



# COMMUNION

Monthly Periodical of Fr. Ernie Deslippe Council 1467  
265 Wellington Street. St. Thomas, Ontario N5R 2S6

JANUARY 2024



## GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE



### Dear Brothers and Sir Knights:

While I don't usually make New Year's resolutions, I thought maybe we could all consider making an effort to follow through on our Order's Rosary intentions:

- That we may grow in our service to our Church and our community;
- That we may be good models of Catholic manhood in our Church and community;
- That as good models of Catholic manhood, we may attract more Catholic gentlemen to our Order;
- For those Brother Knights and family members who bear the cross of physical or emotional illness, or personal loss, or a detachment from their Church and its teachings, that they may find comfort and direction in the knowledge that God loves them and opens His arms to them;
- For our own personal intentions that we hold deep within our hearts, or that we may wish to share.

May the peace of God be with you and yours throughout the year.

Fraternally Yours,

Raymond Bernicky, Grand Knight, PGK ([gk1467@ontariokofc.ca](mailto:gk1467@ontariokofc.ca))



**Father Ernie Deslippe** (1929 - 2011) served as Council chaplain for over 46 years. He was born in Harrow Ontario on March 20, 1929 and was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John C. Cody on May 27, 1961 at St. Peter's Basilica, London Ontario. He celebrated his first Mass at St. Anthony of Padua parish in Harrow. Through his 50 years of ordained ministry, he served as associate pastor, Holy Angels' Parish, St. Thomas; and Administrator, St. Joseph Mission, Port Stanley. He was an inspiring priest, a leader with fortitude. Throughout his life he was a comforting power for disadvantaged people helping them to find a clear path to follow. He was a dedicated member of the Knights of Columbus who stressed that prayer is a vital tool. It helps to become confident, to see things in proper perspective, to give us vision, courage, strength and endurance, and to erode our impure motives.

He said holiness is not something we do for ourselves and instead something that God does in us. He invited us to open our hands to allow what we have to be shared, to flow out of us and we watch it multiplied. He understood that giving, not getting, is the generosity begets generosity. He pointed out that paying attention is one of the greatest compliments we can pay to another human being. Father Deslippe exemplified the mission of the Church to guide its followers to a fulfilling life. He was a great spiritual leader dedicated to prayer and always striving for virtue. Fr. Ernie was a strong advocate of learning and so Council awards a \$1000 scholarship in his name each year to a student that demonstrates the values and principles of the Gospel and is pursuing post-secondary education.

The Knights of Columbus (K of C) is a fraternal benefit society that was established in 1882 thanks to the efforts of **Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney**, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut. The K of C has grown from several members in one council to more than 14,000 councils and approaching 2 million members worldwide. The Order holds true to its founding principles of **Charity, Unity** and **Fraternity**.

**Bulletin submissions deadline: 25th of the month (Sept-May inclusive)**

## COUNCIL OFFICERS 2023-24

- Ray Bernicky, Grand Knight  
[gk1467@ontariokofc.ca](mailto:gk1467@ontariokofc.ca)
- Fr. Peter Keller, Chaplain
- Harald Schraeder, Deputy GK
- Blair Ferguson, Chancellor
- Robert Weir, Recording Secretary
- Regis Trudel, Financial Secretary
- Orio Ortins, Treasurer
- Jim (Simon) Vink, Advocate
- Luc Audet, Warden
- James Dewan, Trustee (3 yr.)
- Roy Esbaugh, Trustee (2 yr.)
- Steven Wachowiak, Trustee (1 yr.)
- John Kana, Inside Guard
- Francis Dadzie, Outside Guard
- Patrick Houston, Lecturer
- John Noonan, Insurance Agent / Fraternal Advisor

## ESTEEMED PARTNERS

- Alex Schadenberg, District Deputy
- Henry Poirier, Faithful Navigator, Bishop Cody Assembly
- Sandi Hoffer, President, Ladies Auxiliary
- Roy Esbaugh, President, Columbus Club

**COUNCIL BULLETIN:** Harald Schraeder ([hschran623@rogers.com](mailto:hschran623@rogers.com))

**WEB SITE ADMINISTRATOR**  
([www.KofC1467.com](http://www.KofC1467.com)): Martin Evers  
([martin.evers53@gmail.com](mailto:martin.evers53@gmail.com))

**COLUMBUS CLUB MANAGER:**  
[vacant] (226-927-0375)



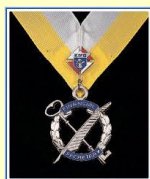
# Join Us!

