



# The Counselor

Knights of Columbus • Monthly Newsletter

June 2022



**Charity, Unity  
Fraternity,  
Patriotism**

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

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish

23815 Power Rd • Farmington • Michigan • 48336

**Fraternal Year July 2022-June 2023**  
**Welcome New Officers & Congratulations**  
**Leading our Men;**  
**Pablo Martinez, Grand Knight**  
**Thank You for your service Outgoing Officers!**

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

**07AUG CORN ROAST PICNIC**

**01SEP 2000 CROSSES FOR LIFE**

**17SEP 4TH EXEMPLIFICATION**

**30SEP TOOTSIE ROLL WEEKEND**

## Grand Knight Report

### Brother Knights - Vivat Jesus!



Grand & Sir Knight Jim Filbert

Well, 2 years goes by fast. I was warned it would and it certainly did. I remember sitting with Marty at our corn roast just after getting elected Grand Knight and he told me “hey it goes by really fast,” and he was certainly right.

On May 18th our council held a spectacular new member exemplification in the church which was attended by our pastor Father Ptak and several state officers including our Worthy State Deputy Walter Winkle. I was very proud of our council for putting together this exemplification on short notice and thank you to everyone who participated and attended. We had a strong showing of Brother Knights for our State Deputy and I know that he was very impressed by our council’s presence and by the delivery of our very excellent degree team who did a fantastic job.



Jim Filbert delivers his final address to Council 4401 during the June 2022 meeting as Worthy Grand Knight

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Last month our Worthy Deputy Grand Knight and myself traveled to Mackinac Island to attend the annual State Council convention. The two of us joined our District Deputy Don Garon and a few other delegates from our district in representing ourselves to the State Council. We joined our Worthy State Deputy for his State of the State address and his concluding remarks as his term as State Deputy comes to an end. We also participated in representing the council in the elections for two new state officers, Vern Miron as our new State Advocate and Dan Fuller our current State Membership Director as our new State Warden. I speak for Pablo and myself when I say thank you to the council for putting your faith and confidence in us in representing the council. It was a very enjoyable trip and much better than the 45 minute virtual conventions the previous two years.

As the current fraternal year comes to a close with it comes the end of this Brother Knight's two years as your Grand Knight. I wanted to take a moment to highlight some of the great successes our council has had over the past two years.

At the start of the 2020 fraternal year, we saw an important opportunity to grow and expand our Faith & Action programs. We also saw an opportunity to bring more committed men to the leadership table of our council and to have them help lead our various programs. To accomplish these aims we created our 4 new Faith & Action program director officer positions including a Faith Director, Family Director, Life Director, and Community Director. These 4 officers helped lead their respective program pillars and helped our council be as successful as possible with our Faith & Action programs.

And speaking of Faith & Action. It almost befuddles me to report that over the past 2 years our council successfully contributed nearly \$50,000 to various charitable and faith-based organizations. That's a number that all members of our council should be proud of. We raised over \$13,000 from our annual Tootsie Roll Drives to help benefit individuals with intellectual disabilities. We gifted \$5,000 in support to seminarians at Sacred Heart Ministry. We donated just over \$8,000 to various pro-life causes including Right to Life and Another Way Pregnancy Center. We secured and donated 144 new winter coats for impoverished children in Detroit. Our 8th grade Catholic Citizenship Essay contest last year saw one of our winners go on to win 2nd place in the entire state. And this year our winner went on to win 1st place in the entire state.

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## **Calendar of Events**

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

#### **July 2022**

- 2 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center
- 6 KofC Monthly Council Meeting 730pm OLS church hall (rosary in church 7pm)
- 9 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center
- 13 KofC Monthly Assembly of the 4th Degree Meeting 730pm OLS church hall
- 16 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center
- 20 KofC Officers Meeting 730pm OLS church hall
- 23 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center
- 30 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center

#### **August 2022**

- 3 KofC Monthly Council Meeting 730pm OLS church hall (rosary in church 7pm)
- 6 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center
- 7 CORN ROAST PICNIC LIVONIA ROTARY PARK
- 10 KofC Monthly Assembly of the 4th Degree Meeting 730pm OLS church hall
- 13 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center
- 17 KofC Officers Meeting 730pm OLS church hall
- 20 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center
- 27 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center

