



# NEUMANN KNIGHTS



Serving St. John Neumann & Resurrection Parishes

- 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  
Vacant
- 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  
VACANT
- Family Director  
Bob Rugenski
- Faith Director  
VACANT

## From the Desk of the Grand Knight



Chuck Lang, Grand Knight

Brother Knights, Happy New Year!

As we begin 2024, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of you for your warm, caring and generous service to our families, parishioners and community this past year. It is who we are: a Council that serves! Congratulations to those who were recognized throughout the year as "Knight of the Month" and as "Family of the Month". Your example of service shines for all of us!

Unfortunately, we lost another Brother, Fourth Degree -Robert Liebau, went home to our Lord on October 26th. He will be remembered as one who served always willing to assist, even up to the end. Please remember Bob and his family in your prayers and those on our Prayer List.

We begin this year already achieving "Star Council", 200+ members and having a very strong balance sheet to support our charitable endeavors. We have many other accomplishments, too many to list, that we celebrated throughout the year.

We ended 2023 with our December membership/dinner meeting. It was a grand sight to see with 119 Knights, spouses and guests in attendance. We recognized many knights, individuals and presented the "Family of the Year Award" to the Edward Hurst Jr. family. We were honored with the presence and message delivered by our State Deputy, Christopher Kolomjec. Following the meeting, we celebrated with an awesome holiday buffet that the Officers prepared for everyone's enjoyment. I watched with amazement, the beautiful fellowship taking place amongst the Brothers and guests, taking time to share stories and experiences with each other. It was truly a special evening and a grand way to launch into the New Year!

I pray that everyone will continue to attend our meetings and encourage those that are not, to join us when they can, to share in the wonderful fellowship of our Brothers.

As we enter this new year, let us be mindful of the virtues of our Faith, especially Prudence, Fortitude, Brotherly Love, Humility, Hope, Charity and Diligence. I pray that we will all do our very best to serve. We all have personal issues that often times, allows us to compromise ourselves from serving others. Service to others is extremely rewarding, even the smallest gesture or prayer will make a difference. When called to serve, respond with joy!

My Brothers, I sincerely appreciate everything you are doing and what you will do in the future. May the Holy Spirit fill our hearts and minds to help us discern how we are called to serve this new year; the year of the Eucharist!

Blessings, Vivat Jesus

St. John Neumann  
Knights of Columbus  
Council 16169 ,  
44800 Warren Road  
Canton, Mi 48187

**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.**

Zoom link : <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3368235608?pwd=eDVmK2xvc0k5YitodWdYVWZlYnRvdz09>  
All meetings are held at St. John Neumann Catholic Church.

If you can not attend the general meeting you are encouraged to attend via Zoom. To Attend just click on the link below:

## A Message from Our District Deputy By DD Dan Timmerman



At the December Membership Meeting, I was proud to present the Star Council award for the fraternal year 2022-2023 to Grand Knight Chuck Lang. This is the eighth year we have achieved Star Council since our chartering in 2015.

To achieve Star Council, you must achieve goals in membership recruitment, conduct at least sixteen total programs in the four Faith in Action categories, Faith, Family, Community, and Life, and meet goals from a fraternal benefit standpoint.

Although this award has your Grand Knight's name, it is an award for all members. It takes all the Brother Knights working together to achieve this award. Thank you for all your efforts and congratulations.

God Bless

Dan Timmerman



## Welcome Our New Brother Knights

### December 14 Exemplification



December 14 Exemplification

- ▶ Christopher Chirpka is a family man. Married and with two kids. His son is an altar server at the 12:30 PM mass, his daughter is an usher at the 12:30 PM mass. He is looking to expand his faith through volunteer activities.

### December 21 Exemplification



December 21 Exemplification

- ▶ Marlowe Ma is a 20+ year parishioner at Resurrection. He is a family man, married and father of now adult children.
- ▶ Richard Suchyta is a cousin of Worthy Brother Knight Gene Suchyta. He is a midshipman in Marine ROTC. He attends Catholic University. Member of St. Agnes Catholic Church in Arlington, VA. Richard's father is a 4th degree Sir Knight and retired US Navy commander.
- ▶ Robert Suchyta (brother to Richard) is also a cousin of Worthy Brother Knight Gene Suchyta. He is a midshipman in Navy ROTC. He attends Old Dominion University. Member of St. Agnes Catholic Church in Arlington, VA. Robert's father is a 4th degree Sir Knight and retired US Navy commander.



# Brother Knights and Friends That Are In Need our Prayers



Cristina Sarlitto, mother of DGK Steve Sarlitto

Laura Budzisz, daughter of brother Ron Budzisz

Daniel Day, supervisor of warden Roger Biernat

Kim and Ryan Brown, parents of Griffin Brown

Diane Gavala, friend of Ron Kretschmer

State Treasurer Charles E. McCuen, II

A safe pregnancy of Tiffany and Paul Morgan, friends of Roz and Joe Bradley. Tiffany is pregnant with quadruple babies.

