



# NEUMANN KNIGHTS

ST. JOHN NEUMANN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
COUNCIL 16169  
44800 WARREN ROAD CANTON, MI 48187



**Chaplain**

Rev. Paul Ballien

**District Deputy**

Dan Timmerman PGK

**Grand Knight**

Chuck Lang

**Deputy Grand Knight**

Steve Sarlitto

**Chancellor**

Bill Springer

**Recording Secretary**

Ron Kretschmer

**Treasurer**

Joe Bradley

**Advocate**

Jeff Battistella

**Warden**

Roger Bienat

**Inside Guard**

Michael Pilotto  
Bob LeBeau

**Outside Guard**

Paul Bak

**John Safran**

**Trustees**

Clint Randall  
Keith Laurin  
David Andreolli

**Financial Secretary**

John Lutz

**Lecturer**

Marshall Grazioli

**Membership Director**

Larry Redman

**Program Director**

David Trost

**Newsletter Editor**

Ronald Rathbun

**Web Master**

Gene Suchyta

**Leave No Knight Behind**

Ron LeTourneau

**Vocations Director**

Joe Camill

**Life Director**

Marshall Grazioli

**Community Director**

Mike Tallman

**Family Director**

Bob Ruginski

**Faith Director**

Dan Pfeiffer

## *From the Desk of the Grand Knight*



**Chuck Lang, Grand Knight**

Brother Knights,

As we begin the new Fraternal Year, I am anticipating that we will have another dynamic year. That being stated, we are presently putting together a review of all the activities the Council engaged in to highlight our year for future publications and marketing efforts. We will publish it in the August newsletter.

The month of July is a time for us to pause, reflect and begin planning what our focus for the new fraternal year will be. You elected an excellent slate of Officers and I am excited to continue serving you as your Grand Knight working with them in fulfilling our mission.

So to start the New Year off right, The Officers and I have decided to change up our first meeting to instill some enthusiasm, inspiration and fellowship!

Our July 11<sup>th</sup> Membership meeting will include a free dinner for you and your spouse/ significant other, it will highlight the Installation of our Officers and will conclude with special recognitions, an inspirational message from Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly, who just stepped down on July 1<sup>st</sup> and a spiritual message from our Chaplin, Fr. Paul and Lecturer, Marshall Grazioli. Our theme "Faith & Family First". YES, the spouses can stay for the entire evening! A special dispensation has been granted for this session so the spouses can enjoy the program, learn more about us and enjoy the fellowship that we share amongst each other. The evening will flow as follows:

**Dinner served at 5:15pm in Baldwin Hall**  
**Installation of Officers: 6:10pm**  
**Special Program: 6:50 - 8pm**

Patrick Kelly's message is very warm and encouraging. He calls us to be men of Chivalry, to live and strengthen our faith and to lead our families in the faith. He encourages us to band together, to stand tall and defend the Faith. My Brother Knights, I encourage you to join us for this special and to invite your spouse/significant other to join you. You will not regret participating in this inspiring and moving night!

**Reservations are required by July 10th!** Also, there is an opportunity to bring a dessert. We also need a few knights to help in the kitchen with serving. Please go to this link to make your reservation and to sign up for dessert or volunteering to serve:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DA5A62BA2FFC43-july3>

I look forward to sharing this evening with you and yours!

Vivat Jesus,  
Grand Knight

**General Membership Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm in Baldwin Hall.**  
**Officers meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm in Baldwin Hall and are open to all members.**



*Knight for the Month  
of June  
Gene Suchyta*

Gene has been a member of SJN since 1986, singing in the choir for 30 years, as well as being cantor. He is a charter member of SJN KofC #16169, a 4th Degree member since 2016, being Faithful Navigator of Assembly 1536, from 2017 to 2021. Gene served as the executive secretary for Michigan District 1 of the 4th Degree from September 2018 through August 2022. He is currently 4th Degree District Master, oversees 31 assemblies and 3,200 4th Degree Sir Knights in the Detroit Archdiocese. Through his bicycle riding he has raised funds for numerous charities. Through their charitable foundation, Gene's family has supported not only St. John Neumann, St. Vincent de Paul and the Archdiocese of Detroit, they also support numerous other charities.