<https://www.kofc.org/en/who-we-are/about-membership/index.html>



A full house enjoyed themselves at the annual Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Dinner on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Columbus Club.

**Pope Francis' January Intention:**  
For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church  
Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.



## FS CHAT

## DUES are DUE

Thank you to Brothers who have paid their 2024 dues. For those who have yet to, please do so before the end of January or we will have to incur further costs to mail out the second notice. Your 2024 membership cards can be picked up at a monthly Business meeting.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!!!

Robert Beausoleil, Michael Boric, Thomas Carr, James Coveny, William Finnigan, Adam Hicknell, Patrick Liebrechts, James Lumley, Robert Netherton, Don Nolan, John Nolan, Joseph O'Connor, Nick Ostojic, Arthur Perrier, Joseph Vachon and Henry Walks.

Regis Trudel, [FS1467@ontariokofc.ca](mailto:FS1467@ontariokofc.ca); 226-688-6060



## January Assignments

- **4<sup>th</sup> Thurs., 10 – noon:** Jim Dewan & Tom Carr
- **12<sup>th</sup> Fri., 4 - 6 pm:** Bill Walker & Alex Baca
- **24<sup>th</sup> Wed., 2 - 4 pm:** Jim Coveny & Roy Esbaugh

Please arrive 10 minutes before your assigned time.

*Did you know the Bingo crew generates well over half of Council's Charity giving each year? Thanks to Jackpot Time for giving Council the opportunity to raise funds to help the needy in our community.*

*Volunteers make the ordinary extraordinary.*

## MARK THE DATES JANUARY EVENTS

All events take place at the Columbus Club at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bishop Cody Assembly mtg. (**Tues**)
- 7<sup>th</sup>: Ladies Auxiliary (**Sunday**)
- 8<sup>th</sup>: FED Exec. Meeting
- 10<sup>th</sup>: Evening with Fr. John (**6:30 pm, SA**)
- 14<sup>th</sup>: 4<sup>th</sup> Degree 60<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Levee (**Sun, 2 pm**)
- 15<sup>th</sup>: Columbus Club Directors
- 16<sup>th</sup>: 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Exemplification (**Tues, TBD**)
- 17<sup>th</sup>: Soup Brothers (**9:30 am**)
- 20<sup>th</sup>: Spaghetti Dinner (**4 pm** - )
- 20<sup>th</sup>: Men of Faith Conference (**Strathroy**)
- 22<sup>nd</sup>: FED Business Meeting
- 26<sup>th</sup>: Hockey Knight in St. Thomas

Timely notices of events can be arranged by contacting PGK Martin Evers by email ([martin.evers53@gmail.com](mailto:martin.evers53@gmail.com)) and requesting an eblast. Please provide all the relevant information when making such request.

## Ladies Auxiliary

The **Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Dinner** was held on December 3<sup>rd</sup> with more than 50 Knights and Ladies attending. The food served by **The Back Alley** was delicious and our entertainment by **Brian May**, accompanied by **Roy Esbaugh**, was enjoyed by all.

**On January 7<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.**, we invite anyone who is able to come to the hall to take down our Christmas decorations as well as the Wellington Street facing Nativity display and pack them away for another year. Following this, we will have a short meeting of the Auxiliary in lieu of the usual meeting night of the second Monday of January.

As well, the Ladies will be hosting another **supper on Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>**, following the weekly 'After 4' (p.m.) social at the club, when chili or pulled pork, plus fixings, will be served. Please watch for flyers for further details.

I hope everyone had a blessed Christmas and happy New Year to all.