#### **September 2022**

- 3 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center
- 7 KofC Monthly Council Meeting 730pm OLS church hall (rosary in church 7pm)
- 10 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center
- 14 KofC Monthly Assembly of the 4th Degree Meeting 730pm OLS church hall
- 17 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center 4TH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION
- 21 KofC Officers Meeting 730pm OLS church hall
- 24 STIR Ministry 6 am, family center
- 30 TOOTSIE ROLL WEEKEND SEP 30—OCT 2

The Sick:

Lloyd Girau Anne Herrmann Calleigh Butler Christine Hofer Jack Strong	Bob Sayer Stanley Gromala Ed Border Dianna Liskiewicz Fr Joe Horn Deacon Joe Erbiel Julia Taib	Nancy Hytinen Patrick McKeever Joe Wells	Joe Gehringer
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The Departed:

Ed & Justine Good Joseph Reddy Charles Archambeau Norman Marvaso Matthew Weiss John Rybinski Lori Arndt	Fr David Higgins SK Bill McKeever Jennifer Dionisiu Frank Lafaro Robert Kula Joanne Plocinik Steven Kaminski Dam Akel	Doug Evangelista Bill Gibson Steve Collins Dave Nielson John Debora Melissa Bird Gene Reeves Marilyn Sawicki
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Special Intentions:

The Supreme Court James Plocinik Adrian Martinez The end of abortion The poor souls in purgatory The weak and vulnerable	Couples seeking adoption The courage to stand up for life Our justice system Adrienne Martz	Those suffering from Addiction and Depression Renee Dudek Joe Koralewski Joseph Wojtowicz	Fr James Livingston Annie Rinckey Danielle Greenman The people of Ukraine The conversion of Gretchen Witmer President Biden
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## **Thank You Tony Di Ponio for Serving 9 Years as Financial Secretary**

The position of Financial Secretary is a position in our council that is held by a Brother Knight which carries with it an enormous amount of trust and professionalism. It's a position with such reverence that it's not actually a position our council elects but rather is a position appointed by the office of our Supreme Knight. The Financial Secretary is appointed by Supreme to a 3 year term upon the recommendation of the Grand Knight and the Board of Trustees. And the end of this fraternal year marks the conclusion of our Financial Secretary's third term in his position for a total of 9 years serving in his post.

Last month our Worthy Financial Secretary approached me and asked that our council work to find a successor for the position. 9 years is a heck of a long time to serve as Financial Secretary and our council is incredibly thankful for the long tenure and the excellent stewardship of Tony Di Ponio as our Worthy Financial Secretary.

For his long time commitment and diligence as our Financial Secretary I had the honor of presenting Tony with a council award for distinguished service for all he has done and the time he has committed to our council over the past decade. Thank you Tony!

With Tony's retirement as our Financial Secretary I also have an important announcement to make. The Board of Trustees and I have agreed upon our recommendation to the Supreme Office for our council's next Financial Secretary. He is a man you all know very well by now and he's answered the call to be our next Financial Secretary. Congratulations and Thank You to Past Grand Knight Henry Testa! We are very blessed to have you in our council and thankful for this and many other commitments you have made. Vivat Jesus!

**Officer Election Results for the 2022-2023 Fraternal Year****1. Grand Knight**

Pablo Martinez

**7. Advocate**

George Curran

**2. Deputy Grand Knight**

Dan Wolocko

**8. Trustee (1)**

Jim Filbert

**3. Chancellor**

Mike Kandah

**9. Guards (4)**

Ryan Arndt

Don Arndt

Gary Phillips

John Sule

**4. Warden**

Kyle Redding

**5. Treasurer**

Mark Rychlinski

**10. Building Corp Members (2)**

Tony Di Ponio

Jim Filbert

**6. Recorder**

Pat Dwyer

**CONGRATULATIONS KNIGHTS**

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These are just some of the many great things our council has done to expand on the mission of Father Michael J McGivney.

