICH JR	02-19
WILLIAM	DINNAN III	02-20
RUSSELL	WALDECKER	02-21
CLINT	GUEVARRA	02-22
KIRK	WINDISCH	02-25
DAVID	GAWLOWSKI	02-27

FEBRUARY Anniversaries

GERARD	HAYDEN	68
RONALD	PIPER	42
HUGH	HOLZKNECHT	42
EDWARD	WALDECKER	36
DON	GOULD	35
DONALD	COUTURIER	32
JOHN	GIROUX	31
THADDEUS	PODSIADLY	21
DANIEL	LEMAY	16
EMIL	BENOIT	15
EDWARD	GOOD	13
JAVIER	HOYOS HUAMAN	13
GREGORY	TOKARSKI	13
THOMAS	HERRMANN	12
CHRISTOPHER	CULLEN	11
TERRY	LOBSINGER	11
KIRK	WINDISCH	11
GREGORY	COLLINS	10
HAXHI	RIZA	8
WILLIAM	SWORDS	8
SCOTT	TERZICH	8
JEFFREY	BARRON	7
EDWARD	CAUGHELL	7
MICHAEL	DEEGAN	7
PAUL	FLANAGAN	7
KLINT	KESTO	7
DAN	MEYERS	7
EUGENE	GRABINSKI	5
RON	STROPOLI	5
BOB	LAFONTAINE	5
IMOKHAI	SULE	4
DAVID	BRISH	4
TOMS	MATHEW	3
JOSEPH	POWER	3
BLAISE	RYAN	2
ALBERT	AGBAY	2
CHRISTOPHER	STEVENS	2

**Family of the Month of
February 2021
The Legenza's
Paul, Carol, Jonathan &
Amber**

**Knight of the Month
February 2021
Gary Mallia**



The Counselor

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 Jim Filbert	248-877-4604
Deputy Grand Knight	SK Alex Franz	248-971-5893
Faithful Navigator	SK Bill McKeever PGK	313-330-5282
Building Corp. President	Tom Pegler	248-207-1225
Chancellor/Family Director	Anand Thakur	248-943-2157
Warden	SK Bob Plocinik	734-812-2738
Recorder	Pat Dwyer	248-471-4088
Treasurer	Mark Rychlinski	248-302-8016
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	Mike Evangelista	248-912-8113
Trustee 2 year/Community Director	Tom Rancour	248-346-4410
Trustee 3 Year/Newsletter Editor	SK Dean Wojtowicz	248-794-3582
Program Director	SK Henry Testa	248-770-7010
Life Director	SK Tom Herrmann	
Faith Director	Max Esmay	313-334-4887
Guard/Building Corp Treas.	SK David Trumpy	248-477-5680
Guard	Randy D'Amore	248-943-1848
Guard	Mike Kandah	
Guard	Pablo Martinez	423-612-8287
Building Corp	SK Joe Hejka	248-789-2557
Building Corp	SK Joe Gromala	248-474-9775
Nursing Visitation	Bill Martz	248-442-9783
Lecturer	Tom Kyle	248-987-2223
Insurance Field Agent	SK Greg Bennett	248-884-4095

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.

Knights of Columbus Saint Francis Council 4401

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish

23815 Power Rd • Farmington • Michigan • 48336

The Counselor