Jackie Brannon, friend of brother Gary Sienkiewicz

Makenna Rugenski, daughter of brother Robert J Rugenski



## January Birthdays

Luke Buehler (1-1)

Alexander R Lams (1-4)

John W Brennan (1-7)

Charles E Singleton (1-8)

Joseph J Smyth (1-8)

Andrew A Anyanwu (1-10)

Stephen L Kamykowski (1-16)

Alan K Nutten (1-18)

Christopher Chirpka(1-21)

Robert A Johnson(1-21)

Jeffrey A Niszczyk (1-21)

Bryan D. Chemotti (1-23)

Mr Michael S Cabaj (1-27)

Carl W Zahn (1-28)

Timothy P Quinn (1-30)



## Years of Service as a Knight

### 1 to 4 Years of Service

Charles E Singleton (1).

Gregory J Link (4) Mark N Betanzor (4)

### 5 to 9 Years Service

Charles E Kovalik (6)

Carl W Zahn (6)

Marshall J Grazioli (9)

Edward A Hurst Jr (9)

Ronald Letourneau (9)

James R Michalik (9)

Robert J Rugenski (9)

Brian J Zahn, PGK (9)

### 10 to 24 Years Of Service

Franklin E Njbigbo (19)

### 25 Years or More Of Service

Timothy P Quinn (25)

Mark Richard Rausch (30) James R Korona (41)



## Wedding Anniversaries

PGK Daniel T and

Pamela Timmerman (1-08)

"If your wedding anniversary is not listed, it is because we do not know the date of your anniversary. If this is the case, please send the date along with your wife's name in an email to our Financial Secretary ([johnlutz@wowway.com](mailto:johnlutz@wowway.com)) and he will enter it into the Knights of Columbus records."



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*

**Monday Jan. 1**

Solemnity of Mary,  
the Holy Mother of  
God

**Thursday Jan 4**

7:00pm Business  
Meeting

**Friday Jan 5**

Feast of St. John  
Neumann 9am

Mass with  
Reception to  
follow

**Tuesday, January 9, 2024**

6:30pm Knights  
Nosh!

7:00pm General  
Meeting

**Jan. 10 thru March 29**

The Rescue Project

**Sunday, January 21, 2024**

10:00am Cathedral  
Community  
Grill

**Sunday January 21**

Free throw Contest

**Tuesday, January 23, 2024**

7:00pm Business  
Meeting

**Saturday, February 3, 2024**

International Dinner

**Sunday Feb. 11**

Diocesan Free  
Throw Contest

Saturday March 16

Reverse Raffle

## Second Annual Christmas Family Gathering

A new tradition was started last year, by our Grand Knight Chuck Lang. On December 12, 2023, this tradition continued.



After a pre meeting fellowship from 6:15 to 6:45 the general membership meeting for December was called to order early by GK Chuck Lang. This special membership

meeting was attended not only by many of our council members but also all the wives were invited to attend. In addition to the wives, special guest also included State Deputy Christopher Kolomjec & his wife Julie, State Treasurer Charles McCuen III, Arch-Diocesan & Council Chaplin Fr. Paul Ballien, District Deputy Dan Timmerman & his wife Pam, District 126 Deputy Edward Hurst Jr. & his wife Mary Alice, Michigan District #1 Master Gene Suchyta & his wife Kathy, State Program Director Paul Palka & his wife Margaret, State Membership Director Richard Shelt & his wife Patricia, State Family Director William Cory & his wife Yvette, Diocesan Membership Director Hans Hansen & his wife Joyce, Frans Purwadihardja



and Mariaana Vespa. The widows of our deceased brother knights were also present.

During the meeting several certificates of recognition were awarded. The family of the year was presented to the Hurst family, the knight of the month was awarded to Bro Clinton Randall, Mariaana Vespa was recognized as the winner of the Essay contest, and Noella Hurst was awarded a certificate for life saving efforts. Also Frans Purwadihardja was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the parish.



The St. John Neumann Council 16169 was recognized for once again achieving Star Council. State Deputy Christopher Kolomjec and District Deputy Dan Timmerman were on hand at the meeting to present the award to Grand Knight Chuck Lang. This is the eighth year in a row the council has achieved Star Council.



We would also like to thank our Kitchen crew headed by Steve Polidori, Larry Redman, Marcel Loosbrock, John Crabill, Larry O'Hara, Jim Pryce, Chris Kotcher, David Trost.



## Sign up opportunities

The following activities are available for online signup Just click to volunteer:

[January/February 2024: Cans for Seminarians Help](#)

[January, February, March, April 2024: Vocations Chalice](#)

[January 21: Cathedral Community Grill](#)

[January/February 2024: Cans for Seminarians Help](#)

## 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,

## Protecting God's Children

The Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus are committed to protecting children and adults from harm. Protecting God's Children is a three hour workshop that helps individuals understand the commitment and actions needed to ensure a safe environment. Participating in the workshop is required for anyone that will be working with children and young adults.

Sessions can be found at [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org)

To attend a workshop:

1. Go to [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org).
2. Click on First Time Registrant.
3. Register for the course ASAP.

## Frans Purwadihardja Recognized for His Outstanding Work



It is a little unusual that a non Knight is recognized at our general membership meeting. However, at the Christmas Family gathering and general meeting, GK Chuck Lang, recognized Frans Purwadihardja.