Blessings,  
Sandi Hoffer, President

## Please Pray for the Intentions of:

Malcolm & Gary Beckwith, Ron & Barry Buchanan, Randall (Otis) Clifton & his daughter Genevieve, Richard Cochrill, Gerry & Miriam Costello, Sue Dewan, Martin Evers, John Jakobi Sr, Carl & Barb Kroeplin, John Laverty, Jim Lumley, Cliff Marentette, Barry MacMillan, Madeline McIntosh, Matthew O'Gorman, Doug Pardey, Carl Pearson, Louise Perrier, Alan Taylor, Case Terpstra, Joan Vachon, Patricia (Pat) Vandevenne and Rob Weir. Please also pray for condolence for our widows and surviving family members.

Please pray for all our recently faithful departed, especially for **Francis (Frank) Lomond**, brother of **Brother David**, that through God's mercy they be welcomed by Jesus and are at peaceful repose in Heaven. Please pray as well for our brother Knights and their families impacted by the war in the Ukraine.



# Know, Love & Serve the Lord in all things

According to the Bible, the three reasons why we were created are to know, love and serve God. In John chapter 17:3, Jesus says that eternal life is to know God and Jesus Christ. **Our mission on earth is to know, love, and serve God, and we are created for eternal happiness in heaven.** God calls us into a relationship with Him and into the unity of the Church.

Knowing, loving, and serving helps us grow in relationship with God as well growing in relationship with others. Knowledge draws us to His transcendent Truth; love forms us in His surpassing Goodness and our service embodies God's beautiful presence at work in the world. These three actions of knowing, loving, and serving God help us in our very limited nature to embrace God's transcendent nature which draws us out of ourselves to His Truth, forms us inwardly in His goodness and binds our endeavours to God's infinite grace.

It is this fundamental Catholic mandate to know, love and serve the Lord in all things, which sets the work of the Knights of Columbus apart from other service organizations. You are a part of a fraternal organization that has Christ at its heart. As brother knights you must continue to encourage each other to draw closer to Christ as you draw closer to each other. Otherwise, the Knights of Columbus can become just like any other club except with just a "Catholic" flavour. It is one thing to know the stories of the old days and a very different thing to know God at work in your service.

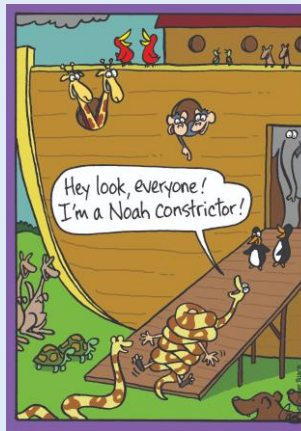
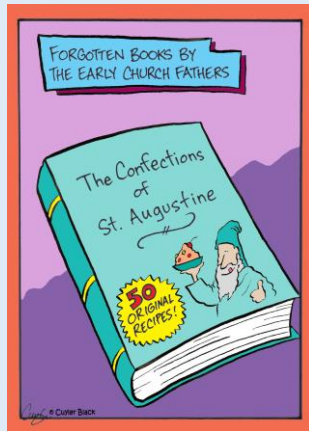
As we begin this New Year, we are confronted by our fundamental need for God. Only God can bind our humanity together so that we may know God's truth, goodness, and peace. Brokenness and disunity are evident on many different levels. Firstly, a quick glance at the news overwhelms us with brokenness and disunity on a global level. Secondly, this is not isolated to some distance shore, but this brokenness is found in our own communities just outside our doors. Sadly, this disunity affects our families and finally it finds its home in ourselves.

The peace and unity the world so desperately needs begins in that deep personal relationship with Christ and finds its fulfillment in relationship as members of His Body in the Church. **As brother knights, it is our duty not only to defend the unity of the Church but cultivate that unity and peace.**

This next year, the Knights of Columbus are encouraged to grow in their faith by sharing in small groups and personal reflection. Like the knights of old who spent the night in prayer before battle, **I encourage each knight to pray, reflect and grow in the relation with God and the Church so that your service many be filled with the fruits of the Spirit.** Peace begins with you and overflows in your families to flow out to a waiting world. As brother knights, we strive to bring order and unity to our fallen world by knowing, loving, and serving God in all things.