**Congratulations Gene!**



*Family of the Month:  
John & Jim Kullman*

JOHN is an Adult Faith Formation Committee member, provides FOOD FOR THOUGHT weekly bulletin article, assists in the coordination of the Divine Mercy Sunday devotion and cofounded the POST MASS MONDAY discussion group.

JIM is active with the Men's Prayer Breakfast (incl. video coordinator), he volunteers at SJN Spring planting/cleanup, SJN grounds Christmas display,

Forgotten Harvest, set up/take down SJN Abortion Crosses and assembly and distribution of the Pro-Life lawn signs.

**Congratulations to John and Jim!**

*District Deputy  
Brian Zahn*

The June meeting was Brian Zahn's last meeting as DD after 4 years, presented by Hans Hansen with his former DD pin.



At the last general meeting, the council said good bye and Thank You to Fr. Paulo for his Srvce to our parish. The council also presented him with a new KofC Vestment



*Special Recognition: Cathy  
Redman for her assistance  
during the State Raffle  
event held here!*





## Brother Knights and Friends That Are In Need our Prayers



Ed Hurst, Jr., FN, PGK  
 Donna Kriofsky, friend of Ron Kretschmer  
 Rick and Edith, friends of Dan Pfeiffer  
 Larry Budzisz, brother of Ron Budzisz  
 Christopher Michael, neighbor of Bob Rugenski  
 Bryan Helm, nephew of DGKSteve Sarlitto  
 George McPartlin, friend of Leo Tykoski  
 Peter Mulka, friend of Larry P Redman  
 Michael Barker, acquaintance of George Peters  
 Tim Andrzejewski, friend of brother George K. Peters

Jan Peters, wife of George K. Peters  
 Ann & Joann Konopinski, friends of Ron Kretschmer  
 Phyllis & Bob Parisien, friends of Ron Kretschmer  
 Marie Trost, mother of David Trost  
 Joyce Hansen, wife of Hans Hansen, PGK  
 Carrie Lardinai, sister of a friend of Joe Bradley  
 Mark Ryan, son-in-law of George K. Peters  
 Sara Curtiss, niece of PGK Ed Hurst, Jr.  
 Makenna Rugenski, daughter of Robert J Rugenski



### *July Birthdays*

James J Jermanus (07-05)	Joseph A Wedesky (07-19)
Fr. Paulo Dias (07-06)	Marshall J Grazioli (07-20)
Roger A Biernat( 07-08)	Steven M Otting (07-21)
Robert J Rugenski (07-08)	Gerardo De La Torre (07-23)
Mr Edward A Hurst Jr (07-09)	Julius C Pablo (07-23)
John A Crabill (07-10)	Cyril Miranda (07-27)
Peter J Nestor (07-12)	Brian J Zahn, PGK (07-30)
George K. Peters (07-13)	Jonathan J Otten (07-31)
Anthony J Esser (07-14)	

### *Years of Service as a Knight*

#### 1 to 4 Years of Service



Alexander R Lams (2)  
 Victor J Lams (2)  
 Christopher J Kotcher (3)  
 Nathaniel J Svoboda (4)

#### 5 to 9 Years Service

William L Etienne (6)

### *Wedding Anniversaries*



Victor J & Jackie Lams (07-01)	Steven R & Pamela Sarlitto (07-16-)
Marshall J & Colleen Grazioli ( 07-13)	Ronald J & Maria Rathbun (07-20)
Joseph C & Rosalyn Bradley (07-16)	Brian J & Kelly Zahn, PGK (07-29)
Alan K & Sandra Nutten (07-16)	



Eucharistic Adoration Fridays The Blessed Sacrament is exposed in the main Church after the 9 am Friday Mass. Exposition is made available until 7pm concluding with benediction. Come in to pray and spend some time with the Lord.