On the administrative front, our council has stepped up its use of technology by implementing a streamlined online voucher system and last year we rolled out an online dues collection system allowing members to quickly and easily pay their dues. Our council also continues to remain financially responsible and highly professional in our accounting practices, thanks in large part to our experienced and diligent financial team including our Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and our Board of Trustees who continue to ensure that we exceed best practices when it comes to council financial management.

But one of the things I'm most proud of in this council is how we managed to carry out the KOC mission and do all of these great things and more during the Covid-19 pandemic. While other KOC councils struggled and stagnated, our council continued to grow and succeed. During a time when our churches were empty, our council was still full of members dedicated to our mission. We faced trying times, we lost members and friends, but our resolve as a council was never broken and we never stopped answering the call.

Last year our council fell short of winning Star Council due largely to the pandemic. We really just couldn't recruit the numbers we needed because we didn't really have the opportunities to do so. Well, I'm happy to report this year is different. Because of your commitment and your devotion to our cause, I'm pleased to inform you that our council has met the requirements to earn the Columbian Award, the Founder's Award, and the Father McGivney Award, which means that our council has also met the requirements for the Star Council Award.

Now that we've taken a look at the past let's look ahead to the future. And know this, our future as a council is bright and promising. As we've seen from our recent election of our new council officers, our council is about to enter a promising new fraternal year led by men of strong faith, determination, and commitment. Our council has come a long way in the past few years but I know that the best is still yet to come. We are close to breaking through the barrier that separates good councils from prestigious councils, which separates councils following the status quo from councils that lead and inspire other councils to aim higher. In two years we've gone from holding exemplifications attended by only a handful of people to holding an exemplification attended by our State Deputy. That, my Brother Knights, is a trajectory which indicates we are following a path upward, that we are being recognized as a council that leads and sets the example.

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## COOL STUFF HAPPENING ABOUT THE COUNCIL

Top left picture is **Jim Filbert**, Grand Knight (r.), accepting Council of the Month from one of three K of C state directors attending the November '21 meeting.

Top right picture (r. to l.) is **Dan Wolocko**, **Pablo Martinez** & **Jim Filbert** accepting recognition as other council and state directors are in the background.

Below pictured on the right is **Tim Gelletly** with seminarians in the AOD gathering for a fun filled super bowl pizza lunch provided for the group by the Knights.



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140 years ago Blessed Michael J McGivney created our order and named us **Knights** of Columbus. Not Followers of Columbus, not Members of Columbus, not Associates of Columbus, but **Knights**. Because he knew that we would be fighters and defenders of our faith and church. And as our exemplification states, we are a strong band of brothers united in our mission and standing together as one... to rise up in defense of Christ and to defend our sacred religion. Our council will always remember that mission. We will be the fighters and defenders that answer the call to do more. We will succeed in being the beacon that lights the way forward, and we will be the defenders of Christ here on earth.

Serving as your Grand Knight for the past two years has truly been a sincere honor and will remain as one of my most cherished opportunities in life. It has been remarkable to see a team of so many devout and committed men work to have such a lasting impact on the community, our parish, and our order.

I could not be more proud of our council for these and many other efforts. The accomplishments of our Brother Knights will forever be something I hold close and will always be something I remember with esteemed admiration.

While today marks the end of my time as your Grand Knight tomorrow marks the continuation of a bright future for our council. A future I am very excited about, a future that I know will catapult our council even higher, a future that I know will see our council overcome obstacles, reach new heights, and become a leading council in our state.

My Brother Knights, thank you for your support over the past two years, thank you for putting your trust in me, thank you for believing in our council and allowing me this opportunity to serve as your Worthy Grand Knight. It has been a sincere honor, one that I am very thankful for, and I am very proud to be a part of this council and to call you all my brothers.

Brother Knights, Vivat Jesus!

Jim Filbert

Grand Knight

2020-2022

New Grand Knight Pablo Martinez (left) is sworn into office by exiting Grand Knight Jim Filbert (right)



## **Introducing Our New Grand Knight Pablo Martinez**

*As read by GK Jim Filbert at the June 1st Council Meeting when presenting the Knight of the Month Award.*

My last Knight of the Month award is being presented to someone for a few particular reasons and is really an accumulative award for all he's done over the past year. Also because he will be ineligible to receive the Knight of the Month award for the next two years because on page 1 of Leadership 101 it says to never give yourself an award it's in bad taste.