Sincerely,

Fr. Peter Keller, Pastor  
Elgin Roman Catholic Family of Parishes



# 2023 Salvation Army Kettle Campaign

A huge thank you to the following fellow Knights for so willingly giving of their time to the Campaign this year. We were responsible for the Kettle at the Real Canadian Superstore this year and thanks go out to:

Luc Audet	Tom Carr	Murray Clarke	Otis Clifton
Dennis Collins	Jim Dewan	Wayne Elliott	John Goossens
Joe Hicknell	Case Hoffer	John Kana	Bill Lee
Don Nolan	Orio Ortins	Carl Pearson	Art Perrier
Henry Poirier	Gary Rayner	Bill Ressler	Harald Schraeder
Bernie Sheridan	Jim Sheridan	Joe Vachon	Peter Vergeer
Simon Vink	Bill Walker	Dennis Walters	

Fraternally,  
Don Nolan, Campaign Chair

Brother Joe Hicknell



## COMMUNITY PROGRAM

**SOUP BROTHERS:** The next soup day is **Wednesday January 17<sup>th</sup>**, 9 a.m. at the Columbus Club ... all are welcomed!

**GRACE CAFÉ CHRISTMAS TURKEY DINNER:** Many thanks to **Bro. Otis Clifton** for coordinating the cooking, carving and delivery of several turkeys the café had purchased for their annual Christmas Dinner for the needy in our community.

**ELIMINATION DRAW:** Tickets are almost sold out and draws will soon be held retroactive to the beginning of December. Weekly winners will be published in the February issue.

**ALL-U-CAN-EAT SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS DINNER:** To benefit the **Hospice of Elgin** will be held **Saturday January 20<sup>th</sup>** at the Club ... see the poster in this issue and get your tickets before they are gone!!!

**HOCKEY 'KNIGHT' IN ST. THOMAS:** Sponsored by the Aylmer and St. Thomas 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Councils, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly, free admission tickets to the **Friday January 26<sup>th</sup> St. Thomas Stars** game at 'The Joe' will be distributed at local churches and schools while supplies last to promote family time. If you need tickets, please contact **GK Ray Bernicky** ([gk1467@ontariokofc.ca](mailto:gk1467@ontariokofc.ca)) or ask at the Columbus Club (519-631-2166).

**12TH ANNUAL MEN OF FAITH CONFERENCE:** Men of all ages are invited to join us at the conference to be held January 20<sup>th</sup>, 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., at All Saints Church, Strathroy, ON. This year's conference will feature Bishop Scott McCaig, Bishop for the Military Ordinariate of Canada. Come be inspired in your faith and strengthened in fraternity with other men. For more information and to register go to <https://famfi.ca/men/> or contact **Bro. Rick Haasen** (519-851-8338).

Did you know that New Year's Day, January 1<sup>st</sup>, was, from 1568 to 1960, a feast day called "The Circumcision of the Lord and the Octave of the Nativity"? It is now the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, and the Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord. The feast day arises from Luke 2:21, "And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb."

# Our Namesake: Hero or Villian?



We live in a crazy world. Those in power tend to listen to those that scream the loudest, like a child throwing a temper tantrum until the parents give it whatever it wants just to get it to stop. That never works out well, not for the parents, not for the child and not for those around them. The **'woke movement'** [ed.: a social and political movement that seeks to address and correct social injustices, inequality, and discrimination. It emphasizes recognizing and challenging systemic issues, like racism, sexism, and other forms of oppression. In mainstream use, woke can also more generally describe someone or something as being 'with it'.] reminds me of that child having a fit. Sadly, the powers that be are the parents giving in to the screaming and wailing. So, what gives these protesters so much power? In a word: Racism. Politicians are so afraid of being called a racist they'll do anything to avoid offending anyone. Protesters, knowing this, call anyone who disagrees with them a racist. The upshot of this is that while a small percentage of the population is now in control, it has no idea what it's talking about and instead regurgitates rhetoric they find on social media sites. Names like Sir John A MacDonald, Ryerson and Dundas have been removed from places of learning and streets. To say nothing about our namesake, Christopher Columbus. When once generally commemorated as a hero, founder of the Americas, great explorer and master of the waves, he is now increasingly portrayed as a villain, slave trader, rapist and responsible for genocide.