Our worthy grand knight recognized Frans for his outstanding work within our parish. GK Chuck during the presentation said, "God moves each of us in different ways to do His Will on earth with the gifts he has given us. We recognize your (Frans) involvement in so many ministries within our parish community. You are a wonderful example of a humble servant who is using those gifts. I can safely say that there are many people here tonight (at the Christmas Celebration) and many that are not here tonight who are very grateful for you and appreciate all that you do.

On Behalf of the Parish and the Knights, we simply want to say Thank you ..... for being a key part of St. John Neumann's Body of Christ.

I present this certificate in recognition of your unwavering faithful and humble service to our parish ministries.

May God continue to Bless you, Frans, and your journey with Christ our Lord."



# Knight of the Month Clint Randall

By GK Chuck Lang

Clint has been a Knight for three years and a parishioner for about 6 months.



He originally attended church at Christ the King in Detroit. There he was an altar server, leader of the youth group and co-captain of the ushers. He was also awarded the Timothy Award his senior year of high school. Unfortunately, he had drifted from the faith during his college years realizing he was feeling lost. He started attending church regularly in 2019 after an extremely religious experience in October of that year, an experience he attributes to Our Lady's intercession. That moved him to sign up for the Parish Pilgrimage held in September to the Marian apparition sites.

In May of 2020, he participated in the right to life crosses with the Knights and joined the Knights that following November. He regularly participates in the right to life crosses, and life chain events. Most recently he served on the wine tasting event committee in charge of selling tickets where he helped to "bring the council into the 21st century" by really kickstarting our ability to have credit card payments in person. He also participate in the most recent 24 hour adoration as a greeter during the midnight hours. and help in reverse raffle ticket sales after the 4:30 mass.

Outside of the Knights he is the Controller for Farmington Public Schools where he has the reputation for standing outside the office shortly before work listening to the bells of Our Lady of Sorrows, across the street, chime out hymns while waving in his co-workers to get their days started my right.

He also regularly attends trivia nights in Novi and every other Saturday attends bowling where he sells not only 50/50 tickets, but also the Keepin' Neumann Boomin' raffle tickets and the Knights of Columbus State Raffle.

While doing all of this, he is taking classes at Sacred Heart Major seminary working toward his Certificate in Catholic Theology.

It is my pleasure to present Clint Randall with the Knight of the Month recognition!

## Marianna Vespa Recognized as Christmas Essay Contest Winner.

The Knights of Columbus conducts an Essay Contest each year encouraging students to write a 500-750 word essay about a particular theme. This year, the theme was "**How Can the Church Evangelize in the Digital Age?**" Judges determine the winner based on 3 categories: Content, Grammar and Style.



Marianna won First Place in the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Competition. She was recognized at the Christmas Family Gathering for her writing abilities.

She was presented with a certificate for her accomplishments and was also presented with a \$25 Amazon gift card.

Now, Marianna's writing masterpiece will go onto the District competition. The winner of this competition will continue on and could go all the way to Supreme.

**Marianna we congratulate you and wish you all the best as you**

## Edward Hurst Jr. Family of the Year 2023

By GK Chuck Lang



I am very honored to announce that the Edward Hurst Jr. family has been selected as our Family of the Year for 2023.

Ed and his wife, Mary Alice have been married for 28 ½ years and have been parish members for 38 years. They have 2 children: Noella, who is 18 and Jessica, who is 16. Ed has been a Knight for 8 years.

Ed has held the positions of Recorder, Chancellor, Deputy Grand Knight/Program Director/Retention Chairman and Grand Knight. He is a Fourth Degree and Color Corps member and has held the Office of Scribe. He presently is serving his 2nd term as the Faithful Navigator for the K of C Fourth Degree Assembly in Plymouth and currently as District Deputy of Michigan District 126.

Ed has graciously served on numerous Church committees throughout the past many years. He is a member of the Evangelization Commission. Served on the Core Leadership team for "That Man Is You". Served on the Church Committee for Alpha. Participated in Exodus 90 - a ninety-day spiritual exercise for men. He presently serves as the parish Ministry Media coordinator for all masses and events. Assists with the Parish Hospitality committee, church decorating, parish picnic, and Corpus Christie Celebration, Eucharistic Minister and a "Chosen" team leader for the Confirmation class. Ed has assisted his wife, Mary Alice, with the SJN Vacation Bible School for the past six summers.

Ed has attended and served on numerous Knight events throughout the years: Chairman of the Christmas Poster and Essay contests for 3 years. Reverse Raffle committee, Council and Regional Free Throw Contests, MI Drives, Halloween Dance for Special Olympic participants, Pancake Breakfasts and the Coats for Kids effort.

His volunteerism continues on in the community by assisting with the Peanut Butter/Jelly mission and Forgotten Harvest.

The Hurst family has volunteered and supported several Knight projects including car wash fundraisers and MI Tootsie roll drives. The kids have participated in the Christmas Poster contest, Essay Contest, Soccer Challenge, Free Throw Contest, 5th Sunday Rosary program, Corporate Communion Mass helpers and the past several years have volunteered for the Special Olympic Halloween Party. As a family they have participated in the set up of the Memorial Crosses.

Mary Alice is the Director of Faith Formation and the Director of Evangelization for the parish. She also serves as the Vacation Bible School Coordinator. She has been a facilitator for Little Rock Bible study. In addition, Mary Alice is Parish Coordinator for both the Eucharistic Congress in 2024 and the Acts XXIX Rescue Project. Both daughters are Mass Servers and are Vacation Bible School volunteer leaders. Noella also volunteers as a teen Catechist and sings in the choir. Jessica serves as Head of Alter Servers and is a catechist aid. Mary Alice continues to assist in the parish office on weekends when needed.