A year ago, this Brother Knight had only been a Knight for 12 months and he answered the call. Literally, my call, when I phoned him to ask if he would be interested in serving as Deputy Grand Knight and then as Grand Knight because we had lost a few of our next-at-bats. I remember making that phone call and thinking to myself, "hey if this guy I hardly know says no I might get stuck up here forever." But luckily for me and my sanity he didn't say no. He said... 'maybe.' Well actually he said let me pray on it for a few days, talk to my wife, and I'll get back to you. And then he said, "ok."

And over the course of the year I got to know our new Deputy Grand Knight quite well. I knew he was deeply committed to his Catholic faith, that he was a loving and caring husband and father, and because of his professional experience in automotive quality control he would have no problem telling people "no"... all the great markings of a quality Grand Knight.

But I also know that this past year wasn't easy for him. Soon after being elected as Deputy Grand Knight, he received unfortunate medical news and began to undergo treatment for cancer.

I will admit, for many months I was prepared and waiting for him to tell me that because of his situation he could no longer commit to becoming our next Grand Knight. It would have been understandable and to be perfectly honest with you would probably have been the thing I would have done. But that phone call never came. Because the Lord decided he had other plans and over the past year Pablo continued to carry out his duties and was adamant about not letting his treatment hinder what he felt the Lord called on him to do.

Many times throughout the year Pablo's treatment day would either fall the day before or the day after our council meetings. And even though it was difficult for him, he always took the commitment he made seriously and always made sure to be present with us.

I am very optimistic about our council in the next few years and I know that at the podium will stand a Grand Knight who is deeply committed to his obligations, to his faith and his family, to his church, and to all of you.

Brother Knights it is my high honor to present to you the 36th Grand Knight of the St Francis of Assisi Council Pablo Martinez. Congratulations Pablo!

Pablo (left) receives Knight of the Month from exiting Grand Knight Jim Filbert (right)





## MAN, KNIGHT, WARRIOR IN ACTION

St Francis of Assisi Council 4401 held its first business meeting of 2022 on January 5th. Family director **Daniel Wolocko**, loving son, husband & father of 7, gave his second motivation talk to 35 members who attended and were on line. The talk was riveting, focused on the importance of our roles as Catholic men, and how we need to be the light in the darkness. How the family is under attack and how we can take back the family. He also connects Knighthood as being a very important part of a man's life.

Daniel shares a call to action to find an army of Catholic men to take back the domestic church while leading our families through these challenging times. Please enjoy listening to our own brother. The link below is testament to our Knighthood, guided and inspired by the Holy Spirit. The picture below is Dan speaking to the council. This is a must listen and watch! Thank you brother!

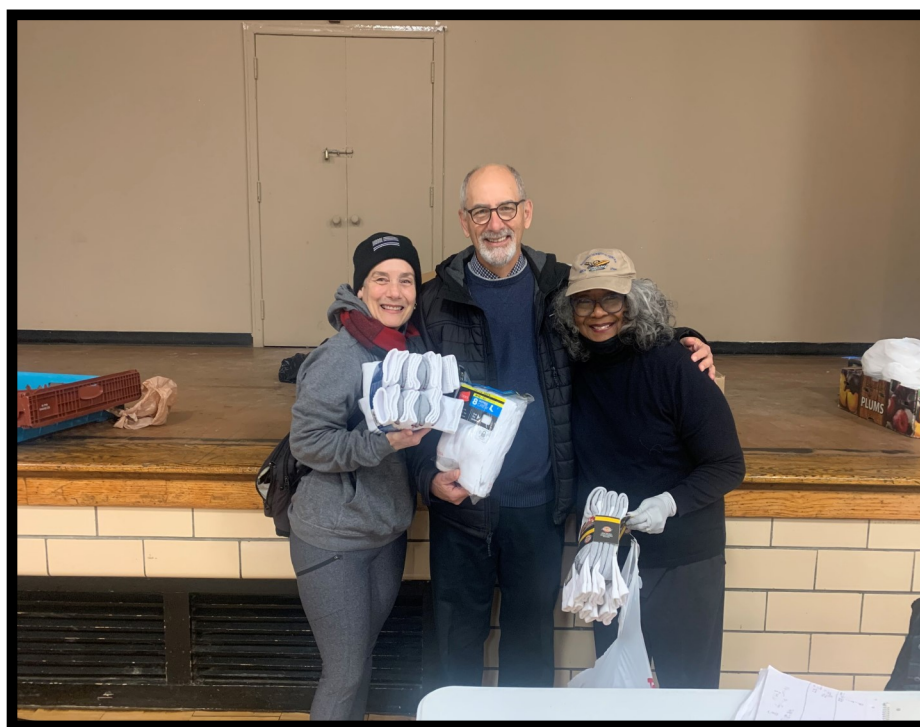
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=NLTN5VCTpXY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NLTN5VCTpXY)