I just about drove into a ditch one day as I was driving along listening CBC on the radio. A man by the name of Sean French was being interviewed. Mr. French lives in Montreal and wants a 100 km road called Columbus Ave to be renamed. He's been on this crusade since 2019 and has gathered a lot of support. In 2022, an indigenous group threw their weight behind him as they claimed Columbus' legacy was one of genocide of the native people of the Americas. The government hasn't changed the name yet ... not because of their love of Columbus but for financial reasons (changing a street name would cost millions and they don't have it in their current budget to do so).

I can give you a few other examples of what has happened to the name of Christopher Columbus in recent years. After 110 years, the city of Detroit removed a bust of Columbus and put it in storage in an undisclosed location. In 2022, in Richmond Virginia, a statue of Columbus was torn down, set on fire and thrown in a lake. In the same year, the state of California removed a statue from the capitol rotunda. In Philadelphia, a statue was encased in a plywood frame to hide it from public view. Rhode Island has removed all statues and likenesses of Columbus from public places. In all, 33 statues of Columbus have been removed from public view in the past 8 years. What about here in Canada? Well, an individual by the name of Jago wants the province of British Columbia to change its name to S'ólh Téméxw ('our land'), pronounced "soul tow-mock". And what about us, the members of the Order of the Knights of Columbus? Surely, I thought, no one would think an organization such as ours, that does so much good around the world, an organization that feeds, clothes and shelters the needy should distance itself from its namesake. Surely everyone can see we stand for all that is good, that we do our utmost to follow the teachings of Christ. I was wrong. Since 2018, a petition has circulated calling for us to change our name and not only to drop the name of Columbus but the word "Knight" as well because of its connection to war and the crusades. When our past Supreme Knight Carl Anderson was asked for his view, he side-stepped by not endorsing the name change but not condemning it either.

Why all this anger? Who was Christopher Columbus and what did he actually do? I thought over the next few months I would try to untangle fact from fiction and present to you who he was, what he did and why. We must also look at the times he lived in to gauge if he went outside the socially-accepted behavior of his time.

Christopher Columbus was born sometime between the end of August and the end of October in 1451. He was from the Republic of Genoa. The first time he went to sea he was 14 years of age. He traveled as far north as the British Isles and as far south as Ghana. He married well above his class by wedding a Portuguese noblewoman named Filipa Moniz Perestrelo, with whom he had a son named Diego. Largely self-educated, he was an avid reader and studied geography, astronomy and history. Many of his books still exist and he had the nasty habit of writing his thoughts in the margins.

During his lifetime and under the Mongol empire created by Genghis Khan, the 'spice road' came into existence bringing spices, silks and other treasure to Europe from China, India and the Middle East. When the Ottomans

[continued]



*[Hero or Villian cont'd]*

conquered Constantinople, the gateway to Europe for the spice road was lost and the only way to get the riches of the East was to sail around the extremely dangerous Cape of Good Hope at the southern tip of Africa. Columbus, knowing the earth was round, believed that if one sailed west, one would eventually end up in the east.

What motivated Columbus to find an alternative route to the riches of the East? Columbus was a Christian Apocalypticist, meaning he thought he was living in the end times, that Christ would soon return to earth and bring about His Kingdom. Accordingly, Columbus would have thought that if he could find an easier route to the East, he could make a vast fortune from that monopoly and use it to sponsor a crusade to capture the Holy Sepulcher. In doing so, he would fulfil a Biblical prophecy, see Christ return to earth and gain great favour in the eyes of God. This fact is rarely talked about. In fact, I had no idea until I started researching our namesake for this article. He also wanted to convert every race he encountered to Christianity - this is where people today take issue with his actions.

I won't go into detail about him seeking financial backing for his ideas as I'm sure most of you know he approached King Ferdinand III and Queen Isabella I to fund his expedition. In return for him undertaking this expedition, the Spanish Crown would grant him 10 percent of all revenue generated from trade in the new lands acquired by Spain. This would indeed be a vast fortune. Columbus set sail from Castile in August 1492 with 3 ships. He made landfall on October 12th of the same year at what we now call the Bahamas. He then visited Cuba, Hispaniola and eventually established a colony on Haiti. He returned to Castile in 1493 with a group of captured natives and word of his success quickly spread all across Europe. Columbus would make three more voyages landing in and about the Lesser Antilles and Trinidad in 1493, the northern coast of South America in 1498, and Central America 1502. Columbus is responsible for the term "Indian", for Indigenous people, as he firmly believed he had reached the far East and India. Columbus took to heart the powers he was granted and felt himself supreme ruler of all the peoples he conquered. This 'ego-centric' view is again what leads people of today to question his hero status.