*Current & Upcoming  
Events & Activities*

- July 11 (Tue)** - Installation of Officers with Dinner at 5:15pm
- July 15** - Rosary Rally
- Aug 11 - 13 (Fri, Sat, Sun) - State Camporee
- Aug 12** - Special Officer's Planning Meeting
- Sept. 17 - Parish Picnic – need Knights to volunteer
- Oct. 7** - Fall Fest 5k run/walk & Chili Cook Off fundraiser
- Oct. 7-8-9** - K of C MI Drive
- Oct. 14** - Rosary Procession at Noon
- Oct. 27** - Knights Halloween Dance
- Nov. 17 - Wine Tasting Event – Knights fundraiser

*Sign Up  
Opportunities*

To Volunteer Click on the link below

- [July, August: Vocations Chalice](#)
- [July 11: Officer Installation](#)

## *Celebrated Corpus Christi Sunday*

By Dan Pfeiffer

On June 11th 2023, about 150 parishioners from Saint John Neumann Celebrated Corpus Christi Sunday with Mass, Adoration, a Rosary, a Eucharistic Procession and an Ice Cream Social. The Procession was led by the Grand Knight, Chuck Lang, carrying the Crucifix, two candle bearers, Joe Henn and Terri McKeith, incense by Jessica Hurst and Claudia, The Tallman Family with rose petals, members of the Color Guard ahead of Father Paul and Father Paulo taking turns carrying the Eucharist in a Monstrance under a canopy. Our Deacons came next, then more Color Guard members. Boy Scouts



served as flag bearers for the American and Vatican Flags. The parishioners in the Procession were led in the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary by Joe Camil. Finally, a beautiful banner designed by Ron Rathbun ended the Procession.

Rain threatened to interrupt the Celebration but God blessed us and held back the rain until after the Procession. Once back in the Church, we were led in songs by Kurt Kulikowski and Father led us in the Divine Praises before Reposing the Blessed Sacrament. Our Celebration continued in the Gathering Space with an Ice Cream Social Thanks to Lee Ann Farrell, Mimi Blanchard, Beth Pilotto, Frans Purwadihardja and Bob Rugenski.



Our thanks to all who planned and participated in this event, with special thanks to Pia Carli, Jane Dickman, Yvette Corey and Tom Salapetek, Randy Martin and David Trost. Vivat Jesus!!!



To view all pictures taken at the Corpus Christi Sunday click here : <https://photos.app.goo.gl/KnaNquKvApXEeSYg9>

## *This Month's Featured CIS Booklet*



### **114 – The Eucharist**

The source and summit of the Christian life, the sacramental center for Catholics, is the holy Eucharist. Like Christ, the holy Eucharist is controversial and divisive. When Jesus initially taught crowds of people about the holy Eucharist, many of them left (see the Gospel of John 6:60). Today, the question still comes to us: "will you also go away?" (John 6:67). Is the holy Eucharist actually a sacrifice? Should we worship the Eucharist?

[Click here for this months audio version of Featured Booklet](#)

You Can download this booklet to read during your leisure. [Download PDF.](#)

Or go to <https://www.kofc.org/en/who-we-are/our-faith/booklets.html>

# No Knight Left Behind

By Ron LeTourneau



The work of the No Knight Left Behind committee at our Council has already begun and will continue through this summer and beyond. We

want to thank the 14 Knights who have given their time to participate in the committee's mission of reaching out to brother Knights whom we have not heard from in recent times.

Our initial calls produced some very engaging conversations concerning what is happening in their lives, requests for prayers and appreciation that this Council has undertaken this manner of support for our brother Knight community. After reviewing the various responses to the initial wave of calls, the committee prepared a list for each member who will be reaching out to our brothers in the weeks ahead. Blessings and thanks to all involved.



**Men's Prayer Breakfast**  
**Men of St. John Neumann**  
 All men of the parish are invited to come join us for faith, food and fellowship!  
 Our Men's Prayer Breakfast meets every Thursday at 6:00am in Baldwin Hall! The breakfast last exactly one hour. Stop on your way to work. Just show up no reservations needed.

For more info Contact: Ron Kretschmer 734-756-4425

# June 4 Pancake Breakfast

By David Blankenship



The server's at the SJN Pancake Breakfast were kept on their toes as we had a bump in parishioners who wanted to say farewell to Fr. Paulo and wish him well as he moves from St. John Neumann parish to his new assignment. There was no shortage of well-wishers and Fr. Paulo greeted them enthusiastically.