The family has volunteered for Gleaners food collection at Kroger's and have helped prepare and deliver food baskets for the St. John Neumann Food Pantry to families in need. They have also volunteered at Forgotten Harvest and the Coats for Kids distribution efforts.

Noella is a National Honor Society graduate of Wayne Memorial High School and now attends Modonna University. She is a member of the Mosaic and Ambassador Clubs. Jessica is a student at Wayne Memorial High serving on the Year Book Team and is presently in the National Honor Society Club.

Ed and Mary Alice are faith filled role models for their children always supporting them and guiding them in their catholic faith. The family serves as a role model for the parish always attending Mass together when schedules allow and volunteering for the various programs and activities of the parish. It is often stated that they deserve an apartment on-site because they are always available to assist when they are called to serve. As they continue on their faith journey, they clearly demonstrate to others how to unselfishly serve the needs of others in a caring, respectful and gracious manner. They truly are faithful Christian/Catholic Leaders in our parish and the community.

## Attend the Meeting from your easy chair

Many times we are not able to attend the council general membership meetings. This may be due to a lack of transportation, it may be that you are out of town, or it may be that you are just a little under the weather. No matter what

the reason, now you can attend from the comfort of your own home. Our council has purchased the needed equipment

Attend the Meeting From anywhere in the world !

to bring the meeting to you.

Follow the link below and you will be brought in to the attendance of the meeting. The link can be used anywhere in the world. During the November meeting, eight of our members attend via this link. We are looking forward to a larger online attendance in the future. Hope to see you there next meeting.

Join the Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3368235608?pwd=eDVmK2xvc0k5YitodWdYVWZlYnRvdz09>

Meeting ID: 336 823 5608  
 Passcode: 969135

Our council meetings are held every second Tuesday at 7 pm. You can join thru this link starting about 6:30. You have the option of

## Noella Hurst Recognized for Life Saving Efforts

By GK Chuck Lang



On Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup> of this year, Noella, 18, had not planned on going to Gaylord, MI, but at the last minute, that decided she would travel with her Father, Ed, to the K of C weekend conference. Little did she know what she was about to take place. That evening, Dad was coughing, was restless and was having a difficult time breathing. She herself was having a difficult time sleeping because of her father's

situation. Early that next morning, Ed was getting worse. Ed asked her to walk him to the car and take him to emergency. That's when Noella realized she needed to take decisive action. She sensed she could not do what he was asking in a timely and safe manner. She was not familiar with the area or even how to get to the hospital. She responded, No Dad, I am calling EMS, you are too weak to move on your own. God Bless her decision. When EMS arrived, they realized he was having a serious heart attack. EMS attendants told her she did the right thing. Ed would have never made it to the hospital alive. As a result of the seriousness of the situation, Ed had to be transported from the Gaylord Hospital to the Traverse City Hospital where he underwent major open heart surgery with 4 bypasses.

While all this was happening, Noella, 18, remained somewhat composed and collected. She called her mother, Mary Alice, who was at home and explained the situation. While waiting for her mother and sister, Noella stayed with her dad at the Gaylord Hospital until they transferred him to Traverse City. She kept in communication with Mary Alice as they made their way up to the Traverse City Hospital. Upon arriving, Noella had completed her part in saving her Father's life. Obviously overwhelmed by it all, and with the comfort and caring of many Knights and their spouses, she remained in Gaylord for a short time before traveling to Traverse City to join her family. Her actions saved her father's life.



Noella, In recognition for your life saving action, quick thinking and resolve under pressure, On behalf of the Knights of Columbus, I present this certificate of appreciation to you.

We are all very proud of you!



## Membership Update



Council membership information is as follows:

The gain quota from Supreme for the 2023 -2024 Father McGivney Award is 12. So far this fraternal year we have 20 new members. This means that we have already exceeded the goal at 167% of the goal.

Our grand knight has set forth the challenge to double that goal by the end of the fraternal year next June.

If you know of any Catholic man that might be interested in join our council please contact the Membership director or any officer.

## Did you pay your dues by Dec 31?

By FS John Lutz

Membership dues payments are trickling in. Approximately 57% of our members have yet to pay their 2024 dues. Thank you very much to those members who have already paid ahead of the December 31<sup>st</sup> required date. In addition to the dues payments, we have collected \$338 toward the Sacred Heart Major Seminary Endowed Scholarship fund (this is the optional \$6 that can be added to your dues payment) and \$520 toward the Take 10 for Charity fund (this is the optional \$10 payment that can be added to your dues payment). Thank you again to all for sending your payment.

## New Inside Guard



Due to the unexpected passing of Brother Robert Lebeau, the position of Inside guard is now vacant. During our last meeting, Brother Steve Otting was elected as our new inside guard.

## Cathedral Community Grill

By David Trost, Program Director

Our Council has agreed and been assigned to run the Community Grill at Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament Community Grill on Sunday, January 21, from 10:00AM to 2:00PM. (Lunch is served at Noon)

Please consider joining us through the gift of your time as a volunteer. We will serve lower-income residents and parishioners in the surrounding Detroit neighborhoods through fellowship and food. If you are new to the council, or simply wanting a unique experience, this is your opportunity.