Next month, I'll write about my view of a series of Columbus' incredible accomplishments, as well as his shortcomings and eventual downfall as even in his day he had many detractors. I think it is also important for us to acknowledge the norms of his day, the attitudes of his time. Indeed, a great deal of 'negative press' was spread about Columbus in his own life by others who wanted to horn in on the vast number of monies being earned by the discovery of the New World. I'll try and sort through all of that to find the truth so that, hopefully, we will all have a greater understanding of who Christopher Columbus was, his accomplishments and his mistakes. Then, when someone asks "Why do you keep the name of Columbus?", you can reply, "Well, sit down and let me tell you."

Fraternally, Blair Ferguson, Faith Director

## 2023 Christmas Trees Campaign

I would like to thank all the brother Knights who participated in our Christmas Tree sales program. Trees were sold from November 25<sup>th</sup> through December 10<sup>th</sup>. The last two years it has taken a week longer than usual to sell all the trees. While at the time of writing our net profit was significant, it was also notably smaller than realized in each of the past three years. We can attribute that being primarily due to the wholesaler's increased costs which forced us to raise our prices as well as the fact that we didn't order enough smaller trees.

I would like to thank the **Columbus Club** for their support and especially for allowing us the use of their debit machine. A big thank you to all Knights that participated in yard set up, unloading, selling and yard take down. Many of you worked multiple shifts and we couldn't have done it without you. You know who you are. I would also like to thank **Sister Mary's Recycling Crew** who I approach each year for help and who came through even bigger than in the past.

I would like to remind brother Knights that are capable of participating in this project to volunteer next year. If you are still working, perhaps take a few weekend shifts. Many brothers see this fundraiser as a 'social' event and a time to reconnect with others. So, please plan to respond to the call for volunteers next fall to come out and meet fellow Knights in a very casual setting.

Fraternally, Henry Valks

# Reflection

Pondering what to write about this month, as we begin a new year, 'F' words danced in my head. Calm down ... I mean these ones: **Forget**, **Forgive**, **Foster** and **Forgo** ... and how they are interrelated.

Let's start with reminding ourselves we're all susceptible to forgetfulness. While for many the capacity to remember things diminishes with age and some do experience the tragic descent into dementia which erases memories (even the capacity to capture new ones), it's not uncommon (if not embarrassing) to benefit from an occasional reminder. It would be fair to observe that much forgetfulness can be attributed to neglectfulness ... forgetting to mark things down on the calendar or paying attention when introduced to someone for the first time or simply hearing rather than listening when prompted to do something. There are, unfortunately, things we decide to not **forget** ... to carry around even as they grow stale and often become toxic to poison our minds. While well-intentioned family and friends will often suggest the remedy is to simply "**Forget about it**" / "**Let it go**" / "**Get over it**" ... the real cure to reconciling the unforgettable is to **forgive**.

**Forgiveness is charity** and occurs by the elimination of a debt owed, especially when done without reciprocation (i.e., apology / compensation / atonement). Contrary to the adage, "**To forgive is to forget**", it is the better person that can forgive while remembering but then not retaliating to seek revenge or return the hurt caused by another. As Catholics we understand **charity** is synonymous with **love** and so, when we forgive, we demonstrate love for another.

Our parish mission calls us to "**go make disciples**" through words and deeds that **foster** peace and unity "**to bring healing to a wounded world**". We foster by encouraging or promoting the development of growth in our personal and shared relationships with God and the Church. Fostering is a positive action that seeks to construct discipleship in oneself and in others. It is, therefore, an essential duty of Knights.

To **forgo** is also charity expressed as making sacrifice that others may benefit. To forgo the need for apology as a cost of forgiveness is such an example. The key lessons from Jesus' **Sermon on the Mount** (as listed in my study Bible) tell us the **things we should strive to forgo**:

- **pride and personal independence** (*blessed are the poor in spirit*),
- **happiness at any cost** (*blessed are those that mourn*),
- **power** (*blessed are the meek*),
- **pursuit of personal needs** (*blessed are those that hunger and thirst for righteousness*),
- **strength without feeling** (*blessed are the merciful*),
- **making deception acceptable** (*blessed are the pure in heart*),
- **concern for the world's chaos when pursuing personal peace** (*blessed are the peacemakers*),
- **weak commitments** (*blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness*).