Of course, there would not be a pancake breakfast if not for the volunteer Knights who give up a portion of their Saturday and Sunday to set-up, prepare and serve breakfast, and clean up after each mass and at the end of our day. Thank you to the following Knights for the selfless giving of their time and talents for the grateful parishioners who joined us for cookies, coffee and breakfast:

(I sure hope I did not miss anyone!)



Steve Polidori  
 Mike Polovich  
 Steve Sarlitto  
 Leo Petretta  
 Ed Hurst  
 Dennis Oszust  
 Joe Smyth  
 Jeff Battistella  
 Greg Link  
 Dave Kubinski  
 Larry O'Hara

Ron Kretschmer  
 Joe Bradley  
 Len Carravallah  
 Chuck Lang  
 Tom Solak  
 Dan Timmerman  
 Dave Andreolli  
 Marcel Loosbrock  
 Jack Massarello  
 Dave Trescott

As a little twist for this breakfast, we offered clementines and grapes to the breakfast menu, which was generally well received, especially by the mothers and fathers who encouraged their kids to have some fresh fruit.



We take a count of those served as best as we can during the breakfast and our popularity continues to grow. Over the weekend of June 3 and 4, we served 307 parishioners and collected donations of \$753.90; the net of proceeds is earmarked to cover expenses associate with the Corpus Christi Procession which was held on June 11.

Again congratulations on another successful Knights of Columbus event which directly serves the members of our great parish and again thanks to the Knights who have helped with the pancake breakfast throughout the fraternal year.



## Free E-Membership

The online or e-membership code to honor Fr. Michael J. McGivney has been extended again!

The free online membership code is BLESSEDMCGIVNEY

- Direct prospects to [kofc.org/joinus](http://kofc.org/joinus)
- Enter promo code **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY**
- Enter your membership number for sponsor credit,

## Cans for Seminarians



We would like to thank you for your support of the “cans for Seminarians” program. The women’s organization will be collecting the returnables for the next two months. Our council will again take responsibility for the sand and bottles in September.

To date we have collect nearly \$1699 for the seminarians thus far this year. Thank You.



## St. John Neumann Golf Outing

David Trost and George Peters Co-Chairs

The Knights of Columbus sponsored St. John Neumann Golf Outing is now behind us, but the great memories will linger on. With an overcast sky and intermittent rain, it did not dampen the spirits or golf scores of 115 registered golfers. The winner of this year’s outing was a team formed by our very own Keith Laurin at 12 under par. Two second place teams were 10 under par. That is some very good shooting given the conditions and limited use of mulligans.



The Outing Committee was blessed with numerous sponsors who donated cash and gifts. Our Event Sponsor- Knights of Columbus Insurance and Fraternal Benefits was a major contributor right from the beginning. Additional Sponsors included 7 Hole Sponsors, 15 different Gift Basket Sponsors which were auctioned through a raffle, and another 14 sponsored donations used for Golf Prizes and Bonus drawings.

Our volunteers came out strong and helped early for set-up, took morning or afternoon shifts and helped clean up. There was plenty to do and many hands were needed to effectively run this golf outing. A BIG THANK YOU!! goes out to those who jumped in when they did not know what to expect – Great Job!

When Golf Outing and Knights come together it means that 50/50 raffles explode. That is exactly what happened. This year, the winner of the 50/50 raffle took in \$860. The winning ticket went to Linda Demmer. Jack Demmer Automotive Group was a major sponsor for our Hole-in-one and Putting Contest Insurance for \$10,000 and \$2500 respectfully. Linda also sponsored a foursome for golf. In the end, she graciously gave half of her winnings back to our Knights Council. – Outstanding!




Speaking of Putting Contest, Joe Smyth drew the lucky opportunity for a 60 foot one putt attempt for \$2500. While he did not make it, he received a consolation prize.

As the saying goes..... Drive for Show and Putt for Dough. (Maybe that should be the name of the contest next year)

Other notable Golf Contest winners were:

- Grant Corbat – Straightest Drive
- Ken Svoboda – Men’s Closest to the Pin
- Laura McCully – Women’s Closest to the Pin
- Joe Pomorski – Men’s Longest Drive
- Bari Livsey – Women’s Longest Drive

In the end, everyone really enjoyed themselves and look forward to a great 2024 event.