Let us be hands and feet of Christ for others. Please join us. Cathedral Community Grill: 9844 Woodward Avenue Detroit, MI 48202 7-15 volunteers are recommended by the Church organizers.

Recommend the group attend Saturday evening mass or 8:30am before we make our way to downtown Detroit.

Link: [Community Grill at Detroit Cathedral](#)

## Right to Life Michigan releases a new Strategy video

By: Ed Strach -



"Let's look. Let's know. And let's show the rest of the world so that the killing might end."

Click [here](#) to see this outstanding new video!

## Hats, Shirts, Badges & More

Brother Joe Bradley, is the contact person for name badges at [csmjb@protonmail.com](mailto:csmjb@protonmail.com) (734-673-0004) The cost of a badge is now



only \$ 7 ,

the council is covering half the cost.

Brother Mike Cartier is the contact for shirts, jackets, hats, etc. Contact Mike at [mikeandnoel81@comcast.net](mailto:mikeandnoel81@comcast.net) (734-459-5635)

## GIVE A SEMINARIAN A CAN



With the start of the New Year , our council again has control of the bottles and can collection for the months of January and February.

As we all know that the money we collect as we return all the returnables during the months of January, February May, June, September and October, are earmarked for the support of our seminarians.

We have budget to support 3 seminarians this fraternal year. Last year we donated \$6000. We can use your help with Collecting parish cans and returning them. Please sign up to assist in this program. It only take a little time to return the cans and it can be done on your own time.

## Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (Volunteer Hour Submission) – Last Call

By David Trost (Program Director)

This year our council has been extremely busy supporting Knight fundraising efforts, Faith in Action Programs (Faith, Family, Life, Community) and your personal time helping our parish and the surrounding area. Thank you. We consolidate the efforts of our entire council each calendar year and provide it to Supreme Knights of Columbus.

As our District Deputy, Dan Timmerman, mentioned in a prior newsletter, regarding the sale of insurance products:

*”Supreme pays taxes on any profits from the sale of its insurance products. Supreme is able to take a deduction, at minimum wage, for every hour you volunteer. Profits from these insurance products go to the K of C charities. It’s essential for us to track all volunteer hours. Volunteer hours are not just for Knight activities. It can be for church activities, and any volunteering outside of church, i.e., scouting, and coaching. Volunteer hours also include any meetings and preparation hours for any activities or meetings.”*

You can access an excel file to assist by clicking on the link below. Scroll down to ‘Fraternal Activity Worksheet’ and click on the colored excel document.

<https://kofc16169.org/signup.php>

Please fill out the form and either:

- email it back to [PD16169@mikofc.org](mailto:PD16169@mikofc.org), or
- print and drop it off at the Parish Office in an envelope titled "Knights of Columbus – David Trost"

We will be collecting information through Wednesday January 10<sup>th</sup> 2024

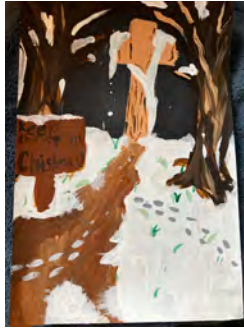
Thank you for all your help and God Bless

David Trost (Program Director)

# Acts XXIX Rescue Project.

By Dan Pfeiffer

I recently finished the Acts XXIX Rescue Project. I had high expectations going into the program and I am very happy to say it exceeded my expectations. Each evening began with Prayer and a couple of music videos to set the tone. There were wonderful desserts and tasty snacks. The content provided an incredibly fresh view of God becoming man, allowing Himself to be ridiculed, tortured and crucified to save us from Sin and Death. Father John Riccardo delivered his message clearly and with very interesting examples. Tim Wood was a great moderator. He introduced each session so we had a good idea what was coming and gave a summation at the end to tie things together. Delores Li^bau and Kathy Pratt were facilitators at my table and helped lead discussions in response to the presentation. And did I mention the wonderful desserts? Lol!!!! This Program will be offered again after the Holidays and I recommended it to all of you. Vivat Jesus!!! Dan Pfeiffer



Grade 6 Winner



Grade 2 Winner



Grade 4 Winner



Kindergarten Winner

## Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

By David Trost

This year our council conducted 'Keep Christ in Christmas' Poster Contest which ran from Mid-November through Mid-December. Brother Mike Tallman was gracious to lead the charge this year as he has the past several years. Thank you Mike. We had participation from 16 of our parish youth (grades Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup>) who were busy displaying their artistic talent on posters. 4 winners from 4 different Grade Categories were selected based on Slogan, Artistic Merit and Overall impact. Winners will be announced at our January meeting. They will then advance to District Judging in the next couple of weeks.

## This Month's Featured CIS Booklet

### 120 – Mary



Mary's place in salvation history was made clear in Pope Benedict XVI's homily at the Canonization of Frey Antônio de Sant'Anna Galvão in Brazil on May 11, 2007: "Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, stands particularly close to us at this moment.... She, the Tota Pulchra, the Virgin Most Pure, who conceived in her womb the Redeemer of mankind and was preserved from all stain of original sin, wishes to be the definitive seal of our encounter with God our Savior. There is no fruit of grace in the history of salvation that does not have as its necessary instrument the mediation of Our Lady." In this booklet we learn of Mary's place in Catholic theology and her place in our lives.