As we venture into the new year, let us not forget to forgive unconditionally as we foster greater peace and unity by forgoing the many things that may distract us from our mission as Knights. When we **forgive**, **foster** and **forgo**, we love ... don't **forget** that.

Fraternally,  
Harald Schraeder, DGK, PGK

And He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread; and **forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive every one who is indebted to us; and lead us not into temptation.**" (Luke 11:2-4)





Dear Brothers & Friends:

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and is looking forward to the new year.

Well, time flies and 2023 is now history. Thinking back on how times are changing, I find the biggest challenge we face in our modern world is when we encounter people that are quick to point out "My opinion is right and yours is wrong". Being a critic is the easiest job in the world. It is up to each and every one of us to change this attitude. Let's be positive and make our community a better place.

No one ever knows where the inspiration for the next idea comes from, be it an improvement to an event, a new fundraiser to maintain our facility, or a way to involve as many members as we did when selling Christmas trees. We need to stay open minded to ideas and welcoming of those that bring them to our attention.

While these past, Covid-impacted, few years have seen more than their 'fair share' of challenges arise, your club has weathered the storm and even had reasonably successful financial performance thanks to our great volunteers. Even though some contributions go unheralded, all your efforts are greatly appreciated by all who use our facility or attend events. THANK YOU!

Roy Esbaugh, Columbus Club President

Hosted by the Brothers of Father Ernie Deslippe Council 1467, Knights of Columbus.



## SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS DINNER

ALL YOU CAN EAT

Saturday January 20<sup>th</sup>  
COLUMBUS CLUB  
265 WELLINGTON STREET



PROCEEDS to be DONATED to HOSPICE OF ELGIN

COCKTAILS @ 4 PM / DINNER @ 5 - 6:30 PM

TICKETS \$15 (Adults) / \$10 (under age 12)

Advance only & while supplies last & available from:

- Columbus Club (519-631-2166)
- Ray Bernicky (519-207-3168)
- Harald Schraeder (519-318-4189)
- Steve Wachowiak (226-984-9563)



Elgin Roman Catholic  
Family of Parishes

### Catholic Men's Faith Series

LET'S COME TOGETHER WITH OTHER MEN TO  
LISTEN, LEARN, AND DEEPEN OUR FAITH.

(Welcoming all men 16 and older.)

**Where:** Holy Angels' Church and Hall

**When:** Mass at 8:00 a.m., then gather downstairs for refreshments and our morning's speaker, ending by 11:30.

**Saturday January 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Dr. John Dool**

"Hope: Staying focused in a troubled world"

**Saturday February 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Fr. Jason Kuntz**

"Fighting Temptations"

**Saturday March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Fr. Al Momney**

"Prayer and the Eucharist"

To assist in preparation, we would appreciate you notifying us of your planned attendance by registering at <https://elginrcparishes.ca/mens-faith-series> or by contacting:

Bob Bray	<a href="mailto:bob.bray@ymail.com">bob.bray@ymail.com</a>	226-376-6157
Blair Ferguson	<a href="mailto:blairferguson64@gmail.com">blairferguson64@gmail.com</a>	519-615-3957
Regis Trudel	<a href="mailto:registrudel@rogers.com">registrudel@rogers.com</a>	226-688-6060

Our Mission: Jesus said, "Go make disciples...I am with you always"  
Our Vision: Strengthened by the Eucharist, we are moved to bring healing to a wounded world.



# The Elgin Patriot

Bishop John C. Cody Assembly 0879 / Oct. 2023

Membership consist of Sir Knights from Councils 1467 & 4189



A special thank you to all the Sir Knights who participated in the Honour Guard for His Excellency **Bishop Fabro** for his mass at St. Anne's Church on Saturday November 25<sup>th</sup> and preceding his Milestone Dinner at the Centre.