To view all pictures taken by Brother Knight Gene Suchyta at the Golf Outing  
[Click here for all of Gene's Photos](#)

## Membership Update

Total net actual fraternal year membership gain is 17 (155% of quota).

Total membership is 194  
(153 associate and 41 insurance).

Total Regular Membership is 181,

Honorary Membership 3

Honorary Life Membership 10.

## Plymouth Rotary Chicken Dinner



Last year, our council assisted in the Plymouth Rotary Chicken dinners at the Fall Festival. This turned out to be a very good source of income for our council. After last

years program we were looking forward to participate again this year. However, the Rotary has decided to eliminate the prayer from all their activities. That left our council with no choice except to refuse to participate this year when asked by the Rotary for help. Even if the income we received would greatly help our charity programs, we have to stand by our principles as a Catholic mens organization. We hope that our members will understand and support our decision.

## New Program Director

Brother knight Ed Hurst Jr PGK FN has stepped down from the position of program Director at our council. He has accepted a new state position. He will greatly missed as our program director.

Brother David Trost has stepped up to fill the shoes of Ed in this very important position as program Director.

## From Your Life Director

By Marshall Grazioli

On June 10<sup>th</sup> Tim Wood, Marshall and Colleen Grazioli participated in the annual Flapjack Run along Hines Drive near Nankin Mills to help raise funds for the AAA Pregnancy Center in Livonia. Tim and Marshall competed in the 10K run while Colleen, and a few of her friends, participated in the 5k walk, all for team St. John Neuman.



Afterward there was great fellowship at the pancake and sausage breakfast where Chris's flying pancakes are delivered to your plate through the air. Thanks to your generous donations, Marshall was second amongst the individual fundraisers and team SJN was third amongst the team fundraisers. All in all, nearly \$20,000 was raised for AAA.

On June 24 we recognized the one-year anniversary of the Supreme Court Dobbs decision which overturned the 1973 Roe vs Wade decision that made abortion a

constitutional right. On a recent trip

out east I saw a bumper sticker on a truck that read "We don't need to rewrite the Constitution; we need to re-read it". How true. We still have to stay in this fight. Your support of our Pro-Life activities helps to do this, at a minimum, by supporting agencies like AAA that help women and give them the

tools and means to choose life when they feel they have no other choice.

At our upcoming membership meeting on July 11, we will again be accepting cash donations to support

an ultrasound purchase initiative by the combined Knights of Columbus Councils from St. Mary Church in Williamston, St. Martha Church in Okemos and St. Thomas Aquinas Church in East Lansing. Their goal is to raise \$20,000 for this initiative.

Lastly, save the date of October 1, 2023 for the Annual Life Chain on Wayne Road along the parking a lot or the Westland Mall. We will be standing in silent prayer from 2:00 PM to 3:30PM to remind all of our duty to protect life at all stages. More details to come.

## Council Donates to Statues



Archbishop Allen Vigneron has commissioned the Cathedral to become an Apostolic Center. The goal is to permanently install all twelve apostles statues and their first class relics in the cathedral. This will allow pilgrims to experience self guided retreats when visiting the cathedral.

The Michigan State Council has asked our council to consider helping raise the

\$100,000 necessary to complete the project. All districts and/or council that donates \$1000 will be included on a special plaque located in the cathedral. It will include either the district number and the councils that helped. Our council contributed \$250 towards reaching this goal.



# God Bless America!

Join us for a public rosary rally and pray  
for the urgent conversion of America!



## Rosary Rally of Reparation

Where: Saint Priscilla Catholic Church  
19120 Purlingbrook St.  
Livonia, MI 48152

When: Saturday, July 15,  
At 3:00 PM

Please gather near the driveway to Saint Priscilla off the 7 Mile.

Please contact Maria at (734) 420-5062,  
TFP-ANF at 844-830-3570 or email [protest@TFP.org](mailto:protest@TFP.org)  
for more information.

Our public rosary will be peaceful and legal, asking for  
God's mercy and offering reparation.