[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>

# Mens Prayer Group Popular Video link requested



Many of us men are at a point in our lives when we know that we want the answers to our being and our purpose here on earth. One of the mens prayer groups may answer that call. All men of the parish are invited to a free prayer group meeting. Be assured that you will not be put on the spot nor will you have to answer any questions. Many of the men attend and never say a thing.



As we are all aware, here at St John

Neumann we have two mens prayer breakfast groups. The original meets every Thursday and the second group meets on Saturday. At the meetings a video is shown. At the Saturday group a video was shown by Chris Stephanik. This video was well received.



Chris Stephanik. This video was well received.

for the link. Please feel free to follow this link and join your fellow male parishioners at one of the meetings.

<https://youtu.be/zJPMhSsXNB8?si=oqiMdEeq2S9UfDE6>

We are looking forward for you to join us either on Thursday or Saturday mornings.



around the world do not even have electricity. We are so fortunate here that we do not even think about the rest of the world. There are people waking up every morning after a nights sleep on the bare ground without a covering from the night air. They are wondering where the next meal will come from or if they will even have a meal this day. I have personally met with hundreds or thousands of individuals that fit this group of people, here in the Philippines. When you were a child and your parents told you to finish everything on your plate because there are children on the other side of the world that are starving, Your parents were not making this up. It is true! We, the most gifted people God has put on this earth must learn to be thankful and not take God's gifts for granted.

On behalf of the Elizabeth Foundation and the gift recipients would like to thank our council, and the other 3 southeastern Michigan, the Bishop Galligher assembly 482 and those individuals that personally donated to this years gift giving. Christmas in the Philippines program for their donations



This the 27th year that these generous councils and individuals have purchased food packages to be given to over 1000 different families. The food packages that contain rice, fish and noodles are small but for the recipients the packages not only contain the needed food but also each package contains the Love and hope of the donors. This year before the distribution of the food packs, all present were served a hot cup of Arroz Naldo (A chicken, rice soup). The lady of Candles Council KofC assisted in the distribution.

In addition to the distortion of food gifts in various locations, per one of the donors request we gave packages of soap, toothpaste and beauty aids at the women's prison. ( unlike in the USA, all food and living necessities must be provided by the families).



## Reflections

by Ron Rathbun

Many of us here in America, take so much for granted. When was the last time that you turned on the light switch and really thought about it. Many people around the world do not even have electricity. We are so fortunate here that we do not even think about the rest of the world. There are people waking up every morning after a nights sleep on the bare ground without a covering from the night air. They are wondering where the next meal will come from or if they will even have a meal this day. I have personally met with hundreds or thousands of individuals that fit this group of people, here in the Philippines. When you were a child and your parents told you to finish everything on your plate because



Again on behalf of the Elizabeth Foundation, Thank you and may God bless you for your love and kindness.

## Council's Free throw Contest Announced for January 21

Since 1972, councils have sponsored the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship for boys and girls from the ages of 9 to 14 to provide an athletic outlet and encourage the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition. Kids compete within their own gender and age and progress from local level to district, regional and state/province competitions.

Again this year, our council will sponsor the Free Throw contest on Jan 21. Last year Bryson Harper , a contestant representing our council advanced thru the district, Region, State and international levels to become the **INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION**.

The competition is open with out charge to ALL youths between the ages of 9 (nine) thru 14 (fourteen) . The contestant does not have to be a member of the knights family, does not have to be Catholic nor live in Canton.

All competitors must register using the official Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship Entry Form/Score Sheet (#1598). This form is at the end of this newsletter and will be available at the time of the contest. Proof of age must accompany all entry forms. Preregistration is recommended, but it is not required. The entry form/score sheet and proof of age must accompany participants through all levels of competition. Each youngster may compete in only one council competition. Winners will progress to the district, regional and state levels of competition. International champions are chosen on the basis of state-level results.



### Ages 9, 10, 11 (Boys & Girls Competitions)

Use a women's regulation-size basketball and shoot from a 12-foot foul line at a 10-foot-high basket. (NOTE: The normal foul line is 15 feet from the basket. Foul lines at 12 feet from the basket for 10- and 11-year-old divisions should be clearly marked with athletic or masking tape prior to the competition.)

### Ages 12, 13, 14 (Girls Competitions)

Use a women's regulation-size basketball and shoot from the regulation foul line 15 feet from a 10-foot- high basket.



### Ages 12, 13, 14 (Boys Competitions)

Use a men's regulation-size basketball and shoot from the regulation foul line 15 feet from a 10-foot-high basket.

Each contestant receives three warm-up tosses followed by 15 consecutive Free Throw attempts from the appropriate age-designated foul line (see the Court/Equipment/Age section for proper ball sizes and foul line distances). To break a tie, contestants take a second round of five free throws. No warm-up tosses are permitted for the tie-breaker rounds. Successive rounds of five free throws each continue until a winner emerges.