Our **Annual Christmas Dinner** in Aylmer was well attended. The meal was delicious and the sing-along was well received. On behalf of my fellow Sir Knights, I thank **Sir Knight Tony Van Roestel** for setting up the tables and arranging the hall rental.

On **Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup>** we will be celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bishop Cody Assembly. I hope we have a great turnout at the Columbus Club of St. Thomas as we welcome our District Marshall.

On **Friday January 26<sup>th</sup>**, the Bishop John C. Cody Assembly (4<sup>th</sup> Degree) will be happy to join with the Fr. Ernie Deslippe Council (3<sup>rd</sup> degree) in sponsoring a Knights of Columbus '**Hockey Knight**' at the Joe Thornton Arena. There will be free admission to the hockey game for those families that we distribute tickets to and they will be available at the churches and the Columbus Club of St. Thomas.

The next 4<sup>th</sup> Degree event will be the **St. Patrick Day Pot Luck Supper** on **Sunday March 17<sup>th</sup>**. There will be no admission charge and the evening will feature another sing-along of Irish songs. Cocktails will be available at 5 p.m. with dinner service at 6 p.m. You are welcome to bring your own plates and cutlery if you wish.

**Our next meeting will be held Tuesday January 2<sup>nd</sup>** at 7 p.m. as the Monday is New Year's Day.

On behalf of Lady Shirley and myself, we wish you all a blessed 2024!

Fraternally, K Henry Poirier FN, PGK, PFN, PDD

**For These We Pray:** Maurice Brennan, Gerry & Miriam Costello, Dino DeAngelo, Case Hoffer, James Lumley, Barry MacMillan, Doug Pardey, Alan Taylor, Joan Vachon, as well as for our deceased members, their spouses and families.

*If anyone is aware of a person that should be included on this list, please notify the Faithful Navigator.*

**Faithful Friar** Fr. Peter Keller

**Navigator** Henry Poirier

**Captain** Simon Vink

**Pilot** Tom Carr

**Admiral** Joe Fleming

**Comptroller** James Coveny

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When the Knights of Columbus was founded in 1882, three principles united its members: **charity**, **unity** and **fraternity**. At that time, people feared that members of the Catholic faith owed their entire allegiance to the Church and could not be trusted as citizens of their country. **Patriotism** was added to the Order's principles in 1900, based on the idea that Knights are loyal to both God and country [Ed.: excerpted from Supreme site]. Any '3<sup>rd</sup> Degree' member of **Fr. Ernie Deslippe Council 1467** that is interested in joining the '4<sup>th</sup> Degree' **Bishop John C. Cody Assembly 0879** is asked to contact SK Henry Poirier, Faithful Navigator of the Assembly (519-852-2236; [poirh@bell.net](mailto:poirh@bell.net)).

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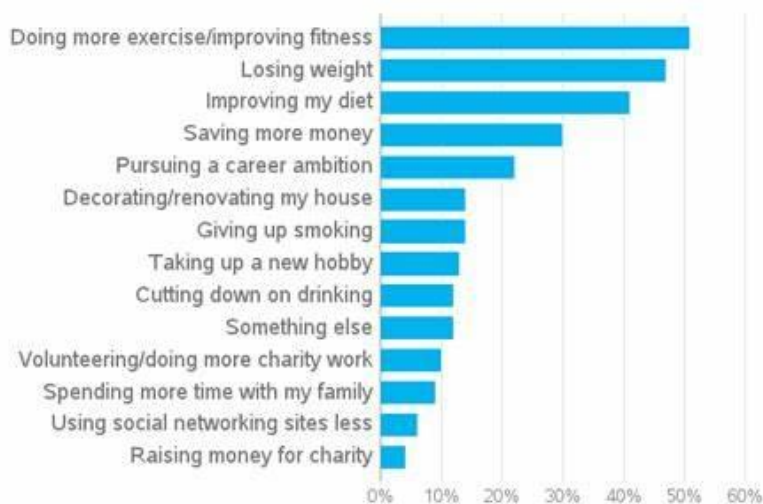
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# Happy New Year!

Fraternally, John P. Noonan, FIC, CPCA, 519-870-9675; [john.noonan@koofc.org](mailto:john.noonan@koofc.org)

## Most Common New Year's Resolutions



I DON'T CALL THEM  
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