is the link to the talk.





Always pitching in to help you will find these brothers ready when called. Pictured above from left to right is **Henry Testa**, **John Sule** and **Marc Wilkins** at the CARES facility in Farmington Hills helping pack and distribute food to area residents in need this past month. What a great group of guys. Thank you men of faith!



At the Manchun Center delivering socks and a monetary donation, **Tom Rancour**, pictured in the middle above, once again going beyond the call of knighthood last month. Thanks for all you do, all the time brother Tom! (knight of the year '21)





Charles J. "Chuck" Armchambeau, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, passed into eternal life at Beaumont Hospital, Farmington Hills, on Tuesday, February 22, 2022. He was 82.

Chuck was born February 12, 1940, in Redford Township, to the late Hiram and Ann A. (Charbonneau) Archambeau. He married Elizabeth H. "Liz" (McFarland) on October 20, 1973 in Farmington Hills.

Chuck was a member of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church where he attended school for 12 years and was part of the first graduating class of 1958. He was also an usher there for many years and was part of their Knight of Columbus council. He served in the United States Air Force from 1959-1967 and was a police officer in Farmington Hills for 13 years where he was a traffic officer, detective/arson investigator, surveillance crew member, and patrol sergeant.

*Eternal rest grant him, oh Lord,  
and let your perpetual light shine  
on him, Amen*



***Thank you all participants of the 2022 Farmington Memorial Day Parade  
A great day to honor our Veterans as we walked Grand River Ave. with the 4th Degree  
Color Corp leading Knights & Family and our 8' x 12' American Flag, "Old Glory"  
Pictured are Knights gathered for fallout***



# The Counselor

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Our Lady of Sorrows Parish  
Farmington , Michigan

The Knights  
of Columbus  
St. Francis  
Council  
#4401

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

Chaplain	TBD	248-474-5720
District Deputy	Gary Mallia	
Grand Knight	Pablo Martinez	248-612-8287
Deputy Grand Knight	Dan Wolocko	
Faithful Navigator	Joe Hejka	248-789-2957
Building Corp. President		
Chancellor	Mike Kandah	248-637-1166
Warden	Kyle Redding	
Recorder	Pat Dwyer	248-471-4088
Treasurer	Mark Rychlinski	248-302-8016
Vocations Director	TBD	
Advocate & Membership	SK George Curran	248-477-7940
Financial Secretary	Henry Testa	
Building Corp Trustee	Tony DiPonio	
Trustee 3 year/Build Corp. Trustee	Jim Filbert	
Trustee 2 year/Newsletter Editor	SK Dean Wojtowicz	248-794-3582
Trustee 1 Year/Community Director	Tom Mike Evangelista	
Program Director		
Life Director/Guard	SK Tom Herrmann	248-661-0605
Faith Director/Guard	Tim Gelletly	313-595-8071
Guard	Ryan Arndt	
Guard	John Sule	248-924-0511
Guard	Don Arndt	
Guard	Gary Phillips	
Nursing Visitation	Bill Martz	248-442-9783
Lecturer	TBD	
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

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