## ATTENTION FELLOW BOTHERS !

Your help will be needed for the Basketball Championship. Brother Marshall Grazioli is chairing this event and will need help not only setting up for the event but also recruiting and contacting the schools and local parishes . Also there is a need for judges. Besides our council's contest, In February our parish will host the district and regional contests and help will be needed for these. If you are interested please contact Bro Marshall. There will be a sign up link on our web site soon.

## REFUND SUPPORT VOCATIONS PROGRAM (RSVP)

Knights of Columbus stand in solidarity with our priests and religious. Through this program, council and parish families will raise funds to support seminarians in their area. For every \$500 given to an individual, the Supreme Council will refund the council or assembly \$100. The maximum refund a council or assembly can receive is \$400 per individual supported. Though financial support is vitally important, it is not the only aspect of the RSVP. Councils are also called to provide their “adopted” seminarian or religious aspirant with moral support and prayers for their success.

Last year with the funds from the “Cans for Seminarians” program we were able to collect and give to the seminarians \$6000.

This year, we have again budgeted for 3 seminarians. However, last year two of our seminarians were ordained. Therefore, we are currently looking for two more seminarians.

## Never too soon. For Golf!

George Peters and David Trost will be Co-Chairing the Golf Outing this year. It will be held at the same Course (Fox Hills) and we secured the last Monday of June. June 24 th . So....



- a. If you would like to be on the Golf Committee, please see/contact George or David
- b. Start getting your 4-somes together for a really great time.

## St. John Neumann January 5 Feast Day

Reprint from Sjn.org

People called him the stubby priest and laughed when they saw him riding his horse, because his feet did not touch the stirrups. He was not very good-looking – a square face, a square body. He was quiet, not a man with a vivacious personality, not one to charm a crowd or draw attention to himself. He was not the type of Church leader who pleased influential people. But John Nepomucene Neumann was a man of God who was also true to himself and he did the best job he could do.



Born and educated in Bohemia, John was interested in botany and astronomy as well as Church matters. By the time he was twenty-five, he knew six languages and was a trained seminarian. Since there were many priests in his country, and since he longed to be a missionary in America, John came to the United States in 1836 – with one suit of clothes and one dollar in his pocket.

The bishop of New York ordained John and sent him to the hard-working German-speaking people who were clearing the forests around

Niagara Falls. He traveled on horseback from one mission station to another, visiting the sick, teaching catechism, and training teachers to take over when he left. He was busy with his many responsibilities, but very lonely at times. He felt the need for the fellowship of community life and for the spiritual challenge that living with other priests might bring.

So John entered the Redemptorist Order. As a novice, he was sent to different places so frequently that he wondered if his superiors really wanted him. Finally they allowed him to make his vows, and he became the first Redemptorist to be professed in the United States. He helped in parishes until he was made the superior of the American branch of the order. While John felt very unqualified in this position, it was due to his direction that the Redemptorists became leaders in the parochial school movement. He served as a parish priest in Baltimore until he was made bishop of Philadelphia in 1852. There was great opposition to his appointment at that time.

The influential, wealthy Catholics wanted someone who would make a good impression: one who would speak eloquently and act the part of a refined, polite gentleman.

# K of C Scholarship Applications are available after Jan 1

Did you know that the Knights of Columbus grants scholarships ? Each has different qualifications and different deadlines for submission. Below are listed those that are available in the United States. There is also a scholarship for seminarians. An applicant must be:

1. Entering freshman year, of a four-year, undergraduate program, leading to a bachelor's degree, at a Catholic college or Catholic university, in the United States.
2. A member in good standing of the Knights of Columbus, a son or daughter of such a member, or of a such a deceased member, who at the time of death, was in good standing, or a Columbian Squire in good standing. (Not limited to fourth degree members)

**U.S.  
UNDERGRADUATES**


An eligible candidate for these scholarships is a K of C member in good standing, a child of the member or of deceased member who was in good standing. Scholarship candidates should be entering the freshman year in an approved Catholic college in the United States and its territories as a fulltime student in a bachelor's degree program. For more information or to apply follow this link :

<https://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/scholarships/us-undergraduate-scholarships.html?1tab=1tab0>

**MATTHEWS AND SWIFT**

The Francis P. Matthews and John E. Swift Educational Trust Scholarships are available to children of members in good standing who are killed or permanently disabled, by hostile action, while serving in the armed forces in a combat zone identified as eligible by the Knights of Columbus Board of Directors; as well as the children of fulltime firefighters and law enforcement officers, who while in the lawful performance of their duties, died as a result of criminal violence directed at them. In either event, applications must be filed within two years of the date of death or disability.


<https://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/scholarships/educational-trust-scholarship.html?1tab=1tab0>



**BISHOP GRECO**

Bishop Charles P. Greco Graduate Fellowships assist U.S. students pursuing a master's degree designed for teachers of people with intellectual disabilities. Applicants must be a member in good standing or his wife or child attending a Catholic college/university. This also applies to the widows and children of deceased members who were in good standing. To For more information or to apply follow this link:

<https://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/scholarships/graduate-fellowships.html?1tab=1tab0>



**THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA**

A select number of undergraduate scholarships are administered by the Catholic University of America, on behalf of the Knights of Columbus. There are also fellowships available to help prepare CUA graduates to teach at the university level. Please contact Catholic University of America for Undergraduate and Graduate applications.

For more information or to apply Contact CUA Undergraduate Contact CUA Graduates Studies

[cua-graduatestudies@cua.edu](mailto:cua-graduatestudies@cua.edu)

## SEMINARIAN

Each year, the Knights of Columbus offers Scholarships to seminarians studying at major seminaries. Applicants will attain the appropriate ecclesiastical approval, will have been accepted at a major seminary, and will be studying for an (arch)diocese or religious institute in the United States or Canada. For more information or to apply follow this link: <https://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/scholarships/seminarian-scholarships.html?1tab=1tab0>



# Michigan Knights of Columbus 2023- 2024 Raffle

**Tickets  
ONLY  
\$5.00**

Explore Michigan – Shamrocks and Shenanigans Tour



**1st PRIZE "CHARITY"  
PETOSKEY  
Staford Perry Hotel  
Petoskey, Michigan  
4 Guests / 2 Nights / 2 Rooms  
PLUS \$12,000.00 Cash**



**2nd PRIZE "UNITY"  
GRAND RAPIDS  
Amway Grand Hotel  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
4 Guests / 2 Nights / 2 Rooms.  
Includes Beer Tour  
PLUS \$3,000.00 Cash**



**3rd PRIZE "FRATERNITY"  
HOLLAND  
Staybridge Suites  
Holland, Michigan  
4 Guests / 2 Nights / 2 Rooms.  
Includes "Best of Holland" Package  
PLUS \$2,000.00 Cash**



**4th PRIZE "PATRIOTISM"  
FRANKENMUTH  
Bavarian Inn Lodge  
Frankenmuth, Michigan  
4 Guests / 2 Nights / 2 Rooms  
Includes 4 Waterpark Passes  
PLUS \$1,000.00 Cash**



5th – 10th Prizes = \$400.00  
21st -30th Prizes = \$150.00

11th – 20th Prizes = \$200.00  
31st – 40th Prizes = \$100.00

Drawing: Thursday, April 11, 2024 Doors Open @ 5:00 pm Drawing @ 8:00 pm  
St. John Neumann Parish, 44800 Warren Rd., Canton, MI 48187 (586) 436-0121

Kevin Rowley – State Raffle Director  
Mike Haughey – State Raffle Director

Email - k.rowley@mikofc.org  
Email - m.haughey@mikofc.org

**2024 JOINT FUNDRAISER FOR COUNCILS AND STATE CHARITIES INCENTIVES**  
20% of Gross Ticket Sales goes directly to participating Councils. \$1.00 per Ticket

### Where does the money go and what Charities do we support through the State Raffle?

Angela Hospice, Bishop Baraga Association, Capuchin Community Center, Catholic Radio, Diocese of Michigan, Gianna House, Guest House, Heart of Christ Clinic, Madonna University, Most Holy Trinity Church, Right to Life Programs, Holy Cross Services, Special Days Camp, St. Francis Cabrini Clinic, St. Francis Camp on the Lake, St. Vincent Catholic Charities, Vocations Programs, Catholic High School Sports Programs (Prep Bowl, Catholic Cross Country Meet, Catholic Track Meet) Catholic Publications (Michigan Catholic, U. P. Catholic) And additional charitable causes addressed by the Michigan State Council.



# Free Throw Championship Entry Form/Score Sheet

I wish to enter THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP in the category and age group checked below. My eligibility is to be determined by my age as of January 1. I also understand that I may only compete in one council level competition.

Boys     Girls    Council # \_\_\_\_\_    AGE:   
  9     10     11     12     13     14

**Note:** This same form must be used for the Council, District and Jurisdiction Competition — please be sure it is passed on accordingly.

Name of Entrant \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Guardian Telephone (Circle one: Home Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Entrant \_\_\_\_\_

<b>This Section To Be Completed By Parent/Guardian:</b>	<b>Council No.</b> _____
By signing below, the undersigned requests and approves of the entrant's registration and participation in the KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP ("The Contest"). In consideration for the entrant's participation in the Contest, the undersigned (1) acknowledges that the entrant's participation will be at the sole risk of the entrant and the undersigned and (2) agrees to release, indemnify and hold the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council, its subordinate units, officers, agents, members and employees harmless from any and all demands, claims or causes of action arising from or relating to the entrant's participation in the Contest. The undersigned also agree to allow representatives from the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council or any of its subordinate units to take and publish photographs or videos of the entrant during the Contest. <b>The entrant may compete in only one council level competition. Parent or guardian must sign this form before entrant competes.</b>	
_____	_____
Parent/Guardian	Date signed

## This Section To Be Completed K of C Officials:

**SCORING INSTRUCTIONS:** Each contestant will be allowed **15** consecutive free throws in **council** competition and **25** consecutive free throws in **all other levels**. Indicate number of free throws "made" in first column. Those tied for highest score will compete in successive rounds each being allowed 5 free throws until one contestant emerges as winner. Use other columns to indicate scores in "playoff" rounds.

COMPETITION LEVEL	SCORING:	☒ BASKET MADE	☐ BASKET MISSED	TOTAL BASKETS MADE
<b>COUNCIL:</b>				
	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
<b>DISTRICT:</b>				
	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
<b>REGIONAL:</b>				
	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
<b>JURISDICTION:</b>				
	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

*(Councils should retain a copy of this completed form for their files)*

